



**Minutes
of the Second Meeting of the Working Group on
the Common Regional Framework for ICZM**

(Athens, 30-31 May 2018)

Split, June 2018

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Introduction

1. The open-ended Working Group (WG) of the CPs' representatives mandated by the COP20 (Tirana, Albania, 17-21 December 2017) to develop in the biennium 2018-2019 the full text of the Common Regional Framework (CRF) for Integrated Coastal Zones Management (ICZM) met for the first time in Split, Croatia, on 13-14 March 2018. On the basis of the agreed distribution of work, the WG members provided contributions to specific chapters of the CRF. A complete draft was distributed as a working document to the second WG meeting held in Athens, Greece, on 30-31 May 2018.

2. The meeting was attended by the representatives of 6 CPs, UN Environment/MAP and PAP/RAC. The list of participants is given in Annex I and the Agenda in Annex II.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting: welcome, objectives and programme, organisation of work

3. Ms. Tatjana Hema, Deputy Coordinator of UNEP/MAP, stressed the importance of collaboration in producing this draft, thanked the WG for the progress made and underlined the expectation of the CPs to adopt the CRF at the following COP. Ms. Željka Škaričić, PAP/RAC Director, welcomed the participants and thanked them for their contributions to the draft document that had been done in a very good spirit. She introduced the agenda and the modalities of work.

Agenda item 2: Short introduction to and general comments on the Second Draft of the Common Regional Framework for ICZM; and

Agenda item 3: Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting

4. After a brief introduction of the individual chapters and the overall structure of the draft text, the WG members provided some general comments. This was followed by the work on individual chapters when very concrete proposals for the improvement of the document were made and agreed upon. Changes and comments on how to improve the document were inserted in the amended version of the draft CRF, which is available in Annex III to this report.

5. The main discussion was focussed on the chapter IV on Ecosystem-Based Management for GES and SD. In a very constructive exchange of opinions and proposals on how to deal with this chapter the WG decided to:

- establish a mechanism that would allow flexibility as far as geographical scope (regional, sub-regional and national) is concerned;
- ensure an adaptive management approach i.e. enough flexibility so that the changes of documents addressed (policies, APs, strategies, programmes) at various levels can be reflected and the new/emerging issues taken into consideration;
- allow for taking into account the cumulative impact;
- core element: use the indicative tables (Matrixes) as a guiding tool to produce the needed guidance documents;
- engage three consultants (planning/methodology, legal matters, scientific issue ECAP linked) to develop/propose options for such a mechanism (methodology) to be presented to and agreed upon by all CPs during the first regional consultation meeting (scheduled for end September 2018). This will be the basis for the regional and/or sub-regional guidance of the CRF;

- propose capacity-building activities/training as a follow up mechanism to learn and exchange experiences on the implementation of the CRF;
- provide monitoring system on how GES is being achieved by applying this mechanism at various geographical levels.

6. The scheme prepared during the meeting could be considered by the consultants to better understand the task.

Agenda item 4: Agreement on the next steps and distribution of tasks among the WG members

7. The concrete tasks for the WG's members as agreed are inserted as comments in the draft CRD as Annex III. As regards the deadlines the participants agreed:

- to provide specific contributions as agreed by the WG by the end of June 2018;
- by the same deadline PAP/RAC will nominate the three experts as mentioned above to develop options for the 'guidance' mechanism of chapter IV to take instructions elaborated in point 5 into account;
- by end August the new version of the CRF should be ready to be sent as a working document to the CPs;
- the consultation meeting with all CPs to be preferably organised back-to-back with the Mediterranean Coast Day event in Split at the end of September 2018.

Agenda item 5: Wrap-up and closure of the meeting

8. The PAP/RAC Director and UNEP/MAP Deputy Coordinator warmly thanked the participants for their contributions to the meeting. They emphasized that a very important progress had been done and raised hope that the next version of the document would be ready for the meeting with all the CP's at the occasion of the Mediterranean Coast Day celebration in Split, end September 2018.

9. The meeting was closed on 31 June 2018 at 13.00.

Annex I: List of participants

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	<p>Mr. Matteo BRAIDA Unità Assistenza Tecnica Sogesid S.p.A. Ministero dell’Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare Direzione Generale per la Protezione della Natura e del Mare Divisione IV - Tutela degli Ambienti Costieri e Marini Supporto alle attività internazionali Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44 00147 Roma</p> <p>E-mail: braida.matteo@minambiente.it</p>
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According to the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), with my signature I give permission to the Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC) of Split to use my personal data (name, surname, address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail address, copy of identity card or passport) for the purposes of my attendance at the meetings organised by PAP/RAC and all the relevant activities (attendance evidence, booking flight tickets, travel claims, meeting reports, publishing of the reports on the PAP/RAC web site, sending information regarding the meetings, etc.). The said data will be used only for the above purposes and will not be made available to third parties, and will be used until the revocation. I am aware of my right to request from PAP/RAC access to my personal data, correction, deleting of data, limiting of data processing, right to object to processing, right to transferability of data, right to submit complaint to the relevant body (Agency for the Protection of Personal Data). Correction of data and/or revocation of the given permission to process personal data have to be submitted in writing by electronic mail to the address: paprac@paprac.org. The data will be kept until revocation.

Annex II: Agenda of the meeting

Wednesday, 30 May 2018

9:30 – 9:45	Opening of the meeting: welcome, objectives and programme, organisation of work (UN Environment/MAP and PAP/RAC).
9:45 – 10:15	Short introduction to and general comments on the Second Draft of the Common Regional Framework for ICZM.
10:00 – 11:00	Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting.
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break.
11:30 – 13:00	Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting (cont.).
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break.
14:30 – 17:00	Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting (cont.).

Thursday, 31 May 2018

9:30 – 11:00	Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting (cont.).
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break.
11:30 – 12:30	Agreement on the next steps and distribution of tasks among the WG members.
12:30 – 13:00	Wrap-up and closure of the meeting.

Annex III: CRF version with amendments made during the WG meeting

Common Regional Framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (2nd Draft for Consideration by the 2nd WG Meeting)

Through the entire document add reference to the Protocol articles in a column on the right side of the text.

(At the moment, for formatting reasons, reference to the Protocol articles are added to the titles. They will be put in the column in the final text.)

I Introduction (Artt. 1, 17 and 18)

The ultimate objective of the ICZM Protocol is to contribute to the vision for the Mediterranean Sea and coast as: "A healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse, contributing to sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations". (UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021).

As for Article 1 of the ICZM Protocol, the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the Barcelona Convention (BC) "shall establish a common framework for the integrated management of the Mediterranean coastal zone and take the necessary measures to strengthen regional cooperation for this purpose" to be implemented with the assistance of UNEP/MAP and its Components, and the overall coordination ensured by PAP/RAC.

Art. 17 of the ICZM Protocol on Mediterranean strategy for integrated coastal zone management, states that the CPs "undertake to cooperate for the promotion of sustainable development and integrated management of coastal zones, taking into account the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development and complementing it where necessary. To this end, the Parties shall define, with the assistance of the Centre, a common regional framework for integrated coastal zone management in the Mediterranean to be implemented by means of appropriate regional action plans and other operational instruments, as well as their national strategies".

Art. 18, provides that "each Party shall further strengthen or formulate a national strategy for integrated coastal zone management and coastal implementation plans and programmes consistent with the common regional framework".

This CRF is to be considered as the strategic instrument meant to facilitate the implementation of the ICZM Protocol. It shall operate without prejudice to the ICZM Protocol, the provisions of which shall always prevail.

II Scope of the CRF (Artt. 3 and 8)

The combined Art. 4 of the Barcelona Convention (BC) and Artt. 3 and 28 of the ICZM Protocol identify the geographical scope and scale of the CRF inviting CPs, individually or jointly, to take for the Mediterranean Sea area – as defined in Art. 1 of the BC within the geographical coverage as defined by ICZM Protocol – all appropriate measures to prevent, abate, combat and to the fullest possible extent eliminate pollution of the Mediterranean Sea Area and to protect and enhance the marine environment and the natural resources in that Area so as to contribute towards its sustainable development and, in particular, to promote the integrated management of coastal zones, taking into account the protection of areas of ecological and landscape interest and the rational use of natural resources, coordinating, where appropriate, bilaterally or multilaterally their national coastal strategies, plans and programmes related to contiguous coastal zones.

