Supporting maritime spatial Planning in the Eastern Mediterranean (SUPREME)

Report on potential approaches for stakeholder engagement on MSP and the evaluation of the outcome of stakeholder involvement in the pilot areas

Deliverable C 1.3.4.

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List of abbreviations

CAMP	Coastal Area Management Programme
COP	Conference of the Parties
EcAp	Ecosystem Approach
EU	European Union
GES	Good Environmental Status
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IMAP	Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme
LSI	Land Sea Interactions
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
MSP	Maritime Spatial Planning
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PAP/RAC	Priority Actions Programme/ Regional Activity Centre
PoM	Programmes of Measures
QSR	Quality Status Report
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SPA/BD	Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean
SPI	Science Policy Interface
UN Environment/MAP	United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan

1. Introduction

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is an important process, the application of which can support the integrated management of coastal and marine zones and contribute to the achievement/maintenance of Good Environmental Status (GES).

Although the SUPREME Project focuses on the EU Member States of the Eastern Mediterranean sub region, the horizontal activities planned under the Project, including the activity on stakeholder involvement led by UN Environment/MAP, should take into consideration a region-wide dimension. In this regard, it would be recommended to use the long-standing experience on marine and coastal environmental protection in the Mediterranean region, established under the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, to which all the Mediterranean riparian countries and the European Union are Contracting Parties.

With regards to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which are EU Member States the implementation of MSP is a legal obligation, derived from EU Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning (2014/89/EU). However, for all the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, although MSP is not explicitly mentioned in the ICZM Protocol, it is considered as integrative part of its implementation, since the geographical scope of the Protocol covers both the land and sea part (up to the territorial sea limits) of the coastal zone. A recent development towards this direction has been the adoption of the Decision IG.23/7 by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, in their 20th Ordinary Meeting in Tirana, Albania in December 2017, including in its Annex II a Conceptual Framework for MSP in the Mediterranean. The MSP Conceptual Framework has as its main objectives to (a) introduce MSP in the framework of the Barcelona Convention, and in particular link it to ICZM, considering MSP as the main tool/process for the implementation of ICZM in the marine part of the coastal zone and specifically for planning and managing maritime human activities according to ecosystem approach goals, and (b) provide a common context to the Contracting Parties for the implementation of MSP in the Mediterranean Region.

MSP is a highly integrative process, which needs to take into consideration different uses and interests exercised mainly on marine areas, but also on the land part of the coastal zone, in line with the Land Sea Interaction (LSI) concept, which is central to ICZM implementation. Therefore, in the framework of both the MSP Directive and of the Barcelona Convention and ICZM Protocol, the involvement of stakeholders is of paramount importance. Special attention is required by the authorities in charge of the MSP implementation, in order to ensure that all different voices are heard and taken into account, in order to collectively come up with a truly integrative and widely accepted spatial planning.

In order to achieve the objectives of the present report, related to the definition of potential approaches for stakeholder engagement on MSP and the evaluation of the outcomes of stakeholder involvement in the pilot areas, the following methodological steps have been undertaken:

- Outline the background and legal context for stakeholder involvement on MSP implementation in the Mediterranean region;
- Review existing approaches and tools for stakeholder involvement, previously used in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention;
- Identify key elements of existing approaches that could be taken into consideration by MSP pilots;
- Identify required adjustments of the reviewed approaches, in order to fit the purposes and address the specificities of MSP pilots;

- Propose a list of actions for stakeholder engagement in MSP taking into account the processes followed in SUPREME case studies. Summary fiches on stakeholders' involvement in the case studies and a list of key findings is attached as Annex 1 to the present report.

2. MSP in the Mediterranean context

The Mediterranean Sea is unique both in terms of ecological and socioeconomic characteristics. The Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystems support a very rich biodiversity in species and habitats, providing a wide range of ecosystem services, including provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural services[1]. The population of the Mediterranean region, of which more than one third live in coastal areas, relies largely on these ecosystem services provided by the Mediterranean Sea and coast, since fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, marine transport, and the offshore industry are five key economic sectors in the Mediterranean basin, generating 360 billion EUR in terms of production value and 4,2 million direct jobs[2].

The high number of human activities in the Mediterranean region and especially the fact that usually different activities may coexist in the same area, without adequate spatial planning and management, can cause cumulative impacts which adversely affect the marine and coastal ecosystems, but also hamper the activities development as such.

For the aforementioned reasons, an adequate and integrated planning and management of the marine and coastal areas is of crucial importance, in order to support the achievement and/or maintenance of Good Environmental Status (GES), and contribute to the sustainable development of the region.

Aware of the need for integrated and holistic management of the coastal areas, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted in 2008 the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (ICZM Protocol). The ICZM Protocol introduces an integrated, ecosystem-based approach in the management of human activities exercised in the coastal area and takes already on board the concept of spatial planning, setting as one of its main objectives to "*facilitate, through the **rational planning of activities**, the sustainable development of coastal zones by ensuring that the environment and landscapes are taken into account in harmony with economic, social and cultural development*".

Under the same objective of providing integrated responses to the different pressures on marine and coastal environment, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in their 15th Ordinary Meeting in 2008 adopted a Roadmap for the implementation of the ecosystem approach (Decision IG. 17/6, COP 15, Almeria, Spain, 2008,), with the view to achieving/maintaining GES, followed by the adoption of 11 Ecological Objectives, and related Operational Objectives, GES definitions and targets, as well as an Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) on the basis of region-wide common indicators (Decision IG.22/7, COP 19, Athens, Greece, 2016). The ecosystem approach has been reaffirmed as an overarching principle of the MAP Barcelona Convention, and as such it is being streamlined into all different MAP policies.

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is an emerging process in the Mediterranean and consists of a legal obligation for the Mediterranean countries which are EU Member States, in accordance with the EU Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning (2014/89/EU), providing for the development and adoption of maritime spatial plans by 2021. The Mediterranean EU Member States have transposed or are in the process of transposing the Directive into their national legislation and are in different stages of its implementation.

[1] Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005. Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis. Island Press, Washington, DC

[2] UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/5. Draft Ecosystem Approach based Measures Gap Analysis.

With regards to the regional Mediterranean level, MSP is not specifically mentioned in the ICZM Protocol. However, as highlighted in the SUPREME Deliverable C 1.1.2, prepared by PAP/RAC[3], the geographic scope of the ICZM Protocol includes also the sea part of the coast (up to the external limit of the territorial sea of the Contracting Parties) and it follows that planning should be equally applied to both components of the coastal zones. In this regard, MSP is considered as the integrative part of the implementation of ICZM for the sea part of the coastal zone and even not explicitly, the Barcelona Convention and the ICZM Protocol provide a framework for MSP implementation within the territorial sea limits of its Contracting Parties.

There are also strong linkages between MSP and other Protocols to the Barcelona Convention which regulate key maritime sectors and activities, including among others the *Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil* (Offshore Protocol), the *Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea* (Prevention and Emergency Protocol), and the *Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft* (Dumping Protocol).

[3] SUPREME, 2017 Emiliano Ramieri, Daniela Addis, Athena Mourmouris, Marina Marković, Željka Škaričić, Delivrable C1.1.2. Recommendations and guidelines to support common understanding and integration of Barcelona Convention principles in MSP activities with a focus on EU member States within marine waters of the Adriatic, Ionian, Aegean and Levantine Seas

3. Stakeholder involvement

A critical element for the successful preparation and implementation of maritime spatial plans, is the active participation and engagement of all relevant stakeholders, that may have a direct or indirect interest in this planning. It is also important to ensure that the relevant stakeholders are involved at an early stage, preferably at a time when all options are still open.

Stakeholders' participation is not only a recommendation in view of designing realistic and implementable plans, but also an obligation for the Mediterranean countries, deriving from different regional and international legal instruments, as follows:

a. Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning

The Directive provides for involvement and participation of relevant stakeholders, authorities, and the general public:

- According to preambular point 21 "*in order to promote sustainable development in an effective manner, it is essential that stakeholders, authorities and the public be consulted at an appropriate stage in the preparation of maritime spatial plans under this Directive, in accordance with relevant Union legislation*";
- According to Article 6 (d) Member States shall *"ensure the involvement of stakeholders in accordance with Article 9*";
- According to Article 9, "*Member States shall establish means of public participation by informing all interested parties and by consulting the relevant stakeholders and authorities, and the public concerned, at an early stage in the development of maritime spatial plans..." and "ensure that the relevant stakeholders and authorities, and the public concerned, have access to the plans once they are finalized"*
- The MSP Directive in its preambular point 21 refers to the provisions of Article 2(2) of the Directive 2003/35/EC, as a good example of public consultation.

b. UN Environment/MAP - Barcelona Convention

A number of legal instruments and COP Decisions adopted in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention provide for stakeholders' participation:

- The Barcelona Convention, in its Article 15, provides for public participation and access to information on issues related to the Convention and its Protocols, as a key principle of the MAP Barcelona Convention system;
- The ICZM Protocol provides for stakeholder participation, as one of the general principles of integrated coastal zone management, in its Article 6 (d), according to which "*appropriate governance allowing adequate and timely participation in a transparent decision-making process by local populations and stakeholders in civil society concerned with coastal zones shall be ensured by the Parties*". In addition, according to Article 14 of the ICZM Protocol, stakeholders may include *territorial communities and public entities concerned, economic operators, non-governmental*

organizations, social actors and the public concerned and their participation *shall involve inter alia consultative bodies, inquiries or public hearings, and may extend to partnerships*.

- References to stakeholders' participation are made also in other Protocols to the Barcelona Convention, i.e. the Prevention and Emergency Protocol Art. 3 (2), the SPA/BD Art. 19 and the Hazardous Wastes Protocol Art. 12;
- Regarding in particular civil society cooperation and partnership in the MAP - Barcelona Convention system, the Contracting Parties have adopted in their 16th Meeting (COP 16, Marrakesh, Morocco, 2009) a Code of Conduct, including MAP Partners rights and responsibilities, and a set of criteria for accreditation, renewal, withdrawal of accreditation and the relevant procedures as well as an application form for NGOs observers/ MAP Partner status (Decision IG.19/6). In addition, specific provisions related to the civil society participation in decision-making in the framework of the MAP Barcelona Convention can be found in different Governance-related Decisions adopted by the Contracting Parties, i.e. Decision IG. 17/5 (COP 15, Almeria, Spain, 2008), Decision IG. 20/13 (COP 17, Paris, France, 2012), Decision IG. 21/13 (COP 18, Istanbul, Turkey, 2013) etc.

c. Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)

Authorities in charge of the development and implementation of maritime spatial planning should also conform with the provisions of Aarhus Convention, regulating among others public participation in decision-making, including in plans, programmes and policies relating to the environment. It is important to mention that 12 out of the 22 Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have ratified the Aarhus Convention, including all the Contracting Parties which are EU Member States (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Slovenia, Spain) and the European Union[4].

Maritime spatial planning falls under the category of plans, programmes and policies relating to the environment. In the absence of definition of "plans and programmes" in the Convention text, the terms should be interpreted broadly, as set out in the *Maastricht Recommendations on Promoting Effective Public Participation in Decision-making in Environmental Matters*, prepared under the Aarhus Convention [5], according to which the term "plans and programmes" should cover any type of strategic decision:

a. Which is regulated by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions;
b. Which is subject to preparation and/or adoption by an authority or prepared by an authority for adoption, through a formal procedure, by a parliament or a government;
c. Which provides an organized and coordinated system that:
   i. Sets, often in a binding way, the framework for certain categories of specific activities;
   ii. Is usually not sufficient for any individual activity to be undertaken without an individual permitting decision.

The Recommendations included in the aforementioned publication under the Aarhus Convention, especially regarding the interpretation of Aarhus Convention Article 7, should be taken into consideration for the preparation of the stakeholder consultation phase. The document recommends that a wide range of interest

[4] https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-13&chapter=27&clang=_en
[5] http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/Publications/2015/1514364_E_web.pdf

groups be identified and encouraged to take part in the process, depending on the nature of the plan/ programme or, as appropriate, policy, as well as its geographical scope. A list of interest groups is provided in the Recommendations, out of which the most relevant to MSP are:

- Community groups;
- Residents' organizations;
- Business and industry organizations;
- Universities and research institutions;
- NGOs interested in environmental protection, heritage protection, social welfare, etc.;
- Associations of users;
- Tourist and sports organizations.

