



**Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC)
Progress Report for 2012-2013**

Split, June 2013

Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.	SHORT OVERVIEW OF THE MAIN RESULTS.....	2
	Objective 1. Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels.....	2
	Objective 2. Strengthen the capacities of CPs to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes	9
	Objective 3. Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements	15
3.	CONCLUSION.....	18

1.

INTRODUCTION

The main objective of this report is to summarise the activities implemented by PAP/RAC in 2012-2013. The report is not as exhaustive as the official progress reports prepared in previous years for consideration by the Joint Focal Points Meetings of PB/RAC, PAP/RAC and INFO/RAC. Even if such a meeting will not be organised in the current biennium, we consider that putting together this short information will give PAP/RAC and MAP NFPs a good insight into the progress made together by PAP/RAC, the Contracting Parties and other partners – be they a part of the UNEP/MAP system or external, in implementing ICZM in the Mediterranean Region. Alongside this reminder about the main

achievements, we feel the need to share with the NFPs our concerns about difficulties we have encountered in implementing the activities we were entrusted with by COP17, although these have not significantly affected the work plan envisaged for the biennium 2012-2013.

Finally, we hope that this short overview will also be a source of inspiration for the Contracting Parties while considering the activities they would like to implement in the biennium to come. Apprehending CPs' needs and priorities has always been the best way-mark for the PAP/RAC work.

2.

SHORT OVERVIEW OF THE MAIN RESULTS

An important milestone for PAP/RAC in the current biennium was the adoption, by COP17, of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in 2012-2019. By adopting this Action Plan, the Contracting Parties have entrusted PAP/RAC with three major objectives, further articulated into series of actions, namely:

- **Objective 1:** Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels;
- **Objective 2:** Strengthen the capacities of CPs to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes;
- **Objective 3:** Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements.

The short overview that follows is structured to reflect the accomplishments made in relation to the objectives and actions adopted in the Action Plan. It is to be noted that, in order to compensate to the reductions in MTF budget in this biennium, PAP/RAC had to seek for external funding for a large majority of the activities presented below. Due credit will be given to these sources.

In order not to overburden this report with too many details, direct links are provided to all major documents produced and events organised. We kindly invite you to have a look at them and to contact PAP/RAC for any additional information you may need.

Objective 1.

Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels

Action 1.1

Ratification and transposition

Even though the ICZM Protocol has entered into force rather quickly after the signature of its text, the process of ratification requires from many countries detailed consultations with all sectors due to the complexity of the legal instrument itself. To assist the countries in this process PAP/RAC has undertaken, together with its partner – IDDRI, the French Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations, several studies aiming to facilitate the understanding of the Protocol's provisions, namely:

- A contribution to the interpretation of legal aspects of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (in [English](#) and [French](#));
- An analysis of the Mediterranean [ICZM Protocol in face of EU law](#);
- An analysis of the [Croatian legal framework](#) in relation to the provisions of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol;
- Assessment of Impacts of the Ratification of the Mediterranean Protocol on ICZM on Croatian Legislation, with a [Focus on Article 8](#).

These studies were presented during the “Regional workshop on harmonising the national legal and institutional framework with the ICZM Protocol”, which was organised by PAP/RAC within Component 1 of the “MedPartnership” project in Zagreb, Croatia, in December 2012. The aim of the workshop was to assist countries in understanding the legal aspects of the ICZM Protocol; building capacities for the ratification of the Protocol and its transposition into the national laws; and identifying the stakeholders who could lead the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean countries, or those who could obstruct it or make it more difficult.



Out of 11 countries represented at the workshop, 5 have not ratified the Protocol yet. As it has been agreed by the participants, the ratification enables all interested stakeholders to use the ICZM Protocol as a tool to push for a sustainable coastal development. It has also been pointed out that the ratification is only one step on the long path towards sustainable coastal development for which the efficient implementation of the ICZM Protocol is a crucial challenge. The report of the workshop (in [English](#)) is available at [this link](#).



Action 1.2 Strengthening and Supporting Governance

Good governance is a fundamental part of what ICZM is trying to achieve – a proactive and adaptive management of coastal zones, which

The workshop was organised following sustainable criteria, as a pilot within the CP/RAC’s initiative on greening the UNEP/MAP events. This case study has been uploaded on the website of the Sustainable Events Toolkit (SET) for the Mediterranean developed by CP/RAC (see at [this link](#)).



