

3.4.4 CC monitoring **Protocols in Zakynthos MPA**

MPA ENGAGE

Charalampos Dimitriadis, Konstantinos Moschopoulos, Anna Valli

> Version 3 08/02/2022































IDENTIFICATION

Project Number		5MED18_3.2_M23_007 Acronym MPA-ENGAGE				
Full title		_	age: Engaging rotected Areas		•	osystem Approach to manage
Axis			maintain biodinent and netwo			s through strengthening the
Partner Responsible			l Marine Park o			
Contact Person		<charalai< th=""><th>mpos Dimitriad</th><th>is></th><th></th><th></th></charalai<>	mpos Dimitriad	is>		
Deliverable	3.4.4		Title CC monitoring Protocols in Zakynthos MPA			ynthos MPA
Work package	3		Title	Testing		·
Delivery date	17/11/2	2021	Submission	<22/12/202	21>	
Status		☐ Draft	Fina	I		
Level		☐ Task ☐ Coordination Team ☐ Steering Committee ☐ Main deliverable				
Dissemination I	.evel	Internal Public				
Description of the deliverable		This is the second (of two) monitoring reports describing the integration of the standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC in the MPA monitoring plan (set of protocols identified and proposed in WP4). Specifically, this report will describe the implementation status of the selected protocols				
Key words		Ionian Sea, Invasive species				
Author		Charalampos Dimitriadis, Konstantinos Moschopoulos, Anna Valli				
Phone		+3026950	+302695029870			.org
					_	
DOCUMENT HIS	TORY					
Name		Date	Version	Desc	cription	
L						





INDEX

1.	Co	ontext – The project	4
2.	W	P3 – Testing	5
3.	Th	ne monitoring rationale and approach	6
	a.	The protocols	7
4.	Re	eports' structure	9
5.	Im	plementation status of standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC	9
	5.1. impl	Standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC implementation plan ementation status	and 9
	i.	Protocol 1 - Monitoring Temperature conditions:	9
	ii.	Protocol 2 - Mass mortality monitoring:	10
	iii.	Protocol 3 –LEK-1: exploring local ecological knowledge to reconstruct historical changes:	11
	iv.	Protocol 4- LEK-2: exploring local ecological knowledge for periodical monitoring:	12
	v.	Protocol 5 - Fish visual census of climate change indicators:	13
	vi.	Protocol 6 – LEK-3: mass mortalities:	15
	vii cli	i. Protocol 7 - POFA: Posidonia oceanica fast assessment on meadows conservation status factimate change:	e to 16
	vii	ii. Protocol 8 - FAP: fast assessment Pinna nobilis conservation status:	17
	ix.	Protocol 9 -URCH: Sea urchins populations:	21
	х.	Protocol 10 -BARD: Benthic species rapid detection:	22
	xi. dy	Protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats are protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats are protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring to 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring to 12 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitor	and 23
	5.2.	Other protocols for monitoring related to the CC implemented in the MPA	24
6.	Re	esults of standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC	25
	6.1. impl	Standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC implementation plan ementation status	and 25
	xii	i. Protocol 1 - Monitoring Temperature conditions:	25
	xii	ii. Protocol 2 - Mass mortality monitoring:	25
	xiv	v. Protocol 3 –LEK-1: exploring local ecological knowledge to reconstruct historical changes:	25
	xv	Protocol 4- LEK-2: exploring local ecological knowledge for periodical monitoring:	30
	xv	ri. Protocol 5 - Fish visual census of climate change indicators:	31







	xvii.	Protocol 6 – LEK-3: mass mortalities:	32
	xviii. to clin	Protocol 7 - POFA: Posidonia oceanica fast assessment on meadows conservation status nate change:	face
	xix.	Protocol 8 - FAP: fast assessment Pinna nobilis conservation status:	33
	XX.	Protocol 9 -URCH: Sea urchins populations:	34
	xxi.	Protocol 10 -BARD: Benthic species rapid detection:	34
	xxii. dynan	Protocol 11 -SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure nics:	and 35
7.	Cost e	stimation of the implementation of standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the C	C in
the	MPA		35
8.	Integr	ration of protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC in the MPA management plan	38
9.	Concl	usions	39
10.	Cite	ed literature	41





1. Context – The project

MPA-Engage ("Engaging Mediterranean key actors in Ecosystem Approach to manage Marine Protected Areas to face Climate change") is an Interreg Med funded project with a budget of € 3M euros aiming to support marine protected areas (MPAs) managers to enhance management plans to face climate change (CC) effects in the Mediterranean Sea.

MPA-Engage establishes a network of marine scientists, conservation and management practitioners to work together on the future of Mediterranean MPAs under the impacts of CC. The overall objective of the MPA-Engage project is to support and promote the role of Mediterranean MPAs as nature-based solutions for the implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions to confront CC effects. The project will produce local climate change mitigation and adaptation plans for the MPAs and will put the Mediterranean Sea at the forefront of marine conservation in the face of CC.

Through a participatory approach, MPA-ENGAGE will monitor in a harmonized way the CC impacts, will elaborate vulnerability assessments and will develop climate change mitigation and adaptation action plans in 7 MPAs (located in 6 Mediterranean countries): Brijuni in Croatia, Cap de Creus in Spain, Calanques in France, Zakynthos in Greece, Karaburuni in Albania, Portofino and Tavolara Punta Coda Cavallo in Italy. Furthermore, some associated MPAs and Networks of MPA, gathered in the MPA4Change Chaptalization Board, have expressed their interest to test part or the whole process on a voluntary basis. In this way we enhance the transferability of the monitoring tool-kits developed in MPA-ENGAGE to the Mediterranean MPAs.

MPA-ENGAGE will be carried out over a period of 32 months (November 2019-June 2022) and its main lines of action will focus on:

- Engaging local communities, small-scale fishermen and citizen scientists in monitoring CC impacts;
- Promoting MPAs as nature-based solutions for CC adaptation;
- Facilitating a Mediterranean policy dialogue with scientists, MPA managers, decision-makers, environmental NGOs and socio-economic stakeholders.

MPA-Engage is articulated around three work packages (WPs): Testing (WP3), Transferring (WP4) and Capitalizing (WP5).

For more information on the project please visit the website https://mpa-engage.interreg-med.eu/.

