



PROTECTING SEABIRDS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN:  
ADVANCING THE MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORK

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP  
23<sup>RD</sup> – 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2015



# mIBAs in Greece

## Priority list and achieving protection

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Protecting Seabirds in the Mediterranean: Advancing the Marine Protected Area Network  
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- **1997-99:** Actions for the Conservation of *Larus audouinii* in Greece (LIFE96 NAT/GR/003221)
- **2003-2007:** Conservation measures for *Falco eleonora* in Greece (LIFE03 NAT/GR/000091)
- **2007-2010:** Survey and conservation of seabirds in Greece (A.G. Leventis Foundation)
- **2008-2009:** Evaluation of 69 Important Bird Areas as Special Protection Areas
- **2009-2012:** Concrete conservation measures for the Mediterranean *Shag* and *Audouin's Gull* in Greece, including the inventory of relevant marine IBAs (LIFE07 NAT/GR/000285)
- **2013-2015:** Seabird project (A.G. Leventis Foundation)

## Important Areas for Seabirds in Greece





**2000 → 196 IBAs**

**98% terrestrial : 2% marine**

**25 mlIBAs** = 55,000 ha

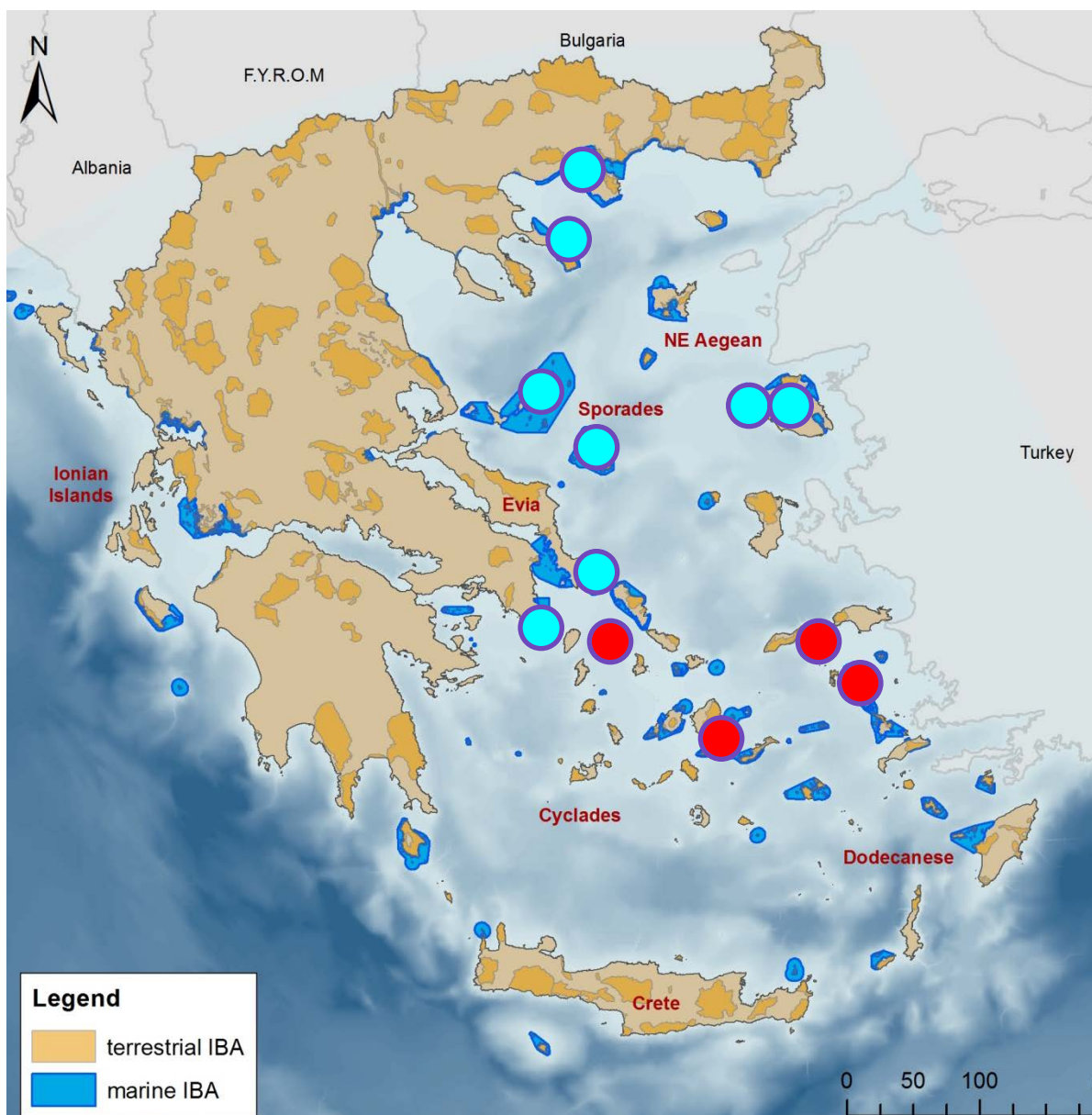
marine component sites  
extensions of terrestrial sites  
without proper criteria  
application for seabirds.

