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| **Project title** | Monitoring and management of marine protected species |
| **Acronym** | 3MPS |
| **Please indicate the state of the project****1. Project idea – not yet submitted****2. Project submitted – evaluation conclusion foreseen on:****3. Already funded in mainstream or other non-Interreg EUSAIR programme/ ex-post labelling must be requested by MA or LP of the project.** **4. Interreg 2014-2020 Pillar 3 already funded project - automatic ex post labelling by TSG3 upon request by the MA of the relevant Interreg programme within EUSAIR countries** | ***Give more information about Project idea, preparation phase, mature, specifically mentioned in a programme, Follow-up of already submitted project (is a follow-up project planned? If so, please provide project description and potential sources of funding) Funding possibilities (funding sources and planned amount for each source) etc.***The project idea is in its preparation phase.The Adriatic-Ionian Sea has a unique natural diversity that needs to be protected due to high pressure from human society, economy, and pollution. Sea turtles and cetaceans are among the most endangered species in the area. The conservation measures under Habitat Directive and Marine Strategy Framework Directive apply to areas under national jurisdiction while sea turtles and cetaceans are widespread over Northern Adriatic. Therefore, this project can support wider action.The project idea needs to be further developed due to the importance of establishing/expanding networks for the protection, monitoring and care of marine protected species (especially sea turtles and cetaceans), and at improving knowledge on impacts caused in particular by marine litter – including micro-plastics. This action will help protect Adriatic-Ionian biodiversity and improve water quality.The project can take in consideration and build on knowledge/tools on sea turtles and cetaceans protection resulting from projects (NetCet, Tartalife, CleanSea Life) and Capitalising knowledge on marine litter from projects (DeFishGear, Ghost, Marlisco). Monitoring of marine protected species: sea turtles, cetaceans, pen-shells, *Posidonia* *oceanica* and Mediterranean stony coral. River waste management and prevention of pollution must be included in the projectThe project concept will focus on issues/WPs on the following topics:1) Drafting a proposal for concrete measures for marine litter disposal and its prevention. This would include a multisectoral approach (e.g. different ministries in the countries), for example, the fishing sector is crucial in terms of collecting marine litter and its removal. A common issue for all countries is that fishermen will not collect waste for various reasons (small space on the ship, additional workforce for possible waste selection, looking for money for collecting or for fuel, no adequate infrastructure on the coast, etc.). 2) Regulate marine litter management by defining a common framework, considering the EcAp initiative and Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). Including also the measures to encourage all ports to be equipped with the infrastructure necessary to manage waste from vessels. 3) Pilot monitoring activities of marine hot spots (example estuary) affected by marine litter from the river inflows (macro and micro litter).**Due to the several legal and operational open issues before drafting the project concept, some preparation and fine-tuning activities among EUSAIR countries are needed.** |
| **Applicant / Lead partner** | TBD |
| **Other partners** (including address, e-mail, phone, fax, contact person) | **POTENTIAL SLOVENIAN PARTNERS:****National Institute of Biology (NIB)**, Marine Biology Station, Večna pot 111, 1000 Ljubljana**Institute for Water of the Republic of Slovenia**, Dunajska cesta 156, 1000 LjubljanaPOTENTIAL CROATIAN PARTNERS:POTENTIAL BIH PARTNERS:MOFTER BIHFMOITMPUGE RSPOTENTIAL MONTENEGRO PARTNERS:* Nature Protection and Environment Agency of Montenegro, IV Proleterske no.19, 81000 Podgorica Montenegro
* Institute for Marine Biology, Dobrota bb, Kotor, Montenegro
* Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro, Ulica Popa Jola Zeca bb, Budva, Montenegro
* Ministry of sustainable development and tourism

POTENTIAL ALBANIAN PARTNERS:Ministry of Tourism and EnvironmentNational Environmental Agency National Agency for Protected AreasPOTENTIAL SERBIAN PARTNERS:POTENTIAL GREEK PARTNERS:- Ministry of Environment and EnergyGeneral Secretariat for the Environmental[[1]](#footnote-1)- Public universities (TBD)- UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan Coord. Unit (in accordance with TSG coordinators)- Local authorities (regions, municipalities) TBD- Zakynthos National Park (TBC)POTENTIAL ITALIAN PARTNERS:IMELS (TBC)Italian Regions (TBD)**Please indicate partners from other countries.**  |
| **General objective** | Addressing the threats to biodiversity caused by human activities, like deterioration of water quality (in particular impact of marine litter, micro plastic and chemical pollutants) and by bio toxins.  |
| **Planned activities and outcomes of the Project Proposal** | Within the project the following activities and outcomes are planned:WP:preparation activities- TSG 3 EUSAIR preparation conferences and meetings Outcome:* 5 conferences with the aim to Examine and update existing activities and wiliness of EUSAIR countries to participate in the project activities. The excellent back ground for the project are the results and outputs of the DEFISHGEAR project (studies, analysis and protocols).
* Other Working Packages of the project and more detailed orientation, outputs, results of the project will be elaborated during and on the base of the above-mentioned conferences and meetings.
* Common solution to be foreseen in the project implementation phase about: legal bases, governance and technical aspects.

