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Third EcAp Coordination Group Meeting

Athens (Greece), 9 September 2013

Report of the

First Meeting of the Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis

UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2013

EcAp - 1st meeting
OF THE CORRESPONDENCE GROUPE ON
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Sophia Antipolis
11-12 April 2013



REPORTING OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CORRESPONDENCE GROUP ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS

Final Version

1 Introduction

The First Meeting of the Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis (COR ESA) was held on 11-12 April 2013, at the premises of Plan Bleu Regional Activity Center in Sophia Antipolis, France. The meeting was held in order to: (1) ensure a common understanding of the economic and social analysis to be conducted at regional, sub-regional and national scale of the human activities using the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal zone; (2) discuss existing methods and approaches to conduct the economic and social assessment of coastal and marine activities at different scales in the Mediterranean Sea and to assess the costs of degradation; and, (3) consider current available sources of information and socioeconomic data, as well as existing gaps, to agree on an road map to achieve the expected outcome.

The reference documents for this meeting are listed in Annex III of this report. The provisional Agenda is in Annex II. All the meeting documents, including copy of presentations, are available to participants on a dedicated page of the Plan Bleu website.

2 Participation

The meeting was attended by the national experts to be members of the Correspondence Group on ESA (COR ESA) by the following Contracting Parties: Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey as well as by an expert representing European Union (EU DG Env.). The meeting was also attended by international experts in the meeting matters from the following institutions and organizations: the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), as well as the Network of Managers of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean (MEDPAN). Furthermore, the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) was also represented by its director.

The Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (PB/RAC), with the assistance of the Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP), leaded and facilitated the meeting.

The detailed list of participants to the first COR ESA Meeting is attached as Annex I to this report.

3 Meeting Discussions

3.1 Welcome and Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was opened at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday 11 April 2013 by Mr. Hugues Ravenel, Director of Plan Bleu/RAC, who welcomed the participants of the Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis and briefly reviewed the role of the Plan Bleu/ RAC within the present Mediterranean context. He stressed the need for enduring cooperation between scientists and experts in order to build up a sustainable Mediterranean region, and recalled the “4-C non-written rule” that may apply in general to the Plan Bleu activities , which is based on four pillars: being Creative, since innovation might be the key to face and address today’s challenges; being Collaborative and Constructive, so as to be capable of building up strong and solid partnerships (MAP and RACs, as well as collaborative institutions and organizations) and creating complementary approaches to work effectively towards the same goals; and finally, being able to gain *Trust*¹ through rigorous work which should characterize Plan Bleu’s progress and outputs. Mr. Ravenel concluded by thanking the representatives of the Contracting Parties (CPs), UNEP/MAP components and international experts for their participation.

¹ The 4-C Rule in French: Créatif, Collaboratif, Constructif et Confiance.

Mr. Atila Uras Programme Officer of MAP Secretariat also welcomed the participants to the COR ESA Group on behalf of Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, Executive Secretary and Coordinator of UNEP/MAP. Mr. Uras recalled that the COR ESA Group was mandated by CPs to the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) and was established on May 2012 by the EcAp Coordination Group. He highlighted that EcAp is a strategy for integrated management of resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. This fact goes beyond examining single issues, species, or ecosystem functions in isolation but recognizes ecological systems as rich mixes of elements that interact with each other continuously, what is particularly important for coasts and seas, where the nature of water keeps systems and functions connected. In the context of the Barcelona Convention, the main value added of EcAp is a renewed emphasis on integration that helps strengthening our ability to understand and address cumulative risks and effects as well as to better focusing our action on priority targets. CPs have emphasized the importance of EcAp to management of human activities with a view to conserve natural marine heritage and protecting vital ecosystem services.

Mr. Uras also reviewed the EcAp progress during the last three COP Meetings and linked it with the establishment and objectives of Correspondence Groups and in particular of COR ESA Group. Correspondence Groups meetings have a key role in strengthening the science-policy interface since they create a participatory platform of decision makers, civil society, scientific community and international organizations. The purpose of the COR ESA meeting was to define a common methodology to complete ESA through a participatory process involving CPs, stakeholders and MAP components to submit it to COP18, in December 2013.

