

ENGLISH



UNEP GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

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Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

MedPartnership

Together for the Mediterranean

MedPartnership



2012 ANNUAL REPORT

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM

www.themedpartnership.org



2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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FOREWORD

Cooperation for the conservation of the Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystem has a long history. It starts back in 1975 with the adoption of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and in 1976 the adoption of the “Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution”, and establishment of UNEP/MAP, which in 2004 became the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention).

Between 2000 and 2006, with the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the French GEF (FGEF), Mediterranean countries identified and analyzed the major transboundary environmental concerns in the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (LME). These included: the decline of biodiversity and fisheries; the decline in seawater quality; risks to human health from contaminated seafood and seawater; and the loss of groundwater-dependent coastal ecosystems. Based on this, two Strategic Actions Plans (SAPs) for pollution reduction and biodiversity conservation were developed and endorsed by the participating countries.

The actions at the regional and national level adopted in these plans have since been under implementation, through the integration into national planning but also through support from regional initiatives and projects, including the MedPartnership and the EU’s Horizon 2020 for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean. After a decade since their adoption, evaluations are underway to see which targets have been met and what is still remaining to be done.

To understand how effective these actions are, monitoring of all aspects of the Mediterranean ecosystem is required, and whilst data has been compiled over decades on pollution and biodiversity, the need for an integrated approach to monitoring, with common indicators and targets has been recognized, and since 2011, work has begun in the direction under the Mediterranean “Ecosystem Approach” (EcAp) supported by the EC and UNEP/MAP.

This ecosystem approach has been at the heart of the MedPartnership since its design. It combines the experience and knowledge of twelve international and regional organizations, working from the regional to the local level. The main lines of actions include support to participating countries for:

- Integrated management of the coasts, freshwater and aquifers;
- The reduction of pollution from land-based sources and industry in adopting environmentally sound technology;
- The creation and management of a coherent network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and the integration of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management.

The MedPartnership is in its final two years of implementation. The main challenge will be to ensure that all policies and plans are fully adopted and integrated at the national level and that the good practices resulting from the 78 demonstrations are broadly shared and replicated. In addition, efforts will be made not to lose the momentum of countries and partners working in the region following completion of the project. Activities for MPAs and the transfer of environmentally sound technology in industry have already been scaled up with further EC funding.

In January 2012, the GEF CEO approved the parallel project “Integration of Climate Variability and Change into National Strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol (Climate Variability project). This provides a unique opportunity to integrate climate variability aspects into the ongoing work of the MedPartnership. The assessments, tools, revised ICZM plans and ultimately a Climate Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean will be finalized for adoption at the 2015 Contracting Parties meeting of the Barcelona Convention.

We look forward to an extremely productive year of collaboration.

Habib N. El-Habr, Ph.D.,
Deputy Coordinator,
UNEP/MAP



“TOGETHER FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN”

WHAT IS THE MEDPARTNERSHIP?

Background

The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) is a collective effort of leading (regional, international, non governmental, etc.) organizations and countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea towards the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean.

The MedPartnership consists of two complementary parts:

- The Regional Project led by UNEP/MAP, and
- The Investment Fund (and “Sustainable Med”) led by the World Bank.

Their aim is to ensure a coordinated and strategic approach to catalyze policy, legal and institutional reforms, and necessary investments.

The MedPartnership is being implemented in the following GEF eligible countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. The MedPartnership is financially supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and other donors, including the EU and all participating countries, and is implemented in close association with other relevant regional initiatives, such as the Horizon 2020 Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean, the Integrated European Maritime Policy, etc. The MedPartnership is a continuation of and builds upon the previous GEF Project run by UNEP/MAP (2002-2006). Within that project the existing Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis for the Mediterranean (TDA-MED) was reviewed and updated and two Strategic Action Programs (SAPs) prepared:

- Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from land-based activities (SAP-MED) and
- Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity (SAP- BIO).

The two SAPs were formally adopted by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention along with National Action Plans (NAPs) for SAP-MED. The cost of actions identified amount to several billion USD, and the MedPartnership aims to provide additional support to countries in their implementation.

Goals and objectives

The MedPartnership’s overarching goal is to reverse the degradation trends affecting the unique Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem, including its coastal habitats and biodiversity.

The specific objectives of the MedPartnership are:

- to assist countries in the implementation of the SAPs and NAPs to reduce pollution from land-based sources, and preserve the biodiversity and ecosystems of the Mediterranean from degradation;
- to assist countries in the implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol;
- to leverage long-term financing, and
- to ensure through the Barcelona Convention and MAP systems the sustainability of activities initiated within the project beyond its specific lifetime.

Funding

The total funds allocated to the MedPartnership are:

- Regional Project – with USD 11,891,000 from GEF plus USD 35,597,700 in co-financing, with a total cost amounting to USD 47,488,700.

The Regional Project is funded by the GEF, and with cash and in kind co-financing from the participating countries, the Government of Italy (Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs), and donors, which include the European Commission (EC), the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID), the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols, the French Global Environment Facility (FGEF)/Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM) and the MAVA Foundation for Nature.

Executing Partners

Component 1: Integrated approaches for the implementation of the SAPs and NAPs: ICZM, IWRM and management of coastal aquifers



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO/IHP)



UNEP/MAP's Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC)



Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med)

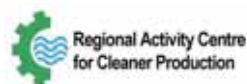
Component 2: Pollution from land based activities, including Persistent Organic Pollutants: Implementation of SAP-MED



UNEP/MAP's Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme (MEDPOL)



United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)



UNEP/MAP's Cleaner Production Regional Activity Centre (CP/RAC)

Component 3: Conservation of biological diversity: Implementation of SAP BIO and related NAPs



UNEP/MAP's Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)



World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF-MedPO)



Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Component 4: Project Co-ordination, NGO Involvement, Replication and Communication Strategies, Management and M&E



UNEP/MAP



Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)

Donors and Countries

Global Environment Facility (GEF)



European Commission (EC)

Spanish Agency for International
Cooperation (AECID)

Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) of the
Barcelona Convention and its protocols.

Fonds Français pour l'Environnement
Mondial (FFEM)

MAVA Foundation for Nature

Italy - Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea

Albania - Ministry Environment, Forestry
and Water Administration

Algeria - Ministry for Territory and Environment

Bosnia and Herzegovina - Ministry of
Foreign Trade and Economic Relations

Croatia – Ministry of Environmental and
Nature Protection

Egypt – Ministry of State of Environmental Affairs

Lebanon – Ministry of Environment

Libya – Environment General Authority

Montenegro – Ministry of Tourism and
Environmental Protection

Maroc - Ministère de l'Energie, des
Mines, de l'Eau et de l'Environnement

Palestinian National Authority -
Environment Quality Authority

Syria - Ministry of Local Administration
and Environment

Tunisia – Ministry for the Environment
and Sustainable Development

Turkey – Ministry of Environment and Urbanization

A large school of pink and blue fish swimming over a coral reef. The fish are densely packed in the upper half of the image, swimming towards the right. The coral reef is visible in the lower half, with various types of coral in shades of orange, yellow, and brown. The background is a deep blue, suggesting the ocean.

MEDPARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS FOR

2012

Photo credit: WWF

Regional Project implementation so far

The Regional Project of the MedPartnership began full implementation in the second half of 2009 and is scheduled to be completed in late 2014.

The main highlights of 2012 are presented here:

Launching of an ICZM Strategy for Algeria

January 25 - A meeting to launch the national ICZM strategy for Algeria and the Reghaia coastal plan was organized by the Algerian Ministry of Land-use Planning and Environment (MATE) and PAP/RAC in Algiers. The meeting was attended by more than 50 participants including representatives of national, regional and local authorities, as well as representatives of national associations and organizations concerned with the Algerian coastal zone.

Sustainability of Adriatic fisheries

31 January - 1 February - A seminar "The state of fishery in the Adriatic Sea: problems, obstacles, solutions and the way forward" was organized by WWF-MedPO and SUNCE in Split, Croatia. The event was attended by 51 participants from 20 different institutions (governmental, non-governmental, universities, and fishermen associations) including the assistant Minister of Environment and Nature Protection.

Sharing experiences on environmental risks in coastal aquifers and launching a diagnostic analysis for the Mediterranean coastal aquifers

20 – 23 February - UNESCO/IHP convened a group of national and international experts in Thessaloniki, Greece to share the experiences of the Mediterranean countries regarding environmental risks in coastal aquifers and to discuss common risks and uncertainties in the region. At the closing of the meeting, the national experts were charged with the preparation of country-specific reports and the workgroup agreed upon the data required for the characterization of the coastal aquifers in the region. Furthermore, UNESCO/IHP and the international experts developed a plan of action for the preparation of a supplement on coastal aquifers and groundwater to the Mediterranean Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) that will enhance knowledge of the

unique role that coastal aquifers play in reducing land-based sources of pollution into the Mediterranean Sea and for the conservation of this ecosystem. This coastal aquifer supplement to the TDA, to be undertaken by UNESCO/IHP, will be the first of its kind.

UNIDO MED TEST produces new series of publications

9 March - As the MED TEST sub-component moves towards the completion of its current stage, UNIDO has produced a series of publications to showcase the project and its achievements.

Recommendations for action towards good water governance in the Mediterranean at the 6th World Water Forum

15 March - Water governance was among the key themes addressed at the Mediterranean Regional Process of the 6th World Water Forum. Following an elaborate regional stakeholder process coordinated by GWP-Med and supported by the MedPartnership and other partners, recommendations for action were formulated and agreed by participants of the Forum. These recommendations are followed up through related processes launched e.g. by OECD, GWP-Med etc.

Launching of a national ICZM Strategy for Montenegro

22 March - The National ICZM Strategy of Montenegro, together with the CAMP Montenegro project, was launched at an Inception Workshop, organised by the Montenegrin Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism and PAP/RAC. The workshop was attended by representatives of ministries, national institutions, local authorities, international organizations and NGOs. It was decided to integrate the outputs of the MedPartnership and CAMP into one - National ICZM Strategy and Plan for Montenegro.

Lebanon assisted in advancing IWRM strategy and planning

26 April - The Ministry of Energy and Water launched the National Water Sector Strategy after an elaborate preparation and consultation process that was supported by a range of donors. Assistance was provided by GWP-Med in preparing the Strategy's sections on private sector participation as well on legal and regulatory settings particularly in the Water Sector Baseline. Furthermore, assistance was



Monachus monachus

(Photo credit : F Di Domenico PANDA PHOTO RAC/SPA)

provided to the Ministry of Energy and Water during the application of the Water Evaluation and Planning System (WEAP) model as a decision support tool in selected river basins and during the related elaboration of integrated water resources management scenarios.

Engaging fisheries in MPAs

10 – 11 May -APAL and WWF MedPO organized a training workshop on “Sustainable fishery in Mediterranean MPAs” for local fishery departments, fishermen, the coast guard and conservation sector at Bizerte, Tunisia. Scientists, experts and fishermen contributed to the workshops, including representatives of the Mediterranean Platform of Artisanal Fishermen.

The MedPartnership successfully presents achievements in 3rd Steering Committee meeting and further funds are mobilized to achieve replication of good practices

15-17 May - The Third Steering Committee Meeting of the MedPartnership was held on 15-17 May 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey, hosted by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of Turkey and with

representatives from Algeria, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. The EC, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), the French Development Agency, UNEP, the WB, FAO, UNIDO, several regional activity centres of MAP, and non-governmental organizations including WWF, GWP-Med and MIO-ECSDE also participated.

Official launch of the MedPartnership documentary “Together for the Mediterranean Sea”

16 May - The year 2012 saw the production of the MedPartnership documentary “Together for the Mediterranean Sea”. The documentary depicts the project activities and includes unique coverage from two demonstration sites, in Buna/Bojana and Tunisia, as well as the views of locals on relevant environmental threats in the region. The video was officially launched at the Steering Committee Meeting in Istanbul in May 2013.

Technical support to GIS department of the Environmental General Authority (EGA), Libya

26-30 May - Following a technical mission to the Environmental General Authority (EGA) GIS department, in Tripoli, in April 2012, carried out in order to assess the department needs and existent facilities, RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO organized a training course on GIS issues, in Bizerte (Tunisia) to eight trainees from the EGA GIS department.

Hot-spots for by-catch and discards in the Gulf of Gabes identified

30 May - Experts from the Tunisian “Institut National de Sciences et Technologies de la Mer” (INSTM) completed the Diagnostic on by-catch and discards in the Gulf of Gabés bottom trawling fleet. The main issues and hot-spots identified will, after validation by the stakeholders, form the basis for the definition of the most appropriate measures to reduce by-catch and discards in this fishery in a manner that is also acceptable by the industry.

Training for socioeconomic assessments in marine protected areas

31 May - 3 June - RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO have organized a training workshop in Tunis with the participation of three EGA (Libya) staff members and five researchers from the Tripoli and Omar Al-Mokhtar (Benghazi) universities. The workshop, led by a socioeconomic expert, aimed at providing: (i) techniques and methods for the identification of standard data to be included in a socioeconomic questionnaire, and (ii) guidance on how to conduct a successful socioeconomic assessment for marine protected areas. Following the workshop, the trainees will be executing socioeconomic studies for El-Kouf and Ain Al-Ghazala areas. These studies will be very helpful to Libyan environmental authorities and all concerned stakeholders for the development and reinforcement of management measures of the two protected areas.

Sixteen companies sign in for transfer of environmentally sound technology (TEST) replication

June 2012 - Sixteen new companies signed up to participate in the TEST replication process, providing cash co-financing in exchange for receiving technical assistance and training to identify resource efficiency solutions at their sites.

Future of the Taza National Park, Algeria

07 June - The closing meeting: "Seminar on MPAs in Algeria: the designation process of the marine protected area of Taza National Park" was held at Jijel. Several international, national, and local partners and stakeholders participated and contributed to drafting recommendations for the future classification of the MPA and its implementation.

Towards identifying priority areas needing a conservation status along the coast of Montenegro

12-20 June - RAC/SPA undertook the second and final rapid assessment survey along the Montenegro coast. The survey allowed the valuation of marine areas, in order to select the best sites suitable to become marine protected areas. This mission was undertaken by international and national experts, who framed the main environmental values of the areas surveyed and recorded the implemented activities, information and aspects identified as relevant for each studied area, mainly through underwater techniques. This activity in Montenegro focuses on achieving a final report containing an assessment of the main relevant aspects in support

to the definition of specific protection/management measures in at least three of the following areas: Ulcinj, Katicic, Platamuni, Bar, Buljarica, Jaz, Tivat and Kotor.

Towards identifying priority areas needing a conservation status along the coast of Montenegro

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Ecological characterization of three important sites to be declared as marine protected areas along the Lebanese coast

18-28 June - RAC/SPA, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment of Lebanon, the National Council for Scientific Research of Beirut and the IUCN-Med office in Lebanon, carried out field surveys in three selected sites along the Lebanese coast: Chikaa, Enfeh and Raoucheh. A team of international and national experts have participated to the survey, whose results are being processed in order to draw up an ecological characterization along with a zoning and management outline proposal for the three sites to be declared as marine protected areas.

Mediterranean Side Event organized at the Rio+20 Summit

21 June - The sole Mediterranean Side Event at the Rio+20 Summit was co-organized by UfM, UNEP/MAP, the MedPartnership, MED EUWI, MIO-ECSDE and GWP-Med. Participants at the high level panel confirmed the determination of countries and stakeholders to move forward with a common agenda towards the sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

Tunisia assisted for advancing the elaboration of the Water Strategy 2050

26 June - A National Workshop on Public Policies and Institutional Development for Water in Tunisia was attended by numerous government representatives and stakeholders who discussed policy elements towards the new national Water Strategy 2050. Further contributions by GWP-Med in the same IWRM agenda included the on-going national assessment and stakeholder consultation on Private Sector Participation in Water Infrastructure as well as the provision of administrative assistance for the coordination of technical and financial partners in the country on on-going and upcoming water projects.

MedMPAnet Project Mid-Term Workshop

2-4 July - RAC/SPA convened in Malaga (Spain) the Mid-term Workshop for the MedMPAnet Project, which was attended by country representatives (SAP-BIO National Correspondents) from thirteen Mediterranean riparian countries and the European Union as well as representatives of ten regional partner organizations. Beneficiary countries welcomed the work made by RAC/SPA and provided recommendations for further improvements during the second half of the Project.

