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**Agenda Item 4: Specific Issues in Relation to Decision IG.23/4 Adopted at COP 20**

**Report on Specific Issues in Relation to the Implementation of Decision IG.23/4**

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UNEP/MAP  
Athens, 2018

## **Report on Specific Issues in Relation to the Implementation of Decision IG.23/4**

### **Introduction**

1. The adoption at COP 20 of Decision IG.23/4 “Implementation and Monitoring of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 and of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean” paved the way for the work of the MCSD during the biennium 2018-2019.
2. Activities deriving from this COP decision are agreed in the MAP Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019 (Decision IG.23/14). These activities are at the core of the MCSD’s mandate and include *inter alia*: (i) Updating the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and populating its indicators; (ii) Preparing assessment studies, namely the 2019 State of the Environment and Development Report (SoED 2019) and the Phase I of the MED2050 foresight study, including case studies on the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean; and, (iii) Strengthening and sustaining the Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER) through its second edition.
3. The objective of the present report is to provide additional substantive information on these activities to stimulate the discussion with and within the MCSD Steering Committee so that it may provide its advice for their successful delivery.

### **I. Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and Indicators for the Implementation of the SCP Regional Action Plan**

4. At COP 20 the Contracting Parties took note of the list of indicators of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard as a basis for further work. Annex I to the present document contains the approved list of indicators, as a living document recommended by the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MCSD (Athens, Greece, July 2017).
5. The Contracting Parties took also note of the list of indicators for the monitoring of the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP AP) and requested its further elaboration in synergy with the work undertaken for the relevant SDGs and MSSD indicators.
6. In addition, the Contracting Parties invited the MCSD Steering Committee to coordinate the work on ensuring full consistency and synergy with the ongoing work on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators at the global level.
7. Indeed, the Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>1</sup> was developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) and agreed upon, including refinements on several indicators, at the 48<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Statistical Commission held in March 2017. The global indicator framework was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 6 July 2017 and is contained in the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/71/313). The list includes 232 indicators<sup>2</sup> on which general agreement has been reached.
8. Therefore, the Secretariat proposes updating the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard by including SDGs indicators. Annex II of the present document highlights the links between the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and SDG indicators, and suggests inclusion of relevant SDG indicators in the dashboard. In addition, Annex III contains a list of possible candidate indicators, including relevant SDG indicators, to update the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/>

<sup>2</sup> The total number of indicators listed in the global indicator framework is 244. However, since nine indicators repeat under two or three different targets the actual total number of individual indicators in the list is 232.

9. Through Decision IG.23/4, the Contracting Parties also requested the Secretariat and Plan Bleu to use existing sources of information and reliable data to populate the selected indicators, giving priority to those addressing coast-related and sea-related issues. The Secretariat (Plan Bleu) engaged the process of populating the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and updating the Mediterranean Observatory on Environment and Sustainable Development website<sup>3</sup> for the widest dissemination of the indicators factsheets and corresponding methodological factsheets.

10. In addition, in the framework of the preparation of the second phase of the SwitchMed programme whose launching is expected for the beginning of 2019, activities related to the SCP indicators have been proposed, in line with Activity 6.2.1.1 of the MAP Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019 (Decision IG.23/14): “*SCP Action Plan indicators aligned with MSSD relevant work, identified, selected and factsheets developed*”.

11. Finally, the work on MSSD and SCP indicators will also feed the SoED 2019 and MED2050 Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean.

12. Issue for consideration: Based on Annexes II and III of the present report, the MCSD Steering Committee will discuss ways and means to enhance synergies between the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and relevant SDGs indicators, taking also into account the Mediterranean specificities, and provide guidance to the Secretariat on the next steps of this process.

## II. Assessment Studies, including Case Studies on the Blue Economy

13. The assessment work of MAP related to sustainable development for the biennium 2018-2019 is ambitious in terms of substance and deadlines.

14. The Strategic Outcome 1.4 of the MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 (Decision IG.22/1) sets the objective “*to deliver knowledge-based assessments of the Mediterranean environment and scenario development for informed decision-making and stakeholder work*”. It states: “*Periodic assessments based on DPSIR approach and published addressing inter alia status quality of marine and coastal environment, interaction between environment and development as well as scenarios and prospective development analysis in the long run*”.