2. WP3 - Testing

The main goal of WP3 is to enhance the resilience to CC effects by testing the implementation of harmonized and novel set of tools, organized in 5 testing activities. Under the coordination of SZN, each testing activity





is be led by a specific project partner. The project partner, (which is also in charge of the corresponding capacity building and transferring activity in WP4), support the pilot MPAs through the testing phase:

- 1. Assessing CC vulnerability (ecological and socio-economic) of MPAs Led by UVIGO. Assessing the ecological and socio-economic vulnerability to CC in the MPAs is a key step in the development of an MPA adaptation plan and it will allow to take into account the local environmental and social conditions via the use of a common framework.
- 2. Monitoring CC effects on MPAs Led by SZN. CC is affecting marine ecosystems at Mediterranean and global level. The adoption of harmonized monitoring protocols will provide a common framework to analyze the CC impacts both at local and global scale.
- 3. Involving citizen scientists, (in particular recreational divers and small-scale/recreational fishers) in monitoring actions- Led by UNIVPM. Marine Citizen Science activities offer a unique opportunity to expand the spatial and temporal resolution in tracking the CC effects. The acquired data will complement the information gathered by MPA management bodies providing a more comprehensive view of the CC effects. In addition, these activities are an excellent showcase of the quintuple helix engagement framework that is deployed within the project towards the elaboration of adaptation plans.
- 4. Engaging all key actors of the quintuple helix framework (MPA managers, Scientists, Public Authorities, Socio-Economic Stakeholders, General Public) Led by MIO-ECSDE. Participatory approaches are crucial for a successful identification and eventual implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. Therefore, elaborating and implementing a comprehensive methodology to design and setup effective participatory mechanisms is essential.
- 5. Mainstreaming climate change within the MPAs management and mitigation & adaptation plans Led by MIO-ECSDE. The local climate change mitigation and adaptation plans will integrate the results and capitalize upon the outputs of related initiatives, identifying targeted actions and measures towards mitigating and adapting to climate change effects at MPA level (Fig. 1).



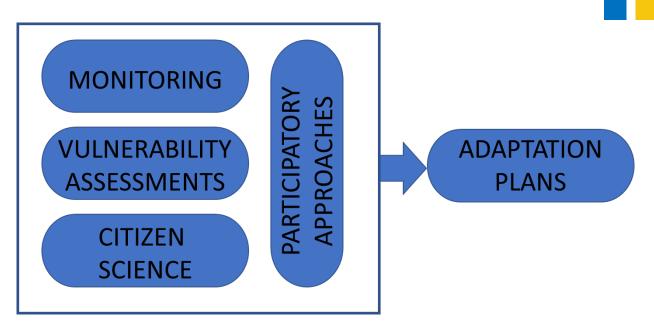


Fig. 1. Proposed integrative approach of Pilot Actions linking the 5 lines of action within WP3.

This integrative approach will be implemented in each of the 7 Pilot MPAs, and will allow for a comprehensive implementation of all project activities towards the successful elaboration of Joint Plans, building upon the results, outputs, findings and lessons learned from the Pilot MPAs.

3. The monitoring rationale and approach

Adaptive planning requires specific arrangements for monitoring and evaluation of climate change impacts, but the complexity of ecological transformation along with inadequate human and financial resources usually hampers our observation capabilities, especially at the large geographical scale.

Previous Interreg MED experience, carried out within the framework of the MPA-ADAPT project, recently led to the successful implementation of five standard protocols (Garrabou et al., 2018) https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/176395, which provided a first practical guidance to track climate-related impacts in Mediterranean MPAs and beyond. The guiding principles and architecture of these tools respond to the requirements of the Ecosystem Approach undertaken under the auspices of UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention, with the ultimate objective of achieving the Good Environmental Status (GES) of the Mediterranean Sea and coasts. Technically these tools are inspired to the concept of Essential Climate Variables and focus on a restricted set of simple measurements to capture greater dimensions of environmental change. The characteristics of these protocols and their practical feasibility allowed to collect periodical information from a network of MPAs and to involve them in a collaborative monitoring process. Participating MPAs worked together for the same goals, adding value to existing monitoring practices and building a common and consolidated strategy to track climate change effects at regional scale. The engagement of local stakeholders is another key ingredient in some of these methodologies, which for the first time have brought together the voices and knowledge of people from different Mediterranean





countries, ultimately preparing for a world of global ecological change. This beneficial partnership, which was here demonstrated to provide tangible results at the regional scale (Azzurro et al., 2019). Within the framework of the MPA-ENGAGE project, a Monitoring Coordination Team, represented by researchers and experienced MPA technicians, transfer the knowledge to the participating MPAs and provide them with technical assistance for the protocol implementation.

A. THE PROTOCOLS

The participating MPAs in the MPA-ENGAGE project implemented a total of 11 standardized monitoring protocols. These tools are conceived to provide key information on main categories of indicators related to climate change: i) temperature conditions; ii) shifts on species distribution; iii) episodic events; iv) changes in phenology. Indicators are chosen on the basis of their scientific relevance, feasibility, and cost effectiveness covering key habitats of Mediterranean MPAs. The first five protocols have been developed by the Interreg Programme MPA-ADAPT project and are available here https://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/176395. Additional 6 monitoring protocols were developed within the implementation of the MPA-ENGAGE project. Overall the adoption of these standard tools will allow to track climate change impacts at both the local and the Mediterranean scale.

PR 1. MONITORING TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS

Originally developed by the T-MEDNet initiative and adapted for the purpose of the project MPA-Adapt. Videotutorial: http://t-mednet.org/observation-system/videotutorials

PR 2. MASS MORTALITY MONITORING

Originally developed for the project Seawatchers (also known as Observadores del Mar) and adapted for the purposes of the project MPA-Adapt. Videotutorial: http://t-mednet.org/observation-system/videotutorials

PR 3. LEK-1: EXPLORING LOCAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE TO RECONSTRUCT HISTORICAL CHANGES

Originally developed by the CIESM project 'Tropical Signals' and adapted for the purposes of the Interreg project MPA-Adapt, with the contribution of FAO projects AdriaMed and MedSudMed. Videotutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AX-RS]Xkm0

PR 4. LEK-2: EXPLORING LOCAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR PERIODICAL MONITORING

Conceived for the purposes of the MPA-ADAPT project and capitalizes the experience and scientific discussions made through the FAO projects AdriaMed and MedSudMed projects.

PR 5. FISH VISUAL CENSUS OF CLIMATE CHANGE INDICATORS

Adapted from a previous version developed by the CIESM project "Tropical Signals" for the MPA-ADAPT purposes. Videotutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7gYYg4n7SE

PR 6. LEK 3: MASS MORTALITIES - NEW





This protocol will provide information on past mass mortality events affecting different species including fishes and invertebrates, based on the interviews with key stakeholders

PR 7. POFA: POSIDONIA OCEANICA FAST ASSESSMENT ON MEADOWS CONSERVATION STATUS FACE TO CLIMATE CHANGE - NEW

This protocol will capitalize ongoing monitoring activities in the MPA on *Posidonia oceanica*. It will require field work in the MPA *P. oceanica meadows*: shoot density and flowering events will be the main indicators to be reported.

