



# **D45 New Intermediate Report**

**Covered period: 1st of September 2021 – 28th February 2022**

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<b>Responsible Institute</b>	<b>CORILA</b>
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# 1. Progress of work plan in the covered period

## 1.1 General progress

The main objectives of this period were to reinforce the sharing of knowledge and data already in place, to support the MSP national plans, especially to counter delays in national processes, and to strengthen the communication of the MSPMED project.

### WP1

CORILA was supported by IUAV and CNR-ISMAR in the management of the project, the organisation of events and the exchange of relevant information with the partners, as well as the collection of Deliverables and reports. The project extension was organized as agreed during the Paris Steering Committee.

### WP2

All partners have been actively working on this work package, each in different capacities.

**CNR-ISMAR, IUAV and CORILA** are jointly developing Task 2.1 *Italy: vision, strategic objectives and vocation analysis for the Italian maritime areas*, aimed at supporting the preparation of MSP Plans in the Italian maritime areas in three sub-tasks: Visioning and strategic objectives, Vocation maps, with specific objectives and proposed key measures, System of indicators to monitor plan implementation and performances.

**IEO** have been working in close collaboration with **OFB** in organizing six online technical transboundary meetings between experts on marine mammals and sea turtles on the one hand, and on seabirds and bats on the other hand. These exchanges fed the analysis on environmental stakes and the prospective analysis on the impacts of Offshore Wind Farms (OWF) in the marine environment, in the case study area of the Gulf of Lions

**OFB** collaborated with IEO and worked to deliver the two following deliverables that are part of the WP 2 - Setting-up of maritime spatial plans:

- D7 (or D2.4) France: Gulf of Lions case study – France and Spain: planning the offshore Gulf of Lions in regards with ecosystems. Knowledge synthesis about ecological stakes related to seabirds, marine mammals, sea turtle and canyon deep habitats (task 2.2.1)
- D8 (or D2.5) France: Gulf of Lions case study – France and Spain: planning the offshore Gulf of Lions in regards with ecosystems. Knowledge about interactions between Mediterranean ecosystems and maritime uses, with a specific focus on wind farm development in the Gulf of Lions area (task 2.2.2)

**Shom** has been contributing to the WP2 working closely with IEO on underwater noise. Shom completed its work towards the publication of geospatial datasets of reference for French MSP plans (Strategic Sea Basin documents named DSF). The assessment of vocation zones limits and European Union data model's adequacy to French plans was finalised, a geographic digital dataset produced and interoperability tests conducted. The development of a web tool allowing the identification of the areas and access to prescriptions and associated recommendations was also completed. The associated report D32 and the web tool, which enables a transboundary perspective on specific topics relevant to French and neighbouring MS stakeholders, was shared with the partnership in February 2022. With regards to the adaptation of existing tools used in surveillance and State's Action at sea, Shom met in October with the French authorities to collect information to complete the revised Action of State at sea map, and the prototype and associated report are to be finalised.

**RRC Koper's work related to WP2** focused on the preparation of a list of planned projects, realised along the Bay of Koper, which will be included in the Regional Development Programme (D20). RRC Koper have collected data and information about the planned projects and now we are preparing short project descriptions and obtaining information on the financial aspects of projects implementation.

**UTH in progress and in collaboration with YPEN** have done the following:

- Identification of the critical issues to be addressed in marine spatial planning and the parameters for monitoring and evaluating
- Specification of the critical issues for the implementation of MSP at the local level

The competencies at national and local level for Spatial Planning in relation to MSP have been identified and are being analysed to feed the governance scheme for the preparation of Maritime Spatial Plans in Greece. The Greek interactive MSP platform is being finalized and is aimed to assist in the collection of the necessary environmental, social and economic data and the familiarization—and subsequently the engagement—of stakeholders with MSP procedures and visual representations.

**Planning Authority** focused on the following:

- (a) streamlining workplans at national level with MSPMED deliverables
- (b) providing input to the review of the Strategic Plan for Environment and Development (SPED) which is Malta's MSP plan and more specifically the review the coastal and marine component. The MSPMED team acted as a technical bridge between work on terrestrial and marine spatial planning
- (c) working with the Project co-ordinator, attending partners' meetings and providing input as necessary.
- (d) working with the WP2 Lead Partner in the preparation of the workshop on MSP plans (stakeholder engagement), contributing to workshop discussion
- (e) preparation of the additional delivery report D49 on MSP Stakeholder engagement, which

provides the findings of the stakeholder survey carried out in 2021.

**Sharing Experiences among Countries** CORILA, IUAV and CNR-ISMAR contributed to the organisation and identification of relevant topics, and the accomplishment of the 5th Technical Workshop (Stakeholder Engagement in MSP) which took place on the 8th of November 2021. For the fifth Technical Workshop, a report complete of visual minutes was created and resulted in the deliverables (D43). All partners representatives participated in the workshop with an active roles. The sixth and final technical workshop is to be organised by the IUAV and CNR-ISMAR team and to take place on 29th March 2022, it will cover the topic Monitoring of implementation.

### **WP3**

CNR, with the role of WP3 leader, coordinated the task leaders in the progress of their activities and has direct responsibility on activities related to the Data Use and Sharing between all the partners of the project.

CNR has coordinated the technical development of the knowledge catalogue through constant meetings with the external service in charge of the development; CNR is also coordinating the contribution of the other partners through one-to-one meetings and e-mail exchange.

Partners advanced in their respective tasks.

### **WP4**

For Task 4.1 – Addressing the trans boundary issues of common concern at a basin scale level have been ensured by the WP leader IEO.

For task 4.2 - Establishing a solid trans boundary cooperation in MSP among bordering Mediterranean Member States, IUAV and CNR-ISMAR are supporting CORILA in strengthening the existing bonds among countries.

