



# **United Nations Environment Programme**



UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.376/4  
29 March 2013

ENGLISH

---

---



## **MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the MAP focal points

Athens (Greece), 22-23 April 2013

### **Preliminary discussions on MAP Programme of Work for the 2014-2015 biennium**

## **Preliminary discussions on MAP Programme of Work for the 2014-2015 biennium**

### **I. Introduction**

1. The purpose of this document is to launch a new approach for developing the Biennium MAP Programme of Work (POW) following decision IG. 20/13 on Governance adopted at COP 17 which encouraged the Secretariat to simplify the programming and planning process.
2. The innovation proposed is meant to deepen the participation of Contracting Parties in the preparation of the POW by establishing a simpler process that allows them not only to decide but also to contribute to the framing of priorities in the POW while also better clarifying the roles of the different actors in its preparation.
3. In line with their mandate as “the communication conduit between the Secretariat and the Contracting Parties” (Decision IG 17/5 on Governance COP 15) MAP Focal Points’ role in the preparation of the POW is strengthened and is proposed to take place in two phases.
4. Firstly, dialogue with MAP FP is introduced at an early stage of programme development providing guidance on the definition of principles, building blocks and priorities to be included in the POW. This will be followed by consultations with MAP partners by email and with RAC Focal Points which will provide concrete technical advice further to which POW proposals will then be finalized by the Secretariat and its components.
5. Secondly and as it is customary, MAP Focal Points in September 2013 will complete the document before submission to the COP. At that opportunity, MAP partners will also be consulted.
6. This background document aims to guide the consultation with Focal Points by assessing progress in the implementation of the biennium POW and remaining gaps regarding the Five Year POW as well outlining principles, priorities and options of main activities that could guide the POW for the next biennium.
7. MAP Focal Points are encouraged to coordinate with RAC Focal Points in advance of the meeting in accordance with their TOR so as to ensure widest possible input.

### **II. Priorities emerging from international processes**

8. Three recent international events are of particular relevance for MAP in preparing the POW for the next biennium.
9. *The Declaration of Heads of State and Government “The Future We Want” adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held on 20-22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).* Highlights of relevance to the MAP include: introducing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to replace the MDGs after 2015; adopting a concrete POW on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP); and, including for the first time a section on Oceans (para. 158 – 177) including references, inter-alia to ecosystems approaches, invasive species, Aichi targets (10% MPA), Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), waste and marine litter. Mechanisms for civil society participation were also an area of progress.

10. *COP 11<sup>th</sup> of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) held from 8 to 17 October 2013 in Hyderabad (India)*. Marine and coastal decisions of relevance include, inter-alia those related to Ecological and Biological Significant Areas (EBSAs); voluntary guidelines on Environmental and Strategic Impact Assessments; marine debris; underwater noise; ocean acidification; marine spatial planning; impact of fishing in marine protected areas and assessment and monitoring.
11. *The 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNEP Governing Council held from 18 to 22 February 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya*. The meeting adopted the first decision on Regional Seas Plans and Convention (RSPC) since 2003. It calls on parties to use RSPC as platforms for implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and suggests progress on the following six Strategic Directions (2013 – 2016): application of the ecosystems approach to the management of the marine and coastal environment; implementation of the Protocols addressing land-based pollution and the core partnership areas of wastewater management, marine litter and nutrients in the GPA; national capacity-building to strengthen coordination and coherence with systems such as LMEs, RFMO and River Basin Organizations; provision of tools to decouple economic growth from environmental pressures in the marine and coastal environment; capacity strengthened to improve global knowledge and trends on the status of the marine environment; and, collaboration and partnerships strengthened with MEA, global and regional initiatives.
12. Other international highlights include the agreement on a global legally binding document on Mercury (13 to 19 January 2013); the reports of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the GA on Oceans and the law of the Sea (2011 and 2012) which identify plastics and nutrient over-enrichment as emerging issues deserving global attention; and three global processes launched during this period: the Ocean Compact launched by the UN Secretary-General at the Conference celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of UNCLOS and aiming to strengthen UN system-wide coherence in Ocean matters; the World Bank Global partnership for Oceans; and, the establishment in February 2013 of the Independent Global Oceans Commission made of former Heads of State and Ministers that will propose by 2014 reforms to manage Oceans effectively as an input to the UN GA debate on ABNJ planned for 2014.
13. Two general conclusions can be drawn from these global developments. Firstly, synergies and coherence exist between the emerging global agenda and the priorities under the Barcelona Convention. They can be further strengthened in the next biennium. Secondly, Oceans and Seas health is an emerging topic at global environmental policy discussions.
14. The Barcelona Convention is well placed to build on this political attention by advancing faster and further on the issues raised in several ways.
15. Firstly, Contracting Parties could use the experience gained under MAP to contribute to the global process of elaborating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in two ways: the progress achieved in setting ECAP Objectives and targets could inspire contributions to a global Ocean Goal and/or Targets; and, the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD) and MAP's experience in tracking its indicators can be a useful basis for re-defining broader Environmental Sustainability Goals and targets. Contracting Parties could also take a regional leadership role in implementing the SDGs by integrating its outcomes within MAPs' Ecosystem Approach and the updated MSSD, as need be. This drive to tackle concrete goals and targets further highlights the need for a systematic, solid and integrated monitoring regime.

