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**Agenda Item 3: Work of the MCSD and MSSD Implementation: Review of Progress for the Period May – October 2020**

**Agenda Item 4: Specific Issues**

**MSSD Mid-Term Evaluation – Note for the Stakeholder Consultation – Draft**

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UNEP/MAP  
Athens, 2020

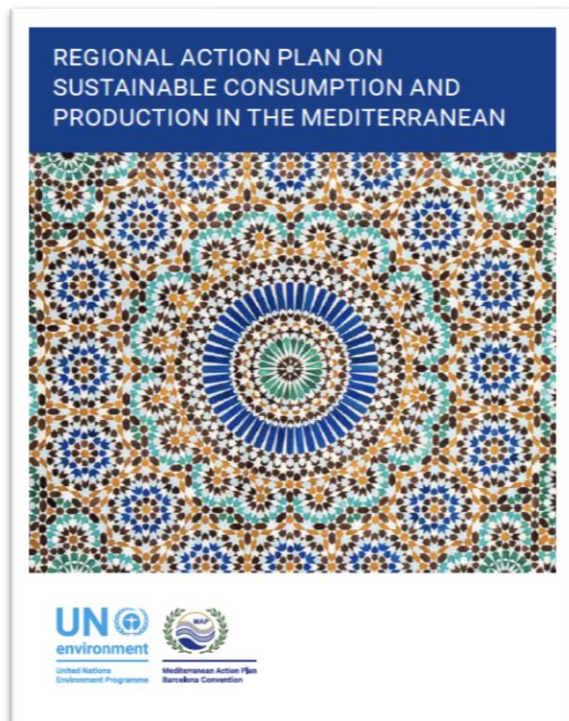
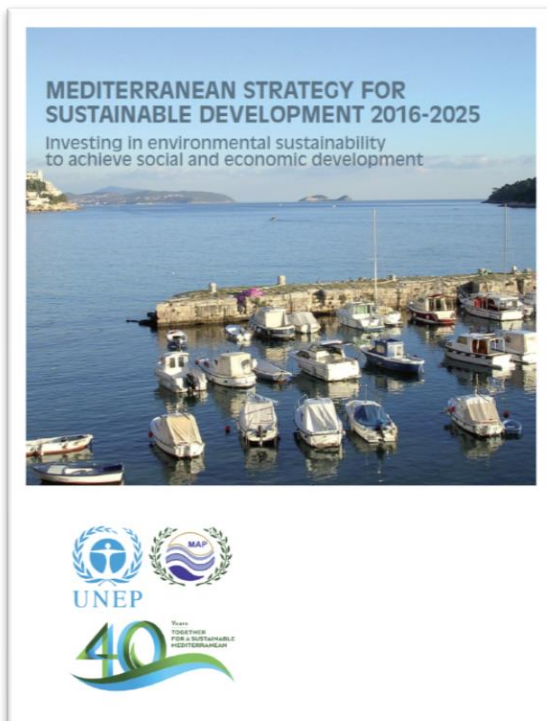


**Mediterranean  
Action Plan**  
Barcelona  
Convention

## Mid-Term Evaluations (MTE)

# Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025 & Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP Regional Action Plan)

