



Pillar 3 - Environmental Quality MONITORING PILLAR REPORT 2020 FOR THE FACILITY POINT PROJECT

YEARLY CONDENSED REPORT ON PILLAR/TSG MONITORING

WORK PACKAGE ON MONITORING
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INTRODUCTION

The goal of the present report is to monitor and evaluate the EUSAIR macro-regional strategy TSG3 activities on the base of Pillar related Study, approved at 12th TSG 3 meeting on 3-4 March 2020. The monitoring and evaluate actives are part of the Interreg ADRIAN project: Facility Point EUSAIR within the WP No.3. The following activities are foreseen:

3.1 BUILDING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE RELEVANT TO THE FOUR STRATEGY PILLARS

3.2 ESTABLISHING EUSAIR MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

3.3 CAPACITY BUILDING FOR PUBLIC AUTHORITIES/ ADMINISTRATIONS

Related to the above mentioned Activity 3.1 the objective of this first task is to collect reliable and available comparable data for the whole of the EUSAIR macro-region, the so called knowledge base. The objective is to:

- a) identify areas (thematic and/or geographical) with particular needs or particular potential,
- b) form the basis for a well-founded prioritization of projects/actions,
- c) set baseline values on which output and result indicators and targets can be based
- d) set the basis for a further development of the macro-regional approach.

Concerning the deliverables, building the necessary knowledge base will include: (a) An inventory of existing resources (already concluded or on-going studies or research, existing data bases at regional, national or European level etc.) and (b) the implementation, as necessary, of Pillar related studies.

Related to the above mentioned Activity 3.2, the preparatory steps include:

- (a) A concise SWOT Analysis for the TSG concerned, outlining Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats in the thematic sector covered by the TSG. This Analysis was conducted in the period 2018-2020
- (b) a concise multilevel examination of the internal cohesion of the relevant TSG's operation (Findings of the TSG SWOT Analysis ↔ TSG Priority Actions ↔ project selection criteria ↔ projects selected for labelling/implementation). This analysis will be conducted for the first time immediately after the TSG Experts' assumption of their duties, with the results to be presented in the TSGs' Annual Monitoring Reports for the year 2018, and will be updated two years later, with the results presented in the TSGs' Annual Monitoring Reports for the year 2020 and afterwards.

The above steps paved the way for the creation of the EUSAIR's monitoring and evaluation framework within the TSG3. The following two inter-related elements were included:

- a) The identification of the actors involved in monitoring and evaluation activities;
- b) The formulation of a TSG-specific monitoring and evaluation quantitative indicator system (including sources, baselines and targets), taking into account the availability of information and the target and indicator systems employed by relevant ESIF (national or transnational) or IPA II programmes in the context of which projects of

EUSAIR/TSG interest are being (or might in the future be) implemented, as well as the work being done in the context of the ESPON tailor-made territorial monitoring tool.

The progress of the EUSAIR's implementation at the Pillar/TSG level is and will be presented in Annual TSG Monitoring Reports. The exact content of the Annual TSG Monitoring Reports will be decided in cooperation and under the guidance of the TSG Experts' Coordinator (TSG Expert for Pillar I of the EUSAIR), following consultation with the European Commission.

OVERVIEW

The current report, covering the activities implemented in year 2020, is composed of three parts. The objective is to give ample information to all TSG members on various activities that took place throughout the year and it is hence presented at the first meeting of the TSG in the year after.

The first part is the Yearly condensed report on Pillar/TSG monitoring that gives both the information on the activities as the info on the progress under the Work Package "Monitoring" that is led by the Greek Lead Partner. The Yearly condensed report also brings brief information on potentially interesting topics and methodological issues that are related to the work in the specific, above mentioned, Work Package.

In addition to that, the current Yearly condensed report has two Annexes: the first one related to the COWID study topics and ESPON indicators, inserted in the ESPON Programme Macro-regional territorial monitoring tool and observed progress; the second one related to the events that took place in year 2020.

To support the planning of the new programming period and capitalize the work done in the past years, a questionnaire was circulated by the TSG3 to different authorities, in order to verify the knowledge and uptake of the EUSAIR TSG3 Flagship projects in the Operational Programmes of the new cooperation and regional development programmes.

1. YEARLY CONDENSED REPORT ON PILLAR/TSG MONITORING

1.1 SWOT Analysis

Compared to the year 2019, in year 2020 the work on the preliminary SWOT ANALYSIS has been concluded, several SWOT tables have been prepared, in relation to the different sub-topics, on both those related to terrestrial habitats and marine habitats (marine environment, pollution, transnational terrestrial habitats, biodiversity, climate change and risk management).

There are several opportunities to be seized in collaboration on environmental quality, some arising from the pre-existing topics (marine environment pollution of the sea, transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity) but others arise also from new topics (cross-sectoral topics of climate change and innovation and others).

As mainly stated already in the 2019 Report, among the opportunities, the 3 priorities that are of high importance, in line with TSG 3 agreed priorities to be included in the 2021-2027 Partnership Agreement of the four EU Member States and in the IPA programming, are:

- The sustainable growth of the Adriatic-Ionian region by implementing ICZM and MSP should be promoted, also to contribute to the Common Regional Framework (CRF) on ICZM of the Barcelona convention and the monitoring and management of marine protected areas;
- Development and implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Sub/regional Oil spill contingency plan is needed;
- Natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems should be protected.

For a better environmental future and sustainable development an involvement of youth, NGOs and civil society organisations as well as general public is needed.

1.2 List of projects from other Programs and NON-EU funding

Compared to the year 2019, in year 2020 the work on the "List of projects from other Programs and NON-EU funding" also has advanced, there are more scientific projects listed under each topic and the budgets and other more detailed info on all listed projects have been added upon request from the Greek task Lead partner. More info on these aspects are available in the following tables, separated by topic.

As already mentioned in the 2019 Report, there are four relevant EUSAIR Pillar 3 projects, related to the most important topics: ICZM&MSP, PET HAB ECO, 3MPS, ASOSCoP.

In order to check other relevant info in other projects implemented under other funding instruments, in other EU and non-EU Programs, we are hereby presenting the pieces of information on other projects related to each topic.

