Transboundary cooperation

With the support of:

Improved transdisciplinary science for effective ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning and conservation in European Seas

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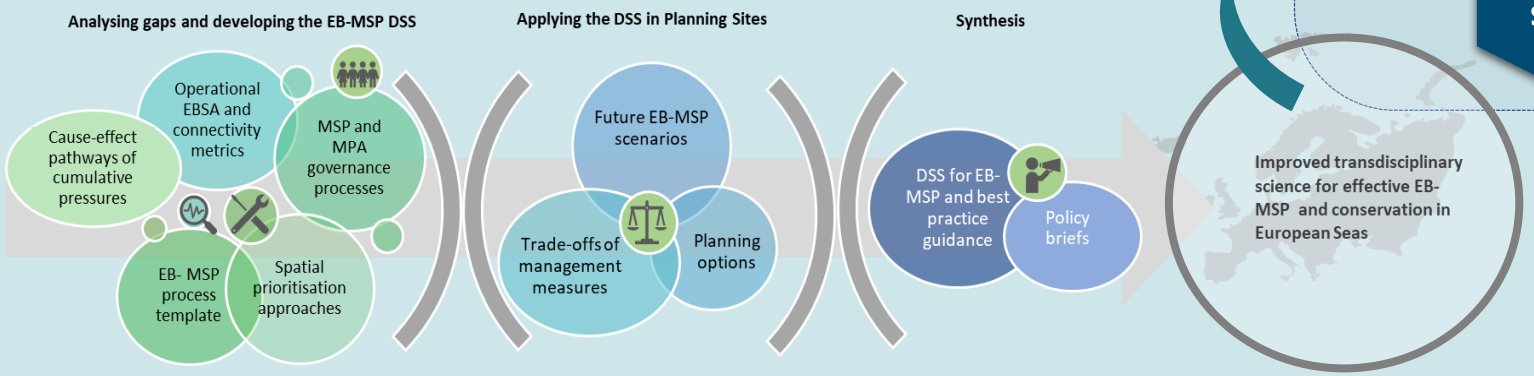
Main goal

To develop and apply a **Decision Support System** (DSS) for **ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning** (EB-MSP) together with best practice guidance to enhance the design and effectiveness of spatial **conservation and restoration measures** for marine biodiversity in European Sea

Planning sites

- Southern North Sea
- Celtic Sea
- Western Baltic Sea
- Bay of Biscay
- Western Medit. Sea
- Campania
- Greek Seas
- Azores

Topics and evolution



Outcomes will contribute to:

1. **Prioritisation of future protected areas, restoration areas, and science-based MSP**
2. **Implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (2030 -30%-10% and Trans-European Nature Network) and the Convention on Biological Diversity post-2020 framework**
3. **Improved science base for the description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas (EBSA)**

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Funded by the European Union

Transboundary Marine Spatial Planning for areas in and around shared Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) between Angola-Namibia and Namibia-South Africa

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Transboundary cooperation in the BCLME

Safeguarding marine biodiversity and maintaining essential ecological processes while enabling economies to sustainably grow, in the sense of the Blue Economy, requires the identification of key sites of marine biodiversity value and implementation of the required necessary practical spatial management measures.

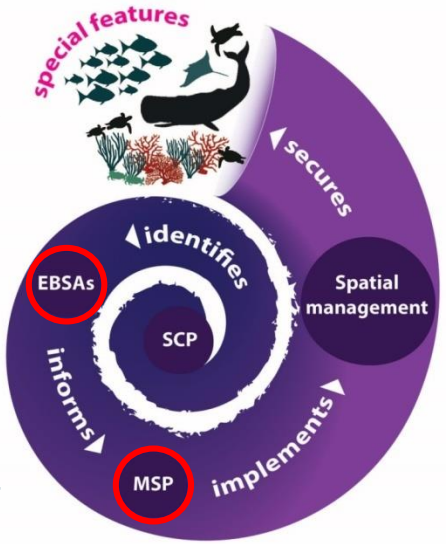
Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) States (Angola, Namibia and South Africa) are currently formulating and incorporating required practical spatial management measures for EBSAs in their respective Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) processes at both national and transboundary level.

