« HOW TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS AND/OR INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MARINE PROTECTED AREAS? »

KORBA (TUNISIA)
FROM 12 TO 14 DECEMBER 2010
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THE MEDPAN NETWORK EXPERIENCE-SHARING WORKSHOP ON “ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS AND/OR INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MPAS” IS THE RESULT OF AN ACTIVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE MEDPAN ORGANIZATION, THE COASTAL PROTECTION AND PLANNING AGENCY (APAL) AND THE REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTER FOR SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS. THANKS TO THESE DIFFERENT STRUCTURES, THIS CONSTRUCTIVE SYNERGY LED TO THE ORGANIZATION OF A FRUITFUL WORKSHOP.

We thank WWF-France for its essential support in the workshop preparation. We would like to thank the speakers and participants involved in the organization and smooth running of this event. With the quality work of the local, regional and international attending stakeholders, the workshop was clearly illustrated and demonstrated each one’s relevant experience.

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The MedPAN Network

The MedPAN Network became a legally independent organization in November 2008 to set up the independent, permanent and democratic network governance, representative of the diversity of countries involved. Today, the network includes 26 members (managers of Marine Protected Areas) and 16 partners, from the entire Mediterranean basin.

The Organization adopted a new strategy and a three-year action plan (2010-2012), to provide, among others, methodological and technical support to the managers of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in their daily work, and to ensure the representativity of the network internationally.

Experience-sharing workshop

One of the main purposes of the MedPAN Network is to promote the experience-sharing between MPA managers. The network thus organizes regional meetings of managers, known as experience-sharing workshops. These workshops help share information, know-how and experience. During these exchanges, a given subject can be assessed as well as the situation in the Mediterranean; different project leaders have the opportunity to meet, to get to know and draw on various existing projects, and to develop long-term processes.

The 2010 experience-sharing workshop is the first workshop organized by the MedPAN Organization. However, it is to be noted that several exchange workshops have been organized as part of the MedPAN 2004-2007 INTERREG IIIC programme. This year, the focus was on the socio-economic aspect relating to Marine Protected Areas and the local populations living nearby.

The workshop was held from Sunday 12 December to Tuesday 14 December 2010, in Korba, Tunisia. It gathered over 90 people from everywhere in the Mediterranean (16 countries represented) and from other geographic areas, such as West Africa or the Caribbean. The significant participation in this workshop is mainly owing to the MPA managers’ interest in the topic and their will to share and discuss about it.
How to support the development of alternative livelihoods and/or income generating activities in the Mediterranean marine protected areas?

For this first MedPAN exchange workshop, we wanted to start with this question of utmost importance for the populations living within or near the MPAs, but also for the institutions and managers, facing this challenge from the first consultations with stakeholders, and who need to provide answers as part of the MPA creation and management process. Finally, this topic shows the importance given by the MedPAN Network to the socio-economic issues, in a critical period of worldwide economic crisis.

The notion of Alternative Livelihood and/or Income-Generating Activities (AL/IGA), which is quite new in MPAs, was not easy to address. The workshop was the opportunity for the participants,

> first, to understand the essential components of an AL/IGA with the presentation of basics,

> then, to comprehend the whole dimension of an AL/IGA implementation project, by illustrating this type of activity with actual experiences in the Mediterranean and elsewhere,

> and finally, to further discuss the AL/IGA implementation process.

The objectives of this workshop were multiple:

1. Bringing together Mediterranean MPA managers, MedPAN network partners, experts in socio-economics, as well as other stakeholders in the marine environment.
2. Providing an overview of the existing AL/IGAs implemented in coastal and marine protected areas, in the Mediterranean and worldwide.
3. Comparing the projects (economic interest, cost, beneficiaries, long/short-term impacts, difficulties, support, results, perspectives, etc.).
4. Facilitating exchanges between the stakeholders in order to identify positive and negative aspects of each AL/IGA.
5. Highlighting the importance for managers to set up partnerships (with experts in development for instance).
6. Formulating a recommendation and guideline framework in the Mediterranean to ensure the consistency of the AL/IGAs with the regional context.

As the topic addressed was quite specific and the public was much diversified, we decided to organize the workshop in two main sessions with:

> one session dedicated to the presentation of case studies, in order to know more about the situation of the existing AL/IGAs in the Mediterranean, and explain a few cases outside the Mediterranean,

> and one session dedicated to group work, to discuss in more details the AL/IGA implementation process.

These proceedings of the MedPAN workshop “How to support the development of Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating activities in the Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas?” present the case studies addressed during the plenary sessions as well as the main recommendations resulting from the work groups.

During this workshop, we wanted to present a number of experiences in order to share with everyone the existing projects as well as the projects under development. The objective was to present a panel of experiences covering different challenges, targets, environments, and contexts. Several examples were selected, in the Mediterranean but also in the Caribbean, Mauritania, Atlantic, Red Sea and Senegal.
1.1.1. Purpose of the Marine Protected Areas considering the sustainable development principles

Why protecting the biodiversity and the coastal and marine natural areas?

> For environmental and moral reasons: MPAs can maintain biodiversity components (ecosystems, species...) often threatened due to socio-economic pressures

> So that the actual and future generations can still:

  • carry out economic market activities related to the use of natural resources, since MPAs can protect the stocks of natural resources and facilitate their renewal (for instance: fisheries resources).

  • enjoy the biodiversity and the access to preserved natural spaces for research or recreational activities, since MPAs can restore and protect ecosystems while maintaining the possibility of reasonable use and visit.

However, despite their purpose, the role of the MPAs in sustainable development is sometimes questioned by the users and/or the political decision-makers. MPAs must therefore provide arguments to prove their interest, ecologically and socio-economically:

> Ecologically: MPAs are generally subjected to ecological evaluations before being created and especially during their functioning. This work asserts the ecological effect of conservation and is used to communicate on the protected natural heritage (threatened species, endemic species, fragile or rare ecosystems, unique landscapes);

> Economically (this can support the ecological argument): to show that the short-term constraints on economic activities can be compensated for and/or overcome with opportunities and benefits in the medium or long-term.

Ecological and economic arguments are connected and complementary. One cannot substitute the other.
Facilitate the dialogue with public decision-makers: the role of the economic approach

The economic approach is a tool available for MPA managers, used to develop their arguments for the MPA and in a way, to facilitate the dialogue with public decision-makers and local stakeholders.

Facilitate mutual understanding/diffusion:

> Dialogue transparency between MPA managers and public decision-makers:
  - provide a common quantitative unit of measure to facilitate dialogue transparency (to talk about one same matter in a same language),
  - explain the situation of the MPA as an object, and define it according to its socioeconomic dimensions (ecological service, employment, type of use, etc.),
  - explain the effects of the MPA: the integration into the territorial development according to its ecological and socioeconomic dimensions

> the economic approach can highlight:
  - the natural heritage protected within the MPA,
  - the effects of the MPA on the market uses from which societies create wealth and improve the individuals’ material well-being,
  - the effects of the MPA on non-market uses (including collective and cultural uses) which bring together populations within a territory and are essential for their cohesion.

The economic approach is based on the notion of ecological services – i.e. all the flows coming from the ecosystems and from which the individuals benefit for their well-being (actively or passively).

The economic approach applied to Marine Protected Areas

Three main types of evaluation processes can characterize the application of the economic approach to MPAs:

> based on socioeconomic indicators: for status report and monitoring of the activity; rather retrospective vision, evaluation of the performance using multi-criteria analyses;
> based on the value: to show the importance of the natural heritage in the socio-economic development. It facilitates the rational management of resources and the distribution of benefits coming from ecosystems;
> based on the costs: to warn on the dependency of development on the environment. It facilitates collective awareness.

With these 3 types of process, the economic approach constitutes a tool for the managers, to be used to enhance, and also to rationalize or concretize the reflection on the integration of the MPA into the territory.

MPAs are sometimes perceived as a risk for economic development when their activity threatens to restrict certain uses.

The argument - based on the evaluation of benefits related to the conservation of a natural site and the AL/IGAs - can facilitate the dialogue, enhancing the potential compensations for the risks perceived in relation to the present situation and the opportunities generated by the MPAs in the medium and/or long-term.

