

EUSAIR FACILITY POMNT

EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region

Workshop: How to progress from TSG 3 Flagships towards EUSAIR macroregional in the Multiannual Financial Framework period 2021-2027

MSP-MED, a project to support cooperation

22. September 2022

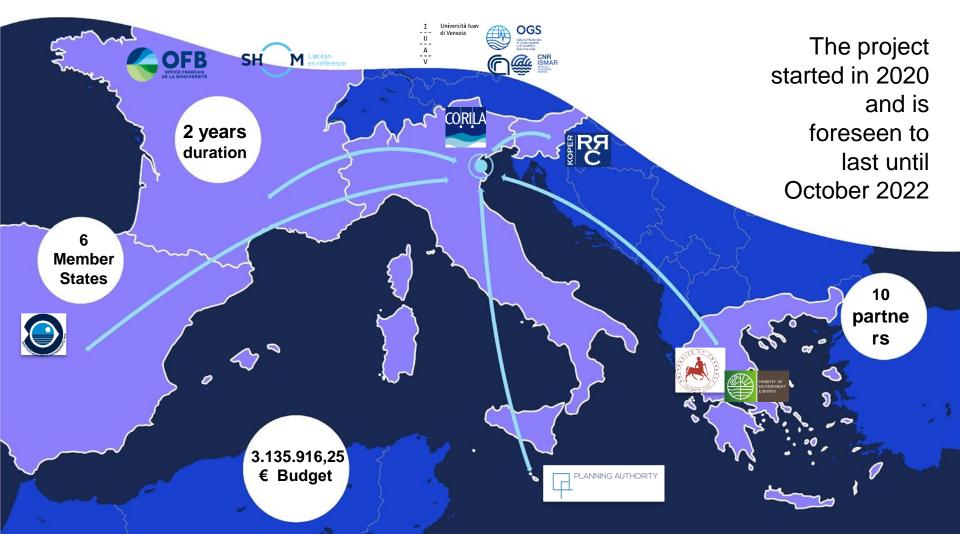
FOLCO SOFFIETTI (luav) EMILIANO RAMIERI (CNR-Ismar)





Towards the operational implementation of MSP in our common Mediterranean Sea

MSPMED is a European project aiming at enhancing national maritime plans of Member States facing the Mediterranean Sea and international cooperation for the coordination of sea management in the basin.



The Project objectives

- The overarching objective of the project is to facilitate the MSP Directive implementation, by supporting the establishment of coherent and coordinated maritime spatial plans across the Mediterranean Region.
- At national level, the actions of the project concur in creating a better coordination between national and regional authorities, thus enhancing the efficiency of national plans.
- The knowledge shared among countries during meetings is producing, in a whole, a more harmonized way of approaching MSP in the Mediterranean.

The MSPMED project builds on several initiatives concerning MSP in the Mediterranean, (*SUPREME, SIMWESTMED, MUSES, ADRIPLAN, MARINE ECOMED*, ecc.).

The MSP-MED results so far

- Support to the 6 National Plans, in different forms, e.g. datasets and map creations, stakeholder involvement.
- >10 meetings and events with national stakeholders
- 5 Technical Workshops on Key Enabling Factors for MSP
- Social media campaigns and dissemination material to raise awarness on MSP in the Mediterranean and Ocean Literacy, participation in events and1 joint event with MSP Platform on Marine Multi-use in the Mediterranean
- Transboundary cooperation for the identification of common issues and creation of data tools

1 Trilateral Event on Ramogepol Area: France-Italy-Monaco, bilateral Italy-Greece, Pan Eastern event, bilateral meeting Spain-Morocco, Trilateral Italy-France-Spain.

The main findings so far are a contribution to a common planning approach with broader harmonization consequences on very different coasts and waters that share, however, a great number of similarities and shared cross-border issues (e.g. cultural heritage, touristic flows, pollution, environmental risks etc.)

The MSP-MED results so far

Cross cutting tasks: Cooperation, a focus on the AIR

Objectives: Identify and address issues of common concern and foster cooperation

Slovenian, Greek and Italian partners (and Competent Authorities) were involved in the project but the intention was to open the cooperation to other EU Member States and non-EU countries.

-Landscape and Seascape: Pan-Eastern Med event, Bilateral Greece-Italy

-Maritime transport and impacts on nature protection Bilateral Slovenia-Italy

WP4: Cooperation among Member States & Third Countries

Task 4.1 Address Transboundary issues of common concern on maritime surveillance

Task 4.2 Establishing a solid transboundary cooperation in MSP among bordering Mediterranean Member States

Task 4.3 Establishing transboundary cooperation mechanisms and instruments with third countries

The MSP-MED results so far

Bilateral Slovenia-Italy results

As stated in the MSP-MED Grant Agreement, transboundary/cross-border cooperation and collaboration in MSP is essential to improve the efficiency of planning and management of coastal and marine resources and activities, facilitating the decision-making processes.

Objectives of the event

- -Identify issues of common concern in the area and possible joint solutions
- -Exchange information that may ease the implementation of national plans
- -Enhance transboundary communication
- -Foster synergies between planners and authorities
- -Promote and reinforce international cooperation mechanisms

Opportunities to develop project ideas to be founded via Interreg programs were also discussed.

OUTPUTS FROM SLO-IT MSPMED WKS

Knowledge needs

- Need for more knowledge and data to support improved understanding of sector pressures and expansion of habitat and biodiversity protection / restoration
- **Maritime traffic**: the sector exerts many different pressures and therefore there is a need for a variety of different data
- Need of continuation and update of data sharing and harmonization, especially in transboundary areas (opportunity for continuation of GAIR-PORTODIMARE Geoportal)

Tools

- Tools are fundamental for both MSP Plans preparation and implementation
- **Cumulative effect assessment** and **conflict assessment** support tools are needed, especially in a transboundary dimension
- Need to be more **operationalized tools** to support decision-making
- Scalability of tools is essential to assist planning at at different scales.

OUTPUTS FROM SLO-IT MSPMED WKS

Integrated governance and harmonized MSP Plans implementation

Need for mutual understanding and harmonization of implementation of MSP
Plans at different governance levels

Biodiversity and ecosystem protection

- Need for an integrated transboundary plan for habitat and biodiversity protection
- Opportunity to include the concept of Green-Blue Corridors within the scope of area-based management
- Need to manage proximity between maritime activities hot-spot areas and protected areas. Improvement of buffer zone should be better studied and implemented.

OUTPUTS FROM SLO-IT MSPMED WKS

Climate change

 Climate change is partially considered by presents MSP plans. There is a need for a targeted analysis and for identification of measures. Dedicated tools are needed.

Socio-economics

- Socio-economic implications of MSP Plans are fundamental. They should be assessed by national plans and in a transboundary perspective. Dedicated tools are needed.
- There is a need to **boost sustainable economic development and job creation** in the AIR. Improved capacities through Blue Skills and Blue Carriers are key.
- **Diversification of maritime economy** in the area by supporting the development of new-emerging-innovative sector was highlighted.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

fsoffietti@iuav.it e.ramieri@ismar.cnr.it