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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Eighth Meeting of Focal Points for SPAs

Palermo, Italy, 6-9 June 2007

SAP BIO Implementation status by regional institutions members of its Advisory Committee

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The original version (English) of this document has been prepared by the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA), based in contributions received by the concerned organizations.

Preface

At the Second Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean Region (Tunis, 1 March 2007), it was agreed that RAC/SPA would collect information from the committee members and their collaborators on the state of implementation of SAP BIO by their respective structures, so as to inform the SPA Focal Points on the topic.

The Meeting agreed that the implementation of SAP BIO was a task that should be shouldered by all the regional organisations working for the conservation of the Mediterranean. RAC/SPA was a coordinator, but it needed assistance from other bodies able to take the lead in specific fields for which they are specialised.

This document fulfils that RAC/SPA engagement towards the Committee. It will serve as an initial reference tool to facilitate collaboration and coordination amongst Regional organisations acting on behalf of the Mediterranean environment, as well as with the Parties to the Barcelona Convention. More specifically it may help, for example, to develop a SAP BIO Interactive Participatory Programme to be included in the SAP BIO Operational Plan for the 2008-09 biennium, weighing components such as involvement of stakeholders and NGOs; another usefulness would be to help harmonise, co-ordinate and integrate up to a realistically possible level the programmatic orientation and plans of the institutions members of the Advisory Committee, as well as other regional organisations, contributing thus to increased synergies, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the SAP BIO implementation.

This reference document maybe updated in the future with further contributions by other organisations acting in the region, including International Cooperation Agencies. RAC/SPA wants to acknowledge the collaboration efforts shown by the organisations contributing so far to the document, during a period full of engagements and work load for all of them.

SAP BIO Regional Actions, Objectives and Targets as adopted on November 2003.

State of the art as for end April 2007 by the following Regional Organisations: Bern Convention, UNESCO, FAO, GFCM, REMPEC, WWF, MedPAN

CATEGORY	TARGET
<p>I. INVENTORYING, MAPPING AND MONITORING OF MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL AND MARINE BIODIVERSITY</p>	<p><u>General objective</u> "Contribute to achieving the WSSD targets concerning establishing by 2004 a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments¹"</p> <p><u>Specific targets</u> ✓ GIS-based mapping of sensitive habitats by 2008 (relevant objective/s: 1a) ✓ Mediterranean Checklists of species by 2006 (1b,d) ✓ Standard monitoring protocols for socio-economic impacts, global trade, endangered species, effectiveness of protected areas by 2004 (2a; 3a; 4a; 5a) SAP BIO indicators by 2006 (6 a,b,c,d,e)</p>

Activity (Priority Actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved /ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
<p>1) Make a complete and integrated inventory (by sub-region) of Mediterranean coastal, wetland, and marine sensitive habitats</p>	<p>a) Description and GIS-based mapping of the spatial distribution of the sensitive habitats:</p>	<p>1. Increase availability of GIS technology</p> <p>2. Enhance national capabilities and support national and sub-national programmes to map sensitive habitats</p> <p>3. Undertake international Mediterranean campaigns with oceanographic boats of cartography of sensitive habitats</p> <p>4. Facilitate exchange of and access to maps by scientists and managers</p>	<p>1. FAO: The MedSudMed and AdriaMed Project has provided a copy of the ArcView software to all institutes participating in the Project.</p> <p>2. FAO: Studies were carried out to map the nursery and spawning grounds of demersal fisheries resources in the MedSudMed area as well in the AdriaMed area.</p> <p>WWF: Aegean Wetlands Project: an inventory of 322 wetlands in the Aegean Islands of Greece, survey and on-going monitoring of 218 wetlands, creation of an on-line database, local public awareness actions and establishment of a pilot "red alert" system (WWF Greece)</p> <p>WWF: Gap analysis/GIS inventory of 34 sandbanks,77 Posidonia beds, 21 Estuaries, 43 Mudflats, 34 Coastal lagoons,36 Large shallow inlets-bays and 116 Reefs in Spanish Med Coast (WWF Spain)</p> <p>MEDPAN/Junta de Andalucia: Guidebook on implementation of a GIS in MPAs</p>	<p>2. REMPEC: Inclusion of sensitivity mapping, as a general objective in the Centre's programme of activities for the biennium 2008-2009. Detailed assessment as regards both the availability of sensitivity maps and GIS systems within the Mediterranean region</p> <p>Development of Regional workshops and/or training activities on the use and development of sensitivity maps in countries where assistance is</p>

¹ Extract from Paragraph 34b, Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development – Johannesburg, September 2002.

Activity (Priority Actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved /ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
			<p>REMPEC: development of sensitivity maps for both the Syrian coasts, within the framework of the EC funded LIFE third Countries project entitled "Development of the national system for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution in the Syrian Republic"; and the Slovenian coast within the framework of the Slovenia CAMP.</p> <p>3. FAO: Surveys at sea were supported by MedSudMed (acoustic and ichthyoplankton surveys).</p> <p>MedPAN/ Cabrera National Park: cartography of peninsula de Arta (Island of Majorca)</p> <p>4. REMPEC: experts meeting on sensitivity mapping held at REMPEC's premises in March 2004, to promote consistency with respect to the symbols used in sensitivity maps in order to facilitate the use of the maps on a regional scale for the exchange of information during spill events.</p>	<p>assistance is required</p> <p>Assistance to the selected countries for the development, use and update of sensitivity maps</p> <p>3. FAO: The organisation of surveys at sea is currently supported by MedSudMed to collect data in areas where few or no information is available, in particular in Libya.</p>
	b) Complete checklist of species associated with each sensitive habitat	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Form regional workgroups of specialists by taxon and/or habitat 2. Set up regional programmes to make such checklists by sub-region and/or country (cf. Target d below) 		<p>FAO: It is foreseen that MedSudMed organises a regional workshop on <i>Octopus vulgaris</i> to take stock of knowledge available on ecology, fisheries, migration patterns and stock units</p>
	c) Long-term routine monitoring programmes, in order to define temporal variability of abundance, biomass and other assemblage variables within sensitive habitats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convene thematic workshops by types of habitat, to elaborate standardised regional monitoring programmes 2. Support monitoring programmes at national level, to be implemented by national workgroups in selected sites by types of habitat (at undisturbed sites, e.g. marine and coastal protected areas) 	1. MEDPAN: 1 workshop in 2007	<p>1. FAO: It is foreseen to compile information on essential fish habitats of target species defined within MedSudMed and AdriaMed.</p> <p>MEDPAN: To be continued over 2008-2010</p>
	d) Elaborate national checklists for marine and coastal species for all the Mediterranean countries	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Form national workgroups of specialists by taxon and/or habitat (assisted by regional workgroups when necessary) 2. Set up national programmes to undertake national checklists 		
2) Establish a monitoring system of endangered	a) Implement a monitoring system	1. Establish standard adequate monitoring techniques and methods	a. WWF: Working for over 20 years in marine turtle conservation along Turkish Med. Coast and initiated a	

