



# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



**Egadi Islands, Italy: an advanced laboratory for the protection of marine environment, the development of renewables, energy efficiency and CO2 abatement in smaller islands.**



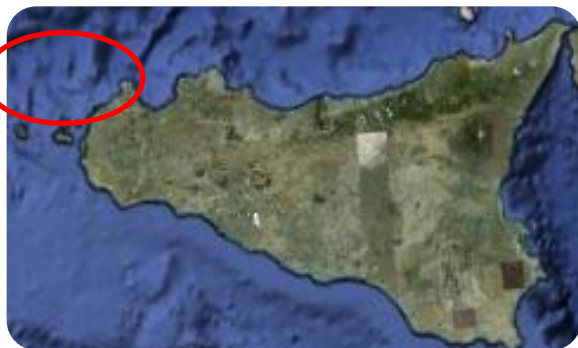
# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



The Egadi's archipelago is located in the Strait of Sicily, and includes the islands of Favignana, Levanzo, Marettimo and the islets of Formica and Maraone.







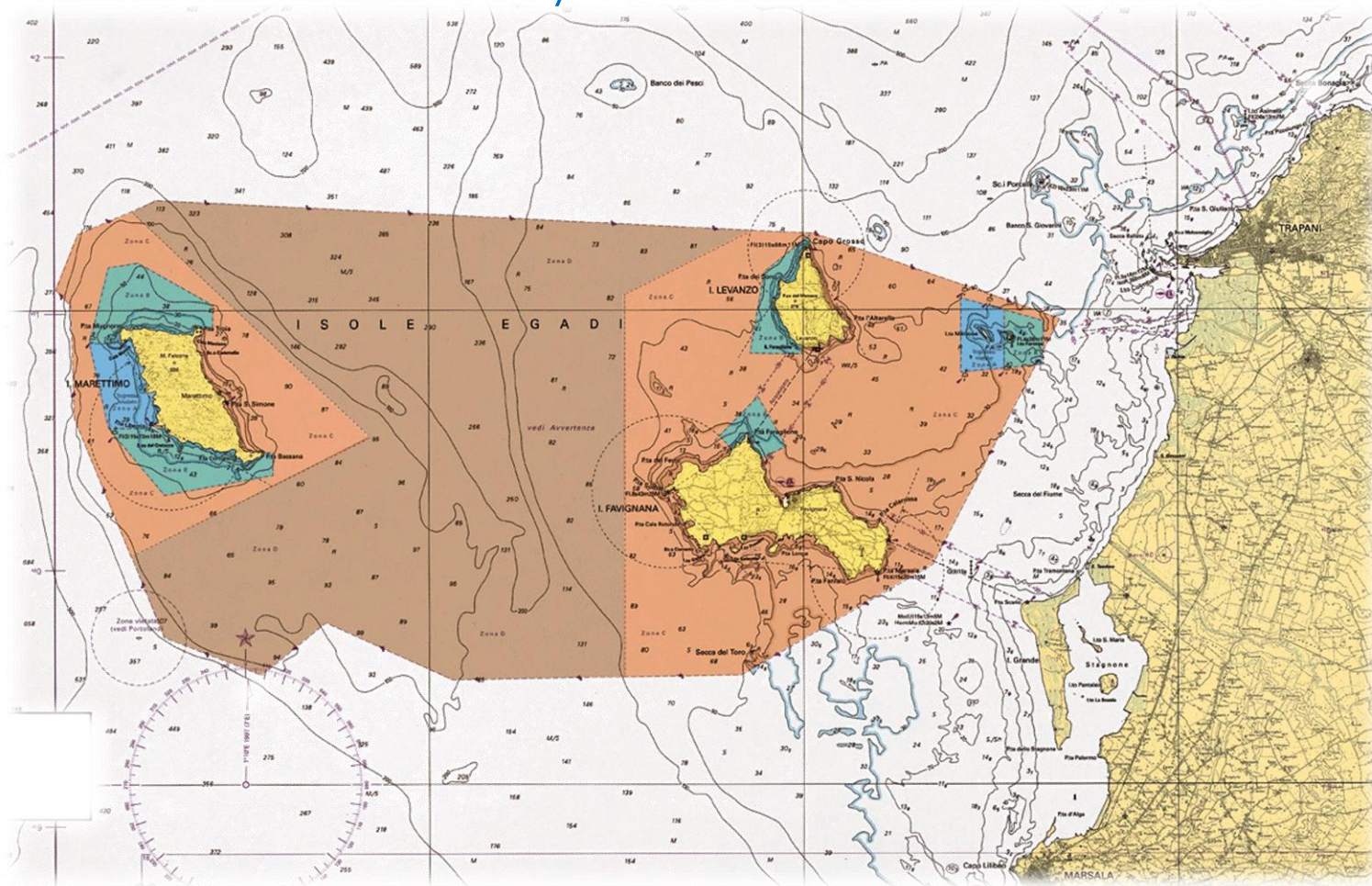
# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