Compared to the report submitted in November 2019, there are more scientific projects listed under each topic and the budgets of all listed projects have been added.

a) TOPIC 1: Promotion of sustainable growth of the AI region by implementing ICZM and MSP also to contribute Common Regional Framework (CRF) on ICZM of Barcelona convention and the monitoring and management of marine protected area.

PROJECT	CBC PROGRAMME
TRECORALA	https://www.nib.si/mbp/en/projects/balmas/84-completed-projects/cross-border-projects/129-trecorala-eng Interreg Italy-Slovenia
SHAPE	www.msp-platform.eu Usable outputs and results: Methodological handbook on MSP in the Adriatic Sea, Adriatic Atlas to support ICZM & MSP, Total budget: 4.140.000€
ML-REPAIR	http://www.ml-repair.eu/en Interreg Italy-Croatia Programme
PROJECT	TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME
ADRIPLAN	Adriplan.eu Usable outputs and results: data portal reports and thematic maps Total budget: 1.250.000€
SUPREME	http://www.msp-supreme.eu/partners Total budget: 1.999.996€
PORTODIMARE	https://portodimare.adrioninterreg.eu/ Total budget: 1.581.219€
GEF Adriatic	www.thegef.org Total budget: 1.817.900 USD
NetCet	Capitalising knowledge on marine litter from projects for protected areas http://www.netcet.eu IPA ADRIATIC

DeFishGear	Capitalising knowledge on marine litter from projects for protected areas http://www.defishgear.net/project/background IPA ADRIATIC
Waste Management Project « ARLEM »	https://cor.europa.eu/en/our-work/Documents/ARLEM/Action%20plans/Action%20plan%202020-2022/cor-2019-05804-00-00-tcd-tra-fr.pdf CPRM
Medpan North	https://www.keep.eu/project/1690/mediterranean-marine-protected-areas-network-north Interreg MED 2007-13 Total budget: 2.380.825€
Coastgap	https://www.msp-platform.eu/projects/coastgap-coastal-governance-and-adaptation-policies-mediterranean Interreg MED 2007-13 Total budget: 1.360.000€
Coastance	https://www.keep.eu/project/1626/regional-common-action-strategy-against-coastal-erosion-and-climate-change-effects-for-a-sustainable-coastal-planning-in-the-mediterranean-basin Interreg MED 2007-13 Total budget: 1.795.900€
OTHERS	Horizontal and capitalization projects from Interreg MED 2014-20
Green Med	http://www.enpicbmed.eu/content/green-med-initiative ENPI MED
SusWaMed	http://www.enpicbmed.eu/fr/node/1776 ENPI MED
PROJECT	OTHER FUNDING INSTRUMENTS
Solid Waste Management	Center for Mediterranean Integration
Several projects	MedSea Foundation, Green Peace, Legambiente, Prince Albert of Monaco Foundation, WWF Adria, IUCN Malaga, CTS Ecomondo
PROJECTS	THEMATIC EU PROGRAMME
TARTALIFE	http://tartalife.eu/en LIFE +
CleanSea Life	https://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=5824 Capitalising knowledge on marine litter from projects for protected areas LIFE Programme, LIFE15 Total budget: 2.060,705.00€
MarineClean	https://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/projects/en/projects/marineclean Business-environment: Capitalizing knowledge on marine litter from projects for protected areas Total budget: 1.171.789€ ECO-INNOVATION
<u>MARLISCO</u> MARine Litter in Europe Seas: Social	7 th Framework Programme Lead Partner from Italy Total budget: 4.119.357€

AwarenesS and CO-Responsability CORDIS ID 289042	http://www.marlisco.eu/objectives.en.html
<u>ATLAS</u> A Trans-Atlantic Assessment and deep-water ecosystem-based Spatial management plan for Europe CORDIS ID 678760	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from UK Total budget: 9.167.816€ Duration 01/06/2016-31/07/2020
<u>ECOPOTENTIAL</u> IMPROVING FUTURE ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS THROUGH EARTH OBSERVATIONS CORDIS ID 641762	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Italy Total budget: 15.993.931€ Duration 01/06/2015-31/10/2019
<u>SeaDataCloud</u> Further developing the pan-European infrastructure for marine and ocean data management CORDIS ID 730960	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from France Total budget: 9.999.737€ Duration 01/11/2016-31/10/2020

b) TOPIC 2: Development and implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Sub/regional Oil spill contingency plan.

The priority issues were already identified within different project that were financed by different programmes and can be capitalised by the implementation of possible actions within the priority. E.g. of projects: RAMOGEPOL

PROJECT	THEMATIC EU PROGRAMME
<u>GRACE</u> Integrated oil spill response actions and environmental effects CORDIS ID 679266	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Finland Total budget: 5.513.252€ Duration 01/03/2016-31/08/2019
<u>OILBLOCK</u> Immediate Oil Spill containment to mitigate impact on the marine ecosystem CORDIS ID 820633	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Israel Total budget: 3.284.188€ Duration 01/09/2018-31/08/2020

<u>OILY MICROCOSM</u> Mechanistic Microscale Approach to the Microbial Degradation of Oil-Droplets in Subsea Crude Oil Releases CORDIS ID 741799	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Greece Total budget: 176.408€ Duration 01/11/2017-31/01/2020
<u>STREAM</u> Sonar Technology for Remote Environmental Monitoring CORDIS ID 781195	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from UK Total budget: 872.524€ Duration 01/08/2017-31/01/2018
<u>ODYSSEA</u> OPERATING A NETWORK OF INTEGRATED OBSERVATORY SYSTEMS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA CORDIS ID 727277	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Greece Total budget: 8.398.716€ Duration 01/06/2018-30/11/2021

c) TOPIC 3 : Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems.

PROJECT	TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME
ECONNECT	http://www.econnectproject.eu/cms/ Ecological connectivity Total budget: 3.198.240€ INTERREG ASP 2007-14
ALPGO	INTERREG ASP 2014-20 GOVERNANCE MRS PROJECT
PROJECT	THEMATIC EU PROGRAMME
DINALP BEAR	https://dinalpbear.eu/home-page-1/ Total budget: 5.987,478€ LIFE Programme, LIFE13
LIFE ARCTOS	http://www.life-arctos.it/home.html Lead partner WWF LIFE+ Nature Programme

d) TOPIC 4: Protection and enhancement of natural marine habitats and ecosystems.

