

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Implementation Plan for the Period 2008 – 2011**
- 2. Multi-year Thematic Programme of Work 2008 – 2011**
- 3. Work Programme 2008 - 2009**

Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development

Implementation Plan for the Period 2008 – 2011

The MCSD was set up in 1996 as an advisory body and a forum for dialogue for MAP member countries and stakeholders for the purpose of defining and implementing a regional sustainable development strategy in the Mediterranean taking into consideration the recommendations of the meetings of the Contracting Parties, Agenda MED 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

Since 2003 the work of the MCSD has essentially focused on the preparation of the MSSD. Following the adoption of the MSSD by the Contracting Parties in Portoroz, in 2005 the major challenge now lies in its implementation through concrete actions at the national and regional levels with the support of all MAP components.

In this regard, the Secretariat is proposing a multi-year implementation plan and a short-term work programme directly linked to the orientations and actions resulting from the MSSD and the decisions of the Contracting Parties. The aim is to translate the MSSD into an implementation plan based on a four year rolling indicative programme and a two-year detailed work programme with objectives, expected outputs, monitoring arrangements and financial resources needed.

In developing the multi-year implementation plan consideration was given to the MCSD programme of work approved by the Contracting Parties in Portoroz in 2005 that gives due importance to the objectives and actions of the seven inter-dependent priority fields of the MSSD, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Millennium Development Goals and the UNCSD Programme of Work.

Account was also taken of the thematic work programme of the MCSD that is organized on the basis of a six two-year cycles with each cycle focusing on selected thematic cluster of issues from the MSSD. The programme will also follow the UNCSD implementation cycles comprised of a Review Year that will focus on a review of progress in the implementation of commitments, targets and goals related to sustainable development and a Policy Year that will focus on decisions on how to overcome constraints, obstacles and barriers to the implementation process. In each cycle, the thematic issues will be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Prior to the expiry of the MCSD six-year thematic work programme, the Secretariat will prepare a draft, updated thematic programme for the subsequent six-year term 2012 – 2017 taking into account the UNCSD multi-year programme of work for the same six-year period and the decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties.

The thematic working groups supported by the relevant RACs that have played an important part in the development of the MSSD, will shift their role, functions and modus operandi from formulation to implementation and become more action oriented with the objective to insert their results into the different country and regional processes.

According to the Terms of Reference approved by the Contracting Parties in 1997 in Tunis, the MCSD was expected to hold annual meetings until 2000 and thereafter every two years. However, it has continued to meet on an annual basis. In view of the fact that in the Governance Paper, the

Drafting Committee established during the extraordinary meeting of MAP Focal Points in Catania in November 2005 is expected to recommend to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties that the MCSD should hold biennial meetings, and therefore the MCSD will not be meeting in 2008, the programme of work has been prepared to cover the period 2008-2009. Implementation of the programme of work will be monitored by the MCSD Steering Committee which will continue to meet on an annual basis.

Long-term vision

The long-term vision of the multi-year implementation plan is:- *to pursue sustainable development goals, through the integration of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in policy making at the regional and national levels, through a broad participatory approach, with a view to strengthening peace, stability and prosperity in the Mediterranean taking into account the threats and weaknesses as well as the strengths and opportunities in the region.*

Goals:

The implementation plan outlines the MCSD's direction in the coming years and takes into account the overall objectives of achieving the following sustainable development goals:

- The integration of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development policy making at the regional and national levels,
- The adoption of an integrated, cross-sectoral and broadly participatory approach to sustainable development,
- The achievement of the objectives and targets of the MSSD, Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Millennium Development Goals,
- The provision of technical assistance, expert advice and capacity building to support developing countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable development,
- The cooperation, exchange of information and the organisation of joint activities and partnerships with UN Agencies, the European Commission and other international and regional organizations, governments and civil society groups in support of sustainable development,
- The monitoring and evaluation of and reporting on the implementation of sustainable development at the national and regional levels,
- The effective involvement of civil society, major groups and other related stakeholders in the implementation process,
- The use of information and communication tools, educational activities and public participation initiatives in order to increase the visibility of the MCSD and the achievements of the MSSD through awareness raising and promotional activities.

