Workshop Report – Workshop to discuss the results of the ICZM stock-taking

Venue: Dubrovnik, Croatia

Minute Code dd/mm/yyyyPEGASO/WPn° Date 18/10/2011

Type Virtual ✔ Face to face

Consortium body* GA SC EUC
SAP SPBS WPn

✔ Other: Mediterranean Action Plan - PAP/RAC National Focal Points

Meeting Coordinator Željka Škaričić
PAP/RAC Director

People invited / People present ⬆

All PAP/RAC National Focal Points, MAP Coordinator, Pegaso Co-ordinator, BP/RAC ⬆; S. Natèche (Algeria), B. Vucijak (Bosnia and Herzegovina), M. Mance Kowalsky (Croatia), M. Osman (Egypt), F. Bernard (France), A. Mourmouris (Greece), G. Bresler (Israel), D. Addis (Italy), A. Ivanovic (Montenegro), J. Knezevic (Montenegro), M.L. Ouahidi (Morocco), M. Bricelj (Slovenia), J. Galogre Saummell (Spain), D. Ortiz Sanchez (Spain), F. Breton (Pegaso), M.S. Nowwel (Spain), L. Chabason (MAP Consultant), M.L. Silva Mejias (UNEP/MAP) A. Laffitte (BP/RAC), Z. Skaricic (PAP/RAC), M. Prem (PAP/RAC), M. Markovic (PAP/RAC), L. Jakelic (PAP/RAC), B. Shipman (PAP/RAC), V. Vojinovic & S. Davidovic (Observers from Montenegro)

Main Issues

- Present the Pegaso project and the Shared ICZM Governance Platform; present to and discuss with the PAP/RAC National Focal Points (NFPs) the results and issues arising from the ICZM stock-take. The agenda of the meeting is given in Annex.

After the welcome speeches by the representatives of the Croatian authorities (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the County of Dubrovnik and Neretva) and the MAP Coordinator, Ms F. Breton presented the Pegaso project, which was followed by a presentation of the ICZM Governance platform and introduction to the ICZM Stocktaking by Ms. Z. Škaričić. Mr. B. Shipman presented the initial quantitative results of the Stock-take and some of the logistical and presentational issues related to the analysis of the responses. A BP/RAC representative, Mr. A. Lafitte, presented the ideas on how the results of the Stock-take could be published and regularly updated on the Pegaso web site. The objective of the meeting was to update and provide feedback from the PAP/RAC NFPs, and to agree on the next steps before publishing the final results.

The outline and purpose of the Stock-take

The meeting was updated on the current status of the Stock-take undertaken under WP 2.2 – all but two Mediterranean countries had replied, and one country (Turkey) still awaited validation from the newly nominated NFP.

The meeting was reminded that:

- the stock-take was a measure of the practical implementation of the ICZM as perceived by the countries themselves in 2010;
- the range of ICZM policy and practice is defined by, and limited to the Articles of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean.

The analysis did not pretend to qualitatively comment on individual responses. Rather, the purpose of the Stock-take was to provide:

- a Benchmark - to guide the future implementation of ICZM;
- a “reality check” for Pegaso - to build on the existing capacities and develop common novel approaches to support integrated policies for the Mediterranean and Black Sea Basins in ways consistent with and relevant to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean.

Issues arising

In summary, the key issues arising from the presentation of the Pegaso project and its governance platform are as follows:

- NFPs expressed their satisfaction with the Pegaso approach and its expected results, the governance platform in particular. However, they would like to have a more bottom-up approach and better links to the local-level ICZM implementation, although they recognised that this was out of the scope of the project.
- NFPs were very positive about the exchange of information and lessons learned with the Black Sea region, which is one of the major objectives of Pegaso. They supported such initiatives for the future, including other Regional Seas Programmes.
NFPs suggested that all of them be included into the End-Users Committee, or to any other regular form of cooperation. Their presence at yearly meetings to inform on the Pegaso progress could fulfil this requirement. They confirmed the need to cooperate closely with Pegaso and that they should contribute to the implementation of the Protocol via Pegaso activities, such as on indicators, case studies, tools, and particularly to improve links with national, sub-national and local levels in their countries.

