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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

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Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016

Agenda item 5 & 6.1:

**Programme of Work and Budget 2016-2017, Report on Activities Carried Out in the Framework of
UNEP/MAP since COP 18**

Performance Review of SCP/RAC and INFO/RAC

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Performance Review of INFO/RAC

• Reporting Period	• 01/01/2014 - 30/06/2015
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DESCRIPTION

• UNEP/MAP Programme of Work Priority Theme(s)	PoW 2014-2015 I - Governance	PoW 2014-2015 II - ICZM	
• COMPONENT	INFO/RAC		
UNEP/MAP Programme of Work References	Knowledge and information effectively managed and communicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.3.1 • 1.3.2 Coastal zone management achieves effective balance between development and protection (sustainable development of coastal areas): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1.1 		
• Overall MTF Allocation (EUR)	• 166.041		
• Amount of Extra Budgetary Resources (EUR)	• 200.000 (in-kind contribution)		
• Extra Budgetary Sources/Donors	• Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale - ISPRA, Italy		
• Total Expenditures MTF (EUR)	• 0		
• Total Expenditures Extra Budgetary (EUR)	• 150.000 Euro		
• Overall Total (EUR)	• 150.000 Euro		
• Financial Delivery Rate MTF %	• 0 %		
• Financial Delivery Rate Extra Budgetary %	• 75%		
• Financial Delivery Rate Overall %	• 41%		

SUMMARY PROJECT STATUS

The main objective of the 2014-2015 project of INFO/RAC is to maintain and further develop InfoMAP, the UNEP/MAP shared environmental information platform.

Essential on-line services, *inter alia* the BCRS and the MedPol information system, have been operated and helpdesk support provided to the CPs' Focal Points and the Coordinating Unit staff.

The CAMP-Italy project demonstrated to be a fruitful testing bed for developing the I & CT aspects of the future CAMP/ICZM network.

In the coming semester, progress will be made towards the preparation of pilot component and modules necessary for supporting the EcAp in the Mediterranean basin.

OUTPUT PERFORMANCE

Knowledge and information effectively managed and communicated

According to the PoW 2014-2015, most of the activities performed by INFO/RAC has been dedicated to keep InfoMAP, the UNEP/MAP shared environmental information platform, under operation and maintenance.

During the reporting period, INFO/RAC has ensured the continuous operation of infoMAP regional services, such as the on-line Barcelona Convention Reporting System, the MED POL Information system, the Spatial Data Infrastructure and the Groupware for networking.

INFO/RAC has recently started preparation for designing and developing new functionalities and components of InfoMAP, aiming at supporting the application of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) in the Mediterranean Sea.

In more details, INFO/RAC is further developing the capacity to gather and integrate data necessary for derive common indicators related to the Ecological Objectives of EcAp and, in the long term perspective, to develop the knowledge base for the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP).

Coastal zone management achieves effective balance between development and protection

INFO/RAC provided technical assistance in developing and operating the I&C platform for the CAMP - Italia project, as a testing bed of a future CAMP/ICZM network.

The objective of the participation is setting up and hosting the portal of the CAMP-Italia project, to be implemented in collaboration with the institutional stakeholders: Region of Emilia Romagna, Region of Sardinia, Region of Tuscany, Ministry of the Environment, PAP/RAC and other MAP interested components.

The development of the CAMP-Italia portal is part of the cross-cutting activities of the CAMP project; the objective is to implement and integrate, inter alia, the following features and tools:

- document repository, through the creation of interest groups (Groupware infoMAP);
- spatial data infrastructure for searching, sharing and viewing geo-referenced data of the Project CAMP Italy and possibly other CAMP projects and other projects and / or processes (e.g. connection to the EcAp process);
- online survey application for electronic questionnaires and subsequent data processing.

CHALLENGES, MANAGEMENT ACTIONS, RISK MITIGATION PLAN

As reported in the project risk log table, the high impact/likelihood challenges and risks in implementing the INFO/RAC activities are: a) the political instability of the Med-South countries; and b) the diverse MAP infosystem developments.

