



**UNITED
NATIONS**

EP

UNEP/MED WG.595/4



**UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

UNEP

27 May 2024
Original: English

Third Project Steering Committee Meeting of the MedProgramme Child Project 3.1

Athens, 13 June 2024

Agenda item 3: CP 3.1 Workplan

Workplan 2024-2025

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2024

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List of Abbreviations/Acronyms

CP	Child Project
CSO	Civil Society Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MCPA	Marine and Coastal Protected Areas
MedProgramme	Mediterranean Sea Programme
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECM	Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures
SPA/RAC	Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas
The Post-2020 SAPBIO	Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WWF-NA	World Wildlife Fund - North Africa

I. INTRODUCTION

This report provides an overview of the workplan elaborated by SPA/RAC, IUCN and WWF-NA; the executing partners of Child Project CP3.1 “Management Support and Expansion of Marine Protected Areas in Libya” (GEF ID 01423) implemented in the framework of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded Mediterranean Sea Programme (MedProgramme): “Enhancing Environmental Security (GEF ID 9607). The report provides information on planned activities and their related tasks, as well as a description of delays facing timely implementation and the revised time plan for completion. The tabulated quarterly workplan including the timetable for implementation from 2021 to 2026 is included in Annex A of this report. It is presented in order to visualize a way forward for project implementation from its inception to completion in June 2026.

II. WORKPLAN & STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Component 1: Improving Governance and Management Support

Output 1.1: A governance structure for MPAs in Libya developed and submitted for approval

1. Two key activities are planned for achievement of Output 1.1. These include:
 - a. Assessment of current governance structure and preparation of recommendations. Tasks undertaken consist of analysis and update of the legal and institutional frameworks for establishment of MPAs in Libya; updating and approval of the strategy on MPAs by key stakeholders; updating and approval of the law on protected areas, and development of the governance structure for MPAs in Libya.
 - b. Organization of national consultations to agree on the appropriate governance structure including necessary tools and processes. Tasks undertaken include national consultation surveys and meetings on governance structure and consultation workshops for development of the governance structure.
2. Concerning the tasks on assessment of current governance structure, the project is facing delays in implementation including:
 - a. Analysis and update of the legal and institutional frameworks for establishment of MPAs in Libya, with expected submission date of the full report in the 3rd quarter of 2024 (delay of 15 months) for revision and approval by the Ministry of Environment;
 - b. Updating and approval of the strategy on MPAs which will be based both on the recently completed inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and on the update of the legal and institutional frameworks for MPAs, with an expected completion date in mid-2025 (delay of 12 months); and
 - c. Development of a governance structure for MPAs in line with the proposed law and the updated strategy, which is expected to be completed in the 3rd quarter of 2025 (delay of 12 months).
3. With regards to organizing national consultations to agree on the appropriate governance structure, the project is facing delays in implementation of several tasks including:
 - a. Undertaking national consultation surveys, which will be held in line with the MPAs proposed law and the updated strategy. Expected delays are till the 1st quarter 2025; and
 - b. Organizing consultation workshops on governance structures. Again, these workshops will be also held in line with the proposed law and the updated strategy. Expected delays will be till 3rd quarter 2025.

Output 1.2: Inventory of marine and coastal sites of conservation interest in Libya and monitoring programmes

4. Three key activities are planned for achievement of Output 1.2. These include:
 - a. Collection and analyses of the existing data and surveys and identification of the target areas to be visited.
 - b. Conducting at least one field survey to identify and characterize sites of conservation interest in Libya through rapid assessment.
 - c. Organizing a national workshop to present, discuss and validate the results of the survey.
5. Concerning collection and analyses of the existing data and surveys and identification of target areas, the related tasks have been successfully completed by the 3rd quarter of 2023.
6. Concerning the undertaking of a field survey; again, related tasks were completed successfully by the 1st quarter of 2024.
7. With regards to the task for organizing a national workshop, logistical preparations are delayed till the 3rd quarter of 2024 because the report of the rapid assessment survey is not completed yet.

