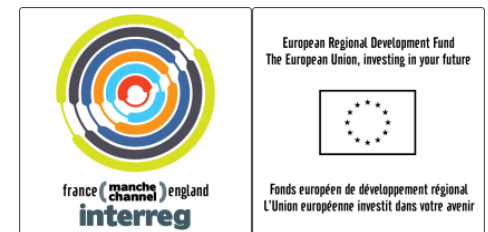


# An overview of VALMER

Ness Smith

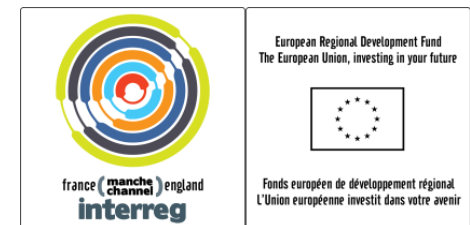


# ‘Valuing Marine Ecosystems Services in the Western Channel’



# A little more about VALMER

- VALMER is co-funded by the INTERREG IV A Channel Programme
- It aims to examine how marine ecosystem services assessment can support improved planning and management in the Western Channel (and beyond)
- Running from 1st September 2012 – 31st March 2015
- More information can be found at [www.valmer.eu](http://www.valmer.eu)



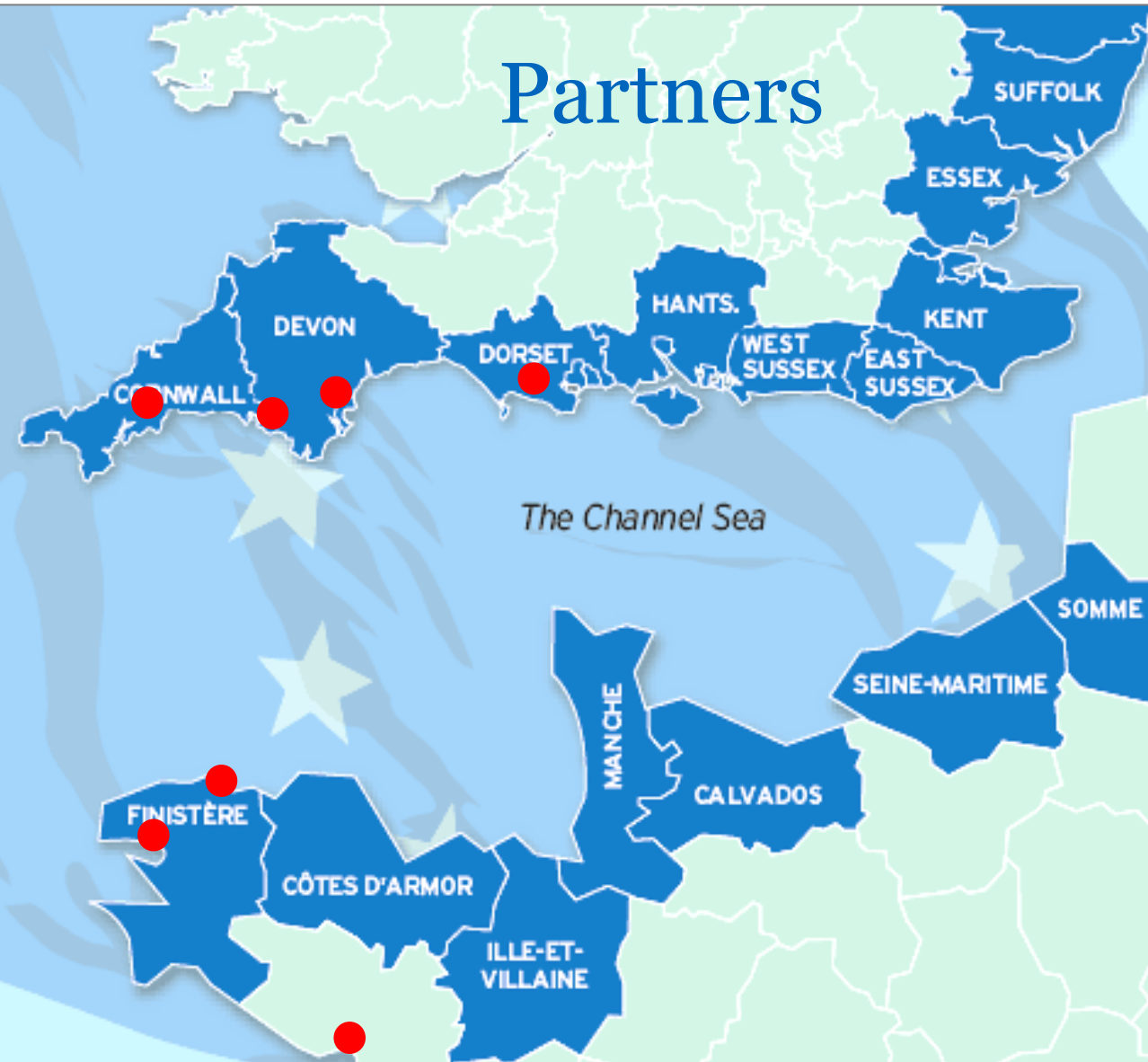
# Partners

## UK

- Cornwall Council
- Devon County Council
- Dorset County Council
- Marine Biological Association
- Plymouth Marine Laboratory
- Plymouth University

## France

- AAMP
- Ifremer
- SIAGM
- University of Brest
- University of Pierre and Marie Curie, Roscoff



# What are ecosystem services?



Source; [conservationbytes.com](http://conservationbytes.com)

# The Ecosystem Service (ES) Approach



Conceptual diagram illustrating the ecosystem services provided by oceans and the ways in which humans depend on oceans.

Symbols library courtesy of the Integration and Application Network ([ian.umces.edu/symbols](http://ian.umces.edu/symbols)), University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.

Conceptual diagram illustrating the ecosystem services provided by oceans and the ways in which humans depend on oceans.

Diagram courtesy of the Integration and Application Network ([ian.umces.edu](http://ian.umces.edu)), University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. Source: Samonte G, Karier L, Orbach M. 2010. *People and Oceans*. Science and Knowledge Division, Conservation International, Arlington, Virginia, USA.

