

A stylized, light blue map of the United States serves as the background for the text. The map is composed of various shades of blue and white, with the text 'EL MAR MENOR' and 'A COLLECTIVE STORY' overlaid on it.

# EL MAR MENOR

**A COLLECTIVE STORY**

## INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO NAVIGATE THIS TIMELINE.

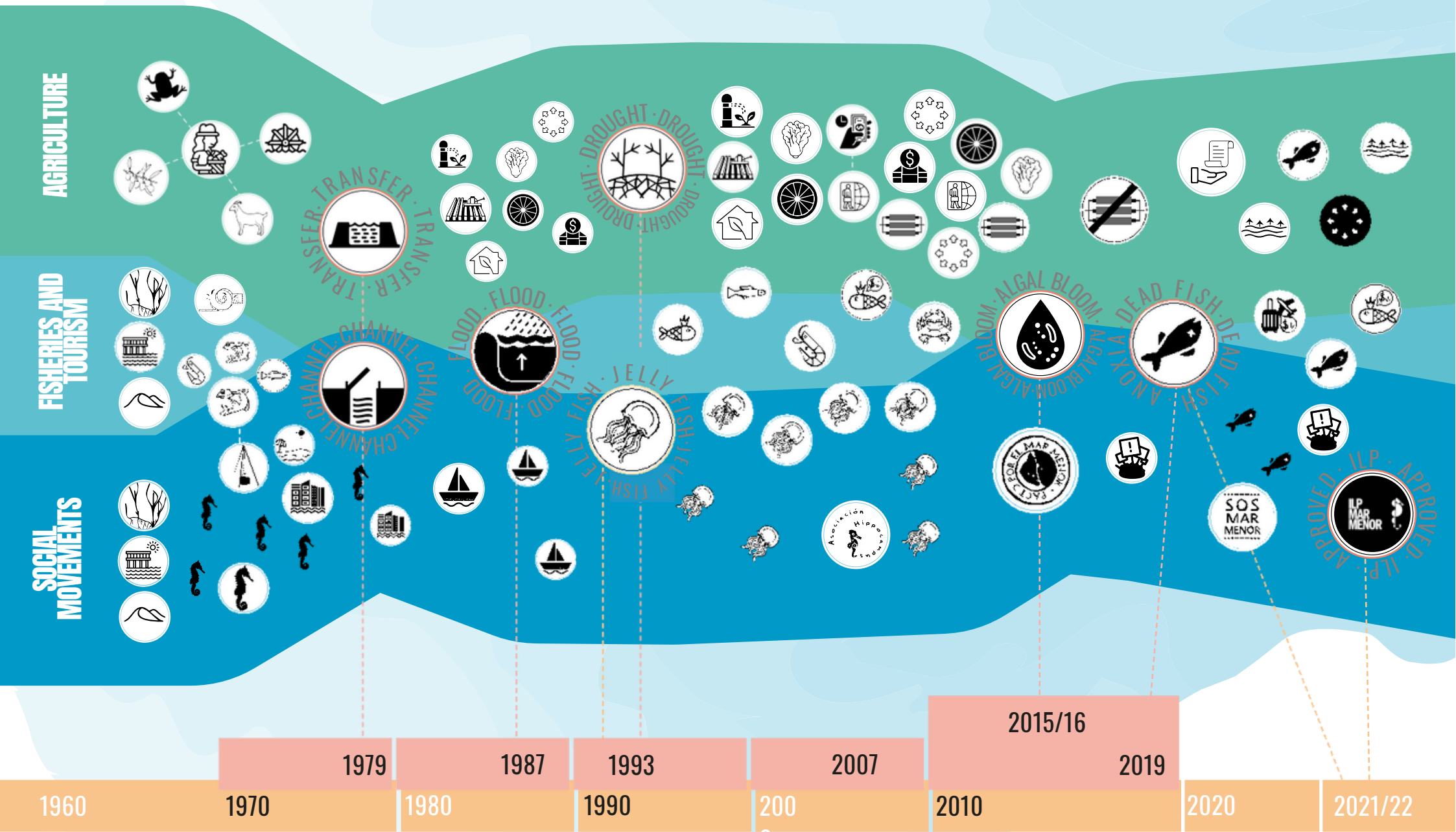
THE STORY SHOWN IN THIS INFOGRAPHIC EMERGES FROM AN ACTION RESEARCH PROCESS CONDUCTED WITH PEOPLE LIVING IN THE MAR MENOR SITE (WHICH INCLUDES THE 'CAMPO DE CARTAGENA'. IN ORDER TO COMPREHEND THE TRANSFORMATION THAT THIS REGION HAS UNDERGONE IN THE LAST 50 YEARS, WE INTERVIEWED 30 PEOPLE COMING FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS. THEY REPRESENT DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES ON WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THIS TERRITORY: FISHERMEN, SMALL FARMERS, AGRICULTURAL MIGRANT WORKERS, AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIANS, PEOPLE DEVELOPING OR RELATED TO TOURISM, INHABITANTS OF THE LAGOON AND ACTIVISTS INVOLVED IN ORGANIZATIONS IN DEFENSE OF THE LAGOON. BASED ON THESE, WE CREATE THREE DIFFERENT STORIES: ONE ABOUT THE CAMPO DE CARTAGENA FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF SMALL FARMERS, AND TWO ABOUT THE LAGOON FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE FISHERMEN AND THE TOURISM SECTOR, AS WELL AS FROM THE EXPERIENCES OF THE ACTIVISTS. THESE NARRATIVES WERE SHARED IN 3 FOCUS GROUPS WHERE 15 OF THE INTERVIEWEES HELPED US CORRECT, COMPLEMENT AND IMPROVE THEM. LASTLY, WE WOVE THE THREE STORIES INTO ONE THAT WE BELIEVE REPRESENTS AN INTEGRATIVE VIEW OF THE CAMPO DE CARTAGENA AND THE MAR MENOR LAGOON, AND THAT INVITES US TO RE-THINK THIS TERRITORY IN A COLLECTIVE MANNER.

