

Ecosystem-Based Adaptation

"A pulse for transformative changes
in the Mediterranean Sea"

14-16 October 2019

Malaga, Spain



Project co-financed by the European
Regional Development Fund



Draft Programme

As of 10/10/2019

BACKGROUND

The Interreg Med Biodiversity Protection Community featured by the PANACeA project is organizing a three-day encounter to share and celebrate the three years of collaborative work achieved by this community to safeguard mechanisms and tools that support a more effective management of biodiversity and ensure proper ecosystem functions across the Mediterranean.

The event will include various activities related to the latest achievements concerning collaborative science, management and policy and will demonstrate the work of over 200 institutions engaged in cooperation for biodiversity conservation related actions. It will also shed light on its major future steps and planned actions for the upcoming years and will inform on their alignment with post 2020 regional and global targets.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The agenda will include official acts involving protected area managers, international, Mediterranean, national, regional and local public authorities, research institutions and all those people and organisations interested in biodiversity protection and sustainable natural resource management in the Mediterranean region.

WHAT TOPICS WILL BE ADDRESSED

“ *The diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems, as well as many fundamental contributions we derive from nature, are declining fast, although we still have the means to ensure a sustainable future for people and the planet.* ”

(IPBES report, 2019)

The global and regional goals for conserving and sustainably using nature and achieving sustainability are far from being met, especially in the Mediterranean region, with demonstrated consequences from trajectories and trends of overexploitation of biodiversity and natural resources. It is most likely that globally and in the Mediterranean, most of the Aichi Targets set for 2020 (3 months from the event!), will be missed and that goals set for 2030 and beyond may only be achieved through “transformative changes across economic, social, political, and technological factors”. **Loss of biological diversity is shown to be, not only an environmental issue, but also a developmental, economic, security, social and moral issue as well.**

As we aim to make an effective change in policies and management practices to conserve Mediterranean biodiversity and ecosystems now and beyond 2020, the debate and solutions found by this Biodiversity Protection Community to the questions below could help effective upscaling and feeding the regional management and policy agendas for 2020 and beyond:

- How to adapt and become more resilient to the impacts of climate change on our ecosystems?
- What to do to tackle transboundary challenges like pollution including marine litter?
- Which are the key ecological areas that need protection and management to maintain healthy Mediterranean habitats?
- What is the role of the various society actors in preserving our natural capital, the core of our economies?
- Which models of participatory decision making are effective for an integrated management of natural resources including local livelihoods?
- How to limit the damage to our ecosystems while fostering a sustainable blue growth?
- How would all these state-of-the-art mechanisms and solutions found by the community be included and effectively implemented in future looking regional policies to ensure that transformative changes take place?

All delegates are invited to attend the SOPHIE Project Mediterranean workshop taking place prior to the event: Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: “A pulse for transformative changes in the Mediterranean Sea”

Side-event: SOPHIE (Seas, Oceans & Public Health in Europe)*

Future outlooks on Oceans and Health for Europe's marine waters

Date: Monday 14 October (from 10.30 – 13.30) – Museo Alborania, Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Muelle 2, 29015 Málaga

Draft Agenda

Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: A pulse for transformative changes in the Mediterranean Sea



14 October 2019 – Afternoon : Official opening

Venue: Salón de los Espejos - Ayuntamiento de Málaga - Avda. Cervantes 4, Malaga

Language: Simultaneous interpretation (Spanish and English)

15:00 - 15:30 Welcome and registration of participants

15:30 - 16:30 Opening ceremony

Welcome speech from high level officials

- **Francisco de la Torre**, Mayor of the City of Malaga
- **Joaquin Villanova**, Vice-president, Andalusian Federation of Towns and Provinces (FAMP)
- **Curzio Cervelli**, Interreg Med Programme
- **Juan Teodomiro**, University of Malaga
- **Rosa Estaras Ferragut**, Member of the European Parliament, former EP Intergroup SEARICA

16.30 - 17:15 Keynote speech – Why we need transformative changes in the Mediterranean

- **Ronan Uhel**, European Environment Agency (EEA)
- **Tatjana Hema**, UN Environment / Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit (UNEP/MAP)

The keynote speeches will explain why the loss of biological diversity is not only an environmental issue, but a developmental, economic, security, social and moral issue, and on the way to push forward transformative changes in the region.