As part of the initial assessment under the SUPREME Project, Deliverable C 1.1.2[6] identifies stakeholder involvement as one of the sensitive points for the implementation of MSP in several Eastern Mediterranean countries and sets out a list of proposals aiming at improving stakeholder involvement and encouraging their future engagement, including the following:

- *Establishment of substantial links to the formal MSP process;*
- *Involvement of legitimate stakeholders representing all relevant categories (public authorities at different levels, research institutions, civil society, business sectors, etc.);*
- *Involvement of key actors of relevant categories that can really contribute to the various steps of the MSP process;*
- *Visibility of the real added-value of the involvement process;*
- *Transparent, open and inclusive information sharing;*
- *Coherence with other involvement processes (e.g. ICZM, SEA, EcAp or MSFD) also to avoid excessive pressure on the same stakeholder arena, or unnecessary overload on the coordinating authorities.*

[6] SUPREME, 2017 Emiliano Ramieri, Daniela Addis, Athena Mourmouris, Marina Marković, Željka Škaričić, Delivrable C1.1.2. Recommendations and guidelines to support common understanding and integration of Barcelona Convention principles in MSP activities with a focus on EU member States within marine waters of the Adriatic, Ionian, Aegean and Levantine Seas

4. Review of existing stakeholder involvement tools and methods

The issue of stakeholder involvement has been addressed in many cases, and a significant number of tools have been developed, as part of programmes, policies or projects related to marine and coastal environment, aiming at ensuring active stakeholder engagement, especially in cases where the development of programmes of policies entails a high risk of conflicting interests by different groups.

As mentioned above (Section 3), stakeholder involvement and public participation are among the key principles of the MAP Barcelona Convention and thus, a variety of methods and tools have been used over the years for decision and policy making. For the purposes of the present report, it was deemed useful to review some of the tools previously used in the framework of MAP system for stakeholder involvement. The goal of this review is to assess their potential application in the pilot cases under the SUPREME Project, and to propose possible adjustments, as appropriate, in order to best fit the Project needs and objectives.

a. Imagine approach

i. Overview

The imagine approach was developed by Plan Bleu jointly with Dr. Simon Bell (Bayswater Institute, UK) and it proposes a set of methods and tools, aiming at supporting the establishment of integrated coastal zone management processes in the Mediterranean, through the engagement of relevant stakeholders.

Through its different steps and a number of dedicated workshops, the stakeholders are collectively reflecting on a specific system, listing the key indicators that define the system's sustainability as well as threshold values, evaluate the current state of the system, in terms of each indicator, determine different future scenarios, and finally come up with a prioritized list of actions and measures required to achieve the most desirable future scenario.

The application of imagine approach is structured around four stages and five workshops. It is designed as an iterative process, meaning that it should be re-implemented periodically, taking into account the constant development and evolvement of the subject area and its environmental and socioeconomic characteristics. This is well reflected in the imagine logo using the symbol of infinity to present its different stages and workshops (see Figure 1)[7]

Following are the four main stages of the imagine approach[8]:

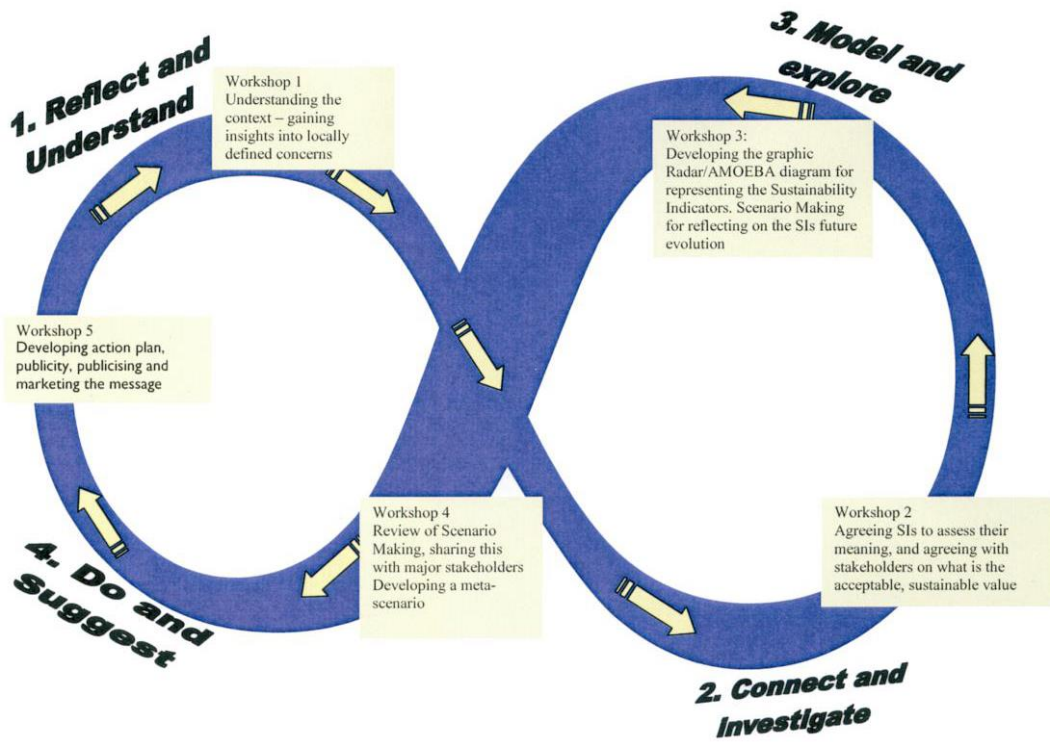
1. **Reflect and understand**: Reflecting upon and understanding the system, to acquire knowledge about the concerned area;

[7] Élisabeth Coudert and Mohamed Larid, « IMAGINE: un ensemble de méthodes et d'outils pour contribuer à la gestion intégrée des zones côtières en Méditerranée », VertigO - la revue électronique en sciences de l'environnement, Volume 7 Numéro 3, December 2006. URL: http://vertigo.revues.org/9059

[8] Bell S. and E. Coudert, 206, A practitioner's guide to "Imagine", the systemic and prospective sustainability analysis, Blue Plan Paper No 3, Valbonne, 50 pages

2. **Connect and investigate**: Linking the acquired knowledge of the system with sustainability indicators for the subject area, and establishing bands of equilibrium (minimum and maximum sustainability values) for each indicator and displaying it graphically with the use of graphic representation diagrams (i.e. radar diagrams);
3. **Model and explore**: Modeling and exploring different future scenarios of the concerned area;
4. **Do and suggest**: Establishing an action plan for the subject area including a monitoring plan.

Figure 1. The Imagine Approach



The four stages of the approach are implemented through five workshops, involving different stakeholder teams and using different tools. With regards to stakeholders involved in the workshops, the approach identifies 6 levels.

Table 2. Stakeholder teams to be considered for participation in the workshops[9]

Level	Key people involved
1. Foundation team	Project management officials, main consultants plus key local counterparts
2. Imagine team	Will always include the Level 1 group. These are the main people in-area of interest who will use and apply the methodology
3. Wider project team	Includes representatives from all aspects of the project
4. Expertise team	Includes those selected by the Level 1 – 3 teams as having distinct knowledge and expertise that will assist the project
5. Stakeholders	Includes those with an interest / stake in the project process

[9] Bell S. and E. Coudert, 206, A practitioner's guide to "Imagine", the systemic and prospective sustainability analysis, Blue Plan Paper No 3, Valbonne, 50 pages

6. General public	All those with an interest in the process of the wider project

Each workshop and transitional period is linked with specific targets and involves different kinds of stakeholders, as outlined in the table 3 below. The different stages of imagine are extended over a total period of 12 months.

Table 3. Imagine stages and workshop objectives[10]

Imagine Stages	Workshop objectives	Participants
1. Reflect and understand	**Workshop 1** • Familiarize representatives of all aspects of the context • Agree on main themes relating to sustainable development • Start considering sustainability indicators • Develop visions or Root Definitions for future scenario making • Set out (preliminary) action plans for the achievement of the visions	Level 1 – 3 teams representing all thematic teams and municipalities involved in the wider project
	Between Workshops 1 and 2 • Engage in work on the action plan • Begin to collect indicators • Discuss likely indicators with technical experts • Review existing indicators	Level 1 and 2 teams are engaged in contacting technical experts and reviewing indicators already in place
2. Connect and investigate	**Workshop 2** • Review the common set of (up to 100) sustainability indicators • Agree on a core set of sustainability indicators (10-30) • Set the band of equilibrium for the key indicators • Agree on the calibration of reference points for each indicator • Let wider stakeholders comment, interpret and suggest changes to the key indicators	Levels 1 - 3 for day 1 and half day 2; levels 4 and 5 for half day 2
	Between Workshops 2 and 3 • Development of radar diagrams as a basis for scenario-making with historic data for core indicators and data linked to the scale	Level 1 and 2 teams
3. Model and explore	**Workshop 3** • Imagine and visualize possible futures. Produce radar diagrams (AMOEBA) for the present and past and, making use of scenario-making, several futures based on key indicators • Introduce the use of a matrix to compare and contrast key indicators and their interrelationships	Level 1 – 3 teams plus special invitations to Level 4
	Between Workshops 3 and 4 • Publicize the work done and encourage stakeholders to attend the next workshop	Level 1 – 3 teams

[10] Bell S. and E. Coudert, 206, A practitioner's guide to "Imagine", the systemic and prospective sustainability analysis, Blue Plan Paper No 3, Valbonne, 50 pages

	• Prepare the radar diagram (AMOEBA) and the story that the scenario making tells • Prepare a complete version of the indicator matrix	
	Workshop 4 • Tell the story of the work achieved so far, of the past, present and possible future scenarios • Elaborating on the scenarios from the ley indicators, design a meta-scenario for the area of the project as a whole • Inform stakeholders of the scenarios • Gain the feedback from stakeholders	Level 1 – 4 teams and major stakeholders representing Level 5 for one session
	Between Workshops 4 and 5 • Begin outreach process • Discuss ownership of imagine with relevant ministries and pressure groups for a second cycle of use • Agree on funding of the imagine ongoing presentation	Level 1 – 3 teams
4. Do and suggest	**Workshop 5** • Develop marketing and publicizing possible actions arising from the results of the work to provide messages to strategy makers and the general public	Level 1 - 4 throughout the workshop; Levels 5 and 6 for some parts of day 2
	Between Workshops 5 and 6 • Engage in a review of existing indicators, renew those that are redundant and establish the ongoing process of development of annual/biannual sustainable development indicators	

ii. **Previous applications**

In the MAP Barcelona Convention system, imagine approach has been used in different CAMP Projects, under the ICZM Protocol implementation, including in Algeria, Cyprus, Lebanon, Malta, Slovenia, and Spain.

Summarized information on the implementation of imagine tool in some of the CAMP Projects (Algeria, Slovenia, Spain) and its outcomes is provided in the summary table below.

CAMPs	**Stage 1 – *reflect and understand***	**Stage 2 - *connect and investigate***	**Stage 3 - *model and explore***	**Stage 4 - *do and suggest***
CAMP Algeria Algiers coastal area (2003-2004) [11]	Development of a common vision of workshop participants on the state of the system through cartoon-type representation	Establishment of a list of 21 sustainability indicators and band of equilibrium for each indicator setting the upper	Definition of trend and alternative scenarios (10-year horizon) for each indicator, and initial list of required actions to move towards the	Definition of action plan to achieve the alternative scenario Prioritization of actions. Development of matrix to identify links between areas of action and indicators[12].

