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1. INTRODUCTION

The biennium 2004-2005 was one of the most important in the history of PAP/RAC. This was largely due to a major event: the preparation of the draft text of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Area Management. The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, prompted by the impacts of the persistent process of coastal degradation in the Mediterranean, made the courageous decision in Catania in 2003 to make a crucial step further and to start the process of the preparation of the Protocol. PAP/RAC has assembled a team of renowned legal and technical experts that has prepared the first text, which will be presented during the meeting in Nice. It is expected that the Protocol, if and when adopted, will bring a new quality in management of coastal resources in the region and help reverse the negative trend of coastal degradation. However, adopting the protocol is not only the task of PAP/RAC. It should be, primarily, the act of a willingness of the Mediterranean countries to make a paradigmatic shift in their efforts, and PAP/RAC could only assist them.

The second important event that has characterised this biennium has been the preparation of the regional strategy for ICAM. It is primarily the strategy of MAP and PAP/RAC that is supposed to guide their activities in the field of ICAM. But again, similarly to the case of the protocol, this strategy could be implemented only with the support of the Mediterranean countries, and its implementation is primarily aimed at improving the countries' capacity to reap maximum and sustainable benefits from their coastal resources.

The above two activities show that PAP/RAC has been, as never before, committed to the integrated management of the Mediterranean coastal areas. It is still the major PAP/RAC orientation and it will certainly remain so in the future. With these two activities this course has been well cemented. However, other PAP/RAC activities serve this purpose as well. Be it development of tools and techniques, information exchange and awareness raising, capacity building or, above all, practical demonstration projects – CAMPs, they all only prove that orientation towards ICAM has been a good choice in the past and that there are still too many tasks to be performed in the future.

The programme for 2006-2007 will turn around the Protocol and the Strategy. They will be the focus of PAP activities, and significant steps forward in these two fields might be expected by the end of that biennium. The meeting in Nice is expected to support such orientation.

2. PAP/RAC PROGRESS REPORT FOR 2004-2005

This document presents a summary of PAP/RAC activities in the period 2004-2005. The report is structured according to the PAP/RAC work-plan given in its 2004-2005 Project document, which was adopted by the Thirteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Catania, 11-14 November 2003). These activities are the following:

- Co-ordination - Legal Framework
- Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones
- Integrating Environment and Development

2.1. COORDINATION - LEGAL FRAMEWORK

2.1.1. Regional Instrument for ICAM

Objective of the activity set by the Contracting Parties

1. To prepare a draft text of the regional protocol on integrated coastal management, on the basis of a broad process of consultation among experts and all other interested parties in view of its consideration by the CPs.

Activities carried out by PAP/RAC

Regional Stakeholders' Forum "Integrated Coastal Management in the Mediterranean: Towards Regional Protocol" was organised and held in Cagliari, Sardinia (May 28 - 29, 2004). This was the first step in the consultation process started after the Feasibility Study for the ICAM Protocol, prepared in the previous biennium, was presented and approved by the Contracting Parties. The study was used as the main background document for the Forum, in addition to a number of presentations dealing with specific issues and prepared specially for this occasion. The objectives of the Forum were to present and discuss the Feasibility Study; to receive inputs for the drafting of the Protocol and to propose the consultation process for the drafting of the Protocol. The Forum was attended by 200 representatives of various stakeholder groups, including the Ministries for the Environment, Physical Planning, Tourism, Infrastructure, Public Works and/or Development; coastal local and regional authorities; international organisations; scientific community; NGOs; professional associations; financial institutions; experts; and alike. The participants gave PAP/RAC valuable suggestions and recommendations to draft the Protocol.

At the meeting that took place on 1-2 October 2004 in Split, the Working Group was established to prepare the text of the ICAM Protocol, composed of five legal and technical experts. The meeting discussed the structure and the contents of the Protocol, its 'road map', possible obstacles, as well as experiences with other MAP Protocols. By mid-December 2004 the first draft was prepared.

The second meeting of the Working Group to prepare the text of the ICAM Protocol was held in Athens on 4-5 January 2005 where the Protocol was presented in its draft form. Legal and technical experts, as well as representatives of MEDU, discussed the general structure of the draft Protocol and made comments and suggestions on the contents of individual articles and provisions.

By February 2005, the Working Group prepared the second version of the draft Protocol. This improved version was discussed at the third meeting of the Working Group that took place on 17-18 February in Paris. Soon after that meeting, the third version of draft text of the Protocol,

together with the Commentary text, explaining particular articles, was prepared. Both texts were translated to English by mid April, and placed on the PAP/RAC web site.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- The draft will be presented at the PAP/RAC Focal Points Meeting in Nice (12-15 May 2005);
- As a part of the consultation process to improve the draft, PAP/RAC will organise a Regional consultative expert workshop to be held in Oristano (Italy), tentatively on 24-26 June 2005;
- The Bureau will discuss the draft text at its meeting in Brussels on 30 June 2005;
- MAP Focal Points Meeting will discuss the text in September 2005 in Athens; and
- The text will be presented to the Contracting Parties at their Ordinary Meeting in November 2005 in Slovenia.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Report of the Regional Stakeholders' Forum on ICAM: Towards New Protocol (Cagliari, Italy, 28-29 May 2004), (English and French);
- Compte-rendu de la Première réunion du groupe de rédaction du protocole GIZC (Split, 1-2 octobre 2004), (French);
- Report of the Second Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the Text of the ICAM Protocol (Athens, 4-5 January 2005) (English);
- Report of the Third Meeting of the Working Group to Prepare the Text of the ICAM Protocol (Paris, 17-18 February 2005) (English);
- Draft text of the ICAM Protocol (English and French); and
- Commentary to the Draft ICAM Protocol (English and French).

2.2. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

In the period 2004-2005, PAP/RAC implemented five groups of activities related to sustainable management of coastal zones:

- Sustainable management of coastal areas;
- Implementation of CAMPs;
- The future of coastal zone management and CAMPs within MAP activities;
- Capacity building and training; and
- Information dissemination and awareness.

2.2.1. Sustainable management of coastal areas

Objectives of the activity set by the Contracting Parties

1. To support and assist countries in the implementation of ICAM methodologies and to undertake thematic studies with a view to developing relevant guidelines and action plans on the issue of coastal land and sea environment and the utilisation of its resources, and the sustainable financing of ICAM activities.
2. To assist countries in preparing their national reports on integrated coastal management.
3. To undertake the necessary analyses and prepare a report on the state of Mediterranean beaches, and to develop a regional plan to combat coastal erosion.
4. To pursue the development and implementation of ICAM tools and instruments, and specifically the coastal information systems, rapid coastal environmental assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in coastal environments, economic instruments for coastal management, Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) for tourism and Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management (ICARM) plans.
5. To assist countries in the development of sub-regional initiatives for ICAM and ICARM taking into account and creating synergies with similar initiatives.

Activities carried out by PAP/RAC

Landscape management in Mediterranean coastal areas

The Terms of Reference for the two position papers were prepared during the last quarter of 2004, and a number of experts were contacted with a view to selecting the most appropriate ones to prepare the papers. In February 2005 the position papers were contracted. The purpose of this activity is to propose actions related to landscape management in the Mediterranean coastal areas. The first position paper will be a policy document that will guide PAP/RAC in dealing with issue of coastal landscape management within the Integrated Coastal Area Management. The paper will present the long-term ideas on how to integrate landscape management in PAP/RAC activities, and will provide the state-of-the-art of this discipline in the Mediterranean. The second position paper will identify current landscape management practices in the Mediterranean, as well as the main landscape types in order to get an overview of the situation in Mediterranean coastal areas.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- The position papers will be completed in July 2005;
- The expert meeting is planned to take place before the end of 2005 in order to review and discuss the position papers, and to agree on the proposed future actions.

National reports on ICAM

The objectives of the national reports are to present the characteristics of the coastal areas of a specific country, the pressures to which they are exposed, the activities that the country is undertaking in order to manage their coastal areas and to evaluate possibilities for a more efficient ICAM. Three national reports on ICAM were prepared by national consultants and with the assistance of the Centre, namely for Malta, Tunisia and Turkey. All three reports were formatted, published and are widely disseminated to the concerned partners.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Coastal Area Management in Turkey, March 2005 (English);
- Gestion des zones côtières en Tunisie, April 2005 (French); and
- Coastal Area Management in Malta, April 2005 (English).

