

Title: “Integration of climate variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean”.
Implementing Agency: United Nations Environment Programme
Executing Agencies: UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) Plan Bleu / Regional Activity Centre (PB/RAC), Priority Actions Programme / Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC) and Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med).
Project duration: 43 months
Participating countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia, and the Palestine Authority.
Budget: The total budget of the Project is 9.2 million USD. Out of it GEF will secure 2.2 million, while the remaining amount of 7 million USD would be secured by the participating countries and executing agency, and sponsors.
Objectives: The overall project goal is to promote the use of ICZM in the participating countries as an effective tool to deal with the impacts of climate variability and change in coastal zones by mainstreaming them into the ICZM process. 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; • To strengthen partnerships, improve capacity building and establish mechanisms for exchange of data and information for integration of climate variability and change into concrete ICZM policies, plans and programmes

COMPONENT 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF A CLIMATE VARIABILITY & CHANGE INFORMATION SHARING PLATFORM

Responsible: Plan Bleu/RAC in cooperation with UNEP/MAP

This component will contribute to a better assessment of climate variability and change in the participating countries. Within this component an analysis of data and models applied in the region will be prepared. Capacity and gaps in each of the participating countries for monitoring and predicting climate variability and change will be assessed, and a web-based regional climate variability and change Information Sharing Platform will be established, including a set of climate variability and change indicators.

Outcome 1.1: Multi-country data platform on climate research supports ICZM planning and management

Output: 1.1.1: Assessment of regional and national programs for monitoring and tracking climate variability and change and its impacts, including capacity assessments (Responsible: PB/RAC)

- ✓ Identify existing climate variability and change monitoring programs and available relevant environmental and socioeconomic data in each participating country, as well as options for data sharing in view of developing a multi-country Information sharing platform, resulting in the update and publication of national reports;
- ✓ Regional synthesis of data availability and gaps as well as sharing options and regional report

Output 1.1.2: Regional consensus achieved on mechanism for climate variability and change data sharing (Responsible: UNEP/MAP - Project management)

- ✓ Workshop to validate Consensus and synthesis report, and options for Information Platform

Output 1.1.3: Online multi-country Information Sharing Platform on climate variability and change monitoring data in coastal areas (Responsible: PB/RAC with assistance from UNEP/GRID-Geneva)

- ✓ Identification of a set of climate variability and change indicators and preparation of the Terms of Reference for the Online Multi Country Information Sharing Platform on monitoring data
- ✓ Creation and maintenance of the Online Multi-country Information Sharing Platform on climate variability and change monitoring data. The platform will include a metadata catalogue of available data sets related to climate change/variability and ICZM, as well as information on policy, economics, assessments etc. Full interoperability between the platform and PEGASO's metadata catalogue is also envisaged.

COMPONENT 2: STRENGTHENING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE ON REGIONAL CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND CHANGE

Responsible: Plan Bleu/RAC in cooperation with PAP/RAC

The aim of this component is to strengthen regional knowledge concerning climate variability and change impacts on coastal ecosystems and local communities. Among others, the project will assist countries to more precisely assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of climate variability and change to their marine and coastal zone. Climate change models will be applied at

finer resolution in 2 coastal areas (one in Croatia and one in Tunisia) and results will be analyzed in order to drive the revision of the ICZM and/or IWRM and/or MPA plans in the selected areas.

Outcome 2.1: . Improved understanding of climate variability and change in the Mediterranean basin, enabling countries to assess likely impacts on the coastal environment.

Output 2.1.1 Regional analysis of climate variability and change impacts in terms of sea level rise and storm surges, of changes in water characteristics and marine acidification, and with special focus on river deltas and on the identification of vulnerable areas/hotspots (Responsible: PB/RAC)

- ✓ Development of a methodology for the regional analysis of physical and socio-economic impacts, including a review of existing relevant methodologies, to be validated in a special Workshop
- ✓ Collection and analysis of data on indicators on environmental and socio-economic impacts
- ✓ Regional Publication on the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of climate variability and change in the Mediterranean, identifying hotspots and priority areas.

Output 2.1.2 Assessment of environmental and socioeconomic impacts in two critically vulnerable sites, and evaluation of response options (Responsible: PB/RAC in cooperation with PAP/RAC and with assistance from UNEP/GRID-Geneva)

- ✓ Development of “Climagine” participatory process involving stakeholders discussing solutions
- ✓ Upgrading of the DIVA methodology for the assessment of economic impacts of Climate variability and change
- ✓ Experts meeting for combination of DIVA and Climagine methodologies
- ✓ Providing support to participating countries’ ICZM Plans with regard to climate variability and change in the following areas: Buna/Bojana in Albania and Montenegro, Reghaia in Algeria and nationally in Algeria and Montenegro. Publishing and dissemination of activities.
- ✓ Demonstration projects in Croatia and Tunisia with the implementation of the DIVA and Climagine methodologies in order to build scenarios of vulnerability and adaptation paths. Presentation of results.
- ✓ In the Tunisian demonstration project, the RiVAMP model, developed by UNEP/GRID-Geneva, will be implemented to assess the climate impacts on coastal ecosystems and formulate response options

Output 2.1.3 Targeted assessments of socio-economic impacts of climate variability and change and adaptation options in coastal zones for various scenarios (Responsible: PB/RAC)

- ✓ Targeted analysis of impacts of climate variability and change on socioeconomic activities in specific sectors and hotspots, identifying vulnerabilities and defining response options. To be identified for 2014.