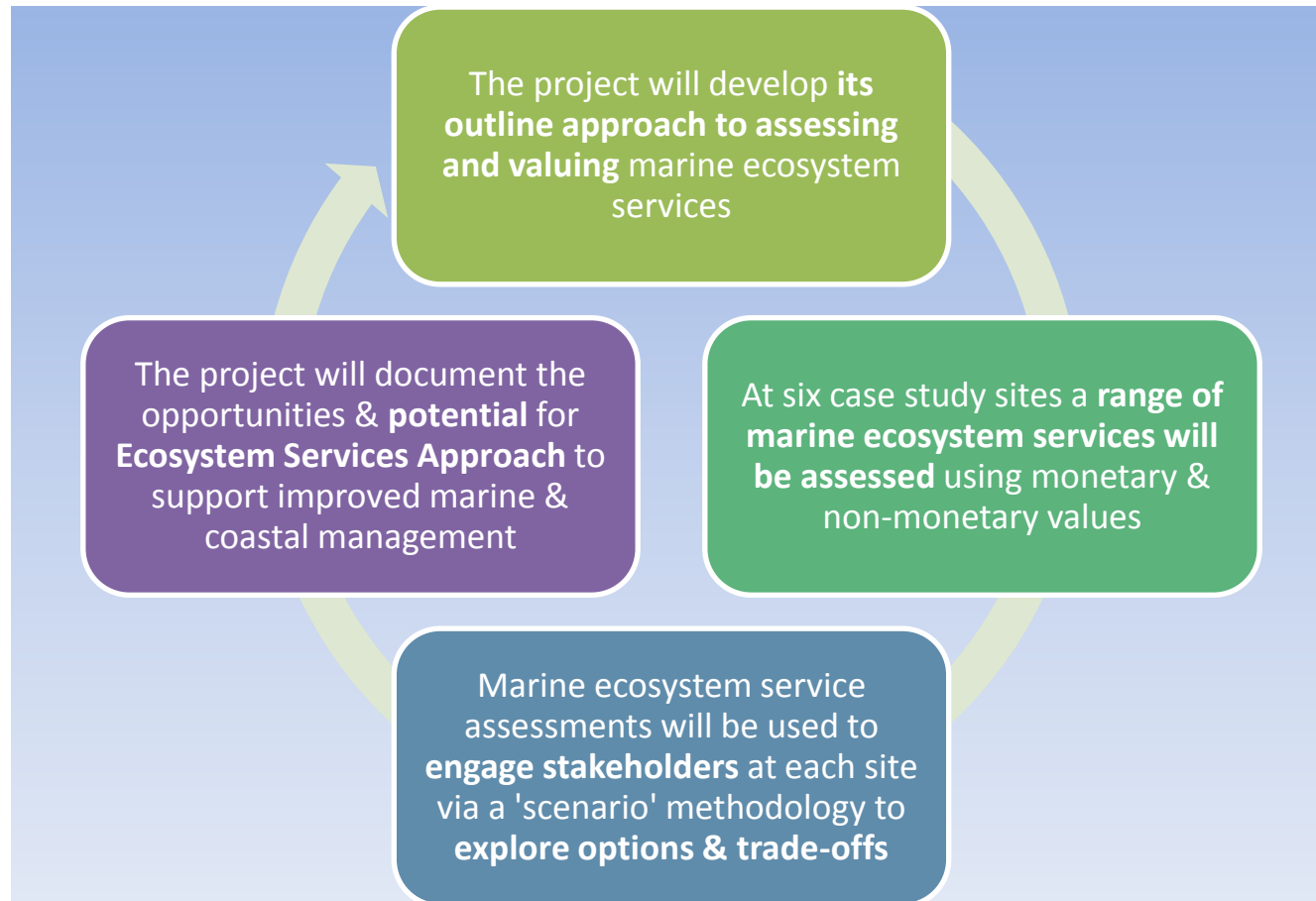
“the aspects of ecosystems utilised (actively or passively) to produce human well-being” (Fisher et al. 2009)

# Why are we doing it?

- Western Channel is a shared sea area with shared management challenges (e.g. *Energy production, fishing, invasive species, recreation*).
- Ecosystem services assessment has the potential to contribute to improved marine management – *but this is largely untested in marine environments*
- Testing methods is crucial to move the science and management forward for practical application.
- It is a chance for stakeholders to learn more about the ecosystem services approach

