

Management as an adaptive process: Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve



Tools for MPA governance: management plans
MAIA INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP
11 - 13 June 2012
A Coruña, Galiza – Spain

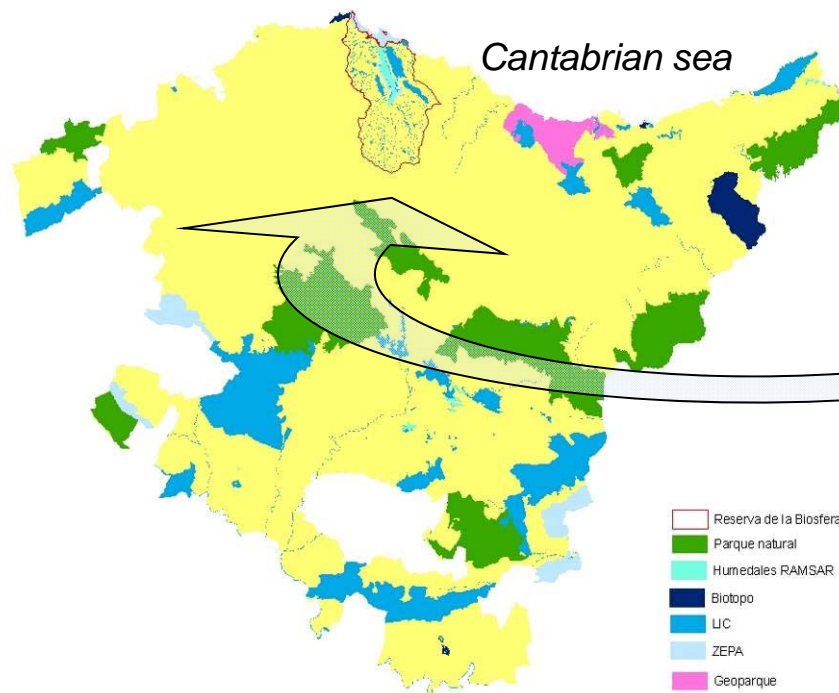


INGURUMEN, LURRALDE
PLANGINTZA, NEKAZARITZA
ETA ARRANTZA SAILA
DEPARTAMENTO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE,
PLANIFICACIÓN TERRITORIAL,
AGRICULTURA Y PESCA

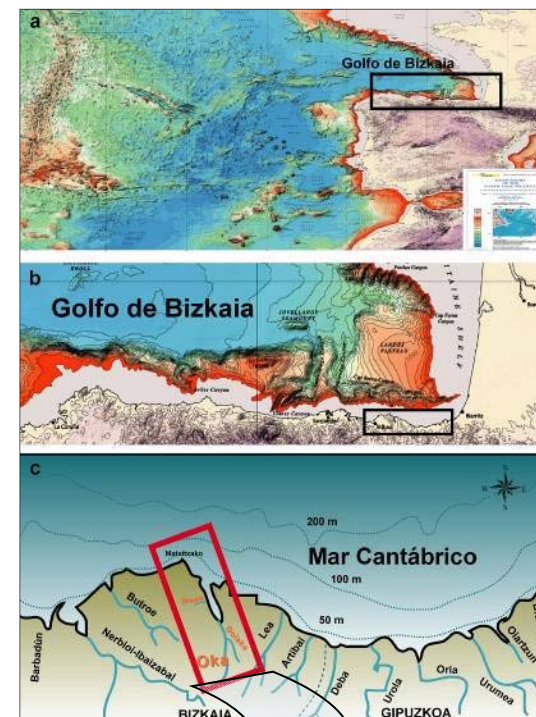


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Environment Vice-government of Basque Govern. Basque Country (Spain).

Protected areas in Basque country.

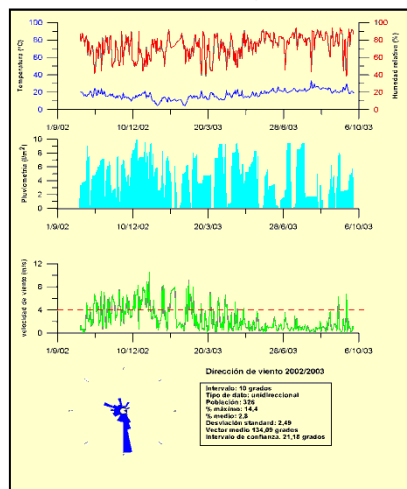


- Reserva de la Biosfera de Urdaibai
- Parque natural
- Humedales RAMSAR
- Biotopo
- UC
- ZEPA
- Geoparque

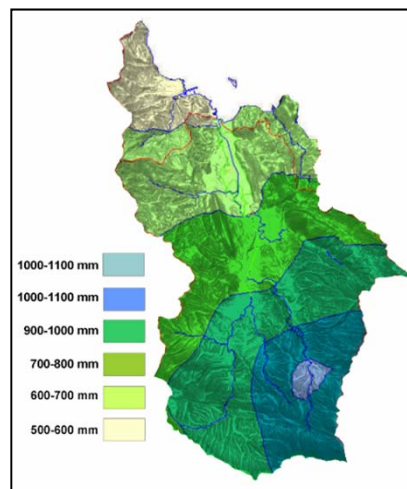


Physical parameters.

