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**Agenda item 5: Specific Matters for Consideration and Action by the Meeting**

**Draft Decision: Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019)**

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## **Note by the Secretariat**

As decided by the 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the Barcelona Convention (Paris, 2012), PAP/RAC has been invested with the coordinating role for the implementation of the Action Plan related to the ICZM Protocol in 2012-2019, which was adopted by the same meeting.

Besides the regular reporting on its implementation, the Action Plan envisages that a mid-term review and evaluation will be done. The Mid-term evaluation is proposed here as an overview and evaluation prepared by PAP/RAC, completed by the assessment of CAMP projects (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.421/Inf.23) and endorsed by the meeting of its National Focal Points, Split, Croatia, May 2015 (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.421/Inf.21).

The main objective of the Mid-term evaluation is to summarise the accomplishments made in relation to the objectives and actions undertaken jointly by the CPs, PAP/RAC and other UNEP/MAP components in implementing ICZM in the first half-period of the Action Plan, and to suggest the main lines of action for the remaining period.

A coherent package of activities has been implemented so far: scaling up ICZM as a strategic policy instrument at the national level, proposing innovative methodological approaches, strengthening governance mechanisms, acting “on the ground” through concrete territorial projects – these are the fields in which major progress has been made. In this, synergies have been developed with relevant international partners in the context of limited MTF resources and financial constraints in many countries of the Region.

The implementation of the Action Plan has been and remains quite a challenge for CPs, PAP/RAC and the entire UNEP/MAP system. In order to keep the same level of activity in the remaining period UNEP/MAP and PAP/RAC will continue to closely cooperate with the CPs and to assist them in mobilising external resources for the implementation of the Action Plan and this particular Decision.

The evaluation reports show that, given the proven usefulness of CAMPs and the interest of the countries for this kind of activity, they should remain a core instrument for the implementation of the Action Plan. The ever growing competition for the use of the marine space makes it necessary to design the future CAMPs and other ICZM projects in a way to better explore the land and sea interactions.

Owing to the projects implemented at the local level, ICZM has reached its maturity and should continue to be systematically promoted as the strategic option for reaching sustainability in coastal zones through the preparation of national ICZM strategies as well as within the parallel regional processes such as the EcAp and MSSD implementation to which ICZM can contribute with its principles, tools, governance mechanisms and networks.

Several activities have already been included in the proposed 2016-2017 PoW, and will contribute to the following Medium Term Strategy 2016-2021 outputs: 1.4.3; 1.6.1; 4.2.1; 4.3.1; 4.4.2; 4.5.1; 4.6.1; 5.3.1; 5.3.2; 5.3.4; 5.5.1; 5.6.1.

**Draft Decision IG.22/11**

**Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the Implementation  
of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019)**

*The 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, hereinafter referred to as the Barcelona Convention,*

*Recalling* the ICZM Protocol adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Protocol for Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (Madrid, Spain, January 2008) and entered into force in March 2011;

*Recalling also* the Decision IG.20/2 of COP 17 (Paris, France, February 2012) adopting the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019), herein after referred to as Action Plan, which envisages that a Mid-term Evaluation of the progress in its implementation will be done to coincide with the end of the UNEP/MAP Five Year Programme of Work for 2010-2015;

*Considering* the findings of the Assessment of CAMP Projects carried out following the recommendation made by the MAP National Focal Points at their meeting in 2011 with the view to better understand the contribution of these projects to the implementation of ICZM in practice and to complement the Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan;

*Noting with satisfaction* the achievements and good progress made so far in the implementation of the Action Plan;

***Takes note*** of the report on the Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019) as contained in the Annex to this Decision;

***Urges*** the Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, to ratify the ICZM Protocol as early as possible with the view to ensuring its entry into force for the entire Mediterranean Region within the Action Plan time frame;

***Invites*** the Contracting Parties to prepare national strategies for ICZM in order to scale up ICZM as the strategic option for sustainable development of their coastal zones and to reach the objective of having national strategies for ICZM adopted by all countries within the Action Plan time frame;

***Requests*** the Coordinating Unit and PAP/RAC to develop a new cycle of CAMP projects that will take into account the recommendations of the report on the Assessment of CAMP Projects, especially with regard to embedding the projects into national policy frameworks, extending them to the marine part of the coastal zone, and making of them a privileged space of integration of all UNEP/MAP components work;

***Invites*** the Coordinating Unit, PAP/RAC and all the other UNEP/MAP components to closely cooperate in order to ensure consideration of land-sea interactions and integration of terrestrial and marine planning and management in respect of the ecosystem integrity and with the aim to contribute to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol and its Action Plan and to reaching the EcAp-based Ecological Objectives of UNEP/MAP;

***Calls upon*** the Coordinating Unit and PAP/RAC to strengthen the governance mechanisms for ICZM by establishing an official network of CAMP and CAMP-like projects to facilitate exchange of experience and good practices, cross-border cooperation and mutual assistance in implementing ICZM according to the principles and objectives enounced in the ICZM Protocol.

**ANNEX**

**Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the  
Mediterranean (2012-2019)**

## Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019)

### Introduction

An important milestone for the implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Mediterranean Basin was the adoption, by COP17 (Paris, 2012), of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in 2012-2019. By adopting this Action Plan, the Contracting Parties (CPs) have decided to focus on three major objectives further articulated into a series of actions, entrusting PAP/RAC and UNEP/MAP to support them in their implementation, namely:

- **Objective 1:** Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels including through a Common Regional Framework for ICZM;
- **Objective 2:** Strengthen the capacities of CPs to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes;
- **Objective 3:** Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the Region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements.

Besides the regular reporting on its implementation, the Action Plan envisages that a mid-term review and evaluation will be done “to coincide with the end of the 5-year MAP programme in 2014”. Since, by the decision of COP18 (Istanbul, 2013), the 5-year MAP programme was extended for one year, the mid-term evaluation was also postponed to 2015, which coincides perfectly with the half of the period covered by the Action Plan.

The Action Plan does not prescribe by whom the mid-term evaluation is to be done. However, PAP/RAC as the UNEP/MAP component designated to support the co-ordination of the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, is the best placed for that task.

Given the fact that two important assessments have been conducted in 2015, i.e. the evaluation of the UNEP/MAP programme implemented during the last six years and the assessment of CAMP projects implemented since 2001, we considered that another external evaluation was not needed, especially that no specific budget was foreseen for it. Therefore, the Mid-term evaluation of the ICZM Action Plan is proposed here as an overview and evaluation prepared by PAP/RAC and coupled with the main findings of the above-mentioned audits, to be shared with PAP/RAC National Focal Points (NFPs) prior to the official submission to MAP NFPs meeting in October 2015 and COP19 in February 2016.

The main objective of this report is to summarise the accomplishments made in relation to the objectives and actions undertaken jointly by the CPs, PAP/RAC and other partners – be they a part of the UNEP/MAP system or external, in implementing ICZM in the Mediterranean Region. Alongside this reminder about the main achievements, major difficulties encountered in implementing the Action Plan will be pointed out, although these have not significantly affected the good progress made in this first half-period.

### Overview of the main results

A short overview that follows is structured according to the three Objectives of the Action Plan. It follows the same structure as the Progress Report for 2012-2013 prepared by PAP/RAC and endorsed by the PAP/RAC and MAP NFPs at their meetings in 2013. The overview also grasps on and summarises the most important information contained in that Progress Report.

In order not to overburden the report with too many details, direct links are provided to all major documents produced and events organised. We kindly invite you to have a look at them and to contact PAP/RAC for any additional information you may need.

### **Objective 1:**

### **Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels including through a Common Regional Framework for ICZM**

#### Action 1.1: Ratification and transposition

*The main objective of this Action is to advance with the ratification of the ICZM Protocol with the objective to have it ratified by all the CPs within the period covered by the Action Plan. The responsibility for the ratification and transposition of the Protocol provisions into national legislation lies on the CPs, while the PAP/RAC is to provide assistance upon request.*

The ICZM Protocol was one of the fastest to enter into force, in March 2011 after the required minimum of six ratifications. Today, the number of CPs having ratified the Protocol has grown to 10 and the process is on-going in several other CPs. It is to be noted that the ratification of the Protocol by the European Union made of it a part of the *acquis communautaire*, i.e. the legal obligation even for the Mediterranean EU member-states that have not yet accomplished the process of ratification.