The IUAV and CNR-ISMAR teams have been working through email exchanges and meetings to design bilateral meetings and other events with the MSPMED consortium as an integral part that will begin the design of Bilateral and Eastern/Western Mediterranean meetings involving Italy that are foreseen as part of Tasks 4.2 and 4.3.

Task 4.3 - Establishing transboundary cooperation mechanisms and instruments with third countries. Pan Mediterranean meetings are currently being planned as seen in the table below.

New bilateral meetings are set to take place soon, back to back with other events that are taking place in the last reporting period of the MSPMED project.

On WP4, the report on interactions and sharing of data for MSP and Maritime Safety was completed and shared with the partnership in December. A set of French data of transnational interest for both maritime surveillance & MSP was identified, harvested or produced, and its interoperability tested.

Shom organised an Italy-France workshop with the Secretariat General RAMOGE which constituted a significant step in the information and communication process between MSP and surveillance authorities in addition to providing an understanding of the RAMOGEPOL plan between Italy, France and Monaco.

Shom provided the French version of the project leaflet with a description of the French MSP.

## **WP5**

The communication and dissemination, for which IUAV is WP leader, have seen advancements both digitally and physically. New social media campaigns have been extensively designed by IUAV, namely the diffusion of glossaries, national plans, MEDAcademy, posting about events to create more awareness, and other reposts from relevant institutions. Furthermore, IUAV supervised the work of subcontractor Babba'sons in the regular posting on social media.

The partners participated in several events to disseminate projects advancements and contribute to the MSP process and debate.

## ***1.2 Progress on the project against initial general and specific objectives***

### **WP1**

The CORILA, IUAV and CNR-ISMAR teams have helped keep an active exchange with partners and EU institutions and in the organisation of events that took place during the period including the technical workshops, meetings, and others, as mentioned above.

IUAV and CNR-ISMAR supported CORILA in setting up the 3rd steering committee that took place in Paris, France with the help and hosting of French Competent Authority, on the 1st and 2nd of September and also in the organization of the 4th steering committee meeting that was held in Venice, Italy at the Università IUAV di Venezia on the 3rd and 4th of March 2022.

All project partner participated in the September Steering Committee and Project meetings organised by the Lead Partner and provided timely feedback on requested information

concerning budget and new deliverables. At partner level, there is timely recording and approval of timesheets and progress on project outputs is monitored on an ongoing basis both from the financial and technical perspectives.

A list of events are being developed in the next reporting period. Here is a table of some of the events: The table is constantly updated, please don't refer it the date as a definite one.

Date	Event	Location	Topic
04-09/2022	Italian Regional engagement Ionian	Online-IT	Stakeholder engagement with regional authorities
09/2022	Italian Webinar on MSP/EMD in your country	Online-IT	Presentation of MSPMED and Italian MSP Process to the Italian public
10-11-05-2022	Underwater noise workshop	Barcelona, SP	Underwater Noise
12-05-22	Trilateral Meeting SP-FR-IT	Barcelona, SP	Common issues concerning impacts on biodiversity regarding underwater noise
19-20/09/2022	European Maritime Day	Ravenna, IT	MSP Workshop
09/2022	Bilateral IT-SL	Trieste or Koper	Land-Sea interactions: port activities
09/2022	II Stakeholders workshop	San Pedro del Pinatar, Murcia, SP	Case Study of the Region de Murcia (SP)
09/2022	MSP Conference	TBD	
09/2022	Westmed Hackaton	Malta, MT	
09/2022	Bilateral IT-MT	Malta, MT	Topic of common concern to support transboundary SEA (back to back with hackaton?)
22-06-22	UfM-DG MAPE Sustainable investment/financing conference	Barcelona, SP	
27/06-01/07	UN Ocean Conference	Lisbon, PT	
28-30/09/2022	Euro-maritime blue growth exhibition 2022	Marseille, FR	
01-07-22	Bilateral FR-IT	Marseille, FR	Transboundary uses and data
07-08/07/2022	TEG "Data for MSP" meeting	Las Palmas, SP	
07/2022	Bilateral GR-IT	Athens, GR	Landscape/Seascape and the interaction with maritime uses in Italy and Greece
09/2022	Pan-East-Med	Sicily?	Landscape/Seascape and the interaction with maritime uses a Mediterranean perspective
09/2022	Algeria-Morocco-Spain	Rabat, MA	Aquaculture, Renewable energy, Tourism and their integration into MSP plans.
27-29/09/2022	Pan-West-Med	Tunis, TN	TBD, questionnaire sent to CAs.
10-2022	Final Conference	Rome, IT	

## WP2

### Task 2.1 - Italy: Vision, strategic objectives and vocation analysis for the Italian maritime areas

The task has the objective to directly contribute to the preparation of MSP Plans in Italian marine waters and is structured in three sub-tasks: 2.1.1 – Visioning and strategic objectives; 2.1.2 – Vocation maps, with specific objectives and proposed key measures; 2.1.3 – System of indicators to monitor plan implementation and performances.

To achieve project results and ensure effects and impacts in the medium-long term, CORILA, IUAV and CNR established a close and operational collaboration with the National Technical Committee in charge of the preparation of MSP Plans in the three

maritime areas identified in the National Guidelines (i.e. Adriatic, Ionian – Central Mediterranean, Tyrrhenian – Western Mediterranean). In the period covered by this report, CNR-ISMAR, IUAV and CORILA supported the process, which resulted in a preliminary version of the Italian plan. Strategic Objectives and Visions and vocation maps have been delivered.

#### Sub-task 2.1.1

A review of objectives derived from existing strategies, plans and legislation has been prepared. Objectives at international, European and national level have been compiled, relevant for the national scale (all the three maritime areas) or specific for one maritime area (Tyrrhenian, Ionian-Central Mediterranean, Adriatic). These objectives have been shared with national and regional administrations.

As a complementary activity of this task, analysis of Land-Sea Interactions (LSI), has been performed for each of the three maritime areas. The analysis considered both natural and anthropogenic interactions and encompasses two directions: interactions from sea to land and interactions from land to sea. These data and objectives have been officially shared and agreed upon by the members of the National Technical Committee.

