



WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

Marine protected areas management effectiveness

Regional experience-sharing workshop of the MedPAN network
From October 25 to 27, 2022 - Petrovac, Montenegro and online

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Organised by :



Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism



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Introduction to the workshop

MedPAN, the network of Marine Protected Area managers in the Mediterranean, and its host partners, the Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism, the Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management, and MEDCEM (Mediterranean Center for Environmental Monitoring), organised the **MedPAN Regional experience-sharing Workshop from 25 to 27 October 2022 in Petrovac, Montenegro and online**. The workshop gathered a total of 252 participants (153 face-to-face and 99 online) from **30 countries** (including 19 Mediterranean countries). Details of participation and lists of participants are given at the end of these Proceedings.

This year's workshop focused on MPA management effectiveness. More than a topic, effective MPA management is a challenge at the heart of MedPAN's strategy, as all our actions converge to support ecologically representative, connected, and effectively managed MPAs and MPA networks to help preserve marine biodiversity. As such, MPA management effectiveness is a cross-cutting issue against the backdrop of all other topics, that underpins all of our network's activities in technical, policy and knowledge support.

For this first MedPAN workshop of the post-2020 era, marked by the adoption of a new post-2020 SAPBIO and an ambitious 30x30 target within the framework of COP 22 of the Barcelona Convention, and which will soon see the advent of a new Global Biodiversity Framework, it seemed essential to focus this exchange of experience on MPA management effectiveness. Indeed, while the area covered by MPAs is increasing and rightly attracting attention, the effectiveness of MPA management is a major issue and is still sometimes overlooked. MPA managers and conservation scientists are legitimately concerned that many MPAs are not achieving the conservation objectives for which they were established, due to a lack of effective management.

To achieve their goals and objectives, MPAs must be adequately managed and management needs to be regularly assessed. In addition to the need for MPAs to assess and demonstrate results achieved against their objectives in order to adapt their strategies and strengthen their legitimacy, management effectiveness is receiving increased attention in the post-2020 agenda of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the European Commission's Green Deal and the Post 2020 MPA Strategy of the Barcelona Convention.

The overall objective of the Workshop was to enable MPA managers and stakeholders to pool and share information, skills and experiences and take stock of best practices and approaches to improve and evaluate the effectiveness of MPA management in order to achieve tangible conservation outcomes.

To address the specific objectives of this workshop as defined with the support of the Technical Steering Committee the programme of these three days of exchanges was built with all participants starting with the definition of MPA management effectiveness that was discussed during the opening plenary, drawing on the 174 proposed definitions received from participants prior to the workshop. We felt it was important to take the time to move toward a common vision and understanding of MPA management effectiveness to engage together in the 12 discussion sessions on this workshop's agenda.

The discussion sessions, scheduled in parallel in four successive slots, form the core of this experience-sharing workshop. Topics addressed were derived from the recommendations of the Post-2020 Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas Roadmap that were prioritised by the participants themselves during their pre-registration. The case studies presented provided food for thought and stimulated exchanges in which participants contributed from their own experiences to meet the objectives of each session.

We thank all participants for engaging in this experience-sharing workshop, and contributing operational recommendations to inform their own strategies, as well as MedPAN's strategy and those of other networks of managers and stakeholders committed to supporting effectively managed MPAs across the Mediterranean and beyond.

We also thank our hosts, the committed partners of the technical steering committee, as well as the donors and projects for their active support of this experience-sharing workshop.

¹ Conservatoire du Littoral, European Commission DG Environment, ETC-UMA, IUCN Med, IUCN MPA management effectiveness task force, MedCities, MEDCEM (Mediterranean Center for Environmental Monitoring), Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism of Montenegro, French Biodiversity Office (OFB), PIM Initiative, Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro, SPA/RAC, The MedFund, WWF Mediterranean

TARGETS

1. Move towards a common vision and understanding of MPA management effectiveness
2. Identify and exemplify key drivers for effective MPA management through best practices in policy, governance, stakeholders engagement, legislation and enforcement, design and planning, zoning and level of protection, monitoring and management strategies, financing, capacity building and networking and partnerships
3. Share successful methodologies for assessing MPA performance to enable adaptive management
4. Inform and gain feedback from MPAs on management effectiveness evaluation frameworks developed or requested by the CBD, IUCN, Barcelona Convention, European Commission, and some donors
5. Contribute to the development of standard indicators of MPA management effectiveness at an international level, drawing on Mediterranean expertise and insights
6. Share good practices on how to communicate the ecological outcomes and socio-economic benefits of an MPA in order to engage technical and non-technical stakeholders, as well as donors and investors
7. Advance the strategic direction of the MedPAN network to support MPA management effectiveness from a technical, financial and policy perspective, and to assess the performance of the Mediterranean MPA system
8. Contribute to the strategies of other national and sub-regional networks of MPA managers in the Mediterranean and to network partnership at the transatlantic level and beyond (EU Ocean Governance project)



Programme overview

24 OCTOBER 2022

09h00 - 18h30

KAFANA ROOM

MedPAN General Assembly (upon invitation)

English | French

19h30

MedPAN traditional local aperitif at Tramontana Restaurant

25 OCTOBER 2022

08h00 - 08h45

Registrations

9h00 - 10h30

KAFANA ROOM

Opening plenary session

English | French | Montenegrin

10h30 - 11h00

Coffee break

11h00 - 12h30

KAFANA ROOM

Management plans: a review of successful approaches to developing, implementing, assessing and adapting effective conservation measures in MPAs

DS01 (Part 1) - English | French | Montenegrin

TV ROOM

Making the case for increased investments in Mediterranean MPAs

DS02 (Part 1) - English | French

CONFERENCE ROOM

Effective responses to emergency and existential threats to MPAs

DS03 (Part 1) - English | French

12h30 - 14h00

Lunch

14h00 - 15h30

KAFANA ROOM

Management plans: a review of successful approaches to developing, implementing, assessing and adapting effective conservation measures in MPAs

DS01 (Part 2) - English | French | Montenegrin

TV ROOM

Making the case for increased investments in Mediterranean MPAs

DS02 (Part 2) - English | French

CONFERENCE ROOM

Effective responses to emergency and existential threats to MPAs

DS03 (Part 2) - English | French

15h30 - 16h00

Coffee break

16h00 - 18h00

KAFANA ROOM

Toward regional and global indicators for MPA management effectiveness

DS04 - English | French | Montenegrin

TV ROOM

Collaborations between researchers and MPA managers to monitor and assess MPA management effectiveness

DS05 - English | French

CONFERENCE ROOM

Advancing equity: a challenge to win for effective MPAs

DS06 - English | French

19h00 - 20h30

KAFANA ROOM

COGITO Cocktail

26 OCTOBER 2022

9h00 - 9h30	KAFANA ROOM	Introductory presentation to the field trip
9h30 - 12h30		Field trip in Katič MPA English French
12h30 - 13h30		Lunch
14h00 - 15h30	KAFANA ROOM	Tools and way forward to assess MPA management effectiveness at site level DS07 (Part 1) - English French Montenegrin
	TV ROOM	MPA Networks, harnessing and scaling up skills and knowledge from the field for enhanced marine conservation DS08 (Part 1) - English French
	CONFERENCE ROOM	Effectively communicate the results and value of MPAs to engage users, non-technical stakeholders and investors in conservation efforts DS09 (Part 1) - English French
15h30 - 16h00		Coffee break
16h00 - 17h30	KAFANA ROOM	Tools and way forward to assess MPA management effectiveness at site level DS07 (Part 2) - English French Montenegrin
	TV ROOM	MPA Networks, harnessing and scaling up skills and knowledge from the field for enhanced marine conservation DS08 (Part 2) - English French
	CONFERENCE ROOM	Effectively communicate the results and value of MPAs to engage users, non-technical stakeholders and investors in conservation efforts DS09 (Part 2) - English French
18h00		Departure by bus from the hotel to Gala Dinner on the Katica boat

27 OCTOBER 2022

9h00 - 10h30	KAFANA ROOM	Decentralised governance models and experiences of participatory processes and co-management approaches DS10 (Part 1) - English French Montenegrin
	LOBBY ROOM	The key role of strict / enhanced protection for effective MPAs DS11 (Part 1) - English French
	CONFERENCE ROOM	Stakeholder engagement to improve knowledge via citizen science, facilitate bottom-up management, and increase acceptance and compliance DS12 (Part 1) - English French
10h30 - 11h00		Coffee break
11h00 - 12h30	KAFANA ROOM	Decentralised governance models and experiences of participatory processes and co-management approaches DS10 (Part 2) - English French Montenegrin
	LOBBY ROOM	The key role of strict / enhanced protection for effective MPAs DS11 (Part 2) - English French

<p>12h30 - 14h00</p> <p>14h00 - 15h30</p>	<p>CONFERENCE ROOM</p>	<p>Stakeholder engagement to improve knowledge via citizen science, facilitate bottom-up management, and increase acceptance and compliance</p> <p>DS12 (Part 2) - English French</p> <p>Lunch</p> <p>Closing plenary session</p> <p>English French Montenegrin</p>
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28 OCTOBER 2022 - SIDE EVENTS

<p>9h00 - 12h30</p>	<p>CONFERENCE ROOM</p> <p>KAFANA ROOM</p> <p>LOBBY ROOM</p>	<p>MedPAN Small Project event</p> <p>English French</p> <p>GEF inception workshop (upon invitation)</p> <p>(Part 1) - English French</p> <p>Resilience for MPA Managers training (upon invitation)</p> <p>(Part 1) - English French</p> <p>Lunch</p>
<p>12h30 - 14h00</p> <p>14h00 - 15h30</p>	<p>KAFANA ROOM</p> <p>LOBBY ROOM</p>	<p>GEF inception workshop (upon invitation)</p> <p>(Part 2) - English French</p> <p>Resilience for MPA Managers training (upon invitation)</p> <p>(Part 2) - English French</p>

Programme of the sessions

OPENING PLENARY

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 10:30 CET | KAFANA ROOM

DURATION : 1,5h

TRANSLATION : English | French | Montenegrin

FACILITATION MEDPAN : Purificació Canals (President of MedPAN)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Marie Romani (marie.romani@medpan.org)

OPENING SPEECHES :

- › Ms Ana Novakovic-Djurovic, Minister of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism of Montenegro
- › Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro
- › Ms Purificació Canals, President of MedPAN



THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF FIRST MPAS IN MONTENEGRO AS A PREREQUISITE FOR THEIR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT

- › Speakers: Ivana Stojanović (Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism of Montenegro) and Nemanja Malovrazić (Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro)
- › Participative process of establishment of the first three MPAs in Montenegro during 2021 successfully resulted in their official proclamation by the Government. The Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management as the MPA manager established a multidisciplinary Working Group which prepared management plans for MPAs and implemented other actions to ensure their future effective management.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP :

- › Participation and programme overview (Pierre Vignes, MedPAN)
- › Status and challenges of MPA management effectiveness for Mediterranean MPAs (Susan Gallon, MedPAN, and Renaud Dupuy de la Grandrive, Côte Agathoise MPA, France)
- › From the Post-2020 Mediterranean MPA Roadmap to action (Carole Martinez, MedPAN and Asma Kheriji, SPA/RAC)

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DISCUSSION PANEL :

- › How to define MPA management effectiveness ?

DS01 | MANAGEMENT PLANS: A REVIEW OF SUCCESSFUL APPROACHES TO DEVELOPING, IMPLEMENTING, ASSESSING AND ADAPTING EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION MEASURES IN MPAS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2022 | 11:00 - 15:30 CET | KAFANA ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French | Montenegrin

FACILITATION : Jorge Moreno Pérez (Balearic Government General Directorate of Natural Areas and Biodiversity, Spain) and Patricia Martí Puig (Oceanogami, Spain / Estonia)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Pierre Vignes (pierre.vignes@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

A cornerstone of MPA performance is to have a management plan with clearly defined goals and objectives, and of course to have the legal, human and financial capacity to implement it.

However, as shown in the 2020 status report of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea, only 3% of the surface of Mediterranean MPAs is covered by fully implemented management plans. In the rest of the basin, management plans are generally only partially implemented (47%), or MPAs simply do not have a management plan (26% of the covered area).

Addressing these shortcomings is one of the priorities identified in the Post-2020 Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas Roadmap, with Recommendation 3.1 stressing the need to “develop or update management plans for each MPA that include at least: SMART objectives; integrated and site-specific management measures, with a zoning plan (where applicable); monitoring plan with well-defined indicators for the conservation actions; business/financial plans including feasibility assessments; stakeholder engagement strategies; strategies to manage, mitigate and adapt to supra-MPA challenges;”

During this session, several case study presentations will open a discussion on the key drivers outlined in the above recommendation. We will discuss, from your own experiences and the standards required by your legal and institutional frameworks, how these key drivers are (or are not) reflected in your approaches to MPA management planning.

We expect this exchange to provide valuable insights and guidance on putting into practice these success factors that underpin effective MPA management plans. Building on the case studies presented, we will also seek to identify strategies and tools that can be put in place at the local, national or regional level to effectively support the development of individual and institutional capacities needed to boost structured planning processes, according to the principles of participatory planning and adaptive management.

CASE STUDIES :

› **Developing management plans for Natura 2000 sites in Croatia**

Speakers : Matea Špika and Zrinka Jakl (Sunce, Croatia)

Sunce currently coordinates the development of 8 management plans for 23 Protected Areas and 70 Natura 2000 sites (36 marine and 34 land areas) in Šibenik–Knin, Split–Dalmatia and Dubrovnik–Neretva counties (Group 5). These plans cover the following areas: Krka estuary, Mali Ston Bay, Pelješac peninsula, Sniježnica and Konavle field, and islands of Hvar, Korčula and Mljet.

The management plan development is implemented within the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development EU project “Development of Natura 2000 Management Framework” (Operational programme Competitiveness and Cohesion 2014–2020). The goal is to establish a framework for effective Natura 2000 management through participatory development of management plans, development of individual and institutional capacities and raising public awareness.

By joining the EU, Croatia took on a commitment to establish the Natura 2000 network. It covers 37% of the land area and 16% of the coastal sea (38 SPAs and 745 SCIs areas). Maintaining or achieving a good conservation status of target species and habitats is the responsibility of every EU Member State. Current development of management plans is being carried out through a structured planning process, following participatory planning and adaptive management principles, and based on Sunce's previous experience in management planning.

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› **Direct peer-to-peer support from Strunjan MPA to boost effective management in the newly established MPA of Debeli rtič in Slovenia**

Speakers : Samanta Makovac (Strunjan Landscape Park, Slovenia), Barbara Švagelj (Landscape Park Debeli rtič, Municipality of Ankaran, Slovenia)

The objective of the peer-to-peer experience sharing activities in two Slovenian MPAs was to boost the implementation of priority management measures in a newly established MPA.

The support and replication of the Strunjan MPA approach strengthened the management effectiveness of Debeli rtič MPA and the durability of this network.

This advanced cooperation in a similar national context, related nature values and management challenges has allowed for the replication of the existing and tested approach to boost the implementation of priority management actions in Debeli rtič MPA.

The main achievement in improving the management of the MPA in the context of this experience has been the effective preparation of the 2022-2026 Management Plan for Debeli rtič MPA. It was developed with a comprehensive analysis of the MPA, analytical bases, objectives and conservation measures for the management of the MPA. In addition, protection regimes, conservation and development policies, an implementation programme and a prioritised financial plan were detailed. Besides the substantive value, the management plan was prepared in record time.

Direct peer-to-peer exchange is useful for several reasons - it brings new insights, the information is tested and already improved (time and efficiency savings) and it is reliable.

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› **Co-management approach in MPA Torre Guaceto: the enlargement process to address EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030**

Speaker : Francesco de Franco (MPA Torre Guaceto, Italy)

The MPA of Torre Guaceto is a SPAMI List and EMAS site for over ten years. During his twenty years of life, the managing body has set among its main objectives a governance that guarantees the participation of the relevant stakeholders in the objectives and results. This effort has allowed, for example, the adoption: of a fisheries regulation shared with the resident artisanal fishermen, of the management plans for the terrestrial nature reserve and the Natura 2000 SIC and of the European charter for sustainable tourism. The Italian MPAs' legal framework doesn't provide for the adoption of multi-year management plans, but has introduced, for about ten years, to meet the requirements of the Barcelona Convention, a standard system for identifying conservation objectives (ISEA).

The Torre Guaceto MPA has developed this system, making it the central pivot of its planning and guaranteeing public participation in terms of evaluation and accountability of the results. Having become manager of the SAC, Torre Guaceto has expanded this management model on the Natura 2000 site and through a participatory process with local stakeholders, has started a procedure of enlargement of the MPA, overlapping the SAC, to guarantee effective conservation measures, respecting EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030.

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› **The dashboard of the Marine Natural Park of Cap-Corsica and Agriate: a support tool for the management assessment process [online]**

Speaker : Amélie Rossi (Marine natural park of Cap Corse and Agriate, France)

Protected areas such as Marine Natural Parks (MNPs) must validate a management plan for 15 years. The MNP of Cap-Corsica and Agriate (MNP CCA) created in 2016 validated its management plan in 2019 around 9 major stakes of its territory declined around 19 management purposes. During the management cycles, the MNPs must also evaluate their actions on their territory, this is a regulatory obligation (article R 334-33 of the Environment Code).

The objective of this evaluation is to meet several concrete needs of the managers:

- › make the management results legible
- › develop adaptive management in view of the results of the assessment
- › ensure transparency with regard to the management strategy
- › be like an alert system to detect and anticipate problems

The evaluation consists of measuring the effects of the management by determining whether the legal, administrative, financial and technical means implemented produce the expected results in view of the major stakes identified in the manage-

ment plan. The evaluation must be accompanied by indicators that allow a diagnosis. These indicators are identified within a dashboard which is closely linked to the major stakes and purposes of the management plan. The dashboard is intended to be a tool at the service of management evaluation that offers a synthetic view of the situation (e.g. inventory) and trends observed in the field (e.g. management efficiency).