PR 8. FAP: FAST ASSESSMENT PINNA NOBILIS CONSERVATION STATUS - NEW

This protocol will capitalize ongoing monitoring activities on *Pinna nobilis* population status in different areas of the Mediterranean. Field work will be required in order to quantify the presence and survival of *P. nobilis* individuals.

PR 9. URCH: SEA URCHINS POPULATIONS - NEW

This protocol will capitalize ongoing monitoring activities in the MPAs on the abundance of sea urchins populations. It will require field work using visual census techniques.

PR 10. BRD: BENTHIC SPECIES RAPID DETECTION -NEW

This protocol is based on the photographic sampling at selected depths in order to detect the arrival and/or the abundance of alien benthic species (e.g. macroalgae, corals, mollusks etc.) on rocky substrata communities. Besides the photographs will be analyzed to characterize the community composition according to broad taxonomic groups.

PR 11. SFM: PHOTOGRAMMETRY AS MONITORING TOOL FOR BENTHIC HABITATS STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS - NEW

This protocol capitalizes ongoing initiatives on underwater photogrammetry to track climate related changes in the seascapes (>100 m^2). Due to the methodological and technical complexity of this methodology, its adoption is not compulsory for the MPAs but the Monitoring Team provide assistance to those MPAs willing to implement it.

In the framework of MPA- ENGAGE project, a Monitoring Protocols Tool has been developed and implemented in PowerBI to allow Pilot MPAs to easily generate results for each monitoring protocols. The Monitoring Report Tool generates results starting from standardized data reporting excel sheets that have been provided by Coordination Team to Pilot MPAs. For each protocol, the Monitoring Protocols Tool generates results at different "levels of assessment", disentangling results for sites, species, depths, and reporting synthetic values combining information from the different levels. The tool generates a pdf including an exhaustive compilation of all the results for each protocol. The pdf is attached as annex to this deliverable, while in the present document only the main results are reported for each monitoring protocol.





4. Reports' structure

Two reporting periods on the monitoring activities were planned within MPA-ENGAGE: October 2020 (1st unit) and November 2021 (2nd unit). The present report represents therefore the 2nd Unit of reporting on implementations of CC monitoring protocols. The report contains information on: the implementation status of each protocol in the MPA (e.g. if the protocols was implemented or not, by whom it was implemented, in how many sites etc.) (section 5), the results produced by the implementation of each protocol (section 6), an assessment of the costs associated to the implementation of each monitoring protocol based on the experience gathered by the MPA on the field (section 7), an assessment of strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of each protocol (section 8) and conclusions on the status/effect of CC in the MPA and information on potential strategies to implement these protocols in MPA management plan (section 9).

5. Implementation status of standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC

5.1. STANDARDIZED PROTOCOLS FOR MONITORING THE EFFECT OF THE CC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

I. PROTOCOL 1 - MONITORING TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS:

a) What is the implementation status of this monitoring protocol?
arphi The protocol was implemented in the MPA
The protocol was not implemented in the MPA
b) Who did implement the protocol?
\square MPA staff
\square External contractor (in case of external contractor please specify its type, e.g. University, Research Center, SME, etc):
\square Other (If other, please indicate who):





c) For each sampling site please fill the following table:

Sampling site	Number of temperature data loggers	Depths setup	Starting date of temperature series	Upload temperature data files to T-MEDNet data repository. Yes/no		
Total number of sampling sites:						
d) Did you face any dij	fficulty while impleme	nting the protocol?				
\Box Yes (if yes, please de	escribe the difficulties)	<i>:</i>				
\Box No						
implemented protocol	onale behind the select l (e.g. related to its fea a collection to obtain a	asibility in your MPA,	availability of previou	us data for which you		
It was not possible to near future.	implement the proto	col due to technical d	ifficulties, but it will b	e implemented in the		
II.	PROTOCOL 2 - MAS	SS MORTALITY MON	IITORING:			
a) What is the implem	nentation status of this	monitoring protocol?				
\Box The protocol was in	mplemented in the MP.	A				
The protocol was not implemented in the MPA						
b) Who did implement	t the protocol?					
\square MPA staff						
\square External contractor (in case of external contractor please specify the status of selection procedures, e.g. contract already done, contractor under selection, still defining administrative procedures):						





W.	MPA Engage				
\square Other (If oth	er, please indicat	e who):			
c) For each san	npling site please	fill the followin	g table:		
Sampling site	Surveyed depths	Surveyed species	Total number of populations surveyed	Total number of colonies/specimen s surveyed by species	Mortality surveys uploaded to T- MEDNet? Yes/No
TOTAL					
,	any difficulty wh		g the protocol?		
$\square No$					
of the impleme	nted protocol (e.g	ı. related to its j	feasibility in your M	you do not plan to imple IPA, availability of previ se of particular species/	ious data for which
	III. PROTOC	COL 3 -LEK-1	L: EXPLORING LO	OCAL ECOLOGICAL I	KNOWLEDGE TO
	RECONS	TRUCT HISTOI	RICAL CHANGES:		
a) What is the i	implementation s	tatus of this mo	nitoring protocol?		
The protoco	l was implemente	d in the MPA			
\Box The protoco	l was not implem	ented in the MP	Ά		
b) Who did imp	lement the proto	col?			
MPA staff					
\square External con	ntractor (in case	of external con	ntractor please spec	cify the status of selecti	on procedures, e.g.

contract already done, contractor under selection, still defining administrative procedures):





\square Other (If other, please in	dicate who):
c) Please fill the following to	ıble:
Number of interviews carried out	Upload data files to Google Drive (please include the link/s to the data files
20	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4x V
d) Did you face any difficulty	while implementing the protocol?
\Box Yes (if yes please describe	the difficulties):
□ No	
_	
of the implemented protoco	behind the selection (or the exclusion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) I (e.g. related to its feasibility in your MPA, availability of previous data for which collection to obtain a time series, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?
_	ated to fisheries and to species catches for over a decade, including invasive of this protocol fitted within the recurrent monitoring activities in the MPA for e series information.
IV. PRO	TOCOL 4- LEK-2: EXPLORING LOCAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR
PER	IODICAL MONITORING:
a) What is the implementat	ion status of this monitoring protocol?
\Box The protocol was implem	nented in the MPA
The protocol was not imp	plemented in the MPA
b) Who did implement the p	rotocol?