More precisely, the AL/IGAs can contribute to compensating for the risk of restricting economic activities [example: fishing restriction], with new potential sustainable economic opportunities [examples: tourism, labeling].
1.2

Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating activities

1.2.1. Marine Protected Areas – a constraint for local populations?

The creation of marine protected areas considerably strengthened marine conservation. These MPAs prove to be effective tools for the conservation of marine ecosystems, enabling restoration, protecting the ecosystems and promoting the sustainable use of ecological services (biological resources, carbon sequestration, amenity functions, etc.). However, MPAs are also places of conflicting obligations. They must combine prerogatives of socio-economic development and ecological integrity. « Protected areas may have a negative impact on indigenous peoples, including mobile indigenous peoples, and local communities, when their rights and interests are not accounted for and addressed and where they do not fully participate in and agree to decisions that affect them. Securing indigenous peoples’ rights to their lands and territories is an imperative to guarantee sustainable protected areas. » [UNEP/CDB/COP, 2004] 1

In spite of the good will and intentions, the creation of an area under protected status (Protected area, National Park, Reserve, etc.) near populated areas, is often considered, in the short-term, as a restriction by the populations living nearby. Their traditional use and access to resources (fishing, agriculture, hunting) are indeed often limited, in a context where social and economic needs have not decreased. Prohibiting the access to some areas considered too vulnerable or regulating activities to limit the pressure on resources or to decrease the risks of damaging the environment, can lead to a loss of income for local populations. Such losses usually occur in the short term and generally disappear in the medium or long term, when the quality and the quantity of ecological services have improved. This mechanism is often argued in fisheries. Closing a fishing area can generate an immediate loss of income, later compensated for by the recovery of species of higher commercial value. However, this compensation is not always possible. Indeed, the loss can be absolute when the use is completely prohibited and cannot be exercised elsewhere. In this case, reconversion or adaptation costs have to be added to the loss of income. Besides, it is not always possible for the users to wait for such automatic compensation, when they are too vulnerable to changes.

1.2.2. Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating Activities – a solution?

In some rare cases, a budget is provided for to compensate for the losses. The implementation of AL/IGAs can also be a solution to compensate for such losses generated by the creation of protected areas and to propose activities ensuring sustainable use of resources. Such AL/IGAs can be implemented in addition to conservation programs, managed or co-managed by MPAs or by private stakeholders. Such activities, which are generally introduced to generate incomes for local populations while redirecting their activities towards sustainable resource use, can also help cover some of the MPA operating costs. AL/IGAs can be implemented through various approaches:

- Introduction of new activities,
- Conversion to other activities,
- Improvement of existing activities for better compatibility with environmental protection.

1.2.3. Benefits of the Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating activities and role of the MPA managers

MPAs have a responsibility towards local populations, since they can affect the right to access or to use the ecological services of a territory, and more generally, the local development.

The development of AL/IGAs is generally considered as a solution for social acceptance of the MPA and for the socioeconomic dynamics on the whole territory. Indeed, the AL/IGAs can encourage further sustainable activity initiatives in surrounding localities. They can also help integrating populations into the MPA creation projects and management. Population approval is essential to ensure the functioning and sustainability of an activity. The AL/IGA success also depends on the socio-cultural context, the socio-economic situation of the area and the market accessibility.

One role of the organizations managing MPAs could be to promote and support AL/IGAs, which can create job opportunities and to propose an alternative to non-sustainable traditional activities.

In brief, the two purposes of AL/IGAs are:

- to reduce the pressure on the environment, with economic activities promoting the MPA conservation objective and encouraging similar initiatives around the MPA,
- to generate incomes for local populations, compensating for the possible losses related to the regulation of uses and/or improving their wellbeing, and therefore promoting social approval as well as the MPA contribution to the local development.

Besides, in some cases, the MPA can benefit from these activities (contribution to MPA operating costs, management support, etc.).
2.1
Reducing human impacts on habitats and species
IMPLEMENTATION OF A LABEL FOR WHALE WATCHING

LOCATION
PELAGOS SANCTUARY AND MEDITERRANEAN BASIN

SPEAKER
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CONTEXT
The PELAGOS Sanctuary is a maritime area extending over 87,500 km², being the subject of an Agreement between Italy, Monaco and France for the protection of a significant and diversified population of marine mammals. However, this area is subjected to high pressures related to human activities that can create serious problems for the populations of marine mammals present. These impacts are mainly due to certain techniques of fishing, collisions with ships and whale-watching activities. The Sanctuary must conciliate the appropriate development of socioeconomic activities and the protection of habitats and species.

PURPOSES
In the Pelagos Sanctuary, a “Code of Conduct for Whale-Watching” was implemented in 2001. To strengthen the code and to cope with the excessive development of whale-watching activities, a quality whale-watching label was elaborated for the operators. The purpose is to supervise whale-watching and to limit the impacts on cetaceans, while maintaining the economic and marine exhibition activities.
2.1. Reducing human impacts on habitats and species

**ASSESSMENT**

**Ecological benefits**
The expected ecological benefits are mainly related to:
- the reduction of marine mammal harassment,
- the reduction of pressure related to whale-watching (number of operators, technical means, skippers and public’s behavior, marine environment awareness-raising)
- the collection of observation data

**Financial benefits**
The cost of the action plan in 2005-2009 was 40,000 € (operators’ meeting, posters, code of conduct, operator inventories, socioeconomic database, and legal analysis).
On average, the contribution is about 100 € per person and per excursion. In the French Mediterranean, the income amounted to 1,730,000 € in 2005.
The beneficiaries are 30 operators in charge of the operation on the French coastline (and 40 operators working on fisheries or tourism), prescribers, boat rental agencies, skippers and naturalist guides. Benefits are then distributed in salaries, operation of the structures, navigation and observation investments.

**Evaluation of the AL/IGA**
- Better supervise swimming and aerial observation activities
- Carry out at-sea inspections
- Evolve towards a system of licenses

**Lessons learnt and recommendations**
- Carry out an internal analysis of the situation (biological, socioeconomic, technical, legal)
- Define the objectives and challenges - by managers (and experts)
- Draw up sustainable and realistic specifications and detail the necessary means
- Organize consultation, meeting and sharing opportunities with direct stakeholders
- Evaluate the functioning and try to make the plan or the content progress.
Samadai is a crescent-shaped offshore reef located approximately 5 km off the Southern Egyptian coast. The sheltered waters of the lagoon provide a favorable daytime resting habitat for spinner dolphins (Stenella longirostris) in that area.

It was found that the site was vastly over used with up to 40 boats and 800 tourists visiting daily. Dolphins were chased, fed strange items, touched and disturbed by motorboats. It was also found that the number of dolphins had decreased significantly to less than 40 individuals.

Within the Framework of the Southern Red Sea Ecotourism Initiative launched in 2003, a management plan was established for the conservation and sustainable use of marine mammals in the Red Sea. According to Samadai carrying capacity, the maximum number of daily visitors in the area is limited to 200 (100 snorkeling and 100 diving) from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The adoption of four management components is being considered, related to the number of visitors, the zoning, the public awareness and a monitoring programme to support future management with solid scientific knowledge.
ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits
The average of 32 dolphins per day before the plan implementation increased to 78 dolphins per day after implementation. The monitoring programme indicated an increase in the growth of coral reefs on the site, and improved our knowledge of Spinner Dolphin behavior (through photo-identification).

Financial benefits
The entry fee required is an effective economic tool contributing to local economy and maintaining tourism activity by enhancing its quality and highlighting the economic value of Samadai to local agencies, stakeholders, tourists and general public (Samadai entry fee: 15 $ - in 2009, the profits amounted to 768,218 $).

Evaluation of the AL/IGA
Three indicators were used to assess the efficiency of Samadai management: the human impact, the tourism business and the dolphins’ behavior. The analysis showed that the Samadai management plan was very well designed and implemented. The management objectives were successfully reached. The human impact on dolphins was reduced to a minimum level. The dolphins’ behavior was normal again and the number of dolphins observed increased. The management plan also supported part of the tourism business and local economy.

The Samadai case is proving to be an ideal model with the application of an ecotourism policy and a strategy for the conservation of biodiversity; it ensures sustainable funding of the biodiversity conservation generating revenues and using economic instruments (service fees).

Lessons learnt and recommendations
> Even a small area, when managed wisely, can generate sustainable high revenues
> The precautionary and participatory approaches are important for adaptive management
> Partnerships are a key to sustainable management
> Local community support and involvement benefit everyone
> Economic benefits for the local community are a plus
> Support from political leadership is important
> Public awareness and market enhance tourism and conservation potential
CASE STUDIES
2.2
Integration of the population into development and conservation projects
INCOME-GENERATING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION OF KROUMIRIE AND MOGODS

LOCATION
TUNISIA, KROUMIRIE AND MOGODS

SPEAKER
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PROJECT MANAGER,
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CONTEXT
The region of Kroumirie and Mogods is located in the Northwest of Tunisia. This region, which shelters a significant marine and terrestrial biodiversity, is under protection status with about ten protected areas (national parks, natural reserves or coastal and marine protected areas). However, the socioeconomic analysis of this region shows that the standard of living is quite low for a major part of the population, and the lack of economic opportunities curbs the optimization of resources. The region is affected by a significant lack of development compared with the rest of the country. It is underequipped in terms of infrastructures (trails, drinking water, mountain irrigation, etc). Besides, natural resources are used in a rather non-rational way; there is a problem of overgrazing seriously damaging the lands.

The WWF Tunis Office – upon the request of the Agricultural Development Groups (GDA) and the local Administration – decided to initiate AL/IGA projects in this region.

PURPOSES
First, the purpose of the AL/IGA is to facilitate the involvement of the local community in the development and the conservation of natural sites and protected areas in the forest and marine regions of Kroumirie and Mogods through the promotion of regional secondary products and the strengthening of partnerships between the managers and the local populations.

