

TSG 3 EUSAIR
Monitoring & Evaluation
State of the art in year 2022
MK projekt

TSG meeting
November 24th 2022



Introduction

- Monitoring and Evaluation are the responsibility of the Greek partner of the MRS, Work Package Leader **Ministry of Economy and Development MNEC, Greece and their external expert LKN Analysis**
- The work in Slovenia started in year 2018
- The main basis is the **EUSAIR Action Plan** from year 2014 (EC Action plan SWD(2014) 190 final) and the information in FP project Work Package 3
- The relevant initial datasets stem from the **“COWI Study”**, European Commission: Study on Macroregional Strategies and their Links with Cohesion Policy, November 2017, Authors: COWI, M&E, IES Vienna
- For the monitoring and evaluation the relevant source were the **ESPON studies and the indicators of the online monitoring tool**



Introduction- cooperation in M&E

In the period 2020-2022, after the meeting in Athens in year 2019 (where representatives of ESPON Programme were present), the cooperation on Work Package 3 activities increased, the **cooperation between Pillar experts on Monitoring & Evaluation**, under the **coordination of LKN Analysis from Greece** (company in charge of coordination) started taking place.

This led to a **harmonization of the outputs** (Knowledge base for all Pillars, SWOTs, Annual monitoring reports, indicators).

The presentation you see today was harmonized with those given in other countries, so that there could be a common approach to Capacity Building.



Facility point project – monitoring and evaluation

In the Strategic Interreg ADRION V-B 2014-2022 project- “EUSAIR FACILITY POINT”, within the Work Package 3, it was foreseen to **monitor and evaluate the EUSAIR macroregional strategy, via** the following activities :

- 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”



3.1 BUILDING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE RELEVANT TO THE FOUR STRATEGY PILLARS

Related to the **Activity 3.1** the objective of this first task was to collect reliable and, as far as possible, comparable data for the whole of the EUSAIR macro-region, the so called **knowledge base**. The objective was to:

- Identify areas (thematic and/or geographical) with particular needs or particular potential,
- Form the basis for a well-founded prioritization of projects/actions,
- 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 included : (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.



3.1 BUILDING THE **KNOWLEDGE BASE** RELEVANT TO THE FOUR STRATEGY PILLARS

THE KNOWLEDGE BASE (inventory of existing resources)

- Cohesion Policy: 17 documents and reports
- Policy publications: 8 documents
- EU Parliament: 6 documents
- Publications from Committee of regions: 1 opinion
- Other EU Programmes: 11 studies and reports
- Adriatic/Ionian Macroregional Strategy, EUSAIR: 9 studies and reports
- Specific Data/Indicator & Internet Sources: 11 studies and reports
- EU Environmental acquis: 9 studies and reports

This was collected already in the first report, in year 2018. Later on it was updated, completed and transferred for the inclusion in the overall report containing the info for all 4 TSGs.



3.1 BUILDING THE **KNOWLEDGE BASE** RELEVANT TO THE FOUR STRATEGY PILLARS

THE KNOWLEDGE BASE (inventory of existing resources)

Was later on completed also with examples of projects that would be relevant for the EUSAIR and indicators from Adrion and other EU Programmes . The relevant projects were already subdivided compared to the topics chosen in the Flagship projects.

- a) 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. => ***6 from CBC, 16 from transnational cooperation, 6 with other funding, 13 thematic EU Programmes, in total 41 examples of projects or actors****
- b) Development and implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Sub/regional Oil spill contingency plan. => ***6 projects from thematic EU Programmes****
- c) Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems. => ***2 from CBC and 2 from thematic EU Programmes, in total 4 examples of projects****
- d) Protection and enhancement of natural marine habitats and ecosystems. => ***12 projects from thematic EU Programmes****



3.1 BUILDING THE **KNOWLEDGE BASE** RELEVANT TO THE FOUR STRATEGY PILLARS

THE KNOWLEDGE BASE (inventory of existing resources)

The following programmes were analyzed: ADRION, IPA cross-border programmes, Interreg Italy-Slovenia, Interreg Italy-Croatia, Interreg MED, Interreg Greece-Italy, LIFE Programme, Horizon Programme

This was collected already in the second report, in year 2019. Later on it was updated, completed and transferred for the inclusion in the overall report containing the info for all 4 TSGs.

CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF ELEMENTS FOR THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

- Relevance: relevant compared to EUSAIR Action Plan, Pillar 3 topics
- Impact: results of the project contribute to the specific objectives of P. 3
- Quality: projects are well thought and prepared



Indicators – initial considerations

- **Quantitative indicators** were based on the ESPON studies and the selection made for the ESPON online monitoring tool for the next programming period (work in years 2018-2019)
- There were no quality indicators selected
- The main difficulty was the **lack of datasets** for the IPA countries as well as the differences in the monitoring between EU Member States and IPA countries – this has been partly overcome with the help of the countries and collaboration of ESPON
- The indicators can be grouped as follows:

Thematic indicators (related to TSG3) and Context indicators (from ESPON)

Result indicators, related to Flagships

Indicators related to Flagships

Indicators of management



Indicators of context (ESPON Programme)

ESPON PROGRAMME WAS THE INTERLOCUTOR www.espon.eu

Combines: territorial evidence + potentials for policy making

Section “Monitoring and Tools”, 2 projects are available

- European and **Macro-Regional** Territorial Monitoring Tool
- ESPON Territorial Impact Assessment Tool

Concerning ESPON, General monitoring is available

<https://mrs.espon.eu>



Pillar 3 - Environmental quality

Topic 1 – The marine environment

Topic 2 – Transnational terrestrial habitats



Indicators of context (ESPON)

The ESPON indicators, related to Pillar 3 are:

TOPIC 1 – THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Related more specifically to Pollution of the sea

Indicator 1- Major spill incidents

Indicator 2 Surface of marine ecologically important areas

TOPIC 2 – TRANSNATIONAL TERRESTRIAL HABITATS AND BIODIVERSITY

Indicator 1 – Surface of terrestrial protected areas

Indicator 2 – Forest fires

Indicator 3 – Environmental impact of climate change



Work with ESPON

After the meeting in Greece, in year 2019, the relevant pieces of information were transferred to ESPON Programme for the inclusion in the »European and Macro-Regional Territorial Monitoring Tool «



Indicators developed further to the exchange with ESPON

For TSG 3, 26 additional indicators were identified:

13 to address the issue of environmental quality, with respect to marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems in the Region

1 to address the issue of capacity building – Governance in Environment related issues

5 to address cross-cutting aspects - and deal with Innovation related issues

8 to address horizontal aspects – and deal with Climate change related issues



Indicators - examples

The indicators are common, more numerous and integrated in the online ESPON monitoring tool (26 indicators)

Number	Pillar	Overall Objective	Specific Objective	Indicator	Baseline value
1	<u>Pillar 3 - Environmental quality</u>	To address the issue of environmental quality, with respect to marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems in the Region	To ensure a good environmental and ecological status of the marine and coastal environment by 2020 in line with the relevant EU acquis and the ecosystem approach of the Barcelona Convention.	<u>Nationally designated protected areas</u>	COWI, Pillar related study chapter 3.2.3 **** 131,75
2	<u>Pillar 3 - Environmental quality</u>	same as above	<u>Same as above</u>	Surface of marine sites designated under NATURA 2000	****
3	<u>Pillar 3 - Environmental quality</u>	same as above	Same as above	Surface of terrestrial sites designated under NATURA 2000	COWI, Pillar related study chapter 3.2.3 **** 131,75



Result indicators and projects

The proposed indicators, stemming from the cooperation with the other TSGs, under the coordination of LKN Analysis from Greece (company in charge of coordination), are the following:

- Verifying the investments in the projects related to Pillar 3 of EUSAIR;
- Related to stable networks of cooperation in the field of Pillar 3 topics in EUSAIR;
- Innovation



Indicators of management

The proposed indicators for the management of the EUSAIR were proposed in the EUSAIR Pillar 1 Report on Monitoring and Evaluation in the EUSAIR Framework for monitoring and evaluation from LKN Analysis from Greece (company in charge of coordination).