16. Secondly, a renewed emphasis on implementation of the Barcelona Convention and all its Protocols is required. An integrated and concrete Programme of Measures of the Barcelona Convention under the Ecosystems Approach building on the revision of the SAP/MED, SAP/BIO, ICZM Action Plan, progress on the ECAP and on other relevant strategies could provide a useful tool in this regard.
17. In addition, international developments call for a particular impetus to the adopted policy and legal responses to address pollution threats in the Mediterranean. While the responses are robust, including five Protocols, the SAP/NAP and legally binding regional plans, implementation has at times been weak. Renewed emphasis in strengthening relevant alliances and partnerships could support implementation. Moreover, MAP is in a privileged position to lead on the opportunities opened at international level on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), reducing pressures to the marine and coastal environment by developing action at regional and national level including the private sector.
18. The same comment could be made on the need for further protecting marine and coastal biodiversity through a combined and strengthened implementation of the provisions in the SPA/BD Protocol and the Marine targets in the Aichi Plan of Action 2010-2020. The establishment and management of SPAMIs could be more actively pursued including in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) and the science-policy-legal interface for protecting endangered species strengthened.
19. Marine Strategic Planning (MSP) is an emerging issue in global policy discussions. Mediterranean efforts to innovate through implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) could be strengthened by using MSP as a tool to address the marine dimensions of ICZM. Progress at global level regarding Guidelines on Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) is also of relevance for MAP and Parties may want to consider deepening work on this area.
20. The international experience also supports MAPs efforts to broaden partnerships which should be deepened in the next biennium.

### **III. Assessment of implementation of the current biennium PoW (2012-2013), gaps and lessons learned**

21. The Secretariat together with MAP/Barcelona Convention components have carried out an internal assessment of progress in the implementation of the current biennium POW. It should be noted that the assessment is internal for the purposes of preparing the next biennium POW and does not substitute the external evaluation of the Five Year POW which the Secretariat proposes to be carried out next year.
22. The assessment is organized around the themes and outcomes of the Five Year Programme of Work (2010-2014) agreed by COP 16 in Marrakesh (2009). It summarizes: results achieved or if still in progress some of the activities carried out; remaining gaps in the implementation of the Five Year POW (2010-2014); issues to consider next biennium based on the status of implementation of the current Programme of Work; and, emerging new issues relevant in the preparation of the Biennium Programme of Work.
23. The assessment is attached as Annex 1.

#### **IV. Guiding principles for the preparation of the Biennium PoW**

24. The Parties may want to consider the following guiding principles in preparing the Biennium Programme of Work:
- i. Focus on MAP's core business as Secretariat and implementer of the Protocols and priority Sustainable Development initiatives linked to MAP strategies;
  - ii. Balance to be kept between MAP mandated fields of action;
  - iii. Balance to be kept between regional governance/legal/policy implementation and capacity building activities;
  - iv. Coherence and complementary sought with relevant partners and initiatives;
  - v. Programme to be results based and integrated;
  - vi. Actions supported should facilitate the following two transitions:
    - Substantive: aligning with relevant international and MAP's substantive processes (post-2015 SDG (2016), Aichi Plan of Action adopted by CBD (2020), 6 year EcAp cycle); and,
    - Institutional: implementing COP agreements regarding the Extended Functional Review.

#### **V. Priorities for the 2014-2015 POW**

25. In accordance with article VII of its Terms of reference, the 76<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Algiers, 2013) requested the Secretariat to prepare a new Biennium Programme of Work (2014-2015) on the basis of the current Five Year Programme of Work agreed at COP 16<sup>th</sup> in Marrakesh (2009) and the same indicative planning figure as this biennium.
26. Priorities outlined below have been prepared for the purposes of supporting the discussion by MAP Focal Points and following consultations with the Directors of MAP Components. They take into consideration the evolving international context, the assessment of progress during this biennium, the gaps to complete the current 5 Year Programme of Work and the emerging issues to consider. As suggested by the 76<sup>th</sup> Bureau, they are structured around the themes agreed at 16<sup>th</sup> COP in Marrakesh (2009).
27. Under the Governance theme (I), priorities will focus on: developing an Integrated Programme of Measures of the Barcelona Convention building on the revision of the SAP/MED, SAP/BIO, ICZM Action Plan and other relevant Strategies such as the strategy for prevention and response to marine pollution from ships and the Off-Shore plan, developing an Integrated Monitoring Programme and testing EcAp as required for completing the Implementation of the Ecosystems Approach cycle as agreed by the Contracting Parties; revising the MSSD in light of Rio+20 and the SDG; strengthening Compliance of the Convention and Protocols; Implement the Functional Review reforms agreed by the parties; carrying out an external evaluation of the current 5 Year Programme

of Work and developing a new Medium-Term one (2016-2021); deepen vertical and horizontal partnerships, particularly by operationalizing signed agreements; and, strengthen visibility on the State of the Mediterranean Environment through an enhanced information system, communication and outreach.

