



**UNITED
NATIONS**

EP

UNEP/MED WG.489/Inf.10



**UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

4 March 2021
Original: English

Second Steering Committee Meeting of the EU-funded IMAP-MPA Project

Videoconference, 24 March 2021

EU-funded Marine Litter MED II Project Document

For environmental and economic reasons, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2021



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



MEA Secretariat DG ENV GPGC PCA

Project Document

Marine Litter MED II

Project Objective & Executive Summary:

Marine Litter MED II project's objective is to further strengthen and support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.

Building on Marine Litter MED project executed during 2016-2019, the Marine Litter MED II project will further support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean at national, sub-regional and regional level with a particular focus on southern Mediterranean countries namely Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.

The overall objective of the Marine Litter MED II project is to reduce and prevent the generation of marine litter in the Mediterranean through an expanded implementation of key reduction and prevention measures as provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean. The project aims at expanding the implementation of the selected measures in terms of geographical scope and impact. The project will further contribute to the development of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 towards making it operational at country level. The project will also contribute to achieving the reduction environmental targets as agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona in 2016 during COP 18 as reaffirmed during COP 21 and referred to in its Naples Ministerial Declaration.

The Marine Litter MED II project activities will be implemented by the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat and MAP Components (i.e. MED POL, SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC and REMPEC) in line with their respective mandates and areas of expertise. The Marine Litter MED II project provides an important contribution to the implementation of UNEP/MAP MTS and 2020-2021 Programme of Work adopted at the 21st Conference of the Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP), and of several other COP Decisions related to the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, Ecosystem Approach and IMAP, with focus on supporting enhanced marine litter management and a litter-free Mediterranean.

The delivery of Marine Litter MED II project activities will be in synergy with EU MSFD and EU Single-Use Plastics Directives. The Marine Litter MED II project contributes to Sustainable Development Goal number 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and several SDG indicators.

The Marine Litter MED II Project is expected to be implemented over a period of 36 months, from June/September 2020 to May/August 2023, with an overall budget of USD 1,140,000 including PSC (USD 1,065,420 without PSC) with co-financing sources from the MTF of USD 149,955).

SIGNATURES	
Name of project manager who drafted this project document: Christos Ioakeimidis	Submission Signature: Date: ____/____/2020
Name of MEA Secretariat Coordinator/Focal point: Tatjana Hema	Clearance Signature: Date: ____/____/2020
MEA Secretariat Head of Branch managing the Project: Mohamad Kayyal	Sign Off Signature: Date: ____/____/2020
MEA Secretariat Executive Secretary/Director level: Gaetano Leone	Approval Signature: Date: ____/____/2020

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AaB	Adopt-a-beach pilots
APAL	Agence de Protection et d'Aménagement du Littoral (Coastal Protection and Planning Agency, Tunisia)
BSC	Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Permanent Secretariat)
CI	Common Indicator
COP	Conference of Parties
CORMON	Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring
DG NEAR	Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
EC	European Commission
EcAp	The Ecosystem Approach to the management of human activities that may affect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment (in the framework of the Barcelona Convention)
EcAp-MED II project	EU (GPGC) funded project on the "Mediterranean implementation of the Ecosystem Approach, in coherence with the European Union EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)"
EcAp Roadmap	Roadmap agreed in Decisions IG.17/6, IG.20/4 and IG.21/3 of the Barcelona Convention COP15, COP17 and COP 18 respectively, to implement the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean
EEAA	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (Egypt)
EGA	Environment General Authority (Libya)
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument
EO	Ecological Objective
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FfL	Fishing-for-litter pilots
FP	Focal Point
FRAs	Fisheries Restricted Areas
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GES	Good Environmental Status
GFCM	General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
GloLitter Project	IMO-FAO-Norway GloLitter Partnerships Project
GPA	Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities
GPGC	Global Public Goods and Challenges
GPML	Global Partnership on Marine Litter
G7	International intergovernmental economic organization consisting of the seven largest IMF- advanced economies in the world: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United State
G20	International forum for the governments and central bank governors from 19 countries and the European Union (EU)
HELCOM	Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission - HELCOM)
Horizon 2020 Initiative	The "Horizon 2020 Initiative" aims to de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020 by tackling the sources of pollution that account for around 80% of the overall pollution of the Mediterranean Sea: municipal waste, urban wastewater and industrial pollution.

IMAP	Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria
IMAP-MPA	Towards achieving the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast through an Ecologically Representative and Efficiently Managed and Monitored Network of Marine Protected Areas
IMELS	Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INFO/RAC	Information and Communication Regional Activity Centre
IOLR	Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research Institute
LBS	Land-based Sources
JRC	Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
Marine Litter MED	EU funded Project assisting the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MedPartnership	Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem
MED POL	Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme
MED QSR	Mediterranean Quality Status Report
ML	Marine Litter
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
MSP	Marine Spatial Planning
MTF	Mediterranean Trust Fund
MTS	Mid-Term Strategy
NAPs	National Action Plans
NES	National Environmental Strategy (Algeria)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OSPAR	Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (the 'OSPAR Convention')
ONEDD	National Observatory of the Environment and Sustainable Development (Algeria)
PoW	Programme of Work
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNAEDD	National Action Plan for the Environment and Sustainable Development (Algeria)
PSC	Project Steering Committee
QSR	Quality Status Report
RAC	Regional Activity Centre
REMPEC	Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea
RPML	Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SCP/RAC	Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEIS	Shared Environmental Information System
SEIS-MEDII project	The SEIS-MEDII project aims to promote SEIS principles in the European Neighborhood South and East regions.
Southern Mediterranean Contracting Parties	Barcelona Convention Contracting Parties which are EU Southern Neighborhood Countries ¹ (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Libya, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia)

¹ Currently, assistance to Syria is suspended under this programme.

Southern Neighborhood Countries	Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine ² , Syria and Tunisia
SPA	Specially Protected Area
SPA/BD	Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity
SPA/RAC	Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre
SUPB	Single-Use Plastic Bags
TGML	Technical Group on Marine Litter of the European Commission
UNEA	United National Environment Assembly
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP/MAP	United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan
UNEP/MAP Components	UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention Regional Activity Centres and Programmes
UNEP/MAP System	UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat Coordinating Unit and the UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centres
USD	United States Dollar
WES	Water and Environment Support Project
WWTP	Waste-Water Treatment Plants

² This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the EU Member States on this issue.

Table of Contents

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	4
Project Summary	4
Table 1: Project Information	4
Table 2: Project Duration	7
Table 3: Budget Summary.....	7
Project Justification	8
1 Problem and Situation Analysis	8
2 Relevance.....	15
2.1 Relevance to Regional, National or Subnational Priorities.....	15
2.2 Relevance to MEA Secretariat and EU Strategies	16
Results.....	17
3 Project Results	17
3.1 Theory of Change.....	17
Table 4: Proposed Countries for the Implementation of the Pilots	21
3.2 Logical Framework	3
4 Project implementation arrangements	21
4.1 Governance.....	21
4.2 Stakeholder analysis	23
5 Communications and Learning.....	40
5.1 Communication strategy.....	40
5.2 Knowledge Management	40
6 Resource Mobilization and Cost Effectiveness	41
6.1 Resource Mobilization.....	41
6.2 Cost-effectiveness	46
7 Monitoring Plan.....	46
Risk Management & Safeguards.....	12
8 Risk Management.....	12
Project Sustainability.....	15
10 Sustainability, Uptake and Replicability.....	15
Sustainability	15
11 Evaluation Plans.....	17
Additional Information.....	18
Annex A Completed ProDoc Checklist	18
Annex B Budget /Proof of secured funds.....	19
Annex C Project workplan / Activities	21
Annex E Design process.....	30
Annex F Draft donor agreements	30
Annex G Gender Marker Self Assessment	30
Annex H Project Communication and Visibility Plan	31

Project Summary

Table 1: Project Information

Identification	<Insert Umoja no: XXX>				
Project Title	Marine Litter MED II				
DG ENV GPGC Strategic Priority ³	GPGC Priority Area 1 – Component 4: International environment and Climate governance				
MEA Secretariat Executive Head managing project	Gaetano Leone, Coordinator, UNEP/MAP				
Name of Supervisor of MEA Secretariat Project Manager	Mohamad Kayyal, MED POL Programme Officer, UNEP/MAP				
Name of MEA Secretariat person(s) who drafted the ProDoc	Christos Ioakeimidis	Former Marine Litter MED Project Manager, Marine Litter Expert		UNEP/MAP, MED POL	
MEA Secretariat Project Manager and Org. Unit/Division or Region ⁴	Marine Litter MED II Project Manager	P2	UNEP/MAP	Marine Litter MED II	100% ⁵
Other Members of the Project team`	MED POL Programme Management Officer	P4	UNEP/MAP MED POL	Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)	7%
	MED POL Pollution Programme Management Officer	P3	UNEP/MAP MED POL	Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)	3%
	MED POL Programme Assistant	G5	UNEP/MAP MED POL	Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)	3%
MEA Secretariat Fund Management Officer	Lydia Eibl-Kamolleh (lydia.eibl-kamolleh@un.org)				
EC DG ENV Task Manager	Michalis Papadoyannakis (michail.papadoyannakis@ec.europa.eu)				
MEA Secretariat Programme of Work	UNEP/MAP 2020-2021 POW				
MEA Secretariat Sub-programme	Ecosystem Management				
MEA Secretariat PoW	The project will strengthen and support the Contracting Parties to The				

³ The GPGC PCA with DG Environment focuses only on the Priority area 1 – Component 4: International environment and Climate governance

⁴ Projects can only have one accountable project manager

⁵ Minimum 33% his/her time for managing project, unless otherwise justified.

<p>Expected Accomplishment(s)</p>	<p>Barcelona Convention to prevent and effectively manage marine litter through the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.</p>
<p>Indicator of the MEA(s) to which the project contributes to</p>	<p><u>Theme 1 – Governance:</u></p> <p>Indicator 3: Share of external financial resources mobilized by the entire MAP system to co-finance MTF for the implementation of the Mid-Term Strategy.</p> <p>Indicator 7. Number of MoUs/MoCs concluded or updated;8. Number of joint activities with partners.</p> <p>Indicator 9 (a): Number of countries updating and implementing national IMAP-compatible monitoring and assessment programmes.</p> <p><u>Theme 2 – Land and Sea Based Pollution:</u></p> <p>Indicator 1: Number of marine pollution prevention and control regulatory instruments and policies updated or developed.</p> <p>Indicator</p> <p>Indicator 3: Number of countries submitting reports on annual pollution loads and pollution monitoring data for agreed pollutants.</p> <p>Indicator 4(a): Number of projects identified and or prepared to eliminate pollution hot spots and respond to marine pollution.</p> <p>Indicator 4(b): Quantities of obsolete chemicals and marine litter disposed in environmentally sound manner/reduced in selected areas</p> <p>Indicator 5: Number of businesses, entrepreneurs, financial agents and civil society organizations capacitated to promote SCP solutions alternative to POPs and toxic chemicals, and marine litter reduction.</p>
<p>Most relevant MEA Secretariat PoW Output(s) to which project primarily contributes⁶</p>	<p>UNEP/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021 Outputs: 1.1.2, 1.3.1, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 1.5.1, 1.6.1, 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.4.1, 2.4.3, 2.5.2, 2.6.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.3.1, 3.4.1, 3.5.1</p>
<p>Link to relevant SDG Goals, target(s) and SDG indicator(s)⁷</p>	<p>12.4: “By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment”;</p> <p>12.5: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.</p> <p>14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.</p> <p>14.2 by 2020, sustainably manage, and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience and take action for their restoration, to achieve healthy and productive oceans</p>

⁶ Must be consistent with the Logical Framework.

⁷ http://www.unep.org/pdf/UNEP_and_the_2030_Agenda.pdf.

Type/Location	Regional: Mediterranean (with a focus on Southern-Eastern Mediterranean)	
Region (<i>delete as appropriate</i>)	Africa, West Asia	
Names of Countries	Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia	
Date of EC Task Manager approval of project	<Insert date of EC task manager's approval of project full-fledged proposal (email) - dd/mm/yyyy>	
Tentative project budget (USD)	USD 1,289,955	
EC Allocation incl. 7% programme support costs (USD)	USD 1,140,000	
Co-financing Amount (USD) ⁸	USD 149,955	
Co-financing Sources	Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF): USD 149,955	
Total Amount of Co-financing (USD)	USD 149,955	
Name of External Executing Partners ⁹	<i>Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)</i>	2009 (COP 16 - Decision IG.19/5)
	<i>Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC)</i>	2009 (COP 16 - Decision IG.19/5)
	<i>Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC)</i>	2016 (MoU signed between UNEP/MAP and BSC)

⁸ The project team must monitor the implementation of the project co-financing and keep tangible and verifiable evidences in project archives. Co-financing can be in cash and/or staff time ONLY. In kind contribution is not allowed by the EC.

⁹ A legally recognized non-profit, third-party entity (e.g. a national government entities, NGOs, INGOs, United Nations agencies, non-United Nations multi-lateral and inter-governmental entities, academia and research institutions) to which UN Environment transfers funds to implement an entire project or significant component thereof, and which is accountable for the achievement of agreed results.

Table 2: Project Duration

Total duration in months: 36	Expected start and end date ¹⁰ : <i>September 2020- August 2023</i>	Project actual start and end date ¹¹ :
Expected Mid-term Review or evaluation date (if project spans over more than one biennium <i>NA</i>)	Terminal Evaluation date: <i>December 2023</i> ¹²	

Table 3: Budget Summary¹³

MEA Secretariat will adapt Table 3 to their project budget structure.

In USD currency

TYPE OF FUNDING	SOURCE OF FUNDING	Details	Year 1 (4 months)	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4 (8 months)	Total (USD)	
CASH	Environment Fund activity budget		-	-	-	-	-	
	Regular Budget activity budget		-	-	-	-	-	
	TOTAL EF/RB BUDGET							
	Extrabudgetary Funding (posts + non-post+PMC)	Secured (European Commission DG ENV GPGC PCA)		\$62,286	\$382,644	\$390,313	\$230,177	\$1,065,420
		PSC (7%)		\$4,360	\$26,785	\$27,322	\$16,112	\$74,579
		Unsecured XB funding						\$0
TOTAL XB BUDGET			\$66,645	\$409,429	\$417,635	\$246,289	\$1,140,000	
IN-KIND	Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)/OTA Post Costs & Activities		\$27,768	\$55,951	\$44,158	\$22,079	\$149,955	
	Regular Budget post costs							
	Other (include name of donor)							
TOTAL IN-KIND BUDGET			\$27,768	\$55,951	\$44,158	\$22,079	\$149,955	
TOTAL UNEP/MAP MANAGED PROJECT BUDGET		PROJECT CASH BUDGET + UNEP/MAP IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	\$94,413	\$465,380	\$461,793	\$268,368	\$1,289,955	

¹⁰ Tentative start date to be entered by project manager/proponent

¹¹ Project actual start date is the date of project approval by EC task manager (day/month/year)

¹² Any terminal evaluation must commence at least 6 months before project end date

¹³ The summary table can be extracted directly from the excel budget sheet accessible in the UNEP intranet [Quality Assurance Section \(QAS\)](#) (Umoja_budget template_July 2015). The detailed project budget is to be presented as Annex B.

Project Justification

1 Problem and Situation Analysis¹⁴

The Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean (hereinafter referred to as the Marine Litter Regional Plan) was adopted in 2013 by COP17 of the Barcelona Convention and entered into force in July 2014. Since its adoption, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have implemented several measures provided for in the Marine Litter Regional Plan addressing marine litter reduction, prevention and monitoring. The Contracting Parties benefited from two major projects executed by United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) and its Components for the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan: (i) the European Union (EU) funded Marine Litter MED Project, and (ii) the Cooperation Agreement between UNEP and the Italian Ministry for Environment Land and Sea Protection (IMELS). Two additional EU funded projects (i.e. EcAp MED II and ENI-SEIS II South) have supported a considerable number of marine litter-related activities regarding monitoring, information system and indicators' assessment.

The EU-funded Marine Litter MED Project (herein after referred to as ML MED Project) has supported since 2016 the southern Mediterranean Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention to implement specific measures of the Marine Litter Regional Plan on the ground. It also contributed to the development of several regional guidelines and guidance documents for selected measures related to the removal and prevention of marine litter. Another important component of the project was to further collaboration and sharing of experiences among European Regional Seas for the implementation of the respective Marine Litter Regional/Action Plans with a focus on bilateral collaboration between UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention and Black Sea Commission.

This project ended in December 2019 and specifically contributed to four major outputs as presented below to:

A. Assist the implementation of selected prevention and reduction measures, at pilot scale, as provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean and in the updated National Action Plans (NAPs). The ML MED Project supported since 2016 the implementation of key reduction and prevention measures of the Marine Litter Regional Plan (i.e. Art.9 and Art.10) at pilot scale, including provisions for technical assistance (Art. 15) in seven Mediterranean Countries (i.e. Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia) for the implementation of "Adopt-a-Beach" (AaB) and "Fishing-for-Litter" (FFL) measures; phasing out of single-use plastic bags in the Mediterranean; better management of sea-based litter in ports and marinas. More than 20 pilot projects were implemented in the beneficiary countries related to above mentioned measures supported by sharing of best practices within and outside the Mediterranean region. The ML MED Project demonstrated the added value of the work undertaken thus far and the need for continued support to scale up and expand the implementation of other measures to combat marine litter in the respective Mediterranean Countries with a focus on prevention and reduction. The ML MED Project also supported to further develop an agreement by the Contracting Parties on the most representative species to assess the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) Candidate Indicator 24 related to marine litter ingested by or entangled by endangered species with a particular focus on marine turtles, including the development of an integrated operational monitoring strategy and monitoring protocol.

¹⁴ In this section of problem analysis, you are expected to explain the situation analysis for all those who could be affected, positively and or negatively. The full analysis in terms of their involvement is to be discussed in the following sections on stakeholder analysis. Ideally, such problem analysis should be the product of a participatory process involving all project stakeholders. For further guidance see UN Environment Programme Manual.

B. Strengthen the implementation of harmonized approaches at regional and sub-regional levels to reduce and prevent marine litter generation from land-based and sea-based sources including pilot prevention. The ML MED Project developed and negotiated five sets of regional guidelines on the above marine litter management measures. The set of guidelines developed under the ML MED Project were reviewed and approved through a series of expert regional meetings and Focal Points Meetings (i.e. MED POL, SCP/RAC and REMPEC) organized in 2018 and 2019 and most importantly by the 21st Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019 - Decision IG.24/11).

C. Assist the establishment of regional and bilateral cooperation mechanisms with relevant regional actors as well as European Regional Sea Conventions to enhance synergies for the implementation of the Marine Litter Action Plans adopted or in process of preparation, particularly focusing on the collaboration with the Black Sea Commission. The ML MED Project supported the Black sea Commission to adopt a regional plan on marine litter and to develop a regional monitoring programme. In line with Art. 17 and 18 of the Marine Litter Regional Plan, the ML MED project supported and encouraged the establishment of one of the most innovative mechanisms in the region and beyond to enhance coordination and collaboration among relevant regional and global organizations on issues related to marine litter management. To this aim the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean was established in 2016 as an open-ended group of over 25 regional and global organizations with equal footing participation. To date, the three meetings of the Regional Platforms held have supported resource mobilization; concerted actions; and enhanced synergies in the region.

D. Enhance and establish strong synergies and complementarities with other projects in the Mediterranean. The ML MED Project achieved strong synergies and complementarities with the EU-funded ECAP MED II, ENI-SEIS II South Projects and SWIM H2020 Support Mechanism Projects. The EcAp MED II Project focused on the development of the national monitoring programmes on marine litter for the IMAP Common Indicators 22 and 23, while the ML MED Project supported the development of the IMAP Candidate Indicator 24. The ML MED Project complemented the EcAp MED II Project and the SWIM H2020 Support Mechanism through the support they provided to the implementation of AaB measures which led to support and capacity building to beach marine litter monitoring (IMAP Common Indicator 22) and collection of data from the selected sites.

The ML MED Project established synergies with the ENI-SEIS II South project aiming at supporting the implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles in beneficiary countries of common interest (i.e. Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia) on pollution related issues including marine litter. The ENI-SEIS II Project developed a set of marine litter related indicators addressing pressures and responses that aim at complementing IMAP Common and Candidate Indicators 22, 23 and 24 with information on sources of marine litter and effectiveness of measures to prevent and reduce marine litter from the solid waste management sector. It also contributed to the establishment of an information system for these indicators based on shared information principles.

Tangible results were obtained by the project with regards to the effect of marine litter (i.e. ingestion and entanglement) on biota with a particular focus on marine turtles. Synergies can be showcased with the EU-funded projects: INDICIT I and II, MEDSEALITTER, Switch MED, PlasticBusters MPAs. A strong linkage between the previous ML MED Project and the cooperation agreement between UNEP/MAP and IMELS was ensured through the relevant work from the implementation of selected reduction and prevention measures (i.e. offering a coherent approach at regional and sub-regional level), further detailing the work related to the marine litter hotspot identification into the Adriatic. The project also demonstrated synergies and cooperation with projects being active to other regions, e.g. EU-funded MARELITT Baltic Project and the development of the risk assessment tool.

The ML MED II Project is considered indispensable to maintain the momentum created during the implementation of the previous ML MED Project in the southern Mediterranean countries and harness previous and ongoing relevant efforts achieved by other EU-funded programmes and projects namely the MARELITT Baltic, INDICIT I and II, MEDSEALITTER, Switch MED, PlasticBusters MPAs, as well as the recent MED REGION, COMMON and the upcoming EU-funded EcAp MED III and IMAP-MPA projects.

The ML MED II Project will contribute to the mandates deriving from the UNEA-4 resolutions on strengthening global governance on marine plastic litter and microplastics (UNEP/EA.4/L.7), solid waste management (UNEP/EA.4/L.8), sound management of chemicals and waste (UNEP/EA.4/L.9), as well as addressing single-use plastics pollution (UNEP/EA.4/L.10). Synergies will be also explored with the UNEP/GPA Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) as well as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships and forthcoming IMO Strategy. The ML MED II Project will attempt to consider in its activities the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), the European Plastic Strategy, the Circular Economy Strategy, as well as the revised EU Directive on Port Reception Facilities.

Above all, the ML MED II Project will consider all the relevant COP 21 decisions of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention as indicated above with a special focus on Decision IG.24/4 on the “Roadmap and Needs Assessment for the 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report”; Decision IG.24/10 on the “Main Elements of the Six Regional Plans to Reduce/Prevent Marine Pollution from Land-Based Sources; Updating the Annexes to the LBS and Dumping Protocols of the Barcelona Convention”; Decision IG.24/11 on the “Regional Marine Litter Guidelines”, as well as the COP21 Naples Ministerial Declaration.

The ML MED II Project will address three main components as described below, benefiting and building upon the successful outcomes of its first phase which will be used as reference point:

- a) **Support Monitoring and Assessment;**
- b) **Scale up and expand pilot project implementation of related measures of the Marine Litter Regional Plan; and**
- c) **Enhance interregional cooperation with a focus on Black Sea region and GFCM.**

a) Support Monitoring and Assessment:

UNEP/MAP issued the 2017 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (MED QSR) which provided a comprehensive overview for IMAP Ecological Objective 10 (EO10), Common Indicator 22 (CI22)¹⁵ and Common Indicator 23 (CI23)¹⁶ whereby several issues were raised, and recommendations were made. The lack of a coherent approach for the development of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 “*Trends in the amount of litter ingested by or entangling marine organisms focusing on selected mammals, marine birds, and marine turtles*” was stressed, including the need to establish standardized monitoring protocols, building countries’ capacities on several marine litter monitoring and assessment elements, including riverine inputs.