15. In accordance with the MTS Indicative Key Output 1.4.1, periodic assessments should “*consider climate change-related vulnerabilities and risks on the marine and coastal zone in their analysis, as well as knowledge gaps on marine pollution, ecosystem services, coastal degradation, cumulative impacts and impacts of consumption and production*”.

16. The MTS Strategic Outcome 1.4 and Indicative Key Output 1.4.1 translates in the preparation of the SoED 2019 and MED2050, as reflected in Decision IG.23/4 and in the MAP Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019 (Decision IG.23/14).

### (a) 2019-State of the Environment and Development Report (SoED 2019)

17. The SoED 2019 aims at presenting a comprehensive and updated assessment of the environmental status and sustainability issues related to the environment and development in the Mediterranean, in the context of the mandate of the MAP-Barcelona Convention system.

18. By applying an integrated, systemic and holistic approach, the SoED 2019 will increase awareness and understanding of environmental and development status and trends in the Mediterranean, their driving forces and impacts, facilitating the measurement of progress towards sustainable development. It will provide an up-to-date foundation for improved decision-making at all levels and enhancing the delivery of the 2030 Agenda, the achievement of its SDGs, and the implementation of the MSSD.

19. The SoED 2019 will be prepared in consistency and synergy with previous reports and other relevant MAP initiatives, such as the Roadmap for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach

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<sup>3</sup> <http://obs.planbleu.org/en/>

(EcAp), 2017 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (MED 2017 QSR), MED2050, etc. The report will draw upon all available sources of information, with a priority for UN system data.

20. The conclusions of the report will propose priorities areas for action in the next ten years. A summary for policymakers will be issued, consolidating main results and priorities identified in the report.

21. Under the overall supervision of the MAP Coordinating Unit, Plan Bleu is responsible of the SoED 2019 elaboration process with the support of all MAP Components.

22. On 30 March 2018, a specific letter from the MAP Coordinator was sent to the MCSD Members and Plan Bleu Focal Points, asking advice and comments on the SoED 2019 draft table of contents, and inviting for expression of interest from possible key contributors. The substantial comments received were divided between suggestions to concentrate the report on environmental issues or further emphasizing sustainable development dimensions; they called for a revision of the SoED 2019 table of contents.

23. At its 85<sup>th</sup> Meeting (Athens, Greece, April 2018), the Bureau of the Contracting Parties took note with appreciation of the work done for the elaboration of the SoED 2019 and asked the Secretariat:

- To review the table of contents of the SoED 2019, as well as the process and timeline for the preparation of the report to take into account comments and proposals from Thematic Focal Points and MCSD Members;
- To ensure full consideration in the structure of the SoED 2019 of the MTS 2016-2021 and of the provision of Strategic Outcome 1.4;
- To carry out the review process with the timely and full involvement of the Thematic Focal Points.

24. Preserving a balance between environmental and socio-economic considerations, the draft table of contents of the SoED 2019 (Information Document UNEP/MED WG.447/Inf.5) has been simplified and reflects a structure consistent with the MTS 2016-2021, MSSD, 2030 Agenda and relevant SDGs.

25. The MCSD Members and Plan Bleu Focal Points will be further consulted at key stages of the report preparation. They will be invited to review the draft chapters and reports, and discuss the summary for policymakers. Including key substantive milestones, the timeline of such consultations is included in the Work Plan of the MCSD Steering Committee for the biennium 2018-2019 (Working Document UNEP/MED WG.447/4).

***(b) MED2050 Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean***

26. At COP 20, the Contracting Parties welcomed the “MED 2050 Roadmap towards a Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean” (Annex 2, Decision IG.23/4, Reference Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/23), requested its implementation through a participatory approach, endorsed its Phase I and requested the preparation of an updated roadmap for COP 21.

27. In its design, MED2050 is conceived as an original science-policy interface that will involve decision-makers and stakeholders in a participatory approach, and help generate contrasted visions across the Mediterranean. It will capitalize on previous and on-going works, including the SoED 2019, while reinforcing dissemination, communication and capacity building.

28. MED2050 will build on existing and on-going foresight studies and fill critical gaps identified in the benchmark study of 35 foresight exercises conducted in the Mediterranean region over the last 15 years (Annex 4, Information Document UNEP/MED WG.447/Inf.4).

29. The MED2050 roadmap is planned over two biennia. As agreed by the Contracting Parties at COP 20, Phase I in 2018-2019 focuses on (i) mobilizing existing resources and building network of interested partners; and, (ii) assessing trends and scenarios in the Mediterranean.