28. Under the ICZM theme (II): scaling up implementation of the ICZM Action Plan in particular by: further supporting development of national ICZM strategies; producing ICZM guidelines; carrying out an ex-post evaluation of the CAMPs and including findings in the new generation of CAMPs; launching development of Marine Strategy Planning (MSP) tools to complement implementation of ICZM in the marine part of coastal areas; building capacity to address inadequate port reception facilities; and, supporting application of Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) and carrying capacities methodologies.
29. Under the Biodiversity theme (III): enhancing follow up of the status of endangered species and strengthening legal protection; strengthening connectivity among marine and coastal protected areas and raising the profile of the SPAMI label through networking among SPAMIs, strengthening the scientific evaluation process as well as communication and information; operationalizing the GFCM agreement; regional monitoring and awareness raising regarding ballast water and invasive species; and, moving into more catalytic action regarding capacity building.
30. Under the Pollution Control and Prevention theme (IV): implementing the marine litter regional action plan and waste management in cooperation with H2020; scaling up cooperation and assistance to implement the revised NAPs; further building national and sub-regional capacities to respond to a spill and to enforce the contingency plans; assistance in implementing the dumping Protocol in anticipation of its entry into force; and, technical assistance to implement the Offshore Protocol Action Plan. With regards to pollution monitoring, tracking trends in pollution input and levels to be enhanced, the Pollutant Release and Transfer Mechanism (PRTR) to be extended to as many countries possible and the pollutant national budget reporting process to be completed.
31. Under the SCP theme (V): moving from awareness-raising to influencing policy reforms on sectors which particularly impact the marine and coastal environment and demonstrating the concrete change value of SCP to those policies through pilot interventions; development of a regional SCP policy to support this approach; support changes by addressing consumer and producer behavior and the enabling environment for green entrepreneurship; and strengthening engagement and outreach to the private sector and other new actors.
32. Under the Climate Change theme (VI), priority will to be given to: finalize the climate change adaptation strategy; carry out analyses of climate change impacts on the marine and coastal environment; implement ecosystems-based and ICZM based adaptation measures; and, continue the work on reducing adverse effects of climate change in marine and coastal environment with a particular emphasis on desalination, waste water re-use and carbon capture and sequestration (CSS).

## **VI. Strategic Programme of Work**

33. The Programming cycle of the Five Year Strategic POW should be aligned with the COP decision-making cycle as currently the Five Year POW falls in the middle of the biennium which makes the Five Year POW preparation problematic. This alignment will follow UNEP's practice under the Medium-term Strategy and Biennium POW.

34. COP 17 attempted the alignment by cutting the POW to 4 years which limited time to implement a POW which had been designed for 5 years. COP 17 also decided on an Extended Functional Review the implications of which were unknown at the moment of its adoption. It has become apparent that a transitional period will be needed to decide and implement the Extended Functional Review which makes it difficult to undertake a forward looking planning exercise at this moment.
35. Moreover, recent COP decisions have called on MAP to increase synergies and coherence with other multilateral environmental processes. In addition, decision 26/6 of the UNEP Governing Council on Oceans adopted last February “calls on Member States to use Regional Seas and Convention as a platform for the regional implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and global programme initiatives”. A way to facilitate the establishment of synergies is to align MAP’s POW with that of relevant international processes and MAP’s substantive processes, such as the post 2015 - Sustainable Development Goals, the last four years of the Strategic Plan of Action of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2016-2020) and the six year cycle of the Ecosystems Approach and the MSFD processes.
36. Therefore, Parties may want to consider renaming the Five-Year Programme of Work and changing its cycle to Medium-Term Strategy with a cycle of six years starting in 2016.

**Annex I**  
**POW (2012-2013) Assessment of Implementation**





**Theme I: Governance****Output 1.1. Strengthening Institutional Coherence, efficiency and accountability****Status of implementation***Finance and accountability*

- MTF arrears are reducing. Contributions collected in 2012 reached 99.7% - the highest in recent years (CU).
- The MTF fund balance went from a deficit of US\$ 1.7 million in 2011 to a positive US\$ 1.1 million as of 31 December 2012, but late payments delayed activities (CU).
- MAP Components and the Coordinating Unit achieved savings in MTF (CU).
- Significant progress in implementing recommendations in 3 audit reports (CU).

*Institutional coherence*

- The recommendations of the Functional Review on the structure of UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit and MEDPOL implemented.
- The Extended Functional Review of the whole MAP system carried out.
- Italy, France and Croatia have sent proposals regarding Host Country Agreements (HCA) for INFO/RAC, Plan Bleu/RAC and PAP/RAC. Croatia HCA ready for signature.
- Draft Financial Procedures and a draft Service Agreement being prepared (UNEP HQ & CU)
- Draft new ToR of Bureau to be considered in July 2013 meeting of Bureau (CU)

*Partnerships*

- The joint UNEP/MAP GEF MedPartnership executed by UNEP/MAP components (MEDPOL, CP/RAC, PAP/RAC and SPA/RAC), UNESCO-IHP, FAO/GFCM, UNIDO, and non-governmental organizations WWF-MedPO, GWP-MED, MIO-ECSDE. External evaluation of the project is completed and received a rating of Moderately Satisfactory.
- UNEP/MAP established cooperation with General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), and similar agreements to be signed by the end of the biennium with IUCN, CBD and UfM (CU & related MAP Components).
- Partnership and cooperation with EEA, the EU, and the UfM continued in the framework of Horizon 2020 Initiative (MED POL, CP/RAC, INFO/RAC, PB/RAC).
- Annual EU Commission and UNEP/MAP Coordination Meetings regularly held.
- Workshop in Belgium on the World Ocean Assessment's (a.k.a. UN Regular Process) including the Mediterranean. Discussions for a Capacity Building workshop undergoing.
- Decision 17 of the CBD COP XI on Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) noted decision IG.20/7 of the Barcelona Convention COP XVII. (CU and SPA/RAC)
- Cooperation with the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) (REMPEC).
- The list of MAP Partners renewed and new list will be presented to next COP (CU).

*Resource Mobilization*

- GEF supported project "Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean" Implementing partners Plan Bleu –USD 780.000, PAP/RAC – USD 770.000, and Coordinating Unit – USD 408.545.
- "Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) in the Mediterranean (EcAp-MED)" funded by EU with a budget of 1.716.000 €, for 3 years. Implementing partners Plan Bleu -100.000 €, SPA RAC – 200.000 €, MED POL – 400.000 €, Coordinating Unit – 846.000 €, and REMPEC 170.000 €
- "Towards sustainable consumption and production patterns and the green economy in the Mediterranean (SWITCH-MED)", funded by EU with a budget of 3.100.000 € (with co-financing 3.715.000 €). CP RAC will receive 1.086.000 € and the Coordinating Unit 436.000 € in total for three years.