Another important initiative within this Action is being implemented within the EU IPA Adriatic project SHAPE that, among others, explores the ICZM practices in the Adriatic countries and their regions. Three major documents were produced to support the implementation of the ICZM Protocol in the project region but can be used by any other country undertaking this effort. These are:

- An analysis of the [ICZM practice](#) in the Adriatic countries/Italian regions;
- Explanatory report on [institutional co-ordination](#), according to Art. 7 to assist the project partners in drafting reports on the establishment or improvement of such co-ordination bodies;
- Explanatory report on the implementation of the [setback zone](#) according to Art. 8, including technical assistance to six pilot projects where setback zone is being defined.



encourages all interested parties to work together on specific coastal issues. This means in practice that success depends on forging

partnerships and linking local-scale initiatives to higher-level policies, i.e. achieving horizontal and vertical co-ordination.



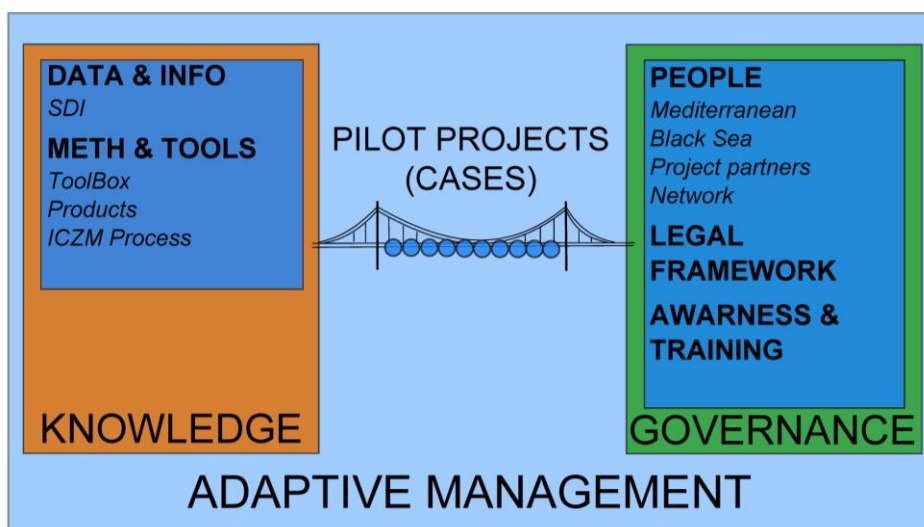
Governance structures are being established in all ICZM implementation projects (such as CAMPs or the “MedPartnership” pilot projects) as they are the best guarantee that the most appropriate solutions will be adopted for the managed areas. These will be pointed out in the presentation of individual projects, while in this chapter we shall try to present a large ICZM governance mechanism that has been created within the EU FP7 project PEGASO for the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions.

The main objective of the PEGASO project being to bridge the gap between science and decision-making on coastal issues, the establishment of an interactive governance platform was considered as a crucial element to ensure a constructive, two-way dialogue between those who have to take decisions at different levels – from regional to national and local, and those who have to provide quality data and tools for that.

What exactly is this governance platform and how it works?

The PEGASO ICZM governance platform is first of all made of **people**. People that work together to put in place effective ICZM plans and programmes by exchanging, learning together, helping each other to understand better and act in a more coherent way, sharing knowledge, designing and testing new planning and management tools – in short co-operating to make the coastal management more efficient.

To do so, these people (some 150 persons working in the institutions involved in the project *plus* 18 renowned Mediterranean stakeholders representing international organisations and national authorities *plus* Members of the Black Sea Commission *plus* some 100 people involved in the PEGASO pilot cases either as direct implementers or local stakeholders) have at their disposal a powerful **technical infrastructure** to use: the *Intranet*, which is a common work space with an active forum and document repository; a *Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)* that supports interactive information sharing and assure that spatial data are organised and presented in a standardised way, complying with INSPIRE directive; and a *web portal* allowing contact with the “external world” and dissemination of the project results to wider audience.



Until now, this collaborative work has yielded several important products of relevance for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, which represents the legal framework for the work of the platform in the Mediterranean:

- A stock-take of ICZM legal, institutional and implementation aspects in all 21 Mediterranean countries, which has served as a basis for the preparation of the official reporting format on the ICZM Protocol;
- The ICZM process, uploaded to the Coastal Wiki (for more details see Objective 2, Action 2.1 below);
- A set of ICZM indicators, some of which can also be used within the EcAp process (for more details see Objective 2, Action 2.1 below);
- Draft common conceptual framework for the implementation of ICZM;
- Mapping of urban sprawl and natural capital on the parts of the Mediterranean Basin not covered by the CORINE land cover, which can

also be used to follow the EcAp ecological objective 8 on Coastal ecosystems and landscapes;

- Cumulative mapping of the impacts made on coastal ecosystem components by pressures due to human activities on the coast and sea.