The achievements of the ongoing cycle of EcAp implementation, *i.e.*: i) a complete integrated assessment; ii) an endorsed list of priority targets and GES descriptions for all Ecological Objectives (EOs); iii) the integrated monitoring system; iv) revised strategies and action plans; and v) indicators and targets tested in at least one area, will pave the way to the second round of the process which will start in 2016. Mr. Uras concluded by thanking Plan Bleu for the organization and coordination of the meeting as well as the EU for its valuable contribution, support and funding to the EcAp process.

3.2 Adoption of the agenda, introduction to the Meeting programme and organization of the days

On the consideration of the agenda, Mr. Didier Sauzade, Head of Marine Ecosystems programme at Plan Bleu, introduced the flow of the agenda and provided clarification on the issues to be addressed during the two-day meeting. He also reviewed the expected general objectives according to the EcAp context and its progress, and made reference to the working documents UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 380/4 and UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 380/6 that would support the technical discussions during the meeting.

The meeting adopted the agenda set out in UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 380/2.

3.3 The context of EcAp in the Mediterranean

Mr. Uras provided a brief introduction to the principles and steps of the EcAp process. He presented the progress made since the decision adopted by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2008 (Decision IG 17/6) to progressively apply the EcAp to the management of human activities that may affect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment according to a 7-step road map. He highlighted the vision for the Mediterranean region, *i.e.* "a healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse for the benefit of present and future generations", the steps of the road map covered so far, as well as the achievements made during the last biennium including the outcomes of three technical meetings and one Government-Designated Expert Meeting. The work in the last biennium led noticeably to i)

the finalization of the Initial Integrated Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea, which will be complemented with the ESA provided by COR ESA Group, as requested by the decision adopted by the 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Decision IG. 20/4); and ii) the agreement on the 11 EOs, Operational Objectives (OOs), and Indicators also adopted by 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Decision IG. 20/4). In addition, several meetings of the Correspondence Group on GES and Targets and related clusters have already agreed on GES and Targets, whose proposal will be submitted to 18COP.

3.4 Introductory presentations

3.4.1 General and Specific Objectives of ESA in the Mediterranean

Mrs. Carla Murciano Virto, Plan Bleu ESA action team, presented the role of ESA to the process and progress of EcAp within the context of the Mediterranean region, highlighting its current – yet rapidly evolving- governance status. She also stressed the need to produce a common understanding and knowledge to undertake ESA, to support the design and adoption of measures for achieving or maintaining GES in the Mediterranean. The expected outcomes were described, that is: first, the regional socioeconomic assessment of human uses of marine and coastal ecosystems, as well as the cost of degradation to not achieve GES; and second, the guidelines to undertake ESA at national level adapted to non-EU member state countries in the Mediterranean.

3.4.2 State of the Play for ESA and Links with Related Initiatives

Expert presentations were given in order to present progress on ESA carried out in other regions, lessons to be learned and how methodologies may be applied to the Mediterranean.

First, Mr. Didier Sauzade, Plan Bleu ESA action team, presented the “UN Regular Process for the Global Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-Economic Aspects”. He provided an overview on the structure of the process and the steps already developed, such as the “assessment of assessments” *i.e.* an evaluation of existing assessments on marine and coastal areas around the world, both regarding environmental and socioeconomic aspects. On the Mediterranean region, it has been found that most data concern environmental issues and few information deals with socioeconomics. In this respect, the lack of a regional repository for environmental data has also been highlighted. The next step, due to 2014, involves a first integrated assessment of marine and coastal areas, to be carried out by regional groups (Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean and Western Europe and others), the Mediterranean basin being shared within several groups, with an extended cluster of experts and advisors for each regional group. The first integrated assessment might include a detailed analysis of goods and services rendered by marine and coastal ecosystems according to MEA (2005) both from the environmental perspective and the socioeconomic aspects that are related to them. Next steps involve detailed socioeconomic analysis of human activities, including estimates of the cost of degradation, global assessment and conclusions on the overall anthropogenic impact on marine environments.

