



News Update

April 2013 /1

The MedPartnership News



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Foreword



Dear partners,

The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) is now in its third year of implementation, with over 100 activities, in thirteen countries, plus 78 demonstration projects.

Since last year, the MedPartnership has expanded with the inclusion of a new project "Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean" launched in 2012.

UNEP/MAP, the MedPartnership, the European Commission and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) have joined forces to launch a new replication of good practices, which funding allocated for this initiative.

Today, there is a real need to be able to communicate useful results and deliverables of the project as they happen, which is why this will be the first of a series of news updates.

For full details on the project visit www.themedpartnership.org

Habib N. El-Habr
Deputy Coordinator
UNEP/MAP

Annual MedPartnership Coordination Group Meeting held in Paris

The MedPartnership Coordination group held its annual meeting at UNESCO in Paris, France from 3 to 5 April 2013 and was attended by experts from all executing partners of the MedPartnership, as well as representatives from UNEP DEPI and the European Commission.

The meeting focused on the major successes and challenges of the MedPartnership, at this mid-point of the projects duration, and was the opportunity to discuss the recently completed Mid-Term evaluation draft report and recommendations. It also provided an opportunity to review the draft replication proposals submitted, and to agree on the next steps to finalize the draft programme of replication activities, as well as how to increase national and regional communication

The MedPartnership in a few words

The MedPartnership is a collective effort of leading organizations and countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea towards the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean. The MedPartnership is being led by UNEP/MAP and the World Bank and is financially supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and other donors, including the EU and all participating countries.

The MedPartnership's overarching goal is to enable a coordinated and strategic approach to catalyze the policy, legal and institutional reforms, and the investments necessary to reverse the degradation trends affecting the Mediterranean, including its coastal habitats and biodiversity.

The Project is being carried out in the following countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

Upcoming events

17 April 2013

Coastal planning for Réghaia

2nd participatory workshop, Centre cynégétique de Réghaia, Algeria.

18 April 2013

of MedPartnership results.

The last day of the meeting was dedicated to the development of the revised work-plan and Inception Report for the new Climate Variability and ICZM project, and further detailing the two demonstrations in Croatia and Tunisia.

Meeting for the presentation of the results of the MedMPAnet Project in Rabat, Morocco

18-19 April 2013

Montenegro national workshop: Monitoring and Data National workshop in Montenegro for Climate Variability and Change The main objective is to validate the national report and work with the country on data, gaps to be filled and existing monitoring programmes.

30 April 2013

Coastal Plan for Reghaia, Algeria; Demonstration Activity

Coastal Plan for Reghaia, Algeria; Demonstration Activity 2nd workshop Activity under component 1.2 Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology

In its endeavors to transfer Environmentally Sound Technology, the MedPartnership project, through UNIDO will launch the MED TEST II in the second half of 2013. The project, called SWITCH-Med, targets 130-150 companies that will be assisted to improve their environmental performance, in 9 countries of the Mediterranean basin: Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Algeria, Libya and Israel.

The 7M Euro funding of the second phase of the project was approved by the EC/DevCo in July 2012.

The MEDTEST project aims at demonstrating the effectiveness of introducing best practices, cleaner technologies and integrated management systems for cost reduction, productivity increase and environmental performance in industry.

Towards more responsible diving and fishing



Diving and fishing along the Kaş-Kekova coast in Turkey is now subject to new regulations and

protocols.

Located in the Lycian Coast, South West Turkey, the KaÅ-Kekova Special Environmental Protected Area (SEPA) is a unique stretch of approximately 200 km coastline between Antalya and Patara, relatively pristine, and offers varied and spectacular coastal landscapes. The whole coast has also a very rich marine biodiversity, and archaeological sites, which makes it a very attractive tourism destination.

Until recently, there were no strategies developed to manage marine resources of the area and no regulations issued for charter boat tours, fishing, diving or anchoring. Illegal amateur fishing activities were regularly conducted in the area, mainly targeting large-size fish sold to local restaurants. This has put more pressure on the marine ecosystem.

In 2009, under the MedPartnership project, WWF launched a project to assist the marine protected area (MPA) authorities in developing and implementing the management plan for the marine area of the Kas-Kekova SEPA with special attention to the management of recreational activities, taking into consideration their impact on the local economy. Ten years of research data was used to establish important ecological areas for conservation and biodiversity, and socio-economic data was collected to guide the identification of management objectives and the design of users' zones and monitoring plans.

In 2013, a zoning map which shows the regulations of fishing, diving and anchoring activities was created. Fisheries regulations were gazetted in the Turkish fisheries law and diving clubs prepared a protocol for implementing regulations for responsible diving.

A management plan for the Kuriat Islands MPA under elaboration



A management plan for the Kuriat Islands Marine Protected Area in Tunisia is being elaborated, under the MedPartnership project. The consultations amongst stakeholders have started for the elaboration of the plan and for the setting-up of a sustainable local stakeholders participation mechanism. This process is based on the results of the field surveys undertaken in Kuriat Islands in 2010 and 2011, along with the socio-economic study made during the first half of 2012.

The Kuriat Islands are 2 two islands separated by 2 km, off Monastir, eastern Tunisia. These islands establish a migratory stopover for an

important avifauna. They are also one of the main sites of nesting of turtle caouanne (*Caretta caretta*) in the South of the Mediterranean Sea, and therefore, constitute a vulnerable ecosystem. Around both islands and in very low depths, there are maërl formations and barrier-reefs of *Posidonia*, which are considered as rare natural monuments at the Mediterranean scale.

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Meetings & More

National ICZM Strategy, Algeria (2 April 2013)

National workshop in Albania: Monitoring and Data (3-4 April 2013)

Climagine and inception workshop Šibenik, Croatia (8 April 2013)

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