Then, the purpose also consists in improving the living conditions of the rural populations through the promotion of socio-economic development alternatives supporting sustainable use of natural resources and compatible with the conservation of ecosystems.
2.2. Integration of the population into development and conservation projects

**ASSESSMENT**

**Ecological benefits**
Indicators revealed reduced pressure on natural resources. Several benefits were observed: less forest fires, less forest offences, local populations invest in apiculture and plant distillation instead of extensive sheep and goat farming.

**Financial benefits**
Once the products have been sold by the GDA (activity leaders), one part of the benefits covers the GDA operating costs (maintenance of the premises, water and electricity, production management...), a second part of the benefits is used to pay back credits, and the remaining benefits are shared between the beneficiaries, with one part for the GDA used as investment funds for further income-generating activities.

**Evaluation of the AL/IGA**
The evaluation of the activities carried out as part of the different projects led to the formulation of recommendations in order to promote the involvement of the local communities in the sustainable development of natural heritage:

- re-define the role of the producers: they should produce a given quantity, ensuring good quality and observing the standards defined;
- re-define the role of the GDA: they should gather the production, check the quality of the product and ensure the link between producers and distributors;
- ensure awareness to product marketing. It is essential to explain the importance of the product presentation - with appropriate packaging and labels (forest products, organic products...);
- find adapted packaging for each product, for which markets need to be found;
- produce booklets and presentation notices (region, product specificities, production date...).

**Lessons learnt and recommendations**
Several aspects need to be considered to ensure participative involvement of the local population in the integrated management of protected natural areas and the development of AL/IGAs:

- show your respect towards the local population
- be serious and fair with the local population
- listen and try to learn
- do not create expectations
- ensure best use of local knowledge
- ensure local support and involvement for programmes without legal support
- ensure local support and involvement for programmes to be implemented
- avoid conflicts with regional and local authorities
- establish a precise schedule of workshops and semi-structured interviews
The fishery resources management issues are well known in the Mediterranean. Directly affected, the sea professionals are confronted to these issues. It is important to provide the professionals with tools and to support them in their search for diversification to help them adapt to actual constraints.

Pescatourism activity was launched in Italy in 1998, in the Marine Protected Areas. In France, the outcome of previous projects allowed to set up a framework suitable for the implementation - in January 2009 - of an experimental three-year project in the Var called “Pescatourisme 83”.

The purpose is to offer the fishermen the possibility of diversifying their activity, in order to deal with fishery resources management issues, through tourism. This activity, integrated to coastal traditional fishing, is the opportunity for professional fishermen to receive visitors on board and to introduce them to their ancestral profession.

This activity is in line with a development process eco-compatible with cultural specificities (tradition, history of fishing), social specificities (show the difficulties of the profession) and environmental specificities of traditional fishing (fishermen are at the heart of the fishery resources conservation issues).
2.2. Integration of the population into development and conservation projects

ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits
The fishing effort is reduced owing to two main reasons: the visitors on board leave less space for fishing nets and the fishing activity is less intense, since fishermen take time to explain their profession.

Financial benefits
The fisherman is directly paid by the tourist. This activity can increase the income of fishermen who will diversify and redirect their activity towards tourism. The income resulting from fishing activity varies according to catches. The income resulting from Pescatourism activity - on the basis of 2 passengers and 60 Euros per person – can cover the amount of charges for one day of fishing (payroll and employers’ contributions, fuel, insurance and equipment depreciation) and generate a net margin for the fisherman. An additional net margin is generated by the sales of fish caught during the Pescatourism activity. For fishermen owning small boats (between 7 and 10 meters), the income generated by Pescatourism activity represents between 20 and 70% of the daily average income. For boats longer than 11 meters, this ratio is between 10 and 30%, according to the trade (these are only estimates – actual indicators will be implemented in 2011).

Evaluation of the AL/IGA

> For some fishermen, a change of attitude has been observed;
> Less popular species are made more attractive;
> Conservation of the territory is ensured with eco-compatible activities;
> Collective projects can be implemented with the support of Fishermen Associations;
> In the future, the projects should be extended towards further diversified activities: accommodation, catering, processing of products
CONTEXT

The Iroise Marine Natural Park (PNMI) is the first French Marine Natural Park. After several years of consensus-building, the Park was created in 2007. Located in France, on the Atlantic coast, it stretches over 3,550 km². The PNMI is a maritime area famous for its marine biodiversity. It is currently managed by the French Marine Protected Areas Agency, whose aim is to protect the marine environment by creating MPAs, among others. The Park meets the three basic objectives defined by the law for marine natural parks: the knowledge of the environment, the protection of the marine area and the sustainable development of sea-related activities.

Molène is an island located at the heart of the marine park, whose economic activity is directly related to the sea. The abalone – which is the emblematic bivalve shellfish of the Iroise region – is harvested by young insular fishermen aware of the importance of respecting their environment.

PURPOSES

The Iroise Marine Park, in partnership with Brest Fish auction ("Criée"), the local fisheries Committee of Northern Finistère and Normapêche (Brittany Sea Quality) launches a quality label for Molène abalones (fishing area included within the park).

A label can be used to promote this wisely-managed production and to inform consumers about the origin of the product. The "ormeaux" label promotes responsible and sustainable fisheries and encourages fishing activity in the islands. Wild Molène abalones are now commercialized with tags indicating their origin. This partnership shows that the marine park is not a sanctuary but a marine protected area which combines the protection of marine environment and the sustainable development of local economy.

With this label, two of the management focuses of the park are met: supporting coastal professional fishing and supporting economic activities on the islands to maintain a permanent population.
2.2. Integration of the population into development and conservation projects

ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits
The fishing pressure on abalones is reduced with the establishment of quotas for the fishers. These quotas are individual and annual, and set by the French Research Institute for Exploration of the Sea (max. 14,000 abalones per year). This label promotes the outstanding marine environment where abalones are harvested and is also used to increase public awareness on a type of fishing activity which preserves biodiversity. Besides, the fishing technique used – diving – is more respectful of the environment.

Financial benefits
Fishermen receive all the benefits. For now, the costs related to the label are covered by the PNMI’s budget: approx. 3,000 Euros/year for tags and rings. In the years to come, benefits can be used to finance the equipment items (tags and rings) to allow the fishermen to manage their activity independently.

Evaluation of the AL/IGA
It is still too early to draw all the conclusions on the project “Label for Molène abalones” – it has only been two years since it was launched.

Today, there is no added value for Molène fishermen, related to the implementation of the label. However, two main points need to be taken into account: first, the actual economic situation – the price of sea products has been rather stagnant these last two years. Second, there is no information on the wholesale fish merchant’s assessment (Did the value increase for him since the label has been implemented?).

However, in terms of image and association of a profession for the implementation of the Park, the label is beneficial. The well-managed fishery is enhanced. Besides, the islanders are proud (positive identification to the territory).
SUPPORT TO THE PROCESSING OF TRADITIONAL IMRAGUEN PRODUCTS IN THE BANC D’ARGUIN NATIONAL PARK

LOCATION
MAURITANIA, BANC D’ARGUIN NATIONAL PARK

SPEAKER
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CONTEXT
The Banc d’Arguin National Park (PNBA) is the largest Coastal and Marine Protected Area in West Africa. It constitutes one third of the Mauritanian coast, i.e. approximately 200 km. Besides, the marine biodiversity is quite significant. It is one of the main spawning and nursery areas in the region.

The Imraguen are a community of Moorish fishers, settled on the actual PNBA area. In this society of desert fishers, fish product processing was carried out by women. They used to take over from fishers as soon as catches were landed. The Deep-sea Fishing Industrial Society (SIGP) developed significant trade activities with the Imraguen, until the 1980’s. In the 1980-90’s, the development of traditional fishing in Mauritania and new conservation means (cold storage) significantly reduced the traditional Imraguen processing activities. The SIGP activities weakened, the fresh poutargue was directly sold to the wholesale fish merchants and the role of women in the society was vanishing.

With the aim of preserving traditional know-how, supporting responsible mullet fishing and reintegrating the role of women in the Imraguen society, the PNBA and its partners have been supporting for several years, about 300 fish-processing women in 5 villages of the Park.

PURPOSES
For several years, the PNBA and its partners have initiated support actions including the promotion of the poutargue, started in 2006. This activity is especially aimed at (i) enhancing the role of Imraguen women in the fish product processing by giving them access to the resources and the production inputs, (ii) perpetuating and preserving this traditional know-how by supporting women and providing training opportunities for young girls, (iii) improving working conditions, quality of the processed products and sanitary conditions by building new infrastructures, supporting the organization and providing training on quality and hygiene, (iv) creating added value by improving the product processing quality, vacuum packaging, (v) supporting commercialization, etc.
2.2. Integration of the population into development and conservation projects

ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits:
The pressure on natural resources is reduced; no more plant biomass used in the construction of tikits (structures adapted to the work) and promotion of tradition Imraguen products.

