

Report of the First Meeting of the Working Group on the Common Regional Framework for ICZM

(Split, 13-14 March 2018)



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Introduction

1. By their Decision IG.23/7 taken at the COP20 (Tirana, Albania, 17-21 December 2017) the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the Barcelona Convention (BC) mandated the PAP/RAC to develop in the biennium 2018-2019 the full text of the Common Regional Framework (CRF) for Integrated Coastal Zones Management (ICZM), to be submitted for adoption by COP21.

2. To that end, an open-ended Working Group (WG) of the CPs' representatives has been established, which met for the first time in Split, Croatia, on 13-14 March 2018, to start the work on the full text of the CRF according to the Agenda given in Annex I of the present report.

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

3. The PAP/RAC Director welcomed the participants and thanked them for having accepted to join the WG. A brief round table allowed the participants to introduce themselves: alongside the PAP/RAC representatives, the CPs represented were Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Italy, Malta Montenegro and Morocco. A complete list of participants is given in Annex II.

4. One WG member highlighted the need to include in the WG representatives of the Eastern Mediterranean countries, and to identify the specific expertise needed as well as the steps forward for the definition of the document within the current biennium.

5. The PAP/RAC Director thanked the CPs that joined the meeting and insisted on the fact that further consultation would be needed, face-to-face and via online working tools. The representatives that gathered are all very competent ICZM experts but further technical assistants would be provided once the needs are defined. She added that the Cyprus National Focal Point had joined the WG but could not make it for this meeting.

Agenda item 2: Short introduction to the Decision IG. 23/7 and presentation of the working document prepared by PAP/RAC

6. The PAP/RAC Director recalled that the Decision IG. 23/7 had been adopted by the CPs at the COP20 without any change. The document shared by PAP/RAC before the meeting was meant to provide a more readable version of the Annex to the Decision, just translating the terms following a logical sequence of what should be achieved and what could be put in the different parts.

Agenda item 3: Discussion: comments, suggestions and agreement on the structure of the full text of the CRF

7. One WG member insisted on the fact that the new document presented by PAP/RAC should be compliant with the Decision i.e. in line with the mandate given by the CPs. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the working document prepared by PAP/RAC provided a good basis for the WG work.

Agenda item 4: Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting

8. The document was then screened paragraph by paragraph. Its amended version is available in Annex III of this report.

9. Major issues raised and discussed during the two days can be summarised as follows:

- Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is not a goal but a tool, and it is essential for the implementation of the Barcelona Convention (BC). The main question is: What is the right way of dealing with it?
 - (i) A direct approach in the BC system would be a formal application: decision, amendment to the ICZM Protocol, etc.; or
 - (ii) It could be used in an indirect way, including appropriate processes and elements into the CRF.
- There are four key elements to be integrated in the BC system (and therefore in the CRF) to address the question of MSP:
 - (i) International cooperation, especially for the seaside and transboundary mechanisms at sub-regional level, where transboundary SEA needs to be applied;
 - (ii) Indicators and monitoring to check and control, key for the action-plan part of the CRF (including IMAP and others);
 - (iii) Land-sea interaction (LSI), which is in the DNA of ICZM, and therefore of the ICZM Protocol;
 - (iv) How to better apply MSP with SEA and EIA (links to ESPO Convention and Kyoto Protocol).
- An ICZM Platform is being developed by PAP/RAC and will provide room for online consultation and joint work area for the finalisation of the CRF (the platform will be closely linked with the EU MSP Platform).
- The key question of the sea water limits was addressed:
 - (i) The agreement refers to the limits of the marine waters as defined in the ICZM Protocol. Going beyond can be approached on a voluntary transboundary basis, where the geographical scope can be “enlarged” based on the international agreements also binding the CPs to the BC, e.g. ESPO and Kyoto protocols;
 - (ii) National marine waters beyond the limits of the territorial waters should be addressed;
 - (iii) If CPs agree, seafloor and sub-soil areas could be tackled as well, at least within the limits of the territorial waters. The sensitive legal aspects are crucial and should be addressed.

10. During the second day, the participants first reviewed the comments of the previous day and ran through the annotated version of the document validating and/or further discussing key points. Two general comments can be highlighted:

- Compliance by all CPs with all the elements of the CRF is difficult; thus the document must be flexible;
- The National ICZM Strategy that is being developed by Cyprus could be considered as a case study in that sense.