Activity (Priority Actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved /ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
system of endangered and threatened species	monitoring system for endangered species at regional level	<p>monitoring techniques and methods, in order to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. determine accurately geographical distribution b. estimate population size and structure c. estimate population dynamics d. determine habitat requirements of endangered and threatened species <p>2. Determine sampling protocols (spatial and temporal allocation of sampling, number of samples, etc.)</p> <p>3. Implement standard monitoring protocols</p>	<p>conservation along Turkish Med. Coast and initiated a grouper survey in selected sites (WWF TR)</p> <p>UNESCO: supporting global and regional observation to measure abiotic, biodiversity, and social changes in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. Biosphere Reserves Integrated Monitoring Programme (BRIM)</p>	
	b) Establish and update the health and risk status of endangered populations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List specific threats affecting each endangered species 2. Model population dynamics in order to forecast different scenarios concerning each species 3. Revise periodically the conservation status of each species 		
3) Promote the adequate monitoring and survey of the effectiveness of marine and coastal protected areas	a) Implement sound scientifically-based monitoring programmes on the effectiveness of marine and coastal protected areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define planned objectives of existing protected areas to be monitored taking into account the methodology of the Afrodite² project, already ongoing on several MPAs 2. Elaborate a regional monitoring booklet defining sampling and experimental principles, as well as standardised sampling protocols established to acquire useful, comparable data 3. Implement standardised sampling 	<p>a) WWF: Worked to promote sustainable tourism in selected locations through development and approval of a land use plan. Working with diving clubs and authorities to monitor MPAs. (WWF TR)</p> <p>Linkage between the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and WWF-Spain for the monitoring and exploratory survey of the Cap de Creus Canyon (WWF Spain)</p> <p>1. MedPAN / Port-Cros National Park: survey of the effectiveness of the management of the MPA</p> <p>MedPAN / Asinara National Park: Port-Cros National Park: survey of the effectiveness of the management of the MPA</p>	<p>3) WWF: SP for LME in the Mediterranean - GEF Project (WWF MedPO)</p> <p>1. MEDPAN: To be continued over 2008-2010</p> <p>4. MEDPAN: Considered activity</p>

² Project for monitoring Marine Protected Areas in several European countries

Activity (Priority Actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved /ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
		<p>programmes in selected protected areas spanning a representative set at regional level (taking into account the methodology of the Afrodite project)</p> <p>4. Undertake a comparative analysis of protected areas results at regional level</p>	<p>3. a) UNESCO: Biosphere Reserves Integrated Monitoring Programme (BRIM)</p>	
	<p>b) Improve methods of management planning, implementation and monitoring</p>	<p>1. Evaluate, at regional level, effectiveness of management measures in relation to planned objectives</p> <p>2. Analysis of the applicability of new management measures</p> <p>3. Refine management measures</p>	<p>1. UNESCO: MAB work related to the development of a core set of indicators to measure the effectiveness of biosphere reserves</p> <p>3. UNESCO: Periodic reviews of biosphere reserves</p>	
<p>4) Identify, develop, and validate adequate biological and socio-economic indicators to assess the ecological health of sensitive habitats and species, and to evaluate the effectiveness of</p>	<p>a) Elaborate a regional strategy on SAP BIO indicators</p>	<p>1. Convene a regional workshop on SAP BIO indicators</p> <p>2. Form a working group in charge of elaborating and validating a set of SAP BIO indicators</p>	<p>2. FAO: The AdriaMed Project, through its Working Group on Indicators, has identified a list of biological and economic indicators for the Adriatic Sea demersal fisheries (GSA 18).</p>	

Activity (Priority Actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved /ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
management measures				
	b) Elaborate a list of useful SAP BIO indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define objectives of the set of indicators to be used 2. Elaborate a catalogue of indicators (taking into account the indicators proposed by other international institutions) 3. Specify the methodological constraints linked to each indicator 4. Select useful indicators 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. UNESCO: Biosphere Reserves Integrated Monitoring Programme (BRIM) 4. Implementation of "How's your MPA doing?"³ in several MPAs across the Med 	
	c) Existing and new data collected to construct selected SAP BIO indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate the availability of existing data 2. Elaborate standardised protocols to collect new data 3. Decide periodicity and implementation calendar of selected indicators 4. Undertake sampling programmes to collect new data where necessary 		
	d) Construct SAP BIO indicator set starting from the collected data	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gather regional data 2. Construct indicators 3. Publish the results at regional level 		
	e) Validate selected SAP BIO indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish the states of SAP BIO implementation 2. Evaluate the usefulness, accuracy and precision of selected indicators 3. Possibly, refine list of SAP BIO indicators 		

³ Pomeroy, R:S., Parks, J.E. and Watson, L.M. (2004) *How's your MPA doing? A guidebook of natural and social indicators for evaluating marine protected area management/effectiveness*. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.

CATEGORY		TARGET		
II. CONSERVATION OF SENSITIVE HABITATS, SPECIES AND SITES		<p><u>General objective</u> Contribute to achieving the WSSD targets concerning the establishing of Marine Protected Areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, representative networks, by 2012, and time/area closures for the protection of nursery grounds and periods, proper coastal land use⁴</p> <p><u>Specific targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Effective protection of endangered species by 2012 (relevant objectives 7a, b; 8d) ✓ Increase (50%) by 2012 the surface area covered by MPAs (10 a, b, c, f) ✓ Attain the protection of 20 % of the coast as marine fishery reserves by 2012 (10 e) ✓ Set up a representative Mediterranean network of marine and coastal protected areas by 2012 (11 a, b) 		
Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved/ongoing Actions	Foreseen actions
5) Update, coordinate and enforce legislation to conserve biodiversity	a) Fill in existing gaps in national legislation about the protection of such habitats, species and areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that measures adopted within the framework of regional conventions, arrangements or organizations to which countries are party are incorporated in national legislations 2. Clarify at national level competencies regarding the management of littoral areas 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WWF: Moroccan driftnets: phase out (UE-Morocco FPA) planned (WWF Spain) 2. WWF: Protection of sensitive habitats and nature at a EU level (Mediterranean Regulation) (WWF Spain) 	
	b) Ensure the completion, enforcement and implementation of existing and updated legislation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the general level of compliance with current legislation in the region 2. Develop guidelines on root cause analysis of non-compliance that would help to identify the real problems in various non-compliance scenarios 3. Set up of a specific national police body, for the protection of biodiversity in coastal areas (any other police task being excluded) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WWF: Enforcement of the driftnet ban in Italy, to reduce cetacean mortality (WWF Italy) 2. WWF: Engaged in lobbying and communication activities to preserve natural habitats from illegal and destructive activities (WWF TR) 	

⁴ Extract from Paragraph 31c Plan of Implementation“ of the World Summit on Sustainable Development - 4 September 2002, Johannesburg.

<p>6) Develop actions to conserve threatened and endangered (coastal and marine) Mediterranean species</p>	<p>a) Coordinate the implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs) for threatened and endangered species elaborated within the SAP BIO Project</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize subregional workshops 2. Prepare common guidelines, documents to assist countries in the implementation of the NAPs 3. During the implementation phase assure the flow of information among the NAPs 4. Refine NAPs to protect threatened and endangered species 	<p>6) WWF: Development and implementation of the WWF's Species Action Plan for the conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean (WWF Italy)</p> <p>WWF: Coordinate the development of a National Species Action Plan for the conservation of marine turtles (WWF TR)</p> <p>WWF: Life Project by WWF Greece-Mom-Fisheries Research Institute. Mitigation of the conflict between monk seal and fisheries in the Greek Seas</p> <p>UNESCO: Range of activities / actions developed in Biosphere Reserves</p>	
	<p>b) Increase knowledge on these species</p>	<p>(cf. priority #4.a,4.b)</p>		
	<p>c) Establish a monitoring system for these species</p>	<p>(cf. priority #4)</p>		
	<p>d) Harmonise, update, implement and enforce adequate legislation</p>	<p>(cf. priority #7)</p>		
	<p>e) Habitats on which selected protected species depend</p>	<p>(cf. priority #10, target d)</p>		<p>e) UNESCO: 20 biosphere reserves in the Mediterranean could be used as laboratories where approaches to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, in accordance with SAP BIO priorities, could be demonstrated and implemented. Furthermore, these biosphere reserves, including the recently approved Intercontinental Biosphere Reserve of the Mediterranean (Morocco/Spain) could be interesting sites to be included in RAC/SPA pilot projects.</p>

