



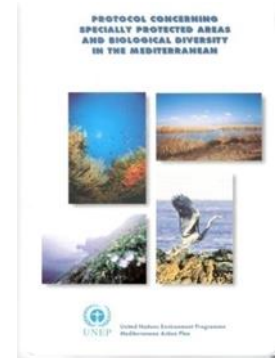
Action Plan for the conservation of Marine turtles in the Mediterranean

Lobna BEN NAKHLA, Programme Officer
July 2018 / Tyre, Lebanon

SPA/BD Protocol

1995 Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean

1996 ↓ Annexes to the new SPA Protocol



① Common criteria for the choice of protected marine and coastal areas that could be included in the SPAMI List

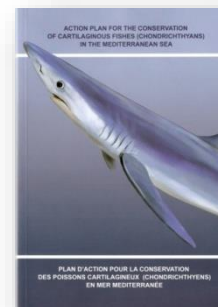
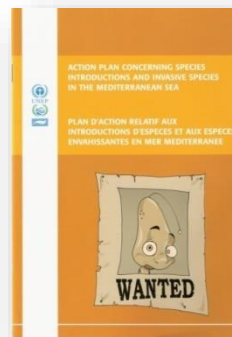
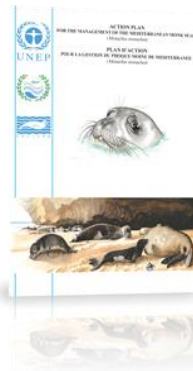
② List of endangered or threatened species

③ List of species whose exploitation is regulated

1999 ↓ Entry into force of the SPA/BD Protocol

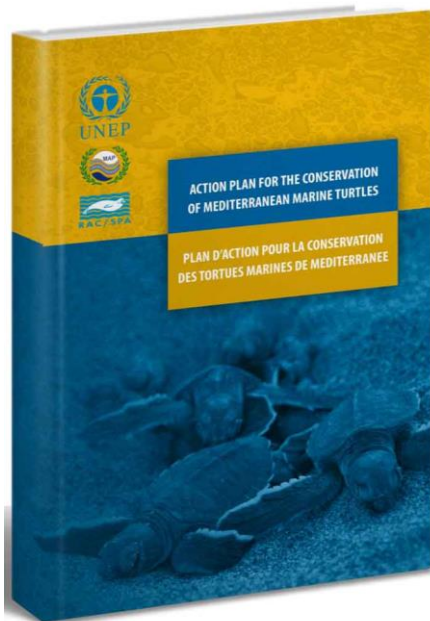
2016 ↓ Ratified by 18 States

Action Plans adopted under Barcelona Convention



The Mediterranean Action Plan : features

- Do not have a binding legal character
- Setting out **priorities** and **activities** to be undertaken.
- Call for greater solidarity between the states of the region and for the coordination of efforts to protect the species in question.



The Protection of marine turtles..... does not start today

1989: adoption of the first version of Action Plan for the Conservation of the Mediterranean Marine Turtles (1989-1995)

1996: including the 5 species of marine turtle recorded for the Mediterranean in the Annex II to SPA/BD Protocol

1999: adoption of the update of the marine Turtles AP by the 11th Meeting of the Barcelona CPs (1999-2006)

2008: adoption of the second update of the marine Turtles by the 15th COP of Barcelone (2007-2013)

2013: adoption of the third revision of the implementation table (2014-2019) by the 18th COP of Barcelona

The Mediterranean Action Plan : Objectives

1. Protection, conservation and, where possible, enhancing of the **populations of marine turtles** in the Mediterranean. Special priority should be accorded to *Chelonia mydas*, wherever appropriate.
2. Appropriate protection, conservation and management of the marine turtle **habitats** including nesting, feeding, and wintering areas and migration routes
3. Improvement of **scientific knowledge** by research and monitoring

