

WETNET PROJECT
Coordinated management and networking of Mediterranean wetlands

WP 2 - Communication

Activity 2.5 – Horizontal project event report

Project Partner: Italian Centre for River Restoration (CIRF)

Date: October, 14th – 16th 2019

Deliverable 2.5.1 - Event Report
Panacea final event

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1 Event Details

Title:

Ecosystem based adaption: a pulse for transformative changes in the Mediterranean sea

Type:

Final event

Date:

14-16/10/2019

Location:

Malaga (Spain)

Programme:

See link below and annex 1.

Link:

<https://biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu/media-calendar/events/detail/actualites/final-event/>

Audience:

About 100 delegates attended the event. Hereby the booklet of speakers: biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/Sites/Biodiversity_Protection/horizontal_project/News_events/Biography_speakers.pdf

WetNet participation:

- Giancarlo Gusmaroli (Italian Centre for River Restoration)
- Joaquin Villanova (FAMP)

2 Description of the Event

The Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community celebrated a three-day encounter in Malaga (Spain) to share and discuss effective actions towards “Ecosystem Based Adaptation: A Pulse for Transformative Changes in the Mediterranean”. This encounter celebrated three-years of collaborative work by a Community of nearly 200 Mediterranean and European institutions to support a more effective management of biodiversity, ensuring proper ecosystem functions across the Mediterranean. The Community has led the development of the “Mediterranean Declaration for an Ecosystem Based Approach”, a common vision for joint action to better manage our natural resources and reduce the multiple pressures and their impacts on Mediterranean biodiversity.

3 Relevance for the WetNet Project and the MED territory

The event profiled the latest achievements concerning collaborative science, management and policy and demonstrated the work of over 200 institutions engaged in cooperation for biodiversity conservation related actions. It also shed light on its major future steps and planned actions for the upcoming years, informing on their alignment with post 2020 regional and global targets.

The extensive exchange of ideas and experiences resulted in a valuable set of ideas and recommendations identifying some of the key actions that need to be undertaken to preserve the functionality of Mediterranean ecosystems, in order to safeguard the delivery of basic services –such as clean water, clean air and food provision- on which our society depends. The key messages, conclusions and recommendations that resulted from the meeting are summarized in a Report (see link below), structured around the need for transformative changes in the Mediterranean, the response from Mediterranean institutions and the key recommendations for Policy Makers.

During the meeting the Wetland Contract has been acknowledged as a science-based solutions available from Project WETNET. The Wetlands Contract is a voluntary governance tool, an innovative methodology for water and wetlands management. Based on the active participation of local stakeholders, the users of the same natural resource, its aim is to improve coordination and stimulate the effectiveness of the management and planning of protected wetlands in the Mediterranean. It consists of a series of shared, specific, and detailed commitments and actions. The Wetland Contracts take into account the problems and needs of the people, plants, and animals that live in, or benefit from, wetlands, either permanently or temporarily. Its objective is to ensure proper governance to protect wetlands and their surroundings. The main result of the Wetland Contracts is the improved effectiveness of wetland management through the active involvement and participation of all relevant stakeholders, using citizen participation tools for participatory processes and raising awareness on the benefits of co-managing for sustainability.

EVENT REPORT:

https://biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/Sites/Biodiversity_Protection/horizontal_project/5-Deliverables/WP4_Capitalisation/4-4_CapitalisationEvents/4-4-2_Minutes/PAN_Conclusions_Malaga_2019.pdf

4 Concluding Remarks

Effective governance of the Mediterranean requires the commitment of different stakeholders, including local, regional and national authorities, international governance organizations, scientific institutions, the private sector and civil society.

Top-down approaches are necessary to create the framing political and institutional commitments and conditions for effective action, promoting the development of integrated policies and plans that foster both the investment in natural capital and the sustainable use of marine resources across the Mediterranean. The UN Barcelona Convention and other cooperation platforms such as the Union for the Mediterranean provide the political framework to step-up urgent actions. Transboundary governance remains an issue, but there are successful examples based on a clear definition of responsibilities; criteria on how to deal with uncertainty through the precautionary approach; and a clear mandate to act.