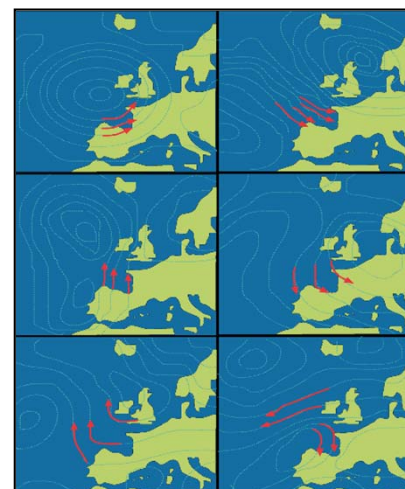
Meteorology



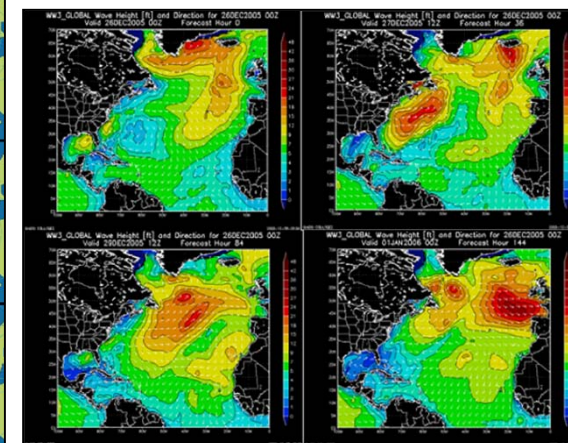
Precipitation



Winds

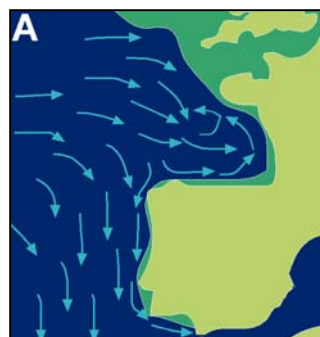


Storms

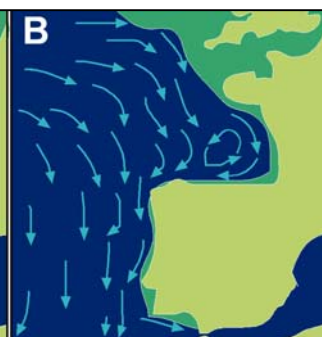


Litoral currents

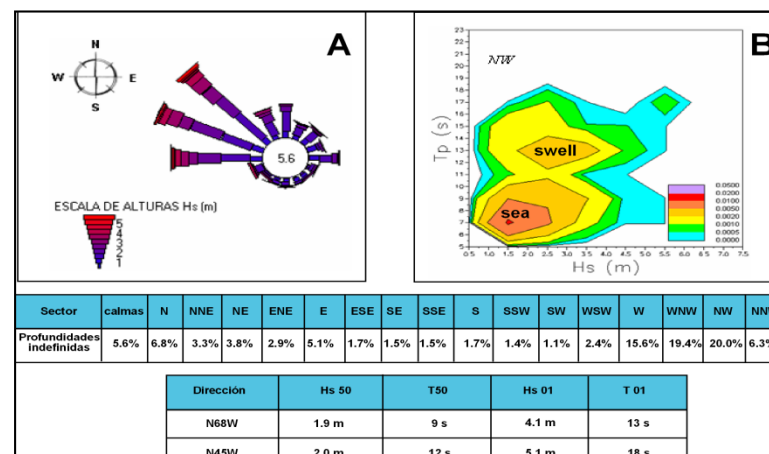
Winter



Summer



Waves



Human development (1)

Prehistory



From: J.C. López Quintana

1959

Romans



Middle Ages



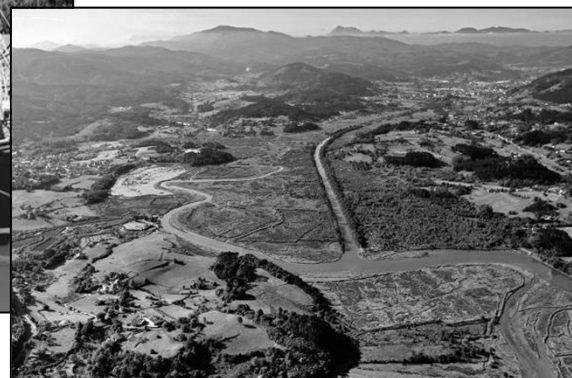
From: Gernika-Lumo Council

1969

XVI-XIX



Human development (2)



General data



- Oka river hydrographic basin.
- Surface: 22.000 hectares
- 22 municipality.
- Spread building and main villages (Bermeo & Gernika-Lumo).
- Population: 45.000 people.
- 90 % private
- Unemployment : 10 %

Natural and cultural heritage

- ❑ Ecosystems: Estuary, Littoral, Oak forest, rivers, Atlantic landscape,...
- ❑ Superior plants: 821
- ❑ Vertebrates: 318
- ❑ Birds: 268
- ❑ Mammals: 51
- ❑ Reptiles: 12
- ❑ Fish: 66
- ❑ Amphibious: 14
- ❑ Classified species: 85
- ❑ Geosites: 52
- ❑ Cultural heritage (material & immaterial)

