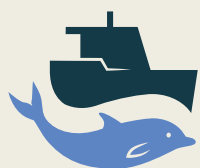


Coordinated Cetacean
Assessment,
Monitoring and
Management
Strategy in the Bay
of Biscay and Iberian
Coast sub-region



**CETAM
BICION**



Objective

The CetAMBICion project is a first step towards **achieving a coordinated regional assessment of Good Environmental Status (GES)** for cetaceans in the subregion Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast.

It includes 15 partners from Spain, France and Portugal to strengthen cooperation between the three countries, in close collaboration with the fishing industry.

Until 2023, the project will work to improve scientific knowledge on population abundance, incidental bycatch and on mitigation measures of the latter.



Marine Strategy Framework Directive

The project is part of the European Commission's DG ENV/MSFD 2020 (Marine Strategy Framework Directive) call and the objectives are aligned with the Habitats Directive and the Common Fisheries Policy too.

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive aims to achieve Good Environmental Status (GES) of the EU's marine waters and to protect the resource base upon which marine-related economic and social activities depend.

To achieve its goal, the Directive establishes European marine regions and sub-regions based on geographical and environmental criteria. **Cooperation** is required by the MSFD to carry out the assessments and to reach GES.



Cooperation and participation

The project is based on the involvement and active participation of:

The competent authorities for MSFD implementation in the three Member States concerned: Spain, France and Portugal

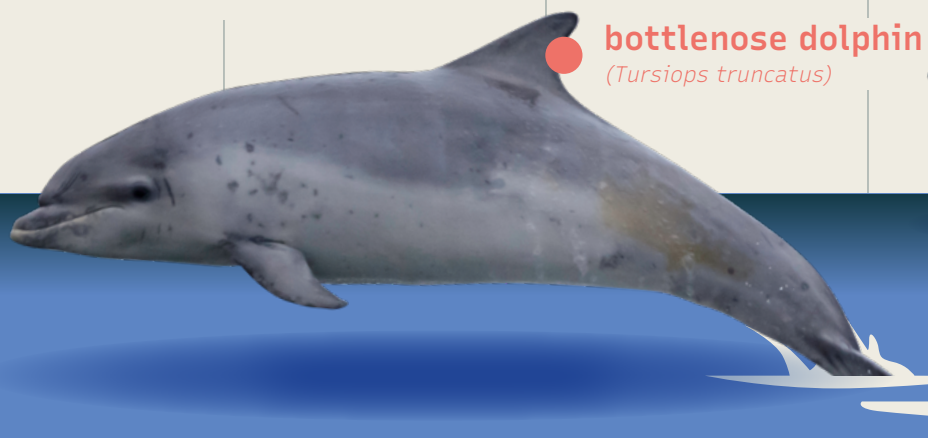
The competent national authorities for the implementation of Natura 2000 and the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

Fisheries sector

Several major research departments with a relevant scientific track record in the study of marine ecosystems, food webs, cetacean biology and conservation

Cetaceans

The species of this project, among many others, are:



Implementation period

2021

2022

2023



Activities

The project is based on three pillars to achieve its purpose: research, participation, and conservation and training.



1

Research

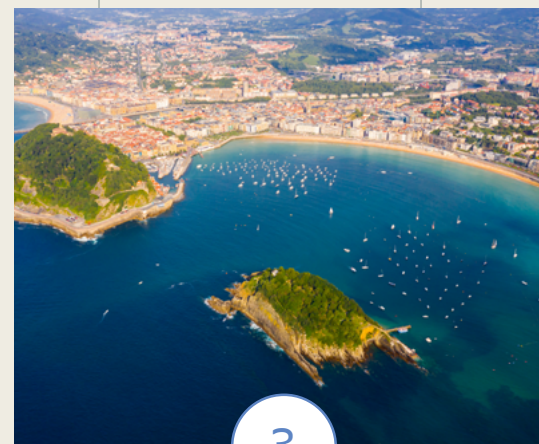
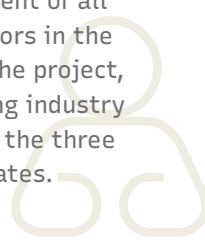
A Scientific Council with a broad panel of experts provide the knowledge and the expertise.



2

Participation

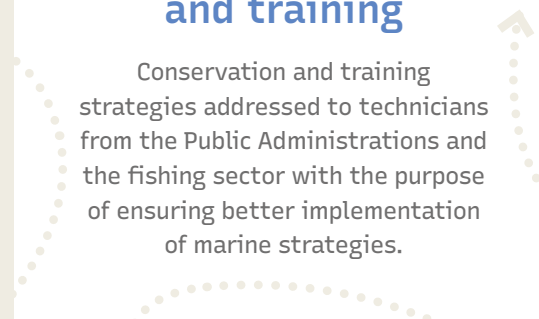
Active involvement of all the relevant actors in the development of the project, such as the fishing industry and NGOs across the three Member States.