The MNP CCA dashboard is currently under construction. Its implementation is a work of consultation (project managers, scientific experts, MPA support service, etc.) to focus both on the purposes of the park management plan and also the environmental objectives at the national and European level (strategic directive for the marine environment). A panel of around a hundred indicators is currently being studied. The final choice of the dashboard must take into account the ability to implement the indicators (scientific knowledge, field missions, surveys, etc.) and their time frame in relation to the resources of the park (field staff time, budget for providing studies, material investment...), hence its complexity of implementation and the need for assistance to the MNPs on this essential subject, which is the management evaluation.

DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION



SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

Develop national guidelines for the management of MPAs (covering all categories of designation including marine Natura 2000 sites). The development of national guidelines may be entrusted to a qualified NGO under the supervision of the national MPA authority (e.g. Ministry of Environment).

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › National NGOs

Establish national systems, such as dashboards, for monitoring the implementation of management plans and evaluating management effectiveness. Besides helping countries to fulfil their commitments in terms of nature protection and conservation, dashboards will address several concrete needs of managers: make management results legible (reporting); enable adaptive management; communicate and raise awareness of results; detect and anticipate problems (warning system). Dashboards should be developed in line with the management plan (ideally at the same time), with the aim of **bringing together monitoring indicators to give a synthetic view of the situation and trends of the management strategy.** Dashboard indicators will measure the achievement of the targets described in the management plan and will answer the following questions in particular:

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies

- › Have the actions carried out enabled to progress towards the long-term objectives and desired state?
- › Have the actions achieved the operational objectives and effectively addressed the pressures?
- › Has the MPA implemented all the actions planned?

Plan and advocate cooperation with other sectors to overcome the limitations of the MPA management body in terms of jurisdiction and capacity in order to ensure effective implementation and enforcement (e.g. surveillance, control, monitoring, etc). **Financial planning should consider the costs for other sectors/stakeholders** involved in management, as well as funding opportunities for cooperation.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Competent local stakeholders and community groups

Ensure support from the national MPA authority (e.g. Ministry of Environment) throughout the MPA management planning process.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies

Support managers in initiating participatory processes to extend the perimeter of their MPA to adjacent areas where the management plan has limited legal value or is insufficiently implemented (e.g. Natura 2000 sites). Extending existing MPAs over adjacent areas with lower regulatory standards and capacity is one effective approach countries should consider to meet their commitment to enhanced protection: the expertise of the manager in the area and the management dynamics of the initial MPA will contribute to stakeholders' buy-in and engagement in the extension process (e.g. encouraged by the results of the original MPA, fishers may request the establishment of additional no-take zones within the new perimeter).

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Competent local stakeholders and community groups

Entrust qualified national NGOs with the task of supporting MPAs in the development and updating of their management plans. Support from an NGO with experience in participatory planning and adaptive management and a solid knowledge of the field, the stakeholders, and the national legal framework will boost structured planning processes across the national MPA system.

Recommandation destinée aux :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks
- › Donors

Support direct peer mentoring to boost management planning processes in a newly established MPA through the transfer of experience from an experienced MPA. Replicating an existing and tested management approach, however, requires that both MPAs are under the same legal framework and that the natural value, size, and use of the area are sufficiently similar. Besides effectively accelerating the planning and implementation of conservation measures, direct peer-to-peer exchange and support provide **an invaluable boost to networking and inclusion of a newly created MPA in the national and international community of MPA managers and stakeholders** (e.g. connection with national and international networks). This approach also allows the «mentor» MPA to improve its own management and conservation policies in the process.

Recommandation destinée aux :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks
- › Donors

Advocate for a more systematic national approach to reach 10% of strict protection (including intensive communication).

Recommandation destinée aux :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › National NGOs
- › Networks

Inventory, collate and organise existing capacity building resources and tools and identify those to be developed to support MPAs in management planning processes. Using either existing or new resources, capacity building should address all key components of a sound management plan (cf: Recommendation 3.1 of the Post-2020 Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas Roadmap), including:

Recommandation destinée aux :

- › Networks and organisations implementing Capacity Building activities for MPAs
- › National and local MPA Authorities

- › SMART objectives
 - › integrated and site-specific management measures
 - › zoning plan
 - › monitoring plan with well-defined indicators for the conservation actions
 - › business/financial plans including feasibility assessments
 - › stakeholder engagement strategies
 - › strategies to manage, mitigate and adapt to supra-MPA challenges
- Checklist of components to be thoroughly completed based on best practice in management planning:
- › Prioritised objectives to allow prioritising the allocation of resources (prioritised financial plan)
 - › Definition of protection regimes
 - › implementation programme (staff, surveillance, investments, monitoring prioritised financial plan)
 - › Enforcement and criminal strategy
 - › Communication plan
 - › Climate change indicators and vulnerability assessments
 - › Etc

DS02 | MAKING THE CASE FOR INCREASED INVESTMENTS IN MEDITERRANEAN MPAS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2022 | 11:00 - 15:30 CET | TV ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Romain Renoux (The MedFund, Monaco) and Martina Hervat (Brijuni, National Park, Croatia)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Carole Martinez (carole.martinez@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

The issue of funding actions for marine ecosystems is a worldwide concern. The Sustainable development goal dedicated to the ocean, SDG 14 – life below water – is one of the less funded of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

The last Union for the Mediterranean Conference on Blue finance, held last July 2022, highlighted in its recommendations the need to facilitate communication between the financial institutions and project promoters in the form of a “common language”, currently lacking.

According to a MedPAN survey, 28% of MPAs in non-EU countries MPAs from non-EU countries declared to work with an insufficient budget or with no budget at all.

This session will provide the opportunity to discuss different financial support for MPAs and lessons learned.

PANEL :

› **Business planning for Coastal and Marine ecosystems : The case of Sallum MPA**

Speakers : Ahmed Abdallah (Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency)

There is a lack of financial resources for the Coastal and Marine ecosystems worldwide. It is estimated that an additional amount of 700 million euros per year is required to achieve the conservation objectives of these Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the Mediterranean. This funding gap leads to weak enforcement of rules and regulations and a shortage of monitoring activities, especially in less advanced countries. Therefore, financial planning is significant to enable the fulfilment of this funding gap and the implementation of conservation activities.

Clearly, well-prepared business plans play a significant role in maintaining financial stability, diversifying funding sources, and protecting against financial risks. Moreover, it acts as a tool to give confidence to potential funders and support future grant applications.

In that regard, a business plan was prepared for Sallum MPA in Egypt to determine short and long-term financial needs, analyse existing funding sources and identify potential financing sources to enable the MPA to achieve its conservation mandate and effectively accomplish its management responsibilities. The Sallum Marine Protected Area was declared in 2010 and has an area of 383 km². It is managed by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency.

The preparation of the business plan started with a presentation of the approach applied in the preparation and the details of data collection and methodology. This was followed by presenting an overview of the MPA by employing the STEEPLED and the SWOT analysis. Moreover, financial analysis and projections of the costs associated with the operation were conducted to determine the funding shortfalls. The management and financial needs were identified based on three scenarios of performance; actual, basic, and optimal. The actual situation referred to the current level of performance, the basic scenario was grounded on the expectation that the protected area performance is going to be at a satisfactory level, and the optimal situation was based on the expectation that the protected area performance is going to be at a highly satisfactory level. Then, potential sources of funding were presented and recommendations were made on the most appropriate sources and mechanisms through which income can be generated allowing for detailed revenue projections, including nature-based tourism...

To measure the progress toward the sustainable financing of the MPA, a group of indicators was determined to assess the ability of the protected area to generate adequate funds to achieve its goals. Finally, the business plan presented the required immediate actions, four priority actions, and eleven recommendations to serve as a road map for the implementation of the business plan. An important lesson learned is that understanding resources-users relationship and socio-eco linkages are key. An advisory committee was set up with all stakeholders.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

› **Support programmes for the implementation of local financing mechanisms**

Speakers : Timothée Cook (Bluseeds, France)

In continuity with its guide about the financing mechanisms for the MPA managers, BlueSeeds has been working for two years on the development of support programs for a step-by-step implementation of these financing mechanisms (en-

trance fees, mooring rights, concessions).

This approach allows for the diversification of MPA revenues and an increase in the skills of managers and their teams throughout the entire process of developing and monitoring such mechanisms. The diversification of MPA revenues allows for greater financial resilience, while the targeted mechanisms allow for better involvement of stakeholders (tourists, economic actors) in the life of the MPA.

Several sites have benefited from preliminary support for the implementation of entrance fees. This initial fieldwork has made it possible to identify a number of major obstacles to the financial diversification of MPAs. In 2022, BlueSeeds will finalize the theoretical part of these support programs (toolboxes, teaching aids, etc.) based on this field feedback in order to offer, as of 2023, more advanced support that contributes to better management efficiency to a larger number of sites.

DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION

› Experience of Brijuni national Park

Speakers : Marno Milotić (Brijuni National Park, Croatia)

Marine protected area practitioners regularly face the challenge of meeting their conservation goals with a very limited budget. Marno Milotić, the Interim General Manager of the Public Institution Brijuni National Park from Croatia presented the legislative framework and benefit from tourism-based revenue that enabled the PA's financial self-sustainability.

The Brijuni National Park was created in 1983 and is 100% state owned. It is composed of 14 islands and islets with a total area of 3395 ha of which 80% are sea, and has not had any permanent inhabitants since 1961. The National Park has around 230 employees (300 in summer with seasonal staff) and is visited by more than 160,000 visitors per year. The current annual budget of approximately 11 million EUR needed to run the National Park and is 100% covered by self-generated revenues (2022):

- › 36% Hotels and restaurants managed by the public institution
- › 33% Visitors' entrance tickets
- › 11% Projects
- › 10% Sport equipment rentals
- › 4% Other incomes (parking, insurances, boat rental, sale of properties, penalties etc)
- › 3% Entrance tickets from vessels
- › 2% Concession fees
- › 1% Donations

The concession fees represent a steady income for the park, but other contributions boost as well the conservation activities. It is interesting to highlight, among others, that Croatia has a joint fund for national level PAs - 3% of ticket fees go into the joint fund for PAs that they cannot secure from their annual income.

› Testimony from MedFund beneficiaries

Speakers : Laureta Sadikllari (Flag Pine, Albania)

Since 2018, a new management concept and approach was applied to the national marine park of Karaburun-Sazan within the frame of the project «Supporting the effective Management of Karaburun-Sazan MPA», realised with the support of The MedFund and with financing from FFEM. For the first time in Albania the management of a protected area was done through the collaboration between a national institution and a local NGO, respectively the Regional Administration of Protected Areas, Vlore and the local NGO Flag Pine. The project itself is considered as a trust fund that aims to achieve an effective management of Karaburun-Sazan MPA by filling the gaps and covering the needs of RAPA Vlore, needs that are yet to be fulfilled by the state budget. In accordance with the main objectives of the project, namely the improvement of the infrastructure and patrolling of illegal activities; monitoring of conservation targets and other indicators; awareness raising and building bridges of collaboration among stakeholders, several actions have been implemented which have resulted in the creation of the path for a sustainable and effective management of the marine park.

DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION

› Lessons learned from 25 years of investment in MPA

Speakers : Constance CORBIER (FFEM)

The French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) was created by the French Government in 1994 following the first Earth Summit, to implement sustainable development projects that integrate the preservation of global public goods, international solidarity and innovation in developing and emerging countries. Biodiversity is one of the three core and original themes of FFEM: more than half of the projects financed since FFEM's creation have been dedicated to it. Since its creation in 1994, the FFEM has favoured innovative environmental projects that can be replicated at a larger scale. To do so, it is essential to capitalise on experiences gained from these projects and to learn from them in order to improve future projects.

The presentation showcased a study that reviewed the 40 FFEM projects that have supported the creation and/or management of MPAs and the management of coastal areas. The capitalisation analysis was organised under different themes:

- › Knowledge and monitoring for informed management
- › The creation and sustainable management of MPAs
- › Sustainable economic development and the blue economy
- › Ecosystem resilience
- › How to sustain the benefits resulting from MPA protection

The presentation shared the need for paradigm shifts and key conclusions and lessons learnt of the study:

- › Better understanding for better management
- › Engage waterside populations in management
- › Reconcile ecological, socio-economic and cultural challenges
- › Avoid viewing the MPA in isolation - it is intrinsic to its region, so requires a regional approach
- › Strengthen the resilience of the MPA via restoration of the environments, the promotion of nature-based solutions, and the diversification of socio-economic development initiatives.
- › Future-proof the MPA by equipping it with sufficient human and financial resources, researching innovative solutions and putting in place rewarding partnerships.

DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION

› **Lessons learned from CEPF**

Speakers : Pierre Carret (CEPF)

Access to funding for local nonprofit organizations working on biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot is limited, with most support provided by a small group of dedicated donors, including CEPF. Since 2012, CEPF provided more than 250 grants to more than 200 different organizations in 14 countries – for a total budget of close to \$24 million. Our experience demonstrated that civil society organizations do exist in each hotspot country, and that adequate financial support, combined with technical support, has the potential to build strong constituencies able to tackle conservation issues at the local level.

Site-based conservation action is a priority for the CEPF strategy, as are building the capacity of grantees and developing projects with sustainable impacts. We have seen that through site-based, concrete action, local civil society organizations build their experience but also their credibility, allowing them to tighten partnerships with the private sector and local authorities, and little by little influence other stakeholders.

Making an analogy with the ecosystem's dynamics, the talk presented several lessons learnt:

- › A diversity of stakeholders is important for an operational MPA. Having one single stakeholder for an MPA is not optimal. The more stakeholders, the better and the more sources of funding. In addition, diversity implies, like in an ecosystem, not only competition but also cooperation for projects and actions on the ground. Regarding cooperation, seeking funds together increases the chances of success. A diversity of donors is also very important as they have different objectives and ways of working.
- › Considering the time dimension, not every organization is at the same level of growth. It is therefore important for donors to accept a step-by-step approach, understanding that the path to improved capacity is not linear. This also requests adapting financial instruments and procedures.
- › In the evolution of the natural ecosystem, death is an important factor, and key to adaptation. The same applies to civil society: some organizations may die, and that's something to be accepted. Investing in human resources is therefore key, as individuals will continue to keep the legacy of past organizations alive.

SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

Elaborate enabling national regulatory frameworks that help MPAs managers diversify income generation opportunities beyond tourism, to ensure greater resilience to the financial impacts of future pandemics, human-made risks or natural hazards.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks
- › Donors

Conduct funding needs assessment of MPAs and the national system of MPAs, including needs for adequate human resources, to have a clear view of these funding needs, the legal adjustments and what is expected from national sources and what the private funders could contribute to.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks
- › Donors

Increase natural capital accounting analysis in MPAs and fundraising efforts.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks
- › Donors

Expand capacity-building activities on MPA business planning and financial strategies with innovative funding mechanisms and support experience sharing.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks

Support and expand Mediterranean sustainable funding mechanisms for MPAs such as the MedFund.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National MPA Authorities
- › Networks
- › NGOs
- › Donors

DS03 | EFFECTIVE RESPONSES TO EMERGENCY AND EXISTENTIAL THREATS TO MPAS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2022 | 11:00 - 15:30 CET | CONFERENCE ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Laurent Sourbes (Natural Environment & Climate Change Agency / Management Unit of National Parks Zakynthos, Ainos and Protected Areas of Ionian Islands, Greece) and Antonio Troya (IUCN Mediterranean)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Susan Gallon (susan.gallon@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

Management effectiveness has been in the agenda of the CBD work programme since 2004, with a target of assessing 60% of the total area protected by 2015, a commitment that was reiterated in 2016. However, this target has still not been reached by the majority of the parties, in particular for MPAs. Management effectiveness is now a main objective of the Zero Draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework of the CBD, which highlights the importance of better capturing management effectiveness through indicators and targets at a more detailed level. Evaluating the management effectiveness of protected areas is not an easy task and the link between actions and outcomes is often not so obvious in an MPA. For example, despite good management practices, natural disturbances or climate change can radically alter ecosystems regardless of how well an MPA is being managed. The sharp increase in non regulated recreational activities in MPAs in the post-COVID era is also a threat to the need to improve the adaptive capacity of communities and ecosystems to respond to future crises.

During this session, several case study presentations will open a discussion on implementing effective responses to emergency and existential threats to MPAs. We will discuss, based on attendees' experience and the constraints of different legal and institutional frameworks, how MPAs can best prepare and address such threats. We will share good practices that support managers to adaptively improve their management actions and seek to identify key tools and strategies to share among the network.

CASE STUDIES :

› Crisis management of *Pinna nobilis* in Croatia

Speakers : Sandro Dujmovic (Brijuni National Park, Croatia)

This case study presents how Croatia organized in a short period of time and managed to finance the project of monitoring and protection of the *Pinna nobilis* shell. The project gave excellent results where a large number of public institutions, scientific institutions, private companies, non-governmental institutions and most importantly citizens were engaged. For the first time everyone had the same goal and successfully cooperated on a project financed by the Croatian fund, coordinated by the ministry and public institutions together with partners implementing the project. High visibility was achieved, a large number of citizens got involved, and in three years we had a surprising number of reports about *Pinna*. The project also established connections with experts outside Croatia.

› Training: an innovative toolkit for MPAs managers for developing MPA Resilience Oriented Management

Speakers: Jean-Jacques Goussard (EU Ocean Governance Project, France)

The aim of the Resilience partnership ('Resilience twinning – Marine Protected areas coping with rapid changes' – <https://coastal-resilience.online>) is to reinforce the capacities of MPA managers to develop and implement Resilience Oriented Management (ROM), which will both increase the resilience of their MPA and the contribution of MPAs to coastal resilience and surrounding coastal territories.