[11] Élisabeth Coudert and Mohamed Larid, « IMAGINE: un ensemble de méthodes et d'outils pour contribuer à la gestion intégrée des zones côtières en Méditerranée », VertigO - la revue électronique en sciences de l'environnement, Volume 7 Numéro 3, December 2006. URL: http://vertigo.revues.org/9059

[12] Élisabeth Coudert and Mohamed Larid, « IMAGINE: un ensemble de méthodes et d'outils pour contribuer à la gestion intégrée des zones côtières en Méditerranée », VertigO - la revue électronique en sciences de l'environnement, Volume 7 Numéro 3, December 2006. URL: http://vertigo.revues.org/9059

		and lower levels of sustainability (see figure 2)	desirable future. Refection of outcomes in radar diagrams (AMOEBA).	
CAMP Slovenia Coastal region of South Primorska (2005) [13]	Workshop 1: Better understanding of the current state and definition of a first set of sustainability indicators	Workshop 2: Selection of 30 most representative indicators and definition of bands of equilibrium for each of them	Workshop 3: Development of AMOEBA diagrams for the past, present and a series of future scenarios based on the selected indicators and of a matrix indicating inter-relationships between indicators.	Workshop 4: Refinement of meta-scenarios and presentation to stakeholders. Open discussion with wider stakeholder groups. Workshop 5: Review of progress through previous Workshops. Creation of a publicity and marketing plan and proposal of a monitoring and reporting programme
CAMP Spain Levante de Almeria (2010) [14]	Workshop 1: Split into 6 groups. Better understanding of sustainable coastal development main problems and issues and reflection in a Rich Picture (see Figure 3). Development of initial lists of sustainability indicators by each group.	Workshop 2: Further organization of sustainability indicators (this can be done by using the DPSIR format or under headings agreed by the group). Definition of bands of equilibrium for each indicator.	Workshop 3: Combination of indicators by the 6 groups in a holistic radar diagram (AMOEBA). Indicators grouped in four categories (four quadrants of the AMOEBA). Possible groups may include agriculture, urbanization, economic, education, energy, social, water etc.	Workshop 4: Selection of 12 indicators related to 11 key issues[15] and preparation of AMOEBA diagrams for the past, present and future (see figure 4) along with suggestions towards the desirable future scenario. Workshop 5: Approval of the Sustainable Development Reference Framework (SDRF) by the Coastal Council providing for 4 key objectives further broken down into 10 programmes, 35 measures and over 129 actions.

[13] Igor Maher, Simon Bell and Elisabeth Coudert, the systemic and prospective sustainability analysis 'imagine' within CAMP Slovenia, Final Report; Koper, 2006

[14] Simon Bell a, Ana Correa Peña, Marko Prem, "Imagine coastal sustainability" Ocean & Coastal Management 83 (2013) 39e51, 2013 Elsevier Ltd, journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ocecoaman

[15] Renewable power in the region, Active public engagement in proposals for sustainable development, Waste recycling, Urbanization, Education of young people, Green house control, Energy optimization, Planning of agriculture and fisheries, Water treatment plants, Urban beach regeneration, Integrated agriculture

Figure 2. Graph showing the sustainability of the CAMP Algeria zone in 2003

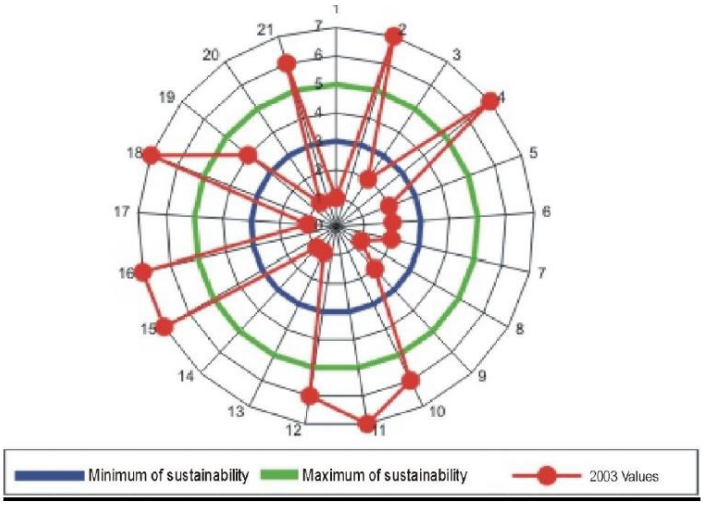
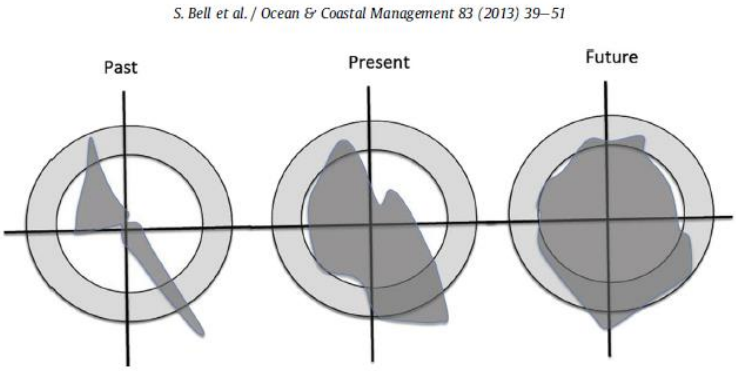


Figure 3. Example of a rich picture

Figure 4. Computer enhanced amoeba diagrams for past present and future sustainability



iii. Conclusions on the application of imagine in CAMP Projects

Imagine has been proven a successful approach for the engagement of relevant stakeholders in view of defining jointly a desirable and sustainable future for a coastal area. Some of the main advantages of this approach include the development of integrated responses going beyond the boundaries of different sectors and disciplines, the better understanding of the relations between different elements of the subject area allowing for more effective identification of priorities, as well as the enhanced ownership of the final action plan by the involved stakeholders which supports its implementation and continuity.

On the other hand, there are certain difficulties identified through the implementation of imagine approach in different CAMPs. First of all, the selection of the right sustainability indicators encompassing environmental, economic, social and governance-related aspects of a given area has been challenging and requires representation of all interested groups of stakeholders and a very good understanding of the area, its pressures and needs. In certain indicators, it has been also difficult to define a lower of upper limit of sustainability in order to establish the band of equilibrium. In addition, data unavailability has been an additional challenge in this respect. Since imagine is a multi-stage approach requiring a number of workshops, the continuity of stakeholders' presence and participation can be also challenging. In addition, the application of imagine requires a long implementation time and a big number of workshops which may be challenging both in terms of timing and budget, for case studies and pilots usually having a limited duration and resources provided.

b. DeCyDe-4 method

i. Overview

The DeCyDe-4 was developed by Isotech Ltd. Environmental Research and Consultancy as an adaptable, site- and case-specific decision-support method[16] to assist policy- and decision-makers on issues relating to sustainable development. The tool aims at enhancing co-responsibility through its highly participatory nature of its implementation, making it an appropriate tool for stakeholder involvement[17]. Through the application of DeCyDe-4, stakeholders and policy makers are brought together to collectively give a "number" to a problem or an issue, especially in cases involving elements which are subjective or difficult to quantify, and to better understand the trade-offs between different decision alternatives.[18].

ii. Previous applications

The DeCyDe-4 method has been applied (with the required adjustments as appropriate) in a number of Projects related to environmental decision and policy making, including the "Integrated Regional Monitoring Implementation Strategy in the South European Seas" (IRIS-SES, www.iris-ses.eu), the "Marine Litter in

[16] Loizidou, X.I., Loizides, M.I., 2012. DeCyDe: a participatory method for 'measuring' sustainability through a friendly, flexible and adjustable (self-assessment?) tool. In: Belpaeme, K., McMeel, O., Vanagt, T., Mees, J. (Eds.), Book of Abstracts, International Conference Littoral 2012: Coasts of Tomorrow. Vlaams Instituut voor de Zee (VLIZ) Special Publication 61, Oostende, Belgium, pp. 41–44, November 2012

[17] X. I. Loizidou, M. I. Loizides, D. L. Orthodoxou, A novel best practices approach: the MARLISCO case, Mar. Pollut. Bull. 88(1-2) (2014) 118 –128, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2014.09.015.

[18] X. I. Loizidou, M. I. Loizides, D. L. Orthodoxou, Marine Strategy Framework Directive: Innovative and participatory decision-making method for the identification of common measures in the Mediterranean, Marine Policy 84 (2017) 82–89, http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X17300131?via%3Dihub

Europe Seas: Social Awareness and Co-Responsibility" (MARLISCO), the "Action Plans for Integrated Regional Monitoring Programmes, Coordinated Programmes of Measures and Addressing Data and Knowledge Gaps in Mediterranean Sea' (ActionMed, www.actionmed.eu).

In the recent ActionMed Project, the DeCyDe-4-ActionMed was implemented in the framework of a Project Activity led by UN Environment/MAP, aiming at providing support to the Mediterranean countries which are EU Members States in developing programmes of measures (PoM) under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). Therefore, for the purposes of the present report, the tool will be reviewed mainly based on its application in ActionMed Project.

The implementation of DeCyDe-4-ActionMed was sub region-oriented and implemented in 4 steps:

- The first step consisted of the establishment of a baseline study regarding the state of play on development of PoM in the concerned countries and the identification of main gaps and needs.
- The second step comprised a general stakeholder mapping with the identification of stakeholder categories and specific persons per country.
- The third step included the development of tools, namely a list of possible/suggested measures coupled with the draft or completed PoMs of the participants' countries or of other Mediterranean countries to serve as a basis for discussion in the respective workshops, and the scoreboard, an excel-based matrix aiming at supporting the workshops participants in prioritizing the selected measures.
- The fourth and final step comprised the sub regional workshops (Adriatic, with stakeholders from Croatia, Italy and Slovenia and Eastern Mediterranean with stakeholders from Cyprus, Greece and Malta).

Key in the DeCyDe-4-ActionMed (as in every stakeholder involvement method) has been the stakeholder-mapping exercise, which needs to take place at a very early stage, well before the workshops. The selection and invitation of the "right" stakeholders is a critical element for the successful implementation of the tool. In the context of ActionMed, right stakeholders meant that they should be directly involved in the implementation of the MSFD in their countries. This would ensure that site-specific inputs and expertise would be available at the workshops[19].

A central element of the implementation of the DeCyDe-4-ActionMed was the organization of sub regional workshops bringing together relevant stakeholders from the respective countries. The workshops had a strict duration of 2 hours. Participants were split into three thematic groups (in line with the MSFD Descriptors addressed; eutrophication, contaminants and marine litter) and followed 3 steps:

- A reflection and identification of common pressures, gaps and needs at sub regional level (discussion – exchange of views);
- Identification of possible common measures to address the pressures, gaps and needs (step facilitated by the organizers with the development and sharing prior to the workshop of lists of possible measures as a source of inspiration and discussion starting point);

[19] X. I. Loizidou, M. I. Loizides, D. L. Orthodoxou, Marine Strategy Framework Directive: Innovative and participatory decision-making method for the identification of common measures in the Mediterranean, Marine Policy 84 (2017) 82–89, http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X17300131?via%3Dihub

- Use of DeCyDe-4-ActionMed scoreboard to rank the measures following a predefined and explained scoring process, with the view to selecting and prioritizing measures, considered to be the most appropriate and effective for common implementation in the sub-region.

Through the stakeholder workshops a list of key priority measures was defined per MSFD Descriptor for each sub region. Importance was given to the definition of realistic measures and collaboration opportunities between the concerned countries.

iii. Conclusions on the application of DeCyDe-4-ActionMed

The DeCyDe-4 method, as applied in the ActionMed Project, can provide an interesting method for stakeholder involvement in view of defining and prioritizing decision-making solutions for a given geographical and policy area. One of its positive aspects is the fact that it can be easily implemented even through a single workshop, making it an appropriate option for projects with limited time and budget. In addition, it provides a simple ranking and prioritization tool which can be very easily used by stakeholders of different disciplines and expertise, without requiring specific training.