ICZM needs to be approached at different geographic scales and administrative levels: at the Mediterranean scale addressing the entire sea basin through cooperation among all riparian states; at the sub-regional scale – where relevant and possible – addressing transboundary issues in sub-regions as defined for the purpose of the EcAp roadmap implementation and seeking synergies with other existing sub-regional strategies and plans, at the national and sub-national (local) scale in line with the regionally agreed principles.

The CRF provides strategic orientations on how the ICZM Protocol is jointly implemented within the geographical coverage between the external limit of the territorial sea of the CPs and the limit of the competent coastal units as defined by the CPS, using coordinated and harmonized approaches.

ICZM is also an essential tool to fulfil the purposes of the Barcelona Convention within the Mediterranean Sea Area.

The ICZM Protocol provides the basic principles and obligations to be implemented by the CPs in that respect. The purpose of CRF is to provide a commonly shared context with specific recommendations focusing on: (a) coherence of policies/strategic documents and orientation of actions, in particular after the expiration of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in 2012-2019; (b) ways to better strengthen integration and regional/sub-regional cooperation, taking also into consideration the land-sea interactions and the transboundary aspects; and (c) ways to efficiently implement the ICZM Protocol at national and sub-national levels. **(Duplication? Check!)**

The CRF is aimed to provide recommendations and measures to strengthen regional cooperation for:

- Processes: to accelerate achievement of results agreed and outcomes/outputs set out;
- Indicators: essential tools for tracking progress, supporting policy evaluation and informing the public and decision makers;
- Methods and practices: to achieve objectives and the general principles of the ICZM Protocol.

In addition, the 20th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP 20 - Tirana, Albania, 2017) adopted the decision IG.23/7 that envisages the introduction of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) into the implementation of ICZM through this regional framework and within the system of the BC and its Protocols. . This will imply the development of appropriate means to include as appropriate MSP within the instrument to implement the ICZM Protocol and therefore be part of the common regional framework. The Conceptual Framework on MSP has two main objectives:

- To introduce MSP in the framework of the Barcelona Convention, and in particular link it to ICZM, considering MSP as the main tool/process for the implementation of ICZM in the marine part of the coastal zone and specifically for planning and managing maritime human activities according to EcAp goals (as specifically addressed by section 3 of the CF).
- To provide a common context to CPs for the implementation of MSP in the Mediterranean Region.

III Objectives and General Principles of the CRF (Artt. 5-7, 18, 19, 22, 28 and 29)

In order to promote ICZM through the CRF and achieve sustainable development of coastal zones by ensuring that the environment and landscapes are taken into account in harmony with economic, social and cultural development, the following objectives with related general principles are to be envisaged:

- a) Use **the ecosystem-based management** to ensure **sustainable development and integrity of the coastal zone, its ecosystems and related services and landscapes**, by:

- taking into account in an integrated manner all coastal zone elements to respect carrying capacity, address cumulative impacts and prevent and/or reduce negative effects of natural disasters or risks and of development;
 - taking into account land-sea interactions as a complex phenomenon involving the interactions of both, natural processes and human activities [], as a criterion for defining areas to be managed and as a parameter in planning processes and procedures;
 - formulating appropriate land/sea use strategies, plans and programmes for activities in the coastal zone, also through appropriate tools, in particular Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA);
 - promoting cooperation between and among CPs in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures related to activities under their jurisdiction or control which are likely to have a significant adverse effect on the marine and coastal environment of other CPs or areas beyond the geographical scope of the ICZM Protocol, on the basis of notification, exchange of information and consultation.
- b) Address **natural hazards** and **the effects of natural disasters**, in particular **coastal erosion** and **climate change** by:
- taking into account the commitments to the Paris agreement on climate change, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to build climate change resilience and the Strategic Programme of the CBD;
 - preparing timely management plans to prevent, reduce and minimize negative impacts to coastal zones;
 - promoting [ecosystem approach and /nature-based solutions] to maintain or restore the natural capacity of the coast to adapt to changes;
 - assisting in mainstreaming coastal adaptation into appropriate institutional and policy frameworks;
 - participating in awareness raising, stakeholder engagement and capacity building for addressing coastal risks;
 - promoting the use of best practices and best available data, information and tools.
- c) Achieve **good governance** among actors involved in and/or related to coastal zones by:
- (Oliviero and Matteo volunteered to work on this.)**
- ensuring appropriate governance schemes, in particular cross-sectorial and multi-level institutional coordination and proper participation of all stakeholders in a transparent decision-making process;
 - ensuring coherence and complementarity of all strategies, policies, plans, initiatives, planning processes and funding at all levels affecting coastal zones: to this end, further strengthening cooperation among components of the BC system and coordinated efforts, ensuring synergies with other related strategic documents and promoting integration and harmony among coastal environment, relevant socio-economic activities and human communities living in the coastal zones;
 - promoting appropriate coordination between the various authorities competent for both the marine and the land parts of coastal zones in the different administrative services, at all relevant levels;
 - organising the acquisition, exchange and use of the best available relevant information and data based in particular on Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles;

- promoting consistency and coherence of ICZM at regional and sub-regional level ensuring trans-boundary cooperation where appropriate;
- ensuring cooperation with all relevant/competent international and regional Organizations.

IV Ecosystem-based Management for Good Environmental Status and Sustainable Development (Artt. 8-15 and 22-24)

(Domitille volunteered to shorten this chapter.)

The essence of the ecosystem-based management approach is to address the coastal zone as a continuum made of land and sea space, preserving the integrity of its ecosystems and dealing with the processes that occur in them and influence on them in an integrated manner. This approach aims at ensuring sustainable use of natural resources and quality of life of coastal populations. Ecosystem-based management is inherently based on an integrated approach where the focus is on the ability to understand and address cumulative risks and effects on the natural world arising from human activities.

At the same time ICZM has evolved as the most appropriate approach to manage potential conflicts among various sectoral policies (conflicts for space, resources, infrastructures...), as well as between maritime and terrestrial policies by ensuring the integration dimension and the coherent governance of planning and management of the coastal zones and their activities on either land or sea parts. It provides for better coherence, maximizes synergies and increases coordinated implementation of sectoral policies with a view to ensuring the integrity of ecosystems, as well as adequately addressing land-sea interactions (LSI) and ensuring the compatibility of land and sea uses by implementing MSP and clarifying its links with ICZM.

The CRF for ICZM is meant to facilitate the development and harmonisation of policies and measures needed to ensure the sustainable use and management of coastal zones, ensuring that the economic activities related to coastal zones minimise the use of natural resources and are adapted to the fragile nature of CZ - in order to protect from pollution and to preserve the coastal natural habitats, landscapes, natural resources and ecosystems and cultural heritage, raise awareness, enhance education, training and research, in compliance and synergy with international and regional legal instruments (ICZM Protocol-Part II, Artt. 8-15)

Applying ICZM principles also allows for the integration of environmental protection into spatial planning and economic development i.e. the integration of policies and establishment of frameworks for cooperation among all concerned stakeholders. Their active participation, raised awareness and sufficient capacity are the best guarantees of the needed change of behaviour towards environment: by acting on the source of pollution through the application of the prevention and precautionary principles it is possible to cope with the pollution before it happens, this being the crucial dimension for attaining sustainability. These challenges should be handled by applying the integrated approach to the management of coastal zones that helps control urbanization; preserve the integrity of coastal and marine ecosystems; and guide towards a sustainable use of natural and cultural resources.

As a strategic process involving all sectors and all governance levels, ICZM contributes to sustainable management of the coastal zones by ensuring coordination, complementarity and synergy of the sectoral policies applied in them. It provides a framework in which the sectoral policies affecting the coastal zones can be brought together and harmonised, thus preventing overlaps or contradictions, or filling the gaps among them and contributing to the rationalization of effort, resources and time.

Disclaimer: add text and put the illustration of Plan Bleu

IV.1 Reaching Good Environmental Status through ICZM (Artt. 5 and 6)

The objective of reaching Good Environmental Status (GES) of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast has been adopted by UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention as the ultimate objective to be reached by CPs, which have committed to apply the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) as an overarching principle.

EcAp can be defined as the integrated management of land, water and living resources that provides sustainable delivery of ecosystem services in an equitable way. It goes beyond examining single issues, species, or ecosystem functions in isolation. Instead, it recognizes ecological systems for what they are: rich mixes of elements that interact with each other continuously. This is particularly important for coasts and seas, where the nature of water keeps systems and functions highly connected.