Second, Mr. Cyrill Michel, expert of the EU DG Environment, presented the socioeconomic aspects that are considered for the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and what role they are given. Since mid-2012, Member States (MS) should have notified the EC with the outcomes of their initial assessment, determination of GES and environmental targets. Five out of seven IAs from Mediterranean EU MS are already available. Regarding socioeconomic aspects, MS were requested to identify and describe i) the different uses of and pressures on the marine environment; ii) direct and, if possible, indirect benefits of the different uses of the marine environment; iii) the pressures caused by the different uses of the marine environment (*i.e.* socioeconomic analysis of human uses of marine and coastal environments) in qualitative and, if possible, quantitative terms as well as estimation of the cost of degradation. At present, the EC is

carrying out an exhaustive analysis concerning methods used and outputs reported by MS, considering the adequacy and consistency of IAs as well as the potential improvements for the next cycle starting in 2018. The ESA results will support decision-making and more precisely will help the development of monitoring programmes as well as programs of measures, by allowing assessment of socio-economic impacts, cost-effectiveness and technical feasibility as well as the cost-benefit analysis.

Third, Mrs. Mansi Konar, Economic Advisor at Defra (UK), gave a presentation on the scope and progress of ESA within the OSPAR region. The EC requires cooperation within countries belonging to the same marine region or sub-region to ensure that the measures are coherent and coordinated. In this sense, the use existing regional institutional cooperation structures such as those under Regional Sea Conventions is strongly recommended to coordinate actions with third countries having sovereignty or jurisdiction over waters in the same marine region or sub-region. Since socioeconomic issues are key aspects, some studies on methods and feasibility to undertake ESA ensuring coordination between countries were carried out. This fact was object of OSPAR programme, which aimed at: i) providing an overview of the typologies of the marine sectors analysed by OSPAR MS; ii) carrying out a detailed analysis of two sectors for possible joint analysis, *i.e.* recreational activities and port and type of port and shipping; iii) assessing the availability and comparability of national data (qualitative, quantitative or data gaps) and providing recommendations for future ESA, regarding coordination, data coherency and potential datasets; and, finally iv) producing a regional overview on ESA. Several approaches were proposed to countries for developing socioeconomic analysis on human uses of marine environments and cost of degradation, and consequently OSPAR MS adopted for this first cycle different methods calling for different types and sources of data. This regional initiative will be inspiring for the Mediterranean one.

3.4.3 Progress on ESA in the Mediterranean Sea

Mr. Didier Sauzade presented the activities on ESA that are being developed in the framework of the European PERSEUS Project. PERSEUS is a research project of the 7th Framework Programme aiming to disseminate the MSFD principles among the Southern European Seas (SES): assessing and predicting the combined effects of natural and human-made pressures in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea in view of their better governance, to finally achieve GES. The project objectives are to promote sustainable well-coordinated research efforts in order to characterise patterns of pressure in environmental and socio-economic terms on the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, and to develop a framework for future implementation of adaptive policies and management schemes, while fostering international cooperation with neighbouring countries, in coherence with the MSFD. The project activities are focused on multi-thematic scientific researches in order to assess and predict the combined effects of natural and human-made pressures in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, using scientific observation platforms and advanced modelling systems.

Perseus is a multidisciplinary and large consortium, integrated by fifty-three partners from twenty-one countries. Tasks 1.2 and 2.2 of the PERSEUS project are entitled Analysis of socio-economic activities respectively in open sea areas and in the coastal areas. They are both led by Plan Bleu, with the contributions of other institutions². These tasks aim at complementing the environmental assessment and the analysis of pressures, key processes and their impact on the ecosystems in environmental terms. The thematic approach³ has been chosen to undertake these tasks, and the results are presented by Mediterranean sub regions, separately for coastal areas and for the open sea- which is here defined as all areas beyond 200m depth. It should be noted that the distinction between coastal and open sea might be sensible from an ecosystem

² Partners that are beneficiaries of the PERSEUS project and involved in these tasks are: University of Aegean (Greece), BC3 (Spain), the Black Sea NGO Network –BSSN (Bulgaria), CSIC (Spain), Ecologic (Germany), Haifa University (Israel) and Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya - UPC (Spain)

³ In this case, the thematic approach means analyzing benefits of economic sectors using marine waters.

perspective in a research project; however, it is challenging when it comes to socioeconomics due to the lack of available data. Moreover economic and social analysis only represents 1,5 % of project total budget in person months. Bearing these issues in mind, the outputs and experiences within the PERSEUS project will bring a valuable input to the ESA within EcAp.