Output 1.3: On-site MPA management unit and management plan in at least one MPA

8. Four key activities are planned for achievement of Output 1.3. These include:
 - a. Updating the ecological and socio-economical surveys for the selected MPAs.
 - b. Elaborating management plans of targeted MPAs.
 - c. Submitting legal texts on the establishment of on-site management units to the competent authorities for official approval.
 - d. Establishing at least one operational management unit in concertation with competent authorities able to implement the management plan on the ground.
9. Concerning the update of the ecological and socio-economical surveys for the selected MPAs, the project is facing delays of 6 months in the conclusion of those assessment including a preliminary fishery stock assessment. Work is expected to be concluded by end of 2nd quarter 2024.
10. With regards to the elaboration of management plans of targeted areas including consultations with stakeholders, first draft of the management plan, national workshop to present the plan, review of the draft plan, presentation, validation and adoption, a delay of 3 months is being experienced. It is expected that related tasks to this output will be completed latest by mid-2025.
11. Concerning the submission of legal texts on the establishment of on-site management units; again, related tasks for drafting legal texts on the establishment of on-site units, and their approval show a delay of 3 months in execution. It is expected that related tasks to this output will be completed latest by 3rd quarter of 2025.
12. Finally, and with regards to the establishment at least one operational management unit, tasks related to this activity have not been initiated yet. It is planned in the 4th quarter of 2024; ending in the 1st quarter of 2026.

Component 2: Participation and institutional strengthening

Output 2.1: Civil society organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders

13. Four key activities are planned for achievement of Output 2.1. These include:
- a. Organizing an inception meeting with the main Libyan CSOs involved in marine conservation, fishery and MPA and identify the core CSOs to be involved in the project implementation.
 - b. Preparing and signing of collaboration agreement between the administration and the core CSOs regarding their role in the project implementation and communication.
 - c. Conducting three training courses with the core CSOs and representatives from the administration on MPAs identification and management.
 - d. Developing three collaborative projects between the administration and the CSOs for the co-management of MPAs in Libya (Farwa, El Kouf and Ain El Ghazala).
14. Concerning the organization of an inception meeting with the main Libyan CSOs, the project is facing delays of 6 to 9 months. Delays are experienced in the undertaking of consultations with national administration of relevant stakeholders, logistical preparations of the inception meeting and organization of the meeting as well as validation of the core CSOs that will be involved. Work is expected to be concluded by end of 2nd quarter 2024.
15. With regards to preparation and signing of collaboration with core CSOs, there is significant delay as no agreements were signed yet between the Ministry of Environment and any of the CSOs to date. Work is expected to be concluded by end of 2nd quarter 2025.
16. Concerning the undertaking of three training courses with the core CSOs and representatives from the administration, again delays between 12 and 15 months are expected due to administrative issues related to recruitment of a designated consultant to undertake the work. It is expected that related tasks to this output will be completed latest by mid-2025.
17. Finally, and with regards to the development of three collaborative projects between the administration and the CSOs, related tasks have not been initiated yet while awaiting the completion of the training courses. The activity will be initiated in the 2nd quarter of 2025 ending in the 4th quarter of 2025.

Output 2.2: Capacity building programme towards MPA governance, knowledge and management

18. Two key activities are planned for achievement of Output 2.2. These include:
- a. Organizing training workshops for MPA managers, practitioners and relevant authorities of MPAs based on the preliminary need assessment.
 - b. Developing MPAs management tools.
19. Concerning the organization of training workshops for MPA managers, practitioners, etc., a questionnaire was developed and distributed by IUCN in January 2024 targeting the 8 selected CSOs to identify the main capacity building needs of each CSO. A meeting was held in May 2024 in Tripoli in which representatives from the 8 CSOs were invited to identify the most important topics and themes for the capacity building programme. The training workshop will be implemented in the 1st quarter of 2025. There are no significant delays in the implementation of the tasks related to the activities under this output.
20. With regards to development of the MPAs management tools, tasks related to presentation of the tools to relevant CSOs and identification of those tools that can be adopted have not been initiated yet.

With a delay of 15 months, it is expected that work will be completed for these tasks by end of 3rd quarter 2025.

Component 3: Awareness raising and communication

Output 3.1: Awareness-raising and communication campaigns and materials, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers

21. One key activity is planned for achievement of Output 3.1. This includes awareness and communication campaigns and materials on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers. Tasks related to this output include:

- a. Producing an Intranet/Internet site and online magazine to create a shared vision and disseminate the project's progress and lessons learned.
- b. Designing, producing ad hoc communication materials (leaflets, brochures, banners and posters, etc.) for selected audiences and sharing lessons learned.
- c. Developing awareness and communication campaigns and material, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public, decision makers and particularly youth, local communities and decision makers.

