



# **Synergies and Opportunities in Policy Implementation**

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- MPA's & Ecosystems Based Approach
  - Why should synergies be exploited?
  - Synergistic approaches in policy implementation
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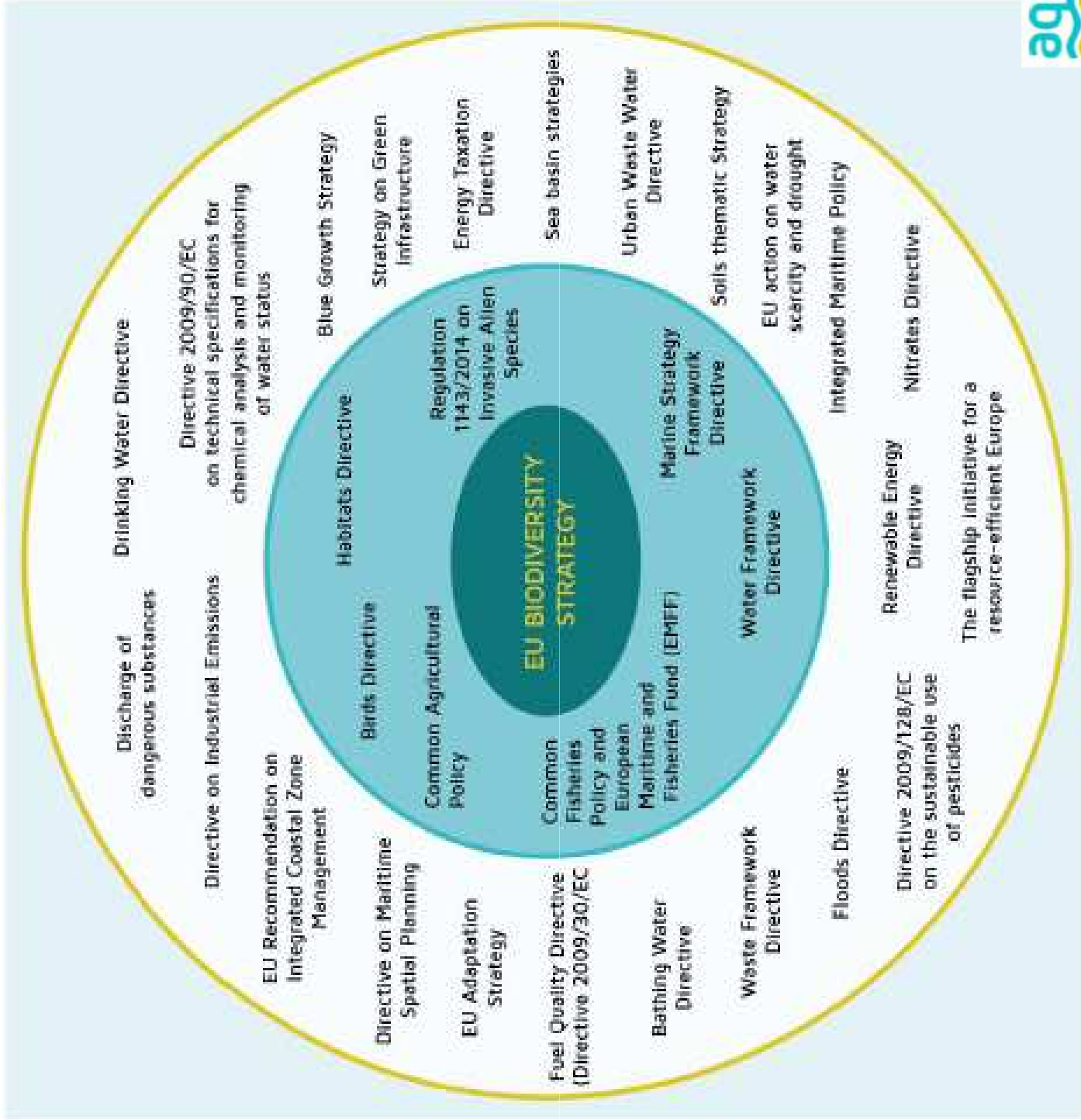
# Marine Protected Areas

- MPAs: a **key tool** in the management of the marine environment
- **Natura 2000 network**: achieve objectives of the Habitats & Birds Directives – the backbone of EU biodiversity policy
- Role of MPAs in **Ecosystems Based Approach** – an integrated approach towards management (MSFD & CFP)
- An integrated approach towards implementation of marine-related policy: **need to explore synergies**



- Focus on EU marine-related policy governing environmental protection:
  - Habitats & Birds Directives
  - Marine Strategy Framework Directive
  - Water Framework Directive
- **Regional** Policies: Barcelona Convention
- **International** Policies: Convention on Biological Diversity
- **Sectoral** policy: CFP
- **Pressure-related** policy: ND, UWWTD...