Egadi islands MPA is the largest marine reserve in Europe (54,000 ha), established in 1991 and managed by the Municipality of Favignana, on behalf of the Italian Ministry of the Environment.





# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana

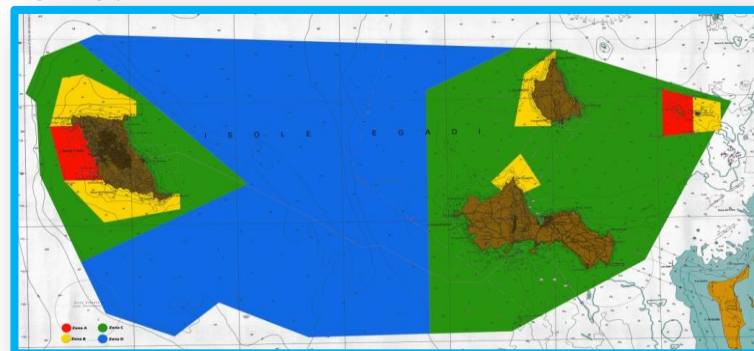


The institutional missions of the MPA are:

1. protection and enhancement of the marine environment,
2. environmental education,
3. awareness and information of users,
4. research and monitoring,
5. integrated coastal zone management,
6. promotion of sustainable development, with particular reference to the eco-compatibility of tourism.

It is divided into four areas of different protection levels and with different access possibilities and use limitations:

- A zone** (no take zone)
- B zone** (general protection zone)
- C zone** (partial protection zone)
- D zone** (protection zone – few limitations)