<p>7) Protect marine and coastal sites of particular interest</p>	<p>a. Develop and coordinate protection actions for priority sites and areas identified by National Reports</p>	<p>1. Campaign of collection of data using the Standard Entry Data Form in identified site</p> <p>2. Prepare detailed Action Plans to protect identified sites</p> <p>3. Coordinate protection actions at regional level (cf. Priority #11, Target b below)</p>	<p>3. GFCM: REC. GFCM/30/2006/3: Establishment of fisheries restricted areas in order to protect the deep sea sensitive habitats.</p> <p>Three areas are included in this recommendation:</p> <p>a) Deep Sea fisheries restricted area “Lophelia reef off Capo Santa Maria di Leuca” 39° 27.72' N, 18° 10.74' E 39° 27.80' N, 18° 26.68' E 39° 11.16' N, 18° 04.28' E 39° 11.16' N, 18° 32.58' E</p> <p>b) Deep Sea fisheries restricted area “The Nile delta area cold hydrocarbon seeps” 31° 30.00' N, 33° 10.00' E 31° 30.00' N, 34° 00.00' E 32° 00.00' N, 34° 00.00' E 32° 00.00' N, 33° 10.00' E</p> <p>c) Deep Sea fisheries restricted area “The Eratosthemes Seamount” 33° 00.00' N, 32° 00.00' E 33° 00.00' N, 33° 00.00' E 34° 00.00' N, 33° 00.00' E 34° 00.00' N, 32° 00.00' E</p> <p>GFCM REC. GFCM/29/2005/1: On the management of certain fisheries exploiting demersal and deepwater species. Deepwater Fisheries. 2. The Members of the GFCM shall prohibit the use of towed dredges and trawlnets fisheries at depths beyond 1 000 m of depth.</p> <p>BERN CONVENTION: The Standing Committee of the Bern Convention has adopted the following relevant recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendation No. 16 (1989) of the standing committee on areas of special conservation interest - Resolution No. 4 (1996) listing endangered natural habitats requiring specific conservation measures <p>In September 1999, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted the Model Law and the European Code of Conduct for Coastal Zones.</p> <p>In Octobre 2003, the 4th International Symposium of the</p>
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⁵ WWF/IUCN (2004) *The Mediterranean deep-sea ecosystems: an overview of their diversity, structure, functioning and anthropogenic impacts, with a proposal for conservation*. IUCN, Malaga and WWF Rome.

			<p>Pan-European Ecological Network Marine and coastal biodiversity and protected areas was held in Dubrovnik, Croatia.</p> <p>WWF: Inclusion of Marine Habitats under Annex II of National Parks Law in Spain (WWF Spain) Contribution to the sustainable management of the Evros Delta National Park and Zakynthos National Marine Park, through the participation in the Management Body of the National Park and empowerment and networking activities (WWF Greece) Develop a pelagic marine protected area for cetaceans and other species (WWF Italy) GFCM and EU ban on trawling in 3 Deep Sea Fisheries Restricted Areas (seamount, cold seeps and Lophelia cold water corals reef) in 2006, based on WWF/IUCN (2004) report on deep sea habitats in the Med⁵ (WWF MedPO)</p> <p>UNESCO: Work of UNESCO's MAB Programme, and World Heritage Centre</p>	
<p>8) Declare and develop new coastal and marine protected areas including in the high seas</p>	<p>a) Identify of new areas deserving protection measures in the south and eastern Mediterranean</p>	<p>1. Identify key sites important for harbouring representative, well-conserved marine and coastal habitats (links with cf.priority # 1) further to their identification as priority sites by National Reports (cf. priority # 9)</p> <p>2. Fill in the SDF for each identified area</p>	<p>1. GFCM: New fisheries restricted areas could be identified during the 2007 GFCM intersession activities.</p> <p>WWF: SMAP III Tunisia project aimed at developing an ICZM plan in the Kroumirie and Mogods region, including the establishment of MPAs. Finalizing development of land use plans to preserve coastal areas (WWF TR)</p> <p>BERN CONVENTION: The Emerald Network has also developed in four south-east riparian European countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro) under the CARDS Programme, with the aim of identifying 80% of the potential sites for the network. The CARDS/Emerald programme has been very effectively implemented in the participating countries and it had identified 80% of potential Emerald sites by November 2006.</p>	<p>1. GFCM: The next GFCM workshop on MPAS (Tunis, May 2007) will identify criteria for classification as MPAs An inventory and synthesis of available studies on biodiversity and fishing in deep sea waters in ongoing.</p> <p>BERN CONVENTION: The CARDS/Emerald programme continues with a view to identifying the remainder 20% of sites for the network.</p> <p>MEDPAN: Considered in the action plan of MedPAN (2008-2010)</p>

	<p>b) Set up of new protected marine and coastal areas in the south and eastern Mediterranean</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Countries declare new M&CPA 2. Provide the new M&CPA with all the necessary tools to assure their functioning 3. Establish of a sub-regional network of south and eastern Mediterranean representative habitats (cf. Target 11.b below) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WWF: ICZM and MPAs in Tunisia (SMAP III Tunisia Project) (WWF MedPO) Working to develop new MPAs to safeguard biodiversity in selected sites. (WWF TR) Five offshore SAC proposal in Spanish waters (WWF Spain) Marine Delta del Ebro Front declared as SAC (EU BHD) after WWF-Spain legal efforts (WWF Spain) GFCM: proposal on 2 new sites to ban bottom trawling based on WWF proposal in Spanish waters (WWF Spain) UNESCO: Promotion of the establishment of new marine and coastal Biosphere Reserves. An example of not only transboundary but also intercontinental cooperation, is the recently established Intercontinental Biosphere Reserve of the Mediterranean. Stretching between Spain and Morocco and connected by a marine transition area, the biosphere reserve is developing a joint management programme to benefit two countries with very different socioeconomic situations and sharing a common natural and cultural heritage. Both countries will thus be able to benefit from each other's experience and cooperate in managing both marine and terrestrial areas of shared characteristics 3. UNESCO: The MAB Programme is supported by regional or sub-regional networks, and the UNESCO field offices also play a vital role in the everyday implementation of its activities. There are two MAB Networks, ArabMAB (http://62.193.88.134/default.asp) and EuroMAB (http://www.unesco.org/mab/networks.shtml#Euromab) that have been created to promote regional co-operation in the fields of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Arab and European region respectively: 	<p>b) WWF: SP for LME in the Mediterranean - GEF Project (WWF MedPO)</p> <p>1&2. MEDPAN: Considered in its action plan for 2008-2010. UNESCO: The Intercontinental Biosphere Reserve of the Mediterranean is expected to be a guiding example for transboundary cooperation in the region, ensuring the ecological integrity of the Mediterranean biodiversity through effective management of shared ecosystems.</p>
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	<p>c) Increase the number of C&MPAs or reserves to conserve sensitive, highly endangered species</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define habitat features of selected endangered species 2. Define the minimum area needed to fully protect highly endangered species 3. Select areas to protect these species 4. Prepare detailed Action Plans for these areas (declaration of MPA or implementation of other measures of protection) 		
	<p>d) Identify and protect of new areas offshore (including the high seas) deserving protection measures</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify key sites important for harbouring representative, deep marine habitats and or important pelagic ecosystem (links with cf. priority # 1) 2. The involved countries declare and set up offshore protected areas 		