**2012 → 204 IBAs**

**75% terrestrial : 25% marine**

**66 mlIBAs** = 1,060,000 ha

8% of territorial waters



4,000 – 7,000 bp

Trigger species in 21 mIBAs

3 mIBAs hold 70-80% of national population

But...

most important colony (Gyaros island) is an SPA but not a mIBA yet!)

6% area overlap with SPA

no marine part in SPA



# Scopoli's Shearwater



8,000 – 11,000 bp

Trigger species in 15 mIBAs

4 mIBAs hold 70-80% of  
national population

12% area overlap with SPA

no marine part in SPA



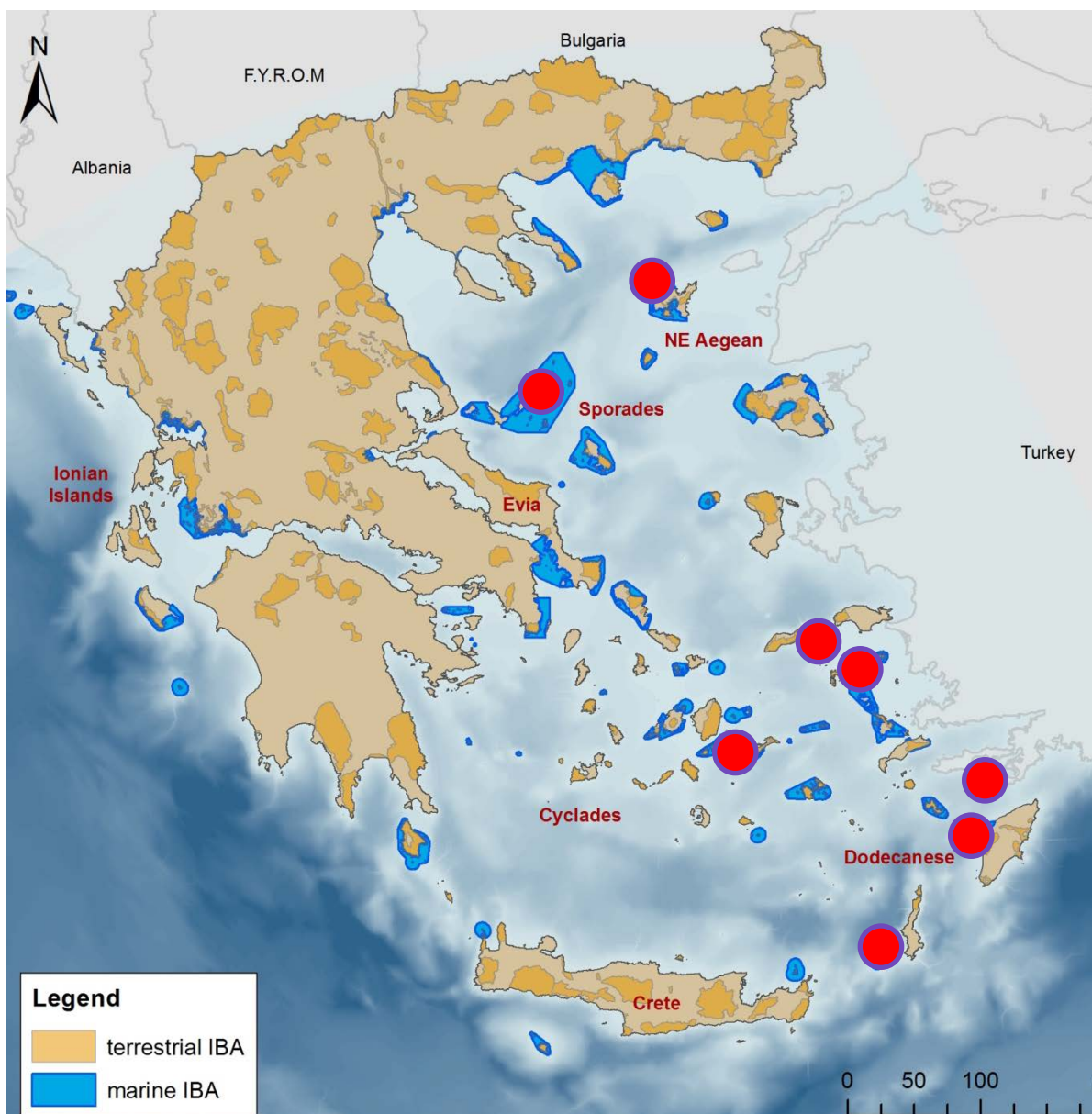
100 – 150 bp

Trigger species in 2 mIBAs

2 mIBAs hold 100% of  
national population

3% area overlap with SPA

no marine part in SPA



350 – 500 bp  
Trigger species in 21 mIBAs

8 mIBAs hold 60% of  
national population

8% area overlap with SPA  
no marine part in SPA



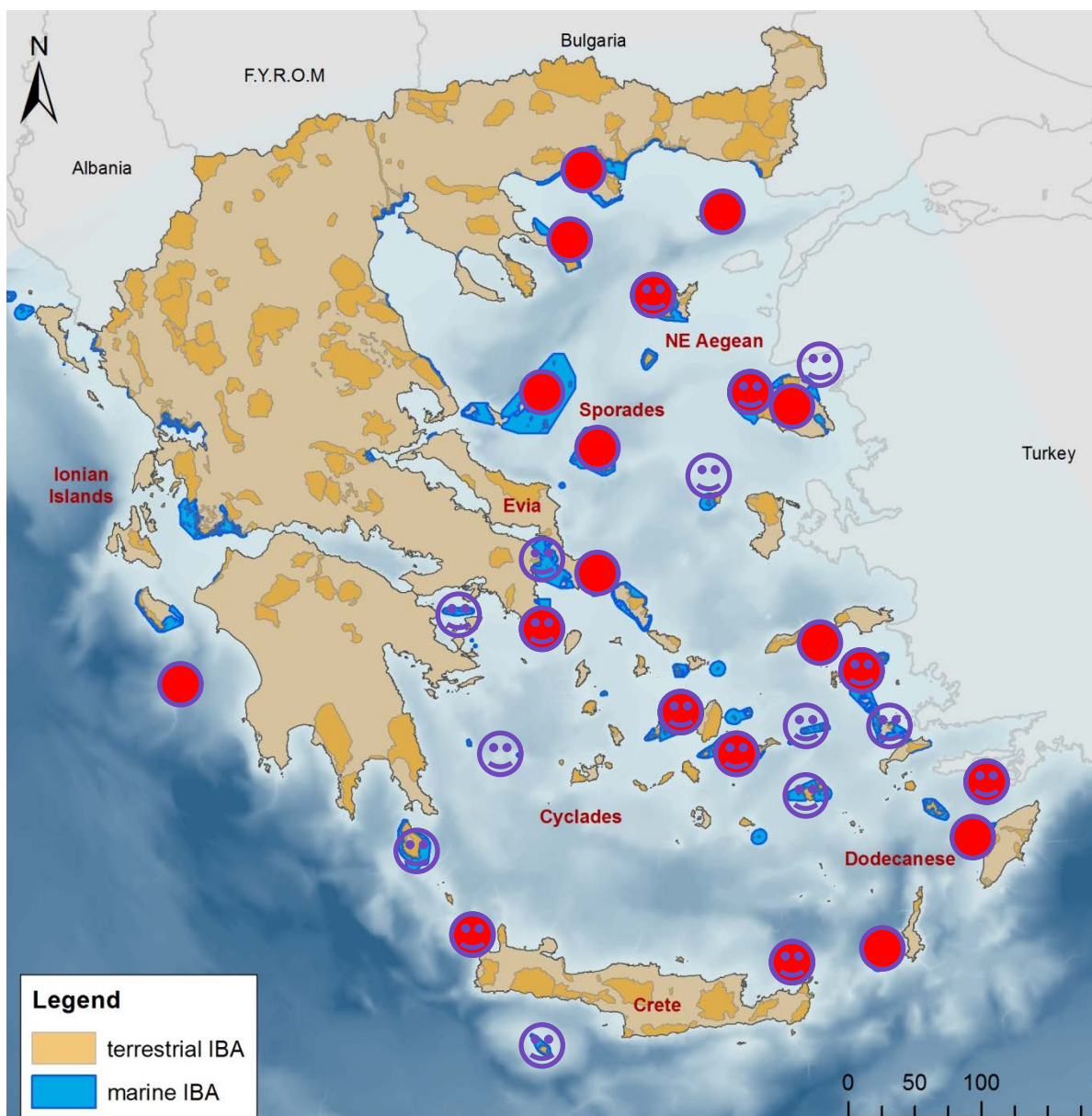


1,300 – 1,450 bp  
Trigger species in 25 mIBAs

6 mIBAs hold 60% of  
national population

8% area overlap with SPA  
and 7% marine part in SPA!





Overall 20 mIBAs of priority  
for 5 seabird species

Of the 66 mIBAs, currently  
11% is covered by SPAs

Consortium Reporting for  
Article 12 has just  
proposed only 19 new  
mSPAs

- 9 mSPAs in our priority list  
were included
- 10 mSPAs not included

## Problems with current mSPA proposal (November 2015)

- Not used mIBAs boundaries (HOS inventory; Fric et al. 2012)
- Oversimplified methodology of boundary delineation
- Selective use of available data (Fric et al. 2012)
- Not applied criteria properly
- Many mIBAs were not included at all although new data exist and no justification provided

For mIBA Kavala Gulf (GR250), justified rejection due to potential exploitation of hydrocarbon in the future.



# Thank you!

