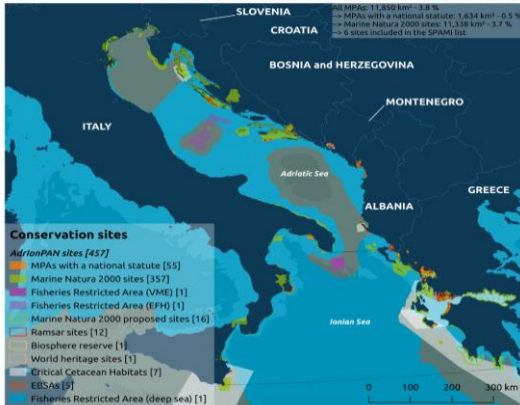


# MPA networks and transboundary governance

Case of the Adriatic region

Carole MARTINEZ-MedPAN

# Conservation sites within the Adriatic and Ionian Seas



**MAPAMED**



→ MAPAMED, the database of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, 2019 edition. © 2020 by SPA/RAC and MedPAN. Licensed under CC BY-NC-SA 4.0. Available at:

<https://www.mapamed.org/>

→ Flanders Marine Institute (2018). IHO Sea Areas, version 3. Available online at <https://www.marinerregions.org/>. <https://doi.org/10.14284/323>.

→ Global Administrative Areas database, version 3.6, May 2018. Available at: <https://www.gadm.org/>

EPSG:3035 (ETRS89-extended / LAEA Europe)  
MedPAN, June 2022



## CONSERVATION OF MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY IN THE ADRIATIC SEA SUB-REGION BY 2030 AND BEYOND

Based on analysis of present state of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Adriatic Sea sub-region, identification of gaps and future needs, **five strategic objectives** were identified :

- Improving knowledge on biodiversity, with focus on priority species and habitats (SPA/BD Protocol and EU directives), notably mapping of seagrass meadows, coralligenous, deep/dark habitats, as well as migratory species. Offshore areas are of particular interest,
- Mitigating anthropogenic pressures on marine and coastal biodiversity in the Adriatic Sea, with active cooperation of all relevant stakeholders, with focus on assessment, monitoring and mitigation of impacts of NIS/IAS and addressing climate change,
- **Improving representativity of marine and coastal protected areas and status of biodiversity in them, notably extend the existing MPA network, particularly in the open sea and in the southern Adriatic, as well as to improve overall management effectiveness,**
- Improving experts' capacities at the Adriatic level and involvement of stakeholders, focusing on exchange of knowledge between sub-regional experts, involvement in biodiversity monitoring through citizen science and active participation in management  
of MPAs,
- Ensuring sufficient long-term funding for conservation activities, through better use of already available funds, but also by exploring and using new funding mechanisms, such as private-public partnerships.



Human networks of MPA managers are essential catalysts for the establishment of ecological and effective system of MPAs.

They improve MPA practical skills and help address common conservation and management issues

They build communities of actors

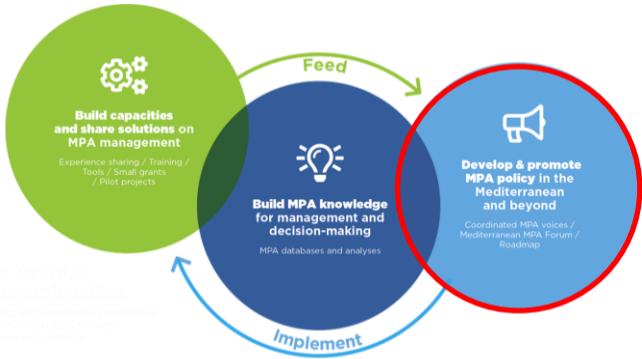
They can support and inform decision-making processes based on ground actions lessons learnt



© MedPAN

## MedPAN's mission:

Actively contribute to achieve a representative, connected, integrated and effectively managed system of Mediterranean MPAs, through a **strong and active networking of MPA managers and other actors at all levels** that increases knowledge and capacities of MPAs while improving awareness, MPA policy implementation and funding.