Objectives and Activities

The implementation plan provides a clear indication with regard to the future programme of work of the MCSD and the necessary resources needed in the short term for the execution of specific activities to achieve the objectives of the MSSD.

It is prepared in sections organized according to a number of objectives and contains a description of activities to be carried out, expected outputs and the estimate of the resources required for the implementation of each activity within a given objective. The implementation plan will be operationalized through the MCSD's biennial programme of work.

The plan enables the Secretariat to prioritize the activities to be carried out taking into account the limited resources at its disposal and provide the Contracting Parties with a tool to verify how the financial resources are being used and whether the expected outcomes are being achieved.

It will also give the Contracting Parties an overview of the programme of work of the MCSD in the short and medium term for the implementation of the MSSD and the level of support to be expected from the Secretariat during the biennium concerned.

The proposed approach in the preparation of the MCSD implementation plan and programme of work will also facilitate the identification of stand alone activities for which additional sources of funding other than the MTF would be needed. Most of the activities that will be carried out during the next biennium will be financed through the MTF.

Multi-year Thematic Programme of Work 2008 – 2011

The 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Portoroz, Slovenia in November 2005 adopted the MCSD programme of work including the thematic programme of work for 2008 – 2011 as a framework to assess progress made towards the implementation of the MSSD.

The programme consists of clusters of issues organized on a two-year cycle. However, this does not exclude the Commission from taking up emerging issues not included in the programme of work if the circumstances so require.

The following is the thematic programme of work for the period 2008 – 2011:

Cycle	Thematic Issues	Objectives	Activities	Implementing MAP Components	Cross-Cutting Issues
2008 / 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Urban Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipate and plan expected urban growth • Enhance the value of the heritage of Mediterranean cities • Improve the quality of life and reduce inequalities • Improve urban governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Promote urban spatial planning which articulates transport planning policies • Promote the identity of Mediterranean cities internationally • Promote sustainable urban transport • Strengthen opportunities for political action at the urban level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • MEDU • MEDCITIES • BP/RAC • ERS/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building • Implementation and Follow-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicators - Information, Communication and Awareness raising - Pilot Actions - Partnership projects and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Transports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Euro-Mediterranean transport systems • Improve the integration of road, rail and sea transport • Decoupling transport growth & GDP growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a sustainable Euro-Mediterranean transport framework • Support investment and incentive policies to stabilize or reduce the share of road transport and promote alternative transport systems • Reduce urban traffic congestion and pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • MEDU • ERS/RAC • REMPEC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Pollution : LBS Protocol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent and reduce land-based pollution by achieving the goals set out in the Strategic Action Programme to address Land-based Sources of Pollution, adopted in 1997 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the National Action Plans for combating pollution from land-based sources • Reduce pollutants from industrial sources • Equip all coastal cities with systems for the environmental management of solid waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDPOL • MEDU • CP/RAC • ERS/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the loss of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean region • Bring Mediterranean fisheries under a comprehensive ecosystem-based management system • Restore depleted Mediterranean fish stocks • Regulate the development of aquaculture so as to minimize its impacts on the environment and marine and coastal biological diversity and conflicts with other uses of coastal areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and complete the network of protected maritime and coastal areas • Promote the creation of new generations of protected areas • Establish at least 30 SPAMI at the end of 2012 • Ensure the coordination and synergy of activities carried out by international organizations and networks • Encourage fishery and aquaculture good practices respectful of conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPA/RAC • MEDU • ERS/RAC • IUCN • Other Partners to be identified 	