In the Mediterranean, there is a need to undertake for the first time a coordinated assessment on the use and sources of microplastics that may lead to the commitment to new measures and the need to develop new protocols for their monitoring and assessment, especially those originating from Waste Water Treatment Plants (WWTP). In line with the above priorities, the ML MED II project will focus on further developing IMAP EO10 Candidate Indicator 24; undertake an assessment of microplastic use and sources in the Mediterranean; support the preparation of microplastic monitoring protocol from WWTP, and support monitoring and assessment of marine litter riverine inputs. This will support the implementation of a number of specific measures related to microplastics and riverine inputs that were

¹⁵ “Trends in the amount of litter washed ashore and/or deposited on coastlines”

¹⁶ “Trends in the amount of litter in the water column including microplastics and on the seafloor”

highlighted by the meeting of the designated experts representing the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for updating the Marine Litter Regional Plan and COP 21 Decision IG.24/10 “Main Elements of the Six Regional Plans to Reduce/Prevent Marine Pollution from Land-Based Sources; Updating the Annexes to the LBS and Dumping Protocols of the Barcelona Convention”, currently under preparation by UNEP/MAP and its MED POL programme.

Candidate Common Indicator 24:

Together with INDICIT-I Project, the previous ML MED Project developed monitoring protocols for assessing the interaction of marine litter (i.e. ingestion and entanglement) with endangered species with a focus on sea turtles. A Mediterranean network on IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 has been established based on the preliminary network established by MEDSEALITTER project (i.e. non-EU Countries and stakeholders were involved). The ML MED II Project will collaborate with INDICIT-II to expand and undertake capacity building activities related to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 in the Southern Mediterranean Countries.

IMAP Marine Litter Common Indicators and Microplastics:

UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat has been implementing since September 2019 a new project titled IMAP-MPA¹⁷ (funded under the Green Med II EU Strategy). A new EU-funded EcAp MED III¹⁸ Project to be executed by UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention system has been approved and its implementation is expected to start in autumn 2020. Both projects address the implementation of national IMAPs in an integrated manner, including for the marine litter cluster, were elaborated during the implementation of the EU-funded EcAp MED II Project.

Both projects will focus on providing support to the monitoring and assessment of mandatory IMAP indicators. The ML MED II Project will act as a natural complement to the efforts that will be undertaken through the EcAp MED III and IMAP-MPA Projects which both support the implementation of National IMAPs. The primary focus of EcAp MED III Project will be to support southern Mediterranean countries implement their national monitoring programmes and deliver data for **12 mandatory IMAP indicators**; to contribute to 2023 MED QSR fostering IMAP implementation at national, regional and sub-regional levels including on marine litter mandatory indicators. The IMAP-MPA Project will contribute to the assessment of MPA effectiveness, in synergy with the work carried out in the framework of the Interreg-MED Act4Litter project and is currently ongoing in the framework of the PlasticBusters MPAs project, through IMAP implementation and based on national IMAPs, of biodiversity and non-indigenous species, pollution and marine litter and hydrography clusters in an integrated manner.

For microplastics, individual reports and assessments¹⁹ do exist for the Mediterranean and globally, mainly reflecting abundance figures and rates, distribution, as well as the different types of the recorded

¹⁷ “Towards achieving the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and coast through an ecologically representative and efficiently managed and monitored network of Marine Protected Areas”

¹⁸ Efficient Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach-based Integrated Monitoring and Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea and Coasts in synergy with the EU MSFD.

¹⁹ GESAMP (2015). “Sources, fate and effects of microplastics in the marine environment: a global assessment” (Kershaw, P. J., ed.). (IMO/FAO/UNESCO-IOC/UNIDO/WMO/IAEA/UN/UNEP/UNDP Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection). Rep. Stud. GESAMP No. 90, 96 p.

UNEP (2016). Marine plastic debris and microplastics – Global lessons and research to inspire action and guide policy change. United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi.

EUNOMIA/ICF (2018). Investigating options for reducing releases in the aquatic environment of microplastics emitted by (but not intentionally added in) products. Report for DG Environment of the European Commission.

Koelmans et al., (2019). Microplastics in Freshwaters and Drinking Water: Critical Review and Assessment of Data Quality. *Water Research* 155, DOI: 10.1016/j.watres.2019.02.054.

microplastics. However, little is known about the different sources and thus uses of the primary and secondary microplastics in the Mediterranean, including those quantities escaping from the Waste Water Treatment Plants (WWTP). This is the area where ML MED II Project will touch upon and will build upon the existing knowledge, information and assessment aiming filling the gaps for the Mediterranean, including the development of relevant monitoring protocols, which will guide, at a later stage, the introduction of relevant measures and the implementation of adequate policies.

Marine Litter Riverine Inputs:

The ML MED II Project will address monitoring of marine litter originating from riverine inputs focusing on the development of dedicated monitoring protocols, taking also into account the relevant developments under the EU MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter (TGML) process (e.g. JRC RIMMEL project). Such an approach is of particular interest for the Mediterranean as it will provide with data and information on the riverine inputs also considering the temporal and spatial characteristics (e.g. seasonal torrents and riverine inputs) that will complement the 2023 MED QSR with the analysis of respective marine litter pressures. EcAp MED III nor IMAP-MPA Projects do not address the monitoring and assessment of marine litter riverine inputs.

Synergies with other relevant projects:

Synergies were explored with the new Water and Environment Support (WES) project, a new EU-funded project following the SWIM H2020 Support Mechanism started since May 2019; in particular with those activities focusing on microplastics and on single-use plastic items. Every effort is and will be made to maximize synergies, among the three projects to be executed by MAP/Barcelona Convention system namely EcAp MED III, IMAP MPA Projects for the marine litter monitoring elements, and with ML MED II Project where applicable.

As a conclusion with regards to monitoring and assessment of GES, the three Projects (i.e. ML MED II, EcAp MED III and IMAP-MPA) aim to deliver through their complementarities a reliable data for IMAP marine litter mandatory indicators, IMAP marine litter candidate Indicators, monitoring and assessment integration aspects including marine litter pressures assessment. The ML MED II Project will, in particular, deliver complementary data regarding use of microplastic in the region and for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 as well as on riverine inputs, thus contributing to 2023 MED QSR assessing other pressures and sources generating marine litter.

Castor-Jiménez et al., (2019). Macro-litter in surface waters from the Rhone River: Plastic pollution and loading to the NW Mediterranean Sea. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 146, pp. 60-66.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2019.05.067>.

Schmidt et al., (2019). Occurrence of organic plastic additives in surface waters of the Rhône River (France). *Environmental Pollution* 113637. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2019.113637>.

ECHA/PR/19/03: [European Chemicals Agency \(ECHA\) proposes to restrict intentionally added microplastics](#).

WHO (2019). *Microplastics in drinking-water*. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2019. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO. ISBN 978-92-4-151619-8.

Kedzierski et al. (2019). Microplastics in Mediterranean Sea: A protocol to robustly assess contamination characteristics. *PLoS ONE* 14(2): e0212088. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0212088>.

Dalberg Advisors, WWF Mediterranean Marine Initiative, (2019). *Stop the Flood of Plastic: How Mediterranean countries can save their sea*.

Abreu & Pedrotti, (2019). *Microplastics in the oceans: the solutions lie on land*. *Field Actions Science Reports*, Special Issue 19: <http://journals.openedition.org/factsreports/5290>.

b) Scale up and expand pilot project implementation of selected measures of the Marine Litter Regional Plan:

The previous ML MED Project indicated the need to further expand and scale up several measures implemented at pilot scale tackling both land- and sea-based sources as well as enhancing capacities at national level for the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan. The ML MED II project will work towards scaling up and expanding the impact and geographical scope of the said pilots by increasing their number and extent nationally with the aim to achieve the region-wide reduction targets for marine litter.

During the first phase of the project numerous pilots were implemented with regards to the implementation of AaB and FfL measures, as well as pilots to better management of sea-based litter in ports and marinas. The AaB measure was implemented with success to approximately 19 sites in Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia; whereas FfL measures were implemented in approximately 5 sites in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia. The contribution of the AaB pilots with valuable data to the MED POL exercise related to the update of the baseline values on marine, and the development of threshold values, is considered of major achievement and also proves the effectiveness of the measure. With regards to single-use plastic items and the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) strategy, technical assistance was provided to Morocco on beverage packaging; to Tunisia, Lebanon and Egypt on single-use plastic bags, and to Algeria on food and beverage packaging. With regards to the better management of marine litter ports and marinas 8 pilots were implemented in Algeria (1 major port and 1 marina), Morocco (2 major ports and 2 marinas) and Tunisia (1 major port and 1 marina). The 8 pilots were implemented, in selected major ports and marinas, to determine the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the No-Special-Fee system as well to the provision of reception facilities in ports and the delivery of ship-generated wastes. Based on the outcomes of the pilots implemented during the first phase of the project in selected major ports and marinas, a targeted diagnosis, expert advice, including recommendations, as well as individual country reports were delivered. For all the aforementioned described measures, the regional guidelines that were developed in the framework of the first phase of the project, enabled the implementation of the said measures in a coherent and coordinated way in all beneficiary countries and thus providing a regional approach and response in preventing and reducing marine litter in the Mediterranean.

ML MED II Project will build upon the successful outcomes of the first phase of the project with the ultimate goal to scale up the implementation of similar pilots to additional sites with the scope to maximize impact, to engage additional stakeholders and civil society at national level, as well as to continue the implementation of the measures based on the guidance provided from the relevant guidelines.

For the AaB pilots, additional sites will be introduced increasing the spatial coverage of the pilots and thus increasing the related impact in relevance to the engagement of the civil society, the reduction of the marine litter items that is accumulating on the Mediterranean coastline, as well as the contribution with data to the under-development national monitoring programmes for marine litter.

For the FfL pilots, the local fishermen will actively contribute and will be directly involved through their standard fisheries operation in the retrieval of marine litter quantities and thus the pilots will have a more operational character during the execution of ML MED II Project. In this regard, synergies and cooperation with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) will be explored, in particular on the work related to the identification of fisheries-related items hotspot areas in the Mediterranean. Moreover, efforts will be made to test to the extent possible the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) voluntary guidelines on the marking of fishing gear.

For the pilots related to the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and the reduction of single-use plastic items, ML MED II will continue supporting countries to enable proper and sustainable alternative option to the use of other priority single use plastics items. This need was particular evident for the single-use plastic bags during the first phase of the project. The proposed project will focus in expanding the technical support to the beneficiary countries, to other priority²⁰ single-use plastic items ensuring coherence and synergies with the recent EU Directive on Single-Use Plastics. Single use plastics will be also addressed in the newly introduced EU-funded WES project; however, no overlapping is expected. While the previous and the new ML MED II Projects have worked and will be working on providing technical assistance for the development of the national regulatory framework for single-use plastics, WES project will include a very strong awareness-raising component which perfectly supplements and adds-on to the technical assistance that will be provided by the ML MED II Project.

For the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas, the new project will capitalize the activities of the first phase of the project by promoting its deliverables and mainly focus on following up on the recommendations provided to the major port and marina having benefited from the first phase of the project, as well as on expanding the implementation more widely in the respective beneficiary countries (i.e. additional major ports and marinas), possibly using a twinning approach at both the national and regional level. The added value of the upgraded pilots would be three-fold: (i) To implement the Operational Guidelines and Guidance Document in the ports and marinas of the beneficiary countries, as appropriate, as part of their implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan; (ii) To establish a network of major ports and marinas at the national and regional level aimed at sharing knowledge and experience of implementing the Operational Guidelines and Guidance Document between them, possibly through a twinning approach; and (iii) To implement specific actions to address marine plastic litter from ships arising from the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships (resolution MEPC.310(73)) as well as the forthcoming IMO Strategy, which will contribute primarily to actions 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 28, 29 and 30, and secondarily to actions 4, 8, 23, 24 and 25.

c) Enhance interregional cooperation with a focus on Black Sea region and GFCM:

The ML MED II Project is conceived as mutually supportive and complementary to other important initiatives in the region. Concerted efforts towards the coordination with relevant projects executed both within and outside of the MAP system will ensure a harmonized approach to the principle elements of environmental custodianship – and in respect of the physical nature of the marine environment in the entire Mediterranean Basin. Most importantly, the proposed project activities are inscribed in the mature institutional, regulatory and operational system of the MAP-Barcelona Convention, and by doing so, the project ensures the collective and individual political ‘buy-in’ by the countries as well as overall regional cooperation.

In this respect the project will work to maximize synergies with other projects as well as the ongoing work for the implementation of the marine litter Regional Action plans in the European seas, respectively OSPAR, HELCOM and Black Sea Commission (BSC). Attention will be paid to expand the composition of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter with regional organizations and projects working on marine litter in the southern and eastern Mediterranean.

Based on the assumption that the Black Sea IMAP will be adopted from the Black Sea countries in 2020-2021; an important project outcome will be the on-the-ground support to Black sea region countries (2 eligible countries, namely Georgia and Ukraine) to develop national monitoring programmes related to marine litter based on MAP IMAP experiences and in synergy or coherence with EU MSFD. Furthermore, in eligible Black Sea countries limited pilots related to Adopt-a-beach measures will be implemented in

²⁰ Based on the results of the AaB and FfL pilots of the first phase of the project and the corresponding top-lists of marine litter items at national level.

selected areas. All relevant activities that will be carried out in the Black Sea region, will be implemented by and coordinated by the BSC Permanent Secretariat through the establishment of a relevant legal agreement with UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention.

The ML MED II Project can be regarded as the meaningful evolution of the previous ML MED Project that successfully developed numerous pilots in the Mediterranean to foster the implementation of several provisions of the Marine Litter Regional Plan achieving concrete results in meeting the marine litter reduction targets adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2016.

2 Relevance

2.1 Relevance to Regional, National or Subnational Priorities

The project is fully relevant with the requirements of and obligations under the **Marine Litter Regional Plan** (Decision IG.21/7 – COP 18) and the **National Action Plans (NAPs)** of the Mediterranean Countries as endorsed by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention during COP 19 (Decision IG.22/08). The project will contribute to the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) Roadmap (COP 17 - Decision IG.20/4), and the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme for the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria (IMAP) (COP 19 – Decision IG.22/7), both adopted and implemented in the framework of the Barcelona Convention.

The ML MED II Project will also contribute to the mandates deriving from the UNEA 4 resolutions on strengthening global governance on marine plastic litter and microplastics (UNEP/EA.4/L.7), solid waste management (UNEP/EA.4/L.8), sound management of chemicals and waste (UNEP/EA.4/L.9), as well as addressing single-use plastics pollution (UNEP/EA.4/L.10). Synergies will be also explored with the UNEP/GPA²¹ Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) as well as the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships and forthcoming IMO Strategy.

The project also contributes in the achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, in particular of:

- **SDG Target 12.4:** *“By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment”;*
- **SDG Target 12.5:** *“By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.”; and*
- **SDG Target 14.1:** *“By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.”*
- **SDG Target 14.2:** *“By 2020, sustainably manage, and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience and take action for their restoration, to achieve healthy and productive oceans.”*

²¹ Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities.

2.2 Relevance to MEA Secretariat and EU Strategies

The ML MED II Project proposal is in line with the UNEP/MAP 2016-2021 Mid Term Strategy (MTS) and the 2020-2021 Programme of Work (PoW) (i.e. Core Themes of “Governance” and “Land and Sea Based Pollution”). The ML MED II Project activities and relevant outputs will also feed the new cycle of UNEP/MAP MTS for the period 2022-2027.

The ML MED II Project will support European Commission transition towards a circular economy²² and the first-ever European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy²³ adopted on January 2018; as well as the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) (Directive 2008/56/EC), the revised EU Directive on Port Reception Facilities (Directive (EU) 2019/883), and the recent Directive on Single-Use Plastics (Directive (EU) 2019/904); and the Commission Decision (EU) 2017/848 of May 2017 on criteria and methodological standards for achieving Good Environmental Status (GES) of marine waters.

²² <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/>

²³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52018DC0028&from=EN>

Results

3 Project Results

3.1 Theory of Change

The ML MED II Project aims to provide a structured approach for the follow-up to the challenges observed during the implementation of the previous ML MED Project. It also aims to formulate solutions for addressing these challenges with regards to in-situ and operational aspects of the implementation of already developed prevention and reduction measures foreseen in the Marine Litter Regional Plan; as well as to capitalize and further advance on previously supported pilot actions in terms of broader geographical scope and effect at national level as well as expand marine litter monitoring and assessment efforts beyond the scope of IMAP with the view to also addressing interlinkages of GES assessment with pressures as indicated by Barcelona Convention COP 20 Decision on 2017 MED QSR, in the context of enhanced regional and sub regional cooperation and as also provided in the “Roadmap and Needs Assessment for the 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report” as approved by COP 21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019 – Decision IG.24/4).

Outcome 1: Enhance national capacities on monitoring and assessing marine litter addressing pressures/sources and impacts to contribute to 2023 MED QSR with quality assured data addressing pressures and effectiveness of measures in line with COP 20 Decision on 2017 MED QSR:

During the previous ML MED Project an assessment for the most representative species to be used for the monitoring requirements under IMAP EO10 Candidate Indicator 24 was done through which sea turtles were identified as a priority species for which a regional monitoring strategy has been developed. To address this issue, and to facilitate the operationalization of the regional monitoring strategy, the previous ML MED Project developed monitoring protocols and strengthened regional and national capacities through the development of a network of rescue centers and relevant institutes which could act as the vehicle for the implementation of the said regional monitoring strategy. ML MED II Project will further advance the respective work for sea turtles aiming to operationalize and streamline the regional strategy at country level and thus to support with data the process towards the transition of the IMAP Ecological Objective (EO) 10 Candidate Indicator 24, from candidate to a common/mandatory indicator, and the delivery of the 2023 MED QSR. It also aims at introducing elements on monitoring and assessing riverine inputs and microplastics (i.e. uses and sources), focusing on filling knowledge and data gaps, as well as to develop methodologies and protocols (based on existing efforts e.g. JRC/RIMMEL and EU MSFD TGML) with a focus to adjust them to the Mediterranean needs.

Proposed Activities/ Description:

1. Support countries to further advance and operationalize monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, with a focus on the ground implementation of the operation strategy as developed during the previous ML MED Project.
2. Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.
3. Update Baseline Values and establish threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.

4. Assess and further specify the environmental reduction targets as agreed by COP 19 in 2016 and reconfirmed in Naples Ministerial Declaration of COP 21 in December 2019, including to prevent and significantly reduce plastic leakage in the Mediterranean Sea and to progressively achieve 100% plastic waste collection and recycling by 2025.
5. Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work. This would prepare the grounds for consider expanding the marine litter common indicators of IMAP to include an indicator on riverine inputs.
6. Assess the main uses and sources of microplastics in the Mediterranean, as well as microplastic leakages into the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean, focusing on existing studies with the aim to fill the gap for the Mediterranean and subsequently will result in proposing accordingly necessary measures as well as a protocol for microplastic monitoring coming from Waste Water Treatment Plants (WWTP).
7. Support national Governments and competent entities in building capacity through technical assistance, training and collaboration for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine inputs, and microplastic deriving from WWTP.

As indicated in the previous chapter, the ML MED II Project will support and supplement the EcAp MED II and III projects towards providing a coherent and coordinated approach in the development and progression of all IMAP marine litter-related indicators. In addition, and dependent upon data availability from the Contracting Parties, the ML MED II Project will seek to also provide a better insight on the riverine inputs of marine litter considering the Mediterranean specificities (i.e. seasonal storm water, and water torrents). The basis for a regional assessment on the main sources and uses of microplastics in the Mediterranean will be introduced through the ML MED II project aiming also to contribute accordingly to the upgrade of the Marine Litter Regional Plan to be undertaken in 2020/2021.

Specific training workshops and capacity building activities will periodically be undertaken to support beneficiary countries in their use of the new information system, including skills for the interfacing of the IMAP Info System operationally with the national information systems and familiarization with the corresponding data standards and data dictionaries for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.

All the work implemented under Outcome 1 will consider synergies, consistency and coherence with the EU MSFD process and relevant development for the marine litter indicators in the framework of the EU MSFD TGML and relevant global development led by UNEP.

All ML MED II Project deliverables under this output will be submitted to and reviewed by the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring Marine Litter (CorMon Marine Litter) meetings during 2020-2022 for their validation and other MAP bodies.

Outcome 2: Scale up and expand the implementation of pilot implementation of selected marine litter reduction and prevention measures at national and local level:

Based on the quantitative evaluation that UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention and its MED POL programme undertook in November 2019 for the purpose of updating the 2016 Baseline Values for marine litter, during which the data acquired from the pilots were taken into consideration, the preliminary analysis indicates a reduction of 39% for beach marine litter and 66% for seafloor macro-litter compared against the 2016 baseline values for marine litter that were adopted by the Decision IG. 22/10 of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

The situation analysis presented in Section 1 of this Project document shows that the “Adopt-a-beach”, “Fishing-for-Litter”, phasing out single-use plastic bags and enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas could benefit from an upscaled implementation and in spite of the delays faced the could substantially contribute to the achievement of the marine litter prevention and reduction targets committed by the Contracting Parties in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention, Marine Litter Regional Plan, and the most recent COP21 Naples Ministerial Declaration. Moreover, the effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic into the generation of single-use plastic items ending up as marine litter will also be taken into consideration in the design of the ML MED II project.

As a result the following measures will be expanded in terms of geographical scope and impact at national level, aiming to capitalize and further advance the efforts carried out since 2016 with the aim to achieving the region-wide reduction targets as agreed in 2016, including a 20% reduction for beach marine litter by 2024 and statistically significant decrease for seafloor and floating marine litter including microplastics.

Proposed Activities/Description:

- 1) Implement AaB measures, with the scope to expand their geographical scope (at least 1 additional pilot per country) and related impact on further enhancing awareness raising of national/local communities.
- 2) Implement FfL measures (i.e. passive scheme), in at least one additional fishing port with the scope to remove existing marine litter from the marine environment; Efforts will be made to test to the extent possible the FAO voluntary guidelines on the marking of fishing gear and to cooperation with GFCM towards addressing the contribution of aquaculture in marine litter and microplastic generation.
- 3) Further sensitize and engage fishermen to the purpose of minimizing sea-based sources; and contribute to extent possible with data on seafloor marine litter.
- 4) Phase out priority single-use marine litter items from the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment, with a focus on advancing the existing work on single-use plastic bags promoting proper and sustainable alternatives, including on single-use plastic items intensively used, or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic²⁴; and to further support the improvement of the legal framework for other single-use items ending up as marine litter, in line with the new EU Single-Use Plastics Directive and possibly the updated Marine Litter Regional Plan.
- 5) Expand the implementation of pilots (at least one additional port and one marina for the countries participated to the first phase of the project and, where possible, one port and one marina for those countries that did not participate in the first phase of the project) related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas in the Mediterranean, with a focus on advancing the existing work on the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the No-Special-Fee system as well to the provision of reception facilities in ports and the delivery of ship-generated wastes, and to explore and establish synergies between the Marine Litter Regional Plan and the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships, as well as other relevant plans or initiatives.

Achievements, lessons learned from the implementation of pilots under this output will be subject to review by MAP Component Focal Points meetings and regional meetings on best practices and will feed the process of updating the Marine Litter Regional Plan as mandated by COP 21 of the Barcelona Convention (Naples, Italy 2-5 December 2019).

²⁴ i.e. single-use plastic gloves and masks.

Outcome 3: Maximize synergies on marine litter actions in the Region with a focus on the collaboration with the Black Sea Commission and GFCM, and other regional partners:

This outcome has been structured to further strengthen the cooperation of UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat with other European Regional Seas Programmes and Conventions, in priority areas for cooperation as identified during the 2018-2019 biennium. Building on the outcomes of the previous ML MED Project, ML MED II Project will focus on providing support to the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC), aiming to assist BSC and Black Sea in the preliminary stages of implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter for the Black Sea Region, as adopted in October 2018, and to further advance and make operational the Marine Litter Guidelines developed in the framework of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme for the Black Sea Region (BS IMAP). Cooperation with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) will be also supported aiming to further streamline marine litter issues into the fisheries agenda and to support the development of the GFCM Adaptation Strategy on Marine Litter.

Based on the Conclusions and Recommendations of the of the 6th European Regional Seas Coordination Meeting (Vrachati, Greece, July 2018) and the Workshop on the implementation of the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions (Metz, France, 5-6 May 2019), as well as on a number of global processes, including the UNEA 4 Ministerial Declaration, the need for strengthened collaboration between Regional Seas Programmes and fisheries bodies, in the context of wider global initiatives on fishery management has been highlighted. A proposed list of key areas of potential cooperation to be explored and promoted between Regional Sea Conventions and Programmes and regional fisheries bodies, structured under the main themes of Policy and Governance, Science, Management and Awareness Raising, has been already identified. Priority should be given to a wider identification of marine litter hotspots and on the related risks for the marine environment, as well as on continuing and expanding the removal of discarded fishing gears in an environmentally sound manner. This project component aims to advance the discussions on the contribution of the regional work, and the potential benefits from a stronger collaboration between the Regional Sea Conventions and Regional Fisheries Bodies. The overall results of Outcome (3) activities will foster regional and international cooperation on priority areas, as identified by the Regional Seas Conventions and Programmes and their respective Marine Litter Regional/Action Plans.