#### Sub-task 2.1.2

CORILA, IUAV and CNR-ISMAR have collected data from regional bodies and created maps of the sub-areas identified (28). This effort led to the creation of vocational maps that were shared with the technical committee and ended up in the preliminary version of the plan submitted by the Italian ministry to the attention of the EU commission.

The partnership IUAV-CORILA-CNR supported the regional identification of specific objectives through online dedicated meetings in order to identify the planning units and the subsequent measures. Furthermore the Scientific Committee, in collaboration with the national competent authorities, identified the elements linked to the different marine uses (e.g. fisheries, traffic, energy, etc.) that are insisting in the off-shore areas. This process is revealing useful planning units to design off-shore areas and implement the derived data into the National MSP GEOPortal – SID (CNR-ISMAR task).

#### Sub-task 2.1.3

Focuses on the analysis and design of a system of indicators to monitor plan implementation and performance. This sub-task has been discussed within the National Technical Committee and, even if not finalized, indicators have been partially identified and the system is under construction. The indicators are coherent with regional specific objectives and national strategic objectives that are being identified within task 2.1.2.

### **WP2 – Task 2.2. Planning the offshore Gulf of Lions with respect to the ecosystems**

### **Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2.**

During this period, the IEO and OFB have been working in close collaboration in organizing six online technical transboundary meetings between experts on marine mammals and sea turtles on the one hand, and on seabirds and bats on the other hand. These exchanges fed the analysis on environmental stakes and the prospective analysis on the impacts of Offshore Wind Farms (OWF) in the marine environment, in the case study area of the Gulf of Lions. A restitution workshop was organized on the 18th of January, 2022 by the two institutions to engage the Competent Authorities (CAs) of both countries in the discussion of the results of both tasks. This meeting was considered the bilateral meeting between SP and FR of task 4.2.

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### **Task 2.2.3. Underwater noise and its effects on marine mammals (IEO,CSIC)**

Maps on underwater noise distribution models in the Gulf of Lions were developed to show the underwater noise originated by maritime traffic and tentative OWF noise. Results and maps of those models were presented in the restitution workshop with CAs. The first deliverable of this task was developed (D9: Submarine noise propagation models) although it has not been delivered yet (see next section) but it will be in next months. Also the name of the deliverable may be changed to adapt it to the work finally developed.

For the next deliverable, data regarding cetacean distribution has already been gathered from ASI data of ACCOBAMS. New underwater noise models are being developed to include the southern area of the case study area which overlaps with the Migratory Corridor of Cetaceans for the Mediterranean, which it is significant to take into consideration.

IEO(CSIC) is organizing a technical meeting between underwater noise experts of Spain, France and Italy on the week of May the 10th in Barcelona, the event will be used to organize, back to back, the tri-lateral meeting proposed with the extension of the project (task 4.2.). The background document and the agenda are well advanced.

Shom's acoustic department team has been meeting online with IEO partner to agree on Shom's participation to the 2.2.3 task, involving the Sharing of noise maps for the Gulf of Lion with regards to propagation models, recorded data, and participation to expert meeting organised by IEO in 2022. Shom's specific participation to the IEO deliverable D9 relates to Underwater noise generated by marine traffic and mitigation measurements on marine traffic.

### **Task 2.3. Region of Murcia pilot case**

The activities developed in coordination between the MSP IEO teams located in Madrid and Murcia, are the following:

- Analysis and selection of the topics to be discussed in the workshops (Aquaculture vs maërl bedsand Unregulated anchorages vs Biodiversity conservation and

Underwater Cultural Heritage).

- Development of the background document of the task, collecting the information needed to design the workshops (spatial and non-spatial).
- First mapping of stakeholders to be invited to the workshop.
- Starting the logistic organization of the workshops that are planned to be held around April-May.

#### **Task 2.4 – Greece development of Governance Scheme and Monitoring Mechanism.**

this task aims to support Greece in specifying procedures and parameters related to the preparations of MSP.

D14 Preparation of workshops on MSP at the national and local level (work in progress)

Main issues addressed:

- Key issues and challenges in institutional coordination and policy implementation
- Key features and specifications of MS plans
- Tools for implementing MSP at the local level
- Identification of stakeholders at the national and local level
- Guidelines and framework for engaging and cooperating with local stakeholders

**Task 2.5 Governance for MSP (Malta).** The task is aimed to support Malta to identify basic procedures that can support the plan making/review process of MSP plans, to ensure that the revised SPED is informed with the most relevant information, to deliver an MSP plan that is based on ecosystem management and can deliver blue growth.

The work carried out with the MSP Technical Committee to apply the LSI methodology has remained as a draft, in view of resources being shifted to work on the SPED review process. The MSPMED team managed to prepare draft fact sheets for 4 LSIs. The draft work is intended to inform the SPED review process.

In parallel, the PA has been collating information on existing current policy that will need to be taken into consideration in the review of the SPED. The MSPMED work is being informed by the output of the review of over 90 government plans and policy document that is being carried out separately from the MSPMED project. That process is being complemented with specific one to one meetings with the respective government Ministry to clarify any questions and concerns that arise relating to spatial planning, both on land and at sea. In view of limited resources available to review the documents, and the time taken to establish agreed meeting dates, the flow of information for the purpose of MSPMED WP2 deliverable has been affected. As a result, this has created a delay in the submission of report D16.

During this time, the PA prepared and submitted the additional deliverable D49 which provides an overview of the main findings of the public survey carried out in 2021.

#### **Task 2.6 Slovenia Development vision, objectives and concept for Koper Bay.**

RRC Koper's work was focused in preparation of a list of planned projects, realised along the Bay of Koper, which will be included in the Regional Development Programme (D20). RRC Koper have collected data and information about the planned projects and now we are preparing short project descriptions and obtaining information on the financial aspects of projects implementation. They are cooperating with the coastal municipalities of Ankarán, Koper and Izola, as well as with other promoters of these projects. We are also preparing assessments of the consistency of the identified projects with the vision, objectives and the spatial development concept of the coastal zone, as well as in terms of consistency with the provisions of the MSP. They will group the identified projects into thematic clusters and assess them in terms of consistency with the development vision of coastal zone and identified priorities.