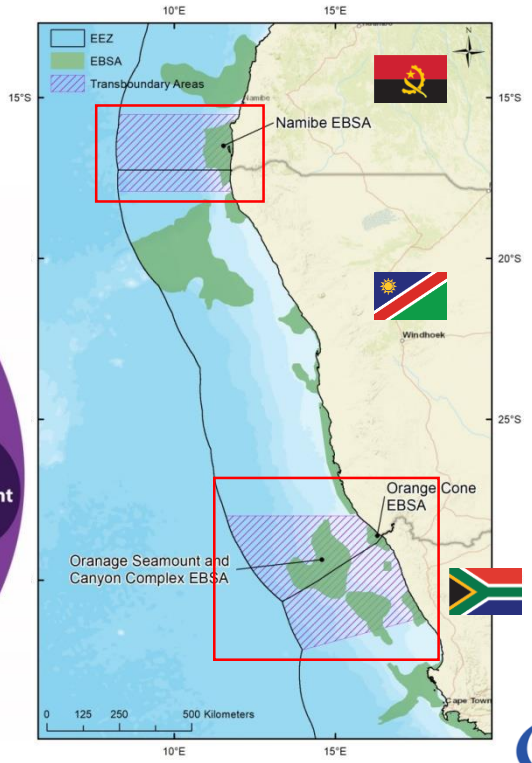
Three transboundary EBSAs are shared between the countries: **Namibe** EBSA between Angola and Namibia, **Orange Seamount & Canyon Complex** and **Orange Cone** EBSAs between Namibia and South Africa.

Inter-Ministerial Working Groups on MSP and EBSAs were established nationally and regionally to lead the processes and are responsible for engaging industry, academic and civil society stakeholders throughout the processes.

The regional approach allowed for cross border alignment of priorities and management between countries, as well as pooled expertise, technical support, and capacity development.

The whole process is anchored on ecosystem-based MSP which uses EBSAs as a central pillar.





Progress in each BCLME country

Angola	Namibia	South Africa
Developed first Marine Spatial Plan for the entire Exclusive Economic Zone, incorporates EBSAs as specific environmental zones and regulations. Plan implementation starts in 2023	Development of the Central Marine Spatial Plan with an associated Strategic Environnental Assessement is completed	A marine biodiversity sector plan has been developed which includes EBSAs into conservation zones and sets out proposed regulations. MSP planning phase starts in 2023
National Strategy for the Sea of Angola serves as the basis for the development of a Sustainable Blue Economy (SBE)	Namibia used EBSAs as conservation features in the marine spatial planning process. A SBE Policy is under development	Developed MSP legal framework. A national initiative "Operation Phakisa" has driven the development of the SBE
Five new EBSAs Two revised EBSAs (incl- one transboundary EBSA) submitted to CBD	Two new EBSAs Five revised EBSAs (incl- three transboundary EBSAs) submitted to CBD	Four new EBSAs Twelve revised EBSAs (incl two-transboundary EBSAs) submitted to CBD
In the process of declaring its first MPA in the transb. EBSA	Revising the management plan of one MPA	Several MPAs declared in the EBSAs, including one in a transb. EBSA

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Benguela Current Convention · MARISMA Enabling Sustainable Ocean Use in the Benguela Current Region · giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH · On behalf of: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection of the Federal Republic of Germany

Developing Integrated Ocean Management in the Abidjan Convention Region: 7 years of experience through the Mami Wata project

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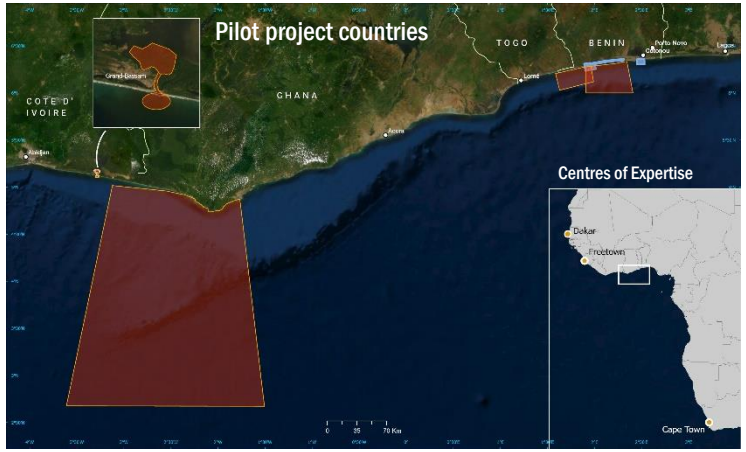
Introduction

The marine environment of the African Atlantic coast is home to highly productive ecosystems and biodiversity hotspots. Its living resources and habitats are however in widespread decline, with human activities having adverse impacts.

