

# Marine mammals management toolkit



The Marine Mammal Management  
Toolkit: A tool for MPA managers and  
policy makers

27th Meeting of the Advisory Committee to ASCOBANS

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*Funded by the European Union*

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# Ocean Governance Project: Protecting and restoring marine ecosystems as catalysts for building peace and security and fostering sustainable economies in South-East Asia and the Atlantic Ocean basin

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*Funded by the European Union Partnership  
Instrument*



# The Marine Mammal Twinning

## MAIN OBJECTIVES

1

To build technical capacities of MPA managers by sharing knowledge, expertise and good practice.

2

To provide MPA managers with a toolbox (the self-assessment tool to "track" the integration of marine mammals into MPA management plans and the checklist).

3

To create a network of peers that could provide assistance to other MPA managers on an ad-hoc basis.

4

To promote the developed toolbox and Adapt the toolbox to other migratory species such as turtles or other significant species in South-East Asia.

# Current Twinning Partners

- **MPAs**
  - Agoa Sanctuary
  - The Iroise Marine Nature Park
  - Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
  - “Yarari” Marine Mammal & Shark Sanctuary
- **National entities**
  - Ministry of Agriculture & Env., Cape Verde
  - Gov. of Bermuda’s Dpt. Of Env. & Natural Resources
  - Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Government of Canada \*
- **Others**
  - University of Iceland
  - SPAW-RAC
  - International Whaling Commission (IWC)\*
  - Whale & Dolphin Conservation (WDC) \*







## Marine mammals management toolkit

This toolkit is being developed within the framework of the “Marine mammals, a way to enhance cooperation between Marine Protected Areas” twinning. This twinning is part of the [Ocean Governance project](#).

The toolkit (which includes the factsheet, good practices and the Self-Assessment Tool) was designed to support managers, operators, policy makers and anyone interested in marine mammals' conservation.

[> Read more](#)

# Toolkit Components

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- The Toolkit contains key components:
  - Factsheets
  - Self-Assessment Tool (incl. SAT-LITE\*)
  - Community of Practice\*
  - Good Practices
  - News, Newsletter & Events
- All designed to be supportive & interlinked



# Factsheets

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- 23 factsheets available
- Designed to accompany the self-assessment tool (SAT)
- Five core themes:
  - Management Framework
  - Addressing Activities & Threats
  - Research & Monitoring
  - Outreach & Engagement
  - Management Effectiveness
- Continually evolving with advances in conservation actions





# Factsheets

## Themes

The factsheets are designed to accompany the self-assessment tool (SAT) in supporting those involved in the integration of marine mammals into MPA management plans. The toolkit itself is flexible and will continue to evolve, as will these factsheets, to incorporate international best practice, new case studies, the latest scientific information, and new factsheets as relevant. The factsheets are continuously updated and should you have any comments/suggestions please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

### Management framework

- > MPA management with respect to marine mammals
- > Coordination between agencies with respect to marine mammal conservation
- > Zoning and permitting
- > Planned responses and contingency plans for major incidents

### Addressing the activities and threats

- > Whale and dolphin watching
- > Noise management
- > Entanglement in fishing gear and other installations
- > Marine Mammal By-catch (fishing)
- > Collision / strike
- > Strandings

### Research and monitoring

- > Baseline Knowledge – Ecology of Marine Mammal, their Habitats and their threats
- > Ecological Monitoring – protocols and techniques
- > Measured Ecological Variables (by MPA management or partner organisations)
- > Frequency of Monitoring
- > Data sharing
- > Socio-economic monitoring
- > Marine Mammal Research / scientific permits / agreements

### Outreach and engagement

- > Involvement of stakeholders and other partners in marine mammal management
- > Education/ Communication/ Awareness raising

### Management effectiveness

- > Compliance and Enforcement
- > Reporting / Reviewing management effectiveness
- > Overall management capacity across all operations affecting marine mammal conservation
- > Resource Allocation to Research, Monitoring and Enforcement