Even though the ICZM Protocol has entered into force rather quickly after the signature of its text, the process of ratification requires detailed consultations with all sectors due to the complexity of the legal instrument itself. To assist the countries in this process PAP/RAC has undertaken, together with its partner – IDDRI, the French Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations, several studies aiming to facilitate the understanding of the Protocol's provisions, namely:

- A contribution to the interpretation of legal aspects of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean, with a special chapter containing an analysis of the Protocol in face of the EU law (in [English](#) and [French](#));
- An analysis of the [Croatian legal framework](#) in relation to the provisions of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol;
- Assessment of Impacts of the Ratification of the Mediterranean Protocol on ICZM on Croatian Legislation, with a [Focus on Article 8](#).

These studies were presented during the “Regional workshop on harmonising the national legal and institutional framework with the ICZM Protocol“, which was organised by PAP/RAC within Component 1 of the “[MedPartnership](#)” project in December 2012. The aim of the workshop was to assist countries in understanding the legal aspects of the ICZM Protocol; building capacities for the ratification of the Protocol and its transposition into the national laws; and identifying the stakeholders who could lead the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean countries, or those who could obstruct it or make it more difficult.

As it has been stated by the participants, the ratification enables all interested stakeholders to use the ICZM Protocol as a tool to push for a sustainable coastal development. It has also been pointed out that the ratification is only one step on the long path towards sustainable coastal development for which the efficient implementation of the ICZM Protocol is a crucial challenge. The report of the workshop (in English) is available at [this link](#).

Another important initiative within this Action was implemented within the EU IPA Adriatic project SHAPE that, among others, explored the ICZM practices in the Adriatic countries and their regions. Three major documents were produced to support the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in the project region but can be (and have been) used by any other country undertaking this effort. These are:

- An analysis of the [ICZM practice](#) in the Adriatic countries/Italian regions;
- Explanatory report on [institutional co-ordination](#), according to Art. 7 to assist the project partners in drafting reports on the establishment or improvement of such co-ordination bodies;

- Explanatory report on the implementation of the [setback zone](#) according to Art. 8, including technical assistance to six pilot projects where setback zone was defined.

### Action 1.2: Strengthening and supporting governance

*Good governance is a fundamental part of what ICZM is trying to achieve – a proactive and adaptive management of coastal zones, which encourages all interested parties to work together on specific coastal issues. This means in practice that success depends on forging partnerships and linking local-scale initiatives to higher-level policies, i.e. achieving horizontal and vertical co-ordination. The activities under this Action have been carried out in parallel at three levels: the regional (Mediterranean), the national and the local, as described below.*

Governance structures are being established in all ICZM implementation projects (such as CAMPs or the “MedPartnership” pilot projects, or the recently launched MSP pilot project) as they are the best guarantee that the most appropriate solutions will be adopted for the managed areas. These will be pointed out in the presentation of individual projects. The same will be done for the inter-ministerial committees established within the process of preparation of national ICZM strategies supported by the “MedPartnership” project in Algeria, Croatia and Montenegro.

In this chapter we shall focus on two large initiatives detected as a priority under this Action:

- the Governance Platform created within the EU FP7 project [PEGASO](#) for the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions (in which two MAP components have participated: PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu); and
- the Common Regional Framework for ICZM (under the revised MSSD<sup>1</sup>).

#### The Governance Platform

The main objective of the PEGASO project being to bridge the gap between science and decision-making on coastal issues, the establishment of an interactive governance platform was considered as a crucial element to ensure a constructive, two-way dialogue between those who have to take decisions at different levels – from regional to national and local, and those who have to provide quality data and tools for that.

The PEGASO ICZM governance platform was made of some 250 people (including representatives of international organisations, national and local stakeholders from the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions) that worked together to put in place effective ICZM plans and programmes by exchanging, learning together, sharing knowledge, designing and testing new planning and management tools. To do so, these people had at their disposal a powerful technical infrastructure to use: the *Intranet*, which is a common work space with an active forum and document repository; a *Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)* that supports interactive information sharing and assure that spatial data are organised and presented in a standardised way, complying with INSPIRE directive; and a *web portal* allowing contact with the “external world” and dissemination of the project results to wider audience. This collaborative work has yielded several important products of relevance for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, which will be detailed as appropriate in the paragraphs that follow (all available at the project web site).

Already during the PEGASO lifetime this governance platform has associated many external actors, such as PAP/RAC NFPs or other coastal and marine projects, who have enriched it and boosted the network of coastal practitioners, scientists and decision-makers. After the closure of the PEGASO project in 2014, the technical infrastructure of the platform has continued operating owing to the effort of some of the project partners, who have secured the additional EU funding for it.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://planbleu.org/en/activites/developpement-durable-et-smdd>

The question is how to ensure that the platform becomes THE governance platform for the implementation of ICZM in the Mediterranean, a sort of a hub for all projects, studies and other initiatives related to the ICZM Protocol implementation. The CAMPs network that has started to develop at the initiative of the recently launched CAMPs in Italy and France could benefit from this kind of experience and infrastructure.

### *The Common Regional Framework for ICZM (under revised MSSD)*

Already in the actual version of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) the coastal issues were given particular attention. The preparation and adoption of the ICZM Protocol is probably the only objective of the actual MSSD achieved at 100 per cent. Therefore, the MSSD 2.0 has been identified as the most appropriate document to give a regional strategic context to ICZM.

Following the COP18 decision, the process of revision of the MSSD has started in February 2014 under the Maltese presidency of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD), with the technical assistance of UNEP/MAP and Plan Bleu. Several consultation meetings and on-line consultations on six priority themes, as well as a large conference of the MCSD members (Malta, February 2015), were organised in order to advance with the revision of the MSSD text.

PAP/RAC has participated in these consultations and provided inputs, always trying to present the ICZM as a cross-cutting approach and include its elements in all relevant thematic fields of the Strategy: (1) Sea and coasts; (2) Natural resources, rural development and food; (3) Climate; (4) Sustainable cities; (5) Transition towards a green economy; and (6) Governance.

The MSSD revision is a complex process involving many stakeholders who are not always at the same track. It implies a lot of exchanges, consultations and understanding of each others' positions. Therefore, there is still a need to push for ICZM to be presented in an adequate way, as a management approach that offers tools and methods that can lead to sustainable coastal development. We count on the CPs to push in that direction.

### Action 1.3: Adopting National Strategies and Action Plans and Programmes

*In the application of Art. 18 of the ICZM Protocol, this Action has fixed as a main objective to have national ICZM strategies adopted by all countries, with the support of PAP/RAC and other MAP components.*

Benefiting from the funding offered by the "MedPartnership", PAP/RAC led the preparation of two national ICZM strategies (in Algeria and Montenegro) and two coastal plans (Réghaïa in Algeria and Buna/Bojana in Albania/Montenegro). The preparation of the third strategy, supported by the "MedPartnership" replication fund, has started in Croatia while the coastal plan for the Šibenik-Knin County focused on climate change is about to be finalised within the "ClimVar & ICZM" project.

### *Algerian ICZM Strategy and Coastal Plan for Réghaïa*

The lessons learned from the CAMP Algeria (2001-2006) called for the development of a National ICZM Strategy in order to keep progressing on the way to sustainability of the Algerian coast. This process started in 2012, when a comprehensive diagnosis of the Algerian coast was prepared, an *Inter-ministerial* Committee formed and the diagnostic analysis validated. Once the validation was finished, it became clear that the good governance would be at the heart of the success of the process and that all stakeholders should be able to take part in debates. To that end, and taking into account that the Algerian coast is particularly wide, with 1,600 km of the coastline, it was decided to organise participatory workshops in the three coastal regions (East, Centre and West) during which the participants discussed the key ICZM themes, namely, the institutional functioning, participation, and support to scientific and technical data in the context of ICZM.



