

**4.2.4. NORTHERN
ADRIATIC SEA (SL– IT)
BILATERAL MEETING**
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The work described in this document was supported by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund of the European Union- through the Grant Agreement number 887390 - MSPMED - EMFF-MSP-2019, corresponding to the Call for proposal Call EMFF-MSP-2019 (Maritime Spatial Planning) Topic: EMFF-MSP-2019 Type of action: EMFF-AG for Projects on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP).

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Co-funded by the European
Maritime and Fisheries Fund

Project Full Title	Towards the operational implementation of MSP in our common Mediterranean Sea
Project Acronym	MSP-MED
Gant Agreement Nr.	887390
Project Website	www.mspmed.eu

Deliverable Nr.	
Status (Final/Draft/Revised)	DRAFT
Work Package	4
Task Number	4.2.4
Responsible Institute	RRC Koper
Author/s	
Recommended Citation	
Dissemination Level (Public/Partnership)	

Document History			
Version	Date	Modification Introduced	
		Modification Reason	Modified by
First	13/04/2022	Creation	Folco Soffiotti, Hady El Hage
Second	19/04/2022	Revision	Slavko Mezek, Martina Bocci, Emiliano Ramieri
Third	29/08/2022	Revision	Folco Soffiotti, Martina Bocci, Emiliano Ramieri
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MSPMED Bilateral Meeting 4.2.4 Northern Adriatic Sea: Slovenia-Italy 21st of September 2022 Manzioli Palace, Manzioli Square 5, Izola, Slovenia

Introduction

Bilateral Meetings are foreseen as part of WP4 in sub task 4.2 *Establishing a solid transboundary cooperation in MSP among bordering Mediterranean Member States*.

As stated in the MSPMED Grant Agreement, transboundary/cross-border cooperation and collaboration in MSP is essential to improve the efficiency of planning and management of coastal and marine resources and activities, facilitating the decision-making processes. The transboundary methodological components of MSP are necessary to overcome barriers and obstacles for its implementation (e.g. conceptual barriers, institutional barriers, geopolitical impediments).

To facilitate the harmonization of MSP procedures of MS in the Mediterranean, this task will focus on transboundary dialogue on common objectives and transboundary planning on selected areas and selected sea uses. Throughout the task's framework, these aspects will be assessed and capitalized during different programmed activities in selected areas, that have been identified by the partnership:

- 4.2.1 Gulf of Lion (FR-SP) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between France and Spain.
- 4.2.2 Tyrrhenian Sea (IT-FR) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between France and Italy.
- 4.2.3 Northern Ionian Sea (GR-IT) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between Greece and Italy
- **4.2.4 Northern Adriatic Sea (SL-IT) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between Slovenia and Italy.**
- 4.2.5 Central Ionian (IT-MT) Consultation/seminar/workshop activities on the shared maritime area between Malta and Italy.

This working document will focus on 4.2.4 Northern Adriatic Sea (SL-IT) consultation between Slovenia and Italy.

The proposed structure that will follow takes into consideration the methodology stated in the GA and structured around three main axes:

- a) Transnational priorities regarding MSP implementation (identifying areas and main sectors of concern);
- b) Analysis of the main criticalities/issues and concerns for the correct implementation of transboundary MSP;
- c) Proposals of mechanisms, instruments and planning measures for the identified areas.

What will be addressed during this event

The event will be the occasion to share national concerns regarding some of the key uses occurring in the area, namely tourism and maritime transport, and their interactions with ecosystems/biodiversity protection and other maritime uses.

The Slovenia-Italy transboundary area is of relevance for its environmental aspects and economic value, as reported for example by the UNEP MED Action Plan document of 2015. The area is an important foraging and overwintering habitat for the loggerhead turtle, and a key habitat for pelagic sea birds, including the rare European storm petrel. Furthermore, various species of cetaceans are present in the area, with different densities. Anthropogenic pressures due to activities such as tourism, fishing and maritime traffic may, however, impact this biodiversity. Moreover, important bottom habitats (e.g. Coralligenous, Posidonia meadows, etc.) are threatened by mooring and other human pressures.