# Self-Assessment Tool

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- Excel Tool – Offline usability
- WEB-SAT - Online
- Guided multiple choice questions
- Questions are scored to produce a snapshot assessment of the MPA
- Performance against the 5 core themes
- Temporal monitoring
- Both tools available in French, Spanish and English

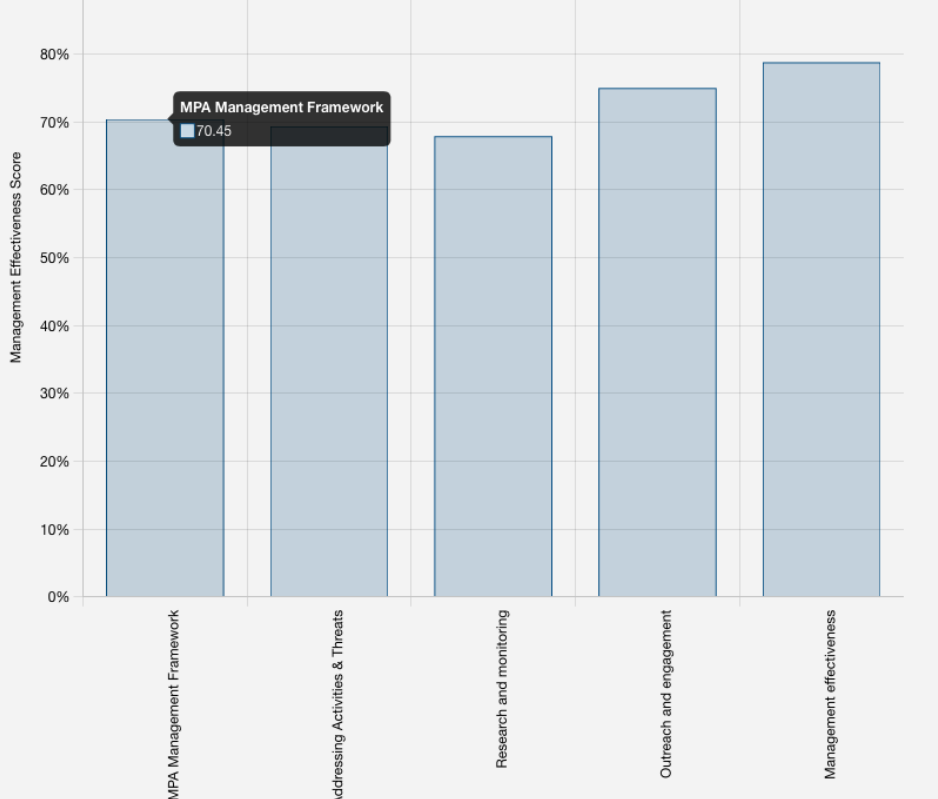
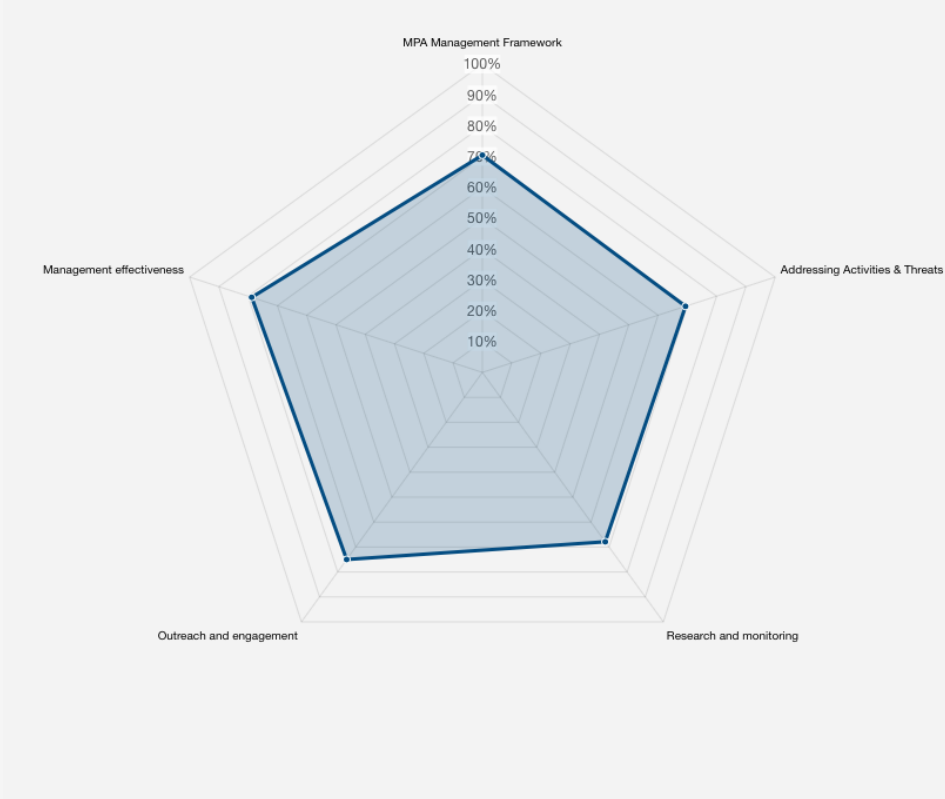


