



Final sub-regional meeting: Adriatic-Ionian cooperation towards MSP

Split, Croatia, 18 December 2019

The final sub-regional meeting for the Adriatic countries, organised with the support of the Cooperation Agreement between UN Environment and the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS), took place in Split, on December 18, 2019. The meeting discussed the finalization of the “Adriatic-Ionian cooperation towards MSP” document, with focus on possible steps towards common approaches for marine spatial planning at sub-regional, Adriatic-Ionian level. The countries of the Adriatic-Ionian sub-region aim towards coordinated implementation of MSP, integrating provisions set out in the ICZM Protocol, the MSP Conceptual Framework and EU MSP Directive, promoting, to the fullest possible extent, a transboundary cooperation.

The meeting was organized in view to support the UN Environment/MAP work in further developing and implementing its programmatic vision on MSP. The meeting documents are available at [PAP RAC website](#). The List of participants is attached as Annex I. The Agenda of the meeting is available as Annex II.

MEETING CONCLUSIONS

The Final Sub-regional meeting: Adriatic-Ionian cooperation towards MSP, held in Split, at PAP/RAC premises, on 18 December 2019, concluded as follows:

1. The meeting acknowledged the added value to working at the sub-regional level, especially regarding the sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learnt related to different aspects of the MSP implementation and addressing the transboundary elements of the MSP.
2. The meeting confirmed that the Adriatic area is an excellent candidate to promote the MSP implementation in a harmonized manner, mainly due to the good baseline for MSP implementation in the area and the ongoing work carried out in almost all the countries.
3. The meeting appreciated efforts undertaken by PAP/RAC to develop a document entitled “Pan Adriatic Scope: Adriatic Ionian cooperation towards MSP”, coherently with the Mediterranean Conceptual Framework for MSP as well as the Common Regional Framework for ICZM.
4. The meeting confirmed that the document:
 - is well-developed and complete, addressing all the main technical issues relating to the implementation of the MSP;
 - provides useful references relating to the general context, as well as specific activities and the knowledge basis available for the Adriatic sub-region;



- provides a valuable analysis of the main MSP tools useful for elaboration of the MSP and effective support for decision makers.
5. The meeting also recommended some immediate and long-term upgrades of the existing document.
 6. Immediate improvements are based on specific minor technical changes, mainly relating to national implementation of the MSP. Direct inputs for these changes were kindly provided by the national representatives and will be integrated in the final version following the meeting.
 7. Long-term improvements include the following:
 - further details and in-depth information regarding the legal context of the MSP in the Adriatic-Ionian sub-region;
 - addressing specific technical issues that can operationalize the implementation of the MSP (e.g. ecosystem approach, LSI, etc.).
 8. PAP/RAC confirmed that the shorter version of the document would be prepared in the form of a Policy brief and disseminated to PAP/RAC FPs and national experts following the meeting, in early 2020.
 9. The meeting also confirmed the need to further disseminate and consult on the document on a national level, primarily with the national institutions responsible for MSP. Possible initiatives include the CAMP Bosnia and Herzegovina kick-off meeting, meetings of the Croatian national board for the implementation of marine strategy, etc. PAP/RAC can support the processes, if needed.
 10. The meeting recommended the document being taken on board through the EUSAIR process: disseminating, adopting and using it as appropriate.
 11. The meeting recommended that PAP/RAC undertakes necessary steps to further disseminate the document to all PAP/RAC and MAP NFPs of the Mediterranean Region.
 12. Finally, the meeting recommended to use this approach and the document prepared as a showcase for other sub-regional approaches in the Mediterranean.



Annex I Meeting participants

Addis Daniela	Expert
Bocci Martina	t-Elika
Čurović Željka	Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro
Dimitropoulos Panagiotis	PAP/RAC intern
Dominković-Alavanja Snježana	Ministry of Environment and Energy, Croatia
Kapedani Rezart	Expert
Korlaet Ariana	Expert
Kupusović Tarik	Hydro-Engineering Institute Sarajevo
Marković Marina	PAP/RAC
Marohnić- Kuzmanović Vesna	Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning, Croatia
Mezek Slavko	Regional Development Centre Koper (Slovenia)
Mourmouri Athena	Expert
Njavro Josip	Expert/Neum Municipality, Bosnia and Herzegovina



Prem Marko	PAP/RAC
Ramieri Emiliano	THETIS
Sekovski Ivan	PAP/RAC



Annex II Agenda of the meeting

14.00 – 14.30	Welcome Objectives of the meeting
14.30 – 15.30	Overview and preparatory process of the document Discussion
15.30 – 16.00	Technical discussion regarding national inputs
16.00 – 16.30	Technical discussion regarding areas and themes of cooperation
16.30 – 17.30	Roadmap towards endorsement and implementation of the document
17.30 – 18.00	Wrap up and conclusions