

# Blue economy benefits of marine protected areas and other spatial protection measures

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Based on a study for the European Commission delivered by:



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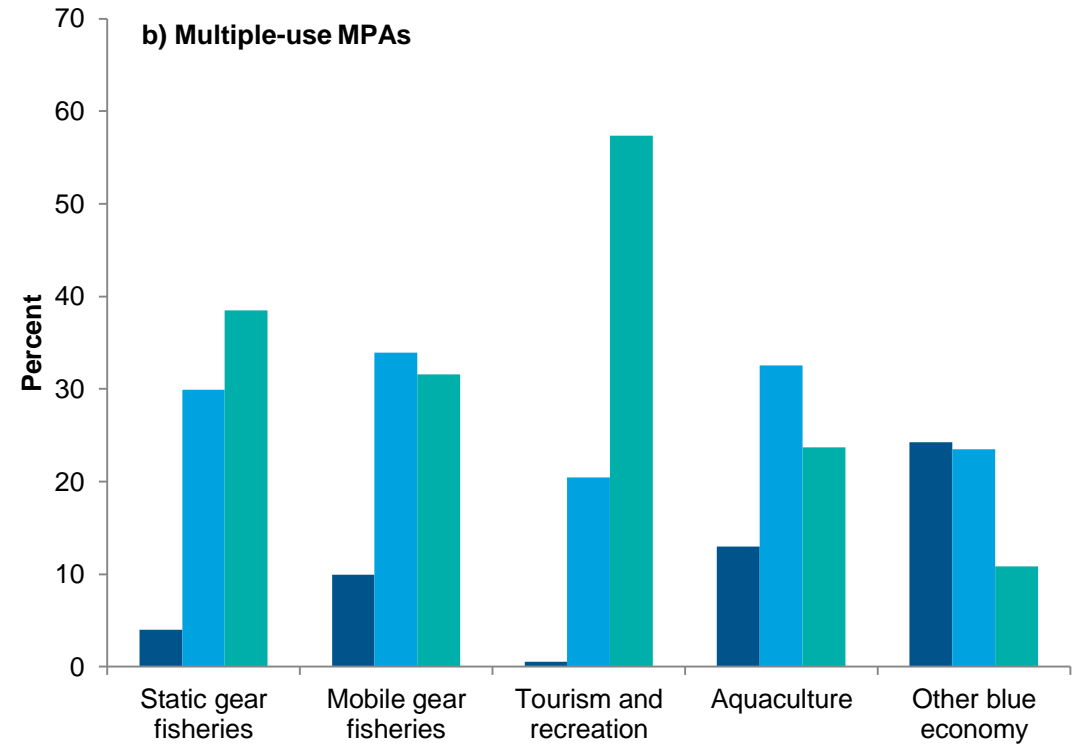
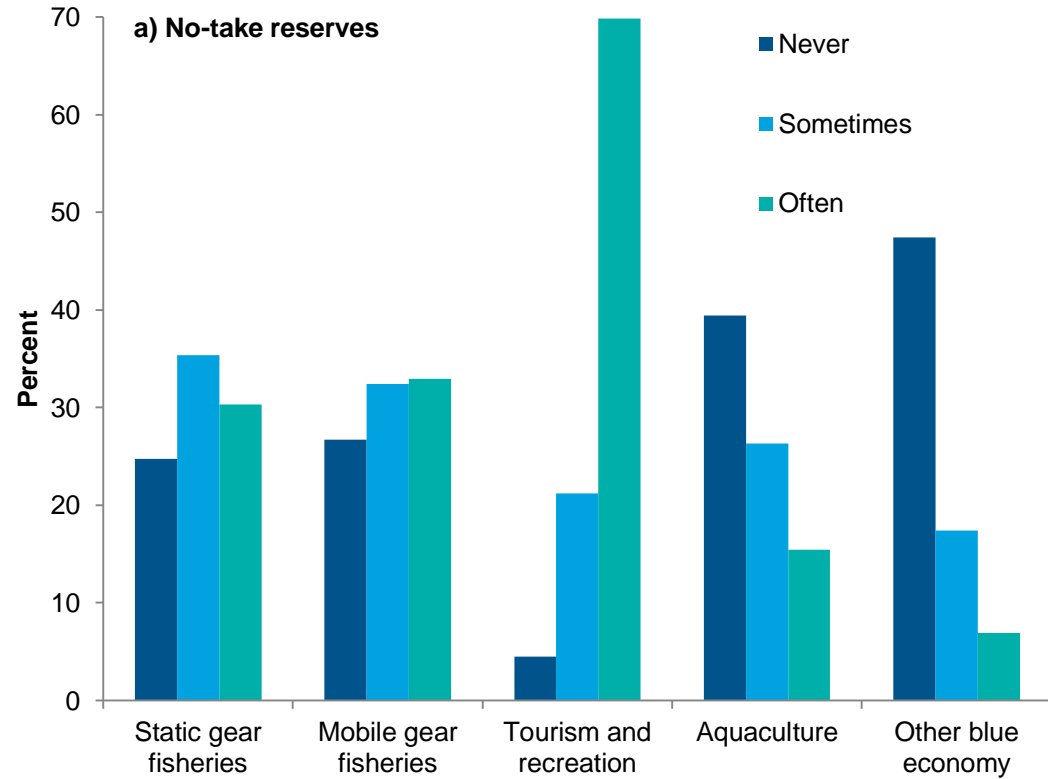
**PML** | Plymouth Marine Laboratory