- PERSEUS (Policy-orientated marine Environmental Research for the Southern European Seas), EU FP7 Project, Plan Bleu mobilized 323.000 € for the period 2012-2015.
- Shared Environment Information System (SEIS) in the context of European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) (ENPI/SEIS) Project, funded by EU, INFO/RAC will receive 196.000 €, MED POL will receive 276.000 € and Plan Bleu 116.000 €.
- People for Ecosystem-based Governance in Assessing Sustainable development of Ocean and coast Project (PEGASO), EU FP7 Project, PAP/RAC will receive 112.000 € and Plan Bleu 430.000 €.
- Shaping an Holistic Approach to Protect the Adriatic Environment between coast and sea Project (SHAPE), funded by EU, PAP/RAC will receive 157.000 €
- IMO Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP), REMPEC received 151.705 €.
- The Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline cleanup and Oiled Wildlife interventions – POSOW Project, funded by EU, coordinated by REMPEC with a budget of 205.526 €.
- The Mediterranean Decision Support System for Marine Safety – MEDESS-4MS, funded by EU European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) MED Programme Funding, REMPEC will receive 243.480 €.
- ReGoKo (Regional Governance and Knowledge Generation Project), funded by GEF, Plan Bleu will receive USD 412.000 and REMPEC USD 39.400.

#### **Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Management of horizontal themes and emerging legal issues requires additional capacities.
- Internal coordination and coherence among MAP components requires additional efforts including on communications, use of logos etc.
- External evaluation of 5 Year Programme of Work to be conducted.

#### **To consider**

- Implementation of Extended Functional Review requires significant transformation and effort during next biennium.
- Systematic fundraising needed to scale-up implementation of PoW.
- Dedicated capacities and resources required to operationalize cooperation agreements with international and regional organizations/initiatives.
- Internal work plan for sustainable events to ensure all MAP events are organized according to sustainable criteria needed.

#### **Emerging new issues for new biennial PoW**

- Alignment of the integrated strategic planning cycle with targets set by other International Conventions processes, SDG process and EcAp

**Output 1.2 Implementation gap filled: Contracting Parties supported in meeting the objectives of BC, protocols and adopted strategies**

**Status of implementation**

Legal achievements

- Ratification: Morocco and Croatia - ICZM Protocol, makes it a total of 9 ratifications which brings to 23% the extension of the Mediterranean coastline covered by the Protocol. The EU Council-Offshore Protocol being seventh contracting party to ratify the Protocol.
- Compliance Committee addressing substantive and procedural issues in its first meeting. Two more meetings before COP18.
- The Barcelona Convention on-line Reporting System (BCRS) is operational after delays, which hindered the submission of reports online (CU & INFO/RAC).
- Regional Plans on Mercury, on 10 POPs of the Stockholm Convention and on the BOD from the food sector, became legally binding (MED POL).

Implementation of Ecosystem Approach

- The governance mechanism of Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) Coordination Group Process operational (2012-2013 meetings).
- Three Correspondence Group Meetings on Good Environmental Status (GES) and targets carried out. Initial GES descriptions and draft set of targets achieved under Pollution and Litter, Biodiversity and Fisheries and Coast and Hydrography Clusters.
- Integrated Monitoring Program preparations initiated.
- Economic and Social Assessment Correspondence Group met.

Development of new and revision of existing Strategies and Action Plans

- SAP/MED and NAPs assessment progressed. The NAP/SAP overall assessment regarding policy, legal and capacity building components carried out by MED POL, while the investment portfolio evaluations will be carried out by EIB and UfM in the framework of H2020. Measures being taken to ensure the efficient coordination of NAP/SAP evaluations under UNEP/MAP leadership (MED POL).
- SAP BIO evaluation to be presented to COP 18 (SPA/RAC).
- Draft Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in cooperation with UNEP's Global Programme of Action (GPA) prepared (MED POL).
- Preparatory process of the Action Plan to support implementation of the Off-Shore Protocol launched (CU & REMPEC).

Technical Assistance and Capacity building

- Workshops carried out to build capacities to implement the regional plans and guidelines developed on mercury sites decontamination (MED POL & CP/RAC).

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Revision and Updating of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships to be undertaken
- MSSD Revision in light of RIO+20 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter
- Facilitate the countries implementation of the sub-regional plan for combating illegal trans-boundary movements of hazardous waste
- Develop the Regional Framework for ICZM
- Strengthen national systems of inspection to assess compliance
- Not much progress in the implementation of liability and compensation guidelines

**To consider**

- Finalizing the revision of SAP MED and SAP BIO and other relevant strategies as programme of measures under the EcAp of the Barcelona Convention.
- Measures to accelerate the ratification of Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and their legal application needed.
- Functioning of compliance mechanisms progressing, legal advice and awareness raising as well as ICZM Protocol reporting procedures needed.
- Offshore Protocol Action Plan completion a priority in light of Protocol's entry into force.

**Emerging new issues for new biennial PoW**

*Ecosystem Approach Implementation (Closing Of Cycle)*

- Develop integrated monitoring programme as a priority and an assessment of capacity building and technical assistance needs for its implementation
- Developing information system in support of EcAp implementation
- Complete in-depth socio-economic analysis
- Testing of targets and indicators in at least a sub-region.