On the other hand, there are some challenges in its implementation that should be taken into consideration. The tool is based on time and resource efficiency and therefore it is applied in a single workshop per area, in a strict timeframe of two hours. This provides significant benefits in terms of time and financial resources and can be attractive for decision makers who would find it difficult to dedicate a lot of time for a series of workshops. However, there is a lack of time for discussion among relevant stakeholders that would allow the creation of a common understanding on the state, gaps and needs, as well as a common vision for the future. This implies that a lot of preparatory work needs to be made in advance by the team in charge of the stakeholder involvement, and there is always the risk of not fully representing all the different interest groups. Furthermore, since the main outcome of the application of the tool is the selection and prioritization of measures to address a specific issue, the stakeholders need to be very carefully identified and selected, since this may have an impact on the workshop outcomes. It has been noted for example, that in cases where the majority of participants represented scientific institutions, the selected measures were mainly oriented to research and science improvement and much less on policy and governance responses.

c. Science-Policy Interface in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention

i. Overview

In the framework of the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap adopted by the Contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention in their 15th Meeting (Decision IG. 17/6), especially the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) (Decision IG.22/7), efforts have been made to bridge the gaps between the scientific and policy making bodies and strengthen the interface between them, with support from the EU funded EcAp MED II project. Key elements of the implementation of the so-called science-policy interface (SPI) in the context of MAP Barcelona Convention system were defined in the first inception workshop of the science-policy interface (December 15-16th, 2015 - Sophia Antipolis, France). Based on the outcomes of the inception workshop, one of the central activities for the implementation of SPI is the organization of regional workshops bringing together scientists and policy makers to discuss on areas on science and policy gaps have been identified.

Attention has been paid in selecting the right set of participants for the first workshop as well as the next regional thematic workshops and the main stakeholder groups identified include:

- MAP Focal Points, representatives of Contracting Parties policy makers on marine and coastal environmental policies;
- Coordinators of and participants to recent or on-going research projects;
- Regional scientific bodies;
- Experts in environmental science policy interface;
- UN Environment/ MAP Components representatives.[20]

A number of challenges and opportunities regarding SPI for IMAP implementation were identified by the first inception workshop linked to six key factors, including the knowledge availability, the ability to make decisions under uncertainty, the differences between Contracting Parties in terms of disciplines and sectors, the inappropriate communication procedures, the need for balancing and accepting trade-offs, as well as the need to ensure iterative/adaptive processes. [21]

By the time of drafting the present report, five SPI workshops have been held in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention, one inception workshop in 2015, two thematic workshops in 2016 and two transversal workshops in 2017, as follows:

- Inception Workshop: Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean: Strengthening the Science-Policy Interface (Sophia Antipolis, France, December 15-16th, 2015)
- Workshop on Science Policy Interface (SPI) strengthening for the implementation of the UN Environment/MAP Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme, for Pollution (Marseille, France, 20-21 October 2016)
- Workshop on Science Policy Interface (SPI) strengthening in the field of Marine Protected Areas and Marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean (Tangier, Morocco, 28 November 2016)
- Workshop on Science Policy Interface (SPI) strengthening for the implementation of the IMAP in relation to Marine Litter, Biodiversity & fisheries, Hydrography, with a focus on the Risk based Approach for monitoring (Madrid, Spain, 2 March 2017)
- Joint Workshop on Science Policy Interface (SPI) strengthening and Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group Meeting on IMAP scales of monitoring and assessment, including the next Quality Status Report (QSR) (Nice, France, 27-28 April 2017)

ii. Conclusions on the application of SPI in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention

In the course of the above-mentioned SPI workshops a number of recommendations have been expressed, regarding key aspects to build up and keep active effective SPI platforms in the Mediterranean as summarized in the Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.432/3 “Reference Document: Outcomes of previous SPI

[20] Plan Bleu (2016). Rapport de l’atelier de lancement :« Mise en oeuvre de l’approche écosystemique en Méditerranée : renforcement de l’interface entre science et politique ». Tode Lina (ed.), Sauzade Didier (ed.)
[21] Plan Bleu (2016). Rapport de l’atelier de lancement :« Mise en oeuvre de l’approche écosystemique en Méditerranée : renforcement de l’interface entre science et politique ». Tode Lina (ed.), Sauzade Didier (ed.)

Workshops" submitted as reference document to the 6th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group (Athens, Greece, 11 September 2017), as presented in Table 4 below:

Table 4. Recommendations on the implementation of SPI in the Mediterranean

Building-up SPI platforms	• Need to better structure SPI at different levels, starting from simple interfaces adapted to the context (local, national, or regional); • Need to create links between the scientific community (nature & social sciences) and policy makers/ public institutions in order to create a network of experts and projects regarding specific issues (e.g. pollution monitoring); • SPI should include evaluation processes to assess performance and allow improvement.
Communication	• Deliver clear and simple messages, allowing scientists to inform on science uncertainties and complexity as well as enabling policy-makers to express their needs and expectations; • Need for a communication procedure allowing integrating different stakeholders to a multilateral debate; • Scientific experts need to be trained to "translate" academic/ scientific results into advice on socioeconomic issues; • Involving "mass-media": the dialogue should also involve the media, and be fluent and effective.
Time limitation	• Scientific experts need time to conceive and implement scientific and technical protocols to collect and analyse data; their time periods differ from the timing dictated by politics; • On the contrary, science is often one step ahead policy-making, and needs to find an optimal way of periodically inform policy-makers on environmental evolution; • Scientists need to deal with the gradual increase of political demand for scientific advice.
Resource limitation	• To deal with limited (economic) resources, SPI processes could be integrated into research projects; • Existing scientific expertise should be capitalised; • Scientific gaps are not a matter of financial resources but a matter of availability of (monitoring) methods; there is a need for data and knowledge efficiency for monitoring. • To make capacity building more effective in a context of limited resources, it has been suggested to promote South-South training and specific training and that as soon as the national IMAPs are adopted.
Suggestions to sustain SPI for EcAp implementation	• Develop new pertinent research projects, scheduling SPI in their program and adequately guiding scientific research to measure values/parameters/etc. that are important for policy making. • Include policymakers in projects from the beginning. Different research projects related to the MSFD and SPI (Perseus, Devotes, ...) have conducted pilot experiences, including policy makers from the beginning. New research projects should follow the same path, and link young professionals from the scientific and social disciplines. • Include social scientists in research projects to facilitate science/policy communication: scientific language should be "translated" to policy maker's language and include social aspects. • Strengthen technical expertise in SPI by integrating PhD students in the policy area and decision-making processes, either by common projects or through trainings carried out by the policy makers. • Develop SPIs at different levels of actions according to different scopes (topics), even at very local organisation levels (including common joint workshops, as an example).

	• Carry out pilot initiatives. Develop living examples involving both scientists and policy-makers in a small-scale pilot project, involving one or few countries. The idea being to develop good practices that can be further extended.

The above stated recommendations for strengthening science policy interface should be also taken into consideration when defining the stakeholder engagement approach for MSP, since they can provide useful information on how to ensure an effective dialogue between scientific community and policy-makers and overcome existing gaps.

5. Elements taken from existing tools for potential consideration by MSP case studies

Taking into account the plethora of stakeholder involvement methods that exist and have been already applied successfully in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention system, it is considered useful for MSP application in general as well as for the implementation of SUPREME case studies, to the extent possible, to rely on previous "best practices" in view of developing their stakeholder involvement strategies. The above stated methods and tools have been selected for their relevance to the scope of the MSP and their potential replication in this context. It is however highlighted that these methods are targeted into specific policy areas, and therefore one should avoid a simplified copy-paste but try to integrate the points that could benefit the pilots and make the necessary adjustments to fit the needs and purposes of each specific case.

Starting from Imagine, it is a participation-based tool, specifically designed to support decision-making within ICZM process. It promotes stakeholder participation, exchange of opinions and multidisciplinary thinking[22]. It can be an appropriate approach for stakeholder involvement in the framework of MSP application, mainly due to the similarities between MSP and CAMP, both aiming at the development and implementation of spatial planning for coastal and/or marine areas.

With regards to the implementation of SUPREME MSP case studies, there are two elements that should be further addressed and adjusted to the specific needs of MSP pilots; these are the implementation timeline of the tools and the targeted audience. As explained above (chapter 4), imagine is a very detailed and multilevel approach, including a series of stakeholder workshops, which require an extended implementation period. Regarding the MSP case studies in the framework of SUPREME, both the timetable and the allocated budget for stakeholder involvement are limited. Therefore, efforts should be made to simplify the process, whilst maintaining, to the extent possible, its key elements and stages (development of common understanding of the area, definition of sustainability indicators and bands of equilibrium, scenario building, selection and prioritization of key actions to move towards desirable future scenarios). Alternative ways of engaging and consulting stakeholders can be assessed in view of replacing the workshops, including bilateral meetings, phone/skype interviews, questionnaires etc. Organisation of workshops should remain an important element of the stakeholders' involvement process, however their number will have to be reduced due to the time and budgetary constraints and as such they should be carefully designed and linked with key phases of the case study implementation. A differentiation of stakeholder groups' involvement which is also applied in imagine approach should be pursued depending on the stage of the case study and its objectives.

Key stages of MSP implementation should mainly include representatives of the public administration and competent authorities (from national, regional and local levels, depending on the share of responsibilities in each case), the team in charge of the implementation of the case study, as well as nominated experts. Wider stakeholder groups, including economic operators, MPA management authorities, NGOs etc. should be kept informed of the implementation steps and provide information on the current state, gaps, needs and future development trends with the view to contribute to the building of common understanding of the current state of the area, and the definition of future scenarios. General public should be also kept informed of the main outcomes of the MSP implementation process.

[22] http://planbleu.org/en/outils-et-methodes/imagine-method

Another important element that requires special attention from the case studies coordinators is the selection of the right stakeholders, which will be to some extent of a different nature compared to stakeholders involved in the CAMPs through imagine approach. Key maritime sectors should be considered, as identified in the SUPREME initial assessment, but efforts should be also made to involve stakeholders from the land part of the coastal area, taking into account land-sea interaction (LSI). Stakeholders can be grouped under four major categories, as follows:

- Public institutions and relevant local authorities;
- Economic operators of key maritime sectors (inland activities to be also checked according to their impacts on marine areas, in line with LSI);
- Experts (research, academia, science, NGOs, etc.);
- General public.

The Maastricht Recommendations on Promoting Effective Public Participation in Decision-making in Environmental Matters, prepared under the Aarhus Convention[23], should be also considered for the identification of stakeholders, as further explained in Chapter 6.

Interesting elements to be considered for integration into the case studies under SUPREME can be also derived from the application of DeCyDe-4-ActionMed method. As outlined above (Chapter 4.b.), the strongest point of this tool is the provision of an easy-to-implement and user-friendly tool supporting the ranking and prioritisation of selected measures to address specific policy issues. A similar tool should be used by relevant stakeholders, following the definition of key actions/measures, with the view to prioritising them against established targets as well as against each other, and coming up with a priority list of actions. In the framework of MSP case studies, this step should be implemented with the involvement mainly of the competent authorities at the appropriate level, and their nominated experts, as a decision-making process.

Finally, in preparation of the stakeholder involvement plan for MSP implementation including in the framework of the case studies, it is of primary importance to ensure open dialogue and mutual understanding between scientific and decision-making bodies. Therefore, the case studies' coordinators should take into consideration the main elements of the Science Policy Interface in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention and the key conclusions derived from its implementation (see Table 4 above). Case studies can thus take advantage of the steps that have been already undertaken in this framework (see Chapter 4.c) and use the knowledge built so far.

[23] http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/Publications/2015/1514364_E_web.pdf

6. Proposed steps

Based on the above analysis on stakeholder involvement methods and tools, the present Chapter aims at providing a potential list of steps to be considered in the framework of the SUPREME case studies, with the view to supporting the engagement of stakeholders in MSP application.

a. Integrate stakeholders' involvement into the MSP implementation strategy/plan

Since the beginning of MSP implementation, stakeholders' involvement needs to be an integral part of the overall strategy/plan. It should be therefore clarified and agreed among the authorities in charge of MSP implementation, which stakeholder groups should be involved, at what stages and how. In addition, clear objectives for their engagement should be defined, in view of setting clear goals of what is the expected contribution of each stakeholder group to the overall process (i.e. one group may be given a consultative role, while others may be more informative). This strategy should further provide for a stakeholders' involvement monitoring and evaluation plan and a mechanism for regular reporting on the main outcomes/milestones of the process. The appointment of a facilitator (person in between) for stakeholders' involvement could be considered, as it has been the case in other cases of MSP implementation (e.g. in the Rhode Island case[24]). Public perception is an important element to be taken into consideration throughout the MSP implementation process.

b. Identify and map key relevant stakeholders

This is probably the most critical step, since the selection of the stakeholders to be involved in the process will determine all the following steps. Important elements on the identification and mapping of relevant stakeholders presented in this Chapter are derived from the methodology that has been developed and tested in the framework of CAMP Italy project and has been now revisited for the purposes of the pilot case in the Tyrrhenian (Tuscany and Sardinia), led by UN Environment/MAP - PAP/RAC in the framework of the SIMWESTMED Project.