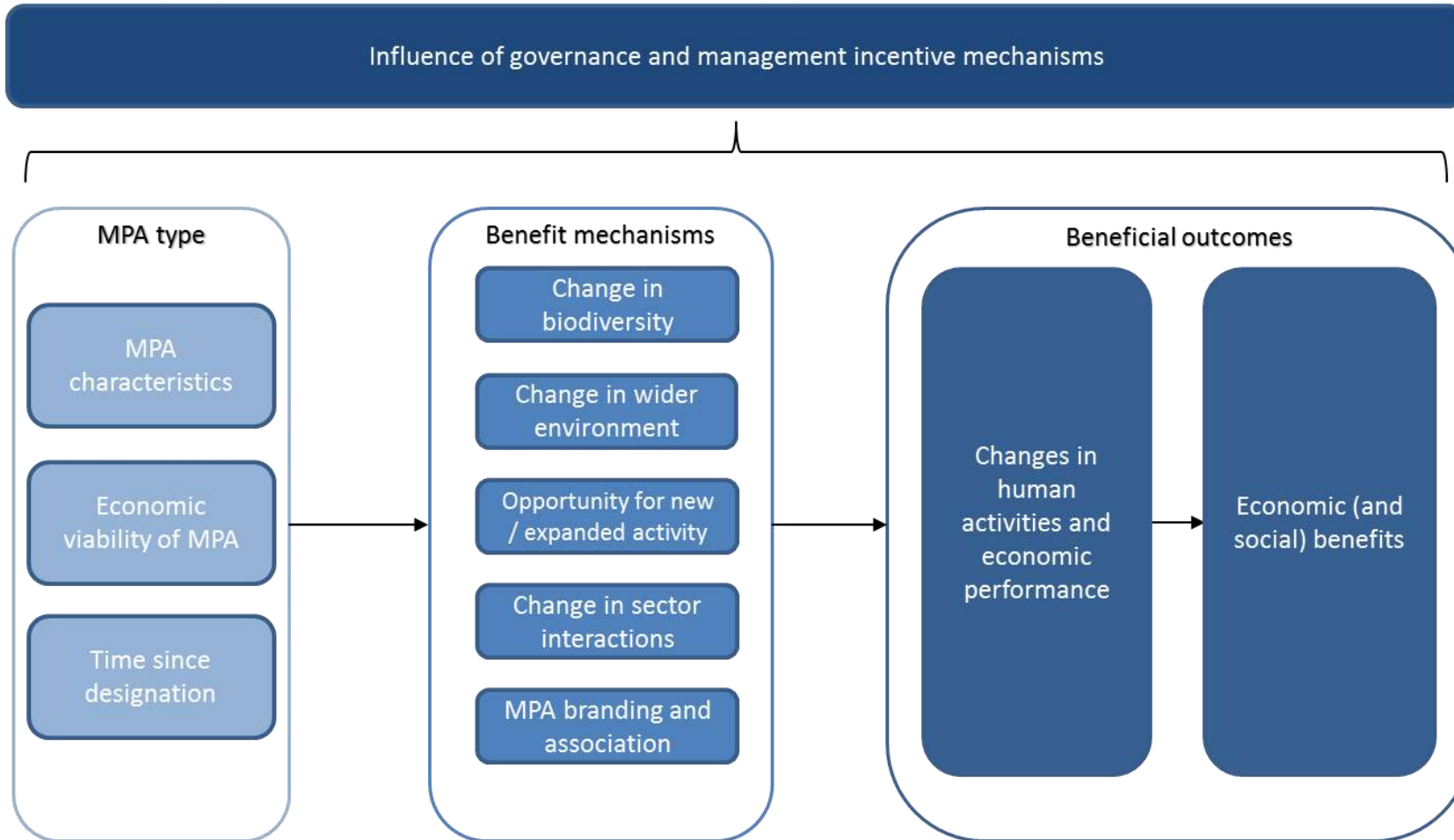
# How different sectors benefit



# Which sectors benefit from MPAs? The stakeholder view



# How do sectors benefit from MPAs

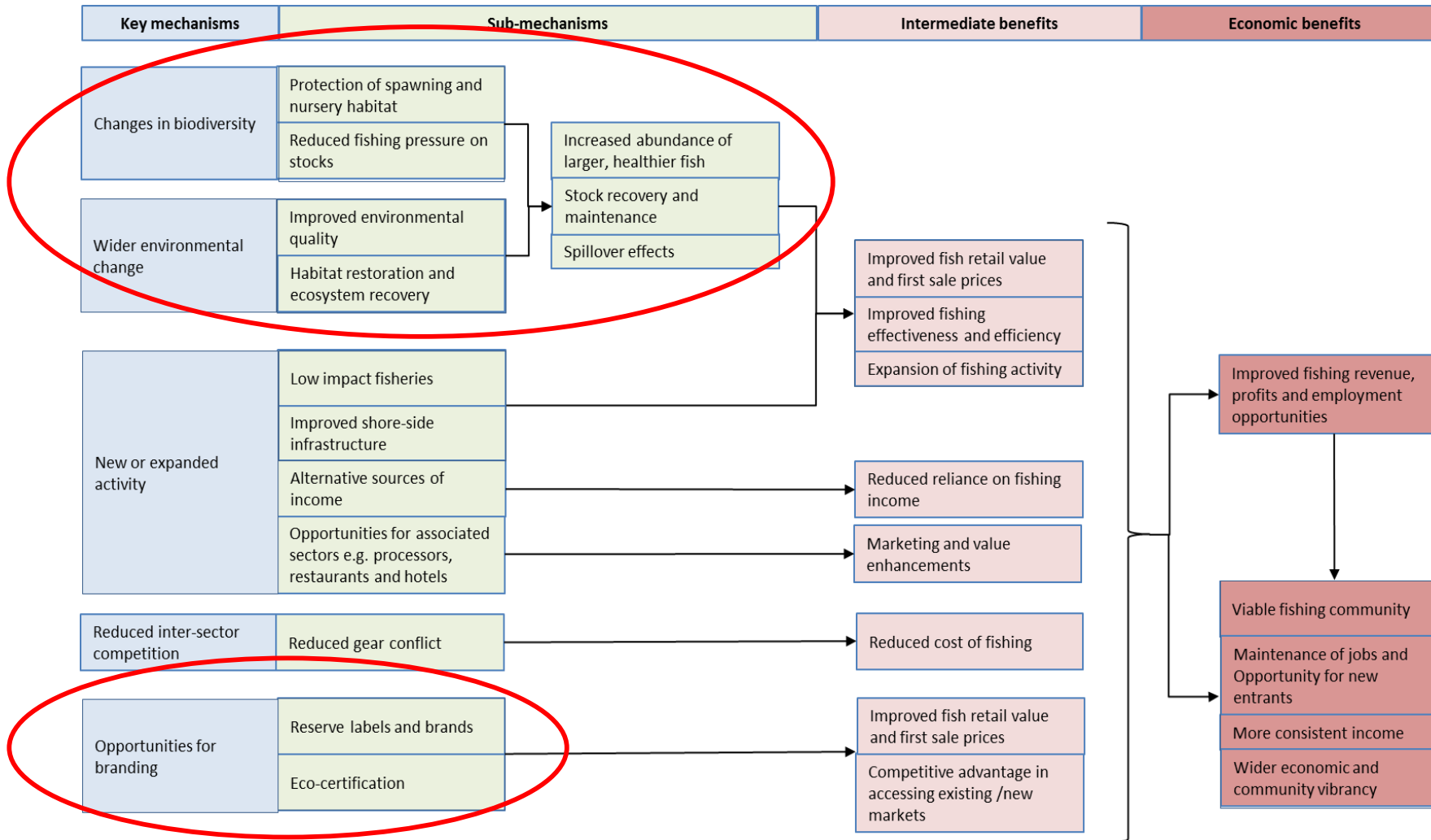




# By sector...



# Commercial fishing sector benefit mechanisms

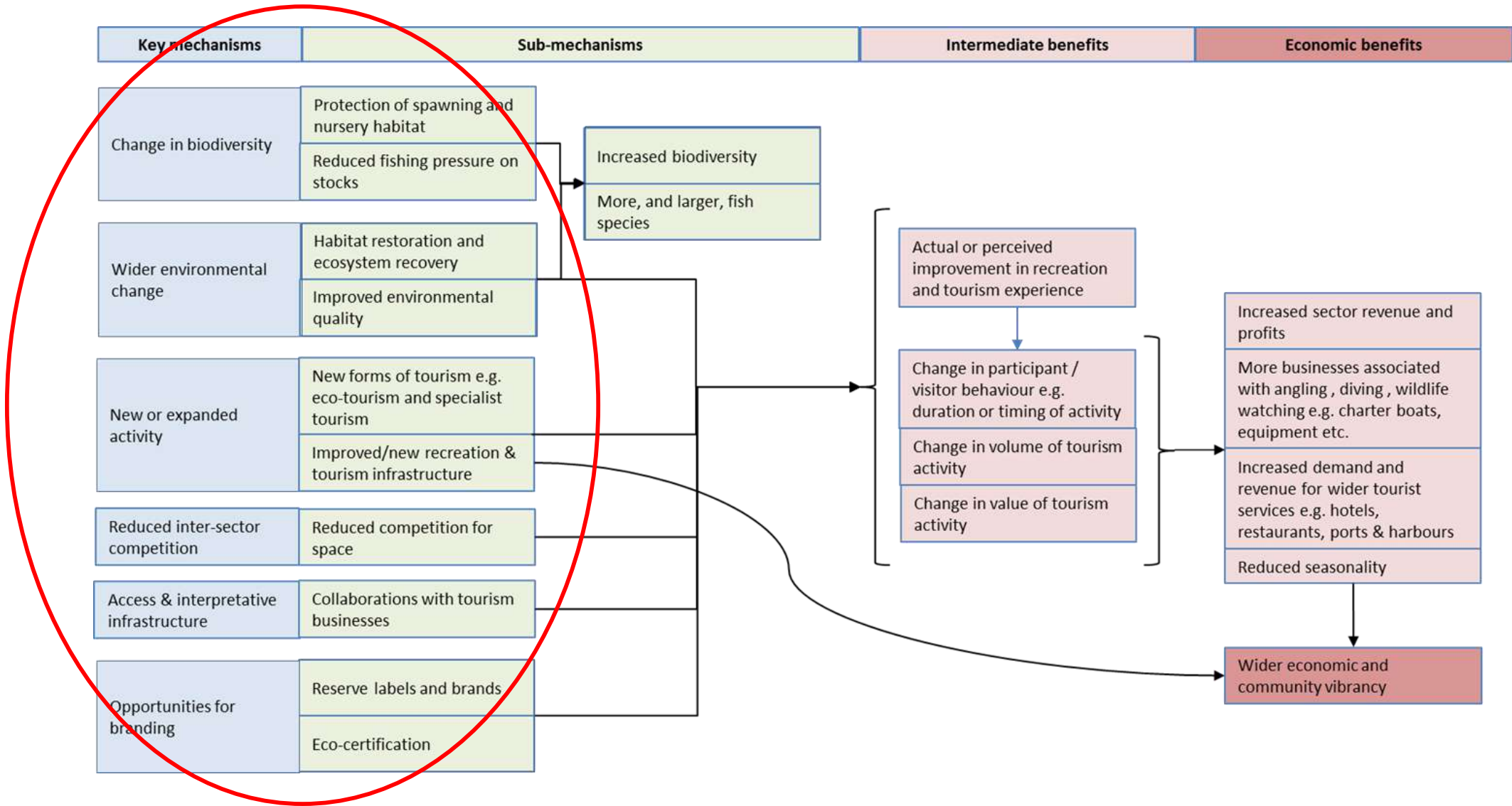


# MPAs clearly influence visit decisions

- In six out of eleven European MPAs, **more than 50% of scuba divers** stated that the MPA influenced their choice of dive site and in only two of these MPA did less than 25% state this. (Roncin et al, 2008).
- In two out of five European MPAs **between 25 and 50% of recreational fishermen** stated that their choice of fishing site had been influenced by the existence of the MPA, and in three MPA less than 25% stated this. (Roncin et al, 2008).
- In Alonissos MPA (Greece), **7% of visitors** stated that they chose Alonissos as a destination because of the MPA (Trivourea et al., 2011).
- At Tavolara Punta Coda Cavallo MPA (Italy), **36% of the visitors** stated that the designation influenced their choice of North-Eastern of Sardinia as a holiday location (Pizzolante, 2009).
- In Cape Rodney Okakari Point Marine Reserve (New Zealand), **54% of the day visitors** believe it unlikely they would have visited the area if it had not been a MPA (Hunt, 2008).