Cycle	Thematic Issues	Objectives	Activities	Implementing MAP Components	Cross-Cutting Issues
2009 / 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Urban Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipate and plan expected urban growth • Enhance the value of the heritage of Mediterranean cities • Improve the quality of life and reduce inequalities • Improve urban governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations • Promote urban spatial planning which articulates transport planning policies • Promote the identity of Mediterranean cities internationally • Promote sustainable urban transport • Strengthen opportunities for political action at the urban level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • MEDU • MEDCITIES • BP/RAC • ERS/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building • Implementation and Follow-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicators - Information, Communication and Awareness raising - Pilot Actions - Partnership projects and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Transports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Euro-Mediterranean transport systems • Improve the integration of road, rail and sea transport • Decoupling transport growth & GDP growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a sustainable Euro-Mediterranean transport framework • Support investment and incentive policies to stabilize or reduce the share of road transport and promote alternative transport systems • Reduce urban traffic congestion and pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • MEDU • REMPEC • ERS/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy & Climate Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote energy-saving policies and renewable energies • Access to electricity • Support Kyoto Protocol implementation • Adapt to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage economic actors and domestic consumers to adopt sustainable energy-saving habits and approaches • Encourage economic mechanisms/regulations designed to promote renewable energies • Support investment to improve access to electricity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDREP • MEDU • OME • BP/RAC • CP/RAC • ERS/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Coastal Area Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the balanced and integrated management & development of coastal zones • Guarantee unhindered access to the coast for everyone • Preserve, enhance or restore the coastal heritage • Avoid linear and continuous urbanization • Reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas to natural risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote integrated management approaches & projects for coastal zones & catchments areas • Implement specific plans for the sustainable management and development of islands • Prevent continuous and linear urbanization of coastal areas • Enhance the heritage of coastal areas, including traditional productive activities which form part of its identity, maintain agricultural and wooded green belts and establish ecological corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • MEDU • ERS/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	

MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK- THEMATIC ISSUES

Cycle	Thematic Issues	Objectives	Activities	Implementing MAP Components	Cross-Cutting Issues
2010 / 2011	OVERALL REVIEW OF MSSD				

Work Programme 2008 - 2009

I. Development of National Strategies for Sustainable Development

At the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development, under Agenda 21, governments undertook to establish and implement national sustainable development strategies. In 2001 Mediterranean countries made the commitment to develop NSSD. The MSSD is a framework strategy on the basis of which countries can develop their national development strategies taking into account their own specific objectives and the aspirations of civil society and the private sector, while giving due consideration to MSSD objectives and other regional and international commitments

Goal:

National Strategies for Sustainable Development in Mediterranean countries.

Objective:

Develop or update national strategies for sustainable development in Mediterranean countries with broad participation of civil society and other stakeholders while giving due consideration to the MSSD vision, orientations and objectives.

Activities:

1. Assist the four new countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Lebanon, Tunisia) in the development of their NSSD with the financial support of the Spanish Aazahar Programme;
2. Organize the Second Working Session on Challenges and Opportunities of NSSD Formulation to promote best practices and lessons learned in the development of sustainable development strategies;
3. Seek additional financial resources from countries and donor institutions to assist more Contracting Parties in the development of their NSSD;

Expected output:

1. Development of NSSD by the four new countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Lebanon, Tunisia).
2. The Second Working Session on Challenges and Opportunities of NSSD is successfully organized;
3. More financial resources are secured from countries or donor institutions for NSSD development.

Risks:

Lack of (a) high level political commitment in the country for NSSD formulation, (b) the non-participation of civil society and other stakeholder in the process and (c) the non-availability of additional financial resources to embark on new initiatives to develop NSSD.

Indicators:

Progress in NSSD formulation in the new countries and additional financial resources for NSSD development are secured.

II. Working Groups on Thematic and cross-cutting issues

Sustainable development involves a wide range of elements including laws and regulations, policies, stakeholder participation, information and communications and incorporates scientific, technological, economic, cultural and social considerations.

The programme of work of the MCSD provides for the setting up of working groups to address thematic issues in an integrated manner taking into account multiple challenges. These working groups provide a forum for the participation of the scientific community and national, regional and international scientific and professional networks apart from relevant institutions and organisations to focus on specific sectoral and cross cutting aspects with respect to the thematic issue under consideration. The Working Groups will be designed to address thematic issues from the standpoint of all these multiple objectives rather than from the single objective of environmental protection.

Goal:

Draw up policy guidance on specific thematic and cross cutting issues of the MSSD as identified in the MCSD thematic programme of work.

Objective:

Consider each thematic area agreed upon in the MCSD programme of work within the overall framework of the MSSD and in an integrated manner fully addressing cross-cutting issues.