In the next stage, when a consensus on the key issues, especially the institutional and legal ones, was reached, a draft strategy was developed. By the end of 2014, the document with a focus on 10 major strategic orientations was presented at the validation workshops in the three coastal areas. This participatory process in which, directly or indirectly, 1,400 people were involved, was concluded with the organization of a final Conference in Oran, in March 2015, when the Strategy was presented by the Algerian Minister of Land Planning and Environment. The Minister raised hopes that the strategy would allow reframing actions for sustainable coastal development, and improving the efficiency of institutional and legal provisions, as well as that the stakeholders would now be fully engaged in its implementation.

The same participatory principle with relevant stakeholders was applied for the preparation of the coastal plan for the Réghaïa area, which has served as a demonstration project illustrating the implementation of the strategy at a lower level. The plan was adopted on the same occasion as the strategy.

#### National ICZM Strategy for Montenegro

The process of preparation of the National ICZM Strategy was entirely integrated with the CAMP Montenegro activities (see Objective 2, Action 2.2) in order to enable synergies and avoid duplications.

Having in mind that this process was also carried out hand in hand with the process of preparation of the physical plan for the coastal area of Montenegro (Coastal Area Spatial Plan – CASP), its first half was entirely based on innovative studies and methodological approaches necessary for the ICZM Protocol implementation, to allow for the mainstreaming of ICZM principles into the spatial planning practice. This was a complex process, with a strong capacity building component intended for the national administration staff and the institutions involved in coastal and planning issues, as well as numerous working meetings with expert institutions, ministries, spatial planning institutions and individual experts.

One of the important elements examined throughout this process is the possibility of using the Steering Committee of the project as a model and transforming it in a permanent institutional structure for the coastal zone management. Based on this experience, the ICZM Strategy recommended the coastal management governance structure including two main levels: the political and the administrative one. The initial step towards that direction has already been achieved when the National Committee for the Sustainable Development and Climate Change has been extended into a National Committee for the Sustainable Development, ICZM and the Climate Change thus becoming an intra-governmental body for ICZM.

In addition to specific management and systemic spatial planning requirements, mainly related to the methodology and the process for the preparation of spatial plans (such as those related to the establishment of a coastal observatory, the access to information, public participation, the co-ordination and integration mechanisms, etc.), specific guidelines related to criteria for the sustainable land-use planning within the Coastal Area Spatial Plan were elaborated within the Strategy. The Guidelines were structured around four main principles for the land-use planning based on the ICZM Protocol requirements contained in the Article 6c (ecosystem approach) and the Article 8 (protection and sustainable use of the coastal zone).

The Strategy was presented at the final CAMP conference in Budva, in December 2014, prior to its submission for adoption by the Parliament of Montenegro.

#### Marine and Coastal Strategy in Croatia

In 2012, Croatia has launched the process of preparation of the Marine Strategy, as requested by the EU's Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Soon after, the country ratified the ICZM Protocol. Knowing that 80% of marine pollution comes from the land-based sources, the Croatian Government decided to integrate these two strategies and to continue with the preparation of a joint Marine and

Coastal Strategy for Croatia. In 2014, the inter-ministerial committee established for the Marine Strategy in 2012, has been extended to encompass a wide array of coastal stakeholders, so that today, it counts more than 40 representatives of different Ministries and Agencies dealing with the coast and sea.

Moreover, in 2015, the Croatian Government has been finalising two other important strategic documents: the Regional development strategy and the Spatial development strategy. One of the objectives of the PAP/RAC efforts is to create favourable conditions for the integration of these three strategies thus allowing the country to rationalise efforts, time and money and have well-harmonised documents for the future.

The key characteristic of the ICZM – its adaptability, will be crucial for this task. The integration of analytical findings, the harmonisation of the objectives, targets, indicators, and of the future monitoring process would surely result with the most sustainable strategies for the future. Marine and coastal strategy will propose the optimal institutional framework for marine and coastal management, but also the measures for the future sustainability of the Croatian sea and coast. The process of preparation is highly participatory, through the inter-ministerial committee at the national level and the participatory workshops to be held in all coastal counties. County workshops are to insure that the local needs and priorities, as well as knowledge and ideas are taken into consideration, but also to build ownership and to increase chances for a successful implementation of the strategy.

#### *Coastal Plan for Buna/Bojana in Albania/Montenegro*

The Buna/Bojana Transboundary Integrated Management Plan has been jointly prepared in the framework of the “MedPartnership” project by PAP/RAC, the Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and the International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO-IHP), in co-operation with a team of experts from the two countries, under the guidance of the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Management and the Montenegrin Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism.

The Buna/Bojana Transboundary Integrated Management Plan is the first pilot case testing the integrated implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the ICZM Protocol. It aims to assist in identifying the key problems and issues in the area related to transboundary management of coastal and water resources including aquifers. It will also propose to the competent authorities of the countries ways of addressing these problems and issues.

It is to be noted that such a complex task has been located in an even more complex location, i.e. a transboundary area. Therefore, a number of difficulties were encountered since the beginning of the plan preparation. These were related in the first place to the significant difference in availability and type of data, insufficient local expertise, different legal systems, etc. In spite of all that, the Plan has been drafted and it is undergoing the consultation and harmonisation process with national administrations and key stakeholders. Hopefully, it will represent a bundle full of lessons learned, ready to be replicated in other areas in the Mediterranean.

#### *Coastal Plan for the Šibenik-Knin County in Croatia*

In the frame of the “MedPartnership” sister project on Climate Variability and Change (CVC) and ICZM, PAP/RAC is assisting the authorities of the Croatian County of Šibenik-Knin to include the climate issues in the County spatial plan and the management plan of the protected areas. The project was officially launched in April 2013 during a workshop organised jointly by PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu, which was entrusted with the implementation of “Climagine”, an adaptation of the “Imagine” participatory and scenario building method focused on climate issues.

Through all the stages of the plan preparation, the “Climagine” workshops (four in total) were used to involve in average 50-odd representatives of national, regional and local authorities and institutions, academic community and NGOs whose task was to discuss the various issues relevant to coastal

management in view of climate change and identify those of highest priority. It is supposed to end in September 2015 with the adoption of the plan by the County Council.

The project is carried out in close relation with the other component of the CVC project led by PAP/RAC, which is the assessment of the socio-economic costs of CVC impacts at the national level in Croatia and Tunisia, by using the renowned DIVA method. A local assessment of vulnerability to CVC is being carried out for the Šibenik-Knin County. Besides the impacts of sea-level rise, this assessment covers the impacts on different economic sectors (i.e., tourism, agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, etc.), water management, health, forest fires and the cultural heritage. The results of the assessment, together with the “Climagine” results, will feed into the Coastal Plan of the Šibenik-Knin County.

#### Action 1.4: Reporting on Protocol Implementation and Monitoring the State of the Mediterranean Coast

*The main objective of this Action is twofold:*

- (i) to ensure a regular reporting on the ICZM Protocol implementation within the Barcelona Convention (BC) reporting system; and*
- (ii) to periodically report on the state and evolution of the coastal zones.*

#### Reporting Format

The stock-take<sup>2</sup> of ICZM legal, institutional and implementation aspects in all 21 Mediterranean countries carried out within the PEGASO project in 2011 and updated in 2013 has served as a basis for the preparation of the official reporting format for the ICZM Protocol.

Given this thorough exercise, the PAP NFPs recommended that the preparation of the reporting format for the ICZM Protocol be split in two phases. Accordingly, the reporting format on legal and institutional aspects was prepared and adopted by COP18 while the reporting format on operational aspects will be submitted to COP19 for adoption.

Since only three countries have provided minor comments and opinion on the contents of the operational part of the reporting format, it was decided that the stock-taking format would be kept. In this way, the CPs will only have to regularly update the existing information.

The number of the CPs having submitted their reports on the legal and institutional aspects will be known by the end of this year.