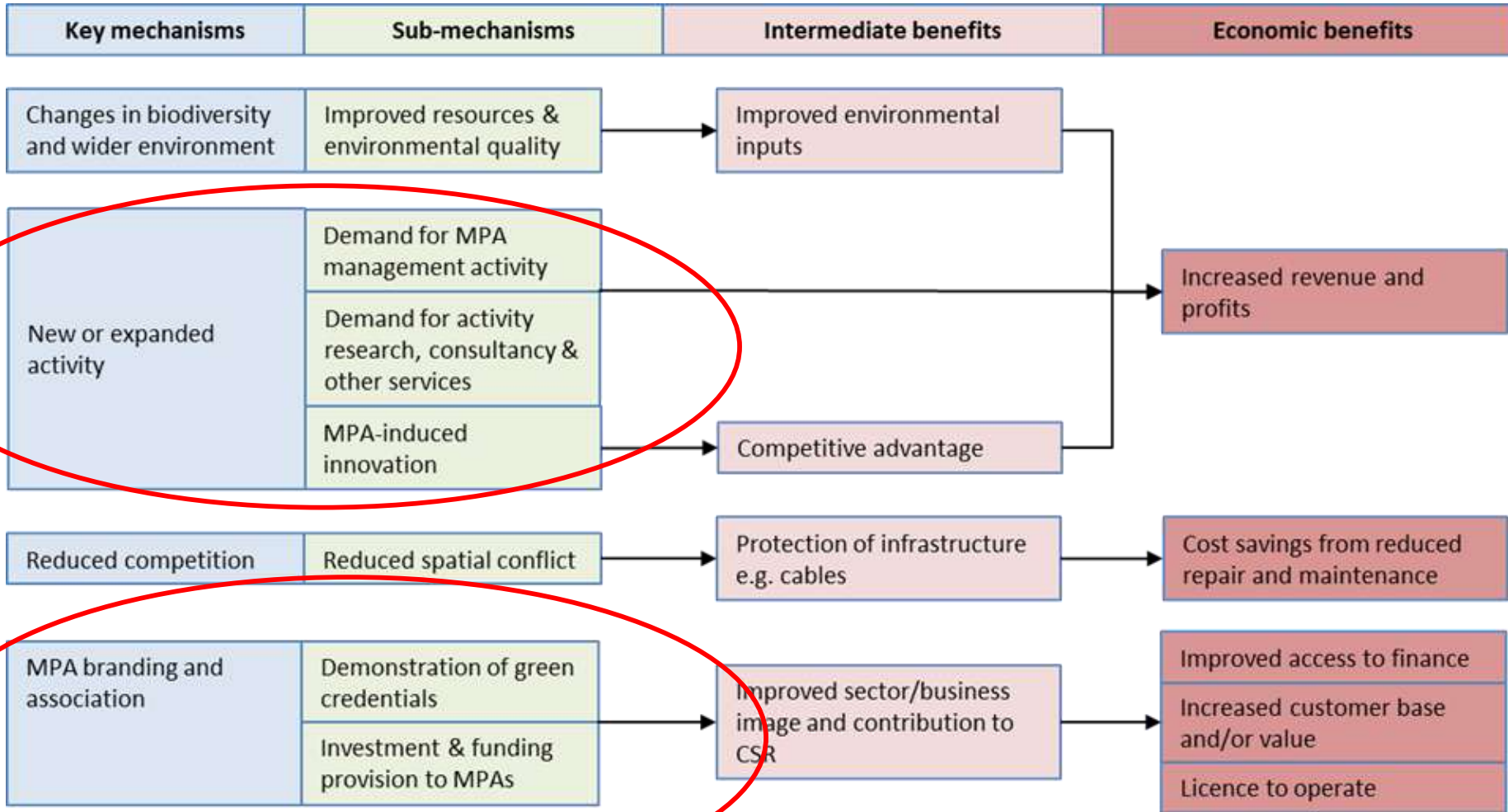


# Tourism sector benefit mechanisms





# Other blue economy sectors



# Key other blue economy benefit mechanisms

- **€1billion of expenditure on the Natura 2000 network (terrestrial and marine) supports almost 30,000 jobs, with 60% of these on activities directly related to site management (e.g. designation, management, conservation actions, monitoring and research)**
- **Contracts for ecological restoration, enhancement and mitigation activity can run to tens of millions**
- **MPA-induced innovation**
  - Technologies in support of MPA surveillance
  - Technology and products to support MPA management
  - New production processes with reduced environmental impact
- **Benefits of tangible demonstration of a company's environmental credentials**