Financial benefits
The Imraguen women are the main beneficiaries. Within each group, they share the benefits according to their respective productions. Each woman has to pay an annual contribution for the maintenance and repair of the processing tikits (maintenance and repair funds for the tikits made available by the Park as part of a contract with specifications).

A part of the benefits made by the Park - by purchasing the poutargue from the women and selling it to the Park’s marketplace - is deposited in the Imraguen account used to finance priority community actions. The village cooperatives receive 10% of the benefits made by the women, 5% of which are used to cover the processing credit service charges and 5% are used to capitalize the credit funds.

Evaluation of the AL/IGA
> Today, the women produce a quality finished product, directly in the villages,
> The PNBA, with its partners and team keep supporting the Imraguen fish-processing women in each processing season,
> Today, the support strategy is aimed at further involving the women in the commercial and organizational aspects, to allow them to completely manage the branch and to be able to work independently.
> The involvement of young girls in this process is of utmost importance since they will ensure the future of this tradition.
SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN AL HOCEIMA NATIONAL PARK

LOCATION
MOROCCO, AL HOCEIMA PROVINCE

SPEAKER
ABDEL HAMID TAWFIK,
PRESIDENT, RODPAL: NGO NETWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT IN AL HOCEIMA NATIONAL PARK

CONTEXT
The Al Hoceima National Park (AHNP), created in 2004, is located on the Mediterranean coast of Morocco. It encompasses environments of high biological value. It is the most important Mediterranean protected area in Morocco.

In 2003, the Spanish NGO Movement for Peace rehabilitated two cottages in AHNP. In 2005, a team of volunteers created the Rif Organization for the Development of Sustainable Tourism, to ensure the development of rural tourism in the AHNP area, participate in the development of the rural sector with rural tourism activities and raise the population’s awareness regarding the conservation of cultural heritage and environment.

PURPOSES
The objective is to introduce in the area of Al Hoceima National Park, a new socioeconomic activity which will contribute to the improvement and diversification of the income sources for the population. It consists in implementing a rural tourism activity in Al Hoceima National Park (AHNP), with the creation of cottages and tourism circuits, the training of family members managing cottages, and the upgrade of some cooperatives. An awareness-raising and promotion strategy was also implemented. Through this new activity, it was expected to improve the living conditions of the families managing cottages, to create job opportunities for young people (tourist guides), to promote the cooperative products and the AHNP.
2.2. Integration of the population into development and conservation projects

ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits
Unlike mass tourism, rural tourism is sustainable and does not excessively use natural resources. The customers of this type of tourism are well aware of the importance of nature and culture conservation in the visited region.

Financial benefits
The main objective of this AL/IGA is to provide financial benefits to the families managing cottages, local carriers, tourist guides, craftsmen, etc. Each beneficiary is directly paid by the customer on the basis of the prices proposed by the monitoring committee (monthly monitoring ensured by a Committee which includes a representative of each organization part of the RODPAL). For the cottages – which are a sort of family business – half of the net income is intended for the women of the family.

Evaluation of the AL/IGA

Weak points:
The Al Hoceima region is really isolated and the difficult access to the Park significantly reduces the tourism demand. Terrestrial access roads are long and difficult, the airway is quite limited and no more than one ferry can land in the harbor [and only during the summer]. There is a hope of opening this region with the construction of the Mediterranean Road link (Rocade), but works are not finished yet. The problems of the seaside tourism started in the region in the 1960’s contribute to the lack of rural tourism flows.

Strong points:
The vitality of the community life: associations are very lively in Al Hoceima. It is in line with the support to local development. There is a strong demand from the Moroccan living abroad and their families. The National Park is rich in biological and cultural heritage. The State is willing to make Al Hoceima a special tourist destination by opening up the region and creating a tourist-welcoming country.

Results:
The Park’s population, the rural communities and the authorities are now aware of the interest of sustainable tourism to ensure sustainable development of the area. A basic structure of sustainable tourism is installed in AHNP: four cottages, an orientation and interpretation center, tourist circuits with signs, promotion supports, and eco-tourist products. Tourists begin to come to visit the National Park even if the tourist flow remains low. The families managing the cottages, the tourist guides, the local carriers and the cooperatives generate additional incomes with tourism. The National Park is getting more and more famous locally, nationally and internationally.
CAMPAM: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS ASSOCIATED WITH MPAS

LOCATION
CARIBBEAN MPAS

SPEAKER
GEORGINA BUSTAMANTE, COORDINATOR, CAMPAM: MARINE PROTECTED AREAS NETWORK AND FORUM IN THE CARIBBEAN

CONTEXT
The use of MPAs has become increasingly popular in the wider Caribbean region as a tool to improve marine resources management, conserve marine biodiversity, address overfishing impacts, decrease user conflicts, and provide economic alternatives to local coastal communities.

CaMPAM is the network of MPA practitioners in the Caribbean (38 countries and territories). The network was created in 1997 and is coordinated by the Caribbean Environment Program of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP-CEP).

CaMPAM supports a large number of small projects in the Caribbean through the Small Grants Program. The aim of the small grant program is to promote sustainable MPA and fisheries practices, as well as alternative livelihoods for local communities. The fund also forms part of the UNEP-CEP SPAW (Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife) Program which aims at strengthening MPA capacity in the region, including the development of management plans.

One of the interesting aspects of the Small Grants Fund is that it provides an opportunity for exchanges between countries, MPA sites and communities so that resource managers and marine users in the Caribbean region can share lessons learned and benefit from each other’s experiences.
2.2. Integration of the population into development and conservation projects

The *Small Grant Program* contributes to approach fishers and MPA managers for the common goal of conserving and restoring fisheries resources. Priority objectives of the program include the following:

- application of results of previous projects at a pilot or commercial level, in the locality;
- projects that allow for the increase or maintenance of fishing yields or the economic income of the fishers leading to regulation or reduction of fishing effort to promote the restoration of the fishing populations;
- application of economic alternatives for fishermen (displaced by resource decline or zoning restrictions);
- raising awareness of local community, resource users or other stakeholders on the needs of sustainably managing fisheries resources;
- fostering fishing cooperatives;
- testing or applying a community approach to fisheries management (exclusive fishing rights, concessions of fishing areas, etc.);
- exchange of experiences and best practices among fishermen of different countries;
- training of fishermen or other stakeholders on economic alternatives or sustainable fishing practices.

**PURPOSES**

Many projects have been conducted in the different regions of the Caribbean, including visits to the Sian Ka’an Biosphere Reserve, where a model of community-based fishing/ecotourism management is developed. Exclusive management rights have been granted by the Sian Ka’an BR management authority to the local community (lobster fishing lots) and fisheries regulations are enforced by both, the local community and the MPA staff. This model has served as a “learning center” for many fishers and MPA managers in the region.

More recently, fishers from several other MPAs (including Los Roques National Park in Venezuela, MPAs in Grenada and Dominican Republic, and the Port of Honduras M.R. in Belize, etc.) have trained others on skills such as recreational bone fishing, sustainable fishing practices, lionfish management, tilapia farming etc. [see for more information]. This year, UNEP-CEP and CaMPAM are coordinating a project aiming at assisting the 8 islands associated with the Caribbean Challenge [http://campam.gcff.org/campam.php#CarChall] to strengthening their MPA capacity.

**ASSESSMENT**

**Lessons learnt and recommendations**

There is a need for economic incentives for local communities, for exclusive rights for local fishers and for technical assistance (fishing, tour operation, eco-labeling, MPA management, business planning, etc.). Networking among marine resources managers, policy makers and scientists via exchanges and Internet communication (GCFI workshops and CaMPAM List) facilitates the dissemination of best marine management practices in the region.
CASE STUDIES
2.3 Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating Activities and Marine Protected Areas: mutual benefits?
COMMUNITY-BASED ECOLODGE OF KEUR BAMBOUNG

LOCATION
SENEGAL, BAMBOUNG MPA

SPEAKER
THIERRY CLEMENT,
MANAGER, ORÉADE BRÈCHE

CONTEXT
The 7000-ha wide community-based MPA of Bamboung is located 250 km south of Dakar in Sine Saloum delta. It was created by the Serere (sailor population) and OCEANIUM (a Senegalese organization for the protection of the environment). This MPA arose from the will to better manage resources locally.

PURPOSES
The alternative activity was initially planned as part of the Bamboung MPA creation project, in order to provide the funds necessary for the project since there are almost no public funds available. The idea was to develop an economic activity in the form of a community-based ecolodge, and the resulting operating surpluses would be used to finance the MPA. The aim is to make sure that the lodge is beneficiary in order to maintain the guardian system of the MPA, but also to constitute an income for the employees and the rural community and to ensure the regular maintenance of the MPA.
2.3. Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating Activities and Marine Protected Areas: mutual benefits?

ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits
Reduced pressure on natural resources is proven by the development of resources in the MPA, which is being watched night and day by guardians located at the bolong entrance. The bolong is a dead-end area, so surveillance is quite easy to ensure. A quite rapid recovery of fish populations was observed in the bolong, highlighted by studies carried out by the Research Institute for Development. The final objective is to obtain a spillover effect to repopulate the MPA surrounding areas.