In many countries of the Mediterranean, economic activities are concentrated near the coast, prompting populations. The coastal zone, and by extension the marine landscape, will experience significant changes that are already unfolding, due to demography, growth in coastal urbanisation, tourism infrastructures, migration, climate change, etc....All contribute to natural ecosystem conversion and ecological services losses.

These rapid changes are not always accompanied by adequate spatial planning processes and policies. To respond, MPAs must be prepared to cope with rapidly changing environments, while their managers face a cultural shift to become active players in sustainable coastal development, adaptation and risk reduction.

Since 2016, the Resilience twinning developed guidelines on resilience as a practical tool for MPA managers. These guidelines have allowed the development of the Resilience Self-Assessment Tool (R-SAT), which was made available online and used until now on 32 MPAs in 12 countries in Europe, Africa, the USA, Latin and Central America, and the Indian Ocean. Today, this tool is functional and freely available online in four languages. Feedback from users is enthusiastic and encouraging.

The implementation of R-SAT makes it possible to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each MPA analysed, and to identify specific measures to be implemented in order to improve resilience. It helps to strengthen the relevance of management plans, promoting adaptive practices, and anticipatory decision-making. It also allows for the establishment of a baseline regarding resilience oriented management. Allowing for comparison between different situations and the monitoring of an MPA's progress over time. The online platform offers the possibility of saving data and their reuse by their authors for diachronic comparison, or between different MPAs.

The training aims to provide an introduction to the Resilience Self-Assessment-Tool and its practical application. It will be divided into four sessions:

- › General introduction to the resilience partnership and the Ocean Governance Project.
 - › Detailed review of the different criteria used to assess the resilience of marine protected areas
 - › Guided application of R-SAT to the different marine protected areas represented in the audience.
 - › Review and comments on results obtained.
-
- › **Management of at-sea activities: Regulation of nautical activities and organisation of moorings in a French national parks**

Speakers : Julien Tavernier and Patrick Bonhomme (Calanques National Park, France)

The Calanques National Park is a peri-urban MPA, terrestrial and marine, where many different human uses and activities are taking place. At sea, mooring and the increase in nautical activities are two major issues that are direct threats to biodiversity and marine habitats. In this study case, we will present how the Calanques national Park produced its overall mooring organisation plan, in order to protect Posidonia meadows, and coralligenous. We will also discuss how the Calanques National Park has regulated commercial activities and emerging activities within the core marine area.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

- › **Shallow red gorgonians at dusk in the North Western Mediterranean Sea**

Speakers : Tristan Estaque (Septentrion Environnement, France) and Patrick Bonhomme (Calanques National Park, France)

A short communication to present the massive mortality of bottom-dwelling organisms that occurred in NW Mediterranean Sea between August and October 2022. The important next step now is to assess the global extent of this massive mortality event on the Mediterranean Sea thanks to a regional collaboration of MPA practitioners and scientists.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)



SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

COMMUNICATION

Communicate largely and timely on emergency and existential threats to MPAs, involving stakeholders to improve the response effectiveness

Recommendation targeted at :

- › MPA management bodies
- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › National NGOs
- › Regional NGOs
- › MedPAN

NETWORK

Lessons learned from past crises should be made easily available (e.g. platform, etc.) to share innovative solutions and develop a 'red alert system'

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National NGOs
- › Regional NGOs
- › Networks

LEGISLATION

Monitor the authorised activities within the MPAs to prevent negative impacts on habitat and species. Regarding emerging activities, authorisation and environmental impact assessments should be required

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities

CAPACITY

Develop guidelines and standard protocols to collect data identify crises at the regional level and act timely to address the threat

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National NGOs
- › Regional NGOs
- › Networks and organisations implementing Capacity Building activities for MPAs

DS04 | TOWARD REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INDICATORS FOR MPA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2022 | 16:00 - 18:00 CET | KAFANA ROOM

DURATION : 2h

TRANSLATION : English | French | Montenegrin

FACILITATION : Samanta Makovac (Landscape Park Strunjan, Slovenia) and Sue Wells (IUCN WCPA MPA Management Effectiveness Task Force, UK)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Susan Gallon (susan.gallon@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

The Convention on Biological Diversity's post2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3, currently being developed, is likely to stipulate that protected area systems are "effectively and equitably managed" by parties to the Convention. Global indicators for protected area management effectiveness (PAME) are currently being discussed, and a system is being sought that would allow results from individual national assessments of all types to be translated into high level indicators for global reporting. For the marine environment, regional management bodies and conventions often play an important role in MPA management and have an interest in harmonising activities across the countries involved; indicators and tools for PAME assessment are thus also being developed in several regions and at the EU level.

As yet there is no consensus on the key indicators for PAME at either the regional or global level. It is widely recognised that indicators need to broadly reflect the IUCN Green List Standard, which identifies four components of PAME: good governance, sound design and planning, effective management, and successful conservation outcomes. There have been several attempts to develop headline indicators that would provide essential PAME information, given the challenge of balancing the number of questions/indicators needed for a full assessment with the limited capacity, time and resources that are usually available and the need for a simplified system for reporting. A 2010 global analysis found that about 1000 differently worded indicators have been used in different assessment tools and analyses, and that these could be reduced to 33 common headline indicators. For Mediterranean MPAs, a 2013 project identified a list of 18 indicators, of which 12 were considered a priority. In 2021, The Nature Conservancy undertook a similar analysis and identified a minimum set of 17 indicators for coastal and marine protected areas. Indicators based on regulations and other components of management effectiveness have also been developed for MPAs, such as the MPA Guide and the Regulation-based Classification System for MPAs.

This session will include case studies that illustrate some of the challenges in finding appropriate indicators, and will discuss progress made and future actions required to advance this topic in the Mediterranean.

CASE STUDIES :

› Results of the assessment of the management effectiveness of Senegal's MPA network between 2020 and 2022

Speaker : Mamadou Diop (Ministère de l'environnement et du développement durable, Senegal)

This contribution is a commented and analysed compilation of the evaluation of the management effectiveness of Senegal's marine protected areas between 2020 and 2022. The two assessment tools used for this evaluation are the Integrated Management Effectiveness Tool (IMET) and the Compass Rose tool, which are standard assessment methodologies using indicators transformed into criteria.

Information obtained from the managers of marine protected areas was analysed in a cross-sectional manner and has enabled the national directorate to have more elements of appreciation of the efforts of the network, which now comprises 15 MPAs. Thus the methodology adopted by the DAMCP, which is the national directorate in charge of MPAs, following this series of evaluations, is that at the end of each year an evaluation with the RDV tool is carried out by each MPA as well as at the end of the implementation of each management plan, which means on average 5 years, an IMET evaluation is requested from each MPA.

This study has been a very effective and useful contribution to the DAMCP.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

› Towards an EU methodology for assessing management effectiveness of marine Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs

Speaker : Vedran Nikolic (DG Environment)

To safeguard biodiversity and to address increasingly complex threats to marine ecosystems, EU Member States have designated networks of marine protected areas (MPAs). Whilst the MPAs cover about 12% of EU seas, almost 75% of those are part of the Natura 2000 network, which currently includes more than 3000 marine sites and covers about 9% of Europe's seas. In addition to Natura 2000 sites, EU Member States have designated MPAs under national legislation and in the framework of regional sea conventions.

In the context of legal obligations under the Birds and Habitats Directives and commitments under the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, the European Commission started developing and testing a methodology to assess the management effectiveness of marine Natura 2000 sites and other EU MPAs. This methodology will build on experiences and methods used in the Natura 2000 network and other MPAs, as well as on any other available efforts in developing new systems that can be applied to the European context.

The presentation will focus on the EU biodiversity policy context related to MPAs and will present the draft EU methodology to assess management effectiveness and results of testing, as well as its potential future application.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

› **Development of a Global Indicator for Protected Area Management Effectiveness**

Speaker : Eirian Kettle (JNCC, UK)

To date, assessments of protected area management effectiveness have largely focussed on whether an assessment is in place rather than understanding how effective the management is. The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), in partnership with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), aimed to fill this gap by building on existing methods, including Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) assessments and OSPAR's guidance on reporting on the status of Marine Protected Areas, to develop a global indicator of protected area management effectiveness.

The indicator was developed, primarily from the OSPAR Regional Sea Convention's four-question-based approach, which has been successfully applied for the past four years across Marine Protected Areas in the North East Atlantic and is considered relatively simple, easy to understand, and flexible, so that it could be applied globally to marine, coastal and terrestrial protected areas and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs). The indicator has drawn focus to the delivery of conservation objectives, which are often difficult to measure.

To date, the indicator has been trialled in 5 regions covering a total of 538 PAs: Canada, Costa Rica and then two of the UK Overseas Territories of St Helena and British Indian Ocean Territory and NE Atlantic via OSPAR using data from Germany, Spain, Sweden and UK. Development of the indicator is ongoing such that presentation at this workshop is timely to gain further views and insights to ensure its global applicability.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS (DS04+DS07) :

MANAGEMENT

From the start choose an assessment tool that suits the MPA's needs, or adapt an existing tool – a lack of data do not prevent carrying out an assessment

Recommendation targeted at :

- National and local MPA Authorities
- MPA management bodies

NETWORK

Contribute to the development of guidelines on the different purposes of existing management assessment tools, how they can complement each other, and how they can be used for specific purposes (e.g. adaptive management, regional assessment, label, etc.)

Recommendation targeted at :

- National NGOs
- Regional NGOs
- Networks

MANAGEMENT

Ensure that periodic assessments of management effectiveness are linked to the management planning process, and that the results of assessments are used to improve both management activities and monitoring programmes

Recommendation targeted at :

- National and local MPA Authorities
- MPA management bodies
- National and regional networks

REPORTING

Use as far as possible data available from databases and reporting systems. Data should ideally be retrieved automatically from existing databases/reporting systems, where appropriate, to facilitate the exercise

Recommendation targeted at :

- National NGOs
- Regional NGOs
- Networks

DS05 | COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN RESEARCHERS AND MPA MANAGERS TO MONITOR AND ASSESS MPA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2022 | 16:00 - 18:00 CET | TV ROOM

DURATION : 2h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Valentina Cappanera (Portofino MA, Italy) and Tina Centrih Genov (Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Susan Gallon (susan.gallon@medpan.org) / Pierre Vignes (pierre.vignes@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

For almost two decades, marine protected areas (MPAs) have been a central instrument of coastal conservation and management policies, but concerns about their abilities to meet conservation goals have grown as the number and sizes of MPAs have dramatically increased. Being able to demonstrate whether a Marine Protected Area (MPA) is achieving its objectives is essential to be able to refine the management measures adopted and to reinforce their legitimacy. In many MPAs across the Mediterranean, MPA managers rely on researchers for collecting baseline or long-term biological, ecological or socio-economic data because of a lack of in-house expertise or resources. Monitoring data, however, are also crucial to inform and adapt management measures implemented in the MPA. Moreover, those monitoring data need to be shared in time to review and adapt management measures when relevant to ensure MPA management effectiveness.

This session will showcase lessons learnt from successful and on-going collaborations between MPA managers and researchers to monitor and assess MPA management effectiveness. A key recommendation of the post-2020 Mediterranean MPA Roadmap is to improve collaboration among researchers and MPA staff to develop or update management plans and assess MPA management effectiveness, based on an interdisciplinary scientific understanding (socio-ecological systems) of the MPA and its objectives. The session's discussion will be driven to identify strategies and actions for the implementation of this key recommendation of the post-2020 Mediterranean MPA Roadmap.

CASE STUDIES :

› **Ecological status of the Adriatic subtidal rocky habitats assessed by the MedSens index**

Speaker : Eva Turicchia (University of Bologna, Italy)

MedSens is a biotic index developed to provide information on the environmental status of Mediterranean subtidal rocky coastal habitats, based on data collected by trained scuba diver volunteers using the Reef Check Mediterranean Underwater Coastal Environment Monitoring (RCMed-UCEM) protocol. The index is based on 25 selected species, incorporating their sensitivities to the pressures indicated by the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and open data on their distributions and abundances. According to benchmark levels and a literature review, the species' sensitivities were assessed relative to their resistance and resilience against physical, chemical, and biological pressures and averaged in the study area.

The availability of data collected by volunteers using the RCMed-UCEM protocol offers the opportunity to assess the ecological status of the rocky habitats in many areas along the Adriatic Sea. MedSens index was applied to the rocky habitats in the main diving and touristic sites along the Italian and Croatian coasts, providing the mean sensitivity of the assemblages to the pressure categories; however, many areas in southern Croatia, Montenegro and Albania are lacking in data. MedSens can help conservationists and decision-makers identify the main pressures acting in coralligenous habitats, as required by the MSFD, supporting them in implementing appropriate marine biodiversity conservation measures and better communicating the results of their actions.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

› **Not just what to monitor but consider with whom, for whom, and what for**

Speaker : Arturo Lopez (Independent expert, Spain)

Harmonized monitoring is the basic tool for management effectiveness, reporting and adaptation, being underlined in almost every MPA international agreement. Monitoring allows us to assess the state and evolution of the area, the compliance with the legal and management objectives, the pressures, measures and conservation outcomes, and thus, the management effectiveness. Today, however, the available data sets are scarce, heterogeneous and discontinuous. Progressing towards the monitoring of effective management requires the development of simple, representative, comprehensive and communicable indicators; some may be site-specific but others should be harmonized at the regional level to provide for comparisons across sites and time, and to facilitate regional assessments.

MPAs are not controlled laboratories, but dynamic territories. Conservation management is not an exact science since there are too many aspects to consider given the complexity of ecological and human systems. Science provides the baseline information (where we are? in what direction are we moving?), but successful conservation outcomes require concertation for shared conservation objectives; here, monitoring is also a powerful tool for participation and communications. However, in

designing monitoring systems we usually focus on what to monitor, giving less consideration about who may also participate in the data collection, to whom is this information addressed, and what for.

This reflection will be exemplified through a case participated by the author in the Minorca island Biosphere Reserve, where on the first question (what?) over 100 indicators initially proposed by the academic sector, after discussion and agreement with other stakeholders, were simplified into 10 synthetic indicators. This outcome is also relevant for the second question (who?) as most stakeholders were found to have the capacity to provide data for indicators related to their particular sector, which in turn helps to share conservation responsibilities. For whom? The participation of the local media allowed for regular publishing of the results in a friendly lay-out available to the general public, strengthening the social concern, which in turn, facilitates the (what for?) institutional response to improve management effectiveness.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

› **Monitoring and contribution of small scale and recreational fisheries to assess Karaburun-Sazan MPA's effectiveness**

Speaker : Rigers Bakiu (Agricultural University of Tirana / Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries / Albanian Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development, Albania)

When properly managed marine protected areas (MPAs) are a tool potentially able to deliver both conservation and fisheries benefits. This is particularly true for small scale fishery (SSF) when fishers are engaged in management and collaborate with MPA managers and scientists. SSF is widespread along the coasts of the Mediterranean and in Albania it has developed remarkably since the 1990s. In 2010, the area of Karaburun and Sazani Island was declared the first MPA in Albania and since then several initiatives have been implemented to improve the management of the SSF close to the MPA.

This presentation will show the case of Radhime (Vlora Bay) small-scale and recreational fishers, who assisted the MPA managers in implementing innovative monitoring programs in several projects (including the MPA NETWORKs project) and the relatively interesting results about the landed catches from fishing activities outside and inside the marine protected fishing areas, which are useful for assessing the Karaburun-Sazani MPA effectiveness.

[DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION](#)

SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

Support networking between MPA managers and researchers to enhance mutual understanding, create a reciprocal need for communication and share good collaborative practices. In relation to assessing management effectiveness, good practices include:

- › Understanding the interface role of the MPA manager between research and the local community;
- › Sharing with researchers a vision of how collaboration can help MPAs by involving them from the early stage of the preparation of the management plan and investing in a long-term relationship (multi-year cooperation time frame);
- › Translating research results into products useful for MPAs managers and sharing management-relevant data in the appropriate format and time-frame;
- › Defining limited sets of synthetic meaningful indicators (ecological, socio-economic) relevant to the MPA and to sectors (e.g. about fisheries: CPUE, RPUE.);
- › Holding regular face-to-face meetings and training;
- › Considering the financial needs to support collaborations as an integral part of the MPA's financing strategy.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Scientific NGOs and Research institutes
- › Networks

Adopt approaches that, by directly involving stakeholders and local actors as marine citizen scientists, increase public awareness and the acceptability of management decisions, allowing for more participatory conservation tactics. Some key drivers to citizen science:

- › Base on easy, well-defined, and cost-effective standardised scientific protocols suitable for both local assessment (allowing to review priorities and adapt management) and regional assessment (e.g. MSFD);
- › Define meaningful synthetic indicators relevant to both the MPA and stakeholders/actors involved, as well as to inform the local community;
- › User-friendly open source softwares;
- › Open access data embracing the FAIR principle (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable data);
- › Networks of trainers, trained volunteers and quality check procedures.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Scientific NGOs and Research institutes

Publish the results in a timely manner through MPA communication channels, and seek support from the press and media by inviting media reporters to regular public presentations on the results from synthetic indicators.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › MPA management bodies

Promote data sharing through cooperation charters, MoCs, and by encouraging donors to make it a condition (as required for EU-funded projects)

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks

Use a biotic index¹ or approaches that assess the ecological quality status of different habitats, allowing tailored conservation measures in an adaptive management framework. A biotic index is designed to provide a proxy for the mean sensitivity of assemblages towards natural and anthropogenic pressures. It will help MPA managers and decision-makers to identify the main pressures on these habitats, as required by the MSFD.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Scientific NGOs and Research institutes

1. A biotic index is a scale for showing the quality of an environment by indicating the types and abundances of organisms present in a representative sample of the environment. It is often used to assess the quality of water in marine and freshwater ecosystems.