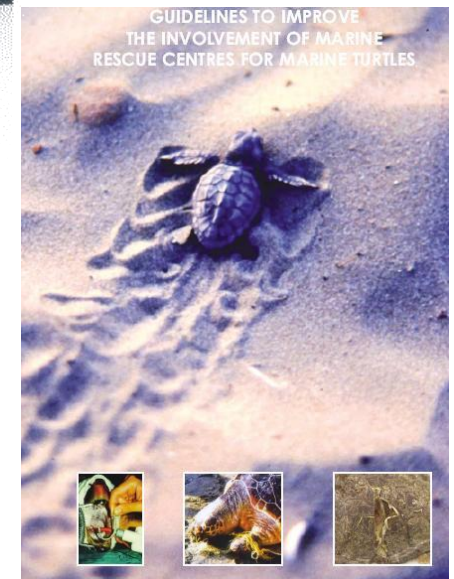
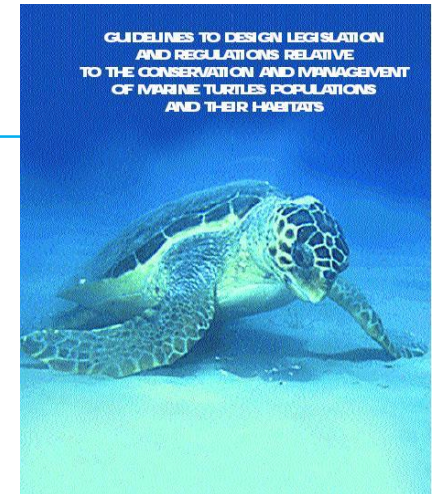
GUIDELINES

Guidelines for setting up and management of **pecially protected areas** for marine turtles in the Mediterranean

Guidelines for developing marine turtle **stranding networks** and for data collection Protocols.

Guidelines to design **legislation** and regulations relative to the conservation and management of marine turtles populations and their habitats

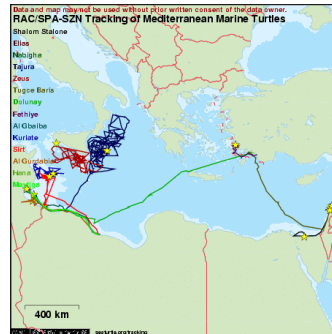
Guidelines to improve the involvement of **rescue centres** for marine turtles



GUIDELINES

Guidelines for the long term Monitoring programmes for marine turtles nesting beaches and standardized monitoring methods for nesting beaches, feeding and wintering areas

Guidelines to standardize methodologies to estimate demographic parameters for marine turtles populations in the Mediterranean

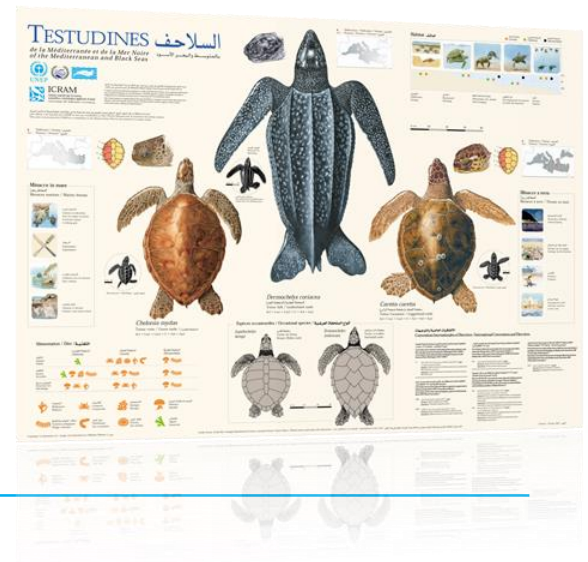
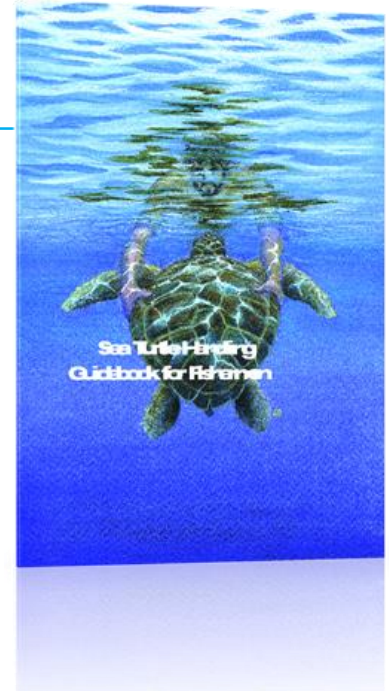
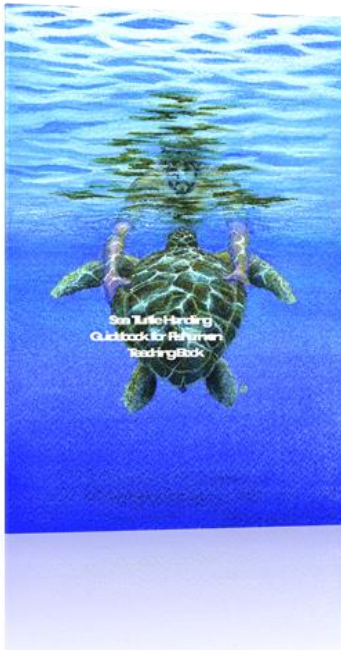


PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Prepare training and information/awareness modules and tools addressed to fishermen, aimed at reducing the mortality of marine turtles incidentally caught in fishing gear.

([Arabic](#), [Greek](#), [Spanish](#), [Croatian](#), [Turkish](#), [Slovenian](#), [Italian](#), [Maltese](#))

Sea Turtle handling Guidebook for fishermen - Teaching book



REGIONAL TRAININGS – MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE

- **1999-2008:** 10 days hands on course on turtles conservation techniques and beach at Lara reserve, (Cyprus)
- **2007-2009: Regional** Training courses on Marine Turtles Rescue and Rehabilitation, organised in cooperation with the Stazione Zoologica of Naples/(2012) National Training courses in Lebanon.
- **2014-2016:** Trainings on nesting beach monitoring in Kuriat Islands, (Tunisia)
- **2001-2015:** Organisation of the Mediterranean Conferences on Marine turtles (5 editions/ 2 of them were organised back to back with the international symposium on marine turtles (Greece/Turkey)



Evaluation of the implementation of the Marine Turtles AP by the Contracting Parties (National report to Barcelona Convention 2013-2014)

Country	Legislation	Reducing Incidental Catch	Rescue Centres	SPAs	Inventory of nesting beaches	Tagging programmes	Public awareness
Bosnia Herzegovina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cyprus	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Egypt	Yes	Yes	Ongoing	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
France	Yes	Ongoing	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes
Greece	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Israel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Italy	Yes	Ongoing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Ongoing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Libya	Yes	Ongoing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Monaco	No	No	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No
Montenegro	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Ongoing
Slovenia	Yes	No	Other	No	NA	Yes	Yes
Spain	Yes	Yes	Yes	yes	NA	Yes	Yes
Tunisia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
EU	Yes	Yes	MS	yes	MS	MS	MS

^[1] NA = Not applicable

^[2] MS = Competence of Member States.

Creation of SPAs in the Party's territory to conserve marine turtles populations and/or their potentiel habitats (Nesting Site)

Cyprus: Akamas area Site of community Importance/SPA/SPAMI

Greece: Zakynthos Natural Park

Turkey : 21 Marine turtles nesting sites are protected by legal framework

Lebanon: Management plans for two SPA were ratified , TCNR and Palm Islands (SPAMIs)

Tunisia: Establishment of SPA Kuriat island is under development



National Action Plan for the conservation of Marine Turtles:

Country	National Action Plan
Bosnia Herzegovina	NA
Cyprus	Yes
Egypt	Yes
France	Ongoing
Greece	Ongoing
Israel	Yes
Italy	Ongoing
Lebanon	Ongoing
Libya	Yes
Monaco	No
Montenegro	No
Slovenia	No
Spain	Yes
Tunisia	Ongoing
Turkey	Yes
EU	MS