<p>9) Develop existing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas</p>	<p>a) Enhance the management of existing Protected Areas</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dedicate resources to funding the management of existing Protected Areas 2. Convene workshops of C&MPA managers to harmonise and improve management issues 3. Integrate specific protection measures into large-scale networks (cf. Target b below) 	<p>a) WWF: Working with local communities and authorities to develop management plans and create networks (WWF TR)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MEDPAN: Between 2005 and 2007, 1,2M€ were invested through the MedPAN project on the funding of the management of existing MPAs 2. MEDPAN: Between 2005 and 2007, 7 workshops were organised to improve management issues 	<p>9) SP for LME in the Mediterranean - GEF Project (WWF MedPO)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MEDPAN: This activity will be continued over 2007 – 2010. 3. MEDPAN: This activity will continue over 2007 – 2010. <p>UNESCO: The MAB Secretariat in both HQ and relevant FO (namely Venice, Cairo, and Rabat offices) will enquire if there is interest within the MAB National Committees and biosphere reserves in the Mediterranean countries to work more closely together on the specific issues related to the conservation of biodiversity in the Mediterranean and to further contribute to the implementation of SAP BIO. The future MAB and biosphere reserves meetings, such as EuroMAB and ArabMAB meetings, the 3rd World Congress of Biosphere Reserves could be used as fora to discuss this issue.</p>
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	<p>b) Establish and support protected area networks</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrate specific protection measures at particular locations into wider management plans, as well as into large-scale networks of Coastal and Marine Protected Areas 2. Coordination and harmonisation between management plans and structures of particular existing Protected Areas 3. Undertake specific research, monitoring and assessment under a networking scheme (cf. priority #5) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BERN CONVENTION: The Standing Committee of the Bern Convention adopted Resolution No. 5 (1998) concerning the rules for the Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest (Emerald Network) The Standing Committee of the Bern Convention adopted Resolution No. 3 (1996) concerning the setting up of a pan-European Ecological Network_(PEEN) UNESCO: Cooperation is very much encouraged within the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, operational tool of the MAB programme. There are over 20 biosphere reserves in 14 countries of the Mediterranean region, and the National MAB Committees have been established in most of the countries of the region. 2. UNESCO: MAB assists the countries in the development of existing and future biosphere reserves 3. BERN CONVENTION: The Council of Europe's Committee of Experts for the Development of the pan-European Ecological Network has prepared a report and indicative maps assessing the state of implementation of the Pan-European Ecological Network in the 54 participating countries. 	<p>1. BERN CONVENTION: The proposed criteria for Emerald Network sites is being drawn up by a consultant and it will be presented at the next meeting of the Group of Experts for detailed examination in October 2007.</p> <p>A list of candidate sites is being prepared on the basis of the sites identified and proposed to date by the different countries implementing the Emerald Network.</p> <p>The PEEN report and indicative maps will be presented at the UNECE conference "Environment for Europe" which will be held in Belgrade on 10-12 October 2007.</p> <p>UNESCO: Although the Mediterranean region is not an official region for UNESCO's MAB Programme, the establishment of a MedMAB Network is under consideration)</p> <p>3. MEDPAN: This activity is considered over 2008 – 2010.</p>
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CATEGORY	TARGET
III. ASSESSING AND MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF THREATS ON BIODIVERSITY	<p><u>General objective</u> Contribute to achieving the WSSD targets concerning significant reduction by 2010 in the current rate of loss of biological diversity⁶;</p> <p><u>Specific targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Updated assessment of the potential impact of threats on Mediterranean marine and coastal biodiversity by 2008 (12a, b; 13a) ✓ Maintain or restore fishery stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield with the aim of achieving these goals for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015²⁰ (21 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) ✓ Urgently develop and implement national plans of action, to put into effect the FAO international plans of action, in particular the international plan of action for the management of fishing capacity by 2005 and the international plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by 2004 (relevant objective/s: 21f). Establish effective monitoring, reporting and enforcement, and control of fishing vessels, including by flag states, to further the international plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing²⁰ (21a, c, e, f, h, i) ✓ Control and regulate the urban development of coastal area, land use planning and aquaculture practices within a wider management plan by 2010 (16a; 17a; 20a, b, c) ✓ Legal regulation of recreational activities by 2008 (18 b) ✓ Reinforce control and mitigation of the introduction and spread of alien species by 2006 (15 a, b, c)

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
10) Monitor of global trade and economic policies and trends from a Mediterranean perspective, to analyse their scope and probable effects on biodiversity	a) Implement monitoring systems for consequences of global trade and economic policies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish monitoring protocols and standards, in order to evaluate the effects of international trade on Mediterranean biodiversity 2. Implement standard monitoring protocols 3. Propose recommendations at regional level to undertake specific actions to counter trade effects on biodiversity and sustainable development 4. Coordinate monitoring and action plans at regional and international level (e.g. UNCTAD/UNDP, ICTSD, etc.) 	3. Campaign against growing trend on golf course resorts in areas that clear forest sites and deplete freshwater resources (WWF TR) BFT Report/BFT Trade (WWF MedPO – France – Spain)	
11) Establish a regional monitoring programme	a) Implement monitoring systems	1. Establish monitoring protocols and standards, in order to evaluate the	11) UNESCO: As places which seek to reconcile economic	11) UNESCO: Biosphere reserves

⁶ Extract from Paragraph 42 Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development - 4 September 2003 – Johannesburg.

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
following up the socio-economic impact of changes in biodiversity	for socio-economic impacts of changes in biodiversity	socio-economic effects of changes in biodiversity 2. Implement standard monitoring protocols	development, social development and environmental protection, through partnerships between people and nature, Biosphere reserves are ideal to test and demonstrate approaches to sustainable development at a regional scale.	could be useful for monitoring these matters
12) Assess the potential impact of climate change and rise in sea level on Mediterranean coastal and marine biodiversity	a) Inventory and monitor of biodiversity elements and/or areas likely to be impacted by climate change	1. Geographical identification of priority areas likely to be threatened by climate change and rise in sea level 2. Establish a monitoring network to describe long-term change	1. WWF: 2 degree study for the Mediterranean (WWF Italy) Potential impact of sea level rise in the sea turtle nesting habitat of Laganas Bay in Zakynthos Island, Greece (WWF International, Greece) 2. BERN CONVENTION: The Bern Convention has set up a new Group of Experts on Biodiversity and Climate Change to exchange information and review the effects of climate change on the biological diversity covered by the Bern Convention, including species and habitats, protected areas, and ecological networks, as well as to propose advice and guidance for use in developing appropriate adaptation and management policies and actions to help Parties address the challenges of climate change in the implementation of the Convention and its objectives. UNESCO: Biosphere Reserves are promoted as sites for monitoring the impacts of climate change. An example is the Global Change in Mountain Regions (GLOCHAMORE) project based on some 25 mountain biosphere reserves in all continents that serve as monitoring and study sites.	2. BERN CONV.: The first meeting of the group of experts will be held in June 2007; an interim report will be submitted to the Bern Convention's Standing Committee in November 2007; and specific guidance to Parties will be prepared in 2008. UNESCO: A research strategy has been worked out to: detect signals of global change, identify the consequences, suggest responses at local and regional scales.