 \square MPA staff





ise specify the status of selection procedures, e.g. ing administrative procedures):
load data files to Google Drive (please include e link/s to the data files)
ol?
sion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) your MPA, availability of previous data for which absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?
to abort the implementation of this protocol
JS OF CLIMATE CHANGE INDICATORS:
tocol?
e specify its type, e.g. University, Research Center,





 \square Other (If other, please indicate who):

c) For each sampling site please fill the following table:

Sampling site	Species were added to the standard protocol	Depths range	Number of replicates	Upload data files to Google Drive (please include the link/s to the data files)
Site 1	Siganus luridus, Siganus rivulatus, Pterois miles, Enchelycore anatina, Stephanolepis diaspros, Sphoeroides pachygaster	Shallow	4	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/ 1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 2	Siganus luridus, Siganus rivulatus, Pterois miles, Enchelycore anatina, Stephanolepis diaspros, Sphoeroides pachygaster	Shallow	4	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/ 1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 3	Siganus luridus, Siganus rivulatus, Pterois miles, Enchelycore anatina, Stephanolepis diaspros, Sphoeroides pachygaster	Shallow	4	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/ 1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 4	Siganus luridus, Siganus rivulatus, Pterois miles, Enchelycore anatina, Stephanolepis diaspros, Sphoeroides pachygaster	Shallow	4	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/ 1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 5	Siganus luridus, Siganus rivulatus, Pterois miles, Enchelycore anatina, Stephanolepis diaspros, Sphoeroides pachygaster	Shallow	4	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/ 1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 6	Siganus luridus, Siganus rivulatus, Pterois miles,	Shallow	4	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/ 1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV





	Enchelycore anatina, Stephanolepis diaspros, Sphoeroides pachygaster			
Site 7	Siganus luridus, Siganus rivulatus, Pterois miles, Enchelycore anatina, Stephanolepis diaspros, Sphoeroides pachygaster	Shallow	4	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/ 1_E1WD2tHdPQ4eAqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Total number of sampling sites: 7		'		

d) Did you face any difficulty while implementing the protocol?

 \square *Yes (if yes please describe the difficulties):*



e) Which was the rationale behind the selection (or the exclusion if you did not implement the protocol) of the implemented protocol (e.g. related to its feasibility in your MPA, availability of previous data for which you want to continue data collection to obtain a time series, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?

The MPA is recurrently monitoring fish fauna and invasive species with underwater visual census so the implementation of this protocol fitted well in such activities for long term data gathering.

VI. PROTOCOL 6 – LEK-3: MASS MORTALITIES:

- a) What is the implementation status of this monitoring protocol?
- \square The protocol was implemented in the MPA
- The protocol was not implemented in the MPA





b) Who did implement	the protocol?	
\square MPA staff		
	` ,	r please specify the status of selection procedures, e.g. defining administrative procedures):
\Box Other (If other, pleas	se indicate who):	
c) Please fill the followi	ing table:	
Number of interview	vs carried out	Upload data files to Google Drive (please include the link/s to the data files)
d) Did you face any diff	ficulty while implementing the p	rotocol?
☐ Yes (if yes please des	cribe the difficulties):	
$\square No$		
of the implemented pro	otocol (e.g. related to its feasibili	exclusion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) ity in your MPA, availability of previous data for which eries, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?
VII.	PROTOCOL 7 - POFA: POSIDO CONSERVATION STATUS FAC	ONIA OCEANICA FAST ASSESSMENT ON MEADOWS
a) What is the impleme	entation status of this monitoring	g protocol?
\Box The protocol was im	plemented in the MPA	
The protocol was no	ot implemented in the MPA	
b) Who did implement	the protocol?	
□ MPA staff		





\square External contractor (in case of external contractor please specify the status of selection procedures, e.g. contract already done, contractor under selection, still defining administrative procedures):							
\square Other (If other, please indicate who):							
c) For each sampling site please fill the following table:							
Sampling site	Depths range	Surveyed depths	Number of replicates (quadrats)	Upload data files to Google Drive (please include the link/s to the data files)			
Total number of sampling sites:							
d) Did you face any difficulty while implementing the protocol? ☐ Yes (if yes please describe the difficulties):							
\Box No							
e) Which was the rationale behind the selection (or the exclusion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) of the implemented protocol (e.g. related to its feasibility in your MPA, availability of previous data for which you want to continue data collection to obtain a time series, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?							
VIII. PROTOCOL 8 - FAP: FAST ASSESSMENT PINNA NOBILIS CONSERVATION STATUS:							
a) What is the implementation status of this monitoring protocol?							
The protocol was implemented in the MPA							
\square The protocol was not implemented in the MPA							
b) Who did impleme	nt the protocol?						
MPA staff							







□ Externo	al contra	ctor (ir	n case oj	^f external	contractor	please	specify	the s	status	of selection	procedures	, e.g
contract a	lready do	one, cor	itractor	under sel	ection, still	defining	admin	istrat	tive pro	ocedures):		

 \square Other (If other, please indicate who):

c) For each sampling site please fill the following table:

Sampling site	Depths range	Surveyed depths	Number of transects (replicates)	Upload data files to Google Drive (please include the link/s to the data files)
Site 1	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 2	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 3	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 4	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 5	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 6	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 7	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 8	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 9	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 10	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 11	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV





Site 12	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 13	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 14	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 15	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 16	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 17	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 18	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 19	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 20	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 21	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 22	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 23	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 24	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 25	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 26	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV





Site 27	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 28	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 29	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 30	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 31	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 32	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 33	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 34	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Site 35	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	Shallow (0 to 17.5 m)	1	https://drive.google.com/driv e/folders/1_E1WD2tHdPQ4e AqfLkqr04y_kip7N4xV
Total number of sampling				

d) Did you face any difficulty while implementing the protocol?

 \square Yes (if yes please describe the difficulties):



sites: 35

e) Which was the rationale behind the selection (or the exclusion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) of the implemented protocol (e.g. related to its feasibility in your MPA, availability of previous data for which you want to continue data collection to obtain a time series, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?





Previous assessments on *P. nobilis* suggested the existence of healthy populations in the MPA from 2010 to 2019 (e.g. Zotou et al., 2020 doi:https://doi.org/10.12681/mms.23777).