At the invitation of UNEP/MAP the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean was established in September 2016. The principal task of the Cooperation Platform is to provide coordinated support and guidance to the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan. As such, it acts as a forum for consultation, exchange of good practices, and solutions seeking. The Cooperation Platform is implemented through the establishment, on a voluntary basis, of an open-ended group of regional and international partners with mandates and activities contributing to the environmentally sound management of marine litter in the Mediterranean. The Cooperation Platform offers to its members the opportunity to provide, on an equal footing and as appropriate, concrete contributions and inputs for the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan based on their individual mandates, expertise, work plans, and the decisions and recommendations of their respective governing bodies. The Cooperation Platform already counts for more than 25 members, international and regional organizations having a clear mandate against marine litter and enhancing marine litter management. The Cooperation Platform's scope should be further extended to the Southern Mediterranean countries aiming to have a more geographically balanced participation and towards that direction efforts should be made to expand the Platform to the actors of the South Mediterranean (e.g. Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia)

Proposed Activities/Description:

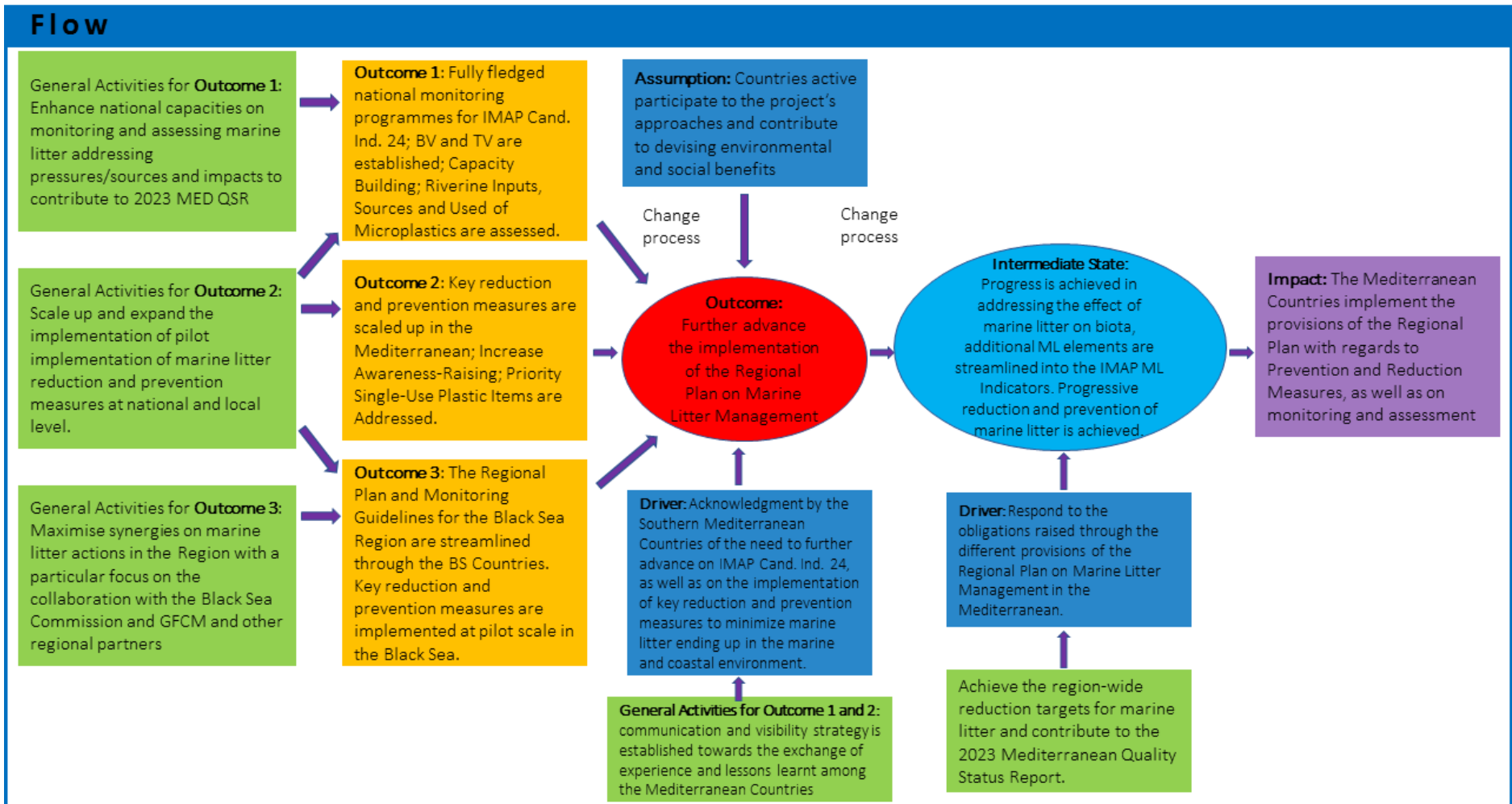
1. Assist the development of national marine litter monitoring programmes based on BS IMAP in two countries and their implementation; update the marine litter regional assessment for the Black Sea countries based on the structure of their regional and national IMAP.
2. Implement selected reduction and prevention measures, namely “Adopt-a-beach” and “phasing out single-use plastic bags”, at pilot scale in the Black Sea based on the Mediterranean experience from the application of relevant measures;
3. Identify and implement common actions with GFCM and ensure synergies with other European Regional Seas Conventions and Programmes, related Regional Fisheries Bodies, and the G7 and eventually G20 work on marine litter without budget implications for the project.
4. Support the expansion of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean by supporting the participation of participants/organizations from the ML MED II Project eligible countries.

The draft proposals for the implementation of the pilots in the beneficiary to the ML MED II project countries is presented hereunder. The proposal of the countries for the implementation of the pilots and for providing relevant support was made based on a number of factors; i.e. environmental, level of commitment of country teams, filling existing gaps, and above all the level of performance of the implementation of the national activities under the previous ML MED Project (2016-2019). The list of countries is subject to the final express of interest from the beneficiary countries and changes by the Project Steering Committee if progress at national level is not satisfactory.

Table 4: Proposed Countries for the Implementation of the Pilots

	Algeria	Egypt	Israel	Lebanon	Libya	Morocco	Tunisia
Adopt-a-beach							
Fishing-for-Litter							
Single-Use Plastics							
Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)							
IMAP Candidate Indicator 24							
Riverine Marine Litter							
Sea-based sources (Ports/ Marinas)							

Marine Litter MED II Theory of Change: From activities to impacts



Outcome 1: Enhance national capacities on monitoring and assessing marine litter addressing pressures/sources and impacts to contribute to 2023 MED QSR with quality assured data addressing pressures and effectiveness of measures in line with COP 20 Decision on 2017 MED QSR:

- Output 1.1: Support countries to further advance and operationalize monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, with a focus on the ground implementation of the operation strategy as developed during the previous ML MED Project.
- Output 1.2: Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.
- Output 1.3: Update Baseline Values and establish threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.
- Output 1.4: Assess and further specify the environmental reduction targets as agreed by COP 19 in 2016 and reconfirmed in Naples Ministerial Declaration of COP 21 in December 2019, including to prevent and significantly reduce plastic leakage in the Mediterranean Sea and to progressively achieve 100% plastic waste collection and recycling by 2025.
- Output 1.5: Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work. This would prepare the grounds for consider expanding the marine litter common indicators of IMAP to include an indicator on riverine inputs.
- Output 1.6: Assess the main uses and sources of microplastics in the Mediterranean, as well as microplastic leakages into the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean, focusing on existing studies with the aim to fill the gap for the Mediterranean and subsequently will result in proposing accordingly necessary measures as well as a protocol for microplastic monitoring coming from WWTP.
- Output 1.7: Support national Governments and competent entities in building capacity through technical assistance, training and collaboration for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine inputs, and microplastic deriving from WWTP.

Deliverables:

- a) Minimum two national monitoring programmes designed for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24; Quality-controlled and quality-assured data collected and uploaded in IMAP Info System at pilot scale.
- b) Data Standards and Data Dictionary established for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 and data sets from at least 3 counties are streamlined into IMAP Info System.
- c) Updated Baseline values and environmental targets are agreed at Mediterranean level for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24;
- d) Establishment of Threshold Values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.
- e) Assessment of environmental targets for marine litter agreed during COP 19 in 2015 is conducted and are updated as necessary.
- f) Methodology developed and implemented at pilot scale by three beneficiary countries for monitoring and assessing riverine inputs. Data collected feed 2023 MED QSR preparations.
- g) Regional report on the sources, uses and leakages of microplastics in the Mediterranean is prepared.
- h) Shortlist of measures to minimize the leakage of microplastics in the marine environment is prepared.
- i) Protocol to monitor microplastic from WWTPs developed.

Outcome 2: Scale up and expand the implementation of pilot implementation of selected marine litter reduction and prevention measures at national and local level:

In line with provisions of the Marine Litter Regional Plan and based on the successful outcomes of the previous ML MED Project:

- Output 2.1: Implement Adopt-a-Beach measures, with the scope to expand their geographical scope (at least 1 additional pilot per country) and related impact on further enhancing awareness raising of national/local communities.
- Output 2.2: Implement Fishing-for-Litter measures (i.e. passive scheme), in at least one additional fishing port with the scope to remove existing marine litter from the marine environment; Efforts will be made to test to the extent possible the FAO voluntary guidelines on marking of fishing gear and to cooperation with GFCM towards addressing the contribution of aquaculture on marine litter and microplastic generation.
- Output 2.3: Further sensitize and engage fishermen to the purpose of minimizing sea-based sources; and contribute to extent possible with data on seafloor marine litter.
- Output 2.4: Phase out priority single-use marine litter items from the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment, with a focus on advancing the existing work on single-use plastic bags promoting proper and sustainable alternatives, including on single-use plastic items intensively used, or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and to further support the improvement of the legal framework for other single-use items ending up as marine litter, in line with the new EU Single-Use Plastics Directive and possibly the updated Marine Litter Regional Plan.
- Output 2.5: Expand the implementation of pilots (at least one additional port and one marina for the countries participated to the first phase of the project and, where possible, one port and one marina for those countries that did not participate in the first phase of the project) related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas in the Mediterranean, with a focus on advancing the existing work on the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the No-Special-Fee system as well to the provision of reception facilities in ports and the delivery of ship-generated wastes, and to explore and establish synergies between the Marine Litter Regional Plan and the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships, as well as other relevant plans or initiatives.

Deliverables:

- a) Five beneficiary countries increase the number of pilots to apply Adopt-a-beach measure (at least one additional site per country);
- b) Three beneficiary countries advance the implementation of the Fishing-for-Litter pilots (at least one additional pilot area);
- c) Three beneficiary countries draft and review national laws/regulations for (i) the reduction of single-use plastic bags, and promote alternatives to SUPB, including preparation of adaptation programmes for concerned national industry and/or (ii) for single-use plastics intensively used or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic;
- d) Three beneficiary countries develop and implement EPR schemes with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers;
- e) Three beneficiary countries expand the implementation of the pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas (at least one additional major port and one additional marina per country).

Outcome 3: Maximize synergies on marine litter actions in the Region with a focus on the collaboration with the Black Sea Commission and GFCM, and other regional partners:

- Output 3.1: Assist the development of national marine litter monitoring programmes based on BS IMAP in two countries and their implementation; update the marine litter regional assessment for the Black sea countries based on the structure of their regional and national IMAP.
- Output 3.2: Implement selected reduction and prevention measures, namely “Adopt-a-beach” and “phasing out single-use plastic bags”, at pilot scale in the Black Sea based on the Mediterranean experience from the application of relevant measures.
- Output 3.3: Identify and implement common actions with GFCM and ensure synergies with other European Regional Seas Conventions and Programmes, related Regional Fisheries Bodies, and the G7 and eventually G20 work on marine litter without budget implications for the project.
- Output 3.4: Support the expansion of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean by supporting the participation of participants/organizations from the ML MED II Project eligible countries.

Deliverables:

- a) Marine litter reduction observed in pilot areas in two eligible Black Sea countries addressing beach marine litter (i.e. Adopt-a-beach) and prevention measures (i.e. phasing out single-use plastic bags);
- b) Two eligible Black Sea countries deliver their national marine litter monitoring programme Implementation started;
- c) Updated marine litter assessment report for the Black Sea region;
- d) Participation and membership of key Mediterranean actors and stakeholders into the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean expanded; synergies maximized;
- e) Joint workplan established with GFCM and BSC on marine litter issues and cooperation with regional partners enhanced, including with G7 and G20 as appropriate;
- f) Additional memberships from organizations/institutions from the project eligible countries join the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine litter in the Mediterranean.

3.2 Logical Framework

Table 5 MEA Secretariat Logical Framework

Relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) in the Programme of Work: <i>Insert the Expected Accomplishment indicator from the Programme of Work to which this project directly contributes to²⁵</i>		
1. Project Outcome²⁶	Indicators²⁷	Relevant Sub-programme Expected Accomplishment and Indicator²⁸

²⁵ Outcome indicator must be clearly connected to EA and its indicators

²⁶ **Outcomes:** The uptake, adoption or use of project outputs by the project beneficiaries. Observed as change of Behavior, Attitude/Action, Condition, Knowledge or Skill

²⁷ Effective indicators should be "SMART":

Specific: specific enough to assess the progress and taking into account the target group (for whom) and location (where);

Measurable: reliable and clear measurement is possible that can specify quantity (how much) and/or quality (how well);

Attainable (credible link to results or products/services delivered) and **Attributable:** the indicator is measuring uptake, adoption or use of project's products and services by the target group (outcome level);

Relevant: relevant to planned outputs and outcomes;

Time-bound and Trackable: data is available within a reasonable time, cost and effort.

²⁸ When a project is relevant to more than one Expected Accomplishment, provide outcomes and outputs for each EA indicator in order to enable budget details per output and EA

<p><i>Outcome 1: Enhance national capacities on monitoring and assessing marine litter addressing pressures/sources and impacts to contribute to 2023 MED QSR with quality assured data addressing pressures and effectiveness of measures in line with COP 20 Decision on 2017 MED QSR</i></p>	<p>1. National Monitoring Programmes and Strategies Prepared for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24. <i>Target: 2 Monitoring Programmes and 2 Strategies.</i></p> <p>2. Level of collection of monitoring data for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24. <i>Target: Quality-controlled and quality-assured data are collected and uploaded into IMAP (Pilot) Info System by 3 countries.</i></p> <p>3. Level of agreement on updated baselines values, threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24. <i>Target 1: 1 report on updated baseline values and environmental targets approved at Mediterranean level for IMAP CI 24.</i> <i>Target 2: Threshold Values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 are established.</i></p> <p>4. Number of Monitoring Protocols and methodologies prepared and implemented for riverine marine litter and microplastics coming from WWTP. <i>Target 1: 2 Monitoring Protocols drafted.</i> <i>Target 2: Methodology developed and implemented at pilot scale by three beneficiary countries for monitoring and assessing riverine inputs.</i></p> <p>5. Level of achievement of the approved marine litter environmental targets. <i>Target: Assessment of environmental targets for marine litter agreed during COP 19 in 2016 is conducted and targets are updated as necessary.</i></p> <p>6. Number of assessment reports delivered including measures identification. <i>Target 1: Regional report on the sources, uses and leakages of microplastics in the Mediterranean.</i> <i>Target 2: Shortlist of measures to minimize the leakage of microplastics in the marine environment identified.</i></p>	<p><u>UNEP/MAP PoW 2020-2021:</u></p> <p>1.4.1. 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. These assessments include 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.</p> <p>1.4.3. Implementation of IMAP (the EcAp-based integrated monitoring and assessment programme) coordinated, including GES common indicators fact sheets, and supported by a data information center to be integrated into Info/MAP platform.</p> <p>2.2.1 Guidelines, decision-support tools, common standards and criteria provided for in the Protocols and the Regional Plans, developed and/or updated for key priority substances or sectors.</p> <p>2.3.1: Adopted NAPs (Art. 15, LBS Protocol) implemented and targeted outputs timely delivered.</p> <p>2.4.1: National pollution and litter monitoring programmes updated to include the relevant pollution and litter IMAP indicators, implemented and supported by data quality assurance and control.</p> <p>2.4.3: Marine pollution assessment tools (in depth thematic assessment, maps and indicator factsheets) developed and updated for key pollutants and sectors within EcAp.</p> <p>2.5.1: Training programmes and workshops in areas such as pollution monitoring, pollutant inventories, policy implementation, common technical guidelines, authorization and inspections bodies, compliance with national legislation.</p>
---	--	--

Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome		Expected Milestones
M1 ²⁹ SSFAs with up to 4 countries are in place.		Dec. 2020
M2 Monitoring programmes for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 prepared in 4 countries.		Dec. 2021
M3 Monitoring protocol for riverine marine litter drafted, tested and finalized.		June 2021; Dec. 2021; Dec. 2022
M4 Monitoring protocol for microplastics coming from WWTP drafted.		Dec. 2021; Dec. 2022
M5 Assessment report for the sources and uses of microplastics in the Mediterranean		June 2021 (first draft); Jan. 2023 (final draft)
2. Project Outputs ³⁰	Indicators	
A) Support countries to further advance and operationalize monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, with a focus on the ground implementation of the operation strategy as developed during the previous ML MED Project	1. Level of preparation of national Monitoring programmes and strategies for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24. <i>Target: 2 Monitoring Programmes and 2 National Strategies.</i> 2. Number of national teams and Institutions involved in the process. <i>Target: At least 2 national teams/institutions are involved.</i> 3. Number of national experts trained. <i>Target: At least 2 experts per eligible counties are trained.</i>	
Project output Milestones:		Expected Milestone
M1 Operational Strategies for 2 countries country finalized.		Mar. 2021
M2 2 Monitoring programmes in place.		Sept. 2021 (First drafts); June 2022 (Final drafts)
M3 National monitoring programmes implemented in 2 pilots.		June 2022; June 2023

²⁹ **Milestones:** Are benchmarks (not activities) that represent attainment of a project stage or project achievement that show progress towards project outcomes and outputs. Milestone attainment should be strictly answerable with a “yes” or “No” answer. Milestones need to be defined within the secured funding only
 Outcome milestone will often show progress on a particular outcome indicator target, but can also be a major significance benchmark, believed to lead to the outcome

³⁰ **Outputs:** are the products, capital goods and services delivered by the project. Outputs relate to the completion of activities and managers have a high degree of control over them

<p>B) <i>Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Level of preparation of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries. <i>Target: One set of DS-DD is developed for IMAP CI 24.</i> 2. Level of preparation of quality assured reporting procedure of monitoring data sets. <i>Target: At least two quality assured data sets are submitted to IMAP (Pilot) Info System.</i> 3. Level of inclusion of DS and DD in the IMAP Infosystem and operationality. <i>Target: IMAP (Pilot) Info System section of CI 24 is operational to host relevant monitoring datasets.</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	
<p>M1 <i>Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 are prepared.</i></p>	<p>Expected Milestone Mar. 2021 (Draft Versions); June 2021 (Final Versions)</p>
<p>M2 <i>Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 are reviewed by the CorMon Marine Litter</i></p>	<p>June 2022</p>
<p>C) <i>Update Baseline Values and establish threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Level of further development and update of baseline values and environmental targets. <i>Target: Updated baseline values and environmental targets are agreed at Mediterranean level for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.</i> 2. Level of preparation of assessment threshold values. <i>Target: Threshold Values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 are established.</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	
<p>M1 <i>Proposal for updated baseline values and threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 are submitted for review to CorMon Marine Litter</i></p>	<p>Dec. 2021</p>
<p>M2 <i>Proposal for updated baseline values and threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 are submitted for review to MED POL Focal Points Meeting</i></p>	<p>June 2023</p>

<p>D) Assess and further specify the environmental reduction targets as agreed by COP 19 in 2016 and reconfirmed in Naples Ministerial Declaration of COP 21 in December 2019, including to prevent and significantly reduce plastic leakage in the Mediterranean Sea and to progressively achieve 100% plastic waste collection and recycling by 2025.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Level of progress achieved in reaching the environmental targets approved by COP 19 in 2016. <i>Target: Decreasing trends are observed for ML IMAP Common Indicators.</i> 2. Proposal on environmental targets or their update for IMAP Common and Candidate Indicators for Marine Litter. <i>Target: Assessment of environmental targets for marine litter agreed during COP 19 in 2016 is conducted and targets are updated as necessary.</i> 3. Number of indicators proposed to assess the reduction of plastic leakage in the Mediterranean towards the commitments in the Naples Ministerial Declaration of COP 21 with a particular on the result of the pilot projects under outcome 2 of this project. <i>Target: Minimum 2 Indicators are prepared</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone</p>
<p>M1 Draft report on the evaluation of environmental reduction targets for marine litter.</p>	<p>Dec 2020; March 2021</p>
<p>M2 Assessment of environmental reduction targets for marine litter is presented and reviewed during the MED POL Focal Points Meeting.</p>	<p>June 2021</p>
<p>M3 A proposal for indicators to measure the reductions targets agreed during COP21 for MED POL FP meeting.</p>	<p>June 2021</p>
<p>M4 Report on assessment of agreed indicators under M3 with data coming from the pilots of the project under outcome 2</p>	<p>June 2022; June 2023</p>

<p>E) Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work. This would prepare the grounds for consider expanding the marine litter common indicators of IMAP to include an indicator on riverine inputs.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Level of preparation of Methodologies developed for monitoring and assessing riverine inputs. <i>Target: 1 methodology is prepared and approved at Mediterranean level.</i> 2. Level of Data collected to feed 2023 MED QSR preparations with regards to marine litter riverine inputs. <i>Target: 2 data sets of riverine inputs are used during 2023 MED QSR preparation.</i> 3. Number of national experts trained. <i>Target: Minimum 2 experts per country are trained.</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	
<p>M1 Methodology prepared and reviewed by CorMon Marine Litter Meeting.</p>	<p>Mar. 2021</p>
<p>M2 Methodology prepared and reviewed by MED POL Focal Points Meeting.</p>	<p>June 2021</p>
<p>M3 Data collected and assessed in three pilots through the application of the methodology generation of data.</p>	<p>June 2022</p>
<p>M4 Thematic assessment on riverine inputs in the Mediterranean.</p>	<p>Mar. 2023</p>
<p>F) Assess the main uses and sources of microplastics in the Mediterranean, as well as microplastic leakages into the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean, focusing on existing studies with the aim to fill the gap for the Mediterranean and subsequently will result in proposing accordingly necessary measures as well as a protocol for microplastic monitoring coming from WWTP.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of Regional/sub-regional reports on the sources, uses and leakages of microplastics in the Mediterranean. <i>Target: One regional report is prepared.</i> 2. Number of key management and prevention measures proposed. <i>Target: Minimum 3 measures are proposed.</i> 3. Number of Protocols developed to monitor microplastics. <i>Target: One protocol is prepared and approved at Mediterranean level.</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	
<p>M1 Regional/sub regional reports on the sources, uses and leakages of microplastics in the Mediterranean.</p>	<p>June 2021; Dec. 2021; June 2022</p>
<p>M2 List of new measures is reviewed by a regional meeting on marine litter best practices and MED POL Focal Points Meeting.</p>	<p>Dec. 2022 June 2023</p>
<p>M3 Draft Protocol on microplastic monitoring of treated waste water and reviewed by CorMon Marine Litter.</p>	<p>June 2021; June 2022</p>

<p>G) Support national Governments and competent entities in building capacity through technical assistance, training and collaboration for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine inputs, and microplastic deriving from WWTP.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of national experts trained. <i>Target: Minimum 10 experts per country are trained.</i> 2. Number of teams involved in the pilot projects at country level. <i>Target: At least 2 national teams/institutions are involved.</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	
<p>M1 National workshops held in all beneficiary countries.</p>	<p>Expected Milestone Dec. 2021</p>
<p>M2 Sub regional/regional capacity building sessions/share of best practices held back to back with CorMon on Marine Litter.</p>	<p>Dec. 2022</p>

Relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) in the Programme of Work: <i>Insert the Expected Accomplishment indicator from the Programme of Work to which this project directly contributes to³¹</i>		
1. Project Outcome³²	Indicators³³	Relevant Sub-programme Expected Accomplishment and Indicator³⁴

³¹ Outcome indicator must be clearly connected to EA and its indicators

³² **Outcomes:** The uptake, adoption or use of project outputs by the project beneficiaries. Observed as change of Behavior, Attitude/Action, Condition, Knowledge or Skill

³³ Effective indicators should be "SMART":

Specific: specific enough to assess the progress and taking into account the target group (for whom) and location (where);

Measurable: reliable and clear measurement is possible that can specify quantity (how much) and/or quality (how well);

Attainable (credible link to results or products/services delivered) and **Attributable:** the indicator is measuring uptake, adoption or use of project's products and services by the target group (outcome level);

Relevant: relevant to planned outputs and outcomes;

Time-bound and Trackable: data is available within a reasonable time, cost and effort.