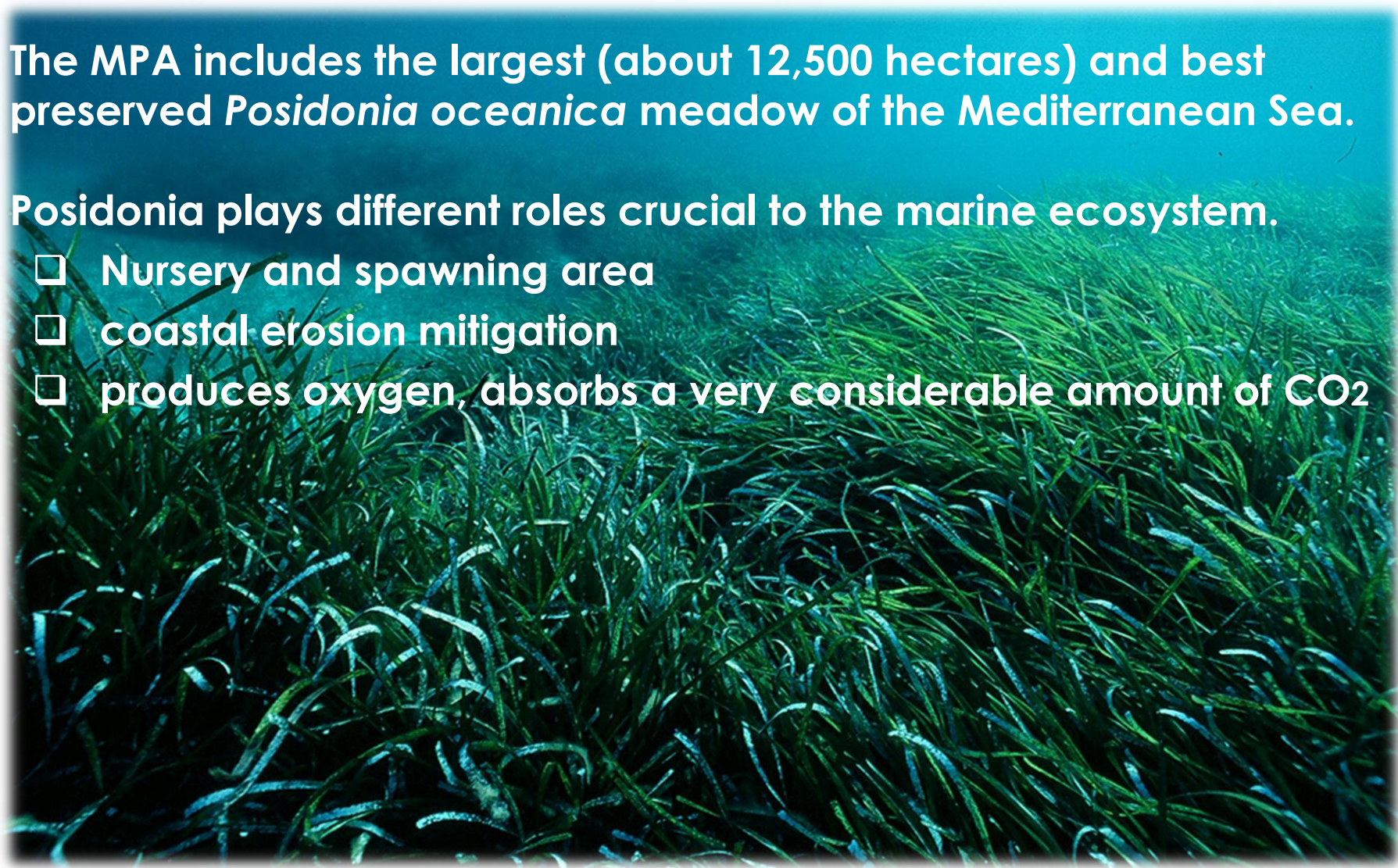




The MPA includes the largest (about 12,500 hectares) and best preserved *Posidonia oceanica* meadow of the Mediterranean Sea.

*Posidonia* plays different roles crucial to the marine ecosystem.

- ☐ Nursery and spawning area
- ☐ coastal erosion mitigation
- ☐ produces oxygen, absorbs a very considerable amount of CO<sub>2</sub>





## Egadi MPA hosts around 25% of vulnerable or protected species in the Mediterranean







# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



## Charismatic Protected Species

Monk seals, Bluefin Tunas,  
Sea turtles, Storm petrels,  
Bottlenose dolphins,  
Mantas, Sharks,  
Sperm whales



The anthropic contest: Tourism...

Scuba divers (8 local diving centers, 77 diving sites)

recreational fishers (3,000 authorizations)

seaside tourism (700,000 visitors/y)

recreational boating (1.000 boats anchor during summer we)





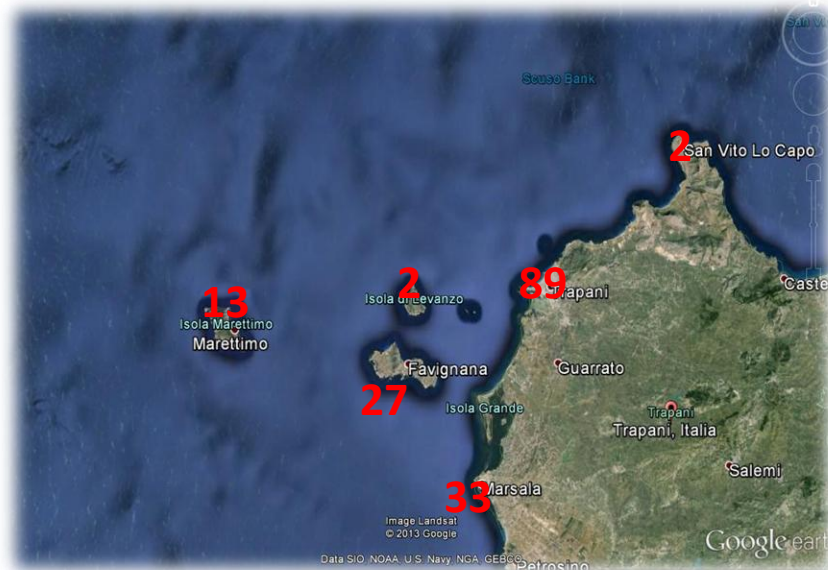


## Egadi have also a very important professional fishing fleet:

42 Boats from the Egadi Islands

127 from other fleets of the province

Type of fishing	Number of authorizations
Artisanal fisheries (trammelnets and longlines)	119
Industrial fishery (seiners, trawlers) (Zone D only)	48