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	b) Acquire the necessary knowledge to model and forecast likely effects of climate change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ascertain the relationship between the Mediterranean Sea and the global ocean atmosphere and its response to local forcing 2. Monitoring long-term variability of the thermo-haline circulation, biogeochemical content and transport in the whole Mediterranean Sea 3. Quantify and accurately model regional hydrological cycles (evaporation, precipitation, river run-off, groundwater) 4. Fill in geographical gaps on key processes in the Mediterranean Sea 		

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
13) Assess the potential impact of threats on Mediterranean coastal and marine biodiversity	a) Inventory of biodiversity elements and/or areas likely to be impacted by each of the following threats on biodiversity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pollution o Fisheries and other resource exploitation o Introduction and spread of non-indigenous species o Uncontrolled recreation at activities o Changes in land use o Effects of water management schemes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geographical identification of priority areas likely to be affected by threats on biodiversity 2. Establish a monitoring network to describe long-term change 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MedPAN/ Study on threats on all Mediterranean MPAs ongoing REMPEC: development of sensitivity maps for both the Syrian coasts, within the framework of the EC funded LIFE third Countries project entitled "Development of the national system for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution in the Syrian Republic"; and the Slovenian coast within the framework of the Slovenia CAMP. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. REMPEC: Inclusion of sensitivity mapping, as a general objective in the Centre's programme of activities for the biennium 2008-2009. Detailed assessment as regards both the availability of sensitivity maps and GIS systems within the Mediterranean region Development of Regional workshops and/or training activities on the use and development of sensitivity maps in countries where assistance is required Assistance to the selected countries for the development, use and update of sensitivity maps 2. UNESCO: Biosphere reserves could be useful for this.
14) Mitigate the direct impact of international trade in endangered species	a) Improve research and control on the impact of harvesting wild species	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve monitoring of international trade, focusing especially on species not included in CITES 2. Update CITES lists with Mediterranean threatened and endangered species not yet included 3. Set up a specific national police body, for the protection of biodiversity (cf. priority # 7b) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WWF: Blue fin tuna conservation activities and campaign (WWF MedPO, France, Spain, Italy) 2. WWF: Proposal for CITES inclusion of <i>Lamna nasus</i> and <i>Squalus acanthias</i> (sharks) (WWF MedPO, France, Spain, Italy) 	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	b) Adopt market and awareness measures targeting stakeholders in the chain of catching and trade in alien species (from harvesters to consumers)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create an eco-label to certify that wildlife products have been legally harvested and exported 2. Make consumers and potential purchasers sensitive to international wildlife-trade issues, through adequate awareness measures 	1. WWF: MSC certification (WWF MedPO)	
15) Control and mitigate the introduction and spread of alien and invasive species	a) Develop appropriate institutional measures to fight against particular sources of alien species	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional project to reduce transfer of aliens via aquaculture and aquaria practices (cf. Priority #20) 2. Regional project to reduce transfer of alien species via ships' ballast water and sediments and hull fouling 3. Regional project to reduce transfer of alien species via plastic debris 4. Regional project to reduce transfer of alien species via fishing practices 	a) BERN CONVENTION: In 2002, the Bern Convention's Standing Committee adopted Recommendation No. 91 (2002) on Invasive Alien Species that threaten biological diversity in Islands and geographically and evolutionary isolated ecosystems	
	b) Implement a regional coordination network to mitigate introduction and spread of alien species	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elaborate and adopt at regional level guidelines intended to assist the relevant national authorities 2. Coordinate the actions taken by neighbouring states to prevent and control the introduction of non-indigenous species 3. Support cooperation at international level 	3. BERN CONVENTION: In 2003, the Bern Convention's Standing Committee adopted a European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species.	BERN CONVENTION: Next meeting of the Bern Convention's group of Experts on IAS held in late May 2007. The meeting is set to review implementation of the European Strategy and to also address: IAS and trade; IAS and climate change; plant IAS; and the listing of IAS.

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	c) Fill in existing gaps in knowledge about alien species	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out research work, data collection, monitoring, etc. aimed at improving the available knowledge 2. Coordinate the actions that are necessary for the regular provision of supplementary information for the national and Mediterranean-wide reference lists of non-indigenous species 3. Support information exchange and concerted action at regional level 4. Encourage the implementation of scientifically-backed regionally-harmonised measures of prevention and control 		
16) Control and mitigate coastal urbanization and construction of coastal infrastructure	a) Insert urban development of coastal areas into wider integrated management plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out evaluations of destination sites' carrying capacity and take the necessary steps to ensure that the offer is limited to the carrying capacities thus defined 2. Strengthen or establish legislative tools, regulations and property management to control tourist urbanisation and protect sensitive species, habitats and sites 3. In particular, control the proliferation of marinas and sport harbours 4. Prohibit the construction of artificial beaches 5. Implement programmes enabling the rehabilitation of mature destination areas favouring the environment 6. Implement mechanisms enabling (whenever possible) a financial contribution from the tourist sector 	<p>16) UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Urban Group contributes to sustainable urban development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ICZM plans, including the establishment of MPAs, SMAP III Tunisia Project (WWF MedPO) Work on selected sites Cirali, Kas (WWF TR) 2. Lobbying and advocacy for the establishment of the National Spatial Plan and Land-use cadastral for the regulation of illegal development in coastal zones (WWF Greece) 3. Legal advocacy for sand-dredging and port & marinas under Protected areas in Spanish Med waters (WWF Spain) 	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
17) Control and mitigate the effect of changes in land use	a) Promote the integration of land used planning into wider integrated management plans.	<p>for protecting and managing natural and cultural sites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out evaluations of carrying capacity of the littoral zone concerning land use, and take the necessary steps that the offer is limited to the carrying capacities thus defined 2. Define (at national and sub-regional level) interference, incompatibility and synergy between different land uses in the littoral zone 3. Undertake the zoning of littoral areas at sub-national level 4. Define and promote adequate, environmentally- friendly agricultural practices 5. Define and promote adequate, environmentally- friendly water management practices 6. Define and promote adequate, environmentally- friendly reforestation practices 7. Regulate and control mining activities under an integrated management scheme 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WWF: ICZM plans, including the establishment of MPAs, SMAP III Tunisia Project (WWF MedPO) 2. WWF: UN Award winning project in Cirali to develop land use plan to promote sustainable tourism and nature conservation (WWF TR) 	17. UNESCO: Biosphere reserves could be useful for this.

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
<p>18) Promote eco- and soft tourism, control and mitigate impact of recreational activities</p>	<p>a) Increase sustainable tourism, including non-consumptive and eco-tourism taking into account the spirit of the International Year of Eco-tourism 2002, the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage in 2002, the World Eco-tourism Summit 2002 and its Quebec Declaration, and the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism as adopted by the World Tourism Organization⁷</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote eco-labelling and other quality environmental procedures (e.g. certification, charters, etc.) at regional level 2. Support private eco-tourism initiatives 3. Awareness programmes among tour operators, tourist businesses (travels, hotels, sport facilities, etc.) and public sector administrations on the benefits of environmentally-friendly tourist practices 4. Avoid ghetto-like, high-standing tourist facilities unconnected with local conditions 5. Promote respect for local architecture and the historical heritage 6. Facilitate the exchange of tourists and local populations and cultures 7. Minimize waste production, and energy and water consumption by tourist facilities 8. Promote the use of public transport 9. Develop all means that may lead to spreading the tourist season over the entire year 10. Develop international, regional cooperation 	<p>18) UNESCO: Examples of ongoing MAB activities in Biosphere reserves at the national, regional and international levels include projects to test the draft UNEP/CBD International Guidelines for Sustainable Tourism, capacity building and training programmes, research and case studies on ecotourism. MAB has established a Task Force to develop quality economies based on local community action and entrepreneurship, sound science, public-private sector partnerships and networking. The Task Force provides policy advice and guidance on key Biosphere Reserves issues, e.g.: Labelling, branding and marketing of Biosphere Reserves goods and services; Conservation finance ; Eco-jobs; Sustainable Tourism</p> <p>3. WWF: MOU with EGA, IUCN and UNEP MAP RAC/SPA – Libya - work programme on Sustainable Tourism (WWF MedPO) DESTINATIONS Project – Guidelines for sustainable tourism investments in the Med (WWF MedPO) WWF ATW Itaca Training on sustainable tourism development (2006) (WWF MedPO) Equal Pinta Project - Guidelines for fisheries tourism in MPA (WWF Italy) UN Award winning project in Cirali to develop land use plan to promote sustainable tourism and nature conservation (WWF TR)</p>	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	b) Control and mitigate the impact of recreational activities on coastal and marine Mediterranean biodiversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make an analysis and collect information on the most significant environmental impacts of recreational activities and tourism 2. Geographical identification of priority areas likely to be affected by recreational activities 3. Regulation and enforcement of recreational practices, in particular of high-impacting activities (e.g. 4x4, diving, motor navigation, hunting, recreational fishing, sea-watching, etc.) 4. Management and regulation of access and use of beaches by the public as well as their use by professionals, in accordance with environmental factors 5. Study and promote the use of eco-taxes for the general public visiting protected areas, as well as other economic and financial tools to protect biodiversity 6. Develop the alternative use of coastal and marine areas, based on the utilization of natural landscapes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MedPAN / Port-Cros National Park: development of a software to monitor visitors in MPAs 2. WWF: Install buoy systems in selected sites to safeguard benthic habitats (WWF TR) 	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
19) Assess and elaborate of strategies to prevent the environmental impact of sources of pollution	a) Assess and prevent the impact of desalination techniques	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a regional programme to quantify and characterize the environmental impact of coastal desalination plants 2. Define and evaluate technical measures to minimize the impact of the desalination process (e.g. construction of pipelines for disposal of reject flow, ameliorate desalination technology, etc.) 3. Promote clean-energy desalination plants (e.g. solar); avoid desalination projects to mask environmentally-unfriendly energy projects (e.g. power plants, incinerators of toxic waste, etc.) 4. Insert the planning of new desalination plants into wider integrated water and coastal management plans 		