30. As requested by COP 20, an updated version of the MED2050 roadmap will be presented at COP 21, based on further consultations and achievements during biennium 2018-2019.

31. Further details regarding the involvement of, and possible contributions from the MCS D and its Steering Committee are provided in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.447/4.

***(c) Case Studies on the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean***

32. To support the implementation of the SDG 14 in the Mediterranean, the MAP Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019 includes the preparation of “*Case studies to foster the Blue Economy (in fisheries and aquaculture, maritime transport and port activities, wind energy, tourism and recreation, biological resources), covering economic benefits of environmental services, of innovation, of inclusion (e.g. of the young). Recommendations for a transition towards a Blue Economy in the Mediterranean*” (Activity 4.4.1.2, Decision IG.23/14).

33. This activity consists in the identification and dissemination of case studies on the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean, covering economic benefits of environmental services and innovation. Sectors considered include fisheries and aquaculture, maritime transport and port activities, wind energy, tourism and recreational activities, and biological resources. The case studies will also consider marine protected areas (MPAs) as a contribution to a sustainable and inclusive blue economy in the region.

34. The following institutions have been contacted as potential partners for this activity: SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), Food and Agriculture Organization - General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (FAO - GFCM), WWF, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the network of Marine Protected Areas managers in the Mediterranean (MedPAN), World Bank, European Investment Bank (EIB), and EU DG Mare.

35. The MCS D members will be also invited to participate in the capitalization of case studies, bringing their experience and lessons learned from projects, as a contribution to the report preparation.

36. A report tentatively entitled “*Blue Economy in the Mediterranean: Lessons and Perspectives*” will be delivered by Plan Bleu in 2018. The overall objective is to assess and highlight the current weight and various opportunities provided by the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean in support of sustainable development and to showcase a range of concrete examples and good practices. The report will build on the “Blue Economy, Sharing Success Stories to Inspire Changes” UN Environment report<sup>4</sup> (2015), by providing a Mediterranean perspective to Blue Economy issues and challenges. In terms of outreach campaign and dissemination items, this report will represent an input from the MAP - Barcelona Convention system to the Global Conference on the Sustainable Blue Economy, organized by UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya, from 27-30 November 2018.

37. The specific objectives of the report are: to set out the current overall policy and socio-economic picture for the Blue Economy trends and perspectives in the Mediterranean; to illustrate the opportunities offered by the Blue Economy with a number of case studies drawn from various areas and sectors in the region; and, to establish strategic directions for the future development of the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean.

38. The MCS D members will be invited to participate in the capitalization of case studies on the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean, bringing their experience and lessons learned from projects, as a contribution to the report preparation. They will also be invited to help for preparing recommendations towards the expansion of a sustainable and inclusive blue economy in the region.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/publications/blue-economy-sharing-success-stories-inspire-change-0>

### **Issues for consideration on Assessment studies:**

39. The successful preparation of the assessment studies is dependent on four key issues:
- Defining precise, relevant and feasible methodologies and approaches early in the biennium: SoED 2019 and MED2050 are both ambitious exercises, to be prepared in a tight timeframe with limited financial resources, but multiple partners. Practical approaches and firm deadlines are required to effectively conduct the exercises. The MCSD Steering Committee is expected to provide advice on the organization of the MED 2050 participatory approach and help identify relevant stakeholders and networks to be consulted.
  - Developing technical, institutional and financial partnerships: The preparation of SoED 2019 is facilitated by partnerships with all MAP Components. The Secretariat can also rely on academic and technical partnerships, including with institutions which have confirmed their willingness to participate in the new exercise. Additional funding will have to be mobilized, in particular for MED2050.
  - Designing an efficient communication strategy: An efficient and innovative communication strategy is required to reach decision-makers at all levels from international organizations to local authorities and individuals. This involves the preparation of diverse communication material and intermediate products at various stages of the preparation process: newsletters and electronic publishing, website, social networks, etc.
  - Involving and consulting Contracting Parties, MCSD Member, MAP Partners and other stakeholders at key stages of the preparation: SoED 2019 and MED2050 will lead to identify priorities for action. MED2050 will build on the vision for the future of all Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders. A close association and consultation of Contracting Parties, Focal Points, MCSD Members, and MAP Partners is required early in both exercises for products to be relevant, operational and adopted.
40. The MCSD Steering Committee is invited to consider the four key issues noted above and to provide advice and guidance to the Secretariat for taking them into account towards an efficient delivery of the ambitious assessment studies undertaken during the biennium 2018-2019.

