

Joint Action Plan “Developing conditions for the sustainable growth in the Mediterranean”

Working Groups on the implementation of the Joint Action Plan and the Med Cooperation Program

14.30 – 16.00 SALA LIRI Hall / Workshop 02

JAP Strategic Theme n. 2- Sustainable use of strategic resources for the Blue Growth of the Med coasts

A systemic and strategic approach (in space and time) and new solutions are needed to respond to climate change in coastal areas and to the increasing anthropic pressure and “littoralization” phenomena, which aggravates general phenomena as land take, soil sealing, loss of biodiversity. It must be fostered the concept of the **coastal territory as “strategic resource”**, for the wellness and socio-economic development, for the ecosystems and environment preservation and for the safety of inland territories.

In the same way more efforts are needed to change the seasonal trend of the coastal tourism, with the well-known problems that specially affects the small islands.

Through the development of regional territorial master plans, with ICZM approach, built to face the expected CC impacts and integrated with wider MSP plans, it is possible to go beyond the actual jeopardized approach on Mediterranean coastal protection and management. From the overarching master plan, that looks forward at a wider time scale, several Local Plans can arise applying the principles of integrated coastal zone management.

The JAP proposes actions and projects to foster these concepts along with ICZM principles, with specific aims to enhance the implementation of the ICZM Protocol (Barcelona Convention) in the Mediterranean, and with MSP principles, according to the EU Roadmap (COM(2008)791 final) and the proposed directive on ICZM/MSP (COM(2013)133 final), as it will issue after the consultation phase.

Particular attention will be put on the environmental assessment of plans and programs, in order to check and optimise their compliance and harmonization with an ecosystem-based approach, complementing the primary physical nature of the plan with other existing policies, legislation and instruments.

The focus has to be put also on the **policy options** more suitable, case by case, **for the environmental and strategic recovery of the coastal zones**, which should be considered, even in combination, in the coastal plans formulation (e.g. EUROSION policy options: no intervention; limited intervention; hold the line; managed realignment; move seaward). The decision on policy options to be adopted is site-specific, depending on coastal asset, geomorphological setting, sediment availability and erosion phenomena, as well as on a series of social, economic and political factors.

Being aware of the overall complexity of the coastal assets in the Med area, of the need for a proper management of coastal sediments and of the frequent recourse to nourishment interventions, even combined with other policy options in a comprehensive coastal plan, the JAP is to put a particular focus on littoral and offshore sediments management.

Thus, the JAP promote actions/projects able to boost the coastal defence and protection and the sustainable use of **sediments deposits as strategic resource** for Public purposes in coastal defence, preserving them from other uses. Thus, actions, plans and projects will be dedicated to foster best practices in sustainable management of sediments and to evaluate (also by the means of traditional and novel modelling approaches) environmental impacts induced by activities dealing with sediments exploitation and coastal protection, looking forward in the future considering the use of those non renewable resources.

From a legal standpoint, all these actions need to go through new public-private forms of cooperation for coastal management and development. European professionals of the coastal and maritime tourism point

out that the conditions for a Blue growth strongly relate to new contractual models of long term coastal monitoring and maintenance.

Thus, several project-lines focusing on this strategic topic will be proposed and launched at the Mediterranean level involving maritime Administrations, Universities, Research Centres and international Organisations.

ST2A. Reliable and shared elements for Regional Master Plans finalized to the coastal adaptation to CC and to fight against erosion and consistent Local Plans for the Integrated Coastal Zones Management in the Mediterranean (**COASTGROWTH**):

ST2A.1. Regional Master Plans, following ICZM principles, in connection with local and basin-scale marine and maritime uses;

ST2A.2. Project financing for coastal management;



ST2B. Legal tools and agreements needed for the coastal and maritime zones governance, including the integrated management of coastal and offshore sediments resources (**COASTGOV**);

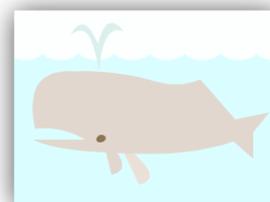
ST2C. Environmental strategic assessment of policies, plans and programs for coastal adaptation and for sediments sustainable management for coastal protection purposes (**ENVICOAST**):

ST2C.1. EIA procedure for coastal works

ST2C.2. EIA procedure for Continental shelf borrow sediment site exploitation

ST2C.3. Coastal natural assets protection/recovery as strategic issue to face natural risks

ST2C.4. Quantification of ecosystem services of coastal areas



Challenges, Activities and Outcomes



Joint Action ST2A Promote the sustainable use of the coastal territory

Challenge: foster the sustainable development of coastal zones, the landscape and marine environment protection, the coastal adaptation to climate change and the risk prevention, facing the “littoralization” process;

Activities in 2015-2020: prepare demonstration projects on ICZM-MSP, design and formulate ICZM master plans activating coordination processes with Maritime Spatial

Planning with reliable and shared elements for Regional Master Plans and Local Plans (**COASTGROWTH** project) individuating elements, subjects to involve and ways of involvement, which coordination mechanisms for ICZM-MSP governance, etc.;

Outcomes: ICZM master plans coordinated with MSP, finalized to the coastal adaptation to CC and to fight against erosion and consistent Local Plans. Activation of “vertical” and “horizontal” integration processes and coordination mechanisms with the national level.



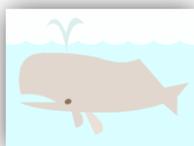
Joint Action ST2B New legal tools for the coastal territory

Challenge: foster the integrated territorial planning and ICZM Protocol implementation along with the principles stated in the Recommendation 2002/413/CE, ensuring coordination with Maritime Spatial Planning principles and provisions of the Directive

2014/89/EU establishing a framework for MSP;

Activities in 2015-2020: define legal tools and agreements needed for the coastal and maritime spatial planning including the integrated management of the coastal resources of sediments (**COASTGOV** project);

Outcomes: legal tools master plans coordinated with MSP and ICZM Protocol, finalized to the harmonized coastal development and the sustainable use of the marine-coastal resources.



Joint Action ST2C Promote the sustainable use of coastal and off-shore stocks of sediments

Challenge: foster the sustainable and ecosystem-oriented management and use of the coastal and submarine stocks of sediments within coastal defence interventions, also favouring new commercial relationship between Mediterranean countries, creating

conditions for a regulated exploitation of sediments stocks in the macro-region;

Activities in 2015-2020: design and formulate ecosystem-oriented management plans of sediments at regional and national levels in littoral and off-shore ambits, for the ordinary maintenance of the beaches (moving within the littoral system) and within intervention of beach nourishment using stocks of sediments from out of the beach system. Environmental strategic assessment of the plans for sediment resources sustainable management for coastal protection purposes (ENVICOAST project)

Outcomes: protocols for off-shore sediments stocks and littoral sediments sustainable management and exploitation monitoring. Sediment management plans.