#### Periodical reporting on the evolution of coastal zones

The PEGASO project has developed a core set of 15 indicators that are instrumental in measuring the implementation of ICZM policies and programmes. This core set of indicators addresses the specific requirement of Article 27 of the ICZM Protocol to “define coastal management indicators“ and “establish and maintain up-to-date assessments of the use and management of coastal zones“. It was widely built on previous and existing indicator sets developed by different institutions and projects, which are duly acknowledged. For each of the indicators listed below a methodological factsheet was developed:

- [Added value per sector](#)
- [Area of built-up space](#)
- [Bathing water quality](#)
- [Commercial fish stocks](#)
- [Coastal and marine litter](#)

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.pegasoproject.eu/images/stories/WP2/D2.2A\\_Final%20global%20results%20of%20the%20stock-taking.pdf](http://www.pegasoproject.eu/images/stories/WP2/D2.2A_Final%20global%20results%20of%20the%20stock-taking.pdf)

- [Economic production](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Erosion and instability](#)
- [Natural capital](#)
- [Hypoxia](#)
- [Number of enterprises](#)
- [Population size and density](#)
- [Risk assessment](#)
- [Sea level rise](#)
- [Water efficiency index](#)

Linkages and priorities to EcAp ecological objectives and indicators were made whenever possible. Moreover, the mapping of urban sprawl and natural capital in the parts of the Mediterranean Basin not covered by the CORINE land cover was prepared within the same project, with the idea to be used for the purpose of the EcAp process.

The ecosystem approach is one of the basic principles of ICZM, as stated in the Protocol itself. Therefore, it was logical to include specific coastal indicators in the EcAp list adopted by COP18, so to fully implement the UNEP/MAP legal obligations. These are: the Location and extent of the habitats impacted directly by hydrographic alterations (EO7); and Length of coastline influenced by manmade structures (EO8). Another coastal indicator (on Land-use change) was recommended for further analysis with the aim to be included for monitoring in 2016.

Currently, this candidate indicator is being tested within an EcAp pilot project in the Adriatic region. It will not serve to monitor the state of the coastal ecosystems and landscapes only but it will provide objective and comparable information needed to prepare regular reports on the state and evolution of coastal zones, as required by the ICZM Protocol.

## **Objective 2:**

### **Strengthen the capacities of CPs to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes**

#### Action 2.1: Methodologies and Processes

*This Action aims at ensuring an up-to-date methodological guidance for the ICZM implementation.*

The requirements of the ICZM Protocol as well as new developments in scientific, technological and societal fields make necessary regular updating of the methods and tools used in ICZM. This is an important part of the PAP/RAC's and its partners' work, in which some innovative proposals have been developed.

#### ICZM Process

Elaborated in co-operation between two major projects in which PAP/RAC is a partner – PEGASO and “MedPartnership”, detailed orientations for the implementation of ICZM as a gradual, proactive and interactive process were proposed, which are made available both in a [hard copy](#) and through the [Coastal Wiki](#), where they were uploaded by the PEGASO team. The process is designed as a “living” tool that can be easily amended by new explanations, good practices, specific tools, etc.

It has been used as a reference by the PEGASO pilot cases and by the two “MedPartnership” pilot projects, from which we expect a lot of feedback in terms of new elements to be included or improvements to be made.

#### Guidelines for National ICZM Strategies

The ICZM Process has served as a basis for the preparation of the Guidelines to assist the Contracting Parties in fulfilling one of the major obligations of the ICZM Protocol, which is the preparation of national ICZM strategies. These Guidelines were already used in Algeria and Montenegro, and will serve as a guidance for the Coastal and Marine Strategy in Croatia. They were also capitalised within the SHAPE IPA Adriatic project as the partners from the region considered them as a good tool for the elaboration of their own (national or regional) strategies.

#### Integrative Methodological Framework (IMF)

The “Integrative Methodological Framework (IMF) for coastal, river basin and aquifer management: Towards Converging Management Approaches for Mediterranean Coastal Zones” is another methodological document that has been developed using the ICZM Process as a starting point. This innovative document is the result of a joint effort of the three “MedPartnership” project partners – PAP/RAC, GWP-MED and UNESCO-IHP, undertaken to link closely related but in practice still separated management interventions, which take place in the same or adjacent territorial units, i.e. coastal and marine zones, coastal watersheds and coastal aquifers. Feedbacks from the Réghaïa and Buna/Bojana plans, in which the principles of joint interventions have been tested, are duly taken into account for the finalisation of the document.

#### Guidelines for Adapting to Climate Variability and Change along the Mediterranean coast

These guidelines were prepared in the frame of the “ClimVar & ICZM” project. In terms of background material, the document draws on an earlier PAP/RAC report showing how the issue of climate variability and change (CVC) can be included as an integral part of the different steps of ICZM. Building on that report, the present guidelines provide a more detailed understanding of different key CV&C aspects in the Mediterranean coastal zones and aid in interpreting the CVC dimension with regard to the format, content and provisions of the ICZM process. These guidelines also provide a critical review of CVC adaptation efforts and mitigation measures, paving the way toward the rational application of ICZM Protocol requirements for this specific dimension.

#### Study of banking and insurance practice with regard to climate variability and change

Within the “ClimVar & ICZM” project a study was prepared by PAP/RAC on the role of banking and insurance sector in addressing climate variability and change in the context of the ICZM in the Mediterranean. The study has analysed some national and local practices of banks and insurance companies with concrete examples and good practices. Special attention was paid to the insurance against the weather-related risks and availability of loans for the real estates in the close proximity of the sea. Best practices of major regional banks and insurance companies have been presented, such as: products/services offered as incentives for adaptation; opportunities/solutions for sectors with high climate change risks; spatial diversification of insurance/banking products, identifying the level of risk for location; introduction of suggestions for planning and real estate considerations; etc.

#### Action 2.2: Methodologies and Processes

*In accordance with Art. 27 of the Protocol, under this Action the CPs envisage to carry out demonstration projects of ICZM in order to achieve practical results on the ground and disseminate good practice, with special emphasis on governance and coordination mechanisms.*

The co-ordination of CAMP projects continues to be one of the major activities of PAP/RAC. CAMPs have always been a privileged space of co-operation of all UNEP/MAP components and an efficient way of applying their expertise in practice and in an integrated manner. This is even more evident in this third generation of CAMPs, which are entirely focused on the implementation of the ICZM Protocol provisions.

### CAMP Levante de Almeria

After three years of intensive work and activity, the [CAMP Levante de Almeria](#) was officially closed at the Final Presentation Conference held in Almeria in February 2013. The conference was attended by high-level political representatives of national, regional and municipal authorities that confirmed dedication to the project results and showed political will to support its continuation.

The numerous activities and their results were presented and the focus was on the [Sustainable Development Reference Framework \(SDRF\)](#) as the major outcome of the project. The project was evaluated as extremely good and innovative at the European level due to the well structured and functional institutional co-ordination and public participation throughout the project duration on the one side, and very well elaborated technical proposals on the other, which were both linked with the “Imagine“ workshops as a tool for scenarios building and indicators.

Everybody wished that the post-project phase would be equally successful. It is obvious that the success of the CAMP will be judged according to the results achieved in the follow-up phase for which an Action Plan was proposed with a plethora of possibilities for job creation and initiation of new economic activities, as well as for using the institutional co-ordination established for the future management of the Levante de Almeria coastal areas.

Prior to the Final Presentation Conference, the project results were presented and discussed by the Coastal Commission at a meeting held in December 2012 that was concluded with the adoption of the Declaration by which a political statement was expressed about the SDRF and the future implementation of the proposed actions. The Coastal Commission is composed of the mayors of eight municipalities, representatives of the Regional government, the Provincial council, Association of the municipalities and of the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs. This important body was established as the decision-making and executive body of the three-level governance structure of CAMP providing for institutional co-ordination and social participation, while the other two are: the Coastal Council involving the interested parties, or public stakeholders, that, owing to their knowledge of the problems dealt with (i.e. issues related to water resources, landscape management, natural and cultural heritage, public domain, marine resources and the main productive activities in the area - agriculture, tourism, urban development), represent local associations, environmental organisations, NGOs or business sectors (46 altogether) and the Coastal Forum, a platform that involved all citizens or associations in order to catalyse debate on the issues addressed during the development of the project [through its website](#).

The CAMP Levante de Almeria [Final integrated report](#) was prepared and a very informative 25-minute [video](#) about the CAMP implementation in Spain was produced.

### CAMP Montenegro

CAMP Montenegro was officially launched in March 2012 at the Inception Workshop in Podgorica to be closed at the Final Presentation Conference in Budva, in December 2014. Both meetings were organised by the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, with the support of PAP/RAC. Each meeting was attended by more than 70 participants including representatives of national and local authorities, as well as representatives of national institutions and civil society organisations concerned with the Montenegrin coastal zone.