Expansion of Libya's MPAs

04 July - The Libyan Ministry of Agriculture approved the enlargement of the areas of Libya's two MPAs — Ain El Ghazela and Farwa Lagoon — following recommendations from the Marine Biology Research Centre.

Project on Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector catalyzed by the MedPartnership was labeled by the Union for the Mediterranean

July - The MedPartnership played a catalytic role in the development of the new programme for the "Governance and Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector", initially to be implemented in Albania, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. The project focuses on the challenges and opportunities for engaging the private sector in developing water infrastructure. The 2.5 mil Euro programme is led by GWP-Med and OECD, and was labelled as Project of the Union for the Mediterranean by decision of its Senior Official Meeting.

MPA Capacity building publication finalized

08 August - The publication "Capacity building strategy to enhance the management of MPAs in the Mediterranean Sea" was released. The capacity building efforts of the MedPAN South Project led to the understanding that there is the need for a more structured capacity building programme in the Mediterranean Region. To this end, WWF, MedPAN and RAC/SPA spearheaded a study to assess the needs and priorities across the region for building a regional, integrated and feasible capacity building program.

Legal adoption of no-take zone in Kaş-Kekova, Turkey

18 August - Support provided by the MedPartnership and WWF-MedPO to the Kaş-Kekova Special Environment Protected Area (SEPA) led to inclusion of no-take zones into national fishery law.

Management Plan of Lastovo Island Nature Park, Croatia endorsed

30 August - The Management Plan of Lastovo Island Nature Park, Croatia, one of the MedPartnership demonstrations was approved and endorsed by the Park Management Board.

Ecological field assessment in the Cap des Trois Fourches marine site (Morocco)

31 August-12 September - Based on the results of the valuation of marine areas along the Moroccan Mediterranean coast, RAC/SPA undertook an on-site field assessment in the Cap des Trois Fourches marine site. A team of ten national and international researchers/experts worked together on the collection of biological data, in view of their processing and reporting on maps using GIS. This will allow finalizing a rapid natural habitats assessment of the site, along with a zoning and management outline proposal.

The Moroccan Fisheries Research Institute holds the first Park-wide workshop on validation and implementation of a system for the monitoring of Artisanal Fisheries in the Al-Hoceima National Park

19 September - The Nador Centre of the Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH) of Morocco, supported by FAO, organized the first Park-Wide workshop for Validation and implementation of a system for the monitoring of Artisanal Fisheries in the Al-Hoceima National Park (PNAH), that brought together all the main stakeholders involved in the Artisanal Fisheries in the

PNAH. During this workshop, INRH presented the conclusions of the Diagnostic studies on the small-scale fisheries activity in the PNAH. The workshop validated these conclusions and made specific recommendations about the implementation of the pilot fisher-executed monitoring system.

Morocco ratifies the ICZM Protocol

21 September - On 21 September 2012, the Kingdom of Morocco deposited the Ratification Instrument of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean. By the ratification of the ICZM Protocol, the Kingdom of Morocco has become the second Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols to have ratified the full set of legal instruments adopted in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan. The ICZM Protocol ratification by Morocco brings the number of ratifications to 8.

Mediterranean training session on ecological monitoring in MPAs

23-28 September - RAC/SPA organized in Alicante (Spain) a second regional training workshop on ecological monitoring in marine protected areas with the participation of twelve participants from eight Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Montenegro, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey). The workshop, which was particularly focused on field work, was convened in collaboration with the University of Alicante (Spain) and took place in its Marine Research Centre of Santa Pola (CIMAR) and the Marine Reserve of Nueva Tabarca.

Stakeholders Analysis and Involvement in the Buna/Bojana basin

October - A number of outreach activities were implemented in both the Albanian and Montenegrin parts of the Buna/Bojana basin in October 2012. National and international experts conducted open discussions and interviews with stakeholders. The aim was to gather feedback of members of the communities in the area on the existing natural resources related management issues as well as on possible solutions/measures to address these. A stakeholder analysis to be prepared in the first quarter of 2013 will analyze this information and the characteristics of the stakeholders and will feed in the preparation of the integrated Buna/Bojana transboundary management plan.

Management plan for Taza National Park, Algeria approved

02 October - The integrated management plan (terrestrial and marine area) of Taza National Park was approved by the local Government and the Steering Committee, who has now the responsibility to submit it at central level.

Towards preparing a regional report on the Assessment of Risk and Uncertainty related to Coastal Aquifers Management in the Mediterranean

4 – 5 October - Building upon the success of the First Expert Meeting, UNESCO/IHP brought together its experts again, this time in Antalya, Turkey to present highlights from the national reports, discuss the contents of the regional report that would summarize and synthesize information from the national reports, and also to test the functionality of the geo-referenced information system on Mediterranean coastal aquifers developed to provide a visual, interactive tool to access the data on coastal aquifers supplied by the national experts.

Croatia ratifies the ICZM protocol

12 October - After a thorough discussion, in which all of the members of the Parliament expressed their appreciation of the Protocol and raised hopes that it would be successfully implemented, on 12 October 2012, the Parliament of Croatia adopted the Law on Ratification of the ICZM Protocol. A PAP/RAC case study has shown that in the Republic of Croatia, a number of obligations ensuing from the provisions of the Protocol have already been built into the existing legislation through the provisions of different laws, such as the Law on land-use planning and construction, on environmental and nature protection, on waters, forests, islands, maritime domain, etc. The Protocol ratification by Croatia brings the number of ratifications to 9.

Management Plan of Telašćica Nature Park, Croatia approved

20 October - The Management Plan of Telašćica Nature Park, Croatia was approved and endorsed by the Park Management Board.

Mapping the future of Adriatic MPAs

24 – 25 October - The “Conference on the management of Croatian national and nature parks at sea: The future of marine protected areas in the Adriatic” was organized in Split by WWF MedPO and SUNCE. During the conference, project results, management plans structure, content, experiences

experiences and recommendations for management planning processes were shared with over 100 partners and stakeholders as well as representatives of national media.

Characterization of the Buna/Bojana basin in accordance to the Water Framework Directive

November - Two field missions in August and November 2012 and related analysis of water and sediment provided information regarding the quality of water and the taxa and populations of bio-indicators in the River. Additional missions and analysis in 2013 will be used by GWP-Med for the characterization of the Buna/Bojana and the determination of environmental objectives. The activities are implemented as part of the integrated Buna/Bojana transboundary management plan preparation coordinated by GWP-Med, PAP/RAC and UNESCO.

Action Plan for enhancing cooperation for the management of the Drin Basin endorsed

20 November - The Drin Core Group, consisting of delegated representatives of the Drin Basin Riparians, endorsed the Action Plan for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Sustainable Management of the extended Drin Basin. The Action Plan constitutes the common basis for future joint action in this important shared water basin in the Western Balkans. Activities were serviced by GWP-Med and UNECE.

Adoption of the Diagnostic Analysis for the National ICZM Strategy in Algeria

21 November - The Diagnostic Analysis for the National ICZM Strategy of Algeria was finalised and adopted at a National Workshop organised by MATE and PAP/RAC. The Diagnostic Analysis was prepared by a multidisciplinary team which integrated 11 sectoral studies, through regular meetings and cooperation. In addition a number of stakeholder consultations were undertaken during the process of development. Comments by MAP and UNESCO-IHP were also included in the documents.

Co-organizing the 2012 Forum on MPAs in the Mediterranean

25-28 November - RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO joined efforts with the MedPAN network Secretariat, UNDP Turkey and the Ministry of Environment of Turkey for the proper organization of the 2012 Forum on Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean that took place in Antalya (Turkey). This important regional event was attended by around three hundred

participants (marine protected areas managers and practitioners, decision-makers, scientists, international and intergovernmental organizations, donors, non-governmental organizations, economic actors, etc.) and led to the drafting of a "Roadmap towards a comprehensive, ecologically representative, effectively connected and efficiently managed network of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas by 2020" and the endorsement of the Antalya Declaration.

MedPartnership good practices in transboundary water dialogues exemplified during high level meetings in Rome

27 November - Highlighting the integral role of NGOs in transboundary water dialogues, MIO-ECSDE showcased the MedPartnership NGO Involvement component at the high level International Roundtable on Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Southern Mediterranean. The Roundtable was co-organized by UNECE, UfM, GWP-Med, GEF-IW:LEARN, MED EUWI and hosted by the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea. The successful experiences gained within the MedPartnership were exemplified as a best practice to create a truly enabling environment for cooperation in the region.

Towards a regional report on legal and institutional aspects of coastal aquifers

29-30 November - National experts discussed the final reports under the legal and institutional activity, agreed on the contents of the regional report to be prepared and set the ground for possible follow-up by identifying gaps and possible reforms, which could be the object of a FAO Technical Cooperation Programme.

Towards harmonization of national legislative with the ICZM Protocol

4-5 December - Presenting the case of Croatia, as well as the legal analysis of the ICZM Protocol articles, PAP/RAC presented the key issues for harmonization of the national legislation with the ICZM Protocol. In its role of the appointed Center to provide assistance for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, PAP/RAC, in partnership with several institutions, undertook a major study that represents a base for integration of the ICZM Protocol into national laws. Representatives of 11 Mediterranean countries discussed these results at the Regional Workshop organized in Zagreb, Croatia.



COMPONENT 1

INTEGRATED APPROACHES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAPS AND NAPS: ICZM, IWRM AND MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL AQUIFERS

The activities implemented within this component aim at promoting integrated approaches throughout the Mediterranean for the reduction of pollution and the preservation of biodiversity. This is being achieved through appropriate management of the coastal and marine environments, including aquifers. Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) are the overarching policy frameworks for all activities within this component. This component focuses on national and regional policy, legislation and institutional reforms taking fully into account the ICZM Protocol, ratified in March 2011. In addition, eleven demonstration projects at selected sites are under implementation, two of which are joint demonstrations (see boxes 1 and 2).

The results of the following three sub-components will be presented:

- Sub-component 1.1: Management of Coastal Aquifers and Groundwater - led by UNESCO-IHP
- Sub-component 1.2: Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) – led by PAP/RAC
- Sub-component 1.3: Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) – led by GWP-Med

Sub-Component 1.1 Management of Coastal Aquifers and Groundwater

Executed by UNESCO-IHP

In the Mediterranean coastal zone, coastal aquifers represent generally available and secure water supplies that are being increasingly threatened by depletion due to over-extraction and quality degradation caused by contamination. The aim of this sub-component is to reverse the trends of over-extraction and degradation in the quality of coastal aquifers through policy interactions, to provide appropriate capacity and technology for groundwater management. Activities in this sub-component focus on assessing the risks to coastal aquifers and associated uncertainties, the preparation of a regional action plan, demonstrations in collaboration with ICZM, IWRM and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), the drafting of legislative, policy and institutional reforms and the preparation of a coastal aquifer supplement to the TDA-Med. Activities are focused along three lines of action: i) Assessments of coastal aquifer risk and uncertainty, ii) Regional actions for coastal aquifer management, and iii) Legal, policy and institutional recommendations for reforms.

Regarding assessments and data, an interactive web-based mapping tool has been launched to provide a platform for the storage of project data and to facilitate access and updates to these data. This includes the data from 12 national reports on the risk and uncertainty related to coastal aquifers, which will be summarized and synthesized at the regional level to identify common trends and challenges. In addition, first steps were made towards the preparation of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA-Med) supplement focused on aquifers, as there was agreement on the work plan, roles and responsibilities, and actions for the completion of the report in 2014 as well as endorsement by the countries. Regarding the demonstration in Ghar El Melah, Tunisia, the coastal aquifer vulnerability mapping is underway, with the completion of the first technical report "Case study of the sensitivity of the Ghar el Melh aquifer to the effects of salt water intrusion and climate change" (Haggui, 2012). In addition, the vulnerability mapping in Croatia was initiated for the Pula coastal aquifer and the Novljanska Žrnovnica karstic spring.

In Tunisia with the additional support of the French GEF, the demonstration project for the management of the Gabes Oasis is making good progress, with the development of its database, GIS and groundwater modeling, as well as the completion of satellite imagery interpretation and analysis of groundwater consumption. In the Nador Lagoon, Morocco, a demonstration for the eco-hydrological applications for the management and protection of coastal wetlands, has completed its initial assessment of groundwater dependence. The study is now completed and the final report available.

In terms of activities contributing to legal, institutional, and policy recommendations for reforms, the expert group on legal and institutional aspects of the management of coastal aquifers completed eleven national reports describing the legal and institutional setting for water, groundwater and, when applicable, coastal aquifer management in the participating countries. The reports have identified the gaps and the challenges for the countries in order to improve their legal setting for the proper management of coastal aquifers in view of the requirements of the Barcelona Convention and its related protocols. The regional report will give an overview of the legal framework in the Mediterranean for coastal aquifers and the current situation in the participating countries. Furthermore, it will highlight the gaps in the national legal settings vis-à-vis the Barcelona Convention and related protocols and the requirements for

the sustainable management of coastal aquifers. This report will also serve as a valuable input to the coastal aquifer supplement of the TDA-Med.

An expert group on coastal wetlands, including one participant from each of the participating countries as well as international experts, was formed and held its first meeting to initiate the activity related to the “Management and Protection of Coastal Wetlands”. The activity on coastal wetlands aims to undertake a hydro-geological pre-assessment of the Mediterranean coastal wetlands for groundwater dependence, with the identification of current and potential threats, and the scope for hydrological management intervention.

It also seeks to develop the methodology and guidelines for the hydro-geological management of coastal wetlands. As a result of this work, by June 2014, a regional report including a synthesis of the status of coastal Mediterranean wetlands and the services they provide will be developed with the methodology and guidelines for the hydro-geological management of coastal wetlands and for their characterization and mapping, as well as a map of selected coastal wetlands and their characterizations. The results of this activity will represent an important contribution to the coastal aquifer supplement of the TDA-Med with the identification of the main risks and threats on coastal wetlands dependent on coastal aquifers.

BOX 1

A joint Coastal, water and aquifer management plan for the Buna/Bojana (Albania and Montenegro)

PAP/RAC, UNESCO/IHP and GWP-Med are working in cooperation to bring together the management of water resources, coastal areas and aquifers through the development of an innovative methodology for the implementation of integrated management plans. This is being tested and validated in the Buna/Bojana coastal zone. The development of the integrated coastal, water and aquifer management plan is underway. The focus of efforts during 2011 and 2012 was to ensure a solid baseline of scientific and economic data and information upon which to build the plan, as well as on consultations and stakeholder involvement during the process. Outputs include hydrological reports for both Albania and Montenegro, and national sectoral analyses reports.

BOX 2

Coastal and Aquifer Planning in Reghaia (Algeria)

(PAP/RAC and UNESCO/IHP)

The integrated ICZM and aquifer plan for the Reghaia is now integrated into the development of the Algerian National ICZM Strategy. UNESCO/IHP completed the diagnostic report on the water resources and pollution, including a full legal analysis in Reghaia. In May 2012, the French “Conservatoire du Littoral” joined the plan preparation by sending five experts to Reghaia to upgrade the fauna, flora and habitat inventory. The diagnostic analysis, finalized in June, was presented at the Harmonization Meeting in November jointly with the strategy diagnostics. The document was finalized based on the feedback from the meeting. As planned in the framework of the MedPartnership project, and as requested by the meeting participants, a pilot activity of dunes stabilization is about to be launched, showing how with a small budget and a limited effort, joint action can produce great benefits.

Summary of implementation so far

Since 2010, a total of 30 meetings, workshops and seminars were undertaken for the management of Coastal Aquifers and Groundwater. An approximate number of 230 experts and decision-makers from the Mediterranean participated in these meetings and events.