One of the project work packages (Adaptive policies and scenarios) is dedicated to the development of a specific framework focusing on the preparation of the future implementation of adaptive policies and management schemes enabling to improve policies according to new data and knowledge, and therefore to achieve GES in the SES. The development of this framework will notably take advantage of stakeholder platforms that will be tested on PERSEUS pilot case areas. This experience could support the last step of EcAp, dealing with the adoption of programmes of measures.

Mr. Didier Sauzade also presented an innovative and exploratory study for the economic valuation of the Mediterranean marine ecosystem services⁴ that was presented as a first contribution of Plan Bleu to the EcAp Initial integrated assessment. The benefits assessed were classified into three categories of services provided by the ecosystems, that is, provisional, cultural and regulating services according to MEA (2005). The identification of ecosystem services was done in respect to the human uses they allow or to which they contribute to. It should be highlighted that the study focused only on the long-term sustainable ecosystem services; to this purpose, a “sustainability coefficient” was introduced, which might not be easily assessed and might lead to discussion, but which adds to the study’s innovative approach.

The aggregation of these results provided an estimation of the overall annual value of sustainable benefits rendered by the Mediterranean marine ecosystems, which, at regional level, accounted for over 26 billion Euros for 2005. It was found that more than 68% of this value was generated by the benefits relating to real estate and to the provision of amenities and recreational supports. Benefits relating to the provision of food resources accounted for 11% and benefits regarding waste water recycling capacity and “natural treatment” raised up to 10%.

3.4.4 Experiences on ESA at the National Level

Some experiences regarding ESA carried out at national level were detailed and considered as know-how for the development of ESA.

First, Mrs. Irem Silajdzic, representative of Bosnia Herzegovina, presented the results and experiences of the economic valuation of ecosystem services in three pilot areas located in the Mediterranean part of B&H. She provided a short overview on a project aiming to evaluate ecosystem services in three coastal areas, not located in the sea itself. The economic valuations focused on ecosystem services regarding three different ecosystems: the 7441 ha Hutovo Blato wetland located at the Neretva River Delta, recognized as a hotspot for biodiversity and included in relevant international conventions and national regulations; the Biléca Lake, an artificial lake and one of the largest water reservoirs in the Balkans used for electricity production, whose area extends to 33 km²; and, finally, the Livno field, one of the largest existing karst fields, habitat for a wide diversity of migrating bird species. The study conducted several expert workshops to adopt adequate methods to value selected ecosystem services, from the contribution to both local population and to the wider community. The objective was both to develop a coherent and performing tool for decision makers for the adequate social, environmental and economic management of these areas, to contribute to their sustainable development; and to promote the use of economic valuation of ecosystem services. For each area, only several ecosystem services were selected and considered for economic evaluation (five for the first area, eight for the second and four for the third study area). Different available methods for economic valuations were used depending on the ecosystem services, among which are Contingent Valuation Method, Market Price Method, Damage Cost Avoided Method and/or willingness to pay.

⁴ Mangos et al. (2010) “Economic value of sustainable benefits rendered by the Mediterranean marine ecosystems”.

In conclusion, it was found that results were mainly based on estimates due to the absence of quality data, and might have failed to provide detailed and realistic valuation of the ecosystem services. However, the results showed that sustainable uses of natural resources create larger values than unsustainable uses and may help improving people's perception regarding conservational issues and their understanding of how human well-being and better life quality is linked to natural systems.

Second, Mrs. Ambre Diazabakana, expert from France, presented the ESA carried out within the initial assessment in the framework of the implementation of the MSFD. Each French marine sub-region was subject to an ESA to develop the initial assessment, integrating social and economic aspects regarding human uses of waters and the cost of degradation of the marine environment. To that purpose, France used several of the methods detailed in the European WG ESA Guidelines, taking into account pragmatism, easy comprehension by stakeholders of the methods as well as available and reusable data and information. The Marine Accounts Approach was adopted for the first part of the socioeconomic analysis, which focused on twenty-three economic sectors using marine and coastal waters. Regarding the cost of degradation, France adopted a dual approach, cost and thematic, and was carried out by themes of degradation. Four types of costs were considered: costs of implementing an effective monitoring network; costs of measures aiming to prevent degradation of the environment (*i.e.* purification costs); costs related to impact mitigation (cleaning, catering, etc.); and costs of residual impacts, including aspects not been covered previously (*i.e.* social aspects, -reducing fishermen incomes, relative cost due to the loss of jobs, and other costs of different nature, qualitative quantitative, that cannot be aggregated but considered individually). The results are intelligible and might be reused or adapted for the future MSFD cycle.