DS06 | ADVANCING EQUITY: A CHALLENGE TO WIN FOR EFFECTIVE MPAS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2022 | 16:00 - 18:00 CET | CONFERENCE ROOM

DURATION : 2h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Asma Kheriji (SPA/RAC, Tunisia) and Arina Maras (Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism of Montenegro)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Pierre Vignes (pierre.vignes@medpan.org) / Carole Martinez (carole.martinez@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are widely known to be a tool for the conservation of marine species and their habitats. The management of these areas is key to guaranteeing the effective conservation and their desired results. But concretely, what are we managing? What and/or who are we targeting to follow the rules we have decided and drawn up in plans and strategies? Animals and vegetation? Men and women? All of them? A challenge to win...

To answer this question, three case studies from the Mediterranean as well as some food for thought will be shared to help participants come up with conclusions and recommendations regarding a thematic most of the time overlooked: "equity" in its different aspects (gender, social, economic, cultural, ethnic, etc).

In the Preamble of the Declaration of Human Rights (1948), "Equity" is defined as "[The] recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family [as] the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world."

We will start the discussions based on this definition and apply it to MPAs context in order to dissect the different equity elements and advance them in MPA conservation.

Recently under the spotlight, "Gender equity" is one of the angles from which equity could be tackled. Local and indigenous communities, when relevant, have to be also considered in MPA planning and management from the very early stages of the MPA design and creation.

It is true that the case studies that will be presented during the sessions focus mainly on the gender aspect, however, other equity aspects would be tackled during the debate to attempt to cover this little-known topic, usually neglected.

As we all know, in the Aichi Target 11, "equitably managed MPAs" demonstrates that equity is essential for an effective network of MPAs. By considering this, discrimination based on sexual identity, social/economic profile and ethnicity, would be minimised or avoided.

CASE STUDIES :

► **What added value of the gender approach for a sustainable co-management of the Kneiss Islands MCPA?**

Speaker : Sana Taktak (Association de la Continuité des Générations / Kneiss islands, Tunisia)

ACG and its partners presented its co-management model to be shared.

This model is mainly based on a participatory approach that involved all key stakeholders in co-management. The local community was also a key actor as it was involved in marine biodiversity conservation activities as well as in the socio-economic aspects.

Good collaboration has also been an element in reducing conflicts.

This model, involving scientists, civil society organizations (CSOs) and decision-makers, has been very effective in moving things forward, and capacity-building for youth and women has allowed for the acquisition of new knowledge and know-how shared between the local community and co-managers. This has helped to overcome conflicts and has led to a greater sense of ownership of the issues and actions, as well as more professionalism. Although modest, this experience has allowed all stakeholders to be associated with projects implemented in synergy and with concrete results. Good communication has allowed for better visibility and, above all, an awareness of the value of the MPA.

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► **Relevance of the gender approach in the implementation of effective co-management in MPAs** [online]

Speaker : Houssine Nibani (AGIR Association de Gestion intégrée des Ressources, Morocco)

The presentation outlined the two-year experience in Morocco during which a hundred fishermen's wives were able to receive comprehensive training at the Institute of Maritime Fisheries Technology (ITPM) in fishing techniques, navigation and the marine environment, and were able to produce a few thousand nets, which were sold to artisan fishermen with a rotating fund option. This experience has improved the living conditions of these women and the fishing gear. The buoy will also serve as a functional zoning signage tool once deployed around the 8 No-Takes-Zones within the Al-Hoceima National Park Marine

Area (AMP-PNAH). Today, the women have become real defenders of their fishing areas against the intrusions of trawlers, and contribute directly to the conservation of marine ecosystems against illegal fishing within the AMP-PNAH. They also wish to participate in the guarding of their fishing gear, using their own small artisanal boats. This has been a real accelerator for the new co-management protocol between AGIR and ANEF and the Department of Maritime Fisheries. This allowed the old non-functional proposal of 20 km² to be replaced by an NTZ of 8 km² co-managed with the fishermen, who all accepted the clauses of the new NTZ zoning.

The involvement of women has had impacts on the communication strategy towards institutions, for example, the Secretary General of the Department of Maritime Fisheries has supported this project by allowing the ITPM to host these training sessions, and the National Fisheries Office (ONP), to take care of the administrative and financial part of these rotating funds, in order to be able to expand the production of traps that respond to the growing demand by artisanal fishermen. The upscaling of this experience of interactive dialogue at the level of the central institutions has opened new perspectives for the enlargement of the No-Take-Zones on the Moroccan coast, notably in the Atlantic (Souss-Massa National Park, ARCOLE/ AGIR-CEPF project in progress).

In conclusion, the gender approach was a major asset for the NTZ project, due to its multi-dimensional strategic aspect and strongly contributed to the flexible implementation of the No-Take-Zones, via local biocultural knowledge based on the manufacture of biodegradable rush-based traps.

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› **Gender approach within the new GEF project «Build a Blue and Stronger Mediterranean»**

Speaker : Elodie Couraud (The MedFund) & Marie Romani (MedPAN)

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SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

Support good practices sharing, experience exchanges and capacity-building on gender-wise approaches for MPA management.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Regional organisations
- › Networks
- › NGOs
- › Donors

Further define equitable management in the context of the Mediterranean region.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Regional organisations
- › Networks
- › Expert working Groups & Commissions
- › NGOs
- › Donors

Consider all the aspects of equity (Gender, Old people, Youth, Indigenous people, Local community, people with special needs) in all stages of the creation and management of MPAs.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Networks
- › Expert Working Groups & Commissions
- › NGOs
- › Donors

DS07 | TOOLS AND WAY FORWARD TO ASSESS MPA MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS AT SITE LEVEL

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022 | 16:00 - 18:00 CET | CONFERENCE ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French | Montenegrin

FACILITATION : Ali Badreddine (Tyre Coast Nature Reserve, Lebanon) and Sue Wells (IUCN WCPA MPA Management Effectiveness Task Force, UK)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Susan Gallon (susan.gallon@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

Assessment of protected area management effectiveness (PAME) is recognised as essential for determining both the conservation impact of an MPA (i.e. what was achieved) and its management performance (i.e. appropriateness of management interventions). PAME assessments help MPAs to identify where management is needed, and also provide information for reporting nationally and globally on progress. Since the early 2000s, almost 27,000 evaluations have been undertaken in numerous countries and reported to the Global Database on PAME (GD-PAME).

Many assessment tools have been adopted and are in use, with the majority based on the IUCN-WCPA PAME framework such as the "Guide for quick evaluation of management in Mediterranean MPAs". Assessment methods range from scorecards to more complex analyses, at various spatial and temporal scales, with some oriented to specific components of PAME (e.g. governance, community management), and others designed specifically for MPAs and other types of protected areas (e.g. World Heritage Sites). The IUCN WCPA adaptive management framework that most assessment tools are based on applies to all types of protected areas and OECMs but the particular characteristics of the marine environment, and the conflict that often arises between protection and sustainable use of marine resources, has led to much attention being paid to MPA effectiveness. There are many differences between tools in terms of their complexity, format, scoring and reporting procedures and the detail they cover. The selection and use of a tool tend to be dictated less by the ecological context or governance of a site, and more by the capacity, the resources available and the purpose of the assessment.

This session will provide an opportunity to explore case studies of commonly used tools, including the METT and the IUCN Green List Standard, and will permit discussion of how tools and methodologies differ, the key principles, terminology and definitions involved, and how to select a tool and undertake and report on assessments.

CASE STUDIES :

› **Assessing management effectiveness of MPA using METT**

Speaker : Genti Kromidha (INCA, Albania)

The Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) is a useful instrument to assess the level of management effectiveness for protected areas in general. Since 2015, with support from UNDP, the Sazan Karaburun Marine National Park has used METT to assess the level of management effectiveness. The contribution is presenting an analysis of METT results over the years, trying to identify areas where progress or regress has been noted in regard to the management effectiveness of this marine protected area and the impact of various projects supported by different donors in improving the level of management effectiveness.

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› **The MedFund - funding mechanism and management effectiveness monitoring**

Speaker : Romain Renoux and Elodie Couraud (The MedFund)

The MedFund is an environmental fund designed to support the implementation of effective and sustainable management of marine protected areas. The MedFund provides long-term funding for recurrent management costs such as governance, surveillance, scientific monitoring and awareness raising.

In order to evaluate and monitor the impacts of the funding granted and the effectiveness of the management of beneficiary MPAs, a specific methodology has been developed and will be presented in this session. It is based on conservation targets and a Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) tool now used by all MedFund beneficiaries.

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› **Methodological approach for assessing MPA management effectiveness**

Speaker : Concha Olmeda (ATECMA, Spain), Alvaro Garcia Herrero (ATECMA, Spain) and Tecla Maggioni (SUBMON, Spain)

A new methodology to assess management effectiveness of Natura 2000 sites and other EU marine protected areas was tested on 74 MPAs from 19 countries and all the European regional seas.

Feedback collected from the sites managers and national authorities that tested the assessment tool allowed us to identify the main strengths, difficulties and weaknesses of the proposed methodology, which will be useful to improve it and to promote the implementation of a system to assess MPA management effectiveness in the EU.

The proposed methodology allows a self-assessment of management weaknesses, to identify gaps in knowledge and to assist managers with an adaptive management approach. It covers a comprehensive set of topics related to MPA management and conservation outcomes. It allows the aggregation of data to obtain useful results at different levels. Some elements to improve include the need to make a user-friendly tool available to facilitate the assessment and to reduce the time needed to compile relevant information using, as far as possible, existing databases and reporting systems.

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► **Blue Parks initiative accelerates effective ocean protection to build a global network and achieve 30x30**

Speaker : Sarah Hameed (Marine Conservation Institute, USA)

Marine protected areas (MPAs) are effective conservation tools that can recover ocean ecosystems when designed well and managed effectively. However, the rich scientific literature on MPA effectiveness does not typically guide MPA design and implementation, leading to variable MPA effectiveness and poor ecosystem representation in MPAs globally. Less than 3% of the ocean is well protected. Marine Conservation Institute created the Blue Park Awards to set global science-based MPA effectiveness standards and incentivize governments and communities to achieve the standards. In addition to the international recognition for effective MPAs, the Blue Park criteria provide blueprints for new and improving protected areas that will contribute to a resilient planet. Launched in 2017, Blue Parks has awarded 24 Blue Parks and has launched “Blue Spark” collaborations to help 7 new and improving MPAs achieve Blue Park status. Blue Parks aims to assemble a global ocean refuge system that effectively protects at least 30% of the ocean by 2030 – enough to safeguard life in the sea.

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► **The Barcelona Convention strategic tools to promote excellence in MPAs: the Regional Strategy on MCPAs and OECMs, and the SPAMI List**

Speaker : Asma Kheriji (SPA/RAC, Tunisia)

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted at their COP 22 (Antalya, Türkiye, 7-10 December 2021) the “Post-2020 Regional Strategy for marine and coastal protected areas (MCPAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) in the Mediterranean” developed under the leadership of the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC), in consultation with the Mediterranean countries and relevant regional and international organizations, and with the guidance of the Ad hoc Group of Experts for MPAs in the Mediterranean (AGEM). “MCPA effectiveness” is identified as one of its five strategic pillars, detailed along with a strategic outcome, outputs and proposed actions.

To support effective management of MCPAs in the region, the Barcelona Convention has established since 2001 the List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List). This List aims to promote cooperation in the management and conservation of natural areas and the protection of species and habitats. SPAMIs are intended to be a model for the protection of the natural heritage. To be included in the List, the areas should comply with the criteria included in Annex I to the Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity Protocol. To date, there are 39 SPAMIs declared by ten countries. Since 2009, SPAMIs are subject to a periodic review, every six years from the date of their inclusion, including their management effectiveness.

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► **Status and perspectives of the IUCN Green List for Mediterranean MPAs**

Speaker : Thierry Lefebvre (IUCN international, Switzerland) and Laure Debeir (Comité français de l’UICN, France)

The IUCN Green List aims to increase the number of effective protected and conserved areas, based on a global standard that covers all aspects of equitable management, effective management, planning and conservation outcomes. It is implemented in 8 Mediterranean countries and was re-promoted by the Barcelona Convention in 2016 as a flagship initiative for States Par-

ties to strengthen the management effectiveness of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean basin, in particular SPAMIs. It is also recognised by the CBD. The contribution will outline the Green List standard and its links with other standards and measures of management effectiveness, a state of play of its implementation in Mediterranean MPAs and the prospects for its development in support of the Barcelona Convention recommendation and target 3 of the future strategic framework for biodiversity to be discussed at COP 15. Among the key actions, the engagement of sites in the scheme, capacity building, exchange of experiences from site to site and the development of innovative development mechanisms will be presented. Several site and network case studies will also be presented on the added value of the scheme. The event is co-organised by the IUCN International Secretariat (HQ in Switzerland, IUCN MED in Spain) and the IUCN French Committee.

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SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS (DS04+DS07) :

MANAGEMENT

From the start choose an assessment tool that suits the MPA's needs, or adapt an existing tool – a lack of data does not prevent carrying out an assessment

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies

NETWORK

Contribute to the development of guidelines on the different purposes of existing management assessment tools, how they can complement each other, and how they can be used for specific purposes (e.g. adaptive management, regional assessment, label, etc.)'

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National NGOs
- › Regional NGOs
- › Networks

MANAGEMENT

Ensure that periodic assessments of management effectiveness are linked to the management planning process, and that the results of assessments are used to improve both management activities and monitoring programmes

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › National and regional networks

REPORTING

Use as far as possible data available from databases and reporting systems. Data should ideally be retrieved automatically from existing databases/reporting systems, where appropriate, to facilitate the exercise

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National NGOs
- › Regional NGOs
- › Networks

DS08 | MPA NETWORKS, HARNESSING AND SCALING UP SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE FROM THE FIELD FOR ENHANCED MARINE CONSERVATION

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022 | 14:00 - 17:30 CET | TV ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Purificació Canals (EU Ocean Governance project) and Marie Romani (MedPAN)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Carole Martinez (carole.martinez@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

Networks of MPA managers together represent a critical Blue Belt that gathers an active community of practice and connects ground conservation action with national, regional and global policies. They are a cornerstone to supporting healthy marine ecosystems, thriving communities and accelerating the implementation of SDGs.

Those networks improve practical skills of managers through knowledge, best practices and solutions sharing. They address common conservation and management issues within the broader landscape and seascape. They build “MPA communities” at all levels by connecting MPA managers, scientists, authorities, stakeholders, and donors. They enable the creation of these needed linkages between MPA actions on the ground and decision-making processes.

To support the development of successful networks, MedPAN has elaborated with its members and experts from different regions new Guidelines and Best Practices for MPA Manager Networks. In the frame of the Ocean governance project, a framework has been also elaborated to assess the effectiveness of MPA networks.

This session will allow participants to learn more about networks of MPA managers at different levels and how they can support both capacities and decision-making.

The session will also highlight the cooperation between networks at the global level through the EU Ocean Governance project.

PANEL :

› Purificacio Canals (EU Ocean Governance project, networks twinning).

Speaker : Marie Romani (MedPAN)

MedPAN is the network of Mediterranean MPA managers. MedPAN, promotes MPA management effectiveness and healthy marine ecosystems in the Mediterranean through information, experience sharing and MPA financial support and as the voice of MPA managers to support policies and engage with other stakeholders. MedPAN organization was created in 2008. The MedPAN network currently gathers 132 organizations as members and partners from 21 Mediterranean countries. Within its strategy, MedPAN supports, in particular, existing or emerging national and sub-regional networks of MPA managers in the Mediterranean and creates synergies with other networks of MPA managers beyond the Mediterranean.

› Purificacio Canals (EU Ocean Governance project, networks twinning).

Speaker : Charles Besançon (Global Parks Solutions, USA) [online]

The presentation described the preliminary results of two projects that focused on MPA manager networks. The first project is the EU Interreg Mediterranean - MPA Networks project that developed the Guidelines and Best Practices for MPA Manager Networks. The second project was from the EU Ocean Governance project, which developed an Evaluation Framework for Marine Protected Area Manager Networks.

Both of these projects were developed at the same time and they involved conducting interviews with 13 MPA manager networks, AdrionPAN – Protected Areas Network of the Adriatic, CroMPA – Croatian MPA Network, French MPA Forum - French National Network of Marine Protected Areas, MedPAN - Mediterranean MPA Network, NAMPAN - North American MPA Network, National Parks and Community MPAs (Senegal), Patagonian Forum of the Sea - MPA Network for Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, MPN - Mediterranean Posidonia Network.

RAMPAO - Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa, RedGolfo - The Gulf of Mexico MPA Network, RedParques - The Latin American Network for Technical Cooperation in National Parks, other Protected Areas, Wild Flora and Fauna, WIOMPAN - Western Indian Ocean MPA Network, RAMPE - Spanish National Network of MPAs.

The Best Practice Guidelines for MPA Manager Networks provided guidance on the following topics, Network establishment, Purpose goals and objectives, Governance (How are decisions made?), Leadership (Including NGOs and govt institutions), Communication and management.

(Formal, informal), Financing and fundraising (Strategic approach, aligned with regional and international frameworks), Navigating political instability, and Promoting resilience.

The Evaluation Framework for MPA Manager Networks Starts to answer the question: How to measure the effectiveness of MPA manager networks? And considers what frameworks? What dimensions of effectiveness? and what questions to ask during a self-evaluation. The evaluation framework suggested considers the following dimensions of MPA manager networks: Enabling Conditions (including Legal and Administrative Arrangements and Sustainable finance. The Dimensions considered include, Clarity of Purpose, Good Governance, Provide Leadership, Communication, Build Capacity, and Monitoring.