3

Conservation and training

Conservation and training strategies addressed to technicians from the Public Administrations and the fishing sector with the purpose of ensuring better implementation of marine strategies.



Review of MSFD and state-of-the-art for cetaceans

To support the establishment of new coordinated measures considering the main threats affecting the good environmental status of marine mammals in the sub-region.

Proposal of coordinated assessment and monitoring strategy for cetaceans

To develop the necessary tools for the regional assessment of cetacean species and their populations, suitable to provide key biological information still missing.

Proposal of coordinated assessment and monitoring strategy for cetacean bycatch

To analyse the bycatch sampling schemes currently implemented in this sub-region and propose a common coordinated strategy and protocol for the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast.

Effectiveness assessment of cetacean bycatch reduction strategies and fishing technical measures proposal

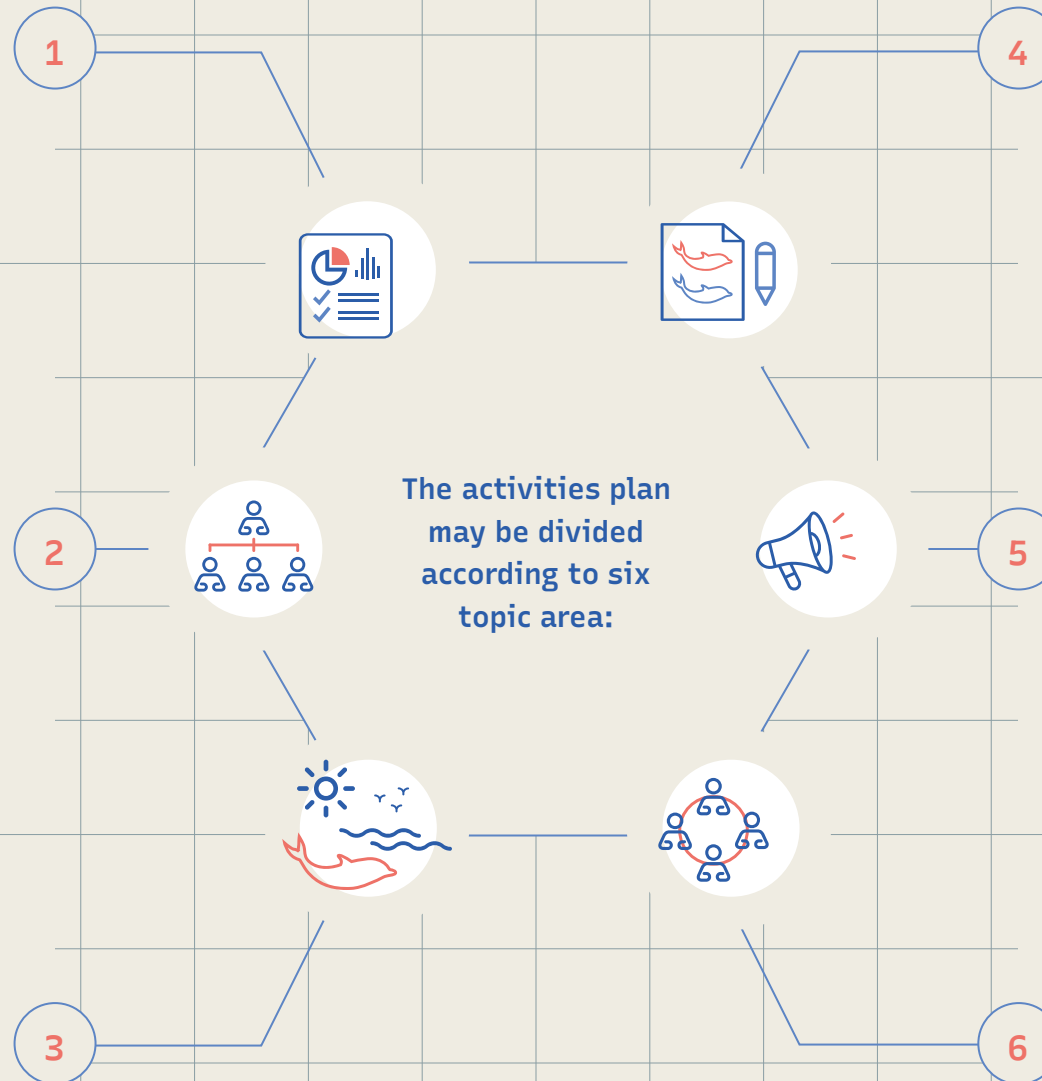
To perform a series of pilot studies onboard commercial fishing vessels and to assess the potential fisheries technical measures to the fisheries management.