# The state of the evidence



# The identified evidence base

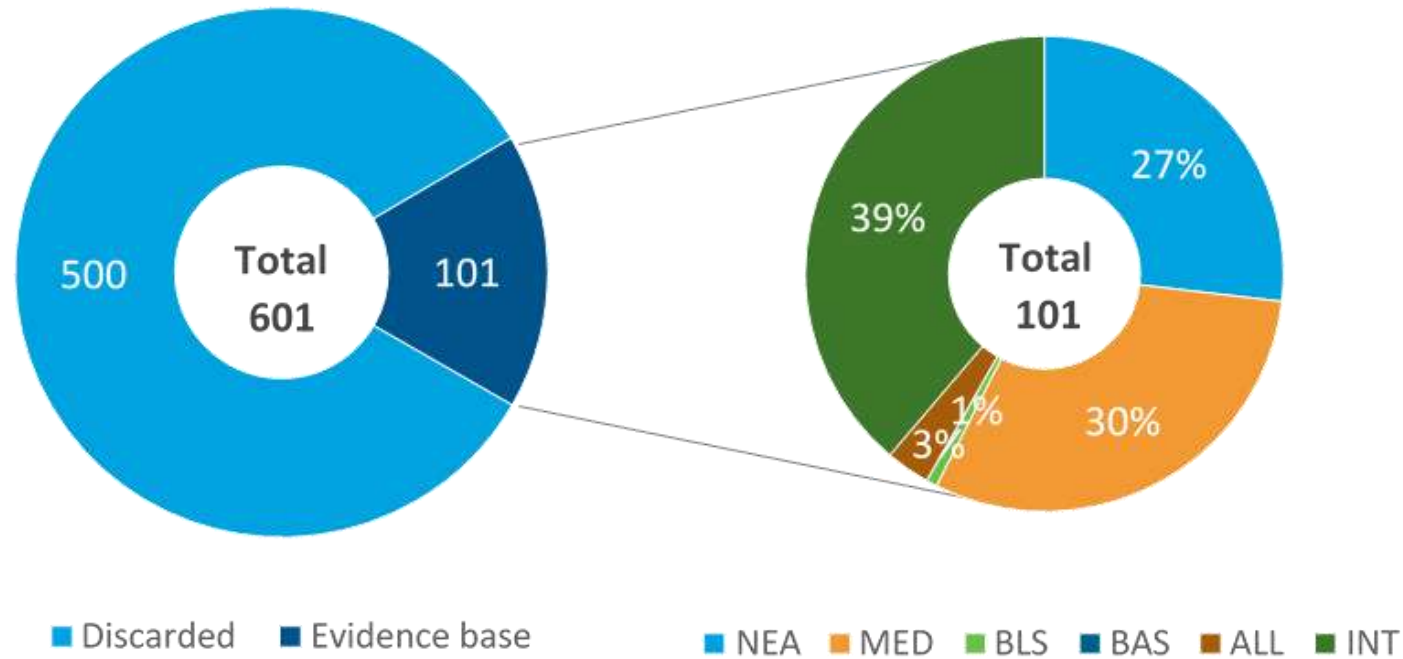


Figure 1 Overview of the literature (left); Geographical distribution of selected evidence base (right). (NEA: North-East Atlantic; MED: Mediterranean Sea; BLS: Black Sea; BAS: Baltic Sea; ALL: applicable to all EU seas; INT: international evidence including ORs, OCTs and transferrable evidence).

# There is little robust economic evidence on the benefits of MPAs

Table: Availability of **robust economic** benefit evidence (number of papers)

	Fishing	Tourism	Other blue economy
<b>Type of MPA</b>			
No-take MPA	8	2	0
Multi-use MPA	4	2	0
Combination/ zoning	2	4	0
Multiple sites/ protection types	4	6	0
SPM	2	0	0
<b>Point of study</b>			
Ex ante	1	1	0
Ex post	17	13	0
<b>Type of study</b>			
Assessment of change	13	3	0
Baseline study	5	11	0
Combination	0	0	0



# Some implications



# Planning for economic benefits

- Economic benefits may be **more likely to materialise if they are planned for** as a component of MPA design, management and governance
- **Stakeholder participation** is as important for planning for / enabling economic benefits as it is for ensuring conservation benefits and stakeholder buy-in
- MPAs should be seen as being at the core of the EU's **blue infrastructure** – and be more closely integrated with MSP
- MPAs need to be placed in their **wider environmental context**
- Certain categories of MPA (or SPM) may work as **(green) blue economy zones**
- Incentives and institutional **support**

# Evidence, enforcement and resources are essential

- Good MPA design, adaptive management and stakeholder support are contingent on robust **evidence**
- **Enforcement** and monitoring is essential
- Increased and more stable **funding**, and cost efficiencies are needed to underpin





Thank you