Therefore, achieving Ecological Objectives (EOs) and GES requires an integrated approach in order to address combined pressures and cumulative impacts in coastal and marine areas. This approach is actually embedded in the ICZM Protocol, which provides for reaching GES with regard to the targets of all three clusters of EOs: Pollution and eutrophication; Biodiversity and fisheries; and Coast and hydrography. These are all crucial for achieving GES, and tools used by ICZM contribute to a more holistic approach looking at the integrity of coastal ecosystems.

Include Matrix of interactions (only the part with EOs) validated by the EcAp people. (See separate paper containing proposals by Italy and CU – needs further discussion at the WG meeting.)

IV.2 Addressing Land-Sea Interactions (Artt. 3, 5, 6, 9 and 22)

Understanding and addressing land-sea interactions (LSI) is crucial to ensure sustainable management and development of coastal areas and coherent planning of land and sea-based activities. Although there is not a single and recognized definition of LSI, land-sea interactions can be defined as “interactions in which land-based natural phenomena or human activities have an influence or an impact on the marine environment, resources and activities and *vice versa* interactions in which marine natural phenomena or human activities have an influence or an impact on the terrestrial environment, resources and activities”. As a consequence of the above definition, three main levels of LSI should be taken on board:

- Interactions related to land-sea natural processes. Implication of such processes on coastal management and planning of alternatives for land and marine activities have to be identified and assessed, considering their dynamic nature. At the same time, human activities can interfere with natural processes, impacting on the coastal and marine environment. The analysis of expected impacts of land and marine activities – within the SEA framework – should include the evaluation of their effects on LSI natural processes and the potential consequent impacts on natural resources and ecosystem services.
- Interactions among land and sea uses and activities. Almost all maritime uses need support installations on land, while several uses existing mostly on the land part expand their activities to the sea as well. These interactions have to be identified and mapped, assessing their cumulative impacts, benefits and potential conflicts and synergies. Interactions between land and sea activities can extend further beyond the coastal zones, for example in terms of long-distance connections related to transport and energy distribution or fish migration up-stream and stemming need for blue corridors. Although the primary focus is on costs, identification and mapping of those wider connections and assessment of their environmental, social and economic implications is also important. It is important to note that the Art.9 of the Protocol requires that CPs »shall accord specific attention to economic

activities that require immediate proximity to the sea». This is also one of the general principles of ICZM (Art.6 para g).

- Interactions of planning processes and plans for land and sea areas. It is important to ensure that legal, administrative, consultation and technical processes are coordinated (and hopefully linked) to avoid unnecessary duplications, incoherence, conflicts, waste of resources and/or excessive demand of stakeholders' efforts. The challenge is to plan and manage inshore and offshore activities in harmonized manner considering the functional integrity of the land-sea continuum. This also implies allocation of land space (and related infrastructure and services) to some maritime activities (and/or the allocation of maritime space to some land-based activities. Finally, the achievement of this coherence also requires alignment/integration of the different approaches, methodologies and tools applied respectively on land and at sea.

LSI need to be addressed at a variety of spatial scales: (i) local scale to deal with specific issues and implement related actions, (ii) sub-national and national scales where strategies and plans can orientate specific LSI-related efforts, (iii) sub-regional where transnational cooperation may produce a common strategy for guiding national LSI efforts and address transboundary issues.

Climate change events and the consequent sea-level rise will influence on all three levels of LSI previously defined. The coastal zone is actually on the frontline for these future climate challenges that humans will meet. Land-sea natural processes cannot be taken into consideration separately from the changes induced by humans in the nature. Sea level rise, extreme weather events and storm surges are expected to generate additional pressures on the shoreline resulting in alternation of the shoreline and increase of coastal erosion. Sea level rise will impact the underground as well. Salinization of coastal aquifers around the Mediterranean due to water extraction and other human activities, which is already experienced, will amplify with the rise of the sea level. Other effects of climate change, like the increase of the temperature, will impact on the whole ecosystem, causing draughts and changes in the soil conditions. Increase of sea temperature, changes in salinity and acidity will also impact marine life. Climate change impacts will affect land and sea activities as well. Some of the expected challenges are: problems with the use of harbour and marina installations, docking of ships, challenges for aquaculture posed by variation of sea temperature and salinity, aggravation of the weather conditions for tourism, etc. Finally, planning processes and plans for LSI should necessarily take into account expected climate change. This means that the processes and plans should adapt to the increase of uncertainty and to the higher likelihood of the extreme weather events which may change the course of the plan's realization.

Include figure from the CF for MSP on Links between EcAp, MSP and ICZM principles and add reference to it.

(Domitille volunteered to shorten and add on other risks and hazard e.g. erosion, etc. Greece volunteered to develop on other hazards including the technical ones.)

V Tools and Instruments to Implement the CRF (Artt. 16-22)

ICZM is a long-term strategic process that implies the availability and proper use of a variety of operational tools and instruments to ensure sustainable use and management of coastal zones, ensuring that needs for human settlement and economic activities minimise the impacts on the natural resources and protect the fragile natural habitats, ecosystems, landscapes and cultural heritage from pollution and other types of degradation including those caused by natural risks and hazards. This refers primarily to the tools and instruments quoted in the ICZM Protocol itself, many of which already have certain "history and tradition" of use by the CPs, while others still need to be developed, explained, tested and verified.

Some of these tools and instruments are of major importance for implementing the ICZM Protocol but also for implementing other important policies and strategies in the Mediterranean coastal zones, in particular those adopted at the sub-regional level.

Among these instruments, the following ones are of particular importance and relevance for the implementation of the CRF:

V.1 Monitoring of environment and activities (Artt. 8-21 and 25-29)

There is a need to monitor in a consistent way the environment of the coastal zone (both terrestrial and marine) *and* the human activities (coastal or not) that are likely to have an impact on it (individually or cumulatively):

- monitoring of marine *environment* should be based on the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP)¹;
- monitoring of terrestrial environment should be based on the best available experiences in implementing national monitoring programmes of the status of coastal environment (terrestrial biodiversity, coastal waters, air, soil), that is aligned with relevant UN MEAs, and where appropriate, EEA's requirement, including Directives of European Commission (e.g. Habitat and Bird Directives, WDF, etc.)
- monitoring of marine and terrestrial environment should take into account the assessment of anthropogenic pressures (both at source and at sea) of human activities (land and maritime coastal activities) and their impacts that prevent the achievement of good environmental status (GES) of marine environment and environmental protection of terrestrial environment. Management of human activities aimed at reduction of the pressures, including their impacts on landscapes, cultural values, social patterns, has to be based on information collected through monitoring of marine and terrestrial environment, and their assessment as appropriate, including binding implementation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Impact Assessment (SEA);
- monitoring information should be accessible to all relevant stakeholders.

To this aim and according to Artt. 8-21 and Artt.25-29 of the ICZM Protocol, the CPs are encouraged to accomplish the following with the support of UNEP/MAP and its Components, as appropriate:

- use, strengthen and create appropriate mechanisms for regular monitoring and observation of the state and evolution of their coastal zones, of the resources and activities, governance systems, institutions, legislation and planning that may influence coastal zones, taking all necessary means to ensure public access to these information;
- cooperate on definition and use of coastal management, resource use and economic activities indicators, taking into account existing ones, to ensure sustainable use of coastal zones and to reduce pressures that exceed their carrying capacity;

¹ Monitoring and assessment of the sea and coast, based on scientific knowledge, are the indispensable basis for the management of human activities, in view of promoting the sustainable use of the seas and coasts and conserving marine ecosystems and their sustainable development. COP 19 in 2016 agreed on the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria (IMAP) in its Decision IG. 22/7 which lays down the principles for an integrated monitoring, which will, for the first time, monitor biodiversity and non-indigenous species, pollution and marine litter, coast and hydrography in an integrated manner. The IMAP implementation is in line with Art. 12 of the Barcelona Convention and several monitoring related provisions under different protocols with the main objective to assess GES. Its backbone are the 27 common indicators as presented in decision IG 22/7: Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme.