Dissemination of results

To ensure the legacy of the project and its dissemination, transferring the results and deliverables to key end-users and promoting their implementation.

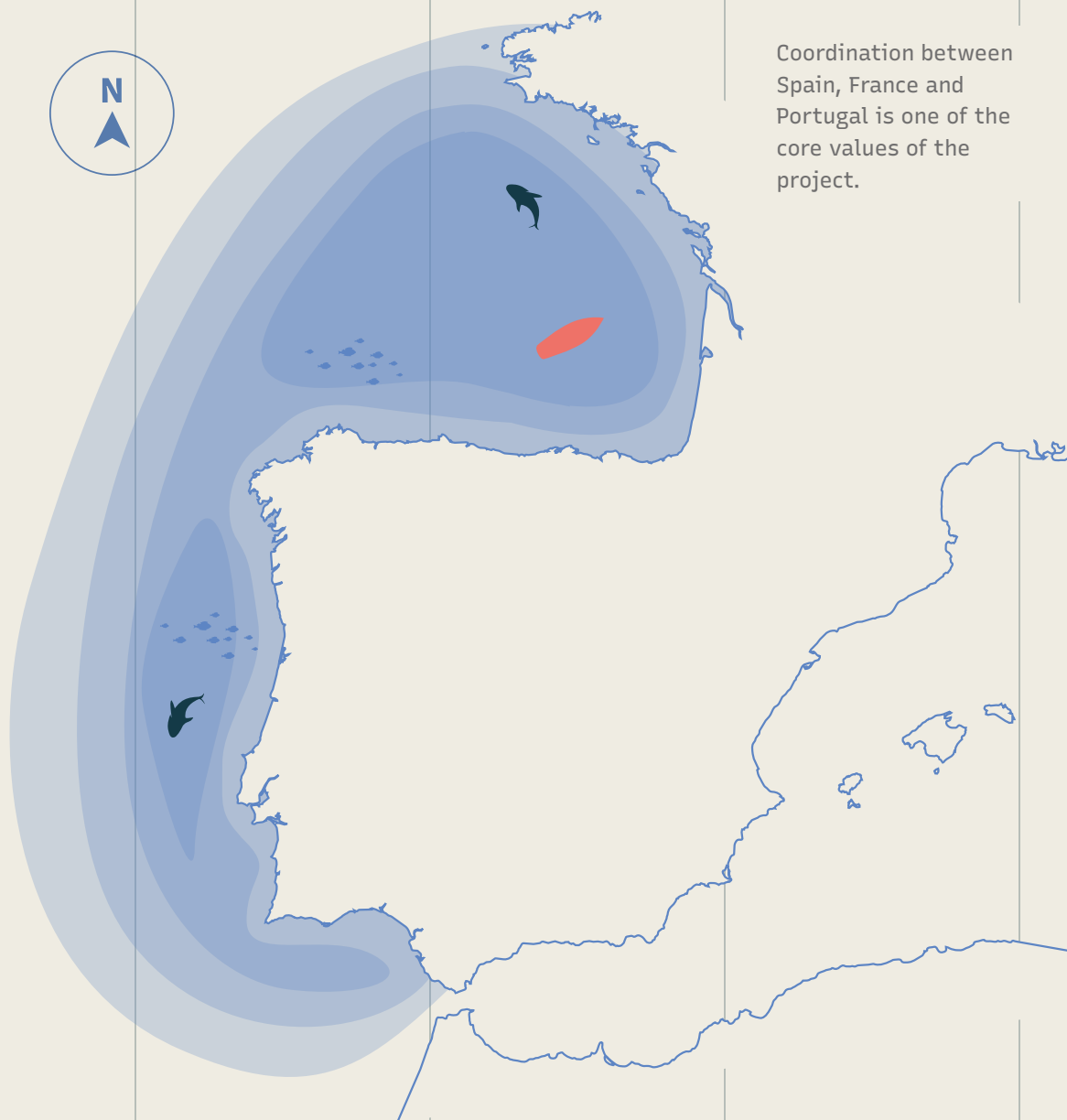
Coordination

Clear guidelines and procedures for internal decision-making and communication among the partners.





Area of action



Coordination between Spain, France and Portugal is one of the core values of the project.

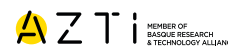
Partners

The project involves 15 partners from Member States (MS) Spain, France and Portugal.

Coordination



Partners



SECRETARÍA GENERAL DE PESCA





Get involved in the CetAMBICion project
Coordinated Cetacean Assessment, Monitoring and
Management Strategy in the Bay of Biscay and Iberian
Coast sub-region

www.cetambicion-project.eu