Finally, Mr. Samir Grimes, country representative of Algeria, presented the first experiences regarding the Ecosystem Approach implementation in Algeria.

EcAp is a global and integrating approach, and considers mixed results of sectoral and conventional approaches (planning, conservation, management and others). For the development of conservation policies, it takes into account the environmental and socioeconomic issues as being part of a whole. The Southern Mediterranean countries have been making strong efforts during the last decade to manage environmental issues, through a wide diversity of regulatory bodies (programmes, approaches, initiatives and other), with the assistance of different institutions such as MEDPAN South. However, pedagogy is still needed to involve and mobilize stakeholders in this process, and arbitration is necessary. EcAp is a slow and complex process, subject to financial constraints. References are yet taken from Northern countries: at present, and similarly to the Water Framework Directive (WFD), some indexes have been used and applied for several studies; in addition, some direct experiences of EcAp implementation concern evaluation of costs of environmental damage, where socioeconomic interests can be highlighted. However, it has been observed that performance indicators are often focused on the environmental and ecological aspects rather than on the economic and social dimensions. Therefore, it is essential to raise awareness for adopting integrative approaches and incorporating indicators covering the whole system. In this sense, the mobilization of actors and the pooling of resources might be the key step.

3.4.5 The National Pilot Cases

The Regional – Governance and Knowledge Generation Project (ReGoKo), financed by the GEF, has been conceived to foster the integration of environmental issues into sectoral and development policies of Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia (as Beneficiaries). It is crucial that countries take strong ownership from environmental and integrated initiatives, such as EcAp, and take action regarding them. After a period of project restructuring, Egypt and the Palestinian Authorities will join the ReGoKo; other eligible countries interested may also become Beneficiaries

(Algeria, Libya, Syria). The ReGoKo Project, which is being implemented by Plan Bleu, started in January 2012 and will last until June 2015. The Project has five main pillars, which are: observation, evaluation, regulation, participation and green economy, and works in two fields of action: first, the production of innovative knowledge on environmental issues, with specific reference to water related issues (freshwater, coastal and marine resources); and, second, to carry out capacity building (*i.e.* conferences, seminars, workshops, etc.) to develop and share knowledge and strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders at the local, national and regional level.

The Beneficiaries of the ReGoKo Project have expressed a strong interest in socio-economic evaluation of marine activities, and will thus undertake a specific activity in Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia aiming at conducting analysis regarding several issues: the present situation of human uses of the Beneficiaries' Mediterranean coastal and marine waters as well as their perspectives concerning their environmental and socio-economic characteristics; the ecosystem services that support them, and the pressures and/or impacts that they exert on marine ecosystems and human welfare; the cost of degradation linked to the bad state of the marine/ coastal environment; indications on their sustainability and development; and, finally, to develop recommendations for public policies and methodological guidance for other similar socio-economic evaluations in the Mediterranean, by reporting to the COR-ESA Group.

The socio-economic analysis will focus on those marine economic activities from the industrial and artisanal small-scale sectors which have a direct link to Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystems. A priori, the following activities will be considered:

- Fishing and marine aquaculture;
- Maritime transport;
- Cruising and pleasure boating;
- Coastal tourism;
- Energy production;
- Extraction of marine aggregates (aggregates, salt, fresh water via desalination...);
- Offshore oil and gas industry;
- Sub-marine telecommunication and electric cables.

The expected outputs include three national reports from country beneficiaries, a synthesis report on methodological guidance, as well as national and regional workshops.

3.5 Plenary – Discussion sessions and recommendations

Final recommendations of the Group have been synthesized during the meeting and approved by participants. They are presented in Annex IV.