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› **The Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CAMPAM)**

Speaker : Sarah Wollring [online] and Martha Prada (UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme):

The Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM) is a network of marine protected area (MPA) professionals and practitioners in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR). This initiative brings together MPA researchers, administrators, managers, and educators from governmental entities and non-governmental organizations as well as the private sector in an inclusive network to exchange ideas and lessons learned through a variety of mechanisms. It was formed in 1997 to support the mandate of the 1990 Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) by addressing the capacity limitations in Caribbean MPAs. The SPAW Protocol is one of three technical protocols of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the WCR (Cartagena Convention).

The presentation presented the key conclusions of the Assessment of the impact and effectiveness of CAMPAM. The review found that CAMPAM contributed to the capacity development of WCR MPA professionals, information sharing and professional exchange. It also gained a strong name recognition within the MPA community thanks to its longevity and continuity of programming. The flagship regional Training of Trainers (ToT) course is relevant to the WCR context, with ToT alumni putting into practice the knowledge and skills gained in the course and making positive changes in their work situation based on what they learned. The evidence suggests that capacity built through direct CaMPAM training is retained in the MPA management sector and the WCR. CaMPAM has also successfully supported relationship-building and networking. In addition, CaMPAM has used small grants strategically to allow trainees to apply skills and knowledge gained during the ToT in their local situation. It was however also found that CaMPAM's scope of work is modest, notwithstanding demand from stakeholders for more capacity strengthening support in areas such as biophysical, ecological and social monitoring, sustainable financing for MPAs and marine ecosystem services as well as ways to address barriers to effective management, such as limitations in legislative and regulatory frameworks. It was also found that there is no overarching CaMPAM- specific vision and defined programmatic objectives against which members and partners can measure progress and success.

Based on the comprehensive review that was undertaken to determine the impact and effectiveness of CAMPAM activities, the proposed recommendations are currently being assessed to guide future work with a view towards ensuring that activities are aligned with the Protocol's activities/goals. This will be supported by the ACP-MEA project, which will also enable strengthened regional cooperation with other networks.

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› **The Marine Mammal Management Toolkit : A tool for MPA managers and policy makers**

Speaker : Francis Staub (EU Ocean Governance Project, UK):

Marine mammals play a crucial role in marine ecosystem function and climate change resilience and provide valuable ecosystem services to coastal communities. With the continued threats to marine mammals, compounded by the effects of Climate Change, there is a real need for effective conservation measures. A common approach is the use of MPAs. However, success is hindered through a lack of resources, capacity and/or knowledge to effectively implement management practices. To tackle this, and to empower MPA managers to conserve marine mammals, the Marine Mammal Twinning has created a toolkit to include marine mammals in MPA management plans, when designing, developing, or updating them. The Twinning aims to build the technical capacities of MPA managers by sharing knowledge, expertise and good practices as well as creating a network of peers. The Toolkit contains three key components: factsheets; Self-Assessment Tool (SAT); and good practices.

The Working Group presentation will provide policy makers, MPA managers and stakeholders with an overview of the Marine Mammal Management Toolkit. It will introduce each component, and its applicability through a range of settings, including utilising the SAT to monitor and evaluate an MPA's performance: addressing weaknesses and practising adaptive management.

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› **LIFE ENABLE - Online Capacity Building for Nature 2000 Managers** [online]

Speaker : Carol Ritchie (EUROPARC Federation)

Natura 2000 and Protected Area managers constantly have to deal with a variety of challenges and obstacles. From stakeholder involvement to efficient governance, these challenges often require the acquisition of new and updated knowledge and skills. However, specific training is not always available due to economic or logistic reasons and Protected Area managers feel often isolated in their work.

After a successful prequel, the forward-looking three-year project "LIFE ENABLE: Creating the European Nature Academy for applied Blended Learning" is designed to build practical nature management capacity among Natura 2000 and Protected Area managers. It aims to equip individuals and their organisations with the competencies they require to meet the challenges and opportunities of nature management in the coming decade. It will establish an enabling framework to create a training system for professional development that contributes to ensuring progress towards the realisation of the objectives and ambitions of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and underpinning policies.

Led by EUROPARC Federation with the support of MedPan and six more partners, this project will bring capacity building opportunities on Forest and Marine ecosystems for a selected group of Protected Area managers. Calls for applicants will open in October 2022 and courses to start in February 2023.

Additionally, the project will lead to the development of the European Nature Academy, a platform specialised in capacity building for Natura 2000 managers that will help you take your work to the next level.

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› **Network of MPAs in Adriatic Ionian MSP**

Speaker : Mitja Bricelj (Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia)

The main objective of EUSAIR TSG 3 is to improve the ecological status of the Adriatic and Ionian ecoregion. The ICZM/MSP method was chosen as a tool to achieve this objective, linking the EUSAIR pillars of Blue Growth, Connectivity, Environment and Sustainable tourism in four cross-border pilot areas: Trieste Bay, Jabuka, Neum Bay, Otranto.

Key objectives:

- › 1. to link protected areas on the Adriatic and Ionian coasts and seas into a network - AI Network of MPAs,
- › 2. to integrate the Network of Adriatic and Ionian MPAs into a modern MSP for the Adriatic ecoregion and a MSP for the Ionian ecoregion.

To this end, an up-to-date technical legal basis with a concrete proposal for implementation has been prepared in the framework of EUSAIR TSG 3 with the assistance of the European Commission, together with a group of eminent international lawyers.

All steps have been presented at regular TSG 3 meetings, EUSAIR Governing Boards Meetings and EUSAIR Annual Forums.

› **The West Africa Network of Marine Protected Areas (RAMPAO)** [online]

Speaker : Mamadou Sidibé (President of RAMPAO)

The presentation showcased the West Africa Network of Marine Protected Areas, how the MPAs moved from a top-down to a shared governance model and the key lessons learned at the local, national and regional level. To date this regional network brings together 48 MPAs (11 National Parks, 1 Natural Park, 28 Marine Protected Areas, 3 ICCA, 2 Areas of community heritage, 3 biosphere reserves) of 8 countries (Mauritania, Cabo verde, Senegal, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Benin). It encompasses a wide variety of landscapes including Sahara coastal dunes, beaches and mudflats; mangrove forests; archipe-

lagos; estuaries, deltas, bolongs; and coastal forests, as well as a diversity of animal species and are of great importance for the economy.

The presentation provided as well a valuable overview of the national community-based MPA network in Senegal and its lessons learnt to support sustainability.

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› **The Forum for the Conservation of the Patagonian Sea** [online]

Speaker : Alexa Sapoznikow (Forum for the Conservation of the Patagonian Sea)

The presentation showcased the Forum for the Conservation of the Patagonian Sea. The Forum represents a Regional NGO's Network since 2004. It brings together 24 organizations dedicated to promoting policies and measures to protect a healthy Patagonian Marine ecosystem. Inspired by the fact that ecosystem processes and their living components go beyond political frontiers, it covers 4 countries: Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Brazil. The Forum's mission is to promote synergies amongst organizations to achieve ecosystem integrity and effective management of the Patagonian Sea and its areas of influence, in true partnership with the public and private sectors. Its mission includes the following objectives:

- › Promote an integral understanding of the Patagonian marine ecosystem and analyze its conservation status;
- › Encourage the effective implementation of sustainable development policies, that adopt preventive management principles, as well as participative, transparent and responsible governance practices;
- › Support existing projects for the creation of Marine Protected Areas in the target and adjacent areas;
- › Facilitate education and communication initiatives centred on the importance and value of the seas as a reservoir of natural resources, provider of ecological services, and object of contemplation and aesthetic value.

It is thus enabling to build a tangible community of practice in organizing courses oriented to strengthen the competencies of MPA managers.

› **The North American Marine Protected Areas Network (NAMPAN)** [online]

Speaker : Maria Morgado (NAMPAN)

The presentation showcased the North American Marine Protected Areas Network. The North American Marine Protected Areas Network (NAMPAN) is a network of resource agencies, marine protected areas (MPA) managers, practitioners and other relevant experts from Canada, Mexico, and the United States. Its main goal is to promote exchanges between the experts from Canada, Mexico and the United States working in MPAs, in order to improve marine conservation at the seascape level in a network of MPAs. It is thus a network of people and places for the protection and sustainability of North America's shared coastal and marine ecosystems.

NAMPAN aims at building an inclusive network. Through MPA programs in Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. benefit from trilateral cooperation via:

- › Access to a network of practitioners facing similar challenges in other MPAs;
 - › Tools developed to address gaps and case studies showcasing best practices for a wide range of ecosystems.
- Looking ahead, NAMPAN and CEC hope to expand the reach of the network by increasing awareness and prioritizing inclusion. The NAMPAN 2020-2022 Workplan is organised around three main objectives:
- › **CONNECT**: Providing a multilingual platform that connects MPA practitioners together as a virtual community of practice, facilitating collaboration across jurisdictions by identifying common issues and joint actions.
 - › **CONVENE**: Organize 'deep dives' on critical issues, using virtual platforms to connect MPA practitioners on shared topics of interest across wide geographic areas.
 - › **COORDINATE**: Representing NAMPAN to other networks and in other venues, domestically and internationally, to help participants in the network amplify a common message.

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SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

Further support MPA managers at national and sub-regional level (through different adapted formats) in the Mediterranean region and connect them with the MedPAN network to amplify the impact of technical and strategic support to MPAs.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Regional organisations
- › Networks
- › Expert working Groups & Commissions
- › NGOs
- › Donors

Connect networks of MPA managers with networks of other actors at different levels (fishers, prosecutors, local cities/municipalities, scientists...).

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Regional organisations
- › Networks
- › Expert working Groups & Commissions
- › NGOs

Join the forces of different networks of MPA managers from different parts of the world and capitalise on their expertise and good practice in a global network to create and embody a global community of practice, to have a stronger common voice for awareness raising and political mobilisation, and to jointly mobilise financial resources for networks and MPAs in order to achieve the post-2020 MPA targets globally.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Regional organisations
- › Networks
- › NGOs
- › Donors

Better highlight the link between ecological and human connectivity through networks of MPA managers at different levels (national, sub-regional, regional and global).

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Regional organisations
- › Networks
- › NGOs
- › Donors

DS09 | EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE THE RESULTS AND VALUE OF MPAS TO ENGAGE USERS, NON-TECHNICAL STAKEHOLDERS AND INVESTORS IN CONSERVATION EFFORTS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022 | 14:00 - 17:30 CET | CONFERENCE ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Francesco de Franco (Torre Guaceto MPA, Italy) and Paul Séassal (communication expert, France)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Pierre Vignes (pierre.vignes@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

Raising awareness among boaters of the importance of conserving Posidonia meadows to encourage them to avoid destructive anchoring practices. Engaging fishers, restaurants and retail markets in a win-win strategy for managing invasive alien species. Evaluating and communicating MPA conservation outcomes and associated social and economic benefits to attract donors. Valuing preserved ecosystems in order to shift decision-makers' mindsets from seeing MPA management as a cost to seeing it as a profitable investment...

All of these challenges require communication strategies with clear, focused, specific and realistic objectives, proper identification and understanding of target audiences, tailored messages, outreach methods, channels and tools to connect and create a relationship with each audience, and, as with any strategy, a cost-effective approach suited to the resources available to implement it.

Drawing on the case studies presented in this session, we will discuss your communication practices for engaging non-technical stakeholders in the conservation effort. In particular, we will explore from your experience the indicators, compelling arguments and selling points that can be mobilised to effectively communicate the demonstrated benefits and values of MPAs to different categories of non-technical audiences. Among biodiversity valuation approaches to demonstrate and communicate the direct and indirect benefits of conservation, we will focus on Natural Capital Accounting, as several promising pilot initiatives have recently been conducted in Mediterranean MPAs. By quantifying the private and public benefits derived from ecosystem services, Natural Capital Accounting provides a powerful decision support tool and a strong narrative framework to demonstrate that investing in MPAs pays off. For instance, the Natural Capital Accounting recently carried out in the Balearic Islands shows that every euro invested annually in the Marine Protected Area of Llevant (Mallorca) generates 10 euros in benefits!

In our discussions, we will bear in mind the limited capacity and resources available to MPAs to engage in such studies and communication strategies. Based on your experiences, we will thus also try to identify the most cost-effective communication approaches, as well as existing or new tools to be made available to the MPA community. In this regard, we will take time to discuss your needs and ideas in relation to recommendation 4.1 of the Post-2020 Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas Roadmap which calls for the provision of communication toolkits that MPA managers can customise and adapt to local contexts, to promote the value of MPAs for ecosystem services, local livelihoods and biodiversity conservation efforts.

CASE STUDIES :

› Surveillance and awareness campaigns for boaters in relation to posidonia seagrass conservation

Speaker : Jorge Moreno Pérez (Balearic Government General Directorate of Natural Areas and Biodiversity, Spain)

During the last 4 years, a campaign has been launched to inform and control the anchoring of boats in areas with Posidonia meadows.

Posidonia oceanica meadows occupy nearly 650 square kilometers of the Balearic coast. More than 50% of the surface of the entire Spanish coast. Both inside and outside the MPAs. During 4 summer months, a total of 18 boats are dedicated to monitoring and informing sailors about where and how to anchor so as not to affect the Posidonia meadows, also informing about their importance and about the specific regulations that have been developed in the Balearic Islands.

More than 100,000 boats reported annually and a continuous decrease in the infractions committed, in addition to a favorable attitude towards conservation, show some very encouraging results. The action is guaranteed for the next three years, with an investment close to 1.5 million euros. The methodology, the results and the evolution throughout these years will be presented.

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› **Natural Capital Accounting for MPA management** [online]

Speaker : Julen González Redín (ECOACSA, Spain)

Following the EU Biodiversity Strategy target of protecting a minimum of 30% of the EU's sea area by 2030 adopted in May 2020, the Spanish government is currently considering an expansion of the boundaries of the Balearics Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to cover 30% of the Balearic Sea. This project aims to inform the efforts of the Spanish government by conducting a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) to understand the economic and social impact of this expansion and the associated increased marine protection in the Balearics.

The objective of the CBA is to identify the positive and negative impacts that the proposed intervention has over time and compare them against its costs. This is done with respect to a baseline scenario (i.e., what would have been the case had the intervention not occurred) to establish whether the benefits outweigh the costs and hence justify the policy intervention. The CBA firstly quantifies the current private and public benefits from ecosystem services within the existing MPAs in the Balearics and the costs of their management (i.e. the baseline). Secondly it estimates the difference in economic value between the baseline and the 30% MPA scenario (i.e. the hypothetical scenario where Balearics MPAs expand to 30%). These changes are estimated over 60 years to account for future streams of benefits and costs and are later aggregated to find their net present value (NPV).

› **Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Management with a market-based approach- communication and outreach activities on the Mediterranean coasts of Turkey**

Speaker : Funda Kok (Mediterranean Conservation Society, Turkey)

Invasive Alien Species (IAS) entering the Mediterranean via the Suez Canal present a major threat to these environments.

AKD's market-based approach to IAS management started in 2015 as a complementary component to MPA management and active enforcement, promoting Randall's bream locally in Gokova. Since the ratio of economically important species decline due to overfishing and climate change-related effects on fisheries and the positive impact of the promotion of this new species in the area, 30% of the fishing coop's income came from this species in 2016. Building on this positive impact and experience, triggered by increasing pressure from IAS both on ecosystems and livelihoods AKD used the same strategy for new IAS which is exponentially increasing for the last couple of years.

With a market-based approach focusing on engagement with a wide range of audiences, including fishers, tourism businesses, and consumers in general, the communication and outreach activities AKD conducted had also a focus on results and value of MPAs, the importance of active enforcement, and sustainable use of resources. AKD used this communication and outreach activities, making sure to include the positive impacts and outputs of MPAs which is also an important means to tackle invasive species threat.

New Fish seminars were held reaching over 200 people. The seminars provide a platform for AKD to promote the management of IAS and communicate the damaging impact of IAS on the ecosystem and human health. Attendees include local fishery cooperatives and local stakeholder representatives including municipalities, ministries, port authorities, local restaurants, and chefs. The seminars include IAS tasting and training in the safe handling of IAS and first aid. 324 media reports were published in a year, including on national television, websites, streaming services, and social media. Social media posts received a total of 100,356 clicks or views throughout the year and 8421 people attended online and in-person events throughout the year.

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› **Communicating to Varying Stakeholders the Contributions of U.S. National Marine Sanctuaries to Marine Resource Protection through a Management Effectiveness Framework** [online]

Speaker : Kayla Williams and Lauren Wenzel (NOAA Marine Protected Areas Center, USA)

Management effectiveness for marine protected areas (MPAs) can be described as an assessment of how well they are achieving the conservation goals and objectives of the protected area. As countries work toward national and global area-based conservation targets, it is crucial that MPA performance be communicated to stakeholders. In addition to determining progress toward sanctuary goals, evaluating and communicating management effectiveness promotes adaptive management, justifies resource allocation, and encourages public and partner support for MPAs. Within the U.S. National Marine Sanctuaries

Program (NMSP) specifically, there is a need for increased communication of the degree to which management activities are working toward and achieving conservation outcomes, as well as challenges and best practices for increasing, measuring, and communicating management effectiveness. To meet this need, the National Marine Protected Areas Center is developing written guidance to communicate to stakeholders how the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) is and can better address and communicate management effectiveness across the system. This guidance will be informed by detailed case studies of selected Sanctuaries, using them as models to demonstrate methods for communicating conservation outcomes, as well as a system-wide workshop, and published national and international guidance and other protected area work that has focused on measuring and communicating protected area management effectiveness and can be applied to sanctuaries. System-wide management effectiveness guidance is needed to coordinate efforts to evaluate and communicate progress toward achieving NMSP conservation goals and objectives.