Already during the PEGASO lifetime this governance platform has associated many external actors, such as PAP/RAC NFPs or other coastal and marine projects, who have enriched it and boosted the network of coastal practitioners, scientists and decision-makers. We hope that, after the closure of the project in February 2014, the platform will continue operating and will become THE governance platform for the implementation of ICZM in the Mediterranean, a privileged place of exchange and a sort of hub for all projects, studies and other initiatives related to the ICZM Protocol implementation.

Action 1.3

National Strategies and Coastal Implementation Plans and Programmes

In application of Art. 18 of the ICZM Protocol and benefiting from the funding offered by the “MedPartnership” project, PAP/RAC is leading the preparation of two national ICZM strategies

(in Algeria and Montenegro) and two coastal plans (Réghaïa in Algeria and Buna/Bojana in Albania/Montenegro).

Algerian ICZM Strategy and Coastal Plan for Réghaïa

The preparation of the national ICZM strategy for Algeria and of the Réghaïa coastal plan was officially launched during a meeting held at the Algerian Ministry of Land-use Planning and Environment (MATE) in Algiers in January 2012. Organised by MATE with support of PAP/RAC and UNESCO-IHP, the meeting was attended by 50-odd participants including representatives of national, regional and local authorities, as well as representatives of national associations and organisations concerned with the Algerian coastal zone.

This fully participatory approach has been continued in the stages that followed. A series of consultations and working meetings allowed to the project team to prepare diagnostic reports



for the entire Algerian coastal zone and for the Réghaïa area, shared with the stakeholders during a second meeting held in November 2012. The stakeholders who attended the meeting formulated useful and relevant remarks regarding issues and problems raised in the reports presented, making possible to finalize them and to start with the second phase, which includes the development of scenarios and of the strategy and plan themselves.

During the first half of 2013 the team responsible for the preparation of the National ICZM Strategy was “on the ground”, with three regional workshops that took place in Annaba for the Eastern coastal wilayas, in Oran for the Western coastal wilayas and in Tipasa for the wilayas of the central coastal area. The participation to these workshops was a great



success, not only in terms of number of participants (70-odd participants in Annaba, 50-odd in Oran and 70-odd in Tipasa), but also in terms of diversity of the stakeholders, including representatives of every single sector invited, as well as a number of representatives of local communities, authorities, NGOs and media.

These workshops were a great occasion to benefit from the “local expertise”, to boost the governance structure for ICZM and to help the project team to better understand institutional functioning, participation and relation between scientific knowledge and ICZM as participants were invited to answer to questions, such as “Are the existing institutions able to cope with all environmental problems in coastal zone?”, or “How to engage the biggest number of relevant stakeholders in decision-making process?”.



National ICZM Strategy in Montenegro

The National ICZM Strategy, undertaken with the “MedPartnership” funding, is entirely integrated with the CAMP Montenegro activities (see Objective 2, Action 2.2) in order to enable synergies and avoid duplications.

Having in mind that the Strategy preparation process goes hand in hand with the process of preparation of the physical plan for the coastal area of Montenegro (Coastal Area Spatial Plan – CASP), the first half of the project was entirely based on innovative studies and methodological approaches necessary for the ICZM Protocol

implementation, which will allow for the mainstreaming of ICZM principles into the spatial planning practice. This is a difficult and complex process, with a strong capacity building component intended for the national administration staff and the institutions involved in coastal and planning issues. This is why the character and the process of preparing the ICZM Strategy in Montenegro is significantly different from the one in Algeria, with only few national workshops taking place by now (Inception Workshop in March 2012 and Midterm Workshop in April 2013) but with numerous

working meetings with expert institutions, ministries, spatial planning institutions and individual experts.

One of the important elements examined throughout this process is the possibility of using the Steering Committee of the project as a model and transforming it in a permanent institutional structure for the coastal zone management.



Coastal plan for Buna/Bojana in Albania/Montenegro

The Buna/Bojana Transboundary Integrated Management Plan is being jointly prepared in the framework of the “MedPartnership” project by PAP/RAC, Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP) and UNESCO-IHP, in cooperation with a team of experts from the two countries, under the guidance of the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Management and the Montenegrin Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism.

The Buna/Bojana Transboundary Integrated Management Plan is the first pilot case testing the integrated implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the ICZM Protocol. It aims to assist in identifying the key problems and issues in the area related to transboundary management of coastal and water resources. It will also propose to the competent authorities of the countries ways of addressing these problems and issues.