Activities:-

1. Launch thematic working groups having similar structures, and modus operandi to address Quality Agriculture and Sustainable Rural Development; Sustainable Tourism, Marine Pollution and Biodiversity;
2. Organize regional workshops to evaluate the output of the thematic working groups and draw up policy recommendations;
3. Submit the results of the thematic working groups for the consideration of the MCSD.

Expected outputs:

1. Working groups addressing the thematic issues of the MCSD programme of work are set up;
2. Policy proposals from the regional workshops on the thematic issues;
3. Recommendations to the Contracting Parties from the MCSD on the basis of the output of the thematic working groups.

Risks:

Non-participation by the scientific community, professional bodies and international and regional organizations in the thematic working groups.

Indicators:

A broad participation of the scientific community and professional bodies in the working groups and sound policy recommendations to the countries on the thematic issues under discussion.

III. Synergies with other sustainable development related initiatives

The strengthening of cooperation with international and regional institutions both within and outside the United Nations including the UNCSD, EU SD Network and OECD work is key to the implementation of the MSSD. Likewise the enhancement of relations with other frameworks at the international and regional levels dealing with sustainable development such as CIHEAM, CEDARE, should be promoted. This collaboration should be pursued in all relevant contexts, including also partnership arrangements on specific issues.

Goal:

Improvement of collaboration and synergies with other sustainable development institutions and initiatives at the international and regional levels

Objective:

MSSD implementation is carried out in synergy and cooperation with the work of other international and regional institutions through enhanced relations with other sustainable development frameworks.

Activities:

1. Develop synergies with the process for the implementation of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy;
2. Strengthen synergies with other international and regional cooperation frameworks and networks such as the Horizon 2020 initiative;
3. Participate in the meetings of the UNCSD dealing with thematic issues relevant to the programme of work of the MCSD;
4. Improve convergence with sub regional approaches such as the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative and the Adriatic Sea Partnership.

Expected outputs:

1. Improved synergy with the EU Sustainable Development Strategy;
2. Number of Horizon 2020 initiatives are implemented taking into account the MSSD objectives for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean;
3. Increased synergy with UNCSD programme of work;
4. Convergence with sub-regional initiatives through bilateral cooperation activities.

Risks:

Lack of recognition of the status of the MCSD at the international, regional and national levels could deprive the MSSD of its credibility and relevance as a regional sustainable development framework in the Mediterranean.

Indicators:

MCSD has managed to establish synergies and coordination with international, regional and national sustainable development institutions and frameworks.

IV. Monitoring and Evaluation

There is a need to identify indicators of strategy progress in order to monitor the strategy's implementation. This is crucial to track progress, capture key lessons and make adjustments where necessary. It is also important to promote accountability. Sustainable development goals will be attained more effectively if they are monitored properly. Indicators will identify what should be monitored, by whom and when. In the case of the MSSD, major macro indicators will be used to monitor implementation.

Goal:

Establish continuous monitoring and evaluation systems based on clear indicators to track and steer progress.

Objective:

Develop sustainable development indicators to monitor MSSD implementation at the regional and national levels.

Activities:

1. Establish a set of macro indicators to monitor the MSSD's implementation
2. Establish a two-year monitoring cycle to assess progress in strategy implementation with the first exercise to be carried out in 2009;
3. Carry out an in-depth assessment every five years with the first one being carried out in 2010;
4. Organize workshops on the priority fields of action of the MSSD

Expected outputs

1. A set of 34 priority indicators established;
2. The first biennial assessment carried out in 2009;
3. Launch preparations for in-depth assessment in 2010;
4. Three thematic workshops on MSSD priority areas organized.

Risks:

The lack of credible and reliable information and data on environmental, social and economic trends, pressures and responses will make it difficult to determine indicators to identify trends,

detect change and track progress. Lack of capacities at the country level to report on strategy implementation could also present a problem.

Indicators:

A set of indicators with targets and time-frames are developed.

V. Participation of civil society and the private sector in the MCSD

Participation of all stakeholders is fundamental to the implementation of the MSSD. The composition of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development provides for the participation of civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in its work. There is a strong need for the strengthening of participation and broader representation of these groups in the MCSD. It is also important to secure the commitment of these groups towards the achievement of the objectives of the MSSD because this significantly increases the likelihood of the successful implementation of the MSSD.