The Mami Wata project "Enhancing Marine Management in West, Central and Southern Africa through Training and Application" has engaged with countries of the Abidjan Convention Region to reverse this trend since 2016. Mami Wata aimed to address human activities at sea in a holistic way through Integrated Ocean Management (IOM) approaches to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the marine environment.



The project strategy

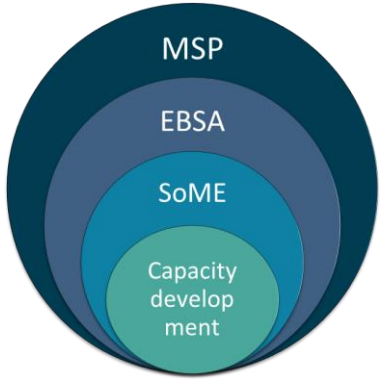
Mami Wata followed a dual strategy with capacity development at its core. First, the project strengthened regional capacity by creating three regional Centres of Expertise on three IOM tools:

i. State of Marine Environment (SoME), a baseline assessment on the state of the environment;

ii. Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas (EBSA), a framework to identify areas of special importance for their ecological and biological characteristics; and

iii. Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), a process to allocate space to human uses under an ecosystem-based approach.

In parallel, the project applied these IOM tools in three national pilot projects countries: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. These countries now serve as lighthouses for IOM throughout the rest of the region.



Impacts

With the completion of the project, these three countries have now validated their respective SoME reports (Togo as well), identified EBSAs, and developed MSP pilot plans. As a result of the work of the project, Benin and Côte d'Ivoire have also declared their first Marine Protected Areas (MPA). Regionally, the Abidjan Convention adopted an IOM policy in 2021, which will serve as the framework to upscale IOM (and the Mami Wata experience) to the rest of the region.

More information and contact

MAMI WATA

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Acknowledgements

Mami Wata was implemented by GRID-Arendal and the Abidjan Convention Secretariat between 2016 and 2022, supported by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).

GRID-ARENDAL A UNEP Partner
UN environment United Nations Environment Programme
Abidjan Convention Convention d'Abidjan
Supported by: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
based on a decision of the German Bundestag
Norad

Spatial planning perspectives at sea-basin scale – experience of VASAB in the Baltic Sea

By VASAB Secretariat info@vasab.org

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VASAB
VISION & STRATEGIES AROUND THE BALTIC SEA

EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION
POLICY AREA 'SPATIAL PLANNING'

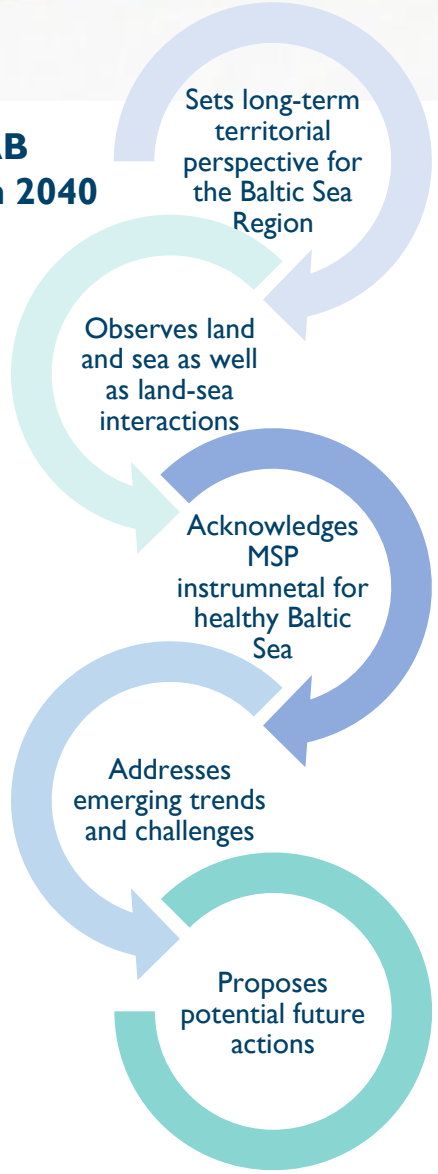
VASAB (Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea)
- intergovernmental multilateral co-operation of the Baltic Sea Region on spatial planning and development:
  - » provides policy options for territorial development
  - » knowledge exchange on spatial planning and development