### **III. SIMPEER Second Edition - 2018-2019**

41. Following the successful SIMPEER pilot edition carried out in 2016-2017, Decision IG.23/4 adopted at COP 20 encourages the Contracting Parties to participate in future editions, with a view to enhancing the interlinkage with the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) presented at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF).
42. At its 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting, the MCSD also highlighted the importance to strengthen synergies with the VNRs presented at the HLPF and to further involve relevant stakeholders beside Contracting Parties. The MCSD also recommended to continue involving the three volunteer Contracting Parties of the pilot phase (France, Montenegro, and Morocco) for benefiting from their experiences.
43. At the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MCSD, Egypt and Tunisia expressed their interest to participate in the SIMPEER second edition. Tunisia confirmed interest through an official letter sent to the MAP Coordinator in April 2017. Discussions are also on-going with Albania.
44. To support the ownership of the MSSD and help Contracting Parties adapting the Strategy and the SDGs to their national contexts, the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) will strengthen and sustain the SIMPEER methodology applied in its 2016-2017 pilot edition. Based on lessons learned from the pilot edition, Plan Bleu is updating the SIMPEER methodology to reflect the recommendations from the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MCSD. The Members of the MCSD Steering Committee will be invited to provide advice and comments on this updated methodology.

45. Issue for consideration: SIMPEER is a very important mechanism, inter alia for carrying out periodic review of national implementation of the MSSD, encouraging the exchange of good practices on sustainable development, and enhancing the MAP visibility in international fora and global/regional interactions on sustainable development. The MCSD Steering Committee is invited to explore ways and means for mobilising more interest from the Contracting Parties, MAP Partners and MCSD Members, and provide guidance accordingly.

## **Annex I**

### **Indicators of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025**

### Annex I: Indicators of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025

No.	MSSD 2016-2025 Objective	Name of indicator
1	Global	Ecological footprint (*)
2	Global	Human Development Index
3	Global	Gross Domestic Product (*)
4	Global	Youth literacy rate (*)
5	Global	Girl/Boy primary and secondary school registration ratio (*)
6	1	Number of ratifications and level of compliance as reported by BC Contracting Parties
7	1	Percentage of protected coastal and marine areas [under national jurisdiction] (*)
8	2	Water efficiency index (*)
9	2	Number of protected areas participating in the Green list initiative (*)
10	2	Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems (*)
11	2	Global Food Security Index
12	2	Water demand, total and by sector, compared to GDP (*)
13	2	Share of population with access to an improved water source (total, urban, rural) (*)
14	2	Share of population with access to an improved sanitation system (total, urban, rural) (*)
15	2	Proportion of agriculture quality products and Share of the agricultural land area used by organic farming (*)
16	2	Number of Mediterranean threatened species included in legal documents (*)
17	3	Proportion of urban population with access to a decent dwelling (*)
18	3	Status of UNESCO world heritage sites or population trends in historic urban areas (*)
19	3	Waste generated and treated by type of waste and treatment type (*)
20	4	Green House Gas emissions (related to GDP)
21	4	Energy consumption (related to GDP)
22	5	Material intensity of the economy (*)
23	6	Number of National Strategies for Sustainable Development adopted or updated [and number of updates since first edition] (*)
24	6	Proportion of bank credit allocated to the private sector – Existence of alternative financing systems using bank credit
25	6	Public and private expenses for research and development in percentage of GDP
26	6	Existing mechanisms to ensure public participation and access to environmental publication (*)