COMPONENT 3: SUPPORT TO ICZM PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Responsible: PAP/RAC in cooperation with Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med)

This component contains activities that will develop a methodology and tools for mainstreaming climate variability considerations into national ICZM planning and practices, contribute to build

capacity and advance policy dialogue in participating countries on climate variability and change with emphasis on ICZM and IWRM issues, and support linkages between latest research, policy making and practice. For the dissemination of the project experiences and lessons a project web site will be created.

Outcome 3.1: Science based methodological approach enables countries to integrate climate variability and change issues into ICZM policies, plans and programs

Output: 3.1.1: Methodology and tools for mainstreaming climate variability and change considerations into national ICZM planning and practices considering synergy with other related national plans (IWRM, NSSD, CCA etc) (Responsible: PAP/RAC in cooperation with GWP-Med).

- ✓ Updating guidelines on National ICZM Strategies and Plans with the climate change proofing tool
- ✓ Meeting of the DIVA/ClImagine experts with the Integrated Working Group for the joint management of coastal zone water and aquifers of the MedPartnership
- ✓ Developing on-line module for the integration of climate variability and change into MedOpen – virtual ICZM course

Output 3.1.2 . Integrated management plan developed in one of the locations identified in the activity 2.1.2.2. (Responsible: PAP/RAC in cooperation with GWP-Med)

- ✓ This is a continuation of the two pilots in Croatia and Tunisia, and will result in the definition of an ICZM plan for Šibenik-Knin county in Croatia, and a revision of a marine/coastal plan (to be identified) in Tunisia.

Output 3.1.3 Providing support to MedPartnership ICZM demonstration projects in Montenegro and Algeria with regard to Climate Variability and Change

- ✓ Coastal plan in Reghaia; Trans boundary Integrated management coastal plan in Buna/Bojana; and National ICZM strategies in Montenegro and in Algeria. Publishing and dissemination of activities

Outcome 3.2. Increased knowledge, capacity and awareness improve inter-sectoral coordination in mainstreaming climate variability and change issues into ICZM Protocol implementation process

Output: 3.2.1: Capacity building for existing inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms in order to mainstream climate variability and change issues into the ICZM planning processes. (Responsible: UNEP/MAP)

- ✓ This will utilize the interministerial coordination mechanism established within the MedPartnership

Output: 3.2.2: Awareness raising, policy dialogue and capacity building for Policy makers and stakeholders in participating countries on implications of climate variability on national ICZM and water policies. (Responsible: PAP/RAC in cooperation with GWP-Med and with assistance from UNEP/GRID-Geneva)

- ✓ Preparing central Coast Day 2014 activities under the theme of climate variability and change
- ✓ Developing media packages
- ✓ Regional Workshop for Members of Parliaments and Media on climate variability and change with emphasis on interlinked ICZM and IWRM issues
- ✓ 2 regional workshops with at least 4 experts from each country, for training on SDI and on calculating the setback zone according to Article 8 of the ICZM Protocol. Assessment of Non-Regret Policies and Actions for Climate Variability and Change in relation to water and the coastal area in the Mediterranean

Output 3.2.3: Regional assessment of Climate Change Adaptation for Mediterranean Coastal Zones and integration into policies/plans (Responsible: GWP-Med in cooperation with UNEP/MAP- Project management)

- ✓ Regional assessment of Climate Change Adaptation for Mediterranean Coastal Zones and integration into policies/plans. To be expanded to finalize work undertaken in 2011 to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean for adoption by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention

Outcome 3.3: Project experiences and lessons disseminated to larger International Water community

Output: 3.3.1: Creation of Project website following IW:Learn standards, and further linkages with IW:Learn. (Responsible: UNEP/MAP- Project management)

- ✓ The MedPartnership website will host the project website. Regular news bulletins, press releases and other communication products to be developed

COMPONENT 4: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Responsible: UNEP/MAP

The MedPartnership Project Management Unit plus expert support to ensure shall ensure smoothly and timely implementation of the planned project activities.

- ✓ Regular Reporting including an Annual publication on results, half-yearly progress reports and half-yearly expenditure reports.
- ✓ Annual Steering Committee with all participating countries, donors and other stakeholders to be held back-to-back with the MedPartnership Steering Committee.
- ✓ Annual Coordination Group of executing partners held back to back with the MedPartnership Coordination Group.