

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

16.30 – 18.00 TIRRENO Hall / Workshop 03

JAP Strategic Theme n. 3 - Supporting research, innovation clusters and implementation

The JAP will be the engine for an innovation chain. Research and innovation will be a cross-cutting issue along the whole JAP and must provide real added value (better performance, longer durability, higher socio-economic benefits,..) to it.

The implementation of the JAP and its specific Joint Actions and projects will be supported by research activities in the field of innovative and customized technologies and solutions for coastal protection (**COAST R&I**). This project line has several topics to focus on, e.g.:

ST3A.1. Improvement of remote sensing techniques and supports, as drones and submarine devices, e.g. advanced use of remote sensing data from Copernicus satellite system (Sentinels) matched with marine LIDAR survey for a broad systematic monitoring;



ST3A.2. Integrated modelling tools, monitoring systems, data management and decision support systems e.g. coastal hazard assessment through broad and territorial modelling;
ST3A.3. Analysis and forecast of local climate change and sea level rise scenarios and their effect on the coastline, sediment budgets, ecosystems and habitats;
ST3A.4. Improvement of sediment moving and handling systems, management techniques and equipment, aimed to design vessels systems suitable for the Med basin characteristics;

ST3A.5. Technical improvement in characterization and sustainable management of sediment deposits;

ST3A.6. Design and testing of innovative solutions, technologies, materials for coastal protection;



ST3A.7. Evaluation in the short and medium-long term of the connections and impacts of intervention on habitats and ecosystems, including the design and study experimental solutions (e.g. “building with nature” approaches)

Such activities will be potentially financed/co-financed in synergy by different frameworks, i.e. Horizon 2020 and the Cohesion Policy Framework, as recommended in the recent EC strategic documents.

Moreover, this Strategic Theme will include two actions aimed at:

- fostering projects-clustering initiatives, for a closer connection among research institutions and research activities and among research institutions and decision-makers;





- assuring a close connection with the new EU Research Programme (Horizon 2020) and other national and international research programmes, in order to promote science-to-policy transfer, lobbying in favour of JAP themes and priorities and promoting the preparation of proposals, with the joint participation of Administrations, Research Institutions, Companies and SMEs.

Challenges, Activities and Outcomes



Joint Action 3.1 Foster projects-clustering initiatives

Challenge: strengthen the cooperation between Coastal Administrations, Scientific Community, National Authorities, international organisations, SMEs, private actors and stakeholders, maximizing results and favouring synergies in research and innovation

Activities in 2015-2020: foster clustering of projects and further develop and consolidate existing initiatives like “FACECOAST – Face the challenge of climate change in the Mediterranean coastal zones”, launched within the Capitalisation process started by the European MED Program. Explore the constitution of an EGCT of coastal Administrations.



Joint Action 3.2 Foster innovation in the field of coastal protection and climate change adaptation in the Mediterranean

Challenge: find innovative solutions and technologies for coastal protection and adaptation, for sustainable and ecosystem-oriented management of littoral and off-shore sediments resources, for data management, modelling and monitoring systems.

Activities in 2015-2020: research, design and testing of solutions (also using model-envisaged scenarios), with the joint participation of Administrations, Research Institutions, Companies and SMEs, for their improvement and customization of sediment moving and handling systems, management techniques and equipments, aimed to design a dredge/ship systems suitable for the Med basin characteristics; technical improvements of survey, characterization and sustainable exploitation of strategic sediment deposits; design and testing of innovative solutions, technologies, materials for coastal protection; evaluation of ecosystem effects, connections and synergies, including experimental solutions (e.g. “building with nature” approaches); observing and monitoring systems, data managements and development of decision support systems; integrated modelling tools.



Outcomes: tested solutions and technologies ready to be developed and applied



Joint Action 3.3 Interaction with the new EU Research Programme (Horizon 2020)

Challenge: contribute in the definition of the priorities, in order to make themes and actions of JAP suitable to access the Programme financing. Promote clustering initiatives involving public and private sector, enterprises, research bodies, in R&D projects.

Activities in 2015-2020: individuate areas of the Programme (Societal challenges, Infrastructures, Support to SMEs, etc.) more suitable for supporting the JAP. Preparation of project proposals favouring joint participation of research bodies, Administrations and enterprises supporting adaptive management of coastal systems.

Outcomes: proposals submitted for financing of actions and projects in the field of research and development in coastal protection and adaptation. Science and innovation from research projects supporting and addressing JAP actions.

JAP Strategic Theme n. 4 - Response to challenges driven by climate change (Major Coastal Project)

Following policy options choices aimed at the environmental and strategic recovery of the coastal zones, strategic or major interventions (Major Projects) should be designed in order to upgrade the resilience level and to ensure conditions for a sustainable growth, related to specificity and vocation, of the diverse coastal areas.

The JAP aims also at fostering the design of these kind of interventions, structural works along Mediterranean coasts consistently with the above-mentioned integrated planning processes, for the concrete implementation of adaptation policies to the natural and anthropogenic risks driven by climate change.

To these extent, a specific joint action is foreseen to support the designing of structural works and management solutions, with the above-mentioned aims, and the individuation and activation of adequate financing channels, favouring the collaboration between public, private and scientific community sectors.

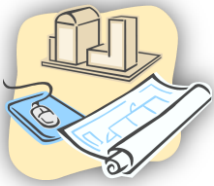
These integrated projects will be characterized by an ecosystem approach and in particular:

- High adaptation capacity towards evident natural risk (cost/benefit analysis)
- Integrated approach combining social and economic issues

These projects then won't include only coastal defences but as well the infrastructures closely related to, like water-fronts, port arrangements, touristic assets, natural protected areas, etc.

During the development of the JAP design (2014), a number of pilot sites along the Mediterranean coasts (also south and East bank) are selected in order to propose relevant integrated projects.

Challenges, Activities and Outcomes



Joint Action 4.1 Supporting the design of structural works for coastal protection and adaptation to climate change

Challenge: collect a number of coastal works (nourishment, infrastructures, waterfront rearrangement, etc.) shared by bordering or non-bordering coastal Administrations, to be implemented in a coordinated way.

Activities in 2015-2020: survey on needs and framework conditions by different

Administrations for coastal adaptation and protection interventions. Share competences and best practices to support the design of structural works.

Outcomes: package of structural works and Major Projects ready to be implemented



Joint Action 4.2 Foster adaptive management solutions and structural works for enhance the resilience of coastal systems

Challenge: create the conditions for the realization of structural works and management solutions (Major Projects), favouring the collaboration between public, private and scientific community sectors.

Activities in 2015-2020: design of common projects (even combining Major Projects), according with the individuated suitable financing channels, also by diverse sources, for their implementation. Prepare project proposal favouring joint participation of public,

private and research bodies.

Outcomes: common design, shared by Administrations, of Major Projects for adaptive structural works and management solutions.



Joint Action 4.3 Individuation, access to and efficient use of funding frameworks

Challenge: ensure adequate financing resources to the JAP and Macro-Project and to the structural works implementation (Major Projects).

Activities in 2015-2020: monitoring EU programs and other funding opportunities consistent with the themes and actions encompassed by the JAP and the Macro-

Project, individuation of funding opportunities most suitable for the different actions and projects

Outcomes: proposals submitted for financing of actions and projects, other funding channels activated for the implementation particular strategic actions (Major Projects) or large scale initiatives (i.e. EUROSION-Med, RESAM project, EURIOMCODE)