



Empowering the Mediterranean Community
Tools for ecosystem-based management
16-18 May 2018, Podgorica, Montenegro

ACT4LITTER - AMARE - CONFISH - ECOSUSTAIN - FISHMPABLUE2 - MEDSEALITTER
MPA-ADAPT - PHAROS4MPAS - PLASTIC BLUSTERS MPAS - POSBEMED - WETNET

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

***Empowering the Mediterranean Community with tools
for ecosystem-based management***

Med Biodiversity Protection Open Seminar: 16–17 May 2018

Med Interactive Workshop: 17 May 2018

Interreg Med Biodiversity Protection Action Plans: 18 May 2018

Hotel CentreVille Podgorica, Montenegro

The Med Biodiversity Protection community featured by the PANACeA¹ project – the organizer of this event - pursues a direct dialogue with major policy and management instruments affecting our common environment. The seminar aims to highlight and transfer latest knowledge, practical methodologies and tools developed by current EU and Mediterranean research, management and policy projects to stimulate a Mediterranean debate on ecosystem-based management and biodiversity conservation.

This Open Seminar is a step forward to showcase practical solutions developed and/or tested by the Biodiversity Protection Community in the Mediterranean through research projects, cooperation initiatives, environmental institutions and government programmes. Key players will have the opportunity to present and to learn from each other on best practices under way to protect Mediterranean ecosystems and biodiversity, with a special focus on the Adriatic region. The seminar will build on the recommendations by participants in the “Bridging the Science, practice and policy gap in the Mediterranean” discussions held in Barcelona in October 2017.

The scope of topics to be debated in Montenegro refers in particular to assessing and addressing the challenges of **climate change** and **marine litter** impacts on biodiversity and the communities in and nearby **protected areas**; testing participatory **governance** mechanisms for a sustainable management of natural resources and its services related particularly to **wetlands** and small scale **fisheries**; and the meta-analysis of land and sea interactions and economic activities towards **integrated ecosystem monitoring and management** approaches. Ways to transfer innovative management tools and integrate different data platforms/interfaces in the region will be discussed to strengthen the efforts of this Mediterranean community of projects and institutions to regionally tackle emerging and identified common cross-cutting issues. The developments and tools produced by this community will be assessed against the needs for regional environmental and sectoral policies including the EU MSP, the EU Habitat Directive and the effective management and support to identify priority areas for the enlargement of its Natura 2000 network, the Barcelona Convention and its protocols including the ICZM and the initiative on the de-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea.

The **Open Seminar** will start on **16 May** in the morning and finalize on **17 May** 2018 at midday, with a **site visit** on the afternoon of the first day to Skadar Lake, a Ramsar site and National Park between Montenegro and Albania, as an example of transboundary management towards protection.

An interactive **workshop** will follow on **17 May in the afternoon and the morning of 18 May 2018**, this last one restricted to the Interreg MED Biodiversity Protection Community and its Advisory Board.

Registration to Montenegro and information on logistics can be found here:

<https://biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu/>

¹ Interreg Med Horizontal project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to streamline Networking and Management efforts in Mediterranean Protected Areas to enhance nature conservation. It covers 11 thematic projects tackling Biodiversity Protection: ACT4LITTER, AMARE, CONFISH, ECOSUSTAIN, FISHMPABLUE2, MEDSEALITTER, MPA-ADAPT, PHAROS4MPAS, PLASTICBUSTERS MPAS, POSBEMED and WETNET.

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DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2018

09h00 Arrival of participants: Registration

09h20 Welcome address

Master of Ceremony:

Srna Sudar, Regional Environment Centre (REC) – Montenegro

- Mr. Saša Radulović, State Secretary for Environment, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro
- Mr. Miodrag Raceta, Ministry of European Affairs of Montenegro

10h00 SETTING THE FRAMEWORK: ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT TO SUPPORT MEDITERRANEAN AND ADRIATIC PROCESSES - Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation science and practice into policy

- *Making management applicable: best practices and innovative tools bridging Science - Practice - Policy gaps.*
- *Recent management developments and gaps in biodiversity protection in the Eastern Mediterranean / Adriatic: establishment and management of a coherent MPA network.*
- *A look into instruments for biodiversity protection in the region*

Speakers:

- ✓ Dania Abdul Malak, Director European Topic Centre – University of Malaga (ETC-UMA)
- ✓ Dusan Varda, Mediterranean Center for Environmental Monitoring (MedCEM) - Mediterranean Protected Areas Network (MedPAN)
- ✓ Dragan Marković, Deputy Director, Institute for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro

10h30 Greening our practices - Exhibition and coffee break

11h00 SESSION 1 - REGIONAL NETWORKS AND ACTIONS TO FOSTER ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT AND EVIDENCE-BASED POLICIES

This session will look at current efforts towards a multi-scale assessment, monitoring, and management of transboundary and cumulative impacts on biodiversity, with a focus on the importance of coherent and collaborative networks and an integrated approach to tackle common impacts at Mediterranean, basin, ecosystem and Protected Area level.