Goal:

Secure a broader participation, stronger commitment and deeper involvement of civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the work of the MCSD and strategy implementation.

Objective:

Civil society and the private sector and other stakeholder groups will be better represented and take a more active part in the work of the MCSD and MSSD implementation.

Activities:

1. Identify civil society, socio economic actors and local authorities active in the field of sustainable development;
2. Facilitate and support the participation of civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the work of the MCSD;
3. Implement the decision of the Contracting Parties regarding the representation on the MCSD.

Expected Outputs:

1. An updated list of civil society, socio economic actors and local authorities who could participate in the work of the MCSD is compiled. To this end, an appropriate use of the recently developed "Who's Who" instrument is envisaged;
2. A broader and increased participation by civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the MCSD is registered.
3. Composition of the MCSD reflects the decision of the Contracting Parties.

Indicators:

Membership of the MCSD is characterized by the broader participation and more active involvement by the representatives of civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the work of the Commission.

Risks:

The commitment of civil society groups, socio economic actors and the private sector depends on how the strategy responds to their motivations and aspirations. If their involvement and commitment is not secured, the implementation of the MSSD will be weakened.

VI. Increased visibility and awareness

The formulation of the MSSD was a big challenge but its implementation is even more complex. In this regard, the effective engagement of all stakeholders is extremely important. Therefore implementation of the MSSD at the regional and national levels implies a good communication with and awareness of both policy makers and civil society to ensure broad ownership and participation. It is much more than public relations initiative through information campaigns and the media.

Goal:

Enhance the visibility, perception and awareness of the work of the MCSD and the objectives and achievements of the MSSD in order to increase its ownership by international institutions, national policy makers and civil society.

Objective:

Greater awareness and acceptance of the work of the MCSD and the achievements of the MSSD on the international and regional levels through the use of information and communication tools and the mass media. Implementation of the IC Strategy for the MSSD.

Activities:

1. Within the development of *InfoMAP* support, manage, update and progressively improve the MSSD web-site, including EcoMedia online magazine, and CMS intranet for the conveying of concise, accurate and objective information about the objectives and achievements of the MSSD;
2. Organise the annual events *MEDday* and *MedAward* devoted to sustainable development, mobilizing major stakeholders at all levels in the Region;
3. Widely disseminate *Mediterranea*, the video of the 30th Anniversary of the Barcelona Convention;
4. Plan, produce and disseminate audiovisual productions on MSSD thematic issues;
5. Plan and organize regional and national MSSD presentations, meetings, training courses and media conferences to raise the profile of the MCSD and MSSD at the international, regional and national levels.

Expected outputs:

1. MSSD web site improved to serve user and stakeholder needs, fully populated and inter-linked to the redesigned UNEP/MAP web site and ultimately the envisaged UNEP/MAP portal (*InfoMAP*);
2. *MEDday* and *MedAward* are held;
3. The video *Mediterranea* is widely disseminated;
4. Two new audiovisual productions on MSSD thematic issues are produced and disseminated;
5. Regional and national presentations, meetings and media conferences are held.

Indicators:

A higher level of awareness at the international regional and national levels together with extensive coverage in the media of MCSD activities and MSSD achievements.

Risks:

The achievement of the expected outputs may be hampered as a result of the lack of the required resources, users not sufficiently proactive in providing feedback, the lack of adequate professional capacities and concerned parties are not active enough at the national level.

Proposed Programme of work of the MCSD for the biennium 2008 – 2009

I. Development of National Strategies for Sustainable Development

Goal:

National Strategies for Sustainable Development in Mediterranean countries

Objective:

Develop or update national strategies for sustainable development in Mediterranean countries with broad participation of civil society and other stakeholders while giving due consideration to the MSSD vision, orientations and objectives.

Indicators:

Progress in NSSD formulation in the new countries is concluded and additional financial resources for NSSD development are secured.

Risks:

Lack of (a) high level political commitment in the country for NSSD formulation, (b) the non-participation of civil society and other stakeholder in the process and (c) the non-availability of additional financial resources to embark on new initiatives to develop NSSD.