Work package:Establishment of monitoring network towards marine litter, Implementation of monitoring activitiesAnalyses and study on level of impact on threatened populationsDefining regional management measures regarding marine litter in order to combat impact on threatened species.Methodology guidance on analyses regarding level of impact coming from marine litter on threatened species. |
| **Relevance to the following priority actions**  | ***To what extent does the project contribute to the implementation of at least 1 of the following priority actions? (description)*** |
| **Topic 1. The marine environment****1.a.** Threat to coastal and marine biodiversity * Increasing marine knowledge, with focus on maritime spatial planning (including interaction with the coast through integrated coastal zones management) and marine protected areas, also beyond territorial waters; enhancing the protection of marine species by local/regional/national networking;

**1.b**. Pollution of the sea * Implementing a life cycle approach to marine litter (with focus on floating litter and micro-litter), supporting clean-up programmes in coordination with relevant stakeholders (i.e. fishery); addressing diffuse pollution sources (both land and maritime sources), also from agricultural practices, waste water and solid waste; drafting and implementation of a large-scale pollution Contingency Plan;
 | **The project directly relates to:****- topic 1.a** because it enhances the protection of marine species by local/regional/national networking**- and to 1.b “Pollution of the sea”,** which covers implementing a life cycle-approach to marine litter (with focus on floating litter and micro-litter), supporting clean-up programmes in coordination with relevant stakeholders (i.e. fishery) and addressing diffuse pollution sources (both land and maritime sources), also from agricultural practices, waste water and solid waste.  |
| **Topic 2. Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity** * Developing joint management plans for transboundary habitats and ecosystems and for managing population level of large carnivores;
* Protection and restoration of wetlands and karst fields relevant for the Adriatic Flyway.
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| **Relation to other pillars of the EUSAIR** | ***Is the project relevant for other EUSAIR topics? If yes, to what extent does it contribute to their objectives?(description)*** |
| **Pillar 1 BLUE GROWTH**Topics:1.1. Blue technologies 1.2. Fisheries and aquaculture 1.3. Maritime and marine governance and services **Pillar 2 CONNECTING THE REGION**Topics: 2.1. Maritime transport2.2. Intermodal connections to the hinterland2.3. Energy networks**Pillar 4. SUSTAINABLE TOURISM**Topics:4.1. Diversified tourism offer (products and services)4.2. Sustainable and responsible tourism management (innovation andquality | **Strong link to Pillar 1** including also:* data collecting and sharing by developing an Adriatic-Ionian Observatory to maintain the good environmental status of marine waters and
* development of a life cycle approach to marine litter: studies/testing of solutions to reduce/reuse/recycle marine litter (especially relict nets used for aquaculture).
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| **macro-regional impact**  | The project has a strong macro-regional impact. EUSAIR countries share the same sea with sensitive biodiversity. Protecting and monitoring protected species with threats to this sensitive biodiversity and water quality will increase quality of life and decrease water pollution (marine litter, micro plastic, etc.). Monitoring protected species also will serve as indicators of the Good environmental Status of marine waters of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas |
| **Compliance with six broad criteria (see below)** | ***To what extent does the project comply with the Broad Criteria of EUSAIR,? (description – please seek guidance in the table clarifying the Broad Criteria)*** |
| **Broad Criteria** |  |
| Address priorities and well-substantiated needs expressed by countries, regions and stakeholders or Commission services and be widely supported. | * Protect sensitive biodiversity in the A-I region
* Improve water quality
* Decrease marine pollution (marine litter, micro plastic)
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| Demonstrate a transnational, if not macro-regional, scope or impact | Actions address biodiversity of all EUSAIR country sharing A-I sea. Protection of protected species will help improve and protect biodiversity. Monitoring protected species will serve as indicators of the Good Ecological Status of marine waters of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas |
| Be realistic and credible | The project will be developed technically and financially feasible and is based on EUSAIR country agreement. |
| Build on existing initiatives and have reached a fair degree of maturity | The project has already existing Capitalising knowledge/tools on:* sea turtles, cetaceans and other species protection from projects:

 - NetCet and  - Tartalife, * TRECORALA
* Capitalising knowledge on marine litter from projects:

 - DeFishGear,  - Ghost * Marlisco,
* MarineClean
* CleanSea Life
 |
| Pay attention to cross-cutting aspects | Capacity building in EUSAIR area, including communication to interested stake holders and decision makers.  |
| Be coherent and mutually supportive | Actions of the project are mutually supportive to TSG1. |
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| **Compliance with Guiding Principles for Pillar 3**1.Apply the ecosystem-based approach and implement ICZM, in accordance with the ICZM protocol of the Barcelona Convention, with a view to contributing to sustainable development, including in areas outside the boundaries of ecological networks (e.g. Natura 2000) and protected areas; (as per the IUCN Definition) 2. Bearing in mind the macro-regional dimension, use the transnational approach to more efficiently address environmental challenges; 3. Being aware of the principles mentioned in para 1, improve capacity, through the application of relevant and applicable tools, for assessing potential transnational effects on environment of plans and/or projects, such as Maritime Spatial Planning, Environmental Impact Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment; 4. Where relevant, complement/be in synergy with projects aimed at maintaining/restoring biodiversity under the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (the latter as far as SI and northern Italian regions included in EUSAIR are concerned).  | The project is in compliance with guiding principle:1. because it addresses directly the ecosystem protection; and uses the transnational approach to more efficiently address environmental challenges2 because marine species habitat is the entire Sea basin and its coasts, regardless administrative/political boundaries3 because enhances common monitoring of the species ergo a common impact assessment |
| **Indicative** project start and end date: (day/month/year) | 24 months |
| **Budget** | Estimated Total cost (€): to be decided |
| Approximate distribution of budget by general category of expenditure and by participating country (%) |
| General category of expenditure | Participating Country |
| AL | BH | GR | HR | IT | ME | SI | SR | Total |
| Management &Coordination |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Communication  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Infrastructure &Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Waste Management Network |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Additional Information** |  |

1. Ministries supervise and ensure that the actions of the competent authorities ensure and are in line with the Principles of the EUSAIR Strategy as well as with the obligations of the countries to the EU. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)