# Marine Spatial Planning: the French case

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# MSP: a binding law, the Directive 2014/89

Art. 15-1°: "Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by **18 September 2016**."

#### **French transposition:**

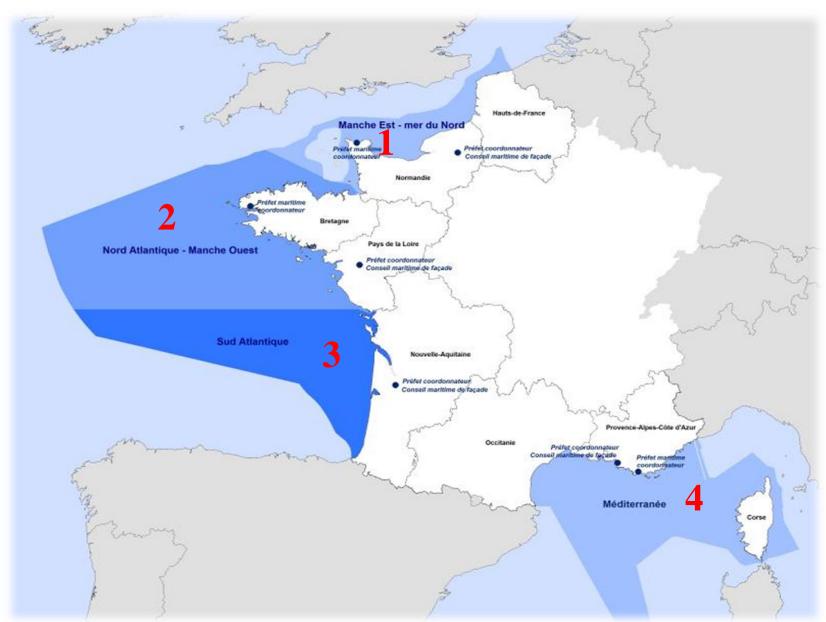
- Art. 123 Biodiversity Law n° 2016-1087 of 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016, Codified. **Art. L219-1 to L219-9** of Environmental Code
- Decree n° 2017-724 of 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 integrating MSP and the Marine Action Plan into the Strategic Document



## **INTRODUCTION**

# Metropolitan France sea fronts:

- East Channel North Sea (1)
- North Atlantic-Western Channel (2)
- South Atlantic (3)
- Mediterranean (4)



Source: ING SHOM, 2016

# Which foreplays to the adoption of the MSP in French law?



# Two ways to consider





#### I- French MSP Before MSP

- I.1- From SDAUM to SMVM
- I.2- A process influenced by international and European incentives

#### II- A « French-touch » MSP

- II.1- Alignment with the European requirements
- II.2- Necessary adaptations to the French administrative structure



#### I- French MSP before MSP

#### 1.1- From SDAUM to SMVM

#### **SDAUM** (Schémas d'Aptitude et d'Utilisation de la Mer)

- Definition
  - a maritime component of territorial planning documents
  - A non binding text: Picard Report, 1973
- Functions:
  - To resolve problems of conflicts over coastal uses
  - To conserve Coastal ecosystems
- Limits:
  - Non-binding legal scope
  - 3/8 schemes have been approved
  - Most of schemes are limited to closed spaces (Rade, Bay)

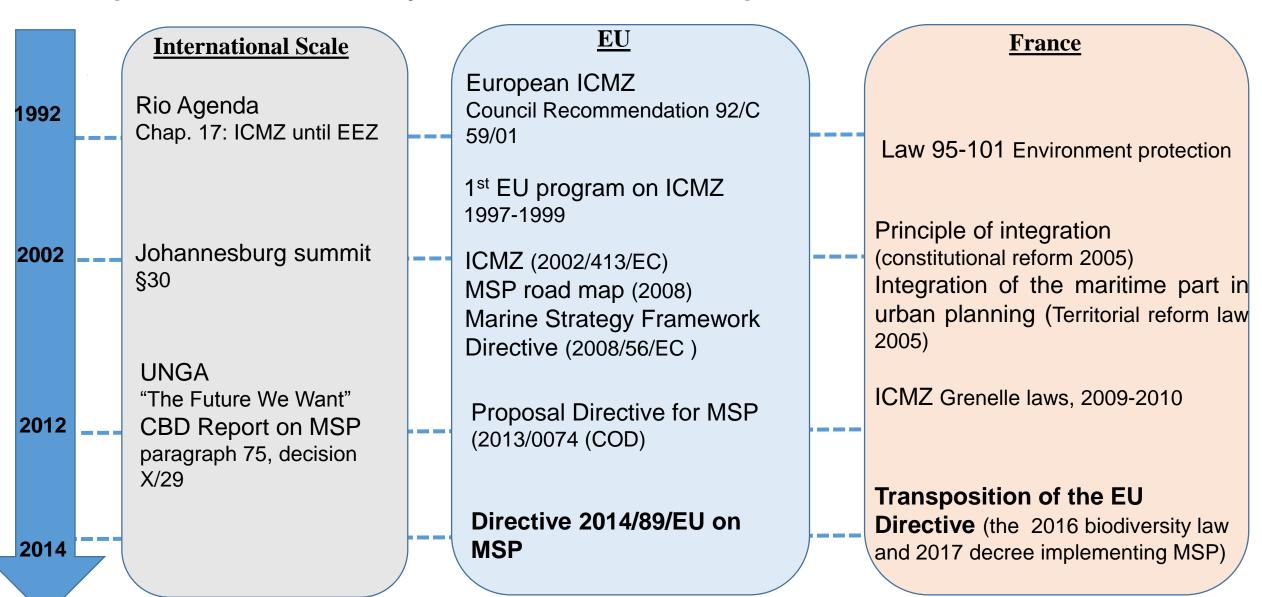
#### **SMVM** (Schémas de Mise en Valeur de la mer)

