



## 2<sup>ND</sup> MAIA PROJECT'S MEETING - INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP:

### “Developing common monitoring strategies for EU Atlantic MPAs”

November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at Sesimbra (Portugal)

For the first time, a group of countries, which share a common area of sea, are taking the first steps to develop the ways in which they monitor new networks of protected areas of sea. Scientists and MPA managers, from Portugal, Spain, France and United Kingdom, worked with global experts to help develop techniques that can be applied in the Atlantic region.



The Workshop was organized by IPIMAR, the Portuguese Sea Research Institute and gathered during two days 70 attendees. Speakers from renowned scientific laboratories were invited: IFREMER (France), Roscoff's biological station (France), and the Universities of California (USA), Murcia (Spain), Algarve (Portugal) and Bangor (U.K.). The exchanges focused on the following MPAs: the Professor Luiz Saldanha marine park (Portugal), the Iroise marine nature park (France), the Chausey archipelago and Port-Cros national park (France) and the Countryside Council for Wales Maes y Ffynnon (U.K.).

#### *MAIA Workshop's conclusions*

The International MAIA Workshop conclusions underline the interest among participants to **define a common methodological framework of how an MPA is monitored**. The development of such monitoring would be implemented by MPA and research teams on selected sites trialling a set of standard and common indicators. The workshop's proceedings will propose a first framework of indicators for MPAs in the Atlantic arc, available in 2011.

#### *MAIA: a European project*

The purpose of MAIA is to create a **network of MPA managers**, which will **take initiatives** on an international level in terms of designation, governance and management and be involved in the development of a representative, consistent, efficient and accepted **network of Marine Protected Areas** in the Atlantic arc.

This project is financed, during the 2010 – 2012 period, by the Interreg IV B Atlantic Area programme under the priority 2 “protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment sustainability”.

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