Length overall < 12 m: 119 vessels



Some trawlers were used to fish in prohibited areas (A, B and C)



## THE PROJECT “SUN AND STARS OF EGADI”



- renewable energy plants of public facilities;
- energy efficiency of public lighting systems;
- Provision of grants for the purchase of bicycles and electric vehicles;
- grants for the installation of solar thermal systems;
- grants for the installation of photovoltaic systems;
- grants for energy-efficient technologies;



Photovoltaic system on the roof of the municipality buildings in the islands of Favignana ( 6,72 KW) and Levanzo (6 KW)



LED Public lighting in Levanzo and Marettimo islands

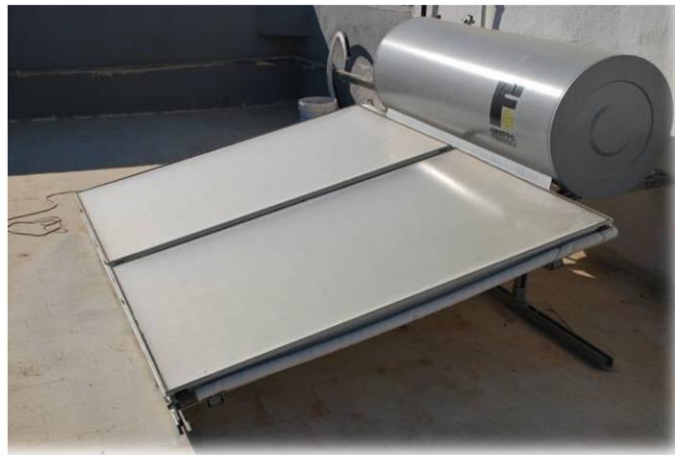


## Contributions to private: photovoltaic systems (of more than 120 kW)





**Contributions to private:** solar thermal systems  
installation of more than 35 mq of solar thermal systems



## SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY



### Tender for the allocation of grants for the purchase of electric vehicles intended for the tourism sector.

Replacing the means of public and private transport with more sustainable vehicle fleet, such as electric scooters and electric bicycles



Repayable funding for the purchase of electric scooters and bicycles.

More than 100 bikes bought by citizens.





## Energy Information Desk

An information service was located in Palazzo Florio for six months, in order to support citizens and economic operators to participate in tenders and to provide info about government incentives

Citizens and companies had the opportunity to take advantage of a free consultation service about renewable energy, energy conservation and energy efficiency



# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana

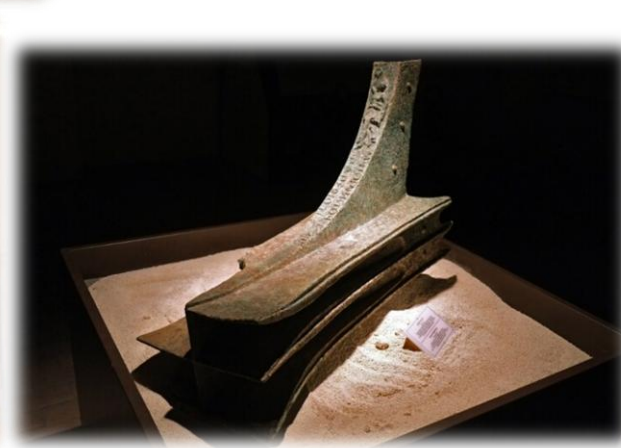


## Management of the Museum of the old “Tonnara” of Favignana

one of the **most visited** museums of Sicily: more than **62,000 visitors** in 2016 (May to October); **24,000 square meters** of museum area;