The reporting performance of CPs' might be impacted by the instability in the Mediterranean area, as a result of lack of continuity and/or commitment of the Convention/Protocol reporting officers; as a matter of fact, a signal is the increased in the current biennium.

Instability in the Mediterranean area might be responsible of the poor performance of the BCRS in the current biennium, because of lack of continuity and/or commitment of the Convention/Protocol reporting officers. A signal of such a problem is the workload of the helpdesk that unusually increased in the current biennium.

The streamlining of the on-line reporting system might help in improving the overall reporting performance.

On the other hand, in order to avoid the risk that different information systems are developed by MAP components without coordination, INFO/RAC is pursuing a better bilateral cooperation with MAP components in order to ensure, as much as possible, the alignment of the ToRs of such systems - when necessary their development or hosting, to ensure the eventual integration in the shared knowledge platform.

OUTPUTS AND RESULTS SUMMARY

Table 2. List of Outputs, Activities, Indicators and Progress/Means of Verification.

Theme :		
Further development of InfoMAP, the MAP knowledge platform		
Output	Targets 2014-2015	Progress/Means of Verification/Activities undertaken and planned but not implemented
Knowledge and information effectively managed and communicated	Functioning InfoMAP system	Access to InfoMAP portal, reporting systems and shared services: www.info-rac.org
Expected Results	Indicators	Progress/Means of Verification/Activities undertaken and planned but not implemented
A) InfoMAP decision support tools including on-line tools for wider consultation processes developed: 1. Upgrade and installation of InfoMAP hardware 2. Maintain and upgrade InfoMAP modules 3. Upgrade of SDI through Open Source technology	InfoMAP modules upgraded and operational: – Spatial Data Infrastructure – Groupware – Directory service	– InfoMAP portal maintained – Groupware operated and maintained – New online survey platform implemented – New SDI based on open source technology deployed in the InfoMAP platform Access to InfoMAP portal, reporting systems and shared services: www.info-rac.org
B) InfoMAP Data Centre to support EcAp further developed: 4. Update BCRS compliance database (2012-2013) 5. Feasibility study of new BCRS	– BCRS updated and operational – Med Pol Information System upgraded and NBB and PRTR reporting functions developed and integrated	– BCRS operated and helpdesk provided to CPs' users – BCRS compliance database updated (2012-2013 cycle) – NBB/PRTR module implemented in the InfoMAP platform; – NBB/PRTR technical documentation (user and admin manual) to be completed (through MEDPOL SSFA)

6. Development of MedPol information system and integration with NBB/PRTR	– Data flow and data sharing on other EcAp indicators	Access to InfoMAP portal, reporting systems and shared services: www.info-rac.org
7. Identify dataflow for other EcAp indicators		

Theme :		
National CAMP- Italy implementation		
Output	Targets 2014-2015	Progress/Means of Verification/Activities undertaken and planned but not implemented
Coastal zone management achieves effective balance between development and protection	CAMP-Italy website operational	Access to CAMP-Italy website www.camp-italy.org
Expected Results	Indicators	Progress/Means of Verification/Activities undertaken and planned but not implemented
C) Development of InfoMAP participatory platform to support information and communication tasks of CAMP-Italy project: 8. Design and operation of CAMP-Italy Web site 9. Development of pilot Info/MAP participatory platform	– Website operational – Networking, customised geo-platform, on-line questionnaire, e-training modules	– CAMP-Italy website developed and operated – CAMP-Italy Groupware operated and maintained Access to CAMP-Italy website: www.camp-italy.org

INTER-LINKAGES AND SYNERGIES WITH OTHER PROJECTS

InfoMAP is the UN Mediterranean knowledge platform conceived to provide and share data, information services and knowledge, for the benefit of the Mediterranean Action Plan components and Contracting Parties in their work for the implementation of the Barcelona Convention, its Protocols, MAP strategies and policies, including the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD).

