



UNITED  
NATIONS

**EP**

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/11



UNEP



UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

18 April 2017  
Original: English

Thirteenth Meeting of Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas

Alexandria, Egypt, 9-12 May 2017

**Agenda item 8 List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List)**  
**8.3. Updating of the Format for the periodic review of SPAMIs**

**Draft updated Format for the periodic review of SPAMIs**

For environmental and economy reasons, this document is printed in a limited number and will not be distributed at the meeting. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

Note:

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) and UN Environment concerning the legal status of any State, Territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of their frontiers or boundaries.

© 2017 United Nations Environment Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan  
(UN Environment/MAP)  
Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)  
Boulevard du Leader Yasser Arafat  
B.P. 337 - 1080 Tunis Cedex - Tunisia  
E-mail: [car-asp@rac-spa.org](mailto:car-asp@rac-spa.org)

## **Draft updated Format for the periodic review of SPAMIs**

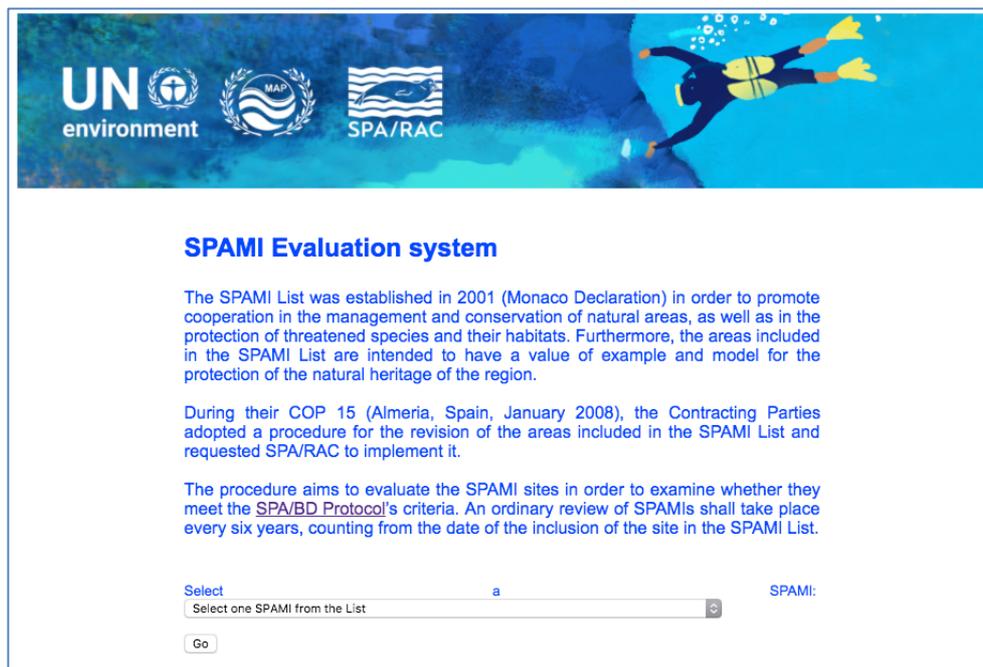
### **Introduction and background**

1. The SPAMI List was established in 2001 (Monaco Declaration) in accordance with the SPA/BD Protocol, in order to promote cooperation in the management and conservation of natural areas, as well as in the protection of threatened species and their habitats. Furthermore, the areas included in the SPAMI List are intended to have a value of example and model for the protection of the natural heritage of the region.
2. During their COP 15 (Almeria, Spain, January 2008), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted a procedure for the revision of the areas included in the SPAMI List and requested SPA/RAC to implement it (Decision IG.17/12).
3. The procedure aims to evaluate the SPAMI sites in order to examine whether they meet the SPA/BD Protocol's criteria. Such procedure provides for an ordinary review of SPAMIs to be held every six years, counting from the date of the inclusion of the site in the SPAMI List.
4. Based on a recurrent recommendation made by the technical advisory commissions (TACs) entrusted with the SPAMI ordinary reviews, the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Focal Points for SPAs (Athens, Greece, 25-29 May 2015) recommended to SPA/RAC to revise the review format based on the experience gained so far.
5. Consequently, the first draft of a new format was elaborated after the meeting, presented at the SPAMI Conference (Tunis, Tunisia, 9-12 June 2015) and then circulated by e-mail to SPA Focal Points and relevant partner organisations, for comments and finalization in time for submission to the Meeting of MAP Focal Points (Athens, Greece, 13-16 October 2015).
6. By its Decision IG.22/14, COP 19 (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016) took note of the "Revised Format for the Periodic Review of SPAMIs" (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.421/Inf.27) and requested SPA/RAC to test it (including by preparing an online version) and, on this basis, to further develop it in consultation with Focal Points of SPA/RAC for consideration by COP 20.
7. For that aim, the draft format was tested during the 2017 ordinary review of the three following SPAMIs: Banc des Kabyles Marine Reserve, and Habibas Islands (Algeria), and Portofino Marine Protected Area (Italy).

