

**MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICIES: HOW DO THEY  
GET IMPLEMENTED AND  
HOW TO ENGAGE?**

**ECOP WEDNESDAYS**

**DISCOVERING THE EUROPEAN MARINE SCIENCE POLICY  
LANDSCAPE**

**SAŠO GORJANC**

**7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024**



University of  
St Andrews



# QUICKLY ABOUT ME

PhD in Geography (Interpretation & implementation of EU marine environmental policies among key actors) – University of St Andrews

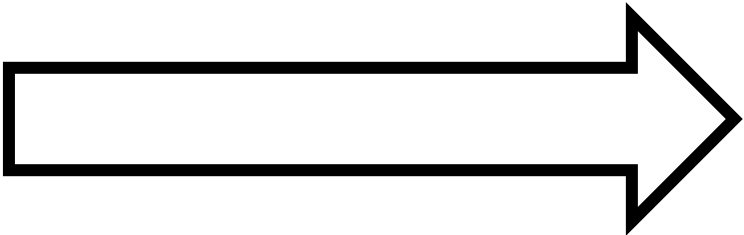
MSc in Biodiversity, Conservation and Management – University of Oxford

BSc in Environmental Science – Aberystwyth University

Project Manager, Sub-regional coordinator for Western Balkans, Policy support

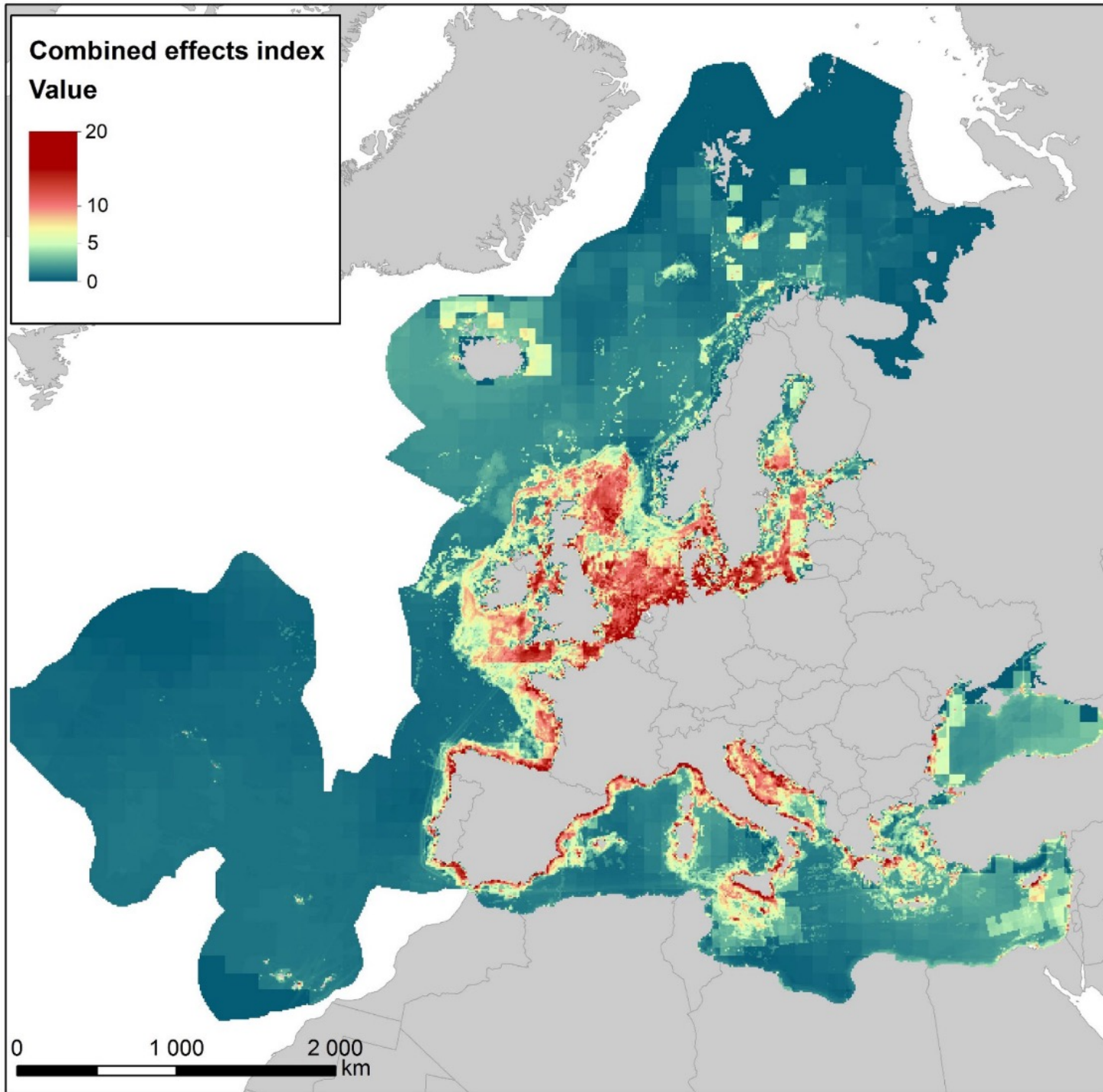
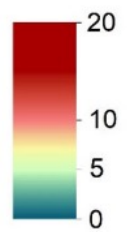


