

Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean

Joint Meeting of the

**7th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated
Maritime Policy in the Mediterranean**

and the

**10th Euromed Meeting of the Maritime Working
Group**

Brussels, 21-23 October



United Nations Environment Programme /
Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP)
Barcelona Convention

Ecosystem Approach / EcAp MED project

The Ecosystem Approach (**EcAp**) on the one hand is an overarching principle of UNEP-MAP, which is fully incorporated in the 2014-2015 Programme of Work of the Barcelona Convention, while on the other hand, it is an EU financed project of 2012-2015, with the overall budget of 1,7 million Euros (**EcAp-MED**).

The EcAp-MED project aims, to strengthen the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean region, in line with the overarching principles of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

While until the end of 2013, it was the sole funding instrument in the Mediterranean for this purpose, **COP18 resulted not only in the EcAp Decision (*Decision IG. 21/3*)**, which agreed on Good Environmental Status (**GES**) descriptions, targets to an integrated list of EcAp indicators, but also in generating strong country ownership for the EcAp process, as the **Contracting Parties**, for the first time allocated specially funding under the Barcelona Convention's budget (Mediterranean Trust Fund, so-called **MTF**) for EcAp.



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Ecosystem Approach / EcAp-MED project

in line of the EcAp COP18 Decision, aiming for the development of
an **Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (EcAp-MED project Component A and C)**, through the development of a **Monitoring and Assessment Guidance** (by the Secretariat) and through the technical discussion of this guidance in dedicated monitoring expert groups (so called Correspondence Groups on Monitoring, **CORMONs**);
an EcAp Measures Gap Analysis, to possibly be a basis for an **EcAp Programmes of Measures (only part of POW, not of EcAp project)**;
ensure EcAp governance structure and coordination (**EcAp-MED project under Component E**).

in addition, the EcAp-MED project has additional aims, with the following components:

undertaking an EcAp pilot project in year 2014-2015 (**Component B**);
undertaking an EcAp Socio-Economic Assessment (**Component A**)
assisting the development of SPAMIs in the Mediterranean (**Component D**);
assisting the development of an Offshore Action Plan (**Component D**)
From 2014 on, additional Component on marine litter



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EcAp-MED key deliverables table

Output	State of implementation
Monitoring and Assessment Programme	The draft Monitoring and Assessment Methodological Guidance of the Secretariat after three specific monitoring expert meetings, will be now presented to the EcAp Coordination Group in 9-10 October. Next Integrated CORMON is foreseen in February 2015.
EcAp Governance	EcAp Governance structure was endorsed at COP18.
Socio-Economic Analysis	The draft Socio-Economic Analysis will be presented at the EcAp Coordination Group in 9-10 October.
Offshore Action Plan	The draft Offshore Action Plan will be presented at the EcAp Coordination Group in 9-10 October.
MPAs assistance	RAC/SPA, continuous work
Marine litter	Marine litter assessment, following up on Regional Plan by April 2015
EcAp pilot	In Adriatic, to be focusing on one common or candidate indicator



EcAp-MED /Lessons learnt

Small project, strong partners, key outcomes

- Close cooperation is absolute necessity both between components and with other relevant projects;
- Project success builds greatly on strong involvement and knowledge of colleagues in MEDPOL, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC, REMPEC, PLAN BLEU who put extra time and human resources into the deliveries;
- Best practice: Perseus-UNEP/MAP co-organized biodiversity Workshop, which gave important input to the draft Monitoring and Assessment Monitoring Guidance and as such ensured stronger science-policy interface;
- In future need for even closer cooperation with other EcAp related projects in the region, as well as even closer work together with our key partners in the region, such as GFCM, ACCOBAMS and UfM;
- Policy-science interface will be specifically important, as well as to transfer lessons learnt from EU projects to the whole of the Mediterranean- the replication of the Perseus-UNEP/MAP Workshop as a concrete example could be foreseen.

Project will end, but EcAp process continues in line with the COP18 EcAp Decision/Roadmap and integration of EcAp to our overall work.



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MedPartnership and Climate Variability GEF supported LME projects

- ❖ In support of the ICZM Protocol: Combines tools for marine and coastal planning, i.e. joint methodology for ICZM, IWRM and aquifer management, developed and applied
- ❖ Support for creation, management and monitoring of MPA's
- ❖ Assessment of climate impacts in the coastal zone and creation of data and metadata platform
- ❖ Capacity building core to both projects, with over 100 training workshops since 2009. I.e. GIS and training on toolbox's to assess coastal erosion and the 100 meter set-back zone of Article 8 of the ICZM Protocol
- ❖ www.themedpartnership.org



gyorgyi.gurban@unepmap.gr

United Nations Environment Programme
Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan
Vassileos Konstantinou 48
Athens 11635
Greece

www.unepmap.org



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