### **Task 2.7 Sharing experiences among countries**

IUAV contributed with CORILA, CNR and the other partners to the organisation, identification of relevant topics and accomplishment of the 5<sup>th</sup> technical workshop (8th November 2021) on Stakeholder Engagement in MSP. A full report complete of visual minutes was created and resulted in the deliverable D43.

The main goal of this workshop was to exchange information on the different approaches undertaken for increasing availability and sharing of data used and generated within the national maritime planning processes of Mediterranean countries. This would help to harmonize data uses towards an adaptive management of MSP that cannot be achieved without the usage of updated data. Furthermore, data harmonization has proven to be greatly useful in the management of other basins and is therefore a desirable outcome for the Mediterranean Sea.

IUAV's team organized the workshop, collection and the flow of presentations that took place during the online technical event and in the reporting phase, working on both the written and visual parts.

All the partners contributed to the fifth workshop, by providing national experience in MSP plans, concerning stakeholder participation. Input was provided for the proposed Technical Workshop 6 on Monitoring of the MSP plan.

### **WP3**

CNR, IUAV and CORILA actively worked on the following activities:

In Task 3.1, and especially Sub-task 3.1.1 – *Sharing and consolidation of data and information needs*, the data working group, which was created in the initial phases of the project, developed a questionnaire to collect information on how member states are

organizing data and information needs for the implementation of their maritime spatial plans. All partners contributed to the collection of information, which was then summarised in a common document which will contribute to the final deliverable D27 “Analysis and methodological guidance on sharing data and information”, to be released at the end of the project. The 4th Technical workshop was the occasion to share with the rest of the Consortium the work performed by the Data Group and share further information that will feed the event’s report.

Sub-task 3.1.2 has progressed with the development of the technical infrastructure of the metadata catalogue and the definition of the metadata schemes to be used for the organization of information. The collection of information for the population of the catalogue has started in collaboration with all partners involved.

Sub task 3.2.1 “Consolidation of the national Geoportal for MSP, in connection with existing data infrastructures”, CNR, with IUAV and CORILA, have collaborated with the managers of the Italian MSP portal in setting up the needed steps to align it with the initiatives at the European level I (i.e. guidelines from European Technical Expert Group on MSP Data for the harmonization of the MSP plans in Europe). Thanks to bilateral meetings with regional authorities CORILA-IUAV-CNR are confirming the general framework of scientific knowledge and identifying the lacking of regional elements that are needed to complete the regional maritime spatial plans. Furthermore, the geospatial layers used and produced for the national MSP plan have been updated and made available to be updated in the Italian national MSP portal

The deliverable D.28 “Italy: Analysis of national geoportal” was produced with an analysis of the existing and the expected features of the Italian national geoportal, including practical suggestions for its evolution.

Task 3.2 “Development of tools for data ingestion and processing” has proceeded and the tools are being prototyped in collaboration with the managers of the Italian National MSP portal. The three developed tools (MSP Italy - Flat Data Model, MSP Italy – Exploratory Data Analysis and MSP Italy – EMODnet Exporter) are directly supporting the national competent authority, facilitating the sharing of geospatial information about the Italian MSP plan at national and European level.

### **Sub Task 3.3 Delivering an operational MSP Geoportal for Malta**

The task is aimed to support Malta to identify procedures for an operational MSP portal that can support the implementation of the MSPD in all aspects: plan making; plan implementation; data sharing and stakeholder consultation.

Further to the compilation of existing data, the PA initiated the process to review the available data and identify preliminary gaps. As a result, an initiative was taken by the PA MSPMED project team to invite the entities represented by the MSPTC and other entities to share data that is relevant to MSP on an existing geoportal that is administered by the PA. The purpose of this initiative was to provide any updated information and more

importantly to gain more insight on data ownership and management issues. The MSPMED team worked with the support of the portal administrators and met with representatives to explain how the portal is to be used. This process was time consuming and was finalised by the end of the year. The next step of the analysis of the available data in terms of its suitability for the review of the MSP plan was started in February. Consequently, a delay has been experienced in the submission of the D30 report.

### **3.4.1 Mediterranean Sea Basin Strategy documents' limits publication for the Sea Basin Strategy entry into force - MS7: Limits of cartographic transcriptions / Data demonstration package (D32)**

**Status: completed. Full final version delivered 6 January 2022.**

The task involves a study including 3 parts: assessment of the vocation zones limits, assessment of the EU data model adequacy to the French plan, and interoperable web tool for display and associated information access.

#### **a) Text / Assessment of the vocation zones limits**

Further discussions took place with DIRM MED (Interregional Directorates for the Mediterranean Sea), the main authority involved in the definition of the vocation zones of the French Plans (DSF) over the last quarter 2021 and led to the finalisation of the update of the DSFs limits.

#### **b) Assessment of the EU data model adequacy to French plan**

European Data models were evaluated in relation with the data model used for the DSF's vocation zones. Three INSPIRE-compliant data models were studied, based on the current data model used by DIRM MED, and recommendations were shared.

#### **c) webtool allowing reliable identification of areas and access to associated information**

Interoperability and functionalities of the tool developed (tested with data layers produced under 4.1.3) were tested successfully. It is now possible to view and interrogate the related information for the Sea Basin Strategy documents' limits on the operational webtool shared with the partnership through its integration on the project website.

### **3.4.2 Mediterranean existing tools adaptation and cross-analysis for the Sea Basin Strategy document entry into force**

*D33: Action of the State at sea, map Mediterranean area / Specification and prototype of a map (MS8)*

**Status: partially implemented.**

Exchanges have been ongoing with regards to the review and adaptation of the A7360 AEM map. Shom visited the Mediterranean Maritime prefecture in October to collect information for the completion of the map. Some information was still to be updated and provided by the prefecture. The prototype is under progress.