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SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

Deliver messages effectively to your key audiences : Successful communication is always based on the prior identification and segmentation of target audiences, which it is essential to listen to in order to understand their expectations, adapt your messages and use the appropriate communication channels to reach them. To this end, it may be useful to first map stakeholders and conduct individual interviews or surveys to assess the perception of different audiences through their preferred channels (e.g. facebook, instagram, etc). Also, consider working first with local communities and then scaling up to larger groups, as well as diversifying your target groups to increase the influence of your communication.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › MPA management bodies

Focus communication to non-technical stakeholders on the results and positive impact of the MPA, explicitly highlighting management actions and their degree of success. For this, communication should be based on an agreed system-wide definition of MPA management effectiveness communicated in plain language to non-technical stakeholders. Wherever possible, use meaningful, objective and indisputable quantitative indicators for your communication.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › MPA management bodies
- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › Networks

Give a role to the stakeholders to make them part of the solution instead of stigmatising them as the problem. Sharing the goals, missions, conservation measures and rules of the MPA based on a plain text definition of what effective management means and how it is implemented, creating a feeling of ownership and sense of privilege by providing first-hand information, are some of the keys to engaging users and non-technical stakeholders.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › MPA management bodies

Share communication methodologies and tools that have been successfully tested in MPAs on a variety of topics and audiences (e.g. “invasive/new fish” market-based campaign to fishers, customers, restaurants, and retail markets in Turkey, Posidonia campaign to boaters in the Balearic)

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › Networks
- › NGOs working with MPAs

Support Natural Capital Accounting as an effective tool for decision-making and communication to non-technical stakeholders. Economic valuation of ecosystems and the impacts they generate (not captured in EIAs) should not be seen as a “selling nature” approach, but as a pathway to reach and better communicate complexity to policy and decision-makers (while always recalling the intangible value of ecosystems) and to assess future scenarios in an integrated vision (SDGs and climate change). The NCA system is transferable, scalable, and replicable for all MPAs. NCA provides a standardised and internationally recognised framework (UN SEEA framework), in which the methods/indicators can be adapted depending on time and resources available. Areas for improvement and challenges for NCA are the following:

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › Networks

- › Data improvement (access, standardisation, scaling-up).
- › Systematic use in decision-making processes.
- › Harmonising procedures.
- › Social & economic data compilation.
- › Scaling-up processes.

DS10 | DECENTRALISED GOVERNANCE MODELS, EXPERIENCES OF PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES AND CO-MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 12:30 CET | KAFANA ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French | Montenegrin

FACILITATION : Catherine Piante (WWF France) and Mathieu Thévenet (PIM, France)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Carole Martinez (carole.martinez@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

Four main types of MPAs governance have been identified and used at the international level by the CBD: centralised governance, shared governance or comanagement, locally led governance and private governance. Each of them has distinct attributes that may sometimes overlap regarding decision-making processes and designated management authority.

In 2019, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) released a report “Enabling Effective and Equitable Marine Protected Areas” that highlighted the value of combining governance approaches. The report stated that “diversity is the key to resilience, both of species in ecosystems and incentives in governance systems” and reminded that “strong governance that influences human behaviour and reduces impacts on marine and coastal ecosystems” is essential for effective MPAs. Analysing the effort to support equitable management of protected areas in the world, the 2020 Protected Planet report was stressing the fact that while “an equitably governed conservation network is one where a diversity of governance types is recognised.... to date the conservation efforts of private actors, indigenous peoples and local communities remain undervalued and under-reported.”

According to the last information of the MedPAN database, 11% of MPAs reported having a co-management system in place (stakeholders contribute directly to decision making), 28 % reported operating on the principle of consultation (stakeholders can contribute to discussions but do not participate in the decision making), and 5% reported having no type of co-management in place.

The session will browse different governance situations and will build on lessons learned from the different cases.

CASE STUDIES :

› Improving the management efficiency of the MPAs through territorial integration and collaborative governance: case of MPA of Jbel Moussa

Speaker : Mustapha Marraha (Group for the Study and Protection of Mammals of Morocco - GSPMM, Morocco)

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› Governance practices : bridging bottom up and top down approach in the case of the NMPZ in Greece

Speaker : Laurent Sourbes (Natural Environment & Climate Change Agency / Management Unit of National Parks Zakynthos, Ainos and Protected Areas of Ionian Islands, Greece)

The presentation demonstrated how a change in the governance model can trigger or alter management effectiveness. Upside down approach to reconsider effectiveness assessment.

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› Designing an MPA through a highly participatory process and applying an ecosystem-based management approach in the Gyaros MPA leads to enhanced in situ conservation [online]

Speaker : Spyros Kotomatas (WWF Greece)

Following the discovery of a large colony of the endangered Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) in Gyaros, Greece, a long-term initiative for the area's conservation was initiated. Seminal role in the design of an MPA was the establishment of a consortium of stakeholders (including fishermen, central government, regional authorities, NGOs, and academic institutions). This widely participatory process resulted in an agreed MPA zoning, conservation measures, and management plan, leading to the designation of the MPA in 2019. Lessons learned from this process will be presented on how to overcome barriers and create enabling conditions for effective multi-stakeholders' participation.

We will further highlight key activities implemented as part of the MPA's ecosystem-based management plan:

- To guard against illegal activities a novel surveillance system utilizing new technologies (i.e., radar, IR camera, drones) was implemented in collaboration with the Hellenic Coast Guard. It resulted in a significant reduction in illegal fishing, both professional and recreational.
- To assess the status of local fisheries, experimental fishing with static bottom nets has been conducted within the MPA in collaboration with local fishers. These were accompanied by ichthyoplankton samplings, to assess egg and larval presence. Comparing the results with data from unprotected adjacent areas allowed for assessing the MPA's effectiveness based on species diversity, species relative biomass, key predator species abundance, and alien fish abundance. Based on these findings, the MPA seems to be functioning, since both species diversity and abundance were higher within the MPA.
- Lastly, extensive underwater visual surveys were performed using ecosystem-based biotic indices, which revealed i) large-scale degradation of coastal reefs primarily due to alien fish overgrazing, and ii) local degradation of Posidonia meadows due to the impacts of uncontrolled anchoring. Ad hoc experiments suggest the area still maintains a good recovery potential, but active restoration measures should be considered upon elimination of pressures.

➤ **Improve the management efficiency of the Jbel Moussa MPA through its territorial integration and collaborative governance**

Speaker : Mustapha Marraha (Groupe d'étude et de Protection des Mammifères du Maroc / Comité National UICN)

The governance of the Jbel Moussa MPA is poorly articulated at the different levels of intervention (national, regional, provincial, communal and local); suffers from the multiplicity of institutional actors; overlapping prerogatives and the lack of territorialization of action and coherence of public policies at the local level, which are still largely dominated by the Central State and by top-down logic; and suffers particularly from a real commitment of users in shared management.

In this respect, the MPA communal councils have a crucial role to play because of the environmental, coastal and protected area responsibilities recently assigned to them by the Moroccan legislator when the advanced regionalization process was put in place. Also, the new strategy «Forêts du Maroc 2020-2030» relies, in its governance vision, on these structures, to make them a real communal body for dialogue with stakeholders, built around the interests of users. The communal councils are also involved in issuing building permits and are consulted on all development projects. Do these bodies have the necessary skills and tools to contribute to the effective co-management of MPAs? The experience of the Jbel Moussa MPA suggests that they do not.

Our action consists of accompanying the three communal councils of the MPA and working closely with the user populations, together with the MPA managers and other territorial actors. The aim is to achieve a common understanding of the value generated by the MPA on their territories and to develop a form of shared management. The model deployed is intended to be sustainable and replicable. It is based on interdisciplinarity and collaborative governance allowing the emergence of innovative mechanisms for management efficiency.

The action is based on 3 main axes:

- (i) Facilitate the establishment at the communal level, of a new interface of governance, integration and conflict resolution, which brings together all local actors, where different forms of understanding can dialogue and confront or combine plural narratives on the MPA so that coconstructed solutions emerge;
- (ii) Integrate local knowledge as an input into the scientific observation system of the MPA in order to establish a new and fruitful diagnosis and;
- (iii) Develop a common planning tool based on a learning-by-doing process and supported by access to expert knowledge, entitled «Integrated Plan for Biodiversity Conservation and Social and Economic Development». The plan is accompanied by demonstration actions combining conservation and valorization, a training program and a communication plan.

➤ **Tunisian example for the creation of MCPA with the objective of strengthening the efficiency of management**

Speaker : Marwa Douma (APAL, Tunisia)

The creation of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs) has become a national priority announced by the Tunisian government in 1998 and reaffirmed in 2000. The Agency for the Protection and Development of the Littoral (APAL) has been entrusted with the creation of MPAs as tools for the management and conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems. The presentation outlined the Tunisian experience, the legal aspects of creating MPAs in Tunisia and their objectives:

- Preserve marine and coastal ecosystems and habitats;
- To protect endangered habitats in their natural range;

- › To preserve sites of particular importance due to their scientific, aesthetic, instructive, recreational or educational value;
- › To protect endemic, vulnerable, rare or endangered species in the Mediterranean.

› Stakeholder involvement

Speaker : Ahmed Souki (Notre Grand Bleu, Tunisie)

Civil society plays an important role in MPA management because it is more agile compared to administrative processes. To ensure effective and sustainable management, it is necessary to gather all the stakeholders around the MPAs to discuss, propose changes and find solutions together in order for the management to be effective. The presentation outlined co-management activities in the MPA of Kuriat Islands in terms of sustainable tourism and training. The Kuriat Islands Management Unit is indeed represented by a joint team between the Notre Grand Bleu (NGB) association and the Agency for the Protection and Development of the Littoral (APAL). It has been managing the Kuriat MPA since 2017. NGB is the first association in Tunisia to have ensured the co-management of an MPA with a Tunisian administration, the APAL. It organized the first meeting of the management committee of the Kuriat islands on 18/02/2016, the CLAG, which was created before the National Committee of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas. The results presented were as follows:

- › Validation of the management plan.
- › Revision of the new management plan.
- › Validation of the Good Practice Specifications.
- › Regulation of the site.
- › Social acceptance of the MPA.

› Possibilities for active engagement of fishermen in the monitoring and protection of MPAs

Speaker : Djina Bulatovic (MEPPU, Montenegro)

The presentation showcased the FAO AdriMed project and its activities in Montenegro where the focus was the involvement of small-scale fishers in the monitoring and protection of ecosystems in the MPA Nature park "Katič", located in the central part of the Montenegrin coast. The objective is to analyse the possibilities of creating active involvement of fishers in MPA management through two possible ways of fishers' involvement:

- › The participation in monitoring programme, which will be focused on their catches;
- › The direct involvement in the area's protection, as they can be engaged as guardians of the MPA or can promote MPA as a good practice among other fishers.

The activities actually have just started (September 2022), the presentation was also seeking to present the current fisheries monitorings, to discuss the opportunities and to get advice from other Mediterranean MPAs.

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SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

At the national level, clearly specify the competences and responsibilities at each decision-making level of the protected area system, from national to local, and organise an agile and effective articulation of competences and decision-making, so that decision-making power is activated at the local level and two-way governance is supported.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA and maritime Authorities
- › National networks
- › National NGOs
- › National Expert working groups & commissions

Manage MPAs and place them in a wider context in order to participate in planning and decision-making processes at territorial, regional, national, sectoral and even international level.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA and maritime Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › Regional organisations
- › Networks
- › NGOs

Share success stories with inspiring case studies of decentralised MPA models highlighting the enabling factors and positive impacts in each case.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › International and regional organisations
- › Networks
- › Expert working Groups & Commissions
- › International, regional, national and local NGOs
- › Donors

Also implement informal governance activities, involving stakeholders in field activities aimed at building commitment and ownership of MPAs and embodying a local community of practice that includes different local stakeholders and users.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › Networks
- › International, regional, national and local NGOs
- › Socio-professional organisations
- › Donors

DSII | THE KEY ROLE OF STRICT / ENHANCED PROTECTION FOR EFFECTIVE MPAS

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 12:30 CET | Lobby ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Patrick Bonhomme (Calanques National Park, France) and Romain Renoux (The Medfund)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Susan Gallon (susan.gallon@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

In the Mediterranean, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) with strong protection are effective tools to restore biodiversity and fisheries resources, provided that they are effectively managed. At a time when states are committing to an ambitious increase in the surface of these areas, how can we ensure that they are implemented in the field to achieve the expected ecological benefits? No-go, no-take or no-fishing areas represent only 0.04% of the Mediterranean in 2021, a figure that has remained unchanged since the last analysis in 2016 despite an increase in MPA coverage from 6.3% to 8.3%.

In this context, guided by science and encouraged by the commitments of several leaders to increase the number of MPAs with strong protection in the Mediterranean, the MedFund recently launched a new financing window dedicated to MPAs with a high level of protection called the Highly Protected Mediterranean Initiative. This is in line with a key recommendation of the Post-2020 Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas Roadmap "Recalling the Tangier Declaration's 2% target for no-take zones (Tangier Declaration, 2016 Mediterranean MPA Forum), increase the number and size of MPAs that include zones with enhanced protection levels (e.g. no-take, no-access, strictly protected), to contribute to the recovery of marine ecosystems, based on scientific data and community engagement".

This session will showcase some best practices in establishing enhanced protection levels in MPAs - including planning, implementation, monitoring and adaptation, in order to collectively identify key drivers for successful and efficient strict/enhanced protection in Mediterranean MPAs.

CASE STUDIES:

› **Why do we need more full protection? And what is full protection by the way** [video presentation]

Speaker : Joachim Claudet (CNRS and CRIOBE, France)

IUCN has defined standards for the minimum requirements to be met for any particular MPA. Expanding on these, the MPA Guide defines the possible levels of protection that can be present in MPAs. Using the MPA Guide, we present an assessment of the levels of protection in the Mediterranean Sea.

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› **Cerbère-Banyuls Marine Nature Reserve: effective management calling for an extension of its perimeter** [online]

Speaker : Virginie Hartmann (Département des Pyrénées-Orientales - Réserve Naturelle Marine de Cerbère-Banyuls, France)

The national strategy for protected areas aims to increase the proportion of protected marine and land areas to 30%, with one third under strong protection, by 2030 and 5% in the Mediterranean by 2027. The demonstration made within the Cerbère-Banyuls Marine Reserve of the effectiveness of this tool has favoured the implementation of a consultation process for the extension of its perimeter in close collaboration with the services of the State, the Gulf of Lion Natural Marine Park, the Universities of Perpignan and Montpellier and in consultation with the actors of the territory and the marine environment. The objectives of the project will be to increase the preservation of the environment on the Rocky Coast, to promote better biological connectivity at the Marine Park level, with the other marine protected areas created and the Spanish protected areas, to improve the sharing of space between users, to allow a better balance between preservation and pressure of uses, and to achieve a significant reduction of pressure on the Rocky Coast. The objective is to at least double the current surface area of the Reserve and create one or more zones of enhanced protection.

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› **Careful and accurate assessment of the scientific data collected to consider a redefinition of the existing zoning in Capo Carbonara MPA**

Speaker : Fabrizio Atzori (Capo Carbonara MPA, Italy)

The Capo Carbonara MPA is located in the South East of Sardinia and it was established in 1998 by a Decree of the Ministry of the Environment and covers a surface area of approximately 14,360 hectares.

In 2012 the MPA was redefined, and the boundaries of the different zones were modified. Since 2014, several studies and monitoring were carried out and a lot of information has been gathered which lay the foundations for more specific and precise evaluations. The first aim is a careful and accurate assessment of the scientific data collected to consider a redefinition of the existing zoning. The re-

sults obtained suggest a remodeling of zone A and consequently of zone B.

The results obtained from the mapping in 2016, that showed in detail the structure of the shoals as well as the structure of the seabed, bring to light that the current position of the limits of three zones A of the shoal do not precisely delimit the whole shoal. It's possible to consider, on the basis of the habitats and species present, maintaining some zone A, adjoining a zone B, or eliminating some zone A by structuring an extension and careful redefinition of zone B only.

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› **Effect of strong protection zones on the profitability of small-scale coastal fisheries** [online]

Speaker : Marie-Catherine Santoni (Office de l'Environnement de Corse / Réserve Naturelle des Bouches de Bonifacio, France)

The first scientific monitoring of small-scale coastal fishing was carried out in the 1990s in the extreme south of Corsica, following validation by the scientific council of the former Riserva naturali di i Lavezzi. Extended to the entire RNBB in the 2000s, they were maintained for more than a decade in partnership with the Bunifaziu Prud'homie. In addition to the work already carried out in Corsica, this monitoring is now running on a regional scale thanks to the establishment of a network of on-board observers working in close collaboration with fishermen on the basis of a common protocol and data are centralised (DACOR project, CF-DCF programme).

This monitoring allows reliable and precise data to be collected, both on the techniques used and on the species caught according to the fishing areas exploited and, in particular, their protection status. In parallel with fisheries monitoring, visual underwater censuses have been carried out since 1992 in the Bucchi di Bunifaziu. These time series collected over the long term have been used in numerous scientific articles and validate the beneficial effect of this MPA, which includes 15% of strongly protected areas equipped with management and monitoring resources, on marine species and ecosystems. These effects have been reflected since 2007 in the baskets of artisanal fishermen by an increase in the profitability of fishing nets in the protected and managed areas of the RNBB.

The present study is a continuation of these old series, integrating for the first time data collected on a regional scale. Corsica's small-scale coastal fisheries mainly use set nets. In 2018-2019, they represented more than 85% of the fishing effort (including 45% of fish nets). We extracted data from these nets to analyse the effect of management on Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) according to the protection status of the sampled fishing areas. Some species, such as denti (*Dentex dentex*), paddlefish (*Pagrus pagrus*), capon (*Scorpaena scrofa*) and red mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*), respond positively to management measures such as limiting recreational marine fishing and banning underwater hunting. They are said to be «winners» and represent, on average, 45% of the CPUE of fish nets in Corsica, 68% of which are species with high commercial value. Moreover, the analysis of the catch size distributions indicates that, proportionally, fishermen catch more large individuals in the RNBB areas than on the rest of the Corsican coastline. This effect is also linked to the good fishing practices of the Bunifaziu prud'homie. These two points on the quality and quantity of catches demonstrate, with current data, the beneficial effects of strong protection zones on the resource and on the economic income of artisanal fishermen.