Having in mind that, without previously defined methodology, such a complex task has been located in even more complex location, i.e. a transboundary area, a number of difficulties were encountered since the beginning of the plan preparation. These were related in the first place to the significant difference in availability and type of data, and different legal systems.



Besides that, a number of additional important problems occurred that significantly delayed the entire process of the plan preparation, such as the inadequate competencies of the international team of experts for the WFD engaged by GWP and inability to identify the appropriate national team leader (NTL) in Montenegro. Three different team leaders were contracted, two of whom with insufficient ability to complete the task and one with great expertise but who resigned due to personal



reasons. Currently, the process is operating without NTL in Montenegro and a part of the related task is being implemented by PAP/RAC. GWP-Med has substituted originally contracted international WFD experts.

In spite of all the delays it is expected that the plan will be drafted by the end of the year and, hopefully, it will represent a bundle full of lessons learned, ready to be replicated in other areas in the Mediterranean.



Coastal Plan for the Šibenik-Knin County in Croatia

In the frame of the “MedPartnership” sister project on Climate Variability and Change (CVC), PAP/RAC is assisting the authorities of the Croatian County of Šibenik-Knin to include the climate issues in the County physical plan and the management plan of the protected areas. The project was officially launched in April 2013 during a workshop organised jointly by PAP/RAC and Blue Plan, which was entrusted with the implementation of “Climagine”, an adaptation of the “Imagine” participatory and scenario building method focused on climate issues. It was attended by 50-odd participants, representatives of national, regional and local authorities and institutions, academic community and NGOs whose task was to discuss the various issues relevant to coastal management in view of climate change and identify those of highest priority.

This project is carried out in close relation with the other component of the CVC project led by PAP/RAC, which is the assessment of the socio-economic costs of CVC impacts at the national level in Croatia and Tunisia, by using the renowned DIVA method. This component is currently in the phase of data collection in both countries.



Objective 2.

Strengthen the capacities of CPs to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes

Action 2.1

Methodologies

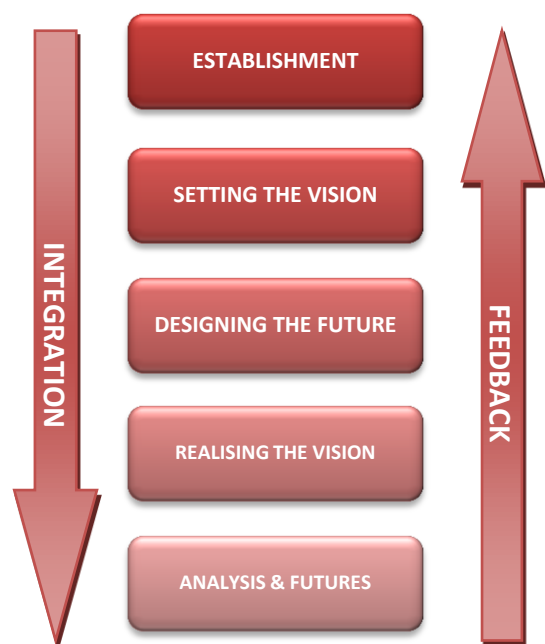
The requirements of the ICZM Protocol as well as new developments in scientific, technological and societal fields make necessary regular updating of the methods and tools used in ICZM.

This is an important part of the PAP/RAC's and its partners' work, in which some innovative proposals have been developed.

ICZM Process

Elaborated in co-operation between two major projects in which PAP/RAC is a partner – PEGASO and “MedPartnership”, detailed orientations for the implementation of ICZM as a gradual, proactive and interactive process were proposed, which are made available both in hard copy and through the Coastal Wiki, where they were uploaded by the PEGASO team. The process is designed as a “living” tool that can be easily amended by new explanations, good practices, specific tools, etc.

It has been used as a reference by the PEGASO pilot cases and by the two “MedPartnership” pilot projects, from which we expect a lot of feedback in terms of new elements to be included or improvements to be made.



Guidelines for National ICZM Strategies

The ICZM Process has served as a basis for the preparation of the Guidelines to assist the Contracting Parties in fulfilling one of the major obligations of the ICZM Protocol, which is the

preparation of national ICZM strategies. These Guidelines are currently being used in Algeria and Montenegro.