But bottom-up approaches towards governance are also equally important and required to:

- Effectively communicate the cost of biodiversity loss: We need to better explain to all relevant stakeholders (economic users of natural resources) how the current trends of biodiversity loss and the exhaustion of natural capital will affect them; as well as how the actions undertaken to reverse these trends and to better manage the maritime space and natural resources in general will affect their economic activities.
- Empower co-management of natural resources across the Mediterranean: Participatory schemes are key to support the establishment of long-lasting relationships with relevant stakeholders, as means to strengthen management processes for Mediterranean natural resources at local level.

5 Photo Gallery



ANNEX 1 - Event Programme



14 October 2019 – Afternoon : Official opening

Venue: Salón de los Espejos - Ayuntamiento de Málaga - Avda. Cervantes 4, Malaga
Language: Simultaneous interpretation services (Spanish and English)


15:00 – 15:30	Welcome and registration of participants
15:30 – 16:05	<p>Opening ceremony – SEE PRESENTATION</p> <p>Welcome speech from high level officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dania Abdul Malak, Director ETC-UMA, PANACEA Coordinator (SEE) The story of PANACEA and the Mediterranean Declaration video projection Curzio Cervelli, Interreg Med Programme Zaida Diaz, Vice Chancellor for Research and Transfer, University of Malaga Rosa Estaras Ferragut, Member of the European Parliament, former SEARICA group Joaquin Villanova, Vice-president Andalusian Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FAMP), Mayor of Alhaurin de la Torre Susana Carillo, Acting Mayor of Malaga City
16:05 – 16:30	<p>Signature Ceremony - Mediterranean Declaration for Biodiversity Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signature by key representatives and photo call
16:30 - 18:15	<p>Keynote speeches – Why we need transformative changes in the Mediterranean</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ronan Uhel, European Environment Agency (EEA) (SEE) Tatjana Hema, UN Environment / Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit (UNEP/MAP) (SEE) <p><i>The keynote speeches will explain why the loss of biological diversity is not only an environmental issue, but a developmental, economic, security, social and moral issue, and on the way to push forward transformative changes in the region.</i></p>
18:15	Institutional Cocktail at Ayuntamiento followed by dinner at Museo Alborania



15 October 2019

Venue: Observatorio de Medio Ambiente Urbano - OMAU
Camino de la Desviación s/n, Malaga
Language: Simultaneous interpretation services (Spanish and English) for the technical sessions
Meeting point transfer participants @ 8:00: Plaza de la Marina