The following scientific and technical reports and papers have been undertaken:

- Report on Recommendations for the Management and Protection of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems in the Mediterranean, 6 July 2011
- Report on Recommendations for the Management of Coastal Aquifers in the Mediterranean, 29 November 2011
- Report on the case study of the Bou Areg aquifer and Nador Lagoon in Morocco, 28 August 2011
- Vulnerability of Coastal Aquifers and Groundwater Quality in the Mediterranean (S. Carrubba, J.L. Martin-Bordes, V. Re), Paper in Proceedings of the Tenth International Conference on the Mediterranean Coastal Environment (MEDCOAST 2011), Rhodes, Vol October 2011, Vol 1. p. 369-379
- Natural tracers and isotope techniques to define groundwater recharge and salinization in the Bou Areg coastal aquifer (North Morocco), (V. Re, E. Allais, N. El Hamouti, Bouchnan R., Sacchi E., Rizzo F., Zuppi G.M), International Symposium on Isotopes in Hydrology, Marine Ecosystems, and Climate Change Studies, Monaco, March-April 2011
- Twelve national hydrogeological reports on assessment of risk and uncertainty of coastal aquifers
- Eleven national reports on the policy, legal and institutional aspects of coastal aquifers management
- Road map for the preparation of the coastal aquifer supplement to the TDA-Med.

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Sub-Component 1.2 Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)

Executed by UNEP/MAP –Priority Action Programme/Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC)

Through the implementation of the activities of the sub-component on ICZM, PAP/RAC is advancing well in securing products, experiences and capacities for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean. The focus of the activities is to support the preparation of the National ICZM Strategies and coastal management plans; to assist harmonisation of the national legislative and institutional framework with the ICZM Protocol; and to demonstrate the ICZM approach, tools and techniques in selected demonstration areas. The ICZM Protocol entered into force in March 2011, and currently has been ratified by eight countries in addition to the European Union. Of the MedPartnership participating countries, Albania, Montenegro, Syria, and in 2012, Croatia and Morocco also ratified the Protocol.

The preparation of the **National ICZM Strategy of Algeria** was launched in January 2012 during a workshop held on 25 January at the premises of the Algerian Ministry of Land-use Planning and Environment (MATE) in Algiers. More than 50 stakeholders attended the workshop, among which five ministries, regional and local authorities and institutions, important economic sectors (agriculture, industry, tourism, fisheries, etc.), academia, private sector, NGOs and civil society, as well as several international organisations.

The workshop was followed by the preparation of sectoral analyses based on different meetings which were attended by 167 stakeholders in total. Sectoral analyses reports were integrated into a Diagnostic Analysis, which was sent to the partners and to all Regional Activity Centres of UNEP/MAP. The revised document was successfully adopted at the National Workshop held in Algiers in November 2012.

The **National ICZM Strategy of Montenegro**, together with the Coastal Area Management Plan (CAMP) Montenegro project, was launched at the Inception Workshop in March 2012. Representatives of several ministries, local authorities, NGOs and international organisations attended the workshop. It was decided to integrate the outputs of the MedPartnership and CAMP into one - National ICZM Strategy and Plan for Montenegro. During 2012, the important vulnerability assessment of the Montenegrin coastal zone was undertaken. This resulted in key recommendations for the preparation of the Coastal Area Spatial Plan, an important legal document for coastal area development in Montenegro. Furthermore, a Tourism Carrying Capacity Assessment was launched. Following the request by the Montenegrin authorities, Inter-Ministerial Coordination will be established in Montenegro as part of the preparation of the National ICZM Strategy and Plan for Montenegro.

In the framework of the activities related to the harmonisation of the national legislative and



Bojana beach, Montenegro

(Photo credit: Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE)

institutional framework with the ICZM Protocol two draft documents resulting from the ProtoGizc project were upgraded: “Analysis of the technical and legal aspects of the ICZM Protocol” and the “Analysis of the Croatian legal framework”. Additional documents were prepared; one focusing on the harmonisation of the Croatian legal framework with Article 8 of the ICZM Protocol and the second one on the analysis of the Croatian spatial planning with regard to the

Protocol requirements. All the material was presented to an informal inter-ministerial committee created during the preparation of the ICZM Protocol Impact Assessment, jointly implemented by the GTZ and the Croatian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning (2010). Finally, all of the above mentioned documents, together with some other PAP/RAC experiences in this field were presented to the 43 participants from 11 Mediterranean countries at the regional workshop held in December 2012 in Zagreb. At the workshop the Croatian authorities requested the further assistance of PAP/RAC and MAP in developing the National ICZM Strategy for Croatia. Due to the fact that the Marine Strategy, requested by the EU MSFD, is currently under development in Croatia, the government expressed their intention to integrate Marine and Coastal Strategy, a solution already foreseen by the Croatian law.

Summary of implementation so far

The following policy documents or plans have been drafted:

- Guidelines for the preparation of the National ICZM Strategies
- Integrative Methodological Framework for coastal, river basin and aquifer management
- Analysis of the technical and legal aspects of the ICZM Protocol (ProtoGIZC project upgraded with the assistance of MedPartnership)
- Case study of the impact of the ICZM Protocol on the national legislative and institutional framework in Croatia (ProtoGIZC project, upgraded with the assistance of MedPartnership)
- Assessment of Impacts of the Ratification of the Mediterranean Protocol on ICZM on Croatian Legislation, with a Focus on Article 8
- Stock take and critical analysis for Algerian ICZM Strategy
- Scoping Report for the Coastal Plan Reghaia
- Analysis Report for the Coastal Plan Reghaia

Since 2010, a total of 51 meetings and 10 workshops on Integrated Coastal Zone Management have been completed, including the training of 743 participants in the Mediterranean.

The following scientific, environmental, and/or economic assessments have been undertaken and published:

- Henocques, Y. 2011, Analysis of National Coastal Management Strategies around the World to the benefit of National ICZM Strategies in the Mediterranean, PAP/RAC, Split, Croatia
- Povh Škugor, D., Shipman, B., Prem, M. and Marković M. "PAP/RAC and MedPartnership – together for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol", paper presented at the 10th MedCoast scientific conference and published in Ozhan, E. (Editor), 2011, Proceedings of the Tenth International Conference on the Mediterranean Coastal Environment, MEDCOAST 11, 25-29 October, 2011, Rhodes, Greece, MEDCOAST, Mediterranean Coastal Foundation, Dalyan, Mugla, Turkey, vol 1-2, 93-105
- General Vulnerability Assessment Report for Montenegrin ICZM Strategy (in Montenegrin)

Further information is available on the PAP/RAC web-site

(<http://www.pap-thecoastcentre.org/MedPartnership>).



Port of Omis, Croatia

(Photo credit: Marko Prem, PAP/RAC)

Sub-Component 1.3 Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

Executed by GWP-Med

In 2012, a number of key activities advanced, in spite of prevailing socio-political unrest in several southern Mediterranean countries. At the regional level, enhanced coordination among stakeholders and a shared understanding was advanced on IWRM objectives. The 6th World Water Forum outcomes and the commitments expressed at the Mediterranean side event at the Rio+20 Summit confirmed the determination to move forward with a common agenda.

At the national level, work progressed in Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia. Targeted technical assistance was provided on a range of IWRM issues, as prioritized by beneficiaries and in close operational synergy with well-placed processes run by partners like SWIM and MED EUWI. Contribution towards elaborating national wastewater strategies formed the core of activities in Tunisia and Egypt. The Lebanese authorities were assisted in the development and application of the Water Evaluation And Planning System (WEAP) model, as a decision-support tool, in six river basins accompanied by an analysis of different scenarios. The role of private sector at local level as key for national financial sustainability was assessed at the regional level, using Palestine as case study. In Tunisia, a national consultation on water public policy fed into the preparation of the Water Article in the new Constitution and will complement efforts towards the new National Water Strategy 2050.

The MedPartnership played a catalytic role leading to the development of a new programme for the Governance and Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector, initially to be implemented in Albania, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and

Tunisia. The programme is led by GWP-Med and OECD, and was labelled by the Union for the Mediterranean in July 2012.

The ICZM/IWRM Integrative Methodological Framework advanced, and will be completed in 2013. The preparation of the integrated Buna/Bojana transboundary management plan has been more challenging than foreseen, with a need to further strengthen the database that is the foundation of the plan. The draft plan is expected by mid-2013.

At the last quarter of 2012, responding to interest by Tunisia and Algeria within the political framework of the African Ministerial Council on Water, the case for promoting transboundary collaboration in the Medjerda River Basin was explored. After first sounding, the outlook is positive, and steps ahead are under consideration based on riparians guidance.



Buna/Bojana river
(Photo credit: Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE)

Summary of implementation so far

The following main policy and technical documents or plans have been drafted:

- Financing Strategy for the Water Supply and Sanitation
- Household Affordability Assessment regarding water tariffs in Egypt (2009)
- Financing Strategy for the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in the Greater Cairo area (2009)
- Policy Brief on Financing Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in Egypt (2009)
- Review of the 10-year National Strategy Plan for Water in Lebanon (2009)
- Draft Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean in the UfM framework (2010)
- National Assessment on Private Sector Participation in Water Infrastructure in Egypt (2010)
- National Assessment on Private Sector Participation in Water Infrastructure in Lebanon (2011)
- Shared Strategic Vision for the Management of the Drin Basin (2011)
- Stakeholder Analysis for the Sava River Basin (2011)
- Public Participation Plan for the Sava River Basin (2011)
- Input to the Report to the UNCSD 2012 (Rio 2012) conference on the application of integrated approaches to the development, management and use of water resources: Albania, Jordan and Tunisia (2011)
- Summary of the Target Report on Water Governance / IWRM Plans in the Mediterranean in view of the Sixth World Water Forum (2011)
- Target Report on Water Governance / IWRM Plans in the Mediterranean prepared for the Sixth World Water Forum (2012)
- Action Plan for the Implementation of the Shared Strategic Vision for the Management of the Drin Basin (2012)
- Materials of the Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector project (2012)

Since the beginning of the project, more than 80 meetings, workshops and conferences for the integrated management of water resources have been completed including training of more than 350 participants in the Mediterranean.

Further information is available at www.gwpmed.org

COMPONENT 2

POLLUTION FROM LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES,
INCLUDING PERSISTENT ORGANIC
POLLUTANTS: IMPLEMENTATION OF SAP-MED
AND RELATED NAPS

Photo credit: Thomas Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE

This Component addresses some of the priorities identified in the Strategic Action Plan (SAP-MED) and its National Action Plans (NAP) for the reduction of pollution from land-based sources.

The results of the following three sub-components will be presented:

- **Sub-Component 2.1 Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control – led by UNEP/MAP's MEDPOL**
- **Sub-Component 2.2 Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST) – led by UNIDO**
- **Sub-Component 2.3 Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies – led by UNEP/MAP's MEDPOL and CP/RAC.**

Sub-Component 2.1 Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution reduction

Executed by UNEP/MAP - MEDPOL

MEDPOL is executing several activities to support the implementation of the NAPs, which were adopted between 2003 and 2005 by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. As 10 years have already passed since the NAP adoption, MEDPOL is beginning the process of a thorough evaluation of NAP/SAP implementation and achievements of their targets. This will provide strong background information for the preparation of a sustainable financing strategy for NAP implementation, and will also lay the groundwork for the updating of NAPs by all countries in the future.

The objectives are to improve the legislative and institutional framework to manage the disposal of phosphogypsum slurry; to implement a management scheme for the phosphogypsum slurry; and to trigger the cooperation with phosphate fertilizer companies and relevant national authorities from Tunisia and Syria. The pilot for the management of phosphogypsum in Tunisia will start in early 2012 due to difficulties faced by the Tunisian authorities in undertaking the necessary actions for starting the project in 2011, and planning has been adjusted accordingly to allow the completion of all activities by 2013.

The four ongoing demonstration projects on NAP priorities are in Turkey, Tunisia, Algeria and Syria.

2.1.1 Management of phosphogypsum slurry in Tunisia

The first phase of phosphogypsum slurry management demonstration was finalized in Tunisia with the completion of an analysis report on the status of phosphogypsum in the country. Phosphogypsum is a by-product from the production of phosphate, which is one of the major industries of the Tunisian economy. The four phosphate processing sites in Tunisia produce a total of 8,084,000 tons of dry phosphogypsum waste annually as follows: SIAPE site (120,000 tons/year), Skhira site (400,000 tons/year), Ghannouche site (900,000 tons/year) and Mdhilla site (842,000 tons/year). The Ghannouche site releases all its phosphogypsum waste in the Gulf of Gabes via an open canal without prior treatment. It is estimated that about 135 million tons of dry phosphogypsum waste have been released into the sea during the last 30 years, and this has severely impacted the marine environment and life in the Gulf of Gabes. The phosphogypsum wastes of the three other sites are stockpiled as heaps in open air close to the phosphate processing plants.

2.1.2 Chromium and BOD control of tanneries effluent in Turkey

The demonstration project on Chromium (Cr) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) control in tanneries is implemented in Turkey. The specific objectives of the pilot project are to improve the legislative and institutional framework for the control of Cr and BOD releases from tanneries in Turkey; to prepare and implement a pilot project on Cr and BOD control in a group of medium size tanneries; and to prepare and implement Guidelines on Cr and BOD control in tannery's effluents.

Out of the four Phases, reports corresponding to Phases I, II and III of the pilot project have already been submitted.

The report on Phase I of the pilot project was completed in 2011. This report contained information pertaining to the legal framework, wastewater collection and treatment systems, wastewater, chromium and BOD quantities, permit and auditing systems, discharge standards and reporting to the authorized departments, in relation to the reduction and control of chromium and BOD loads in the tanning industry in Turkey. Usak city was selected as the pilot region for Phase I evaluations.

With 200 active out of a total of 300 facilities, the city has been among the regions with the highest number of tanneries in Turkey. A total of 159 firms are currently operating at the Usak industrial zone. More than half of those are leather processing facilities (89 tanneries). All the wastewaters generated by the operating installations are merged and treated at the on-site wastewater treatment plant. With a currently serving total length of 23,000m, the wastewater collection system is comprised of three separate lines; one for chromium-containing effluents, one for sulfur-containing discharges, and one for the collection of other waste streams. Despite the availability of this separated collection system, the firms located at Usak industrial zone are discharging their effluents directly to one single line of the wastewater collection system and not to the separate lines.

The report on Phases II and III of the pilot project was submitted in September 2012. It contained detailed information about new arrangements to improve current legislations, institutional capacity, and recycling/abatement systems. It also included information about formation of human resources, and the implementation plans for proposed policy changes for the tanning industry. The report was discussed at a national workshop organized in October 2012 by the Turkish Ministry of Environment with the participation of all tannery sector representatives. Currently, activities include the technical design of a small scale pilot project to be implemented together with UNIDO.

2.1.3 Recycling of used lubricating oils in Algeria

The demonstration project on the management of recycling and regeneration of used lubricating oil is under implementation in Algeria. The three reports corresponding to Phases I, II and III were completed and the Algerian authorities held a national workshop on 25 April 2012 to review the progress achieved on the implementation of the pilot project for the management of lube oils and to agree on the next steps. Thirty six experts coming from different ministries, local authorities, the private sector, NGOs, MAP national focal points as well as the task manager of Component 2 (UNEP/MAP MEDPOL) and CP/RAC also participated. It was agreed to establish an inter-sectorial working group under the direction of the Algerian MAP focal point to guide the continuation of the project activities and assist in achieving an enhanced policy framework for effective lube oil management, the introduction of best practices for

the management of lube oils enhanced capacity building and public and decision-maker awareness. In the second part of the project, an agreement between UNEP/MAP and Algerian authorities was prepared by MEDPOL. It is planned to set up and test a system in a small area of a city for the future collection and transport of used lubricating oil.



*MED TEST Case Study in Tunisia (food sector): Beverage industry (Société Nouvelle de Boissons, SNB)
(Photo credit: Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE)*

2.1.4 Recycling of lead batteries in Syria

The demonstration project on the management of recycling lead batteries is under implementation in Syria. At midterm, the first and part of Phase II of the pilot project have been completed and the reports already submitted. The report of Phase I concerning the current status of lead battery management and of Phase II concerning the recommendations for policy reforms and for capacity building were prepared in 2011. The conclusions from the first phase showed that the management of used lead batteries is mostly organized by the private sector, i.e. numerous car maintenance workshops and small lead smelting



MED TEST case study in Tunisia (tannery)

(Photo credit: Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE)

foundries which operate without having obtained any environmental permit. As a consequence, the conditions concerning the environmentally sound management of these wastes are not met. Authorities face difficulties to track these operations as they involve many small collectors and recyclers who are difficult to be located and controlled.