IN THE GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF THIS COLLECTIVE WORK EACH ONE OF THE TIMELINES, DIFFERENTIATED BY A COLOR, REFLECTS EACH ONE OF THE STORIES THAT WE BUILT TOGETHER. THE ICONS REPRESENT A RELEVANT EVENT OR EXPERIENCE AND IN SOME CASES A SHARED MEMORY/EVENT.

WITH THIS STORY WE DO NOT INTEND TO GIVE AN EXHAUSTIVE EXPLANATION OF THE SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL PROCESSES THAT UNDERLIE THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE MAR MENOR, NOR TO RESEMBLE AN OBJECTIVE TRUTH. IT IS A SPIDER'S WEB COMPOSED OF THE VOICES AND EXPERIENCES OF THE LOCALS WITH THE MEDIATION OF THE RESEARCHERS AND ARTISTS WHO HAVE HELPED TO TRANSFORM IT INTO OTHER FORMATS. NOT ALL THE SOCIAL ACTORS IN THE MAR MENOR HAVE AN ACTIVE VOICE IN THIS NARRATIVE. FOR INSTANCE, WE DID NOT INTERVIEW THE REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRIAL FARMING AND EXPORTING AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES, OR DECISION-MAKERS AT THE GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL, NOR THE FISH, SEAHORSES AND OTHER NON-HUMAN INHABITANTS OF THE LAGOON. IN THAT SENSE, WE SEE THIS IS A STARTING POINT FOR OPENING CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION THAT WE HOPE TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND.

WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY SHARED THEIR TIME AND KNOWLEDGE TO BUILD THE STORY AND TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED US TO FIND THE PARTICIPANTS. WE ARE ALSO THANKFUL FOR THE FUNDING RECEIVED FROM THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND INNOVATION THEIR JUAN DE LA CIERVA PROGRAM (MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033); THE PROGRAM MARÍA DE MAEZTU FOR EXCELLENCY ACCREDITATION 2018-2022 (MDM-2017-0714); THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE BERG PROGRAM 2022-2025; AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION THROUGH THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAM HORIZONTE 2020, INNOVATIVE TRAINING NETWORK MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE 'NEWAVE – NEXT WATER GOVERNANCE' UNDER THE FINANCING AGREEMENT NO. 861509”.

# EL MAR MENOR. A COLLECTIVE STORY.



# ICONOGRAPHY OF THE INFOGRAPHIC

	<b>Dunes</b>		<b>Beaches</b>		<b>Agro-business firms</b>		<b>Resort town</b>
	<b>Sea bream</b>		<b>Prawn</b>		<b><i>Cymodocea nodosa</i></b>		<b><i>European bass</i></b>
	<b>Seahorses</b>		<b>Family agriculture</b>		<b>Cauldron</b>		<b>Frogs</b>
	<b>Greenhouses</b>		<b>Olives</b>		<b>Goats</b>		<b>Navigation</b>
	<b>Drip irrigation</b>		<b>Mullet</b>		<b>Citruses</b>		<b>Exporting</b>
	<b>Horticulture</b>		<b>Aceña (traditional mills)</b>		<b>Hippocampus Association</b>		<b>Urbanization</b>
	<b>Migrant workers</b>		<b>Piecework</b>		<b>Desalination plants</b>		<b>Loss of tourism value</b>
	<b>Intensive agriculture</b>		<b>Social mobilisation</b>		<b>Loss of fishing price</b>		<b>Aquifer level</b>
	<b>Pacto por el Mar Menor</b>		<b>SOS Mar Menor</b>		<b>Chesapeake/ Atlantic blue crab</b>		<b>Closure of desalination plants</b>
	<b>New laws</b>		<b>Morunas (traditional fishing gears)</b>		<b>Exports affected</b>		



**This infographic contains a graphic summary of the transformation of the Mar Menor basin over the last 50 years.**

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**This work is a co-creation of:**

- **Thirty locals** of the Mar Menor and Campo de Cartagena. **Content.**
- **Paula Andrea Zuluaga Guerra** - NEWAVE, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Fundación Nueva Cultura del Agua. (paula.zuluaga@fncu.eu). **Research.**
- **Violeta Cabello Villarejo** - Basque Center for Climate Change. (Violeta.Cabello@bc3research.org). **Research and voice.**
- **Lorna Biermann López** - [www.veala.site](http://www.veala.site) - **Graphics, design and layout; audio production and creation.**
- **Paulina Raniecka** - NEWAVE - **Translation to English.**
- **Raquel Meyers** - @rakelmeyers - **Voice.**

—● THIS WORK HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY:

**bc<sup>3</sup>**  
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EXCELENCIA  
MARÍA  
DE MAEZTU  
Jul. 2018-Jun. 2022

Fundación  
**Nueva  
Cultura  
del Agua**

**NEWAVE**