



BARCELONA CONVENTION

UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan

Activities

13th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans
Busan, Korea, 3-5 October 2011



Barcelona Convention

- Convention for the protection of the marine environment and the coastal region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention)

adopted in 1976, amended in 1995 – **entered into force 2004**

Protocols:

- Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources and activities (LBS Protocol)

Adopted 1980 – amended 1996 – **entered into force 2008**

- Protocol concerning specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean

Adopted 1995 – **entered into force 1999**

- Protocol for the prevention and elimination of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea from ships and aircrafts or incineration at sea
- Adopted in 1976 – amended 1995



Barcelona Convention

- Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution resulting from the exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil (Offshore Protocol)

Adopted in 1994 – **entered into force 2011**

- Protocol on the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal

Adopted in 1996 – **entered into force 2008**

- Protocol concerning the cooperation in preventing pollution from ships and, in case of emergency, combating pollution of the Mediterranean Sea

Adopted 2002 – **entered in force 2004**

- Protocol of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean

Adopted 2008 – **entered into force 2011**





Structure of MAP Secretariat

- **Coordination Unit (Athens, Greece)**
- **MED POL - Programme for the assessment and control of pollution in the Mediterranean Region (Athens, Greece)**

Regional Activity Centres (RACs)

- **REMPEC - Regional marine pollution emergency response centre for the Mediterranean (Malta)**
- **BP/RAC - Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre (Sophia Antipolis, France)**
- **PAP/RAC – Priority actions programme Regional Activity Centre (Split, Croatia)**
- **SPA/RAC – Specially protected areas Regional Activity Centre (Tunis, Tunisia)**
- **INFO/RAC Information Regional Activity Centre (Rome, Italy)**
- **CP/RAC – Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (Barcelona, Spain)**



Five-year programme of work (2010-2014) (1)

Promote the full implementation of Barcelona Convention, its Protocols and strategies, including the Mediterranean Strategy of Sustainable Development (MSSD), as well as the decisions and recommendations of the Contracting Parties.

Priorities

- **Global and regional environmental issues to be reflected within MAP framework. Contribution to their effective implementation in the Mediterranean Region such as:**
 - **CBD strategic objectives (Nagoya 2010) on marine and coastal biodiversity;**
 - **Monitoring and assessment – link to the Regular Process;**
 - **Millennium Development Goals, such as wastewater disposal in the sea**
 - **GPA implementation in the Mediterranean (NAPs implementation)**



Five-year programme of work (2010-2014) (2)

- **Reflection of new internationally adopted conceptual developments in MAP policy**

Such as

- Application of the Ecosystem Approach (Decision of CoP IG.17/6 2008) for the management of human activities

- **Strengthen Regional governance**

EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive

EU Horizon 2020 for marine pollution reduction

EU Water initiative

Union for the Mediterranean – Mediterranean Water Strategy (links with MSSD)

World Bank (GEF) projects “Sustainable MED”



Five-year programme of work (2010-2014) (3)

- **Entry into force of MAP legal instruments and their implementation (Protocols, Regional Programmes of Measures, etc.)** Seek synergies with international and regional players
- **Implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy of Sustainable Development (MSSD) focusing on adaptation to climate change in marine and coastal areas (16th CoP 2009)**

Revision of MSSD reflecting global (Rio+20) developments adopting a blue/green economy perspective, including biodiversity, sustainable consumption and production, ICZM, and ecosystem approach

The Five-Year Programme of MAP is built on six themes: Governance, Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Pollution prevention and reduction, sustainable production and consumption, and Climate change





LBS Protocol implementation

The amended LBS Protocol entered into force on 9 May 2008.