**18 young skilled workers** - many natives of Egadi islands

It houses the museum of the famous **naval battle of the Egadi** between the Romans and Carthaginians





## MPA Best practice 1

# The Monk seal is back

The seal was nearly extinct. After 20 years of protection, numerous reports and sightings occurred. Then ISPRA and MPA placed phototraps in some caves and documented the presence of Monk seal (*Monachus monachus*), classified as critically endangered by the IUCN, during the winter season





**EGADI ISLANDS**  
marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



# The Monk Seal Observatory

In the Marettimo island, inside  
the Punta Troia Castle, owned  
by the Municipality of  
Favignana







**EGADI ISLANDS**  
marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



# The Monk Seal Observatory

The Observatory is a space dedicated to the research for the study of the Monk Seal. In summer it is also a visitor center and an information point.



## MPA Best practice 2

# Anti-trawling Bollards

MPA placed 96 repopulating anti-trawling bollards, to reduce illegal coastal trawling, that can damage seabeds, destroy Posidonia oceanica seagrass, deplete fish stocks

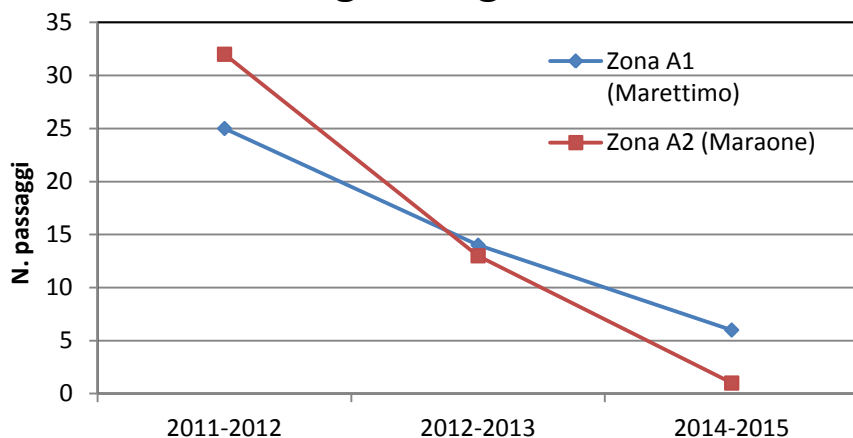
Bollards are made of sea-friendly concrete