According to the Shared Environmental Information Systems principles, the development of such a platform is a corporate and cross-cutting initiative that gets all the MAP components involved.

The InfoMAP development will benefit from the participation of INFO/RAC in other projects, such as the ECAP-MED, ENP/SEIS, etc.

RESOURCES AND BUDGET

From the beginning of the 2014-2015 biennium, the operation of INFO/RAC has been ensured through the in-kind contribution of resources (expertise and I&C technology) made available by ISPRA, the hosting Institute of the Centre.

Due to the late signature of the PCA, and the implementation of the new Umoja accounting system, the transfer of the MTF funds is still pending. This results in delay in procuring a) new hardware component, and b) technical support services, necessary to start the design and implementation of new InfoMAP functionalities, namely the capacity to gather and integrate data necessary for deriving common indicators related to the Ecological Objectives of EcAp and, in the long term perspective, to develop the knowledge base for the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP).

However, it is expected that procurement contracts will be placed by the end of the 2015.

WORK PLAN FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

In the fourth semester of the 2014-2015 biennium, most of the activities will be devoted to the following result:

B) InfoMAP Data Centre to support EcAp further developed

New hardware component and data management systems will be procured and integrated into the infoMAP system.

Moreover, bilateral meetings with MAP components will be arranged to identify the current state of environmental information systems available (i.e. I&CT infrastructures, data content and service provided), and those under development, with the purpose of mapping the existing building blocks of the future shared knowledge platform necessary to support the EcAp in the Mediterranean area.

VISIBILITY:

Visibility of the Centre will be ensured through the INFO/RAC portal (www.info-rac.org), in coordination with the UNE/MAP Coordinating Unit.

FINAL REMARKS:

In the 2014-2015 biennium, most of the INFO/RAC activities has been devoted to further development of the InfoMAP platform and its services, making best use of in-house expertise and technical means and tools.

Due to limited fund allocated through the MTF, INFO/RAC communication activities has been limited to tasks which are not money intensive, i.e. through the web portals (INFO/RAC and CAMP-Italy). Therefore, most of the communication/visibility initiatives still remain out of scope, and reach, of the Centre.

Although INFO/RAC is mobilising external resources thanks to engagement in other MAP-related initiatives (i.e. ENPI-SEIS, ECAP-MED, bilateral agreement), therefore improving the future perspective, the lack of MTF funding continues to be a limiting factor for fulfilling the mandate of the Centre.

Performance Review of SCP/RAC

SCP/RAC's Performance Review: main achievements

A. Activities in support to the countries in the framework of the MAP PoW 2014-2015

Theme I: Governance

1. The Regional Action Plan was finally submitted to the review of the MAP NFP Meeting held in Athens in October 2015 and who endorsed its final submission for the adoption of the COP. (following Decision IG.21/10 of the Istanbul COP)
2. SCP is identified as one of the Strategic directions of the reviewed MSSD and the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on SCP Mediterranean as one of the main actions to be implemented (following Decision IG.21/11 of Istanbul COP)

Theme IV: Pollution Prevention and Control

3. Development of guidelines and training material: Guidelines on best environmental practices for the environmental sound management of mercury contaminated sites, Guidelines for ESM of used lubricant oils and Guidelines on Pollution prevention in the tanning industry; Module on Green Entrepreneurship & Hazardous Chemicals Substitution Process (through funding mobilization of 60,000€ from SGP of the Stockholm Convention Secretariat); Toolkit for PCB owners and policy makers; review of an *Electronic toolkit on ESM of industrial chemicals under the Rotterdam Convention* and review of the *Guidelines for ESM of used lead batteries for the Mediterranean Region under the Basel Convention*;
4. Organization of workshops and training activities: workshop on the guidelines on lub-oils and tanneries, 22-24 July Spain, and technical training on the guidelines on mercury contaminated soils, 18-19 November, Spain (co-organized with MED POL); 4 PCB management trainings in Albania (January 21-24th, 2014), Egypt (February 24-27, 2014 and August 11-12th, 2015), and Turkey (May 21st, 2015); technical support to MEDPOL to organize several PCB inventory missions and PCB oil analysis in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt and Turkey; organization of 5 capacity building activities on pollution prevention (through the funding of H2020 capacity building programme): National training on industrial management and environmental governance (February 2014, Tunis, Tunisia); Sub-regional training on cleaner production and waste management (February, 2014, Amman, Jordan); National training on sustainable stone and marble industry (March 2014, Ramallah, Palestine); National training on eco-innovation and sustainable industrial areas (May 2014, Alger, Algeria); Sub-regional training on environmental management, green competitiveness and eco-innovation of industrial areas (May 2014, Beirut, Lebanon)
5. Management of the web platform "PCBs in the Mediterranean": www.pcbsmed.org; development of a video on PCBs management (in English and Turkish)