- implement appropriate assessments on the use and management of coastal zones and ensure the results are utilized for formulation of adequate policy responses;
- exchange scientific and technical information and experience, data and good practices, enhance provision of scientific and technical assistance through, *inter alia*, training of scientific, technical and administrative personnel, coordination of research programmes and carrying out of activities of common interest (such as ICZM demonstration projects), within the Mediterranean coastal zone network;
- exchange the best available results and experiences with Regional Seas in implementation of the integrated monitoring and assessment programmes of marine environment, EEA in implementation of integrated environmental assessments and European Commission and EU Member States in implementation of the MSFD, as well as other relevant EU Directives;
- define the indicators of the development of economic activity to ensure sustainable use of coastal zones and reduce pressures that exceed their carrying capacity.

V.2 Environmental Assessments (Artt. 19 and 29)

(Need to shorten the description of SEA.)

Environmental assessment i.e. SEA at strategic level for policies, plans and programmes, and EIA at operational level for individual projects and activities, are the frontline tools for the achievement of GES and sustainable development.

The contribution that EIA makes to the development of decision-making is widely acknowledged, and practically all of the Mediterranean countries apply this tool to large-scale development proposals. However, the room for progress is present, particularly in relation to the impact of climate change. Compared to EIA, SEA is still less developed and used although its importance at a higher decision-making level for policies, strategies, plans and programmes is recognised by all the riparian countries. Even when applied, SEA takes multiple forms and employs diverse methods and procedures, sometimes without adequate legal framework and institutional set-up, which results in not using the same SEA.

The application of EIA and SEA supports the implementation of ICZM principles (Art. 6 of the ICZM Protocol) including the need to take into account all elements of natural and cultural systems in an integrated manner; the application of the ecosystems approach to planning; the timely participation in decision making and ensuring that economic activities minimise the use of natural resources and take into account the needs of future generations. SEA can be introduced through ICZM as an important integral part of the planning process, providing a mechanism for the strategic consideration of environmental effects, assessment of different planning options, and identification and evaluation of mitigation measures, thus ensuring the environmental sustainability.

SEA is an instrument that informs the process of formulation of public plans and policies. It is considered as an early indicator for potential significant environmental impacts that may result at the planning stage and thus pre-empt these from being flagged at the individual development stage. Through the SEA process plans and policies addressing the coastal zone, whether geographically such as coastal strategies, or thematically such as plans for aquaculture development, fisheries management or tourism, can incorporate a policy framework that provides strategic guidance to decision makers and the private sector to steer projects in more appropriate locations. The SEA process is also an instrument that supports transparency and accountability as it provides an opportunity for the public to participate in the process, to comment on the SEA findings and finally be aware of the decisions taken concerning the approved plans and policies.

In many instances, it is at the project stage that enough information is available to identify more clearly the potential environmental impacts that may arise. Decisions on whether a project is to be approved or not require sufficient information on the likely positive and negative impacts that may arise as a result of the project taking place, together with clear recommendations to reduce and or mitigate against identified negative environmental impacts. The EIA process incorporates an element of public consultation therefore providing opportunity for broader participation and transparency in decision making.

Both processes seek to identify alternative options and the consideration of cumulative impacts, encouraging policy makers and decision takers to look at different policy and technological options and reflect on future scenarios that may result from approved plans and projects. The management of coastal zones is dependent on the application of similar long-term approaches in order to safeguard healthy ecosystems particularly within a changing climate.

Within a transboundary context, the application of SEA and EIA helps to foster co-operation between neighbouring States as both processes allow for consultations to be carried out when potential significant issues of a transboundary nature are identified through the evaluation process. Through this process the plan and policy formulation process and project approval procedure are acknowledging that natural ecosystems have no boundaries. As a result, whilst respecting national jurisdiction, the SEA and EIA can assist in fostering co-operation so that national plans and policies and projects undertaken have a higher potential to contribute towards regional efforts at safeguard a regional sea like the Mediterranean.

The methodology adopted for SEAs and EIAs have similar steps, including screening, scoping, assessment report and consultations, a number of differences exist. With EIAs, baseline environmental surveys are undertaken to generate the most up-to-date information on the environmental status; for SEAs, the most recent environmental information would be sufficient. For significant impacts identified through EIAs mitigation measures may include the need for further monitoring if the project is approved. For plans and policies, the SEA needs to identify a set of monitoring indicators to evaluate the implementation of the approved plans and policies. These may be linked directly to the EcAp based EOs and related targets. Whereas EIAs are normally carried out once a clear idea of the proposed project is identified, it is recommended that SEAs are carried out iteratively with the plan or policy formulation process to enable changes to be made before the actual documentation is issued as a consultation draft.

For these tools to support ICZM it would be ideal to maintain a database of assessments undertaken and reports prepared with a view to monitor the type and degree of development related pressures on the coast; inform new environmental assessments to prevent duplication of efforts particularly where data is already available and support other initiatives particularly EcAP implementation through the data collected and decisions taken. Such databases may be available at national and regional level, to enhance knowledge at the regional and facilitate transboundary co-operation.

In the context of the CRF, the following needs to be stressed:

(EIA for MSP and LSI is important – include a bullet on that.)

- SEA forms an important part of the EcAp implementation;
- A transboundary SEA process, including transboundary consultation, should be activated when a policy, strategy, plan or programme is expected to have significant transboundary environmental effects;
- SEA should assess impact on both land and sea, consider also mutual impacts of maritime activities on land and terrestrial activities on sea, based on most relevant LSI identified;

- SEA should take into account new and emerging issues in particular climate change and its impacts.

To this aim and according to Artt. 19 and 29 of the ICZM Protocol, the CPs are encouraged to accomplish the following with the support of UNEP/MAP and its Components, as appropriate:

- Implement environmental assessments, taking into considerations cumulative impacts on the coastal zones and their carrying capacity. These may be based on the use of EcAp EOs and related indicators, as described in the methodology recently developed and tested by PAP/RAC²: by using EcAp indicators, the methodology enables assessing the value of marine and coastal natural environment as well as the level of the existing pressures on it. In addition, the methodology allows to identify spatial impacts of those pressures. It also enables the identification of the level of vulnerability of marine and coastal environment to the future (planned) activities by looking at the existing pressures, the extent of expected change and the capacity of the environment to adapt to the change. Such an approach enables identifying most fragile and valuable areas that need to be preserved from future degradation and, therefore, the locations where activities need to be planned carefully.

(There are cases of transboundary consultations, for instance between Croatia and Italy, and France and Italy – Ivan to check.)

- Take on board LSI in environmental assessments (including the transboundary ones), in particular interactions and impacts that can alter the equilibrium of marine and terrestrial areas due to natural processes (such as coastal erosion, flooding, seismic events, saline intrusion ...) as well as mutual impacts of maritime activities on land and terrestrial activities on sea that can alter the environmental stability and decrease the resilience of natural systems. Such interactions between land and sea might therefore involve complex interactions among environmental, social, economic and governance elements. Assessing such interactions should be done in the appropriate geographical scope, taking into considerations temporal dynamic of interactions as well.
- Acknowledging the complexity of the environmental assessment processes, in particular in transboundary context, adopt as means of cooperation guidelines on the procedures for notification, exchange of information and consultation at all stages, to be developed with the assistance of the CU and its Components. These guidelines should address the abovementioned issues (GES and related targets, LSI aspects including coastal erosion, cumulative impact and vulnerability assessment, carrying capacity) as well as issues such as climate change effects, life cycle analysis, etc.

V.3 Coordination of planning processes and governance mechanisms (Artt. 6, 7, 14, 20, 28 and 29)

The establishment and smooth functioning of a multi-level governance mechanism is fundamental for achieving complex and ambitious goals of ICZM as it sets the scene for efficient management and cooperation. Success will depend on mutual feeding between international- and national-level cooperation frames as well as forging partnerships and linking local-scale initiatives to higher-level policies. Achieving a balance between strategic and local concerns is perhaps one of the most difficult issues in coastal zone management. Finally, a new challenge for all planning initiatives is to adapt to the new, considerably higher level of uncertainties brought by natural hazards, in particular climate change impacts on coastal zones.

² The methodology was tested in Bokakotorska Bay, Montenegro (<http://msp-platform.eu/practices/ecap-base-marine-vulnerability-assessment-basis-msp-montenegro>).

To achieve the objectives of ICZM and facilitate integration through effective planning, there is a need for cross-sectorally organised institutional coordination of the various administrative authorities competent in coastal zones, covering both the marine and the land parts. There is also a need to put in place appropriate governance schemes allowing adequate and timely participation in transparent decision-making of local populations and stakeholders concerned.