Two indicators are to be mentioned:

- Presence in the TSG3 meetings;
- Number of project ideas generated in the TSGs



Indicators and Flagships

INDICATORS/OBJECTIVES	UNITS
POLICY IMPACT	
Population involved in awareness raising activities	Inhabitants of areas benefitting directly from implemented awareness raising activities
Number of joint governance plans	Governance plan: set of roles, responsibilities and processes to involve relevant stakeholders in the conservation goals (objectives and legal framework, stakeholders conditions for participation in management bodies, conflict management procedures, governance activities and reporting,...)
MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS	
Surface of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Marine miles benefitting directly from implemented activities
Number of protected areas engaged (through charters, protocols, MoU) in implementing management strategies	Number of protected areas signing charters or protocols aimed at implementing management strategies
OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN	
Surface covered by the oil spill contingency plan	Marine miles benefitting directly from implemented activities
PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF NATURAL TERRESTRIAL HABITATS AND ECOSYSTEMS	
Surface of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status	Hectares benefitting directly from implemented environmentally sustainable activities



Result indicators and Flagships

Pillar	Overall Objective	Specific Objective	Indicator
<u>27</u>	<u>TSG 3 agreed priorities to be included in the 2021-2027 Partnership Agreement of the four EU member states and in the IPA programming</u>	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.	Inclusion of CRF on ICZM and MSP with monitoring and management of marine protected areas as priority action in the documents of programming period 2021-2028
<u>28</u>	<u>TSG 3 agreed priorities to be included in the 2021-2027 Partnership Agreement of the four EU member states and in the IPA programming</u>	Development and implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Sub/regional Oil spill contingency plan	Inclusion of implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Sub/regional Oil spill contingency plan in the documents of programming period 2021-2028
<u>29</u>	<u>TSG 3 agreed priorities to be included in the 2021-2027 Partnership Agreement of the four EU member states and in the IPA programming</u>	Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems	Inclusion of Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems in the documents of programming period 2021-2028



Socio-economic indicators

The socio-economic indicators that can be used for monitoring of the Adriatic-Ionian region include indicators prepared by LKN Analysis, for the monitoring and evaluation of the whole EUSAIR strategy

- Population
- GDP per capita
- Level of employment
- Level of unemployment
- Level of unemployment for youth
- Number/percentage of population at risk of poverty
- Index of human development



Common indicators of all Pillars

The common indicators for all Pillars are those who could measure the joint impact of implementing EUSAIR as a consequence of cooperation between the Pillars

The proposed indicators, stemming from the cooperation with the other Pillars, under the coordination of LKN Analysis from Greece (company in charge of coordination), are the following:

- **Innovation**
- **Cumulated level of employment**
- **Transnational networks**

An evaluation of the above indicators for all EUSAIR Pillars could lead to integrate the values on the joint level of the whole EUSAIR



3.2 ESTABLISHING EUSAIR MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Related to the **Activity 3.2**, the preparatory steps include the drafting of :

- A **concise SWOT Analysis for the TSG concerned**, outlining Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats in the thematic sector covered by the TSG. This Analysis will be conducted once and its results will be presented in the first TSG Annual Monitoring Report for the year 2018, in 2019.
- 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



SWOT ANALYSIS

For better integration with the other TSG materials, upon the request of the responsible team from Greece, 8 SWOT analysis were developed for TSG3: **1 general concise SWOT** and 7 sub-topic-related ones



SWOT ANALYSIS

The 7 specific SWOT tables for Pillar 3 were focusing on:

- MARINE ENVIRONMENT
- SPATIAL PLANNING
- MARINE ACTIVITIES
- POLLUTION/ LITTER
- RISK MANAGEMENT – OIL SPILLS
- TRANSNATIONAL TERRESTRIAL HABITATS AND BIODIVERSITY
- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Yearly Monitoring

The reports were standardized in 2020. Every year the report contains pieces of information on:

- Topics related to Environment protection
- Implementation/events
- Management and cooperation
- A look forward
- Information on literature



3.3 CAPACITY BUILDING FOR PUBLIC AUTHORITIES/ ADMINISTRATIONS

Related to the **Activity 3.3**, the purpose of this activity is to build capacity of key actors in terms of **understanding the trends and challenges** in Pillar specific areas and identify potentials and steps for improved coordination of the policies and measures.



Activity 3.3: Trends and challenges

Some issues have already been included in the yearly reports, e.g.:

- In year 2020: Resume on Coherence of Flagship projects with EU Programmes and Thematic objectives
- In year 2021: Concise Info on Green Deal Topics and Questionnaire on Inclusion of Flagship topics into programming to MA of Interreg Programmes



Trends and challenges - Capacity Building

Given the **foreseen Action Plan Revision** (questionnaire to the interested open public carried out in May 2022) some of the issues from Facility point Work Package 3 (Work Package on monitoring and evaluation) could be **capitalized**

