

MED-MSP-CoP - III 2026 workshop

Tuesday, 22 September 2026

10:00 – 12:30 CET

Marine Governance and MSP

“Governance” - originating from the Greek word “kyvernan” - is a special term that can be defined in different ways from country to country or even within each country. According to the U.N. Development Programme, governance is defined as *“the rules of the political system to solve conflicts between actors and adopt decisions (legality)”* and also as the *“proper functioning of institutions and their acceptance by the public (legitimacy)”*.

This workshop aims to explore “governance” from an MSP perspective and in relevance to the marine space. In particular, the objectives of the workshop are to:

- ✓ Introduce the concept and the parameters of spatial and marine governance.
- ✓ Clarify the correlation between marine governance and MSP
- ✓ Explore the importance and methods for inclusive and effective public participation and consultation in the MSP context
- ✓ Exchange experiences and valuable practices among the participants and across Mediterranean countries

The workshop will be organised in three parts. The first part will be dedicated to non-EU countries that are in the process of building marine governance mechanisms and advancing in MSP. In the second part, EU countries with advanced MSP will present valuable marine governance practices. Finally, the third part of the workshop will be dedicated to international initiatives promoting transboundary cooperation in MSP, placing emphasis at the Mediterranean level.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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AGENDA	
10:00 – 10:15	Introduction to the workshop - Emiliano Ramieri, co-chair of the MED-MSP-CoP Towards wise marine governance in MSP and the Mediterranean – Marilena Papageorgiou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece)
10:15 – 10:40	PART I: Marine governance and MSP challenges in non-EU countries Advancing MSP in Tunisia: current governance gaps, institutional needs and future steps Lobna Boudaya, University of Sfax (Tunisia) Marine governance and MSP in Algeria Samir Bachouche, National Research Centre for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (Algeria) and co-chair of the MED-MSP-CoP Q & A
10:40 – 11:05	PART II: Marine governance valuable practices in EU countries Insights and challenges from the French experience Neil Alloncle, Centre for Studies and Expertise on Risks, the Environment, Mobility and Urban Planning - CEREMA (France) A sea of competences: navigating marine governance in Spain Cristina Cervera Nuñez, Spanish Institute of Oceanography - IEO, CSIC (Spain) Q & A
11:05 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 11:45	Interactive discussion
11:45 – 12:10	PART III: Cross-border governance mechanisms at the Mediterranean level Marine policy development for MSP in the Mediterranean Marina Markovic, UNEP/MAP PAP-RAC MSP cooperation and governance with emphasis on the Mediterranean Thanos Smanis, Expert coordinator of the EU MSP assistance mechanism and CLIMAZUL (Greece) Q & A
12:10 – 12:30	Interactive discussion