Financial benefits
Bamboung camp was built by local populations. The Management Committee owns the camp on Rural Community lands. The first beneficiaries are the salaried employees (ecolodge staff and MPA guardians). In the long-term, the objective is that the fishers become the first beneficiaries thanks to the spillover effect. Benefits are shared according to a basic rule, more or less flexible according to the ecolodge revenues. Once the ecolodge operating costs have been paid, the remaining benefits are shared:

- 1/3 for guardian wages
- 1/3 for provisions for small investments and maintenance
- 1/3 for the rural community (54 villages) to carry out activities for the socioeconomic development of the area.

The benefits generated by the ecolodge vary each year, but they are generally increasing with approximately 1,000 overnight stays per year. Sales revenue amounts to 50 million CFA Francs (approx. 75,000 Euros).

Evaluation of the AL/IGA

Points forts :
- products particularly appreciated by some specific customers (ecotourism, solidarity tourism, etc.),
- economic success considering the challenge of such a project,
- MPA being watched continuously since the beginning (volunteers at first) despite the lack of State budget for guardian system,
- return towards local populations: local materials used for construction, guardians, camp staff, food, customer activities, 1/3 of benefits paid to Rural Community, etc.,
- possibility of developing the project (creation of a mangrove center).

Points faibles :
- increasing competition for this type of product,
- difficulties to optimize visitor use since local communities have no experience on this type of long-distance promotion (mainly European customers),
- difficulties to manage such an installation without a certain professional level,
- recent recruitment of a professional expatriate tourism manager to complete the site team, which remains unchanged.

Lessons learnt and recommendations
- each AL/IGA needs to be adapted to each MPA: there is no universal formula,
- feasibility and implementation of the AL/IGA to be carried out in partnership with the professionals (tourism, fishing, rural development, etc.),
- the identification of beneficiaries is essential (caution with the cast-off), it would be normal that the “penalized” ones could benefit personally or in group from specific AL/IGAs,
- long-term support to AL/IGA projects is essential,
- benefit distribution needs to be institutionalized from the beginning.
TAZA WILDLIFE PARK

LOCATION
ALGERIA, TAZA-JIJEL NATIONAL PARK

SPEAKER
NADIA RAMDANE,
NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION SERVICE MANAGER, TAZA NATIONAL PARK

CONTEXT

Taza National Park (TNP) is located in the Northeast of Algeria. The marine area of the Park shelters a significant ecological biodiversity and the diversity of species and specific habitats makes it an area of high interest. The park is a well-protected area – the least contaminated areas of the Algerian coastline. However, due to the overcrowding phenomenon on the coast (terrestrial and marine area) during the summer, a better management is required to cope with the development of the wilaya de Jijel. New activities need to be planned through the park management plan, in order to diversify the tourism, visit and support attraction centers (wildlife park, terrestrial and marine tourism circuit, botanical garden, museum, etc.). Besides, there is an urgent need to develop a new socioeconomic process in this area in order to create new incomes for the residents. The income-generating activity is the Taza Leisure and Wildlife Park. It is an ecotourism recreational project.

PURPOSES

The objectives of the Taza Leisure and Wildlife Park are:
> to better manage visitor use on the coast of Taza National Park,
> to create new livelihoods for the local communities,
> to create and diversify MPA-related activities in order to reduce overfishing and to decrease the number of visitors on the coast in the areas to be classified as integral reserve.
ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits
With the creation of the Park, the overcrowding should be better managed, relieving the other ecotourism points of the Park. However, the interest of the public was so important that the Park now suffers the consequences of too many visits, leading to many management issues.

Financial benefits
In 2009, the income generated by the Park entrance fees amounted to 176,698.05 €. Benefits are used to finance the Park maintenance and operation, and the employees’ wages. These benefits also contribute to balancing the budget of Ben Aknoun Park in Alger. Around the structure, several activities were developed with at least 50 jobs created indirectly – with temporary seasonal jobs. Thus, about 120 families live upon a commercial dynamics arising from this activity.

Evaluation of the AL/IGA

Strong points:
Regarding the objectives of diversifying the attraction centers and relieving other eco-tourism points of the Park, the project was successful. The activity generates a significant economic contribution (176,698.00€ in 2009). The very attractive marine museum and aquarium are the main strengths of the Park. New small activities are created around this project: catering, leisure, sport and cultural activities, sale of handcraft products and souvenirs, etc. The State representatives and the populations adapt and positively receive this new experience related to the protected part. A new socioeconomic and ecological dynamics is being created.

Weak points:
The visitor use has increased twofold and the site management requires more maintenance staff and guards. Hotel structures and campgrounds are still limited and cannot absorb the excess during the summer. Apart from the employee wages, only 2% goes to the local treasury and the remainder goes to the general direction of the managing organization, located in another region. The aquarium maintenance and installations are expensive and hard to manage; it will probably be abandoned. Know-how needs to be strengthened and completed with new management processes specific to this Park, awareness-raising and popularization programmes.
MPA MANAGER PARTNERSHIP – TRADITIONAL COASTAL FISHERS ALLOWING THE EMERGENCE OF ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES PROMOTING THE EXEMPLARY NATURE OF FISHERIES RESOURCES IN CORSICA

LOCATION
CORSICA, BONIFACIO STRAIT MARINE PARK

SPEAKER
JEAN MICHEL CULIOLI,
SCIENTIFIC OFFICER,
ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE, CORSICA

CONTEXT
The Natural Reserve of the Straits of Bonifacio (RNBB) is aimed at conserving and enhancing the natural heritage in the Strait. The RNBB is an evolving protection area since 1981, when the first natural reserves of the Cerbicale and Lavezzi islands were created. In 1992, the PMIBB project (“International Marine Park of the Straits of Bonifacio”) starts with the involvement of French and Italian ministries. The RNBB which constitutes the Corsican part of the project “International Marine Park of the Straits of Bonifacio” was created in 1999.

Since 1992, the traditional fishing effort (and productions) has been monitored within the perimeter of the previous Natural Reserve of Lavezzi islands, and then in the whole RNBB. To ensure this monitoring, a partnership has been created between scientists and professional fishers.

PURPOSES
The purpose of the alternative activities developed in the RNBB is to help the professional fishers develop various activities, while continuing to work as fishermen in a sustainable way.

The RNBB projects in partnership with professional fishers (2005-2012) are multiple: traditional fishing monitoring sampling, monitoring of recreational activities, co-management projects (improving the knowledge of bottlenos, trying basket trap fishing, etc.), pescatourism, etc.

The alternative livelihoods proposed to professional fishermen are implemented through service conventions. As part of these conventions, scientists use the professional fishers’ know-how as well as their boats for general and fishing knowledge,
2.3. Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating Activities and Marine Protected Areas: mutual benefits?

ASSESSMENT

Ecological benefits
Fishers take part in monitoring programs, therefore ensuring the support of professional fishermen to management orientations and conclusions resulting from these studies. With the scientific monitoring of fisheries activity initiated almost 20 years ago, former data are now available regarding small-scale traditional fishing effort and productions in a Mediterranean MPA. We therefore know the development of the profits and productions related to more than 60 species of fish, shellfish and cephalopods. Fishing production and yields of the whole fishing flotilla in the reserve show a certain stability of fish tonnage landed these last 10 years between May and July (approximately 44.7 in 2000, 30.4 in 2002 and 43.77 in 2010) and an average yield per boat of approximately 30 kg/day. This report highlights that fish resources are “in good health” in the whole Straits.

In all the Bonifacio Straits, the Catch per Effort Unit with trammel nets is between 1.6 and 2.4 kg per day and 100 meters of trammel nets. For species sensitive to recreational harvesting, trammel net profits have doubled in less than 10 years, in reinforced protection areas with leisure fishing regulations (underwater prohibited, long-line and drop-line fishing prohibited for recreational fishers). The prohibition of small mesh nets since the 1980’s associated with reasonable immersion times according to the target species seem to have a positive impact on the low proportions of small individuals captured (approximately 10%) and significantly help maintain good fishing yields.

While ensuring the conservation of the marine biodiversity environmental values, these MPAs help maintain traditional activities such as traditional fishing as well as recreational fishing - which is necessary to ensure social cohesion in the Mediterranean - and develop interpretive tourism that respects the environment.

Financial benefits
The Environmental Office of Corsica allocates budgets - from funding programmes - dedicated to service conventions as part of the RNBB management. These budgets are mainly financed by European funds (for instance: LIFE, PO Marittimo) for environment management projects in which fishermen can occasionally participate. In 1999-2010, all the collaboration projects - discussed and validated by the Bonifacio Fishermen Association’s managers and proposed to each fishing skipper - amounted to €862,462. This budget is used to offer service conventions to approximately 35 professional fishermen for boarding, lowering and raising of fishing gears, marking of small crayfish, and also for urchin counting actions.