3.5.1 Approval of the Terms of Reference for COR ESA Group

Ref. document: UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.5

The Meeting agreed to modify and adapt the ToR for Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis following suggestions and directives provided by attendees, as follows:

- The ToR of COR ESA should be simplified to avoid redundancies;
- The composition should be corrected to be in compliance with the practice and include MAP components;
- The governance mechanism of Ecosystem Approach implementation in the Mediterranean should be reflected to the terms of reference, and UNEP MAP Secretariat should facilitate the communication of COR ESA with EcAP Coordination Group;

- The consultations with other Correspondence Groups should be a priority to mainstream socio-economic issues into work on GES and targets, monitoring and development/revision of measures;
- Subject to availability of funds, COR-ESA will stay operational till the end of 2014-2015 biennium, until the new EcAp cycle starts.

3.5.2 Economic and Social Assessment at Regional Level

Then the meeting followed the outline of the Working document, ref. UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.6

Socio-economic Analysis

Regarding the Socioeconomic Analysis, the COR ESA Group agreed on the suggestion of the action team to recommend the “Marine Water Accounts Approach”, as the most adapted to assess human uses of the marine ecosystem and socioeconomic benefits of it in the Mediterranean region.

Furthermore, the Group agreed on the development of a demonstrative assessment, rather than exhaustive, that will focus on the proposed main sectors using the marine and coastal ecosystems:

- Fisheries
- Aquaculture
- Maritime transport
- Offshore oil and gas extraction
- Tourism and recreational activities

In addition, other sectors and uses (land based activities, desalinization, cooling water intake and outlet, etc...) will be mentioned, as to be considered for next steps.

Cost of degradation

Concerning the assessment of the cost of degradation to not achieving GES, the Meeting agreed after discussion that no method appeared to be obvious and Plan Bleu should carry out a scoping study on existing methods (detailed in document UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.4 – State of Play) analyzing their relevance for the Mediterranean context, and proposing illustrative cases to demonstrate the preferred methods.

The participants also stressed the need for considering some specific aspects, such as i) the Cost of remediation; and ii) the pressures to characteristic and particular habitats for endangered species (e.g. *Posidonia oceanica*).

3.5.3 National Guidelines

The guidelines to be produced for developing ESA at the national level will be generic and will target the non EU Mediterranean member states while remaining coherent with the implementation of MSFD in the Mediterranean.

The guidelines should be flexible, designed to be iterative, and should propose options with practical examples taking account of the availability of data.

The guidelines should include benchmarks on indicators, where applicable and subject to availability of data.

3.5.4 Links of COR ESA with Plan Bleu EcAp Team

Participants agreed to provide available data to Plan Bleu in order to support the regional assessment, on request, where possible.

Respectively, Plan Bleu should provide countries with information and data that may facilitate the national studies, where possible.

Participants to the COR ESA Meeting agreed to identify the potential users of the national guidelines to ensure national level ownership and potential implementation.

3.5.5 Next Meeting

Depending on the progress of work, the options for web-based consultation or physical meeting before COP 18 (December 2013 in Istanbul) should be considered– subject to availability of funds.

3.5.6 Other Issues

Besides the three ReGoKo national pilot studies, options for inclusion of other countries should be considered through additional fundraising efforts (including national funds)

3.5.7 Timeline for the COR ESA Group Action

Month Events /	09/2012	04/2013	09/2013	10/2013	12/2013	05/2014	11/2014
Activities	Start date				18 th COP		End Date
Regional scale analysis	Study start		Report to be submitted to MAP FPs to be approved		Submission to COP 18		Final Report
Guidelines for National analysis		Start	Concept note to be submitted to 18th COP		Submission to COP 18		Final Report
COR GROUP ESA		CG ESA First meeting		Intermediate meeting before 18 th COP		CG ESA Final Meeting	CG ESA dissolution
Related Works							
Pilot case ES analysis (ReGoKo)		Start				End	

ANNEXES

ANNEX I: Meeting Final Recommendations

The COR ESA met in Sophia Antipolis on 11-12 April 2013, and reviewed the proposal of the Plan Bleu with respect to the approach to undertake Economic and Social Assessment in the Mediterranean Region and agreed as follows:

ToR ESA

- The ToR of COR ESA should be modified to avoid redundancies;
- The composition should involve all MAP components;
- The governance mechanism of Ecosystem Approach implementation in the Mediterranean should be reflected to the terms of reference, and UNEP MAP Secretariat should facilitate the communication of COR ESA with EcAP Coordination Group;
- The consultations with other Correspondence Groups should be a priority to mainstream socio-economic issues into work on GES and targets, monitoring and development/revision of measures;
- Subject to availability of funds, COR-ESA will stay operational till the end of 2014-2015 biennium, until the new EcAp cycle starts.

