



Maritime Spatial Planning and nature conservation

SEArca event on Biodiversity
conservation in the Mediterranean

4 November 2022, *Brussels and online*

Céline FRANK
**DG MARE, European
Commission**

Maritime Spatial Planning in the EU



EU MSP Directive
All EU countries must set
plans by 2021



**Funding
MSP cross-
border projects**
Producing data, tools,
methodologies



**EU MSP
Platform**
Technical support,
studies and
workshops



MSP Expert Group
Exchanges of best
practices in the EU



International MSP
Best international practices,
transboundary pilot projects,
international workshops



MSP Directive of 2014: Main objectives and requirements

- **Sustainable development** the maritime sector, applying an **ecosystem-based approach**
- Promote the **coexistence** of relevant activities and nature protection/restoration
- Take into account **land-sea interactions**
- Use best available **data**
- Ensure the **involvement of stakeholders**
- Ensure trans-boundary cooperation (also with third countries) for **coherent and coordinated** Maritime Spatial Plans

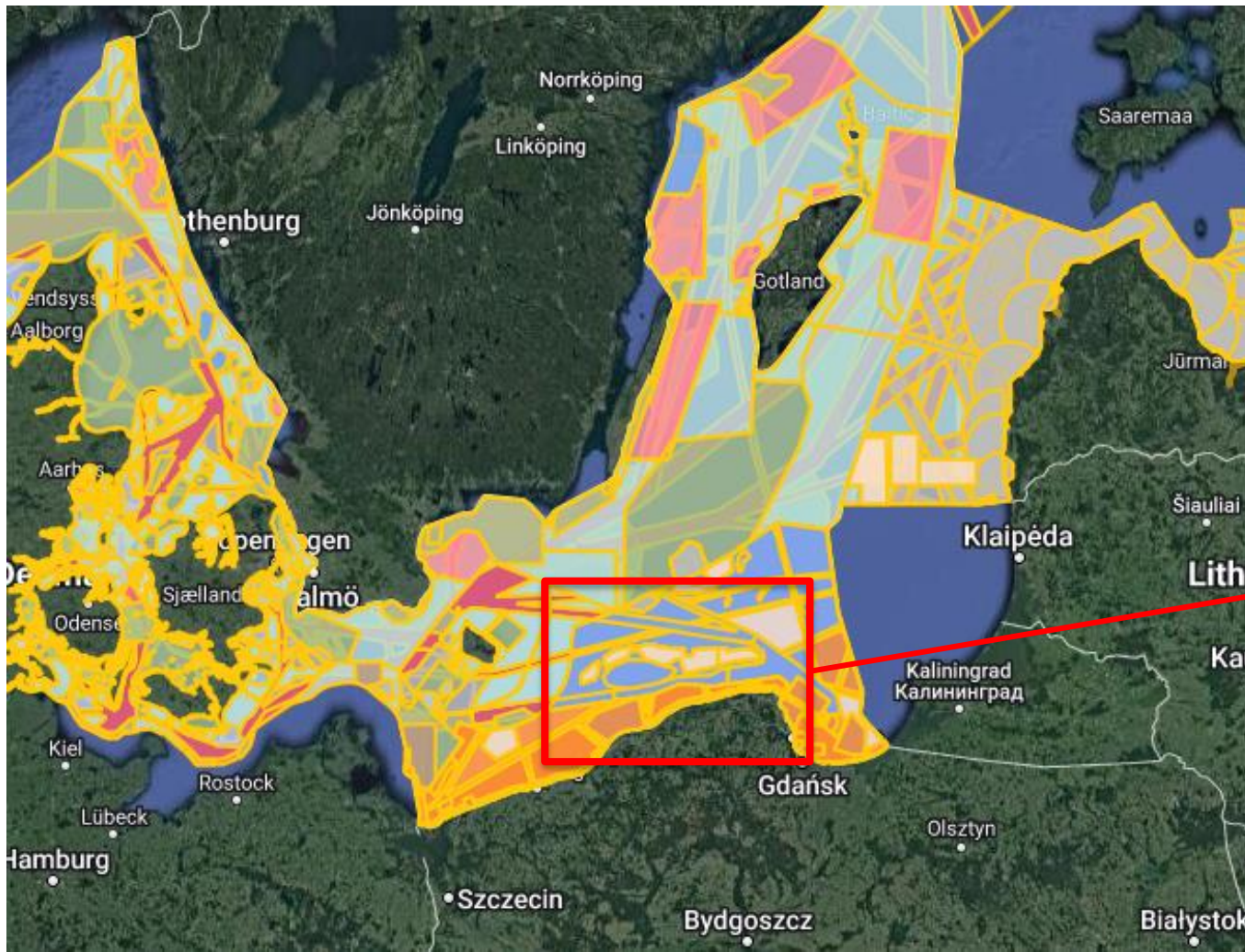


How are we doing in implementing the MSP Directive?

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL outlining the progress made in implementing Directive 2014/89/EU establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning

- gives a picture in time - an overview of progress, as required under the Directive, assesses **transposition and conformity**
- it also looks at developments that influenced/will influence the implementation of the Directive since its adoption in 2014, notably the **European Green Deal**

Examples of MSP plans in EMODnet





Towards the operational implementation of MSP
in our common Mediterranean Sea

MSPMED is a European project
aiming at supporting national
maritime plans of Member States
facing the Mediterranean Sea and
enhancing international cooperation
for the coordination of Sea
management in the basin.