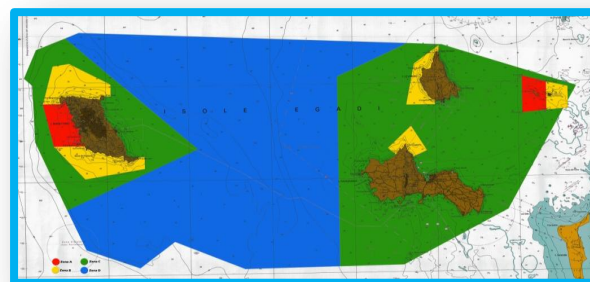


## Anti-trawling Bollards: Blue-box datas

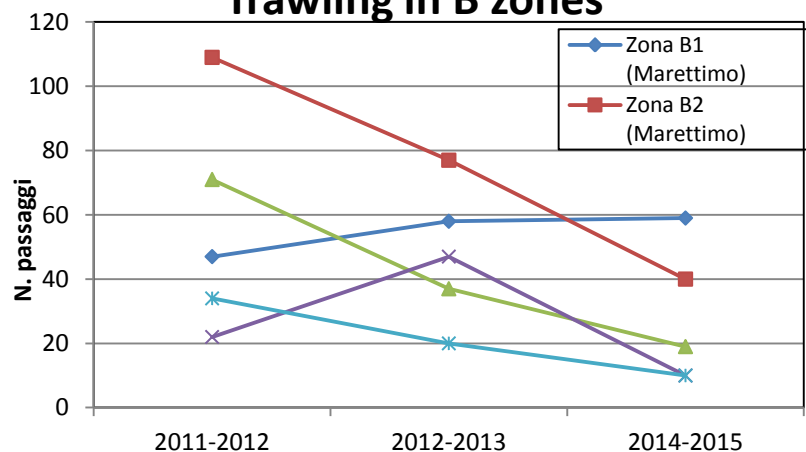
### Trawling fishing in A zone



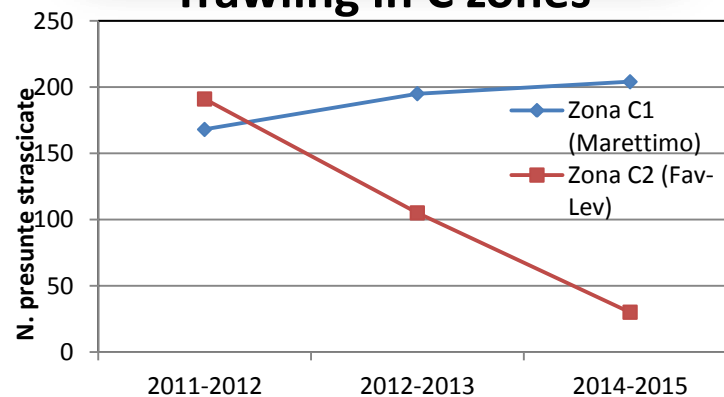
**Illegal trawling in the A zone is almost completely reduced; it decreases at 85% in areas where bollard have been placed**



### Trawling in B zones



### Trawling in C zones



## MPA Best practice 3

# Guardians of the sea



A monitoring program of the presence **of protected species** in the Egadi Islands.

Number of vessels involved:

- Favignana: **23**; Marettimo: **13**, Levanzo: **2**

Total number of fishermen: **93**



**sightings of protected species ;**  
**Support to surveillance;**  
**ethics Code of conduct** for sustainable fisheries;  
**reporting of abuse;**  
**research** activities;  
**cleaning** interventions





## MPA Best practice 4

# Mooring buoys



**17** mooring areas all over the archipelago, for sailing boats up to 24 metres.

More than **180** buoys to moor in safety, to prevent damage to the seabeds (posidonia seagrass, corals) caused by anchors, ensuring the chance to moor in the most beautiful bays





# EGADI ISLANDS

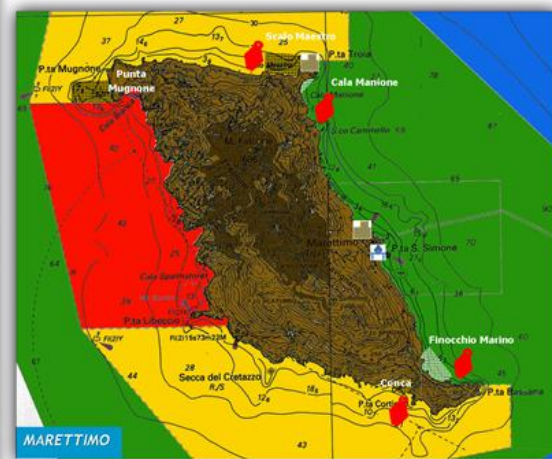
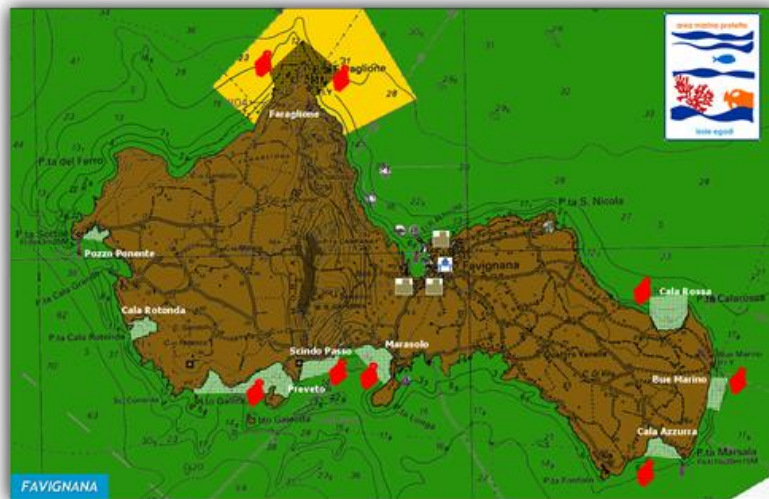
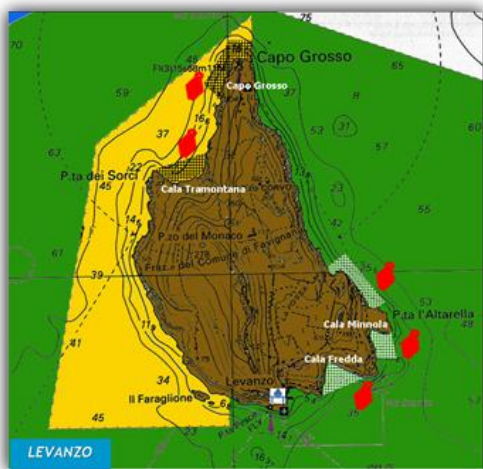
marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