* for full programme of the SOPHIE project side-event please go to the last page of this agenda

17:15 - 18:30 Declaration Signature Ceremony - Mediterranean Declaration for Biodiversity Protection

- What has been delivered and where to go next?
Dania Abdul Malak, ETC-UMA: The story of PANACeA: from individual projects and stakeholders to a strong community with concrete impacts
- The Mediterranean Declaration video projection
- Signature by key representatives and photo call

18:30 Institutional Cocktail and Dinner (venue to be announced)



15 October 2019

Venue: Observatorio de Medio Ambiente Urbano - OMAU
Camino de la Desviación s/n, Málaga

Language: Simultaneous interpretation (Spanish and English) for the technical sessions

08:30 - 09:00 Registration of participants and welcome

Pedro Marin Cots - OMAU

09:00 - 10:30 Technical session 1 : State and Trends in Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the Mediterranean Region in the context of climate change

While Mediterranean ecosystems and biodiversity constitute an exceptional regional natural capital, the population and its needs are increasing and the demand for clean water, food and infrastructure is rising dramatically. At the same time, climate change is having an impact on wild areas and natural ecosystems, altering the ecosystems' capacity to provide services vital to humans. Making accessible the best scientific knowledge about climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean is therefore a top priority to build awareness and to promote a sustainable change among key stakeholders.

This technical session will be the opportunity to explore the trends identified in the Report on the State of Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SOED 2019). The comprehensive assessment of major sustainability issues in the Mediterranean will serve to foster a discussion around the urgent policy and societal responses required to address the situation.

Moderator: Elen Lemaitre Curri, UNEP MAP Plan Bleu

Setting the stage : Daniel Cebrian – UNEP MAP SPA/RAC

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- **Ronan Uhel** - European Environment Agency (EEA)
- **Joaquim Garrabou** - ICM CSIC, MPA Adapt
- **Ilse Geijzendorffer** - Tour du Valat
- **Charlotte Sève / Joachim Claudet** - CNRS/CRIOBE

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 - 12:30 Technical session 2 : Protecting biodiversity while promoting growth; how can it be achieved?

The Mediterranean region is a biodiversity hotspot with a high concentration of human activities. The coexistence of these two elements is often challenging to balance and human activities are often developed at the detriment of the protection of the ecosystem and its biodiversity. Interreg MED projects and other framework cooperation initiatives are designing solutions to make biodiversity protection and growth coexist.

Starting from an assessment of the combined effect of different human pressures on Mediterranean ecosystems, this session will explore synergies amongst actors sharing the same mission in different perspectives and regions, and promote a regional approach encompassing North and South shores of the Mediterranean. It will focus on indicators to monitor the pressures of human activities on biodiversity to support decision-making for managers and policy-makers, as well as on solutions to reduce them while promoting a sustainable socio-economic development in Protected Areas and Biosphere Reserves. European Institutions will illustrate policy frameworks for future cooperation on sustainable development, blue growth, research and innovation.

Moderator : Josep Canals Molina, MedCities

Setting the stage: Mihollaq Qirjo, REC Albania

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- **Christel Georges**, City of Marseille
- **Rafael Fernández**, Andalusia Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries Development, REINWASTE
- **Mercè Escrichs**, Generalitat de Catalunya / NECSTOUR
- **Said Boujrouf**, Mohammed V University, Rabat

12:30 - 14:00 Technical session 3 : Solutions in hand for healthier Mediterranean ecosystems

The knowledge and tools generated by the Interreg Med Biodiversity protection community and others and how successfully tested examples are useful to ensure healthier Mediterranean ecosystems and natural resources will be highlighted during this session. It will shed light on the potential transferability of new governance and management models in the Mediterranean as supporting mechanisms to a better integrated and common approach with a view to fill data and management gaps in environmental protection and support ecosystem-based strategic directions in future governance decisions.

Moderator: Sergi Tudela, Catalan Directorate General of Fisheries and Maritime affairs

Setting the stage: Magali Outters, UNEP MAP SCP RAC

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- **Josep Lloret / Arnau Carreño**, University of Girona, PHAROS4MPAs
- **Maria del Mar Otero**, IUCN-Med, POSBEMED
- **Simonetta Frascchetti**, University of Naples Federico II, AMAre
- **Cristina Panti**, University of Siena, PlasticBusters MPAs

14:00 – 15:15 Lunch break

15:15 - 18:00

The “Mediterranean Optimism Tour”: A journey along the INTERREG Biodiversity Protection Community’s Transformative Actions to Save the Mediterranean



Facilitator: Julia Vera, Travelecoology

The objective of the interactive session is to showcase the work undertaken by the more than 200 institutions forming the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection community in support of biodiversity protection in the Mediterranean between 2016-2019 and inspire future action, guided by the vision of the “Mediterranean Declaration for biodiversity Protection” and the confidence that we can see it through.

This interactive session will serve as a channel to convey the key messages stemming from the comprehensive work undertaken by the Community since its inception, revolving around the following pivotal themes: The process to weave a new **network** (the Biodiversity Protection Community); the **outreach** of technical & scientific actions by Modular projects; the practical **solutions** and tools developed through Modular projects; the use of **technology** to facilitate knowledge generation; and the **road ahead** and mechanisms available for biodiversity protection.