- To this aim and according to Artt. 6d-e, 7, 14, 20, 28 & 29 of the ICZM Protocol, the CPs are encouraged to accomplish the following with the support of UNEP/MAP and its Components, as appropriate: establish administrative schemes and processes facilitating horizontal (sectoral) and vertical (among different geographic scales and administrative levels) coordination of the ICZM implementation (such as intersectoral coordination bodies, joint working and training groups, etc.), adopt legal forms of promotion/setting out of such processes such as regulations and decrees at the national level or memoranda of agreement at the regional or sub-regional levels, participate in networking for ICZM in order to create the critical mass of people, experience and knowledge for its efficient implementation;
- ensure the introduction and use of appropriate land policy tools in the process of coastal zone planning;
- coordinate as appropriate, national coastal strategies, plans and programmes related to contiguous coastal zones;; and
- ensure notification, exchange of information and consultation in cases of [transboundary environmental assessment] [environmental assessments with transboundary implications]

V.4 Marine Spatial Planning (Artt. 3, 5, 6, 10 and 11)

(Seda volunteered to prepare a text on other aspects of MSP.)

Spatial planning of the coastal zone is considered an essential instrument of the implementation of the ICZM Protocol. One of the main objective of ICZM is to "facilitate, through the rational planning of activities, the sustainable development of coastal zones by ensuring that the environment and landscapes are taken into account in harmony with economic, social and cultural development" (Art. 5). Planning is recalled also in other articles of the Protocol, as in the case articles dealing with the protection of wetlands, estuaries and marine habitats (Art. 10) or the protection of coastal landscape (Art. 11).

Although MSP is not expressly mentioned in the ICZM Protocol, the geographical scope of the Protocol and the definition of the coastal zone given in its Art. 3 include both the land and the sea. It follows that planning should be equally applied to both components and that planning of marine space is already taken on board.

Given the comprehensive approach taken in spatial planning as a discipline, to consider multiple uses in long term plans and decisions taken to allocate the most appropriate space for different uses, its application is considered to contribute significantly towards the implementation of ICZM along the terrestrial part of the coastal zone. The marine component of the coastal zone has traditionally not been affected by the same quantity and variety of pressures as the terrestrial part, with the result that for many years the management tools adopted have been sectoral ones mainly addressing transport, fisheries, infrastructure and environment protection. As a result, in coastal areas where spatial planning has been limited to the landward side, synergies in governance with a view to reduce environmental impacts and user conflicts at sea and along the lands and sea interface continue to be a challenge. Where spatial planning is extended to include the sea, regulatory procedures have improved co-ordination amongst the different regulators and also supported the application of tools such as

environmental assessments. Measures taken through MSP for data collection and management, environmental monitoring, plan making, policy formulation, decision taking and enforcement, enhance the potential for considering land and sea interactions within an integrated approach, within a given territory.

The context of the specific coastal zone, in terms of existing regulatory frameworks, existing and predicted levels of pressures from human activities and the environmental characteristics usually guide how MSP is introduced. Different options exist where MSP can either be developed as a stand-alone discipline or as an extension to an existing regulatory mechanism ranging from terrestrial planning, environmental protection, fisheries management or transport management. The ultimate decision should ideally be guided by the aspiration to achieve the strongest co-ordination framework at a national level as possible, to achieve the objectives of the ICZM Protocol.

In this perspective MSP can be considered the main tool/process for the implementation of ICZM in the marine part of the coastal zone and specifically for its sustainable planning and management. Art. 3 of the ICZM Protocol also defines the geographic scope of the operational application of MSP that shall focus on the marine area within the territorial sea of a country. Requirement to take land-sea interactions into account is specified in Art. 6.

Also, MSP is considered as one of the tools to implement the EcAp as a strategic approach towards sustainable development in the region that integrates all of its three components (environmental, social and economic) and guarantee that they are in balance. The relationship between EcAp and MSP is a two-way relation, as the second can contribute to the overall objective of achieving the GES, also through the identification of the appropriate location and intensity of maritime activities and strengthen the related regulatory framework.

To this aim and according to Artt. 3 and 6 of the ICZM Protocol, the CPs are encouraged to accomplish the following with the support of UNEP/MAP and its Components, as appropriate:

- better address planning and management issues in the marine part of coastal zone;
- support implementation of ICZM in the marine part of the coastal zone by applying MSP with a strong focus on LSI and in line with general framework of the BC and its Protocols, in particular with regard to:
 - reducing marine-based source of pressure affecting the marine environment through spatial efficiency and control of temporal distribution of human activities;
 - reducing conflicts between maritime uses and protection of areas with high naturalistic and ecological relevance;
 - identifying areas to be protected in order to preserve processes and functions that are essential in achieving the GES;
 - identifying environmental hotspot areas at sea where specific measures are necessary;
 - avoiding unsustainable uses in protected areas and identify synergies that can provide win-to-win solutions for socio-economic development and environmental protection; **(Need for more technical text in this bullet.)**
 - identifying elements ensuring connectivity among relevant habitats.

V.5 Land policy (Art. 20)

(Domitille to shorten and extract recommendations.)

Within the scope of ICZM and taking into account Land-Sea interactions, it is essential to coordinate both land and marine planning. The outcome of an efficient ICZM policy is to achieve both land and marine planning in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.

Land policy is one of the tools to implement land-use planning. Land policy defines rights of ownership, rules and principles on land and the natural resources it contains; legal frameworks on access and usage; validation and transfer of these rights of ownership. Therefore, land policy plays a crucial role in land-use planning. Applied to ICZM, land policy contributes to planning land activities, maintain unoccupied natural areas, and facilitate public access to the coast and the sea. It is a relevant tool to limit coastal environment degradation due to urbanization and occupation of coastal areas by human activities development. In fact, the fragilities of marine and coastal environments are real and part of this heritage is now threatened. These environments face multiple pressures: pollution, destruction of habitats, invasive species, overexploitation of natural resources, worsened by climate change. However, marine and coastal environments and ecosystems provide a variety of ecological functions: primary production, food chains, support for biodiversity, geothermal cycles, gas exchange, recycling, water purification, sediment transport, etc. These ecosystems provide a number of services and resources not only for certain activities (fishing, shellfish farming, tourism, etc.) or the protection of people and property, but also for human well-being and health. **(move to another place)**

Land policy is also a tool very efficient not only in term of territory planning but also to protect coastal landscapes, islands and cultural heritage.

As pressures and pollutions on marine environment mainly come from the land, land policy contributes to limit these pressures at the root. Therefore, land policy contributes to both terrestrial and marine coastal environment conservation, and when applying land policy instruments, it is important to take into account land-sea interactions. There are different kinds of land policy instruments and measures. Indicative analyses and good practices on the most specific instruments are detailed below.

- **Acquisition**

Land acquisition is one of the instruments to preserve coastal natural areas. Within the scope of ICZM, it is advisable to facilitate amicable acquisition procedures for the benefit of public or private organizations in charge of the sustainable conservation of coastal areas, by pre-emption, land donation, and expropriation if necessary. The advantage of land acquisition is that it provides a strong protection of a territory. Indeed, regulatory measures for coastal zone protection are not always a sufficient guarantee to ensure long-term protection and active management of these areas. Land acquisition is therefore relevant for areas that require a durable protection and management actions (welcoming visitors, strengthening resilience, creation of buffer zone to face immersion risks etc.). It has to be used in the scope of a local planning strategy accommodating development, population and environment protection.

It is recommended to conduct a diagnosis of sensitive coastal zones threatened by urbanization and climate change on the whole coastal zones in order to identify areas to acquire and to design an acquisition strategy in addition to land-use planning activities. The main challenges for the implementation of acquisition mechanisms is its funding resources and establishment of efficient administrative and legal procedures. Funding will be developed in part V.6. Regarding procedures, it is recommended to facilitate as much as possible public land acquisition aiming at coastal areas conservation. This can be notably done with the pre-emptive right. The pre-emptive right is the faculty granted to a natural person or a legal entity to replace the purchaser (or the donator in some cases) of a property that its owner has put up for sale (or donated). Applied to ICZM, the pre-emptive right allows public authorities aiming at acquiring sensitive/ coastal zones with the objective of sustainably managing them to take priority over the acquisition procedures.