## Note for the Stakeholder Consultation



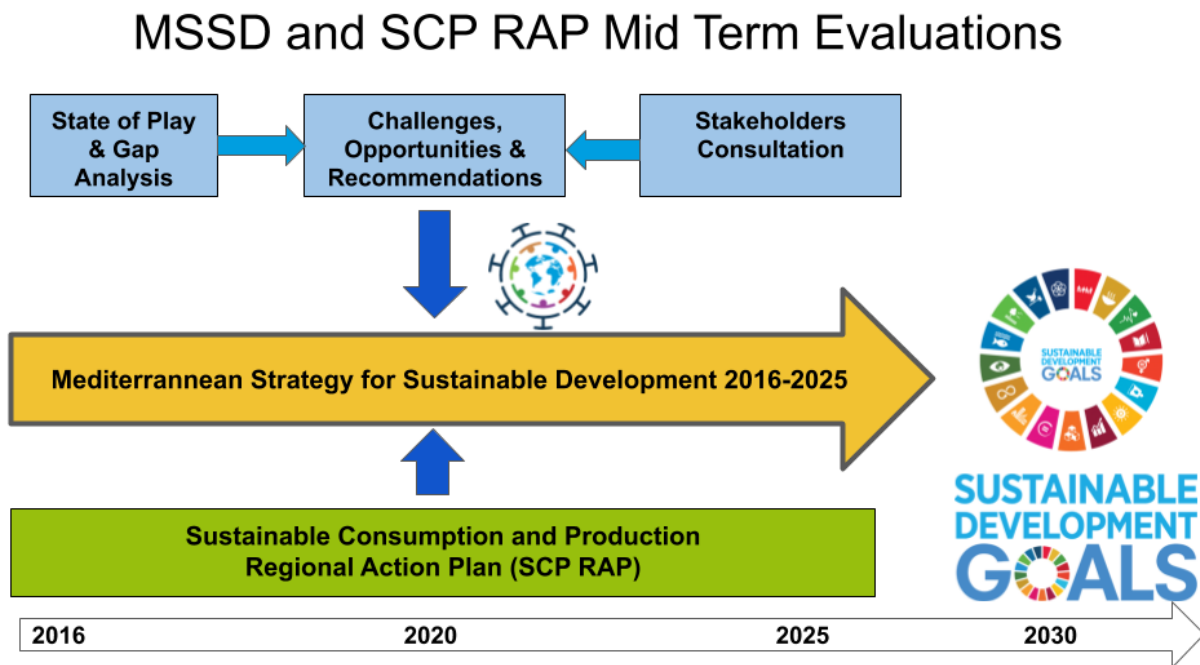
**November 2020**

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## 1. Objectives of the Consultation

As part of the Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE), this inclusive consultation process aims at collecting comments, opinions and proposals from relevant stakeholders involved in the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025 and in the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP Regional Action Plan) 2016-2027.



More specifically, the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan Mid-Term Evaluations (MTE) aim to inform on (i) the **state of the sustainability** in the Mediterranean (collecting evidence and carrying out a desktop analysis), and (ii) the implementation **progress and gaps**, providing answers to the following questions:

- Where do we stand with the implementation of the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan in the Mediterranean?
- What are the successes, challenges and gaps at the mid-term of the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan implementation?
- What are the opportunities for improvement in the second phase of implementation?

## 2. Stakeholder Consultation: Methodology

This methodology is the result of adapting, coordinating and whenever possible merging the two individual consultation processes related respectively to the MSSD and the SCP Regional Action Plan. As most of the stakeholders are common for both topics (e.g. MCSDD Members, UNEP/MAP Partners) and the timeline is very similar, this integration should increase operational synergies and consolidate learnings from the two Mid-Term Evaluations (MTE). If this integration might reduce slightly the level of details collected during the consultation, it should overall improve the number and quality of inputs from relevant stakeholders.

## **2.1. Identification and Classification of Key Stakeholders**

The participatory MSSD and SCP Action Plan Mid-Term Evaluations aim at involving all relevant stakeholders at different levels. An identification and classification of key stakeholders has been carried out. For each target group, a specific methodology has been defined in order to insure a timely, effective and fruitful exchange based on the assumed level of expertise, tentative availability and potential interest, as below:

- **TIER 1 (UNEP/MAP Components / Regional Activity Centres) – Individual interviews:** Semi-structured interviews (around 60 minutes) to collect inputs from UNEP/MAP Components / RACs, based on identified transversal issues.
- **TIER 2 (MCSD Members (40) and a selection of UNEP/MAP Partners) – Organization of two focus groups through participatory online workshops (webinars)** – one in French and one in English. Tier 2 stakeholders will be invited, on a voluntary basis and under invitation, to take part in one workshop, trying to keep a geographical, gender, sectoral and thematic balance. The 90-120 minutes online workshop will be organized to collect, in a structured, collective and constructive manner, inputs from MCSD Members and UNEP/MAP Partners.
- **TIERS 2 and 3 (MCSD Members, UNEP/MAP Partners (53), the SwitchMed Community, and any other relevant stakeholders involved or interested in the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan implementation) – Open online survey:** All identified stakeholders will be invited to fill-in an online survey on the implementation of the SCP Regional Action Plan, MSSD and SDGs in the Mediterranean region and countries.

