

MPAs and seabird conservation in Spain: achievements and weaknesses

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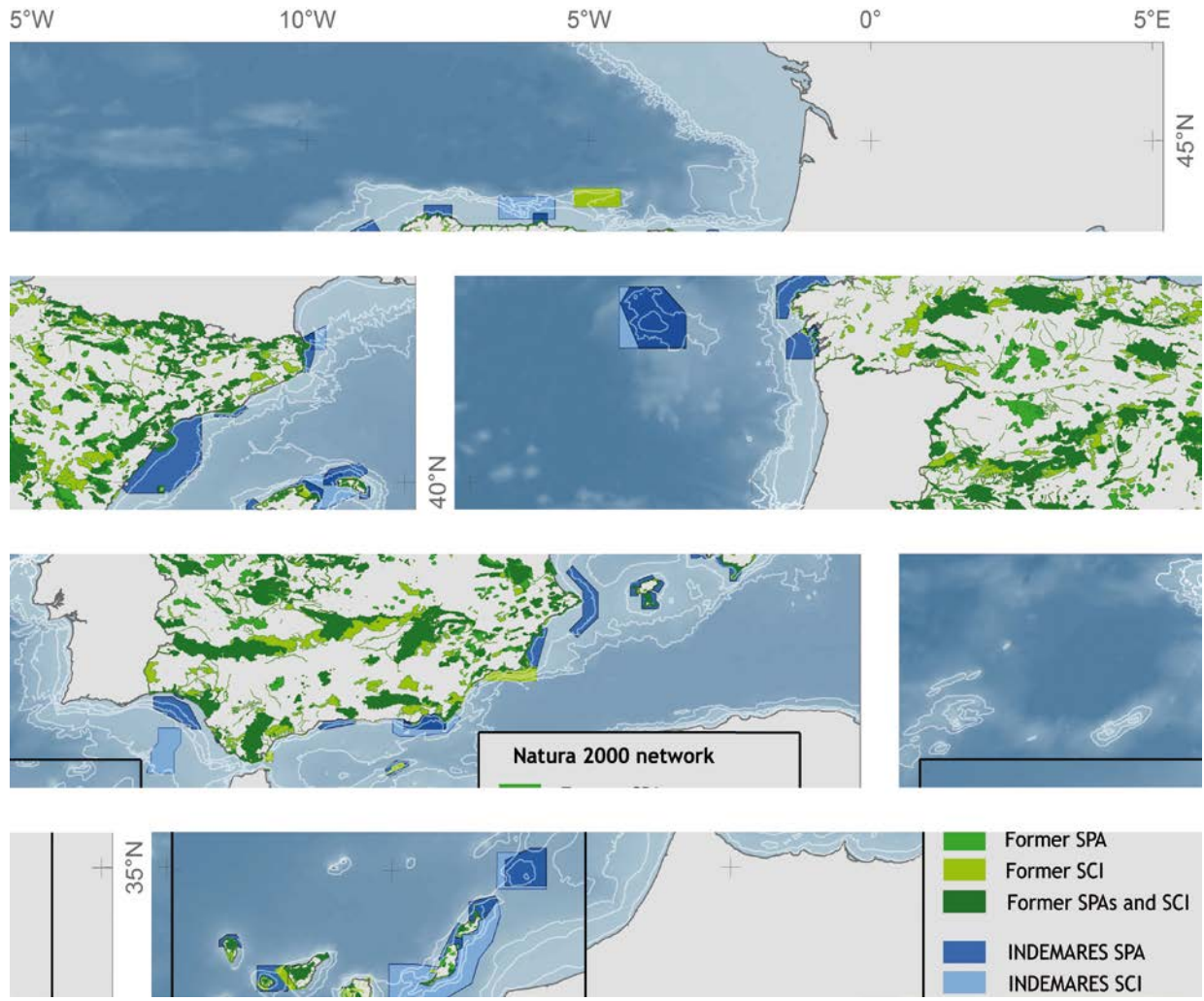


**PROTECTING SEABIRDS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN:
ADVANCING THE MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORK**