# LINEAR SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACE



# Combined effects index

Value



## Marine messages II

Navigating the course towards clean, healthy and productive seas through implementation of an ecosystem-based approach



European Environment Agency

### JRC TECHNICAL REPORT

## Marine Strategy Framework Directive Review and analysis of EU Member States' 2018 reports

### Descriptor 11: Underwater Noise and Energy

Assessment (Art.8), Good  
Environmental Status (Art. 9) and  
Targets (Art. 10)

Morgana Vighi, Simona T. Boschetti, Georg Hanke  
2021



EN 2020

26

Special Report | **Marine environment:  
EU protection is wide but not deep**



EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS



Towards  
Marine  
Assess-  
ment

SEAS AT RISK

OCEANA



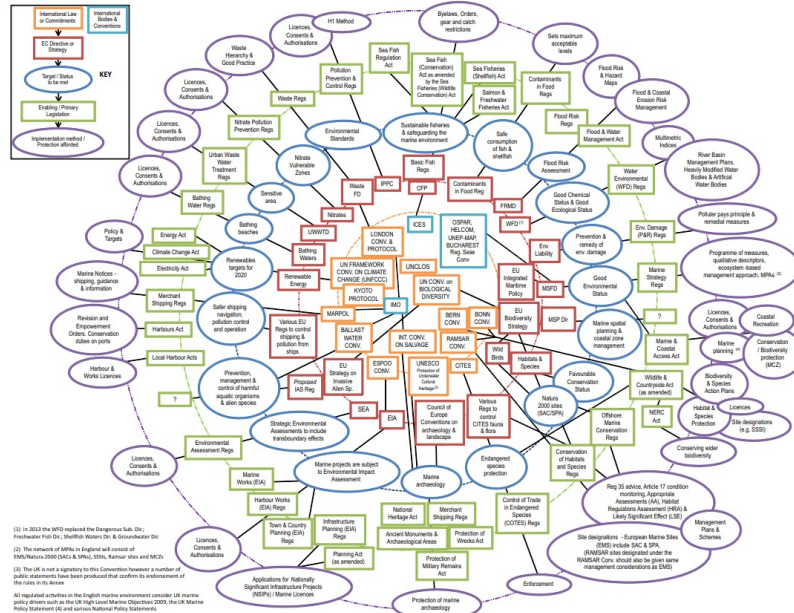
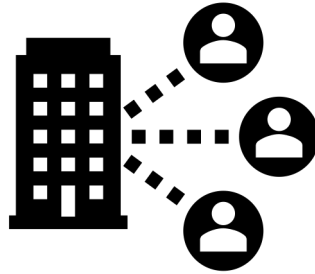
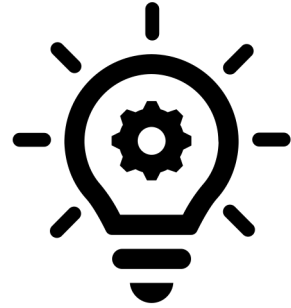
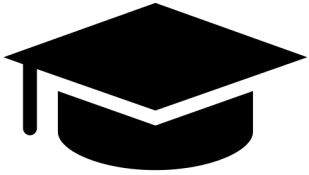
MSFD Programmes of  
Measures  
An NGO evaluation

## State of nature in the EU Results from reporting under the nature directives 2013-2018



European Environment Agency

# POLICY-MAKER REALITY (OFTEN)



# QUOTES

The **science has to be filtered** to get to us. National reporting and agencies, EMSA, EEA. I **do not look at individual scientific papers**. (Naomi, EU)

The **timing is so crucial**, the urgency of the things, and of course of formats, so the policy implementers need the precise information at that very moment. If we don't have that, then policies are done anyway. You cannot stop the train, the train has gone. So if the policy evidence is not clear and ready, if it's ambiguous, if it's not there, then yes, it is not taken into account. (Naomi, EU)