18:00 - 19:00

The Mediterranean Community in images: networking cocktail on site



16 October 2019

Venue: Museo Alborania, Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Muelle 2, 29015 Málaga

Language: Simultaneous interpretation (Spanish and English) for the policy sessions

08:30 - 09:00

Welcome and registration of participants

09:00 - 10:30

Policy uptake session 1: Priority actions to improve biodiversity in Protected Areas

This session will build on conclusions from the technical sessions the day before and draw attention to key findings on the situation of protected areas in the Mediterranean according to the latest assessments. The debate will consider existing solutions and priority actions to enhance the management and coherence particularly of marine protected areas and their functionality individually and as a network for recovering and preserving healthy ecosystems. Emphasis will be placed on those tools and actions which should most urgently be considered in the post 2020 policy agenda.

Moderator: Paolo Lombardi - WWF Mediterranean

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- **Victoria Gonzalez**, Fundación Biodiversidad - Spanish Ministry of Ecological Transition (tbc)
- **Marie Romani**, MedPAN Network
- **Khalil Attia**, UNEP MAP SPA/RAC
- **Vedran Nikolić**, EU Directorate-General for Environment

10:30 - 11:00

Break

11:00 - 12:30 Policy uptake session 2: Priority actions in sensitive hotspot areas in the Mediterranean Sea

This roundtable discussion will focus on available tools, solutions and recommendations for priority actions to manage cumulative impacts in sensitive transboundary areas in the Mediterranean. Collaborative mechanisms and an ecosystem-based approach based on science will be the basis for addressing a multisectoral framework to maintain ecosystem services across key threatened biodiversity areas. Readymade solutions will be showcased as effective measures available for policy uptake.

Moderator: Peter Mackelworth, Blue-World Institute

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- **Leonardo Tunesi**, ISPRA
- **Valentina Cappanera**, Italian Network of Marine Protected Areas
- **Marko Prem**, UNEP/MAP PAP/RAC
- **Luca Santarossa**, Federparchi – Europarc Italy, FishMPABlue2

12:30 - 13:30 Policy uptake session 3: The way ahead and future priorities to reduce pressures on Mediterranean biodiversity

The last policy uptake session will review existing solutions and instruments in place at different scales to reduce pressures on Mediterranean biodiversity and that are transferable to support post 2020 targets including Mediterranean (UNEP-MAP), European (EU DGs ENV/CA) and global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs/CBD/UN ENV) agendas. The session will summarize the main steps ahead in the accomplishment of better cooperation actions in the coming years.

Moderator : Dania Abdul Malak, ETC-UMA

Roundtable followed by Q/A:

- **Elen Lemaitre Curri**, UNEP MAP Plan Bleu
- **Paolo Lombardi**, WWF Mediterranean
- **Peter Mackelworth**, Blue-World Institute
- **Sergi Tudela**, Catalan Directorate General of Fisheries and Maritime affairs

13:30 – 13:45 Concluding remarks by the Rector of the University of Malaga

13:45 - 19:00 Lunch and outdoor demonstration activities

A practical workshop on science and practice concerning marine litter monitoring, impacts, management and fake news in collaboration with PlasticBustersMPAs, MedSeaLitter and Act4litter partners will help raise awareness on current challenges at EU and Mediterranean level.



Thank you

Side-event



SOPHIE: Seas, Oceans & Public Health in Europe

Date: Monday 14 October (Morning from 10.30 to 13.30) followed by lunch

Venue: Museo Alborania, Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Muelle 2, 29015 Málaga

Language: English

Project workshop: Future outlooks on Oceans and Health for Europe's marine waters

The majority of Europe's population lives in urban areas characterized by inland waterways and coastal margins. Future trends, like climate change, migration, an ageing population, pollution and technology, will have a great impact on societies in Europe. So far, the impacts of these trends have been studied at a continental or national level and policy development is often based on these high level studies. The implications of global trends on a local level, are barely understood so far. However, local authorities need to take action now to anticipate the impacts of future trends to keep their citizens healthy and safe. For the H2020 projects BlueHealth (<https://bluehealth2020.eu/>) and SOPHIE (<https://sophie2020.eu/>) a participatory approach has been developed and tested to identify challenges at a local level arising from global trends. During an interactive workshop, the participants will discuss on the relevancy of different trends for different the Mediterranean Sea, their perspectives on how to deal with these trends and potential research gaps. The outcomes of the workshop will serve as input for the research agenda to be delivered by H2020 SOPHIE project, but may also support questions regarding transferability of cases from one location to another and input for policy plans.

Registration to all sessions: click [here](#)