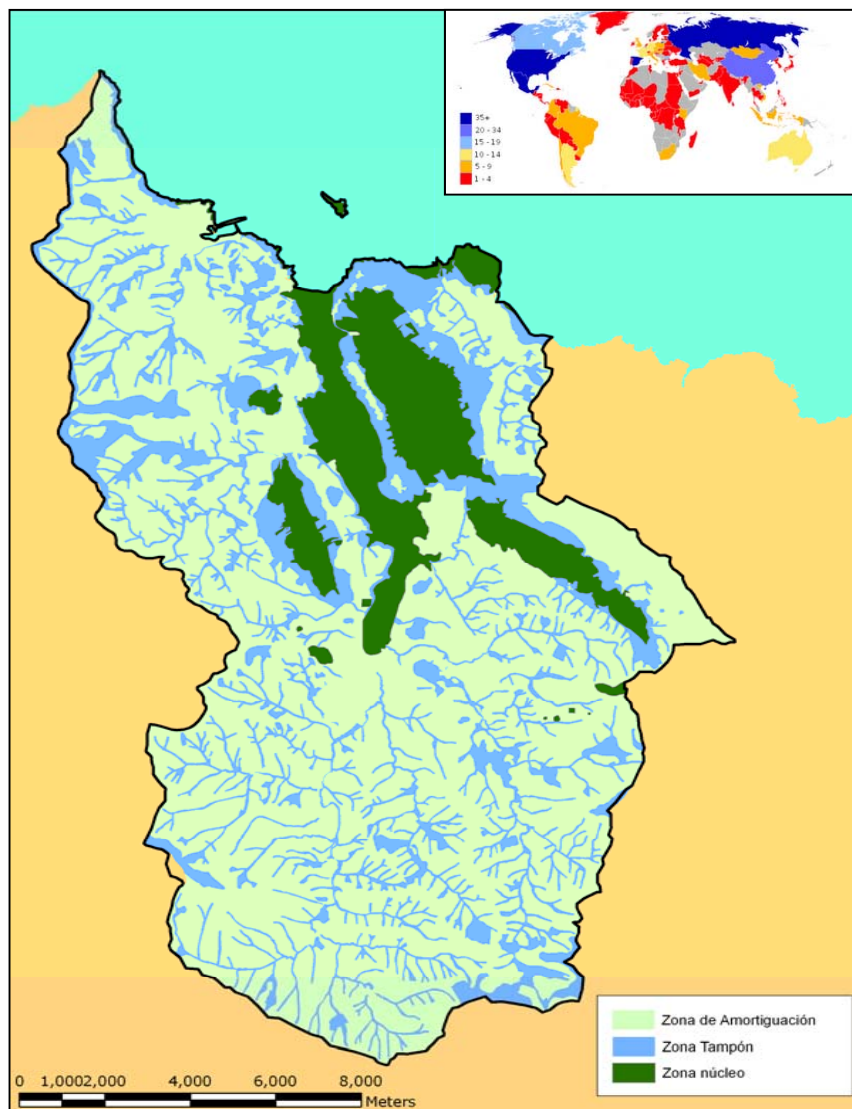


Historical background

General urban Plan (70's).



Plannning (2)



NUCLEOUS ZONE = ZONES OF SPECIAL PROTECTION

- ESTUARY (P.0; P.1; P.1.1; P.2; C.1)
- COAST (C.2)
- OAK FOREST (P.3)
- ARCHEOLOGICAL AREAS (YC; YA)

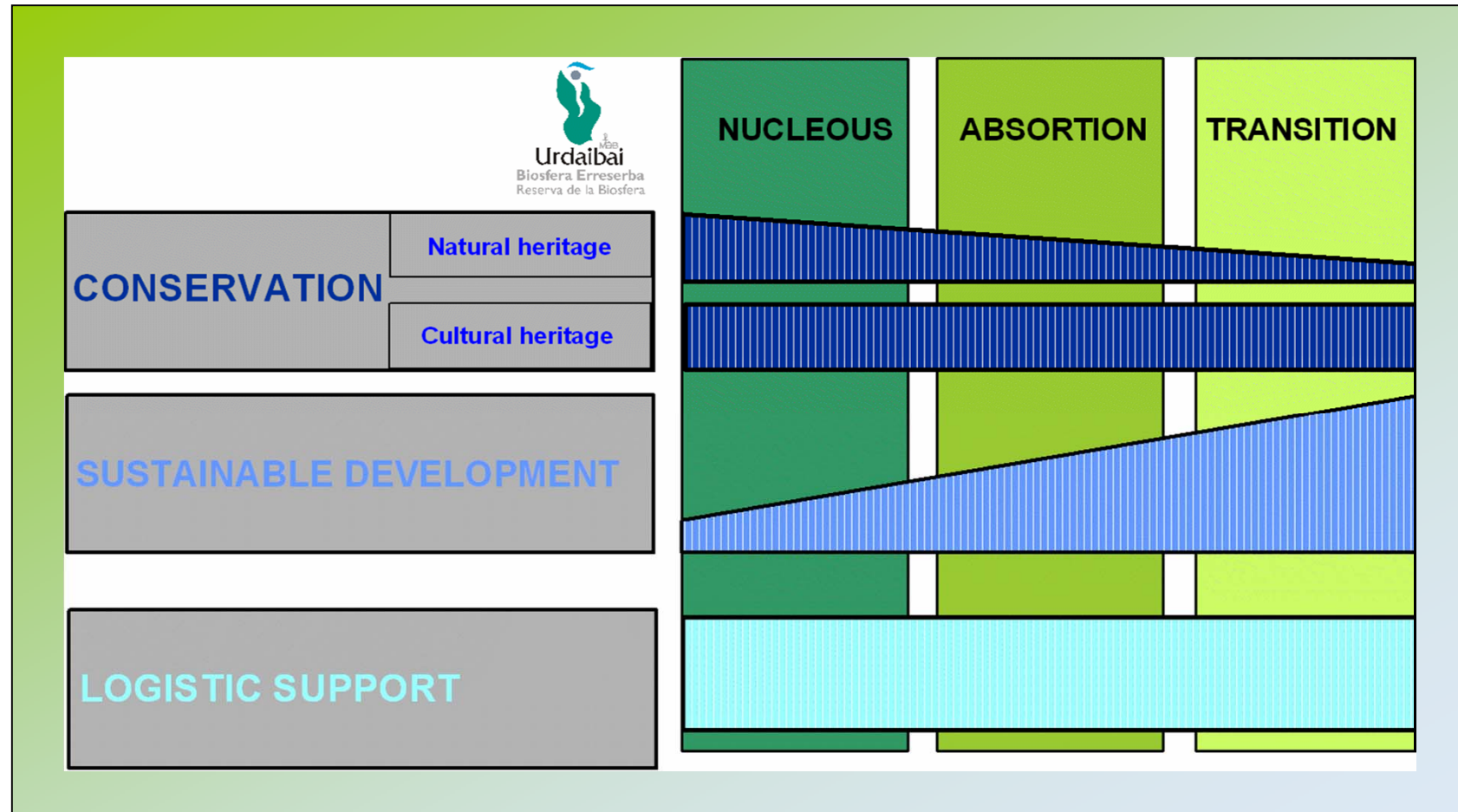
ABSORPTION ZONE = ZONES OF PROTECTION

- COAST & RIVERS (P.4)
- OAK FOREST (P.5)
- LANDSCAPE (P.6)