**For WP3 UTH in progress and in collaboration with YPEN have done the following:**

- Collection of environmental, social and economic data necessary for the functioning

of the MSP observatory

- Calculating real-time indexes and relevant maps
- Developing the interactive environment of the platform to be used by marine stakeholders for zoning, scenarios and visualization.

D34 Greece: MSP platform (work in progress)

The Greek MSP platform is being finalised. Final corrections and adjustments are being made to its contents and design. Testing and final amendments are to be completed by June 2022. Updates on the content will continue until the end of the project.

**WP 4. Cooperation among Member States and with third countries.** IEO is the leader of this WP.

- **Task 4.1. To address transboundary issues of common concern. Developed by Shom.**

#### **4.1.1 Inventory of data and tools for maritime security and surveillance activities**

*MS10: Report on interactions and sharing of data on MSP and MSS in the Mediterranean–Web report on interactions between maritime spatial planning and maritime security and surveillance data in the Mediterranean area and associated data sharing*

**Status: Completed. Delivered December 21**

Following the online survey that was conducted to identify data, platforms and tools used by maritime surveillance key players, a traditional report (in replacement of an on-line restitution of the survey /web report) was submitted report in December 2021.

#### **4.1.2 Report on main transboundary issues of common concern**

**D37:** Report on main transboundary issues of common concern about the interactions between maritime security or surveillance and maritime spatial planning in the Mediterranean.

**Status: partially implemented.**

The report relates to the findings of the WP4.1. Shom and the Italian partners worked in the co-organization and hosting of the Cross-border workshop involving France, Italy and Monaco on ties between maritime security of navigation and surveillance, and maritime spatial planning plans. Shom held the workshop on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022, and invited Italian project partners from the MEDOSMoSIS surveillance project to join, which increased the connections made with Italian maritime authorities. The event held online gathered over 65 people and National authorities of MSP and Surveillance from France, Italy and Monaco. It constituted a significant step in the communication and awareness regarding both MSP and surveillance. The report is under completion.

#### **4.1.3 Production of datasets of transnational interest**

**D38:** Production of datasets of transnational interest concerning maritime security or surveillance, useful for maritime spatial planning.

**Status: Under revision.**

**Note: A first version of the report was delivered in February 2022. Additions were required by EU on March 2022.**

Shom worked on the publication of specific layers identified as of interest to both maritime and surveillance.

- The data Litto3D® maritime part Corsica was completed and published in September.
- The layer « wrecks and obstructions » is under preparation for publication.
- Sedimentology 1/50000 layer is under preparation.

Alongside with the development of the light interoperable webtool (developed in task 3.4.1.c) for the display and interrogation of DSF's limits, data layers were identified and selected within Shom's database to constitute a list of interest for MSP and maritime surveillance. Shom expects the list of shared layers to grow over the duration of the project, and the light portal to be used to highlight a transboundary vision on specific thematics. The light interactive portal was shared and integrated to the project's website in February.

Note: The revised version of the document, following the request from CINEA to illustrate steps to foster cooperation between countries, will include additional layers provided by MSPMED project partners in an attempt to gather additional data in web service format for MSP limits, Search and Rescue, Traffic Separation Schemes to build on the common knowledge of data of transnational interest.

- **Task 4.2. Transboundary cooperation between Member States.**

This task consisted in a number of bilateral workshops between the Member States organized between the partners of each country involved. Up to now, in terms of what this organization is responsible for:

#### 4.2.1 Gulf of Lion (FR-SP) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between France and Spain.

The bilateral meeting between Spain and France was conducted in the framework of task 2.2. (the restitution workshop with CAs on the 18th of January, 2022) due to the clear synergies and interests from both administrations.

#### 4.2.2 Tyrrhenian Sea (IT-FR) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between France and Italy.

Updated during Venice's SC: topics are under discussion and will focus on data about transboundary uses, the proposed date is the beginning of October.

#### 4.2.3 Northern Ionian Sea (GR-IT).

The event is under design and should take place back to back with the Pan.Eastern-Med event on the 20th and 21st of June 2022 in Athens. The topic is set to be: Landscape and Seascape and maritime uses in MSP.

4.2.4 Northern Adriatic Sea (SL-IT) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between Slovenia and Italy.

Slovenian and Italian partners are designing it. The event should take place in Slovenia in September to increase synergies with EUSAIR. The focus will be on maritime traffic and biodiversity conservation.

4.2.5 Central Ionian (IT-MT) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between Italy and Malta.

The event design was reignited by Venice' SC. It should take place in Malta at the end of June.

- **Task 4.3. Transboundary cooperation mechanisms with third countries**

4.3.1 Activities between Spain-Algeria-Morocco. Consultation/seminar/workshop activities between Spain-Algeria-Morocco.

The background document for this activity was developed and shared with a local contact in Morocco to start the organization of this event that is planned to happen in September.

**4.3.2 Pan-Western Mediterranean workshop between Italy, France, Spain, Malta, as Member States and Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.**

An analysis of past and current initiatives in the Mediterranean was conducted in order to look for synergies and to build upon their outputs. With the result of this analysis, a questionnaire was sent to the MSPMED consortium and the CAs to seek their opinion on the most interesting topics to be discussed in the workshop. The background document for this activity has been developed and communications (online and face to face) have been conducted in order to define the collaboration with the Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale (OGS) in the organization of this event. Connections have been also established with the WestMED initiative and the MSP Assistance Mechanism. This event is planned for the week of September 26th. IUAV/CORILA/CNR-ISMAR are supporting IEO in the organisation of the event.