08:30 - 08:55	Registration of participants
08:55 - 09:00	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Pedro Marin Cots, Director of the Urban Environmental Observatory (OMAU)</p>
09:00 - 10:30	<p>Technical session 1 : State and Trends in Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the Mediterranean Region in the context of climate change . SEE PRESENTATION</p> <p>While Mediterranean ecosystems and biodiversity constitute an exceptional regional natural capital, the population and its needs are increasing and the demand for clean water, food and infrastructure is rising dramatically. At the same time, climate change is having an impact on wild areas and natural ecosystems, altering the ecosystems' capacity to provide services vital to humans. Making accessible the best scientific knowledge about climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean is therefore a top priority to build awareness and to promote a sustainable change among key stakeholders.</p> <p>This technical session will be the opportunity to explore the trends identified in the Report on the State of Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SOED 2019). The comprehensive assessment of major sustainability issues in the Mediterranean will serve to foster a discussion around the urgent policy and societal responses required to address the situation.</p> <p>Moderator: Elen Lemaitre Curri, UNEP MAP Plan Bleu Setting the stage: Daniel Cebrian - UNEP MAP SPA/RAC</p> <p>Roundtable followed by Q/A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ronan Uhel - European Environment Agency (EEA) Joaquim Garrabou - ICM-CSIC, MPA-ADAPT Giancarlo Gusmaroli - CIRF, WETNET Charlotte Sève / Joachim Claudet - CNRS/CRIOBE
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30	<p>Technical session 2 : Protecting biodiversity while promoting growth; how can it be achieved?</p> <p>SEE PRESENTATION</p> <p>The Mediterranean region is a biodiversity hotspot with a high concentration of human activities. The coexistence of these two elements is often challenging to balance and human activities are often developed at the detriment of the protection of the ecosystem and its biodiversity. Interreg MED projects and other framework cooperation initiatives are designing solutions to make biodiversity protection and growth coexist.</p> <p>Starting from an assessment of the combined effect of different human pressures on Mediterranean ecosystems, this session will explore synergies amongst actors sharing the same mission in different perspectives and regions, and promote a regional approach encompassing North and South shores of the Mediterranean. It will focus on indicators to monitor the pressures of human activities on biodiversity to support decision-making for managers and policy-makers, as well as on solutions to reduce them while promoting a sustainable socio-economic development in Protected Areas and Biosphere Reserves. European Institutions will illustrate policy frameworks for future cooperation on sustainable development, blue growth, research and innovation.</p> <p>Moderator: Oriol Barba Sanyol, Medicities Director Setting the stage: Mihallaq Qirjo, Resource Environmental Center Albania (REC Albania)</p> <p>Roundtable followed by Q/A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carla Danelutti, IUCN-Mediterranean ▪ Rafael Fernández, Andalusian Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries ▪ Mercè Escrichs, General Directorate of Tourism, Generalitat de Catalunya ▪ Said Boujrouf, Cadi Ayyad University, Marrakesh ▪ Christel Georges, City of Marseille
12:30 – 14:00	<p>Technical session 3: Solutions in hand for healthier Mediterranean ecosystems</p> <p>SEE PRESENTATION</p> <p>The knowledge and tools generated by the Interreg Med Biodiversity protection community and others and how successfully tested examples are useful to ensure healthier Mediterranean ecosystems and natural resources will be highlighted during this session. It will shed light on the potential transferability of new governance and management models in the Mediterranean as supporting mechanisms to a better integrated and common approach with a view to fill data and management gaps in environmental protection and support ecosystem-based strategic directions in future governance decisions.</p> <p>Moderator: Sergi Tudela, Catalan Directorate-General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs Setting the stage: Magali Outters, UNEP MAP SCP RAC</p> <p>Roundtable followed by Q/A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maria del Mar Otero, IUCN-Med, POSBEMED ▪ Simonetta Frascchetti, University of Naples Federico II, AMARE ▪ Cristina Pantj, Siena University, PlasticBustersMPAs ▪ Arnau Carreño, University of Girona, PHAROS4MPAs
14:00 – 15:15	Lunch break
15:15 – 18:00	<p>The "Mediterranean Optimism Tour": A Journey along the INTERREG Biodiversity Protection Community's Transformative Actions to Save the Mediterranean</p> <p>Facilitator: Julia Vera, Travelecoology SEE</p> <p>The objective of the interactive session is to showcase the work undertaken by the more than 200 institutions forming the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection community in support of biodiversity protection in the Mediterranean between 2016-2019 and inspire future action, guided by the vision of the "Mediterranean Declaration for biodiversity Protection" and the confidence that we can see it through.</p> <p>This interactive session will serve as a channel to convey the key messages stemming from the comprehensive work undertaken by the Community since its inception, revolving around the following pivotal themes: The process to weave a new network (the Biodiversity Protection Community); the outreach of technical & scientific actions by Modular projects; the practical solutions and tools developed through Modular projects; the use of technology to facilitate knowledge generation; and the road ahead and mechanisms available for biodiversity protection. See more details on page 9</p>
18:00 - 19:00	The Mediterranean Community in Images: networking cocktail on site
	<p>16 October 2019</p> <p>Venue: Museo Alborania, Palmaral de las Sorpresas, Muelle 2, 29015 Málaga Language: Simultaneous interpretation services (Spanish and English) for the policy sessions</p>
08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants and welcome
09:00 - 10:30	<p>Policy uptake session 1: Priority actions to Improve biodiversity in Protected Areas</p> <p>SEE PRESENTATION</p> <p>This session will build on conclusions from the technical sessions the day before and draw attention to key findings on the situation of protected areas in the Mediterranean according to the latest assessments. The debate will consider existing solutions and priority actions to enhance the management and coherence particularly of marine protected areas and their functionality individually and as a network for recovering and preserving healthy ecosystems. Emphasis will be placed on those tools and actions which should most urgently be considered in the post 2020 policy agenda.</p> <p>Moderator: Paolo Lombardi - WWF Mediterranean</p> <p>Roundtable followed by Q/A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ignacio Torres, Fundación Biodiversidad and Oscar Esparza, WWF Spain, INTEMARES ▪ Oscar Esparza, WWF Adena ▪ Marie Romani, MedPAN Network ▪ Khalil Attia, UNEP MAP SPA/RAC ▪ Vedran Nikolić, European Commission, DG Environment
10:30 - 11:00	Break