## Output 1.3 Knowledge and information effectively managed and communicated

### Status of implementation

#### Major publications and awareness raising events

- The State of the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Environment Report was published and launched in Ankara, Turkey in January 2013 (CU and the components).
- The Mediterranean Regional Coast Day 2011 was celebrated in Algeria and Coast Day 2012 in Croatia (CU and PAP/RAC).
- During RIO+20, a side event on “Challenges and Opportunities for a Mediterranean Green Growth” co-organized by UNEP/MAP, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Secretariat, the Commission of the European Union (DG Environment), Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), MIO-ECSDE and Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco. Note on “Twenty years of Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean” disseminated (CU and Plan Bleu).
- Side-event organized in the GFCM's 36th Session in Marrakech on Ecosystems Approach (CU and Plan Bleu).
- UNEP/MAP also participated in other events presenting the Barcelona Convention, including the EU Green Week, in May 2012 (CU).
- Final Presentation Conference of the CAMP Levante de Almeria held in Spain in February 2013 (CU and PAP/RAC).
- Notes Plan Bleu produced:
  - In light of climatic and anthropogenic changes, will water demands still be met in the Mediterranean basin by the 2050 horizon?
  - Tourism in the Mediterranean: a driving force for sustainable development?
  - Seaside tourism and urbanization: environmental impact and land issues
  - Air transport and carbon dependency: future outlook for Mediterranean tourist destinations

#### Information systems

- InfoMAP roadmap report which describes main objectives, architecture, components and timeline for the development issued (INFO/RAC).
- An interactive governance platform for ICZM used by more than 350 users i.e. coastal managers, practitioners, decision-makers and scientists to meet and exchange through virtual tools (Intranet, forum, document manager, data viewer, etc.) and at face-to-face meetings (PAP/RAC).

#### Knowledge Management

- ICZM explained in the Coastal Wiki (the Internet encyclopedia of almost 2,000 information pages for and by coastal professionals providing up-to-date high quality Coastal and Marine information (PAP/RAC).
- MedOpen (the online training course on ICZM to assist Mediterranean countries in building capacities for coastal management, targeting decision makers, policy advisors, project managers, staff and experts from international organizations and institutions, academic researchers and students) accomplished (PAP/RAC).
- MAP policy on assessment to be developed and proposed to COP 18 (CU).
- MAP data-sharing policy taking into account SEIS developed and proposed to COP 18 (INFO/RAC and MAP Components).

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Upgrade system and components' information System (including website) and decision support tools.
- Target media outreach
- Updating of Mediterranean maritime traffic flow information and benchmarking the traffic flows trends with previous trends.

**To consider**

- There has been little progress on information systems, web page and ICT infrastructure of UNEP MAP. A priority in the future so as to increase visibility of the State of the Mediterranean Environment and UNEP/MAP and establish a paper-free UNEP MAP

**Emerging new issues for new biennial PoW**

- Use of on-line tools for wider consultation processes

## Theme II: Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)

### Output 2.1 Coastal zone management achieves effective balance between development and protection (sustainable development of coastal zone)

#### Status of implementation

- Two national ICZM strategies in Algeria and Montenegro in preparation (PAP/RAC).
- CAMP Almeria (Spain) (Defining an integrated governance model inclusive of local regional and national governments as well as stakeholders) and CAMP Montenegro (Implementing the ICZM approach in preparing the physical plan for the Montenegro coastal area, in close relation with the national ICZM strategy) (PAP/RAC).
- Two coastal plans (Reghaia area plan as a support to the Algerian national ICZM strategy and the transboundary plan for Buna/Bojana river in Albania/Montenegro merging the coastal and water management planning) (PAP/RAC and SPA RAC).
- An Integrative Methodological Framework drafted jointly by PAP/RAC, GWP-Med and UNESCO-IHP to explain the modality of integration between ICZM and IWRM (PAP/RAC).
- Explanatory report on institutional coordination (Art.7 of the ICZM Protocol) and Explanatory report on the setback implementation (Art.8 of the ICZM Protocol) prepared (PAP/RAC).
- National and synthesis reports taking-stock on legal and institutional aspects of ICZM completed by COP18 (PAP/RAC).
- Report on the interpretation of the legal aspects of the ICZM Protocol as well as two studies of the Croatian legal framework (general screening and setback) in relation with ICZM Protocol prepared and presented at a regional workshop (PAP/RAC).
- Guidelines for the preparation of National ICZM Strategies prepared (PAP/RAC).

#### Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets

- Preparation of an updated version of the ICZM Guidelines according to the ICZM Protocol.
- Ranking of ports to be equipped in priority with port reception facilities established.
- Pending national ICZM Strategy in Albania and Syria.
- Carrying capacity studies.
- Initiation of CAMP France and CAMP Italy.
- Finalized screening of national legislative frameworks with regard to the ICZM Protocol to be in France and Lebanon.

#### To consider

- Priority actions as agreed in ICZM Action Plan need to be carried out. In particular:
  - ICZM Governance Platform development and improvement;
  - Development of national strategies for ICZM;
  - ICZM Guidelines preparation and test at national and local level;
  - Creation of mechanisms for addressing linkages between ICZM and Maritime spatial planning; and,
  - Need for external evaluation of impacts of CAMPs to scale-up Coastal Zone Plans in line with the Protocol.
- A Mediterranean Port Reception Facilities Regional Forum and capacity building to facilitate exchanges between shipowners, port authorities and other interested parties needs so as to address the issue of lack or inadequate port reception facilities in a practical manner.