IX. PROTOCOL S	-URCH: SEA URCHINS POPULATIO	NS:
a) What is the implementation status	s of this monitoring protocol?	
\Box The protocol was implemented in	the MPA	
The protocol was not implemented	d in the MPA	
b) Who did implement the protocol?		
□ MPA staff		
	xternal contractor please specify the der selection, still defining administra	•
\Box Other (If other, please indicate wh	o):	
c) For each sampling site please fill the Sampling site	Species surveyed	Depths range
, , ,	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia lixula, Sphaerechinus	Depths range
, , ,	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia	Depths range
, , ,	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia lixula, Sphaerechinus	Depths range
, , ,	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia lixula, Sphaerechinus	Depths range
, , ,	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia lixula, Sphaerechinus	Depths range
, , ,	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia lixula, Sphaerechinus	Depths range
, , ,	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia lixula, Sphaerechinus granularis, (C) No sea urchins)	Depths range
Sampling site	Species surveyed (Paracentrotus lividus, Arbacia lixula, Sphaerechinus granularis, (C) No sea urchins) applementing the protocol?	Depths range





e) Which was the rationale behind the selection (or the exclusion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) of the implemented protocol (e.g. related to its feasibility in your MPA, availability of previous data for which you want to continue data collection to obtain a time series, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?

X. PRO	TOCOL 10 -BARD: BENT	HIC SPECIES RAPID DETEC	TION:
a) What is the implementat	ion status of this monitori	ng protocol?	
\Box The protocol was implen	nented in the MPA		
The protocol was not imp	plemented in the MPA		
b) Who did implement the p	protocol?		
□ MPA staff			
•	•	or please specify the status o	•
\Box Other (If other, please in	dicate who):		
c) For each sampling site pl			
Sampling site	Depths range	Nº of photos taken	Nº of photos analysed
TOTAL			
d) Did you face any difficult	y while implementing the	protocol?	
\Box Yes (if yes please describe	the difficulties):		
$\square No$			





e) Which was the rationale behind the selection (or the exclusion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) of the implemented protocol (e.g. related to its feasibility in your MPA, availability of previous data for which you want to continue data collection to obtain a time series, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?

XI. PROTOCOL 11 -SFM: PHOTOGRAMMETRY AS MONITORING TOOL FOR BENTHIC HABITATS STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS:

a) What is the ii	mprementations		
\Box The protocol	was implement	ed in the MPA	
The protocol	was not implem	nented in the Mi	PA .
b) Who did impl	lement the proto	ocol?	
\square MPA staff			
	-	-	ntractor please specify the status of selection procedures, e.g. ion, still defining administrative procedures):
\Box Other (If other	er, please indica	te who):	
c) For each sam Number of			
c) For each sam Number of sites	pling site please Number of replicates		ng table: Photogrammetry surveys uploaded to Engrep (Engage Repository; www.engrep.ubicasrl.com/login) or othe repositories Yes/No (please include the link)
Number of	Number of	Surveyed	Photogrammetry surveys uploaded to Engrep (Engage Repository; www.engrep.ubicasrl.com/login) or othe
Number of sites	Number of	Surveyed	Photogrammetry surveys uploaded to Engrep (Engage Repository; www.engrep.ubicasrl.com/login) or othe
Number of	Number of	Surveyed	Photogrammetry surveys uploaded to Engrep (Engage Repository; www.engrep.ubicasrl.com/login) or othe







 $\square No$

e) Which was the rationale behind the selection (or the exclusion if you do not plan to implement the protocol) of the implemented protocol (e.g. related to its feasibility in your MPA, availability of previous data for which you want to continue data collection to obtain a time series, absence of particular species/habitat etc.)?

5.2. OTHER PROTOCOLS FOR MONITORING RELATED TO THE CC IMPLEMENTED IN THE MPA

The MPA of Zakynthos implements several protocols for the evaluation of the impacts of climate change on the protected elements under concern. In this respect the MPA has design, adopted and implemented protocols and methodologies for sea level rise projections on sandy beaches including the ones that are used for nesting by loggerhead sea turtle Caretta caretta through recurrent monitoring and research projects (e.g. MEDPAN NORTH, BLUECOAST). This methodology includes data gathering and analysis through seasonal beach profiles, 2D morphodynamic modelling of beach retreat under different RCPs, wave forcing and nesting activity of loggerheads (Dimitriadis et al., 2021 submitted in Regional Environmental Change journal). Yet the MPA assess erosion rates on sandy beaches through satellite images from 1945 onwards to elucidate the effect of increased erosion in the protected area and to predict future changes which have impacts on critical ecological (sea turtle nesting capacity) and socioeconomic features (recreational use of the beaches) (BLUECOAST project results, Deliverable 3.3.). Still, we recurrently monitor sand temperature at nesting sites via data loggers in an effort to identify the possible effects of increasing climate warming due to climate change on the sex ratio of sea turtle hatchlings at each nesting year (sex in sea turtles is thermally determined during egg incubation period thus female biased hatchling sex ratios are expected on increased sand temperature) through the protocols that were developed from MAVA project (https://mava-foundation.org/oaps/protecting-sea-turtle-nesting-sites/). Invasive, range expanding and thermophilic species are regularly monitored in the MPA through several protocols and methods since 2009 (e.g. Dimitriadis et al., 2021 - https://doi.org/10.3390/d13020071; Dimitriadis et al., 2020 https://doi.org/10.12681/mms.21845; **Dimitriadis** al., 2018 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2018.04.012).





6. Results of standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC

6.1. STANDARDIZED PROTOCOLS FOR MONITORING THE EFFECT OF THE CC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

XII. PROTOCOL 1 - MONITORING TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS:

Was not implemented in the MPA

XIII. PROTOCOL 2 - MASS MORTALITY MONITORING:

Was not implemented in the MPA

XIV. PROTOCOL 3 —LEK-1: EXPLORING LOCAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE TO RECONSTRUCT HISTORICAL CHANGES:

A total of 20 local fishers were interviewed in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos. They were all (100%) professional artisanal fishers. More than one fishing method was often adopted by the respondents, with "nets" being the most commonly employed fishing gear (66,84%) followed by longlines (28,95%) and hooks (4,21%) (Fig. 6).

According to our compilation of local knowledge, at least 3 fish resulted to have passed through drastic changes in their abundance. Amongst the most cited species was *Pterois miles* perceived as increasing by the 80% of the respondents followed by *Siganus rivulatus* as indicated by the 75% of the respondents. Only one species, *Sarpa salpa*, was cited by the respondents to have declined up to its disappearance (100% of the interviewed fishermen).







Fig 6. Upper boxes show the percent distribution of professional fishers interviewed in Zakynthos MPA and the fishing methods adopted by the respondents. Lower box illustrates the species cited by the respondents and the number of times in which they were assigned to the groups 'decreasing', 'fluctuant', 'increasing' or 'stable'.



