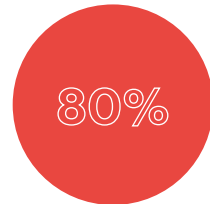


# SNLM2: taking action now to achieve good ecological status

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The first National Strategy for the Sea and Coast, adopted 6 years ago, has a mediocre record: today, 75% of our seas and coastal habitats are degraded, and 29% of our coral has disappeared.

At a time when a second strategy is being drawn up, the ESEC is calling for a reduction in the pressures on our seas and coasts, and for urgent action to restore biodiversity.



**of the pressures exerted on the sea and oceans originate on land**

## INFORMATION

### HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE GOOD ECOLOGICAL STATUS?

For the ESEC, achieving good ecological status must be the objective of this second strategy for the sea and the coast.

At a time when our lifestyles on land are having a serious impact on the marine environment and the ocean is under threat from the effects of climate change, France's strategy must be genuinely planned,

respecting the “avoid, reduce” sequence, so that we do not have to compensate for the cost of degrading the ecosystem services provided by the sea.

To achieve this, the ESEC recommends first and foremost that pressures and impacts on the marine environment be reduced as much as possible

by adopting a sober approach to uses on land, on the coast and at sea.

Furthermore, the ESEC calls for this planning of all uses of the sea to be carried out with cross-sectoral governance, bringing together the decision-makers at the head of the main sources of pressure from national to local level.

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OPINION

### 1 REDUCE EXISTING PRESSURES AND IMPACTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

- Reduce the main sources of agricultural and chemical pollution
- Reduce marine pressures by activity and by metropolitan and ultra-marine seaboard, in particular from professional fishing and maritime transport
- Monitor at-risk activities and be in a position to reduce supply and improve quality to compensate for lost revenue

### 2 ENSURE COHERENCE BETWEEN SECTORAL POLICIES TO RESTORE THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND PRESERVE A FUTURE FOR MARITIME ACTIVITIES AND THE BLUE ECONOMY

- Ensure that all State and local authority departments issuing authorisations for land, coastal and maritime activities have integrated and apply the ARC method (avoid, reduce, compensate)
- Impose the environmental objectives of the strategic seaboard documents (DSF) on the regional land use and sustainable development plan (SRADDET)
- Set up a one-stop shop for impact assessments

### 3 APPLY THE PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE AT SEA

- Include in the SNLM cases in which the precautionary principle should apply, such as deep-sea extractions of mineral resources

- Develop research and knowledge resources and share them by giving the Office Français de la Biodiversité the role of pilot in support of public policies
- Roll out strong protection zones, bringing them into line with strict and integral protection zones at European and international levels

### 4 DEVELOP GOVERNANCE OF THE SEA THROUGH ITS HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- Reform a large Ministry of Sustainable Development to improve the cross-functional nature and coordination and of policies,
- Reform the composition of the National Council for the Sea and Coastal Areas (CNML) to ensure that it is more representative of the overseas departments, major metropolitan areas and basin-heading regions, and place the Council under the joint supervision of the Ministries for Biodiversity, Energy, the Sea and Overseas Territories
- Finance the SNML by axes and levers

### 5 WITHIN THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE SEA AND COASTS, INTEGRATE AN SNML DEDICATED TO OVERSEAS COLLECTIVITIES

- Finance and evaluate the SNML dedicated to the French Overseas Territories through axes and levers
- Integrate development plans that incorporate the ARC sequence, renewable energies, decarbonisation and sobriety

#### THE RAPPORTEURS

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