³⁴ When a project is relevant to more than one Expected Accomplishment, provide outcomes and outputs for each EA indicator in order to enable budget details per output and EA

<p>Outcome 2: <i>Scale up and expand the implementation of pilot implementation of selected marine litter reduction and prevention measures at national and local level</i></p>	<p>1. Number of national reports submitted showcasing and presenting results from the implementation of Adopt-a-beach pilots. <i>Target: 5 beneficiary countries increase the number of pilots to apply Adopt-a-beach measure (at least one additional site per country).</i></p> <p>2. Number of national reports submitted showcasing and presenting results from the implementation of Fishing-for-Litter pilots. <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries advance the implementation of the Fishing-for-Litter pilots (at least one additional pilot area).</i></p> <p>3. Number of national reports submitted showcasing and presenting results from the implementation of measures related to the reduction of single-use plastic bags, including on single-use plastic items intensively used or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and promote alternatives to SUPB, including preparation of adaptation programmes for concerned national industry. <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries draft and review national laws/regulations for the reduction of single-use plastic bags, and promote alternatives to SUPB, including on single-use plastic items intensively used or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic, including preparation of adaptation programmes for concerned national industry.</i></p> <p>4. Number of EPR schemes prepared and developed with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers. <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries develop and implement EPR schemes with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers.</i></p> <p>5. Number of pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas. <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries expand the implementation of the pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas (at least one additional major port and one additional marina per country).</i></p>	<p><u>UNEP/MAP PoW 2020-2021:</u></p> <p>2.1.1: Targeted measures of the regional plans/strategies facilitated and implemented.</p> <p>2.2.2: Regional programmes of measures identified and negotiated for pollutants/categories (sectors) showing increasing trends, including the revision of existing regional plans and areas of consumption and production.</p> <p>2.5.2: Pilot projects implemented on marine litter, POPs, mercury, and illicit discharges reduced, including through SCP solutions for alternatives to POPs and toxic chemicals and the reduction of upstream sources of marine litter for businesses, entrepreneurs, financial institutions and civil society.</p>
--	--	--

Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome	Expected Milestones (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 ³⁵ National reports on implementation of Adopt-a-beach measures.	Dec. 2021; June 2022; June 2023
M2 National reports on implementation of Fishing-for-litter measures.	Dec. 2021; June 2022; June 2023
M3 Draft National laws and regulations for the reduction of single-use plastic bags prepared.	Dec. 2021; Dec. 2022
M3 Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes are implemented with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers.	Dec. 2021; June 2022; June 2023
M4 National reports on implementation of pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas.	Dec. 2021; June 2022; June 2023
2. Project Outputs ³⁶	Indicators
A) Implement Adopt-a-Beach measures, with the scope to expand their geographical scope (at least 1 additional pilot per country) and related impact on further enhancing awareness raising of national/local communities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of countries implementing Adopt-a-beach pilots. <i>Target: 5 beneficiary countries increase the number of pilots to apply Adopt-a-beach measure (at least one additional site per country).</i> 2. Number of sites selected per country to implement adopt of beach measures. <i>Target: At least 2 additional sites are selected.</i> 3. Number of data collected in line with IMAP guidance factsheets and Adopt a Beach Guidelines. <i>Target: At least 5 national data sets are collected.</i> 4. Number of local actors involved in the process. <i>Target: At least 2 national teams/institutions/NGOs are involved.</i> 5. Level of marine litter reduction in pilot areas. <i>Target: Decreasing trends are observed for beach marine litter.</i>

³⁵ **Milestones:** Are benchmarks (not activities) that represent attainment of a project stage or project achievement that show progress towards project outcomes and outputs. Milestone attainment should be strictly answerable with a “yes” or “No” answer. Milestones need to be defined within the secured funding only Outcome milestone will often show progress on a particular outcome indicator target, but can also be a major significance benchmark, believed to lead to the outcome

³⁶ **Outputs:** are the products, capital goods and services delivered by the project. Outputs relate to the completion of activities and managers have a high degree of control over them

Project output Milestones:		Expected Milestone
M1 <i>Legal instruments with countries are in place and operational.</i>		Dec. 2020; Mar. 2021
M2 <i>First round of results from the implementation of the pilots in up to five countries are reported.</i>		June 2021; June 2022
M3 <i>Final results from the implementation of the pilots in up to five countries are reported.</i>		Jan. 2022; June 2023
B) <i>Implement Fishing-for-Litter measures (i.e. passive scheme), in at least one additional fishing port with the scope to remove existing marine litter from the marine environment; Efforts will be made to test to the extent possible the FAO voluntary guidelines on marking of fishing gear and to cooperation with GFCM towards addressing the contribution of aquaculture in marine litter and microplastic generation.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of countries implementing FfL pilots. <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries advance the implementation of the Fishing-for-Litter pilots (at least one additional pilot area).</i> 2. Number of sites selected per country to implement FfL measures. <i>Target: 1 additional or new site/port is selected.</i> 3. Number of data collected in line with IMAP guidance factsheets and FfL Guidelines. <i>Target: 3 data sets are collected.</i> 4. Number of local actors involved in the process. <i>Target: At least 2 national teams/institutions/NGOs are involved.</i> 5. Level of marine litter item reduction in pilot areas. <i>Target: Decreasing trends are observed for seafloor marine litter.</i> 	
Project Milestones:		Expected Milestone
M1 <i>Legal instruments with countries are in place and operational</i>		Dec. 2020
M2 <i>Preliminary results from the implementation of the pilots in up to three countries are reported</i>		June 2022
M3 <i>Final results from the implementation of the pilots in up to three countries are reported</i>		June 2023
C) <i>Further sensitize and engage fishermen to the purpose of minimizing sea-based sources; and contribute to extent possible with data on seafloor marine litter.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of fishermen engaged in the implementation of the pilots. <i>Target: At least 10 fishermen per country are participating to the pilots.</i> 2. Number of national workshops. <i>Target: At least 1 national workshop is organized.</i> 	
Project Milestones:		Expected Milestone
M1 <i>National workshops with fishermen and other local actors are organized (up to two per country)</i>		June 2023

<p>D) Phase out priority single-use marine litter items from the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment, with a focus on advancing the existing work on single-use plastic bags promoting proper and sustainable alternatives, including on single-use plastic items intensively used, or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and to further support the improvement of the legislator framework for other single-use items ending up as marine litter, in line with the new EU Single-Use Plastics Directive and possibly the updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of countries to review and draft up to date regulations and laws on reduction of single use plastics, including on single-use plastic items intensively used, or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic. <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries draft and review national laws/regulations for the reduction of single-use plastic bags and promote alternatives to SUPB, including on single-use plastic items intensively used, or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic.</i> 2. Number of laws/regulations developed on reduction of single use plastics. <i>Target: At least 2 national laws/regulations are developed, including preparation of adaptation programmes for concerned national industry.</i> 3. Number of counties and sectors implementing EPR schemes for plastic packaging and beverage containers <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries develop and implement EPR schemes with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers;</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone</p>
<p>M1 Legal agreement with SCP/RAC in place.</p>	<p>Dec. 2020</p>
<p>M2 Draft laws are prepared including the preparation of adaptation programmes for concerned national industries.</p>	<p>Dec. 2021; June 2022; Dec. 2023</p>
<p>M3 Draft EPR schemes, with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers, are prepared and implemented are prepared</p>	<p>Dec. 2021; June 2022; Dec. 2023</p>

<p>E) <i>Expand the implementation of pilots (at least one additional port and one marina for the countries participated to the first phase of the project and, where possible, one port and one marina for those countries that did not participate in the first phase of the project) related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas in the Mediterranean, with a focus on advancing the existing work on the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the No-Special-Fee system as well to the provision of reception facilities in ports and the delivery of ship-generated wastes, and to explore and establish synergies between the Marine Litter Regional Plan and the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships, as well as other relevant plans or initiatives.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas implemented. <i>Target: 3 beneficiary countries expand the implementation of the pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas (at least one additional major port and one additional marina per country).</i> 2. Number of targeted diagnosis prepared for the selected ports and marinas. <i>Target: At least 3 targeted diagnosis are prepared.</i> 3. Number of Waste Reception and Handling Plans (WRHP) prepared or revised. <i>Target: At least 3 WRHP are prepared or revised.</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone</p>
<p>M1 <i>Legal instruments in Place with countries.</i></p>	<p>Dec. 2020; Mar. 2020</p>
<p>M2 <i>Targeted diagnosis prepared for the selected ports and marinas, including state of play and feasibility analysis for the application of charges at reasonable for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of No-Special-Fee System.</i></p>	<p>June 2021; June 2022; June 2023</p>
<p>M3 <i>Field trips and national meetings are organized.</i></p>	<p>June 2022; June 2023</p>
<p>M4 <i>Waste Reception and Handling Plans (WRHP) are prepared for those ports/marinas which do not have one in place or revised, as appropriate, for those ports/marinas which have one in place.</i></p>	<p>June 2022; June 2023</p>
<p>M5 <i>Expert advice is provided on Cost Recovery Systems (CRS), provision of adequate Port Reception Facilities (PRF), and efficient delivery of ship-generated waste.</i></p>	<p>June 2022; June 2023</p>

Relevant Expected Accomplishment(s) in the Programme of Work: <i>Insert the Expected Accomplishment indicator from the Programme of Work to which this project directly contributes to³⁷</i>		
1. Project Outcome³⁸	Indicators³⁹	Relevant Sub-programme Expected Accomplishment and Indicator⁴⁰

³⁷ Outcome indicator must be clearly connected to EA and its indicators

³⁸ **Outcomes:** The uptake, adoption or use of project outputs by the project beneficiaries. Observed as change of Behavior, Attitude/Action, Condition, Knowledge or Skill

³⁹ Effective indicators should be "SMART":

Specific: specific enough to assess the progress and taking into account the target group (for whom) and location (where);

Measurable: reliable and clear measurement is possible that can specify quantity (how much) and/or quality (how well);

Attainable (credible link to results or products/services delivered) and **Attributable:** the indicator is measuring uptake, adoption or use of project's products and services by the target group (outcome level);

Relevant: relevant to planned outputs and outcomes;

Time-bound and Trackable: data is available within a reasonable time, cost and effort.

⁴⁰ When a project is relevant to more than one Expected Accomplishment, provide outcomes and outputs for each EA indicator in order to enable budget details per output and EA

<p>Outcome 3: <i>Maximize synergies on marine litter actions in the Region with a focus on the collaboration with the Black Sea Commission and GFCM, and other regional partners</i></p>	<p>1. Level of marine litter reduction observed in pilot areas in two eligible BS countries addressing beach marine litter (Adopt-a-beach) and prevention measures (phasing out single-use plastic bags). <i>Target: Decreasing trends are observed.</i></p> <p>2. Number of national marine litter monitoring programmes prepared. <i>Target: At least 2 national monitoring programmes are prepared.</i></p> <p>3. Number of marine litter assessment reports for the Black Sea region updated/prepared. <i>Target: 1 regional assessment report is prepared.</i></p> <p>4. Number of joint workplans prepared and established with GFCM and BSC on marine litter issues and cooperation with regional partners enhanced, including with G7 and G20 as appropriate. <i>Target: 2 joint workplans are prepared.</i></p> <p>5. Number of additional memberships from organizations/institutions from the project eligible countries join the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine litter in the Mediterranean. <i>Target: At least 5 new members from Eastern Mediterranean become members of the Platform.</i></p> <p>6. Number of project reports prepared and submitted, and steering committee meetings successfully organized. <i>Target: At least 3 annual progress and 3 steering committee reports are prepared and approved.</i></p>	<p><u>UNEP/MAP PoW 2020-2021:</u> <i>1.3.1: Regional cooperation activities promoting dialogue and active engagement of global and regional organizations and partners, including on SAP BIO, Marine Litter, SCP, ICZM, MSP and Climate Change (e.g. regional conference, donor meetings).</i></p>
---	--	--

Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome		Expected Milestones (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)
M1 ⁴¹ <i>Legal agreement with BSC in place</i>		Mar. 2021
M2 <i>National reports on implementation of Adopt-a-beach measures and level of removal of marine litter items in pilot areas.</i>		June 2021; June 2022; June 2023
M3 <i>Draft monitoring programmes on marine litter prepared.</i>		June 2021; June 2022; June 2023
M4 <i>National laws and regulations for the reduction of single-use plastic prepared.</i>		June 2021; June 2022; June 2023
M5 <i>Join work plan with GFCM updated, implemented and reviewed in bilateral meetings.</i>		June 2021; June 2022; June 2023
M6 <i>Participation of members of the Platform is strengthened and expanded</i>		June 2021; June 2022; June 2023
2. Project Outputs ⁴²	Indicators	
A) <i>Assist the development of national marine litter monitoring programmes based on BS IMAP in two countries and their implementation; update the marine litter regional assessment for the Black sea countries based on the structure of their regional and national IMAP</i>	1. Number of national monitoring programmes. <i>Target: At least 2 national monitoring programmes are prepared.</i> 2. Number of regional assessment reports. <i>Target: 1 regional assessment report is prepared.</i> 3. Number of baseline values formulated. <i>Target: Baseline values for 2 marine litter indicators are prepared.</i>	
Project output Milestones:	Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)	
M1 <i>National monitoring programmes are prepared.</i>	Dec. 2021; June 2022; Dec. 2022	
M2 <i>Baseline values prepared and reviewed by Black Sea Commission Governance Bodies.</i>	Dec. 2021; Dec. 2022	
M3 <i>Black Sea IMAP chapter on marine litter is reviewed.</i>	Dec. 2021	
M4 <i>Regional marine litter assessment report is prepared.</i>	June 2021; June 2022	
B) <i>Implement selected reduction and prevention</i>	1. Adopt-a-beach pilots are implemented in at least, two Black Sea countries.	

⁴¹ **Milestones:** Are benchmarks (not activities) that represent attainment of a project stage or project achievement that show progress towards project outcomes and outputs. Milestone attainment should be strictly answerable with a "yes" or "No" answer. Milestones need to be defined within the secured funding only Outcome milestone will often show progress on a particular outcome indicator target, but can also be a major significance benchmark, believed to lead to the outcome

⁴² **Outputs:** are the products, capital goods and services delivered by the project. Outputs relate to the completion of activities and managers have a high degree of control over them

<p>measures, namely “Adopt-a-beach” and “phasing out single-use plastic bags”, at pilot scale in the Black Sea based on the Mediterranean experience from the application of relevant measures.</p>	<p>Target: At least 2 AaB pilots are implemented per country.</p> <p>2. National regulatory framework for phasing out single-use plastic bags is reviewed, and technical assistance is provided in two countries. Target: 2 national reports are prepared.</p>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 Agreement between BSC and the Black Sea countries is in place; countries are selected.</p>	<p>Dec. 2020</p>
<p>M2 Implement the Adopt-a-beach pilots in at least two Black Sea countries.</p>	<p>June 2021; June 2022; June 2023</p>
<p>M3 National regulatory framework is reviewed in the selected, two Black Sea countries.</p>	<p>Dec. 2021</p>
<p>M4 Technical assistance is provided in the selected, two Black Sea countries based on the COP21 marine litter guidelines.</p>	<p>June 2021; June 2022; June 2023</p>
<p>C) Identify and implement common actions with GFCM and ensure synergies with other European Regional Seas Conventions and Programmes, related Regional Fisheries Bodies, and the G7 and eventually G20 work on marine litter without budget implications for the project.</p>	<p>1. Joint workplan between UNEP/MAP and GFCM is prepared and agreed. Target: 1 joint workplan is prepared.</p>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 Bilateral meeting with GFCM is organized and joint workplan is drafted</p>	<p>Dec. 2022</p>

<p>D) <i>Support the expansion of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter by supporting the participation of participants/organizations from the ML MED II eligible countries.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participation and membership of key Mediterranean actors and stakeholders into the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean expanded; synergies maximized. <i>Target: 1 joint workplan prepared and implemented.</i> 2. Additional memberships from organizations/institutions from the project eligible countries join the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine litter in the Mediterranean. <i>Target: 5 new members from Eastern Mediterranean join the Platform.</i>
<p>Project Milestones:</p>	<p>Expected Milestone (1 per reporting period: June and December of each year)</p>
<p>M1 <i>Regional meetings of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter are organized.</i></p>	<p>June 2022; June 2023</p>
<p>M2 <i>Membership of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter is strengthened and expanded.</i></p>	<p>Dec. 2022; June 2023</p>

IMPORTANT: If a project output is delivered in a certain period within the project's life span, indicate this next to the output

4 Project implementation arrangements

4.1 Governance

Project Management and Coordination:

The ML MED II Project will be implemented by UNEP/MAP under the leadership of the Coordinating Unit which will be responsible for coordination, management, monitoring, supervising and evaluating the implementation of the entire project. The UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit will be responsible for the preparation of financial reports, annual substantial reports, organization of Steering Committee Meetings, development of the project work plans, and the related mitigation and risk management plans. UNEP/MAP will provide additional inputs through its MAP Components (i.e. MED POL, SCP/RAC, REMPEC and SPA/RAC) which will provide their technical, substantive and supervision capacities to the project activities.

Legal agreements with RACs and Countries and project funds will be managed under the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) between the EC and UNEP.

The contractual framework “Pillar Assessed Grant or Delegation Agreement” (PAGoDA) will be structured according to the proposed hierarchy:

- UNEP: Implementing Agency;
- UNEP/MAP: Executing Agency / Project Manager
- UNEP/MAP MED POL: Overall Project executing on behalf of Executing Agency and directly executing the activities related to certain reduction and prevention measures (AaB, FfL) as well as on microplastics and riverine input of marine litter;
- SCP/RAC: Executing Partner for activities related to the phasing out single-use plastic items and for promoting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR);
- SPA/RAC: Executing Partner for activities related to the development of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24;
- REMPEC: Executing Partner for activities related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas; and
- Black Sea Commission: Executing Partner for activities related to the activities envisaged to take place in the Black Sea region.

Based on the experience gained from the implementation of the previous ML MED Project, and the challenges faced, the following additional measures will be taken during project implementation to ensure its effective delivery:

- a) Strengthen the management capacities of UNEP/MAP by allocating necessary funding for a modest project management unit to support and enhance efficiency of MAP operations related to project activities. This would lead to a more effective monitoring system in place and timely activity implementation by the concerned MAP components as well to maximize synergies with partners and their relevant projects.
- b) The Project staff, a project manager and a part time project assistant at the CU will be assigned to the MED POL Programme with the view to aligning project implementation with MAP work for the implementation of Marine Litter Regional Plan; the coordination of which is mandated to MED POL. RACs will also nominate responsible officers for their respective activities. Where necessary, consultants will be recruited to assist needed activities, in line with applicable UNEP/MAP rules.
- c) Include in the Project Steering Committee membership from the eligible project countries to enhance their level of participation, ownership and accountability.
- d) Expand the ToRs of the Project Steering Committee to recommend reallocations in a timely manner in case of not delivery of activities.
- e) The pilot activities at national level were defined based the experience of the previous ML MED project, which proved to be having a clear impact and generated strong interest in the countries for their implementation.

The Project Manager role will be to ensure an effective implementation of all project's activities in close coordination with Project executing partners and carry out the following tasks:

- Follow up and harmonization of the activities and the work of Project Partners;
- Prepare reports to UNEP and EC;
- Convene Project Steering Committee meetings;
- Draft, follow up implementation of the legal agreements with Partners for executing activities;
- Communicate and disseminate project activities;
- Manage project budget; and
- Undertake steps needed to closure of the projects and related reporting.

Project Steering Committee:

The project execution will be overseen and guided by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) that will be held every six months. At least one of Steering Committee meeting should be a physical meeting. The composition of the PSC will consist of the MEDPOL national FP or their representatives from the beneficiary countries, the chair of last MED POL Focal Points meeting, UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit and DG ENV representative/s. The executing Partners representatives including MAP Components will be invited as observers. The meeting will be chaired by UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit. The project manager will act as secretary of the Steering Committee.

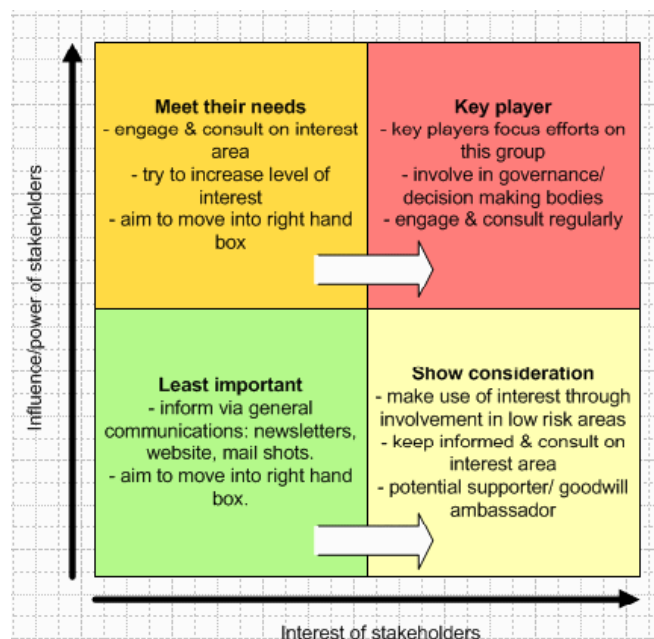
The PSC responsibilities are to:

- Oversee the project execution;
- Provide overall guidance and ensure coordination among all the project's components as well as of the activities implemented at national level;
- Provide overall supervision for project implementation;
- Review and endorse the Annual Work Plan and Budget submitted by the Project Manager; ensure their conformity with the requirements of the Global Public Goods and Challenges Programme (GPGC) and with the current project description; ensure the quality of project documents to receive funding from the GPGC;
- Discuss the project requirements and priorities concerning, inter alia:
 - project management, including consistent and common approaches to project costing, cost recovery, implementation modalities, results-based reporting and impact assessment;
 - information management, including appropriate Fund and donor visibility.
- Ensure that appropriate consultative processes take place with key stakeholders at the regional level in order to avoid duplication or overlap between the Fund and other funding mechanisms;
- Approve the reporting mechanism for the project; and
- Oversee the implementation of corrective actions including budget reallocation with the view to ensuring effective implementation of the project.

4.2 Stakeholder analysis

Stakeholders Information

UNEP/MAP relies on and has close ties with numerous internal and external stakeholders who are instrumental in ensuring the ongoing success of initiatives and resource efficiency approaches. Challenges to effectively engage partners and stakeholders include accurately identifying the issues on the table, credibility of the process, impartiality of facilitation and coordination body and vision and commitment of key stakeholders. Different level of engagement will be established: low that involves of exchange of ideas and perceptions through consultative seminars and interviews with the objective to contribute inputs to the process; medium that requires proactive participation in meetings and workshops; and high which is based on key stakeholders' engagement also in management of the process. The table below summarizes key stakeholders and their roles in this project.