Several protection measures are in place (Marine Protected Areas, Natura 2000 sites) in respect to the Habitats Directive (92/43/EC), and the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). MSP can help reduce environmental impacts, support full implementation and expansion of protection measures as well as underpin possible synergies between blue economy and environmental protection objectives

Coastal and cruise tourism are recognised as important economic and development factors in the North Adriatic. Maritime traffic of goods in the area is intense, since important port cities such as Trieste, Venice and Koper are located in the area. Governments have signed series of agreements in order to establish an IMO's Traffic Separation Schemes/Recommended Routes system in the Adriatic Sea, to enhance the safety of navigation and the protection of the marine environment, facilitating the movements of the vessels and supporting SAR and oil pollution response operations. Also in this case, MSP can play a major role in supporting the establishment of these and other spatial measure, ensuring that conflicts and synergies with other marine protection and other uses are optimized.

The event will be a moment to share national experiences of plan implementation of these topics, and frame them in future broader cooperation strategies, as in particular the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR, in regards to Pillar 1: and Blue Growth and Pillar 3: Environmental Quality), the Italy-Slovenia Interreg program, the Mission Starfish 2030 and the Global Ocean Alliance 30by30.

Topics that will be addressed in the event include:

- relevance of tourism and maritime transport in the area within the Slovenian and Italian MSP processes and in relation to MSFD implementation,
- evidence-based concerns about interactions among maritime uses (e.g. tourism, maritime transport, and other relevant uses in the area) and between maritime uses and environmental protection in the area,
- analytical tools to support impact and conflict analysis in MSP,
- possible common initiatives fostering the coexistence between tourism, maritime traffic and marine ecosystems and biodiversity protection in the area.

Participants

Project partners: RRC KOPER, CORILA, CNR, IUAV

Contemplated institutional stakeholders to be involved, in addition to the project partners:

Italy

- Ministry of Infrastructures and Sustainable Mobilities
- Veneto Region TBC
- Friuli Venezia Giulia Region TBC
- Autorità di Sistema Portuale del Mare Adriatico Settentrionale TBC
- Capitaneria di Porto Guardia Costiera Comando DIREZIOMARE Trieste TBC
- Capitaneria di Porto Guardia Costiera Comando DIREZIOMARE Venezia TBC
- Ministry of International Cooperation TBC
- Miramare MPA TBC
- OGS
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Slovenia

- Kapitanija Koper TBC
- Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning TBC
- Planning, Construction and Housing Directorate TBC
- Slovenian Maritime Administration TBC
- Port of Koper (Luka d.d.) TBC
- Municipalities of Ankaran, Koper, Izola, Piran TBC
- Slovenian water agency TBC
- Morigenos Slovenian marine mammal society TBC
- Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation TBC
- Marine biology station Piran,
- University of Primorska, Faculty of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Information Technologies TBC
- Science and Research Centre Koper TBC
- Institute of water of the RS
- Krajisnik park Strunjan TBC
- TBD

EUSAIR Representatives

- Iztok Skerlic, Eusair Facility Point
- TBD

Programme

The event will take place in Isola on the 21th of September.