Coastal erosion

In the biennium 2002-2003, PAP/RAC prepared a position paper on the coastal erosion problems, as well as on the state-of-the-art of coastal erosion management in the Mediterranean. The expert workshop was held in Split to discuss the report and propose future actions. In the meantime, the EU has implemented the EUROSION project, which inspected the practices in fighting coastal erosion in EU countries, and proposed measures to improve coastal erosion management. Before the end 2005 a regional expert workshop will be organised where EU practices will be presented and possibilities explored for the implementation of EUROSION proposals in the wider Mediterranean region.

Beach management in the Mediterranean

Experts were engaged to prepare a pilot study "Evaluating the State of Beach Management in the Mediterranean". The pilot study investigates a number of Mediterranean beaches in Croatia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey. International missions were carried out to investigate problems of beach management in Croatia and Tunisia.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- Missions to Turkey and Spain are planned in May and June;
- The workshop on the Application of the Bathing Area Registration & Evaluation (BARE) System in Mediterranean Coastal States will be organised in Malta on June 10-11, 2005; and

- Application of the BARE System in Mediterranean Coastal States - Evaluation of Regional Beach questionnaires survey will be performed after the workshop.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium (all outputs in English)

- Interim Report on the Evaluation of Bathing Area Management in the Mediterranean: Phase One (Croatian and Tunisian Pilot Study Field Visit), November 2004;
- Bathing Area Registration & Evaluation Form; and
- Report on pilot studies carried out.

Guidelines for ICAM

The main objective of the revision of the "Guidelines for integrated management of coastal and marine areas with particular reference to Mediterranean basin" is to build upon the experience that MAP and PAP/RAC have gained in the last 15 years, particularly through the implementation of CAMP projects; to introduce the methodological improvements, new principles and approaches in ICAM that have occurred since then; and to reflect the recommendations adopted by the MCSD, MAP and WSSD. Revised Guidelines will be published in the following months.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Revised Guidelines for ICAM in the Mediterranean (English and French).

Sustainability of SAP MED

PAP/RAC participated in the "Training course for preparation of Sectoral Plans and National Action Plans (NAP) in the framework of the Strategic Action Programme", held in Izmit, Turkey, on March 4-6, 2004. National teams on economic instruments prepared the "Proposals of economic instruments for NAP" according to the Guidelines for the preparation of Proposals for introducing economic instruments in the 12 GEF eligible countries. These proposals served as an input to the national teams preparing the NAP. The overall task to be done was discussed at the meeting, where the simulated NAP was drafted basing on a simulation study. It was also decided that the deadline for the submission of proposals would be postponed till the end of September 2004, in order to reach better harmonisation between the preparation of the NAPs and economic instruments activity.

PAP/RAC presented the work done within the GEF project component "Development of economic instruments for sustainable implementation of SAP" at the meeting (Rome, February 2-3, 2004) on "Enhancing public/private partnership for new financial arrangements to eliminate land-based pollution: promoting transfer of best available techniques (BAT)".

At the Meeting of government-designated experts to review the process of preparation of National Action Plans (Catania, December 14-16, 2004) PAP/RAC presented the achievements within the GEF project component "Development of economic instruments for sustainable implementation of SAP". Moreover, the attainments and problems emerged from the NAPs presentations at the meeting regarding the application and development of EIs were reviewed.

Within the above-mentioned GEF project component, baseline and four other pilot projects were launched in four countries. During the first half of 2004 pilot projects on economic instruments were attempting to implement the economic instrument envisaged to be introduced/adapted. In May, simulation of the EIs implementation started. Also, Policy Guidelines on economic instruments were under preparation during 2004.

The project web site <http://www.pap-sapei.org> on implementation of the Activity "Sustainability of SAP" of the Project "Development of Economic Instruments for the Sustainable Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to Address Marine Pollution From Land-based Activities in the Mediterranean (SAP MED)" was regularly updated.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- Final evaluation reports and final reports for pilot projects (Croatia: Hvar and Kvarner, Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- Final Project Report and Project Evaluation Report;
- Policy guidelines on economic instruments application in the Mediterranean; and
- Final Proposals on Economic Instruments for National Action Plans (Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Lebanon, Morocco, Slovenia, Syria).

Major PAP publications produced in the biennium

- Pilot Project Hvar, Croatia - Simulation Report;
- Pilot Project Bosnia and Herzegovina - Proposals for environmental improvement for the Water Utility Konjic;
- Pilot Project Kvarner, Croatia - Implementation Report, Simulation Report;
- Case Study Morocco - Final Report; and
- Proposals on Economic Instruments for NAPs: Albania and Turkey (Final Reports); Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Lebanon, Morocco, Slovenia (Draft Reports).

Sub-regional initiatives and dissemination of ICAM experiences

PAP/RAC was active in the implementation of the activities within the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative. It participated in the meetings of the Round Table on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development held in Milocer, Montenegro, in November 2004 and in April 2005.

PAP/RAC has been increasingly requested to participate in a number of regional projects. Since this participation is largely adding to further dissemination of PAP/RAC outputs and results in the region, the positive attitude towards these initiatives was taken. In this biennium PAP/RAC became a partner to NATURE-GIS and ECO-IMAGINE projects (managed by GISIG, Italy), MIRIAD 21 (managed by ECOMAIRE, France), and Nostrum-DSS project (managed by FEEM, Italy).

PAP/RAC has also been increasingly asked to present its experiences in ICAM. In the past, such dissemination has enormously contributed to the increase of visibility of PAP/RAC as well as MAP related to the issue of ICAM. It is worth noting that PAP/RAC has become almost a "household" name for ICAM in the Mediterranean and beyond. Following the strategy to continue with such activity, PAP/RAC staff has made more than 30 such presentations in 2004-2005. Each presentation consisted of the written lecture and a PowerPoint presentation. A number of these presentations has been published and further disseminated by the organisers of the occasion. In addition, a large number of PAP/RAC publications was referenced in several scientific journals.

2.2.2. Implementation of CAMPs

Objectives of the activity set by the Contracting Parties

1. To co-ordinate MAP activities in relation to CAMP projects under the overall responsibility of MEDU, including the development of new types of CAMP projects, such as the transboundary projects.
2. To prepare CAMP feasibility studies, CAMP programmes and agreements, to implement the ongoing MAP CAMP projects and the projects whose implementation has been decided on.
3. To propose to countries where MAP CAMP projects have been completed the introduction of new and/or the adaptation of existing instruments for environmental management, which would enable the follow-up of CAMPs, and to assist those countries to prepare viable projects in continuation of completed MAP CAMP projects.

Activities carried out by PAP/RAC

CAMP "Algerian Coastal Zone"

CAMP Algeria was in full-scale implementation of the activities in this biennium, with regular reporting of the CAMP Algeria national co-ordinator. As foreseen by the Inception Report and Aide-Mémoire, a number of consultation meetings were organised so as to examine the project's progress. The first of these meetings was held on November 13 -14, 2003.

By May 2004 a diagnostic phase of all thematic activities was submitted to PAP/RAC and the Ministry of Physical Planning and the Environment (MATE - Ministère de l'aménagement du territoire et de l'environnement). Also, MATE opened a web site related to CAMP project ([http://www.mate-dz.org/Dossiers thématiques/littoral/PAC/PAC-PAM](http://www.mate-dz.org/Dossiers_thématiques/littoral/PAC/PAC-PAM)).

Within the activities aiming at the promotion of ICAM in Algeria, PAP/RAC was entrusted by METAP to organise training on the methods and techniques of ICAM for 10 officers operating in the environmental domain. With regard to language constraints, it was decided that the training would be organised in France. It was, thus, the "Conservatoire du Littoral", in collaboration with the association "Rivages de France", and with general co-ordination by PAP/RAC, that organised this five-day training on the subject "Integrated Coastal Area Management: Protected Natural Spaces ". The training took place on September 19-25, 2004, in Aix-en-Provence and several sites in the surroundings.

The second project co-ordination meeting was organised on October 9, 2004. The project leaders, national team leaders and MAP consultants met to discuss the progress of the work on the second phase of the project, to confirm the calendar of the activities until the closure of the project, and to decide on the most efficient modalities of work.

A seminar to present the results of the diagnostic phase was organised in Algiers on 10 October 2004. Leaders of the national teams in charge of different thematic and cross-sectoral activities presented the results of their work in the first phase of the project to an audience composed of the members of the interministerial committee of the CAMP, officials of the Ministry, local authorities, representatives of scientific institutions and NGOs operating in the CAMP area.

A series of training sessions related to participatory process was organised. The first training session on animation and communication for the young managerial staff of MATE and inspections of the environment of wilayas comprised in the CAMP Algeria, was organised on November 10, 2003. Participants had a possibility to practice the animation of working groups during a large participatory workshop aimed to various actors involved in CAMP. The second training course on animation and communication was held in Algiers on March 29 - 31, 2004. The animators practised the art of communicating, animating different target groups, applying the tools of visualisation, controlling difficult situations and alike. The third training course for young animators took place on December 12 -14, 2004. Animators were trained on the use of various participatory techniques and tools that can be applied in the CAMP context.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- The final documents of the second phase of the project are being prepared and should reach PAP/RAC by the end of April. A first synthesis of those documents was presented to the Minister who asked the national project co-ordinator to prepare a more detailed report with concrete activities proposed for the post-CAMP period, in order to submit it to the Government for approval;
- The Minister asked the national project co-ordinator to organise (tentatively end
- -April 2005), a large participatory workshop at a highest level (other ministers, prefects of the wilayas comprised in the project and mayors of the municipalities concerned). This workshop should allow those that are most directly concerned by the post-CAMP activities to anticipate the results of the project;

- Once the project is approved by the Government, an important meeting is envisaged with the national and international donors (tentatively during May 2005); and
- The results of the above two important meetings, together with the final documents of all the CAMP activities and the final project report, will be presented at the CAMP final conference envisaged for June 2005.

Major outputs produced in the biennium (all outputs in French)

- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier (PAC) "Zone Côtière Algéroise". Formation et Participation, mars 2004.
- Rapport du Stage de formation approfondie à l'animation et la communication dans la contexte d'un processus participatif (Algiers, 29 - 31 March 2004); avril 2004;
- PAC "Zone côtière algéroise" - Gestion intégrée des ressources en eau et assainissement liquide – diagnostic; juin 2004;
- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier (PAC) "Zone Côtière Algéroise". Activité "Maîtrise de l'urbanisation et de l'artificialisation des sols" - Phase I: SIG des communes côtières (Document écrit et documents cartographiques); juin 2004;
- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier (PAC) "Zone Côtière Algéroise". Activité "Gestion intégrée de la zone cotière". Action 1: Bilan Diagnostic, septembre 2004;
- Rapport de la Deuxième réunion de concertation dans le cadre du PAC "Zone côtière algéroise" (Alger, le 9 octobre 2004), octobre 2004;
- Rapport sur la formation des cadres algériens à la gestion intégrée des zones cotières (Provence – Alpes – Côte d'Azur, 19-25 septembre 2004); octobre 2004;
- Rapport du Troisième atelier de formation approfondie d'animateurs en approche participative (Alger, 12-14 décembre 2004); décembre 2004;
- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier (PAC) "Zone Côtière Algéroise". Activité "Gestion intégrée de la zone cotière". Phase II: Eléments d'un plan de gestion. Rapport d'étape. décembre 2004;
- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier (PAC) "Zone Côtière Algéroise". Gestion intégrée des ressources en eau et assainissement liquide: tendances et alternatives, décembre 2004;
- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier (PAC) "Zone Côtière Algéroise". Lutte contre la pollution liée aux déchets solides. Phase II: Programmes de gestion. Rapport préliminaire, décembre 2004; and
- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier (PAC) "Zone Côtière Algéroise". Activité "Maîtrise de l'urbanisation et de l'artificialisation des sols" - Phase II - Rapport provisoire: Etude prospective de l'urbanisation"; décembre 2004.

CAMP "Lebanon"

All activities in CAMP Lebanon were completed, including the reports of individual activities and the Final Integrated Report by the beginning of 2004, except for the one on the Marine Protected Areas. Negotiations were taking place with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) on whether or not and how the CAMP project for Lebanon should be officially concluded. Much before, and especially since the beginning of 2004, PAP/RAC was trying to organise a Final Presentation Conference with the MoE, but unfortunately, the date and the form of the Conference could not be defined. Therefore, PAP/RAC decided to publish the Final Integrated Report, in the MAP Technical Reports Series and closed the project. In addition to the Final Integrated Report, a set of three specific reports was prepared for each of the three municipalities involved in the project. Namely, the municipalities of Damour, Naqoura and Sarafand, which showed a lot of interest in developing their local documents on the basis of CAMP outputs.

Already before concluding the CAMP Lebanon project some results and recommendations were put in practice. Namely, in March 2004, as a result of one of Tourism and Sustainable Development activities, which dealt with alternative or eco-tourism development in the CAMP area, a private firm developed the Oceana project in co-operation with the Damour municipality, taking into account the proposed recommendations. It was for the first time in Damour that this

sort of partnership was developed, and it is also important for MAP CAMP projects because even before the formal conclusion of this specific project, lots of interest has been shown from various entities to use its results.

Major outputs produced in the biennium

- CAMP Lebanon: Cultural Heritage component, October 2003, (English);
- CAMP Lebanon: Tourism and Sustainable Development, November 2003, (English);
- Gestion et réglementation urbaines; Analyse synthétique, recommandations et orientations; octobre 2003 (French);
- CAMP Lebanon: Participatory Programme, November 2003, (English);
- Integrated Water Resources Management in CAMP area with Demonstrations in Damour, Sarafand and Naqoura municipalities, October 2003, (English);
- ICAM Legal Framework: Proposed Law on ICAM in Lebanon, October 2003, (English);
- National Strategy for ICAM, November 2003, (English);
- CAMP Lebanon: Final Integrated Report, February 2004, (English);
- CAMP Lebanon: Damour, July 2004, (English);
- CAMP Lebanon: Sarafand, July 2004, (English); and
- CAMP Lebanon: Naqoura, July 2004, (English).

CAMP "Cyprus"

CAMP Cyprus Project Agreement was prepared and handed over to the Cyprus authorities to obtain the approval from the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus. Several revisions of the work-plan occurred, as a result of a harmonisation needed in order to take into account the requests of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment and of MAP RACs involved in the project. The CAMP is bound to be innovative, in that it is strongly focused on institutional aspect of ICAM - creating a body, which would secure integration of ICAM into decision-making process. The Government of Cyprus is providing the matching funds to the MAP contribution and this will significantly improve the quality of the project and be a model for future projects.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- Signing of the Agreement between the Government of Cyprus and MAP is expected to take place in June 2005;
- The Inception Report will be ready in September 2005;
- The Inception Workshop will be organised in September 2005, with the participation of the major national stakeholders and representatives of the MAP centres involved in the project.
- After the ToR for individual activities are prepared and contracts arranged, it is expected that the implementation phase will start in October 2005.

Major PAP output produced in the biennium

- CAMP Cyprus Project Agreement, April 2005 (English).

CAMP "Slovenia"

With the beginning of this reporting period, the final stage of the preparatory activities took place, and then CAMP Slovenia entered into its implementation phase. Details of the project were presented and discussed at the Inception Workshop in Koper on March 18-19, 2004. The structure, organisation and each of the project activities were presented, and recommendations for improvements proposed by the participants. The Steering Committee adopted the Inception Report that includes details for each activity, and this served as a basis for the bidding process at the national level in order to select the experts to conduct the proposed activities. The main project activity is the Regional Concept of Spatial Development, around which other activities will take place, such as those for protected areas, tourism development, water resources, coastal strip development, all in addition to the project horizontal activities (SPSA, project co-ordination, training, public participation, awareness).

Terms of Reference for individual activities were finalised, tender documentation prepared and consultants selected, followed by signing of the contracts for individual activities. Outputs of the first phase of individual activities were submitted and reviewed, and recommendations on acceptance or suggestions for further improvements were reported to the Project Committee and to the Steering Committee.

Regular meetings of the Project Committee and of the Steering Committee were organised (March 5, June 14, November 22, November 25, all in 2004), with the participation of nominated institutions, ministries, sectors and local authorities.

In the framework of the main project activity, i.e. Regional Concept of Spatial Development, a Spatial Conference was held on September 23, 2004. It is requested by national spatial planning legislation in order to involve stakeholders and public in the preparation of the spatial planning documents. At every occasion when a meeting or a workshop took place, national and local press and media were informed about the progress on the project.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- Harmonisation workshop to review progress and propose improvements (September, Koper);
- Training course on SEA (May, Koper);
- Missions of and consultation meetings with international experts related to CCA for tourism, ICAM and participatory activities;
- Submission of the draft final reports of all individual activities; and
- Presentation of draft results at the Contracting Parties meeting in November 2005 in Portoroz, Slovenia.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium (all in English)

- MAP CAMP Slovenia: Report of the CAMP Slovenia Inception Workshop (Koper, 18-19 March 2004), May 2004;
- Inception Report for CAMP Slovenia, November 2004;
- Detailed Spatial Planning Conception of the Coastal Area, 1st Progress report, November 2004;
- Regional Programme of Environmental and Water Resources Protection, 1st Progress report, November 2004;
- Web site of the project: <http://camp.rrc-kp.si>; and
- Regular Progress Reports by the National Project Co-ordinator.

CAMP "Morocco"

Feasibility study for the CAMP Morocco was prepared, giving political and institutional background of the country, its Mediterranean coast and the CAMP area, and describing CAMP's structure, management and possible activities. Findings of the Feasibility Study for the CAMP Morocco have been reviewed and suggestions for its improvement provided to the consultant.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- Prior to starting the preparation of the Agreement, the Ministry of Spatial Planning, Water and the Environment, is proposing to hold a workshop in the CAMP area in order to present the study and inform local stakeholders of the activities envisaged;
- On the basis of the results of the workshop, the negotiations for the preparation of the Project Agreement will start.

Major PAP publications produced in the biennium

- Programme d'Aménagement Côtier en Méditerranée marocaine: Etude de faisabilité, juillet 2004 (French).

CAMP "Levante de Almeria", Spain

After the Feasibility Study (FS) on the MAP CAMP "Mar Menor" was presented and adopted at the Contracting Parties meeting in Catania (November 2003), activities started for drafting the CAMP Mar Menor Agreement. During the process of negotiations for the Project Agreement, the national and regional authorities changed their priorities for the CAMP area in Spain, and informed MAP that they had decided to change the CAMP area. They asked MAP to commence with preliminary activities for the new project area. The area to be covered by this CAMP would be the whole coastal area of Levante de Almeria, which belongs to the region of Andalusia.

Following the request of the Spanish authorities and the decision of the Contracting Parties to commence preliminary activities in Spain, PAP/RAC decided to prepare a new Feasibility Study for Levante de Almeria. A meeting was held in Sevilla on 17 February 2005 with the responsible authorities in order to discuss the CAMP project as well as the details related to the preparation of the Feasibility Study. The field trip to the proposed CAMP area followed the meeting. After, the meeting, the ToR for the feasibility study were prepared and the contract signed.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- The final draft of the FS is due in September 2005, which would eventually lead to the preparation and signing of the Project Agreement in October 2005;
- The preparation of the Inception Report will follow the Agreement.

Major PAP publications produced in the biennium

- Terms of Reference for the Feasibility Study.

Follow-up of CAMPs

CAMP "Albania" was implemented in the 1992-96 period with an emphasis on the central coastal region (Durrës-Vlorë). A number of significant results were achieved. To complement the CAMP project in Albania, PAP/RAC has obtained funds from the World Bank METAP to carry out a project to prepare the Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Northern and Southern coastal regions. In August 2004, METAP approached PAP/RAC to carry out an assessment study for the Southern Coastal Region, as a prelude to the project "Integrated Coastal Development Study and Plan for the Southern Coastal Region". A mission of three experts was organised, and they visited Albania in August 2004. A mission report was produced, providing the indications for the immediate measures to guide the course towards the sustainable coastal development of the Southern Albanian Region. Subsequently, PAP/RAC has won the tender to prepare the study and a plan, and the implementation of the project is in course. This experience will provide PAP/RAC with a significant insight into the post-CAMP period as well as give the opportunity to intervene and propose actions that the Albanian Government will have to take. The project is financed by the Albanian Government – Ministry for Territorial Adjustment and Tourism and the World Bank.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Southern Coastal Region: Priority Assessment Study and SEA as a Tool in Coastal Management in Albania, October 2004.

2.2.3. The future of coastal zone management and CAMPs within MAP activities

Objective of the activity set by the Contracting Parties

1. To prepare, in consultation with regional stakeholders and in co-ordination with MEDU and the concerned MAP components, the regional strategy for integrated coastal area management and CAMP, ensuring a strong synergy with the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

Activities carried out by PAP/RAC

Regional ICAM and CAMP Strategy

PAP/RAC initiated the preparation of the Strategy by organising an Expert Workshop, which was held on 17-19 March 2005 in Split. The workshop was attended by 20-odd participants, who discussed the structure and the contents of this document and suggested concrete proposals for drafting this document.

Rather than preparing an overall framework strategy for coastal area management for the region, PAP/RAC decided to propose the strategy that would assist and guide, within a long-term, MAP and PAP/RAC in carrying out the coastal management activities. Major objectives and actions related to long-term programming of ICAM activities for the Mediterranean are proposed in the MCSDD Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD). In order to achieve strong synergy, the Regional ICAM Strategy is closely linked with MSSD.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- Outline of the Regional ICAM Strategy, to be presented to the PAP National Focal Points in May 2005;
- Draft Regional ICAM Strategy to be presented at the MAP Focal Points meeting in September 2005; and
- Final proposal to be presented to the Contracting Parties meeting in November 2005.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Report of the expert workshop, Split, 17-19 March 2005 (English and French);
- Outline of the Regional ICAM Strategy (English and French).

2.2.4. Capacity building and training

Objective of the activity set by the Contracting Parties

1. To continue institutional strengthening and capacity building of national and local institutions by means of traditional and internet-based training courses, regional conferences and workshops on strategic and thematic issues relevant to ICAM.

Activities carried out by PAP/RAC

MedOpen: Internet-based open training course on ICAM

Internet-based open training course on ICAM in the Mediterranean (MedOpen; <http://www.medopen.org/>) was prepared, divided into two levels (basic and advanced). The first run of the virtual training course started in April 2004. Out of almost 60 candidates who applied for MedOpen, a half applied for the advanced course. In order to secure the quality of the course, only 21 candidates have been selected for the first run of the advanced course. The priority was given to candidates from the Mediterranean and to those selected by the MedOpen selection committee. The remaining candidates were advised to start with the course in the next run, envisaged for the second half of 2005.

All the materials for the course were translated to French and the first run for the French-speaking candidates is being prepared. In the following months, candidates for the second run (in French) will be selected and the course will then be run during the summer 2005. There is an interest expressed by the SMAP Regional Management Support Unit to translate MedOpen in Arabic, together with CEDARE. Several other countries in the region have expressed their interest in translating the course into their languages (Italy, Croatia).

CoastLearn

PAP/RAC is a partner to the CoastLearn (EU funded project), where experiences of MedOpen are used in order to exchange experience with other non-Mediterranean countries. In the

framework of CoastLearn virtual course, modules on integrated coastal zone management, biodiversity, public participation and tourism were developed. Modules were translated into several eastern European languages and Turkish.

Educom@Med

PAP/RAC is a partner to the Education in Coastal Management for the Mediterranean (Educom@Med) project, founded by EU under a Tempus Joint European Projects. Other four consortium members are also from Mediterranean countries. The overall objective of the Educom@Med project is to create and implement a new curriculum for a postgraduate course in Coastal Management for the Mediterranean region. The main focus is to create a Mediterranean network sharing available teaching resources and capabilities in line with EU European Credit Transfer System principles and practice. This will be achieved by developing, lobbying and running an e-learning based programme that draws upon the experiences and expertise of the partners.

2.2.5. Information dissemination and awareness

Objective of the activity set by the Contracting Parties

1. To continue the exchange of information on ICAM through the clearing-house mechanism, assist countries to prepare their own national clearing-houses for ICAM, maintain the informative website and publish and disseminate guidelines, thematic papers, programme results and other achievements.

Activities carried out by PAP/RAC

Regional clearing house on ICAM

Website (<http://www.pap-medclearinghouse.org/>) of the Mediterranean ICAM Clearing house project was regularly updated, with new ICAM-related information and data. A number of inquiries were received via help desk what was a good proof that Clearing House established a valid way of information sharing and dissemination of results and experiences of Mediterranean projects.

PAP/RAC website

The bilingual web site of PAP/RAC, <http://www.pap-thecoastcentre.org>, was regularly updated, providing information on all current PAP/RAC activities, news, links to other relevant institutions and projects, and so forth. PAP/RAC has improved its connections to the internet servers (much faster ADSL service has been introduced).

FAO and PAP/RAC web site on soil erosion

A new web site and a CD ROM on soil erosion was recently launched by FAO in a close co-operation with PAP/RAC, http://www.fao.org/landandwater/agll/photolib/index_e.htm. PAP/RAC and FAO AGL Department have a long history of successful co-operation. In the late '90s, two Guidelines were jointly prepared, namely the Guidelines for mapping and measurement of rainfall-induced erosion processes in the Mediterranean coastal areas and the Guidelines for erosion and desertification control management. In addition to the latter, a Photo-library (in English, French and Spanish), on soil erosion processes, as a pictorial annex was published.

Library

The PAP/RAC library was regularly updated with relevant publications, books and other documents. Acquisition list is available on the web site, which is updated quarterly. Leaflets to promote some of PAP/RAC projects were reprinted, as well as the bookmark, which was widely distributed at all occasions in order to disseminate and exchange web-available information.

Internships

PAP/RAC is increasingly getting requests to provide internship for the Mediterranean students in PAP related subjects. During this period, several students had their internships with PAP/RAC, while others are expected before the end of this year.

2.3. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Objectives of the activity set by the Contracting Parties

1. To assist countries in their endeavours to implement the MCSD's recommendations on urban management and sustainable development through the development of appropriate urban management tools and instruments, and by establishing mechanisms for the exchange of experience of good urban management practices.
2. To assist countries in the implementation of the guidelines for urban regeneration and in the incorporation of ICAM into urban management.
3. To promote the use of Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) as a tool for the sustainable development of tourism through the enhancement of the capacity of national and local institutions by continuing to offer technical assistance, and to take steps to incorporate it in the ICAM process.
4. To support local authorities in implementing guidelines for sustainable urban water resources management.
5. To develop partnerships with international and regional organisations active in the field of the control and management of soil erosion/desertification, and to implement the sub-regional project on the control and management of soil erosion and desertification in the Maghreb countries.

2.3.1. Urban management and sustainable development

Activities carried out by PAP/RAC

The most important project to assist countries in the implementation of recommendations of the MCSD Working Group on Urban Management was the preparation of the "Guidelines for Urban Regeneration in the Mediterranean Region" as part of an EU funded project. This publication was prepared on a basis of 7 case studies (Aleppo, Syria; Alexandria, Egypt; Athens, Greece; Barcelona, Spain; Istanbul, Turkey; Split, Croatia; and Tunis, Tunisia) and a synthesis report on urban regeneration in the Mediterranean.

PAP/RAC was also invited to be a member of the EU Expert Group on Urban Environment and has participated in its work towards the Urban Environment Strategy.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Guidelines for Urban Regeneration in the Mediterranean, 2004 (English and French).

2.3.2. Local management and sustainable development

As part of MCSD activities, PAP/RAC was requested to explore the possibility for establishment of a working group on local management and sustainable development. An Expert Meeting on Local Management and Sustainable Development was organised in Rome on December 21, 2004, to discuss a position paper on local management and sustainable development prepared by CEDARE, and to prepare a proposal of relevant future activities to be submitted to the MCSD.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

A proposal for the activity will be submitted to the MCSD at its meeting in June 2005.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Position paper "Local Management and Sustainable Development", December 2004 (English);
- Report of the Expert Meeting on Local Management and Sustainable Development (Rome, December 21, 2004), December 2004, (English); and
- Proposal of relevant activities for the following years to be submitted to MCSD.

2.3.3. Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

PAP/RAC has been actively participating in the process of shaping the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), namely the meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee was organised at the PAP/RAC premises, and PAP/RAC was present at the MSSD workshops and related meetings.

2.3.4. Tourism and sustainable development

A second printing, including some corrections, of the Guide to Good Practice in Tourism Carrying Capacity Assessment was prepared and disseminated to institutions and experts in the Mediterranean dealing with tourism issues. The Guide includes experiences of CCA in CAMP areas, as well as recent experiences of the CCA methodology being applied to the Island of Malta and in the Rimini Province of Italy. The document was translated into French, printed and disseminated. The document was also translated into Croatian and will soon be published.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- The regional training course will be organised in Split in October 2005.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Guide to Good Practice in Tourism Carrying Capacity Assessment, 2005 (English and French).

2.3.5. Urban water resources management

Draft Guidelines for Integrated Urban Water System Management in Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean: Volume 1 – Principles and Planning; and Volume 2 – Instruments and Tools were prepared in June 2004 and sent for review to external experts. The review was completed and comments to the author given during the expert meeting that was held in Split in June 2004. The Guidelines were edited and will soon be printed. The Guidelines is being translated into French. The preparatory activities have started for the regional training course.

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- Revised Guidelines will be published in English;
- The Guidelines will be translated into French and published; and
- The regional training course on the application of Guidelines will be organised in December 2005.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium

- Guidelines for Integrated Urban Water System Management in Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean: Volume 1 – Principles and Planning, March 2005, (English); and
- Guidelines for Integrated Urban Water System Management in Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean: Volume 2 – Instruments and Tools, March 2005, (English).

2.3.6. Soil erosion and desertification control management

Sub-regional project in Maghreb countries

The objective of the project is to formulate the erosion combating programmes in the pilot watersheds in the Maghreb countries. After a successful completion of the first phase of the sub-regional project related to erosion mapping, PAP/RAC launched the second phase by organising a workshop on the subject in Tunis on June 30 - July 2, 2004. The main objective of the workshop was to train the national teams on the formulation of "technological packages" (preventive, protective and remedial measures) for erosion management in the watersheds mapped in the previous phase (Valley of Bas Isser in Algeria, Oued Beni Boufrah in Morocco, Oued Ermel in Tunisia).

Expected activities by the end of 2005

- All three final national reports are due by September 2005;
- The reports will be presented at the PAP/RAC - FAO Regional Workshop on land degradation in October 2005 in Rome.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium (all outputs in French)

- Application des directives du PAP/RAC pour la cartographie et la mesure des processus de l'érosion hydrique dans les zones côtières méditerranéennes: Réalisation des phases prédictive et descriptive - Cas du bassin versant de Beni Boufrah, décembre 2003;
- Application des directives du PAP/RAC pour la cartographie et la mesure des processus de l'érosion hydrique dans les zones côtières méditerranéennes: Réalisation des phases prédictive et descriptive - Cas de la basse vallée de l'Isser, février 2004;
- Rapport de l'Atelier de formation à la gestion de programmes de contrôle d'érosion et de la désertification (Tunis, 30 juin - 2 July 2004), juillet 2004;
- Application des Directives du PAP/CAR pour le contrôle de l'érosion et de la désertification dans le Bassin Versant de l'Oued Ermel (Tunisie) - Rapport provisoire, décembre 2004; and
- Application des Directives du PAP/CAR pour le contrôle de l'érosion et de la désertification - Cas de la basse vallée de l'Isser (Rapport préliminaire), mars 2005.

CoLD project

The project "Improving Coastal Land Degradation Monitoring in Lebanon and Syria" (CoLD) was addressed to improve Lebanese and Syrian national capacities of relying on advanced tools for environmental management and planning of coastal zones, according to the principles of sustainable development and applying ICAM approach. It was supported by the EU LIFE Third Countries fund. PAP/RAC was one of the partners to ERS/RAC and national teams from Syria (General Organization of Remote Sensing - GORS) and Lebanon (National Centre for Remote Sensing - NCRS). PAP/RAC was responsible for the following project components: the "Detailed Analysis", the "Strategy and Recommendations", the "Interactive Participatory Programme", and partially "GIS".

Results of the CoLD project were presented and discussed at the Final Presentation Conference (1-2 December 2004) in Damascus. A web site <http://www.coldproject.net/> was launched that brings many details about the project, its objectives, activities, partners and documents produced.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium (all outputs in English)

- Improving Coastal Land Degradation Monitoring in Lebanon and Syria: Country Report Lebanon, December 2004;
- Improving Coastal Land Degradation Monitoring in Lebanon and Syria: Country Report Syria, December 2004;
- Interactive Public Participation: Field Work Report – Lebanon, December 2004;
- Interactive Public Participation: Country Report – Lebanon, December 2004;

- Syrian National report on Implementation of the Interactive Participation Programme, December 2004;
- Report on IPP Activities Implementation during the Field Work in Syria, December 2004; and
- A project CD ROM, January 2005.

PAP/RAC - FAO Regional workshop on land degradation

For almost 15 years now, PAP/RAC and FAO have co-operated on the development of methodologies and implementation of various projects related to soil erosion and land degradation. In order to exchange experiences, a joint Regional workshop to present PAP/RAC - FAO lessons learned in combating land degradation in Mediterranean coastal areas was proposed at an expert meeting on soil erosion activities that was held in Split on December 4, 2004. The aims of the workshop are to find the best way to harmonise land degradation assessment methodologies, to streamline international and regional efforts to combat land degradation and to disseminate the experience accumulated jointly by PAP and FAO, as well as to strengthen relations of these UN organisations. The participants to the workshop will come from the following groups: the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention (all Mediterranean countries and the EU), international organisations (FAO, UNCCD, UNEP, UNDP, METAP, MAP and its Centres, Desertlinks, EU Joint Research Centre, Medcoastland, World Food Programme), NGOs, potential donors (Italian Government, DANIDA, GTZ, etc.). In all, some 70 participants are expected to attend.

As agreed during a preliminary PAP-FAO meeting held in December 2004 in Rome, the workshop will take place on 10-12 October 2005 in Rome. A joint Concept paper was prepared and an invitation letter and the detailed workshop programme will be distributed in the following months.

Major PAP outputs produced in the biennium (all outputs in English)

- Minutes of the Expert meeting on Soil Erosion Activities, (Split, December 4, 2004), December 2004; and
- Concept paper: Regional Workshop to Present PAP/RAC - FAO Experiences in Combating Land Degradation in Mediterranean Coastal Areas (Rome, October 10-12, 2005), March 2005.

3. PROPOSAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR ICAM AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

Issues at stake

In spite of many international and national efforts in recent decades to ensure sustainable management of coastal natural resources, coastal areas, throughout the Mediterranean, still face severe pressures and problems, which threaten coastal resources and undermine the viability of economic activities. The significance of the coastal areas is widely recognised, as well as the need to act in the immediate future since pressures are becoming more and more intense. Population growth on the south shores, changing agricultural production systems towards more intensive and resource demanding uses in the north but also lately in the south, industrial development and expanding transport infrastructure, but mostly expanding tourism lead to increasing concentration of population and economic activities in coastal areas. As a consequence, the following most serious and worrying issues could be elaborated:

- **Coastal urbanisation**, mainly as a result of population concentration, uncontrolled tourism development and growth of recreational activities (secondary houses). This is primarily evident in most of the countries of the southern Mediterranean, but also in the north. The uncontrolled and rapid land development, coupled with land speculation has detrimental effects on the coastal environment and landscape. Coastal urbanisation represents the bulk of consequences related to coastal areas, such as reduction in size of vast coastal spaces (e.g. farmland, habitats) creating, thus, a spatial imbalance in development between strong coastal areas and abandonment of weaker inland areas.
- The development of **tourist activities** in most of the Mediterranean countries is a key element in coastal urbanisation (new settings or "reconversion" sites), both setting off processes of local economic growth and a heavy burden on local authorities who are faced with the difficult choices of management in every sense of the word (facilities, services, municipal sewage and waste treatment, imbalance between seasons, etc.). Therefore, mass tourism exacerbates many of the problems existing in urban areas, often exceeding the local carrying capacity. The most attractive areas and sites, naturally preserved or with high landscape values and cultural heritage are under strongest pressures.
- **Water consumption** is increasing, reaching its maximum rates in coastal areas of many southern and eastern Mediterranean countries, in particular in the urban areas. The consumption of water is often the result of inadequate land use structure.
- **Landscape degradation and biodiversity losses** are the most common consequences of the above mentioned developments. It is widely recognised that the diversity of Mediterranean landscapes contributes to local and regional identity, reflecting the past and present relationship between man and his natural and built environment. Very rich cultural landscapes have been developed through many millennia when different civilisations flourished around the Mediterranean and developed coastal landscapes as a result of transformations in land in order to produce food, build living habitats, art and so on. Nowadays, however, increasing threats to cultural identity, biodiversity, heritage and landscape diversity of the region due to external (e.g. globalisation) and internal factors (e.g. rapid urbanisation of coastal areas, intensifying of agricultural areas or abandonment of farming, forest fires) can be witnessed constantly. As a result, natural and cultural (man-made) landscapes have deteriorated significantly in several coastal places.

Most of the above issues are interrelated, providing for a rather complex grid of relationships, and resulting in a number of coastal use conflicts. Evidently, conflicts in the use of coastal resources, threats to natural habitats and landscapes, pollution and resource degradation reduce the potentials that sustainable and integrated management, if prudently implemented, could offer. The implementation of policies adopted at various levels within MAP, internationally and in individual states, applying integrated approach, is therefore a major challenge for the region. It should allow for:

- an effective system of coastal planning and management,
- a better balance between socio-economic development and the protection of the environment,
- a better balance between the coastal strip and the hinterland, between the North and the South,
- the coastal strip to be protected against all-out conversion to built areas, and the conservation and rehabilitation of degraded natural and cultural landscapes, and
- anticipating and preventing irreversible destruction of resources.

Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) approach has been widely recognised as a conceptual framework to develop policies and actions leading to sustainable use of natural resources and improved quality of life in coastal areas. However, ICAM has not yet become a standard practice in the Mediterranean, and the integration between sectors, stakeholders, administrative levels, and involvement of public has not yet been achieved at a satisfactory level. Lack of resources and inadequate institutional arrangements for ICAM in many Mediterranean countries have prevented coastal actors to implement needed policy tools and instruments for effective ICAM, as well as to develop adequate coastal management strategies, and legal and regulative instruments for ICAM.

Responses

PAP/RAC activities in the past biennium have been directed mainly towards achieving both a long-term MAP objective, which is a promotion of sustainable management in coastal areas of the Mediterranean, and concrete actions to give immediate results in most problematic fields and areas. In short, PAP activities to reduce issues at stake in the reporting biennium can be summarised as follows:

Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM)

PAP/RAC has continued being the leading force in promoting ICAM in the Mediterranean, and in particular with the preparation of the two documents of utmost importance, namely the draft text of ICAM Protocol and the ICAM Strategy. The Contracting Parties will have to make strategic decisions regarding these two initiatives. In the case of their positive response, it is expected that the responsible stakeholders in the region will have important instruments to help them manage one of their most coveted assets – the coastal zone. Other activities implemented were carried out in order to raise the awareness on the need for sustainable management of coastal areas, training and capacity building at various levels. With the same purpose, a number of strategic papers were printed and distributed widely (Guidelines, on implemented CAMP projects, Good Practices Guides, specific country reports on coastal management and so on). Also, development of tools and techniques for ICAM is a continuous activity of PAP/RAC aiming at transferring the experience in and approaches to appropriate management of coastal areas to member states, experts and other stakeholders in the ICAM process.

CAMP projects

PAP continued playing the role of an overall co-ordinator of CAMPs, and three CAMP projects, in Algeria, Lebanon and Slovenia were implemented in this period. Three more were in the

preparatory phase, CAMPs for Cyprus, Morocco and Spain, while new initiatives are emerging, notably in Serbia and Montenegro and in Italy. Principles of sustainable development in general as well as specific methodologies and tools for ICAM were put to practice when dealing with priority issues in CAMP areas. Capacity building, awareness raising and involvement of stakeholders and public in general in the implementation of these projects were obligatory project components and have shown successful results.

Gaps

ICAM is still not widely used and not enough stress has been placed on the implementation of strategic issues that would result in tackling major and common problems in spite of significant efforts done. Involvement of and integration among administrative levels, private sector, general public, NGOs, other potential end-users and partners has not reached a satisfactory level. Strong approach to integration of coastal sectoral policies, which is a prerequisite of successful integrated coastal management, is still weak and is a challenge to be overcome. Governments, experts and institutions in the Mediterranean still need support in capacity building in order to be able to implement ICAM. Capacity building and training, development of tools and techniques is still to be improved, as well as the distribution of the information and results of various activities.

Endeavours towards adoption of a legal instrument (i.e. ICAM Protocol) for coastal area management should be continued, and countries are invited to put all their efforts to fulfil this strategic objective of MAP, as proposed by the MSSD, too. The state of national legislation concerning integrated coastal area management is not satisfactory, and additional efforts have to be employed. This is not related to the establishment or introduction of specific ICAM legislation only, but primarily to better implementation of the existing legislation, which can be more of sectoral nature, but, nevertheless, dealing with coastal areas. In any case, co-ordination between sectoral initiatives in coastal areas should be improved. And finally, countries need assistance in developing their national ICAM strategies, as well as long-term visions for their coastal areas.

In addition to the already well established priority ICAM issues, some new emerging ones should be implemented, such as: the marine spatial planning, that should provide principles and tools for better integration of sea and land coastal issues; landscape management, that could assist CPs to deal with this emerging issue and to achieve convergence with other specific international legal obligations in this respect; coastal urban management including the water issue and the public transport management, in order to improve traffic related problems, pollution and quality of life as such in urban areas; and coastal risk management.

Activities in CAMP projects are sometimes too diffuse what makes integration a bit more difficult task than it should, otherwise, be. A better link should also be established with potential financiers of the projects indicated as priority in the individual CAMP's Action Plans, and follow-up activities. With regard to the latter more political will is needed at local and national levels in order to continue the ICAM process as initiated by CAMP. Alternatively, a stronger financial contribution by the CAMP country should be requested in order to allow for continuation of the project. Also, there were no proposals for CAMPs of sub-regional or transboundary nature, as suggested by PAP/RAC to the CPs. The same can be stated for the reporting by the country on the progress after the CAMP project has been completed, which is envisaged by the CAMP Agreements.

Landscape management as an issue has never been studied or elaborated in various MAP projects *per se* in spite of a clear commitment in the Convention by the CPs. Only indirectly, through proposals of various documents (plans, strategies), in projects oriented to local level, such as CAMP, by using ICAM methodologies or by dealing with individual natural resources, landscape was also taken into the account. However, landscape specific methodologies and concepts were not developed or existing ones taken into account. Also, knowledge of the

landscape typology, i.e. variety of landscapes is not adequate, as well as the main processes and forces influencing their transformation.

3.1.1. Legal Framework (Protocol on Integrated Coastal Area Management)

Recommendations Addressed to Contracting Parties

1. To continue addressing the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone through a process of integrated management.
2. To undertake the activities towards the adoption of the regional Protocol on Integrated Coastal Area Management.

Recommendations Addressed to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC)

1. To assist the countries and other regional stakeholders in their efforts towards the adoption of the regional Protocol on Integrated Coastal Area Management, on the basis of a broad process of consultation among experts and other interested parties.

3.1.2. Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones

Recommendations Addressed to Contracting Parties

1. To urge the relevant authorities in their countries to improve the implementation of the MCSD recommendations on sustainable management of coastal areas and to implement components of the MSSD related to coastal management.
2. To support PAP in implementing the Strategy on Integrated Coastal Area Management and CAMP in the Mediterranean.
3. To continue efforts towards adopting new and/or improving the implementation of the existing national legislation for sustainable coastal management, taking into account the work done by PAP/RAC and other international organisations.
4. To support sub-regional activities on sustainable management of coastal areas (such as the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative), with a view to developing sub-regional strategies, programmes, action plans and projects in related fields.
5. To support the relevant national and local authorities and institutions in preparing national and regional strategies and programmes for ICAM, and using the methodologies, tools and instruments for the implementation of ICAM.
6. To invite the authorities in Cyprus, Slovenia and Spain to support the implementation of CAMP projects in their countries. Also, to invite Morocco and Serbia and Montenegro to commence preliminary activities with a view to signing an agreement for the projects in their countries.
7. To call on the authorities in the countries where CAMP projects have been completed to commit themselves to the follow-up activities by securing the necessary financial and human resources for their implementation.
8. To invite countries where there have not yet been any CAMP projects to propose new projects, and to prepare the respective feasibility studies. The countries that have already had CAMP projects are invited to consider new projects in light of the recommendations of the proposed ICAM and CAMP strategy, particularly having in mind new types of CAMP projects.
9. To invite the authorities in Algeria, Croatia and Egypt to support the preparation of their national reports on coastal management.
10. To support the implementation of activities related to development and application of landscape management methodologies and tools.
11. To support the implementation of EU/SMAP programme related to the Integrated Coastal Zone Management, activities to improve beach management, and information sharing through the clearinghouse mechanism.

Recommendations Addressed to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC)

1. To assist countries in implementing the regional strategy for integrated coastal area management and CAMP.
2. To pursue the development and implementation of ICAM tools and instruments, specifically, marine spatial planning, coastal information systems, EIA and SEA in coastal environments, economic instruments for coastal management, carrying capacity assessment for tourism, and integrated coastal area and river basin management (ICARM).
3. To assist countries of the Mediterranean sub-regions in developing initiatives for ICAM and ICARM.
4. To support and assist the Contracting Parties in preparing their national and local strategies and programmes for ICAM, as well as assist them in implementing tools, techniques and methodologies for ICAM.
5. To assist Algeria, Croatia and Egypt to prepare their national reports on integrated coastal management.
6. To co-ordinate MAP activities in relation to CAMP projects, under the overall co-ordinating responsibility of MEDU.
7. To prepare CAMP feasibility studies, CAMP programmes and agreements, to implement the on-going MAP CAMP projects and the projects whose implementation has been decided on.
8. To propose to the countries where MAP CAMP projects have been completed the introduction of new and/or adaptation of existing instruments for environmental management, which would enable the follow-up of CAMPs, and to assist those countries in preparing viable projects that are continuation of already completed MAP CAMP projects.
9. To continue efforts in developing new types of CAMP projects.
10. To undertake thematic studies with a view on developing or applying relevant methodologies and tools for landscape management.
11. To assist countries in implementing projects of beach management.
12. To continue institutional strengthening and capacity building of the Contracting Parties' national and local institutions by means of traditional and internet-based training courses (MedOpen), exchange of information on ICAM through "clearing house" mechanism, maintaining the informative web-site, publishing and disseminating guidelines, thematic papers, programme results and other achievements.
13. To strengthen the existing and seek new partnerships in the region aimed at the implementation of integrated coastal area management and sustainable development in coastal regions.

3.2. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Issues at stake

Tourism and sustainable development

Tourism is still one of the basic development activities in the Mediterranean. Many countries, especially those in the South and the East of the Mediterranean, as well as the Adriatic region, consider tourism to be their main development opportunity. However, besides its positive effects on national income, employment and quality of life, tourism still has negative effects, especially in the coastal areas of the Mediterranean countries. Increased pressure on ecosystems, construction along the coastline, diminished surface of protected areas, increased pollution and construction of communications along the coastline, are just some of the problems encountered by those countries. The main challenge for the Mediterranean tourist countries still remains to be the harmonisation of the development needs and tourist potential to meet those needs with the carrying capacity of their environmental and socio-economic systems.

Urban and coastal local management and sustainable development

Demographic pressures are the main force for changes of coastal areas and in particular their urban areas. In relation to this, the problems of local management, where most of the management instruments for and decisions for changes are adopted and implemented, are more than evident. Urban and coastal management in local political context is characterised by conflicting priorities (employment and income vs. environment, short- vs. long-term actions) and it requires a lasting pressure on politicians for more sustainability considerations, above all through stronger civil society (civic engagement through citizens and community-based organisations, NGOs, different interest groups) as the most important trigger and control of political actions.

Land degradation, water resources and beach management

Water and soil are two natural resources that are crucial for the functioning of the ecosystem and for the development. Anyway, the problems of water and soil are not expressed only in the inadequate physical supply of the resources, but additionally worsened by inadequate management. Thus, for example, we have a situation where urban areas of some countries with very high rainfall rates almost constantly face crisis situation regarding the water supply for urban population. Other problems that need mentioning are inappropriate agricultural practices causing degradation of land, such as soil erosion; diminished replenishment of the underground aquifers, as well as increased flooding; inadequate systems of protection against fires in coastal forests; absence of systematic programmes of water savings resulting in exaggerated consumption and growing water demand. In addition, management of the beaches as a crucial spatial component for tourism sector has experienced various approaches, which do not always lead to rational solutions for the environment. A need for the exchange of the good practices and appropriate methodologies for the beach management is more than evident.