Activities	Expected outputs	Implementing MAP Components	2008			2009		
			MTF In €	External Funds	EC	MTF In €	External Funds	EC
Assist the four new countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Lebanon, Tunisia) in the development of their NSSD with the financial support of the Spanish Aazahar Programme	Development of NSSD by the four new countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Lebanon, Tunisia)	Secretariat and all MAP components						
Organize the Second Working Session on Challenges and Opportunities of NSSD Formulation to promote best practices and lessons learned in the development of sustainable development strategies	The Second Working Session on Challenges and Opportunities of NSSD is successfully organized	Secretariat						
Seek additional financial resources from countries and donor institutions to assist more Contracting Parties in the development of their NSSD	More financial resources are secured from countries or donor institutions for NSSD development	Secretariat						

II. Working Groups on Thematic and cross-cutting issues

Goal:

Draw up policy guidance on specific thematic and cross cutting issues of the MSSD as identified in the MCSD thematic programme of work

Objective:

Consider each thematic area agreed upon in the MCSD programme of work within the overall framework of the MSSD and in an integrated manner fully addressing cross-cutting issues.

Indicators:

A broad participation of the scientific community and professional bodies in the working groups and sound policy recommendations to the countries on the thematic issues under discussion.

Risks:

Non-participation by the scientific community, professional bodies and international and regional organizations in the thematic working groups.

Activities	Expected outputs	Implementin g MAP Components	2008			2009		
			MTF In €	External Funds	EC	MTF In €	External Funds	EC
Launch thematic working groups having similar structures, and modus operandi to address: a. Quality Agriculture and Sustainable Rural Development; b. Sustainable Tourism; c. Marine Pollution and d. Biodiversity	Working groups addressing the thematic issues of the MCSD programme of work are set up	a. BP/RAC b. BP/RAC c. Med POL d. SPA/RAC						
Organize regional workshops to evaluate the output of the thematic working groups and draw up policy recommendations	Policy proposals from the regional workshops on the thematic issues	Secretariat and all MAP components						
Submit the results of the thematic working groups for the consideration of the MCSD	Recommendations to the Contracting Parties from the MCSD on the basis of the output of the thematic working groups	Secretariat and all MAP components						

III. Synergies with other sustainable development related initiatives

Goal:

Improvement of collaboration and synergies with other sustainable development institutions and initiatives at the international and regional levels

Objective:

MSSD implementation is carried out in synergy and cooperation with the work of other international and regional institutions through enhanced relations with other sustainable development frameworks.

Indicators:

MCSD has managed to establish synergies and coordination with international, regional and national sustainable development institutions and frameworks

Risks:

Lack of recognition of the status of the MCSD at the international, regional and national levels could deprive the MSSD of its credibility and relevance as a regional sustainable development framework in the Mediterranean.

Activities	Expected outputs	Implementing MAP Components	2008			2009		
			MTF In €	External Funds	EC	MTF In €	External Funds	EC
Develop synergies with the process for the implementation of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy	Improved synergy with the EU Sustainable Development Strategy;	Secretariat						
Strengthen synergies with other international and regional cooperation frameworks and networks such as the Horizon 2020 initiative;	Number of Horizon 2020 initiatives are implemented taking into account the MSSD objectives for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean	Secretariat						
Participate in the meetings of the UNCSD dealing with thematic issues relevant to the programme of work of the MCSD;	Increased synergy with UNCSD programme of work	Secretariat						
Improve convergence with sub regional approaches such as the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative and the Adriatic Sea Partnership.	Convergence with sub-regional initiatives through bilateral cooperation activities	Secretariat						

IV. Monitoring and Evaluation

Goal:

Establish continuous monitoring and evaluation systems based on clear indicators to track and steer progress

Objective:

Develop sustainable development indicators to monitor MSSD implementation at the regional and national levels.

Indicators:

A set of indicators with targets and time-frames are developed.

Risks:

The lack of credible and reliable information and data on environmental, social and economic trends, pressures and responses will make it difficult to determine indicators to identify trends, detect change and track progress. Lack of capacities at the country level to report on strategy implementation could also present a problem.