VASAB supports macro-regional framework for MSP in the Baltic Sea Region:
- Contributes to the work of HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group towards coherent MSP:
  - Baltic Regional MSP Roadmap 2021-2030
  - MSP guidelines on ecosystem-based approach, transboundary consultations, MSP output data structure
- Together with HELCOM acts as Policy area 'Spatial Planning' coordinator within EUSBSR
- Organizes Baltic MSP Forums
- Facilitates Planners` Forum – practical knowledge exchange among MSP practioners
- Participates in MSP projects to support policy building, testing approaches, expand stakeholder networks, generate & accumulate expertise

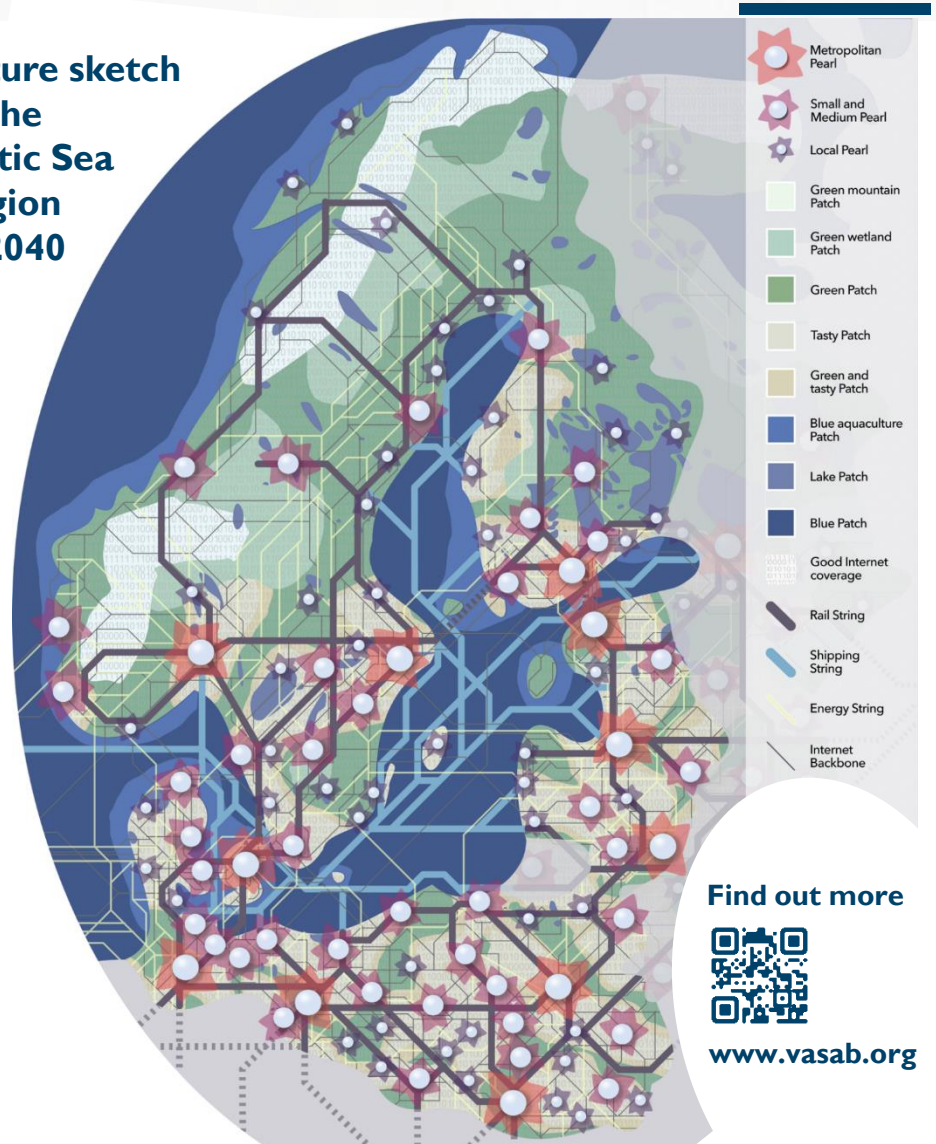
PartiSEApate · Baltic SCOPE · Baltic LINes · Pan Baltic Scope · CAPACITY4MSP · eMSP NBSR