I work so much on our **own assessment**, that's where I would probably internalize most of my information from. (Brina, RSC)

Underpinning of decisions with hard data, which scientists often can't deliver because **science is not always so accurate**. It's not easy to find one person or organization that can deliver what we want. What we are trying to do is an expert proposal for policy. We are administrators, but **we come often from technical background** (Harry, EU)

I would say that **my networks** would be the main information. (Ladon, EU)

We hire or we really pay universities and marine institutes to devote time to think about **the questions that we asked them**. (Luke, national)

We have quite long history of **state assessments**. (Charles, national)

**MORE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE RESOURCES**



**VERY STRONG FRAMING**

**STRICT FRAMING**

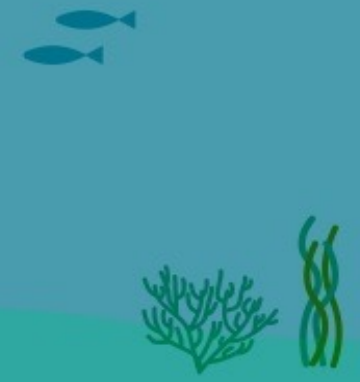
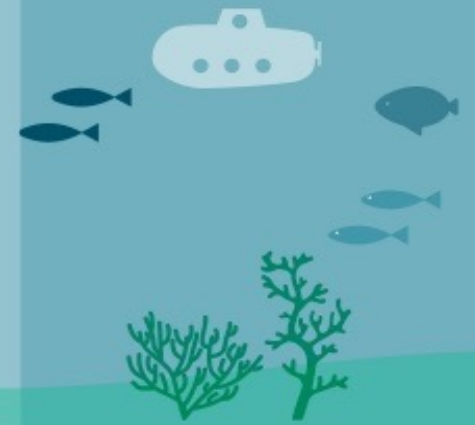
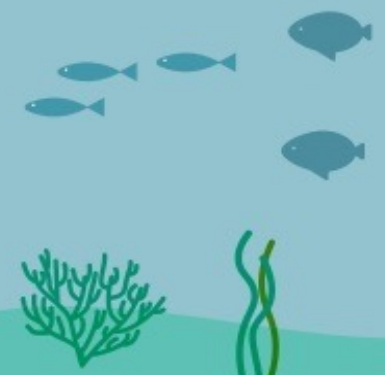
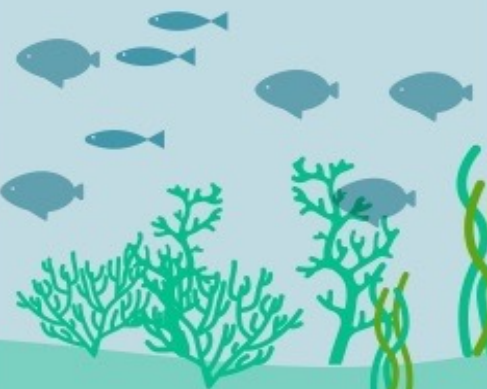
**REGIONAL FRAMING**