In case the coastal zone is already public property, it remains important to give a specific status to sensitive coastal zones by assigning land to organizations in charge of conservation; or by designing management documents contributing to their conservation and sustainable management.

- **Concession**

Concession is a land policy instrument that allows a land owner to grant the management of a specific site to a beneficiary (the concessionary) in return for usage fees. The beneficiary is in charge of implementing long-term management activities. Concession also enables a State or municipalities to authorize provisionally on their public domain a private occupation, in return for fees. This occupation is considered as a concession when it aims at achieving a public service mission. This practice³ is also a way to raise funds (via the concession fees) that can be reinvested in ICZM activities. This kind of contractual relation also enables to consider a non-permanent occupation on areas potentially vulnerable to immersion or coastal erosion risks, in the perspective of their temporary touristic or economic valorization.

- **Separation between ownership and right of use**

The right that a person exercises over a property is divided into two distinct rights. The bare ownership is the right to dispose of the good, to transform it or to destroy it. Usufruct is the right to use the property or to collect its income (to collect the rent when rented). When these two rights are exercised by different people, it is a separation of ownership. Dismemberment of ownership is a potential instrument for ICZM land policy: a land owner consents to a loss of a part of the rights he exercises on his land. For example, to renounce to build or to destroy natural or patrimonial elements of the site in exchange of compensations (financial compensations, or rights to build on other areas). These deliberate abstentions can also be combined to obligations of actions to ensure the management of the coastal site. It can be considered as voluntary limitation to the exercise of ownership. There are different kinds of practices for dismemberment of ownership, including easement.

Easement is an obligation imposed to a land owner for the benefit of another land owner. It is a real estate right, it concerns a good and not a person, therefore it is transferred from owner to owner and is mentioned in the act of sale or donation of the property. There are different types of easements: legal easements (the law provides for charging a land owner of a specific servitude), natural easement (due to the location of the property) and conventional (two owners agree together to establish an easement). Easement can be applied to ICZM. For example, in order to facilitate the access of public to the coast, an easement can be designed to establishment a right of way along the coastline on private properties bordering maritime public domain.

Within the easement mechanisms, there is a more specific conservation easement derived from the common law system. It consists of the conclusion of a legal act between a voluntary land owner and a third party (local authority; environment conservation organization etc.). Its objective is to legally exclude an area considered as natural habitat or landscape, to avoid its artificialization or building. This instrument is a good mechanism for a land owner to protect his land against real estate lust, to limit urbanization impacts or any other activity threatening the area. This conventional easement enables the sustainable conservation of private lands.

- **Land Stewardship**

Land Stewardship is a strategy that involves landowners and users in the conservation of nature and landscape, with the support of civil society. Through voluntary agreements between land owners/users and land stewardship organizations (also known as land trusts), land stewardship enables to conserve,

³ This public domain concession is regularly practiced by the SPNL in Lebanon.

manage and restore the environment. The stewardship approach is an especially helpful concept in the many instances where sustainable management — rather than absolute protection or preservation — of natural resources is the objective. In the Mediterranean region this instrument is used for example by Catalonia who developed a network for the land stewardship⁴.

The most relevant instrument of land stewardship is the voluntary agreement for nature and landscape conservation between a land owner and a land trust organization. This organization can be a foundation, association, local authority. Its exact terms and conditions are variable and negotiable between the parties involved, and are to be tailored upon the characteristics of the property and the objectives of each party. It is recommended that the voluntary agreements should be established for a long term.

There are three level of land stewardship agreements:

- Management support agreement: the land owner keeps on managing the land, but commits to conservation-oriented actions. Land stewardship organization supports the landowner by providing advice on conservation and management directions.
- Management transfer agreements: the land owner keeps its property rights but the stewardship organization is responsible for the management of the land. They agree on which actions will be developed by the stewardship organization.
- Property transfer agreements: the land owner transmits his property (or part of it) to a land stewardship organization, which commits itself to developing responsible management of the property. Transfer of the property does not always mean that a stewardship organization actually buys the land, donation of private land to stewardship organization can be usual in some countries, and it guarantees a long term protection.

It is important that the land policy instruments and mechanisms described above are applied in coordination with spatial planning. Land policy also has to be applied in coherence with marine spatial planning, as land policy is an essential tool to limit at the root pressures impacting marine environment and coming from the land. Furthermore, preserving natural coastal areas by implementing land-use instruments is an efficient and economical solution to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts.

In order to strengthen land policy for sustainable spatial planning, it is necessary to elaborate a land register, or an equivalent land tool, that provides accurate and mapped land property information; and to couple it with relevant knowledge on occupation and usage of coast line areas.

When conducting these land policies and coastal planning processes, it is also recommended to support continuous scientific observation of coastal zones' evolutions, in particular observations and climate change impacts scenarios; in order to support decision-making in coastal planning and development. Finally, in the scope of Mediterranean regional cooperation on ICZM, contracting parties commit to exchange experience and good practices on land policy instruments and mechanisms, in particular through a network of coastal zone management agencies.

V.6 Economic, financial and fiscal instruments (Art. 21)

(Domitille to shorten and extract recommendations. Marina will assist.)

Sustainable funding of actions reducing pressures affecting the Mediterranean coastal areas is essential to effectively implement sustainable management of coastal zones and achieve a good environmental status in the region.

⁴ Xarxa de Custodià del Territori (XCT)

Funds for ICZM are mainly available through national governmental budgets; donors programs; philanthropic voluntary contributions; partnerships with private sectors; fiscal instruments (including taxes and subsidies) and market mechanisms (payment for ecosystem services for example). These sources of sustainable funding should not only contribute to develop and establish durably ICZM initiatives but also contribute to maintain and promote other investments.

Regarding sustainable funding of ICZM, it is recommended to develop national and local strategies identifying actions to be funded in priority and their estimated budgets. It is also important to design monitoring tools to identify available funds resources and programmes. These monitoring tools could be shared at the regional scale. Regarding funding from programmes and donors, it is necessary to strengthen Mediterranean stakeholder's capacities regarding financial proposals design and financial monitoring as it can be complex. It is also important to make the funded activities durable and efficient. It is recommended that conservation stakeholders and the MAP system should lobby donors in order to orientate their funding programmes towards ICZM activities in the Mediterranean.

One of the most efficient mechanism to ensure sustainable funding for ICZM and to reduce the dependence on external funds is to work towards a better redistribution of public revenues for coastal management funding. For example, public revenues from public maritime domain usage fees or public properties fees could be allocated in priority to financing activities contributing to sustainable management of coastal zones

- **Environnemental fiscal instruments for coastal zones**

The establishment of environmental fiscal instruments in coastal areas is a way to raise funds to achieve ICZM objectives by supporting long term conservation actions. These fiscal instruments have two different purposes. Some instruments only have a financial objective; they are created to generate funds for public budgets. In this case, it is recommended that these funds should be redistributed to fund ICZM activities. Some other fiscal instruments have a strategic objective regarding stakeholders' practices. They are created to influence economic stakeholders and people's behavior by establishing incentivizing or dissuasive instruments.

Regarding taxes generating incomes, there are a few Mediterranean examples of practices of redistribution towards ICZM actions. The establishment of a tax on building construction work that is redistributed to local public authorities to implement land policies contributing to coastal areas conservation⁵. The allocation of the income of a tax on buildings to local authorities' budgets to fund the collect of domestic and industrial waste. The allocation of fishing license fees or tourist tax to environmental budgets of local authorities⁶. The decision to allocate incomes generated by a tax to a specific budget is of course a political decision, however ICZM stakeholders can orientate these decisions by identifying fiscal incomes that could be redistributed and identifying relevant actions to fund.

In the scope of ICZM, the establishment of a tax allocated to an activity having a negative impact on the coastal zone corresponds to the polluter pays principle. The objective is to contribute to the compensation of the damages made to the environment, or to internalize these external costs; and to bring the activity initial cost closer to the actual social cost of using the coastal area. This cost internalization can be applied to land and maritime economic activities, for example the establishment of a tax on building located in coastal areas, or a tax on economic activities polluting the coastal area and marine environment.