PROJECT	THEMATIC EU PROGRAMME
<u>MINOUW</u> Science, Technology, and Society Initiative to minimize Unwanted Catches in European Fisheries CORDIS ID 634495	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Spain Total budget : 6.239.622€ Duration 01/03/2015-28/02/2019
<u>DEVOTES</u> DEvelopment Of innovative Tools for understanding marine biodiversity and assessing good Environmental Status CORDIS ID 308392	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Spain Total budget: 12.086.862€ Duration 01/10/2012-30/10/2016
<u>FragClim</u> The Combined Effects of Climatic Warming and Habitat Fragmentation on Biodiversity, Community Dynamics and Ecosystem Functioning CORDIS ID 726176	<u>ERC GRANT</u> HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from France Total budget : 1.998.802€ Duration 01/06/2017-30/05/2022
<u>FishMan</u> Unwanted catches of trawl fisheries: ecosystem effects and advances to an integrated management approach in the Mediterranean CORDIS ID 743545	HORIZON 2020 Lead Partner from Spain Total budget: 170.121€ Duration 01/06/2017-08/08/2020

1.3 Introduction to the Green Deal

The Green Deal¹ is an integral part of the European Commission (EC) strategy for implement the United Nations 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the other priorities announced in President von der Leyen's political guidelines. In the context of the Green Deal, the EC will reorient the process of macroeconomic coordination to integrate development goals sustainable United Nations, to put sustainability and the well-being of citizens at the heart of economic policy and goals of sustainable development at the center of decision making and action of the EU.

¹ A European Green Deal, Striving to be the First Green Continent
https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

For more information about this topic, the Facility Point project website can be consulted.²

The targets of the Green Deal are the following:

- 1.1 Climatic targets for 2030 and 2050
- 1.2 To provide clean, accessible and safe energy
- 1.3 Mobilize industry for a circular economy
- 1.4 Build and renovate in an efficient way
- 1.5 Accelerate the change towards inter-connected and soft mobility
- 1.6 From the farm to fork strategy
- 1.7 To preserve and restore ecosystems and biodiversity
- 1.8 Target zero pollution and decrease of toxic emissions

The European Green Deal provides an action plan:

- to promote the efficient use of resources by moving to a circular and clean economy
- restore biodiversity and reduce pollution

The plan outlines the necessary investments and available financing instruments. It explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. The EU aims to be climate neutral in 2050. Achieving this goal will require action from all sectors of the economy, including:

- investing in environmentally friendly technologies
- supporting the industry to innovate
- the creation of cleaner, cheaper and healthier means of public and private transport
- decarbonize the energy sector
- ensure that buildings are more energy efficient
- work with international partners to improve global environmental standards.

For more information about this topic, the Facility Point project website can be consulted.³

Stemming from the above description, it might be beneficial to include specific projects from the 2014-20 or newly approved projects under the 2021-27

² On this topic: https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/31082020_European-Green-Deal-and-MRS_Agenda.pdf

³ On this topic: https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/31082020_European-Green-Deal-and-MRS_Agenda.pdf

Programme periods in the list of relevant projects thus creating a bridge between the two Programme periods.

1.4 Baseline values – objectives and Indicators and going further with the objectives of the Green Deal

Compared to the year 2019, in year 2020 the work on the Baseline values – objectives and Indicators was concluded in the part related to the list of indicators: those indicators harmonized with the ESPON Programme have been taken over.

In June 2020, the first request to start a reflection about indicators for the next Programming period was formulated. The common proposal, formulated with the Greek Lead partner, would be to somehow integrate the recently developed indicators (harmonized with the ESPON Programme) with the requirements of the Green Deal. Being the Green Deal over-arching, covering the topics of the four Pillars/TSGs, it should be possible to establish clear inter-connections with the topics of the next Programming period.

The indicators are attached in Annex 1.

If we take the **2014-2020 programming period**, with the distinction between

- Terrestrial habitats
- Marine habitats

For the new programming period, based on the priorities of the Green deal, the proposal could be to monitor, for other Pillars mainly:

- a) For Energy Efficiency
 - Number of partners from the energy sector involved in joint projects
- b) Renewable Energy
 - Number of partners from the renewable energy sector or
 - Number of joint actions to replace classical energy sources with renewable energy solutions
- c) Smart energy grids
 - Number of joint smart grids put in place
- d) Circular economy
 - Number of joint actions to ensure waste recycling

The proposal could be to monitor, for Pillar 3:

Climate change

- Number of joint monitoring systems for risk prevention put in place

Water management

- Number of joint actions to ensure waste water treatment

Urban environment

- Number of joint actions to put in place green infrastructure
- Number of joint actions to decrease air pollution

Environment protection (terrestrial and marine habitats):

- Number of protected areas involved in the projects (separated into small, medium-sized and large protected areas)
- Number of protected species (flora, fauna) covered by the projects

All of these have been discussed with the Greek partner.

1.5. Green Deal topics in TSG3 events

The importance of the Green Deal and all the green-related topics was underlined also in the course of the Mediterranean Coastal week held in Izola (Slovenia) in September 2020. The Slovenian EUSAIR Facility Point Project Partner Municipality of Izola and Lead Partner Ministry for Foreign Affairs, together with other co-organizers organized the Mediterranean Coastal Week in September 2020, with sessions in video conference due to the COVID 19 sanitary crisis.

The main topics are synthetically presented under the next points.

1.5.1 Recovery of the Tourism sector

The Slovenian presidency of EUSAIR was strongly marked by the covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, it is no coincidence that the introduction to TSO Izola 2020 was dedicated to the issue of tourism recovery and cooperation of partners in this field. The four macro-regional strategies offer plenty of opportunities to exchange good practices and experiences. It is no coincidence that the EU has recently launched an initiative to carry out an evaluation of cooperation efforts to revitalize tourism by key tourism actors in all four macro-regions.

1.5.2 Workshop on Green Infrastructure

An online workshop on green infrastructure was prepared by the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Protection (ZRSVN) in cooperation with partners from Action Group 7 of the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP). It presented the activities and achievements of already implemented as well as ongoing projects for the

conservation and management of dry grasslands in the area of eastern Slovenia (example: the project Life Grasslands).