Integrative Management Framework

The Integrative Management Framework (IMF) is another methodological document that has been developed using the ICZM Process as a starting point. This innovative document is the result of a joint effort of three “MedPartnership” project partners – PAP/RAC, GWP-MED and UNESCO-IHP, undertaken to link closely related but in practice still separated management interventions, which take place in the same or adjacent territorial units, i.e. coastal and marine zones, coastal watersheds and coastal aquifers. A first consolidated draft is being revised by the partners and we hope it will be soon ready for broader consultation. Feedback from the Réghaïa and Buna/Bojana plans, in which the

principles of joint interventions are being tested, will be duly taken into account for the finalisation of the document.



Outline for the National ICZM Strategies for the Adriatic countries

In the framework of the SHAPE IPA Adriatic project the Guidelines for the preparation of national ICZM Strategies developed within the “MedPartnership” project were capitalised as well. Partners were presented the Guidelines and in particular the Outline for the National

ICZM Strategies at a meeting organised back-to-back to the “Mediterranean Coast Day 2012” event in Split. Project partners found the Outline a good guiding tool for the elaboration of their own strategies.

ICZM Indicators

The PEGASO project has developed a core set of 15 indicators that are instrumental in measuring the implementation of ICZM policies and programmes. This core set of indicators addresses the specific requirement of Article 27 of the ICZM Protocol to “define coastal management indicators” and “establish and maintain up-to-date assessments of the use and management of coastal zones”. It was widely built on previous and existing indicator sets developed by different institutions and projects, which are duly acknowledged. For each of the indicators listed below a methodological factsheet was developed:

- Added value per sector
- Area of built-up space

- Bathing water quality
- Commercial fish stocks
- Coastal and marine litter
- Economic production
- Employment
- Erosion and instability
- Natural capital
- Hypoxia
- Number of enterprises
- Population size and density
- Risk assessment
- Sea level rise
- Water efficiency index

Linkages and priorities to MAP Ecological objectives and indicators were made whenever possible.

Action 2.2

Protocol Implementation Projects (CAMP III)

The co-ordination of CAMP projects continues to be one of the major activities of PAP/RAC. CAMPs have always been a privileged space of co-operation of all UNEP/MAP components and an efficient way of applying their expertise in

practice and in an integrated manner. This is even more evident in this third generation of CAMPs, which are entirely focused on the implementation of the ICZM Protocol provisions.

CAMP Levante de Almeria (Spain)

After three years of intensive work and activity, the CAMP Levante de Almeria was officially closed in February 2013 during the Final Presentation Conference held in Almeria with a high political representation of national, regional and municipal authorities that confirmed dedication to the project results and showed political will to support its continuation.

The numerous activities and their results were presented and the focus was on the Sustainable Development Reference Framework (SDRF) as the major outcome of the project. The project was evaluated as extremely good and innovative at the European level due to the well structured and functional institutional co-ordination and public participation throughout the project duration on the one side, and very well elaborated technical proposals on the other, which were both linked with the “Imagine” workshops as a tool for scenarios building and indicators.

Everybody wished that the post-project phase would be equally successful. It is obvious that the success of the CAMP will be judged according to the results achieved in the follow-

up phase for which an Action Plan was proposed with a plethora of possibilities for job creation and initiation of new economic activities, as well as for using the institutional co-ordination established for the future management of the Levante de Almeria coastal areas.