The report of Phase II pointed out that some major issues of policy reform are needed for the Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of lead batteries in Syria. These include building up institutional capacities, improving the whole chain of batteries management (collection, transport, storage, treatment/recycling) and setting requirements for the creation of a national market for recycled products. However, due to the political situation in Syria, activities stopped in 2012. Next steps include the development of practical guidelines for the ESM of used lead batteries based on Syria's experience and on the Basel Convention guidelines and disseminated to the other countries of the project through a regional workshop.

2.1.5. Assessment of the magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea

Eutrophication is the direct result of the enrichment of marine ecosystem with nutrients, namely nitrogen and phosphorus, from land-based and diffuse sources. Rivers in the Mediterranean are considered as major diffuse sources of nutrients into the sea. Satellite imaging showed that the eutrophication process is always associated with the rivers' mouths such as the Rhone, Po, Nile and others in the Aegean Sea as well as with high nutrients inputs from land-based sources. In this respect, an assessment of the magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea was completed in 2012 and is ready for publication. The study recommends a number of measures to improve data collection and monitoring by the contracting parties with the view to enhancing the knowledge of pollution from diffuse sources in the Mediterranean. As part of this work, a database and GIS-based modeling tool for the assessment of nutrient inputs into the Mediterranean Sea from diffuse sources has been developed. Preparation work has started to include the data provided into an atlas of nutrients inputs. Issues regarding data gaps and policy reforms regarding the monitoring of riverine nutrients inputs will be considered by the MEDPOL Focal point meeting in June 2013.

2.1.6. Setting Emission Limit Values (ELV) for industrial effluents and the establishment of Environmental Quality Standards (EQS)

At the regional level, a model for establishing a direct relationship between Emission Limit Values and Environmental Quality Standards of marine coastal water (ELV/EQS) was fully developed for three major pollutants. The application of this model will support national and local authorities in strengthening their authorization system with the view to enhance pollution control tools while issuing environmental permits. It will also help authorities to better take into account cumulative impacts of emissions from point sources on the marine environment. Work is ongoing to create and place, where appropriate, a number of powerful tools in the hands of authorities and of the public at large with the aim to reduce marine pollution from land-based sources. Policy-related recommendations will be presented to MEDPOL Focal Points for consideration and approval.

Summary of implementation so far

Ten meetings, workshops and seminars were undertaken for the facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution reduction. Around 100 experts and decision-makers from the Mediterranean participated in these meetings and events.

The following scientific and technical reports and papers have been undertaken:

- Report on the assessment of the country situation (Phase I) of tanneries management in Turkey (January 2011)
- Report on the assessment of the country situation of lead batteries management in Syria (October 2011)
- Three reports corresponding to Phases I, II and III on lubricating oil management in Algeria (2011-2012)
- Report on the testing of a modeling system to assess the variations of EQSs with ELVs for nitrogen and mercury in Gulf de Lion and Izmir Bay (January 2012)
- Second report corresponding to Phases II and III of the tanneries management in Turkey (September 2012)
- Report on the assessment of the country situation of phosphogypsum in Tunisia (Oct 2012)

- Report on the assessment of the magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea (December 2012)

Sub-Component 2.2 Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST)

Executed by UNIDO

The **MED TEST** component targets industrial pollution prevention arising from hot spots areas of the Southern Mediterranean Region. The project aims at demonstrating the effectiveness of introducing best practices, cleaner technologies and integrated management systems, for cost reduction, productivity increase and environmental performance in industry. A pool of **43** manufacturing sites across seven (**7**) industrial sectors in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, have actively participated in MED TEST during 2010-2012.

Building national capacity is a core objective of MED TEST: this has been achieved through an extensive training and on-the-job technical assistance programme that has targeted **six (6)** national institutions and service providers and **25** local professionals, besides the staff of the 43 demonstration companies. A total of 958 man-days of training was delivered to 514 participants. As a result, a network of local resources is now engaged in promoting the TEST approach and will serve to extend the experience gained to other industries in the region.

In 2012, national roadmaps for market uptake and the upscaling of TEST in each country have been designed through dissemination and replication activities targeting new industrial sites. In June 2012, a pool of **15** additional **companies** signed up for implementing TEST with the support of the local TEST teams trained during the pilot phase.

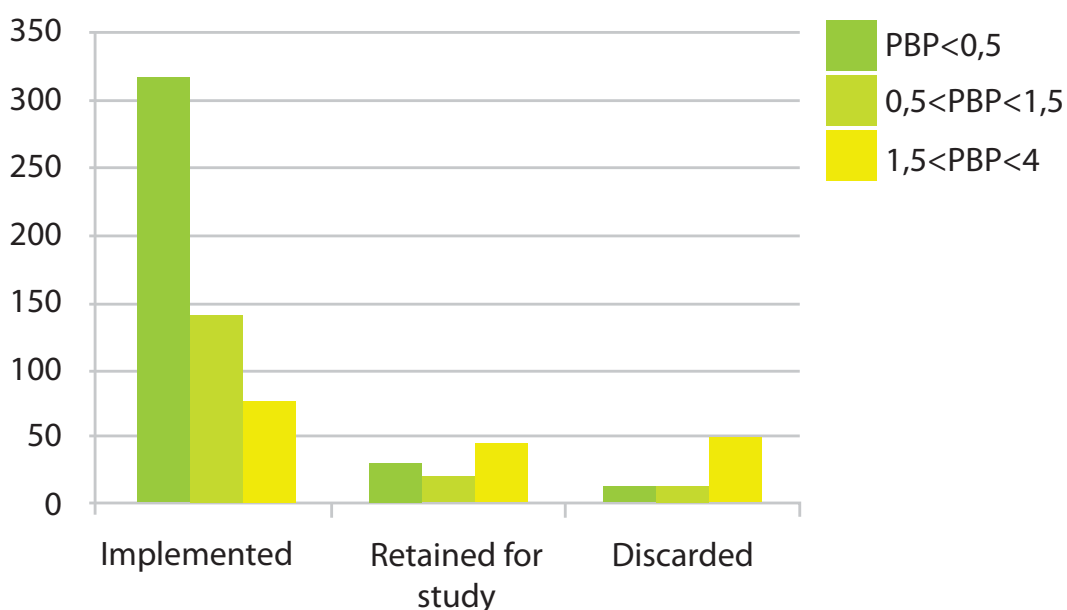
At the level of the initial group of 43 companies, the sustainability and cost-effectiveness of TEST has been largely demonstrated, not only at operational level through the implementation of resource efficiency measures, but also at the managerial and strategic levels through the adoption of new visions and policies by the top management (e.g. ISO14001, Oeko-Tex Standard, etc).

A total of **735** resource efficiency and cleaner technology investment measures have been identified out of which 69% have been implemented between 2011 and 2012, 23% retained for further technical investigations and only 8% discarded.

The economical and environmental benefits of the implemented measures have been evaluated as follows:

- Reduction of water consumption by 9,7 Millions m³/yr, (20%)
- Reduction of energy consumption by 263 GWh per year, (20%)
- Reduction of BOD by 3238 tons/yr and of COD by 4535 tons/yr (10%)
- Overall USD17 M of savings and USD20 M private sector investments

The Chart below indicates the return on investment (Pay Back Period – PBP) of implemented, retained for study and discarded measures within the MED TEST project in the 43 companies. The majority (52%) of the measures identified have PBP of less than six months, highlighting the high potential for resource efficiency in industry in the Mediterranean region.



An extensive work was undertaken in order to integrate resource efficiency with Environmental management system (EMS) and Material flow cost accounting (MFCA) into company management systems. A total of 11 companies have implemented full EMS for certification under the ISO14001.

Overall, the tangible results achieved and documented within the MED TEST component have raised the attention of the donor community. In July 2012 the EC/DevCo has approved an up-scaling of MED TEST II, within the SWITCH-MED initiative, to extend the experience to all the other countries of the Mediterranean region. The MED TEST II is scheduled to begin during the second half of 2013.

Sub-Component 2.3

Environmentally sound management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated with PCBs in national electricity companies

Executed by UNEP/MAP – MEDPOL and UNEP/MAP – CP/RAC

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) still in use in electrical equipment are at risk of release through fire accidents in electrical equipment. Those off-line can release PCBs through leaks and spills. Stocks that are not well protected can be accessed by people wishing to utilize the oils. Various countries have documented cases of PCB-contaminated oils being used as an “industrial hand cleaner” or for cooking . Repeated

exposure to even small quantities of PCBs can cause damage to the liver and neurological and immune systems. Inadequate handling of PCBs can also lead to emissions of other toxic substances, including dioxins and furans that are POPs regulated under the Stockholm Convention. In spite of legislations in force, there are still large amounts of PCBs in use. In many countries, there are exemptions for restricted use in

devices in use for long periods. In Albania, the total number of transformers containing PCB oils is 437, of which 95% are from the seventies and the eighties. In Egypt, there are 3666 condensers and 26 transformers possibly containing PCBs. In Lebanon, there are still two old power plants with PCB equipment. While there is no information for Libya, there are still 91 transformers containing PCBs in Syria.

The major objective of the project is to introduce environmentally sound management (ESM) to all stages of the ‘life-cycle’ of electrical equipment, containing or contaminated by PCBs. It will also focus on strengthening legislative frameworks, the removal and disposal of up to 870 tons of PCBs at demonstration sites, the preparation of phase out plans for PCBs

in electrical companies and increased awareness and technical knowledge on the Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of PCBs.

Participating countries are Albania, Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The precise quantity of PCB for final disposal is pending upon the finalization of the inventory by partner countries.

In 2012, participating countries received guidelines for the identification of PCBs and the further development of their PCBs Inventory. Project management teams are operational in each country, and for all four countries, the equipment needed for the implementation of the project has been evaluated. The primary inventory evaluation in all countries leads to the conclusion that most of transformers are mineral oil transformers contaminated with PCBs, and cross contamination in the maintenance workshops is the main source of PCB contaminated transformers. In order to support countries in preparing more detailed inventories, PCBs semi mobile analyzers are under purchase. Based on this, new target values will be set for PCB destruction, which will be undertaken in 2013.

During 2012, UNEP/MAP-CP/RAC has implemented an information and project website on PCBs management for participating countries that can be consulted at www.pcbsmed.org. In addition, UNEP/MAP-CP/RAC is jointly preparing with UNEP/MAP-MEDPOL, several workshops and trainings on PCBs awareness, management, sampling and disposal and POPs to be delivered in 2013. Additionally, a video on PCBs management and a “Toolkit for PCBs owners and decision makers” is being prepared for educational and awareness purposes and will be added to the mentioned website shortly.

Summary of implementation so far

12 meetings, workshops and trainings were undertaken for the environmentally sound management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated with PCBs in national electricity companies. An approximate number of 250 experts and decision-makers from the Mediterranean participated in these meetings and events.

Furthermore, a webpage was created by CP/RAC (<http://pcbsmed.org/>)



COMPONENT 3

CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY: IMPLEMENTATION OF SAP-BIO AND RELATED NAPS

Photo credit: G. Pergent, RAC/SPA

Component 3 contributes to the implementation of the SAP-BIO for the conservation of biological diversity, specifically through the following two areas of focus:

- **Sub-Component 3.1: Conservation of Coastal and Marine Diversity through the Development of a Mediterranean MPA Network – led by UNEP/MAP's RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO; and**
- **Sub-Component 3.2: Promote the sustainable use of fisheries resources through the application of the ecosystem approach to fisheries – led by FAO.**

It should be noted that the SAPs include many more priorities, than those addressed through this project, but RAC/SPA is working closely with all Mediterranean countries for the continued implementation of the SAP-BIO, with recent emphasis on the impact of climate change to the biodiversity of the Mediterranean. In addition, in 2012 and 2013, RAC/SPA assisted countries in the revision of the SAP-BIO regional and national targets and agreed actions.

Also, FAO runs a suite of projects supporting the management of fisheries for sustainability covering all Mediterranean countries, that work jointly and in a coordinated way to address many more of the sustainability concerns described in the SAPs and including also the main issues of social and economic sustainability of Mediterranean fisheries, in line with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF).

Sub-Component 3.1 Conservation of coastal and marine diversity through the development of a Mediterranean MPA Network

Executed by UNEP/MAP-RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO

In order to increase the capacity to conserve regionally important coastal and marine biodiversity through the creation of an ecologically representative, coherent and effective marine protected areas network in the Mediterranean region supported by a region-wide network of marine protected areas managers, RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO are executing complementary activities. RAC/SPA's focus is the identification and creation of new marine protected areas and WWF-MedPO's focus is for the improved management of existing (and about-to-be-created) ones, as well as several joint activities for training,

coordination and communication. It should be noted that the activities implemented by RAC/SPA have been given the name of "MedMPAnet" and those executed by WWF-MedPO have been named "MedPAN South".

National activities (RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO)

A number of activities were undertaken for the establishment of new MPAs (supported by RAC/SPA) and for the improved management of MPAs (supported by WWF-MedPO) which are summarized below.



Ain Al Ghazala, Libya

(Photo credit: M. Foulquie, RAC/SPA)

Albania

In Tirana, RAC/SPA organized an Inception Meeting (3 May), during which the Project work-plan was presented and agreed upon by the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration. After further national consultations, the site of Porto Palermo Bay was selected for the pilot marine protected area creation. Field work is planned to start in early 2013.

Algeria

RAC/SPA is has joined efforts with PAP/RAC, UNESCO/IHP and the 'Conservatoire du Littoral' for the elaboration of a Coastal Plan for the Reghaia area to combine work underway on the ICZM plan with the potential establishment of an MPA. In May, a team of scientists completed a survey in the coastal area around the Reghaia Lake. This will be followed by ecological and socio-economic studies, along with

the identification of potential stakeholders and partnerships that could be involved in the Reghaia marine protected area creation and management.

WWF-MedPO provided assistance in the Taza National Park, which successfully produced the necessary documentation, including a management and a zoning plan, for the official designation of the marine area adjacent to the Park as an MPA. In mid-2012, the integrated management plan (terrestrial and marine area) was officially approved by the Steering Committee chaired by the local Government who has now the responsibility to submit it at central level. The marine zoning plan and regulations were developed by the Scientific Committee and the Advisory Board of the Park, composed by local stakeholders (including fishermen). Furthermore, awareness raising activities on the importance and value of MPAs were implemented targeting the local community. These included videos and a workshop entitled "Seminar on MPAs in Algeria: the designation process of the marine protected area of Taza National Park" (Jijel, 7 June 2012).

Croatia

Following joint consultations, RAC/SPA and the Ministry of Environment and Nature elaborated a detailed work-plan for pilot activities in the country that will focus on an ecological study, a fishery study and capacity building activities for the inventory of marine biodiversity in selected sites in the County of Primorje & Gorski Kotar.

With the support of WWF-MedPO, all five existing Croatian MPAs have successfully worked towards standardising their MPA management planning process, while enhancing collaborations with relevant administrations, stakeholders and NGOs. Croatia is now one of the few countries in the Mediterranean where all existing MPAs are working together to improve the quality of their management in a coordinated fashion. In 2012, the management plans of Lastovo Islands and Telašćica Nature Parks were completed, approved and endorsed by the relevant Park Management Boards and Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection. The management plans of Brijuni and Kornati National Parks were also completed and are awaiting final approval. The management plan of Mljet National Park is under

development and will be finalized with the support of Suncne in 2013. To raise awareness on the role and values of MPAs, videos and other communication tools on responsible fishery, diving and anchoring were disseminated at local, national and international level and during the Project closing conference: "Conference on the management of Croatian



RAC/SPA's Mediterranean Training Workshop in Alicante, Spain

(photo credit: Atef Limam, RAC/SPA)

National and Nature Parks at sea: The future of MPAs in the Adriatic" (Split, 24-25 October).

Montenegro

RAC/SPA, building on the results of the rapid assessments undertaken in October 2011 and June 2012, and in close consultation with the Ministry of Environment, will together with PAP/RAC and CP/RAC implement a "Pilot Project on Testing the Ecosystem Approach (ECAP) application in Boka Kotorska Bay". An ecological survey of the Kotor Bay marine area will be undertaken using the side scan sonar technique, and a fishery study. Discussions are underway with PAP/RAC and CP/RAC in order to coordinate and plan the common pilot activities and especially those related to financial sustainability and the green economy.