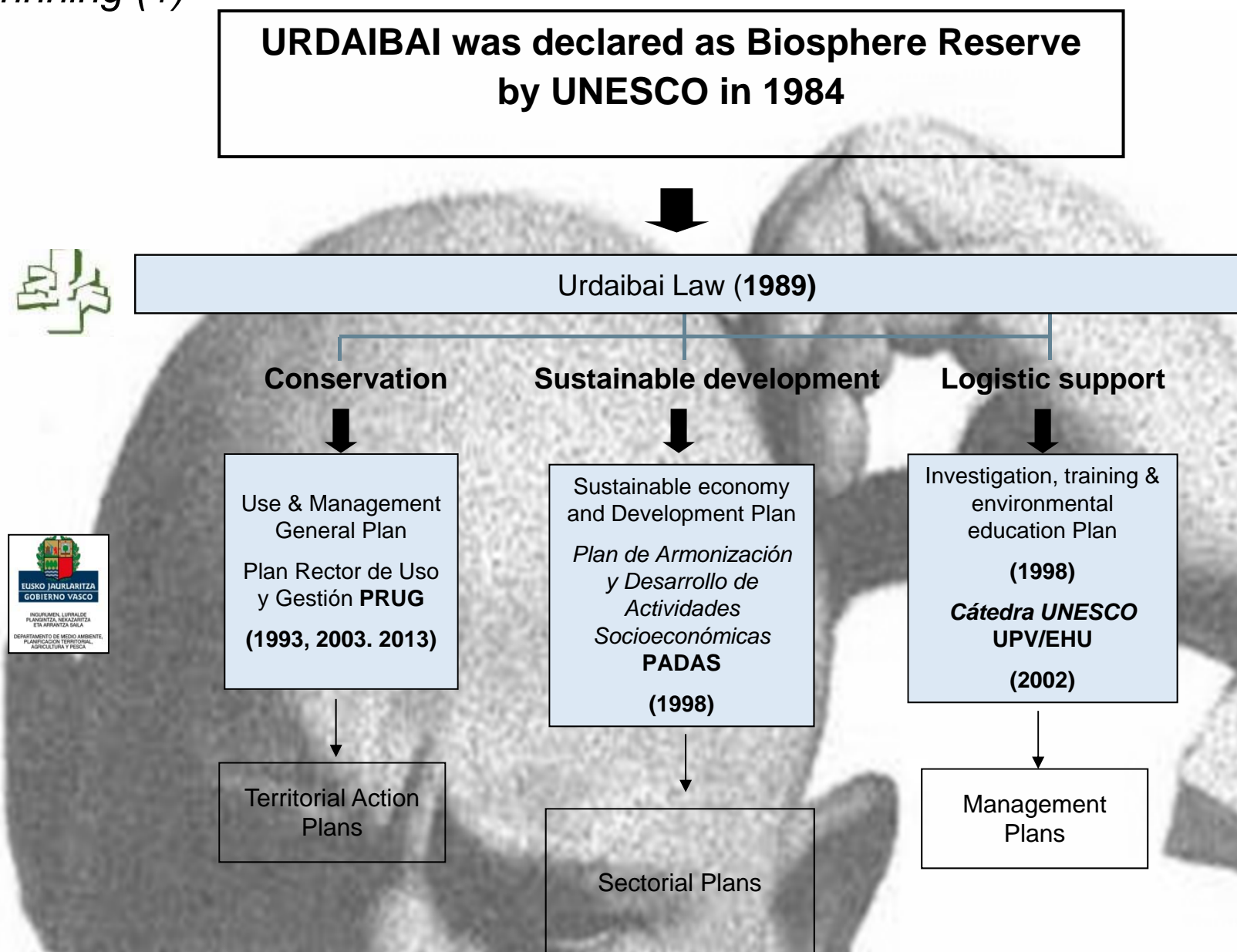
TRANSITION ZONES

- AGRICULTURE ZONES (A.1) (A.2)(A.3)
- TREE CULTIVE ZONES (F.1) (F.2)
- POPULATION AREAS (N.S; N.R)
- RUSTIC ZONES (S.R.C)
- SYSTEM AREAS (I.S; E.C.R)

Plannning (3)



Plannning (1)



Urdaibai Law 5/1989

□ Instruments:

- Limits.
- Zones of Special Protection.
- Governing board.
- President of the Governing Board.
- Director of Biosphere-Reserve.
- Sanction regime.

❖ Conservation/regulation:
PRUG.

❖ Sustainable development:
PADAS.

❖ Logistic support:

Education, training and
Investigation Plan.



Management Plan (PRUG) (1) 1993; 2003; 2013

□ AIMS:

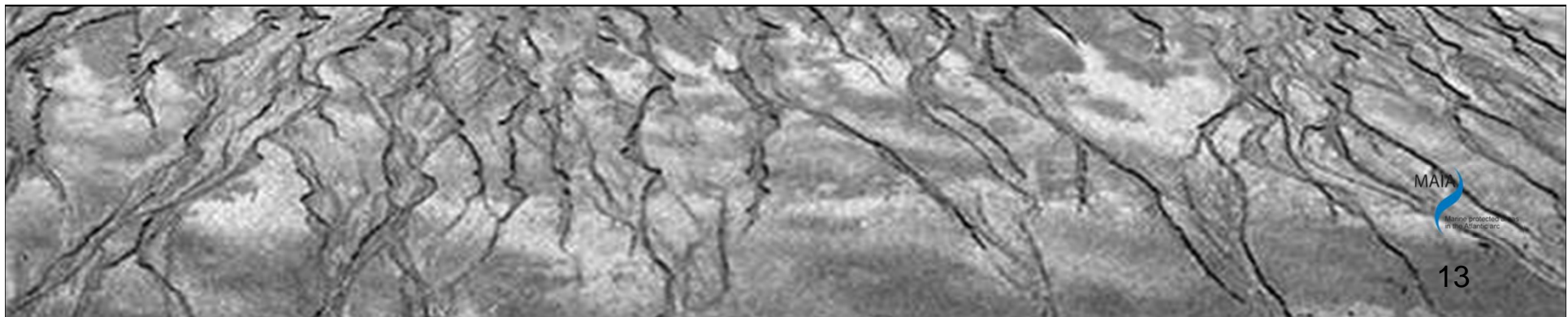
- ✓ Conservation: Ecosystems, Biodiversity, Landscape, environmental regulation.
- ✓ Rural development, quality of life, recreational uses, tourism, rational use of the environmental resources.
- ✓ Investigation, interpretation, environmental education.
- ✓ Maintenance of the hydrological cycles and prevention of erosion.