⁵ French example of the Regional Tax on sensitive natural areas

⁶ These two last examples are established in Morocco

Incentivizing or dissuasive tax are based on the principle that environmental negative externalities in economic activities require the intervention of public authorities to bring change of practices via the economic market. It can be challenging to evaluate the exact value of the environmental damage. The establishment of a dissuasive tax is supposed to increase the production cost; or the cost to damage natural areas (wetlands, sand dunes, etc.) to integrate these negative externalities and therefore reflect the actual value of these environmental negative externalities. The dissuasive tax aims at going beyond the cost internalization concept by steeply reducing pressures made by an activity, without actually prohibiting this activity.

Fiscal incentivizing instruments aim at supporting stakeholders in a change of practice in favor of the sustainable management of coastal areas. These economic incentivizing mechanisms are for example a decrease of tax, or subsidies, for renewable energies or organic farming. Fiscal incentive can also be established. For example, in the scope of land policy, the establishment of a fiscal incentive for donation of land located in coastal zone to public authorities. Another fiscal tool supporting land policy is the system of donations through tax compensation payment schemes (payment in kind), which can help to place land under public ownership, who can then transfer land to organizations in charge of their sustainable management.

In addition to the establishment of fiscal instruments to generate funds or support stakeholders' change of practice, it is also important to reduce or avoid fiscal mechanisms and subsidies that have a negative impact on the environment (damaging instruments). It mainly concerns fiscal and economic incentives aiming at promoting sectoral economic activities on the coastal areas that go against ICZM objectives. For example, fiscal instruments supporting natural areas destruction (subsidies for wetlands drainage).

However, in the process of reforming these damageable fiscal mechanisms, it must be taken into account that each damageable fiscal instrument or subsidy benefits to some local stakeholders who would be impacted by their potential reform. Fisheries subsidies are a good example to illustrate that tax exemption on activities having a negative impact on the environment are potential sources of environmental damages; but they also contribute to local employment and economic development. Several levers exist to find a balance between local economic development and coastal conservation, and to take strategic precautions rather than cutting these damaging mechanisms indistinctly. On one hand, it is recommended to establish measures to compensate redistributive effects of reforms aiming at cutting damaging subsidies. On the other hand, it is recommended to target fiscal instruments and subsidies that not only have negative impacts on the environment, but also do not achieve their initial socioeconomic objectives.

- **Consideration of ecosystem services**

Ecosystem services are the benefits people get from ecosystems without having to pay directly to obtain them. Coastal zones, both the terrestrial and marine part, provide many ecosystem services, that are however threatened by increasing pressures on the environment. The loss of these services would require to develop costly alternatives. It is therefore necessary to raise awareness of the economic value of ecosystem services. Investing now in the natural capital would enable to save money on the long term. Two instruments are relevant to take into account the ecosystem services value to better protect them: the cost-efficiency analysis and payment for ecosystem services.

Cost-efficiency analysis

The cost efficiency analysis is an economic evaluation tool used to evaluate the cost of actions to be implemented in order to achieve a certain objective. It compares the cost and efficiency of two alternative strategies. The objective is to study the contribution to the efficiency in the allocation of resource between the two strategies. In the scope of ICZM, this approach enables to define coastal

conservation objectives and to analyse the means to achieve it in the most efficient way. It is a tool that helps in decision-making to compare different projects, integrating financial and budget constraints, and to measure the future direct and indirect effect of public policies. The cost efficiency analysis also raises awareness of ecosystem services values. This method enables to optimize a policy by maximizing global benefits expected from a funding and targeting the most efficient measures to achieve ICZM objectives; thus reducing the costs of implementation of a public policy.

Cost-efficiency analysis can only provide indications to choose between different policies or projects when there is an obligation to choose at least one of them, it gives the possibility to classify these policies.

Payments for ecosystem services

Payments for ecosystem services (PES) are a specific kind of instruments, which consist of paying for the provision of a service: stakeholders are paid provided that an identified ecosystem services is maintained or restored. This financial mechanism is based on the beneficiary-payer principle. In the scope of ICZM, PES can be payments made to farmers or landowners who agreed to implement actions to manager their land providing an ecosystem services. Given that payment provides an incentive to land owners and managers, PSE are considered as a market mechanism, similar to taxes or subsidies. The aim is to support natural resources conservation with a specific objective (buffer zone for immersion or flooding, blue carbon sink, wetlands for natural water sanitation etc.).

The payment leads to the actual production of the ecosystem services, that otherwise would not have been produced. The service is additional to business as usual: the suppliers have to maintain or improve the good environmental status beyond what would have happened in the absence of payment. In order to ensure that the ecosystem service is maintain, the transaction requires regular verifications of the providers' actions to ensure that the service been paid is actually provided.

PSE must become vectors of an investment in change of practice. PSE shouldn't be simple tools of compensation of the opportunity costs for the renunciation of the practices in question.

It is recommended to avoid potential perverse effects of PSE, as they can foster inequalities of access to resources or income between users, in which case it is advisable to establish corrective measures to compensate these inequalities.

V.7 Training, communication and information (Artt. 14, 15, 25 and 26)

In order to contribute to the effective implementation of ICZM and to achieve a good environmental status in the Mediterranean region, it is important to establish training communication, awareness and research tools within CPs but also at a regional scale. These tools should be aimed at policymakers, economic stakeholders involved in land and marine activities, associations, universities and researchers, civil society. The content of the tools will have to be adapted depending on the capacities and knowledge of these different audiences regarding ICZM.

It is recommended to develop tools and trainings on ICZM good practices in the Mediterranean for local stakeholders. Trainings should in particular focus on economic benefits of coastal environment conservation, environmental assessment and conflicts management. Within these trainings and ICZM tools, it is essential to include components to facilitate the understanding and appropriation of the ICZM Protocol itself by Mediterranean stakeholders. As a legally binding tool, the Protocol is a strong advocacy tool in favor of ICZM that can be used by local stakeholders as an argument when facing criticism on the legitimacy of ICZM local policies.

In order to train future ICZM professionals, components on sustainable management of coastal and marine areas should be included in universities relevant programmes.

Contracting Parties should develop mechanisms to support multidisciplinary scientific research on ICZM and on the interactions between human activities, their impacts on coastal areas and potential innovative solutions to make economic practices more sustainable. The objective is to increase knowledge on ICZM in order to facilitate public and private decision making and to contribute to public information. Dissemination tools should also be developed to make results of these scientific research available to as many people as possible. **(Add on public consultations - Aarhus Convention).**

V.8 International Cooperation for the Implementation of the CRF (Artt. 16, 25-28)

The success of ICZM largely rely on the cooperation among CPs supported by international organisations, institutions and fora. Many instruments and tools are already provided or foreseen within the BC system, for which guidance should be provided in particular to enhance synergies among them for the purpose of implementing the ICZM Protocol and the CRF:

- a) In the field of monitoring and observation (Art. 16)
 - IMAP with GES set as the ultimate environmental goal to be reached by managing anthropogenic pressures on coastal and marine environment in an attempt to ensure sustainability;
 - Standardised and harmonised national coastal inventories, as well as reporting on state and evolution of coastal zones;
 - Reporting processes on the implementation of the BC and its Protocols;
 - Mediterranean coastal zone network including an ICZM Platform as a hub for ICZM-labelled initiatives, CAMP and other projects, information, documentation, as well as a networking device for decision- and policy-makers, practitioners and other ICZM-prone actors at all levels.
- b) In the field of ICZM/coastal strategies preparation and implementation (Art. 28)
 - Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), which rely on the BC system for its Objective 1 on Ensuring sustainable development in marine and coastal areas and its Strategic Direction 1.1. Strengthen implementation of and compliance with the Protocols of the BC and other regional policy instruments and initiatives supplemented by national approaches;
 - Regional strategies, plans and programmes for contiguous coastal zones, which will use SEA and EIA in transboundary context as one of the main tools (Art. 28).
- c) In the field of training and research, technical and scientific cooperation (Artt. 25-27)
 - MedOpen virtual training course as an excellent way of teaching on ICZM principles, objectives and ways of implementation;
 - Info/MAP platform for stocking and exchange of interoperable data and information;
 - Cooperation within research projects tailored for the need of multi-sectoral coastal zone management, focused on science-policy interface.