### THE MEDITERRANEAN NETWORK TO ACTION

A strong and sustainable organisation  
with multi-level MPA expertise,  
networks and partners

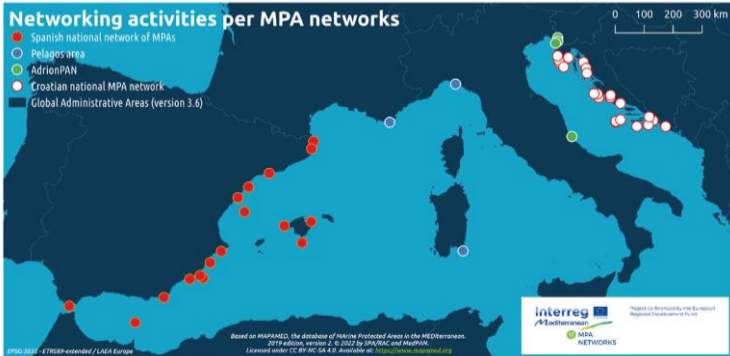


# Support MPA effectiveness through strong and connected networks in the Mediterranean

Project partners:



# More than 35 MPAs involved.





**8 Pilot Actions**  
in  
**7 countries**  
26800 Ha



**3 Thematic working groups**

- fisheries
- mobile species
- financing

**Regular training programme**

- fisheries
- mobile species
- financing

**2 Direct peer-to-peer MPA support**

Boosting experience transfer  
in **4** MPAs

**The 2020 Med MPA Forum**

- 224 participants on site from 26 Mediterranean countries and beyond and 466 online participants
- A Roadmap

**Networks of MPAs**  
**35+**

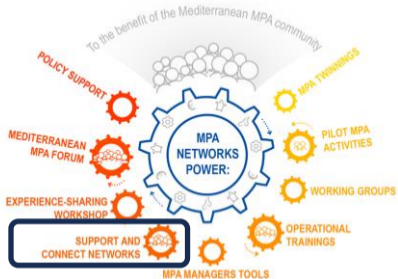
- Spanish network strengthened
- FR-IT network in Pelagos Area induced
- Croatian Network CROMPAS created
- AdriaPAN to the AdrionPAN network transition started

**Policy Paper**

➤ **Recommendations**

Project partners:

# Activities of the MPA NETWORKS project.



TESTING OUTCOMES OF PREVIOUS PROJECTS ON SEVERAL TOPICS:

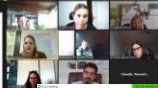


15 institutions of different levels  
2 local, 7 regional and 6 national institutions and the  
Ministry of economy and sustainable development



Brijuni National Park – 20 May 2021,  
signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation







**2 June  
2022**



**BRIJUNI**



**MPA  
NETWORKS**

Project co-financed by the European  
Regional Development Fund

The objectives of this combined technical-political event are:

- to present the status of protected and conserved areas and the main challenges
- to exchange the results and lessons learnt from the project and discuss what may be feasible and achievable
- to engage the protection community to share solutions and identify priorities and ways forward in terms of capitalization, replication and funding
- to present and exchange the white paper designing key operational recommendations for the resilient Adriatic-Ionian MPAs and coastal network and the possible political uptake.

- Transboundary MPAs and other area-based conservation measures and Blue
- Key recommendations, priorities for the region and an action plan for the establishment and effective management of MPAs in the context EUSAIR
- region to achieve the EU Biodiversity Strategy 30%/10% targets for the marine environment.
- Strategic issues in the context of protection and development of the region
- Reinforcement of existing activities of partners/countries in combination with new initiatives (blue (and green) corridors, ecosystem services, charismatic species, interaction with other sectors, climate change process, new partnerships, innovative activities/tools...).



Marine Protected Areas in EUGAIR, 2021

- Report on strategic and legal scenarios related to the creation of a more defined legal status of Adrionpan
- Report with recommendations on the functioning of Adrionpan (governance, funding, coordination...) and strategy, also based on interviews to key members of the network Adriapan
- Development of a first draft cooperation agreement between the Adrionpan network members





# MPA networks key allies of EUSAIR Strategy

## Pillar 3



- Constituting an operational marine conservation community of practice
- Enabling best practices peer to peer exchanges
- Enhancing management capacities of MPA managers
- Increasing marine knowledge to draw from new MPAs and blue corridors and providing a know-how (expertise and data) to support the development of conservation options for and a fully sustainable use of the SAIS-EBSA and its surrounding regions and to contribute to area-base tools integration.
  - Providing best suited frameworks for joint management of cross-border habitats and ecosystems and mobile species protection
  - Allowing inclusive and participatory processes such as co-management approach

# MEDITERRANEAN MPA VISION

By 2030, Mediterranean marine protected areas will form a well established, well funded, connected, ecologically representative, effectively managed and monitored network that will provide greater benefits to biodiversity, ecosystem services and to the economic well-being of people and will be a model for resilience in the post-2020 and post-pandemic world.

## THE ROAD TO 2030

Post-2020 Mediterranean Marine  
Protected Areas Roadmap



THE FORUM  
of Marine Protected Areas  
in the Mediterranean

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS.  
**Everyone's Business.**



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Stronger together for the Mediterranean Sea