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP
23RD - 25TH NOVEMBER 2015



MPA current situation: Marine Natura 2000 – July 2014



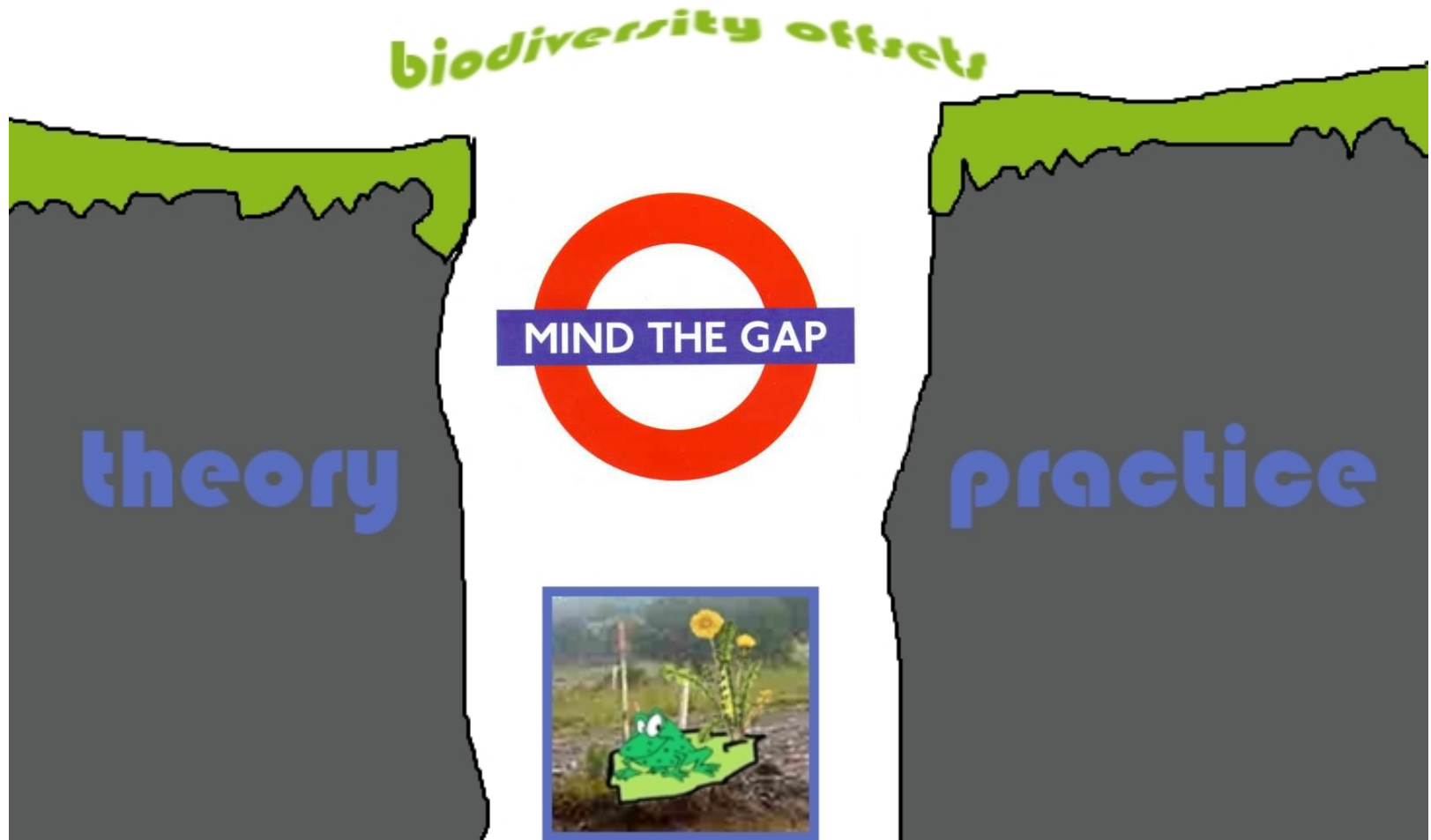
- Sound - based on IBAs
- 39 SPAs
- 49.000 km²
- **x20 previous SPA surface**
- ~ 5% Spanish waters
- Management guidelines available
- Commitment to approve management plans within 2 years!!! (ongoing work)
- Current integration in MPA Spanish network (RAMPE)

