

## About the scientists and the project

NEAT is an output of the European research project DEVOTES ([www.devotes-project.eu](http://www.devotes-project.eu)).

Project members are now disseminating NEAT and organizing training workshops in member states and for regional seas conventions.



*“NEAT allows us to assess the environmental status of European seas in an integrative way”*

Dr. Borja (AZTI)



DEVOTES (*DEvelopment Of innovative Tools for understanding marine biodiversity and assessing good Environmental Status*) project is the collaborative effort of 22 partners distributed across 15 countries, in the Baltic, Atlantic, Mediterranean, Black Seas, and Red Sea, after four years (2012-2016) of research.

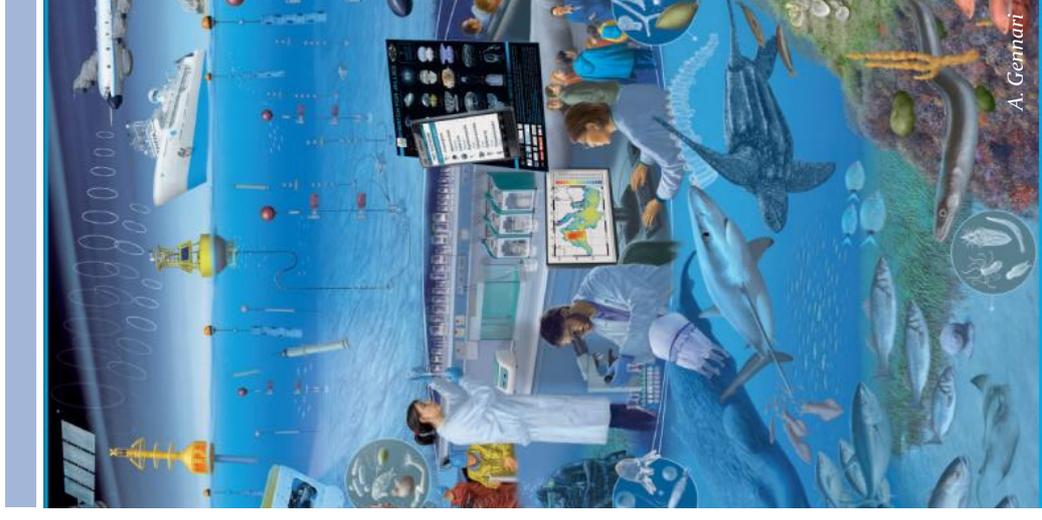
The overall goal of DEVOTES is to better understand the relationships between pressures from human activities and climatic influences and their effects on marine ecosystems, including biological diversity, in order to support the ecosystem based management and fully achieve the Good Environmental Status of marine waters.



DEVOTES was funded by the European Union under the 7th Framework Programme, ‘The Ocean of Tomorrow’ Theme (grant agreement no. 308392)

[www.devotes-project.eu](http://www.devotes-project.eu)

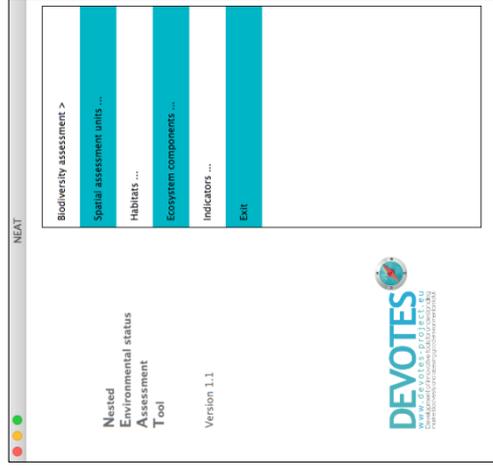
## NEAT Nested Environmental status Assessment Tool



[www.devotes-project.eu/neat](http://www.devotes-project.eu/neat)

## What's NEAT

NEAT is a new software, created to assess the environmental status of European seas in an integrative way. NEAT is designed to support environmental authorities of European Union member States, but also by the Regional Seas Conventions and for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.



## Availability

NEAT and its manual are already freely available from the DEVOTES website: (<http://www.devotes-project.eu/neat>)



*“Marine assessments are complex, but this tool makes the task much easier.*

*Some tools can be difficult to use, so we worked hard to make a user-friendly interface.”*

NEAT’s scientists



## Key Users

Environmental scientists, stakeholders, policy makers, consultants, managers.

## Versatility

Users can customize various steps of the assessment, making the assessment better reflect the reality of the area.

NEAT can even be used for other types of environmental assessment, not just marine biodiversity. So, it could also be used by firms and consultancies to carry out all types of environmental assessment.



## Addressing uncertainty

NEAT uses the uncertainty of indicator values to automatically evaluate the confidence of the assessment results. The more indicators and data you use, the better the assessment will be.