RAC/SPA undertook a second rapid assessment survey along the Montenegro coast from 12 to 19 June 2012. This survey allowed the valuation of marine areas, in order to select the most suitable sites to become marine protected areas. This mission was led by international and national experts, and will contribute to the assessment of specific protection measures in at least three of the following areas: Ulcinj, Katicic, Platamuni, Bar, Buljarica, Jaz, Tivat and Kotor.

Morocco

RAC/SPA undertook an on-site field assessment in the Cap des Trois Fourches marine site, from 31 August to 12 September 2012. A team of ten national and international researchers/experts worked together on the collection of biological data to be processed and reported on maps using GIS. This will allow finalizing a rapid natural habitats assessment of the site, along with a zoning and management outlines proposal.

Tunisia

RAC/SPA, following the results of the field surveys undertaken in Kuriat Islands in 2010 and 2011 and the socio-economic study of 2012, launched an activity for the elaboration of a detailed management plan for the Kuriat Islands and the setting-up of a consultation mechanism involving all stakeholders.

WWF-MedPO activities focused mainly on strengthening the capacity of local staff and NGOs at the Cap N  gro-Cap Serrat MCPA especially regarding the implementation of participatory processes and the promotion of sustainable fishing among local population. To increase awareness on the value and benefits of MPAs and to gain the support for the creation of the MCPA, a number of initiatives were conducted at national and local level including an environmental education programme targeting national and international students, a press trip, press-day, and study trip organised at Cap N  gro – Cap Serrat MCPA.

Lebanon

RAC/SPA run, on 18-28 June 2012, a field survey in three selected marine sites along the Lebanon coast (Chikaa, Enfeh and Raoucheh) for the characterization of priority marine sites suitable to become protected areas. A team of international and national experts have participated to the survey and the results are being processed by the scientific team.

Libya

RAC/SPA launched, in 2012, complementary socio-economic surveys for the pilot site of El-Kouf National Park, in view of strengthening the ecological surveys undertaken in autumn 2010 as well as the final recommendations for the management of the area. In the Ain Al-Ghazalah MPA, WWF-MedPO supported a team of international and national experts to complete the socio-economic assessment by collecting data on gear, methods classification and fishery areas, and on the profile and perception of local fishermen and hunters RAC/SPA and

building of fourteen Libyan national officers and marine protected areas stakeholders on (i) Planning socioeconomic assessments in marine protected areas (Bizerte, Tunisia, 26-30 May 2012), and (ii) GIS application to marine environment (Tunis, Tunisia, 1-2 June 2012).

Turkey

The final management plan of Kaş-Kekova SPA was completed (supported by WWF-MedPO), approved and endorsed by the relevant MPA authority and the no-take zones gazetted in the national fishery law. In summer 2012, the zoning plan was implemented and enforced by the Coast Guard, diving best practices were agreed by local diving operators, a mooring system was proposed and five buoys installed in key diving spots. Communication activities were conducted targeting national and local stakeholders including videos, a documentary film, MPA information signboards and a photo exhibition in Kaş.

New MPAs – “MedMPAnet” (UNEP/MAP - RAC/SPA)

As detailed above, during 2012, RAC/SPA undertook a number of significant steps for the creation of new marine protected areas in Albania, Algeria, Libya, Montenegro and Tunisia while working extensively on the identification of marine sites of conservation interest in Croatia, Lebanon, Montenegro and Morocco.

In terms of capacity building, one regional and two Libyan national training sessions were convened and technical assistance (through small granting) was provided to Albania and Montenegro. A technical guide on the ecological monitoring Mediterranean marine species in marine protected areas as well as Guidelines on the monitoring of Mediterranean Lesser Crested Terns are under preparation.

RAC/SPA organized, in Malaga (Spain), the Fourth Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the SAP-BIO (2 July 2012) and the Third Meeting of National Correspondents of the SAP-BIO which also served as the Mid-term Workshop for the MedMPAnet Project (2-4 July 2012). Mediterranean riparian countries and partner organizations have been informed about the progress so far and provided recommendations for further improvements during the second half of the project.

In collaboration with IUCN-Med, RAC/SPA launched in early 2012 an assessment and support activity for Adriatic countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro) on priority needs regarding the legal, policy and institutional reforms necessary to strengthen the creation processes and the management of marine protected areas. This Adriatic-wide assessment aims also at providing strategic orientations for stakeholder participation in marine protected areas management and planning. In addition, work on the identification of the stakeholders group and potential partnerships to create marine protected areas has started for Morocco.

On 23-28 September 2012, in Alicante (Spain), a second regional training session on ecological monitoring in marine protected areas was organized. Twelve participants from eight Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Montenegro, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey) took part in this session. The training, which focused particularly on field work, was organized in collaboration with the University of Alicante (Spain) and took place in its Marine Research Centre of Santa Pola (CIMAR) and the Marine Reserve of Nueva Tabarca.

Technical assistance was provided to Albania for the identification of activities with tourism potential in the Sazan-Karaburun MPA and surrounding area, and to Montenegro to support decision-makers in the management and development of tourism in the Katič MPA area. This activity also included an exchange visit to Miramare Marine Reserve (Italy), for the exchange of best practices especially on the subject of visitor management in marine protected areas.

Taking advantage of the ecological field surveys undertaken in Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia, on-the-job trainings have been delivered to eleven local experts. This on-the-job training has embraced various themes like underwater visual census and sampling techniques, but also the socio-economic and cultural aspects of planning marine protected areas.

For further information see:

<http://medmpanet.rac-spa.org/>

MedPartnership (MedMPAnet and MedPAN South) support to MedPAN

MedPAN is the network of managers of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the Mediterranean (www.medpan.org). The objective of the network is to improve the effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) management in the Mediterranean. The MedPAN network gathers to date more than 50 members, primarily MPA managing institutions from the whole Mediterranean basin, and 27 partners willing to contribute to the creation and strengthening of the network. These actors manage more than 80 MPAs in 18 Mediterranean countries and its members and partners are working towards the creation of several new sites.

The MedPartnership through the work of both RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO has supported and collaborated with MedPAN through several activities, including:

- **The design of a long-term capacity building strategy to enhance the management of Mediterranean MPAs.** For this aim, a regional gap-analysis was conducted among marine protected areas managers and regional, national and international institutions dealing with capacity building in the region. In August, the publication: “Capacity building strategy to enhance the management of MPAs in the Mediterranean Sea” was released to share the results of the study and highlight the needs and priorities across the region for developing a regional, integrated and feasible capacity building programme. As a first step towards implementing this strategy, the three partner organizations are setting-up a Mediterranean web portal for capacity building related to marine conservation issues.
- **A region-wide needs’ assessment in terms of guidebooks and technical tools among marine protected area managers and practitioners and relevant authorities in the Mediterranean countries** was completed in March 2012. WWF-MedPO launched the booklet on participatory management planning: “Making Marine Protected Areas work” and a policy brief on “Marine Protected Areas: Guiding principles and benefits” in French, English, and Arabic.



Fisherman in Taza

(Photo credit: WWF)

- The organization of a special event during the 2012 Forum of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean (Antalya, 25-28 November 2012) and supporting the development of the 2012 MPA Forum website (www.medmpaforum2012.org) as well as supporting the creation of a movie on marine protected areas networking in the Mediterranean in collaboration with the MedPAN network Secretariat. To share field achievements, WWF-MedPO field staff and key stakeholders presented project results in plenary sessions, at the WWF Mediterranean stand: "Catalyst of difference", and during the interactive performance "Voices from the Mediterranean" that attracted more than 100 delegates (all materials are available at: www.medmpaforum2012.org).

Improved MPA management - "MedPAN South" (WWF-MedPO)

The MedPAN South Project nearly completed all activities in 2012, towards achieving its objectives. Through a combination of approaches at the regional and national level, the Project addressed several of the issues that prevent MPAs from becoming operational. At the regional level, the Project built the

capacity of MPA practitioners, strengthening the regional network of MPAs and creating trouble-shooting mechanisms in support of MPAs. In addition, the Project engaged 5 countries (Algeria, Croatia, Libya, Tunisia, and Turkey) to ensure that their MPAs grew from a "paper park" state into an operational state, with trained and equipped staff, standardized management plans, scientifically sound monitoring, and approved zoning plans. This was done using a fully participatory approach, where stakeholder engagement in MPA operations was key to secure buy-in from local communities and stakeholders (including fishermen), endorsement from national and local governments, and ownership of the MPA.

Capacity Building Programme. As a follow up to the 3rd Regional Training Workshop on Planning for Sustainable Tourism in MPAs (2011), participants developed specific projects to implement the capacity acquired during the training in their MPA or institution. Projects are part of a contract agreement between WWF-MedPO and each participant, called Implementation Agreements, where technical and financial support is provided for the proposed activities.

In 2012, the following Implementation Agreements were carried out.

- Five Exchange visits in Port Cros National Park(France), Tavolara MPA and Miramare MPA (Italy), and Cabrera National Park (Spain) were organised for seven delegations of MPA managers and tourism administrations from Algeria, Croatia, Libya, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro, and Tunisia. The exchanges focused on tourism best practices for MPAs (i.e. management of visitors' flows, communication, carrying capacity) and enabled future sharing and collaborations.
- Two MPA practitioners from Syria participated in a training course on "Conservation and protection of the cetacean population", in the Gulf of Vonnitsa (Greece).
- A specific training workshop on sustainable tourism monitoring and management based on the experience of Cabrera National Park (Spain) was organised in Akyaka (Turkey) for the national system of MPAs.
- A small grant was awarded by the Institute of Nature Protection (INCA), Albania to support a study and a publication providing good practices for tour package development in the Karaburun-Sazan Marine National Park to tourism operators.

In October, the 3rd **Mentors Training** on Designing Networks of MPAs was held in Siracusa, Italy. This was the first training where mentors of the Capacity Building Programme took a more active role in designing the training and taking part in the group of trainers, which is one of the concrete results of the "Training the Trainers" module.

In 2012, additional training activities were designed for stakeholders involved in the demonstration projects:

- In **Croatia**, a workshop on Understanding and Transformation of Conflicts was organised for MPA staff and relevant MPA authorities.
- In **Tunisia**, two training workshops on Marine GIS and on the Socioeconomic Assessment for MPA Design were organised for the staff of the Marine Biological Research Centre and the Environmental General Authority of Libya.
- In **Algeria**, a workshop on the Development of Sustainable Tourism in Coastal Protected Areas in Algeria and Collaboration with Tourism Operators was delivered to local administrations, park staff and researchers of Taza National Park.

- In **Tunisia**, two training workshops on Sustainable Fishing in northern Tunisian MPAs were organised for local fishery departments, fishermen, the coast guard and local NGOs. Scientists, experts and fishermen contributed to the workshops, including representatives of the Mediterranean Platform of Artisanal Fishermen. Moreover, two workshops on Ecotourism in MPAs: a Case of Scuba Diving and on Project cycle, using the French version of the Software Miradi were organised for MPA stakeholders (including NGOs, MPA authorities and researchers).

For further information see www.panda.org/msp.

MPA Communication Strategy

With the aim of raising awareness of key stakeholders on marine protected areas roles and values and on the project progress and results, RAC/SPA undertook a number of communication activities, such as disseminating information through the internet and social media (<http://medmpanet.rac-spa.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/MedmpAnet>) and elaborating an illustrated factsheet on the project activities.

To mainstream and amplify the project successful outcomes and to promote replication, WWF-MedPO undertook several activities:

- The web-site for MedPAN South project was updated and project reports and publications are available to download (www.panda.org/msp).
- Through Facebook and Twitter, a petition about new and better managed Mediterranean MPAs was launched obtaining more than 25,000 signatures (www.change.org). Through its campaign and media work, WWF estimates to have reached over 100,000 people during the summer of 2012.
- A video on the role of MPAs in supporting artisanal fishermen was produced and disseminated through international and national websites and events (www.panda.org/msp). The MedPAN South activities and major achievements are regularly featured on the MedPAN website and newsletter (www.medpan.org), on WWF Echo newsletters (www.panda.org/mediterranean) and the global MPANews (www.mpanews.org).
- Press trips at the Réserve Naturelle des Bouches de Bonifacio (France) and Telascica Nature Park (Croatia) were organised with TV and print

journalists from France, Croatia and Sweden to showcase the socioeconomic and environmental benefits of MPAs.

- Visibility activities (including media events, web sites, photo contests and local events) have been carried out by local partners to reach out to their stakeholders and the general public and communicate on the progress of their demonstration projects.

Summary of implementation so far

Since 2010, a total of 76 meetings and 49 workshops were undertaken for the improved management and creation of new MPAs, including the training of 600 participants from the Mediterranean.

In 2012, new management plans, including a zoning plan with no-take zones, were completed in six MPAs: Brijuni National Park, Kornati National Park, Lastovo Islands Nature Park, Telašćica Nature Park (Croatia), Taza National Park (Algeria) and Kaş-Kekova SPA (Turkey).

The following scientific, environmental, and/or economic assessments have been undertaken and published:

Albania:

- Report on the Protection of Marine Biodiversity in Albania Karaburun - Sazan Marine National Park (RAC/SPA);
- Report on "Potential for Ecotourism in Karaburun-Sazan Marine National Park, Albania", INCA (WWF-MedPO);

Algeria

- Fisheries assessment of the Taza National Park, Algeria (WWF-MedPO);
- Seabird Assessment of Taza National Park, Algeria (WWF-MedPO);
- Publication on the experience of the participatory planning at Taza NP («Le banc des Kabyles au cœur de la consultation et de la concertation») (WWF-MedPO);
- Étude socio-économique pour la future aire marine du Parc National de Taza, Algérie (WWF-MedPO);



(Photo credit: RAC/SPA, Public Institution Priroda)

Croatia

- Monitoring of *Posidonia oceanica* meadows in Croatian Marine Protected Areas, Croatia (WWF-MedPO)

Libya

- Scientific field survey report for the development of marine protected areas in Libya (RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO);
- Report on main marine biocenosis along the coasts of the El Kouf National Park (Libya) (RAC/SPA);

Montenegro

- Report on Development of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Republic of Montenegro (RAC/SPA);

Tunisia

- Report on sustainable financial mechanisms for Tunisian MPAs, Tunisia (WWF-MedPO);
- Report on marine habitats and species of conservation interest in Kuriat Islands (RAC/SPA);
- Report on *Caretta caretta* marine turtles nidification in Kuriat Islands (2010 campaign) (RAC/SPA);

- Reports of the “Fish visual census” and “Marine water quality” of Cap Negro-Cap Serrat MCPA (WWF-MedPO);

Turkey

- Marine biodiversity assessment of Kas-Kekova Specially Protected Area, Turkey (WWF-MedPO);
- Final report of ten-year marine biodiversity assessment in Kaş-Kekova SEPA (WWF-MedPO);

Regional

- Guidelines for the Establishment and Management of Marine Protected Areas for Cetaceans (RAC/SPA);
- Guidelines for setting up and management of specially protected areas for marine turtles in the Mediterranean (RAC/SPA);
- Guidelines for management and monitoring threatened population of marine and coastal bird species and their important areas in the Mediterranean (RAC/SPA);
- Designing a Capacity Building Strategy to enhance the Management of MPAs in the Mediterranean Sea (RAC/SPA, WWF-MedPO and MedPAN);
- Designing a Strategy for Developing Guides for Mediterranean marine protected areas managers (RAC/SPA, WWF-MedPO and MedPAN);
- Booklet on participatory management planning: “Making Marine Protected Areas work” in French, English, and Arabic (WWF-MedPO);
- Policy Brief on “Marine Protected Areas: Guiding Principles and Benefits” in French, English, and Arabic (WWF-MedPO).

Sub-Component 3.2 Promotion of the sustainable use of fisheries resources through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries

Executed by FAO

The objective of FAO’s activities under the MedPartnership is to assist countries to sustainably utilize coastal and high seas fisheries resources through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) including the application of targeted interventions to reduce bycatch and unsustainable fishing.

The three main activity groups under sub-component 3.2 have seen an appreciable level of activity in 2012, despite the instability that kept affecting the region during most of the year. This was achieved thanks to a close interaction and linkages with the other FAO-run fisheries management support projects in the Mediterranean, that tend to work as a team reinforcing each other for serving the countries in the region in the most efficient and cost-effective way, as well as with the FAO structures.