The list of stakeholders invited to the consultation ensures a diverse and inclusive representation of different groups of interest based on:

- Geographical scope (regional, sub-regional, national)
- Gender and institutional responsibility
- Sector of origin (academia, NGO, IGO, private sector/businesses, etc.)
- Issues covered (environment, climate change, circular economy, social affairs, etc.)
- Proximity and knowledge of the UNEP/MAP system

## **2.2. Issues to be addressed by the stakeholder consultation**

The consultation will be divided in the following three parts, covering main issues related to the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan:

- **A- Progress and Implementation:** Discussion around state of progress and implementation of the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan at regional and national level, including financial mechanisms and policy instruments.
- **B- Monitoring and Evaluation:** Discussion around the relevance, accuracy and efficiency of mechanisms to supervise and monitor the implementation of the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan, including the tracking of initiatives and projects.
- **C- COVID-19 and Sustainability Agenda:** Discussion around impacts of COVID-19 crisis towards the implementation of the SCP Regional Action Plan, MSSD and SDGs in the Mediterranean region and countries.

**For Tier 1 (interviews) and Tier 2 (webinars),** the discussions will start from a quite general perspective and then focus on specific topics related to the respondents' experience and expertise.

**For stakeholder Tiers 2 and 3 – Online survey:** Stakeholders will be consulted through an online survey, where they will have to answer to a series of multiple-choice questions regarding their perception on the level of implementation of the MSSD and SCP Regional Action Plan in the Mediterranean. The questions are not mandatory so that respondents can choose in which parts they want to answer or develop their reflections according to their knowledge and experience. Stakeholders will also be asked to share any relevant proposal and recommendation that could be valuable for the mid-term evaluations. Basic personal information (country, gender, sector of origin, responsibility) will be collected anonymously to control the diversity and representativeness of participants in the consultation process.

Structure of the online survey:

- A - Statistical information
- B.1 - Review of the General Progress on the MSSD and SDGs
- B.2 - Review of Specific Progress on the thematic MSSD Objectives and Strategic Directions
- C.1 - General Progress on SCP Action Plan
- C.2 - Specific Progress on SCP Action Plan
  - SCP Regional Action Plan actions applicable to all priority areas
  - SCP Regional Action Plan operational objectives and actions by priority area
    - Food, Fisheries and Agriculture (FFA)
    - Goods manufacturing
    - Tourism
    - Housing and Construction