The key issues arising from the presentation of the Stock-take are as follows:

- The results are complex – the responses to 53 questions by 26 countries around the Mediterranean and Black Sea generated nearly 1,400 narrative responses - representing a vast range of geographical, institutional, political and cultural situations. Simplistic inter-country comparisons are therefore difficult and potentially unsafe.

- The variations in the interpretation of the questions and understanding of the terminology are equally complex.

- The results provide a wealth of information for further research and analysis. It was proposed to make the full responses available on-line, subject to the individual approval of the countries. Some obvious gaps and needs identified were already taken into account when drafting the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol in 2012-2019.

- The activity appears to be more ICZM policy-related than anticipated – the simple statistical analysis of the aggregated positive answers to the questions shows a relatively high level of ICZM activity in place or in preparation across the two seas. However, there are significant differences between the relatively high level of activity in environment-related actions and a lower level in economic-related ones.

The initial analysis shows some anomalies and inconsistencies in individual country responses that will need to be resolved before publication. Since November 2010 when the questionnaire was sent out to the Parties lots of developments took place which should be reflected in the revised/updated responses. These should be sent to the Parties to be re-validated and updated.

With the above reservations, the YES/NO/P/NA results for a number of key questions – shown in a map form – were presented and discussed at length, along with their potential interpretations and their implications for the future region-wide activity. The mapping of the results was welcomed, and it was suggested that the most important results be shown at the next Contracting Parties meeting.

**Synergy between Pegaso and GEF MedPartnership project**

This meeting was also an occasion to present to the NFPs the Guidelines for the preparation of National ICZM Strategies. These Guidelines were prepared by PAP/RAC within the GEF MedPartnership project to serve as guidance for the two countries that will prepare their national strategies with the support of GEF MedPartnership i.e. Algeria and Montenegro. The Guidelines were already discussed with GEF NFPs at a workshop held in Istanbul on 27-28 June 2011, but PAP/RAC took this opportunity to share them with its own NFPs as they can be used by other Mediterranean countries as well.

The process to be followed for the preparation of the strategies, as well as their recommended contents were presented by Ms. M. Marković, PAP/RAC Programme Officer. She also explained how, in the case of Montenegro, the strategy would be included in a wider MAP CAMP project.

The NFPs welcomed this document and invited PAP/RAC to send it to all NFPs for examination and comments, if any.
Conclusions

— NFPs will be informed on the Pegaso progress on the annual basis so as to establish early links to the governance platform and other Pegaso results, ideally at a meeting if available resources allow it. This would contribute to a better dissemination of the results and promotion of the Protocol at the local level (bottom-up approach to complement the top-down).

— PAP/RAC will re-send the questionnaires to the NFPs in order for them to update and provide the current state of the art with regard to ICZM in their countries. This should be done by the beginning of November 2011 and should include highlights of the questions that require special attention.

— NFPs will submit the validated questionnaires to PAP/RAC by mid-January 2012.

— The same date is fixed for comments on the Guidelines for ICZM National Strategies.

— Before the synthesis report is published, it will be validated and commented by the NFPs. Only then the results will be uploaded to the web site and be made public.
Annex: Agenda of the meeting

9:00 – 9:30 Registration of participants.

9:30 – 10:00 Opening of the workshop:
- Welcome speech by the representative of the Croatian authorities;
- Welcome speech by MAP (M.L. Silva).

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break.

10:30 – 11:00 Presentation of the Pegaso project (F. Breton).

11:30 – 12:00 Introduction to the Pegaso WP2 on ICZM Platform and stock-taking (Z. Skaricic).

Discussion.

12:00 – 13:00 Presentation of the stock-taking results (B. Shipman).

Discussion.

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch.

14:30 – 15:30 Conclusions and recommendations based on the stock-taking results.

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break.

16:00 – 17:00 Presentation of the Guidelines for ICZM National Strategies (M. Markovic).

Discussion.

17:00 Closure of the meeting.