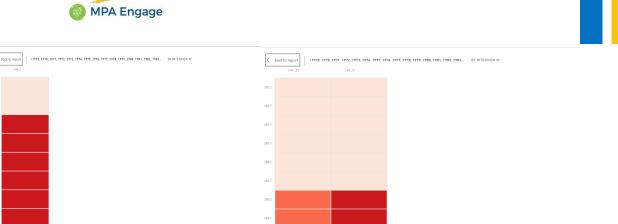


Fig 7. Perceived trends of relative abundance on a scale from 0 to 5 of *Alepes djedaba* (on the left) and *Callinectes sapidus* (on the right) in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.

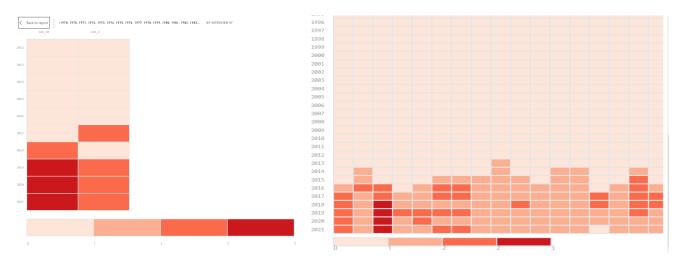


Fig 8. Perceived trends of relative abundance on a scale from 0 to 5 of *Erugosquilla massavensis* (on the left) and *Fistularia commersonii* (on the right) in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.





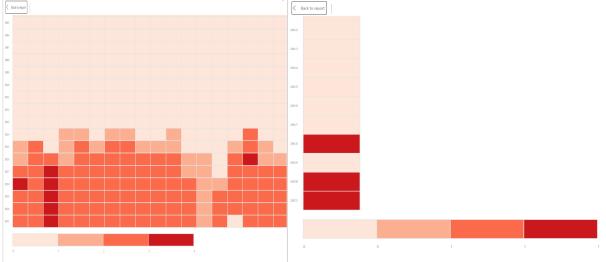


Fig 9. Perceived trends of relative abundance on a scale from 0 to 5 of *Lagocephalus sceleratus* (on the left) and *P. incisus* (on the right) in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.

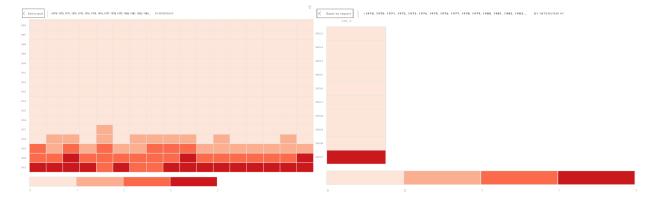


Fig 10. Perceived trends of relative abundance on a scale from 0 to 5 of *P. miles* (on the left) and *S. chrysotaenia* (on the right) in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.





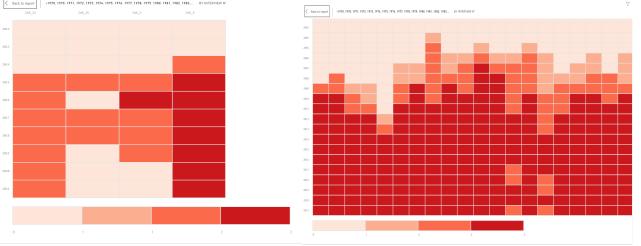


Fig 11. Perceived trends of relative abundance on a scale from 0 to 5 of *S. diaspros* (on the left) and *S. luridus* (on the right) in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.

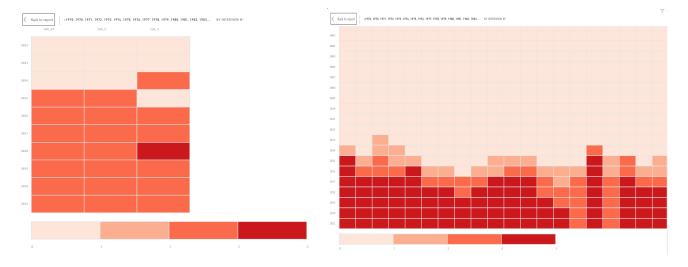


Fig 12. Perceived trends of relative abundance on a scale from 0 to 5 of *S. pachygaster* (on the left) and *S. rivulatus* (on the right) in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.







Fig 13. Perceived trends of relative abundance on a scale from 0 to 5 of *S. salpa* in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos.

For additional details about results please go to the Supplementary Material.

XV. PROTOCOL 4- LEK-2: EXPLORING LOCAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR PERIODICAL MONITORING:

Was not implemented in the MPA





XVI. PROTOCOL 5 - FISH VISUAL CENSUS OF CLIMATE CHANGE INDICATORS:

The protocol was implemented in 7 sites, as reported in the map in Figure 14. Among the 15 target species surveyed in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos MPA, the most abundant one in 2020 was *Siganus sp.* followed by *S. cretense* (Fig. 14). Average abundance of exotic species registered at MPA level were: *S. luridus* (47,14/250m²), *S. rivulatus* (28/250m²), *Pterois miles* (2,04/250m²), *Enchelycore anatina* (0,07/250m²), *Stephanolepis diaspros* (0,07/250m²) and *Sphoeroides pachygaster* (0,04/250m²).

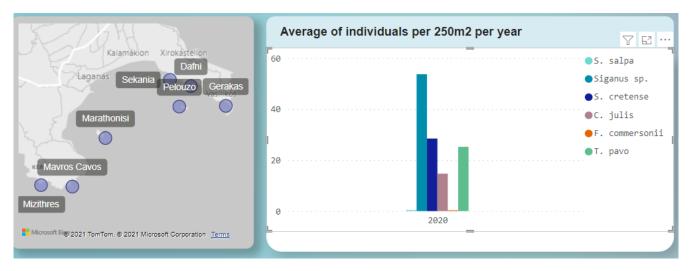


Fig. 14. Mean number of individuals/250m² of the monitored species (excluding new exotic species, including *Siganus sp.*) during 2020 was 17,02 when all depth strata (5-10m) and surveyed sites were merged.

The Tropical Index ranged from 5 in five sites to 6 in two sampling sites during 2020 (Fig. 15). The assessment was deemed tropicalized in 71% and highly tropicalized in 29% of the sites.