Programme	
10:00	<p>Introduction and greetings by Slavko Mezek (RRC)</p> <p>CORILA – MSPMED general results (10 min) Folco Soffietti (IUAV)</p> <p>RRC Koper – MSPMED in Slovenia (10 min) Slavko Mezek</p>
10:20	<p>Presentations moderated by Folco Soffietti</p> <p>Slovenian Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning The Slovenian MSP plan, implementation and transboundary dimension with a focus on maritime transport and coastal tourism (25 min) TBC</p> <p>MSP in Italy: a focus on Veneto and FVG Regions The Italian MSP plan in the Adriatic with focus on maritime transport and coastal tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction on the Italian MSP process Emiliano Ramieri, CNR-Ismar (5 min) - MSP in the Veneto Region (10 min) Salvina Sist (TBC) - MSP in Friuli Venezia-Giulia Region (10 min) Maria Pia Turinetti / Andrea Ziraldo (TBC) <p>Break (10 min)</p>
11.20	<p>Session of presentations and discussions introduced by Martina Bocci and moderated with in collaboration with RRC Koper on:</p> <p>11:20 - 1 - impacts and conflicts/synergies Topics for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - evidence-based issues related to maritime transport and coastal and maritime tourism in the area: impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity and conflicts/synergies with other uses <p><i>Guiding Panelists:</i> Sasa Raicevich (ISPRA) TBC Peter Mackelworth (Blue World Institute) TBC</p>

	<p>TBC</p> <p>11:50 - 2 Tools to support impact and conflict/synergy analysis in MSP</p> <p>Topic for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - analytical tools to support impact and conflict analysis in MSP <p>Presentations by CNR/ISMAR; OGS, Slovenian Ministry of Environment. TBC</p> <p><i>Guiding Panelists:</i></p> <p>Donata Canu (OGS)</p> <p>Stefano Menegon (CNR-Ismar)</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>12:50 - 3 Discussion on opportunities for transboundary cooperation</p> <p>Topics for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - future initiatives fostering the coexistence between maritime traffic, coastal and maritime tourism, marine ecosystems and biodiversity and other maritime uses - transboundary initiatives + discussion <p><i>Guiding Panelists:</i></p> <p>Mitja Bricelj (EUSAIR) TBC</p> <p>Federico Rosset (Veneto Region) TBC</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>Iztok Škerlič</p>
	13:20 Conclusions and keynotes: Slavko Mezek
14:00	Lunch

Expected results

The Bilateral meetings will present the following general outcomes:

- Identify issues of common concern in the area and possible joint solutions
- Exchange information that may ease the implementation of national plans
- Enhance transboundary communication
- Foster synergies between planners and authorities
- Promote and reinforce international cooperation mechanisms

The meeting will also discuss in particular the opportunity to move forward with the identification of possible joint transboundary measures to improve the compatibility of maritime transport with ecosystems/biodiversity and other maritime uses in the area. Opportunities to develop project ideas to be founded via Interreg programs will also be discussed.

The event will have the following practical outcome:

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Meeting minutes/report that will feed section D of MSPMED Deliverable D39 Report on selected areas: a) Gulf of Lion; b) Tyrrhenian Sea; c) Northern Ionian Sea; d) Northern Adriatic Sea; e) Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea.

Essential References for this document

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

IMO: ROUTING OF SHIPS, SHIP REPORTING AND RELATED MATTERS Establishment of new recommended Traffic Separation Schemes and other new Routeing Measures in the Adriatic Sea

Menegon S, Sarretta A, Depellegrin D, Farella G, Venier C, Barbanti A. Tools4MSP: an open source software package to support Maritime Spatial Planning. PeerJ Comput Sci. 2018 Oct 1;4:e165. doi: 10.7717/peerj-cs.165. PMID: 33816818; PMCID: PMC7924506.

Menegon S., Depellegrin D., Farella G., Sarretta A., Venier C., Barbanti A. ,2018- Addressing cumulative effects, maritime conflicts and ecosystem services threats through MSP-oriented geospatial webtools, Ocean & Coastal Management, Volume 163, Pages 417-436, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2018.07.009>.
Menegon S., Depellegrin D., Farella G., Sarretta A., Venier C., Barbanti A., 2018. Addressing cumulative effects, maritime conflicts and ecosystem services threats through MSP-oriented geospatial webtools, Ocean & Coastal Management, Volume 163, Pages 417-436, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2018.07.009>.