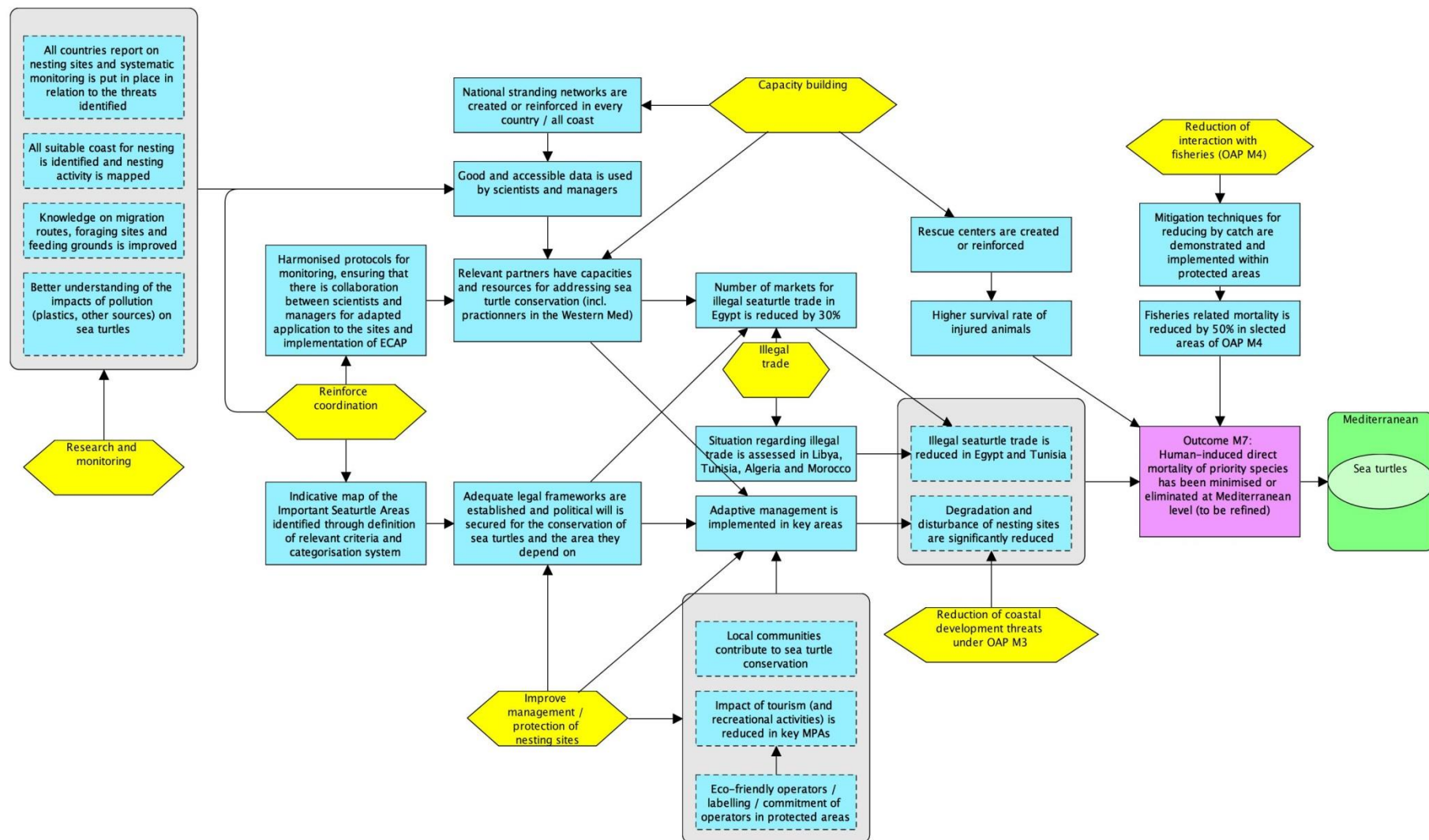
Marine Litter Med Project

The objective: to prevent and manage Marine Litter through the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan adopted by COP 18.

- Develop a specific Protocol and capacity building on monitoring of sea turtles to harmonizing methods and data collection
- Assess available data to propose GES and Targets for CI
- Develop an operational strategy for monitoring CI 24



MAVA Project

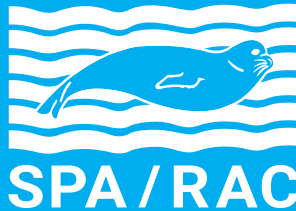




United Nations
Environment Programme



Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention



*The Mediterranean
Biodiversity
Centre*

Thank you

Lobna.bennakhla@spa-rac.org

www.spa-rac.org