Evaluation of the AL/IGA
The partnership experience between MPA managers and professional fishers led to the formulation of a number of recommendations:

> with service conventions, fishing professionals can be scientifically and technically involved;
> it is necessary to strengthen the professional fishers’ multi-activity ability [network of technicians supervised by scientists];
> long-term investment is crucial for some new fishing sectors [urchin, lobster…]. At the end, there is administrative, technical and political recognition;
> Even if the fishers have several activities, the objective is that they can still work as fishermen in the long-term.

The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) Reform Project of the European Union considerably supports this model which ensures the participation of fishermen in environment management and monitoring actions.

1 These results were obtained in 2000 by comparing yields in the Lavezzi archipelago - partially protected since 1982 - with other areas of the Straits. In 2010, they were confirmed in the Cerbicale archipelago, partially protected since 1999.
MEET MEDITERRANEAN EXPERIENCE OF ECO-TOURISM

LOCATION
MEDITERRANEAN PROTECTED AREAS

SPEAKER
LUCA SANTAROSSA,
CONSULTANT, FEDERPARCHI – EUROPARC ITALY

CONTEXT
MEET (Mediterranean Experience of Eco-tourism) is a strategy to develop a Mediterranean version of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism. Federparchi-Europarc Italy is the main responsible for the framework project.

PURPOSES
The main objective is to develop the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism (ECST) in the EU Mediterranean Countries and to propose to the southern Med Countries the application of ECST principles. Actually, the Charter aims to improve the sustainable development and management of tourism in protected areas, taking into account the needs of the environment, local residents, local businesses and visitors. The application of this Charter requires working in partnership with all the stakeholders involved in the tourism development and management within and around the protected area. A strategy needs to be developed and implemented; key issues need to be addressed like mitigating tourism impact, ensuring socio-economic benefits for local communities and raising awareness regarding sustainable development.

The idea consists in developing an overall “framework” project to be used as a basis for several actions, according to the points identified (elaboration of guidelines, pilot tests, training, know-how exchange, etc.), the resources available and the geographical areas (West, East, Adriatic only, etc.).
2.3. Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-generating Activities and Marine Protected Areas: mutual benefits?

ASSESSMENT

The project has not been initiated yet. It is an idea launched by Federparc-Europarc Italy, being discussed by several stakeholders. One potential donor could be related with the next call for proposals of the ENPI-CBC MED Programme.

Ecological benefits

The aim is to reduce as much as possible the negative impacts of tourism on natural resources, obtain local community support for nature conservation, promote/reinforce participation of local population in the elaboration and management of tourism offer within the Park, and develop a quality ecotourism offer ensuring minimum impacts and maximum benefits (economically but also in terms of support) while involving a small number of tourists.

Financial benefits

The beneficiaries are the local communities (especially economic operators) and the Park managing body. Benefits are shared according to tourism offers. Financial incomes increase local support, and allow the Park management body to finance conservation actions. One of the key components of this project is the high “profitability” rate generated by ecotourism: the eco-tourist does not look for luxurious hotels but is ready to spend a lot of money to have real “nature experiences”. 
2.4 Conclusion

IN GENERAL, THE WORKSHOP WAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVEAL THE POTENTIAL OF EACH ACTIVITY ON THE CORRESPONDING TERRITORY. EACH EXPERIENCE PRESENTED HAS ITS OWN SPECIFICITY.

In some cases, the positive impact of the AL/IGAs in terms of reduced pressure on resources was highlighted - the purpose of the AL/IGAs being therefore to reduce and re-orientate the use of resources or to use them in a sustainable way. In other cases, the local populations’ incomes were highlighted, with AL/IGAs used to provide either a new or an additional source of income.

Another important topic is related to the benefits that can be provided by AL/IGAs to the MPAs. There can be various types of benefits: through MPA co-management projects, for instance, through the contribution to MPA operating costs, or with the local populations’ support to an MPA via the establishment of an AL/IGA. During this workshop, we noticed that this topic was actually heavily debated by the participants. For many of them, the main objective of the AL/IGA must remain focused on local populations.
Following the introductory presentations and the different case studies, a study and discussion process has been started and essential questions have been raised around the notion of AL/IGA:

> Regarding the development and conservation dimensions: How to set up a project with local populations? Is it an effective mean to offer an economic alternative to local populations? How to enhance the local knowledge? How to combine development and conservation?
>
> Regarding the methodology to be applied: Is there a standard methodology to set up an AL/IGA? What are the main steps in the AL/IGA implementation process?
>
> Regarding the success of the project: How to ensure long-term support of these projects? What are the keys to the success of an AL/IGA? How to ensure participative approval of local populations?
>
> Or to extend the study on AL/IGAs: Can AL/IGAs be beneficial to MPAs? How to easily share the experiences?

A collective work has been carried out alongside the plenary sessions, in order to study and discuss the AL/IGAs into more details. Participants were divided into 2 groups working on the same question: What are the main key steps to develop and to support an AL/IGA project with local populations?

The purpose of these work groups was to go further into the analysis and understanding of the topic addressed during the conference. The notion of AL/IGA needed to be addressed wisely, considering the diversity of participants. The workshop was the opportunity for the participants to understand the basics of an AL/IGA and to comprehend the whole dimension of an AL/IGA implementation project.

The aim of this collective work was to improve the participants’ knowledge on this topic, to share their point of view, based on their experience, to formulate recommendation proposals for each identified step and to discuss the points that could raise problems during the AL/IGA project implementation.

### 3.1 French-speaking group study and discussion outcome

The identified steps, as well as the following recommendations directly result from the work group discussions. They are based on the knowledge and experience of the stakeholders attending the conference, leading to the formulation of recommendations for the Mediterranean MPAs.

#### Purpose

Defining the main key steps to develop and support an AL/IGA project with local populations and establish a recommendation framework for each step.

#### Identifying the phases of an AL/IGA project

> Preparation phase
> Implementation phase

#### Identifying the main steps of an AL/IGA project

1. Opportunity
2. Status report
3. Identification of potential projects
4. Strategy - feasibility
5. Action plan
6. Long-term support and evaluation of impacts

The sequence of these steps is not fixed as the development can vary according to the MPA.
1. OPPORTUNITY: WHY IMPLEMENTING AL/IGAS?

Most often, the idea of creating an AL/IGA comes from the MPA manager, but sometimes it directly comes from the users or the authorities, etc.

An AL/IGA must meet one or several needs
- Reduce the pressure on resources and avoid illegal activities
- Compensate people or groups which are temporarily negatively affected by the MPA project
- Obtain support from the populations by offering development opportunities
- Preserve the existing resources and the local cultural traditions
- Handle a problem, unlock a situation
- Help finance the MPA partially
- Socially justify the MPA and avoid the emigration of local populations
- Create a link between the protected area and the surrounding areas

2. STATUS REPORT
- Evaluate the current economic activities
- Identify the existing best practices on which projects can be based
- List the activities having a negative impact on the environment, and the activities with ecosystem-based services
- Identify people or groups affected (negatively or positively) by the creation of the MPA in the short, mid and long-term as well as the compensation opportunities
- Identify the opportunities for new added value (labeling, biotechnologies, etc.)
- Identify the key stakeholders (including the decision-makers, the representatives of the socio-economic groups, etc.)
- Identify the potential allies to facilitate dialogue, and also the opponents (resistant to change)
- Identify the social and cultural forces that can influence decisions
- Start thinking about the funds available to implement AL/IGAs

3. IDEA IDENTIFICATION PHASE: HOW TO SELECT APPROPRIATE AL/IGAS?
- Identify, on the basis of the status report, the objectives of the potential AL/IGAs and the beneficiaries (and also the non-beneficiaries). At this point, a participative approach may be useful. Caution: the support process is much longer and difficult in a context of poverty
- Avoid “ready-made” projects and favor custom-built projects (what are the opportunities specific to my site?).
- Draw conclusions from past experiences and take into account the conservation of identity and the existing socio-cultural aspect
- Set key criteria to select good project(s) (example: as much beneficiaries as possible, solution to a conflict, etc.). This list is always specific to the site according to the opportunities and constraints.
Test acceptability and feasibility among the beneficiaries and technicians in the area (evaluate the “actual” needs using appropriate tools (including open questionnaires))

See what are the necessary tools and funding conditions to implement an AL/IGA

4. STRATEGY-FEASIBILITY

Preparing the development of AL/IGAs

> Build or support the participative strategy project for the development of the AL/IGAs
> Finalize a communication, coordination and report strategy about the project, towards a global consensus or by interest groups
> See how these projects can be integrated into the protected area management plan and land planning
> if necessary, further study the feasibility aspect

From the idea to reality: feasibility

> Identify which preliminary studies, consultations or analyses are necessary (scientific, technical, legal, socio-economic, etc.)
> Identify the necessary skills (partnerships, professionals, networks, etc.) and the existing skills which need to be improved
> Get the help from experts in different areas (example: experts in eco-tourism for cottage projects)
> and combine it with the managers’ common sense and knowledge to avoid “ready-made” projects
> Identify the support actions needed to encourage the participation of underprivileged populations in the AL/IGA projects
> Draw up terms of reference for the feasibility study or other necessary studies (for instance: logical framework)
> Get some help for the specifications (exchange with other projects, MedPAN network)

5. ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT AN AL/IGA

> Content: action sheets, results, logical framework
> Who implements the AL/IGA?
> Which means are needed and who pays? (Financing package, guarantees)?
> Duration and potential exit strategy (which stakeholders will take over at a given moment?)
> Spatial scale (beyond the MPA)
> Consider the actions that would enable participation/appropriation from the beneficiaries and other stakeholders (can be very long)
> Further study the training needs and the capacity-building process for the beneficiaries
> Keep in mind the benefit-sharing objectives/rules
> Design a follow-up process (indicators) and an assessment process

6. LONG-TERM SUPPORT AND EVALUATION OF THE IMPACTS

> Need to support the projects in the long-term:
  - 10 to 15-year strategy with fundraising for additional projects
  - caution: support is much longer and difficult in a context of poverty
  - find local institutional intermediaries to ensure the continuation of the project (exit strategy)
> Take into account the lessons learnt during the first years of implementation (regarding resources, regulation, socio-economic impacts, governance…) in order to improve the AL/IGA
> Evaluate the impacts of the AL/IGA:
  - need to establish a state 0, even minimal
  - adapt the methods according to the issues: qualitative effects (perception questionnaires to local populations) / quantitative effects (local populations’ income increase…)
  - measure the actual impacts of the AL/IGA on the environment
  - compare the results with the objectives set in the action plan
> Ensure long-term support from many stakeholders and make conflict management a priority
3.2 English-speaking group study and discussion outcome

**Purpose**
Defining the main key steps to develop and support an AL/IGA project with local populations and establish a recommendation framework for each step.

**Identifying the phases of an AL/IGA project**
- Preparation phase
- Action phase

**Identifying the main steps of an AL/IGA project**
1. Why implementing AL/IGAs in Mediterranean MPAs
2. Acquiring knowledge on MPAs
3. Ensuring maximum participation and searching opportunities
4. Project feasibility
5. Action plan and implementation process
6. Supporting the development of AL/IGA
7. Ensuring the AL/IGA sustainability

The sequence of these steps is not fixed as the development can vary according to the MPA.

1. **WHY IMPLEMENTING AL/IGAS IN MEDITERRANEAN MPAS?**

What benefits can be provided by AL/IGAs (challenges for the development of AL/IGAs)
- Reduce pressure on resources and avoid illegal activities
- Propose effective solutions to help cope with changes in economic activities and behaviors: poverty alleviation?
- Mitigate (compensate?) the negative impacts of MPA implementation: MPA acceptability?
- Promote a participative approach for the decision-making process

**Recommendations for the actions to be conducted**
- Inform less resilient stakeholders about AL/IGA opportunities
- Inform policy-makers about AL/IGA benefits: advocacy?
- AL/IGAs should be proposed only if stakeholders agree or if it is proved that AL/IGAs can overcome poverty issues
- AL/IGAs can be a solution to a specific management problem
- AL/IGAs may support relevant economic activities (such as traditional activities or the use of modern and appropriate tools) to meet the MPA conservation needs
- AL/IGAs may protect sustainable traditional activities
- AL/IGAs are not the best tool to finance MPAs, however they can contribute to their funding
- Being clear about how the AL/IGA revenues will be used to finance MPAs
- Preliminary socio-economic studies should be carried out and pilot sites should be established before implementing AL/IGAs to avoid negative effects and to check for relevance and interest
- Using economic benefits resulting from natural resources and AL/IGA benefits as an argument to raise awareness of stakeholders and decision-makers. The most important point remains the education.
2. ACQUIRING KNOWLEDGE ON MPAS

Challenges
- Acquiring enough knowledge
- Being credible in the proposal (the users should trust the proposal)
- Bring together the interested stakeholders and transmit suitable and simple message
- Be aware of opportunities: eco-labeling, funding mechanisms

Recommendations for the actions to be conducted
- Focus on less-known information: traditional use/practices (i.e. handicrafts, fishery), socio-economic issues (especially those linked with private sector)
- Collect data on the use of natural resources, research, surveys, socio-economic information
- Carry out a socio-economic assessment to integrate future impacts and develop management solutions in different scenarios
- Identify the less resilient groups (the “penalized” ones), assess the negative impact of changing regulations and know more about them
- Design a proper roadmap to implement a participative approach (i.e. propose informal meetings at the beginning of the process and then implement a more structured system of meetings)

3. ENSURING MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION AND SEARCHING OPPORTUNITIES

Challenges
- Resistance to changes
- Lack of trust or interest from responsible authorities
- Dealing with different and conflicting interests
- Ensure participation of stakeholders in the decision-making process

Recommendations for the actions to be conducted
- Show success stories to decision-makers and local populations
- In order to ensure credibility of the MPA and keep the participants’ interest, the AL/IGA has to be effective
- When necessary, the AL/IGA can be proposed by neutral facilitators and the MPA authority can be a partner only
- Promote proposals that are the most supported by stakeholders (even if they are not the best) to increase the probability of success
- Carry out field communication actions to enhance stakeholders’ involvement
- Apply adaptive approaches to cope with economy uncertainties and clearly explain to the participants that the MPA cannot ensure an income increase
- Build consensus through impartiality with neutral facilitators to support the process
- Find the project which ensures maximum stakeholders’ involvement
- Promote the development of a realistic project: from pilot project to enlarged initiative (such as the example of Pescatourisme)
- Involve stakeholders from the first steps to the end of the AL/IGA development
4. FEASIBILITY OF THE PROJECT

Challenges
> Unfavorable regulatory framework
> Include sustainability questions in the AL/IGA project
> Get the abilities needed for the feasibility study
> Make sure that the project meets the objectives set
> Ensure feasibility

Recommendations for the actions to be conducted
> Establish efficient partnerships especially to implement innovative initiatives (i.e. with private sector)
> Build partnerships to promote the AL/IGA initiatives
> Take into account the socio-economic and environmental context in the feasibility study
> Be aware of funding opportunities (incentives from the EU –Life for example)
> Draw up clear ToR according to the main objectives of the feasibility study
> Avoid “ready-made” projects
> Start with pilot projects
> Ask for technical support in the planning and implementation phases

5. ACTION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Challenges
> Plan AL/IGAs according to the carrying capacity study (i.e. overcrowding)
> Apply an adaptive approach for the development of AL/IGA
> Ensure observance of the ToR in the action plan
> Target a maximum of people

Recommendations for the actions to be conducted
> Ensure the success of the initiative, include tools and activities based on the participative approach to give similar responsibilities and decision authorities to the MPA stakeholders in the planning process
> Include the AL/IGA program in the management plan of the MPA and if it does not exist, include it in the legal framework of the future MPA
> Use spatial planning to elaborate the activity and integrate areas beyond MPA borders
> The MPA authority should equally share AL/IGA benefits among stakeholders, and with all the stakeholders which will not benefit from direct income
> Take into account the “cast-off” groups in the action plan
> Include information and awareness-raising activities
> Identify proper indicators and elaborate a regular monitoring and evaluation program: ex ante and ex post assessment
6. SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AL/IGA

Challenges

- Identify unexpected changes in regulation, environment and socio-economy
- Overcome hidden and unexpected conflicts
- Ensure long-term sustainability of the project

Recommendations for the actions to be conducted

- Evaluate the efficiency of the AL/IGAs with local stakeholders every year and plan a final evaluation of the project every 3 years
- Conduct the necessary actions to cope with conflicts and ensure follow-up
- Ensure appropriate capacity-building
- Propose consistent training programs to local stakeholders
- Raise awareness of all stakeholders inside and outside the MPA
- Ensure viability of the AL/IGA

7. ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY OF THE AL/IGA

Challenges

- Ensure the continuity of the AL/IGA after the end of the funded project (4-5 years)
- Take all the opportunities to improve AL/IGAs (funding, legal framework, socioeconomic development)
- Keep the AL/IGA management associated with the MPA (integration in the management plan?)

Recommendations for the actions to be conducted

- Plan for long-term sustainability of the AL/IGA at the very beginning of the project
- Promote and favor self-sustainable AL/IGA proposals
- Ensure that AL/IGA initiatives are framed in the existing legal framework
- Ensure the contribution at national level to ensure a follow-up after the end of the project
- Ensure sustainable funding of the AL/IGA with specific funds (EU)?
- Advocate for AL/IGAs and get political support for the continuation of the activities?
- In new project development, enlarge the group of beneficiary stakeholders, which were excluded at the early stage of the project
First, the participants expressed a number of key points to ensure the success of an AL/IGA:
1. ensure conservation of natural resources (reduce the pressure)
2. obtain the support from local population and stakeholders
3. benefit local populations
4. be viable in the long-term
5. include the evaluation of in itinere or ex post effects (including state 0)
6. be in line with the MPA management plan and the MPA-related territory projects
7. benefit the MPA
8. take into account the local socio-economic context
9. meet a request or solve a problem
10. include the notion of “benefit-sharing” between stakeholders
11. be used as a pilot project (replicable and extended)
12. based on the addition of conservation value
13. maintain trust between the MPA manager and the local population
14. contribute to the funding of the MPA
15. include an evaluation of its potential impact (ex ante)

The objective of the work groups was to define the main key steps to develop and support an AL/IGA project with local populations and to establish a recommendation framework for each step, to be used by the stakeholders involved in conservation and development.
Main recommendations resulting from the two work groups:

1. **Opportunity**

An AL/IGA must meet one or several specific needs (for instance: reduce the pressures on the environment, ensure financial compensation for a group affected by the MPA, obtain the population’s support or contribute to the funding of the MPA).