8. The comments made by the SPAMI review TACs to improve the draft format were taken into account by SPA/RAC.
9. The resulting “online SPAMI Evaluation system” could be consulted through the following link: [http://rac-spa.org/spami\\_eval/spami.php](http://rac-spa.org/spami_eval/spami.php).
10. For the moment, the system only exists in English. A French version will be developed later.

### **Presentation of the “online SPAMI Evaluation system”**

11. This online system is intended to keep records of the SPAMI presentation reports (using the Annotated Format<sup>1</sup>), the previous review reports and recommendations, and any other relevant official documentation.
12. The home page of the SPAMI Evaluation system:

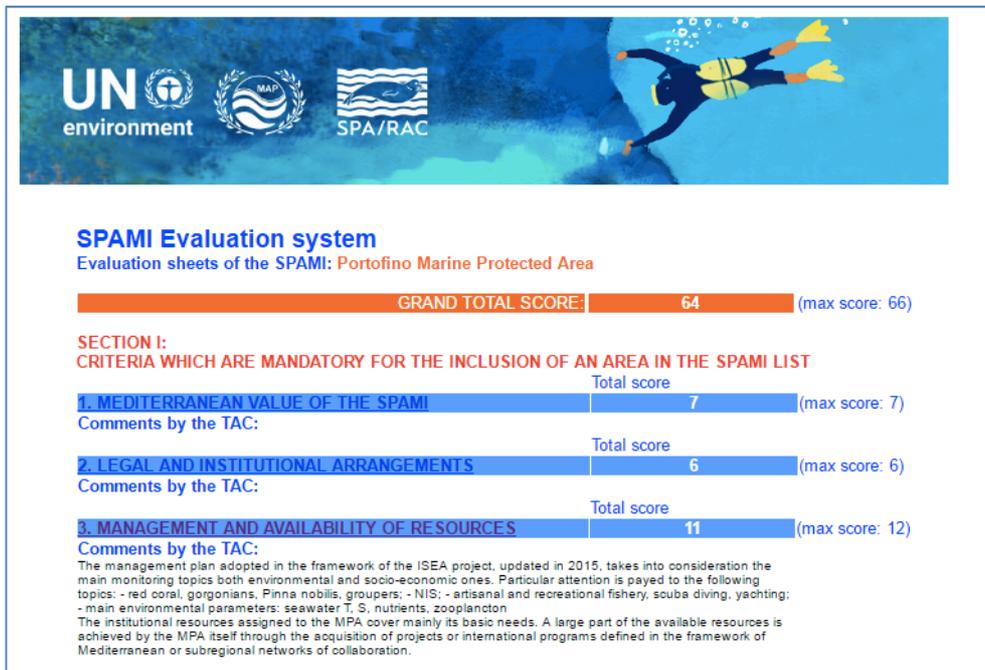


<sup>1</sup> The “Annotated Format for the Presentation Reports for the areas proposed for inclusion in the SPAMI List” is format adopted in 2001 by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, and which objective is to guide the Contracting Parties in producing reports of comparable contents, including the information necessary for the adequate evaluation of the conformity of the proposed site with the criteria set out in the SPA/BD Protocol and in its Annex I (“Common criteria for the choice of protected marine and coastal areas that could be included in the SPAMI List”).

13. Select one SPAMI from the list and click on the “Go” button:



14. The first screen provides the “GRAND Total” received by the evaluated SPAMI and the scores by sub-section (1., 2., 3., etc.). It also shows the consolidated comments made by the TAC in each sub-section:



15. The new online format includes guidance on how to translate the results of the assessment into scores:

Total score	
<b>4. THREATS AND SURROUNDING CONTEXT</b>	<b>22</b> (max score: 23)
Comments by the TAC:	
Total score	
<b>5. ENFORCEMENT OF PROTECTION MEASURES</b>	<b>6</b> (max score: 6)
Comments by the TAC:	
Total score	
<b>6. COOPERATION AND NETWORKING</b>	<b>6</b> (max score: 6)
Comments by the TAC:	
<b>SECTION III: FOLLOW-UP OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE PREVIOUS EVALUATION(S)</b>	
Total score	
<b>7. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE PREVIOUS EVALUATIONS (if applicable)</b>	<b>6</b> (max score: 6)
Comments by the TAC:	
<b>SCORE EVALUATION:</b>	
The TAC will propose to include the SPAMI in a period of provisional nature (in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Procedure for the revision of the areas included in the SPAMI List) if the SPAMI has:	
- a score < 1 for any of the following items: 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5 or 3.6;	
or	
- a score < 2 for any of the following items: 1.2, 1.3, 7.1 or 7.2.	
Furthermore, considering that the sites included in the SPAMI List are intended to have a value of example and model for the protection of the natural heritage of the region (Paragraph A.e of Annex 1 to the SPA/BD Protocol), the TAC shall also propose to include the SPAMI in a period of provisional nature if the total score of the evaluation is less than 46 (= 70% of the maximum total score of 66).	