The goal of the stakeholder mapping is twofold. It aims not only at the identification of the relevant stakeholders but also the promotion of networking at national, regional and inter-regional levels (as demonstrated in CAMP projects).

In view of mapping key relevant stakeholders, it is proposed to consider four broad categories as identified in the framework of CAMP Italy, including public institutions and relevant local authorities, economic operators of key sectors, experts (research, academia, science, NGOs, etc.) and the general public. As highlighted above (Chapter 5) useful information can be derived also from the Maastricht Recommendations on Promoting Effective Public Participation in Decision-making in Environmental Matters, prepared under the Aarhus Convention[25]. These recommendations provide a list of groups to be considered, in addition to the general public. Out of the proposed groups, the most relevant to the purposes of MSP implementation would be community groups, residents' organizations, business and industry organizations, universities and research institutions, NGOs interested in environmental protection, heritage protection, social welfare etc., associations

[24] 1st kick-off event for the International Forum for MSP (Brussels, Belgium, 24 and 25 May 2018).
[25] http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/Publications/2015/1514364_E_web.pdf

of users, tourist and sports organizations etc. Different groups of stakeholders should be invited in different stages of MSP implementation, according to the defined objectives of stakeholders' involvement included in the MSP implementation Strategy/plan (see point a. above) and the specificities of each case. The roles and nature of engagement may also differ from one stakeholder group to another.

A list of sub categories has been also developed in the framework of the CAMP Italy. This list is provided below, with some minor modifications, adjusted to the specificities of MSP, for indicative purposes.

Stakeholder categories	Sub-Category
Public institutions and services	International organisations
	Ministries
	Regions (Regional Councils, Departments)
	Provinces
	Local authority networks and associations
	Municipalities
	National and regional government agencies
	Ports and Marinas Authorities
	Harbour Authorities
	Bodies managing Protected Areas
	Land management entities (land reclamation, basin authorities, etc.)
	Chambers of Commerce
	Public transport companies
	Security and protection services (i.e. coastguard, civil defense etc.)
	Utility providers (water, energy, waste, etc.)
Economic operators	Companies operating in coastal zones
	Beach resorts (including life guards and other employees)
	Fishermen and their cooperatives
	Costal and marine tourism and recreational sectors
	Energy sector
	Offshore industry
	Maritime transport
	Shipping
	Yachting and boating
	Fisheries (professional and recreational)
	Aquaculture farms
	Breeding and herding
	Associations and unions of above-listed economic sectors/operators
Experts	Universities
	Research centers (including research projects, aquariums, etc.)
	Professional Associations
	Freelancers/consultants/consultancy firms
	Cultural/environmental associations
General public	Individual citizens

	Tourists
	Consumer/citizen associations

c. Initiate communication with stakeholders and establish a stakeholder database

Once relevant stakeholders are identified and mapped, the coordinators should establish communication with them and develop a database. The database can be developed using a simple excel sheet, and should include key information for each stakeholder. A template with the required information can be developed and sent to the identified stakeholders to be completed. In the case of SUPREME case studies, the stakeholder database structure developed under the stakeholders' involvement activity should be used for the categorisation of stakeholders, supporting targeted communication with the use of filters.

Before initiating communication with stakeholders, the timing of involvement should be well thought, as it should be at an early stage, but not before having established clear objectives for the MSP implementation process.

In addition, appropriate ways of attracting stakeholders and making them interested in the process should be identified. An important element arisen from practical MSP implementation in different cases is the need to provide stakeholders with clear information about the importance of the MSP process and its potential implications for the development different activities in the area. In addition, an issue-driven approach may be useful in attracting stakeholders, since a greater commitment from stakeholders has been observed in cases when there is an issue/challenge that needs to be resolved.

Bilateral/trilateral meetings with key sectors or phone/skype interviews can be arranged at this stage in order to build communication channels, inform interested stakeholders about the process to be followed and get initial feedback on the area, the key activities, future aspirations, potential conflicts and synergies etc. from their side.

d. Create a calendar of key events and workshops

A full calendar for each case study/pilot should be established in coordination with the identified stakeholders. The calendar should mainly include the stakeholder workshops planned to be held, but also any other relevant event and workshop that should be brought to the attention of the stakeholders. For the purposes of the case studies under SUPREME, it is important that all individual calendars are sent to the Project Coordinator, in order to create an overall calendar of national stakeholder workshops, to be shared with all Project Partners. This would allow the identification and support of linkages with relevant sub regional activities, as appropriate, as well as synergies among the case studies.

e. Prepare and distribute concept notes for stakeholder workshops

Concept notes for all the planned stakeholder workshops should be prepared as early as possible and shared with the identified stakeholders. Key elements and expected outcomes of the workshops should be clarified in the concept notes.

f. Organise the first Workshop and follow-up on its outcomes and conclusions

As outlined above (Chapter 5), a first stakeholder workshop can be organised to create a common understanding of the issues to be addressed, identify main activities and pressures on the subject area, gaps and needs in the regulation of different activities and uses. More specifically the first stakeholder workshop, taking into account the main stages of the imagine approach, may include the following steps (corresponding to imagine approach stages 1 and 2):

- Hold collective discussions, aiming at reflecting on the current situation of the subject area and understanding the context, including main characteristics of the area, key pressures, gaps and needs;
- Form break-out session groups to review the main elements that characterize the area and support its sustainable development. This exercise may lead to the definition of sustainability indicators (10-30), in the sense of the imagine approach. Sustainability indicators should cover all important aspects of the area, including environmental, economic and social characteristics and be easily measurable using existing knowledge and available official data. These will be further used in the scenario building;
- If appropriate and feasible, set the band of equilibrium, meaning the upper and lower accepted values, for each indicator, taking into account existing data and knowledge.

The first workshop should mainly involve stakeholders from the public administration, both central (relevant ministries) and regional/local authorities, according to the distribution of responsibilities in each case study. Key stakeholders from wider groups may be also invited with the view to provide information on key activities exercised in the area (economic and conservational), future trends, conflicts or synergies with other sectors etc. and therefore contribute to the main objectives of the workshop.

The realisation of the different steps outlined above as well as the number of invited stakeholders will depend on the time and budget availability in each case study as well as the level of maturity of knowledge and availability of data and information. In cases where invitation of wider stakeholder groups (economic operators, NGOs, associations etc.) in the first workshop is deemed not feasible or not in line with the case studies objectives and priorities, they can be contacted through other means for provision of the required information. The appropriate option will be defined on a case by case basis, according to the specificities of each case study and may include organisation of a bilateral meetings, interviews (face to face or phone), questionnaires distribution etc.

Follow up actions should be undertaken by the authorities in charge of the case study implementation, in line with the key outcomes and conclusions of the meeting, including the assessment of technical feasibility of the selected indicators, as well as preparatory actions for the next stakeholder workshop(s).

g. Ensure involvement of stakeholders, as appropriate, in the development of the plans

At a second stage, implementation of case studies should address the development of the core marine spatial plans to the extent possible. In this respect the development of different scenarios (e.g. existing trends scenario, future scenarios based on different sectors' development plans, desired scenario etc.) is considered a useful tool which has been applied in different case studies. The ultimate goal of this stage will be to define a list of actions/measures aiming at achieving the most desirable future scenario. This corresponds to imagine approach steps 3 and 4. It should be noted that scenario building during plans' development, should go beyond the

sectorial approach and take into account cumulative impacts from different sectors in line with integrated management approach, as well as cross-cutting elements, and emerging pressures.

It is advisable to ensure a maximum level of involvement of different groups of stakeholders especially for the phase of scenario building. Scenario building is a responsibility of the authorities in charge of MSP implementation in coordination with relevant public authorities. However, in view of identifying trends, and sectorial development perspectives and needs, inputs from a wider range of stakeholder groups could be useful. The role of this wide range of stakeholders for scenario building is advisory and can be ensured by different means depending on the specificities of each area and the case studies implementation plan, timeline and objectives (organisation of workshop, face to face meetings with key sectors' representatives, interviews, questionnaires etc.).

Following the scenario building, a list of actions should be developed aiming at achieving the most desirable scenario. At this stage it is proposed to hold a second stakeholders workshop in which a draft list of measures/actions will be presented to and reviewed by key stakeholders, mainly representing public institutions and services. In addition, decision makers should prioritise and select key actions/measures. In this regard, the use of a ranking and prioritization tool, such as the one developed under the DeCyDe-4-ActionMed method, could be considered. Wider stakeholder groups (i.e. economic operators, and experts) should be invited to attend this workshop under a different status (i.e. observers).

Depending on budget availability and the number of stakeholders involved in each case study, the key elements outlined above can be spread in more than two workshops.

h. Prepare the final outcome including a list of actions/key elements on MSP implementation

As an outcome of the second stakeholder workshop, a commonly agreed list of actions/key elements for MSP implementation would be prepared and shared with all relevant stakeholders, including the general public, through a consultation process in line with national and EU legislation.

i. Establish a follow-up and monitoring plan

Stakeholder involvement should be promoted throughout the implementation phase of the pilots. A monitoring plan should be developed to ensure that relevant stakeholders are informed about the main steps of implementation of the pilots and are provided with the necessary means of information and participation. The monitoring plan may further provide for a periodical re-implementation of stakeholder involvement, as an iterative process. An analysis of stakeholders' involvement should be undertaken, addressing key aspects including the level of engagement, the identification of groups that have not been engaged and the reasons for this lack of interest, the preferred ways and timing of involvement etc. The outcomes of this analysis could formulate and better adapt stakeholders' involvement in next cycles of MSP implementation. The establishment of a consultative committee to ensure continuous involvement of key stakeholders has been presented as a good practice from other cases[26], and could be considered.

[26] 1st kick-off event for the International Forum for MSP (Brussels, Belgium, 24 and 25 May 2018)

Annexes

Annex 1. Stakeholders' involvement approaches followed in SUPREME case studies

All five MSP pilots in the framework of SUPREME have integrated stakeholders' involvement activities throughout the planning and implementation process. Although there have been differences in the methods followed and the stages in which stakeholders have been engaged, there are common points to be noted in view of drawing conclusions on the practical implementation of stakeholder's involvement.Below is a compilation of fiches on the stakeholders' involvement approach followed in all the case studies, as provided by the case study leaders, followed by a list of key findings, on the basis of this information.

A. Fiches on stakeholders' involvement in SUPREME case study areas

a. Case study 1: Northern Adriatic

The case study implementation is structured around four phases (assessment – analysis – scenario building – proposal of measures). Stakeholder involvement is a cross-cutting process covering the whole case study, but it is differentiated according to the different phases, adapted to their specific needs and objectives.

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is by definition an activity that can only succeed with the participation of all the involved actors, both public and private, at local, regional, national, international and EU level. Otherwise the prepared maritime spatial plans would fail to encompass the complex interactions between the actors involved thus needing to be revised in a second moment. Moreover, the stakeholder consultation should cover the different phases of the MSP process (from the initial assessment phase to the analysis and planning phase). The duration of SUPREME project, on the other end, did not allow for a large and comprehensive participatory process. Nevertheless, the project has undertaken a fruitful dialogue with key institutional stakeholders in order to identify the specific objectives and on-going initiatives in the study areas and to address the proposed planning measures.

