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Agenda item 5: MSSD 2016-2025 implementation and monitoring - Good practices and challenges faced

Proposed List of MSSD Indicators

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I. Introduction

1. The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 (MSSD 2016-2025) was adopted by COP19 of the Barcelona Convention (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016), as a strategic guiding document for all stakeholders and partners to translate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the regional, sub-regional and national levels. The whole MSSD 2016-2025 approach was based on the review and assessment of the initial MSSD (adopted in 2005), as well as on the recommendations and decisions taken at the global level in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
2. MSSD 2016-2025 is based on the integration between socio-economic development and protection of natural resources. This principle is captured in the subtitle of the MSSD 2016-2025: *“Investing in environmental sustainability to achieve social and economic development”*.
3. MSSD 2016-2025 is complementary with the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production for the Mediterranean and its Roadmap for implementation, which focuses on four priority areas: e.g. food, agriculture and fisheries; goods manufacturing; tourism; and, housing and construction. Those areas represent drivers of pollution generation and environmental pressures on the marine and coastal ecosystems but at the same time high contributors to the Mediterranean economies and to social well-being.
4. The monitoring process of the initial MSSD (adopted in 2005) was mainly based on a set of 34 priority indicators, updated and published every 2 years by Plan Bleu/RAC without any formalized process. For this new MSSD 2016-2025, there is a need for a more effective monitoring process with appropriate indicators and the creation of functional synergies among stakeholders. Section 3.3 of the MSSD 2016-2025 provides some details and guidelines for defining such a process.
5. Following the above, this document aims at proposing a core set of indicators for monitoring the implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025, as a Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard. The Proposed list of MSSD Indicators is presented in the present document, while more detailed information on the process of development and the content of the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Dashboard, together with the full set of examined indicators, is presented in the Information Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.441/Inf.3.

II. Selection of the MSSD 2016-2025 core set of indicators

6. The selection process started on the analysis of the objectives, strategic directions, actions and initiatives of the MSSD 2016-2025 and the list of indicators proposed in this strategy, together with relevant existing sets of indicators.
7. A first Workshop on “How to monitor the MSSD 2016-2025” was held in Saint-Laurent du Var, 30-31 March 2016, and gathered about forty participants from 15 Mediterranean countries (Plan Bleu/RAC Focal Points and MCSD members) and from MAP Components, international institutions and NGOs. During this workshop a first core set of indicators was selected in order to be used in the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard.
8. A second Workshop, was organised jointly with SCP/RAC in Barcelona, Spain, on 17 October 2016, on three complementary sets of indicators (SCP Action Plan, MSSD 2016-2015 and Blue Economy). The assessment of the first set of indicators and a first version of the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Dashboard were presented and discussed during this workshop. The development of the Blue Economy indicators, which are linked to the 5th Objective of the MSSD 2016-2025, was supported by the project “Blue economy for a healthy Mediterranean - Measuring, Monitoring and Promoting an environmentally sustainable economy in the Mediterranean region”, funded by the MAVA foundation.
9. The core set of indicators and the Dashboard were then presented and discussed at the 18th meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

(MCSO) held in Athens, Greece on 18-19 January 2017.

10. Following the recommendations of the MCSO Steering Committee, Plan Bleu/RAC prepared in February 2017 a list of 48 proposed indicators (listed per objective and accompanied by a short text containing description, relation with other/existing sets of indicators and brief information on how they will be used).

11. This document was distributed for comments to the MCSO Steering Committee members and then to the Plan Bleu National Focal Points during their meeting in Nice, France, on 25-26 April 2017. To this end, comments have been collected and consolidated by Plan Bleu/RAC, also with the aim to reduce the number of indicators.

12. The full list of indicators, together with further relevant information for each indicator, is presented in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.441/Inf.3 on the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Dashboard. Table 1 below only presents the core set of indicators that, at present, are proposed to be retained.

Table 1: Core set of indicators for the monitoring of MSSD 2016-2025 (that are proposed to be retained at present)

No.	MSSD 2016-2025 Objective	Name of indicator
1	Global	Ecological footprint
2	Global	Human Development Index
3	Global	Gross Domestic Product
4	Global	Youth literacy rate
5	Global	Girl/Boy primary and secondary school registration ratio
6	1	Number of ratifications and level of compliance as reported by BC Contracting Parties
7	2	Water efficiency index
8	2	Number of countries participating in the Green list initiative
9	2	Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems
10	2	Global Food Security Index
11	2	Water demand, total and by sector, compared to GDP
12	2	Share of population with access to an improved water source (total, urban, rural)
13	2	Share of population with access to an improved sanitation system (total, urban, rural)
14	2	Proportion of agriculture quality products and Share of the agricultural land area used by organic farming
15	3	Proportion of urban population with access to a decent dwelling
16	3	Status of UNESCO world heritage sites or population trends in historic urban areas
17	4	Green House Gas emissions (related to GDP)

18	4	Energy consumption (related to GDP)
19	5	Material intensity of the economy
20	6	Number of countries adopting the Aarhus Convention
21	6	National Strategies for Sustainable Development
22	6	Proportion of bank credit allocated to the private sector – Existence of alternative financing systems using bank credit
23	6	Public and private expenses for research and development in percentage of GDP