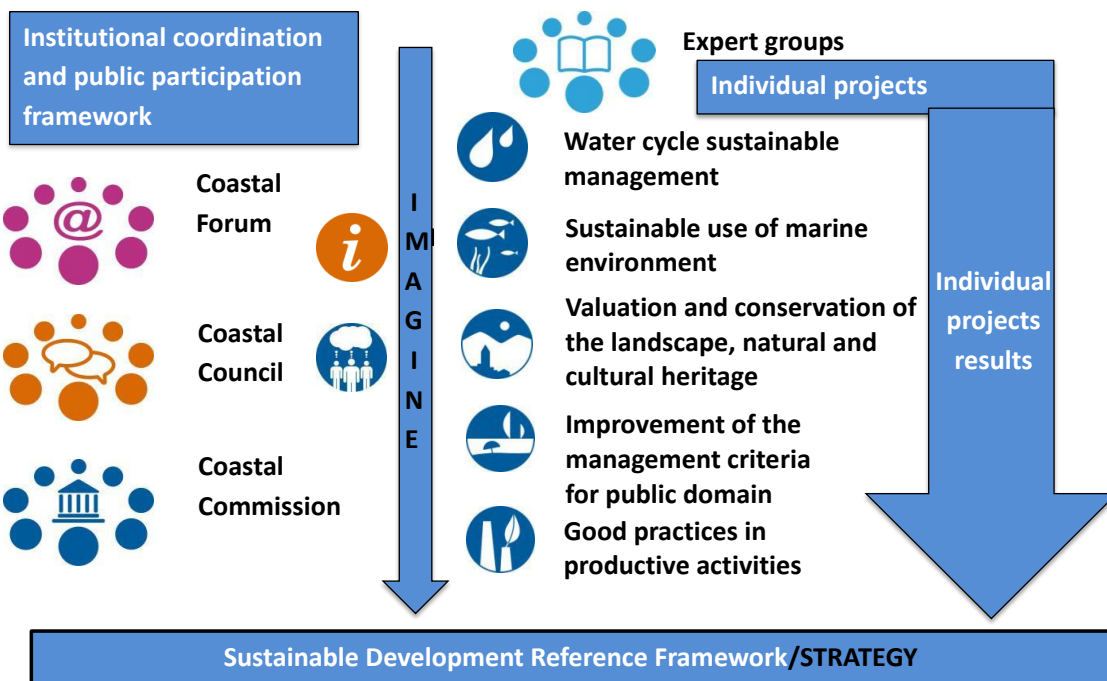
Prior to the Final Presentation Conference, the project results were presented and discussed by the Coastal Commission at a meeting held in December 2012 that was concluded with the adoption of the Declaration by which a political statement was expressed about the SDRF and the future implementation of the proposed actions. The Coastal Commission is composed of the mayors of eight municipalities, the representatives of the Regional government, Provincial council, Association of the municipalities and of the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs. This important body was established as the decision-making and executive body of the three-level



governance structure of CAMP providing for institutional co-ordination and social participation, while the other two are: the Coastal Council involving the interested parties, or public stakeholders, that represent local associations, environmental organisations, NGOs or business sectors (46 altogether) owing to their knowledge of the problems dealt with (i.e. issues related to water resources, landscape management, natural and cultural heritage, public domain, marine resources and the main

productive activities in the area - agriculture, tourism, urban development) and the Coastal Forum, a platform that involves all citizens or associations in order to catalyse debate on the issues addressed during the development of the project [through its website](#).

The CAMP Levante de Almeria [Final integrated report](#) was prepared and a very informative 25-minute [video](#) about the CAMP implementation in Spain was produced.



CAMP Montenegro

CAMP Montenegro was officially launched in March 2012 at the Inception Workshop organised in Podgorica by the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, with the support of PAP/RAC. It was attended by more than 70 participants including representatives of national and local authorities, as well as representatives of national institutions and civil society organisations concerned with the Montenegrin coastal zone.

CAMP Montenegro (integrated with the process for the preparation of the ICZM Strategy) has been designed in such a way to support the



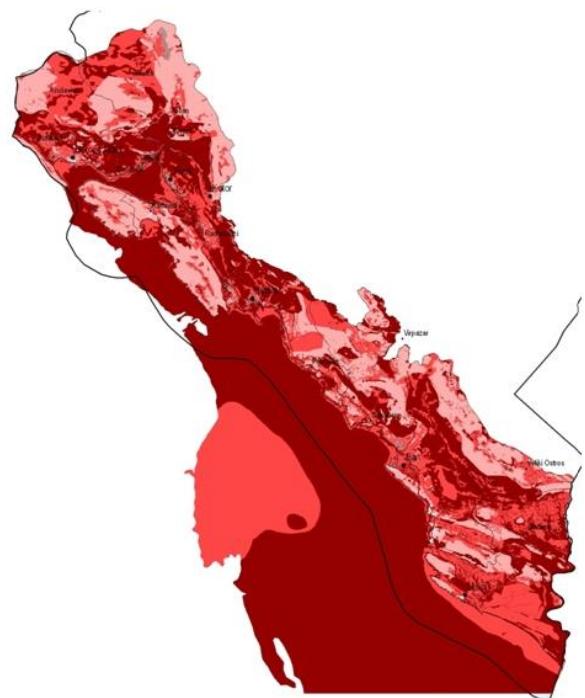
process of preparation of the Coastal Area Spatial Plan of Montenegro, through which it can secure practical application of some of the specific articles of the ICZM Protocol. Focus is on the aspects of ICZM that can contribute to the rationalisation and modernisation of the public management and spatial planning, such as co-ordination, integration and participation mechanisms, development of a coastal information system (observatory), utilisation of some specific tools and instruments (e.g. vulnerability and suitability analysis, tourism carrying capacity assessment, implementation of the coastal setback). Also, the concept of green economy is promoted and ways of how it can contribute to the sustainable coastal development are examined.