INDEMARES



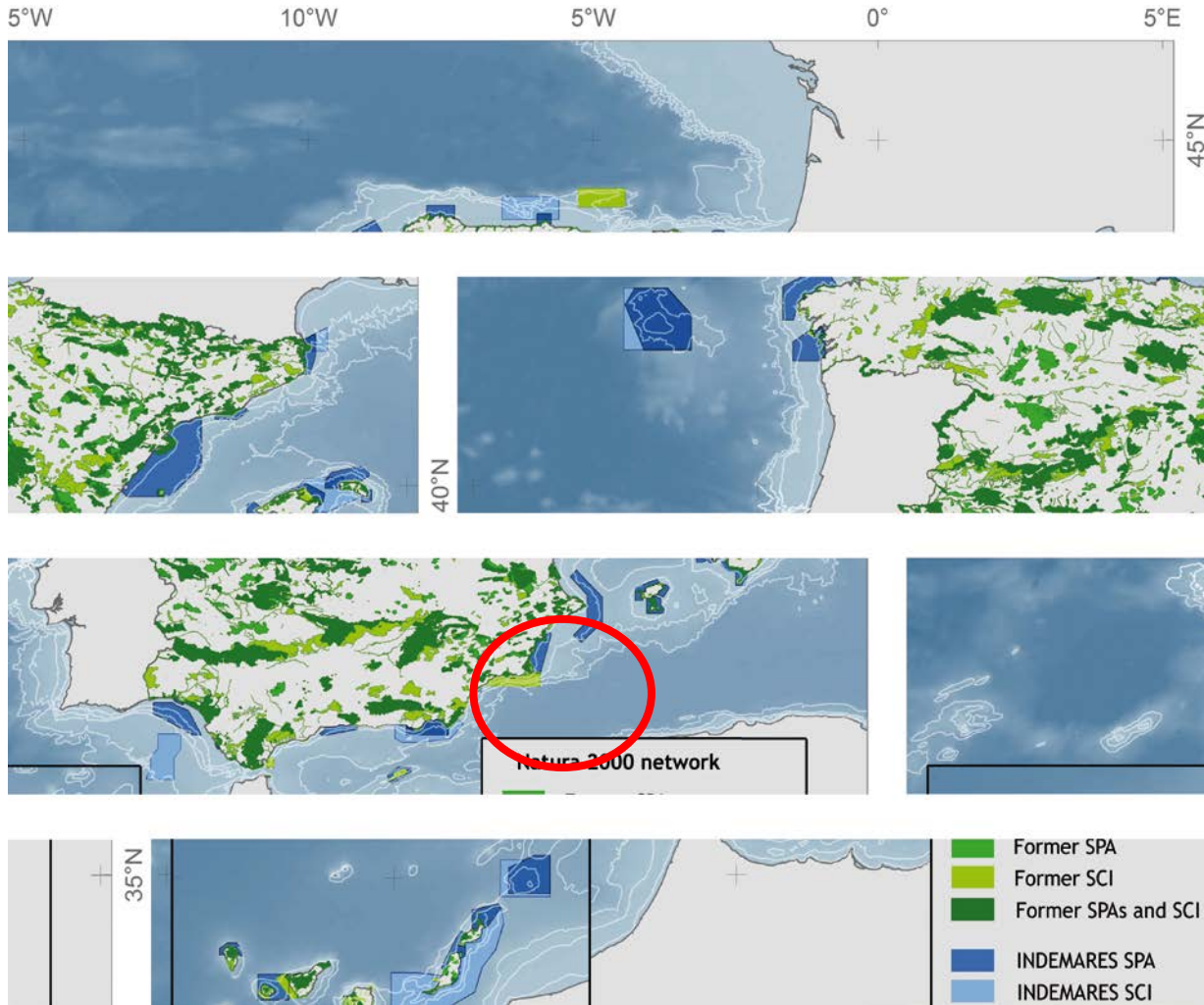


- **Marine strategies**
 - Initial evaluation + conservation objectives (2012)
 - Monitoring programmes (2014)
 - Programmes of measures (2015)
- **Common fisheries policy**
 - Ecosystem based approach
 - Seabird Action Plan (bycatch)
 - Data collection protocols
- **Species action plans/strategies**
 - Balearic shearwater (2005, current update)
 - Scopoli's shearwaters (draft)
- **[Environmental legislation – BHD...]**



- Lack of budget
- High expectancies out of little investment (disconnection with reality)
- Fear to upset stakeholders
- Lack of willingness regarding implementation
- Low coordination: Spanish – Regional governments
- Limited monitoring:
 - Lack of background information
 - Lack of willingness/appraisal
- Vague targets
- Weak enforcement
- Low public awareness/involvement (lack of true participative processes)
- International coordination (for specific issues)

Blockages/gaps regarding MPAs



- No management plans yet
- Coordination (national)
- Coordination (international)
- Gaps:
 - Political
 - Knowledge
- Fear to stakeholders
- Lack of real participation

INDEMARES

A close-up photograph of a bird, likely a species of gull or tern, sitting on a nest made of dark, textured twigs. The bird has grey feathers on its head and neck, and white feathers on its chest. Its beak is yellowish-brown. A blue thought bubble is positioned above the bird's head, containing the text "Thank you!!!".

Thank you!!!