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› **Presence and diversity of key habitats as criteria for the zoning of enhanced protection areas - Insights from the case of fish habitats**

Speaker : Adrien Cheminée (Septentrion Environnement, France)

In order to optimise the zoning of management measures (type and level of protection), it is necessary to include, in addition to no-take zones, zones that preserve the integrity of the habitats themselves and thus their essential functions (spawning grounds, nurseries, etc.). The protection zoning should therefore be the result of an analysis of a whole range of data, including the spatial distribution of essential habitats. An assessment of the consideration of certain types of fish nursery habitats in various Mediterranean study sites revealed that the location of these critical habitats was little or not taken into account in the zoning of management measures. In some of these study areas, after acquiring and disseminating knowledge of nursery habitats, managers were able to optimise and refine their response in terms of planning or monitoring regulatory dossiers when applying for works within MPAs.

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SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS:

KNOWLEDGE

Use key habitats (e.g. breeding sites, nurseries, etc.) as criteria for the designation of fully and highly protected areas based on scientific data.

Recommendation targeted at :

- National and local MPA Authorities
- MPA management bodies
- Scientific NGOs and Research institutes

CONSULTATION

Involve all stakeholders throughout the process of designating fully and highly protected areas to ensure a long-term commitment.

Recommendation targeted at :

- National and local MPA Authorities
- MPA management bodies
- Competent local stakeholders and community groups

COMMUNICATION

Communicate the benefits of fully and highly Protected Areas (e.g. spillover effects, habitat protection, etc.) so that the public understands and supports them.

Recommendation targeted at :

- National and local MPA Authorities
- MPA management bodies
- National and regional networks
- NGOs

ENFORCEMENT

Ensure that effective protection measures and existing regulations are enforced so that the expected benefits of fully and highly protected areas can be achieved.

Recommendation targeted at :

- National and local MPA Authorities
- MPA management bodies

BE HONEST

Share your difficulties.

Recommendation targeted at :

- National and local MPA Authorities
- MPA management bodies

DS12 | STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT TO IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE VIA CITIZEN SCIENCE, FACILITATE BOTTOM-UP MANAGEMENT, AND INCREASE ACCEPTANCE AND COMPLIANCE

[Recording of the session available here.](#)

THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 12:30 CET | CONFERENCE ROOM

DURATION : 3h

TRANSLATION : English | French

FACILITATION : Almokhtar Saied (National Council for Civil Liberties and Human rights, Libya) and Milica Rudic (Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism of Montenegro)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Pierre Vignes (pierre.vignes@medpan.org)



SESSION ABSTRACT :

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be agreed upon at COP-15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity by the end of 2022, sets the ambitious “30x30” target to protect 30 percent of the world's terrestrial and marine habitats by 2030 “through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area based conservation measures”.

Considering the current status of the Mediterranean MPA system (8.3% MPA coverage, 97% of which is located in EU waters, significant management weaknesses despite progress), the challenge looks considerable. With social and economic stakes commensurate with a population of 150 million inhabitants in the coastal areas of the 21 riparian countries, it seems obvious that the protection of 30% of our sea will not be done against people and their rights. More than that, the active participation of coastal communities in the conservation effort is mandatory to meet the 30x30 target.

This need for an inclusive approach is embedded in the objective by reference to equitable management, as well as to “other effective area based conservation measures”. OECMs are gaining increased attention as a complementary tool to traditional Protected Areas, in that they can include any geographically defined area that has a management structure and can show a long-term positive impact on biodiversity. They are thus seen as an opportunity to bring more people to the conservation table.

As for MPAs, although their primary purpose is biodiversity conservation, they also support sustainable development goals for the benefit of local communities. Far from putting nature under a bell, the prevailing approach in the Mediterranean today strives for a greater inclusion of local communities and their social and economic challenges in MPA strategies. Marine and coastal protected areas are promising opportunities for democratic renewal in which local stakeholders are given a voice with a sense of consultation and collective commitment. They can allow people to manage together to preserve or restore the balance of territory from a sustainable development perspective.

Participatory approaches, community-based management, formal co-management and shared governance... In their various forms, bottom-up approaches are gaining momentum, as they are proving to improve acceptance and compliance, whilst building community support for the conservation effort.

Based on several examples that will be presented, highlighting the contribution of citizen science to knowledge, «fishing for litter» clean-up operations in synergy with fishers, and the development of ecotourism opportunities such as pescatourism, we will discuss the correlation between equitable and effective management, and seek to identify some of the catalysts for stakeholder involvement.

CASE STUDIES :

› Developing citizen-science protocols for Biodiversity monitoring while Enhancing community based management and implementation bodies for an effective management of Hima Anfeh

Speaker : Elie El-Haddad (Société pour la protection de la nature au Liban)

Hima, is a traditional system of resource tenure that originated in the Arabian Peninsula 15 centuries ago society for the Protection of Nature – SPNL has been working since 2004 on the Hima revival in Lebanon, which is a community-based approach to conserving ecologically valuable areas through partnerships and close cooperation with local authorities. Creating a network of Hima community-based protected areas, supplementing State Protected Areas, ensures benefit-sharing between nature and people while protecting and restoring biodiversity, sustaining natural resources, maintaining traditional knowledge, preserving cultural heritage, and building resilient livelihoods.

Hima Anfeh, a coastal village in North Lebanon, is historically known for its active community that has always sought responsible practices across the town, including salt production, fishing, and olive harvesting. SPNL and the local community of Anfeh, with the support of Anfeh's municipality, have developed a management plan for this MPA. This plan is considered a success story for being a tool for an efficient MPA management, in addition to its importance as an advocacy tool for fundraising.

Recently, SPNL is developing a citizen-science program for biodiversity monitoring to increase the engagement of local community members in monitoring the ecological health of their area and in conserving its natural resources.

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› **Citizen-Science : An efficacy monitoring tools for Marine Protected Areas**

Proposed by : Tyre Coast Nature Reserve-ENSERES Tyre coordinator, LEBANON

Speaker : Ali Badreddine (Réserve naturelle de la côte de Tyre / coordinateur ENSERES Tyre, Liban)

Citizen-Science is becoming an important tool that can be used to guarantee a sustainable monitoring program within a Marine Protected Area (MPA). Citizen-Science ensures a specific involvement of the stakeholders and decision-makers in the activities (especially the monitoring) of an MPA. Accordingly, citizen science always works parallel with a training program that helps enhance capacity building with an MPA. In this context, citizen science can be considered an important indicator for the evaluation of the efficacy of an MPA.

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› **Strengthening effectiveness of MPA management of action plans through direct involvement of local stakeholders (lessons learned from newly Albanian practices)**

Speakers : Andrian Vaso and Skerdilajd Anagnost (AVCON, Albania)

Various IFIs and International Agencies have supported the Albanian Government to improve the coverage and management effectiveness of Albania's network of marine and coastal protected areas (MCPAs) as an essential complement to its network of MCPAs and contribute to Albania's obligations under different UN Conventions and the EU accession process. Significant achievements were made in the Vlora region by catalyzing the involvement of stakeholders and by supporting the establishment of a clear institutional and legal framework for MCPA designation and management. However, multiple stages of development are needed before an Albanian ecologically representative MCPA network is fully realized and can provide coastal communities with sustained benefits from the marine and coastal environment.

Pesca-tourism is a relatively new development in sustainable tourism. It consists of a day trip on a fishing boat with local fishermen who take tourists on board. Tourists take part in fishing operations by casting and pulling in the nets and performing other tasks, such as eating freshly caught fish cooked on board and visiting fishing villages. Such potential is able to attract tourists and generate income through a process of more sustainable exploitation of local resources.

Demonstrated projects along the Albanian MCPAs have shown high interest to fishermen groups on the value of taking part in pesca-tourism activities whereas to policymakers and tourism and environment authorities the importance of facilitating pesca-tourism.

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› **REMARE : A network for the SEA**

Speaker : Caterina Iacono (Area marina protetta Regno di Nettuno, Italy)

Re.MARE is a project realized in partnership between the Marine Protected Areas and the Trade Association of the fishing sector due to the opportunity provided by the Campania Region through a PO FEAMP 2014/2020 Measure 1.40 and it represents an innovation in many ways. It anticipates the good practices of collection and disposal of waste accidentally recovered at sea during fishing activities constituting, practically, the application of a law being approved, the DDL 1571 «Salvamare law». For the first time a synergy has been activated between Public Authorities and economic operators that has involved the entire regional territory in a unique system action as experimentation of a methodology not yet applied previously. The synergy enables the involvement of about 400 fishing boats in a big marine area, about 52000 ha. Awareness and information campaigns were delivered ahead of the cleanup operations and the Fishermen, thanks to the trial, have collected 19 tons of waste in a little less than 4 months, from August to mid-November; the waste that ended up in their nets consisted primarily of plastic, with 64%, then glass 8%, fishing gear and wood about 4% each and the remaining 20% made of various materials: metals, fabrics, clothing and various objects.

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SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS :

Address biodiversity conservation while fully respecting and protecting the cultural heritage, ideologies and livelihoods of local communities.

Overall, actors involved in protected areas (governments and their agencies, management bodies, international organisations, NGOs, businesses, donors) have obligations and responsibilities with regard to human rights that must be respected in the implementation of conservation actions. Nature conservation must always be aligned with the implementation of human rights standards and the link between effective management and equitable management of Protected Areas should be explicitly articulated (as in the CBD 30x30 target). In addition to the need to comply with international and domestic human rights laws and policies, it should be emphasised that equitable management is an essential condition for the effective management of Protected Areas. With social and economic stakes commensurate with a population of 150 million in the coastal areas of the 21 riparian countries, it appears quite clear that the protection of 30% of the Mediterranean Sea will not be achieved against people and their rights. More than that, the active participation of coastal communities in the conservation effort is mandatory to achieve the ambitious 30x30 target.

- › Highlighting the human rights and socio-economic challenges of local communities should be the starting point of any participatory process for MPAs.
- › Consistently refer to human rights as an integral part of MPA policy and governance frameworks at all levels.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies
- › NGOs
- › Intergovernmental organisations
- › Networks
- › Donors

Promote the role of MPA managers in providing opportunities to local communities as an integral part of the MPA's regular processes (e.g. citizen science, pescatourism and ecotourism opportunities, development of new regulations, etc.). There are a number of key principles and success factors to consider for MPAs to provide tangible opportunities for local communities :

- › Listen to all community groups to understand their problems and needs: A thorough assessment of the socio-political and economic situation of the target area can provide a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the community in all its components, and will help avoid unexpected obstacles and complications.
- › A bottom-up participatory approach should always be considered from the early stages. Establishing local committees with equal representation of stakeholders will ensure concrete ownership and sustainability of conservation plans.
- › Transparency is always required to maintain mutual trust and good relations with local communities.
- › On-the-ground presence is essential to build mutual understanding and trust with the local community over time. It is therefore crucial that the MPA has a field management unit with permanent staff to ensure daily contact with local community members.
- › Enhancing knowledge and promoting environmental awareness through citizen science is key to engaging local community members in technical conservation work.
- › Involving proactive members of the local community (fishers, divers, etc.) will help to communicate messages in appropriate language, resulting in more effective outreach.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › MPA management bodies

- › Developing a management plan drawing on local traditional knowledge and know-hows, as well as on existing land and sea use practices will ensure the preservation of cultural identity and will allow tailored initiatives to be developed based on real community needs and capacities.
- › Initiate synergies and partnerships between the MPA and different local actors and sectors to foster joint initiatives (e.g. fishers and tourism sector for Pescatourism, Waste management agency and fishers for marine litter management, etc.)
- › Provide alternatives for turning MPA regulatory constraints into opportunities for preserving community livelihoods. Conversion to new activities (e.g. Pescatourism, ecotourism) should be supported by training and coaching for the concerned actors. Support for achieving a sound business model defined and built locally should be considered a priority. Also, the impact of alternative activities on the marine environment should be monitored over time to ensure that the strategy is supporting MPA conservation objectives.

Advocate for the adaptation of national legal and regulatory frameworks to allow the implementation of alternative activities for the local community.

The development of Pescatourism, for example, is often hindered by a lack of legal and regulatory frameworks allowing the activity.

Recommendation targeted at :

- › Networks
- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › Central State Government

Promote the need for funding opportunities to support bottom-up participatory approaches and collaborations between MPAs and local communities (e.g. EMFF for EU countries).

Recommendation targeted at :

- › Networks
- › Donors
- › National and local MPA Authorities
- › Central State Government

Closing plenary session

THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2022 | 14:00 - 15:30 CET | KAFANA ROOM

DURATION : 1h50

TRANSLATION : English | French | Montenegrin

FACILITATION : Purificació Canals (President of MedPAN)

SUPPORT MEDPAN SECRETARIAT : Marie Romani (marie.romani@medpan.org)

SHARING AND DISCUSSION ON THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

CLOSING SPEECHES :

- › Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism of Montenegro
- › Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro
- › Purificació Canals, President of MedPAN



Field trip

WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 13:00 CET

DURATION : 4h

TRANSLATION : English | French

- 09:00 - 09:30 | Short Presentation at the hotel by Vasilije BUŠKOVIĆ (National Project Coordinator for GEF/UNEP MPA Project in Montenegro) about implementing the GEF-UNEP MPA project in Montenegro

A 4 years experience in implementing GEF - UNEP project is presented, including knowledge gained in: habitat and species inventory, developing Nature Protection Studies, Management plans and Financial strategy, all for 3 new MPAs, Zoning of MPAs based on most recent / field data, as well as providing training for the Manager of MPAs (Coastal Zone Management Agency - Morsko dobro).

DOWNLOAD PRESENTATION

- 09:30 - 12:30 | Boat trip around the MPA of Katič guided by Dusan Varda (MedCEM)
- 12:30 - 13:30 | Lunch on the boat



Side events

GEF INCEPTION WORKSHOP (UPON INVITATION)

FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 16:30 CET | KAFANA ROOM

Translation : English | French



The MedFund, the environmental fund for Mediterranean MPAs, and MedPAN, the network of Mediterranean MPA managers, are working together with Conservation International to lead a new Global Environment Facility-funded project “Build Back A Blue and Stronger Mediterranean” to provide comprehensive and integrated support to improve the management of MPAs. Through this project, financial support will be provided to twenty nationally-designated and new MPAs, covering nearly 220,000 hectares across six Mediterranean countries – Albania, Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro and Tunisia. The project will also provide training and support to improve the management capacities of existing protected areas across the region. The launch of the project will take place on 28 October 2022 in Montenegro with the participation of representatives from the countries involved and the Mediterranean partner organisations.

MEDPAN SMALL PROJECT EVENT

FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 12:30 CET | CONFERENCE ROOM

Translation : English | French



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This session is open to all and broadcasted online.

A new MedPAN call for small projects on strong protection will be launched by the end of 2022, with the support of Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy. This call aims to strengthen the level of protection and management of MPAs in the MedPAN network.

This session will be an opportunity to present the terms and conditions of this new call and to answer questions from future applicants.

Concrete recommendations, coming from the MedPAN exchange visit on no-take zones, will be presented in order to provide insights for future projects.

Exchanges between the participants will enable them to go deeper into the topic, share experiences and good practices, and foster the emergence of new projects.

More information on www.medpan.org

RESILIENCE FOR MPA MANAGERS TRAINING (UPON INVITATION)

FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 17:30 CET | LOBBY ROOM

Translation : English | French



Funded by
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MPAs Coping with
Rapid Changes

PRESENTATION AND TRAINING SESSION ON THE RESILIENCE SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL (R-SAT) FOR MPAs: A TOOL FOR MANAGERS AND POLICY MAKERS



© Slaven Vilus / MedPAN

Date and Location : 28 October 2022, 9:00 – 12:00 and 14:30 – 17:30 / Hotel Palas, Montenegro

Many MPAs are now facing resilience issues, not only due to climate change, but also to rapid development and human activities. How MPAs can cope with these rapid changes? To what extent do management practices need to adapt and take into account new practices ?

To address this question, the Resilience Partnership, part of the EU-funded Ocean Governance Project, has designed and created a toolkit for assessing MPAs Resilience capacity, developing the capacity of MPAs managers, and to share knowledge and good practices on Resilience Oriented Management. The toolkit includes the Resilience Self-Assessment Tool and other elements, all of which are constantly evolving and updated.

The training will focus on the Self-Assessment Tool, its different components and its implementation. This training is intended for MPAs managers and anyone concerned with MPA management effectiveness improvement. A translation French/English would be provided.