16. In each sub-section (1., 2., etc.), scoring could be made by choosing the appropriate answer in a drop-down menu:



**SPAMI Evaluation system**  
Evaluation sheets of the SPAMI: Portofino Marine Protected Area

**SECTION I:  
CRITERIA WHICH ARE MANDATORY FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN AREA IN THE SPAMI LIST**

**3. MANAGEMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES**

**3.1. Does the SPAMI have a management plan?**

0 = No management plan or the level of implementation of the management plan is assessed as "insufficient"  
1 = The management plan is not officially adopted but its implementation is assessed as "adequate"  
2 = The management plan is officially adopted and adequately implemented

Score justification:  
The management plan adopted in the framework of the ISEA project, updated in 2015, takes into consideration the main monitoring topics both environmental and socio-economic ones. Particular attention is paid to the following topics:  
- reef coral, gorgonians, Pinna nobilis, groupers;  
- NIS;  
- artisanal and recreational fishery, scuba diving, yachting;  
- main environmental parameters: seawater T, S, nutrients, zooplankton

Score:

**3.2. Assess the adequacy of the management plan taking into account the SPAMI objectives and the requirements set out in Article 7 of the SPA/BD Protocol and Section 8.2.3 of the Annotated Format (AF).**

Score justification:

Score:  = Excellent

17. Score justification should be entered in the dedicated field below. The information could be typed directly into the relevant box or pasted as text copied from a Word processor:

**UN environment** **MAE** **SPA/RAC**

**SPAMI Evaluation system**  
Evaluation sheets of the SPAMI: **Portofino Marine Protected Area**

**SECTION I:**  
**CRITERIA WHICH ARE MANDATORY FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN AREA IN THE SPAMI LIST**  
**3. MANAGEMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES**

**3.1. Does the SPAMI have a management plan?** Score  
2 = The management plan is officially adopted

Score justification:  
The management plan adopted in the framework of the ISEA project, updated in 2015, takes into consideration the main monitoring topics both environmental and socio-economic ones. Particular attention is paid to the following topics:  
- red coral, gorgonians, Pinna nobilis, groupers;  
- NIS;  
- artisanal and recreational fishery, scuba diving, yachting;  
- main environmental parameters: seawater T, S, nutrients, zooplankton

**3.2. Assess the adequacy of the management plan taking into account the SPAMI objectives and the requirements set out in Article 7 of the SPA/BD Protocol and Section 8.2.3 of the Annotated Format (AF).** Score  
2 = Excellent

Score justification:

18. Running the mouse over an item needing further clarification, will produce a tooltip which displays the full text or definition of such item (e.g. Article 7 of the SPA/BD Protocol):

**SECTION I:**  
**CRITERIA WHICH ARE MANDATORY FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN AREA IN THE SPAMI LIST**  
**3. MANAGEMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES**

**3.1. Does the SPAMI have a management plan?** Score  
2 = The management plan is officially adopted

Score justification:  
The management plan adopted in the framework of the ISEA project, updated in 2015, takes into consideration the main monitoring topics both environmental and socio-economic ones. Particular attention is paid to the following topics:  
- red coral, gorgonians, Pinna nobilis, groupers;  
- NIS;  
- artisanal and recreational fishery, scuba diving, yachting;  
- main environmental parameters: seawater T, S, nutrients, zooplankton

**3.2. Assess the adequacy of the management plan taking into account the SPAMI objectives and the requirements set out in Article 7 of the SPA/BD Protocol and Section 8.2.3 of the Annotated Format (AF).** Score  
2 = Excellent

Score justification:

**Article 7**  
**PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT**

1. The Parties shall, in accordance with the rules of international law, adopt planning, management, supervision and monitoring measures for the specially protected areas.

2. Such measures should include for each specially protected area:  
(a) the development and adoption of a management plan that specifies the legal and institutional framework and the management and protection measures applicable;  
(b) the continuous monitoring of ecological processes, habitats, population dynamics, landscapes, as well as the impact of human activities;  
(c) the active involvement of local communities and populations, as appropriate, in the management of specially protected areas, including assistance to local inhabitants who might be affected by the establishment of such areas;

**3.3. Assess the adequacy of the human resources.** Score

Score justification:

Score

19. The “Save” button at the bottom left of each sub-section allows to save the entered information:

The image shows a screenshot of a web form with two sections, 3.5 and 3.6, each containing a question, a score dropdown, a justification text area, and a 'Save' button.

**Section 3.5:** The question is "3.5. Does the area have a monitoring programme?". The score dropdown is set to "2 = The monitoring programme is...". Below the question is a text area for "Score justification:". A red note below the text area states: "In case of Score = 1, this section should also include the list of the parameters to include and the related rationale."

**Section 3.6:** The question is "3.6. Is there a feedback mechanism that establishes an explicit link between the monitoring results and the management objectives, and which allows adaptation of protection and management measures?". The score dropdown is set to "2 = The SPAMI has an adequate...". Below the question is a text area for "Score justification:". A red note below the text area states: "In case of Score =1, this section should also include concrete recommendations to improve the existing feedback mechanism."

A "Save" button is located at the bottom left of the form.