□ ZONIFICATION: Urban (OPU) / Rustic (SNU)

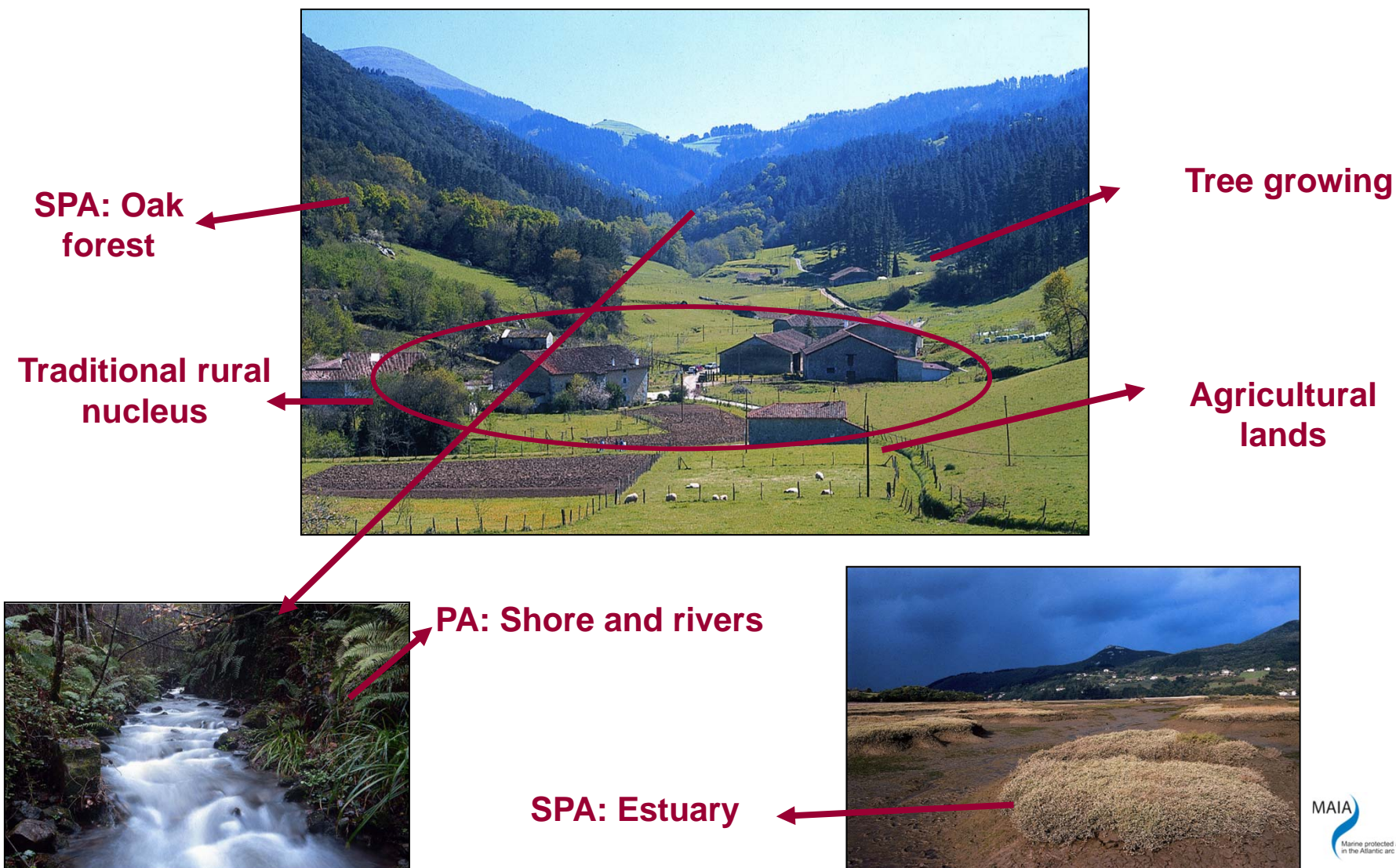
□ ZONIFICATION OF RURAL SOILS:

- ✓ Thematic basic information.
- ✓ Use vocation & real use.
- ✓ Uses regulation.
- ✓ Ordenation maps.

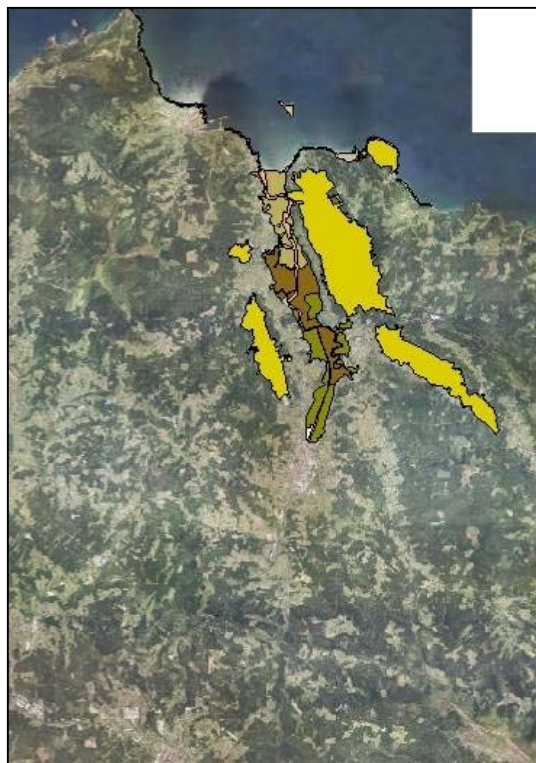
□ DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENTS: Territorial Action Plans.



Management Plan (PRUG) (2) 1993; 2003; 2013



Management Plan (PRUG) (3) 1993; 2003; 2013



NUCLEOUS ZONE



ABSORPTION ZONE



TRANSITION ZONE

(PADAS-Agenda 21) (1) 1998

□ AIMS

- ✓ Integrated planning of the sectorial policies.
- ✓ Definition of strategies and actions in order to combine land uses with environmental and life quality improvement.

□ METODOLOGY BASED ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- ✓ Public & private social agents.
- ✓ Workshops: Administration.
- ✓ Sectors:
 - Agricultural-forest & fishing.
 - Industry & economics.
 - Tourism & services.
 - Infrastructures.