1.5.3 Maritime spatial planning and Cooperation

The main purpose and purpose of the first Maritime Spatial Plan of Slovenia in Emergence (MSP) is to promote the sustainable growth of the maritime economy and to ensure the sustainable use of marine resources. In other words: it is about the greatest possible harmony of the development of activities, uses and regimes at sea and on the coast. The focus being the territory in Slovenia, the preparation of the MSP is based on the EU directive (2014/89) and the Slovenian Spatial Planning Act.

1.5.4 Meeting dedicated to the S3 strategy and Blue Growth

This was the first in a series of planned events called the Third Pillar Network of the Adriatic-Ionian Region - a step towards closer internationalization, with which Slovenia will strive during the EUSAIR presidency (2020-2021) to encourage partners and stakeholders to be connected and cooperative and development-oriented.) operation. The first meeting was therefore also an opportunity for government representatives of the third pillar of EUSAIR to get to know each other.

Participants were first acquainted with the implementation of the main tasks and objectives of the third program pillar (S3 - environmental quality) of EUSAIR in the previous programming period (2014-2020). They also ignored the challenges and needs to support EU activities in this area in the coming programming period (2021-2027). Representatives of the European Commission and its JRC (EC Joint Research Center) actively participated in the meeting, which was therefore a great opportunity to present achievements and the situation in the region, as well as to identify common challenges and opportunities for more coordinated progress towards macro-regional S3 connections.

1.5.5 Two-day workshop on the Opportunities of the Green Deal for the MRS

The central goal of the EU Green Deal strategy is the gradual transformation of the European Union into a prosperous and energy-balanced and economically efficient and competitive society. The 2013 EU Green Infrastructure (GI) concept has meanwhile become an international standard for modern spatial planning.

However, the European Commission recognized that GI is increasingly underused in the development of maritime spatial plans, although this could contribute not only to healthy marine ecosystems but also to other tangible benefits such as food production, recreation and tourism, climate change mitigation, coastal risk reduction and disaster prevention. However, the EC policy does not give up high ambitions and goals, so it is ready to support European natural capital with attractive investments.

All four EU macro-regional strategic alliances (Alpine, Baltic, Adriatic-Ionian and Danube) are currently facing a number of environmental challenges that cannot be successfully managed without fruitful cooperation. Environmental challenges are the core of the third pillar of EUSAIR, a macro-regional strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian

region, which focuses on the quality of the environment and is coordinated in this connection by Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

EUSAIR members devoted the workshop to discussing how to make the most of the framework offered to them by the European Macro-Regional Strategies (MRS) to achieve the goals and objectives of the European Green Deal. In doing so, they focused on the preservation and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as the transition to a clean circular economy.

Excerpt of Conclusions on the Mediterranean Coastal week event and on the Slovenian Presidency of EUSAIR for 2020/21

The Slovenian Presidency of EUSAIR in the period 2020/21 will focus primarily on green connectivity with a priority emphasis on the quality of life on the shores of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas. Progress in this regard can be achieved mainly through concrete steps and the implementation of regimes based on coastal and marine ecosystem services throughout the Adriatic-Ionian region. The green footprint must therefore also reflect recovery from the covid-19 pandemic.

Therefore, the importance of coordinated preparation of spatial plans at all levels - strategic, national, regional and municipal - cannot be ignored. From this point of view, the systematic exchange of experience and the creation of synergies between all four EU macro-regional strategies are also invaluable. Slovenia is a bit privileged in this respect, as with the exception of the Baltic, it is included in the other three MRS- Alpine, Adriatic-Ionian and Danube.

The second priority of the Slovenian Presidency of EUSAIR is the continuation of the association process of the Western Balkan countries in the EU. The cooperation within the EUSAIR MRS offers unique foundations for the implementation of the Green Deal in this area as well. During the Presidency, Slovenia will also pay due attention to the EUSAIR governance structure and will continue to strive for enhanced and competent communication with all partners and stakeholders, including young people.⁴

Stemming from the description dedicated to the EU Green Deal, it might be beneficial to include specific monitoring indicators based on the new priorities and topics listed in the Green Deal, even though significant changes have already been operated in the previous versions of the M&E reports and in the exchanges with the ESPON Programme by including the topic of climate change and issues related to Green and Blue Growth. More information can be found in Annex 1.

⁴ More info can be found in the press releases of the event, available in Slovene: *EUSAIR Izola 2020 vsi članki, September 2020*

2. QUESTIONNAIRE TO STAKEHOLDERS

The online questionnaire took place in early 2021 (between February and March 2021) to support the planning of the new programming period and capitalize the work done in the past years. A link to an online questionnaire was circulated by the TSG3 to different authorities, in order to verify the knowledge and uptake of the EUSAIR TSG3 Flagship projects in the Operational Programmes of the new cooperation and regional development programmes.

A total of 108 participants responded to the survey, but there were only 13 participants in total with valid answers throughout the questionnaire. The results of other incomplete answers were neglected for the purposes of the analysis.

2.1 Concerning the **country of origin**:

A total of 13 participants from a total of seven countries responded to the survey with valid answers throughout the questionnaire. Four came from Italy with 31%, three from Greece with 24%, two from Croatia, and the other countries had one participant each: Bosnia, Montenegro, Slovenia and France.

ELABORATION OF THE DATA (for more details, Annex 2)

Q1: **Please insert your country of origin:**

Valid answers: 13

	Answers	Frequency	Percentage	Total
	Greece	3	24%	24%
	Italy	4	31%	55%
	Croatia	2	15%	70%
	Bosnia	1	7,5%	77,5%
	Montenegro	1	7,5%	85%
	Slovenia	1	7,5%	92,5%
	France	1	7,5%	100%
Valid	Total	13	100%	

2.2 Concerning the **institution / organisation**:

Participants come from different areas: 23% (3) come from the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology of their country, one person from the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri - Dipartimento della Protezione Civile, one from the Directorate for European Integration, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs 15% (2) of participants come, from the Office for European Integration also 15% (2), one person is from the municipal administration of the Regione Puglia, the rest come from the Interreg joint secretariat with 23% (3).

2.3 Concerning the link to the **are managing authority of (e.g. ERDF Slovenija, INTERREG ITA-ALB....)**

Three persons did not comment on the issue. 15% (2) people share the city Interreg IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro. The National IPA Coordinator employs 30% (4) people, the other participants are responsible for the following areas:

- interreg ipa cbc croatia-serbia and croatia-bosnia and herzegovina-montenegro

- interreg ipa cbc program \ "greece-albania 2014-2020 \"
- interreg med program
- non available.