In the framework of the Northern Adriatic case study, the stakeholder involvement process includes four steps:

1. Identify and map key relevant stakeholders

Following the approach of preexisting projects on MSP such as ADRIPLAN - ADRiatic Ionian maritime spatial PLANning, all selected stakeholders have been divided into three broad categories: public institutions and relevant local authorities (such as Regions, System Port Authorities and Public Associations), economic entities of key sectors (such as Private Associations, Technological districts, Federations, Terminals and Private Companies), Civil society organizations (such as NGOs and foundations). By using the above preliminary list, the project partnership, defined a group of Institutional stakeholders with a central role in the MSP process, which were constantly informed on the project goals and results in the framework of the MSP implementation process.

2. The first Stakeholder Workshop: "The Northern Adriatic and the Maritime Spatial Planning"

During the workshop held in Venice the 2nd March 2018 participants included key institutional stakeholders: the Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport and the Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea, the North

Adriatic Sea Port Authority (Venice), the Eastern Adriatic Sea Port Authority (Trieste) and the Central and Northern Adriatic Sea Port Authority (Ravenna), the Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Emilia Romagna regions, as well as CORILA with its associated bodies CNR-ISMAR and University IUAV of Venice.

The meeting focused on three main objectives:

1. Identify objectives, priorities, conflicts and synergies in the Northern Adriatic area;
2. Evaluate data and knowledge gaps in the study area for MSP purposes and the role of institutional stakeholders to fill in the gaps;
3. Identify the relevant stakeholders to engage in the following steps of MSP process and the best methodologies for facilitating a participatory approach.

The participants shared the case study fiche summarizing the knowledge available in study areas as well as actions and outputs foreseen, then a summary table was elaborated for collecting data and spatial planning and programming tools. The workshops have been used as a basis for the formulation of the MSP objectives for the case study areas. Inputs provided by the stakeholders have been also useful for identifying the criticalities of the area and part of the consequent planning measures proposal.

3. First workshop results

The main key MSP issues for the area stressed during the workshop were:

- Sustainable maritime and coastal tourism;
- A wide range of interacting uses (e.g. tourism, transport, energy, fisheries, aquaculture, conservation, military, sands for coastal defense and beach nourishment, etc.);
- Expected trends of blue growth, including Climate change;
- Relevance of Land-Sea Interactions;
- Potentials for Multi-Uses (e.g. tourism with fisheries, protected areas, UCH; O&G decommissioning with renewables, tourism and aquaculture);

Specific projects and objectives outlined by the stakeholders in the field of transport and energy were:

- Improve accessibility of ports and marinas;
- Development of internal water navigation for Emilia Romagna and Veneto Region;
- Improving security of traffic management;
- Improvement of maritime and land accessibility through infrastructural interventions (e.g. the Regulatory Plan of the Trieste Port Authority foresee the creation of a logistic Platform by 2019 and the development of other port infrastructures (extension of the container terminal of PIER VII and a new Ro-Ro terminal);
- Growth opportunities for LNG linked to the investments for the regasification and creation of a network for distribution and storage;
- New LNG platform close to Krk;
- Increase the knowledge on sand deposits for coastal defense.

4.Second workshop

According to the development of the Northern Adriatic case study it might be possible to organize a second workshop to assess the results.

b. Case study 2: The Dubrovnik-Neretva County

1. Stakeholder involvement – methodology

1.1. Introduction

Croatian Institute for Spatial Development has approached the issue of Stakeholder involvement and participation in the process of development the Component C1.3.8- Addressing MSP Implementation in Case Study Areas in the way described below. The chosen Case Study area is the Dubrovnik-Neretva County.

1.2. Stakeholders according to physical planning system in Croatia

Stakeholders in the Physical planning system are defined by the Physical Planning Act. They can be basically structured into four groups:

1. National, regional (county) and local government bodies that ensure the efficiency of physical planning through adoption of spatial plans and other related documents:

- Croatian Parliament and the Government
- Representative bodies of local and regional government units

2. Bodies that ensure that the abovementioned plans and documents are based on expertise:

- State administration bodies
- Professional administrative bodies
- Institutes, other legal persons and approved architects registered for performing professional physical planning activities

3. Public law bodies:

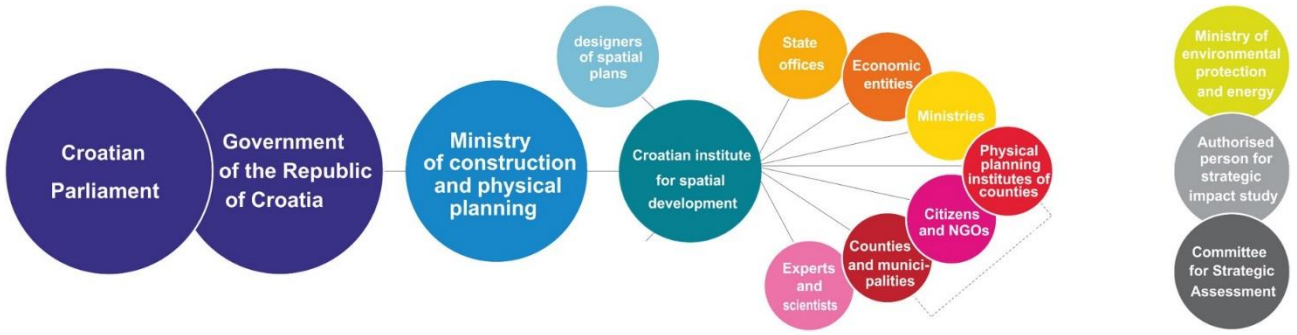
- Law bodies designated by special regulations, which provide requirements for the development of the spatial plan and other participants
- Users of space, who should participate in the development of the spatial plan

4. Citizens and NGOs:

- Public debate, that is obligatory, in which the participants in a public debate shall give opinions, proposals and remarks on the proposal of the spatial plan.
- Anyone may initiate the development of a spatial plan at the local level, and its amendments

The abovementioned stakeholders (1.- 3.) are engaged in the process of development of a spatial plan from the very beginning i.e. from the Decision on spatial plan development. The compulsory public debate is held on draft proposal of spatial plan.

SEA
2001/42/EC



1.3. The Road map - approach to Stakeholder involvement in the pilot area - C 1.3.8.

First step was the establishment of the Road map for the development of the C1.3.8. The Road map defined the three general phases:

A-Assessment phase (Pre-planning phase)
B-Analysis phase (Defining and analysing existing conditions and detecting future demands)
C-Planning phase

2. Stakeholder involvement - Procedure

2.1. A-The assessment phase (Pre-planning phase)

In the assessment phase CISD has recognised three main levels of Stakeholders. Those are stakeholders on the national, regional and local level.

The national level

On the national level the stakeholders listed in table 1 have been directly contacted and a cooperation on the SUPREME project has been proposed. The addressed bodies were asked to appoint a contact person/persons for the further cooperation on the project itself. All of the listed bodies have appointed contact person/persons.

Table 1 List of contacted public bodies and companies on the national level

Nr.	Name of the public body / company	Type of public body / company
		Ministries
2	Ministry of Culture	
3	Ministry of Defence	
4	Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts	
5	Ministry of Environment and Energy	
6	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs	
7	Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds	
8	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure	

9	Ministry of Tourism	
10	Croatian hydrocarbon agency	Agencies
11	Croatian Agency for Environment and Nature	
12	Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia	Institutes
13	Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	
14	State Geodetic Administration	Administrative bodies
15	National Protection and Rescue Directorate	
16	*Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service*	
17	*Croatian bureau of statistics*	
18	*Croatian Regulatory Authority for Network Industries*	
19	*HEP- national electrical energy company*	Companies
20	Croatian Transmission System Operator	
21	*INA (Oil company)*	
22	*JANAF (Management of oil pipeline system)*	
23	*LNG Croatia LCC (operator of LNG infrastructure)*	
24	*Plinacro (natural gas transport company)*	

The regional level

On the regional level the Stakeholders were the Physical planning institutes (PPI) of the coastal counties, see table 2. The same procedure was repeated here and the addressed bodies were asked to appoint a contact person/persons for the further cooperation on the project itself. All of the listed bodies have appointed contact person/persons.

Table 2 List of contacted public bodies on the regional level

Nr.	Name of the public body / company	Type of public body / company
1	PPI of the Istrian County	Physical Planning Institutes of coastal counties
2	PPI of the Primorsko-goranska County	
3	PPI of the Ličko-senjska County	
4	PPI of the Zadarska County	
5	PPI of the Šibensko-kninska County	
6	PPI of the Splitsko-dalmatinska County	
7	PPI of the Dubrovačko-neretvanska County	

The local level

The Stakeholders on the local level have been identified as the representatives of the public administration, civil sector and business sector, however in this preliminary phase they were not directly addressed.

The database of the above-mentioned bodies on the national and regional level has been composed and was sent to the UNEP-MAP.

2.2. B-Analysis phase (Defining and analysing existing conditions and detecting future demands)

In the analyses phase further steps were undertaken in order to define and analyse existing conditions, considering the tasks deriving from the C1.3.2 Data and information requirements for MSP such as assessing data needs, barriers and gaps, as well as aims described in the C1.3.6 Coordination of sectorial policies.

2.2.1. 1st round of stakeholder involvement

The national level

On the national level eight B2B meetings were held. The meetings were held with the majority of the public bodies, see table 3. The selection of the public bodies invited to the same meeting depended on the main topic of that meeting, which on the other hand generally followed the list of activities, uses and interests in MSP as they are stated in the MSP Directive 2014/89, article 8.

In all of the meetings the SUPREME project was presented in detail and the discussion on following matters, among others, was opened:

- data availability in GIS supported formats
- data gaps
- barriers in data assessment
- problems and issues in the implementation of the existing maritime spatial plans
- special demands for further development of maritime spatial plans according to each sector
- needs of improvement in the cross-sectoral activities and cooperation
- experience on cross-border cooperation

Table 3 List of B2B meetings held on the national level

Nr.	Date	Name of the public body / company	Main topics
1	08.02.2018.	Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	Aquaculture, Fishing areas, Nature protection, Cross-border cooperation
2	12.2.2018.	Ministry of Environment and Energy Croatian hydrocarbon agency Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia HEP- national electrical energy company	Infrastructures for the exploitation and of oil, Submarine cable and pipeline routes
3	20.02.2018.	Ministry of Culture	Underwater cultural heritage
4	01.03.2018.	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure Ministry of Tourism Ministry of Environment and Energy	Maritime transport, Nature protection, Tourism
5	01.03.2018.	Ministry of Defence Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure Ministry of Tourism	Military areas, Maritime transport, Tourism, cross sectoral cooperation
6	06.03.2018.	Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts	Shipbuilding, raw material extraction areas,

			minerals and aggregates
7	07.03.2018.	National Protection and Rescue Directorate	Protection and Rescue
8	04.04.2018.	Ministry of Regional Development and EU funds	Strategic planning, Development on islands
9	19.04.2018.	Ministry of Environment and Energy Croatian Agency for Environment and Nature Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service	Nature protection, Climate Change, Tourism

The regional level

Physical Planning Institutes of coastal counties have been working on spatial plans which include marine areas for many years now and SUPREME project was already presented to them on their annual meeting in November 2017. That is why no additional introduction into this topic was necessary. A questionnaire was sent to the Planning Institutes on their experience in drafting marine spatial plans.

The questionnaire was based on some of the main topics, such as:

- MSP Directive 2014/89 and experience of implementing it in drafting of spatial plans
- Limitations and advantages of existing Physical planning System in Croatia, considering MSP
- Benefits and aims of MSP
- Activities and uses according to art.8 of the Directive – what is already in the existing plans and what is missing
- Activities and uses that are included in the plans, but are not part of the Directive
- Spatial conflicts in MSP
- ICZM
- Future trends in activities and uses in the maritime area
- Data availability and data gaps
- GIS database and GIS tools
- Cross-County cooperation
- Cross-border cooperation

The local level

The Stakeholders on the local level were not addressed on this level.

2.2.2. 2nd round of stakeholder involvement

The second round of stakeholder involvement took place in Dubrovnik from May 14th to 17th 2018.