Chair: Ameer Abdulla, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas/University of Queensland

- *Towards ecosystem-based assessments of cumulative threats and identification of hot and cold spot areas at various scales.*
- *Supporting the prioritization of actions and the involvement of different stakeholders for an ecosystem-based management approach to the Mediterranean and Adriatic Sea – where, when, why and how.*

Speakers and panelists:

- ✓ Emiliano Ramieri, European Maritime Spatial Planning platform, Thetis SpA
- ✓ Ivana Stojanovic, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Directorate General of Climate Change and Mediterranean Affairs, Division of Mediterranean Affairs
- ✓ Carlo Franzosini, Shoreline, AMARE
- ✓ Andrea Picciolo, Porto Cesareo Protected Area
- ✓ Elisabetta Manea, University of Venice

13h30 Mediterranean flavours cocktail lunch

15h00 FIELD VISIT: National Park Skadar Lake and Ramsar site

A bus will take participants to the National Park Skadar lake, where a 2 hour boat tour around the lake will be organized to have an overview on the current co-management of the National Park, Ramsar site and wetland area across two countries and aspects related to mitigation of climate change and sustainable development.

Speaker: Mr. Nenad Ivanovic, Public Enterprise National Parks of Montenegro/National Park Skadar lake

DAY 2: THURSDAY 17 MAY 2018

09h00 WELCOME TO DAY 2 AND CONCLUSIONS DAY 1

09H10

SESSION 2: NEW DATA, STRENGTHENED INSTRUMENTS FOR AN ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACH

This session will highlight latest research findings concerning the necessary knowledge and data to foster a sustainable use of natural resources at different scales, in particular concerning an ecosystem-based management approach (EBM) with a focus on the Land-Sea interface (i.e. freshwater, coastal, marine continuum) and the relevant systems in place to support these efforts, with a focus on the Adriatic.

Chair: Mr. Sylvain Petit, Programme officer at UNEP/MAP - Priority Action Programme/Regional Activity Centre

- *Monitoring data and actions for cumulative and cross-cutting stressors: marine litter and climate change and its impact in the Mediterranean*
- *A Mediterranean digital repository for biodiversity protection knowledge: what's on offer for protected area managers and policy-makers; geoportals and spatial data in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic*

Speakers and panelists:

- ✓ Stefano Menegon, Italian National Research Council - ISMAR Institute of Marine Sciences, ADRIPLAN, PHAROS4MPAs
- ✓ Age Martini, NAPA Albania, DESTIMED
- ✓ Nataša Štrok, RGO Communication, ECOSUSTAIN
- ✓ Biljana Aljinovic, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, POSBEMED and MPA-ADAPT
- ✓ Roberto Crosti, ISPRA, MedSeaLitter (tbc)
- ✓ Mirka Černi/Andrea Blaškovič, Brijuni National Park, MPA-ADAPT

11h00 Greening our practices - Exhibition and coffee break

11H30

SESSION 3: INNOVATIVE TOOLS TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

This session will help identify best practices and new tools to foster participatory processes in governance models around natural resource (co)management including fisheries and wetland related resources in terms of sustainable use in the Mediterranean, linking with possible implementation in the Adriatic region to support an integrated ecosystem monitoring and management.

Chair: Sergi TUDELA, Director General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, Government of Catalonia · Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food

- *New management models for natural resource management*
- *Multi-user and participatory approaches to better conserve ecosystem services*
- *Funding tools supporting Biodiversity and sustainable natural resource management in the Mediterranean*

Speakers and panelists:

- ✓ Anna Carlson, FAO General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- ✓ Slavica Pavlovic, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Montenegro
- ✓ Giancarlo Gusmaroli, CIRF, WETNET
- ✓ Patrik Krstinic, WWF Adria, FISHMPABLUE2
- ✓ Anamaria Stambuk, University of Zagreb, CONFISH
- ✓ Stevan Maric, Public Enterprise National Parks of Montenegro/National Park Skadar lake
- ✓ Barbara di Piazza, ADRION programme Joint Secretariat (video conference)

13h30 CONCLUSIONS FROM THE SESSIONS

13h45 A synthesis of ecosystem-based management practices and tools by the MED Biodiversity Community – reaching to practitioners and policy makers.