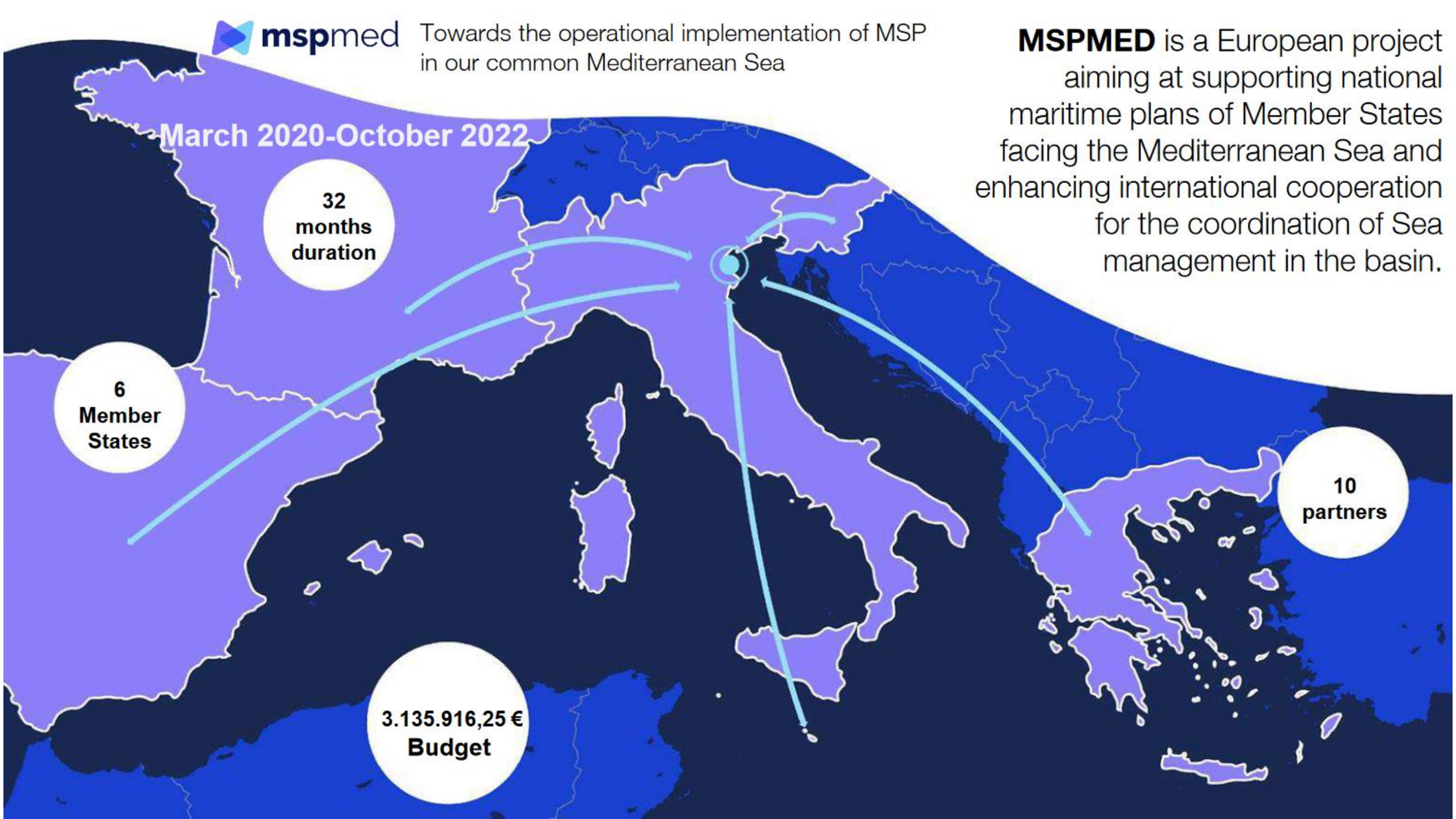
March 2020-October 2022

32
months
duration

6
Member
States

3.135.916,25 €
Budget

10
partners





What is next?

➤ The European Commission:

- continues to **support MSP projects**: 3 new cross-border projects to be launched end of 2022 (EMFAF), 3 Horizon Europe projects on MSP and MPAs + Mission Ocean
- helps **developing MSP community across the EU and globally**: MSP online platform, cooperation with IOC-UNESCO, WestMed, EUSAIR, communities of practice, etc.
- expands the necessary dialogue between the various users of the sea by setting up a “**Blue Forum**” for sea users in 2023
- closely monitors progress (report every 4 years) and supports Member States in using MSP as a **tool to implementation of the European Green Deal**
- enhance **sharing data on MSP (EMODnet)** and improve the **ecosystem-based approach** to MSP



More background information at:

<https://maritime-spatial-planning.ec.europa.eu/>

https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/publications/eu-blue-economy-report-2022_en

<https://mspmed.eu/>

THANK YOU!