Discussions were held during three workshops with the representatives of public bodies on the national level, representatives of the Physical Planning Institutes of coastal counties on the regional level and with the representatives of other public bodies and stakeholders on local and regional level, that were interested in the Case Study area of Dubrovnik-Neretva County. A Case Study area visit was organised in which all of the participants from the national and regional level could participate.

The topics, themes and aims for the workshops were based on the results coming from the 1st round of stakeholder involvement. The minutes of the B2B meetings on national level, and the filled in questionnaires on the regional level served as the basis for the content and organisation of the workshops.

The analysis of the percentage of the stakeholder involvement in the workshops

Work-shop	Invited institutions	Did participate	Did not participate	In percentage	Total number of participants
W1	16	13	3	**81,25%**	53
W2	7	7	0	**100,00%**	36
W3	55	25	30	**45,45%**	49

Workshop 1 - the national level

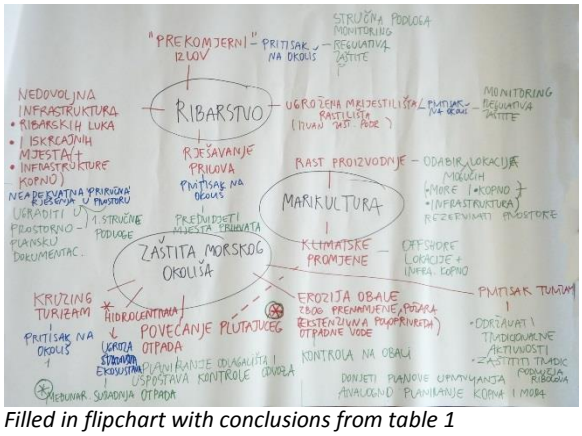
The aim of the workshop was to determine existing and potential trends in the most important maritime sectors, and by doing so identify the main challenges in the implementation of MSP.

53 Participants from 13 invited public bodies and from 2 organizing institutions (Croatian Institute for Spatial Development and Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning) participated in the workshop. As opposed to B2B meetings, where public bodies, invited to meetings together, shared the similar perspective on a particular topic, the aim here was to bring together representatives of public bodies around topics that can potentially, or as a fact, cause spatial conflicts in MSP.

„Think tank“ and „Focus group“ models were adopted for this workshop and the participants were gathered around 4 round tables, each table having its own topics related to the Directive 2014/89 . The first three tables were theme-related and the fourth was non-theme related.

- Table 1 - Fisheries, Aquaculture, Nature and marine environment protection
- Table 2 - Maritime transport, Tourism, Cultural heritage protection, Risk and climate change
- Table 3 - Infrastructures for the exploitation and of oil and Energy sources
- Table 4 – Authorities, Boundaries, Jurisdictions

Focus groups – Table2



Filled in flipchart with conclusions from table 1

Thematic maps of the maritime area (A1-format) were prepared and placed on each table along with flipcharts used to summon up the conclusions in each of the four groups.

Workshop 2 - the regional level

The aim of the workshop was to determine in which extent the topics from the Directive 2014/89 have been adopted in the spatial plans of coastal counties and to examine obstacles and possible improvements in the existing spatial planning system.

36 participants from 7 invited Physical Planning Institutes of coastal counties and from 2 organizing institutions (Croatian Institute for Spatial Development and Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning) participated in the workshop.

„Think tank“ model was adopted for this workshop. The workshop was based upon the results of the questionnaire filled by the Institutes and the main topic of the discussion considered the most important elements for a successful process of MSP. All the participants have described the best practices in MSP in each of the counties.

Workshop 2 - Physical Planning Institutes of coastal counties

Workshop 3 - the local level

The aim of the workshop was to determine the current conflicts in the use of space in the maritime area of the Dubrovnik-neretva County and to propose methods of resolving these conflicts through the process of MSP. These proposals shall be considered in Guidelines for the MSP of the Dubrovnik –neretva County in the C1.3.8. Addressing MSP Implementation in Case Study Areas.

49 participants from 25 invited institutions and from 2 organizing institutions (Croatian Institute for Spatial Development and Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning) participated in the workshop.

„Focus group“ model was adopted for this workshop and the participants were gathered around 4 round tables, each table having its own topics related to the Directive 2014/89.

- Table 1 - Fisheries, Aquaculture
- Table 2 - Maritime transport
- Table 3 - Tourism, Cultural heritage protection
- Table 4 - Nature and marine environment protection, Risk and climate change, Oil and Energetics

Workshop 3 – local stakeholders

Thematic maps of the maritime area (A1-format) were prepared and placed on each table along with flipcharts used to summon up the conclusions in each of the four groups.

2.3. C-Planning phase

Stakeholders' involvement has been ensured also in the last phase

c. Case study 3: Slovenian territorial waters

MSP – ICZM interaction is dealing with preparation of draft MSP and refers to the whole area of Slovenian sea territory, under jurisdiction of Republic of Slovenia. A small geographical area, and the fact that marine uses are generally already defined, and no major changes are expected characterise the implementation of the case study.

The Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning - Directorate for Space, Construction and Housing is actively involved in the implementation of the pilot project. Based on the assessment of the current situation and the available data, the external provider will prepare **possible scenarios** for further development in the sea and coastal area, define the vision of future development and propose objectives, priorities and measures. Scenario building, based on future trends and expected future needs of economic actors and sectoral development is crucial for the preparation of MSP. In this regard, the stakeholders' active participation is very important, since they can provide valuable information for the development of scenarios.

The case study will be used in the formal process of preparing a maritime spatial plan, which will be set up by the Ministry in January 2019 and concluded by March 2021.

In the first phase of SUPREME project, key stakeholders were identified by the case study leader, and invited to participate in all stages of case study planning, preparation and implementation. Participation of the stakeholders is assured through three workshops. Workshops are organised by the project partner. Between first and second workshop, interviews were carried out with each of the stakeholders.

Mapping of key stakeholders

Different categories of stakeholders were identified: ministries and national public institutions (20), municipalities (5), economic actors of different sectors, business support organisations (15), civil organisations, universities, and research institutions.

First Workshop

Stakeholders who participated: Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning (Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate) (1), Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (1), external experts – contractors (2), Urban municipality of Koper (3), Municipality of Izola (1), Municipality of Piran (1), Municipality of Ankaran (1), landscape parks and protected areas (1), Port of Koper (1), marina operator (1), business support organisations (1), fishermen (1), RRC Koper (2).

The workshop gave in-depth overview of the current status quo (sea uses, conflicts, synergies), and information, what the stakeholders consider important to be included in the vision, overarching goals, priorities, and measures in the process of planning and management of coastal and sea uses in Slovenian sea territory. During the discussion the participants exposed especially the following facts: the need for expanding mariculture areas with proposed locations, the need for new or expanded conservation areas, problems of using anchors in protected areas, urgency for complementary management of coast–land territory (ICZM; tourism, marinas, walking routes in relation to coast protection), and new locations for deposit of excavated material from seabed.

Interviews with key stakeholders

In the period between the first and second workshop (July–October 2018) there were interviews with stakeholders on national, regional, and local level.

Interviewed stakeholders were: four coastal municipalities, National Institute for Biology Piran, Marina Portorož, Port of Koper, Public agency for promotion of entrepreneurship and developing projects of Municipality of Izola, Strunjan Landscape Park, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia, Ministry of Defence, Slovenian Maritime Administration – Maritime inspection, Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, MYTILUS Mitja Petrič s. p.

The objective of interviews was to get **more details about future needs** of each maritime sector, economic actor, and policy maker. This information was used for the development of scenarios, which have been presented and discussed during the second workshop.

Second Workshop

The second event was organised on the 7th of November 2018. Invited stakeholders were national and local authorities (ministries, institutions, and directorates), economic actors, universities and research institutions, and civil society organisations.

The objective of the second workshop was to **present and stimulate discussion on future scenarios**, which have been elaborated based on interviews, debate about consequences of each of the scenarios, and consult on integration of identified **current and future needs** of MSP in Slovenia.

The final result is expected to be a useful document when the formal process of Slovenian MSP preparation will begin. The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning will start this process in 2019, and expects to finish it by March 2021.

d. Case study 4: Corinthian Gulf - Inner Ionian Sea
Case study 5: Myrtoon Sea – Peloponnese-Crete Passage

The two Greek case studies are following the same methodology for stakeholders' involvement. YPEN, as the competent authority for MSP in Greece ensures the overall coordination and connection of the two case studies. In this respect, a short introductory presentation was made by YPEN focusing on the key milestones of stakeholders' involvement in MSP case studies.

1. Short description of the pilot areas

1.1 The inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf (SUPREME pilot #4)

The pilot study area No4 ("inner Ionian Sea - Corinthian Gulf"), includes part of the Ionian Sea (islands of Zakynthos, Cephalonia, Ithaca and Lefkada) and extends up to the Corinthian Gulf (that separates central continental Greece from the Peloponnese).

Regarding the land parts of the pilot area[27], they extend up to the outer limit of all coastal 1st tier Municipalities surrounding the Corinthian Gulf, excluding the mountainous zones of these Municipalities (zones having >600m altitude). The land parts of the pilot area also include the islands of Lefkada, Cephalonia, Ithaca and Zakynthos, as well as all islets under their administrative jurisdiction. As a result, planning and management responsibilities for the pilot area are shared among:

- Five (5) 2nd tier administrative Authorities: Regions of Ionian Islands; Peloponnese; Western Greece; Central Greece and; Attica.
- Twenty (20) 1st tier administrative Authorities: Municipalities of Mandra – Eidilia; Megara; Nafpaktia; Aigialeia; Patras; Western Achaia; Velo-Vocha; Korinthos; Loutraki – Ag. Theodori; Xylokastro - Evrostini; Sikionia; Distomo-Arachova-Antikira; Livadia; Thebes; Delphi; Dorida; Lefkada; Ithaca; Kefalonia; Zakynthos.

1.2 The Myrtoon Sea/ Peloponnese-Crete Passage (SUPREME pilot #5)

The pilot area No5 includes a part of Myrtoo Pelagos: Peloponnese-Crete Sea Passage

The land borders of the pilot area are chosen to be the same as the administrative boundaries of the municipalities. The land parts of the pilot area also include the islands of Kithira, Antikithira, and Elafonisos. All planning and management responsibilities for the pilot area are shared among:

- Three (3) 2nd tier administrative Authorities: Regions of Peloponnese; Attica and; Crete.
- Eight (8) 1st tier administrative Authorities: Municipalities of East Mani; Evrotas; Monemvasia; Elafonisos (from the Peloponnese region); Kythiron (from the region of Attica) and; Kissamos; Platanias and; Chania (from the Region of Crete).

[27] A maritime spatial plan includes both terrestrial and marine parts, according to the Law 4546/2018 which transpose the Directive 2014/89/EE into the Greek legislation system.

Considering the above governance issues as well as stakeholders' involvement in the Greek pilot areas is a rather complicated matter, calling for the involvement of a high number of actors and participators.

2. Methodological approach followed in both pilot areas

2.1 Key information on the methodology

Stakeholders' involvement in both study areas, was based on the methods proposed by UNEP/MAP (Deliverable C.1.3.4 of the SUPREME project) and were accordingly adjusted to suit the cases of both Greek pilots #4 and #5.

Considering these, 4 workshops took place in the framework of the SUPREME project (with respect to the pilot studies #4 and #5), engaging different groups of actors and stakeholders each time. For more information on these meetings (time and venue, participants, method, key outcomes, etc) please see the following sections.

Key methods used in these workshops regarded round table discussions (method used mainly with actors and decision-makers), direct interaction with stakeholders (dialogue techniques) as well as a Questionnaire survey that was addressed: a) to the public authorities (local and central) sharing responsibilities for the two pilot areas and b) to the public and the local stakeholders related to both Greek pilot areas. For more information on the questionnaire, please see the following sub-section (2.2).

During the Workshops' preparation period, extended lists with competent and relevant Authorities and contact persons were prepared (at the national, regional and local level) as well as extended lists with stakeholders (Chamber, NGOs, Associations, etc), also at the national, regional and local level. These actors and stakeholders were grouped as follows:

- Public institutions and relevant Authorities;
- Economic operators of key maritime sectors;
- Experts (research, academia, science, NGOs, etc.);
- General public.

In short, given the nature and the peculiarities of the Greek case studies, stakeholders' involvement in the framework of the SUPREME project followed a mixt approach of the methods proposed by UNEP/MAP, i.e.: the imagine method, the DeCyDe method as well as the Science-Policy Interface.

2.2 The questionnaire survey (applied to both Greek pilot areas)

The questionnaire survey conducted for the purposes of the SUPREME project (regarding the two Greek pilot areas), used two types of questionnaires that were distributed: a) to the public authorities (local and central) sharing responsibilities for the pilot areas and b) to the public and the local stakeholders related to the pilot areas.

Both types of questionnaires included two sets of questions: a) related to governance issues and b) related to planning issues.

As regards the questions included in each Type of questionnaires, they are presented below:

Type I Questionnaire

Distributed to the Decentralized Administrations, Regions, Municipalities, Municipality Port Funds, etc.

A. Governance and Jurisdiction Issues

- ✓ Specify the main activities that you give placement/installation permissions in the maritime area of your jurisdiction. *For what additional activities you consider that your organization should have jurisdiction over?*
- ✓ Define the boundaries, up to which you consider your organization should exercise its jurisdiction powers. (up to how many nautical miles? up to territorial waters? etc.). *To what kind of resources and /or activities do you believe you should have jurisdiction over?*

B. Spatial Planning Issues

- ✓ Which marine activities do you believe are more responsible for pollution and/or contamination in the inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf and the Myrtoon Sea/ Peloponnese-Crete Passage? Could you indicate specific areas?
- ✓ Which categories of coastal and marine ecosystems in the inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf and the Myrtoon Sea/ Peloponnese-Crete Passage are receiving the greatest pressure? Could you indicate specific areas?
- ✓ With which neighboring areas (Municipalities – Regions) have you collaborated in the past to address problems regarding the inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf and the Myrtoon Sea/ Peloponnese-Crete Passage?
- ✓ Which other areas (Municipalities – Regions) do you believe are affected by a placement approval in your jurisdiction area?

Type II Questionnaire

Distributed to the Chambers, Professionals, Environmental Organizations, NGO, etc.

A. Governance and Jurisdiction Issues

- ✓ To what extent do you consider that your views/needs are taken into account in the decision-making process on issues concerning the inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf and the Myrtoon Sea/ Peloponnese-Crete Passage regions?
- ✓ Do you believe that your organization has adequate access to information regarding MSP and maritime policies? In which matters/data do you need more information about?

B. Spatial Planning Issues

- ✓ Which marine activities do you believe are more responsible for pollution and/or contamination in the inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf and the Myrtoon Sea/ Peloponnese-Crete Passage? Could you indicate specific areas?

- ✓ Which categories of coastal and marine ecosystems in the inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf and the Myrtoon Sea/Peloponnese-Crete Passage are receiving the greatest pressure? Could you indicate specific areas?
- ✓ With which other organizations (private and governmental) and/or NGOs have you collaborated in the past to address problems regarding the inner Ionian Sea – Corinthian Gulf and the Myrtoon Sea/Peloponnese-Crete Passage?

As regards the answers given to the Questionnaires that were filled in, they are discussed in the following section 4, regarding the outcomes of the stakeholders' involvement.

Key information on the distribution of questionnaire in pilot #4

Actors and stakeholders	No of Questionnaires distributed	No of Questionnaires filled in
Public Administration	49	10
Local Authorities	45	11
Professionals	18	7
NGOs	7	6
Universities	3	2
TOTAL	**121**	**36**

Key information on the distribution of questionnaire in pilot #5

Actors and stakeholders	No of Questionnaires distributed	No of Questionnaires filled in
Public Administration	30	7
Local Authorities	10	4
Professionals	10	5
NGOs	9	6
Universities	2	0
TOTAL	**61**	**22**

3. Key information on the stakeholders involvement per meetings

3.1. Meeting of actors within the competent MSP Authority (Ministry for the Environment & Energy)

A round of internal consultations was held in January within the premises of the competent Ministry for the Environment & Energy, to inform the relevant Ministry Directorates and their regulated entities on MSP and on the SUPREME Project and to motivate them to be involved.

The consultation meeting took place on January the 10th of 2018. The meeting was also invited to attend the Heads of the teams of the Greek Universities participating to the SUPREME project (NTUA, UTh and NKUA).

3.2. Meeting of actors at the central government level (Hellenic Ministries)

Date and venue: The meeting took place on the 26th of January, in the premises of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture in Athens.

The actors and stakeholders invited, derived from:

- Central government Authorities, Ministries and so on
- Public Enterprises (for Energy, etc.)

The meeting attended more than 70 attendees, deriving from the following Authorities:

- Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy
- Hellenic Ministry of Marine Mercantile
- Hellenic Ministry of Infrastructure, Transportation and Networks
- Hellenic Ministry of Agriculture
- Hellenic Ministry of Culture
- Hellenic Ministry of Tourism
- Hellenic Ministry of Economy
- Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Hellenic Ministry for National Defense
- National Authority for RES
- Institute of Geology and Mineral Explorations
- Public Authority for Energy networks

As regards the key issues discussed in the meeting, they regarded:

- Policy issues regarding the implementation of the MSP Directive
- Participation in current MSP project initiatives (E.U. co-funded)
- Availability and sharing of geo-data among Public Authorities
- Coordination of sectoral policies in the sea

The main outputs of the meeting were:

- establishment of a network (of a national range)
- engagement of the participants to assist the SUPREME project

3.3. The Patras Workshop (SUPREME pilot area No 4)

Date and venue: The meeting took place on the 9th of March, in Patras, which a medium-sized Greek port-city (apprx. 170.000 citizens) and the capital of Western Greece Region, situated in the continental parts of Greece, but still interacting with the Inner Ionian Sea. As regards the aim of the Patras stakeholders' workshop, this was:

- Simulation of governance schemes
- Raise public awareness
- Information and data exchange
- Exchange of experience and views regarding the planning and management of the area

Therefore, the agenda of the Patras Workshop, included presentations on:

- Policy issues regarding the implementation of the MSP Directive
- MSP issues
- Analysis of the pilot study #4

- Discussion with the participants

As regards the group of participants that were invited to the Workshop, they are described below:

Participant Category	No of people invited	No of attendees
Public Administration	125	26
Local Authorities	139	33
Professionals	63	4
NGOs	12	6
Universities	7	3
General Public	+	1
TOTAL	346 +	73

3.4. The Sparta Workshop (SUPREME pilot area No 5)

Date and venue: The meeting took place on the 30th of March 2018, in Sparta - the capital of the Regional Unit of Lakonia in the Peloponnese Region. Sparta was a prominent city-state in ancient Greece and nowadays is a medium-sized Greek city (apprx. 35.000 citizens), located in the southern Peloponnese, in the periphery of pilot area No5, with a significant strategic position. The stakeholders' involvement from the region of Crete was made possible through a teleconference system and thus there was a full representation of all the 2nd tier administrative Authorities of the pilot area.

As regards the aim of the Sparta Stakeholders' workshop, this was:

- Simulation of governance schemes
- Raise public awareness
- Information and data exchange
- Exchange of experience and views on the wise management and planning of the area

Therefore, the agenda of the Sparta Workshop, included presentations on:

- Policy issues regarding the implementation of the MSP Directive
- MSP issues
- Analysis of the pilot study #5
- Discussion with the participants

As regards the group of participants that were invited to the Workshop, they are described below:

Participant Category	No of people invited	No of attendees
Public Administration & Local Authorities	174	12
Professionals	21	15
NGOs	23	3
Universities	6	5
General Public	24	2
TOTAL	248	37

4. Key outcomes (*from the workshops and meetings held*)

The organization of the above set of meetings and Workshops proved very enlightening for a number of issues related to the MSP process and implementation that is expected to take place in the near future in Greece. These issues are presented in bullets below.

Key issues raised during the workshops and meetings related to governance affairs and competencies

- Decision making, competencies and licensing regarding coastal area management is efficiently distributed among local Authorities and central government (public Administration);
- Decision making, competencies and licensing regarding marine area management, is a fully top-down procedure (competencies belong to the central government);
- Cooperation among 1st tier and 2nd tier Authorities (sharing the two Greek pilot areas) was rather poor;
- Public awareness was low (due to the recent and ongoing developments regarding MSP);
- Participation of the general public and the 1st tier administrative authorities was rather low, given the nature of the marine regions (great insularity, great distances, etc) and the functional difficulties this nature resulted in (low accessibility due to poor maritime transport connection, bad weather conditions resulting in cancellations of itineraries, etc);
- Interaction and collaboration among different groups of stakeholders was medium, if not low.
- Stakeholders deriving from insular areas expressed their disappointment for being (and feeling) isolated from the decision-making centers (no bottom-up procedures);
- Participation to the M.S.P. meetings considerably varied per stakeholder group (both in terms of representativeness and of active participation to the discussion). More influencing and powerful stakeholder groups were either absent or very cautious when expressing their views;

Key issues raised during the workshops and meetings related to spatial planning and management

- Key land uses that were identified having great impacts to the environment were: coastal urban developments, coastal tourism, waste disposal, coastal industries, agriculture run-offs, mining, sand gravel extraction;
- Key marine uses that were identified having great impacts to the environment were: maritime transport, (over)fishing, aquaculture, hydrocarbon extractions;
- Most stakeholders did not identify user-user conflicts, except for the case of tourism (which is believed to be very vulnerable and threatened especially from hydrocarbon extraction);
- The need to proceed from a sectorial approach to a place-based approach (adapting to the Ecosystem Approach) is a sine-qua-non in Maritime Spatial Planning, so that existing sectorial policies for the marine space are better coordinated.

B. Key findings from the implementation of stakeholders' involvement in the case studies

The following key elements have been identifying by reviewing the approaches for stakeholders' involvement followed in each case study which reveal a number of common points.

- Stakeholders' involvement has been addressed by all case studies;
- Proper stakeholders' involvement is recognized as an important element for the establishment of a viable and widely acceptable plan, which in turn facilitates its implementation;
- Efforts were made by case studies to integrate the recommendations and proposed steps indicated in the present report and this has been achieved to a different extent in all case studies;
- The importance of defining from a very early stage which are the stakeholders to be involved, how they will be involved, in which time and what are the expected outcomes from their involvement as well as the importance of integrating this plan into the overall MSP process has been highlighted;
- It is considered useful to divide stakeholders into different categories and levels:
  - Categories defined in the case studies include public institutions and authorities / economic-business sectors / NGOs, CSOs / experts and academia / general public;
  - Case studies generally defined three levels for stakeholders' categorization: national, regional and local;
- Wider groups of stakeholders (i.e. economic sectors, NGOs, experts, public etc.) are usually part of the local level of stakeholders;
- It is essential to start the stakeholders' involvement with an extensive identification and mapping of relevant stakeholders and their grouping according to predefined categories and levels, so as to facilitate targeted and tailored actions;
- Some methods, including in-person meetings, workshops involving different levels/types of stakeholders according to the expected outcomes and the stage of the MSP implementation and questionnaires, have been used by all case studies;
- Since MSP is a quite new process, it is important to start with the involvement of relevant public authorities and institutions (starting from the national level and going further down to the local level), with the view to informing them about the process and the requirements of MSP implementation, clearly defining roles and responsibilities and strengthening coordination before reaching out to wider groups;
- With regards to the involvement of public authorities and institutions, different approaches have been followed by the case studies, including large meetings with all relevant actors (or small meetings with a limited number of authorities having a similar perspective on a particular topic (e.g. Croatian case study);
- Although wider groups of stakeholders should also be engaged at an early stage (at a time when their contribution and knowledge can be capitalized and integrated into the plan), this should not be done before having defined clear objectives and goals at the central level;
- Overall a low level of participation from the local sectors has been noted, which shows the need for further reaching out, and providing them with adequate information about the importance of the process and the future impacts of the MSP on the activities exercised in the area, with the view to increasing their interest and involvement;
- Some of the common issues raised through stakeholders' involvement in most cases include the lack of coordination among sectors, the data gaps and need for enhanced data availability and exchange, and challenges in policy implementation.