Theme V: SCP

6. Development of guidelines and training material: *SCP Policy Toolkit*⁵¹ produced and published in 2014. *Specific training materials on the Toolkit* prepared for each of the key areas of consumption and production targeted by the Regional Action Plan on SCP, namely, Food and Fisheries, Tourism, Housing and Goods Manufacturing; *Training package for Green Entrepreneurs* prepared and available in English and French (and shortly in Arabic and Hebrew); *Study on Crowdfunding for Green entrepreneurs and Eco-innovation initiatives in the MENA region*
7. Training activities: 120 local trainers on green entrepreneurship from Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine have been trained and it is planned to train local trainers in Egypt and Israel during November; 8 Local Trainers from Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Lebanon from CSO have

⁵¹ <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/e-library/toolkit-for-scp-policy-makers-in-the-mediterranean>

been trained; 800 entrepreneurs from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, chosen from 1,400 applicants, are currently been trained. New calls for applications of candidate entrepreneurs have been already opened for Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine and they will also be opened for Israel and Egypt in forthcoming months. The candidates selected will receive training during the first quarter of 2016.; after mapping 195 CSOs);

8. Mediterranean SCP Hub (www.switchmed.eu) fully operative and systematically updated. It hosts a professional Social Action Network with more than 900 members.

9. The *Switchers*, the web platform collecting stories from ecological and social innovative solutions in the Mediterranean (www.theswitchers.eu), has been launched. So far, the platform contains 50 case studies and will reach a total of 300 cases (funding mobilization of 112,000€ from MAVA Foundation)

10. The *SwitchMed Connect* (www.switchmedconnect.com), brought together 400 Mediterranean stakeholders working in SCP (29th-30th October 2015, Barcelona). An exhibition of 30 Switchers was displayed at SwitchMed Connect.

11. The Green Impact Investing Network project to attract financial networks and sectors to invest in green entrepreneurs and start-ups in four pilot countries, Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia and Morocco, has been launched (through funding mobilization of 300,000€ from SwitchMed).

12. The 1st Mediterranean Award on Eco-design was launched within the Catalunya Award on Eco-design. 45 applications were received from 11 Mediterranean countries.

13. 3 capacity building activities on SCP conducted: National training on Green finance (January 2014, Amman, Jordan); National training on Green economy and SCP (March 2014, Amman, Jordan); Sub-regional training on sustainable food production (November 2014, Barcelona, Spain).

B. Resources mobilization during 2014-2015

14. Mobilization of 480,000€ for new activities in support to the countries in addition to the secured funding of the PoW 2014-2015.

C. Collaboration agreement's with relevant stakeholders

15. Collaboration agreements signed with UNIDO and UNEP/DTIE (SwitchMed), the European Federation of Ethical Banks (FEBEA) and the Green Science Policy Institute.

16. Close collaboration developed with *Ellen MacArthur* Foundation on Circular Economy and *Ouishare*, the global community with the mission of promoting a collaborative and sharing economy: SCP/RAC actively participated and contributed to the organization of the workshops and awareness activities organized by those organizations (e.g. *Ouishare Fest*, *Ellen MacArthur's Disruptive Innovation Festival*). The same, both organizations actively supported and participated in SCP/RAC-led workshops and events (e.g. SwitchMed Connect).