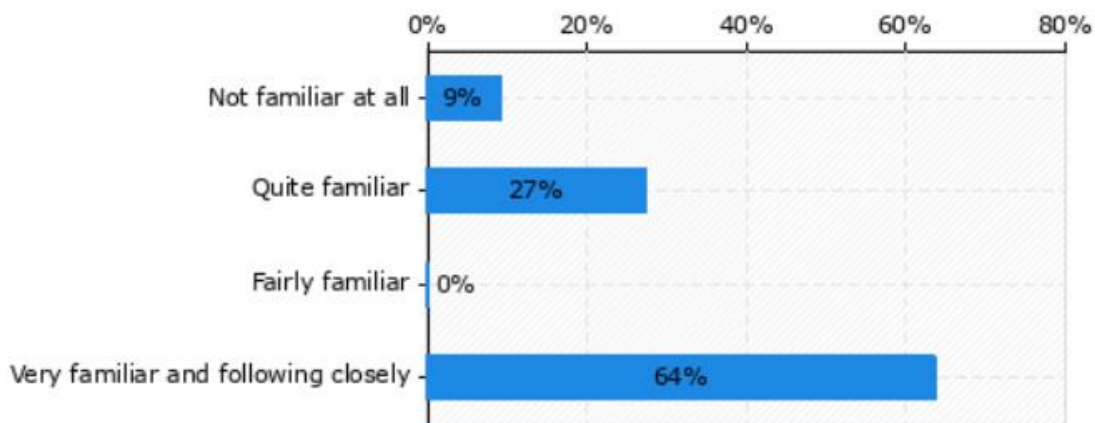
2.4 Concerning the familiarity with the EUSAIR MRS: **How familiar are you with the EUSAIR macro-regional strategy?**

More than half of the participants (64%) are well acquainted with the EUSAIR macro-regional strategy. They are followed by 27% of participants, who say that they are quite familiar with the area (Quite familiar). 9% do not know the field completely. None of the participants chose the answer that they know the area better (Fairly familiar).

ELABORATION OF THE DATA (for more details, Annex 2)

Q4: How familiar are you with the EUSAIR macro-regional strategy?

Valid answers: 13



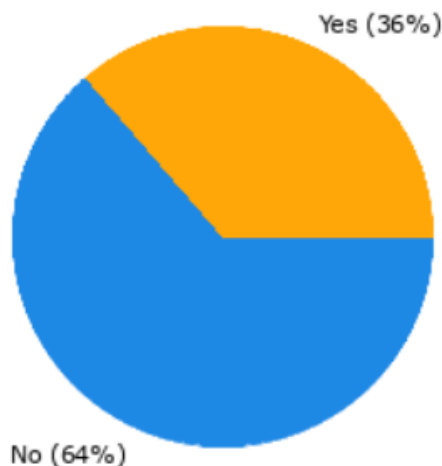
2.5 Concerning the consideration of the TSG3 Flagship projects: **Have you inserted any of the following TSG3 Flagship projects when programming the funds for the 2021-27 period?**

In the fifth question, more than half of the 64% answered that they had not yet inserted any TSG3 Flagship projects in the period 2021-27. 36% of participants answered that they did so during the period.

ELABORATION OF THE DATA (for more details, Annex 2)

Q5: Have you inserted any of the following TSG3 Flagship projects when programming the funds for the 2021-27 period?

Valid answers: 13



2.6 Getting more precise (there was the possibility to choose several answers): **If yes, please specify which one:**

Participants who answered yes to the previous question commented on the following question: 60% chose the Common Regional Framework on Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Marine Spatial Planning with monitoring and management of marine protected areas.

60% of participants chose Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems.

Inclusion of implementation of the Adriatic-Ionian Sub / regional Oil spill contingency plan was chosen by 40%, one person chose the explanation with the answer that the planning is in progress.

2.7: **If not yet done, are you planning to include any of them when programming the funds for the 2021-27 period?**

In the seventh question participants who answered no to the previous question commented on the following sub-question:

50% of them answer that they do not plan to do so. 30% of them answer that they plan to join, but the TSG3 Flagship project has not been selected yet. 20% will include the following:

- all of them (part of them, not 1 to 1)
- protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems

Further information and graphic interpretation is available in Annex 2 to this Report.

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A significant step forward has been made in year 2020 to complete the datasets. The pieces of information collected via the online questionnaire showed that the knowledge about the Flagship projects are increasing but there is still a lot of information needed. One of the factors that might have influenced a better information, is the existence and persistence of the COVID sanitary crisis in the whole of Europe.

Measures to overcome the COVID sanitary crisis conditions have been undertaken and foreseen transnational events have taken place anyhow, all have been well attended. In order to present future-oriented topics, an overview about the Green Deal topics has been added to this report.

In turn, it could be interesting to evaluate the impact of the COVID sanitary crisis on the environmental indicators for year 2021. In that the ESPON Programme is already preparing and publishing the first studies to evaluate the impact on the territories of the European Union.

The information about the EUSAIR Flagship projects will be in the future better spread due to the decision to follow the example of the Baltic macro-regional strategy area and create a network of Managing authorities of the EUSAIR macro-regional strategy area.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Efforts need to be invested in communication and in exchanges that would spread the information about the work done in TSG3 in the EUSAIR MRS. Only the 36% of interviewed programme plan to include TSG3 priorities/topics in the Operational programmes of the forecoming programming period 2021-2027.

6. SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR THIS REPORT

Online tool for questionnaires developed by the University in Ljubljana

A European Green Deal, Striving to be the First Green Continent

https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

ESPON programme website

- Oil spills up to 2020,
<https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152312>
- Surface of marine protected areas, 2018,
<https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152315>
- Surface of terrestrial protected habitats, 2018,
<https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152322>
- Number of forest fires, 2016
<https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152324>
- Foreseen impact of climate change
<https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152325>

EC CORDIS website

General information on the Facility Point project website

<https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/>

Information on the Green Deal on the Facility Point project website

https://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/European-Green-Deal-and-MRS_Agenda.pdf

A European Green Deal, Striving to be the First Green Continent

https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

Zaključki Finančnega dialoga, Januar 2020/Conclusions on the Financial Dialogue held in Slovenia in January 2020

Minutes of the 12th meeting of the Thematic Steering Group for Pillar 3 – Environmental Quality under the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) held in Belgrade (Serbia) on March 4th and 5th 2020 /Zaključki sestanka TSG3, 4-5. marca 2020

Info on flagships: Zadnji dokument nacionalnih prioritet- flagship

Press release: EUSAIR Izola 2020 vsi članki

ANNEX 1: ESPON INDICATORS

The set of indicators and baseline values are proposed on the base on data and analysis presented in the current document, ESPON July 2019 proposal of indicators and guidelines from the coordinator of WP3 of strategic project EUSAIR FP (Ministry of Economy & Development of Greece - Special Service for Strategy, Planning and Evaluation).

Recently, after the elaborations in 2020, Espo presents some interesting maps for the EUSAIR territory on its website under the section dedicated to macro-regional strategy areas. Under the pillar "Environmental quality, five maps can be visualized.

A.1.1 INFO ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Map 1: Location of major oil spills up to 2020



ESPON, <https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152312>

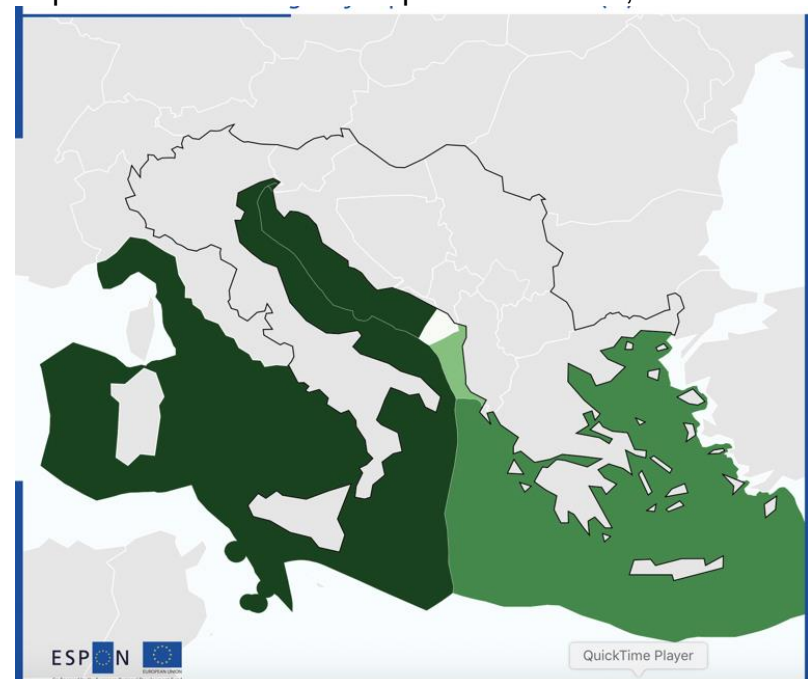
Map 2 : Surface of marine protected areas, 2018



ESPON, <https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152315>

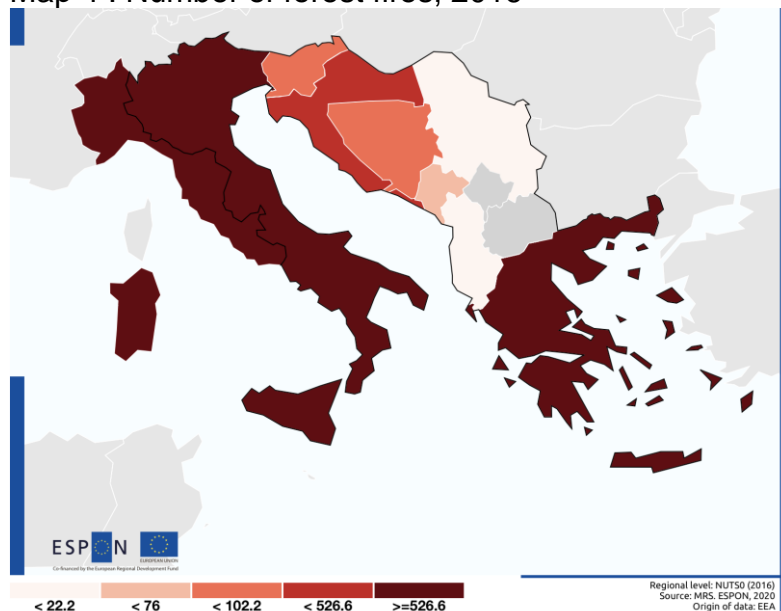
A.1.2 TRANSNATIONAL TERRESTRIAL HABITATS AND BIODIVERSITY

Map3: Surface of terrestrial protected areas, 2018



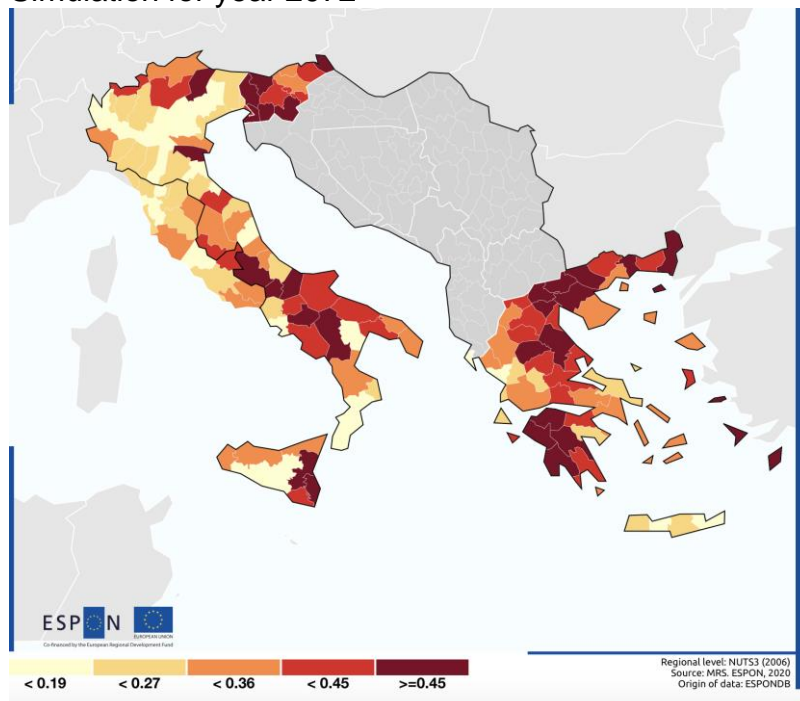
ESPON, <https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152322>

Map 4 : Number of forest fires, 2016



ESPON, <https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152324>

Map 5 : Foreseen impact of climate change, various projections possible, Simulation for year 2072



ESPON, <https://mrs.espon.eu/EUSAIR/objectives/reports.html?id=152325>

ANNEX 2: COMPLETE REPORT ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The following stakeholders have been contacted to fill in the online questionnaire in February 2021 to evaluate the work on communicating about the Flagship projects.