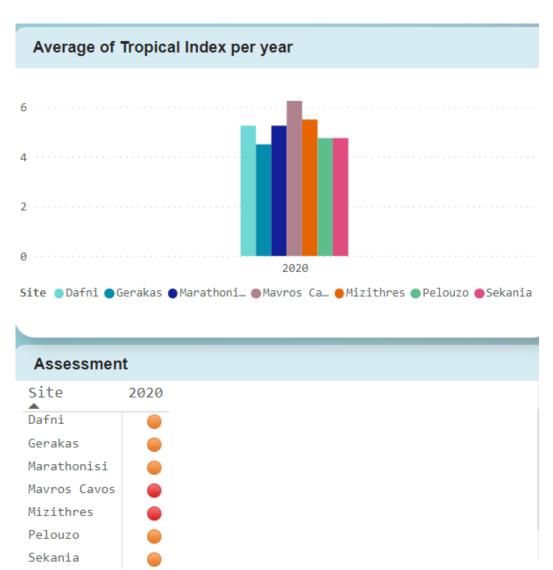


Fig. 15. Value of tropicalization index per year at each sampling site (top panel). Color-coded summary of tropicalization assessment is provided (bottom panel).

Highly Tropicalized

Tropicalized

For additional details about results please check the Annex.

Warm

XVII. PROTOCOL 6 – LEK-3: MASS MORTALITIES:

It was not implemented in the MPA

Tempered





XVIII. PROTOCOL 7 - POFA: POSIDONIA OCEANICA FAST ASSESSMENT ON MEADOWS CONSERVATION STATUS FACE TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

It was not implemented in the MPA

XIX. PROTOCOL 8 - FAP: FAST ASSESSMENT PINNA NOBILIS CONSERVATION STATUS:

The protocol was implemented in 35 sites and one depth range (shallow) of Zakynthos MPA during 2019 and 2021 (see map in Figure 16). In the shallow depth the mean shallow % of dead individuals ranged from 0 to 100 % in year 2019 and to 100% during 2021, respectively (Figure 16).

Overall, *Pinna nobilis* populations showed severe impact as in 2021 no alive specimens were recorded in the MPA, contrary to the 24 alive individuals during 2019.

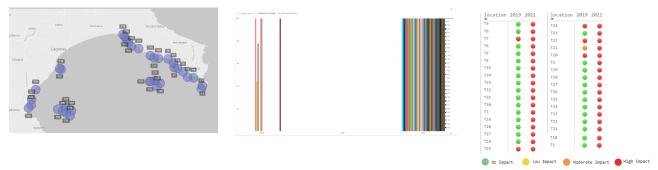


Fig. 16. Mean % of dead individuals per depth and year

In year 2019 all alive specimens were observed in the shallow depth range; specifically, the alive specimens were observed in sites (transects) 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35. In general, assessment of *P. nobilis* status indicated a low impact on their population during 2019, while a highly impacted status was detected during 2021.



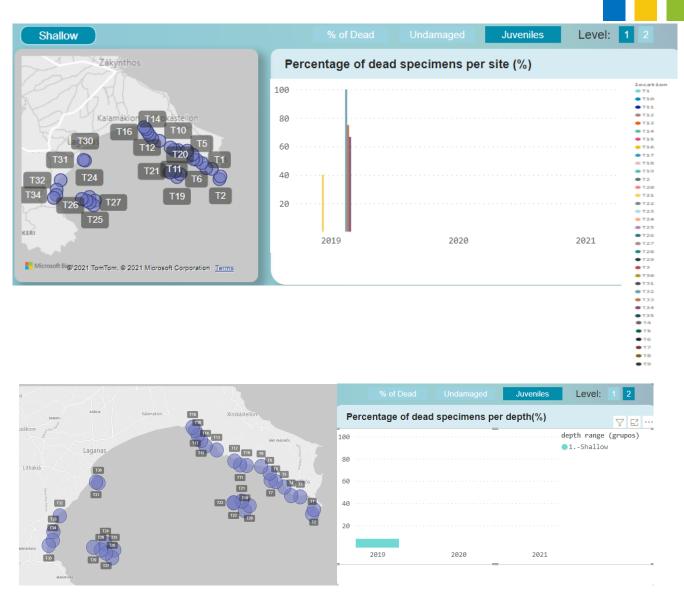


Fig. 17. Mean % of alive juveniles per depth and years

XX. PROTOCOL 9 - URCH: SEA URCHINS POPULATIONS:

It was not implemented in the MPA

XXI. PROTOCOL 10 -BARD: BENTHIC SPECIES RAPID DETECTION:

It was not implemented in the MPA





XXII. PROTOCOL 11 -SFM: PHOTOGRAMMETRY AS MONITORING TOOL FOR BENTHIC HABITATS STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS:

It was not implemented in the MPA.

7. Cost estimation of the implementation of standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC in the MPA

The costs estimation is given for one year of implementation of protocols selected in the Zakynthos MPA (Table 1). Cost of a full time equivalent (FTE), meaning one person working full time, is estimated to 80 €/day for MPA staff.

	M	IPA staff	time (FTE	Ξ)		Costs	(euro)		
Protocols	prepara tion	field work	data reporti ng	Total	MPA staff	Externa l contrac tor	Equipm ent and		Additional notes
P1 - temperature	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
P2 - mass mortality	-	-	ı	-	-	-	-	-	
P3 - LEK 1	2	4	3	9	720			720	
P4 - LEK 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	





P5 - fish visual census		12	5	17	1360		900	2260	Field work cost: (fuel, boat, diving equipment - 150€ per day + staff cost per employee- 80€ per day, 2 employees) [(310€ x 6 days = 1860euros); Reporting cost: 1 employee x 5 days x 80€ = 400 €
P6- LEK 3 mass mortalities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
P7 - POFA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
P8 - FAP	0	12	5	17	1360	0	900	2260	Field work cost: (fuel, boat, diving equipment - 150€ per day + staff cost per employee- 80€ per day, 2 employees) [(310€ x 6 days = 1860euros); Reporting cost: 1 employee x 5 days x 80€ = 400 €
P9 -URCH	-	-		-	-		-	-	
P10 - BARD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
P11 - SFM	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	
Total	2	28	13	43	3440	0	1800	5240	





Table 1. Standardized protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC implemented in the MPA. For each implemented protocol details on implementation costs and the number of staff involved are reported.

8. Integration of protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC in the MPA management plan

LEK-1 protocol will be integrated in the MPA management plan since it is a cost-effective and easy to be implemented method. It also falls within the framework of the regular monitoring of small-scale fisheries that the MPA implements in the protected area and therefore it will be embedded an integral part of fisheries management. Fish visual census of climate change indicators and FAP protocols implementation will be also embedded in the recurrent monitoring and management that the MPA already implements in the protected area since they are simple, straightforward and effective methods. The high capacity building of the personnel of the MPA in UVC methods (having also proper equipment, e.g. diving equipment, boat, software for data analysis) renders these method as very cost-effective ones.