Activities in the framework of the LBS Protocol – Strategic Action Programme (SAP MED)

- **Implementation of the National Action Plans (NAPs), formally endorsed by the 14th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (2005), to control land based pollution in the Mediterranean**
- **Up-dating the National Baseline Budgets (NBBs) of emissions/releases from the coastal zone (NBB reports provided on 2003 and 2008) and detection of trends**
- **Implementation of National Monitoring Programmes for marine pollution in marine and coastal areas**
- **Preparation of Regional Plans for the control of specific pollutants by defining legally binding Emission Limit Values (ELVs)**



SAP MED – NAPs implementation

NAPs implemented by countries using

- **National funds (national and municipal)**
- **Financing from IFIs such as the World Bank, European Investment Bank, KfW (Germany) in the framework of regional projects (EU Horizon 2020 for the depollution of the Mediterranean, Mediterranean Hot Spot Investment Programme – MeHSIP)**
- **GEF**
- **MAP Mediterranean Trust Fund**



UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean LME (1)

- The MedPartnership is a collective effort of leading organizations (regional, international, NGOs) and Mediterranean countries towards the protection of the marine environment
 - Regional Projects led by UNEP/MAP (\$ 12 M GEF and \$ 47.5 M co-financing)
 - Investment Fund led by the World Bank
- to ensure a coordinated and strategic approach to catalyze policy, legal and institutional reforms and necessary investments
- Financially supported by GEF and other donors (EU, Med countries)
- Builds upon a previous GEF Project run by UNEP/MAP (2002-2006) and the two Strategic Action Programmes: SAP-MED (LBS Pollution) and SAP-BIO (marine and coastal biodiversity)



UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership Goals and Objectives

Goals

- **To reverse the degradation trends affecting the Mediterranean LME including coastal habitat and biodiversity**

Objectives

- **To assist countries in the implementation of 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 ICZM**
- **to leverage long-term financing**
- **To ensure through Barcelona Convention and MAP system the sustainability of activities initiated within the project beyond its specific lifetime**



UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership Components

- 1. Integrated approaches for the implementation of the SAPs and the NAPs: ICZM, IWRM and management of coastal aquifers**
- 2. Pollution from land based activities, including Persistent Organic Pollutants: Implementation of SAP-MED (policy reforms in industrial sectors, transfer of environmentally sound technology, environmentally sound management of POPs)**
- 3. Conservation of biological diversity: implementation of SAP-BIO and related NAPs (development of MPA network, promote sustainable fisheries through the application of EBM approach)**
- 4. Project coordination, Replication and Communication Strategies, Management and Monitoring and Evaluation**



UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership LBS related projects

- **Disposal of 800 tones of PCB stockpiles in 5 Mediterranean countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Egypt, Libya and Syria)**
- **Demonstration projects related to tanneries (Turkey), phoshogypsum slurry (Tunisia), recycling of lead batteries (Syria) and recycling of lub oil (Algeria)**
- **Production and Releases Transfer Registry (PRTR) (full size project in Turkey)**
- **Development of a modeling system to assess the variations of EQSs with ELVs for nitrogen and mercury (case study Gulf de Lion, France and Izmir Bay, Turkey)**
- **Assessment of the magnitude of nutrients inputs from diffuse sources in the Mediterranean**





Regional activities of MAP-MED POL on Wastewater, Nutrients and Litter Management

- **Inventory of municipal wastewater treatment plants of coastal Mediterranean cities with more than 2,000 inhabitants (2010) (UNEP/MAP-MED POL 2011)**
Presented and adopted by the MED POL Focal Points meeting (May 2011)
- **Study on the transport of nutrients from diffuse sources, through rivers in the Mediterranean**
Under preparation
- **“Management of marine litter in the Mediterranean : Regional strategic framework” (UNEP/MAP-MED POL, 2011)**
Revised document to be submitted for adoption by the 17th CoP (January 2012)



MED POL Databases

MED POL holds two databases:

1. National Baseline Budget database : 12,500 records

Releases of pollutants from land based sources reported by the countries. Each record indicating the emission of a substance for a given activity sector and sub-sector, in an administrative region and country. Covers about **100 different substances or groups of substances and parameters**. Country reports provided 2003 and 2008.

2. Marine Monitoring database : 33,000 records

Pollutants and general parameters in seawater, sediments and marine biota reported yearly by the countries since 1998 ; data from national monitoring programmes. Covers mainly heavy metals, chlorinated pesticides, PCBs and PAHs.