# Marine Management Dashboard

Marine Management Group Scores			
Group	Score	Max Score	%
MPA Management Framework	31	44	70.45%
Addressing Activities & Threats	68	98	69.39%
Research and monitoring	55	81	67.90%
Outreach and engagement	24	32	75.00%
Management effectiveness	26	33	78.79%
Total	204	288	70.83%

Management Effectiveness Score

7.1





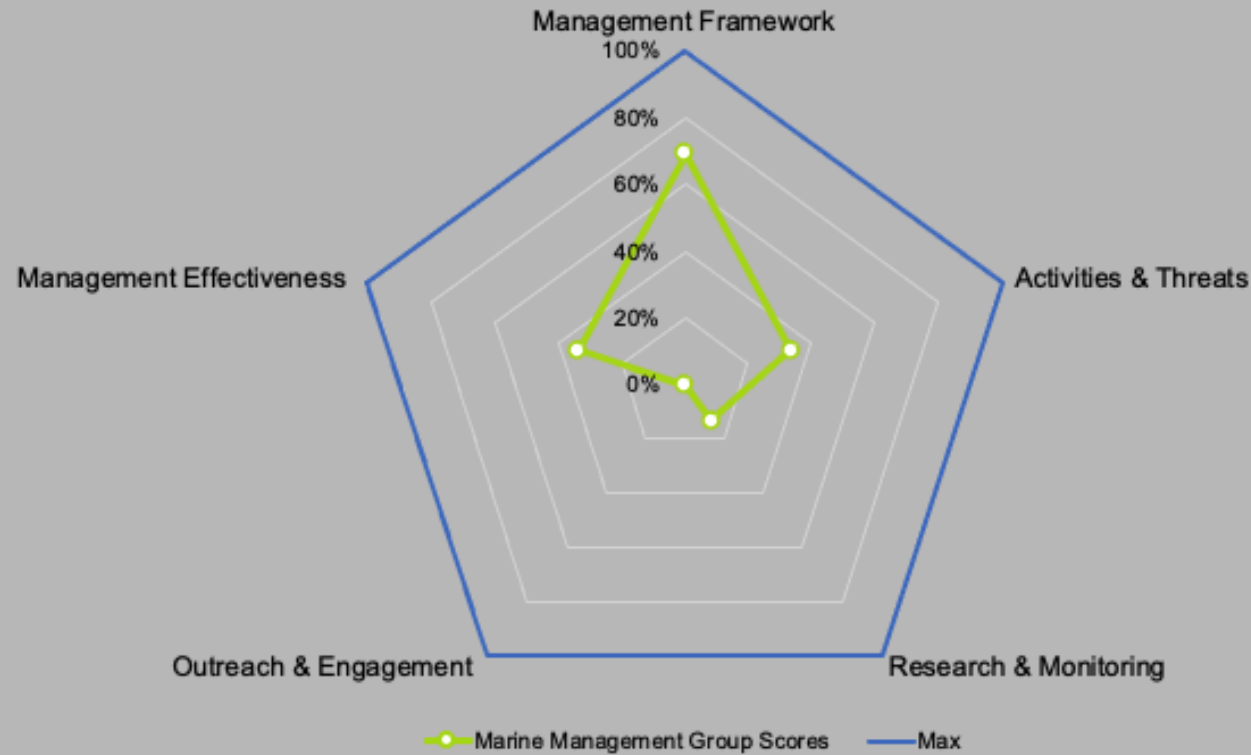
# SAT-LITE

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- SAT-LITE has been built in excel
- Acts as a pre-cursor for the SAT – provides recommendations on ‘next steps’
- Reduced questions and increased interaction
- Next Steps
  - Requires final testing for dashboard and results
  - Will share with partners for review
  - Launch online



# SAT-LITE DASHBOARD



Should I complete the full SAT?

YES: With special attention to the below themes

## Marine Management Group Scores

Group	Score	Max Score	%
Management Framework	29	42	69%
Activities & Threats	14	42	33%
Research & Monitoring	2	15	13%
Outreach & Engagement	0	6	0%
Management Effectiveness	3	9	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>42%</b>

## Greatest Perceived Threats

- Noise	High	Action required →	<a href="#">Click here</a>
- Entanglement	Medium	Review factsheet →	<a href="#">Click here</a>
- Ship strike	Low	No action	
- Stranding	Medium	Review factsheet →	<a href="#">Click here</a>
- Bycatch	High	Action required →	<a href="#">Click here</a>
- Marine debris	High	Action required →	<a href="#">Click here</a>
- Marine Mammal Watching	None	No action	

MPA Management Framework	Answer	Awarded Score	Max Score	% of Max Score
MPA management with respect to marine mammals				
Do the stated objectives of the MPA include marine mammal biodiversity?	Yes	3	3	100%
Is marine mammal management within the MPA described clearly and in detail within a management plan?	Yes	3	3	100%
Does the management plan allow for modifications to regulations in response to the following threats to marine mammals?				
- marine mammal watching	Yes	3	3	100%