Like every other CAMP this CAMP relies on a dynamic governance structure that enables not only a good progress of the CAMP activities but also dynamic links with all other relevant initiatives related to the Montenegrin coastal area, which will ultimately be reflected in the Coastal Area Spatial Plan and the ICZM National Strategy.

The results of the first phase of the project (i.e. the sectoral studies integrated into the vulnerability assessment; initial socio-economic studies including tourism carrying capacity, planning and utilisation of coastal land and key conflicting zones, as well as the methodology for the application of the coastal setback) were presented and discussed during the project mid-term evaluation workshop convened and chaired by the Minister of Sustainable Tourism and

Development in Podgorica in April 2013. The encouragements received from the Minister, as well as from the national and international stakeholders present at the workshop, were felt by the CAMP team as a great impetus for the second phase of the project.

More information on the CAMP Montenegro is available at the [project website](#), administered by the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism. All the information available are still only in Montenegrin. Also, all the project outputs are still in Montenegrin; English versions are expected to be ready soon and shared on the PAP/RAC site as well.



Vulnerability map

CAMP France and CAMP Italy

Negotiations with regard to these two CAMPs are in progress. Both Feasibility Studies were

finalised and the process of preparing contracts and terms of reference has started.

Action 2.3

Professional Development, Training and Education

Same as the governance, training and education are two compulsory components of all PAP/RAC lead ICZM projects, which are delivered through workshops and training courses. In this chapter we will not enter into details of these numerous learning opportunities; instead, we would like to focus to the on-line regional training delivered by PAP/RAC on yearly basis – the “[MedOpen](#)” Virtual Training Course on ICZM in the Mediterranean.

Although the 2012 run of the Advanced Course was intended in the first place for the PEGASO partners, due to high interest, it also included several other candidates from the Mediterranean region. During 13 weeks of the Course, with the support of the PAP/RAC team

and three renowned lecturers, the candidates were acquainted with the ICZM in general but in more detail with the ICZM Process.

The overall work of candidates was assessed by taking into account their participation in the Forum discussions and Simulation Game, as well as their Final Essays. The Forum received a very high “viewing” level – over 3,700 hits to just 13 topics from the registered students and lecturers, indicating a very high level of readership by the 35 students. The Simulation Game exercise was also successful and the Final Essays, mostly based on the local case studies, were prepared by 15 students in total, who obtained the “MedOpen” Advanced certificate.

Objective 3.

Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements

Promotion of the ICZM Protocol is done in many ways and on many occasions: through promotional material, scientific and newspapers' articles, lecturing, assistance to conferences and

other events. In this part we shall focus in particular on the main awareness activity that, after seven years, has become a tradition – the “Mediterranean Coast Day” celebration.

Action 3.1

Public Participation and Awareness Raising

The 2012 Mediterranean “Coast Day” central regional celebration was organised in Split as a part of the EU IPA Adriatic SHAPE project, and in collaboration with UNDP’s “Coast” project. The main event was held on September 25 but the activities were extended over the whole week. The theme of the celebration was “The Voice of the Coast”.

The main event was hosted by the Croatian Minister of Environmental and Nature Protection

and it was attended by high-level representatives of Croatian authorities, as well as a number of distinguished foreign guests, National Focal Points for PAP, representatives of UNEP/MAP and UNDP, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of Mediterranean local authorities and institutions, NGOs and the civil society.

The technical part of the event was an occasion to present the ICZM Protocol and its practical implementation highlights from all around the Mediterranean, from national to very local level. In the second, more casual part groups of children and adolescents presented the results of the activities preceding the main event, the main focus of which was on the young population with the intention to raise their awareness of the values and problems of the coast.



Back-to-back with the central celebration, a technical meeting was organised with the PAP NFPs, the day before, on September 24. The day after, on September 26, there was a joint meeting of three major EU-funded projects – PEGASO, SHAPE and MAREMED, to share results related to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, and a workshop on the draft Outline for the National ICZM Strategies for the Adriatic countries as mentioned above.

On September 28, a concert was organised on the Split waterfront promenade. The attendance exceeded all expectations as the waterfront was full of people who enjoyed performances by famous Croatian singers who accepted to spread “The Voice of the Coast”. The concert was attended by Mr. Ivo Josipović, President of the Republic of Croatia, which was the first time that a UNEP/MAP event was honoured by the presence of such a distinguished guest.