Agenda item 5: Agreement on the next steps and distribution of tasks among the WG members

11. The participants agreed to take on the redaction of specific chapters of the CRF as annotated directly in the text contained in Annex III. Moreover, two of them offered to provide the following support:

- Italy will prepare a summary of the MSP guidance document prepared at the national level, as food for thought for the WG;
 - Montenegro's national ICZM Strategy will be reviewed in 5 years but Montenegro will screen the Strategy in the light of the CRF and provide feedback to the WG.
12. The participants agreed upon the following schedule for further drafting of the CRF:
- PAP/PAC will share the document with annotations for double checking by the WG members by 23 March 2018;
 - draft additional paragraphs will be sent to PAP/RAC by 16 April 2018;
 - a consolidated version of the updated text will be sent by PAP/RAC to WG members by 27 April 2018;
 - revision by the WG members will be done by 15 May 2018;
 - the 2nd meeting of the WG in Athens during the last week of May 2018.

Agenda item 6: Wrap-up and closure of the meeting

13. One WG member made a wrap-up of the major messages coming from the meeting on the need to:
- ensure adequate regional representativeness;
 - provide necessary legal advice;
 - check possible critical aspects by the CPs with National ICZM Strategies;
 - ensure specific expertise, as appropriate.
14. The PAP/RAC Director warmly thanked the participants for their contribution to the meeting. She emphasized that a very important work had been done and hoped that the document would be useful for the whole Mediterranean.
15. The meeting was closed on 14 March 2018 at 12:30.

Annex I: Agenda of the meeting

Tuesday, 13 March 2018

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| 9:30 – 9:45 | Opening of the meeting: welcome, objectives and programme, organisation of work (Ž. Škaričić). |
| 9:45 – 10:00 | Short introduction to the Decision IG.23/7 and presentation of the working document prepared by PAP/RAC (Ž. Škaričić). |
| 10:00 – 11:00 | Discussion: comments, suggestions and agreement on the structure of the full text of the CRF. |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee break. |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting. |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | Lunch break. |
| 14:30 – 17:00
(With coffee served
in the meeting room) | Work on the individual chapters of the CRF: comments, suggestions, drafting (cont.). |

Wednesday, 14 March 2018

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| 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 II: List of participants

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	<p>Mr. Tarik KUPUSOVIC National Co-ordinator for MAP Hydro Engineering Institute Stjepana Tomića 1 71000 Sarajevo</p> <p>Tel: ++ 387 33 207949 Fax: ++ 387 33 207949 E-mail: tarik.kupusovic@heis.ba</p>
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Annex III: CRF version with amendments made during the WG meeting

Common Regional Framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (PAP/RAC Proposal for Consideration by the First WG Meeting)

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

I Introduction

Morocco offered to work on this chapter.

By adopting the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (ICZM Protocol), the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the Barcelona Convention (BC) decided to concretise their commitment to “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. **(PAP/RAC to ask for official legal advice; alternatively use the text from the Decision – Legal Frame.)**

The ultimate objective of ~~the ICZM Protocol this regional legally binding instrument~~ 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)

Art. 17 of the ICZM Protocol on Mediterranean strategy for integrated coastal zone management, states that the CPs “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”.

Add reference to Art. 18

This CRF is to be considered as an **operational tool and plan of action (Check/adapt wording once we have finalised the document.)** 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

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.

Introduce: sub-regions + subsoil within territorial waters + ABJN (possibly).

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.

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. Therefore, 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.

Consider expanding the bullets.

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.

III Objectives and General Principles of the CRF

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 natural dynamic phenomenon, 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), to prevent and reduce negative impacts on coastal zone;
 - 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 limits of national jurisdiction, 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:

- preparing timely adaptation and management plans to prevent, reduce and minimize negative impacts to coastal zones.

Be more specific on climate change, introduce the notion of increased resilience, reflect the Paris process & Agenda 2030 (France offered to work on this together with Daria, PAP/RAC.)

c) Achieve **good governance** among actors involved in and/or related to coastal zones by:

- 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 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, 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 across marine regions and, as identified by CPs and as appropriate, sub-regions, ensuring trans-boundary cooperation where appropriate, in particular between the CPs sharing a marine region;
- ensuring complementarity and consistency of all UNEP/MAP policies and actions through a coordinated effort of all Components in order to achieve effective results and rational use of funding;
- ensuring cooperation with all relevant/competent international and regional Organizations.