11:00 – 12:30 Policy uptake session 2: Priority actions in sensitive hotspot areas in the Mediterranean Sea

SEE PRESENTATION

This roundtable discussion will focus on available tools, solutions and recommendations for priority actions to manage cumulative impacts in sensitive transboundary areas in the Mediterranean. Collaborative mechanisms and an ecosystem-based approach based on science will be the basis for addressing a multisectoral framework to maintain ecosystem services across key threatened biodiversity areas. Readymade solutions will be showcased as effective measures available for policy uptake.

Moderator: Peter Mackelworth, Blue-World Institute

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- Leonardo Tunesi, ISPRA
- Valentina Cappanera, Italian Network of Marine Protected Areas
- Marko Prem, UNEP MAP, PAP RAC
- Luca Santarossa, Federparchi – Europarc Italy, FishMPABlue2

12:30 – 13:30 Policy uptake session 3: The way ahead and future priorities to reduce pressures on Mediterranean biodiversity

SEE PRESENTATION

The last policy uptake session will review existing solutions and instruments in place at different scales to reduce pressures on Mediterranean biodiversity and that are transferable to support post 2020 targets including Mediterranean (UNEP-MAP), European (EU DGs ENV/CA) and global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs/CBD/UN ENV) agendas. The session will summarize the main steps ahead in the accomplishment of better cooperation actions in the coming years.

Moderator: Dania Abdul Malak, ETC-UMA

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- Elen Lemaitre Curri, UNEP MAP Plan Bleu
- Paolo Lombardi, WWF Mediterranean
- Peter Mackelworth, Blue-World Institute
- Sergi Tudela, Catalan Directorate General of Fisheries and Maritime affairs

13:30 – 13:45 Closing by Jose Angel Narváez, Rector of the University of Malaga

13:45 – 15:30 Lunch

15:30 – 17:00 Marine Lab

Hands on activities, information and experiments in the open around the importance of marine science to understand and address global pressures with special focus on marine litter and climate change. With the collaboration of Aula del Mar, IEO-Fuengirola and the Community Projects PLASTICBUSTERSMPAs and MEDSEALITTER

FROM THE EVENT SPEAKER BOOKLET

Joaquín Villanova Rueda, Vice President of the Andalusian Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FAMP), Mayor of Alhaurin de la Torre



Mr Villanova has a bachelor’s degree and over 30 years of experience in business financing. His wide political trajectory has involved various roles. He has been the City Councilor of Alhaurin de la Torre in Malaga since 1987.

Giancarlo Gusmaroli, Technical Director, Italian Centre for River Restoration (CIRF)



Giancarlo is an environmental engineer, advising at national and international level in the field of sustainable and integrated river basin management. Main professional skills embrace water governance, sustainable urban drainage and sanitation, fluvial hydro-morphology and wetland restoration. His expertise deals specifically with inclusive and integrated decision making processes at catchment scale. He has been lecturer at undergraduate and postgraduate academic courses, so as a speaker at several national and international conferences on water related issues. Over the last 15 years he has been involved as coordinator or expert in several EU funded projects (LIFE, FP, INTERREG) in the field of water management. Since 2014, he is in charge of the Technical Direction of the Italian Centre for River Restoration and since 2017 he serves as management board member and secretary of the European Centre for River Restoration.