Marine Protected Areas and the Maritime Spatial Planning

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Maritime Spatial Planning: Lessons learned and main challenges identified
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Far from Aichi Target 11 & GES

4.56% Surface covered by a protection status in the Mediterranean
1.08% without the Pelagios Sanctuary for marine mammals

Source: "Status of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean" 2014, MedPAN, FAO/SPA

< 0.1% of the Mediterranean is covered by a strict protection zone (integral reserve) or a no take zone

10% International objective of the Convention for Biological Diversity

Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs)
Areas of Special Importance for Cetaceans (ACCOBAMS)
Important Bird Areas (IBAs)
Nationally designated MPAs
Natura 2000 sites at sea
Ramsar sites, SPAMls, Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites
Fisheries Restricted Areas (GFCM)
OBJECTIVE: to support the sustainable development of seas and oceans and to develop coordinated, coherent and transparent decision-making in relation to the Union’s sectoral policies affecting the oceans, seas, islands, coastal and outermost regions and maritime sectors, including through sea-basin strategies or macro-regional strategies, whilst achieving Good Environmental Status.

The IMP identifies Maritime Spatial Planning as a cross-cutting policy tool enabling public authorities and stakeholders to apply a coordinated, integrated and trans-boundary approach. The application of an ecosystem-based approach will contribute to promoting the sustainable development and growth of the maritime and coastal economies and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources.

Picture: WWF / Baltic Sea
1. The ecosystem-based approach to planning means that **Good Environmental Status** should be the **overarching objective** of the MSP Directive.

2. Recognize that sustainable development implies **limits** to blue growth and should apply the **precautionary principle**.

3. The establishment of a coherent and well-managed **network** of coastal and **marine protected areas** is crucial to assure GES.

4. Good coordination with, and support to the objectives of the **international and regional sea conventions** applying in the Mediterranean and its Protocols (CBD, Barcelona Convention, ICZM, SPA/BIO, etc).
2012 Mediterranean MPA Forum

THE 2012 FORUM of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS: Everyone’s Business.

Boosting the Marine Protected Areas network for the benefits of the Mediterranean society.

www.medmpaforum2012.org

ROADMAP
Towards a comprehensive, ecologically representative, effectively managed and efficiently managed network of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas by 2020

Target 11 of the Aichi Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

By 2020, 10% of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

2016
MPA Forum main objective

Bridging the gap between field actions / political commitments / science

Unique opportunity for dialogue/partnerships among all MPA stakeholders (scientists, decision-makers, private sector, managers, civil society...)

To contribute elaboration of better informed decisions and provide for efficient implementation at all levels

ROADMAP TO 2020 and Antalya Declaration calling for urgent action to achieve, by 2020, International, Mediterranean and European commitments
Objectives of the roadmap

• not legally binding,

• aims to define steps that Mediterranean States and relevant organisations could undertake to achieve the Aichi targets

• addressed to local, national, European, Mediterranean and International stakeholders

A Roadmap was approved by Parties of the Barcelona Convention in COP19 Athens 2016
VISION OF THE ROADMAP FOR 2020

“To achieve by 2020 a connected, ecologically representative, effectively managed and monitored network of Marine Protected Areas which ensures the long term conservation of the key components of the marine biodiversity and gives solid support to the sustainable development of the region.”
FOUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE ROADMAP FOR 2020

1. Establish an ecological network of MPAs which is representative and connected.

2. Establish in Mediterranean MPAs an effective, efficient and sustainable management as well as a good governance.

3. Develop a Mediterranean MPAs governance which is integrated on a territorial level and with other sectors while promoting the sharing of environmental and socio-economic benefits.

4. Increase the allocation of financial resources to establish and maintain an ecological network of effectively managed MPAs.
Mediterranean context:

Ongoing changes in the availability of resources and the cost of energy has lead to a growing variety of pressures and makes spatial planning more difficult for stakeholders interested in the area (desalination, wind/tidal ... ) or in the deep sea resources (aggregates, oil, gas, rare minerals, biotechnology). This reduces the surface area available for MPAs or traditional stakeholders (artisanal fishing) and affects the required connectivity or representativeness of the network of MPAs.
• Establish, through consultation processes, adequate zoning systems for MPAs, to improve the conciliation between habitat conservation requirements and the need for maintaining and/or developing human activities.

• The involvement of key stakeholders in areas located beyond MPAs boundaries will reinforce the MPAs position in marine spatial planning processes and facilitate the implementation of ecosystem based approaches.
• Take into account the issues of representativeness and connectivity of MPAs and the MPA network in an ecosystem based approach, associated with the marine spatial planning process.

• Promote the implementation and development of tools, better policies, guidelines and exchanges of experience and information linked to the integration of policies and an improved co-management at local, national and transnational levels (associated with MSP, EBM and ICZM). Particularly through promoting the establishment of alliances and synergies between «fishing» and «MPA» governance systems, ecosystem management, integration of MPAs in spatial planning policies, clarification of legal and institutional frameworks, etc.
MSP 1st objective must be to help:

- Designating new MPAs in areas which require special protection (especially open sea)
- Enlarging the network of MPAs so that it can be representative and connected

With systematic conservation planning as basis
MSP can support existing MPAs
-Dealing with pressures beyond their borders
-Bring back political will for effective MPAs

MSP must further involve MPA managers
MSP can take inspiration on concrete field experience in MPAs

Charter = partnership project for sustainable development of the territory with all stakeholders

Core area of the Park = zoning/regulations
THE 2016 FORUM of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS: towards 2020 & beyond.

Boosting the Marine Protected Areas network for the benefits of the Mediterranean society.

28 NOV / 1ST DEC 2016 - TANGIERS - MOROCCO
Thanks for your attention