Regional Level ESA

Socio-economic Analysis

- COR ESA recommends “Marine Water Accounts Approach” to assess human uses of the marine ecosystem and socioeconomic benefits of it;
- Assessment will be demonstrative, not exhaustive and will focus on the proposed main sectors;
- Additionally, other sectors and uses (land based activities, desalination, cooling water intake and outlet, etc...) will be mentioned, as to be considered for next steps.

Cost of degradation

- Plan Bleu should carry out a scoping study, analyze the relevance of existing methods (as explained in UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.4 document) for the Mediterranean context, and should undertake illustrative cases to demonstrate relevance of the selected method;
- The participants highlighted the need for considering some specific aspects, such as:
 - Cost of remediation;
 - The pressures should include links to habitats for endangered species (e.g. *Posidonia oceanica*).

National Guidelines

- The guidelines will be general and targeting the non EU Mediterranean member states while being coherent with the implementation of MSFD in the Mediterranean;
- The guidelines should be flexible, designed to be iterative, and should propose options with practical examples taking account of the availability of data;
- The guidelines should include benchmarks on indicators, where applicable and if data is available.

Links of COR ESA with Plan Bleu EcAp team

- Participants agreed to provide to Plan Bleu data available to support the regional assessment, on request, where possible;

- Plan Bleu should provide countries with data that may facilitate the national studies, where possible;
- Participants agreed to identify the potential users of the national guidelines to ensure national level ownership and potential implementation.

Next meeting

- Depending on the progress of work, the options for web-based consultation or physical meeting before COP 18 (December 2013 in Istanbul) should be considered– subject to availability of funds.

Other issues

- Besides the three ReGoKo national pilot studies, options for inclusion of other countries should be considered through additional fundraising efforts (including national funds).

ANNEX II: List of Participants

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ANNEX III: Agenda

Thursday, 11th April 2013

09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants
09:30 – 10:00	Welcome and opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda
10:00 – 10:30	Introduction to the workshop, organization of the days
11:00 – 13:00	Introductory presentations
14:00- 18:00	Plenary – Discussion session <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Context<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Coherence with the MSFD implementation;ii. Links with related initiatives:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Experience from other Regional seas;- UN Regular Process of the General Assembly on the state of the marine environment including socio-economic aspects;- Research projects (PERSEUS...).2. Regional assessment<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Analysis of economic sectors using marine waters;ii. Economic benefits in terms of activity indicators, production value, value added, employment...iii. Cost of degradation;iv. Gap analysis.3. Pilot cases for national assessment;4. Guidelines for national assessment adapted to non EU countries.
18:00	End of the first day

Friday, 12th April 2013

09:00 – 11:00	Continuation of the work
11:00 – 13:00	Plenary presentation of the outcomes
14:30 – 16:00	Adoption of outcomes, recommendation and conclusions
16:00 – 17:00	Identifying potential way forward and closure of the meeting

ANNEX IV: Meeting Reference Documents

ENGLISH	
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.1	Provisional Agenda
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.2	Provisional Annotated Agenda
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.3	Terms of Reference for "Economic and Social Analysis" for the implementation of EcAp in the Mediterranean
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.4	State of play of Economic and Social Analysis
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.5	Terms of Reference for Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.6	Working document. Approaches for undertaking ESA in the Mediterranean region
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.7	General Recommendations and Next Steps

FRANÇAIS	
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.1	Ordre du Jour Provisoire
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.2	Ordre du Jour Provisoire Annoté
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.3	Termes de Référence de « l'Analyse Économique et Sociale » pour la mise en œuvre d'EcAp en Méditerranée (en anglais seulement)
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.4	Etat des Lieux de l'Analyse Socioéconomique
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.5	Termes de référence pour le Groupe de Correspondance sur l'Analyse Socioéconomique de l'Approche Écosystémique
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.6	Document de travail : Approches pour la réalisation de l'AES dans la région méditerranéenne
UNEP (DEPI)/ MED WG 380.7	Recommandations générales et prochaines étapes

