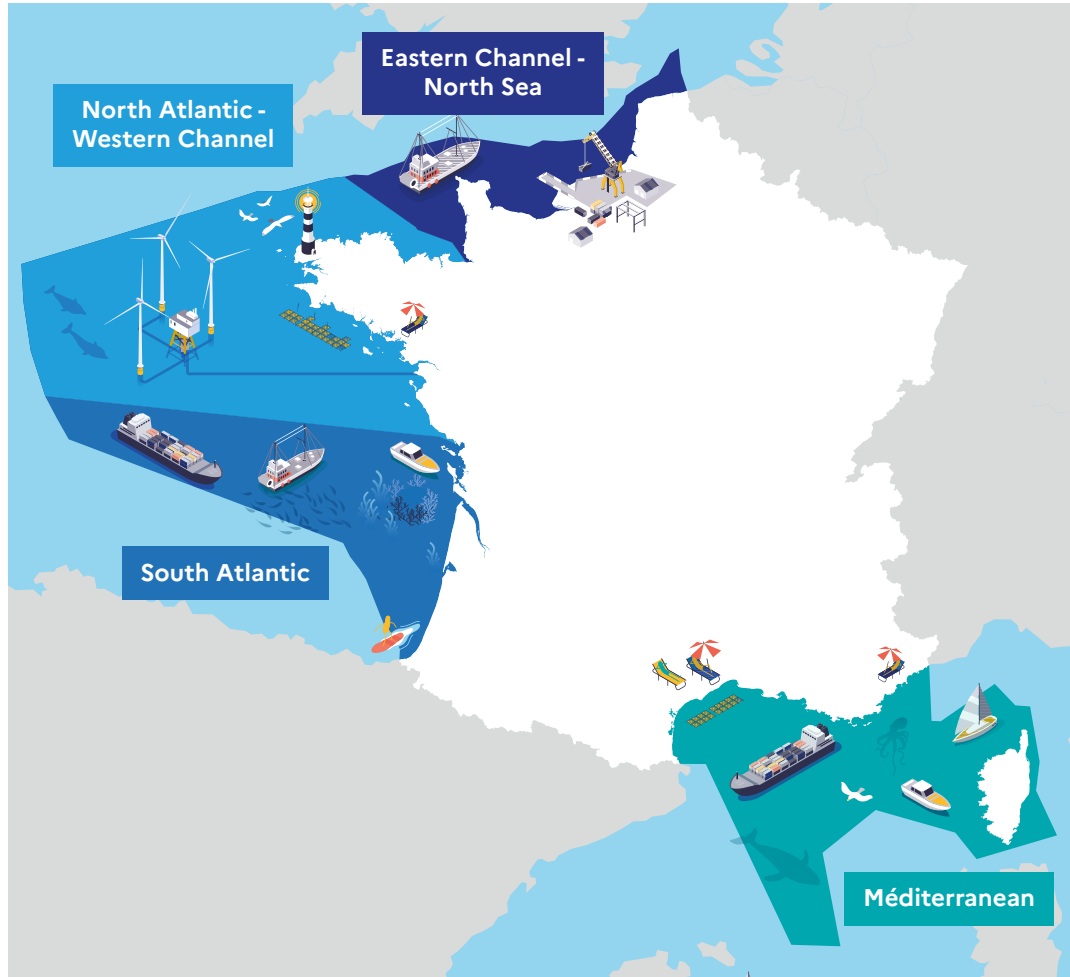




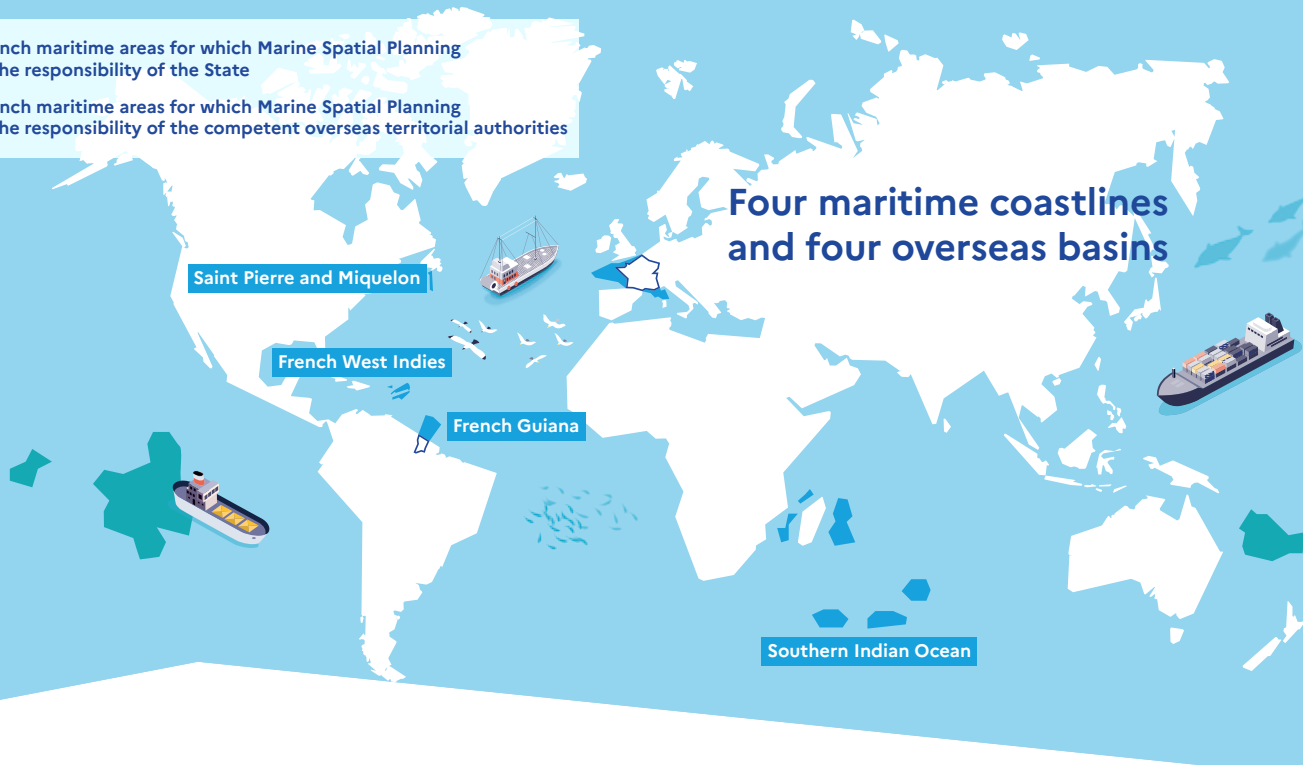
MINISTÈRE
DE LA TRANSITION
ÉCOLOGIQUE,
DE LA BIODIVERSITÉ,
DE LA FORÊT, DE LA MER,
ET DE LA PÊCHE

Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité

MARITIME AND COASTAL PLANNING IN FRANCE



- French maritime areas for which Marine Spatial Planning is the responsibility of the State
- French maritime areas for which Marine Spatial Planning is the responsibility of the competent overseas territorial authorities



Four maritime coastlines and four overseas basins

Why carry out maritime planning in France?

The sea and maritime spaces are shared assets that play a vital role in climate balance, while providing numerous services and resources, and are home to a wide range of activities such as fishing, transport, tourism and marine renewable energies.

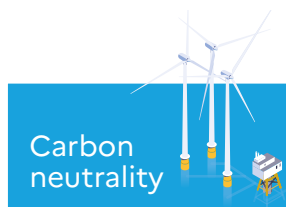
In order to reconcile the uses of the sea with its protection, it is essential to engage in **maritime spatial planning**.

In France, this planning is part of the **national strategy for the sea and coastline** (stratégie nationale pour la mer et le littoral or SNML in french), which sets out France's ambition for the sea and its coastlines. It applies to the **four mainland maritime coastlines and to four overseas basins**.

Through this document, the State establishes a reference framework for maritime public policies, incorporating sectoral policies relating, for example, to biodiversity, the port sector and energy. This is referred to as **integrated maritime planning**.

What are the main priorities of the national strategy for the sea and coastline?

The second national strategy for the sea and coastline, adopted by decree on 10 June 2024, covers the period 2024–2030 and defines four main priorities:



- **Carbon neutrality** (development of marine renewable energies, for example);
- **The protection and restoration of biodiversity;**
- **Equity** in order to contribute to the well-being of coastal populations, employees and maritime players;
- **The economy** to support the competitiveness, sovereignty and sustainability of the economy.

These four priorities include specific objectives such as achieving good environmental status for waters, placing 10% of French maritime space under strong protection, and generating 45 gigawatts through offshore wind power by 2050.



National council for the sea and coastlines (conseil national de la mer et des littoraux or CNML in french)

Who develops the national strategy for the sea and coastline?

The national strategy for the sea and coastline is the result of **collaborative work between Government departments, maritime players and citizens**. This document was co-developed with the **national council for the sea and coastline** (conseil national de la mer et des littoraux or CNML in french), which is the forum for dialogue and strategic thinking on

policies relating to the sea and coastlines, bringing together representatives from local authorities, the scientific community, socio-economic players and environmental protection associations. **Civil society and citizens were also involved** through a public consultation process to ensure that the SNML reflects a shared vision.

How is the national strategy for the sea and coastline implemented at the local level?

Each of the four mainland coastlines and the four overseas basins concerned establishes a strategy document that breaks down the national objectives, **taking the specific characteristics of each territory into account**. These documents are also **co-developed with local partners**, in particular under the auspices of the regional maritime councils in

mainland France and the overseas maritime councils in French overseas territories, which are the local maritime governance bodies.





La Mer en débat (The Sea under debate)

In order to take full account of citizens' opinions in the process of drawing up Coastline Strategy Documents, a **major public debate entitled "La Mer en débat" (The Sea under debate)** was held in 2023 and 2024 on France's four mainland maritime

coastlines. With 375 events, more than 21,000 participants and over 20,000 contributions, this participatory exercise, unprecedented in its scope, provided a **unique opportunity for citizens to learn about French maritime policy and make their voices heard**.

France has a vast maritime area of nearly 10 million square kilometers, making it the world's second-largest maritime power. This is both a tremendous opportunity and a significant responsibility.

To access the SNML online:

