

Pillar 3: ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Main topics according to EUSAIR Action Plan:



THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT



TRANSNATIONAL TERRESTRIAL HABITATS AND BIODIVERSITY

EUSAIR Flagships 2021 - 2027

Development and implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Sub/Regional oil spill contingency plan



01

- ASOSCoP - Large-scale pollution Contingency plan

Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems



02

- PET HAB ECO - Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems

Promotion of sustainable growth of the A-I region by implementing ICZM and MSP also to contribute CRF on ICZM of Barcelona convention and the monitoring and management of marine protected area



03

- ICZM and MSP - To promote a sustainable growth of the Adriatic-Ionian region by implementing ICZM and MSP also to contribute CRF on ICZM of Barcelona convention
- 3MPS Monitoring and management of marine protected species
- ▲ CROSS-PILLAR ICZM&MSP - Using high quality research to strengthen dialogues and institutional capacities for effective implementation of MSP/ICZM in support of inclusive and sustainable growth in the AIR
 - Collaboration between Pillar 1 & 3
- ▲ ADRIONet - Managing Tourism Flows in Protected Areas
 - Collaboration between Pillar 3 & 4

01-03 EUSAIR flagships

There are 4 strategic formats for implementation of EUSAIR flagships:

- **EUSAIR strategic projects**

Defined set of tasks which must be completed in order to arrive at a particular goal or outcome foreseen in the Flagship.

- ▲ **EUSAIR cross-pillar strategic projects**

These are strategic projects aimed at implementation of Flagships in the topics of different Pillars.

- **EUSAIR master plans**

A master plan is a dynamic long-term planning document that provides a conceptual layout to guide future growth and development in the field.

- × **EUSAIR actions**

A list of tasks that need to be completed before a strategic project is being developed.

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EUSAIR Flagships and strategic projects supporting them:

Development and implementation of Adriatic-Ionian Sub/Regional oil spill contingency plan

• **ASOSCoP – Transnational Contingency plan in the event of accidents at sea**

Adriatic-Ionian Regional Contingency Plan for the Emergency Oil Spills in the Adriatic Sea. The contingency plan could prevent the possibility of a natural disaster in cases of oil spills and other similar calamities. The project concept was developed within the Environmental Quality pillar of the European Adriatic-Ionian Macro-regional Strategy EUSAIR.



01

Expected results of the project include:

- Enhanced protection of natural habitats, ecosystems, and biodiversity in the Adriatic-Ionian Region through a comprehensive Contingency Plan.
- Improved prevention and reduction of risks and impacts from marine oil pollution incidents.
- Establishment of a unified and harmonized methodological framework for mutual assistance and cooperation.
- Strengthened capacity for prevention, preparedness, and response to marine pollution incidents.
- Increased awareness of pollution prevention and the importance of sustainable practices.
- Standard operational procedures and defined roles for stakeholders in case of oil spills.
- Contribution to the implementation of the priority action on pollution of the sea and the objectives of Pillar 1 and Pillar 4 of EUSAIR.
- Technical and financial feasibility of the project based on agreements with EUSAIR countries.

Interested in the project? The project was developed by experts in cooperation with Thematic Steering Group of Pillar 3. It can be used for further development by relevant partnerships. For additional information please contact the EUSAIR Facility Point Project Partner from Slovenia supporting Pillar 3.

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EUSAIR Flagships and strategic projects supporting them:

Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems

- **PET HAB ECO - Protection and enhancement of natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems**

PET HAB ECO aims to establish and develop green corridors in the Adriatic-Ionian Region to improve the quality of life and protect natural habitats. The project is currently in the preparation phase, where potential partners are being identified, and the project activities and budget are being developed.

By focusing on ecological connectivity and the harmonious coexistence of humans and wildlife, the project aims to protect and enhance natural terrestrial habitats and ecosystems. It will prioritize the establishment of green corridors that connect blue and green infrastructure and promote the resilience of large carnivore populations.

02

Expected results of the project include:

- Enhancing the connectivity of ecological networks.
- Improving the conservation of large carnivore populations.
- Promoting sustainable tourism practices.
- Specific allocations for management and coordination.
- Communication efforts.
- Infrastructure and equipment.
- Waste management.



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- **3MPS - Monitoring and management of marine protected species**

The general objective of the project "Monitoring and management of marine protected species" (3MPS) is to address threats to biodiversity in the Adriatic-Ionian Region, particularly the deterioration of water quality and the impact of marine litter on marine species. The project aims to establish networks for the protection, monitoring, and care of marine protected species, with a focus on sea turtles and cetaceans. It also aims to improve knowledge on the impacts of marine litter, including microplastics, and develop regional management measures to combat these impacts.

03



Expected results of the project include:

- Implementation of concrete measures for marine litter disposal and prevention.
- Establishment of a monitoring network to assess marine litter's impact on threatened species.
- Adoption of regional management measures to safeguard marine biodiversity.
- Reduction of marine pollution, including microplastics, to improve water quality.
- Alignment with EUSAIR region objectives, focusing on coastal and marine biodiversity and pollution.
- Fostering enhanced cooperation and networking among EUSAIR countries.
- Strengthening collective efforts in protecting marine species.

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• **ICZM&MSP – Sustainable development of the coastal and maritime zones**

The general objective of the project is to combine Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) and Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) as inclusive and complementary governance instruments to promote sustainable development, protect the environment, and manage natural and cultural assets. The project aims to balance environmental protection with socio-economic development while addressing the increasing pressures of human activities and environmental changes.

03



Expected results of the project include:

- Adoption of National Strategies for ICZM and cross-border maritime spatial plans.
- Bridging gaps in marine and coastal knowledge.
- Resolving conflicts and proposing sustainable options for action.
- Implementation of ICZM and MSP on various geographical/administrative levels.
- Improved nature protection and coastal defense.
- Enhancement of economic activities and networks of coastal protected areas.
- Improved prevention and management of risks.

These results aim to promote sustainable growth, protect the environment, and enhance the management of the Adriatic-Ionian region's coastal and marine resources. By integrating ICZM and MSP principles, the project seeks to achieve a balanced approach that benefits both the present and future generations.

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