2. **Status report**

The present situation needs to be properly analyzed (economically, socially, culturally, politically, etc.). The project targets must be clearly identified and the interested stakeholders must be brought together before starting to propose a list of activities integrated in the socio-cultural and socio-economic context.

3. **Identification of projects**

The selection of the appropriate AL/IGA is based on the status report. The objectives of the AL/IGAs as well as the beneficiaries must be clearly identified and “ready-made” projects must be avoided. Maximum involvement of the stakeholders and targets must be ensured. It is interesting to draw conclusions from past experiences.

4. **Strategy – feasibility**

A feasibility and viability study must be carried out (scientific, technical, legal, socio-economic analyses, etc.). It is important to get the help of the experts, and to make sure that the project meets the objectives set.

5. **Action plan**


6. **Supporting the development of the project and ensuring sustainability**

The projects need to be supported in the long-term. The lessons learnt during the first years of implementation need to be taken into account (regarding natural resources, regulation, socio-economic effects, governance...) to improve the AL/IGA.

The continuity of the AL/IGA must be ensured, even once the funded project is over. Long-term support from many stakeholders must be ensured and conflict management must be considered a priority.

In the Mediterranean basin, many countries initiate local projects around marine protected areas, as part of conservation programmes: sustainable eco-tourism, cooperatives, labels, product processing, etc. However, sustainability is not ensured for each project. Mistakes are often repeated from one MPA to another. Flaws in the methodology or in practice make local populations turn away from natural resource conservation projects. Many recurring problems impede the achievement of the projects: no preliminary study, management difficulties, lack of follow-up, lack of funds, no conservation-development partnership, etc.

Conservation programmes are essential and efficient tools to ensure protection of spaces and species. However, they need to be combined with programmes for local development and to improve living conditions, in order to involve the local populations in MPA projects.

The work started during this workshop highlighted the complex task of combining nature conservation and local development, initiated in many Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas. This workshop shed light on these activities and provided the managers with ideas and lines of thought to implement AL/IGAs within their MPAs.

From now on and using these workshop proceedings, each MPA manager should further consider this type of project, draw on the lessons learnt during this workshop and adapt his development objectives to the actual situation of the MPA. The capitalization work as well as the exchange continuation will also help improve everyone’s practices.
Programme

SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER 2010: FIELD VISIT
Welcoming of participants and registration from 8.30am
Meeting point at 9.00 am

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field visit</td>
<td>9.15-10.15am</td>
<td>Visit of the Korba lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APAL presentation</td>
<td>10.15-10.35am</td>
<td>Presentation of APAL’s program for Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, eco-cultural centre</td>
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10.35 – 11.00am: Coffee Break

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Field visit</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Departure for Haouaria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field visit</td>
<td>12.00am-1.30pm</td>
<td>Visit of Jebel Haouaria (North-East of Cap Bon)</td>
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1.30pm: Lunch Break in Haouaria

MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 2010: WORKSHOP
Welcoming of participants and registration from 8.30am

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Opening</td>
<td>9.00-9.30am</td>
<td>Opening of the workshop:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>&gt; Catherine Pianta, representative of MedPAN</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>&gt; Abderrahmen Gannoun, RAC/SPA director</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; Sihem Slim, director at APAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>9.30-10.00am</td>
<td>Introduction to the workshop:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; Marine Protected Areas, sustainable development and economic approach, Anaï Mangos (Plan Bleu) et Souha El-Asmi (RAC/SPA)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; Introduction to Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income Generating Activities (AL/IGA), Marianne Lang (MedPAN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plenary session</td>
<td>10.30 -11.00am</td>
<td>Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-Generating Activities: Case Studies Leader: Sihem Slim (APAL)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; Pescatorisme - Var, France - Remi Bellia (Marco Polo Echanger Autrement organization)</td>
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<td>&gt; AL/IGA in the region of Kroumirie and Mogods – Protected Areas of Kroumirie and Mogods, Tunisia - Sami Dhouib (WWF Tunis)</td>
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<td>&gt; Samadai model of protecting spinner dolphin using resource on a sustainable way – Shaab Samadai, Egypt - Mahmoud Fouad (Ministry of State for Environment, Nature Conservation Sector)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plenary session</td>
<td>11.30 - 11.50am</td>
<td>Questions/discussions</td>
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11.00 – 11.30am: Coffee Break
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Plenary session | 11.30 - 11.50am | Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-Generating Activities: Case Studies  
    Leader: Sihem Slim (APAL)  
    ➢ Sustainable tourism in the National Park of Al Hoceima – National Park of Al Hoceima, Morocco - Abdelhamid Tawfik (RODPAL)  
    ➢ Community-based ecododge of Keur Bamboung – MPA of Bamboung, Senegal - Thierry Clement (Oréade Brèche) |
| Plenary session | 11.50am-12.10pm | Questions/discussions |
| Plenary session | 2.00 - 2.30pm | Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-Generating Activities: Case Studies  
    Leader: Zamir Dedej (Institute of Nature Conservation in Albania)  
    ➢ Implementation of a label for Whale Watching - Pelagos Sanctuary and Mediterranean Basin - Philippe Robert (French Marine Protected Areas Agency)  
    ➢ Taza wildlife park – Taza Jijel National Park, Algeria - Nadia Ramdane (Taza National Park)  
    ➢ Support to the processing of traditional Imraguen products in the Banc d’Arguin National Park – Banc d’Arguin National Park, Mauritania - Cheibany Ould Senhoury (Banc d’Arguin National Park) |
| Plenary session | 2.30 - 3.00pm | Questions/discussions |
| Working groups | 3.30 - 5.30pm | Questions:  
    1. What are the fundamental steps for the establishment of an AL/IGA on an MPA?  
    2. AL/IGA: an efficient way to provide economic alternatives for local populations? What benefits can AL/IGA bring for MPAs?  
    ➢ Francophone group:  
    Leader: Thierry Clément (Oréade Brèche)  
    ➢ English group:  
    Leader: Thomas Binet (CEMARE, Portsmouth University) |
| Plenary session | 5.30pm | First day report |

8.00pm: Dinner
### Programme (continuation)

**TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2010: WORKSHOP**

*Welcoming of participants and registration from 8.30am*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Plenary session</td>
<td>9.00 - 9.50am</td>
<td><strong>Alternative Livelihoods and/or Income-Generating Activities: Case Studies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Leader: Abdennadi Abarkach (Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification)&lt;br&gt;› MPA Manager Partnership - traditional coastal fishers allowing the emergence of additional activities promoting the exemplary nature of fisheries resources in Corsica – Bouches de Bonifacio Marine Park, Corse – Jean Michel Culioli (Office de l’Environnement Corse)&lt;br&gt;› CaMPAM: promoting sustainable livelihoods associated with MPAs – Caribbean MPAs – Georgina Bustamante (CaMPAM network)&lt;br&gt;› Mediterranean Experience of Ecotourism project – Mediterranean Protected Areas, Luca Santarossa (Federparchi, Europark)&lt;br&gt;› Label for the « ormeaux de Molène » (abalone) - Molène Island, Iroise Marine Park - Thierry Canteri (Iroise Marine Park / French Marine Protected Areas Agency)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plenary session</td>
<td>9.50 - 10.30am</td>
<td><strong>Questions/discussions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Working groups</strong></td>
<td>10.50 - 1.00pm</td>
<td><strong>Questions:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1. What are the fundamental steps for the establishment of an AL/IGA on an MPA?&lt;br&gt;2. AL/IGA: an efficient way to provide economic alternatives for local populations? What benefits can AL/IGA bring for MPAs?&lt;br&gt;Continuation of yesterday’s working groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plenary session</td>
<td>3.00 - 5.00pm</td>
<td><strong>Evaluation of the workshop:</strong>&lt;br&gt;Leader: Catherine Piante (MedPAN)&lt;br&gt;› Report of the working groups&lt;br&gt;› Recommendations, guidelines&lt;br&gt;› Discussion with participants&lt;br&gt;› Final synthesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing of the workshop</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td><strong>Closing of the workshop:</strong>&lt;br&gt;› Closing speech</td>
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**10.30 – 10.50am: Coffee Break**

**1.00 – 3.00pm: Lunch Break**

**8.00pm: Dinner and reception**
# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS (continuation)

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