# Synergies: ND, MSFD, WFD

- Definition of objectives & approaches differ:
    - ✓ *Favourable Conservation Status (HD)*
    - ✓ *Good Environmental Status (MSFD)*
    - ✓ *Good Ecological Status/Good Chemical Status (WFD)*
  
  - Complementarities:
    - Overall objectives: **healthy ecosystems**
    - Common elements and pressures
    - Cross-references across policies
  
  - Need for:
    - **integrated approach to implementation**
    - **maximising synergies**
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# Synergies: Why?

- Avoid overlaps
- Avoid conflicting management processes
- Ensure resource-efficiency
- Reduce administrative burden



**COST  
EFFECTIVE**

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# Synergies & Opportunities for integrated approach towards policy implementation





# Biological elements

- Which elements need to be protected?
  - ✓ **Listed** habitats and species (Nature Directives)
  - ✓ All biodiversity: Predominant habitat types, species groups, **ecosystems** (MSFD)
  - ✓ Coastal waters on the basis of **Biological Quality Elements** (WFD)
- Scope for streamlining elements for assessment & management processes



# Objectives: definition of status

Different definitions of status:

- **Favourable Conservation Status** of listed habitats & species (HD)
  - **Good Environmental Status** – 11 MSFD GES Descriptors
  - **Good Ecological Status** – Biological Quality Elements as indicators (WFD)
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- Scope for streamlining definitions of status:
    - ✓ **Use of common assessment criteria**
    - ✓ **Use of common targets/thresholds**



<b>Policy</b>	<b>Element</b>	<b>Criteria &amp; Indicators</b>	<b>Targets/thresholds</b>
<b>Habitats Directive</b>	<b>Priority Habitat</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Trend &amp; range surface area compared to favourable reference range.</b>
		<b>Area</b>	<b>Trend &amp; area covered by habitat compared to favourable reference area</b>
		<b>Structure and Functions</b>	<b>% of the habitat type area in the region being assessed considered in good condition</b>
<b>MSFD</b>	<b>Habitat type</b>	<b>Extent of loss of habitat type</b>	<b>To be determined at Union level</b>
		<b>Extent of adverse effects on condition</b>	<b>To be determined at Union level</b>
<b>WFD</b>	<b>Biological Quality Element as an indicator of status – biotic indices</b>		<b>Intercalibrated boundaries of biotic indices (PREI)</b>

- Coordinated monitoring efforts through:
  - Streamlining of elements to be assessed
  - Streamlining of assessment criteria & monitoring methodologies

## CARLIT (macroalgae)

Reefs 1170 in HD  
(range, area,  
structure &  
functions)

MSFD assessment  
criteria D6C5

WFD Biological  
Quality Elements

# Designation of MPAs

Consideration of different policy requirements:

- Nature Directives: N2K sites for listed habitats & species
- MSFD: Spatial Protection Measures
- WFD: coastal water bodies + register of Protected Areas



# Management of MPAs

## Management measures in MPAs in consideration of different policy objectives:

- **Nature Directives & MSFD:**

MPAs (or spatial protection measures) to:

- ✓ cover national or regional habitat/species lists
  - ✓ include MSFD predominant habitat types
  - ✓ streamline MPA conservation objectives with MSFD targets
  
  - ✓ MSFD Programme of Measures developed in consideration of MPA management processes
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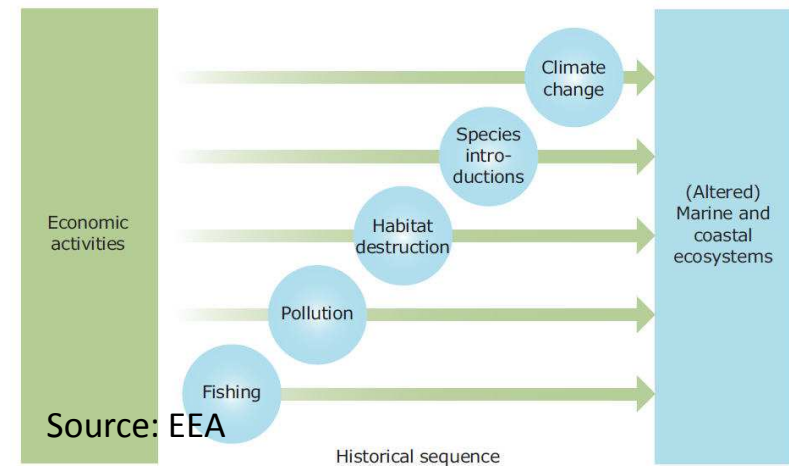
# Management of MPAs

## Management measures in MPAs in consideration of different policy objectives:

- **Nature Directives & WFD:**
    - ✓ Links between WFD objectives & protected areas: more stringent objectives apply;
    - ✓ Conflicting objectives to be addressed on a case-by-case basis
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Managing Pressures within MPAs – link to other policies:

- Emission-control policies:
  - ✓ Nitrates Directive
  - ✓ Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
  - ✓ Industrial Emission Directive
  - ✓ Common Agricultural Policy
  
- Sectoral Policies:
  - ✓ Common Fisheries Policy
  - ✓ Regulation on invasive alien species
  - ✓ Port Reception Facilities Regulation







Thank you