2012 → 2022

VASAB Vision 2040



Future sketch of the Baltic Sea Region in 2040



Find out more

www.vasab.org

10 Recommendations

How to improve Maritime Spatial Planning to reach European climate, energy and biodiversity targets

By the Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature - OCEaN

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The ongoing biodiversity and climate crisis have prompted various non-governmental organisations (NGOs), wind industry actors and transmission system operators (TSOs) to join forces and cooperate in a coalition to accelerate the deployment of offshore wind energy and grid infrastructure while ensuring alignment with nature protection and healthy marine ecosystems. Today, 27 organisations from across Europe have committed to working together to achieve these goals.

ocean Offshore Coalition for Energy and Nature

1 **Member States should implement an ecosystem-based approach to MSP to support the achievement of Good Environmental Status of the seas**

Inspirational example: Symphony tool in Sweden

2 **Member States should regard transboundary cooperation as a cornerstone of European MSP ambitions**

Inspirational example: HELCOM and VASAB

3 **Members States should share MSP data in a harmonised way to enable transboundary cooperation**

Inspirational example: EMODnet

4 **Member States should address cumulative impacts and long-term scenarios hand in hand**

Inspirational examples: Estonia and Sweden MSPs

5 **Member States States should collect marine data continuously to guide responsive and adaptive decision-making**

Inspirational example: Belgian Marine Data Monitoring

6 **Member States should streamline existing environmental data collection and use it to guide MSP**

Inspirational example: Netherlands and France

7 **Member States should ensure continuous and equitable stakeholder engagement in the MSP process**

Inspirational example: SeaSketch

8 **Member States should protect nature by establishing a representative and ecologically coherent network of effectively managed Marine Protected Areas**

Inspirational examples: Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden

9 **Member States should integrate multiple use in offshore wind farms from the early planning stages**

Inspirational example: Ten guidelines for Communities of Practices in the Netherlands

10 **Member States should make Maritime Spatial Plans a legally binding framework for all marine activities and provide regulatory clarity**

SCAN ME
For the detailed recommendations

Essential Environmental Concepts for the Offshore Wind Energy Sector in Europe
Discussion Paper

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Renewables Grid Initiative

Procesos de Interacción Tierra - Mar – Tierra. Estudio comparativo entre Argentina y Uruguay

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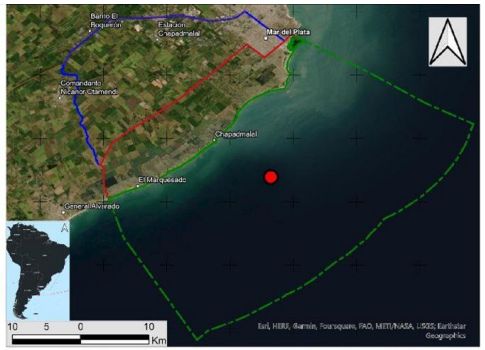
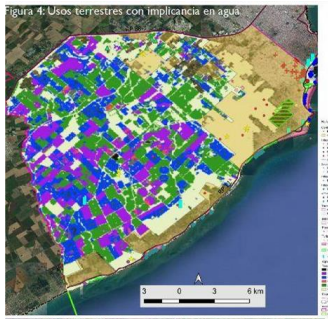
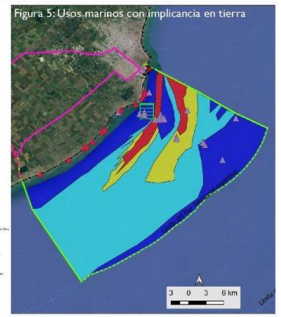
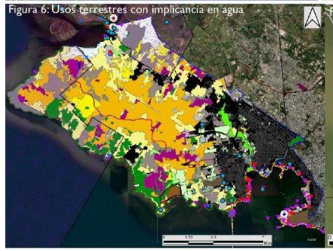
Echevarría, L[1]; Conde, D[2]; Veron, E[3,4]; Medina, M[1]; Socrates, J[4]; Sánchez, V[5]; García, M[4]; Fernández, M[6]; Pérez, W[5]; Camiolo, M[7] Vallve, E[8]; Jaureguizar, A[7,9]; Caporale, M[6]; Machain, T[1]; Martínez, R[1]