Review on SCP/RAC's performance in the implementation of its responsibilities in support to the countries under the MAP PoW 2014-2015

The following text summarizes the activities that SCP/RAC has developed in compliance with the MAP PoW 2014-2015 and according to its mission to promote SCP. Likewise, in the performance of its tasks, in some cases the center provided specific technical support to other MAP components who requested it.

A. Activities in support to the countries in the framework of the MAP PoW 2014-2015

Theme I: Governance

17. An Extraordinary Meeting of SCP/RAC Focal Points was held in Barcelona, Spain in November 2014 to submit to the review of those thematic NFP the first draft of the Regional Action Plan on SCP. The NFP's feedback guided the preparation of the second draft of the Action Plan.

18. The 10th Ordinary Meeting of SCP/RAC Focal Points was held in Madrid, Spain in June, 2015 to review the activities developed by the center under the framework of the MAP PoW 2014-2015 and to review the 4th draft of the Regional Action Plan on SCP. As reflected in the conclusions of the Meeting, the NFP expressed *their acknowledgement to the valuable work and results achieved by SCP/RAC in the development of its activities under the MAP PoW 2014-2015 and congratulated the center for its efforts to raise further funds both to strengthen actions according to countries priorities and to extend actions relevant to the next MAP PoW to countries for which no funding was included in the current PoW. In that sense the NFP reaffirmed their commitment to support the center's actions in their countries and its work in raising new funding sources to develop its mandate to promote SCP in the Mediterranean countries.*

19. The Decision IG.21/11 of the Istanbul COP on the MSSD review requested to ensure that the revised MSSD integrated the strategic orientations of the SCP Action Plan. Accordingly the reviewed MSSD includes *Objective 5, Transition towards a green and blue economy* in which the promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns is identified as one of its Strategic directions (5.3) and the Implementation of the Sustainable Consumption and Production Regional Action Plan for the Mediterranean as one of its main actions to be implemented. Likewise, the mentioned Objective of the reviewed MSSD includes other Strategic Directions and actions which are fully in line with the objectives and measures of the Regional Action Plan on SCP.

20. Following the **Decision IG.21/10 of the Istanbul COP** the Regional Action Plan on SCP and its Roadmap for implementation have been prepared through a broad consultation process involving the SCP/RAC NFP and the MAP NFP as well as other relevant regional and international organizations. The Regional Action Plan was finally submitted to the review of the MAP NFP Meeting held in Athens in October 2015 and who endorsed its final submission for the adoption of the COP.

Theme II: Integrated Coastal Zone Management

21. SCP/RAC provided support to the Ministry for Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro and to PAP/RAC in the preparation process of the CAMP Montenegro and especially in the identification of SCP actions relevant to the project's objectives. Accordingly SCP/RAC together with SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC and MED POL, and in cooperation with the Ministry, organized the [Workshop "Ecotourism as an opportunity for Sustainable Development"](#) on 30 January-1st February in Boka Kotorska, Kotor. The workshop served to share best practices, obtain a SWOT analysis and, define actions and strategies to boost ecotourism which will contribute to the creation of the National Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro. Local authorities, potential eco-entrepreneurs, NGOs, concerned public and university students/academics attended the event. Likewise, the Centre produced and published, thanks to the financial support of SPA/RAC, the Feasibility Study on "Ecotourism for local development in Boka Kotorska"⁵² which analyses the sector of tourism and ecotourism in Boka Kotorska and assesses the potential of ecotourism entrepreneurship and businesses in Kotor.