**4.3.3. Pan- Eastern Mediterranean workshop between Italy Greece, Slovenia, Croatia, Cyprus and Lebanon, Israel and Turkey.**

Lead by eastern MSPMED partners The event will, hopefully, take place back to back with the Bilateral IT-GR covering same topics in a more broad way, considering also cultural heritage.

### **4.3 Additional tasks and deliverable**

Following the project's extension further tasks and deliverables have been agreed upon.

Spanish partners are organizing a Trilateral event (SP-FR-IT) that will take place in Barcelona in May 2022.

*D50*: All partners contributed to the new deliverable "MSP Main Facts" Report produced by IEO.

### **WP5**

IUAV worked jointly with CORILA in ensuring the correct communication within the project and dissemination of the same.

#### **Task 5.2 Communication plan: A Communication Plan (CP)**

The communication keeps track of the communication actions achieved and planned every 6 months. plan has been delivered and updated as foreseen, the last version dating February 2021 (D41).

The communication plan was presented during the Steering Committee on the 3rd and 4th of March, for instance the MSPMED Med Academy was explained and presented to the full Consortium. New social media campaigns are under design by IUAV officers and will be delivered over the next reporting period.

#### **Task 5.3 Project website:**

The Website is being constantly updated with news written by IUAV officers. IUAV officers also supported partners in implementing new features, such as the small geoportal included, in March, in the French page.

#### **Task 5.4 Leaflets and newsletters**

IUAV supported the French translation of the first leaflet and proposed to support the other national adaptations.

Newsletters are being launched as foreseen in the GA and the leaflet has being translated into Spanish and is in the process of final formatting and printing in a physical format.

RRC Koper have translated a leaflet with key information about the project. The leaflet will be distributed to members of national working group for implementation and monitoring of MSP and have contributed to deliverable D51: Infographic for basic use.

## Task 5.6 Participation in other events

CORILA/CNR-ISMAR/IUAV actively presented MSPMED and its current achievements in several events.

Francesco Musco and Fabio Carella (IUAV) have participated and presented the project in Marine Ecomed multiplier events:

-Thessaloniki, Greece in September 2021

-Venice in November 2021.

Daniele Brigolin (IUAV) participated in Aquaculture Europe on the 4th and the 7th of October, Madeira.

Francesco Musco, Fabio Carella, Daniele Brigolin and Folco Soffietti (IUAV) have participated and presented the project in the Stakeholder engagement Workshop regarding Natura 2000 area Tegnùe in November 2021.

Folco Soffietti supported the Project Coordinator providing communication material and personal presence for the X Italia- America Latina and Caribbean Conference, in Rome, October 2021. In that occasion the project and EU MSP were shared in an extra-EU conference.

Alessandro Sarretta and Stefano Menegon (CNR) participated and contributed in TEG “Data for MSP” activities and meetings: 13 October 2021 (MSFD-MSP sub-group meeting), 23 November 2021 (TEG plenary meeting), October 2021-February 2022 (coordination of the MSFD-MSP sub-group activities).

Andrea Barbanti (CNR) gave a presentation on “The contribution of Maritime Space Planning to the objectives of the EU Green Deal and the development of the offshore wind sector” at the Conference “Offshore Wind Energy, the Italian perspective: projects, technologies, experiences”, Rome, 2 December 2021, Università la Sapienza – OWEMES – AIM-SEA.

Andrea Barbanti (CNR) gave a presentation on “Why Maritime Spatial Planning matters to coastal communities” at the Final Conference Interreg IT-HR WATERCARE Final Conference, 14 December 2021 – Dubrovnik (HR) & Virtual.

Andrea Barbanti (CNR) participated as Lead Speaker on “Overview on existing regional studies on Maritime Spatial Planning and relevance of ASI data” at the ASI Technical Recommendations Workshop - Moving from science to conservation, 14-15 October 2021.

Andrea Barbanti (CNR) gave a presentation on “Renewable Energies and the role of MSP - Some reflections on challenges, opportunities, risks and bottlenecks” at the WestMED

Stakeholder Conference 2021, 9 November 2021.

Andrea Barbanti (CNR) gave a presentation on “Future perspectives about MSP and research in Italy and at regional level” at the MSPglobal – Final Conference, 5 October 2021.

September, the 15th. SIMAtlantic Final Conference. IEO(CSIC) was also partner in this project and presented MSPMED.

October, the 5th. MSPglobal Final Conference. IEO(CSIC) team participated as audience.

ACCOBAMS Workshops - 14th and 15th of October. Active participation of several MSPMED partners (CNR, OFB, IEO CSIC).

October, the 19th – Participation of IEO representatives in the workshop for the PSSA proposal for the north western Mediterranean.

November, the 11th, IEO(CSIC) conducted a presentation about the task 2.2.3. in an event celebrated in Oviedo (Spain CSIC).

The PA was invited to participate in the workshop of the Mediterranean and Black Sea Treaty for the Conservation of Cetaceans and provided input to the MSPMED presentation to this event.

Shom mentioned MSPMED project at the event Pollutec, reference event for environment professionals, in Lyon in October 2021.

### ***1.3 Identified deviations, problems and corrective actions taken in the period***

The period saw an intense effort in trying to overcome the previous delays caused by the pandemic, the tasks in support to the Italian Plan (WP2-3) suffered from short delays (1-2 months) caused by the complexity of the national planning process, that involves several institutional stakeholders and, as such is not entirely dependent on the timelines set by the pole CORILA-IUAV-CNR.

Due to the delays caused by the global pandemic, the MSPMED project was granted an extension of seven months to achieve its proposed results. The new deadline is set to be in October 2022.