A: High power, /high interest over the project= Key player
B: High power/ low interest over the project =Meet their needs
C: Low power/ high interest over the project= Show consideration
D: Low power /low interest over the project= Least important

Table 6 Stakeholder analysis

Stakeholders	Explain the power they hold over the project results/implementation and the level of interest	Did they participate in the project design, and how ⁴³	Potential roles & responsibilities in project implementation	Changes in their behavior expected through implementation of the project
<i>Type A: High power / high interest = Key player</i>				
National institutions cooperating with MED POL, SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC and REMPEC (Reference to Focal Points)	Successful implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan addressing the different elements for the implementation of key reduction and prevention measures aiming to address for land- and sea-based sources.	Project design based on exchanges with national institutions during the implementation of the previous ML MED project and from the feedback received during its execution phase.	Direct implementation and/or consultative role for all project's activities, focusing on MED POL, SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC and REMPEC communication/focal points.	Improved capacity to effectively implement the Marine Litter Regional Plan, minimize leakage of marine litter in the marine and coastal environment, and support the achievement of the environmental targets for marine litter as agreed in 2016 in COP 18.
General Public/ NGOs'/ Stakeholders	Important stakeholders for the streamlining and implementation of the key reduction and prevention measures at national level.	Not directly. Feedback has reached UNEP/MAP through the relevant focal points, during the exchange on gained experience from the execution of the previous ML MED Project.	<p>General Public/NGOs: participation to the AaB pilots; phase out single-use plastic items, communication and outreach</p> <p>Fishermen/Fishermen Associations: active participation and contribution to the FfL pilots.</p> <p>Port Authorities: active participation and contribution to the pilots associated with marine litter generated in ships and managed at ports.</p>	<p>Improved capacity to effectively participate and contribute in the implementation of selected reduction and prevention measures.</p> <p>Greater awareness and responsible behavior thanks to improved communication and awareness raising; greater involvement of the public and stakeholders in campaigns against marine litter.</p>
<i>Type B: High power/ low interest over the project =Meet their needs</i>				

⁴³ The full project design process needs to be explained in Annex E.

National policy/decision makers	The sustainability of project results will depend on the interest of these stakeholders in taking the results forward and encouraging follow up at national and regional level beyond project duration (e.g. developing measures based on data collected). The success of results may also depend on their interest and involvement, as they can provide political support for stronger involvement of key institutions and actors.	Project design based on UNEP/MAP-BC system priority areas of work identified through consultations with and meetings of governing bodies (Bureau, MAP FP, COP21)	Steering and consultative role for strategic decisions.	Higher interest and political support to promote the activities and results achieved under the project.
<i>Type C: Low power/ high interest over the project= Show consideration</i>				
Scientists/experts data users	These stakeholders may have some power of influence on the project activities and results based on their expertise in relevant areas, particularly in relevance to development of the IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, the development of protocols for riverine inputs and for microplastics generated from WWTP. Their interest in the project relates to the fact that it provides an opportunity to promote existing tools in marine litter monitoring and assessment; and to obtain more robust evidence to support their own assessment/analytical and advocacy work.	Recommendations received from such stakeholders during the regional meetings on marine litter carried out in 2018-2019 and in the CorMon Marine Litter organized in 2019.	Key role to play in monitoring and assessment of certain IMAP marine litter indicators and for proposing the development of new ones.	Stronger engagement in supporting national monitoring and assessment and informed decision-making. Advance the preparation of protocols and of standardized approaches.
<i>Type D: Low power /low interest over the project= Least important</i>				
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Partners

Table 7 Partners' information

Partners' information				
CU/Executing Partners	Expertise	Strength	Agreed roles/responsibilities in project implementation	Date of MEA partnership approval/ Due diligence process
MAP Programme for the Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution in the Mediterranean region (MED POL)	A component of the UNEP MAP and UNEP administered Programme, responsible for the work related to the implementation of the Protocol on Land-based Sources , the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities, the Dumping Protocol , and the Hazardous Wastes Protocol . MED POL helps Mediterranean countries to formulate and implement on-going monitoring programmes on pollution, including measures for controlling pollution, and to develop action plans aimed at eliminating pollution of land-based origin.	The mission, scope of action and MED POL's longstanding experience of in providing technical support and leading and implementing multi-partner international projects in the Mediterranean related to pollution monitoring and assessment, as well the coordination role that MED POL had during the previous ML MED Project places it in an ideal position to commit as an active leading key partner in the previous ML MED II project.	MED POL will lead the technical implementation of the entire project. It will be also directly responsible with support of the project manager to implement national and regional activities related to the reduction and prevention measures (e.g. AaB and FfL); the delivery of the component relevant to microplastics, marine litter originating from rivers and from WWTP;	N/A
Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)	The Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) was established in Tunis in 1985 through a decision taken by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. It aims to contribute to the protection and sustainable management of marine and coastal areas of particular natural and cultural value, including threatened species and ecosystems. Its	The mission, scope of action and SPA/RAC's longstanding experience of in leading and implementing multi-partner international projects in the Mediterranean, as well as the key role it had in	SPA/RAC will ensure that additional support is provided for the national implementation of IMAP focusing on IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 and for the delivery of relevant reliable data into IMAP Pilot Info	The Agreement between the Government of Tunisia and UNEP, 1991, as amended, states in its preamble, SPA/RAC was established in 1985 as a national center with a regional role, through which the Government of

	<p>core mission is to assist the Barcelona Convention Contracting Parties in order to meet their obligations under the SPA/BD Protocol which concerns Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean.</p> <p>The main activities of SPA/RAC include the establishment and management of marine and coastal protected areas, conducting scientific and technical research, preparing educational material, creating and updating databases, elaborating guidelines and studies, implementing training programmes, exchanging information, and cooperating with regional and international governmental and non-governmental organizations. SPA/RAC is given the mandate to work together with MED POL for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.</p>	<p>implementing a number of specific activities during the previous ML MED project places it in an ideal position to commit as an active key partner in the ML MED II project.</p>	<p>System.</p>	<p>Tunisia is contributing to the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP). Its mandate was renewed in 2009 by COP 16 Decision IG.19/5 (Marrakesh, Morocco) and its PoW is adopted every two years by the Ordinary meetings of the CPs to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols</p>
<p>Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC)</p>	<p>The Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC) is a center for international cooperation with Mediterranean countries on development and innovation in the production sector and civil society, based on more sustainable consumption and production models. The Centre develops its activity under the Mediterranean Action</p>	<p>The mission, scope of action and SCP/RAC's longstanding experience of in leading and implementing multi-partner international projects in the Mediterranean, as well as the key role it had in</p>	<p>SCP/RAC will support and coordinate the activities of the project relevant to phasing out single use plastic item through the implementation of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Extended Producer</p>	<p>MAP Components mandates, including the mandate of SCP/RAC, were reaffirmed by COP16 Decision IG.19/5 (Marrakesh, Morocco).</p>

	<p>Plan (MAP) for the protection and development of the Mediterranean basin. SCP/RAC works to build capacity and contribute to the exchange of knowledge in such areas as: (i) Adopting resource efficiency and cleaner production and pollution prevention as factors of competitiveness and economic performance for SMEs; (ii) Reducing the generation of hazardous chemicals and their use by means of the best available techniques (BAT) and the best environmental practices (BEP); (iii) Promoting initiatives for innovation and entrepreneurship that contribute to a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle for citizens; (iv) Introducing environmental criteria in the purchasing processes of public authorities (green public procurement); (v) Introducing the concept of sustainability on university and business school curricula; (vi) Incorporating education on sustainable consumption and lifestyles into the work plans of civil society organisations.</p>	<p>implementing a number of specific activities during the previous ML MED Project places it in an ideal position to commit as an active key partner in the ML MED II project.</p>	<p>Responsibility (EPR) schemes.</p>	
<p>Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)</p>	<p>The objective of REMPEC is to contribute to preventing and reducing pollution from ships and combating pollution in case of emergency. In this respect, the mission of REMPEC is to assist the Contracting Parties in meeting their obligations under Articles 4(1), 6 and 9 of the Barcelona Convention; the 1976 Emergency Protocol; the 2002 Prevention and Emergency</p>	<p>The mission, scope of action and REMPEC's longstanding experience of in leading and implementing multi-partner international projects in the Mediterranean, as well as the key role it had in</p>	<p>REMPEC will support and coordinate the activities of the project relevant to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas.</p>	<p>MAP Components mandates, including the mandate of REMPEC, were reaffirmed by COP16 Decision IG.19/5 (Marrakesh, Morocco).</p>

	Protocol and implementing the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016-2021), adopted by the Contracting Parties in 2016, which key objectives and targets are reflected in the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD). The Centre will also assist the Contracting Parties which so request in mobilizing the regional and international assistance in case of an emergency under the Offshore Protocol.	implementing a number of specific activities during the previous ML MED project, places it in an ideal position to commit as an active key partner in the ML MED II project.		
Algerian Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, represented by the National Observatory of the Environment and Sustainable Development (ONEDD)	The National Observatory of the Environment and Sustainable Development (ONEDD) is the national institution of Algeria in charge of IMAP implementation and to assess environmental policy as part of the National Environmental Strategy (NES) and the National Action Plan for the Environment and Sustainable Development (PNAEDD).	Official mandated by the government with regards to the aspects related to marine litter monitoring, and implementation of prevention and reduction measures. Previous experience on management of similar projects	ONNED has previously participated to the previous ML MED project for the implementation of AaB and FfL pilots.	
Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)	The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency is the body responsible for defining environmental policies, setting priorities and implementing initiatives within a context of sustainable development in close collaboration with national and international development partners.	Officially mandated by the Government to support the implementation of IMAP and marine litter prevention and reduction measures.	EEAA has previously participated to the previous ML MED project for the implementation of AaB and FfL pilots and several activities related to the preparation of IMAP for marine litter cluster	
Israel Oceanographic	Israel Oceanographic and Limnological	IOLR conducts research	Competent Authority for	

<p>and Limnological Institute (IOLR)</p>	<p>Research Institute (IOLR) is an Israeli national research institution devoted to aquatic science. Established in 1967, its mission is to generate knowledge for the sustainable use and protection of Israel's marine, coastal and freshwater resources.</p>	<p>in the fields of physical oceanography, marine biology, marine biotechnology, limnology (lake science), and mariculture (saltwater fish farming), addressing issues of national, regional and global importance. In addition to supporting addressing key knowledge gaps, IOLR can also play a key role in SPI-related activities, contributing to bringing science to support policy development.</p>	<p>IMAP implementation in Israel for Pollution and Marine Litter. Has previously participated to the previous ML MED project for the implementation of AaB and FfL pilots.</p>	
--	---	---	--	--

<p>Libyan Environment General Authority (EGA)</p>	<p>The Environment General Authority of Libya is a scientific, regulatory and advisory body concerned with environmental affairs with respect to conservation of biological resources, environmental pollution, and sustainable development and integrated planning of the community.</p> <p>The EGA was established under the General People's Committee for Health and Environment in 2000. The EGA is an independent autonomous institution which exercises its duties to protect and improve the environment.</p>	<p>EGA is the main competent authority in Libya in charge of environmental monitoring, analysis and testing, and the main UNEP/MAP partner institution in Libya.</p>	<p>Competent Authority for IMAP implementation in Libya for Pollution and Marine Litter. Has participated to the previous ML MED project for the implementation of AaB and FfL pilots. The support was provided through SPA RAC.</p>	
<p>Moroccan Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment</p>	<p>The Moroccan Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment is in charge of implementing policies in the areas of energy, mines and geology, as well as sustainable development, ensuring effective management and development of natural resources, and supporting policy-relevant data and information management in the area of energy and mining.</p>	<p>The Ministry supports monitoring and the establishment of data bases in the area of energy and mines, of relevance to monitoring pollution. It also supports the coordination between key agencies and actors as well as capacity building.</p>	<p>Competent Authority for IMAP implementation in Morocco for Pollution and Marine Litter. Has participated to the previous ML MED project for the implementation of AaB and FfL pilots.</p>	

<p>Tunisian Agency for Coastal Protection and Management (APAL)</p>	<p>APAL was founded in 1995 with the task of implementing the state policy of Tunisia in the field of coastal protection in general and the public maritime domain in particular. Its main areas of concern are: (i) The management of coastal areas and monitoring of management operations by ensuring their compliance with rules and standards established by laws and regulations related to the development of these areas, their use and occupation; (ii) Ensuring compliance with laws and regulations relating to coastal and maritime public domain; (iii) The development of studies related to coastal protection and enhancement of natural areas and development of research, studies and expertise required; (iv) The observation of the evolution of coastal ecosystems through the establishment and operation of specialized computer systems.</p>	<p>APAL is the main competent authority responsible for monitoring, assessment and research in the area of coastal ecosystems in Tunisia.</p>	<p>Competent Authority for IMAP implementation in Tunisia for Pollution and Marine Litter. Has participated to the previous ML MED project for the implementation of AaB and FfL pilots.</p>	
---	--	---	--	--

<p>Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC)</p>	<p>Acting on the mandate of the Black Sea countries (Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine) which in 1992, signed and shortly thereafter ratified the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution, the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC) implements the provisions of the Convention and the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan. The main challenged addressed are: (i) Combating Pollution from land-based sources and maritime transport; (ii) Achieving sustainable management of marine living resources; and (iii) Pursuing sustainable human development.</p>	<p>The mission, scope of action and BSC's longstanding experience of in leading and implementing multi-partner international projects in the Black Sea, as well as the key role it had in implementing a number of specific activities during the previous ML MED Project places it in an ideal position to commit as an active key partner in the ML MED II project.</p>	<p>BSC will coordinate and support the implementation of the pilots and the communication with the Black Sea countries and will effectively manage all activities related to the implementation of the Regional Action Plan for the Black Sea Countries.</p>	<p>MoU signed in 2016</p>
--	---	---	--	---------------------------

<p>Global Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)</p>	<p>The main objective of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) is to promote the development, conservation, rational management and best- practices utilization of living marine resources as well as the sustainable development of aquaculture in the Mediterranean, the Black Sea and connecting waters. The Commission has the authority to adopt binding recommendations for fisheries conservation and management in its area of application and plays a critical role in fisheries governance in the region. The objective of the Agreement is to ensure the conservation and sustainable use, at the biological, social, economic and environmental level, of living marine resources, as well as the sustainable development of aquaculture in the area of application. To facilitate reaching this goal, the Agreement created a Commission. As one of its general principles, the Commission adopts recommendations on conservation and management measures aimed at ensuring the long-term sustainability of fishing activities, in order to preserve the marine living resources, the economic and social viability of fisheries and aquaculture. In accordance with its objectives and general principles, the Commission formulates and recommends appropriate measures, including to establish fisheries restricted areas (FRAs) for the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, including but not limited to</p>	<p>The GFCM, whose work as the regional fisheries management organization in the region is of key importance in relation to managing marine litter generation through fisheries-related activities. In addition, the mapping of fisheries activity by GFCM will further support relevant assessment studies on marine litter.</p>	<p>The partnership with GFCM will be strengthened under this project in order to support activities related to the effective management of marine litter through fisheries-related activities. The cooperation with GFCM will focus on international cooperation towards mainstreaming the activities of the G7/G20 Action Plans on marine litter.</p>	<p>MoU signed in 2012</p>
---	---	---	--	---------------------------

	nursery and spawning areas, in addition to or to complement similar measures that may already be included in management plans.			
--	--	--	--	--

The project will also make sure that synergy and coherence are enhanced as much as possible with other relevant projects and initiatives. As of the date of conclusion of the current project document, the following projects were identified, with whose work, activities, specific coordination efforts will be necessary during the project implementation (with specifics indicated by each project, as required):

GEF Adriatic Project: The project entitled “Implementation of Ecosystem Approach in the Adriatic Sea through Marine Spatial Planning (GEF Adriatic)” aims to restore the ecological balance of the Adriatic Sea through implementation of the Ecosystem Approach and improve sub-regional management capacity through Marine Spatial Planning. Main planned outputs of the project are as follows:

- Updated assessment of the characteristics of GES of the Adriatic Sea;
- Proposal of the programme of measures to achieve Good Environmental Status;
- Methodological framework for the establishment of national marine and coastal monitoring programme towards GES;
- Updated sub-regional data base on marine and coastal areas and biologically important marine areas;
- Marine Spatial Plan in selected sub-regional area;
- Guidance for implementation of Marine Spatial Planning at sub- national level;
- Information, Communication, and Outreach Strategy;
- Stakeholder involvement, public participation strategy and stakeholders' training programmes; and
- GEF Adriatic Project covers Albania and Montenegro, with the budget of USD 1,817,900, with timeframe of 2017-2019.

Relevance to the ML MED II project: As the GEF Adriatic aims to build on IMAP monitoring data to lay down grounds of MSP at sub-national level between two Mediterranean countries, lessons learnt from this project could be built on during the implementation of the ML MED II project in particular related to its monitoring component

EU-funded EcAp MED III project: The EcAp MED III project will support the implementation of IMAP monitoring, assessment and reporting in line with 2023 MED QSR Roadmap milestones at national, sub-regional and regional level with a particular focus on southern Mediterranean countries namely Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia. The EcAp MED III project will also strengthen IMAP data management through the expansion of the IMAP Info-System covering the entire scope of IMAP Common Indicators. It will also support harmonized assessment at national level through the preparation of national assessment factsheets per the respective IMAP common Indicators and delivery of a data-based 2023 MED QSR. The EcAp MED III project will also contribute to strengthening of the Science-Policy interface (SPI) at national and regional levels for IMAP implementation and delivery of 2023 MED QSR.

Relevance to the ML MED II project: As the EcAp MED III will support the implementation of IMAP monitoring, assessment and reporting in line with 2023 MED QSR Roadmap milestones at national, sub-regional and regional level with a particular focus on southern Mediterranean, the ML MED II will explicitly work in developing the IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 towards its transformation into a common/mandatory indicator and support the 2023 MED QSR with assessment of microplastics and further development of methodologies for assessing marine litter riverine inputs.

GEF Med Programme:

Child Project 1.1: The Project aims to update TDA including gender assessment, report on progress to impacts, develop an offshore monitoring strategy and identification of 20 locations for the offshore reference monitoring stations in relation to pollution and develop a data sharing policy for the Mediterranean.

Relevance to the ML MED II project: The work under Child Project 1.1 is relevant to the project related to TDA component. The gender assessment to be undertaken by Child Project can serve the purposes of IMAP implementation, including for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 as well as the implementation of key reduction and prevention measures envisaged in the framework of the ML MED II Project.

Cooperation Agreement with IMELS: The Cooperation Agreement between UNEP and the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) provides a cooperation framework in support to the implementation of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention mandate, addressing key common priorities including the strengthening and supporting the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan through the implementation of a number of monitoring and assessment activities as well as the implementation of key reduction and prevention measures.

Relevance to the ML MED II project: The work under the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS is of relevance because the same coordinated approaches have been followed during the previous ML MED Project and the second one with regards to pilot implementation and respective methodologies implementation.

EU funded ENI SEIS-MED II Project: The Shared Environment Information System SEIS Support Mechanism-South project aimed at further supporting the implementation of the Horizon 2020 initiative in the ENP South region during the period 2016-2019. The overarching objective is to ensure coherence and harmonization of environmental reporting at regional level in support of more efficient policymaking. The main project outputs are as follows:

- The H2020 indicator set is stabilized, refined and complemented in order to serve multiple purposes, as well as to ensure that the progress of achieving H2020 objectives is properly measured, while also contributing to assessing compliance with commitments under the Barcelona Convention;
- The in-country processes for organizing sharing of data sets underlying the H2020 indicators are stabilized;
- The infrastructure for reporting offered by the EEA ('Reportnet 3') and UNEP (UNEP/MAP InfoMAP platform, including the MED POL Info-system) is more widely used; and
- Indicator-based H2020 report(s) and assessments are produced in line with good practices from the EU region. This will be complemented by similar reports developed for the EU and West Balkan countries under the upcoming MSFD reporting cycle (2018) in order to come up with a comprehensive picture of the whole Mediterranean region and align the various reporting processes.
- Participating countries in this EU funded project are: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia, with a budget of 1,800,000 EUR, over 2016-2019.

Relevance to the Marine Litter MED II Project: The ENI SEIS-MED II project is focusing in collecting and assessing data from the sources of waste, some of them leading in marine litter generation. Those data and indicators are useful to assess the impact of the reduction and prevention measures that will be applied in the framework of the Marine Litter MED II Project and its contribution to the marine litter reduction targets agreed by the Contracting Parties in 2016 during COP19.

EU-funded IMAP-MPA Project: The project aims to consolidate, integrate and strengthen the ecosystem approach (EcAp) for Marine Protected Area (MPA) management and their sustainable development. This will be done through the monitoring and assessment of environmental status in the Mediterranean Sea and its coast, including MPAs, in a comparative and integrated manner. The project also proposes to enhance MPA management through coordinated implementation of the MAP Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean, as well as enhance the integration of the Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) in this process. The IMAP-MPA Project will strengthen IMAP implementation and further develop the Mediterranean network of ecologically representative, inter-connected, effectively managed and monitored MPAs. This will be achieved through improving national monitoring biodiversity-related

governance and policies; preparing and implementing management plans for MPAs and improving MPA management with targeted actions.

The main project outcomes are as follows:

- Enhanced level of capacity in each country to implement IMAP and report reliable data for the IMAP common indicators;
- Harmonized monitoring and assessment including at sub regional level, of IMAP common indicators for biodiversity and non-indigenous species (NIS); pollution and marine litter; and hydrography both within and surrounding MPAs.
- Enhanced implementation of the governance and policies which relate to the Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Mediterranean;
- Improved on-site MPA management and identified mechanisms that ensure MPA sustainability.

Relevance to the ML MED II project: IMAP-MPA Project, together with the upcoming EcAp MED III Project will be complementary to the implementation of IMAP by the respective countries.

Interreg MED PlasticBusters MPAs Project: PlasticBusters MPAs is an Interreg Med funded project aiming to maintain biodiversity and preserve natural ecosystems in pelagic and coastal marine protected areas by consolidating Mediterranean efforts against marine litter. The project entails actions addressing the whole management cycle of marine litter, from monitoring and assessment to prevention and mitigation; it also foresees actions to strengthen networking between and among coastal and pelagic MPAs in the Mediterranean. The project deploys the multidisciplinary strategy and common framework of action developed within the Plastic Busters initiative led by the University of Siena and the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Solutions Network (<http://plasticbusters.unisi.it/>). This initiative frames the priority actions needed to tackle marine litter in the Mediterranean and was labelled under the Union for the Mediterranean in 2016, gathering the political support of 43 Euro Mediterranean countries.

Relevance to the ML MED II Project: PlasticBusters MPAs project is of relevance with the ML MED II project as both focuses on the effect of marine litter on biota and in particular on endangered species such as marine turtles. Apart from the exchange of monitoring and assessment best practices and relevant hands on experience, the datasets collected in the framework of the PlasticBusters MPAs project could fit into the work envisages in the framework of the ML MED II Project pertinent to the update of the baseline values and the proposal for establishment of threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.

EU-funded Water and Environment Support (WES) Project: The overall objective of the WES Project is to assist the implementation of an integrated approach to pollution reduction and prevention in line with the Barcelona Convention and to contribute to a more efficient management of scarce water resources in the Neighbourhood South region. The purpose of the contract is to contribute to increase the capacity of various stakeholders involved in pollution reduction and water management in order to support them in formulating and implementing the environmental and water policies.

Relevance to the ML MED II Project: WES Project will also address reduction and prevention measures addressing and minimizing the use of single-use items of priority, along with several activities focusing on capacity building and outreach activities. The WES project has a dedicated component on awareness-raising. Marine Litter MED II project doesn't have a dedicated awareness-raising component, however the project's activities (e.g. for single-use plastics and for EPR) will be supported by awareness raising actions in the targeted countries. Those actions/activities are proposed to be supported by those implemented under WES (many of the activities are of the same nature e.g. for SUP) to enable us having a larger outreach audience. We have contacted the WES team to bring to our attention the specific activities that are planned under WES in order to identify those that better suit to the needs of the Marine Litter MED II project. The WES project is planning to develop a short video with key messages, a number of information bulletins and press releases, targeting specific media and through small social media campaigns. Specific activities are planned to be undertaken especially for marine litter

MED REGION Project: The project aims to support the competent authorities of its beneficiary countries by addressing their cooperation needs to implement the MSFD.