22. SCP/RAC also provided its feedback to the preparatory processes of the Italy and France CAMP Projects.

⁵² <http://www.cprac.org/en/media/studies/general-studies>

Theme IV: Pollution Prevention and Control

23. SCP/RAC has developed the following activities in support to MED POL mission of supporting countries in the prevention and sound management of pollution and the implementation of regional plans to fight against pollution:

- Preparation of 3 Guidelines: “Guidelines on best environmental practices for the environmental sound management of mercury contaminated sites”, Guidelines for ESM of used lubricant oils and Guidelines on Pollution prevention in the tanning industry.
- Following the preparation of those documents, SCP/RAC co-organized with MED POL a workshop on the guidelines on lub-oils and tanneries (22-24 July Spain) and a technical training on the guidelines on mercury contaminated soils (18-19 November, Spain)

24. In the performance of its activities in the framework of the Medpartnership Project and under the Land-based Pollution Component, SCP/RAC: designed and organized PCB management trainings (theoretical and practical) in Albania (January 21-24th, 2014) and Egypt (February 24-27, 2014); provided technical support to MEDPOL to organize several PCB inventory missions and PCB oil analysis in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt and Turkey; systematically updated the "PCBs in the Mediterranean" website: www.pcbsmed.org; developed a video on PCBs management (in English and Turkish): <https://youtu.be/fnLQLXAS83M>; developed a "Toolkit for PCB owners and policy makers": http://pcbsmed.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Compilation-of-PCB-applications-for-owners-and-public-officials_final3.pdf; designed and organized a PCB management awareness workshop in Turkey (May 21st, 2015); designed and developed a PCB management awareness workshop and practical training in Egypt (August 11-12th, 2015.)

25. With regard to Act 4.2.6. of the PoW no funding was allocated. Therefore SCP/RAC prepared the project proposal "**Supporting Green Entrepreneurs for a POP's free Mediterranean**" that the center submitted, together with the Cleaner Production Center of Algeria, to a call of the Small Grant Programme of the Stockholm Convention Secretariat. The project won the grant and consisted on the preparation of the a module on Green Entrepreneurship & Hazardous Chemicals Substitution Process and the organization of a training workshop on “Green chemistry and eco-entrepreneurship”⁵³ in Algeria (18-19 November 2014)

26. In order to provide countries with new tools for the sound management of toxic chemicals, SCP/RAC reviewed an **Electronic toolkit on ESM of industrial chemicals** per request from the Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention and organized a technical meeting in Barcelona with experts from different countries to peer review the revised toolkit (February 2015). Likewise, SCP/RAC supported the Secretariat of the Basel Convention in the review of the **Guidelines for ESM of used lead batteries for the Mediterranean Region** developed by the Basel Centre of Slovakia.

27. With regard to Act. 4.2.9 of the PoW actions to launch a SCP pilot project in the winery sector of Lebanon have been agreed with the NFP. At the same time key stakeholders for the identification and implementation of SCP pilot activities in Morocco and Tunisia have been identified, interviews have been conducted and project proposals have been received and pre-selected. The actual implementation of the pilots will be developed during the next biennium.

28. In compliance with Act. 4.2.10 of the MAP PoW, SCP/RAC organized the following five capacity building activities on pollution prevention (through the funding of H2020 capacity building programme): National training on industrial management and environmental governance (February 2014, Tunis, Tunisia); Sub-regional training on cleaner production and waste management (February, 2014, Amman, Jordan); National training on sustainable stone and marble industry (March 2014, Ramallah, Palestine); National training on eco-innovation and sustainable industrial areas (May 2014,

⁵³ <http://www.cprac.org/en/news-archive/general/new-green-business-opportunities-on-alternatives-to-hazardous-chemicals-in-the->

Alger, Algeria); Sub-regional training on environmental management, green competitiveness and eco-innovation of industrial areas (May 2014, Beirut, Lebanon).

Theme V: SCP

29. With regard to Act 5.1.2 of the PoW the SCP Policy Toolkit⁵⁴ has been produced and published in 2014 to support policy makers, representatives of local and national administration in Mediterranean countries and other interested stakeholders. The toolkit provides a set of effective tools and instruments, case studies and lessons learned which can help build national SCP frameworks and integrate them into national and sectoral policies. Specific training materials on the Toolkit have been prepared for each of the key areas of consumption and production targeted by the Regional Action Plan on SCP, namely, Food and Fisheries, Tourism, Housing and Goods Manufacturing.