**3. Overview of the MSSD 2016-2025**

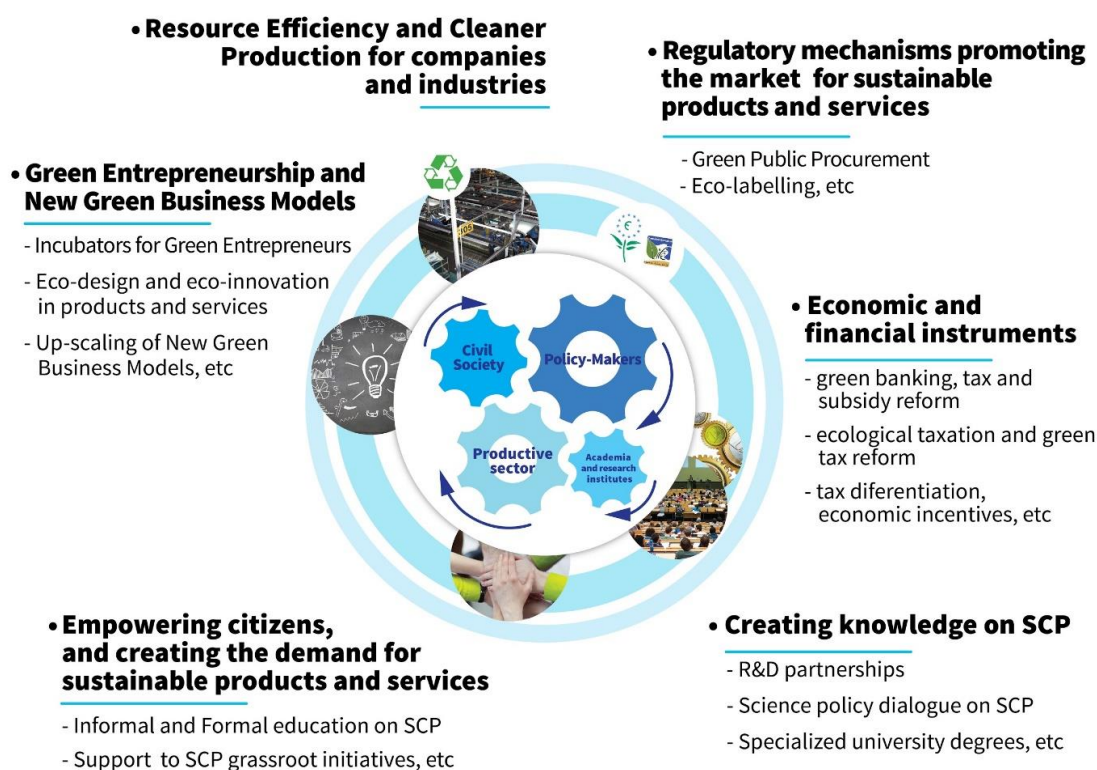
MSSD Objectives	SDGs
1. Ensuring sustainable development in <b>marine and coastal areas</b>	
2. Promoting <b>resource management, food production and food security</b> through sustainable forms of <b>rural development</b>	  
3. Planning and managing <b>sustainable Mediterranean cities</b>	 
4. Addressing <b>climate change</b> as a priority issue for the Mediterranean	
5. Transition towards a <b>green and blue economy</b>	  
6. Improving <b>governance</b> in support of sustainable development	 

The MSSD<sup>1</sup> was adopted through Decision IG.22/2 by the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP 19) (Athens, Greece, February 2016) as a strategic guiding document to translate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Mediterranean region and countries. The MSSD covers 6 Objectives, 29 Strategic Directions, 165 Actions, 8 Targets and 11 Flagships Initiatives.

#### 4. Overview of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP Regional Action Plan)

The Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean<sup>2</sup> (SCP Regional Action Plan) was also adopted at COP 19 (Decision IG.22/5), as a forward-looking framework, to complement and work in full synergy with existing national and regional policy frameworks, and to support the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The SCP Action Plan is an integral part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) Objective 5 “Transition towards a Green and Blue Economy”, which identifies the promotion of and support to green businesses as key in the transition towards a more circular economy.

The main mechanisms and stakeholders considered for the implementation of the SCP Regional Action Plan are summarized in the figure below:



<sup>1</sup> [https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/publications/mssd\\_2016-2025\\_final.pdf](https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/publications/mssd_2016-2025_final.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/20731>

The SCP Regional Action Plan defines common objectives and identifies actions guiding the implementation of sustainable consumption and production approaches in the Mediterranean. The [SCP Regional Action Plan](#) focuses on four key priority areas which are major socio-economic contributors but at the same time main upstream drivers of pollution generation and environmental pressures on the Mediterranean ecosystems: Food, Fisheries and Agriculture (FFA); Goods Manufacturing; Tourism; Housing and Construction.

## References

Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025:

[https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/publications/mssd\\_2016-2025\\_final.pdf](https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/publications/mssd_2016-2025_final.pdf)

Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean:

<https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/20731> <https://switchmed.eu/policy/regional-action-plan-sustainable-consumption-production/>

Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard (Plan Bleu): <http://obs.planbleu.org/en/>

List of selected SCP Indicators to monitor progress on SCP in the Mediterranean Region:

<https://switchmed.eu/policy/monitoring-progress-on-the-regional-action-plan-on-scp-in-the-mediterranean/>

Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (Plan Bleu, 2020): <https://planbleu.org/en/soed-2020-state-of-environment-and-development-in-mediterranean/>

Sustainable Development Goals Report 2020 (UN): <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2020/>

Sustainable Development Report 2019 - Mediterranean Countries Edition (SDSN):

<http://www.sdsn-mediterranean.unisi.it/2019/10/15/sustainable-development-report-2019-mediterranean-countries-edition/>

SwitchMed Library: <https://switchmed.eu/resources/>