



Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION
ADRION ADRIATIC-IONIAN

European Regional Development Fund - Instrument for Pre-Accession II Fund

HarmoNIA



HarmoNization and NetwOrking for contaminant assessment in the Ionian and Adriatic Seas

Harmonization of Environmental Impact Assessment procedures in the ADRION area: gaps & needs



ISPRA

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Stakeholder workshop, Patras, 24th October 2019

Harmonia WP 1

	Deliverable:	Partner participation
T1.1.1	Protocol review	X
T1.1.2	Methodological proposal for harmonized sampling procedure, analytical methodologies	X
T1.1.3	Methodological proposal for data Quality Control procedures (QA/QC)	X
T1.2.1	Methodological proposal for transnational harmonization of environmental impact assessment (EIA) of offshore platform installation procedure	X
T1.2.2	Methodological proposal for transnational harmonization of discharge of produced formation water, PFW of offshore platform impact assessment	X
T1.3.1	Methodological proposal for transnational harmonization of monitoring impacts due to offshore platforms	X
T1.3.2	Protocol review for the decommissioning of offshore platforms	X

Objective

Best practices towards **transnational harmonization** of:

T1.2

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) protocols for offshore activities

T1.3

protocols for **monitoring & decommissioning** of offshore platforms

Topics

Levels

EIA

Legislative

EU EIA Directives or analogous national legislations

Monitoring

Regulatory

National guidelines for EIA procedure and identification of responsible bodies

Decommissioning

Assessment

Monitoring protocols, mitigation measures

Harmonization of EIA procedures

Deliverable T1.2.1
offshore platform installation

Deliverables T1.2.2
Produce Water discharge

Work done:

- Sharing of two questionnaires with 6 nations
- Comparative analysis of the questionnaires
 - Gaps & needs

STEP 1: sharing of questionnaires

Questionnaire received from 11 partners:

- AUT (Albania)
- IOF (Croatia)
- RBI (Croatia)
- HCMR (Greece)
- RWG (Greece)
- ISPRA (Italy)
- OGS (Italy)
- MHA (Montenegro)
- UOM–IMBK (Montenegro)
- ARSO (Slovenia)
- NIB (Slovenia)

Main issues in ADRION area:

- EIA legislation
- EIA legislation for offshore platforms
- EIA or other legislative procedure for produced water

STEP 2: comparative analysis of questionnaires

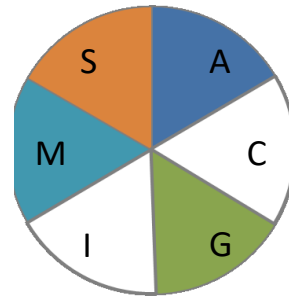
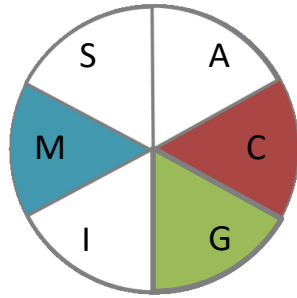
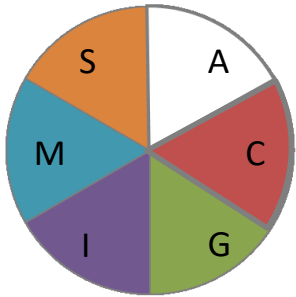
Adriatic-Ionian EIA regulation

- **ALL** transposed/in line with Directive 2014/52/ EC
assessment effects public/private projects on the environment
- **ALL** ratified **Barcelona Convention**
assess the status of the Mediterranean sea
- **ONLY CROATIA & ALBANIA** ratified **Offshore Protocol** (adopted in 1994), entered into force in 2011 for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea
Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Exploration and Exploitation

STEP 2: comparative analysis of questionnaires

Adriatic-Ionian EIA regulation

- Albania
- Croatia
- Greece
- Italy
- Montenegro
- Slovenia

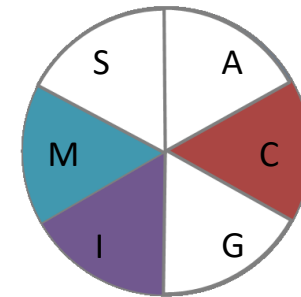
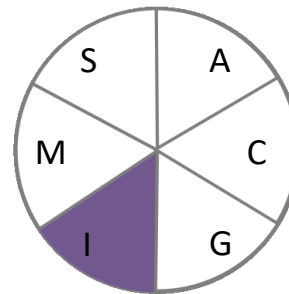
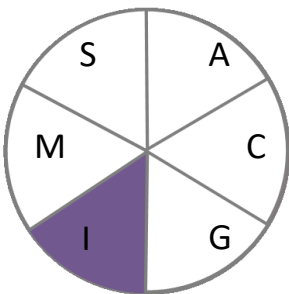
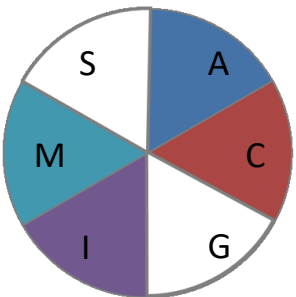


