Workshop organised by TSG 3: How to progress from mono-pillar towards joint inter-pillar projects

Date: 20. - 21.9.2018
Place: Manzioli Palace, Izola – Slovenia
Present: See list of participants Annex No 2.

The workshop TSG 3 EUSAIR took place in Manzioli Palace, Izola – Slovenia on the 20th-21st September 2018.

AGENDA: See Annex No 1

Welcome and introduction by Mr. Ivan Jakovčić, EUROPEAN Parliament member, European Parliament's *Rapporteur* on the EU strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian region, Croatia, who briefly presented the beginning and importance of MRS as well collaboration between regional and local authorities and stakeholders for its successful implementation. After welcoming and introductory remarks of Mr. Jakovčić Mr. Bricelj (SI PC for TSG-3) presented the Agenda and excused Mr. Senad Oprašič (BiH PC for TSG-3) of his absence.

After Mr. Montanaro (IT TSG 3 member) refined the Agenda by stressing the importance of a concise and pragmatic morning session, he presented the main recommendation and conclusions from the 3rd EUSAIR Forum in Catania where were presented the four TSG 3 project ideas; the importance and need to include in the four project ideas the Barcelona convention priorities and financial opportunities for TSG 3 project concepts.

Presentation of approved strategic mono-pillar projects TSG 3

Mr. Iztok Škerlič (Public agency for promotion of entrepreneurship and developing projects of Municipality of Izola, implementing structure of the Project Partner Municipality of Izola on Facility Point project for EUSAIR) presented four approved strategic mono-pillar project concepts: ASOSCoP, PET HAB ECO, 3MPS and MSP&ICZM (Annex No 3). He also presented the activities done so far for their development (contact Slovene project partners, asked all TSG 3 members to send their project partners contacts, send questionnaire for MSP&ICZM projects proposal, prepare workshop – as this one – and more are yet to be prepared).

Towards implementation of EUSAIR Action Plan; purpose of the discussion and panel: recognition of TSG 3 achievements and TSG 3 projects content verification from different perspectives and levels

Mr. Marko Prem (UN Environment/MAP – PAP/RAC) presented EUSAIR Action plan implementation from the perspective of ICZM Protocol – Barcelona Convention. He presented the common regional framework for ICZM and MSP, the ecosystem approach and examples of Italy (EO8), National ICZM Strategies and MSP for Egypt, Algeria, Montenegro, Croatia,

Bosnia and Herzegovina (Annex No 4). Nadine Lakhal and Giacomo Luciano (EC – DG REGIO and DG Environment) presented the possibilities of funding for TSG 3 project concepts. More detailed information finds in Annex No 5. Mr. Giacomo Luciano also commented on mono-pillar project – detailed information finds in Annex 5. Mr. Gabino Gonzales (UN Environment/MAP – IMO - REMPEC) presented the options of support the mono-pillar project ASOSCOP (Annex No 6). Mr. Slavko Mezek (RDA Koper) presented SUPREME project with its basic information, project partners, main activities and pilot case study areas (Annex No 7). SUPREME project contents and activities can be take into account for the MSP&ICZM project concept. Ms. Olga Sedioli (IT TSG 3 member and PROTODIMARE LP) presented PORTODIMARE project, its basic information, project goals, impacts and gaps mostly in knowledge on MSP and ICZM. PORTODIMARE will be a link to a geoportal, not only on database but also as analytic tools and specific models as support to planners (Annex No 8). Mr. Robert Turk (Institute RS for nature Conservation, RU Piran) presented PHAROS4MPAs a project on Blue Economy & Marine Conservation: Safeguarding Mediterranean MPAs in order to achieve Good Environmental Status and its characteristic (Annex No 9) as well Mr. Peter Suhadolnik (RDA Northern Primorska, Nova Gorica) presented GREVISLIN project on green infrastructure, conservation and improvement of the status of endangered species and habitat types along rivers and its characteristic (Annex No 10).

A guided discussion took place on the basis of a working paper/questionnaire (Annex No 11) presented by Mr. Aleš Mlakar, (external support to EUSAIR FP office of Izola). The discussion confirmed the importance of the mono-pillar projects and the need to be further developed.

Issues/questions emerging from the discussion:

- Question of **multilevel governance problem** for developing projects in terms of avoiding and overlapping contents and activities already included in the presented (and other possible) projects. It must be taken into account that is impossible to be aware off all projects ideas that can be developed and presented at possible calls on MSP and ICZM.
- The necessity to have a **mechanism for Facility Point offices** to have an overview on financing opportunities, possible project ideas and potential partners in order to avoid overlapping.
- Urgent **need of Stakeholder platform** (still waiting for its launch from IT project partner). The Stakeholder platform will have ideas, information about project partners, contents, other information relevant for EUSAIR projects ideas.
- Regarding the project concept, the **question of fragmentation of projects results and their visibility** in real life rose.
- **Concrete results** are the goal of project concepts not another report. Instead of reports state documents should be used in the implementation process in real cases.
- The question of how to include the Governing Board and European Commission to assist the development process.