22. Concerning the intranet/internet site and online magazine, analysis and identification of available options for communicating and updating project information is ongoing. This information is being updated constantly for publication through the online magazine. Work is progressing as planned and will continue till the end of the project in mid-2026.

23. With regards to the design and production of ad hoc communication materials, work is progressing as planned and will continue till the end of the project in mid-2026. Related tasks include discussion of the contents of the communication materials, preparation of the materials and dissemination.

24. Finally, with regards to the development of awareness and communication campaigns and materials on the value and importance of MPAs, related tasks include negotiation of agreements with media to broadcast articles and spots on the project, organization of press conferences and personation of videos during national and international conferences related to marine and coastal conservation. Again, work is progressing as planned and will continue till the end of the project in mid-2026.

Annex A
Workplan 2021-2026

Child Project 3.1 (GEF ID 10158) Implementation Plan (60 months)	Initial plan	2021		2022				2023				2024				2025				2026	
	Revised plan	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
1.3.2.2. Elaboration of the first draft management plans	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																				
1.3.2.3. National workshop to present the first draft management plans	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																				
1.3.2.4. Review of the draft management plans	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																				
1.3.2.5. Workshops for the presentation of the second draft management plans	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																				
1.3.2.6. Validation and adoption of the management plans at national level	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																				
1.3.3: Submit legal texts on the establishment of on-site management units to the competent authorities for official approval.																					
1.3.3.1. Draft legal texts on the establishment of on-site management units	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																				
1.3.3.2. Approval of the legal texts on the establishment of on-site management units	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																				
	Initial plan	2021		2022				2023				2024				2025				2026	

Child Project 3.1 (GEF ID 10158) Implementation Plan (60 months)																						
	<i>Revised plan</i>																					
Activity/Quarter	Responsibility	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	
1.3.4: Establish at least one operational management unit in concertation with competent authorities able to implement the management plan on the ground.																						
1.3.4.1. Local/national consultation on the set up of at least one operational management unit	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																					
1.3.4.2. At least one management unit operational and initiating the implementation of the management plan	SPA/RAC and WWF (leaders), IUCN																					
Component 2: Participation and Institutional Strengthening																						
Output 2.1: Civil society organizations (CSO) participatory platform, with a focus on gender stakeholders.																						
2.1.1 Organize an inception meeting with the main Libyan CSOs involved in marine conservation, fishery and MPA and identify the core CSOs to be involved in the project implementation.																						
2.1.1.1. Consultation with national administration and relevant stakeholders to identify a pool of CSOs involved and interest in MPAs related activities in Libya	IUCN and WWF (leaders), SPA/RAC																					
	<i>Initial plan</i>																					
		2021				2022						2023				2024				2025		2026

Child Project 3.1 (GEF ID 10158) Implementation Plan (60 months)	Initial plan	2021		2022				2023				2024				2025				2026	
	Revised plan	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
2.2.2: Develop MPAs management tools.	Responsibility																				
2.2.2.1. Presenting MPA's management tools to Libyan MPAs manager and relevant CSO.	WWF and IUCN (leaders), SPA/RAC																				
2.2.2.2. Identify relevant management tools that can be adapted to Libyan MPA context	WWF and IUCN (leaders), SPA/RAC																				
Component 3: Awareness-raising and communication																					
Output 3.1: Awareness and communication campaigns and materials, on the value and importance of MPAs, targeting the general public and decision makers.																					
3.1.1: Produce an Intranet/Internet site and online magazine to create a shared vision and disseminate the project's progress and lessons learned.																					
3.1.1.1. Analysis and identify of the convenient options for communicating, managing and updating the information of the project (internet, intranet site)	WWF, IUCN, SPA/RAC																				
3.1.1.2. Update constantly the communication tools by project information and messages	WWF, IUCN, SPA/RAC																				
3.1.1.3. Publish the latest findings and news to the general public through a publication of an online magazine.	WWF, IUCN, SPA/RAC																				
	Initial plan	2021		2022				2023				2024				2025				2026	