To enhance the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) management at regional and subregional levels (activity 3.2.1), the project developed a structured set of guidelines allowing national legal/management experts to assess their legal and management systems and frameworks relative to the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture. These guidelines will be field-tested on the four countries selected for this part of the



Characterization of priority marine sites suitable to become protected areas in Cap des Trois Fourches, Morocco

(Photo credit: UBM, University of Seville, RAC/SPA)

project, using legal/management experts selected by the partner institutions and governments with the support of FAO.

Under activity 3.2.2, Tunisian experts completed the identification of the possible hot-spots for bycatch as well as the main issues for sustainable fisheries management posed by bycatch and discards in the Gulf of Gabès, and produced two comprehensive

reports. One dealt with commercially-exploited species, while the other focused on iconic vertebrate species.

These two works led to the conclusion that bycatch and discarding of undersized animals of commercially exploited species is also a problematic issue in the Gulf of Gabès fishery, where there is a very high concentration of these bycatch and discards in a few main areas. These reports also identified the main hot-spots for bycatch and discarding of important species.

The main fishers and boat owners associations, as well as the National fisheries authorities, have been consulted on the acceptability of the main types of measures likely to reduce by-catch issues, i.e. spatio-temporal closures or improvements to the gear. Overall, it was concluded that temporal closures, in line with the existing “Repos biologique”, as well as gear regulations could be accepted to some degree. Spatial closures, on the other hand, were widely considered to be either too damaging to the profession or essentially too difficult to enforce. These conclusions will be further discussed during the validation meeting to be held in January 2013.

On the promotion of the participation of fishers in the management of MPAs, at the demonstration project in the Al Hoceima National Park in Morocco, consultations were held with the fishers organizations, the national and local authorities and the NGO's operating in the park in all the main ports and landing sites. These were organized by the staff of the Nador laboratory of the “Institut National de Recherche Halieutique” (INRH), with the support of FAO.

On the basis of these consultations and of field work on specific data collection, the Diagnostics of the situation in the Park (Biological, Socio-Economic and Management system) were prepared by the local staff, supported by FAO experts.

These diagnostics were presented to stakeholders (fishers representatives, civil society organizations and governmental organizations) in a validation and implementation workshop for the fisher-led monitoring system. This workshop validated the main conclusions of the diagnostic and made specific recommendations for the further development and implementation of the fisher-led fisheries monitoring system.

The training and communication materials were adapted to the pilot site of Badès, where the first full-scale trial of the monitoring system will take place, in the first quarter of 2013.

Summary of implementation so far

Since 2010, a total of 36 meetings, 3 workshops and 1 University-Level course were undertaken on the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF), engaging an estimated total of 80 participants, including the training of 38 experts from the Mediterranean.

The following scientific, environmental, and/or economic assessments have been undertaken and published:

Bycatch and discards

- Bradai, N. 2012. Assessment of the by-catch issues in the Gulf of Gabès by the bottom trawl fleet. Part 2 : Bycatch of Mediterranean important iconic vertebrate species in the Gulf of Gabes: Risk Assessment and Mitigation
- Jarboui, O. 2012. Assessment of the by-catch issues in the Gulf of Gabès by the bottom trawl fleet. Part 1 : Discards of exploited marine organisms in Gabes gulf resulting from bottom trawling fishing activities: Current knowledge and Risk Assessment
- Sacchi J. et Baro, J. 2010. Protocole de mise en place du dispositif sélectif et de travail à bord Etude expérimentale pour la mise en oeuvre de la Résolution de la CGPM concernant les mailles carrées de 40 mm pour la pêche démersale au chalut en Méditerranée. CopeMed II – ArtFiMed Technical Documents N°10 (GCP/INT/028/SPA – GCP/INT/006/EC). Malaga, 2010. 10pp.

Fisheries Management and EAF

- FAO-AdriaMed. 2012. AdriaMed 1st Meeting on Fisheries Management Plans in the GSA 17. AdriaMed Meeting Memorandum 184. GCP/RER/010/ITA OM 184
- FAO-AdriaMed. 2012. AdriaMed Technical Meeting on Small Scale Fisheries in the Adriatic Sea AdriaMed Meeting Memorandum 183. GCP/RER/010/ITA OM 183
- Colloca F., Lelli S., 2012. Report of the FAO EastMed support to the fishing trials carried out off the South Lebanese Coast. GCP/INT/041/EC – GRE – ITA/TD-14

Fisheries Research

- FAO-AdriaMed. 2012. AdriaMed Study Group on Daily Egg Production Method (DEPM) for the appraisal of small pelagic fisheries resources in the Adriatic Sea (Ljubljana, Slovenia 1-3 October 2012) AdriaMed Meeting Memorandum 180. GCP/RER/010/ITA OM 180
- FAO-AdriaMed. 2012. Report of the Daily egg production method (DEPM) survey in South Adriatic Sea (GSA 18) (July-August 2012)
- FAO-AdriaMed. 2012. Report of the echosurvey carried out in the South Adriatic Sea (GSA 18) - Albania and Montenegro continental shelf (July-August 2012)
- FAO-AdriaMed. 2012. SoleDiff project – “Genetic differentiation of *Solea solea* and *S. aegyptiaca* in northern Adriatic Sea and population structure of the common sole in the Mediterranean Sea” - Preliminary results
- FAO-ArtFiMed CopeMed II 2012. Analyse des bases de données du suivi de l'activité de pêche dans les sites du projet ArtFiMed. CopeMed II – ArtFiMed Technical Documents N°28 (GCP/INT/028/SPA-GCP/INT/006/EC). Malaga, 2012. 47pp.
- FAO-MedSudMed. 2012. Report of the MedSudMed-06 Oceanographic Survey, Libyan continental shelf (south-central Mediterranean Sea) 12 - 24 August 2006. GCP/RER/010/ITA/MSM-TD-27. MedSudMed Technical Documents. No 27: 53 pp.
- Nader M., Indary S., Boustany L., 2012. FAO EastMed. The Puffer Fish *Lagocephalus scleratus* (Gmelin, 1789) in the Eastern Mediterranean. GCP/INT/041/EC – GRE –ITA/TD-10

Fisheries and fish stock assessments

- FAO-AdriaMed. 2012. Report of the Study Group for the application of bottom-trawl survey data to fish stock assessment in South Adriatic Sea (GSA 18) Torre a Mare (BA), Italy 3-7 September 2012. AdriaMed Meeting Memorandum 178. GCP/RER/010/ITA OM 178
- FAO-CopeMed II. 2012. Report of the Study Group Meeting on *Parapenaeus longirostris* and *Merluccius merluccius* stocks for Algeria, Morocco and Spain (GSAs 01, 02, 03 and 04 of the GFCM). Malaga (Spain), 24-28 September 2012. CopeMed II Technical Documents N°29. (GCP/INT/028/SPA - GCP/INT/006/EC). Malaga, 2012. 51 pp.
- FAO-CopeMed II. 2012. Report of the Third Meeting of the Working Group on Small Pelagic Fisheries in the Alboran Sea. CopeMed II

Technical Documents N°30 (GCP/INT/028/SPA -GCP/INT/006/EC). Malaga, 2012. 28 pp.

- FAO-MedSudMed. 2012. Stock status and potential yield of deep water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*, Lucas 1846) in the south-central Mediterranean Sea. GCP/RER/010/ITA/MSM-TD-28. MedSudMed Technical Documents. No 28: 15 pp.



COMPONENT 4



PROJECT CO-ORDINATION, NGO
INVOLVEMENT, REPLICATION AND
COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES,
MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING AND
EVALUATION (M&E)

Photo credit: Thomas Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE

The Regional project of the MedPartnership is led by UNEP/MAP and ten executing partners, working in twelve participating countries. It covers the whole spectrum of environmental issues from coastal zone, water and aquifer management to the reduction of pollution from land-based sources and the conservation of biodiversity through the enhancement of marine protected areas and implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries. In the Mediterranean, many international and regional organizations are working in parallel for the protection of the coastal and marine environment. The MedPartnership is one of the largest GEF funded projects of its kind addressing multiple issues; and through this close cooperation the hope is to build a solid foundation for the future joint planning and implementation of actions.

UNEP/MAP will also make efforts to ensure the longer term sustainability of the project's results. To this effect, for the first time, the replication of good practices within the project is addressed as a separate group of activities and is closely linked to the Communication Strategy of the MedPartnership.

Sub-Component 4.1 Project Co-ordination, NGO Involvement, Management and M&E

Executed by UNEP/MAP, UNEP/MAP - MEDPOL and MIO-ECSDE

The project is now past its mid-point of implementation, where all activities are fully underway, several are completed, and their final results disseminated.

The Third Steering Committee of the MedPartnership met in Istanbul, Turkey on 15-17 May 2012 and following a review of the progress, discussed and adopted the detailed workplan and budget for 2012. The Steering Committee commended the concrete results achieved so far, and requested that the replication activities be further developed and support for inter-ministerial coordination be agreed with each Focal Point in order to build upon existing inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms (for instance linked to ICZM and IWRM national coordination). Key recommendations are given in the box below.

The process to begin the independent Mid-Term Evaluation began in September 2012, with the recruitment of two consultants, Ms Sarah Humphreys as lead consultant, and Mr Nee Sun Choong Kwet Yive, chemicals and PCB specialist for the activities to focus on sub-components 2.1 and 2.3. The findings of the MTE are based on the following:

- a. A desk review of project documents;
- b. Face to face interviews with UNEP/MAP, the PMU, five of the co-executing partners, and project stakeholders in Croatia, Egypt, Montenegro, and Tunisia;
- c. Telephone interviews with a wide cross-section of project stakeholders, including co-executing and country partners;
- d. Site visits including to a cross-section of demonstration projects (Component 1) and TEST pilot projects (Component 2);
- e. A questionnaire to project focal points where assigned, or to GEF and MAP focal points, in each of the participating countries.

The report is to be finalized in early 2013 and the draft is to be initially discussed at the fourth Coordination Group meeting, with all executing partners, scheduled for April 2013. It will also form the basis of discussions at the Fourth Steering Committee meeting in mid 2013, where the response to the evaluation will be presented along with any related revisions to the work-plan and budget.

Some of the key conclusions and recommendations from the Third MedPartnership Steering Committee

- Acknowledges with appreciation the 2011 Annual Report and recommends that the next Annual Report highlights jointly coordinated activities between executing partners.
- Acknowledges with appreciation the high quality results achieved by the MedPartnership and recommends UNEP/MAP, PMU and all executing partners to maintain the quality and accelerate the delivery of results and outputs under the ambitious 2012 work plan.
- Welcomes the efforts undertaken on the development of the expanded Mediterranean Environmental Replication Strategy (“MEReS”), and approves its further development and implementation taking due considerations of the recommendations made by the Steering Committee.
- Recommends consideration to be given to translation of the MedPartnership web-site into French and Arabic to ensure greater outreach within the region.
- Requests that the UNEP/MAP PMU implements activities to support in-country inter-ministerial coordination, to be individually agreed with each participating country according to their requirements to ensure long term sustainability of activities undertaken within the project.
- Adopts the revised overall Work plan and budget for the Regional Project component, taking due considerations of the recommendations made by the Steering Committee.
- Adopts the 2012 detailed Work plan and Budget for the Regional Project component of the MedPartnership including the new execution arrangements proposed for the communication and replication activities, and calls for the effective implementation of the work plan taking due considerations of the recommendations made by the Steering Committee.

It is UNEP/MAP’s responsibility, as lead executing agency for the Regional Project of the MedPartnership, to report to the GEF implementing agency (UNEP/DEPI). As such, the second Project Implementation Review (PIR) was submitted for the GEF reporting period of 1st July 2011 to 31st June

2012. UNEP/DEPI in consultation with UNEP/MAP, rated the project performance as “Satisfactory/Marginally Satisfactory”, a slight increase from the previous year’s PIR, and meaning that most of the project is on schedule.

Whilst the majority of the project is successfully meeting its objectives, with many activities completed, in spite of a number of challenges in the region in 2011 and 2012, there remain specific activities that have suffered some delays. These include the pollution demonstrations and PCB activities (sub-components 2.1 and 2.3), which are ambitious activities that have needed some revision and changes to accommodate requests from participating countries. Another issue raised was the slow progress on inter-ministerial coordination to be established in each of the participating countries, which was discussed in the Third Steering Committee meeting. Since then, Montenegro has been the first to be supported in establishing an inter-ministerial committee, linked to ICZM planning (November 2012). It is expected that most countries will finalize their agreements for inter-ministerial coordination in 2013. In addition, the first national coordination workshops were held in Tunisia and Egypt in November 2012, bringing together national experts engaged in coastal and water management, aquifers, marine protected



*3rd Steering Committee meeting in Istanbul, May 2012
(Photo credit: Jose Luis Martin-Bordes, UNESCO/IHP)*

areas and pollution actions, as well as colleagues from several ministries, resulting in a number of recommendations to be addressed in 2013.

Involvement of non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

In 2012, MIO-ECSDE continued its efforts and implemented a number of activities which included facilitating NGO and CBO participation in the project activities through the implementation of the “NGO Involvement Plan” and the revamped on-line database of Mediterranean environmental NGOs (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/ngos>). The role of NGOs and CBOs in the MedPartnership activities were enhanced by: disseminating information on the MedPartnership’s developments (through e-mail circulars, newsletters and bulletins) to a wide list of contacts; organizing and/or participating in a series of meetings and depicting the project’s activities and encouraging/motivating NGOs to participate in them. Representative examples are the organization and/or co-organization of four visibility/networking events

(Tirana, 31 October 2012;
Shkodra, 1 November 2012;
Podgorica, 2 November 2012;
Brussels, 11-12 December 2012).

Synergies have been built with other projects over 2012. MIO-ECSDE, as member of the consortium implementing the ENPI Horizon 2020 Capacity Building / Mediterranean Environment Programme component has been identifying synergies, inter-linkages, joint activities, etc. with the MedPartnership in terms of civil society involvement and environmental mainstreaming. This included the participation in two events: the H2020 CB/MEP training on how Members of Parliament can better contribute to the effective depollution of the Mediterranean (Athens, Greece, 22-23 October 2012), where the MedPartnership iPad application was presented to 120 Members of Parliament, journalists and NGOs from 22 Mediterranean countries; and the H2020 CB/MEP workshop on the integrated management of the lake Bizerte (Lake Bizerte, Tunisia, 7-8 June 2012), which promoted integrated approaches for the implementation of the SAPs and NAPs, such as the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

One of the main highlights for 2012 was the organization of the Mediterranean official side event at RIO+20 (Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, 19 June 2012), where Mediterraneans reaffirmed their commitment

to work together for Sustainable Development. The event was co-organized by MIO-ECSDE, UNEP/MAP and other partners in the region and supported the objectives of the MedPartnership.

In 2012, MIO-ECSDE had the unique opportunity to showcase the role of NGOs in the MedPartnership at a high level International Roundtable held back-to-back with the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention, Rome, 28-30 November 2012). The MedPartnership NGO Involvement Component was presented as a best practice of creating a truly enabling environment for cooperation in the region.

Furthermore, in an effort to keep NGOs motivated and engaged in the MedPartnership related processes, MIO-ECSDE piloted this year an activity



Shkodra lake

(Photo credit: Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE)

involving NGOs from Albania and Montenegro (as well as other Drin Riparian Countries). MIO-ECSDE launched a fact finding exercise aiming to develop jointly with 11 NGOs from the region a brochure with information on the Drin River Basin, its key features, threats, etc. as a concrete display of commitment and solidarity among environmental NGOs of the region to protect the Drin River Basin. The output is expected to be finalized within 2013.

In addition, this year MIO-ECSDE revised its position paper on Biodiversity in the Mediterranean (translated into French and Arabic) directly advocating for the active support of the MedPartnership activities related to: the creation of an ecologically coherent MPA network in the Mediterranean region;

the implementation of the Barcelona Convention's SPA/BD Protocol and its Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM); the progressive application of the Ecosystem Approach to improve the way human activities are managed for the protection of the marine environment. This paper has been widely disseminated.

Finally, MIO-ECSDE has intensified its efforts to link the MedPartnership with the GEF Small Grants Programme.