The timely and proactive involvement of international donors is also instrumental to the effective implementation of the above-mentioned activities. The donors should be involved in an early stage to ensure that the activities identified under the CRF will be framed in project proposals which would meet the specific requirements of each funding organization. In the recent past, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has been active in supporting the ICZM process in the region. This support has been renewed in 2016 through the approval of the "GEF Adriatic" project and of the "Mediterranean Sea

Programme (MedProgramme): Enhancing Environmental Security” currently under development. The European Commission expressed interest in supporting the ICZM process in coordination with MSP and IMAP. Efforts should be made to inform these and other donor organizations active in the Mediterranean to maximize their support to the CRF.

VI Implementation of the CRF

A considerable number of sectoral policies and related tools have been developed within the BC system addressing pollution, biodiversity, climate change, socio-economic aspects, marine litter, key economic sectors, etc. the implementation of which contributes to the protection of the coastal zone. The commitment made by the CPs with regard to these policies is supposed to be implemented in a coordinated manner. However, the sectoral approach still prevails in the mind of actors and stakeholders, and integration is seen as an additional burden instead of an added value that increases efficiency and allows the rationalisation of effort, time and money.

Aware of the need to provide a strategic framework for better coherence and efficiency of the BC system, at their 19th Ordinary Meeting (COP19) held in Athens in February 2016 the CPs adopted the UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021 (Decision IG.22/1) as a guiding document aimed at ensuring synergy, harmonisation of efforts and optimisation of the use of resources.

This objective has been fully reflected in the UNEP/MAP biennial Programmes of Work (PoW), in particular through its Cross-cutting Theme 1 on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) as “a transversal policy, with strategic options, plans and management measures, which can integrate and reflect on the same coastal geographic unit (with its terrestrial and marine parts) all thematic policies and horizontal dimensions, encompassing development measures, environmental protection, SCP, adaptation to climate change, etc.”.

Given the definition of the coastal zone in the ICZM Protocol, almost all other Protocols of the BC are related in one or the other way to it. Thus, ICZM can and should provide support to the implementation of several of these Protocols, and therefore the relevant objectives and provisions of these Protocols should be taken into account in all ICZM related activities. *In view of maximizing synergies with other policies, ICZM activities should also take into consideration, on an exceptional basis, some technical guidelines adopted by the Contracting Parties, which do not have the same legally binding character as the Protocols and Regional Plans, but provide guidance and obligations, as it is the case of four guidelines approved in the framework of the Dumping Protocol.* At the same time, policy decisions and action plans stemming from the other Protocols should be coherent with the ICZM objectives and complementary to the ICZM ones.

Add Matrix of interactions (second part).
(See separate paper with the CU proposals.)

To the aim of enhancing the coastal zone management practice, the UNEP/MAP Secretariat and its Components commit themselves to provide the following specific assistance to the CPs for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol and CRF:

At the regional / sub-regional level

- Enhancing the coherence of the legal and strategic framework for the protection and management of the coastal-marine environment by acceding to, implementing, coordinating and enforcing the instruments that are already in force, as well as adapting them as necessary;

- ✓ **Regional Strategies, including:**
 - Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025;
 - Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from land-based activities (SAP-MED);
 - Strategic Action Plan for the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean (SAP-BIO);
 - Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016-2021);
 - Ballast Water Management Strategy.

- ✓ **Other Regional Frameworks, such as the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas (RFCCA⁷);**

- ✓ **Thematic Action Plans (AP), such as the Offshore AP; the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) AP; the SAP/BIO related Action Plans adopted at regional level in order to ensure better protection of specific species and habitats, including:**
 - Action Plan for the management of the Monk Seal;
 - Action Plan for the conservation of marine turtles;
 - Action Plan for the conservation of cetaceans;
 - Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation;
 - Action Plan for the conservation of bird species registered in annex II of the SPA/BD Protocol;
 - Action Plan for the conservation of cartilaginous fishes (Chondrichthyans) in the Mediterranean Sea;
 - Action Plan concerning species introduction and invasive species;
 - Action Plan for the conservation of the coralligenous and other calcareous bioconcretions in the Mediterranean Sea;
 - Action Plan for the conservation of habitats and species associated with seamounts, underwater caves and canyons, aphotic hard beds and chemo-synthetic phenomena in the Mediterranean Sea.

- ✓ **Regional Plans adopted in line with the provisions under the SAP MED and in the framework of the article 15 of the LBS Protocol aiming at pollution prevention and reduction:**
 - (2013) RP on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean;
 - (2012) RP on the reduction of inputs of Mercury; RP on the reduction of BOD₅ in the food sector; on the phasing out of Hexabromodiphenyl ether, Heptabromodiphenyl ether, Tetrabromodiphenyl ether, and Pentabromodiphenyl ether; RP on the phasing out of lindane and endosulfane; RP on the phasing out of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts, and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride; RP on the elimination of

⁷ Decision IG.22/6 'Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas'.

Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Betahexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecone, Hexabromobiphenyl, and Pentachlorobenzene;

- (2009) RP on the Phasing Out of DDT; RP on the reduction of BOD₅ from urban waste water; RP on the elimination of Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor, Mirex, and Toxaphene.
- ✓ **Roadmaps**, such as the MPAs Roadmap⁸, the EcAp Implementation Roadmap⁹;
- ✓ **Bilateral or multilateral agreements**. As set forth in Art. 3, para 2 BC, the Contracting Parties may enter into bilateral or multilateral agreements, including regional or sub-regional agreements, provided that such agreements are consistent with the BC and the Protocols and conform to international law. Copies of such agreements shall be communicated to the CU. (e.g. the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on port State control (PSC) in the Mediterranean region (Mediterranean MoU)).
- Providing guidance for consistent and complementary implementation of ICZM and MSP, particularly addressing LSI;
- Tailoring the existing and developing new methods and tools to operationalise the EcAp concepts within ICZM and MSP, such as: guidelines for the implementation of EcAp, cumulative impact assessment, ecosystem service mapping and quantification, identification of blue corridors, etc.;
- Developing additional coastal indicators to complement the existing, predominantly marine-oriented EcAp indicators so as to better reflect the interaction between terrestrial and marine ecosystems, habitats and species, and to reduce pressures of economic activities that exceed the carrying capacity, taking into consideration existing sets of indicators, such as the IMAP, NAPs, MSSD, SCP, and SDG indicators, in view of maximising synergies and facilitating monitoring and reporting. An indicative list of existing indicators that could be used as potential ICZM indicators is provided below:
 1. Length of coastline subject to physical disturbance due to the influence of man-made structures
 2. Land use change
 3. Integrity and diversity of coastal ecosystems, landscapes and their geomorphology are preserved
 4. Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate
 5. Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically
 6. Percentage of protected coastal and marine areas [under national jurisdiction];
- Providing guidance for the establishment of standardised and harmonised national coastal inventories, as well as for the reporting on the state and evolution of coastal zones;
- Providing guidance for a timely and proper response to the emerging issues, such as in the case of climate change;
- Harmonising the SEA procedures across the Mediterranean Region and strengthening of national capacities to carry out SEA, in particular in the transboundary context;

⁸ Decision IG.22/13 'Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean'.

⁹ Decision IG.20/4 'The ecosystem approach Roadmap'.

- Promoting codes of good practice among public authorities, economic actors and non-governmental organisations;
- Updating and delivery of educational programmes, training and awareness raising on ICZM;
- Boosting the network of ICZM and MSP initiatives, in particular CAMPs and CAMP-like projects.

At the national level

- Support in preparing National ICZM Strategies based on the Guidelines for National ICZM Strategy¹⁰, to consider and enhance their consistency with the ICZM Protocol, taking also into account national action plans developed in the framework of other BC Protocols and Regional Plans, including those related to land-based sources of pollution, SCP, biodiversity, etc.;
- Support to the development or updating of National Action Plans (NAPs) in line with the provisions of the relevant Protocols, strategic action plans and regional action plans;
- Support to the implementation of CAMPs and other ICZM and MSP projects for selected coastal zones.

VII Evaluation and assessment of the implementation of the CRF

Identification of progress indicators and/or assessment tools;

Harmonised assessment of the implementation of the ICZM Protocol and the BC system, such as through IMAP/international frame.

¹⁰ UNEP/MAP/PAP: Guidelines for the preparation of National ICZM Strategies required by the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol for the Mediterranean. Split, Priority Actions Programme. 2015. <http://pap-thecoastcentre.org/pdfs/National%20ICZM%20Guidelines.pdf> and <http://pap-thecoastcentre.org/pdfs/National%20ICZM%20Guidelines%20FR.pdf>