CAMP Montenegro (integrated with the process of preparation of the ICZM Strategy) was designed in such a way to support the process of preparation of the Coastal Area Spatial Plan of Montenegro, through which the practical application of some of the specific articles of the ICZM Protocol can be secured. Focus was on the aspects of ICZM that can contribute to the rationalisation and modernisation of the public management and spatial planning, such as co-ordination, integration and participation mechanisms, development of a coastal information system (observatory), utilisation of some specific tools and instruments (e.g. vulnerability and suitability analysis, tourism carrying capacity assessment,

implementation of the coastal setback). Also, the concept of green economy was promoted and ways of how it can contribute to the sustainable coastal development were examined.

Like all other CAMPs this CAMP relied on a dynamic governance structure that enabled not only a good progress of the CAMP activities but also dynamic links with all other relevant initiatives related to the Montenegrin coastal area, which will ultimately be reflected in the Coastal Area Spatial Plan and the ICZM National Strategy.

More information on the CAMP Montenegro is available at the [project website](#), administered by the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism. All the information available is still only in Montenegrin. Also, all the project outputs are in Montenegrin with summarised versions in English. All outputs will soon be shared at the PAP/RAC web site.

### CAMP Italy

The CAMP Italy Agreement was signed in April 2014. The project's strategic objective is to test the integrated management of the coastal area, implementing both the ICZM Protocol and the EU ICZM Recommendation from 2002. The seven complementary objectives of the project will be achieved through activities specifically targeted at the following issues:

- i) management of the marine spaces (such as management of the mining of sand from the seabed, of fish farms, etc.);
- ii) protection and enhancement of the historical-cultural and environmental heritage and landscape;
- iii) diversification of the touristic offer (new offers focused on specific environmental and landscape aspects);
- iv) environmental and landscaping restoration;
- v) recovery and preservation of the coastal and marine environment at the river mouths;
- vi) description and representation of the territory and its resources, identifying values, opportunities and critical issues, reasons for the proposed choices and evaluating expected effects; and
- vii) definition of evolutionary scenarios which intervention policies must address.

The Inception Workshop took place in Sardinia, in November 2014. Representatives of all the three Italian regions participating in the project, namely: Emilia Romagna, Sardinia and Tuscany, as well as representatives of different authorities and MAP components, attended the meeting.

The project is important not only for solving of the immediate problems of coastal areas of the three involved regions but for its contribution to the national level as well. Moreover, this project is also meant to enhance networking with other CAMPs and provide an excellent opportunity for all MAP components to work closely during its implementation. It is envisaged to be concluded by early summer 2016.

More information can be found at the project web site: <http://www.camp-italy.org/>

### CAMP France

The CAMP for the Var County of France was signed in September 2014 and preparatory activities for its official launching in June this year are on-going. The project was initiated following the official request of the President of the General Council of Var to be an extension of the County's Sea and Coastal Scheme and bring, in an international framework, the additional expertise and analysis.

The project will support the implementation of an integrated management approach at the local level through pilot approaches and the application of internationally accepted methodologies. In addition, the



CAMP aims to study the gradual creation of a system of "sea-coast" governance that should be linked with the existing management initiatives in the space between land and sea in the Var County (Natura 2000 in the sea, Land sites and PMD of the Conservatory of the Coast, bay-contracts, County scheme for spatial planning, Charter of the National Park of Port Cros, the coastal strategic document, etc.). Since from the beginning it was designed among the PAP/RAC, the Conservatory of the Coast (PAP/RAC's French Focal Point), the Ministries of Environment and Foreign Affairs, and the associated experts, such as those of the Var General Council and the Rhone-Mediterranean-Corsica Water Agency, their support is expected throughout the project.

#### *Pilot project on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)*

Following the statement made at COP18 that "marine spatial planning was a significant avenue to be explored for the future of MAP and in particular for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol", PAP/RAC and the University of Thessaly in Greece have launched a pilot project entitled "Paving the Road to Marine Spatial Planning in the Mediterranean". The project intends to facilitate the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, in particular with regard to its provision on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), by developing methodological tools, proposing possible co-operation/management schemes and identifying prerequisites and possible ways to deal with challenges, in an effort to assist the CPs to meet the common objectives of integrated marine spatial planning and management.

The Inception Meeting of this one-year project took place in Athens, in January 2015, with the participation of some 30 participants. All members of the core team were present as well as experts from the co-operating partners: Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (MEECC), Region of the Ionian Islands and the HCMR. One must mention the strong team from the Directorate of Spatial Planning of MEECC (recently renamed as the Ministry of Productive Reconstruction, Environment and Energy – MPREE), as well as representatives of the authorities from the Region of the Ionian Islands and the Marine Park of Zakynthos.

#### Action 2.3: Professional Development, Training and Education

*The objective of this Action is to enhance the constituency of the state-of-the-art expertise needed for the implementation of ICZM.*

Same as the governance, training and education are two compulsory components of all ICZM projects, which are delivered through workshops and training courses for a variety of national and local stakeholders. Also, practical experience gained by the National CAMP Co-ordinators and other national consultants recruited by PAP/RAC to implement this project over 2-3 years constitutes a unique opportunity to build ICZM capacities in the countries.

In this chapter we will not enter into detail of these numerous learning opportunities; instead, we would like to focus on the on-line regional training being delivered by PAP/RAC on a yearly basis – the [MedOpen](#) Virtual Training Course on ICZM in the Mediterranean targeting decision makers, policy advisors, project managers, staff and experts of international organisations and institutions, academic researchers, students, and all others interested in coastal management.

An updated version of the MedOpen Basic module has been continuously available to users, open to everyone and completely automated, while two runs of the Advanced module were delivered since 2012. This 4-months Advanced module requires a higher degree of commitment both by trainees and PAP/RAC staff as it includes lecturing by renowned ICZM experts, forum discussions, simulation game and a final essay.

The 2012 MedOpen ICZM Advanced edition was settled in the frame of the PEGASO project with one of its work packages devoted to education and training. However, due to high interest, it also included several other candidates from the Mediterranean region. The training course was attended by 32



candidates. A number of 15 candidates in total successfully completed the course and were awarded the PAP/RAC MedOpen Advanced certificate.

The 2013 ICZM Advanced edition was organised for the SHAPE project partners with the aim of getting them acquainted with the ICZM in general and in more detail with the ICZM process being crucial for the implementation of SHAPE Pilot Projects. A number of 22 applicants registered, more than a half of whom actively participated. In the end of the course, 14 candidates were awarded the PAP/RAC MedOpen Advanced certificate.

During 2014 the preparatory actions were completed for a specific module on climate change foreseen by the „ClimVar & ICZM“ project. The module has been prepared on the basis of the CV&C Guidelines and will be moderated by one of the authors. The opening of both, Basic and Advanced runs, is announced for May 2015. Out of 29 candidates who applied by 20 March 2015, which was the deadline for the submission of applications, 15 candidates in total were selected. According to the criteria used for the selection of candidates, the priority was given to the applicants from the GEF eligible countries in which the “ClimVar & ICZM” project is being implemented.

### **Objective 3:**

**Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements**

#### Action 3.1: Public Participation and Awareness Raising

*This Action aims to ensure a wide societal engagement in ICZM involving the civil society as well as governmental institutions.*

Awareness raising of the coastal issues and ICZM is done in many ways and on many occasions: through promotional material, scientific and newspapers' articles, lecturing, assistance to conferences and other events. In this part we shall focus in particular on the main awareness activity that, since its launching in 2007, has become a tradition – the [Mediterranean Coast Day](#) celebration. Its main purpose is to raise awareness of the importance of the coast as both natural and economic resource, as well as to warn of the risks it is exposed to due to natural phenomena and human actions. This is done through a combination of technical workshops and public awareness raising campaigns including video projections, concerts, distribution of promotional material, contests for kids and adults, NGO fora and expositions, etc.