Relevance to the ML MED II project: ML MED II Project and its components pertinent to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, microplastics and riverine input of marine litter will be informed by, and benefit from the progress made during the MED REGION, on:

- the proposed assessment methodologies;
- development of threshold values to implement GES Decision, towards updated, improved and more complete (sub)regional assessment;
- interrelation of the pressures – based descriptors (D5, D8, D10) with the status of the ecosystem components;
- interrelation of the monitoring programmes with Programmes of Measures (PoMs).

GloLitter Project: The IMO-FAO-Norway GloLitter Partnerships Project has been launched in December 2019 by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). It aims to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from shipping and fisheries, and in particular to help shipping and fisheries move to a low-plastics future. The GloLitter Project will assist developing countries identify opportunities to prevent and reduce marine litter, including plastic litter, from within the maritime transport and fisheries sectors, and to decrease the use of plastics in these industries, including identifying opportunities to re-use and recycle plastics. The project will consider the availability and adequacy of port reception facilities; look at enhancing awareness of the marine plastics issue within the shipping and fisheries sectors, including seafarers and fishers; and encourage fishing gear to be marked so it can be traced back to its owner if discarded. The project will also promote compliance with relevant FAO instruments (including the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear) and will target waste management in ports. It will, additionally, emphasize implementation and enforcement of IMO's London Convention/London Protocol regime on dumping of wastes at sea, which requires waste (such as from dredging) to be assessed before permits to dump are granted. The GloLitter Project will include private sector participation through a global industry alliance and is seeking partners from major maritime and fisheries companies.

Relevance to the Marine Litter MED II Project: Strong synergies may be established between the two projects related to the: (i) implementation of the FfL pilots; (ii) the testing of the FAO voluntary guidelines on gear marking; and (iii) enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas in the Mediterranean, with a focus on advancing the existing work on the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the No-Special-Fee system as well to the provision of reception facilities in ports and the delivery of ship-generated wastes. Furthermore, the two projects can contribute in exploring and establishing broader strategic synergies between the Marine Litter Regional Plan and the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships, as well as other relevant plans or initiatives.

The ML MED II Project Steering Committee will be encouraged to review the list of relevant projects during each of its meeting.

The Project Manager (UNEP/MAP) shall report to each Steering Committee Meeting with regard to ongoing cooperation efforts with the above projects.

5 Communications and Learning

5.1 Communication strategy

The project will promote the visibility of the project activities at the widest possible international, regional and national levels and through appropriate tools and events. A strong communication component will be ensured through a dedicated communication strategy to be developed in the framework of the project, and through other communication activities aligning the project implementation with other relevant UNEP/MAP products and assessments, as well as with UNEP/MAP Information and Communication Strategy. MAP Components will also play a key role in supporting communication and visibility activities. All project activities and deliverables will follow the EU Guidelines for communication and visibility of EU-funded projects. The project plans to also publish information on the UNEP/MAP website, to issue newsletters, news threats through the UNEP/MAP twitter account as well as to publish and promote videos through the UNEP/MAP YouTube channel.

5.2 Knowledge Management

This project will build on the lessons learned during the implementation of the previous ML MED Project. Its evaluation, currently in its final phase, is expected to provide valuable insights and recommendations for an effective implementation of ML MED II Project activities.

The ML MED II Project will utilize the knowledge built by UNEP/MAP through a number of other relevant projects, listed in section 4.2 (Partners) above, as well as based on the experience in the implementation of key reduction and prevention measures on marine litter in the region, as well as on monitoring and assessment of pollution built by MED POL over the past 40 years. The project will also consider the lessons learned and the expertise built by other Regional Seas Programmes, in particular the work relevant to the implementation of the Regional/Action Plans conducted under OSPAR and HELCOM coordination.

The project will also retain the strong bounds and good cooperation with UNEP/GPA and its Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML). The Mediterranean Marine Litter Node (<http://gpmlmednode.org/>) is one of the outcomes of the collaboration between UNEP/MAP and UNEP/GPA GPML which will significantly support the outreach of the activities envisaged in the framework of ML MED II Project. It will strengthen the sharing of the relevant best practices, as well as their communication and visibility both at national and regional levels.

A strong communication and visibility component of the ML MED II Project will further contribute to effective knowledge management and use of data, information and methodologies providing clear guidance on needed actions, enhancing synergies and maximizing results of actions. It will also bring valuable lessons from the gained experience in enhancing marine litter management, to be derived from the pilot testing of key reduction and prevention measures as well as for developing and further advancing marine litter monitoring and assessment.

6 Resource Mobilization and Cost Effectiveness

6.1 Resource Mobilization

The ML MED II Project will be co-funded by the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) ensuring synergies and coordination among the relevant/sister activities (listed hereunder) being supervised and implemented by the MAP Coordinating Unit and MAP Components (i.e. MED POL, SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC, REMPEC).

Coordination among relevant activities will strengthen synergies and maximize project’s results, impact and outreach. For the case of regional meetings showcasing the regional character and approach of the project, the cost of participation of the Contracting parties which are not eligible for EU funding under this project will be covered by MTF. Synergies and complementarities will be ensured with other projects implemented by UNEP/MAP, or where UNEP/MAP is participating as partner such as the IMAP-MPA and EcAp MED III projects, MedProgramme, Switch MED II, WES Project etc.

Activities that will contribute to the project, contributing as direct co-financing from UNEP/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021 are described hereunder (Table 7).

Table 8 Co-financing from UNEP/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021 Activities Contributing to ML MED II Project.

MTF/PoW 2020-2021	Activity 3.2.1.2: "Implement/ update the regional action plans/strategy for the conservation of Mediterranean endangered and threatened species, key Habitats and species introductions as well as the Mediterranean Strategy and Action Plan on Ships' Ballast Water Management to mainstream GES"	USD 5,688
MTF/PoW 2020-2021	Activity 3.2.2.1: "Elaborate guidelines and technical tools for improving MPA management and the conservation of threatened or endangered species and key habitats in the Mediterranean."	USD 5,688
MTF/PoW 2020-2021	Activity 2.1.1.2: "Promote the use of relevant instruments and incentives to prevent/ reduce plastic pollution including the generation of single-use plastic bags and microplastics; abandoned, lost, discarded fishing gear (ALDFG); marine litter generated from aquaculture activities; marine litter from ships; and e-waste."	USD 6,105

The UNEP/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021 aims at supporting enhanced marine litter management in the region. The table below describes all activities implemented by UNEP/MAP and MAP Components in the framework of the Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021 and other projects related to marine litter management that are also relevant to the Marine Litter MED II project and thus contribute to the achievement of the project’s objectives.

Table 9: Donor Action Plan Template, detailed by partner⁴⁴ (Activities, other than those taken into account in the in-kind contribution, of UNEP/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021 which are relevant to the objectives and scope of the Marine Litter MED II project).

Partner	Project(s)/Funds	RM target	Action	Responsible	Timeline/Deadline	Status
UNEP/MAP – MED POL	<i>Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)</i>	<i>PoW Activity 2.1.1.2</i>	<i>Promote the use of relevant instruments and incentives to prevent/ reduce plastic pollution including the generation of single-use plastic bags and microplastics; abandoned, lost, discarded fishing gear (ALDFG); marine litter generated from aquaculture activities; marine litter from ships; and e-waste.</i>	<i>MED POL</i>	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
	<i>Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)</i>	<i>PoW Activity: 2.2.2.3</i>	<i>Upgrade Marine Litter Regional Plan/or develop new technical annexes to incorporate new elements including microplastics and emerging pollutants as appropriate.</i>	<i>MED POL</i>	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
	<i>Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)</i>	<i>PoW Activity: 2.4.1.1</i>	<i>Continue supporting updated national monitoring programmes on marine litter, contaminants and eutrophication in line with IMAP, the LBS Protocol and the Marine Litter Regional Plan.</i>	<i>MED POL</i>	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
	<i>Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)</i>	<i>PoW Activity: 2.4.3.1</i>	<i>Update thematic assessment products related to pollution and marine litter cluster of IMAP, including prevailing industrial sectors and priority pollutants/sectors addressed by the Regional Plans; and sea-based sources of pollution.</i>	<i>MED POL</i>	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
	<i>Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)</i>	<i>PoW Activity: 2.5.2.1</i>	<i>Expand the pilots on FfL and Adopt a Beach and other marine litter removal/reduction and prevention (SCP) pilot projects (particularly focused on plastics and microplastics).</i>	<i>MED POL</i>	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>

⁴⁴ Plan can be adjusted or expanded: by source of fund, category or sector, etc.

SCP/RAC	<i>Plastic Waste Partnership under the Basel Convention</i>	<i>PoW Activity 1.3.1.4.</i>	<i>During the biennium 2020-2021, compilation of information and best practices will be collected. Information developed under the previous ML MED will be shared with partnership members (e.g. guidelines, technical assistance to countries)</i> <i>Pilot projects under the Plastic Waste partnership will be selected. Possible pilot project proposals can be inspired by ML MED II actions or reinforce those ones.</i>	<i>SCP/RAC</i>	<i>2020-2021 (tbd)</i>	<i>Active</i>
	<i>Water and Environment Support (EU-funded WES project)</i>	<i>PoW Activity 2.1.1.2.</i>	<i>A regional training on single-use plastics will be organized. Lessons learnt from previous ML MED related to work on plastic bags and EPR will be brought in. In addition, a “baseline situation report on single-use plastics” will be produced and will account for ML MED II outcomes. It will also provide with additional data on single-use plastic bottles for the EPR activities to be implemented in ML MED II.</i>	<i>SCP/RAC,</i>	<i>October 2020</i>	<i>Planned</i>
	<i>Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)</i>	<i>PoW Activity 2.2.1.2</i>	<i>Development of Guidelines on single-use plastics. The guidelines will build on the SUPB guidelines developed within previous ML MED project.</i>	<i>SCP/RAC</i>	<i>October 2020 – December 2021</i>	<i>Planned</i>
	<i>Water and Environment Support (EU-funded WES project)</i>	<i>PoW Activity 2.5.2.1.</i>	<i>WES national activities will be implemented in Morocco, Egypt and Lebanon on deposit-refund schemes, EPR and single-use plastic (Specific focus TBC for Lebanon and Egypt). Synergies with ML MED II will be ensured by SCP/RAC.</i>	<i>SCP/RAC</i>	<i>2020-2023</i>	<i>Planned</i>
	<i>Interreg MED Plastic Busters MPAs project (EU –Funded)</i>	<i>PoW Activity 3.5.2.1.</i>	<i>A pilot project will be implemented on the collection of plastic bottles in the marine protected area Cabo de Gata, Spain. Synergies will be sought with related pilots under Marine Litter Med (e.g. exchange of good practice).</i>	<i>SCP/RAC</i>	<i>January 2020 – December 2020</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>

	SwitchMed II (EU-funded)	PoW Activity 6.3.1.1.	<p>SCP/RAC will facilitate training to green entrepreneurs in the Southern Mediterranean through national partnership with business support organizations. Supported green business ideas might relate to the field of waste management, and particularly on plastic waste. Possible synergies will be explored by SCP/RAC.</p> <p>Regional measures for the development of green and circular businesses, to be developed under SwitchMed II following the request of Barcelona Convention Contracting Parties might also address the plastic related economic sectors.</p>	SCP/RAC	2020-2024	Ongoing
SPA/RAC	Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF)	PoW Activity: 3.2.1.2	Implement/ update the regional action plans/strategy for the conservation of Mediterranean endangered and threatened species, key Habitats and species introductions as well as the Mediterranean Strategy and Action Plan on Ships' Ballast Water Management to mainstream GES.	SPA/RAC		
	Mediterranean Trust Funds (MTF)	POW Activity 3.2.2.1	Elaborate guidelines and technical tools for improving MPA management and the conservation of threatened or endangered species and key habitats in the Mediterranean.	SPA/RAC		
	MAVA Marine turtles project (phase 2)	Activity 2.1.3	Set up new stranding networks (Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Albania and Lebanon), reinforce existing ones, and collate the stranding data from all countries.	SPA/RAC		
	MAVA Marine turtles project (phase 2)	Activity 3.2.5	Communication on stranding networks (Ex. targeting fishers to Create easy access for fishers to the stranding network).	SPA/RAC		
	MAVA Marine turtles project (phase 2)	Activity 3.3.2	Organisation stranding monitoring networking trainings.	SPA/RAC		

REMPEC	<i>International Maritime Organization Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (IMO ITCP)</i>	<i>PoW Activity: 2.1.1.2</i>	<i>National Pilots related to the Better Management of Marine Litter from Sea-based Sources in Ports and Marinas (Lebanon)</i>	<i>REMPEC</i>	<i>Tentatively 11-13 November 2020</i>	<i>In progress</i>
	<i>Switch MED II Project GloLitter Project</i>	<i>PoW Activity: 1.3.1.4</i>	<i>Synergies between the Marine Litter Regional Plan and the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships, as well as other relevant plans or initiatives, explored and established.</i>	<i>REMPEC</i>		

6.2 Cost-effectiveness

The project budget will be allocated mainly to support operational activities, as well as to support a full time Project Manager (UNEP/MAP P2 level) and half time (50%) Project Assistant (G5). Furthermore, in-kind contributions provided by the UNEP/MAP Secretariat through additional staff support will further contribute to the cost-effectiveness of the project.

The mandate granted to UNEP by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention as well as the long-standing in-house expertise available within the UNEP/MAP Secretariat through its MED POL Programme and other Components (i.e. SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC and REMPEC) programme constitute another important comparative advantage of the UNEP/MAP Secretariat as lead implementing agency for this project

7 Monitoring Plan

The Project will follow UNEP standard processes and procedures and the General conditions of the agreement annexed to the agreement signed with the European Commission. Reporting is an integral part of the UNEP Project Manager's responsibility, including getting the necessary inputs from any sub-contracted partners.

A progress and financial report together with a request of payment will be submitted to the contracting authority on a yearly basis. The progress report will have to cover the same period than the financial report.

Every yearly report, whether progress or final, shall provide a complete account of all relevant aspects of the implementation of the Action for the period covered. The report shall describe the implementation of the action according to the activities envisaged in the description of the action as well the degree of achievement of its results (Outcomes and outputs) as measured by corresponding indicators. The report shall be drafted such a way as to allow monitoring of the objectives and the means envisaged and employed. The report will as well describe the problems encountered and the actions taken to overcome the difficulties (more detailed on the report content are indicated in the article 3.7 from the General conditions).

The project will as well send intermediary 6 monthly narrative reports. Those reports should be simple and will serve as basis for coordination discussions with the Task Manager in charge of the project. This report should not be accompanied by a financial report.

Administrative financial reports:

Administrative and financial evaluation is to be conducted according to the UN Rules and Regulations and includes a terminal project evaluation.

The project manager will regularly communicate with project partners to follow up with them on project expenditures. Project partners will submit financial reports to the project manager based on the schedule outlined in the project documents agreed. A final expenditure account will be prepared jointly with the project manager within 90 days of the end of the project.

Terminal evaluation:

As part of the overall project management, UNEP/MAP will conduct an independent final evaluation of the Programme that will cover all components. This final evaluation will be conducted towards the end of the implementation period and the evaluation report will be annexed to the final report of the project.

The funds for evaluation of activities is included in the project budget, and will cover a desk study, online data collection, and a representative number of missions to conduct face-to-face interviews.

The evaluation will use the indicators defined in the log-frame matrix as indicators on to what extent the project contributes to the global consensus and promotion of tools and training approaches, in striving towards global consensus.

Furthermore, the evaluation will be gender sensitive in line with the gender strategy for the action and the action description.

Table 10 Project Monitoring Plan and Budget

Monitoring Plan and Budget									
Outcome level	Indicator-based Evidence & Measurement								Responsible office/staff
	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Variables	Data sources	Data collection methods	Frequency	Budget	
Outcome 1	National Monitoring Programmes and Strategies Prepared for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24	0	2	Participation of key institutions	EU-funded projects (e.g. INDICIT I and II, PlasticBusters MPA)	N/A	N/A		SPA/RAC
	Level of collection of monitoring data for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24	0	3	Network for collection of dead/stranded is well established at county level	IMAP Monitoring Programmes and EU-funded projects (e.g. INDICIT I and II, PlasticBusters MPA)	UNEP/MAP Protocols	N/A		SPA/RAC
	Level of agreement on updated baselines values, threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24	BV: 1 TV: 0	BV: 2 TV: 1	Availability of data	IMAP Monitoring Programmes	UNEP/MAP Protocols	Once per project lifecycle		SPA/RAC, MED POL
	Number of Monitoring Protocols and methodologies prepared and implemented for riverine marine litter and microplastics coming from WWTP	0 Protocols 0 Methodologies	2 Protocols 2 Methodologies	Lack of rivers with stable flow. Presence of seasonal torrents	JRC RIMMEL, ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Protocol	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
	Level of achievement of the approved marine litter environmental targets	0 Assessment	1 Assessment	Aspirational, Measurable	IMAP Monitoring Programmes, EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP Monitoring Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL

	Number of assessment reports delivered including measures identification	0 Report 0 Shortlist	1 Report 1 Shortlist	Availability of adequate data	IMAP Monitoring Programmes, EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP Monitoring Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
Outcome 2	Number of national reports submitted showcasing and presenting results from the implementation of Adopt-a-beach pilots	4 National Reports	9 National Reports	Cooperation with key national stakeholders, participation of NGOs and Groups of Citizens	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP AaB Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of national reports submitted showcasing and presenting results from the implementation of Fishing-for-Litter pilots	2 National Reports	5 National Reports	Participation and engagement of fishermen, Lack of well-structured and organized small-scale fisheries	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP FfL Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of national reports submitted showcasing and presenting results from the implementation of measures related to the reduction of single-use plastic bags, and promote alternatives to SUPB, including preparation of adaptation programmes for concerned national industry	3 CPs during ML MED	4-5 CPs	Express of interest from the countries	ML MED II	Phase Out SUPB Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		SCP/RAC
	Number of EPR schemes prepared and developed with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers	2 CPs	4-5 CPs	Express of interest from the countries, Engagement and Participation of Private Sector	ML MED II	Phase Out SUPB Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		SCP/RAC
	Number of pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas	8 pilots	14 pilots	Express of interest from the countries, Identification of Ports/Marinas	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		REMPEC

Outcome 3	Level of marine litter reduction observed in pilot areas in two eligible BS countries addressing beach marine litter (Adopt-a-beach) and prevention measures (phasing out single-use plastic bags)	0 Assessment	1 Assessment	Express of interest from Black Sea countries	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Environmental Targets	Once per project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL
	Number of national marine litter monitoring programmes prepared	0	2	Express of interest from Black Sea countries, Engagement and Participation of Key Research Institutes	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP IMAP	Once per project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL
	Number of marine litter assessment reports for the Black Sea region updated/prepared	1	2	Availability of data for all marine litter indicators (BS-IMAP) and for the geographical scope of BS region	ML MED II	National monitoring programmes, Projects	Once per project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL
	Number of joint workplans prepared and established with GFCM and BSC on marine litter issues and cooperation with regional partners enhanced, including with G7 and G20 as appropriate	1	3	Identification of areas of common interest	ML MED II	N/A	Once per project lifecycle		UNEP/MAP CU
	Number of additional memberships from organizations/institutions from the project eligible countries join the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine litter in the Mediterranean.	22 ⁴⁵	27	Resource availability, Strengthening ownership of initiatives/ joint workplan activities	ML MED	ML MED	During project lifecycle		UNEP/MAP CU, MED POL
	Number of project reports prepared and submitted, and steering	0	6	Timely preparation of reports, Timely	ML MED II	ML MED II	Once per year		UNEP/MAP CU, MED POL

[45 Including UNEP/MAP and its Components as one member](#)

	committee meetings successfully organized.			reporting of national activities					
Output level	Indicator-based Evidence & Measurement								Responsible office/ staff
	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Variables	Data sources	Data collection methods	Frequency	Budget	
Output 1-A	Level of preparation of national Monitoring programmes and strategies for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24	0 Monitoring Programmes 0 National Strategies	2 Monitoring Programmes 2 National Strategies	Participation of key institutions	IMAP Monitoring Programmes and EU-funded projects (e.g. INDICIT I and II, PlasticBusters MPA)	UNEP/MAP Protocols	N/A		SPA/RAC
	Number of national teams and Institutions involved in the process	0 National Teams	2 National Teams (minimum)	Participation of key institutions			Throughout project lifecycle		SPA/RAC
	Number of national experts trained	0 experts/ country	2 experts/ country	Participation of key institutions/ experts					SPA/RAC
Output 1-B	Level of preparation of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries.	0	1	Level of preparation/ maturity of monitoring programmes	ML MED II and EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP	Once per project lifecycle		SPA/RAC, MED POL
	Level of preparation of quality assured reporting procedure of monitoring data sets	0	2	Level of readiness of IMAP InfoSystem	ML MED II and EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP	Once per project lifecycle		SPA/RAC, MED POL
	Level of inclusion of DS and DD in the IMAP Infosystem and operability	Not operational for IMAP Cand. Ind. 24	Operational for IMAP Cand. Ind. 24		ML MED II and EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP	Once per project lifecycle		SPA/RAC, MED POL
Output 1-C	Level of further development and update of baseline values and environmental targets	1 report for BVs	2 reports for BVs	Availability of data	IMAP Monitoring Programmes	UNEP/MAP Protocols	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
	Level of preparation of assessment threshold values	0 report for TVs	1 report for TVs	Availability of data	IMAP Monitoring Programmes	UNEP/MAP Protocols	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
Output 1-D	Level of progress achieved in reaching the environmental targets approved by COP 19 in 2016.	0 Assessment	1 Assessment	Aspirational, Measurable	IMAP Monitoring Programmes, EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP Monitoring Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL

	Proposal on environmental targets or their update for IMAP Common and Candidate Indicators for Marine Litter	0 Assessment	1 Assessment	Availability of data	IMAP Monitoring Programmes, EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP Monitoring Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of indicators proposed to assess the reduction of plastic leakage in the Mediterranean towards the commitments in the Naples Ministerial Declaration of COP 21 with a particular on the result of the pilot projects under outcome 2 of this project	0 Indicators	2 Indicators	Aspirational, Measurable	IMAP Monitoring Programmes, EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP Monitoring Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
Output 1-E	Level of preparation of Methodologies developed for monitoring and assessing riverine inputs.	0	1	Lack of rivers with stable flow. Presence of seasonal torrents	JRC RIMMEL, ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Protocol	1-2/year		MED POL
	Level of Data collected to feed 2023 MED QSR preparations with regards to marine litter riverine inputs	0 data sets	2 data sets		JRC RIMMEL, ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Protocol	1-2/year		MED POL
	Number of national experts trained	0 experts/ country	2 experts/ country	Participation of key institutions/ experts	ML MED II	ML MED II	Throughout project implementation		MED POL
Output 1-F	Number of Regional/sub-regional reports on the sources, uses and leakages of microplastics in the Mediterranean	0	1	Availability of data	IMAP Monitoring Programmes, EU-funded Projects	UNEP/MAP IMAP Monitoring Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of key management and prevention measures proposed	0	3	Compatibility with the Regional Plan on Marine Litter	ML MED II	ML MED II	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of Protocols developed to monitor microplastics	0	1	Agree on the scope of the monitoring elements	ML MED II	ML MED II	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL

Output 1-G	Number of national experts trained	0 experts/ country	10 experts/ country	Participation of key institutions/ experts	ML MED II	ML MED II	Throughout project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of teams involved in the pilot projects at country level	0 teams/ country	2 teams/ country	Participation of key institutions	ML MED II	ML MED II	Throughout project lifecycle		MED POL
Output 2-A	Number of countries implementing Adopt-a-beach pilots	4	5	Express of interest from Countries	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP AaB Guidelines	Throughout project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of sites selected per country to implement adopt of beach measures.	Sites per country as selected in ML MED project	2 additional sites per country	UNEP/MAP AaB site selection criteria	ML MED II				MED POL
	Number of data collected in line with IMAP guidance factsheets and Adopt a Beach Guidelines	data sets collected under ML MED	5 additional data sets	Data collected based on AaB Guidelines	ML MED II				MED POL
	Number of local actors involved in the process	Actors involved per country in ML MED project	2 additional actors per country	Participation of key institutions, NGOs and Groups of Citizens	ML MED II	ML MED II		MED POL	
	Level of marine litter reduction in pilot areas	1 Assessment Report	2 Assessment Reports	QA-QC data	ML MED and ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Env. Reduction Targets	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL
Output 2-B	Number of countries implementing FfL pilots	2 Countries	3 Countries	Express of interest from Countries	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP FfL Guidelines	Throughout project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of sites selected per country to implement FfL measures	Sites per country as selected in ML MED project	1 additional site per country	UNEP/MAP FfL site selection criteria	ML MED II				MED POL
	Number of data collected in line with IMAP guidance factsheets and FfL Guidelines.	2 datasets	3 data sets	Data collected based on FfL Guidelines	ML MED II				MED POL
	Number of local actors involved in the process.	Actors involved per country in ML MED project	2 additional actors per country	Participation of key institutions, and fishermen	ML MED II		MED POL		
	Level of marine litter item reduction in pilot areas.	0 Assessment Report	1 Assessment Reports	QA-QC data	ML MED and ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Env. Reduction Targets	Once per project lifecycle		MED POL