**Theme III: Biodiversity**

**Output 3.1 Ecosystem services provided by the marine and coastal environment identified and valued**

**Status of implementation**

- “Analysis of Mediterranean marine environment protection: the case of the Pelagos Sanctuary” published and support to national consultants making the studies on MPAs’ socio-economic impacts provided (Plan Bleu).

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Valuation of the Ecosystems services Regional Report and 5 Case studies on SPAs to be published.
- Integrating Ecosystems Services in SAPBIO and national strategies for biodiversity.
- Develop case studies regarding services provided by marine and coastal ecosystems.

**To consider**

- There has been little progress in this area.
- Regional activities required for Ecosystems Valuation work to be continued in the context of the EcAp Socio-economic Assessment.
- Capacity building to explain ecosystems valuation methodologies and training of trainers needed.

**Output 3.2 Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (strategic vision, new objectives in the post 2010 context, including fisheries, ballast, non-indigenous species), endangered and threatened species**

**Status of implementation**

*Technical Assistance and Capacity Building*

- Implementation of the Marine Turtles AP: technical support to the Tyre Coast Nature Reserve (Lebanon) to implement satellite tracking of two sea turtles (SPA/RAC).
- Census of water birds wintering in Tunisia helped to build capacity in Libya and Tunisia to survey wintering habitats of bird species in Annex II to the Protocol; and to strengthen the collaboration between RAC/SPA, EGA (Libya) and AAO (Tunisia) (SPA/RAC).
- Guidelines on Bird population monitoring and important site management finalized and edited in English and French (SPA/RAC).
- Continued implementation and planning of capacity building activities in the field of ballast water management in Tunisia, Morocco and Israel (REMPEC).
- Two regional training workshops on Mediterranean Monk seal monitoring; and, on coralligene reef mapping techniques (SPA/RAC).

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Enhanced follow up the status of endangered species with a view to proposing legal measures for their protection.
- Valuation of the 8 existing APs related to threatened species and proposing revisions in line with the CBD and EcAp (revised SAP BIO).
- Evaluation of interaction between Fishing/Aquaculture and consideration of threatened species.
- Further technical assistance in the field of ballast water management.

**To consider**

- More systematic and catalytic action on capacity building and awareness raising on conservation of endangered species within the implementation of regional action plans.
- Evaluation of success of training programs.
- Enhance scientific baseline.
- Development of a web based Regional Ballast Water Information Exchange System and public awareness activities on ships' ballast water and invasive aquatic species issues.

**Emerging new issues for new biennial PoW**

- GFCM agreement operationalization – improving coherence between SPAMIs and Fisheries Protected Areas, aquaculture, and rationalization of processes leading to species lists in Annexes to SPA/BD Protocol with the scientific lists of GFCM.
- Maps and inventories of key habitats to be completed

**Output 3.3 Network of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MPAs), including Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), extended, strengthened and effectively managed**

**Status of implementation**

Conservation efforts

- National and sub-regional consultation on joint SPAMIs promotion in the Mediterranean being prepared. Negotiations continue with the IUCN, for scientific support, consisting collection of data through oceanographic campaigns (SPA/RAC).
- 2 SPAMIs evaluated in Italy and Algeria (SPA/RAC).

Technical Assistance and Capacity building

- Support to management effectiveness of marine protected areas in Montenegro for the implementation of a CAMP in Kotor Bay, Montenegro (SPA/RAC).
- Technical assistance: sustainable tourism and visitor management in MPAs, Albania and Montenegro (SPA/RAC).
- Capacity building to establish and improve management of marine and coastal protected areas (SPA/RAC):
  - Lebanon: field survey in three selected sites
  - Albania: institutional and partnerships frameworks analyzed for an engagement strategy for stakeholders in creation of a national MPA network.
  - Morocco: valuation of marine areas along the Mediterranean coast, including GIS-based mapping, to select the suitable areas for MPAs
- Forum on Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean (Antalya, November 2012) organized in cooperation with the MedPAN Secretariat, UNDP and the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of Turkey. A common vision developed and a new strategic roadmap set to establish by 2020 a comprehensive, effectively-managed and ecologically representative network of Marine Protected Areas (SPA/RAC).
- Trainings: Regional on Ecological Monitoring in MPAs in the Marine Research Centre of the Santa Pola (CIMAR) (Spain) and the Marine Reserve of Nueva Tabarca (Tunisia); 2 workshops on GIS use and socio-economic assessments to Libyan marine protected areas managers and practitioners (SPA/RAC).

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Pursue the assistance to countries in terms of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas inception, planning, zoning and development
- Put more emphasis on Marine and Coastal Protected Areas network connectivity and ecological representativeness issues, at national and sub-regional levels
- Preparation of new SPAMI proposals for identified areas, as appropriate

**To consider**

- As political changes may influence the built capacities, investments should be on systems, rather than individuals. Cases of successful implementations with a replication potential are strong capacity building tools
- Initiating a networking and collaboration process among the declared SPAMIs (SPAMI List), with special emphasis on science-based high quality evaluations and wider dissemination of information.
- SPAMI concept still unknown and few on the list. Strengthening of processes and communication recommended in line with the 20 evaluations planned for next biennium

**Theme IV: Pollution Prevention and Control****Output 4.1 Early warning of pollution (spills, dangerous/hazardous substances)****Status of implementation***Regional Policies Implementation*

- Assessment of nutrient from rivers finalized, maps produced (MED POL).
- “General Guidance on the Voluntary Interim Application of the D1 Ballast Water Exchange Standard by vessels operating between the Mediterranean Sea and the North-East Atlantic and/or the Baltic Sea” applied in cooperation with OSPAR HELCOM (REMPEC).
- Guidelines for the use of dispersants for combating oil pollution at sea finalized (REMPEC).
- Support Mediterranean laboratories with data quality assurance, using the services of the Marine Environmental Studies Laboratory (MESL) and of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (MED POL).
- A model of correlation between ELV (Emission Limit Values) and EQS (Environmental Quality Standards) to be finished by 2013 (MED POL).
- Since 2012, monitoring data provided by 8 countries: Algeria (2011), Bosnia & Herzegovina (river loads 2009), France (2006-2009), Israel (2009), Italy (2006 and 2009), Morocco (2011), Slovenia (2011) and Turkey (2011), and uploaded on the MED POL database (MED POL).