Action 3.2 Excellence on ICZM Issues for the Mediterranean

The Mediterranean Region, UNEP/MAP and PAP/RAC are undoubtedly at the forefront of ICZM, not only because of the unique legally binding instrument adopted to deal with ICZM issues but also because of the knowledge and expertise accumulated over years of ICZM implementation. That is why PAP/RAC and its collaborators are often consulted and invited to intervene. It would take pages to list all the occasions of the kind; hereafter are some of them for illustration:

- International Conference in Sète, France, on the occasion of the 2012 Marseille World Water Forum held in March 2012 when a local agreement on ICZM was confronted to the ICZM Protocol;
- Joint Eionet and Member State Expert Group workshop on Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management held at the European Environmental Agency in Copenhagen, Denmark, in September 2012, to which PAP/RAC was invited to present the state-of-art in the implementation of ICZM in the Mediterranean;
- “MedDays”, a high-level geo-political and socio-economic forum organised in Tangiers, Morocco, in November 2012, by the Amadeus Institute during which the PAP/RAC was invited to intervene within a panel chaired by the Moroccan Minister of Tourism;
- International conference “Littoral 2012” in Oostende, Belgium in November 2012, where PAP/RAC delivered two key note speeches;
- Study visits to PAP/RAC by the members of the South Korean Maritime Institute (October 2012) and the Jordanian UNDP project “Mainstreaming Marine Biodiversity into ICZM Practice” (June 2013) to learn about ICZM in general and its specific topics;
- Kick-off meeting of the ENPI CBC project “Mare Nostrum” held in Haifa, Israel, in March 2013, where PAP/RAC intervention was deemed crucial for the understanding of the Protocol and the complex matter it addresses.

Action 3.3

Promoting the Protocol

Like for the previous Action, it would take pages to list all the occasions and ways in which the ICZM Protocol has been promoted in the Mediterranean: through promotional material such as the ICZM Timeline exposed on several occasions including COP17, brochures, leaflets and videos, participation to conferences and other events.

Therefore, we shall mention here only some far-reaching echoes of the Protocol, such as:

- The co-operation with the Black Sea Commission within the PEGASO project to explore the possibility of adopting a similar legal instrument for the Black Sea region;
- The participation of a PAP/RAC representative in a meeting of the West Indian Ocean for which a regional legal instrument is being prepared following the model of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol; or
- Presentation made by the IFREMER delegate in Martinique on behalf of PAP/RAC on the ICZM Protocol at the yearly BODLANME Forum of the French Antilles region.



3.

CONCLUSION

Despite the difficulties that the entire UNEP/MAP system has been facing these last years PAP/RAC has managed to keep a high level of activity and to deliver some good quality results. Scaling up ICZM as a strategic policy instrument at the national level, proposing innovative methodological approaches, strengthening governance mechanisms, acting “on the ground” through concrete territorial projects – these have been the fields in which major progress was made in this biennium.

To be able to do so, PAP/RAC had to invest a lot of effort to mobilise external resources due to the scarcity of the MTF funds that all UNEP/MAP components have to cope with. Without these resources and without efficient partnership that PAP/RAC has forged with other Mediterranean actors, these results could not have been possible. Not to forget the crucial role of our NFPs – the more they are dynamic and responsive, the more PAP/RAC can be successful not only in their countries but in the regional endeavours as well. We take this opportunity to thank all NFPs who have contributed to and supported our work. We would also like to invite all NFPs to use more proactively the restricted working area created for them at the PAP/RAC website – the NFPs Corner, for which we cannot say that until now was sufficiently used.

The scarcity of financial resources, sometimes coupled with difficult working and travelling conditions, made our progress difficult in some of the fields. Several studies could not be completed, such as the screening of the national legal framework with regard to the ICZM Protocol in France, Italy and Lebanon. Methodological work on linking ICZM and Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) had to be postponed, and the same happened with the

carrying capacity of coastal territories. Finally, an important and frequently requested activity could not be launched, which is the evaluation of CAMP results and their follow-up activities.

All these remain challenges for the future. To fill these gaps and to keep alive its actual activities PAP/RAC will continue to closely collaborate with the countries and to assist them in mobilising external resources for the implementation of ICZM. Two project proposals are currently under examination, in which PAP/RAC has joined consortia of institutions from the Mediterranean countries: the TRANSPLANMED project submitted to the DG MARE call on MSP together with French, Italian and Spanish partners; and the IMAGE project, a package of national ICZM strategies, MSP and other activities, submitted for IPA Adriatic Strategic call together with partners from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Montenegro and Slovenia. Let’s hope for the best!

Let’s also hope that new opportunities will appear soon to prepare proposals in which other countries will be eligible. To be fully prepared for these opportunities and to be able to react quickly, we invite you to share with us your priorities and preferences for action with regard to ICZM.