IV Ecosystem-based Management for Good Environmental Status and Sustainable Development

Morocco offered to work on this chapter.

Part II of the CRF is meant to facilitate:

1. 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); and
2. the development of policies and the adoption of measures for the prevention of natural hazards, prevention and mitigation of the negative impacts of coastal erosion, and response to natural disasters, based on international cooperation and scientific data exchange (ICZM Protocol-Part IV, Artt 22-24).

The principle of addressing 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 is the essence of the ecosystem-based management approach aimed at ensuring sustainable use of natural resources and quality of life of coastal populations.

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.

ICZM is 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.

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.

Add a diagram showing the coastal zone and interactions among its elements.

IV.1 Reaching Good Environmental Status through ICZM

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 (Italy offered to work on the Matrix together with Samir).

IV.2 Addressing Land-Sea Interactions

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.

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

IV.3 Strengthening the Barcelona Convention System Coherence

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. 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).

Consider this chapter as an introduction to operational tools to be followed by the lists 1.a and 1.b from the Annex to the Decision – page 11).

V Tools and Instruments to Implement the CRF

France, Malta and Montenegro offered to work on these chapters.

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: BC in general including its other Protocols and strategies, and for EU Member States (MS) several important pieces of legislation related to coastal zones e.g. Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Water Framework Directive (WFD), MSP.

Add on sub-regional level

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

For each tool, develop on: why, how and when to use it.

V.1 Monitoring of activities and environment (*Montenegro to lead*)

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

- monitoring of *environment* should include the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) but also, as appropriate, binding monitoring based on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Impact Assessment (SEA) to include impacts on landscapes, cultural values, social patterns, etc.;
- monitoring of *activities* (land and maritime coastal activities) is needed, monitoring information should be accessible to all coastal stakeholders.

To this aim and according to Artt. ~~8-16~~-21 and Artt.25-29 of the ICZM Protocol, the CPs commitare encouraged themselves to accomplish the following with the support of UNEP/MAP and its Components, as appropriate:

- use, strengthen and create appropriate mechanisms for regularly monitoring and observation of the state and evolution of their coastal zones, of the resources and activities, institutions, legislation and planning that may influence coastal zones, taking all necessary means to ensure public access to these information;
- exchange scientific and technical information and experience, data and good practices, cooperating for the provision of scientific and technical assistance, as well as in the training of scientific, technical and administrative personnel and in the coordination of their research programmes on themes of common interest, within a Mediterranean coastal zone network, and therefore:
 - the definition of coastal management indicators, taking into account existing ones, and the cooperation in the use of such indicators;
 - the establishment and maintenance of up-to-date assessments of the use and management of coastal zones;
 - the carrying out of activities of common interest, such as demonstration projects of ICZM.

Add point 1 from the Annex to the Decision -page 7: Framework.

V.2 Environmental Assessment (*Malta to lead*)

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. 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.

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.

In the context of the CRF, three aspects need to be stressed:

- 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.

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: commit themselves to:

- implement environmental assessments (EIA, SEA and transboundary SEA), taking into consideration the cumulative impacts on the coastal zones and their carrying capacities, adopting by means of cooperation guidelines for the determination of procedures for notification, exchange of information and consultation at all stages of the process. **Guidance is in particular needed for developing the following issues to apply SEA and EIA for the purposes of ICZM** with particular attention to transboundary implications:
 - Carrying capacity and cumulative impacts;
 - EcAp-based EOs and related targets;
 - LSI aspects;
 - Coastal erosion;
 - Climate change effects;
 - Life cycle analysis.

Acknowledge the relevance & complexity & challenge of the task.

Make a stock-take of the existing case studies, projects, etc. in order to extract what can be useful & sum up what we can use, in order to produce guidance/recommendations for the application of the environmental assessment instruments in the ICZM context, as requested by the objectives foreseen into the CRF (mentioned immediately above for this specific topic). This process will have also with the aim to reconsider as appropriate the above list of issues included in the annex. In doing this, use the MSP Platform.