PW discharge legislation

PW discharge monitoring legislation

PW discharge monitoring guidelines

Restrictions with respect coastline&



STEP 2: comparative analysis of questionnaires

EIA procedure for offshore platform installation is common at ADRION level:

- EIA report presentation by project developer
- EIA procedure & public consultation
- EIA report examination by the Competent Authority
- Conclusion on environmental impacts & decision by the Competent Authority
- Description of prevention & monitoring measures

MINIMUM INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN EIA REPORT:

- description of the project
- description of the significant effects on the environment
- description of the measures to avoid, prevent or reduce adverse effects
- description of the alternatives considered

STEP 2: comparative analysis of questionnaires

EIA /OTHER procedure for Produced Water discharge authorization is variable at ADRION level:

- Demand of Produced Water discharge authorization by project developer
- Demand examination by the Competent Authority
- Conclusion on environmental impacts & decision by the Competent Authority
- Description of prevention & monitoring measures

MINIMUM INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN DEMAND:

- description of the project
- description of the significant effects on the environment
- monitoring plan to verify absence of hazard for marine ecosystems
- description of the measures to avoid, prevent or reduce adverse effects

STEP 2: comparative analysis of questionnaires

EIA or authorization procedure at ADRION level:

Commonalities among nations involved in the project Harmonia:

- Authority in charge
- EIA report contents
- EIA decision
- Monitoring plan to verify absence of hazard for marine ecosystem

STEP 2: comparative analysis of questionnaires

EIA or authorization procedure at ADRION level:

Differences among nations involved in the project Harmonia:

- Restrictions with respect to the distance from the coastline and AMP → Only in Italy, Croatia & Montenegro
- Information to be included in Produced Water discharge authorization → More in Italy & Albania
- National guidelines for EIA report drawing up → In Albania, Slovenia Greece & Montenegro
- National guidelines for monitoring of possible impacts of Produced water discharge into the sea → Only in Italy

STEP 3: gaps & needs of questionnaires

Similar EIA approach between installation & Produced Water discharge

Gaps at ADRION level regards:

- Offshore Protocol ratification
- Restrictions with respect coastline and MPA
- National guidelines for EIA report
- EIA procedure or legislation concerning Produced Water discharge
- Guideline for monitoring potential impacts of Produced Water discharge into the sea



*It was expected at European level
but not at ADRION level!*

STEP 3: gaps & needs of questionnaires

Needs at ADRION level:

- To have feedback by competent authorities
- To ratify the Offshore Protocol in all ADRION countries
- To establish restrictions with respect coastline and MPA, in the entire ADRION area
- To propose an ADRION task force of experts to share EIA best practices
- To propose harmonized guidelines for environmental monitoring of Produced Water discharge
- To recommend common thresholds of particular pollutants (as oil) in Produced Water discharge



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Thank you for your attention!



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EIA for offshore activities versus Marine environmental assessments of contaminants

- **EIA monitoring** addresses the impact of marine and coastal infrastructures including offshore activities

Marine environmental assessments of contaminants

- **EU Legislation**
 - **Water Framework Directive monitoring** to assess chemical status of coastal water bodies on EQS for priority substances (PS)
 - **Marine Strategy Framework Directive monitoring** to assess GES achievement for D8 and D9 considering:
 - PS on the same or different matrices as EQS Directive
 - River Basin Specific pollutants
 - Additional contaminants
 - Contaminants listed in Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 for seafood
- **Barcelona Convention**
 - **UNEP/MAP IMAP Common Indicator 17** on contaminants for biota and sediments (seawater is optional) and assessment based on Environmental Assessment Criteria (EAC) and Background Assessment Concentration (BAC)

Key message for stakeholders and discussion (WP1)

Environmental assessment and monitoring of contaminants

- Do you consider as an issue in the ADRION region the lack of transnational harmonization for authorization, monitoring and environmental impact assessments of offshore activities?
- What do you consider in the ADRION region as the most vulnerable coastal or marine ecosystems to chemical pollution?

Offshore activities

- Which criteria, if any, have been adopted to define a “significant” acute pollution event? (volume of the spill (is there a threshold value?) – area interested (is there a threshold value?) – type of substance/s – distance from the coast -...)

Way forward

- Do you think that a task force of experts made by all ADRION Countries is useful for sharing best practices and discuss potential regulatory amendments on the offshore platform EIA?