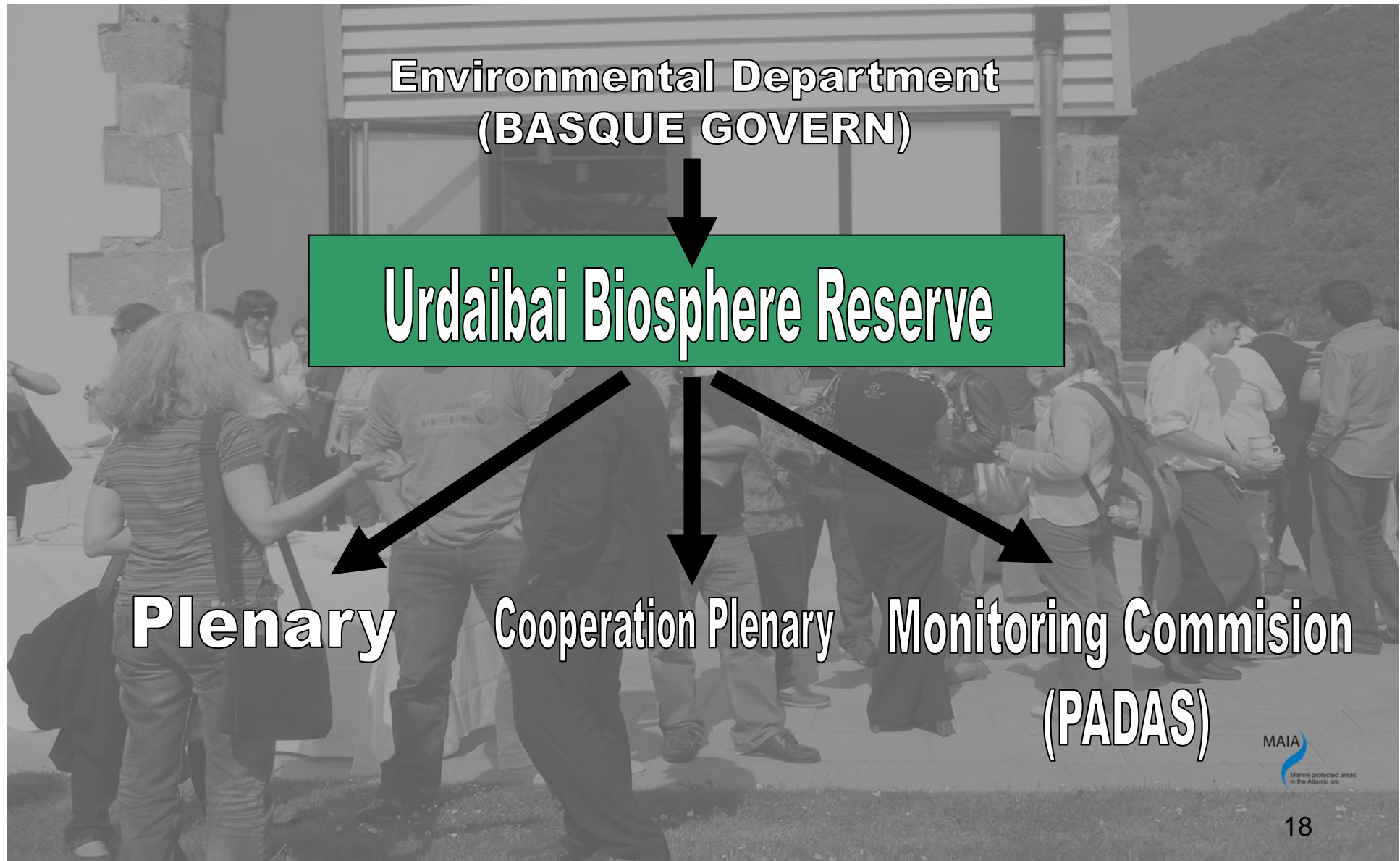


(PADAS-Agenda 21) (2) 1998

- ❑ STRATEGIC AIMS (5)
Rural areas, industry, tourism, administrative coordination.
 - ❑ ESTRATEGIES (10)
 - ❑ ACTION LINES (22)
 - ❑ DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS (+- 100)
 - ❑ EVALUATION
 - Monitoring Commission.
 - Evaluation Agenda.
- Subject matters
 - Water supply /residual water
 - Energy
 - Urban waste
 - Quality of Life (rural area)
 - Housing & habitat improvement
 - Ways/Train/
 - Local products & y labelling
 - Forest
 - Transformation & marketing
 - Fishing / regulation y dynamics. Ports
 - Industrial & business development
 - Formation (companies).
 - Land regulation / environmental improvement
 - Improvement of tourism management
 - Natural and patrimonial resources



Participation ways



Competences distribution (1)

¿Who has competences above URDAIBAI?

- Councils.
- Foral (Regional) Council of Biscay.
- Basque Govern.
- Spanish State.

Competences distribution (2)

COUNCILS:

- Building works licences, urban licences and classified activities.
- Elaboration of urban planning.
- Environmental protection.
- Water supply and waste water treatment.
- Waste material collection and treatment.
- Public transport and rural roads.
- Others.

when these activities affect to rustic soils of Urdaibai the Councils have to ask for a Plenary report before giving the licence.



Competences distribution (3)

FORAL (REGIONAL) COUNCIL OF BISCAY:

- Urban Planning passing for council of less than 7000 inhabitants (In Urdaibai all except Gernika-Lumo & Bermeo).
- Construction work licences over mean roads, cultural heritage, protected habitat & species, etc.
- Management of mountains and forest exploitation.
- Hunting & fishing, etc.
- Others.



Competences distribution (4)

BASQUE GOVERN (Different Departments):

- Territorial planning.
- Management of Hydraulic Public Domain.
- Urban Planning passing for councils of more than 7000 inhabitants
- Sectorial Planning and promoting (industry, tourism, agriculture, environment).
- Others.



Competences distribution (5)

SPANISH STATE:

- Derived from Coastal Law.
- Public construction works of General interest.
- Others...



What is the Plenary of Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve?

- ✓ An inter-administrative organ for COORDINATION and PARTICIPATION.
- ✓ The place for meeting and coordination of Sectorial Policies.

Functions

- Ensure that Urdaibai regulations are implemented.
- Promote the elaboration of sectorial plans.
- Emission of reports about:
 - Land uses
 - Construction acts.
 - Urban plans or Sectorial Plans.