V.3 Coordination of planning processes and governance mechanisms

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.

To achieve the objectives of ICZM and facilitate integration through rational 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: commit themselves to ensure:

- administrative schemes and processes, legal forms of promotion/setting out of such processes, participation and networking procedures, as appropriate;
- connection of appropriate land policy to the process of planning;
- coordination, where appropriate, of national coastal strategies, plans and programmes related to contiguous coastal zones; and
- notification, exchange of information and consultation in cases of transboundary environmental assessment.

Expand on how for the 1st and 3rd bullet.

Consider putting 2nd and 4th bullet under the relevant chapters or add (see relevant xy part).

V.4 Marine Spatial Planning (*Malta to lead*)

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.

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 related spatial measures. **Proper planning of maritime activity can:**

- ~~Reduce marine based source of pressure affecting the marine environment through spatial efficiency and control of temporal distribution of human activities;~~

- ~~Reduce conflicts between maritime uses and protection of areas with high naturalistic and ecological relevance;~~
- ~~Identify areas to be protected in order to preserve processes and functions that are essential in achieving the GES;~~
- ~~Identify environmental hotspot areas at sea where more intense measures are necessary;~~
- ~~Avoid unsustainable uses in protected areas and identify synergies that can provide win-to-win solutions for socio-economic development and environmental protection;~~
- ~~Identify connecting elements among relevant habitats through blue corridors.~~

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:

Merge the two bullets.

- 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:-
- Reduce marine-based source of pressure affecting the marine environment through spatial efficiency and control of temporal distribution of human activities;
- Reduce conflicts between maritime uses and protection of areas with high naturalistic and ecological relevance;
- Identify areas to be protected in order to preserve processes and functions that are essential in achieving the GES;
- Identify environmental hotspot areas at sea where more intense measures are necessary;
- Avoid unsustainable uses in protected areas and identify synergies that can provide win-to-win solutions for socio-economic development and environmental protection;
- Identify connecting elements among relevant habitats through blue corridors.

Reconsider the bullets by end March as they are not included in the Annotated structure but copied from the CF for MSP; consider deleting or modifying them (All WG members)

For the bullets that would stay: look at existing, ask Components to expand.

V.5 Land policy (Art. 20) (France to lead)

For the purpose of promoting ICZM land policy instruments and measures, including the process of planning, shall be adopted by the CPs. Exchange of experiences and good practices on land policy instruments and measures (acquisition, cession, donation, transfer of land to the public domain and easement of properties) should be encouraged at this end. Consideration of LSI and consistency with MSP need to be ensured.

Include based on the land-sea interaction part of the matrix.

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

Among the major issues: sustainable funding of ICZM (strategies, policies, plans and programmes), environmental fiscal instruments in coastal zones (application to land and maritime activities of e.g. polluter/payer principle and internalization of costs):

- exchange experiences and good practices on financial and fiscal instruments in support of ICZM, including voluntary funding from public and private sector;
- guidance needed for consideration of ecosystem services including through cost-efficiency analysis and payment for ecosystem services.

Put specific relevance to ecosystem services.

V.7 Training, communication and information *(New chapter to be developed by France)*

Include points 2-4 from the Annex to the Decision - Framework page 7.

V.8 International Cooperation for the Implementation of the CRF

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.

VI Implementation of the CRF

Use the text of IV.3 as an introduction and list all 1.a and 1.b merged.

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;
 - ✓ Other Regional Frameworks, such as the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas (RFCCA¹);
 - ✓ Thematic Action Plans (AP), such as the Offshore AP; the IAS (Invasive Alien Species) AP, the AP on introductions of Species and Invasive Species and related guidelines; 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 the Mediterranean Monk Seal, Mediterranean Marine Turtle, Cetaceans, Marine vegetation, Bird species listed in Annex II of the SPA/BD Protocol, Cartilaginous fish, Coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concentrations, Dark habitats; the Action Plan for Marine Vegetation.
 - ✓ 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:
 - ✓ (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, Hetabromodiphenyl ether, Tetrabromodiphenyl ether, and Pentabromodiphenil ether; RP on the 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 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 Roadmap², the EcAp Implementation Roadmap³;

¹ Decision IG.22/6 'Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas'.

✓ 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;
- 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;
- 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 Strategy⁴, to consider and enhance their consistency with the [ICZM Protocol](#)²;
- 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.