## MPA mooring buoys:

Great satisfaction of boaters, especially sailors







## MPA Best practice 5

# A Sea Turtle First Aid Centre



At the basement of Palazzo Florio, seat of the City Council, a sea turtle first-aid center was set up, with veterinary equipment. The Centre operates in the summer for the hospitalization of injured specimens (for impacts with boats, swallowed fishing line, etc.), housed in special tanks before being treated and returned to freedom after the convalescence. The center is also a visitor center and an environmental education center.





# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



## A Sea Turtle First Aid Centre

The center is managed in cooperation with NGOs, which provide the medical / veterinary and scientific staff , as well as volunteers. Thanks to EU Life Plus funds for the TartaLife project, it will be enhanced in terms of veterinary and surgical equipment and will acquire the level of Turtle Recovery Center.







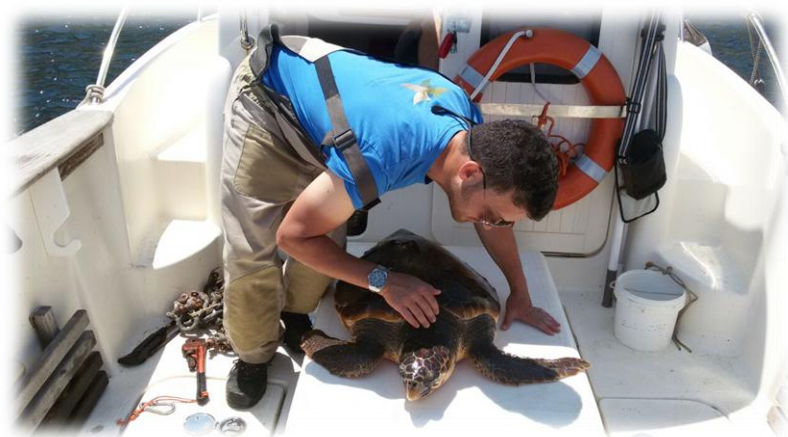
# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



**First patients: Sonia, Dile, Tanina**





## MPA Best practice 6



MPA created a **label** for the **environmental certification of tourist services** (accommodation, catering, rental of boats, cars and bikes, sightseeing tours, passenger sea and land transport, fish-tourism, diving, bathing facilities): nearly 70 operators obtained the label;







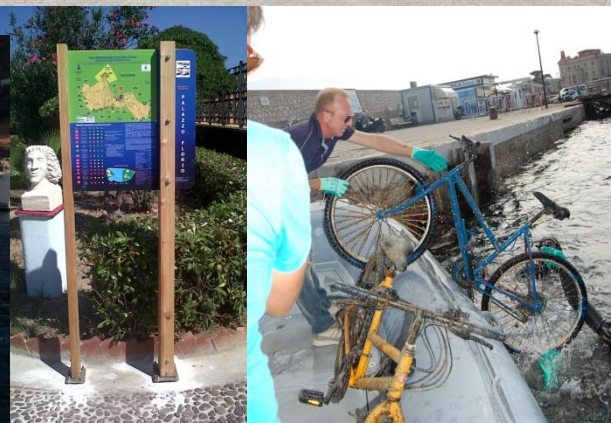
# EGADI ISLANDS

marine protected area

Municipality  
of Favignana



# Thank you



[info@ampisoleegadi.it](mailto:info@ampisoleegadi.it)  
[www.ampisoleegadi.it](http://www.ampisoleegadi.it)