Output 2-C	Number of fishermen engaged in the implementation of the pilots.	N/A	At least 10 fishermen per country	Participation of key institutions, and fishermen	ML MED II	ML MED II	Throughout project lifecycle		MED POL
	Number of national workshops.	0	1	Participation of key institutions, and fishermen	ML MED II	ML MED II	Throughout project lifecycle		MED POL
Output 2-D	Number of countries to review and draft up to date regulations and law on reduction of single use plastics	1	2-3	Express of interest from the countries	ML MED II	Phase Out SUPB Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		SCP/RAC
	Number of laws/regulations developed on reduction of single use plastics.	0	1-2		ML MED II			SCP/RAC	
	Number of counties and sectors implementing EPR schemes for plastic packaging and beverage containers	2	4-5		ML MED II			SCP/RAC	
Output 2-E	Number of pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas implemented	8 pilots	At least 1 additional pilot per country	Express of interest from the countries, Identification of Ports/Marinas	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Guidelines	Once per project lifecycle		REMPEC
	Number of targeted diagnosis prepared for the selected ports and marinas	3 targeted diagnosis reports	6 targeted diagnosis reports	Availability of adequate data/information	ML MED II	ML MED II	Once per project lifecycle		REMPEC
	Number of Waste Reception and Handling Plans (WRHP) prepared or revised	0	6		ML MED II	ML MED II	Once per project lifecycle		REMPEC
Output 3-A	Number of national monitoring programmes	0	2	Express of interest from Black Sea countries	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Environmental Targets	Once per project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL
	Number of regional assessment reports	1	2	Availability of data for all marine litter indicators (BS-IMAP) and for the geographical scope of BS region	ML MED II	National monitoring programmes, Projects	Once per project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL
	Number of baseline values formulated	0	2		ML MED II		Once per project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL

Output 3-B	Adopt-a-beach pilots are implemented in at least, two Black Sea countries	0	2	Express of interest from Black Sea countries	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP AaB Guidelines	Throughout project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL
	National regulatory framework for phasing out single-use plastic bags is reviewed, and technical assistance is provided in two countries	0	2	Express of interest from Black Sea countries	ML MED II	UNEP/MAP Phase Out SUPB Guidelines	Throughout project lifecycle		BSC, MED POL
Output 3-C	Joint workplan between UNEP/MAP and GFCM is prepared and agreed.	0	1	Identification of areas of common interest	ML MED II	N/A	Once per project lifecycle		UNEP/MAP CU
Output 3-D	Participation and membership of key Mediterranean actors and stakeholders into the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean expanded; synergies maximized	2	3	Resource availability, Strengthening ownership of initiatives/ joint workplan activities	ML MED	ML MED	During project lifecycle		UNEP/MAP CU, MED POL
	Additional memberships from organizations/institutions from the project eligible countries join the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine litter in the Mediterranean	22 ⁴⁷	27	Timely preparation of reports, Timely reporting of national activities	ML MED II	ML MED II	Once per year		UNEP/MAP CU, MED POL

Risk Management & Safeguards

8 Risk Management

Table 11 Project Risk Log

RISK LOG					
Risk Description	Category	Impact Severity	Likelihood	Risk Management Strategy & Safeguards (they should be incorporated into the approach, activities and/or budget)	When / By Whom?
1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late disbursement of funds related to the project activities implementation. Long procedure leading to the signature of project agreements and related addenda. Complexity of UMOJA and UE2 systems leading to delays or inability of countries to record and report on financial implementation. Administrative failures in processing project implementation. 	Financial and administrative	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send any report and request of payment in time to avoid late payment. Previous exchange of report with the EU task manager to avoid suspension of the report due to quality problems. Review activities implementation calendar Prioritize activities 	Project starting period / Donor, Implementing and Executing/Managing Agencies (UNEP, UNEP/MAP, EU)

2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political instability. Change in priorities: countries turning away from environmental protection to immediate or short-term priorities. Lack of commitment from countries. Turnover of governmental staff. 	Political	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look for national authorities support through alternative channels (MAP or MAP Components Focal Points, Ministers, Diplomatic channels, MAP or other implementing partners at country level). Visit the country and meet governmental officials in order to re-establish the contact and smoothen the communication and collaboration flow. Redirect activities to more stable and committed countries. 	At any time during the project delivery / UNEP/MAP, and MAP Components participating to the project
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security problems and hazards in some countries/areas. Inability to implement field activities in some countries/areas due to security hazards. 	Security	High	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redirect activities to safer countries/areas. 	At any time during the project delivery / Responsible project team member from UNEP/MAP or MAP Components participating to the project
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-Cutting Issues. Potential negative gender-relevant/balanced impacts. COVID-19 Pandemia. 	Social	Moderate/High	Medium/High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure gender-balanced participation throughout project implementation. 	At any time during the project delivery by of specific importance during the commencement of the project. Responsible project team member from UNEP/MAP, MAP Components and beneficiary countries.

5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bad weather conditions during the field pilots. 	Natural/ Environmental	High	Medium (surveys planned throughout the whole year)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find alternative activities to be executed until good weather conditions are re-established (coastal/terrestrial study, sample analyses, data processing, training of local partners, meetings/interviews with local stakeholders, etc.). Plan a complementary field survey. 	At any time during the project delivery / Responsible project team member from UNEP/MAP or MAP Components participating to the project.
---	---	---------------------------	------	---	---	---

Project Sustainability

10 Sustainability, Uptake and Replicability

Sustainability

This project builds and capitalizes on the institutional, financial and capacity building measures and tools that were developed under the previous ML MED Project, which created a strong basis for further implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan at regional and sub-regional, as well as at national level for each of the Southern Mediterranean States. The Marine Litter MED II Project will support further implementation and application of key reduction and prevention measures and tools, with the aim to ensure their continuity and sustainability in the long term, fully taking into account the lessons learned from the implementation of the previous ML MED Project, and the resulting recommendations regarding the sustainability, uptake and replicability of its results. The recommendations from the final version of the independent evaluation of the previous ML MED project will be also streamlined into Marine Litter MED II project aiming to further support project activities and to maximize desired results and outcomes.

This will be achieved through further national and regional capacity building and development of consolidated, harmonized guidance tools, which will contribute to strengthening national institutional capacities to fully implement the envisaged measures.

After the finalization of the project, there will be a value-added benefit provided for the sustainability of each of the project component as each is embedded fully in the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and in specific Decisions in relation to the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan, which ensure the continuous commitment of the Contracting Parties to this process. All activities executed during the project will benefit from the continuous support provided through the mechanisms of the UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention.

To ensure long-term sustainability, the project envisages to grow the ownership for the envisaged key reduction and prevention measures and its strengthening through the sub-regional cooperation.

Strengthening cooperation with environmental authorities in beneficiary countries will undoubtedly be pivotal for the implementation of this project and will help to guide the country specific implementation processes. Coordination with all concerned stakeholders (governmental departments, the scientific community, civil society organizations, NGOs and other stakeholders), that were involved in the previous ML MED Project and piloting of the consultation and endorsement process will ensure that stakeholder at all levels will have the benefit of participation and still increase country ownership which can support the process of enhances marine litter management.

The regional coherent and coordinated approaches will be among project's main scopes aiming to support the implementation of the measures throughout the region with the outmost scope to reduce the amount of waste which is channeled into the marine and coastal environment.

Uptake

The expectation is that through strengthened national capacities and stronger governance national networks addressing marine litter challenges, the work on refining and improving methodologies and tools will continue at national and regional level beyond the project span.

UNEP/MAP will play an important role in spreading the knowledge and expertise built through this project for its possible uptake and replication in other regions.

Replicability

The project will build on the strong basis of tools, methodologies put in place during the previous ML MED Project and will support their implementation at national level. The experience from the development of the regional guidelines during the previous ML MED Project will be strongly considered and ways to further replicate relevant activities are already considered.

Assessment methodologies and tools developed at the sub-regional and regional level will also support future assessment efforts in a harmonized way across the Mediterranean.

The networks of citizens, scientists and policy makers mobilized during the previous ML MED Project will support effective decision-making at both at national and regional levels.

The methods, tools and approaches implemented under this project will offer an example of effective marine environment governance and coordination, which can inspire other regions, particularly under other Regional Seas Programmes. The lessons learned from this project will be shared widely through UNEP/MAP and its partners networks in order to promote their replication elsewhere as appropriate.

11 Evaluation Plans

Evaluation Plan

Terminal evaluation

As part of the overall project management, UNEP/MAP will conduct an independent final evaluation of the Project that will cover all components and will review the projects' performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency and, determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. This final evaluation will be conducted towards or even at the end of the implementation period and the evaluation report will follow the final report of the project.

The funds for evaluation of activities are included in the project budget, and will cover a desk study, online data collection, and a representative number of missions to conduct face-to-face interviews.

The evaluation will use the indicators defined in the log-frame matrix as indicators on to what extent the project contributes to the global consensus and promotion of tools and training approaches, in striving towards global consensus.

The evaluation will be gender sensitive in line with the gender strategy for the action and the action description.

Additional Information
Annex A. Completed ProDoc Checklist

	Project Manager	Head of Branch	PRC
1 Project Summary			
Table 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
Table 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
Table 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
2 Project Justification			(N/A to this project)
2.1 Problem and Situation analysis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3 Project strategic relevance			(N/A to this project)
3.1 To UN Environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.2 To national and regional plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
4 Project Approach			(N/A to this project)
4.1 Theory of Change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4.2 Logical Framework	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
5 Project Implementation			(N/A to this project)
5.1 Governance			
5.2 Stakeholder analysis			(N/A to this project)
6 Communication and Learning			(N/A to this project)
6.1 Communication strategy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6.2 Knowledge management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
7 Resource Mobilization and Cost Effectiveness			(N/A to this project)
7.1 Resource mobilization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7.2 Cost-effectiveness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
8 Monitoring Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
9 Risk Analysis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
10 Sustainability Replicability and Uptake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
11 Evaluation Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
Annex A ProDoc Checklist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
Annex B Budget			(N/A to this project)
Annex B-a Project Budget	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Annex B-b Detailed Co-financing Table			
Annex C Workplan/Activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
Annex D Environmental Social and Economic Review Note			(N/A to this project)
Annex D-I Project Overview	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Annex D-II Environmental Social and Economic Screening Determination			
Annex E Design Process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
Annex F Draft Donor Agreements	N/A	N/A	(N/A to this project)
Annex G Gender Marker Self-Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)
Annex H Project Communication and Visibility Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(N/A to this project)

Annex B. Budget /Proof of secured funds

Annex Ba: Project Budget (is included as a separate document and is considered as an integral part to the present Project Document).

Annex B-b: Detailed Co-Financing Table Reflecting the MTF (PoW 2020-2021) contribution in Project Implementation:

Marine Litter MED II: Co-financing Proposal					
	Source	Title	Amount in USD*	Description	Marine Litter MED II Project Outcomes/Activity
SPA RAC	MTF staff costs	SPA/RAC Programme Officer	USD 4,010	5% staff time over 36 months	Staff costs
	MTF/PoW 2020-2021	Activity 3.2.1.2: "Implement/ update the regional action plans/strategy for the conservation of Mediterranean endangered and threatened species, key Habitats and species introductions as well as the Mediterranean Strategy and Action Plan on Ships' Ballast Water Management to mainstream GES"	USD 5,688	Set up a national stranding network within the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Turtles in the Mediterranean	1.1.1
	MTF/PoW 2020-2021	Activity 3.2.2.1: "Elaborate guidelines and technical tools for improving MPA management and the conservation of threatened or endangered species and key habitats in the Mediterranean."	USD 5,688	Elaboration of guidelines for the management of rescue centers, including methods for data collection as provided for in the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Turtles in the Mediterranean	1.1.1
MED POL	MTF staff costs	Head of MED POL (Programme officer)	USD 43,429	7% staff time (P4 level) over 36 months	Staff costs
	MTF staff costs	MED POL Pollution Programme Management Officer	USD 15,743	3% staff time (P3 level) over 36 months	Staff costs
	MTF staff costs	MED POL Programme Assistant	USD 5,529	3% staff time (G5 level) over 36 months	Staff costs
	MTF/PoW 2020-2021 SB-013476.02.21.12	Activity 2.1.1.2: "Promote the use of relevant instruments and incentives to prevent/ reduce plastic pollution including the generation of single-use plastic bags and microplastics; abandoned, lost, discarded fishing gear (ALDFG); marine litter generated from aquaculture activities; marine litter from ships; and e-waste."	USD 6,105	Organization of Best Practices meeting (travel, venue, conference service costs to cover eligible countries).	Outcome 2
SCP/RAC	MTF/PoW 2020-2021 Admin support	SCP/RAC Project Manager	USD 23,263	10% staff time over 36 months	Staff costs
	MTF/PoW 2020-2021 Admin support	SCP/RAC Communication Officer	USD 4,653	2% staff time over 36 months	Staff costs
CU	MTF staff costs	Coordinator	USD 7,996	1% staff time (D1 level) over 36 months	Staff costs
	MTF staff costs	Deputy Coordinator	USD 21,646	3% staff time (P5 level) over 36 months	Staff costs
	UNEP/MAP Programme Support Costs	Admin/Fund Management Officer	USD 6,204	1% staff time (P4 level) over 36 months	Staff costs
Total Co-Financing			USD 149,955		
Total Project Budget (incl. PSC)*			USD 1,140,000		
Percentage of total project budget			13.15%		

Annex C Project workplan / Activities

Table 12: Project Work Plan

ID	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO ¹	Partner(s)	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
A)	Project Outcome 1: Enhance national capacities on monitoring and assessing marine litter addressing pressures/sources and impacts to contribute to 2023 MED QSR with quality assured data addressing pressures and effectiveness of measures in line with COP 20 Decision on 2017 MED QSR	SPA/RAC, MED POL													
1.1	<i>Support countries to further advance and operationalize monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, with a focus on the ground implementation of the operation strategy as developed during the previous ML MED Project</i>	SPA/RAC, MED POL													
1.1.1	<i>Monitoring Programmes for at least 2 countries are prepared</i>	SPA/RAC, MED POL	2 CPs												
1.2	<i>Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System</i>	SPA/RAC, MED POL, Info/RAC													
1.2.1	<i>Data Standards and Data Dictionaries are prepared and are reviewed by UNEP/MAP concerned governing bodies;</i>	SPA/RAC, MED POL, Info/RAC	CPs												
1.2.2	<i>At least 2 countries submit the Data Standards and Data Dictionaries to IMAP Info System at pilot basis.</i>	SPA/RAC, MED POL, Info/RAC	3 CPs												
1.3	<i>Update Baseline Values and establish threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24</i>	MED POL, SPA/RAC													
1.3.1	<i>Baseline values and environmental targets are updated at Mediterranean level for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24</i>	MED POL, SPA/RAC													

ID	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO ¹	Partner(s)	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
1.3.2	Threshold values are proposed and established for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.	MED POL, SPA/RAC	INDICIT-II, PlasticBusters MPA													
1.4	Assess and further specify the environmental reduction targets as agreed by COP 19 in 2016 and reconfirmed in Naples Ministerial Declaration of COP 21 in December 2019, including to prevent and significantly reduce plastic leakage in the Mediterranean Sea and to progressively achieve 100% plastic waste collection and recycling by 2025	MED POL														
1.4.1	An assessment is conducted with regards to progress achieved in reaching the environmental targets approved by COP 19 in 2016;	MED POL														
1.4.2	Environmental targets are updated for all IMAP Common and Candidate Indicators for Marine Litter;	MED POL														
1.4.3	An assessment is conducted to set up indicators upon which the reduction of plastic leakage in the Mediterranean and to progressively achieve 100% plastic waste collection and recycling by 2025, all included in Naples Ministerial Declaration of COP 21 in December 2019, are measured.	MED POL														
1.5	Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work. This would prepare the grounds for consider expanding the marine litter common indicators of IMAP to include an indicator on riverine inputs	MED POL														
1.5.1	Methodology developed and implemented at pilot scale by three beneficiary countries for monitoring and assessing riverine inputs.	MED POL	JRC/TGML													
1.5.2	Data collected feed QSR 2023 preparations.	MED POL														
1.6	Assess the main uses and sources of microplastics in the Mediterranean, as well as microplastic leakages into the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean, focusing on existing studies with the aim to fill the gap for the Mediterranean and subsequently will result in proposing accordingly necessary measures as well as a protocol for microplastic monitoring	MED POL														

ID	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO ¹	Partner(s)	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3					
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
	<i>coming from WWTP</i>																
1.6.1	<i>Regional report on the sources, uses and leakages of microplastics in the Mediterranean;</i>	MED POL															
1.6.2	<i>Shortlist of proposed measures.</i>	MED POL															
1.6.3	<i>Protocol to monitor microplastics from WWTP</i>	MED POL															
1.7	<i>Support national Governments and competent entities in building capacity through technical assistance, training and collaboration for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine inputs, and microplastic deriving from WWTP</i>	MED POL, SPA/RAC															
1.7.1	<i>Capacity building is enhanced in all beneficiary countries</i>	MED POL, SPA/RAC	CPs														
B)	Outcome 2: Scale up and expand the implementation of pilot implementation of selected marine litter reduction and prevention measures at national and local level.	MED POL, SCP/RAC, REMPEC															
2.1	<i>Implement Adopt-a-Beach measures, with the scope to expand their geographical scope (at least 1 additional pilot per country) and related impact on further enhancing awareness raising of national/local communities</i>	MED POL															
2.1.1	<i>Adopt-a-beach pilots are implemented in three sites per country, in up to five selected countries</i>	MED POL	5 CPs														
2.2	<i>Implement Fishing-for-Litter measures (i.e. passive scheme), in at least one additional fishing port with the scope to remove existing marine litter from the marine environment; Efforts will be made to test to the extent possible the FAO voluntary guidelines on marking of fishing gear and to cooperation with GFCM towards addressing the contribution of aquaculture in marine litter and microplastic generation</i>	MED POL	GFCM														
2.2.1	<i>Fishing-for-Litter pilots are advanced in up to three selected countries</i>	MED POL															
2.3	<i>Further sensitize and engage fishermen to the purpose of minimizing sea-based sources; and contribute to extent possible with data on seafloor</i>	MED POL															

ID	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO ¹	Partner(s)	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3					
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
	<i>marine litter.</i>																
2.3.1	<i>Capacity is built for fishermen through the organization of dedicated training sessions/workshops</i>	MED POL	CPs														
2.4	<i>Phase out priority single-use marine litter items from the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment, with a focus on advancing the existing work on single-use plastic bags promoting proper and sustainable alternatives, including on single-use plastic items intensively used, or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and to further support the improvement of the legislator framework for other single-use items ending up as marine litter, in line with the new EU Single-Use Plastics Directive and possibly the updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean</i>	SCP/RAC															
2.4.1	<i>Up to three beneficiary countries draft and review national laws/regulations for (i) the reduction of single-use plastic bags, and promote alternatives to SUPB, including preparation of adaptation programmes for concerned national industry and/or (ii) for single-use plastic items intensively used, or produced during the COVID-19 Pandemic.</i>	SCP/RAC	3 CPs														
2.4.2	<i>Up to three beneficiary countries develop and implement EPR schemes with a particular focus on plastic packaging and beverage containers.</i>	SCP/RAC	3 CPs														

ID	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO ¹	Partner(s)	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
2.5	<i>Expand the implementation of pilots (at least one additional port and one marina for the countries participated to the first phase of the project and, where possible, one port and one marina for those countries that did not participate in the first phase of the project) related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas in the Mediterranean, with a focus on advancing the existing work on the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the No-Special-Fee system as well to the provision of reception facilities in ports and the delivery of ship-generated wastes, and to explore and establish synergies between the Marine Litter Regional Plan and the IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships, as well as other relevant plans or initiatives</i>	REMPEC														
2.5.1	<i>Three beneficiary countries expand the implementation of the pilots related to the enhanced management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas (at least one additional major port and one additional marina per country)</i>	REMPEC	3 CPs													
C)	Outcome 3: <i>Maximize synergies on marine litter actions in the Region with a focus on the collaboration with the Black Sea Commission and GFCM, and other regional partners</i>	MED POL														
3.1	<i>Assist the development of national marine litter monitoring programmes based on BS IMAP in two countries and their implementation; update the ML regional assessment for the Black sea countries based on the structure of their regional and national IMAP.</i>	BSC, MED POL														
3.1.1	<i>National monitoring programmes for BS IMAP marine litter indicators are prepared for two BS countries;</i>	BSC	2 BS Countries													
3.1.2	<i>Proposal for baseline values for marine litter is prepared and is submitted to Black Sea Commission Governance Bodies;</i>	BSC and MED POL														
3.1.3	<i>Regional marine litter assessment report is prepared for the Black Sea region</i>	BSC and MED POL														
3.2	<i>Implement selected reduction and prevention measures, namely "Adopt-a-</i>	BSC, MED														

ID	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO ¹	Partner(s)	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	<i>beach” and “phasing out single-use plastic bags”, at pilot scale in the Black Sea based on the Mediterranean experience from the application of relevant measures;</i>	POL, SCP/RAC													
3.2.2	<i>Adopt-a-beach pilots are implemented in two Black Sea countries;</i>	BSC, MED POL	<i>2 BS Countries</i>												
3.2.3	<i>National regulatory framework for phasing out single-use plastic bags is reviewed, and technical assistance is provided in two countries.</i>	BSC, SCP/RAC	<i>2 BSC Countries</i>												
3.3	<i>Identify and implement common actions with GFCM, and ensure synergies with other European Regional Seas Conventions and Programmes, related Regional Fisheries Bodies, and the G7 and eventually G20 work on marine litter without budget implications for the project.</i>	CU/MED POL	<i>GFCM</i>												
3.3.1	<i>Joint workplan between UNEP/MAP and GFCM is prepared and agreed.</i>	CU/MED POL	<i>GFCM</i>												
3.4	<i>Support the expansion of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter by supporting the participation of participants/organizations from the Marine Litter MED II eligible countries.</i>	CU/MED POL	<i>Members of the Platform</i>												
3.4.1	<i>Participation and membership of key Mediterranean actors and stakeholders into the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean expanded; synergies maximized</i>	CU/MED POL	<i>Members of the Platform</i>												
3.4.2	<i>Additional memberships from organizations/institutions from the project eligible countries join the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine litter in the Mediterranean.</i>	CU/MED POL	<i>Members of the Platform</i>												

1: Must be the Division/Organisational Unit responsible for delivering Project Outputs (all activities below a Project Output fall under that Responsible Division).