² 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'.

³ Decision IG.20/4 'The ecosystem approach Roadmap'.

⁴ 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>

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.

Provisions of ICZM Protocol

(GES/EcAp) & Main Programmes and Action Plans

EO1: Biodiversity is maintained or enhanced

EO2: Non-indigenous species do not adversely alter the ecosystem

EO3: Exploited fish and shellfish are sustainable

EO4: Marine food webs do not have significant adverse impacts

EO5: Human-induced eutrophication is prevented

EO6: Sea-floor integrity is maintained

EO7: Conditions do not adversely affect coastal and marine coastal areas are maintained and coastal ecosystems and significant impact on coastal and marine ecosystems and human does not adversely affect coastal cause no significant on marine and

Ecosystem Approach Roadmap

the conservation of Biodiversity

Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan

Address land-based pollution (SAP

BIO and Regional Plans)

Marine Litter Regional Plan

Offshore Action Plan

Regional Climate Change Action Plans on Species and Roadmap on MPA

Part II																
Non construction zone																
Economic activities																
Agriculture																
Industry																
Fish																
Aquaculture																
Tourism, sporting recreational activities																
Utilization of specific natural resources																
Infrastructures, energy facilities, ports																
Maritime activities																
Specific coastal ecosystems																
Wetlands and estuaries																
Marine habitats																
Dunes																
Coastal landscapes																
Islands																
Cultural heritage																
Part IV																
Risks affecting the coastal zone																
Natural hazards																
Coastal erosion																
Response to natural disasters																
Risks from marine pollution and marine noise																
Climate change																

- High relevance (level of interactions), need specific guidance
- Medium relevance, require sub-regional, national considerations (depend on the cases)
- Low relevance, no need for specific guidance

Figure xxx: Matrix of interactions between ICZM Protocol provisions, Ecological Objectives and Main Regional Programmes and Plans

Split in two: EOs and other BC docs
Indicates relevance of interactions indicating need for guidance and gives ideas for guidance (recommendations)
Add new boxes in the legend: white = no capacity to assess / need for more expertise; white with cross = no interaction
Ask EcAp people if they have specific concern about the methodology or results

Table xxx: Matrix Land-Sea Interaction (From CAMP Italy, with small modifications, to be tested and further developed within SIMWESTMED and SUPREME projects)

	SEA-LAND INTERACTION Sea → Land	LAND-SEA INTERACTION Land → Sea
SPECIFIC HUMAN ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquaculture in seawater • Fishing • Mining activities from seabed (including sand and marine aggregates mining) • Industry (systems, including off-shore desalination, CO₂ capture and storage) • Energy industry (offshore (oil and gas) energy, offshore renewable energy (wind, waves, surge)) • Infrastructures (ports, civil works of marine / coastal engineering [artificial reefs, breakwaters, etc.] • Submarine cables and pipelines • Maritime activities in general, including dredging and storage of materials • Maritime transport (maritime traffic, commercial, including ferries) • Tourism and cruise boat • Recreation and Sports • Biotechnology • Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) & Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs), Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs), Biological Protection Zones (BPZ) (and in general “<i>area based management tools, including marine protected areas</i>”) • Defence and security • Underwater cultural heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal and lagoon Aquaculture • River and lagoon fishing • Natural resource use (water abstraction, removal of aggregates (quarries)) • Farming and livestock farming • Industry (food, manufacturing, on-shore plant, including desalination plant, CO₂ capture and storage) • Energy industry (onshore energy (oil and gas), onshore renewable energy (wind, sun, geothermal)) • Infrastructures (river ports, including dredging activities, engineering work, including dam, bridges, remediation activities, railways and roads) • Port activity • Transports (river transport, road and rail transportation) • Tourism, Sports and Recreation activities (i.e. bathing stations, touristic facilities) • Biotechnology • Natural Protected Areas (Nature reserves, National Parks, Regional Parks, etc., on-shore or with off-shore boundaries) • Defence and security
GENERAL HUMAN ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste (<i>marine litter</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban plants (including pollution of water bodies that collect waste water) • Waste • Services network (i.e. sewage systems)
NATURAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme events (storms, heavy tides, tsunami) • Sea Level Rise (global and local) • Risks to coastal areas (coastal erosion, marine flooding and saline intrusion) • Algae bloom • Volcanic and tectonic activities • Sea water acidification • Sea temperature rise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil erosion (leaching, wind action) • Natural subsidence • Hydrogeological instability (including landslides) • Transport of river sediments • Flooding • Volcanic and tectonic activities