- noise management	No	0	3	0%
- entanglement in fishing gear and other installations	Yes	3	3	100%
- marine mammal by-catch (fishing)	No	0	3	0%



# Community of Practice (CoP)

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Providing a forum to discuss ideas, problems, issues and create invaluable networking opportunities for the effective management of marine mammals within, and around, MPAs for the users to the tool

- MPA Managers welcome to join & asked to complete the SAT for their MPA
- Will have access to mentors, exchange knowledge with other MPA managers
- Mailing list to ask questions
- Able to add the "logo" on their material
- Opportunities to attend conferences & workshops



# A Tool for Multiple Purposes

- A tool for Monitoring the progress of MPAs
- A checklist for developing management plans
- Understand weaknesses and successes in management plans
- Adaptive management
- Capacity building tool for empowering managers
- Towards effective management of marine mammals





# How can you be involved

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- Use the SAT (contact us if you need more information or help)
- Review to toolkit, especially the factsheets
- Submit good practices and case studies
- Join the Community of Practice



# Newsletter

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Register to the newsletter:

<https://marine-mammals.info/newsletter/>

Marine  
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**The Marine Mammal  
Twinning Newsletter**

March 2022

*Welcome to the Ocean Governance Marine Mammal Twinning Newsletter, which gives you the latest updates from the twinning, new studies, events and advances in the world of MPAs and marine mammal conservation.*







**Marine Mammals workshop, May 2022, Cambridge**

CONTACT US

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[www.marine-mammals.info](http://www.marine-mammals.info)

[www.marine-mammals.info/newsletter](http://www.marine-mammals.info/newsletter)

# Thank-you