- Considering the extended deadline for the completion of the MSPMED project, OFB that carries out **Task 2.2.1.** of the WP2 decided to extend the Gulf of Lion case study. To complement this work, a knowledge synthesis about ecological stakes related to soft substrate habitats of the Gulf of Lions is currently conducted. A person has been hired in that sense. This work will be completed by September and deliverable D48 will be published.
- **Task 2.2.3.** This task foresaw the contract of a technician but due to internal administrative problems it was not possible to fulfil; therefore, the work is unexpectedly carried out by personnel of the IEO(CSIC) that have already a high workload. This situation led to the delay of the deliverable 9 that, nevertheless, is almost completed
- **Task 2.3.** The person hired for the case study in Murcia left the project so, during the process to contract a new technician, MSP IEO team from Madrid continued with the development of the task. A new technician was hired in Madrid in October 2021 and took the lead of this task. Workshops were postponed in order to be able to celebrate them face to face to efficiently engage stakeholders. These events are expected to be held by the end of April.
- **Tasks 2.5 and 3.3** For the Planning Authority of Malta, as previously explained in view of the need to streamline work with the overall review process of the SPED itself, the timelines for the deliverables of D16 and D30 have been delayed and consequently this will lead to a slight delay of D17 and D31. With progress on the SPED review gaining momentum in February, it is expected that both D16 and D30 will be finalised by May 2022 and discussed with the MSP TC in the same month, with a view to identify recommendations for the final deliverables D30 and D31.

#### **Task 4.3. Transboundary cooperation mechanisms with third countries**

It is believed that, for the efficiency of the event in terms of communication, exchanging and building trust among Member States and Third Countries, they should be conducted face to face, if the pandemic situation allows it. This is the reason why the intention is to delay these workshops to the maximum possible extent within the framework of the project. Thus, they will be tried to be conducted during last months of the project in person and also to feed them with the outputs raised from the rest of the project's tasks. When the request of the project extension was being prepared, this task was the one that was "allowed" to be planned after 2022 summer, to be conducted in presence. All the background organization is under elaboration.

Shom's team still had to compose with strict measures related to the recurrent pandemic episodes. Some deliverables deadlines couldn't be met due to delay accumulated in the former period.

Clara Zimmer, Geomatics officer, left on the 15th February 2022.

Shom adapted its staff's work organisation (with a limited number of employees onsite) and took strict sanitary measures. When able to, Shom attended meeting in presence to facilitate communication and cooperation. Shom adapted priorities according to geomatics requirements of tasks and initiated a recruitment process.

The Greek Partners inform that the workshops and meetings with stakeholders (overdue due to the health crisis) have been moved online and are under preparation.

The Planning Authority of Malta reports that due to the dynamic nature of public health measures to manage the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic it was still not possible to undertake or attend meetings in person during this review period. As progress on the review of the national spatial plan (SPED) was underway, this influenced the deliverables planned for the MSPMED, particularly the timing and the depth of scope of the original deliverables as intended during the project proposal. What this meant is that from September 2021 to February 2022, the MSPMED team provided input to the national process on the SPED review which provided insight to improve the content and scope of the WP 2 and WP 3 deliverables. The extension of the project until October 2022 is expected to provide sufficient time for successful delivery of all tasks.

## 1.4 List and brief description of the events

IUAV/CNR-ISMAR/CORILA participated and contributed to these events:

- General Assembly and 3rd Steering Committee meeting. Paris, 1st of September 2021.
- Trilateral technical meeting (FR-IT-SP). 2nd of September, 2021. A meeting to define joint future project actions.
- November the 8<sup>th</sup> the 5<sup>th</sup> Technical Workshop on Stakeholder engagement took place online. All partners were present.

**List of events attended by IEO and OFB:**

- Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Technical meeting marine mammals, 14th of September.
- Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Technical meeting seabirds. 21st of September.
- October, the 21st -- Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Technical meeting on seabirds IEO(CSIC), FEM and OFB.
- October, the 22nd Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Technical meeting on marine mammals IEO(CSIC), FEM and OFB.
- 18th of November - Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Technical meeting on marine mammals IEO(CSIC), FEM and OFB.

- November, the 24th Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Technical meeting on seabirds IEO(CSIC), FEM and OFB.
- January. the 18th Task 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. Restitution workshop with CAs organized by IEO(CSIC), FEM and OFB.

Events by **RRC Koper:**

- RRC Koper held several working meetings with representatives of municipalities and JPZ Izola. But no public events were organized in that period.

Events by **UTH-YPEN:**

- UTH: H. Coccossis, E. Asprogerakas have participated in a YPEN-UTH official Consultation on MSP Strategy 08/02/22

Events by **SHOM:**

- WP4 4.1.2 (Shom-CORILA) – RAMOGE workshop on MSP & Surveillance
- Shom organised with RAMOGE Secretariat, Corila and MEDOSMoSIS partners the online Workshop involving national msp & surveillance authorities RamogePol – Cross Border Workshop
- The workshop was organized jointly by CORILA, Shom and the Ramogepol General Secrétariat to highlight the interaction between maritime spatial planning (MSP) and maritime surveillance and security activities. The workshop gathered stakeholders from the RAMOGE agreement signatory countries: Monaco, Italy and France, and will be a great opportunity to learn and exchange on policies, frameworks and instruments used for MSP and surveillance. The communication and dissemination of the workshop took place by the MSPMED communication team on all platforms.

## ***1.5 List of publication/intervention on journals, newspaper, web sites, television or other media, summary of interventions on social media***

The social media communication kept its settled pace, having, for the moment, replaced traditional communication in the traditional media. Below some examples of the categories

and campaigns proposed during the last months:

### **-Deliverables**

As in precedent periods, once the deliverables were completed and made publicly available on the dedicated section of the website (Results), posts advertised the delivery and included a link to the webpage for a quick download of the documents.

### **-Events**

Every event that took place in the extended framework of the project was advertised: especially the technical workshops and meetings for national plans.

A dedicated poster was created, showing the date, hour and title of the event, and posted a few days before the event.

### **-Events from other relevant projects**

Also events from other relevant projects were advertised. In this case a distinctive visual was proposed to distinguish them from events within the MSPMED framework.

### **-Science and technical communication**

As required by the initial Communication Plan a dissemination on marine and maritime issues was carried out, for instance proposing data, from institutional sources, on the Blue Economy and environmental issues. Part of this category covered issues such plastic pollution and overfishing throughout infographics or reposts.