PROGRAMME	Email
Interreg Adrion Programme	'info@interregadrion.eu'
Interreg MED Programme	'programme_med@maregionsud.fr'
Interreg Central Programme	'info@interreg-central.eu'
Interreg Itsly-Slovenia Programme	'jts.italo@regione.fvg.it'
Interreg Slovenia-Croatia Programme	'si-hr.svrk@gov.si'
Interreg Greece-Italy Programme	'g.gadaleta@greece-italy.eu'
Interreg Italy-Croatia Programme	'JS.Italy-Croatia@regione.veneto.it'
Interreg Italy-Albania-Montenegro Programme	'js@italy-albania-montenegro.eu'
ARR Croatia	'ivana.pogacic@arr.hr';
Interreg Croatia-Serbia Programme	'cvejic@interreg-croatia-serbia2014-2020.eu'
Interreg Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro Programme	'js@interreg-hr-ba-me2014-2020.eu';
Interreg Greece-Albania Programme	'jts_gral@mou.gr'
Interreg Greece-Republic of North Macedonia	'jts-ipa-cbc@mou.gr'
Managing Authority of ETC Programmes in Greece, Thessaloniki	'interreg@mou.gr'
EUSAIR TSG3 members	'daniela.cekani@mfa.gov.al'; 'gazmend.turdiu@mfa.gov.al'; 'midhat.dzemic@dei.gov.ba'; 'nedjeljko.spilek@mvep.hr'; 'mislav.kovac@mrrfeu.hr'; 'tatjana.kralj@mrrfeu.hr'; 'c1direct@mfa.gr'; 'firbas@mnec.gr'; 'mkonstantopoulou@mnec.gr'; 'andrea.cascone@esteri.it'; 'renato.quartarone@esteri.it'; 'unitabalcani@esteri.it'; 'simona.mameli@esteri.it'; 'm.gerli@palazzochigi.it'; 'interreg@governo.it'; 'b.cugusi@governo.it'; 'jelena.burzan@mfa.gov.me'; 'tatjana.boskovic@gsv.gov.me'; 'ivana.glisevic@gsv.gov.me'; 'bojan.vujovic@gsv.gov.me'; 'pavle.jankovic@mfa.rs'; 'kabinet@eu.rs'; 'anja.rovic@eu.rs'; 'kristina.milosavljevic@mfa.rs'; 'idavidovic@mei.gov.rs'; 'mihajilo.dasic@mei.gov.rs'; 'andreja.jerina@gov.si'; 'Emil.Ferjancic@gov.si'; 'josip.mihalic@gov.si'; 'klemen.kosir@gov.si'; 'finka.serafimova@mfa.gov.mk'; 'tina.dzepovska@mfa.gov.mk'; 'Zuica.Zmejkovska@sep.gov.mk'; 'evgenija.kirkovski@sep.gov.mk'; 'dragan.tilev@sep.gov.mk'; 'Mitja.Bricelj@gov.si'; 'Senad.Oprasic@mvteo.gov.ba';

There were two mailings done to the stakeholders. In the first wave among the numerous started questionnaires, only 9 were entirely filled in. After the second mailing, the reminder sent out to the stakeholders, the valid answers became 12.

The stakeholders invited by the TSG3 have replied to the questionnaire with the following content

Q1: Please insert your country of origin:

Valid answers: 13

	Answers	Frequency	Percentage	Total
	Greece	3	24%	24%
	Italy	4	31%	55%
	Croatia	2	15%	70%
	Bosnia	1	7,5%	77,5%
	Montenegro	1	7,5%	85%
	Slovenia	1	7,5%	92,5%
	France	1	7,5%	100%
Valid	Total	13	100%	

Q2: Please insert name of the company / institution / organisation you work for:

Valid answers: 13

Q2	Please insert name of the company / institution / organisation you work for:				
	Answers	Frequency	Percentage	Valid	Total
	joint secretariat	1	7,7%	7%	7,7%
	mfea	1	7,7%	7%	15,4%
	interreg med joint secretariat	1	7,7%	7%	23,1%
	mk projekt	1	7,7%	7%	30,8%
	italian ministry of foreign affairs and international cooperation	1	7,7%	7%	38,5%
	regione puglia	1	7,7%	7%	46,2%
	joint secreatriat	1	7,7%	7%	53,9%
	ministry of development and investments	1	7,7%	7,7%	61,6
	european integration office	1	7,7%	7%	69,3%
	ministry of development and investments	1	7,7%	7%	77%
	ministry of regional development and eu funds of the republic of croatia	1	7,7%	7%	84,7%
	directorate for european integration	1	7,7%	7%	92,4%
	pcm dpcoe	1	7,7%	7%	100%
Valid	Total	13	100%	100%	