*Technical Assistance and Capacity building*

- Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Croatia supported to formulate and implement the trend and compliance national monitoring programmes (MED POL).
- Oil Spill Waste Management Guidelines and the associated Decision Support Tool finalized (REMPEC).
- Marine pollution contingency plan of Albania adopted, Cyprus under revision (REMPEC).
- Oil Spill Waste Management Workshop in Tunisia organized in collaboration with the Agency of Environmental Protection (ANPE) and the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG), (REMPEC).
- Sub-regional Workshop on Claims Management for Arab Speaking Countries and Technical Session on Assistance support cost and reimbursement organized in Morocco as a follow up to the framework of the Sub-Regional Agreement between Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia (REMPEC).
- A training programme on shoreline clean-up assessment, clean-up techniques, management of volunteers and oiled wildlife response being developed to build synergies between Civil Protection, Local authorities and NGO's (REMPEC).
- An integrated decision support tools taking into account elements of risk assessment, based on maritime traffic data, spill forecasting models and geo-referenced inventories of response equipment is being developed (REMPEC).

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- National and sub-regional capacities to respond to a spill and reliable regional assistance system insufficiently progressed and should remain as a priority.
- Enforcement of national and sub-regional Contingency Plans requires further assistance.
- Maintain REMPEC's participation in Alert Exercises.
- Updated list of potential pollution sensitive areas and hot spots.
- Development and/or revision of national marine pollution contingency plans for Libya and Lebanon, and assistance for the development of a national response system for Hazardous Noxious Substances (HNS) for Egypt.
- Many parties not providing data and quality of data uneven.

**To consider**

- Provision of monitoring data needs to be scaled-up.
- Challenges in data collection, assessments.

- Scientific baseline studies to identify emerging pollutants should be supported and ensured through cooperation and partnerships.
- Tracking trends in pollution inputs and levels, as well as monitoring network of sources, levels and trends of pollution together with development, revision and update of indicators should continue.

**Emerging new issues for new biennial PoW**

- Technical assistance activities related to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol.

## **Output 4.2 Lower levels of pollution in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environments**

### **Status of implementation**

#### *Regional policies implementation*

- Dedicated software (Med rules) and associated laptops delivered to more than 300 Port State Control Officers (REMPEC).
- 58 Vessel traffic System (VTS) operators were IALA certified, 20 were VTS Supervisors IALA certified and 10 were successfully certified as “on the job trainers” as per IALA standards (REMPEC).
- Updated assessment report on wastewater treatment plants of coastal cities and of those in cities that discharge their effluents in rivers which end up in the Mediterranean. Includes information and trends between 2003 and 2010, covering cities with more than 2000 inhabitants (MED POL).

#### *Technical Assistance and Capacity Building*

- NAP priorities in industrial sector: Support provided to 6 countries (Albania, BH, Algeria, Egypt, Turkey and Tunisia) to address the sound management of waste such as luboils, batteries, PCBs, Chromium, BOD from tanneries, metals from fertilizers (MED POL).
- PRTR: Support provided to Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Palestinian Authority, Algeria; finalized in Turkey (MED POL).
- Sound management of Mercury and development of Guidelines on BEPs for the environmentally sound management of Mercury contaminated sites Regional Training Workshop (MED POL and CP/RAC).
- Implementation of the objectives of the Regional Plan on POPs: Algeria and Morocco (control and monitoring), Egypt (alternatives and prevention), Albania (Medical waste management), Israel (preparation of the NIP under the Stockholm Convention) (CP/RAC).
- Identification of BAT and BEP and creation of corresponding database for dairy and textile industrial sectors of Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt (CP/RAC).
- Capacity building on pollution reduction and sustainable management in areas listed in Annex I of LBS Protocol in Bosnia and Herzegovina (food sector), Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia (industrial cities, subregional), Egypt (industrial SMEs) and Israel (industrial effluents) (CP/RAC)
- Regional Seminar on the policy, technical and legal aspects of BOD reduction from Food Sector. (CP/RAC)
- National Workshop on the AFS Convention in, Turkey, financed by IMO's ITCP (REMPEC).
- Training programs on waste water treatment in Montenegro and Syria held. (MED POL)
- Regional training on the Hazardous Noxious Substances (HNS) 2010 Protocol in Malta (REMPEC).

### **Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- The preparation for launching the 2013 pollutant national budget reporting process started in cooperation of MED POL and INFO RAC.
- Countries' needs to implement pollution reduction actions listed in the NAPs through policy reforms and capacity building exceed MAP.
- Extending assistance to Pollutant Release and Transfer Mechanism (PRTR) in all Mediterranean countries needed.
- Transfer of technology and policy reforms in relation to the food sector and POPs control.
- Technical Assistance to countries for the sound management of waste such as luboils, batteries, E-waste, PCBs, Chromium, BOD from tanneries, metals from fertilizers industry to increase.
- Improving and upgrading the performance of waste water treatment plants, for reducing land-based pollution to be scaled up.