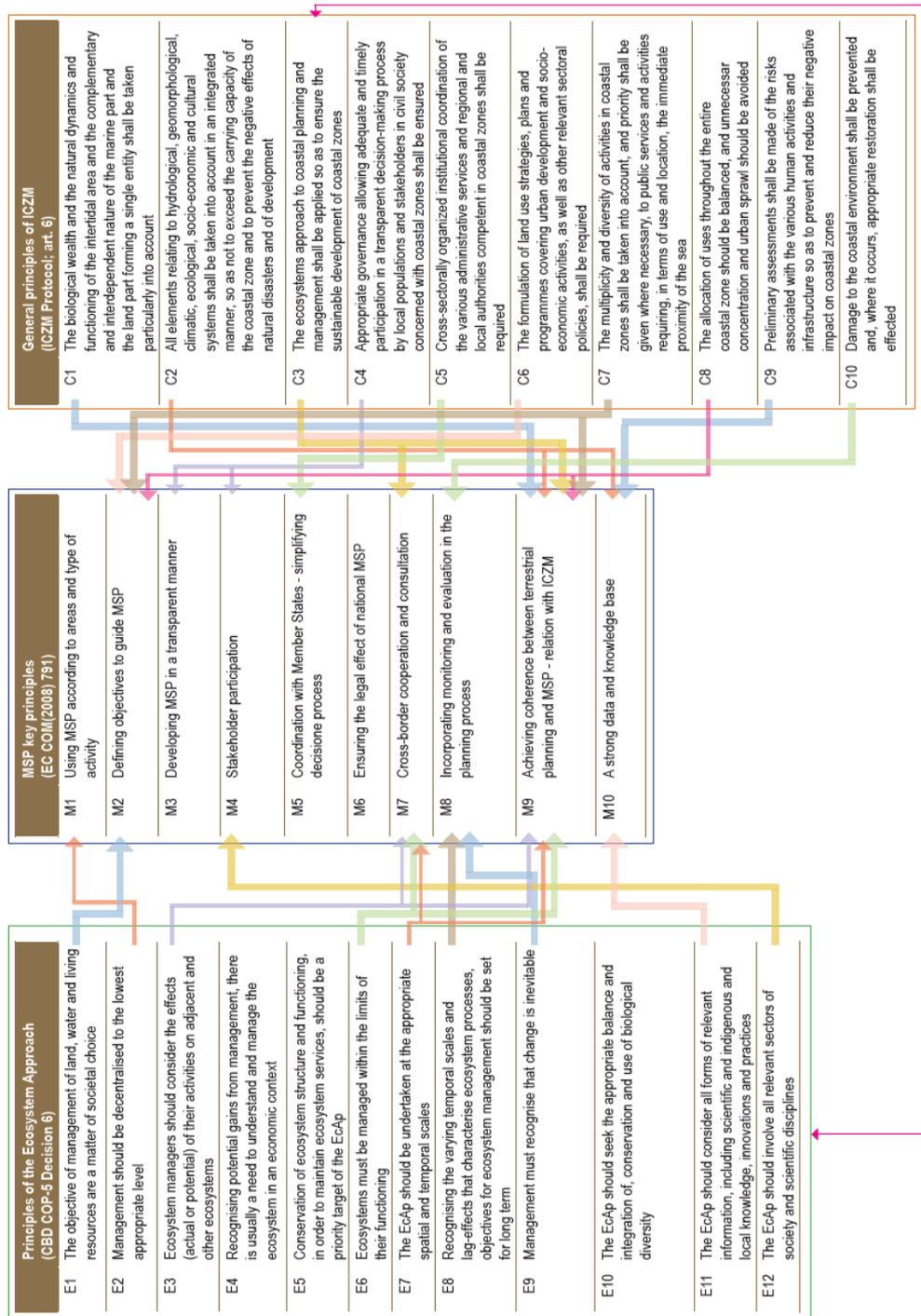


Figure xxx: Link between EcAp, MSP and ICZM principles