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	b) Control the proliferation of floating plastic objects and debris	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a regional programme to quantify plastic proliferation in the Mediterranean 2. Geographical identification of priority areas likely to be affected by the proliferation of plastic debris in the sea 3. Support international agreements about the dumping of plastics in the sea 4. Enhance recuperation and recycling of plastics 5. Promote the research and application of technology to produce photo- and bio-degradable plastics 6. Promote and support beach-cleaning initiatives 7. Establish awareness campaigns (oriented to users and the general public) about the use and waste of plastic debris in the sea 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. MedPAN / Miramare MPA: Publishing of a poster presenting the threat that marine litter represents 	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	<p>c) Achieve non-pollutant marine transport and navigation techniques; pay special attention to noise and hydrocarbon pollution</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance and support activities under international agreements on environmental impacts of maritime casualty, concerning pollution from ships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o oil pollution o chemical pollution o harmful substances carried by sea in packaged form o garbage o sewage o air pollution o dumping of waste 2. Undertake a Regional Programme to minimize the impact of noise from ships and military engines, as well as other sources of noise pollution (mineral production, pingers, ringers, etc.) 3. Regulations for ballast water management to prevent the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms 4. Support the International Maritime Organization (IMO) convention prohibiting the use of harmful organisms anti-fouling paints used on ships; establish a mechanism to prevent the potential future use of other harmful substances in anti-fouling systems 5. Support the declaration of PSSA – Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (as defined by the IMO) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MedPAN/ Junta de Andalusia: Management tool on the impact of oil pollution on MPCA habitats REMPEC: development of sensitivity maps for both the Syrian coasts, within the framework of the EC funded LIFE third Countries project entitled “Development of the national system for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution in the Syrian Republic”; and the Slovenian coast within the framework of the Slovenia CAMP. 5. WWF: Maritime security and PSSA nomination of the Strait of Gibraltar; lobby efforts under IMO (WWF Spain) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. REMPEC: Inclusion of sensitivity mapping, as a general objective in the Centre's programme of activities for the biennium 2008-2009. Detailed assessment as regards both the availability of sensitivity maps and GIS systems within the Mediterranean region Development of Regional workshops and/or training activities on the use and development of sensitivity maps in countries where assistance is required Assistance to the selected countries for the development, use and update of sensitivity maps

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
20) Control and regulation of aquaculture practices	a) Integrate of aquaculture practices into wider integrated management plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out evaluations of carrying capacity of the littoral zone concerning aquaculture, and take the necessary steps to ensure that the offer is limited to the carrying capacities thus defined 2. Define (by country, and at sub-national level) interference, incompatibility and synergy between aquaculture projects and plans, and other uses of the littoral zone 3. Undertake the zoning of littoral areas at sub-national level 4. Identify zones suitable for aquaculture 5. Adapt aquaculture technology to be used in a case-by-case approach, taking into account zoning 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20) UNESCO: MAB cooperation with Moana Initiative (http://www.moanainitiative.org/home.html) 2. FAO: A Pilot Study on the "Interactions between capture fisheries and aquaculture and environment in the Lezha Lagoon system (Albania) is being carried out through the AdriaMed Project. 	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	b) Develop research and measures to minimise the impacts of aquaculture practices on the marine and coastal environment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Standard environmental impact assessment procedures convened² 2. Regulate of the use of pingers² 3. Regional programme to reduce the invasion of alien species from aquaculture 4. Regional programme to minimise pollution caused by organic matter and nutrient enrichment from aquaculture farms 5. Regional programme to minimise the impact of wild seed to stock fish farms (e.g. blue fin tuna) 6. Regional programme to minimise genetic pollution 7. Regional programme to minimise chemical pollution –disinfectants, anti-foulants, flesh colorants and medicines (including vaccines) 		
	c) Adopt measures to avoid the impacts of aquariology on the marine and coastal environment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prohibit in all the Mediterranean countries the use of potentially invasive species (e.g. caulerpas) in open or semi-open aquarium systems 		

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
21) Assessment, control and elaboration of strategies to prevent impact of fisheries on biodiversity	a) Improve fishing statistics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the main problems and gaps in getting accurate fishing statistics 2. Propose mechanisms to improve fishing statistics at regional level 3. In particular, design, implement and evaluate data collecting systems at national level 4. Establish a network of institutions responsible for acquiring statistics at national level 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21) Relevant strategies developed in individual Biosphere Reserves 4. FAO annually updates the capture fisheries statistics in the Mediterranean in the public domain database FISHTAT+. From 1970 data are arranged by species, countries, divisions (7) and sub areas (4). From 1950 without geographical subdivisions. FAO is implementing the EC co-funded project MEDFISIS which focuses particularly on the Eastern Mediterranean and Southern Adriatic seas. GFCM information system is providing statistics and information related to various aspects of the Mediterranean fisheries and ecosystem. 	
	b) Mediterranean strategy for the conservation and sustainable management of vulnerable fish and invertebrates, including sustainable related fisheries	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the status of vulnerable fish and invertebrate populations subject to commercial fisheries 2. Determine adaptive and precautionary management schemes for the preservation of vulnerable populations 3. Assess the suitability of a complete ban on the exploitation of certain particularly vulnerable species at regional level 4. Assess (and eventually implement) the inclusion of species listed in the annexes of the SPA Protocol in the appropriate CITES lists 5. Develop selected case studies for different vulnerable species/groups carried out in different parts of the Mediterranean in order to draw up guidelines on vulnerable species management and conservation valid for the region 		b) MedPAN (2008-2010): activities in pilot sites under development

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	<p>c) Improve inter- and intra-specific selectivity of gear and fishing practices, addressing particularly the problems of by-catch, discard, and ghost-fishing</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out research on effects of by-catch, discard and ghost-fishing on threatened and endangered species 2. Enhance research on fishing technology, fishing strategies and possible gear modifications to avoid by-catch, discards and ghost-fishing 3. Favour new consumption habits and technology to process unavoidably by-catch, under-consumed species 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WWF: Pilot project of hook devices on long-liners to reduce by-catch of <i>Caretta Caretta</i> (WWF-Spain) 	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	d) Mediterranean strategy to reduce fishing-related mortality of marine mammals, turtles and sea birds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geographical identification of priority areas with significant impacts on cetaceans, monk seals, sea turtles and sea birds 2. Detailed analysis of the threat, and its significance with respect to the viability of impacted populations, based on the above and other complementary information obtained at the national level 3. Develop Mediterranean-specific approaches to counter the negative effects of fishing on vulnerable groups 4. Assess the potential relevance of existing technical improvements 5. Assess the applicability of spatial and temporal restrictions on impacting gear 6. Assess the possible implementation of no-take zones or areas with severe fishing restrictions 7. Assess the reliance of sea birds on discard from fishing fleets in the region 8. Establish an adaptive methodology based on pilot studies affecting different groups/species and implemented in selected sites around the Mediterranean 		