30. Likewise, SCP/RAC provides technical support to the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of UNEP (UNEP/DTIE) in the work of that organization in leading the technical support to countries in mainstreaming of SCP in national development planning processes under the framework of SwitchMed. In that sense, SCP/RAC's role in that activity is developed upon the request of UNEP/DTIE. So far the center has been requested to organize a training session⁵⁵ on mainstreaming SCP within key economic sectors in Jordan (22-23 October 2014, Amman).

31. With regard to Act. 5.1.2 and Act. 5.1.3 on the the Training and Support Programme for Green Entrepreneurs and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) scoping missions to Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia were conducted to identify local partners.

32. SCP/RAC has trained 120 local trainers on green entrepreneurship in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine and it is planned to train local trainers in Egypt and Israel during November. Likewise the center is currently delivering the trainings for 800 entrepreneurs from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, chosen from the 1,400 applications. Calls for applications of candidate entrepreneurs have been already opened for Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine and they will also be opened for Israel and Egypt in forthcoming months. The candidates selected will receive training during the first quarter of 2016.

33. Before starting the trainings the centre developed a specific training package for green entrepreneurs that is available in English and French (and shortly in Arabic and Hebrew), which includes an innovative methodology (<https://www.switchmed.eu/en/corners/start-up/training-materials>). Alongside the training package, has recently prepared a Study on Crowdfunding for Green entrepreneurs and Eco-innovation initiatives in the MENA region.

34. Within the Training and support Programme for Civil Society Organizations (referred to Act. 5.1.3 of the PoW) 4 Local Partners have been selected in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Lebanon (after mapping 195 CSOs); 8 Local Trainers have been selected and trained; The Call for the National Workshop for civil society ecological innovation initiatives have been launched in Tunisia and is being prepared for Algeria, Morocco and Lebanon.

35. With regard to Act. 5.1.4. of the PoW (related also to Act 4.2.9) actions to launch a SCP pilot project in the winery sector of Lebanon have been agreed with the NFP. At the same time key stakeholders for the identification and implementation of SCP pilot activities in Morocco and Tunisia have been identified, interviews have been conducted and project proposals have been received and pre-selected. The actual implementation of the pilots will be developed during the next biennium.

36. Activities to Develop of a Mediterranean SCP Networking Facility (Act. 5.1.5 PoW) have included a massive number of actions including new innovative ones reinforcing the overall objective of the

⁵⁴ <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/e-library/toolkit-for-scp-policy-makers-in-the-mediterranean>

⁵⁵ <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/waste-food-and-agriculture-and-transportation-keypriority-areas-to-be-addressed-in-jordan>

Networking Facility of connecting relevant SCP stakeholders. The **Mediterranean SCP Hub** (www.switchmed.eu) has been constantly updated and a new section called “country hubs” offering country specific stories on SCP has been created. 7 SCP related newsletters were sent. The professional **Social Action Network** has exponentially grown reaching to more than 900 members representing a wide range of stakeholders. It bears the latest information of SCP related events as well as several communities enabling information sharing and exchange. 2 videos of the SwitchMed Programme have been developed. The **Switchers**, the web platform collecting stories from ecological and social innovative solutions in the Mediterranean (www.theswitchers.eu), has been launched. So far, the platform contains 50 case studies. 3 videos have been developed of selected Switchers. The **SwitchMed Connect** (www.switchmedconnect.com), the first gathering of about 400 Mediterranean stakeholders working towards SCP took place on 29th-30th October 2015 in Barcelona. The participants were representatives of public institutions, start-ups, SMEs, big businesses, business intermediaries, financing institutions, academia and civil society organisations. An exhibition of 30 Switchers was displayed at SwitchMed Connect. A **study on the State of art of the sharing economy in the MENA Region and a study on open innovation platforms** and implications for SwitchMed target groups have been developed; factsheets on engagement with policy makers, industry, green entrepreneurs and start-ups for MENA countries have been designed, printed and distributed; overall communication and social media strategy developed. Nine workshops and side events with strategic partners were organized in several countries and international meetings. The **Green Impact Investing Network** project to attract financial networks and sectors to invest in green entrepreneurs and start-ups in four pilot countries, Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia and Morocco, has been launched. The 1st Mediterranean Award on Eco-design was launched within the Catalunya Award on Eco-design. 45 applications were received from 11 Mediterranean countries.