- Also it is important when following the procedures of development and implementation **not to neglect the decision makers**, which are important on national, regional, local level.
- Regarding the involvement of authorities must be clear the **difference between: authorities as project partner and not**. In the first case results will be included within policy easier and faster, in the second case this would be a longer and harder procedure to be carried out.
- National Institute of Biology (NIB) announced that will take the role of Lead partner for the mono-pillar project concept Monitoring and management of marine protected species - 3MPS.

Introduction to TSG 3 and TSG 1 joint inter-pillar project on MSP and ICZM (including Item 5)

Ms. Sofia Loukmidou (TSG 1 Coordinator) presented the work done within TSG 1 and their projects (Annex No 12). Ms. Petra Filipi (TSG 1 member) presented the work done within TSG 1 on national level and the project Mussels for Muscles (Annex No 13). Ms. Jerneja Penca (EMUNI) presented their Summer school on Blue Growth as one of potential activity that could be joint within activities of TSG 1 Pillar Blue growth (Annex No 14). Mr. Dimitrij Kuzmić presented Facility Point Plus and application criteria for submission of project ideas to be fund for further development. Invitation open until 10 December 2018 (Annex No 15).

A guided discussion by Mr. Aleš Mlakar, (external support to EUSAIR FP office of Izola) continued. The discussion confirmed the importance of inter-pillar project on MSP and ICZM as well opened questions and issues to be taken into account for further development.

Issues/questions emerging from the discussion:

- The importance of preparing a **strategic project/transboundary project** not a project with only national impact.
- PORTODIMARE project knowledge and basis can be included in the project proposals not to overlap contents and as help for further development.
- In the project concept should be **included not only environmental aspects but also more socio-economic ones**.
- The final goal of the inter-pillar project should be a **concrete results** – state document not another report.
- Decision on how to proceed taking into account different point of view on level of project impact: **activities done on local and regional level**, **or transboundary with a strategic project and strategic approach** not a small scale project.
- Also it was stressed that the project should have **contents that will develop and be adaptive to the implementation areas** not to overlap with already existing ones.
- It is important to **consider the main contents of all TSGs and consider human activities** to identify the most important to focus on **more than on sectoral**.

- It should be **defined geographical areas and prepared a scenario** of development and implementation of MSP to be used. Similar scenarios were prepared in already existing projects like ADRIPAN and SUPREME. It needs to be reviewed and possibly taking into accounts.

Towards a joint inter-pillar project TSG 3 and TSG 4: project ADRIONet – Managing Tourism Flows in Protected Areas

Ms. Blanka Belošević (TSG 4 coordinator, CRO) presented the TSG 4 position regarding the project. They do not have any additional comments to the proposal delivered so far.

Issues/questions emerging from the discussion:

- Need to think on **how to identify the necessity to gather needs in protect the area**, as show case that should be further on spread to hinterlands and answer the question of protection of areas in the future.
- As potential help for project development Ms. Olga Sedioli briefly mentioned an already existing project CEETO with similar contents to be reviewed and maybe take into account as well did Ms. Irena Milinkovič (SI TSG 4 member).
- Ms. Oliviero Montanaro stressed three things that needs to be taken into account: 1. better define the areas and actors; 2. preparing a strategic crosscutting project for EUSAIR – act globally; 3. Need to identify the purpose of this proposal – the proposal as it is at the moment is to generic – need to identify something that makes a difference.
- Also needs to take into account that no all countries are at the same level of development and for the project to be useful for all should be more generic than specific.
- Also is needed to **extend the project implementation** time to at least **to 24 months**.
- After the decision and remarks participants agreed that **the proposal is prepared to be sent to Facility Point plus** with smaller integration as additional partners - Slovenia will include Strunjanske soline.

Conclusions and recommendations resulting from the workshop:

- ❖ Results of all mono- and inter-pillar project concepts must be as concrete as possible and try to not overlap with already existing ones.
- ❖ National Institute of Biology (NIB) will take the role of Lead partner for the mono-pillar project concept Monitoring and management of marine protected species - 3MPS.

- TSG 1 and TSG 3 project will be sent to all TSG 1 members in confirmation and amendments with geographical areas and potential project partners from each country.
- TSG 1 and TSG 3 project will be sent to IT TSG 1 members to try to include/merge their proposal on MSP into the attached project idea in order to have one common proposal.
- TSG 3 and TSG 4 project proposal will be submitted to the Facility Point plus with smaller amendments.

Annexes:

- No 1 Invitation and programme
- No 2 List of participants
- No 3 – 15 Presentations