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	e) Mediterranean strategy to reduce the impact of trawling and other towed gear on critical habitats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geographical identification of priority areas with a verified high impact of towed gear 2. Identify shortcomings in legislation, and develop drafts for suitable improvement 3. Ascertain the real level of threat posed by current deep-water fishing practices, including likely short-term developments, on deep sea ecosystems in the region 4. Assess the effectiveness of artificial reefs to prevent illegal trawling 5. Assess the effectiveness of new prevention measures (cf. target h below) 	CGPM: See Category II, activities 5,6 before	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	f) Mediterranean strategy to eliminate particularly harmful fishing practices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geographical identification of priority areas with a significant occurrence of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. dynamite fishing b. poison fishing c. sea date extraction d. coral fishing using the Saint Andrew Cross 2. Identify of problems associated with the eradication of these practices 3. Geographical identification of priority areas with high levels of drift-net fishing 4. Ascertain the real level of damage inflicted on vulnerable species caught as by-catch in legal drift-nets 5. Identify problems associated with the eradication of legal drift-nets 6. Adopting measures leading either to the total banning of legal driftnets, depending on their effects on vulnerable species, or to possible remedies 7. Promote regional policy initiatives at GFCM level, including binding decisions regarding harmful fishing practices 	6. GFCM REC 2005/3 (A) prohibiting the use of driftnets for fisheries of large pelagics in the Mediterranean	

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	g) Develop and refine "traditional" control measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize working groups (coordinated with FAO and other regional institutions) to develop and refine measures acting on 'inputs' (e.g. closed areas, closed seasons, limits on fishing time, number of vessels authorized in the fishery, characteristics of the fishing gear and equipment used, etc.) 2. Organize working groups (coordinated with FAO and other regional institutions) to develop and refine measures acting on 'outputs' (e.g. weight of catch or quota, minimum size of fish-mesh size, species, sex or sexual maturity of fish that may be legally harvested, etc.) 3. Support the implementation of refined management measures 		
	h) Develop new management techniques	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize working groups (coordinated with FAO and other regional institutions) to develop and refine new management techniques (e.g. marine protected areas, artificial reefs, temporal closures – by season, area, etc., market tools, remote location and positioning of fishing ships, etc.) 2. Support the implementation of refined management measures 	1. Different workshops on EAF (Ecosystem approach to fisheries) under Subcommittee on Marine Environment and Ecosystems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GFCM Regular workshops of these working groups h) MedPAN (2008-2010): activities in pilot sites under development

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	i) Increase the number of marine fishery reserves to manage fishery stocks to attain the protection of 20% of the coast	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calculate total surface per country to be protected to reach the 20% threshold 2. Decide location, habitats included, size and number of marine fishery reserves based on participative schemes, taking stakeholders' needs and experience into account 3. Involve stakeholders in planning, managing, monitoring and exploitation issues; support their participation in the whole protection process 4. Undertake socio-economic and biological planning and monitoring of adopted measures 5. Define adaptive / flexible mechanisms to manage such areas 6. Coordinate management issues at regional level (cf. Target 11.b below) 		
	j) Control recreational fishing activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the main problems and gaps in getting accurate recreational fishing statistics 2. Propose mechanisms to improve recreational fishing statistics at regional level 3. In particular, design, implement and evaluate data collecting systems at national level 4. Establish a network of institutions responsible for acquiring statistics at national level 5. Regulate recreational fishing and enforce it 	1. MedPAN/ Natural Park of Cabo de Creus: study on the impact of recreational fishing activities on the fish resources of the Cabo de Creus national park	

CATEGORY	TARGET
IV. DEVELOPING RESEARCH TO COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE AND FILL IN GAPS ON BIODIVERSITY	<p><u>General objective</u> Improve the scientific understanding and assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems ⁸</p> <p><u>Specific targets</u> ✓ Launch research programmes before 2006 in order to fill in identified gaps (22a, b) ✓ Increase by more than 50 the number of PhD taxonomists in the Mediterranean region by 2010 (23 a, b, c)</p>

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
22) Improve and coordinate research on biodiversity	a) Convene a workshop (under UNEP MAP coordination) to identify gaps in knowledge of Mediterranean coastal and marine biodiversity (at genetic, species and community/ecosystem level)	1. Identify potential organisers 2. Identify potential participants 3. Agree about objectives of the workshop 4. Organise of a workshop to identify gaps in knowledge of Mediterranean coastal and marine biodiversity	22) WWF: News-Mailing group of main marine researchers in Spain (WWF Spain) WWF:Gap analysis of non-protected Species & habitats in Spain (WWF Spain) UNESCO: the activities of UNESCO in this area consist in promoting the participation of its Member States and scientists in international research and monitoring programmes on biodiversity. UNESCO – UNESCO-co-sponsors Diversitas - an international programme of biodiversity science which provides a platform for integrating scientific knowledge on biodiversity. It also promotes national research efforts on functional, evolutionary, and monitoring aspects of biodiversity.	
	b) Create and fund research programmes at regional level, aiming at filling in gaps and completing knowledge of coastal and marine biodiversity, as well as transferring knowledge between countries	1. Set up a network of excellence of national institutes of research on the issues identified through a workshop (cf. priority # 22 a) 2. Elaborate a research programme on the issues identified through a workshop (cf. priority # 22 a)		

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
23) Improve taxonomic expertise in the region	a) Implement training programmes for modern taxonomists covering all groups, in order to increase the number of specialists	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote and coordinate MSc and PhD programmes 2. Encourage the establishment of bilateral and/or multinational grants programmes 3. Organise the exchange of students and specialists 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. FAO: Training course was organised on MedSudMed for the taxonomic identification of toxic micro algae. Training course was organised for taxonomic identification of fish larvae species. AdriaMed carried out the research programme "Identification of Population Units in Adriatic Sea Shared Stocks by Genetic Structure Analysis" focused on Adriatic shared stocks of seven selected demersal species. 	
	b) Gather and circulate taxonomic bibliographic information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Systematise exhaustive and well classified bibliographic information 2. Organise Internet-based information-exchange platforms 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAO: An Arab-English Field Guide for Fishery Species Identification in the Eastern and Southern Mediterranean is being prepared by the FAO Fisheries Management and Conservation Service. 2. FAO: The FAO Species Identification regional guide for the Mediterranean and the FAO Field guide for Mediterranean and Black Sea sharks and rays are available on line and in CDrom. 	
	c) Creation of sub-regional biodiversity centres to store representative collections of Mediterranean biodiversity, coupling published work, Internet-available descriptions and pictures of both preserved and live specimens, publication of genetic sequences identifying the species, etc.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set up sub-regional biodiversity centres 2. Recruit permanent staff for these centres 		

CATEGORY	TARGET
<p>V. CAPACITY BUILDING – COORDINATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT</p>	<p>Strengthen cooperation and coordination among global observing systems and research programmes for integrated global observation, taking into account the need for building capacity and sharing of data from ground-based observations, satellite remote sensing and other sources between all countries⁹ (23a, b; 24 a, b)</p>

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
<p>24) Achieve 'clearing-house' mechanism to focus on marine and coastal conservation activities</p>	<p>a) The available clearing-house mechanisms (national, CBD, RAC/SPA, etc.) reinforced and developed within the framework of UNEP MAP</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize the organisms and institutions involved (determining roles and responsibilities) 2. Establish networking systems and exchange protocols: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Internet-based b) printed publications c) organisation of workshops 3. Recruit permanent staff covering diverse skills and knowledge, to ensure completion of the clearing-house mechanism 4. Devote funds to organizing the needed infrastructure 5. Coordinate the different conventions and related initiatives (e.g. CBD, GPA) 6. Provide start-up assistance to countries to develop participation in the clearing-house mechanism 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MEDPAN website 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MEDPAN: 2008-2010 to be continued

Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
	b) Ensure permanent updating of the Mediterranean clearing-house mechanism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the use of clearing-house mechanism at regional level 2. Establish funding strategies in the medium- and long-term 3. Establish a quality-control evaluation system: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) define objectives to be evaluated b) define evaluation criteria c) establish monitoring mechanisms d) build capacity to respond to identified problems and gaps 		
25) Coordinate and develop of common tools to implement National Action Plans (NAPs)	a) Coordinate the implementation of NAPs elaborated within the SAP BIO Project (regarding the NAPs on threatened and endangered species cf. priority # 8)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize subregional workshops on NAPs dealing with common issues 2. During the implementation phase assure the flow of information among the NAPs 3. When and if necessary refine NAPs 4. Establish procedures in the framework of the clearing-house mechanism to coordinate the implementation of NAPs (cf. Priority #24, Target a above) 	25) UNESCO promotes the use of Biosphere reserves as possible tools to implement National Action Plans dealing with biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	
	b) Common tools for implementing NAPs developed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare common guidelines, documents, standardised methods of planning, management, monitoring to assist countries in implementing the NAPs 		
<p>Concerning this issue see also the following Priorities and objectives: 1a; 22 b; 23 a, c - directly dealing with capacity building 8a; 11b; 15b; 23b; 28a - directly dealing with coordination and technical support</p>				

CATEGORY		TARGET		
VI. INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION		Increased public participation in conservation initiatives		
Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
26) Facilitate the access to information for managers and decision-makers, as well as stakeholders and the general public	a) Enhance capacity building to ensure free access to Mediterranean environmental information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide the clearing house mechanism (cf. Priority # 24) with capability to ensure access to information 2. Coordinate national, regional and international agencies aiming at providing and promoting the free access to environmental information¹⁰ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAO: AdriaMed created several databases available on line on its web site (www.faoadriamed.org) providing free access to fisheries/environmental information. MedSudMed created on its web site (www.faomedsudmed.org) a free access section providing environmental/oceanographic information UNESCO: MAB web-page http://www.unesco.org/mab/mabProg.shtml . Biosphere reserves e-newsletter http://www.unesco.org/mab/publications/newsletter/eng.shtml MAB and BR publications http://www.unesco.org/mab/pub.shtml Biosphere reserves web-pages 2. WWF: ATW capacity building programme (Blue School) (WWF MedPO) WWF: MedPAN: website UNESCO: Meetings of the MAB regional networks, MAB Bureau and ICC 	2. MedPAN: 2008-2010 website to be further developed
	b) Update and encourage right of access to environmental information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harmonise national legislations on access to environmental information 2. Encourage public authorities of countries to provide public access to the environmental information 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAO: Institutes participating in MedSudMed were involved in the creation of and data input in the Fishery and Ecosystem Information System (FEIS) providing an overview of multidisciplinary data available in the Project area. 2. WWF Posidonia newsletter (WWF MedPO) Campaign, web sites, online education sites (all WWF offices). MPA Gap Analysis brochure (WWF Spain) and 20 fact sheets of the proposed sites¹¹. WWF BFT Bulletin (WWF MedPO, Spain, France, Italy) 	
27) Promote public participation, within an integrated management scheme	a) Promote public participation	1. Encourage countries public authorities of countries to facilitate public participation in environmental decision-making processes with significant environmental	<p>27) It is one of the main objectives of the Biosphere reserves</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WWF: UN Award winning project in Cirali to develop land use plan to promote sustainable tourism and nature conservation 	

		<p>implications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Build up adequate mechanisms to facilitate participation by NGOs and the general public in environmental decision-making processes 3. Implement effective training programmes of public officials to improve their understanding of their responsibilities in granting the public access to information and facilitating public participation in environmental decision-making 4. Update and harmonise national legislation concerning public participation in environmental decision-making 5. Coordinate regional initiatives regarding public participation with other comparable national, regional and international initiatives and Conventions¹² 	<p>(WWF TR)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. WWF: SMAP III Tunisia Project participatory process to develop ICZM plans (WWF MedPO). Coast Day (WWF MedPO) 	
<p>28) Preserve the traditional knowledge of stakeholders</p>	<p>a) Preserve, as heritage, traditional knowledge about marine and coastal elements</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Form a working group specifically addressing this issue at regional level, trying to recuperate, compile and publish traditional knowledge 2. Promote national and regional legislation to preserve traditional knowledge 3. Involve local communities in management actions for the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity 4. Coordinate regional actions with other regional and international, related initiatives (e.g. UNEP, CBD, WIPO, WRI, etc.) 	<p>28) It is one of the main objectives of the Biosphere reserves</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. WWF: SIDA Project in Croatia – “Rural development and conservation on the Dalmatian Islands” (WWF MedPO) ATW Grants on Vis Island (Croatia) focusing on sustainable agriculture (WWF MedPO) Development of organic agriculture in Cirali (WWF TR) Alliance between Spanish tuna trappers (Almadrabas) and WWF MedPO (WWF MedPO, Spain) 	

ISSUE		TARGET		
VII. AWARENESS RAISING		Increase awareness raising on marine and coastal biodiversity conservation		
Activity (Priority actions)	Objective	Specific action	Achieved / ongoing Actions	Foreseen Actions
29) Develop international collaboration in order to enhance regional public awareness	a) International cooperation and coordination on educational awareness programmes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate regional action with other subregional, regional, and international, related activities 2. Coordinate awareness actions at regional level (e.g. through the UNEP MAP clearing-house mechanism) (cf. Priority # 24) 	a) UNESCO: MAB Programme	

ISSUE		TARGET	
<p>30) Organise coordinated Mediterranean-level campaigns focusing on specific regional biodiversity issues (addressed both to specific stakeholders and to the general public)</p>	<p>a) Raise awareness on key themes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake studies to identify needs and gaps in public knowledge concerning threats to biodiversity, in particular: responsible tourism; trade in rare species; illegal or irresponsible fishing 2. Produce material (leaflets, brochures, posters, CDs, TV documentaries, etc.) for circulation 3. Produce educational material to be used in the framework of formal education 4. Organize and/or encourage regional and sub-regional international, more-or-less specialized, youth work-camps dealing with environmental issues (e.g. restoring disturbed habitats, mapping sensitive habitats, collecting socio-economic information, compiling traditional knowledge, extracting invasive species, measuring pollution, informing tourists, etc.) 5. Encourage national and sub-national governments about the importance of education issues to conserve biodiversity and support national NGOs in this field 6. Involve scientific institutions and researchers in awareness actions and initiatives 7. Organise general public, itinerant exhibitions, conferences and dissemination seminars 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. FAO and the GFCM: A popular poster highlighting some key fishery species of the Eastern Mediterranean region, including commercially important lessepsian species was produced and widely disseminated by the FAO Fisheries Management and Conservation Service and the GFCM. <p>MedPAN: Several awareness raising tools under development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. MedPAN: Several educational tools under development 5. WWF: Fisheries awareness campaigns (WWF MedPO, France, Spain, Italy)

ISSUE		TARGET	
	<p>b) Main issues discussed in SAP/BIO brought to the attention of a wide public, including decision-makers, NGOs, scientists and researchers, tourist operators, fishing industry</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce brochures and posters in relevant languages on SAP/BIO themes including threats; species and sites; international cooperation 2. Produce a regional electronic newsletter about SAP BIO and biodiversity conservation issues 3. Convene a regional workshop to educate managers and other stakeholders, to promote critical, adaptive and flexible management approaches 	