**PRAGMATIC FRAMING**

**SUSTAINABLE USE FRAMING**

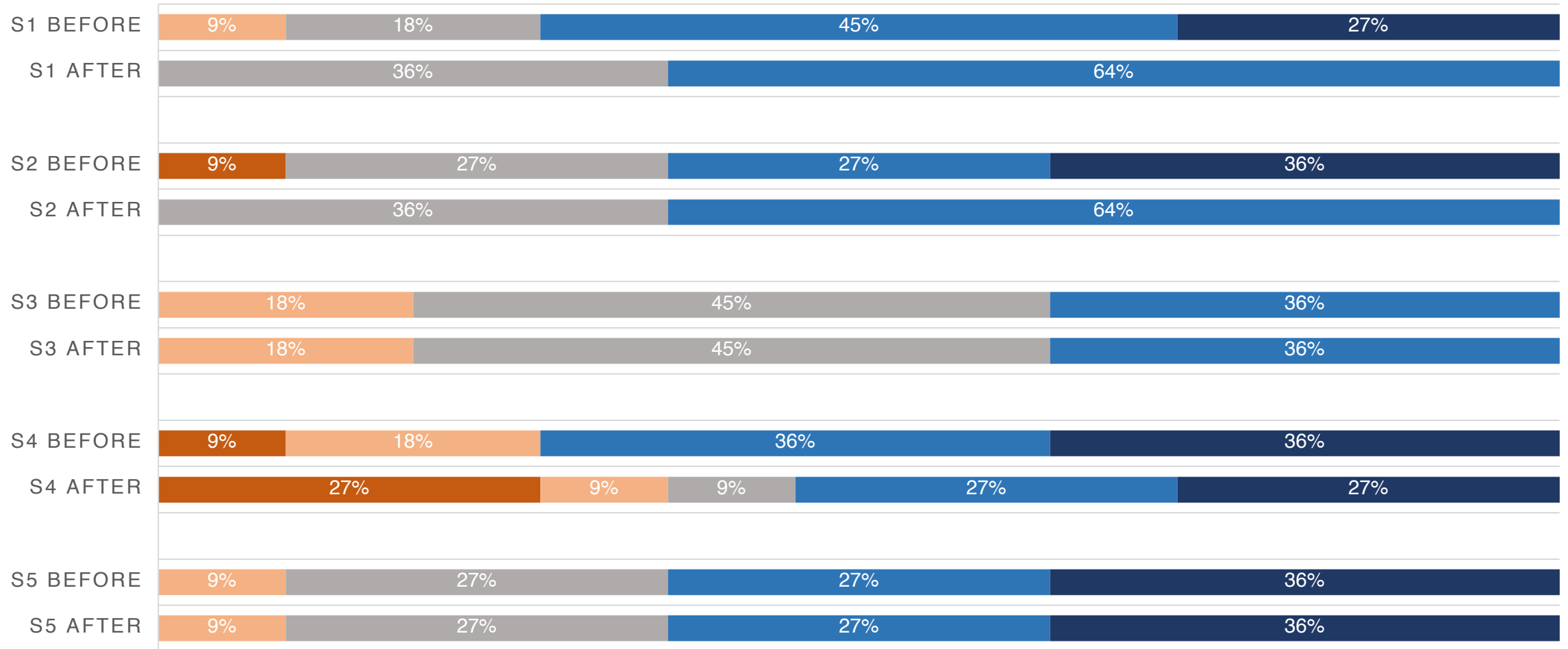
**VERY STRICT CONSERVATION**

**SUSTAINABLE USE**



## MEDITERRANEAN

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree



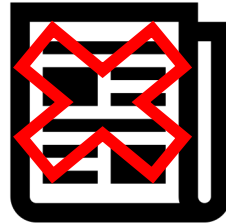


# HOW TO NAVIGATE THE POLICY WORLD THEN?

1. Engage with policy actors



2. Don't count on anyone reading papers

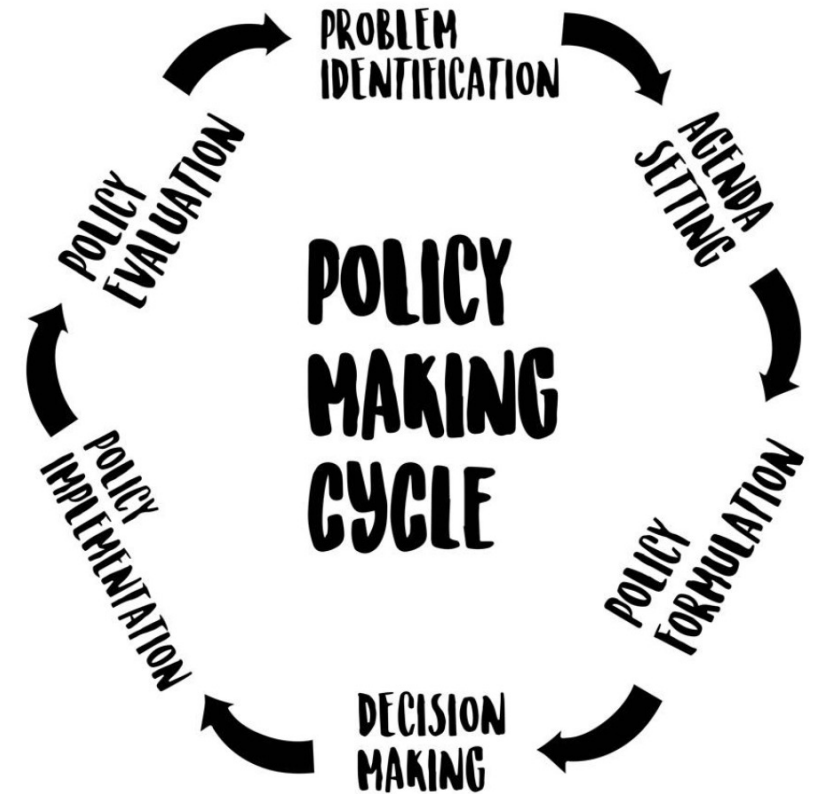


3. Don't assume that data alone will be enough to make policy actors act



4. Be aware of relevant policies and the policy process

- Policy windows



THANKS FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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