(\*) Corresponding/linked to SDG indicators

## **Annex II**

### **Links between the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and SDG Indicators**

**Annex II: Links between the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and SDG Indicators**

No.	MSSD Objective	MSSD indicators	SDG Indicators / Comments	Availability
1	Global	Ecological footprint	No similar SDG Indicator. Developed by the Global Footprint Network, the Ecological footprint aims at measuring the demand on and supply of nature <a href="https://www.footprintnetwork.org/our-work/ecological-footprint/">https://www.footprintnetwork.org/our-work/ecological-footprint/</a> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator</b>	Yes
2	Global	Human Development Index	No similar SDG Indicator. UNDP indicator of human development (Life expectancy at birth, Expected years of schooling, Mean years of schooling and Gross national income (GNI) per capita) <a href="http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi">http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi</a> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator</b>	Yes
3	Global	Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	SDG Indicator 8.1.1 <i>Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita.</i> <b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 8.1.1</b>	Yes
4	Global	Youth literacy rate	Youth literacy rate is a component of the SDG Indicator 4.6.1 <i>Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex.</i> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator because the SDG Indicator 4.6.1 is too much complex</b>	Yes
5	Global	Girl/Boy primary and secondary school registration ratio	UNESCO Indicator <i>School enrolment, secondary (gross), gender parity index (GPI)</i> is a proxy of the SDG Indicator 4.1.1 <i>Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex.</i> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator because the SDG Indicator 4.1.1 is too much complex</b>	Yes
6	1	Number of ratifications and level of compliance as reported by BC Contracting Parties	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 14.c.1 <i>Number of countries making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nation Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources.</i> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator because it is much relevant in the framework of the MAP - Barcelona Convention</b>	Yes
7	1	Percentage of protected coastal and marine areas [under national jurisdiction]	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 14.5.1 <i>Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas</i> <b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 14.5.1</b>	Yes

8	2	Water efficiency index	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 6.4.1 <i>Change in water-use efficiency over time (to be applied also for the watersheds)</i> <b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 6.4.1</b>	Yes
9	2	Number of protected areas participating in the Green list initiative	This indicator is inspired by the IUCN Indicator <i>Measures the number of protected and conserved areas that are effectively and equitably managed and deliver conservation outcomes</i> ( <a href="https://www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/our-work/iucn-green-list">https://www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/our-work/iucn-green-list</a> ). It is also close to the SDG Indicator 15.1.2 <i>Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type</i> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator, but also include the SDG Indicator 15.1.2 in the Dashboard</b>	Yes, to be developed by IUCN and SPA/RAC
10	2	Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems	This is the SDG Indicator 15.a.1 <i>Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems.</i> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator</b>	Yes
11	2	Global Food Security Index	No similar SDG Indicator. The Global Food Security Index is based on 28 indicators covering three dimensions: food Affordability, Availability and Quality & Safety ( <a href="http://foodsecurityindex.eiu.com/">http://foodsecurityindex.eiu.com/</a> ) <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator</b>	Yes
12	2	Water demand, total and by sector, compared to GDP	No similar SDG Indicator. SDG Indicator 6.4.2 <i>Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources</i> should be considered as well. <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator, but also include the SDG Indicator 6.4.2 in the Dashboard</b>	Yes, to be updated for the watersheds
13	2	Share of population with access to an improved water source (total, urban, rural)	Indicator close to SDG Indicator 6.1.1 <i>Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services</i> . This SDG Indicator is also used for SEIS/H2020 but it is more difficult to populate. <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator, but also include the SDG Indicator 6.1.1 in the Dashboard</b>	Yes
14	2	Share of population with access to an improved sanitation system (total, urban, rural)	Indicator close to SDG Indicator 6.2.1 <i>Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water</i> . This SDG Indicator is also used for SEIS/H2020 but it is more difficult to populate. <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator, but also include the SDG Indicator 6.2.1 in the Dashboard</b>	Yes
15	2	Proportion of agriculture quality products and Share of the agricultural	These indicators were developed by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL)	Yes

		land area used by organic farming	<p><a href="http://www.organic-world.net/statistics/statistics-data-tables.html">http://www.organic-world.net/statistics/statistics-data-tables.html</a>).</p> <p>They are linked with the SDG Indicator 2.4.1 <i>Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture.</i></p> <p><b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator, but also include the SDG Indicator 2.4.1 in the Dashboard</b></p>	
16	2	Number of Mediterranean threatened species included in legal documents	<p>This indicator could be replaced by the SDG Indicator 15.5.1 <i>Red List Index (IUCN)</i></p> <p><b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 15.5.1</b></p>	Yes
17	3	Proportion of urban population with access to a decent dwelling	<p>This indicator could be replaced by the SDG Indicator 11.1.1 <i>Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing.</i></p> <p><b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 11.1.1</b></p>	Yes
18	3	Status of UNESCO world heritage sites	<p>This is an UNESCO Indicator (<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/</a>)</p> <p>This indicator is close to the SDG Indicator 11.4.1 <i>Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)</i></p> <p><b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator because the SDG Indicator 11.4.1 is too much complex</b></p>	Yes
19	3	Waste generated and treated by type of waste and treatment type	<p>It is a SEIS/H2020 indicator on the waste generation and treatment. This indicator is linked to the following SDG Indicators:</p> <p>11.6.1 <i>Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities</i> (This indicator is quite complex)</p> <p>12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled</p> <p><b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator, but also include the SDG Indicator 12.5.1 in the Dashboard</b></p>	Yes
20	4	Green House Gas emissions (related to GDP)	<p>Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 9.4.1 <i>CO<sub>2</sub> emission per unit of value added</i></p> <p><b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator, but also include the SDG Indicator 9.4.1 in the Dashboard</b></p>	Yes
21	4	Energy consumption (related to GDP)	<p>Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 7.3.1 <i>Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP</i></p> <p><b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 7.3.1</b></p>	Yes