Support to SAP and NAP implementation

The MedPartnership is built upon the SAPs and NAPs. In order to assist countries in their implementation of actions agreed in the NAPs, the project aims to give support for the sustainable financing for the long term implementation of NAPs. These activities will be implemented in 2013, in along with the assessment and possible revision of both SAP-BIO and the SAP-MED NAPs to be conducted in 2013 and 2014.

An additional study was launched by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), upon request from UNEP/MAP and in order to complement the assessment of the policy component of the NAPs undergone by MEDPOL, to identify and update, based on the SAP-MED NAPs, the status of investments. The study "Update Priority Investment Projects for Protecting the Mediterranean Sea from Pollution" will deliver the status of projects included in the NAPs but also the list of de-pollution investment projects or needs that are necessary to meet the 2025 MEDPOL targets, for each and every country bordering the Mediterranean Sea. National workshops visits in Southern countries and desk studies for EU and Balkan countries are underway and full results of the study will be published in 2013, and will support the work underway to assess the status of SAP and NAP implementation and revision.

Summary of implementation so far

In summary, three Steering Committees and three Coordination Group meetings have been held since 2010 with over 100 active participants and experts. The MedPartnership has been showcased at over 10 international and regional meetings including the GEF International Waters Conference in Dubrovnik in October 2011. Eighteen meetings were organized for the involvement of NGOs with over 100 NGOs, and



Screenshots of the iPad application developed by MIO-ECSDE

four trainings were conducted with 200 trainees. In terms of reports the following documents are available on the MedPartnership website:

- Reports of the First, Second and Third Steering Committee meeting including all supporting documentation;
- Reports of the First, Second and Third Coordination Group meeting, including all supporting documents;
- NGO Involvement Plan and NGO Database (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/ngos>);
- Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) for 2010, 2011 and 2012 (available at the <http://www.thegef.org>) ;
- Annual Report publications for 2010 and 2011;
- Mid-Term Evaluation Report (draft).

Sub-Components 4.2 Information and Communication Strategy and 4.3 Replication Strategy

Information and Communication

The implementation of the communication strategy for 2012¹ placed special emphasis on the development of the tools necessary to communicate and promote the project effectively and across a wide range of target audiences. To capitalize on the major output of 2011, the iPad application, MIO-ECSDE moved to the development of the iPhone and flash versions to achieve greater penetration. Furthermore, promotional materials for the application, including flyers and a short video showcasing the app were created and widely disseminated.

¹ MIO-ECSDE implemented the Communication Strategy for the MedPartnership from January to March and from October to December 2012.

Early in the year and to promote the project to the parties to the Barcelona Convention, a specific target group of major importance, MIO-ECSDE set up an exhibition space within the framework of the COP 17 which took place in Paris, France on 8-10 February 2012. Throughout the two days of the meeting, more than 100 participants had the chance to familiarize with the project through component-focused videos, experience the iPad application and read selected materials.

The year 2012 also saw the production of the **MedPartnership documentary** “Together for the Mediterranean Sea”. The documentary includes unique coverage from two demonstration sites, in Buna/Bojana and Tunisia, as well as the views of locals on relevant environmental threats in the region. After its initial screening at the Steering Committee Meeting in Istanbul in May, the film was also showcased at the Horizon 2020 workshop in Athens. This was a major awareness raising opportunity for the project, as the workshop was attended by more than 120 Members of Parliaments, journalists and NGOs from the Mediterranean. MIO-ECSDE also took the opportunity to present to participants the MedPartnership iPad application at a session devoted on linking Science and Parliaments. The application was presented in an interactive way and captured the attention of Parliamentarians, media and NGOs alike.

Regarding the website, the main communication channel of the project, it was kept up to date promoting relevant meetings, news, videos and publications. Social media were regularly updated and project documents were effectively disseminated especially through the use of Scribd. In 2012, the project documents featured on Scribd were accessed by users more than 8,000 times. Email circulars, featuring newsletters and ad hoc publications were broadly disseminated to around 700 recipients. Finally, an online monitoring tool was developed to facilitate users to track the progress of the project in an interactive way. The monitoring tool is expected to go live early in 2013.

Replication of best practices

The 3rd Steering Committee adopted the expanded replication strategy, which links the project with relevant EU initiatives such as Horizon 2020 and the new Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWIM) project, now called Mediterranean Environmental Replication Strategy “MEReS”. It was agreed that a call for executing partners under the guidance of MedPartnership Focal Points would be launched and

final proposals would be funded and implemented in 2013.

In parallel, initial activities were undertaken for the promotion of best or “replicable practices” for the effective management of marine protected areas (MPAs in the Mediterranean). These include:

- Two publications targeting decision-makers and MPA relevant authorities, presenting the lessons learned in terms of MPA governance, management and stakeholder engagement processes.
- A Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas Forum side event organized by MedPAN Association, WWF, RAC/SPA and partners. The forum was a milestone for MPAs in the region to share and discuss achieved progress towards the 2012 CBD target of establishing ecological networks of effective MPAs, with about 300 participants (MPA managers, international and regional organizations, private sector, donors and government officials). The side event showed the contribution of the MedPartnership in improving the management capacity of existing MPAs and creating new ones;
- A web platform delivering Information pre- and post- capacity building trainings will facilitate networking and tutoring among Mediterranean MPAs, support MPA practitioners through online and interactive material relative to MPA management, promote and secure access to the expert database and the management tool library developed by MedPAN, and mainstream capacity building efforts for MPA practitioners in the Mediterranean. This is expected to be finalized in 2013
(<http://www.mpatraininginthemed.org/>)

Summary of implementation so far

- Website fully operational (<http://www.themedpartnership.org/>);
- MedPartnership on vimeo (<http://vimeo.com/user8620253>);
- Collaboration portal for executing partners and project Focal Points;
- MedPartnership Brochure (2011) broadly disseminated and available online;
- Country maps detailing location of all hotspots, activities and location of demonstration projects;
- Ipad application for the MedPartnership created and launched at the 6th GEF Biennial International Waters Conference (17-20 October 2011, Dubrovnik, Croatia), followed by finalization

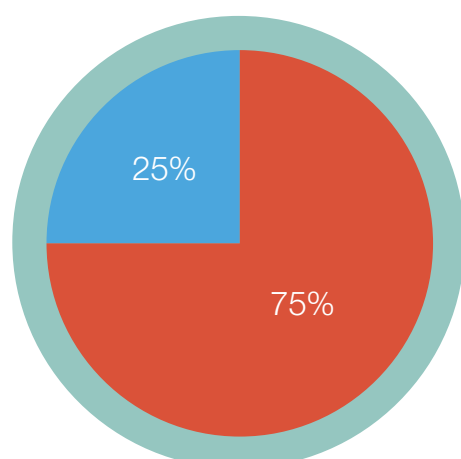
- of iPhone and flash applications;
- MedPartnership full length Documentary (UNEP/MAP and MIO-ECSDE) plus four videos on Marine Protected Areas (WWF-MedPO and RAC/SPA) available on Vimeo and the MedPartnership website;
- 20 press releases, 6 newsletters and over 250 news items, disseminated to over 300 stakeholders;
- Total of 100 media invited to MedPartnership meetings. Press kit also available online;
- Replication Assessment, presented and adopted at the Second Steering Committee meeting (15-17 March 2011, Damascus, Syria);
- Mediterranean Environmental Replication Strategy "MEReS", presented and adopted at the Third Steering Committee meeting (15-17 May 2012, Istanbul, Turkey);
- Making Marine Protected Areas Work - Lessons learned in the Mediterranean publication (WWF-MedPO) launched at the Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas in November 2012.

All executing partners have in addition produced numerous communication materials and publications, which are mentioned in Components 1-3 in the current report or can be accessed in their websites in addition to the MedPartnership website.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE REGIONAL PROJECT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The total cost of the Regional project amounts to USD 47,488,700, of which USD 11,891,000 is GEF Funding.

Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership)



● Cost to GEF US\$ 11,891,000

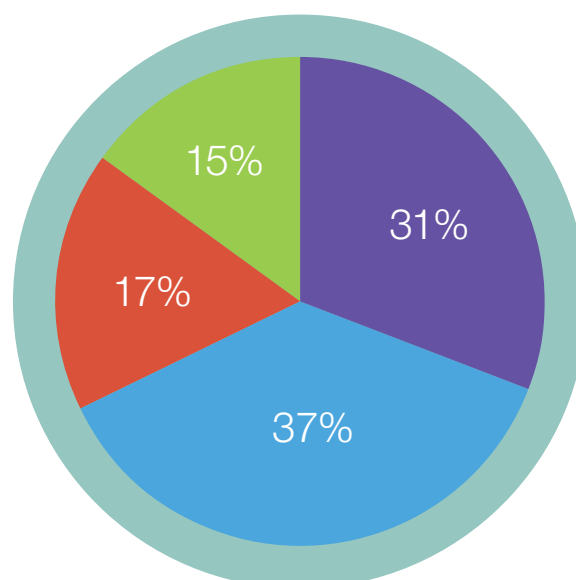
● Cofinancing US\$ 35,597,700

Total Project Cost (excl. PDF-B)
US\$ 47,488,700

The rest USD 35,597,700 comes from co-finance contributions either in cash or in kind from non-GEF resources. This co-finance comes from participating countries, other countries, executing agencies and others.

The graph below demonstrates the co-finance committed to the project, per donor category.

Total Co-financing Breakdown
US\$ 35,597,700



● Participating Countries (in kind):
US\$ 13,100,000

● Other Countries (Cash): US\$ 6,273,000

● Executing Agencies : US\$ 5,330,400
(Cash and in Kind)

● Others: US\$ 10,894,300
(Cash and in Kind)

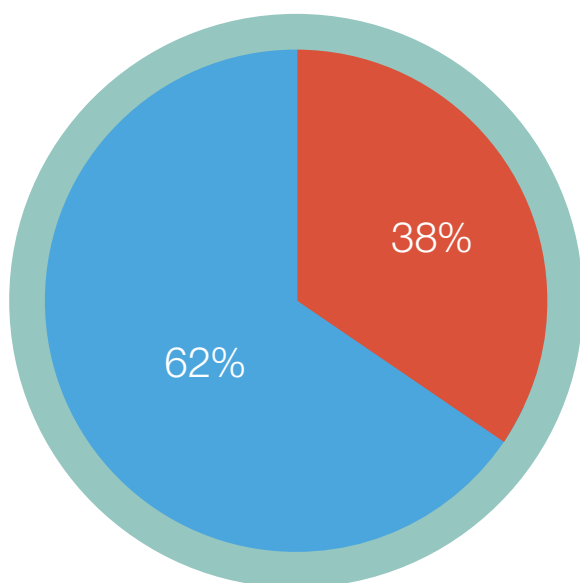
Co-finance contributions (in cash) administered by UNEP are from EU (Total Euro 2,000,000), AECID (Total Euro 1,750,000), and MTF (Total USD 2,750,000). Full details on budget and co-finance can be found in the Inception Report.

The EC confirmed their commitment to provide an additional Euro 1,600,000 for the work of RAC/SPA and WWF-MedPO for the management and creation of MPAs, to be signed in early 2013.

GEF Funding Commitments

The GEF resources committed/disbursed as of 31st December 2012 amount to USD 4,516,743, which represent approximately 38% delivery on total GEF Funding.

A substantial amount of funds has been committed through contracts in 2012, and whilst the funds have not been yet spent, it is expected that the 2013 financial figures will show a significant increase.



● Remaining GEF commitment:
US\$ 7,390,257

● GEF Funding as at 31/12/2012:
US\$ 4,516,743

Co-financing

The official reporting cycle by GEF to monitor the progress and financial status of the project is annual for the period between **1st July and 30th June of each year**. Therefore, the available data on co-finance is up to end of June 2012. These were reported in the latest Progress Implementation Report (PIR) ending on 30 June 2012, capturing total co-finance realization since the beginning of the project.

The total co-financing reported amounts to USD 10,555,373 and represents a 30% realization against the total co-finance committed (USD 35,597,700 in cash and in kind). The Third Steering Committee meeting approved the methodology for the calculation of in kind co-financing from participating countries which is also now reflected in the 30 June 2012 co-financing report.

INTEGRATION OF CLIMATIC VARIABILITY AND CHANGE INTO NATIONAL STRATEGIES TO IMPLEMENT THE ICZM PROTOCOL (CLIMATE VARIABILITY PROJECT)

When the TDA and SAPs were developed in the late 1990's, although climate change was already being assessed by UNEP/MAP in the Mediterranean, it was not considered directly in the development of the priority issues of the TDA. However, the importance of climate change has grown since then, and considering the work being undertaken in this project towards implementation of ICZM in the Mediterranean, the importance of including climate change or more specifically climate variability into ICZM planning has been agreed. The World Bank led "Sustainable Med" programme, which was approved for GEF funding in June 2009 and with UNEP as partner, provided the opportunity to include the issue of climate variability within the MedPartnership. A proposal was prepared by UNEP/MAP in consultation with participating countries, PAP/RAC, GWP-Med, Blue Plan and other international organizations and experts, and following a preparation phase for the development of a full project document, the GEF CEO endorsed the project in January 2012.

The Implementing Agency is UNEP, whilst the Executing Agencies are UNEP/MAP, its regional activity centres (PAP/RAC and Blue Plan) and GWP-Med. The planned project duration is about 30 months, to be completed in parallel to the completion of the MedPartnership, and participating countries are: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Syria, and Tunisia.

The overall project goal is to support the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean through the development of region-wide coordination mechanisms and tools to address climate variability in the Mediterranean region. Specific objectives of the project are:

- To strengthen knowledge on regional climate variability and change and their impacts and define their specific characteristics in the Mediterranean region; and

- To strengthen partnerships, improve capacity building and establish mechanisms for exchange of data and information for integration of climate variability and change into ICZM policies, plans and programmes.

The project consists of the following four components.

Component 1: Establishment of an information sharing platform

Executed by UNEP/MAP, Plan Bleu

This component will strengthen the coordination for a long term regional climate variability monitoring programme with consensus on objectives, targets, impact indicators and implementation modalities. This will be supported by a web-based regional data platform on climate research with particular focus on the environmental and economic impacts of climate change in the coastal zone. The monitoring programme and database will be integrated into national and regional ICZM monitoring processes and in doing so, will contribute to on-going work within the ICZM protocol to the Barcelona Convention.

Component 2: Strengthening the knowledge base on regional climate variability and change

Executed by UNEP/MAP, Plan Bleu, PAP/RAC and GWP-Med

In order to enrich our understanding of climate variability in the Mediterranean, this component will build upon the data collected in Component 1 in order to analyze the impacts of climate variability in the Mediterranean. This will assist countries to more precisely calculate the impacts of climate variability to their marine and coastal zone. In partnership with other regional programmes, it will include the latest results on the regional and global processes influencing climate variability with a focus on the coastal watersheds, with emphasis on risks to water availability and quality, and marine ecosystems (including agriculture and fisheries), and other risks to be further defined, such as coastal erosion. Based on the findings of these studies, a regional report on the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of climate variability and change will be developed and published.

Two demonstration projects will be executed in Croatia and Tunisia, using several tools to assess the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of climate variability in priority coastal areas, and actions will be identified in close consultation with national experts and stakeholders to be integrated into marine and coastal plans.

Component 3: Support to ICZM Protocol implementation and capacity building

Executed by UNEP/MAP, PAP/RAC and GWP-Med

Increased capacity, strengthened partnerships and joint actions will create an enabling environment for the implementation of the ICZM protocol. At the national level, inter-ministerial committees will contribute to multi-sectoral dialogues on policy and management processes in the Mediterranean, and facilitate the mainstreaming of the ICZM protocol into national plans. Targeted capacity building will enable stakeholders to fulfill these roles. An ICZM plan with specific focus on climate variability and change will be developed in Sibenik-Knin County. This plan will integrate the findings of the demonstration project in Component 2 and will represent a new generation of the ICZM plans for the Mediterranean, more focused on climate variability and change. In 2014, on 25 September, the Awareness Raising Campaign – Coast Day will be implemented on the topic “Climate Variability and Change on the Coast”. The draft Mediterranean Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (developed in 2011) will be finalized for adoption at the next Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2015.

Component 4: Project Management

The project management component shall ensure smooth and timely implementation of the planned project activities. In addition to strong platforms for exchange within the region, project experiences will be shared within the larger international waters community, through IW:Learn, IWC, IWENS, among others.