Each year the central Mediterranean celebration is organised in a different country, while other countries organise their own events. After Italy (2007 and 2008), Turkey (2009), Slovenia (2010) and Algeria (2011), the following countries hosted the central celebrations, under the auspices of the high-ranking state officials and with participation of representatives of Mediterranean countries, institutions and the civil society:

- Croatia: the 2012 central celebration was organised in Split as a part of the EU IPA Adriatic SHAPE project, and in collaboration with UNDP's “Coast” project. The theme of the celebration was “The Voice of the Coast” as some of the most famous Croatian singers accepted to give a free concert on that occasion;
- Italy: the 2013 central celebration was hosted by the Italian region of Emilia-Romagna. The event took place in the coastal city of Rimini, famous for its endless sand beaches, which was most appropriate since the focus of that year's celebration was on the beaches;
- Tunisia: the 2014 central event was celebrated in Gammarth, with focus on climate variability and change, organised in the framework of the “ClimVar & ICZM” project under the motto “[A good climate for change](#)” ;
- The 2015 central celebration will be taking place in France. Besides promoting the ICZM Protocol, it will be the occasion to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MAP.

It would be unfair not to mention all local celebrations being organised every year by cities and regions around the Mediterranean for their inhabitants. The list of all events is too long to be included in this report (it has been done at the [Coast Day](#) website) and PAP/RAC expresses once again its gratitude to all those who contributed to our joint efforts to reach a number of people which becomes innumerable.

Finally, it has to be pointed out that the public participation is promoted in all ICZM projects and included as a compulsory activity (see Action 2.2 Protocol Implementation Projects).

### Action 3.2: Excellence on ICZM Issues for the Mediterranean

*To maintain and enhance the capacity of MAP components and CPs on the ICZM Protocol-related issues.*

The Mediterranean Region, UNEP/MAP and PAP/RAC are undoubtedly at the forefront of ICZM, not only because of the unique legally binding instrument adopted to deal with ICZM issues but also because of the knowledge and expertise accumulated over years of ICZM implementation. That is why PAP/RAC and its collaborators are often consulted and invited to intervene. It would take pages to list all the occasions of the kind; hereafter are some of them for illustration:

- International Conference in Sète, France, on the occasion of the 2012 Marseille [World Water Forum](#) held in March 2012 when a local agreement on ICZM was confronted to the ICZM Protocol;
- “MedDays”, a high-level geo-political and socio-economic forum organised in Tangiers, Morocco, in November 2012, by the [Amadeus Institute](#) during which the PAP/RAC was invited to intervene within a panel chaired by the Moroccan Minister of Tourism;
- International conference “[Littoral 2012](#)” in Oostende, Belgium, in November 2012, where PAP/RAC delivered two key note speeches;
- Study visits to PAP/RAC by the members of the South Korean Maritime Institute (October 2012) and the Jordanian UNDP project “Mainstreaming Marine Biodiversity into ICZM Practice” (June 2013) to learn about ICZM in general and its specific topics;
- Meeting at the European Parliament in Brussels (September 2013) to present the ICZM Protocol prior to the first reading of the Draft MSP Directive;
- UN DESA workshop in Dubrovnik, Croatia (October 2013) to contribute to the preparation of the Global Report on Sustainable Development, when the role of ICZM with regard to coastal sustainability was presented and MSSD promoted;
- Meeting in Brussels (November 2013) to start the work on the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region strategy, within which PAP/RAC intervened in a panel on the environmental pillar of the strategy to promote the ICZM Protocol and the other BC legal instruments and on-going processes;
- UNEP/DTIE webinar where PAP/RAC was a guest speaker with the theme “Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Strategic Tourism Development Planning” (May 2014);
- EU and UfM meetings in Amman, Jordan (March 2014), on three main themes of concern for the UfM (Horizon 2020, SCP and CC) when the PAP/RAC was given the opportunity to present the climate change related work within the “ClimVar & ICZM” project;
- First Inter-parliamentary Conference on the Challenges of Sustainable Tourism, in Zagreb, Croatia (September 2014) to speak about the pressures made by tourism on the Mediterranean coastal and marine environment and to propose the ICZM approach to the strategic planning of sustainable tourism development;
- Third European Ports & Shipping Conference in Amsterdam, The Netherlands (September 2014) to present the ICZM policy framework that could play a significant role in strategic planning for ports and shipping industry;
- Conference “EuroMED Co-operation: Inland and Marine Water Challenges” under the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union (November 2014) to deliver the key note

speech at one of the four parallel thematic workshops held during this two-day Conference: the one on a Mediterranean integrated ocean observing system to support sustainable coastal and marine tourism;

- [2014 Think Forward Film Festival](#) as a part of the International Centre for Climate Governance, a joint initiative of *Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei* and *Fondazione Giorgio Cini*, during which a short animated movie “A good climate for change” prepared for the 2014 Mediterranean Coast Day was presented;
- European-Mediterranean Conference (Parmenides II) of the association of ten academic institutions in Africa and southern Europe promoting one of the UN’s Millennium Development Goals (Bridging the Gap Between the Scientific Output and the Needs of the Stakeholders) to deliver speech about PAP/RAC’s and UNEP/MAP’s efforts in the field of coastal zone management;
- PAP/RAC membership in the Joint EU Member State Expert Group on MSP and ICZM that meets annually to deliberate of the land-sea interaction and their management;
- PAP/RAC acted as the External Quality Advisor of the EU COASTGAP project by orienting the project activities and providing an Audit Report.

### Action 3.3: Promoting the Protocol

*To promote the ICZM Protocol across and beyond the Mediterranean Region.*

It would take pages to list all the occasions (many of them actually being the same as in the previous Action) and ways in which the ICZM Protocol has been promoted in the Mediterranean: through promotional material such as the ICZM Timeline exposed on several occasions, brochures, leaflets and videos, participation to conferences and other events.

Therefore, we shall mention here only some far-reaching echoes of the Protocol, such as:

- The co-operation with the Black Sea Commission within the PEGASO project to explore the possibility of adopting a similar legal instrument for the Black Sea region;
- The participation of a PAP/RAC representative in a meeting of the West Indian Ocean for which a regional legal instrument is being prepared following the model of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol; or
- Presentation made by the IFREMER delegate in Martinique on behalf of PAP/RAC on the ICZM Protocol at the yearly BODLANME Forum of the French Antilles region.

### Action 3.4: Networks

*To collaborate with existing networks and establish a Mediterranean coastal zone network to promote best practices.*

Even if the responsibility for the co-ordination of the implementation of the ICZM Protocol and its Action Plan is on the PAP/RAC and UNEP/MAP, this complex and demanding task would be impossible without the input and co-operation of a diversity of other actors and their networks. Over the past years, these are being generated at the regional (Mediterranean), national and sub-national level, and their initiatives and efforts are extremely important for the creation of the critical mass that will allow for the change of the unsustainable development and coastal management patterns. It would be unrealistic, and in a way presumptuous, to expect that the UNEP/MAP system and the initiatives it can promote with the CPs can be enough to cover all the important coastal issues and to provide all the knowledge needed for their modern management.

Therefore, the wise approach has always been followed to benefit from the other existing networks, such as the networks of institutions and organisations with which UNEP/MAP has signed memoranda of co-operation (UfM, GFCM, IUCN, MedPAN, etc.) or networks born within and among projects in which

PAP/RAC has participated as a partner (PEGASO platform; network of European regions promoted by the Bologna Charter; FaceCoast network of coastal initiatives, etc.) or the ever growing number of projects under the ICZM-related funding instruments of the European Union (such as ENPI, FP7, LIFE, DG MARE calls, etc.).

Of course, equally important are the networks established within the UNEP/MAP and PAP/RAC led projects, in the first place CAMPs and other ICZM Protocol implementation projects. Besides the internal ICZM networks created in these projects, the need is growing over the last years to strengthen the links among them. Even if the exchange and passing of experiences and lessons learned has always existed, it is time to think to a more formal network that will allow to these projects to grow together, to become a hub attracting the other similar projects to co-operate and the place where one can find solid information and help. Together with the most recent CAMPs, PAP/RAC is working in this direction.

### Wrap-up

Despite the difficulties that the entire Mediterranean region and UNEP/MAP system in particular have been facing these last years, a high level of ICZM activity has been kept and some good quality results have been delivered. Scaling up ICZM as a strategic policy instrument at the national level, proposing innovative methodological approaches, strengthening governance mechanisms, acting “on the ground” through concrete territorial projects – these have been the fields in which major progress was made. Based on the achievements described in the previous chapter, the Table 1 below gives a very general estimate of the state of progress within each Action.