22	5	Material intensity of the economy	Indicator close to the following SDG Indicators: 8.4.1 - 12.2.1 <i>Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP</i> 8.4.2 - 12.2.2 <i>Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP</i> <b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicators 12.2.1 and 12.2.2</b>	Yes
23	6	Number of National Strategies for Sustainable Development adopted or updated [and number of updates since first edition]	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 17.14.1 <i>Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development</i> <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator because it is much relevant/adapted to the Mediterranean context</b>	Yes
24	6	Proportion of bank credit allocated to the private sector – Existence of alternative financing systems using bank credit	No similar SDG indicator. <b>Suggestion: Keep this indicator</b>	Yes
25	6	Public and private expenses for research and development in percentage of GDP	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 9.5.1 <i>Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP.</i> <b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 9.5.1</b>	Yes
26	6	Existing mechanisms to ensure public participation and access to environmental publication	Indicator similar to the SDG Indicator 16.10.2 <i>Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information</i> <b>Suggestion: Move to the SDG Indicator 16.10.2</b>	Yes

**Annex III**

**Candidate Indicators to Update the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard**

**Annex III: Candidate Indicators to Update the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard**

No.	MSSD Objective	MSSD indicators	SDG Indicators / Comments	Availability
1	1, 2, 3, 5	International tourism receipts	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 8.9.1 <i>Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate</i> . However, this SDG Indicator includes domestic tourism that is difficult to catch.	Yes
2	1	<b>SDG Indicator 14.6.1</b> <i>Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing</i>	(*)	To be checked
3	1	<b>SDG Indicator 14.4.1</b> <i>Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels</i>	(*)	Yes
4	1	Proportion of the coastal urban population connected to a sanitation network	No similar SDG Indicator. Relevant for MEDPOL and H2020/SEIS	Yes
5	2	Share of protected areas with management processes in place	No similar SDG Indicator. Existing IUCN Indicator	Yes
6	2	Energy use efficiency	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 7.b.1 <i>Investments in energy efficiency as a proportion of GDP and the amount of foreign direct investment in financial transfer for infrastructure and technology to sustainable development services</i> , which is more complex.	To be checked
7	2	<b>SDG Indicator 7.2.1</b> <i>Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption</i>	(*)	Yes
8	2	Percentage of wastewater treated	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 6.3.1 <i>Proportion of wastewater safely treated</i> , which is more complex.	Yes
9	2	<b>SDG Indicator 2.5.1</b> <i>Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities</i>	(*)	To be checked
10	2	Rural poverty rates	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 1.1.1 <i>Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)</i> , which is more complex.	Yes
11	2	Ratio of agricultural population vs. rural population	No similar SDG Indicator. Existing FAO Indicator	To be checked

12	3	Urban public open space	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 11.7.1 <i>Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities, which is more complex.</i>	To be checked
13	3	Urban poverty rates	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 1.1.1 <i>Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural), which is more complex.</i>	Yes
14	3	<b>SDG Indicator 11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities</b>	(*)	To be checked
15	5	Share of green jobs	Green economy indicator, ILO definition.	To be checked
16	5	<b>SDG Indicator 12.c.1 Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels</b>	(*)	Yes
17	5	Share of green financial instruments	No similar SDG Indicator.	To be checked
18	5	<b>SDG Indicator 12.7.1 Number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies and action plans</b>	(*)	To be checked
19	6	Number of countries with application of EIA and SEA in development policies	No similar SDG Indicator.	To be checked
20	6	Number of countries that have launched national strategies on education for sustainable development	Indicator close to the SDG Indicator 4.7.1 <i>Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment, which is too much complex.</i>	To be checked

(\*) SDG Indicators