Responses

Tourism and sustainable development

PAP/RAC has been developing and implementing for years the method of carrying capacity assessment for tourism. This method was applied in numerous areas where CAMP projects were implemented, as well as by some countries outside the CAMP projects. The method is flexible, enables easy adaptation to the local conditions, and offers a realistic framework for planning of tourism within the limits of sustainable development of an area. The results of a carrying capacity assessment make a key input in the preparation of ICAM programmes and plans of coastal areas. The efforts to increase the capacity of local stakeholders to implement the carrying capacity methodology were made.

Urban and coastal local management and sustainable development

In order to facilitate and assist countries in the implementation of the MCSD recommendations on urban management, PAP/RAC prepared the Guidelines for Urban Regeneration in the Mediterranean. All these activities are additional to those that have already been described in the previous chapters. With regard to the local management a position paper was prepared with a view of developing relevant future activities to be submitted to the MCSD.

Land degradation, water resources and beach management

Jointly with FAO, PAP/RAC has developed a methodology of soil erosion and desertification mapping and management. Two guidelines have been prepared, including a Photolibrary. A sub-regional project is being prepared in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco aimed at introducing soil erosion management in the planning systems of those countries. A series of training courses

were organised in this framework upon request of some countries. In addition, PAP/RAC was a partner to ERS/RAC in implementing an EU LIFE III countries project "Improving Coastal Land Degradation Monitoring in Lebanon and Syria" (CoLD), together with local partners from Lebanon and Syria. All these experiences were shared with the UNCCD and FAO, and with the latter, this close co-operation will result in a joint regional workshop in autumn this year.

As a continuation of the endeavours of PAP/RAC in the previous period, the Guidelines for Integrated Urban Water System Management in Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean have been prepared. The main objective is the integration of water resources management and urban management in order to provide advice on how to stabilise water supply for urban population. As for the activities related to beach management a pilot study "Evaluating the State of Beach Management in the Mediterranean" that analysed a number of cases around the region was prepared, as well as a workshop to share these experiences.

Gaps

Tourism and sustainable development

The principles of sustainable tourism development have not yet entered all spheres of decision-making in tourism, or development in general, in the Mediterranean. A great effort is required to provide a widespread explanation of the meaning of CCA for tourism. Although the mere calculation of the carrying capacity is not mathematically complicated, a proper understanding of all relevant CCA parameters and definition of their interrelations still requires great efforts. A special problem is posed by a lack of appropriate statistics at the national, and even more, at the local levels.

Urban and coastal local management and sustainable development

One of the main shortcomings with regard to urban management is the lack of understanding of the roles of various actors in urban management, or what the true role is of urban planning in relation to the application of appropriate instruments and policies, institutional arrangements in urban management, and the role of national authorities. This issue is, however, an urgent one, when we take into account the fact that most of the decisions on urban development are made by the local authorities where there is a great need for capacity building or raising, as well as the fact that the spatial planning, which falls into the national institutional responsibilities, varies substantially around the region.

Land degradation, water resources and beach management

In spite of clearly defined priorities, which are mostly contained in the recommendations of the MCSD for water resources management, the concrete actions are still primarily related to the creation of water supply and not to limitations or changes in the structure of water demand. At the regional level, a common water resources management strategy has not yet been adopted, nor the ones regarding soil erosion reduction and desertification prevention. There is still a lack of adequately educated experts able of setting correct priorities in water use and acting accordingly. Majority is still made of water experts who are basically hydroengineers who see increased water use as a solution for financing numerous problems of the water sector, including the activities aimed at reducing pollution by wastewaters. However, the key of a positive change leading to sustainable development is in a changed behaviour of all stakeholders of the water sector. Soil erosion control is a long process, and for the moment there is a lack of educated experts able to launch changes in the agricultural practice of many Mediterranean countries. Efforts have to be increased to raise the awareness as well as the capacity of local actors to implement efficient methods of beach management.

Recommendations Addressed to Contracting Parties

1. To support activities on Local Management and Sustainable Development in the framework of MCSD.
2. To urge the municipal authorities to apply the recommendations of the MCSD on Urban Management and Sustainable Development.
3. To support efforts to introduce better practices for urban water resources management, in particular the implementation of the relevant guidelines.
4. To encourage their national and local authorities, associations in the hotel sector and profit and non-profit organisations to apply carrying capacity assessment for tourism activities as a common tool for sustainable development of tourism.
5. To support activities related to combating land degradation (e.g. soil erosion/desertification control) and to support the partnerships of PAP/RAC with relevant international organisations and institutions.

Recommendations Addressed to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC)

1. To assist the MCSD Working Groups on Local Management and Sustainable Development.
2. To assist the Contracting Parties in their endeavours to implement the MCSD recommendations on urban management and sustainable development through the development of appropriate urban management tools and instruments, further developing the methodology for urban regeneration, by stimulating the countries' efforts in incorporating this practice in urban development planning and management, and by establishing mechanisms for the exchange of experience of good urban management practices.
3. To promote the use of carrying capacity assessment as a tool for sustainable development of tourism, through the enhancement of the capacity of Mediterranean national and local institutions, and to continue offering technical assistance.
4. To support local authorities in implementing guidelines for sustainable urban water resources management.
5. To continue activities related to land degradation (e.g. soil erosion/desertification control) management and to establish new partnerships with international and regional organisations and institutions in this field.

4. PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2006 - 2007

CONSULTANTS

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

MAP CAMPs
Co-ordinating role; implementation of ICAM activities in Cyprus, Slovenia and Spain; natural resources management; participatory programmes; data management; capacity building; environmental assessment; sustainable urban management; CCA for tourism; preparation of ICAM strategies, programmes and plans; implementation of economic instruments for coastal zone management as a follow-up to SAP MED; integration of activities; preparation of final integrated reports; preparation of bankable projects as a follow-up of CAMP activities; preparatory activities for CAMP projects in Morocco, and Serbia and Montenegro.
ICAM
Implementation of the Strategy on integrated coastal management and CAMPs in the Mediterranean.
Preparation of the final text of the Protocol for ICAM through a series of expert meetings and stakeholder forums.
Assistance to countries in adapting and/or improving implementation of their national legislation for ICAM.
Assistance to Mediterranean countries in application of ICAM and ICARM methodologies: application/development of tools and instruments for ICAM - marine spatial planning, SEA, coastal hazard assessment and risk management, analysis of coastal resilience, coastal information systems, land and sea use planning systems, vulnerability studies, urban transport planning.
Assistance to countries in preparing their strategies and programmes on integrated coastal area management (policy tools, assessment of coastal environment and development issues, institutional arrangements, action plans).
Assistance to Mediterranean countries in preparing their national reports on coastal management (Algeria, Croatia, Egypt).
Implementation of SMAP (EU project on ICZM); raising awareness, enabling implementation of activities.
Assistance to countries in applying good practices of beach management.
Implementation of thematic studies with a view to development and application of landscape management methodologies and tools in Mediterranean coastal areas.
Update and improvement of the Regional clearing house mechanism for documentation, information dissemination and awareness on coastal area management initiatives in the Mediterranean countries.

INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Implementation of the recommendations of the MCSD Working Group on Urban Management and SD: awareness raising, regional exchange of experience
Assistance to countries in implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD).
Assistance to the MCSD working group on Local Management and Sustainable Development.
Assistance to countries in development and preparation of strategies and management plans to combat land degradation (e.g. soil erosion/desertification control).
Update and improvement of the guidelines for carrying capacity assessment for tourism.

TRAINING

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

MAP CAMPs
Capacity building of stakeholders in CAMPs.
ICAM
Improvement and implementation of the internet-based open training course on ICAM (MedOpen); training documents, case studies, selection of candidates, helpdesk, discussion groups, basic and advanced courses, examinations; implementation of the Educom@Med master's degree course on integrated coastal area management.
Regional training to introduce methodologies and tools for landscape management; landscape planning, vulnerability studies, landscape typology.

INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Regional TC on application of guidelines for sustainable urban water resources management in French.
Regional workshop to update and revise the Guidelines for Carrying Capacity Assessment for Sustainable Tourism in the Mediterranean
Regional TC to implement the Guidelines for Carrying Capacity Assessment for Sustainable Tourism in the Mediterranean

MEETINGS

National Focal Points Meeting of PAP/RAC (jointly with ERS/RAC and BP/RAC)
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