**ACCESS MPA RESILIENCE
SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL**

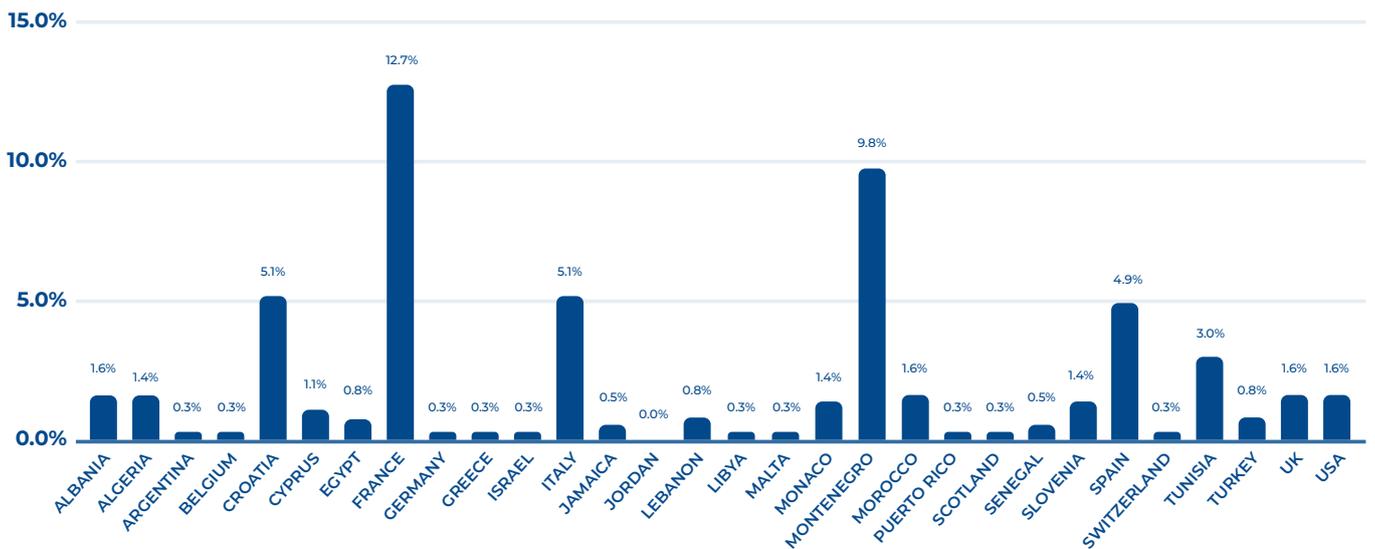
Participation

The workshop gathered a total of **252 participants** (153 face-to-face and 99 online) from **30 countries** (including 19 Mediterranean countries).

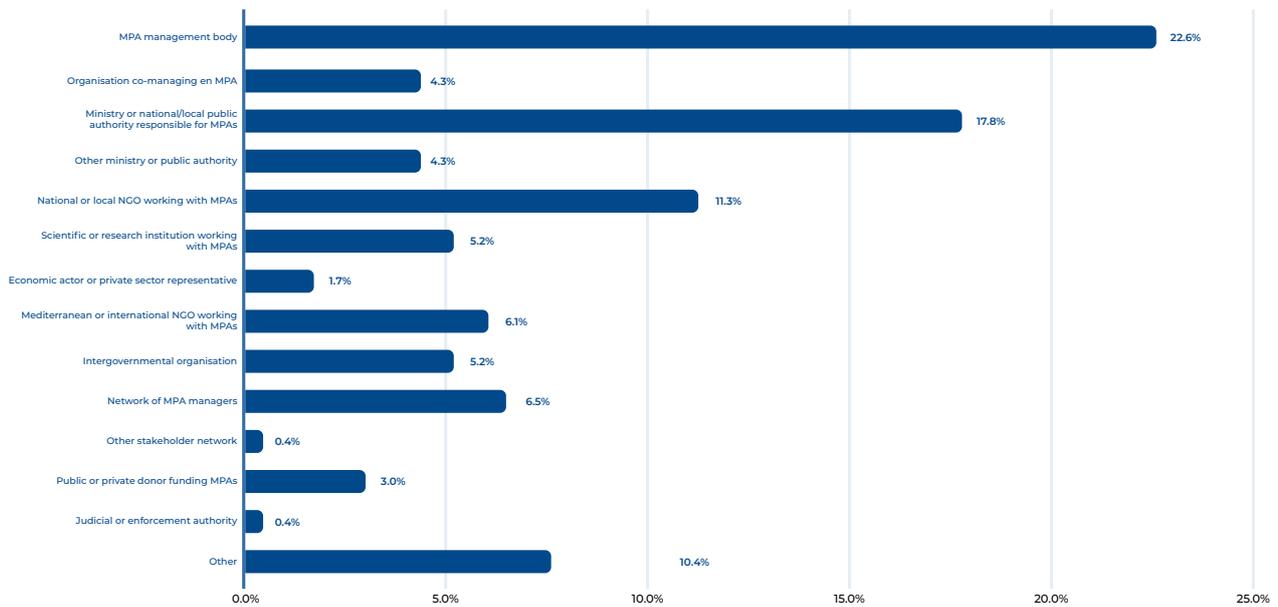
More than half (51,3%) of the profiles represented are MPA managers and authorities (management bodies, co-management organisations, Ministries and national or local authorities, networks of managers). Details of the participation of other stakeholder categories who attended the workshop are presented in the chart below.

Both face-to-face and online, **women were significantly in the majority** at this workshop (58% female versus 42% male).

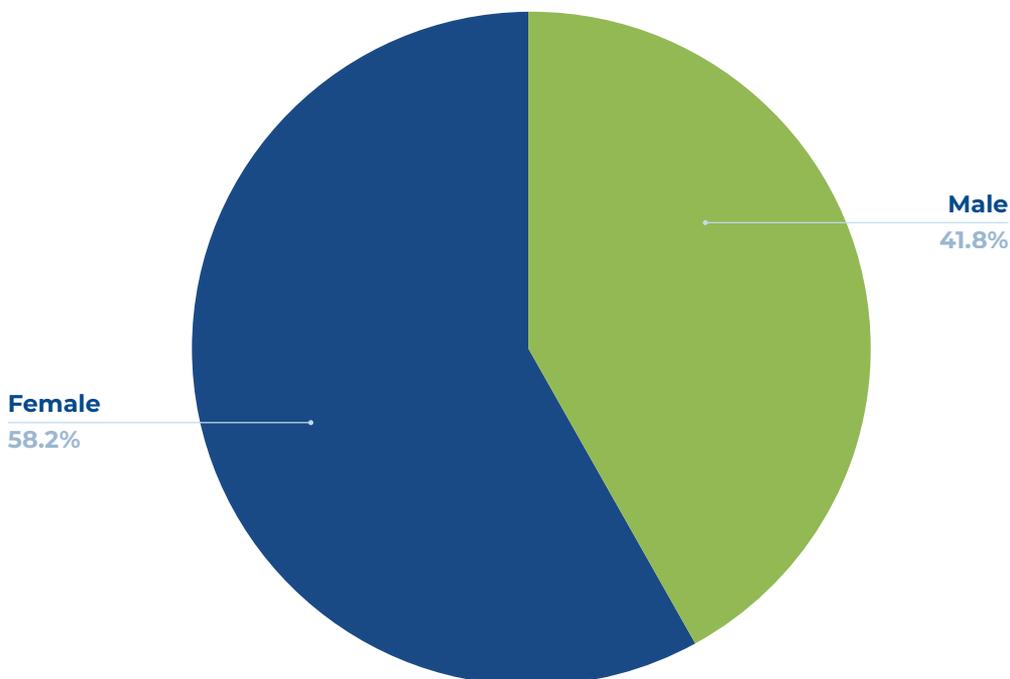
PARTICIPATION BY COUNTRY



PARTICIPATION BY PROFILE



GENDER BALANCE



LIST OF FACE-TO-FACE PARTICIPANTS

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANISATION	COUNTRY
Gizem	AKDOGAN	Mediterranean Conservation Society (akdeniz koruma dernegi)	TURKEY
Aylin	AKKAYA	Deniz Memelileri Arastirma Dernegi	TURKEY
Lydia	ALVANO	The Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA) Management Unit of National Parks of Koroneia – Volvi, Kerkini, Thermaikos and Protected Areas of Central Macedonia Axios Delta National Park	GREECE
Laura	AMIGHETTI	MedPAN	ITALY
Mohamed	AYDI	Municipalité de Sfax	TUNISIA
Giulia	AZZOLINI	Port-Cros National Park	FRANCE
Anita	BABAČIĆ AJDUK	Public Institution Nature of Šibenik - Knin County	CROATIA
Ali	BADREDDINE	Tyre Coast Nature Reserve-ENSERES Tyre coordinator	LEBANON
Iva	BAJKOVIC	Municipality of Budva	MONTENEGRO
Marija	BAJKOVIĆ	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management	MONTENEGRO
Rigers	BAKIU	Agricultural University of Tirana (Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries)/Albanian Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development	ALBANIA
Constance	BARTHAUX	FFEM	FRANCE
Milena	BATAKOVIC	Environmental Protection Agency	MONTENEGRO
Hocein	BAZAIRI	Université Mohammed V, faculté des Sciences, Rabat	MOROCCO
Morana	BAČIĆ	Natura-Jadera Public Institution for the management of protected areas in Zadar County	CROATIA
Miriam	BEN GHAZI	MedPAN	FRANCE
Sami	BEN HAJ	Association PIM	TUNISIA
Dejan	BESOVIC	NGO Nasa akcija	MONTENEGRO
Prapti	BHANDARY	CI-GEF agency	USA
Patrick	BONHOMME	Parc national des Calanques	FRANCE
Georges	BOULOS	MedPAN	FRANCE
Miodrag	BOZOVIC	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management	MONTENEGRO
Tamara	BRAJOVIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Slavica	BRAUNOVIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Djurdjina	BULATOVIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Vasilije	BUSKOVIC	INP	MONTENEGRO
Purificacio	CANALS	MedPAN	SPAIN
Valentina	CAPPANERA	Portofino MPA	ITALY
Ebru	ÇELİK	WWF-TÜRKİYE	TURKEY
Tina	CENTRIH GENOV	Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation	SLOVENIA
Ilija	CETKOVIC	Institute for Marine Biology	MONTENEGRO
Adrien	CHEMINÉE	Septentrion Environnement	FRANCE
Hrvoje	ČIŽMEK	Marine Explorers Society 20000 Leagues	CROATIA
Barbara	ČOLIĆ	Marine Explorers Society 20000 Leagues	CROATIA
Timothée	COOK	BlueSeeds	FRANCE
Elodie	COURAUD	The MedFund	MONACO

Marija	CRNČEVIĆ	independent expert / researcher	CROATIA
Zeljka	CUROVIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Mohammad	DAHER	Tyre Coast Nature Reserve	LEBANON
Tom	DALLISON	Blue Pangolin Consulting Ltd	UK
Francesco	DE FRANCO	MPA Torre Guaceto	ITALY
Free	DE KONING	Conservation International	USA
Laure	DEBEIR	Comité français de l'UICN	FRANCE
Camille	DEVISSI	Association Monégasque pour Protection de Nature (AMPN)	MONACO
Busenaz	DEÇIRMEN	Marine Life Conservation Society	TURKEY
Dijana	DOSLJAK	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro	MONTENEGRO
Tina	DRAGUTIN BURIĆ	Public Institution Nature of Sibenik-Knin County	CROATIA
Sandro	DUJMOVIC	Brijuni National Park	CROATIA
Kamel	EL JED	Association ASPEN	TUNISIA
Elie	EL-HADDAD	Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon - SPNL	LEBANON
Atzori	FABRIZIO	MPA Capo Carbonara	ITALY
Najia	FATINE	GREPOM	MOROCCO
Dejan	FILIPOVIC	Ecological Inspection	MONTENEGRO
Ivana	FRANETA	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro	MONTENEGRO
Susan	GALLON	MedPAN	FRANCE
Diego	GARGIULO	AMP VENTOTENE	ITALY
Jacqueline	GAUTIER-DEBERNARDI	AMPN	MONACO
Dragan	GOJAČANIN	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management	MONTENEGRO
Jean-Jacques	GOUSSARD	Projet européen OCEAN GOVERNANCE	FRANCE
Emilie	GRIMAUD	MedPAN	FRANCE
Nikolina	GRKOVIĆ	Public Institution Lokrum Reserve	CROATIA
Amer	HADDAD	Palm Islands	LEBANON
Louis	HADJIOANNOU	Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute	CYPRUS
Hend	HASSASSI	MedPAN	FRANCE
Inès	HATIMY	Thrasos	FRANCE
Martina	HERVAT	Public Institution Brijuni National Park	CROATIA
Neža	HERVATIČ	Municipality of Ankaran - Landscape Park Debeli rtič	SLOVENIA
Caterina	IACONO	Regno di Nettuno MPA	ITALY
Yiannakis	IOANNOU	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research	CYPRUS
Aleksandra	IVANOVIC	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro	MONTENEGRO
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Aneta	KANKARAS	Office for Sustainable Development	MONTENEGRO
Eirian	KETTLE	JNCC	UK
Asma	KHERIJI	SPA/RAC	TUNISIA
Funda	KOK	MEDITERRANEAN CONSERVATION SOCIETY	TURKEY
Marina	KRIVOKAPIC	Municipality of Kotor	MONTENEGRO
Genti	KROMIDHA	INCA	ALBANIA
Marianne	LANG	MedPAN	FRANCE
Thierry	LEFEBVRE	UICN international	SWITZERLAND

Emmi	LINDQVIST	IUCN	SPAIN
Arturo	LOPEZ ORNAT	free lance	SPAIN
Zarko	LUKSIC	Administration for Maritime Safety and Port Management	MONTENEGRO
Vesna	MACIC	Institute for Marine Biology	MONTENEGRO
Giuseppe	MAIMONE	Management consortium of the Protected Marine Area of Capo Milazzo	ITALY
Samanta	MAKOVAC	Strunjan Landscape Park	SLOVENIA
Nemanja	MALOVRAZIC	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro	MONTENEGRO
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Public Institution Brijuni National Park	MARNO MILOTIC	Public Institution Brijuni National Park»	CROATIA
Mustapha	MARRAHA	Groupe d'étude et de Protection des Mammifères du Maroc/ Comité National UICN	MOROCCO
Massimo	MARRAS	MPA «Penisola del Sinis - Isola di Mal di Ventre»	ITALY
Phénia	MARRAS - AIT RAZOUK	Office français de la biodiversité (OFB)	FRANCE
Laura	MARRUCHELLI	The MedFund	MONACO
Carole	MARTINEZ	MedPAN	FRANCE
Patricia	MARTÍ PUIG	Oceanogami	SPAIN
Annarita	MATRONE	MPA / Rns Islands of Ventotene and Santo Stefano	ITALY
Gianfranco	MAZZA	Plemmirio MPA	ITALY
Sahar	MEHANNA	National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF)	EGYPT
Jorge	MORENO PÉREZ	Balearic Government General Directorate of Natural Areas and Biodiversity	SPAIN
Reda	NEVEU	MedPAN	FRANCE
Vedran	NIKOLIĆ	DG Environment	BELGIUM
Sladana	NIKOLIĆ	Institute of Marine Biology	MONTENEGRO
Paola	ORRÙ	MPA «Penisola del Sinis - Isola di Mal di Ventre»	ITALY
Umit	OZTURK	Euro-Mediterranean Resources Network	UK
Magdalene	PAPATHEODOULOU	Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources and Environment	CYPRUS
George	PAYIATAS	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	CYPRUS
Igor	PEJOVIC	Secretariat General of Government of Montenegro	MONTENEGRO
Jerome	PETIT	Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy	FRANCE
Catherine	PIANTE	WWF France	FRANCE
Marko	PLENČA MUDRIĆ	Public Institution Nature of Sibenik-Knin County	CROATIA
Martha	PRADA	UNEP - CEP	PUERTO RICO
Gaetan	QUESNE	Baastel	FRANCE
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Petar	RADONIĆ	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management	MONTENEGRO
Maja	RAICEVIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Milena	RAIČEVIĆ	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management	MONTENEGRO
Milena	RAMOV	Public Institution Nature Park Telašćica	CROATIA
Romain	RENOUX	The MedFund	MONACO
Marie	ROMANI	MedPAN	FRANCE
Antonio	ROMANO	Riserva Naturale Statale/Area Marina Protetta / Isole di Ventotene e Santo Stefano	ITALY
Stela	RUCI	APAWA	ALBANIA

Milica	RUDIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Laureta	SADIKLLARI	Flag Pine	ALBANIA
Almokhtar	SAIED	National Council for Civil Liberties and Human rights	LIBYA
Milena	SIJAN	Nature & Adventure, obrt za savjetovanje i usluge	CROATIA
Dina	SKAREP	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Susanna	SOGLIA	Freelance	ITALY
Ahmed	SOUKI	Notre Grand Bleu	TUNISIA
Laurent	SOURBÈS	Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA) -National Marine Park of Zakynthos	GREECE
Matea	SPIKA	Association Sunce Split	CROATIA
Marko	STARMAN	Public Institute Landscape Park Strunjan	SLOVENIA
Francis	STAUB	Blue Pangolin Consulting	UK
Aleksandra	STIJOVIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Ivana	STOJANOVIC	Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism	MONTENEGRO
Paul	SÉASSAL	Paul Seassal Consultants	FRANCE
Barbara	ŠVAGELJ	Municipality of Ankaran - Ancarano	SLOVENIA
Mohamed	TAALAB	Ashtum El- Gamil Protectorate, Nature Conservation Sector, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, Ministry of Environment	EGYPT
Sana	TAKTAK	Association de la Continuité des Générations / Kneiss islands	TUNISIA
Julien	TAVERNIER	Parc national des Calanques	FRANCE
Mathieu	THEVENET	Initiative PIM	FRANCE
Angelique	TRIGUEL	Conservatoire du littoral	FRANCE
Antonio	TROYA	UICN	SPAIN
Eva	TURICCHIA	University of Bologna	ITALY
Dusan	VARDA	Mediterranean Center for Environmental Monitoring	MONTENEGRO
Andrian	VASO	AVCON	ALBANIA
Pierre	VIGNES	MedPAN	FRANCE
Giulia	VISCONTI	Marevivo onlus	ITALY
Sergej	VUJOSEVIC	MKI	MONTENEGRO
Stevan	VUKOVIC	Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management	MONTENEGRO
Azra	VUKOVIC	NGO Green Home	MONTENEGRO
Pietro	VUOLO	NGO MAREVIVO	ITALY
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