Members of Plenary

- Basque Parliament (1)
- Basque Govern (5)
- Regional Council (Biscay) (3)
- City councils (6)
- Spanish administration (1)
- Man & Biosphere Program (1)
- Public University (1)
- Ecologist (1)
- Agricultural-forest Association (3)
- President of Cooperation Plenary (1)
- Director of Urdaibai (1)

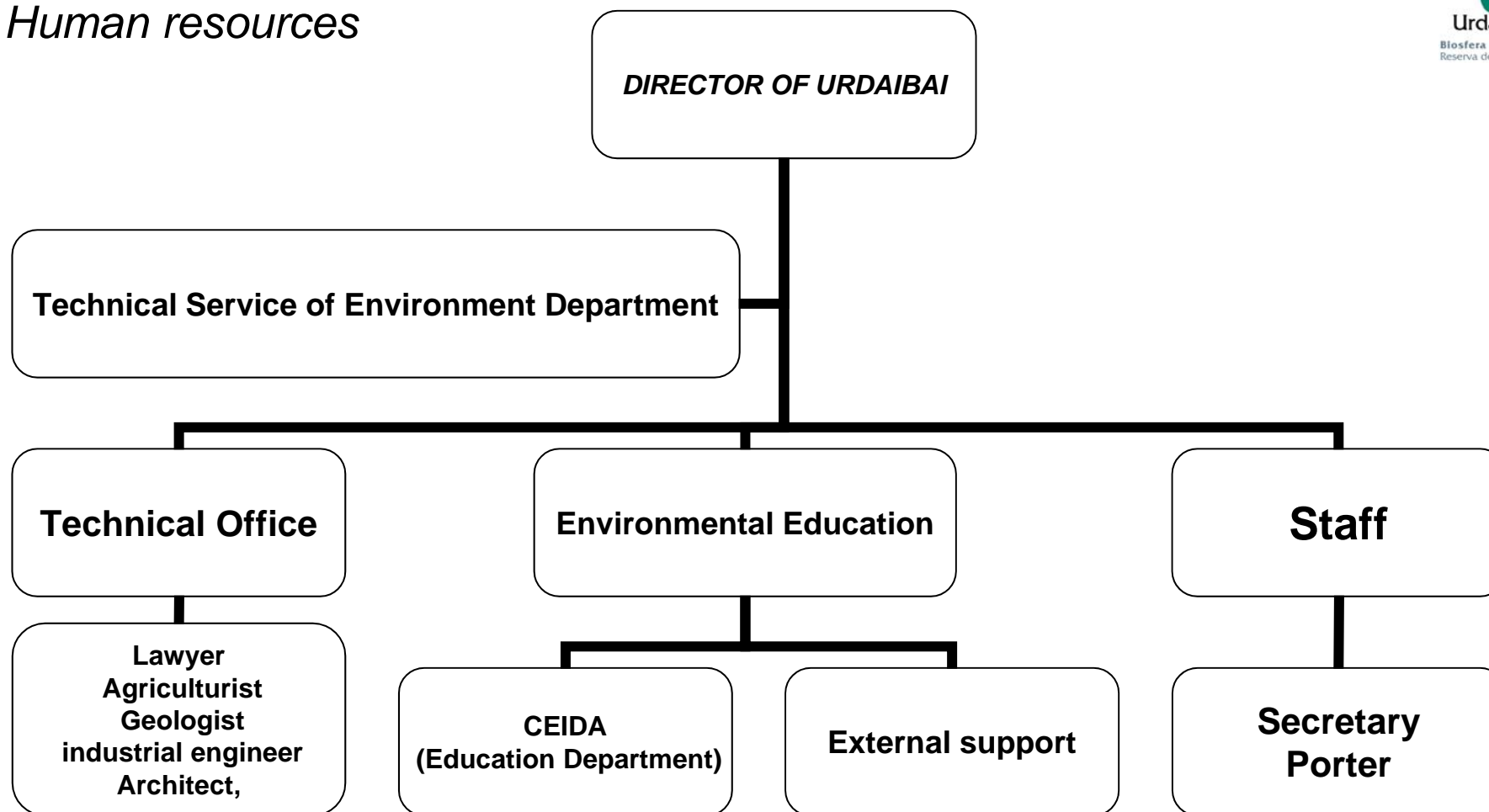


Members of Cooperation Plenary

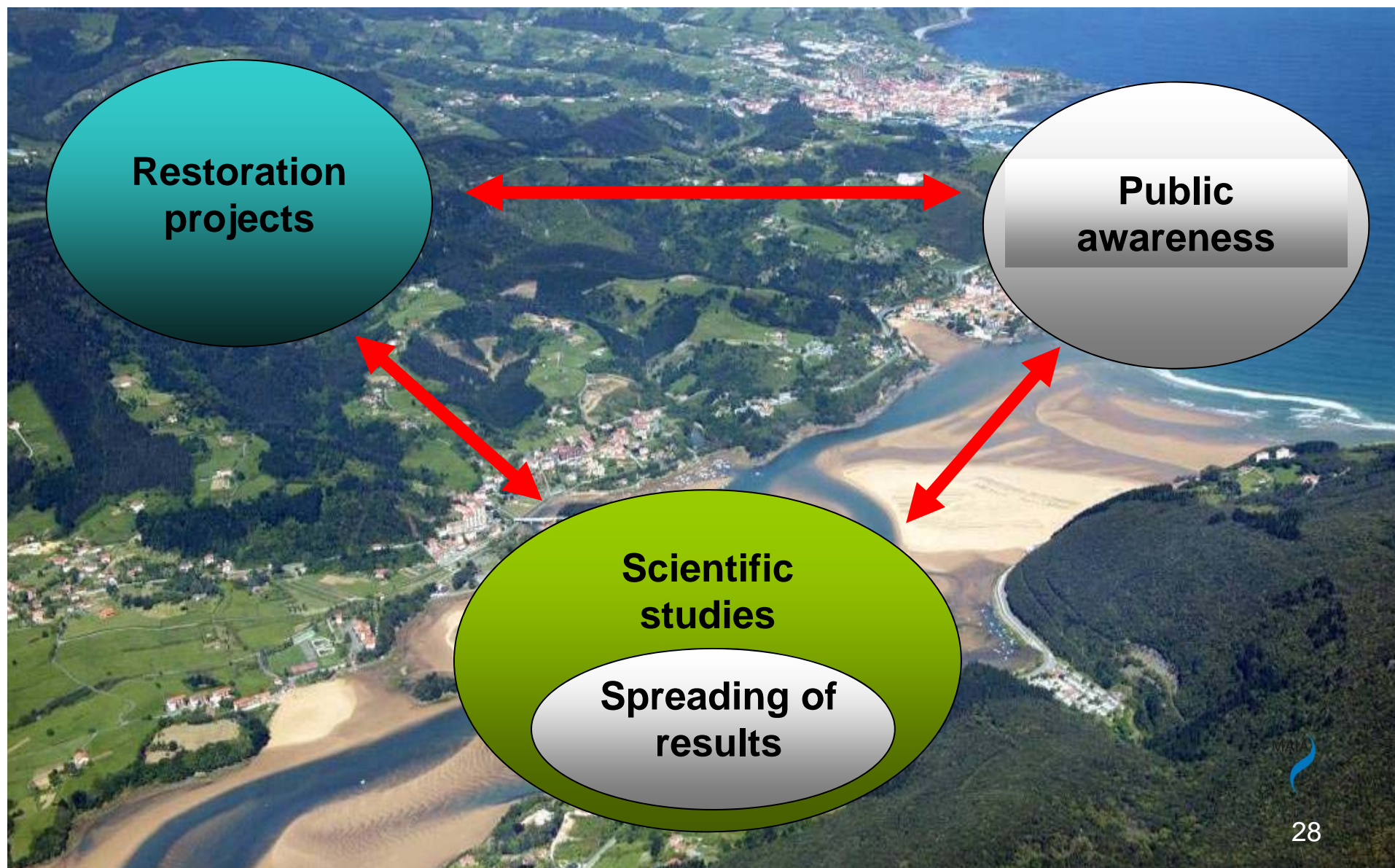
- Trade unions
- Owner associations.
- Beekeeper associations
- Fisherman associations
- Hotel and hostel associations
- Farm-school associations
- Ecologist associations
- Archaeologist associations
- Historian associations
- Recreational associations