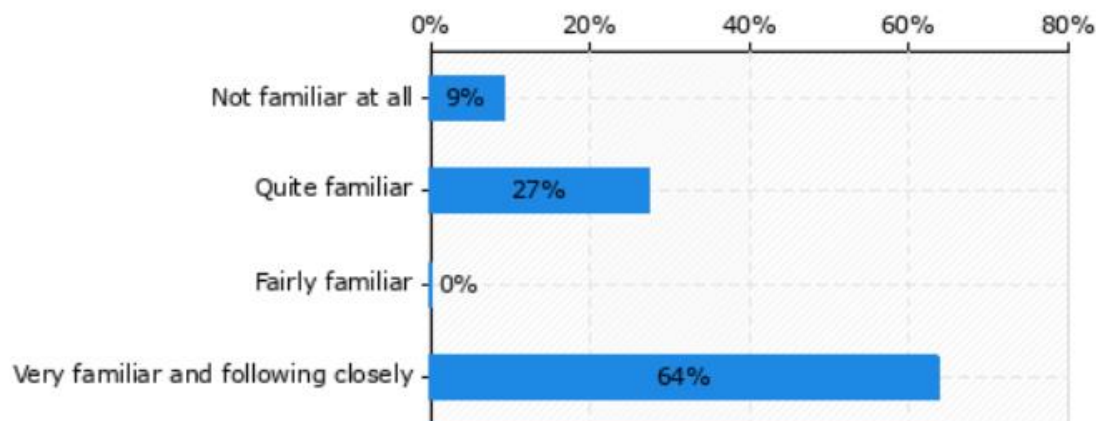
Q3: You are managing authority of (e.g. ERDF Slovenija, INTERREG ITA-ALB....)

Valid answers: 13

Q3	You are managing authority of (e.g. ERDF Slovenija, INTERREG ITA-ALB....):				
	Answers	Frequency	Percentage	Valid	Total
	interreg ipa cbc croatia-serbia and croatia-bosnia and herzegovina-montenegro	1	9%	9%	9%
	interreg ipa cbc programme \ "greece-albania 2014-2020\ "	1	9%	9%	18%
	croatian national coordinator	1	9%	9%	27%
	interreg ipa cbc italy-albania-montenegro	2	18%	18%	45%
	nipac	1	9%	9%	54%
	nipac office	1	9%	9%	63%
	national coordination authority	1	9%	9%	72%
	interreg med programme	1	9%	9%	81%
	n/a	1	9%	9%	90%
	no	1	9%	9%	99%
Valid	Total	11	87%	100%	
Missing	-1 (Ni odgovoril)	2	13%		
	Skupaj	2	13%		

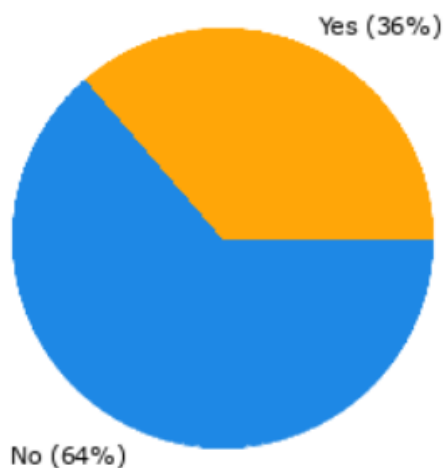
Q4: How familiar are you with the EUSAIR macro-regional strategy?

Valid answers: 13

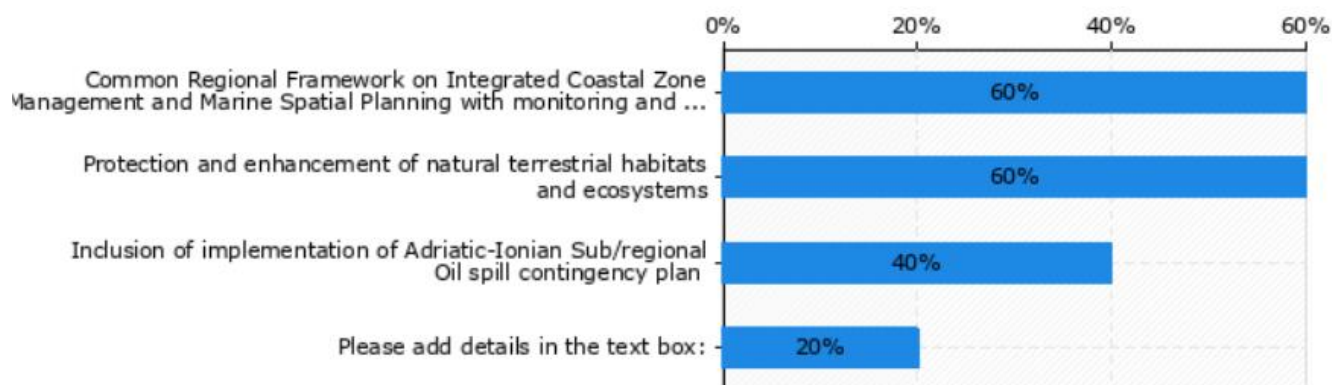


Q5: Have you inserted any of the following TSG3 Flagship projects when programming the funds for the 2021-27 period?

Valid answers: 13



Q6 (sub-question): If yes, please specify which one: Many answers possible



Text from free text field:

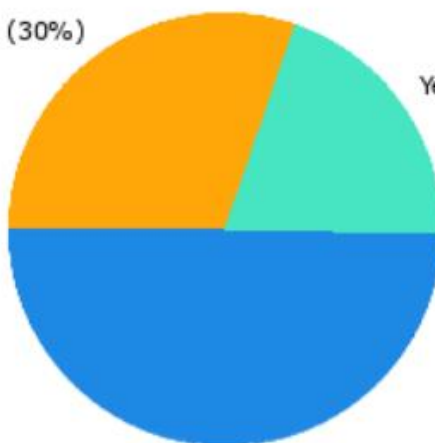
Valid answers: 1

Q6d_text	Q6 (Please add details in the text box:)				
	Answers	Frequency	Percentage	Valid	Total
	planning is ongoing	1	7,5%	100%	100%
Valid	Total	1	7,5%	100%	
Missing	(Jumped over)	11	84%		
	(Interrupted)	1	7,5%		
	Total	13	100%		

Q7: If not yet done, are you planning to include any of them when programming the funds for the 2021-27 period?

Yes, but it is not chosen yet. (30%)

Yes, the one included is going to be: (20%)



No (50%)

Text from free text field:

Valid answers: 2

Q7_2_text	Q7 (Yes, the one included is going to be:)				
	Answers	Frequency	Percentage	Valid	Total
	all of them (part of them, not 1 to 1)	1	7%	50%	50%
	protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems	1	7%	50%	100%
Valid	Total	2	15%	100%	
Missing	-1 (Not answered)	2	15%		
	-2 (Jumped over)	8	61%		
	-3 (Interrupted)	3	24%		
	Total	13	100%		