SAP MED - Regional Plans

Regional Plans adopted by the contracting parties on 2009:

- Regional Plan on the reduction of BOD₅ from urban waste water
- Regional Plan on the phasing out of Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor, Mirex and Toxaphene
- Regional Plan on the phasing out of DDT

Regional Plans prepared for adoption by the contracting parties in the up-coming CoP on 2012:

- Regional Plan for the reduction of Mercury
- Regional Plans on the reduction of inputs of nine Chemicals (Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane; Beta hexachlorocyclohexane; Hexabromobiphenyl; Chlordecone; Pentachlorobenzene; Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and Pentabromodiphenyl ether; Hexabromodiphenyl ether and Heptabromodiphenyl ether; Lindane; Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooactane sulfonyl fluoride)
- Regional Plan for the reduction of BOD₅ in the food sector





Ecosystem Approach - ECAP

- Decision IG 17/6 in Annex II (15th Meeting of the CoP Barcelona Convention, Almeria, Spain, 2008)
“to progressively apply the ecosystem approach to the management of human activities that may affect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment”
- the Ecosystem Approach is the overarching principle of MAP's 5 years strategy





Road map - steps

1. **Definition of an ecological Vision for the Mediterranean.**
2. **Setting of common Mediterranean strategic goals**
3. **Identification of important ecosystem properties and assessment of ecological status and pressures**
4. **Development of a set of ecological objectives corresponding to the Vision and strategic goals**
5. **Derivation of operational objectives with indicators and target levels**
6. **Revision of existing monitoring programmes for ongoing assessment and regular updating of targets**
7. **Development and review of relevant action plans and programmes**



Vision and Strategic goals

Vision:

“A healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse for the benefit of present and future generations”.

Strategic goals:

- **To protect, allow recovery and, where practicable, restore the structure and function of marine and coastal ecosystems thus also protecting biodiversity, in order to achieve and maintain good ecological status and allow for their sustainable use.**
- **To reduce pollution in the marine and coastal environment so as to minimize impacts on and risks to human and/or ecosystem health and/or uses of the sea and the coasts.**
- **To prevent, reduce and manage the vulnerability of the sea and the coasts to risk induced by human activities and natural events**



ECAP - next steps

The forthcoming Contracting Parties meeting (January 2012) is expected to adopt:

- an initial integrated regional assessment report identifying important ecosystem properties and assessing ecological status and pressures;
- a set of ecological objectives corresponding to the Vision and strategic goals
- operational objectives with relative indicators
- a timeline which ensures coherence between MAP ECAP process the EU MSFD

The implementation of the ECAP will provide a platform for harmonisation of national marine strategies of all Mediterranean countries (EU Member States and non-EU) on a regional scale.



Ecological Objectives (1)

1. Biological diversity is maintained or enhanced. The quality and occurrence of coastal habitats and the distribution and abundance of coastal and marine species are in line with prevailing physiographic, geographic and climatic conditions
2. Non-indigenous species introduced by human activities are at levels that do not adversely affect the ecosystem
3. Population of selected commercially exploited fish and shellfish are within biologically safe limits, exhibiting a population age and size distribution that is indicative of a healthy stock
4. Alterations to the components of marine food webs caused by resource extraction or human-induced environmental changes do not have a long-term adverse effects on food web dynamics and related viability





Ecological Objectives (2)

5. Human-induced eutrophication is prevented, especially adverse effects thereof, such as losses of biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, harmful algal blooms and oxygen deficiency in bottom waters
6. Sea-floor integrity is maintained, especially in priority benthic habitats
7. Alteration of hydrographic conditions does not affect coastal and marine ecosystems
8. The natural dynamics of coastal areas are maintained and coastal ecosystems and landscapes are preserved
9. Contaminants cause no significant impact on coastal and marine ecosystems and human health
10. Marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect coastal and marine environment
11. Noise from human activities cause no significant impact on marine and coastal ecosystems







MSSD

The Mediterranean Commission of Sustainable Development (MCSD) 17th Meeting recommendation (June 2011) recognized the potential of a green economy approach focusing in key marine and coastal resources, the status of marine ecosystems and coastal communities, climate change adaptation and low carbon efficient economy, using ICZM as a tool.

- **Incorporate the potential of green economy in the priorities of the National Policies for Sustainable Development (NPSD)**
- **Implement sustainable consumption and production policies**
- **Develop a regional framework for climate change adaptation**
- **Strengthening NPSD in the Mediterranean**
- **Develop a more detailed programme of work for the implementation of the MSSD**
- **Contribute to the Rio+20 (through countries and UNEP)**

Thank you