**To consider**

- Technical Assistance for sound management of waste to be scaled up.
- Support the establishment of a Mediterranean Network of MARPOL Annex I enforcement officials and organize related activities such as joint surveillance operations.
- NAPs revision and scaling up implementation of measures needed.
- Marine Litter Regional Plan implementation.

**Theme V: Sustainable consumption and production (SCP)****Output 5.1 Drivers affecting ecosystems addressed: economic activities, patterns of consumption, infrastructure and spatial development more sustainable****Status of implementation****Technical Assistance and Capacity Building**

- Capacity building on SCP emerging issues: Green Growth and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) (Morocco, Israel and Jordan), CSR and financial instruments for SCP (Tunisia), Green Banking (Turkey), Green Public Procurement (Montenegro) and Green Jobs (Regional) (CP/RAC)
- Design and implementation of a Plan for Sustainable Public Procurement technical assistance to the University of Malta (CP/RAC)
- Launching of ConsumpediaMed 2.0 ([www.consumpediamed.org](http://www.consumpediamed.org)), first online platform for sustainable consumption and lifestyles in the Mediterranean Region. (CP/RAC)
- Green entrepreneurs and Eco-design support and training programme, collection of 60 case studies in Turkey, Montenegro, Lebanon, Barcelona and Tunisia. (CP/RAC)
- Papers produced by Plan Bleu
  - More efficient water use in the Mediterranean
  - Towards an observatory and a "quality label" for sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Identify favorable conditions for sustainable tourism (implementation of a Charter and/or label for sustainable tourism).
- Water management - A regional synthesis report on WDM economic approach and tools, based on the case studies (Croatia, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia); identifying best practices in terms of non-conventional water resources contribution to 4th Regional Forum on Water Demand Management (WDM) (Plan Bleu)
- Sustainable transport modes outlook studies and promotion of alternative development scenario which favours

**To consider**

- Little action on indicative activities on drivers. Output design was too ambitious.
- Growing priority of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) to be reflected in future MAP actions not only by awareness raising but also by policy development on priority sectors. A roadmap to develop such a policy could be considered by Parties.
- Increasing country demands on building an enabling environment to support creation of green entrepreneurship and green employment.



**Theme VI: Climate change**

**Output 6.1 Mediterranean region able to face climate change challenges through a better understanding of potential impacts and ecological vulnerabilities**

**Status of implementation**

Assessments

- Availability of surface water resources in river basins in 2025 and 2050 estimated (Plan Bleu)

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

- Potential effects of Climate Change on POPs in the environment through awareness raising workshops (CP/RAC and PAP/RAC)
- Provisions made to reinforce the Algerian and Montenegro ICZM Strategies by integrating climate variability and change issues. (PAP/RAC)
- ICZM plan with special focus on climate change and variability launched for Sibenik-Knin County in Croatia. (PAP/RAC)

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Assessment of indicators of climate change impact on biodiversity in specially protected areas
- On coastal zone, development of indicators for assessing the impact of climate change, elaboration of adaptation scenarios for the most sensitive areas will start in 2013 (Plan Bleu)
- Regional analyses of sea-level rise and storm surges, changes in water characteristics and marine acidification, with special focus on river deltas and identification of vulnerable areas/hotspots will start in 2013 (Plan Bleu)

**Emerging new issues for new biennial PoW**

- Work needed on restoration and rehabilitation of degraded wetlands and lagoons as demonstration of climate change resilience measures
- Information and knowledge requirements addressed in partnership with relevant actors

**Output 6.2 Reduced socio-economic vulnerability****Status of implementation**

- Report by Plan Bleu: Adapting to climate change in the water sector in the Mediterranean

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Climate Change Adaptation Regional Strategy to be finalized
- Analysis of socio-economic impact of CC (focused on coastal zone and maritime activities)
- Platform on climate change adaptation across the Mediterranean to be developed.
- Support integration of climate change adaptation measures into ICZM/coastal strategies, plans and programmes.
- Assist in the process of declaring the Mediterranean sea area as an Emissions Controlled Area (ECA) and to promote other agreed tools to mitigate emissions from ships (the package of IMO measures for addressing GHG)

**To consider**

- Further definition of actions to address socio-economic impacts to climate change adaptation needed
- Guidance from Parties regarding mitigation activities needed

**Output 6.3 - Assess and provide information to reduce adverse environmental impacts of mitigation and adaptation strategies & technologies (e.g. Wind farms, ocean energy, carbon capture and storage)****Status of implementation**

- Establishment of a Mediterranean Regional Expert Group on desalination to assess sector impact in the marine environment and the update of UNEP/ MAP MED POL guidelines on desalination plants to be carried out in cooperation with Sustainable Water Integrated Management (SWIM) initiative. (MED POL)
- Assessment of potential cumulative environmental impacts of mega desalination plants conglomerating around the Mediterranean (SWIM & MED POL)
- Assessment of Best Available Technologies for Desalination in Rural areas - a tool for decision makers for selecting the most suited technologies that fit their rural settings. (MED POL)
- A framework assessment of risks from potential carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) activities in the Mediterranean. (Gov. of Spain & MED POL)
- Two notes prepared (Plan Bleu):
  - "Treated wastewater reuse in the Mediterranean: lessons learned and tools for project development"; and,
  - "Sea water desalination: to what extent is it a freshwater solution in the Mediterranean"

**Gaps to reach 5Y- Programme of Work Targets**

- Parties consideration of carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) feasibility in the Mediterranean, legal and environmental implications
- Additional activities to determine coast and marine physical alteration due to adaptation/mitigation strategies and technologies

- Continue work on integration of environmentally sound desalination and waste water re-use.