Albeit Monitoring Temperature conditions, Mass mortality monitoring, LEK2, LEK3, URCH, BRD and SFM protocols were not implemented in Zakynthos MPA, it is planned to be implemented in the future as part of the regular monitoring and management in the MPA supported by the collaborating to the MPA research groups (University of Aegean, Ionian University and HCMR).

Table 2. SWOT analysis of the monitoring protocols implemented in the MPA.

Protocols for monitoring the effect of the CC	Strengths	Weakness	Opportunities	Threats
Monitoring Temperature conditions	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mass mortality monitoring	NA	NA	NA	NA
LEK-1: exploring local ecological knowledge to reconstruct	Cost-effective, already existing management plan for fisheries	Time consuming, personnel demanding	Long term data series, planning of targeted mitigation actions,	Long term funding





historical changes			participatory approach	
LEK-2: exploring local ecological knowledge for periodical monitoring	NA	NA	NA	NA
Fish visual census of climate change indicators	Cost-effective, already existing management plan for fish fauna	Trained personnel and equipment demanding	Long term data series, planning of targeted mitigation actions	Long term funding
LEK-3: mass mortalities	NA	NA	NA	NA
POFA: Posidonia oceanica fast assessment on meadows conservation status face to climate change	NA	NA	NA	NA
FAP: fast assessment Pinna nobilis conservation status	Cost-effective, combined with other protocols	Trained personnel and equipment demanding	Long term data series, planning of targeted mitigation actions	Long term funding
URCH: Sea urchins populations	NA	NA	NA	NA
BRD: Benthic species rapid detection	NA	NA	NA	NA
SFM: Photogrammetry as monitoring tool for benthic habitats structure and dynamics	NA	NA	NA	NA

9. Conclusions

MPAs are conservation tools aiming to safeguard biodiversity from threats, promote healthy and resilient marine ecosystems, and provide societal benefits. Therefore, as climate change prevails, the effectiveness





of the MPAs will be affected or ultimately MPAs will fail to meet the initial purpose of their existence even if they are well managed and enforced. Zakynthos MPA is well known for its prime ecological value while at the same time multiple human pressures acting in concert are rendering management and conservation a challenging task. The data collected through the MPA Engage monitoring protocols demonstrate that climate change has already considerable impacts on critical ecological aspects of Zakynthos MPA, with the most striking ones being the tropicalization of the ecosystem (presence of) and the loss of endemic species with narrow thermal niche (e.g. *S. salpa*) or high vulnerability to infectious diseases (*P. nobilis*). Hence the exogenic effects of climate change on protected species and habitats and on the ability of the MPA to produce societal benefits further undermines long-term management and conservation success. The protocols that were implemented in this study are providing long-term and cost-effective tools to monitor the tropicalization status of the MPA, while the produced results are pointing on where to redirect efforts for mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Thus, managing invasive and thermophilic species in the MPA (e.g. population control, selective removal, enhancement of top – down predation control, Giakoumi et al. 2019; Dimitriadis et al. 2021; Kleitou et al. 2021) should facilitate in alleviating climate change impacts.

Table 3. Assessment values for each indicator within a CC monitoring protocol. Values are specified per depth range. ¹(Otero et al. 2013/UNEP-MAP Identification and streamlining of Climate Change indicators SPAMI WG.431/Inf.11))



Categori es of Climate	Proto	In diamen		2019			2020			2021			Note
Change indicato rs ¹	col	Indicator		Shall ow	Inte rm.	De ep	Shall ow	Inte rm.	De ep	Shall ow	Inte rm.	Dee p	s
	PR2	Percentage of all affer habitat (%)	NA	NA	N A	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Use level 3 of the indic ator	
Mortality and bleachin g events	and bleachin g events PR2 Percentage of recent affected by habitat (%) Fish % of specie.		affected colonies	NA	NA	N A	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Use level 3 of the indic ator
			species 1:	NA			NA			NA			Repo rt
	PR6	perceived mortality	species 2	NA		NA			NA			data for 2019,	



2020.

			species 3:	NA			NA			NA			2020, 2021			
		Intertebrates % of perceived mortality	species 1:	NA			NA			NA			-			
	PR6		species 2	NA NA			NA NA			NA NA						
			species 3:													
	PR8	Percentage of dead s	14,92 %	NA	N A	NA	NA	NA	100 %	NA	N A	Use level 2 of the indic ator				
Range shift of alien / temperat ure sensitive species	PR5	Tropical index	site 1: Gerakas	NA						NA						
			site 2: Dafni	NA						NA						
			site 3:Sekania	NA						NA			Use			
			site 4: Pelouzo	NA						NA			level 3 indic ator			
			site 5: Marathonisi	NA						NA						
			site 6: Mavros Cavos	NA						NA						
			site 7: Mizithres	NA						NA						
	PR10	Percentage of invasions (%)		NA	NA	N A	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Use level 2 of the indic ator			
Reprodu ction and breeding date	PR7	Average shoot density (shoots/m2)		NA	NA	N A	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Use level 2 of the indic ator			

Notes: PR2: Protocol 2 - Mass mortality monitoring; PR3: Protocol 3 - LEK 1: Exploring ecological knowledge; PR5: Protocol 5 - Fish visual census; PR6: Protocol 6 - LEK 3: Mass mortalities; PR7: Protocol 7 - POFA: Posidonia oceanica fast assessment on meadows conservation status face to climate change; PR8: Protocol 8 - FAP: Fast assessment Pinna nobilis conservation status; PR10: Protocol 10 -BRD: Benthic species rapid detection.





10. Cited literature

Azzurro, E., Sbragaglia, V., Cerri, J., Bariche, M., Bolognini, L., Ben Souissi, J., ... & Ghanem, R. (2019). Climate change, biological invasions, and the shifting distribution of Mediterranean fishes: A large-scale survey based on local ecological knowledge. Global change biology, 25(8), 2779-2792.

Dimitriadis C., Fournari-Konstantinidou I, Sourbès L, Koutsoubas D, Katsanevakis S. 2021. Long Term Interactions of Native and Invasive Species in a Marine Protected Area Suggest Complex Cascading Effects Challenging Conservation Outcomes. Diversity, 13: 71.

Garrabou, J., Bensoussan, N., & Azzurro, E. (2019). Monitoring Climate-related responses in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas and beyond: Five Standard Protocols. http://digital.csic.es/handle/10261/176395

Giakoumi S, Katsanevakis S, Albano PG, Azzurro E, Cardoso AC, et al. 2019. Management priorities for marine invasive species. Science of the Total Environment, 688: 976–982.

Kleitou P, Rees S, Cecconi F, Kletou D, Savva I, Cai LL, et al. 2021. Regular monitoring and targeted removals can control lionfish in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas. Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems, 31: 2870–2882.