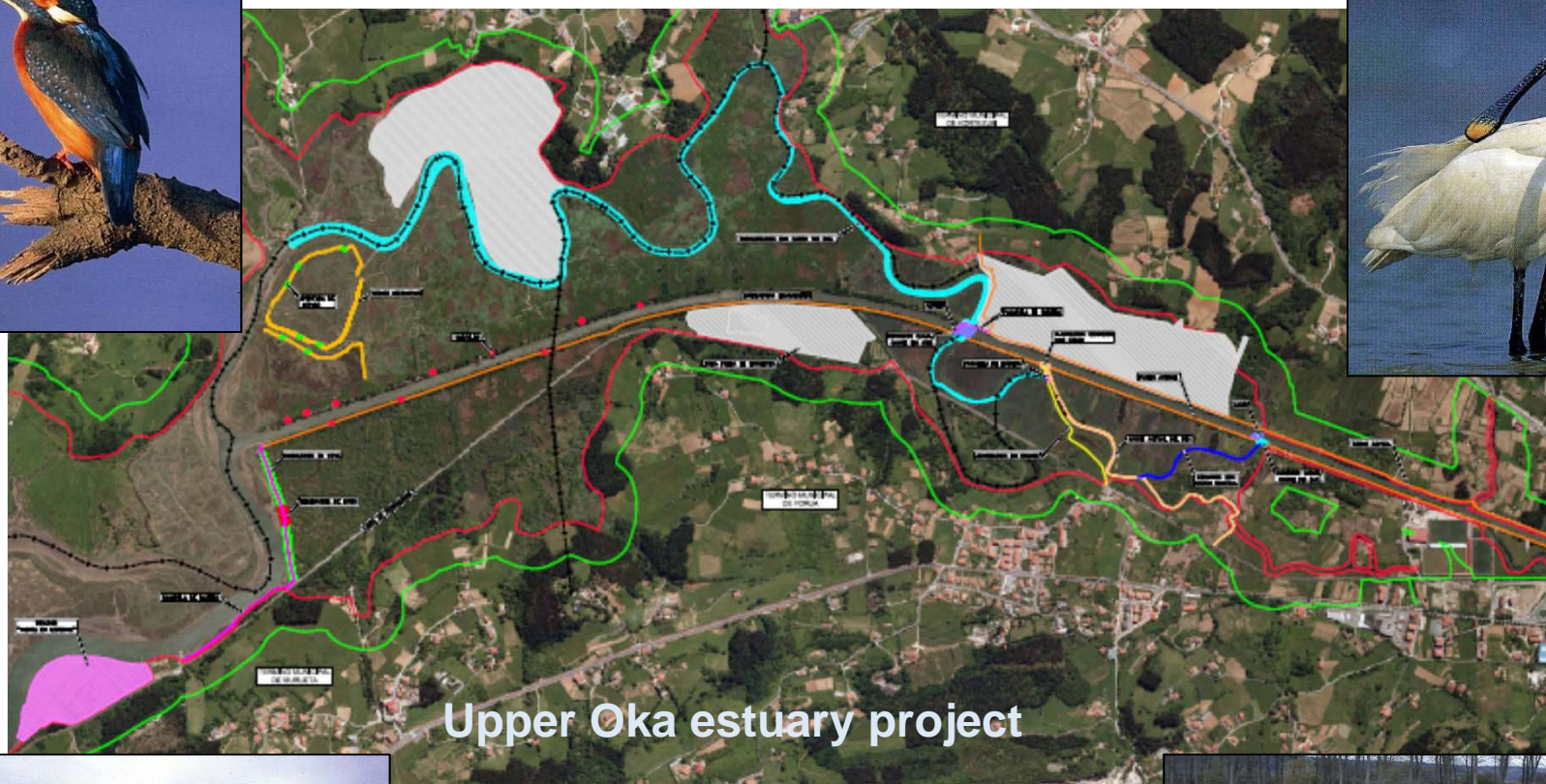
Human resources



Projects directed by Urdaibai Technical Office



Projects directed by Urdaibai Technical Office



Successes & Failures

- ✓ **Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve declaration is considered to be positive. Because of the environmental protection and environmental quality maintenance against aggressive developments.**
- ✓ **Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve gives an added value to the territory.**
- ✓ **Public and business awareness about the protection of natural and cultural values is bigger and bigger.**
- ✓ **The normative development has been a good example for other legislation in Basque Country and Biosphere Reserve's world net.**

Successes & Failures

- 
- ✗ There is a ignorance widely held among population about the real administrative competences in Urdaibai.**
 - ✗ There is the perception of competence fragmentation on every field. Too much bureaucratization.**
 - ✗ There is a lack of coordination and of shared commitment between administrations.**
 - ✗ The stakeholders and the population did not see results from the participation processes.**
 - ✗ There is a lack of leadership to implement a strategic process of sustainable development based in the commitment between administrations and stakeholders.**



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Thank you!



Marine protected areas
in the Atlantic arc



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Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura



Red Española
de Reservas
de la Biosfera