Summary of implementation so far

The Climate Variability project was endorsed by the GEF CEO in January 2012 and began its Inception Phase in March 2012. The Third Steering Committee of the MedPartnership held in May 2012 included one day dedicated to the Climate Variability project. The Climate Variability roadmap was presented and discussed along with the scope and objectives of the project. A request was made for the project to widen its scope both in terms of thematic focus (in particular to include biodiversity issues and coordinate with RAC/SPA) and scope (to include not only the coastal zone but key watersheds). Also stressed was the need to thoroughly assess synergies with other relevant projects currently being implemented in the region, such as PEGASO, CLIM-RUN, CLIM-ADAPT, as well as UfM and EU led initiatives and programmes.

Initial preparation work began from 2012 to analyze tools and methodologies for the assessment of environmental and socio-economic impacts and adaptation options. Two tools were agreed upon initially:

- i. **“Climagine”, a participatory approach for the engagement of stakeholders in the development of sustainable development plans, initially named “Imagine” and adapted for the purposes of the project;**
- ii. **DIVA (Dynamic and Interactive Vulnerability Assessment), an integrated, global research model for assessing the biophysical and socio-economic consequences of sea-level rise and associated extreme weather events under different physical and socio-economic scenarios, which also considers various adaptation strategies.**

The selection of the two demonstrations began with an official invitation on 10 May 2012 to the MedPartnership Focal Points of all eligible countries to apply for the pilot application of the DIVA and Climagine in their countries. Following several reminders and presentation at the MedPartnership Third Steering Committee in May 2012, applications were received from Croatia, Tunisia, Montenegro and Palestine. Due to eligibility criteria, and activities already underway in Montenegro, Tunisia and Croatia were both selected as particularly interesting case studies, both in terms of having important coastal ecosystems currently impacted by climate variability, and also representing different locations in the Mediterranean (Adriatic, vs northern Africa) with

differing climate related issues associated.

The decision on the pilot application sites was announced on 6 July by PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu/RAC in letters sent to all the MedPartnership Focal Points on the 11 July 2012. The Minister of Environment of Tunisia and the Deputy Minister of Environment of Croatia expressed their interest to apply DIVA and Climagine in their countries and confirmed availability of most of the data needed. In addition to the two pilot applications of DIVA and Climagine, some activities are planned to support MedPartnership demonstrations in Montenegro and Algeria.

An initial meeting was held between PAP/RAC and DIVA experts in Split in March 2012 to define the work plan and methodology, as well as information and data needed for the application of the upgraded methodology. This was followed by an expert meeting on combining the methodologies DIVA and Climagine held in November, in Paris, with the aim to ensure optimal integration of DIVA and Climagine results within the ICZM Plan.

Legal agreements were signed with executing partners, Plan Bleu, PAP/RAC and GWP-Med between October and November 2012, and full implementation is expected to be underway in 2013.

The revised Inception Report will be finalized and presented at the Fourth Steering Committee meeting in 2013.

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MEDPARTNERSHIP PLAN FOR 2013

With regards to the Regional Project of the MedPartnership, 2013 will be, for most executing partners, the fourth year of implementation. The detailed work plan and provisional list of meetings will be presented in the draft “2013 work plan” for discussion and approval at the Fourth Steering Committee, provisionally planned for November 2013.

The Mid-Term Evaluation recommendations will be critical to steering the future of the MedPartnership from 2013 to its completion. Whilst the report will not be finalized until early 2013, it is expected that a second no-cost extension will be recommended to the Fourth Steering Committee, probably until August 2015, with on the ground activities to be completed by the end of 2014. This is due in part to the slow start-up of such a large project with ten executing partners (where activities began in 2010) and delays in demonstrations linked to political changes in many of the participating countries during 2011 and 2012.

The majority of activities within Component 1 (ICZM, IWRM and aquifers management) are on track, although the process for the coastal and water resource planning is by nature slow, to ensure full national ownership and stakeholder participation, and therefore demonstrations in Algeria, Montenegro and the Buna/Bojana joint plan (Montenegro and Albania) will benefit from the year's extension to be fully completed and endorsed. Major expected deliverables for 2013 include the finalization and adoption of the regional assessment report on risk and uncertainty for the Mediterranean coastal aquifers, and the national reports on the status of coastal wetlands dependent on coastal aquifers; draft National ICZM Strategies and NAPs for Montenegro and Algeria and the final Guidelines for integrated management of the coastal zone, rivers and aquifers ready for publication and dissemination. All 12 demonstration projects will be in an advanced state of implementation and replication activities will also be initiated in 2013, with a particular focus on the integrated coastal, fresh water and aquifer management activities and guidelines already developed.

Within Component 2, UNIDO's TEST-Med demonstrations are already completed and whilst work will be scaled up significantly, this will be done within a sister project, SWITCH-Med (“Switching towards more sustainable consumption and production patterns in the Mediterranean”),

to begin implementation in 2013. For the NAP priority demonstrations, policy reforms will be drafted for Phosphogypsum slurry management (Tunisia), Chromium and BOD control of tanneries (Turkey), Lubricating oil recycling and regeneration (Algeria) and Lead batteries recycling (Syria). To advance the activities for the Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies, countries will have been provided with PCB analyzers to develop inventories which will then be the basis for the PCB removal.

Within Component 3, WWF-MedPO completed its work for the improved management of six MPAs. The EC are providing an additional co-finance of 1.6 million Euro to further support MPA management and creation in Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia, Egypt and Lebanon, (to be executed by WWF-MedPO and RAC/SPA).

A number of important activities will be initiated and completed in 2013 with regards to project management, coordination, communication, NGO involvement and replication (Component 4). The Fourth Steering Committee of the MedPartnership will be the opportunity to discuss and adopt, not just the MTE report and management response, but also the final activities for the promotion of replicable practices. The MedPartnership will attend the 7th GEF IW Conference to present lessons learned from the last three years of execution, the MedPartnership short documentary, and updated ipad application. Focus will be placed in ensuring all countries are supported in inter-ministerial coordination from 2013 and for the future sustainability of adopted plans. UfM and MEDPOL will complete their joint activity for the assessment of SAP-MED NAP implementation including the finalization of a publication on the status of NAP implementation so far. A sustainable finance officer will be recruited to also assist countries in sustainable finance options for remaining NAP priorities identified. This will be complemented by a similar publication by RAC/SPA on the status of SAP-BIO implementation.

The project proposal for “Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean” will begin full implementation in 2013 including the demonstration projects in Croatia and Tunisia and the Inception Report will be discussed with participating countries at the Fourth Steering Committee meeting for adoption.



ANNEXES

ANNEX 1. SUMMARY OF THE REGIONAL PROJECT'S DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

The demonstration projects were developed during the preparation phase of the regional project in 2006. Originally there were thirty two addressing SAP and NAP priorities but during the revision of the project in 2009 and negotiation with countries this increased to seventy nine demonstrations.

List of demonstrations in the Regional Project as of 2010.

Pilot/Demonstration	Pilot/Demonstration Project Sites	No of Demon.
Component 1: Promotion of integrated approaches for the implementation of the SAPs and NAPs: ICZM, IWRM and management of coastal aquifer.		
Assessment of risk and uncertainty related to the Mediterranean coastal aquifers (UNESCO/IHP Activity 1.1.1.1)	Morocco (Nador Lagoon and Bou Areg aquifer)	1
Coastal aquifer vulnerability mapping (UNESCO/IHP Activity 1.1.1.2)	Croatia (Novljanska Zrnovnica karstic spring and Pula coastal aquifer) Tunisia (Gar El Melah)	3
Coastal Zone Plan: Joint ICZM and IWRM Plan, integrating Groundwater/Aquifers (PAP/RAC Activity 1.2.2.1(a); GWP-Med Activity 1.3.3.1; UNESCO/IHP Activity 1.1.2.2)	Albania/Montenegro (Buna/Bojana coastal zone)	1
Coastal Zone Plan: ICZM Plan integrating Groundwater/Aquifers (PAP/RAC Activity 1.2.2.1(b); UNESCO/IHP Activity 1.1.2.2)	Algeria (Reghaia coastal zone)	1
Sustainable Coastal Aquifer and Land Management (UNESCO/IHP Activity 1.1.2.4)	Tunisia (Gabes Oasis)	1
Implementation of eco-hydrogeology applications for management and protection of coastal wetlands (UNESCO/IHP Activity 1.1.2.5)	Morocco (Martil river coastal wetland)	1
Preparation of National ICZM Strategies and NAPs (PAP/RAC Activity 1.2.1.1)	- Albania coastal zone - Algeria coastal zone	2
Regional Workshop on National ICZM Strategies and Action Plans (PAP/RAC Activity 1.2.1.1)	- Istanbul	1
Case study on national implications of ratification of ICZM Protocol on national legislative and institutional framework (PAP/RAC Activity 1.2.1.2)	- Croatia	1
Advancing IWRM planning at the river basin level in the East Mediterranean (GWP-Med Activity 1.3.3.2, tbc)	Lebanon and Syria: Orontes/Assi River and/or Al-Kabir River (tbc)	1

Component 2: Pollution from land based activities, including Persistent Organic Pollutants: implementation of SAP MED and related NAPs

Sub-Component: 2.1. Facilitation of policy and legislative reforms for SAP MED

2.1.1. Pilot project on the management of phosphogypsum wastes from phosphate fertilizer production	Tunisia	1
2.1.2. Pilot project on chromium, nutrients and BOD control in tanneries	Turkey (Buyuk Menderes, Izmir)	1
2.1.3. Pilot project on recycling and regeneration of used lubricating oils	Algeria	1
2.1.4. Pilot project on recycling of lead batteries	Syria (Damascus)	1
Sub-Component 2.2. Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology	Tunisia (Tunis, Sfax, Sousse) Morocco (Tangier, Tetouan) Egypt (Alexandria, El Mex Bay, Abou Quir)	43 (7 sectors)

Sub-Component 2.3. Environmentally Sound Management of equipment, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries

Demonstration projects to improve the management programme of PCBs and facilitate the implementation of NIPs and SAP-MED	Albania (Tirana), Egypt (Alexandria), Libya and Syria (Damascus)	4
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Component 3. Conservation of biological diversity: Implementation of SAP BIO and related NAPs

Sub-component 3.1: Conservation of Coastal and Marine Diversity through the Development of a Mediterranean MPA Network

3.1.2 Identification and planning new MPAs to extend the regional network and enhance its ecological representativeness in Albania, Croatia, Montenegro and Tunisia	- Karaburun MPA in Albania - Vis Island in Croatia - Island katici, Kotor bay Montenegro Kuriat Islands in Tunisia	4
3.1.2.7: Demonstration Project - Libya: The environmental case for a national network of MPAs in Libya (SPA/RAC and WWF-MedPO)	Libya: - WWF- MedPO in Ain Al Ghazalah and Bomba Gulf - SPA/RAC in Farwa, Garra, El kouf, Ain El Ghazella	1

3.1.3. Improved management of marine protected areas:

3.1.3.5 Demonstration Project Turkey (WWF-MedPO)	Turkey (Kas-Kekova SPA)	1
3.1.3.6 Demonstration Project Algeria (WWF-MedPO)	Algeria (Taza National Park)	1
3.1.3.7 Demonstration Project - Croatia: Management and M&E plans for the existing MPAs (WWF-MedPO)	Croatia (Lastovo, Mijet, Telascica, Brijuni, Kornati)	1

3.1.4 Ensuring financial Sustainability of regional and national MPA networks

3.1.4.2: Demonstration Project - Tunisia: Establishment of the management unit of the Cap Nègro-Cap Serrat MPA, development of its Business Plan and identification of sustainable financial mechanism for MPAs (WWF-MedPO)	Tunisia (Cap Nègro – Cap Serrat MPA)	1
3.1.4.3: Demonstration Project on financial sustainability mechanisms for at least three new MPAs in different areas (RAC/SPA)	Montenegro, Croatia, Albania and Tunisia	4
Sub-component 3.2: Promote the sustainable use of fisheries resources through the application of ecosystem-based management approaches		
3.2.2.2 Develop and demonstrate solutions to bycatch mitigation for protected / endangered species of fish and invertebrates and/or for iconic vertebrate species	Tunisia	1
3.2.3: Supporting fisher's participation in monitoring and management of coastal MPA's	Morocco or Tunisia	1

TOTAL OF PILOT/DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

79



ANNEX 2. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACCOBAMS Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area

Adriamed Scientific Cooperation to Support Responsible Fisheries management compatible with the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries in the Adriatic Sea

AECID Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation

BAT Best Available Technology

BOD Biological Oxygen Demand

CAMP Coastal Area Management Programme

CEO Chief Executive Officer

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity

CBO Community-based Organization

CdL Conservatoire du Littoral

CIRCE Mediterranean Climate Variability and Predictability Project

COP Conference of the Parties

COPEMED Cooperación Pesca Mediterraneo (Mediterranean Fish Cooperation; FAO)

CP/RAC Cleaner Production / Regional Activity Centre

EAF Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries

EastMed FAOs Eastern Mediterranean Area

EC European Commission

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

ELV Emission Limit Values

ENPI European Neighbourhood Policy

EQS Environmental Quality Standard

ESM Environmentally Sound Management

EST Environmentally Sound Technology

EU European Union

EUWI EU Water Initiative

FAO Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

FFEM Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial/ French Global Environment Facility (FGEF)

GEF Global Environment Facility

GFCM General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean

GIS Geographic Information System

GWP-Med Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean

H2020 CB/MEP Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme

IA Implementing Agency

ICZM Integrated Coastal Zone Management

IF WB Investment Fund

INFO/RAC Environmental Information and Communication Regional Activity Centre

IWG Integrative Working Group

IRBM Integrated River Basin Management

ISARM Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management

ISPRA Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (Istituto superiore per la protezione e la ricerca ambientale)

IUCN International Union for Nature Conservation

IW International Waters

IW-LEARN International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network

IWRM Integrated Water Resources Management

LME Large Marine Ecosystem

M&E Monitoring and Evaluation

MAP Mediterranean Action Plan

MCPA Marine and Coastal Protected Area

MCSD Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development

MED EUWI Mediterranean Component of the European Union Water Initiative

MedMPA Regional Project for the Development of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Region (SPA/RAC)

MEDPAN Mediterranean Protected Area Network

MEDPOL Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme

MedSudMed Assessment and Monitoring of the Fishery Resources and Ecosystems for the application of EAF in the South-Central Mediterranean

MED TEST Mediterranean Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology

MIO-ECSDE Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development

MPA Marine Protected Area

MTF Mediterranean Trust Fund

NAP National Action Plan

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

NICZMS National ICZM Strategies

NIP National Implementation Plan

NPOs Non Product Output costs

PAP/RAC Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre

PCB Polychlorinated Biphenyls

PIR Project Implementation Review

PMU Project Management Unit

POPs Persistent Organic Pollutants

RAC Regional Activity Center

SAP Strategic Action Programme

SAP-BIO Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity

SAP-MED Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-Based Activities for the Mediterranean Sea

SMEs Small and medium-sized enterprises

SPA/RAC The Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre

SINP State Institute for Nature Protection, Croatia

SUNCE Association for Nature, Environment and Sustainable Development, Croatia

TA Technical Assistance

TDA Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis

UfM (or UpM in French) Union for the Mediterranean

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNEP/MAP United Nations Environment Programme Mediterranean Action Plan

UNESCO IHP United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Hydrological Programme

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization

USD United States Dollar

WB The World Bank

WWF-MedPO World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF European Policy Programme, Rome



The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) is a collective effort of leading organizations (regional, international, non governmental, etc.) and countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea towards the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean.

The MedPartnership consists of two complementary parts:

- **The Regional Project** led by UNEP/MAP, and
- **The Investment Fund (and “Sustainable Med”)** led by the World Bank.

Their aim is to ensure a coordinated and strategic approach to catalyze policy, legal and institutional reforms, and necessary investments.

The MedPartnership is being implemented in the following GEF eligible countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. The Palestinian Authority also participates.

The MedPartnership is financially supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and other donors, including the EU and all participating countries, and is implemented in close association with other relevant regional initiatives, such as the Horizon 2020 Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean, the Integrated European Maritime Policy, etc.

Together for the Mediterranean Sea