*Table 1: PAP/RAC's estimate of the progress in implementing the Action Plan*

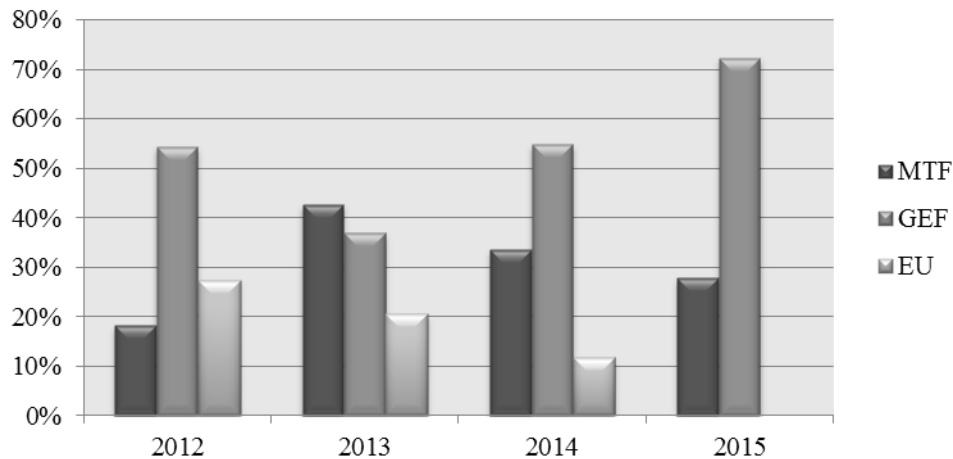
<b>Objective 1: Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels including through a Common Regional Framework for ICZM.</b>	
Action 1.1 Ratification and transposition	+++
Action 1.2 Strengthening and supporting governance	+++
Action 1.3 Adopting National Strategies and Action Plans and Programmes	++
Action 1.4 Reporting on Protocol Implementation and Monitoring the State of the Mediterranean Coast	+++
<b>Objective 2: Strengthen the capacities of CPs to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes.</b>	
Action 2.1 Methodologies and Processes	++++
Action 2.2 Protocol Implementation Projects	++++
Action 2.3 Professional Development, Training and Education	++++
<b>Objective 3: Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the Region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements.</b>	
Action 3.1 Public Participation and Awareness Raising	++++
Action 3.2 Excellence on ICZM Issues for the Mediterranean	++++
Action 3.3 Promoting the Protocol	+++
Action 3.4 Networks	+++

*Poor (+); Moderate (++); Good (+++); Very good (++++); Excellent (+++++)*

The scarcity of financial resources, sometimes coupled with difficult working and travelling conditions, made progress difficult in some of the fields. Several studies that were foreseen could not be completed, such as the screening of the national legal framework with regard to the ICZM Protocol in France, Italy and Lebanon. Methodological work on linking ICZM and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) had to be postponed, and the same happened with the carrying capacity of coastal territories.

On the other hand, some other opportunities have been seized, like working on land-use changes in the Southern Mediterranean, deepening the work on the coastal indicators within the EcAp process, launching a small pilot project to better understand the MSP processes, opening MedOpen runs for external projects' needs and by using their funding.

As shown in the Figure 1 below, the progress with the implementation of the Action Plan has depended a lot on the external funding secured. This has also to some extent conditioned the type of activity and their geographical distribution, although we can say that a combination of EU and GEF funds with different eligibilities contributed to make balance in both terms (see the following chapter).



*Figure 1: Funding of PAP/RAC-led activities during the first four years of the Action Plan implementation*

Similarly to the key characteristic of the ICZM, the approach in implementing the Action Plan has been highly adaptive to the prevailing conditions and capacities. Actually, that was the message sent by the CPs when deciding to adopt an Action Plan that is not too prescriptive and that will allow each CP to implement it at its own pace and UNEP/MAP to act in conformity to its human and financial capacities.

### **Main findings of the external evaluations**

Following the decisions and recommendations of the CPs, two external evaluations of relevance for the implementation of the ICZM Action Plan have been undertaken:

- the Outcome Evaluation of the Barcelona Convention / United Nations Environment Programme – Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) Five-Year Programme of Work 2010-2014; and
- the Assessment of CAMP projects implemented since the last assessment in 2001 (Algeria, Cyprus, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia and Spain).

The most important initial findings related to ICZM taken from the draft reports of these two evaluation processes are reproduced hereafter.

#### Evaluation of UNEP/MAP Five-Year Programme of Work

The Five-Year Strategic Programme of Work for the period 2010-2014 (PoW) was adopted by COP17 (Marrakesh, 2009). Implementation started in 2010 and in 2013 the CPs approved the extension of the programme by one year to the end of 2015 (COP18 Decision IG.21/17) to better synchronising the medium term and biennial planning cycles.

Out of the six themes of the PoW (Governance; ICZM; Biodiversity; Pollution prevention and control; Sustainable consumption and production; and Climate change) ICZM has been rated very high by the interviewed persons and respondents to the questionnaire carried out within this evaluation (Fig. 2). Pollution Control & Prevention and ICZM have been rated as the overall most relevant issues at country level, Basin level and with regard to the MAP mandate. However, respondents from three countries noted that their countries had not yet signed or ratified the ICZM Protocol and a fourth commented on its limited relevance in view of the country's short coastline.

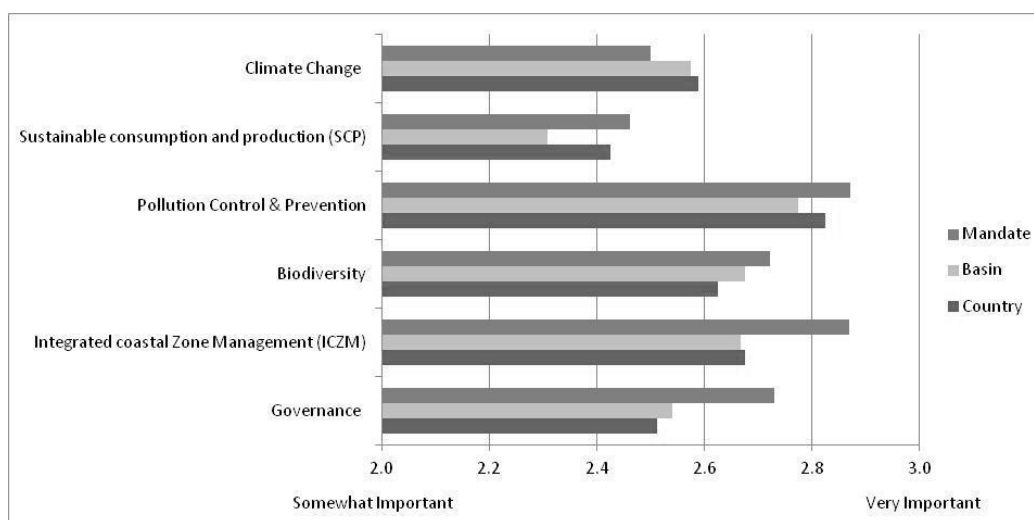


Figure 2. Summary of survey responses on relevance of PoW themes at basin level and at country level and with regard to MAP mandate (based on application of a numerical scale to survey ratings)

Source: Evaluation Survey

The excerpts from the Draft Evaluation Survey (January 2015) that follow describe the progress with and the benefits of the implementation of the ICZM Protocol Action Plan since its adoption:

**“2012-2013:** There were nine expected results under ICZM in 2012-2013 organised under three activities (Implementing ICZM Protocol Action Plan: Assist countries in preparing ICZM Strategies and Plans; Updating and preparing ICZM methodologies; Implementing ICZM protocol through specific local and policy initiatives). The activity budget was EUR 2.15 million of which just EUR 0.71 million was secured when the plan was approved. ICZM related activities also appeared under the governance and climate themes. There were six related expected results under governance, spanning four activities, with a total budget of EUR 0.17 million that was fully secured and three related expected results under climate change, spanning two activities, with a total budget of EUR 0.61 million, also fully secured. Active projects contributing to this theme included the MedPartnership, ClimVar, PEGASO, SHAPE and ProtoGIZC projects.