With regard to Act. 5.1.6 of the PoW, on SCP Capacity Building activities, three capacity building activities on SCP were conducted by SCP/RAC under the framework of the H2020 capacity building programme: National training on Green finance (January 2014, Amman, Jordan); National training on Green economy and SCP (March 2014, Amman, Jordan); Sub-regional training on sustainable food production (November 2014, Barcelona, Spain).

B. Resources mobilization during 2014-2015

During the current biennium SCP/RAC has developed an intense activity to mobilize funding with the objective of increasing the activities in support to the countries of the Barcelona Convention. The main achievements of the fund raising tasks developed of the center can be summarized as follows:

- UfM labelling of the project “Med ReSCP: Post Rio+20 Promotion of the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns, in particular resource efficiency, in the Mediterranean” jointly prepared by SCP/RAC, UNIDO and the EBRD. The UfM endorsement to the mentioned project has involved the UfM Secretariat as close collaborator with the project’s organizations to establish contacts with potential funders of the project. The main objective and role of SCP/RAC in the preparation of that project has been to strive to extend actions to support green entrepreneurs and CSO to Barcelona Convention countries not benefitting from SwitchMed funding, namely turkey, Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia & Herzegovina.
- The project *A Blue Economy for a Healthy Mediterranean*, jointly prepared by SCP/RAC, Plan Bleu and the PAP/RAC, and funded by the MAVA Foundation. SCP/RAC has been able to mobilize 112,000€ through this project that has directly contributed to the launching of the Platform “the Switchers” collecting inspiring stories from Mediterranean entrepreneurs providing ecological and social innovative solutions (www.theswitchers.eu). An exhibition of 30 Switchers was displayed at SwitchMed Connect and more budget will contribute to extend the number of cases studies and the preparation of videos.

- Grant of 60,000€ from the Small Grant programme of the Stockholm Convention Secretariat to the Project Proposal “Supporting Green Entrepreneurs for a POPs free Mediterranean”.
- Increase of the SwitchMed funding to the Networking Facility by 300,000€ based on the SCP/RAC’s proposal for the Development of a Green Impact Investment Network to connect financial institutions of Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Lebanon, with the goal of contributing to establishing financial mechanisms to facilitate green entrepreneurs’ access to funding.
- Collaboration agreement with BASF basing on which the two organizations would support each other in the design and organization of the SwitchMed Connect and the BASF Creator Space in Barcelona. Based on that agreement, BASF commissioned CP/RAC (7,000€= the design of the contents and proposal of speakers for the BASF event.

In summary the total amount SCP/RAC has been able to mobilize during the present biennium to increase activities in addition to the secured funding for actions has amounted to approximately 480,000€.

C. Collaboration agreement’s with relevant stakeholders

During the current biennium collaboration agreements have been signed with UNIDO and UNEP/DTIE (SwitchMed), the European Federation of Ethical Banks (FEBEA) and the Green Science Policy Institute, and organization with the mission to facilitate responsible use of chemicals to protect human and ecological health.

Likewise, close collaboration has been developed with relevant networks and organizations working on SCP related approaches and strategies. Among them, it is worth to highlight the close collaboration established with the *Ellen MacArthur* Foundation on Circular Economy and *Ouishare*, the global community with the mission of promoting a collaborative and sharing economy. SCP/RAC actively participated and contributed to the workshops and awareness activities organized by those organizations (e.g. *Ouishare Fest*, *Ellen MacArthur’s Disruptive Innovation Festival*). The same, both organizations actively supported and participated in SCP/RAC-led workshops and events (e.g. SwitchMed Connect).