1 FADU, UdelaR, Uruguay - 2 FC, UdelaR, Uruguay, 3 CONICET, Argentina, 4 CIGSA, UNMDP, Argentina, 5 CURE, UdelaR; 6 EI, UdelaR, Uruguay, 7 UPSO, Argentina, 8 FHCE, UdelaR, Uruguay, 9 CIC, Argentina,

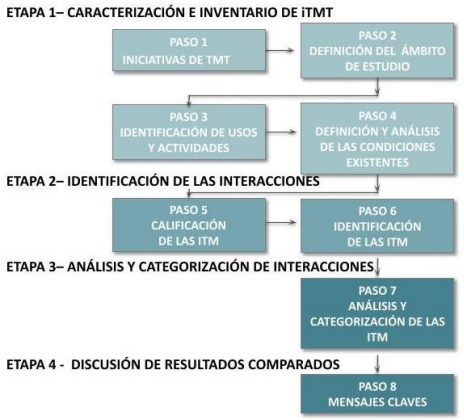








Tanto la zona costero-marina de Argentina como la de Uruguay presentan particularidades y dinámicas que las hacen relevantes para el estudio. En ambos casos forman parte del área correspondiente al estuario del Río de la Plata (RdlP) (Montevideo) y el frente marítimo del mismo (Mar del Plata). La dinámica y propiedades estuariales y marinas generan diversos patrones de interacciones entre los componentes terrestres y marinos, no solo a nivel de procesos biofísicos, sino también de las actividades, los fenómenos y las infraestructuras presentes en la zona.



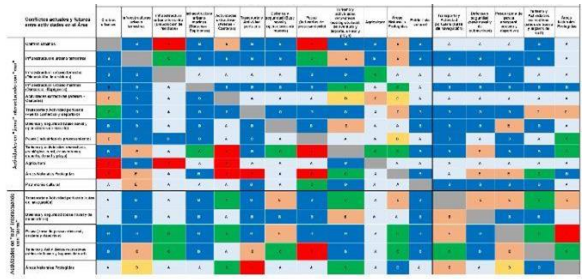
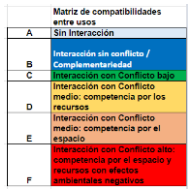


Tabla 2a



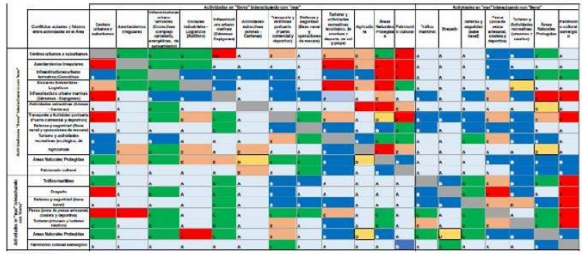
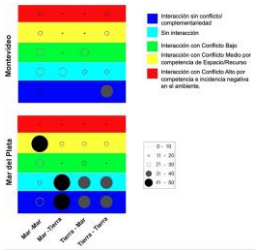


Tabla 2b



Principales interacciones:

- **La artificialización costera (urbanización, protección costera, infraestructura portuaria)**
- **La agricultura,**
- **Las actividades industriales y/o logísticas**
- **Transporte marítimo**
- **La expansión urbana (presiones por cambios de uso de suelo**
- **Las áreas naturales protegidas**

- Mar del Plata 272 interacciones. 40% “Interacción sin conflicto/Complementariedad” y 31%, “Sin Interacción” y el resto se distribuyen entre las interacciones con Conflicto Bajo, Medio (competencia por el espacio y los recursos) y Alto (Tabla 2a)

- Montevideo, 342 interacciones. 42% “Sin Interacción”, 30% “Interacción sin conflicto/Complementariedad”, un 17% con Conflicto Bajo, 11 % conflicto Medio (competencia por el espacio y los recursos) y un 8,5% a conflicto Alto competencia por el espacio y/o recursos con efectos ambientales negativos (Tabla 2b, Figura 8).

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