Activities	Expected outputs	Implementin g MAP Components	2008			2009		
			MTF In €	External Funds	EC	MTF In €	External Funds	EC
Establish a set of macro indicators to monitor the MSSD's implementation	A set of 34 priority indicators established	BP/RAC						
Establish a two-year monitoring cycle to assess progress in strategy implementation with the first exercise to be carried out in 2009	The first biennial assessment carried out in 2009	BP/RAC						
Carry out an in-depth assessment every five years with the first one being carried out in 2010	Launch preparations for in-depth assessment in 2010	Secretariat and all MAP components						
Organize workshops on the priority fields of action of the MSSD	Three thematic workshops on MSSD priority areas organized	Secretariat and all MAP components						

V. Participation of civil society and the private sector in the MCSD

Goal:

Secure a broader participation, stronger commitment and deeper involvement of civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the work of the MCSD and strategy implementation.

Objective:

Civil society and the private sector and other stakeholder groups will be better represented and take a more active part in the work of the MCSD and MSSD implementation.

Indicators:

Membership of the MCSD is characterized by the broader participation and more active involvement by the representatives of civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the work of the Commission.

Risks:

The commitment of civil society groups, socio economic actors and the private sector depends on how the strategy responds to their motivations and aspirations. If their involvement and commitment is not secured, the implementation of the MSSD will be weakened.

Activities	Expected outputs	Implementin g MAP Components	2008			2009		
			MTF In €	External Funds	EC	MTF In €	External Funds	EC
Identify civil society, socio economic actors and local authorities active in the field of sustainable development	An updated list of civil society, socio economic actors and local authorities who could participate in the work of the MCSD is compiled. To this end, an appropriate use of the recently developed "Who's Who" instrument is envisaged	Secretariat						
Facilitate and support the participation of civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the work of the MCSD	A broader and increased participation by civil society, socio-economic actors and local authorities in the MCSD is registered	Secretariat						
Implement the decision of the Contracting Parties regarding the representation on the MCSD	Composition of the MCSD reflects the decision of the Contracting Parties	Secretariat						

VI. Increased visibility and awareness

Goal:

Enhance the visibility, perception and awareness of the work of the MCSD and the objectives and achievements of the MSSD in order to increase its ownership by international institutions, national policy makers and civil society.

Objective:

Greater awareness and acceptance of the work of the MCSD and the achievements of the MSSD on the international and regional levels through the use of information and communication tools and the mass media. Implementation of the IC Strategy for the MSSD.

Indicators:

A higher level of awareness at the international regional and national levels together with extensive coverage in the media of MCSD activities and MSSD achievements.

Risks:

The achievement of the expected outputs may be hampered as a result of the lack of the required resources, users not sufficiently proactive in providing feedback, the lack of adequate professional capacities and concerned parties are not active enough at the national level.

Activities	Expected outputs	Implementin g MAP Components	2008			2009		
			MTF In €	External Funds	EC	MTF In €	External Funds	EC
Within the development of <i>InfoMAP</i> support, manage, update and progressively improve the MSSD web-site, including <i>EcoMedia</i> online magazine, and CMS intranet for the conveying of concise, accurate and objective information about the objectives and achievements of the MSSD	MSSD web site improved to serve user and stakeholder needs, fully populated and inter-linked to the redesigned UNEP/MAP web site and ultimately the envisaged UNEP/MAP portal (<i>InfoMAP</i>);	Info/RAC						
Organise the annual events <i>MEDday</i> and <i>MedAward</i> devoted to sustainable development, mobilizing major stakeholders at all levels in the Region	<i>MEDday</i> and <i>MedAward</i> are held	Info/RAC						
Widely disseminate <i>Mediterranea</i> , the video of the 30 th Anniversary of the Barcelona Convention;	The video <i>Mediterranea</i> is widely disseminated	Info/RAC						
Plan, produce and disseminate audiovisual productions on MSSD thematic issues;	Two new audiovisual productions on MSSD thematic issues are produced and disseminated.	Info/RAC						
Plan and organize regional and national MSSD presentations, meetings, training courses and media conferences to raise the profile of the MCSD and MSSD at the international, regional and national levels.	Regional and national presentations, meetings and media conferences are held	Info/RAC						

