

To EUSAIR TSG 1 coordinators:

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and

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Date: 16. 03. 2020

SUBJECT: TSG 3 proposal for an inter-pillar flagship for the embedding process combining TSG 3 and TSG 1 priorities!

Dear TSG 1 coordinators.

Following the conclusions¹ of the Governing Board (GB) regarding the embedding process, TSG 3 members within TSG 3 meeting (4-5 March 2020, Belgrade, Serbia) identify the possibility of a joint inter-pillar flagship with TSG 1 by combining TSG 3 priority MSP/ICZM with TSG 1 priorities.

In light of the mentioned above TSG 3 would like to officially invite and propose TSG 1 to join in the preparation of an inter-pillar flagship combining TSG 3 priority: Promotion of sustainable growth of the AI region by implementing ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) also to contribute CRF on ICZM of Barcelona convention and the monitoring and management of marine protected area with TSG 1 priority(ies). Such approach leaves both TSGs with more space for identification of the 2 flagship per TSG that are binding by the GB² and enable that no priorities will be left aside because of the demand of shorten the priority list to 2 flagship.

Nevertheless, integrating and connecting Blue Growth contents with Environmental quality within the ICZM/MSP process is a concrete contribution to the implementation of the EU Green Deal.

Argumentation of the proposal and its importance for TSG 1:

Since the number of flagships is limited to 2 and in this sense problematic for all TSGs because of further shrinking the priority list such approach was recognized as one the possibility to include more important priorities and leave more space for identification of the 2 flagship per TSG. The approach was proposed by DG ENV and welcomed by TSG 3 members. Within the discussion at the TSG 3 meeting regarding further next steps the combination of MSP/ICZM and TSG 1 priorities in an inter-pillar flagship was recognized as a unique opportunity to interweave environment and blue growth in a way that the A-I region can benefit the most.

¹ GB, 18-19 February 2020, Brussels, Belgium, Conclusion under Item 5 – Towards post-2020 – the embedding process (e-mail sent by EUSAIR Facility Point Lead partner, e-mail 28. February 2020).

² GB, 18-19 February 2020, Brussels, Belgium, Conclusion under Item 5 – Towards post-2020 – the embedding process (e-mail sent by EUSAIR Facility Point Lead partner, e-mail 28. February 2020).

Furthermore, synergies among MSP/ICZM with Pillar Blue Growth were already demonstrated through the inter-pillar project idea submitted and approved for further development under Facility Point Plus. Nevertheless, these synergies were recognized as even wider than the project idea itself by TSG 3 members, DG ENV and DG REGIO (present at the meeting).

The inter-pillar flagship will by its implementation in A-I countries help coordinate activities of fisheries and aquaculture to ensure through effective and integrated governance the sustainability of the natural resources and the provision of the goods and services for human well-being which is in complete synergy with the policy choices listed in the "MATRIX of the feedbacks on TSG priorities 12 feb rev id us" (e.g. for 2a Fisheries: implementation of MSP enable a more oriented sustainable development of fisheries in coastal areas; also enable better conservation and management of natural resources through cross-border regional cooperation or at sea-basin level, end others). Synergies among MSP/ICZM and Blue growth will improve management of fisheries and aquaculture, and hence will contribute to the more sustainable use of the natural resources linked with the sustainable growth of these sectors.

Furthermore, for Maritime and marine governance and services taking into account MSP/ICZM will enhance administrative and institutional capacities in the area of maritime governance and services as well as will have a strong impact on the preservation of marine biodiversity.

Nevertheless, proper joint governance of the maritime space provides an important framework for a sustainable and transparent use of maritime and marine resources. This include supporting the implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning (through coordinated planning) and may imply adopting clearer legal frameworks for exploiting deep-sea water and marine mineral resources. This will enable clearer, better conditions for a smart, oriented, controlled, sustainable development of Blue Growth in the whole A-I Region.

Following the above TSG 3 proposes a joint flagship to be presented to the National coordinators for further embedding process.


We ask you to share the proposal for joint preparation of the inter-pillar flagship among your members and express your position as soon as possible, but not later than Monday, 30th March 2020 in order to continue its preparation by 15th April 2020³.

Nevertheless, Integrating and connecting Blue Growth contents with Environmental quality within the ICZM/MSP process is a concrete contribution to the implementation of the EU Green Deal.

We are looking forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,


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³ GB, 18-19 February 2020, Brussels, Belgium, Conclusion under Item 5 – Towards post-2020 – the embedding process (e-mail sent by EUSAIR Facility Point Lead partner, e-mail 28. February 2020).