...

**2014-2015:** There are seven expected results under two strategies (Implementing Priority actions as agreed in ICZM Action Plan, Technical Assistance and Capacity Building) with a total budget of EUR 2.27 million of which EUR 1.27 million had been secured.

Deliverables over the period covered by the evaluation form a coherent package of work spanning policy, pilot initiatives, capacity development and awareness. They reflect continuity across the biennia as well as adaptations and expansion of the scope of work to reflect the: i) entry into force of the ICZM Protocol in March 2011 and ii) adoption of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012–2019) in February 2012.

*In terms of programme coherence, the PoW deliverables contribute to a set of immediate outcomes that can be considered as complementary and mutually reinforcing with the policy work on regional and national action plans serving as an overall framework for policy implementation. This is well illustrated by the package or work on ICZM which was strengthened after adoption of the Protocol and related Action Plan.*

...

*Work to ICZM spans most of strategic approaches and drivers identified in the TOC<sup>1</sup> model including assessments, development of guidelines, capacity development, communications and visibility, and compliance reporting. Documented outcomes related to ICZM have been in two main areas: i) policy outcomes related to the entry into force of the ICZM Protocol, adoption of the Action Plan and development of a reporting framework) and ii) pilot interventions which can be expected to lead to stress reduction at the local level. The combination of policy framework, pilots and testing of guidelines are contributing to development of national ICZM plans or strategies in four countries. Identified 'risks' for the ICZM work, namely administrative delays at the national level, difficulties of coordination among partners and sectors on horizontal and vertical levels, lack of data availability and sectorial conflict of interest, reflect challenges to implementation at the national level. These issues have been directly tackled in the CAMPs and MedPartnership pilot projects and national ICZM planning and are also discussed in methodological guidance.*

*The consolidation of ICZM work leading up to and following adoption of the ICZM Protocol in 2011 demonstrates how the complementary programme strategies, including regional, methodological developments, capacity development and pilot initiatives, can act in a synergistic manner to promote and support delivery of a Protocol at a national level."*

#### Assessment of CAMP projects

The following major findings are taken from the draft assessment report on eight CAMPs undertaken since 2001:

- *"The majority of CAMP projects fully (or nearly) achieved their local objectives.*
- *Association of stakeholders has usually been very good, even when they had not been fully engaged in the project design.*
- *During their lifetime, all projects created a coastal community and produced a more or less inclusive vision of the desired future for the area.*
- *During their lifetime, all the projects contributed to demonstrating the relevance of an ICZM approach and developed implementation capacity of ICZM at local level.*
- *Given their cost (very limited) and their duration (often only 1.5 to 2 years of effective working) they have proved very efficient.*
- *There was weak follow-on in most of the projects, except where from its inception the project has been designed as a support for the development of high level coastal strategy or policy, and hence an institution has been committed to long-term implementation of the project.*
- *Despite the success of individual projects in meeting their planned objectives, they share some general limitations in terms of their lack of sustainability and limited contribution to the dissemination of ICZM in their countries, as well as regionally/internationally. Although the memory of purely local projects is kept, the capacity they built is lost by institutions within a few years.*
- *In terms of long term impacts, only those projects explicitly linked to institutional initiatives (changes in legislation and/or management strategies) had real persistent outcomes. "Standalone" local projects that were not integrated within national approaches towards coastal management vanish through a lack of institutional support (e.g. governance, funding).*
- *Where projects did not result in "mainstreaming" ICZM into policies or strategies, dissemination across sectors and organisations was limited leading to a reduced impact.*

*Overall even if it could not completely solve the structural problem of changing policies through projects, the CAMP has proved an effective instrument to promote concepts of ICZM, and, in general, has led to a lasting institutional memory that permeates organisational practices beyond the lifetime of individual projects. Although there have been many institutional and technical changes that have taken place during the 25 years since the CAMP programme was launched, the assessment found there is still need, and demand, for at national and regional levels for a programme to support the development of coastal management and integrated approaches across the Mediterranean. “*

## **Conclusion**

The implementation of the Action Plan has been and remains quite a challenge for all: CPs, PAP/RAC and the entire UNEP/MAP. In order to advance with it, PAP/RAC had to invest a lot of effort to mobilise external resources due to the scarcity of the MTF funds that all UNEP/MAP components have to cope with and the economic crisis that almost all CPs have been facing over the last couple of years. Without these external resources and without efficient partnership forged with other Mediterranean actors, these results could not have been possible. Not to forget the crucial role of NFPs – the more they are dynamic and responsive, the more PAP/RAC can be successful not only in their countries but in the regional endeavours as well.

As shown in the previous chapters, good progress has been made. What could not be done will remain a challenge for the future. To fill the gaps and to keep alive its actual activities PAP/RAC will continue to closely collaborate with the CPs and to assist them in mobilising external resources for the implementation of ICZM. Two project proposals are currently being processed: a joint Plan Bleu, PAP/RAC and SCP/RAC project proposal on Blue Economy recently submitted to the MAVA Foundation; and a Medium-Size Project Proposal for the Adriatic Area to be soon submitted for GEF funding. Let's hope for the best!

Let's also hope that new opportunities will appear soon to prepare proposals in which other countries will be eligible. This could be a new project for the GEF eligible countries, or some of the EU funding instruments for the Member-States or the cross-border co-operation. To be fully prepared for these opportunities and to be able to react quickly, we invite you to share with us your priorities and preferences for action with regard to ICZM.

We hope that this document can be a source of inspiration for the CPs while considering the activities they would like to implement in the remaining period covered by the Action Plan. However, according to our experience and feedbacks from the first half of the Action Plan implementation period, we can already make some suggestions:

1. An additional effort would be needed by the CPs to reach the objective of the full ratification of the ICZM Protocol. In this, we invite them to ask for assistance with technical explanations, or to simply use the documents already produced. This practice has already yielded results in some countries.
2. In this document, only the activities led within UNEP/MAP are reported; we shall report on the others once we officially learn about them from the operational part of the reporting format for ICZM, e.g. when it becomes the obligation for the CPs. Regular reporting on the ICZM Protocol is crucial to know the progress made with regard to its implementation but it is also a valuable source of information for PAP/RAC and UNEP/MAP on the gaps to be filled-in and the needs of the CPs.
3. Given the proven usefulness of CAMPs and the interest of the countries for this kind of activity, CAMPs and similar ICZM demonstration projects will remain a core instrument for the implementation of the Action Plan, i.e. the mainstreaming of the ICZM principles and the improvement of the coastal management practice.



4. The ever growing competition for the use of the marine space makes it necessary to design the future CAMP and other ICZM projects in a way to include a strong sea-use planning component and in particular to explore the land and sea interactions including in terms of uses.
5. Owing to the projects implemented at the local level, the ICZM has reached its maturity and it is time now to systematically scale it up as the strategic option. Therefore, and with the objective of fulfilling the relative Action Plan objective, the CPs are invited to adopt national strategies for ICZM reflecting the provisions of the Protocol. PAP/RAC will try and mobilise human and financial resources to accompany them in this endeavour if the interest and political will are ensured and clearly stated.
6. ICZM strategies can be an excellent management instrument for reaching sustainability in coastal zones. Therefore, they find their place within or in close relation with the strategies for sustainable development. This is to be ensured first at the Mediterranean level through the MSSD 2.0 and then to be reflected at the national level. The responsibility for both lies on the CPs but PAP/RAC and UNEP/MAP are aware of their important role in providing the support needed.
7. ICZM finds its place and role in two other major UNEP/MAP processes, namely EcAp and Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework. With its integrative methods and tools, it offers the most operational management mechanism for implementing and reaching the objectives of both.
8. The Mediterranean governance on ICZM is crucial for its success. A combination of elements developed in previous or on-going projects (PEGASO, “MedPartnership” and “ClimVar & ICZM”) and the initiative promoted mainly by the recent CAMPs towards the establishment of an official network can make an important step forward in boosting the regional governance mechanism.

**We are optimistic that even in the future the positive trend in the implementation of the Action Plan will continue. The critical mass of people, knowledge and experience is constantly growing and, if economic and political situation is to improve, we believe that the CPs will have more resources and energy to dedicate to the enhancement of the management of the precious coastal and marine space.**