CLOSURE OF THE OPEN SEMINAR and OPENING OF WORKSHOPS

INSTRUCTIONS MED INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

* **MED Ecosystem based Management Tools workshop - 17 May 2018 from 15:00 to 18:00 hrs**

* **Hands-on session for Interreg Med Biodiversity project partners on PANACeA Action Plans - 18 May 2018 from 8:30 to 12:30 hrs (separate agenda, limited participation)**

DAY 2: THURSDAY 17 MAY 2018

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP SESSION ON MED ECOSYSTEM BASED MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Practical workshop with PANACeA partners, Interreg MED projects and other interest groups

15h00 : Welcome & introduction to PANACeA's Community Building Event

- Dania Abdul Malak, PANACeA Project Coordinator, Director ETC-UMA
- Francesca Marcato, Interreg Med project officer
- Snapshot of new members:
 - PHAROS4MPAs by Sylvain Petit, PAP RAC
 - PlasticBusters MPAs by Ilaria Caliani, University of Siena
- Julia Vera Prieto, PANACeA's Event facilitator

15h30: Tools for ecosystem based management under development by the Biodiversity Protection Community by Alyssa Clavreul, Plan Bleu

15h40: World Café on Selected tools featuring: (facilitated by Julia Vera Prieto)

- Monitoring tools and protocols:
 - Freshwater quality (EcoSustain) - *Natasha Stork , RGO Communications*
 - Floating and ingested marine litter (MedSeaLitter) - *Roberto Crosti, ISPRA*
 - Sustainable fish stocks (FishMPABlue2) - *Patrik Krstinic, WWF Adria*
 - Climate change impacts (MPA-Adapt) - *Stefania Chiesa, ISPRA; Andrea Blaskovic & Cerni Mirka, Brijuni National Park*
- Management tools:
 - Banquettes and dune beach management (POSBEMED) – *Biljana Alijnovic, IUCN-Med (tbc)*
- GeoSpatial tools:
 - AMARe WebGis - *Valentina Grande, CNR*
 - Case study AMARe - *Carlo Franzosini, Shoreline and Andrea Picciolo, Porto Cesareo Protected Area*

17:30 PANACeA's Biodiversity Protection Knowledge Platform: status and challenges towards shared data by Emanuele Mancosu / Sonsoles San Roman, ETC-UMA

- Practical examples:
 - T-MedNet data for climate change
 - Marine litter data integration (by Carlos Guitart, ETC-UMA)
 - Interreg Med Biodiversity protection partners and pilot sites

17: 50 Wrap-up of Meeting results & next steps for the PANACeA Community

- Dania Abdul Malak. PANACeA Project Coordinator, Director ETC-UMA

19:30 Biodiversity Protection Cinema and Dinner Cocktail

BACKGROUND – THE NEED FOR AN ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACH IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Scientific exploration and research of Mediterranean ecosystems and biodiversity during the past decades has led to its recognition as one of the first 25 Global Biodiversity Hotspots². Since the 70s socio-economic activities and associated environmental pressures in the Mediterranean basin are on the raise, such as increasing coastal population, tourism activities, fisheries exploitation and widespread pollution including marine litter, to mention few. In the coming years, these pressures are expected to exacerbate as a consequence of the Blue Growth plans for the Mediterranean region.

These threats to the environmental equilibrium in the Mediterranean Sea affect its healthy functional capacity and the marine ecosystem services it provides for all of us. The environmental and socio-economic values of the Mediterranean Sea resulted in the development of the first-ever global regional sea action plan (the Mediterranean Action Plan, MAP) under the UN Environment umbrella and its Barcelona Convention with the participation of the Mediterranean States and the European Community. The recent strategies and programmes for the protection of the Mediterranean region both European and international³ gather the scientific community, international key players and governments, civil society organizations and practitioners to join efforts and knowledge to develop new and innovative management tools for the protection, conservation and the restoration of the functional capacity of the highly pressured ecosystems and biodiversity in the Mediterranean region.

The Mediterranean Sea from west to east is divided in four main sub-basins (the Western Mediterranean, the Adriatic Sea, the Ionian Sea and the Aegean-Levantine Seas basins) due to its geographical, environmental and oceanographical characteristics. The location of the basin (between the Central Europe temperate climate and the Northern African arid climate) provides the Mediterranean region with a unique climatology, however, susceptible to be affected by the global climate change, and therefore, posing an additional stress factor to consider for ensuring the functional capacity of these ecosystems is maintained. The environmental condition and impact assessments to design future common strategies and protection mechanisms in the Mediterranean requires scientific-based practical knowledge, ecosystem-based management and effective tools to address the current threats and ensure its sustainability.

² Myers et al., 2000. Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. *Nature*, 403, 853-858

³ INTERREG MED, INTERREG ADRION, EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive, UN MAP-Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development 2016-2025, UN MAP-Ecosystem Approach Implementation, Mediterranean Horizon 2020, etc.