### **-Reposts**

One of the weekly posts has been often dedicated to the repost of relevant content from pages that were selected in addition to the ones of the partners, because part of the European and global network of MSP or because relevant in promoting marine conservation and sustainable development.

### **-Special days**

Special observances and institutional days were also celebrated on MSPMED social media profiles.

### **-The graphic Marine and Maritime Glossary by MSPMED 2nd Edition**

A second edition of the glossary of terms related to MSP, maritime and marine features was created

### **- MSPMED MedAcademy:**

A series of posts linked to school disciplines (History, Geography, Sciences, Languages, Culture, Laws, Economics) to present the Mediterranean area

**- Short Videos:**

Inspired by MSPGlobal guides for textual content and proposing marine videos, short videos were created and shared.

All the partners were active on their social media networks to post and publish about the events, latest achievements and progress.

The leaflets have been or are being translated into other languages including Italian, French, and Spanish and were distributed in each country in different events.

As per agreed work plan the PA worked on the publication of written articles in Maltese and English based on the findings of the MSP public survey. These articles will promote the MSPMED project and will be published in newspapers and magazines having national distribution.

## 2. Work plan for the next period

### 2.1 Planned activities in the next reporting period

#### **WP1 - Coordination & Management**

As part of the general coordination of the project (WP1), CORILA will ensure the good continuation of the project and organization of the desired extension period, more specifically:

- Updated GANTT version;
- Budget review;
- Organization of next Steering Committees
- Creation of a new Report on extension period to be agreed upon
- Organization of the Final Event

Modifications will be agreed upon with the EC/EMFF.

#### **WP2 - Setting-up of maritime spatial plans**

##### **Task 2.1:**

Organization of two Stakeholder workshops for 2 Maritime Areas (Spring-summer 2022)

Delivery of the following deliverables:

D4 Italy: Visioning and strategic objectives a) Western Mediterranean, b) Adriatic Sea, c) Ionian Sea – Central Mediterranean

D5 Italy: Vocation maps, with specific objectives and proposed key measures a) Western Mediterranean, b) Adriatic Sea, c) Ionian Sea – Central Mediterranean

D6 Italy: System of indicators to monitor plan implementation and performance

D14: Preparation of two Workshops / Preparation of the deliverable: Workshops Evaluation and lessons learned

D15: Preparation of the deliverable: Guidelines for the implementation of MSP

### **Task 2.7**

- Organization of the 6th technical workshops, and delivery of compliant report (D44). The event's main topic is expected to be "Monitoring of Implementation".

### **WP3 - Data use and sharing**

Continue actions regarding **3.1.2** – Implementation of a common MSP knowledge catalogue of metadata. Finalization of the catalogue and production of the deliverable D26.

Start activities regarding **3.1.3** – Analysis of the current data gaps and weaknesses and proposal of a methodological guidance on sharing data and information and production of the deliverable D27.  
Continue actions regarding **3.2.1** Consolidation of the national Geoportal for MSP, in connection with existing data infrastructures.

Continue actions regarding **3.2.2** Finalization of the tools for data ingestion and processing and production of the deliverable D29.

### **WP4 - Cooperation among Member States and with third countries**

#### **4.1.3. Production of datasets of transnational interest (D38)**

Carry on with the production /update of datasets (below) and upload on geoportal by month 22

- \* Litto3D® maritime part Corsica: preparation for publication
- \* Preparation for publication of data "sedimentology map 1/50 000"
- \* Preparation and publication of the 2022 dataset "wrecks and obstructions"
- \* Update of the dataset « marks at sea (buoys, beacons) »

**4.2** Design and organization of Bilateral and Pan-Mediterranean Workshops, delivery of D39 and D40.

### **WP5 - Communication & Dissemination**

A second leaflet is foreseen as well as more newsletter issues.

Participation in other events will be sought after, as well as presentation of materials via traditional media, especially linked to events.

Cooperation with UNESCO and the WestMed Initiative will soon start.

The last reporting period will see the completion of several deliverables useful for dissemination and presentation of project's results.

Social Media will have at least two new campaigns and keep the ones existing ongoing.

## 2.2 Planned events in the next reporting period

### Foreseen events listed per task:

Task 1.3 (CORILA-CNR-IUAV)

-Project Meeting (18th of May, 2022)

Task 2.1 (CORILA-CNR-IUAV)

-Stakeholder workshops in 2 Maritime Areas (Spring-Summer 2022)

Task 4.2 (IEO-OFB- CORILA/CNR-ISMAR/IUAV)

Trilateral Meeting France-Spain (11th May 2022)

Task 4.2 (IEO-OFB-SHOM- CORILA/CNR-ISMAR/IUAV)

-Bilateral Meeting Italy-France (Date TBD)

Task 4.2 (RRC- CORILA/CNR-ISMAR/IUAV )

-Bilateral Meeting Slovenia-Italy (Date TBD)

Task 4.2 (PA- CORILA/CNR-ISMAR/IUAV )

-Bilateral Meeting Malta-Italy (1st of July, Date TBD)

Task 4.3 (CORILA/IUAV-YPEN-UTH-RRC)

-Pan-Eastern Med Workshop (Date TBD)

Task 4.3 (CORILA/CNR-ISMAR/IUAV -IEO-OFB-SHOM-PA)

-Pan-Western Med Workshop (27th-29th September 2022)

Task 5.5 (CORILA/CNR-ISMAR/IUAV )

-Closing Event (October TBC)

Task 5.6

-Webinar on Italian MSP (2nd of May 2022).

-MSP Joint Workshop at EMD 19th of May, 2022

-UNESCO OCV Venice Edition

-UfM Working Group Meeting

- Interreg-Med MISTRAL Final Conference, 8 April 2022

- Interreg-IT-FR-Maritime Conference, 28 April 2022

### 3. Other issues