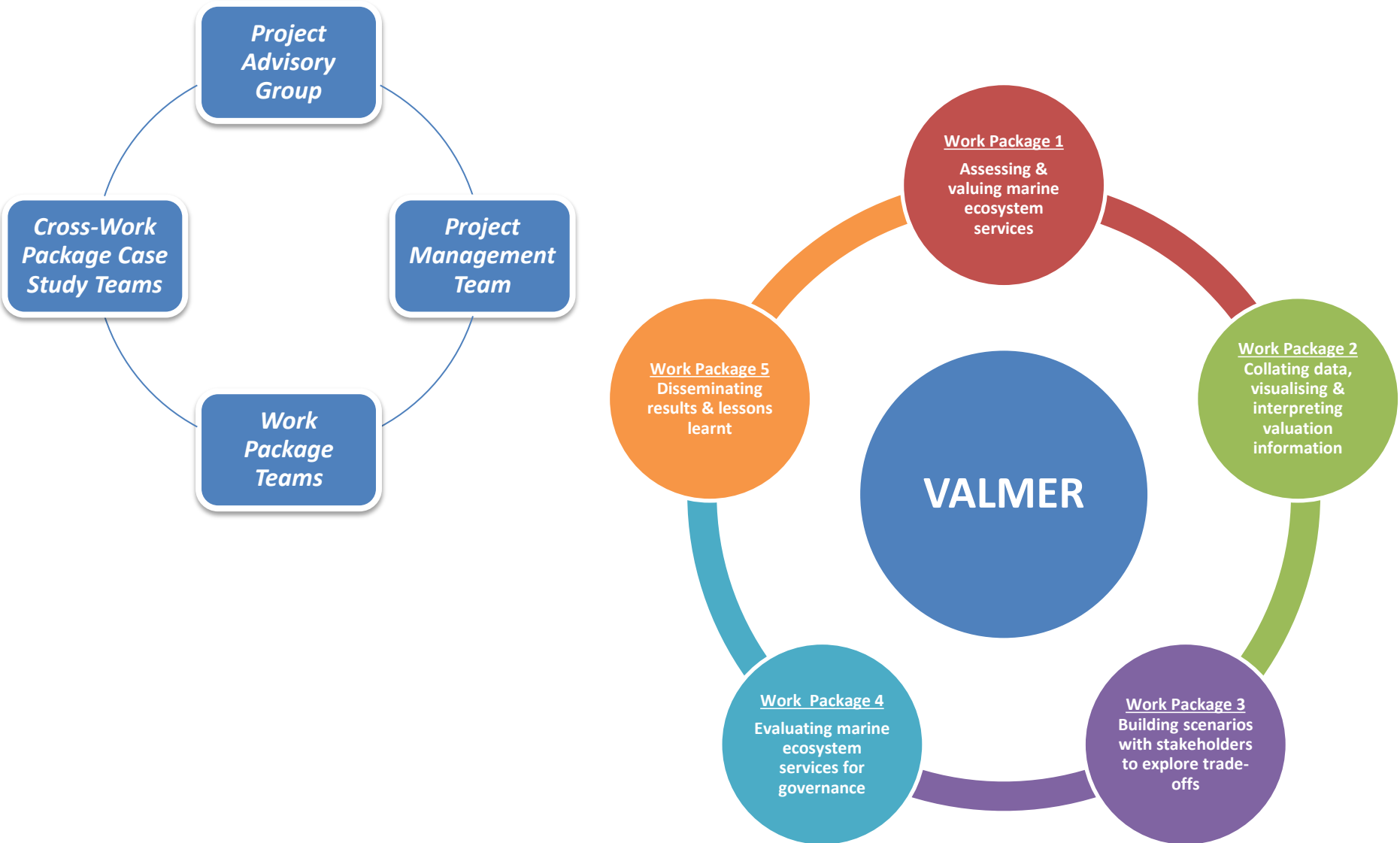


# The VALMER process





# How the VALMER partners work together



# Case study sites



North Devon



Sub-tidal  
benthic  
habitats

Golfe Normand-Breton



Intertidal  
and sub-tidal  
habitats

Poole Harbour



Recreation  
activities

1 North Devon



UK

English Channel

La Manche

Cherbourg

Caen

Granville

Saint-Malo

Saint-Brieuc

Brest

Vannes

FRANCE

2 Poole Harbour

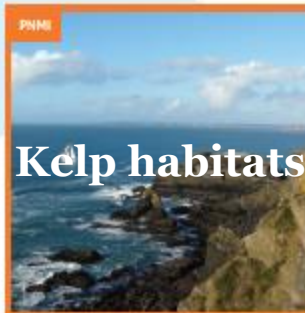
3 Plymouth Sound - Fowey

4 Golfe Normand-Breton

5 PNMI

6 Golfe du Morbihan

PNMI



Kelp habitats

Plymouth Sound - Fowey



Intertidal  
and sub-tidal  
habitats

Golfe du Morbihan



Seagrass  
habitats

# With special thanks to all our partners and funders