- Same objectives
- Binding legal scope : Law of 7 January 1983 (Art 57)



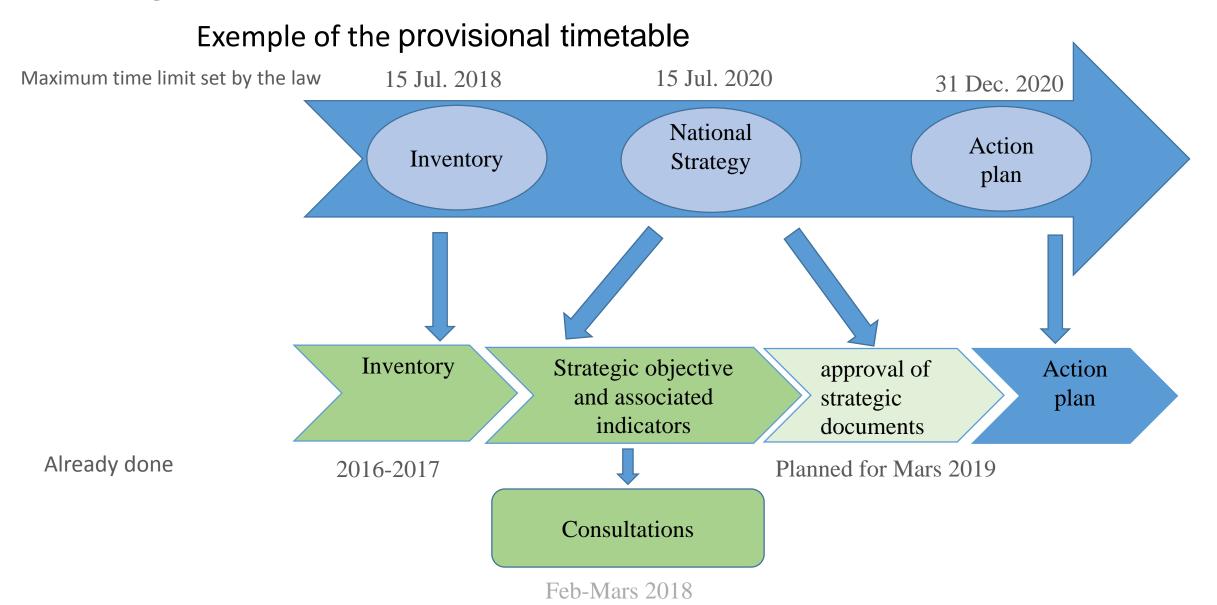
#### I- French MSP before MSP

#### I.2- A process influenced by international and European incentives rules



# II "French-Touch" MSP

# II.1- Alignment with the European requirements



## II "French-Touch" MSP

### What are the documents of MSP?



**MAP**: A specific chapter in the SDSF (Art. L219-9). Environmental pillar of the MSP document.



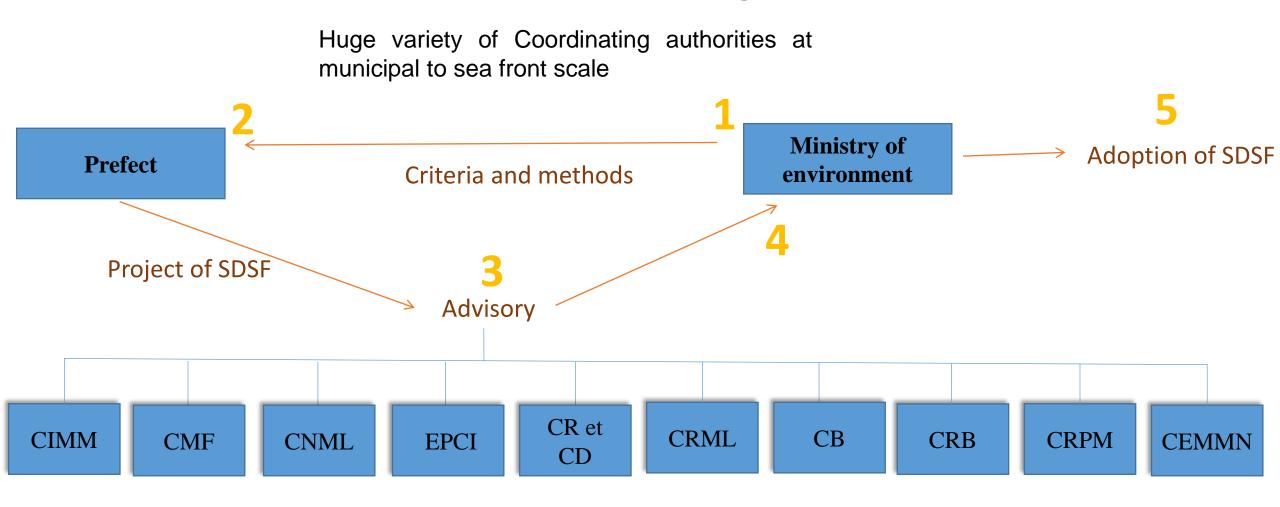
**SDSF**: The MSP document that is adopted at the level of each seafront (art. L219-5-1)

National Strategy
Document for the Sea and
Coast (NSDSC)

**NSDSC**: Document that constitutes the reference framework for MSP (Art. L219-1)

# II "French-Touch" MSP

# **II.2- Administratives institutions implementing MSP**



#### CONCLUSION

- MSP is a long process
- The complexity of the French procedure is linked to its administrative structure
- Hope this short overview could contribute to a constructive comparison

Are several planning documents useful?

How to manage a diversity of administrative structure?