Annex D Environmental Social and Economic Review Note

I. Project Overview

Identification	<i>Insert Project ID# from Programme Framework Table</i>
Project Title	<i>Marine Litter MED</i>
Managing Division	<i>UNEP/MAP</i>
Type/Location	<i>Regional; National</i>
Region	<i>Africa, Europe, West Asia (Mediterranean, with a focus on Southern Contracting Parties)</i>
List Countries	<i>Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia</i>
Project Description	<p><i>Marine Litter MED II project's objective is to further strengthen and support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.</i></p> <p><i>Building on Marine Litter MED project executed during 2016-2019, the Marine Litter MED II project will further support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean at national, sub-regional and regional level with a particular focus on southern Mediterranean countries namely Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.</i></p> <p><i>The overall objective of the Marine Litter MED II project is to reduce and prevent the generation of marine litter in the Mediterranean through an expanded implementation of key reduction and prevention measures as provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean. The project aims at expanding the implementation of the selected measures in terms of geographical scope and impact. The project will further contribute to the development of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 towards making it operational at country level. The project will also contribute to achieving the reduction environmental targets as agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona in 2016 during COP 18 as reaffirmed during COP 21 and referred to in its Naples Ministerial Declaration.</i></p>
Estimated duration of project:	<i>36 months</i>
Estimated cost of the project :	<i>USD 1,140,000 (including PSC, excluding co-financing)</i>

II. Environmental Social and Economic Screening Determination

A. Summary of the Safeguard Risks Triggered

Safeguard Standard Triggered by the Project	Impact of Risk ⁴⁶ (1-5)	Probability of Risk (1-5)	Significance of Risk (L, M, H)
SS 1: Biodiversity, natural habitat and Sustainable Management of Living Resources	1	1	L
SS 2: Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Management of Chemicals and Wastes	1	1	L
SS 3: Safety of Dams	1	1	L
SS 4: Involuntary resettlement	1	1	L
SS 5: Indigenous peoples	1	1	L
SS 6: Labor and working conditions	1	1	L
SS 7: Cultural Heritage	1	1	L
SS 8: Gender equity	1	1	L
SS 9: Economic Sustainability	1	1	L
Additional Safeguard questions for projects seeking GCF-funding (Section IV)			

B. ESE Screening Decision⁴⁷ (Refer to the UNEP ESES Framework (Chapter 2) and the UNEP's ESES Guidelines.)

Low risk
 Moderate risk
 High risk
 Additional information required

C. Development of ESE Review Note and Screening Decision:

Prepared by: Name: _____ Date: _____

Safeguard Advisor: Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Manager: Name: _____ Date: _____

D. Recommended further action from the Safeguard Advisor:

⁴⁶ Refer to UNEP Environment, Social and Economic Sustainability (ESES): Implementation Guidance Note to assign values to the Impact of Risk and the Probability of Risk to determine the overall significance of Risk (Low, Moderate or High).

⁴⁷ **Low risk:** Negative impacts negligible: no further study or impact management required.

Moderate risk: Potential negative impacts, but less significant; few if any impacts irreversible; impact amenable to management using standard mitigation measures; limited environmental or social analysis may be required to develop a ESEMP. Straightforward application of good practice may be sufficient without additional study.

High risk: Potential for significant negative impacts, possibly irreversible, ESEA including a full impact assessment may be required, followed by an effective safeguard management plan.

IV. Additional Safeguard Questions for Projects seeking GCF-funding

Community Health, Safety, and Security		
Will there be potential risks and negative impacts to the health and safety of the Affected Communities during the project life-cycle?	N	Not anticipated
Will the proposed project involve design, construction, operation and decommissioning of the structural elements such as new buildings or structures?	N	Not anticipated
Will the proposed project involve constructing new buildings or structures that will be accessed by public?	N	Not anticipated
Will the proposed project possibly cause direct or indirect health-related risks and impacts to the Affected Communities due to the diminution or degradation of natural resources, and ecosystem services?	N	Not anticipated
Will the proposed project activities potentially cause community exposure to health issues such as water-borne, water-based, water-related, vector-borne diseases, and communicable diseases?	N	Not anticipated
In case of an emergency event, will the project team, including partners, have the capacity to respond together with relevant local and national authorities?	N	Not anticipated
Will the proposed project need to retain workers to provide security to safeguard its personnel and property?	N	Not anticipated
Labor and Supply Chain		
Will UNEP or the implementing/executing partner(s) involve suppliers of goods and services who may have high risk of significant safety issues related to their own workers?	N	Not anticipated

Annex E Design process

The project design process has been coordinated by the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit in close consultation with the relevant MAP Components through regular meetings and communications/mail correspondence throughout the different phases of project development, starting from the elaboration of the Concept Note in the last semester of 2019, which was subsequently approved by the 8th ENRTP-GPGC Programme Steering Committee Meeting on 29th of January 2020.

Following the approval of the Concept Note, the fully-fledged project document was produced and developed by UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit, with input and feedback received from MED POL, SPA/RAC, SCP/RAC and REMPEC. A similar approach was followed for the development of the project budget. The elements were subsequently refined through several rounds of contributions and revisions of the draft project proposal and agreed under the overall coordination of UNEP/MAP Senior Management. In line with UNEP internal procedures, the project budget and co-financing proposal have been coordinated with the UNEP/MAP Administrative Unit and the UNEP Programme Management Unit (Brussels), and the Communication and Visibility Plan has been coordinated with the UNEP/MAP Communication Unit and the MAP Components.

National stakeholders in project beneficiary countries were also informed of the project proposal during a regional meeting in November 2019 (Athens, Greece), during which their specific needs, lessons learnt, and priorities were further identified and noted by MAP Secretariat, and subsequently reflected to the present Project Document.

In addition, as part of the design process, the UNEP/MAP Secretariat also informed and consulted external partners in order to plan possible joint activities, ensure synergies with ongoing projects and identify possible joint activities, including with the Black Sea Commission, GFCM and other EU-funded projects (e.g. INDICIT-II, WES Project, PlasticBusters MPA etc.).

Annex F Draft donor agreements

Not Applicable

Annex G Gender Marker Self Assessment

Code	Meaning	Criteria
0	Gender-blind	Gender relevance is evident but not at all reflected in the project document.
1	Gender partially mainstreamed	Gender is reflected in the context, implementation, logframe, OR the budget
2a	Gender well mainstreamed	Gender is reflected in the context, implementation, logframe, AND the budget
2b	Targeted action on gender	The principle purpose of the project is to advance gender equality.
N/A	Not applicable	A gender analysis reveals that the project does not have direct interactions with and/or impacts on people, therefore, gender is considered not applicable.

A gender analysis reveals that the project does not have direct interactions with and/or impacts on people, therefore, gender is considered not applicable. Nonetheless, gender considerations will be consistently taken into account, in line with relevant UN guidelines all through the project implementation.

Annex H Project Communication and Visibility Plan

Introduction

Marine Litter MED II project's objective is to further strengthen and support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.

Building on Marine Litter MED project executed during 2016-2019, the Marine Litter MED II project will further support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean at national, sub-regional and regional level with a particular focus on southern Mediterranean countries namely Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.

The overall objective of the Marine Litter MED II project is to reduce and prevent the generation of marine litter in the Mediterranean through an expanded implementation of key reduction and prevention measures as provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean. The project aims at expanding the implementation of the selected measures in terms of geographical scope and impact. The project will further contribute to the development of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 towards making it operational at country level. The project will also contribute to achieving the reduction environmental targets as agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona in 2016 during COP 18 as reaffirmed during COP 21 and referred to in its Naples Ministerial Declaration.

The Marine Litter MED II project activities will be implemented by the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat and MAP Components (i.e. MED POL, SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC and REMPEC) in line with their respective mandates and areas of expertise. The Marine Litter MED II project provides an important contribution to the implementation of UNEP/MAP MTS and 2020-2021 Programme of Work adopted at the 21st Conference of the Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP), and of several other COP Decisions related to the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, Ecosystem Approach and IMAP, with focus on supporting enhanced marine litter management and a litter-free Mediterranean.

The delivery of Marine Litter MED II project activities will be in synergy with EU MSFD and EU Single-Use Plastics Directives. The Marine Litter MED II project contributes to Sustainable Development Goal number 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and several SDG indicators.

The Marine Litter MED II Project is expected to be implemented over a period of 36 months, from June/September 2020 to May/August 2023, with an overall budget of USD 1,140,000.

To achieve the above, an effective communication strategy is necessary to facilitate both internal and external communication and dialogue on results, good practices, and lesson learnt. In addition, it should target decision-makers to address strategic key issues which include ensuring the support for the implementation of provisions of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean and regional cooperation. It should also target other key audiences such as experts and scientists and other key stakeholders in beneficiary countries and in the Mediterranean, who can contribute the process.

In this context the current communication and visibility plan aims to identify key objectives, highlight important activities and target groups, communication activities and related implementation modalities to ensure successful dissemination of the results and deliverables achieved by the Project.

1. Objectives and Target Groups

i. Overall project communication objectives

- Raise awareness and understanding of the Marine Litter MED II project, including the support it receives from the EU, the project's goals, the role of the Contracting Parties and the project's contribution in the wider process related to the implementation of key reduction and prevention measures on marine litter as provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, with a view to securing buy-in and continued support from stakeholders and partners throughout project implementation.
- Advocate the importance of developing robust and participatory measures to reduce and prevent marine litter ending up in the marine and coastal environment, as well the adverse effects of microplastics, riverine inputs, and the effect of marine litter on biota.
- Disseminate knowledge on the status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast in order to support evidence-based marine litter management measures in the region.

ii. Target groups

Decision Makers:

1. Marine Litter MED II designated focal points, representatives of Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, including but not limited to: Government officials, policy makers, relevant ministries (i.e. Ministries of Environment, Fisheries, Tourism, Maritime and Land Planning, Forestry, Agriculture, Water, Local Development, Industry etc.).
2. Representatives of National Research Institutions.
3. MAP Focal Points and relevant MAP Component National Focal Points (in particular MED POL, SPA/RAC, SCP/RAC and REMPEC).
4. Practitioners and managers.

Experts/Scientists:

1. Experts participating in the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Groups on Pollution and Marine Litter Monitoring in the framework of the Barcelona Convention.
2. Relevant scientists, scientific institutions and networks around the Mediterranean, including European Union institutions and initiatives (TGML, EEA, EMODnet).

Private sector:

1. Alliance to end plastic waste
2. Local offices of the Global Compact in beneficiary countries
3. Representatives of the plastic production and manufacturing industry.
4. Chambers of industry and commerce and other business support organizations.

5. Other key stakeholders of the plastic value chain e.g. waste management and cosmetic companies.
6. Entity operators whose work is linked directly or indirectly to the generation and treatment of marine litter (shipping companies, port reception facilities, waste management entities, etc.).

Other relevant projects and initiatives:

1. Other regional (Mediterranean) projects, institutions, networks, initiatives and processes (INDICIT II, WES Project, PlasticBusters MPA, etc.);
2. Other global projects and initiatives (IMO-FAO-Norway GloLitter Partnerships Project, etc.); and
3. Intergovernmental Organizations and other relevant Conventions/Agreements (i.e. the Black Sea Commission Permanent Secretariat (BSC), General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (FAO/GFCM), ACCOBAMS, International Maritime Organization (IMO)).

General public:

1. Citizens and visitors of countries in the Mediterranean region, in particular those residing in coastal areas and engaging in coastal activities (including tourism, shipping, agriculture etc.).
2. Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) dealing with pollution, marine litter, environmental education, participatory science, marine and coastal biodiversity conservation (e.g. MEDASSET, Birdlife International etc.).
3. University (business studies) and educational institutions offering specialized training in tourism

iii. Specific outcomes for each target group, related to the action's objectives and the phases of the project cycle

- **Decision Makers:** Decision-makers are aware of the importance of implementing the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), Action Plans, the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) and IMAP; with a view to achieving Good Environmental Status, a litter-free Mediterranean, and contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG 14) and to UNEA resolution on marine litter. They are also aware of the main marine litter-related issues affecting the marine and coastal environment in the Mediterranean region which require further action in view of achieving GES, as well as the key requirements of the international and regional regulations that aim at tackling the issues of marine litter and the tools that could be employed to tackle the issue. Practitioners & managers **are aware of** main marine litter-related issues affecting the marine and coastal environment in the Mediterranean and are involved on the implementation of national IMAP.
- **Experts/Scientists:** Scientists are aware of the main goals, outputs, results and developments of the Project, the project's national and regional activities (in coordination with the national competent authorities); and participate in designing new or updating existing key reduction and prevention measures on marine litter, as well as identifying the adverse effect of marine litter in the marine and coastal environment and its biota. They are also aware of the IMAP process and contribute to the biodiversity monitoring reflection/ implementation and reporting.

- **Private sector:** (i) Private companies are aware of the problems posed by mismanaged plastic waste and are engaged in finding best solutions for end-of-life options and promotion of alternatives. Business support organizations seize the opportunity to foster businesses offering alternatives to single-use plastics. The informal collection sector is involved in extended producer responsibility schemes. (ii) Port and marina operators, wastes collection/delivery/management operators, shipping companies and other relevant stakeholders, are provided with updated information relevant to the obligations arising from MARPOL Annex V and from the legislation of the respective country applicable in the field.
- **Other relevant projects and initiatives:** target audiences are aware of how the Marine Litter MED II Project is contributing to the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, the Regional Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production, the Action Plan for the conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean, the Ecosystem Approach and IMAP in the Mediterranean region, to support the delivery of the 2023 MED QSR and of synergies and collaboration opportunities for the current and future phases. This target group is also important for the sustainability of the proposed action.
- **General public:** citizens, groups of citizens, NGOs, other related entities as well as visitors of the countries in the Mediterranean region are sensitized to key environmental issues in the Mediterranean Sea and Coast, in particular focusing on marine litter, and to more environmentally sustainable and responsible practices that they can engage in to support efforts to protect the Mediterranean Sea and Coast from littering.

2. Expected results & related indicators

Expected results on communication and visibility of this Project and their related indicators, in line with the objectives defined in part 1 of this Communication and Visibility Plan are as follows:

1. Stakeholders and key decision makers are more aware of the importance of an effective implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, the SCP Action Plan, EcAp and IMAP as well as the relevant international and regional regulations in the Mediterranean region in order to support evidence-based policies and measures against marine litter – **INDICATOR:** number of stakeholders and decision makers informed about Marine Litter Regional Plan, EcAp and IMAP implementation;
2. Stakeholders and key decision makers are aware of the results of the Marine Litter Regional Plan implementation process and assessment of the status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and their implication for further action required in order to achieve the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast on marine litter, in particular through the assessment results presented in the 2023 MED QSR (focus on IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine marine litter and microplastics escaping from Waste Water Treatment Plants) – **INDICATOR:** number of stakeholders and decision makers informed on the outcomes/findings pertinent to the implementation of the reduction and prevention measures on marine litter and monitoring and assessment on marine litter for selected indicators; number of communication products and events providing visibility to the findings.
3. The scientific community working on marine research/science/oceanography is informed of progress of the Project and lessons learnt to provide elements for future research orientations in support of

the assessment of the state of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast for marine litter – **INDICATOR:** number of communications/publications/posters/talks disseminated to scientific entities. Further indicators will be the number of people to whom the documents will be sent, number of people visiting the project section at UNEP/MAP website and/or number of people downloading the documents from the project website.

4. The EU support to the Project and to the Barcelona Convention is visible – **INDICATOR:** number of reports and publications mentioning the Project and its deliverables, using the visibility guidelines of the project funded by EU and implemented by the project implementing partners. Further indicators will be the number of people to whom the documents will be sent, number of people visiting the project website and/or number of people downloading the documents from the project website.

3. Main activities & related indicators

Regular communication activities in relation to the project overall will include:

- Development of a brochure presenting the Marine Litter MED II project in the broader context of the Marine Litter Regional Plan implementation in the Mediterranean and its different phases (Marine Litter MED, IMELS Cooperation Agreement), reflecting on the progress made as well as challenges to be addressed, for dissemination online and at relevant national, regional and international meetings and events – **INDICATOR:** publication of a brochure in three languages (English, French, Arabic); number of events at which the brochure has been disseminated; number of stakeholders reached; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** Policy-makers, donors, partners
- Development of an annual joint communication document highlighting outcomes, key products and tools, results achieved, and lessons learned, developed by the partners of the project; this document will be distributed by each organization within their e-newsletter (including MAP newsletter) and websites / social media and at the occasion of their events. – **INDICATOR:** number of annual communication documents developed and disseminated over the course of the project; number of stakeholders reached; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** all target groups
- Set up and regular update of the Marine Litter MED II project section on the UNEP/MAP main website as well as on the websites of other implementing partners and regular update of the overall implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan and/or EcAp/IMAP to reflect progress achieved as part of the project and to provide access to the key outputs of the project (documents, tools, etc.)– **INDICATOR:** number of webpages dedicated to the Marine Litter MED II project; number of views of the project page; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** - all target groups
- Dissemination of the latest news of the Marine Litter MED II project through regular publication of news features and press briefs in the MAP newsletter and the implementing partners' e-newsletters, as well as dissemination of key updates and results through social media. – **INDICATOR:** number of news features, press briefs published on Marine Litter MED II project activities and results; number of social media communications shared and number of retweets/likes; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** - Decision Makers, Managers and Scientists and MAP system partners
- Communication of national project results by local partners through local media (TV, radio, press) and social media – **INDICATOR:** number of national articles, press briefs, TV/radio reports published in the project beneficiary countries providing visibility to the project's activities and results; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** Decision Makers and Users

- Dissemination of project data monitoring results through the IMAP Info System – **INDICATOR:** number of views and users of the IMAP Info System; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** Scientists and Users
- Dissemination of assessment results streamlined through a dedicated interactive 2023 MED QSR web-platform/webpage, including through a visual Story Map (depending on costs and funding availability) informing on project’s contribution to its delivery– **INDICATOR:** number of views and users of the platform/webpage; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** all target groups
- Production of specific communication products and tools aimed at a wider audience, such as short educational/awareness raising videos, posters, brochures and events. – **INDICATOR:** number of communication products developed targeting the general public; **TARGET AUDIENCE:** all target groups and general public more specifically

Communication activities will be also undertaken in relation to each specific event, meeting, workshop and key thematic output achieved under this project. This includes inter alia:

- Marine Litter Best Practices and CorMon Marine Litter thematic meetings organized as part of the project, or in which the project contributes to;
- Key national meetings, consultations and workshops, including those related to the implementation of the different pilot actions;
- Key publications and products, the IMAP Info System, and the 2023 MED QSR;
- In particular, a strong communication component will be ensured through a dedicated communication strategy to be developed for phasing out single-use plastics, in cooperation and conjunction with the EU-funded WES Project’s communication and visibility strategy.

All Project documents as well as communication and visibility materials will comply with the [EU communication and visibility manual for EU external action](#), to be adhered to during the Project implementation by UNEP/MAP and MAP Components (i.e. MED POL, SCP/RAC, SPA/RAC and REMPEC) and other partners or sub-contractors. Throughout the project communication activities, particular efforts will be made to provide visibility to the overall Marine Litter Regional Plan implementation process in the region in a holistic way and in synergy with the EU-MSFD, EU-Single-Use Plastics Directives implementation, ensuring coherence and continuity of communication between this project and related past and ongoing projects funded by the EU and other relevant UNEP/MAP initiatives and projects.

4. Partners & responsibilities

The UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit will have the primary responsibility for the development, implementation, coordination and monitoring of the project’s communication and visibility actions. The activities will be undertaken by the Project Management Unit (PMU), in close coordination and with the support of the UNEP/MAP Communication Unit. In addition, representatives of the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit at all relevant levels will ensure to promote the visibility of this project at key Governance and other relevant meetings, and through presentations given at external events. Activities related to this project will be well reflected in the current and future UNEP/MAP Programmes of Work, the new Medium-Term Strategy (MTS), regular Progress Reports and other key governance documents of the UNEP/MAP system, as well as in overall UNEP/MAP communication products. The Coordinating Unit will ensure the alignment between project communication activities and communication activities on other

relevant UNEP/MAP products and assessments, as well as the UNEP-MAP Information and Communication Strategy.

This will be done in close coordination with the MAP Communication Task Force led by the Coordinating Unit and bringing together communication specialists of all MAP components. UNEP/MAP will seek to ensure and seize opportunities for synergies in the implementation of communication and visibility plans for all EU-funded projects managed and implemented by the Secretariat (e.g. EcAp MED III, IMAP-MPA etc.) and beyond (e.g. EU-funded WES Project). There will be no silos in terms of communication and the projects supported by the EU will ‘talk to each other’ to ensure greater visibility and impact.

In addition, all relevant MAP Components (MED POL, SPA/RAC, SCP/RAC, and REMPEC) will play an important role in supporting the communication and visibility of the project through their designated project officers and communication officers, using their existing communication platforms, tools and networks. Visibility will be provided by the concerned MAP components to the project at events organized by the Components, and in relevant external events where the MAP Components will take part.

The UNEP/MAP portal will centralize content pertaining to the project and will act as a one-stop shop for project information through a dedicated branded and well-structured html page (no stand-alone websites). The web page will be affiliated to the unep.org domain under UNEP MAP. Similarly, there will not be separate social media accounts for the project. Content crafted will be disseminated through existing MAP system accounts as explained above. There may be a need to agree with EU partners on an appropriate hashtag. The following proposals could be considered: e.g. #MLMED, #FreeMLMed

The following communication channels will be used (non-exhaustive list):

- UNEP/MAP system websites and social media platforms, including accounts maintained by the members of the MAP Communication taskforce at RAC level;
- To the extent possible: UNEP global platforms, including social media platforms managed by UNEP Europe Office; and
- Regional and national media outlets, notably national press agencies in beneficiary countries and the UNEP/MAP media directory.

Other partners to the project will be invited to support communication and visibility activities and contribute to the dissemination of its results and related material through their networks and communication channels (websites, newsletters, social media, events).

The PMU will be responsible for ensuring that all project activities and deliverables undertaken by the CU, the MAP components and partners will follow the EU guidelines for communication and visibility of EU-funded projects, in line with the [EU communication and visibility manual for EU external action](#). A dedicated briefing on the EU communication and visibility requirements will be organized for all implementing partners and the relevant guidelines shared.

5. Human and financial resources

i. Human Resources

The implementation of project communication and visibility activities will be an important output of the Terms of Reference of the Marine Litter MED II Project Manager funded through the project, while other Project Management Unit staff will support these activities as relevant. The UNEP/MAP Communication Officer will provide support to the Project Manager as necessary for the development of specific products and tools and their dissemination. In addition, all relevant MAP Components (MED POL, SPA/RAC, SCP/RAC and REMPEC) will play an important role in supporting the communication and visibility of the project through their designated project officers and communication officers, using their existing communication platforms, tools and networks. Other partners to the project will also support communication and visibility activities.

ii. Financial resources

Marine Litter MED II project doesn't have a dedicated awareness-raising component, however the project's activities (e.g. for single-use plastics and for EPR) will be supported by awareness raising actions in the targeted countries and the relevant budget for communication and visibility has been included in the budget of the Project's activities.

In addition, the travel budget of the Project proposal includes also relevant funding to cover necessary outreach activities, participation in relevant regional and international meetings, as necessary. Communication efforts related to the project will also be introduced as part of regular communication activities of UNEP/MAP and MAP Components.

6. Work plan and timeline

Communication Activities	Responsible Unit	Partner(s)	Year 1 (4 months)		Year 2				Year 3				Year 4 (8 months)	
			Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Development of a brochure presenting the Marine Litter MED II project	PMU/CU	MAP Components												
Development of an annual joint communication document highlighting outcomes, key products and tools, results achieved, and lessons learned	PMU/CU, MAP Components													
Set up and regular update of the Marine Litter MED II project webpage	PMU/CU, MAP Components													
Dissemination of the latest news of the Marine Litter MED II project through regular publication of news features and press briefs in e-newsletter and on social media	PMU/CU, MAP Components													
Communication of national project results by local partners through local media (TV, radio, press) and social media	National Implementing Partners													
Dissemination of project data monitoring results through the IMAP Info System	INFO/RAC	MAP Components												
Publication and dissemination of the Marine Litter MED II project key products and achievements	PMU/CU	MAP Components, Ext. Partners												
Production of specific communication products and tools aimed at a wider audience, such as short educational/awareness raising videos, posters, brochures	PMU/CU, MAP Components	Ext. Partners												
Communication activities on specific events, meetings, workshops (Marine Litter Best Practices, CorMon, sub-regional meetings; national workshops and meetings)	PMU/CU, MAP Components	Ext. Partners												

7. Reporting

The Project Management Unit (PMU) at the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit (CU) will be responsible for monitoring all project communication and visibility activities implemented by the UNEP/MAP CU, MAP Components, and partners on a regular basis. Any changes or delays to the communication and visibility plan will be communicated to the EC in a timely manner. Annual narrative project progress reports will systematically include comprehensive information on all communication and visibility activities conducted under the project during the reporting period. Links to key communication and visibility products will be included. The final narrative report will include an overview of key communication and visibility activities and products developed throughout the project duration.