

**Technical Workshop on MSP and  
specific sectors: marine renewable  
energies and aquaculture -  
*Terms of Reference***

*14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
Rabat*

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This is an internal working document created for the sole purpose of the better organization of the task. It should not be considered as official or binding in any of its statements.

# Terms of Reference

## Background

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) emerged worldwide as an important policy tool for planning the different uses of seas and oceans efficiently in order to achieve both, a sustainable development of the Blue Economy (BE) and a long-lasting safeguarding of marine resources. MSP is also recognized as a useful tool to strengthen cross-border cooperation and to support improved ocean governance, in order to avoid different kinds of conflicts. The Mediterranean Sea represents a very complex and delicate area for both, the intense maritime uses and the very differentiated environmental marine characteristics. The overarching objective of the [MSPMED project](#) (*Towards the operational implementation of MSP in our common Mediterranean Sea*) is to facilitate coherent MSP implementation in the Mediterranean region by enhancing cooperation and knowledge sharing to finally ensure coherence among the MSP plans. The activities are built around specific intensive workshops, organized by the Consortium partners, which have also the function to share best practices and approaches.

## Work program context – Work Package 4

The workshop described by this Terms of Reference (ToRs) is framed in the Work Package 4 (WP4) of the MSPMED Work program. As established in the Grant Agreement of MSPMED, the main objective of WP4 is to set up activities able to foster a specific cooperation on MSP and related matters between countries of southern and northern shores of the Mediterranean. This WP allows to carry out joint activities on selected topics and sectors of common interest and it is an opportunity to share methodologies, results and best practices. The specific task of concern from this WP will be *Task 4.3. “Establishing transboundary cooperation mechanisms and instruments with third countries”* which is composed by three subtasks being the one conceptualized in this ToR, subtask **4.3.1**:

- **4.3.1 Activities between Spain-Algeria-Morocco. Consultation/seminar/workshop activities between Spain-Algeria-Morocco.**
  - \* Due to matters beyond the organization’s control it was not possible to count with Algerian participants so the agenda was modified in order to adapt the event to this unexpected situation.
- 4.3.2 Pan-Western Mediterranean workshop between Italy, France, Spain, Malta, as Member States and Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.
- 4.3.3. Pan- Eastern Mediterranean workshop between Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Croatia, Cyprus and Lebanon, Israel and Turkey.

## Workshop objectives

The main objective of this workshop was to foster collaboration and networking and **share technical knowledge, experiences and tools** regarding one or various selected topics related to MSP and Blue Economy among representatives (experts and/or technicians) of Algeria<sup>1</sup>, Morocco and Spain. This way, technicians can learn from each other and transfer this knowledge and experiences back into their respective work environments.

**Description:** The ambition is to prepare a **face to face** event of 1 or 2 days at a **technical level** in order to discuss about topics related to MSP and Blue Economy among technicians from Algeria, Morocco and Spain. The contents of the workshop might be:

- Presentation of MSP experiences regarding the selected topic(s) by technicians of the different countries.
- Discussion in an interactive session among technicians.
- Identification of potential synergies for future collaborations.
- Identification of recommendations regarding the selected topic(s) in a transboundary context.

Examples of topics for discussion regarding Sustainable Blue Economy and Maritime Spatial Planning:

- **Aquaculture**, how it has been integrated in MSP (if so), conflicts with other uses and impacts on the marine environment or,
- **Renewable energy**, how it has been integrated in MSP (if so), conflicts with other uses and impacts on the marine environment or,
- **Tourism**, how it has been integrated in MSP (if so), conflicts with other uses and impacts on the marine environment,
- Lessons learnt and best experiences on MSP, MPAs, Blue Economy and related policies.

**→The topic of Aquaculture is of particular interest. DG-MARE has recently commissioned a study on the topic to the European MSP Assistance Mechanism which is trying to assess how marine aquaculture has been integrated into plans. Although the analysis will be focused in EU Member States, plans from third countries could be used as a reference/point of comparison.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Any issue related to jurisdictions, politics and/or diplomacy matters are out of the scope of the MSPMED project; hence, will not be addressed in this event.

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## *Expected outcomes*

- The workshop should serve as a platform for networking and to share experiences and lessons learnt among participants from the three countries.
- In the sharing of knowledge and experiences, opportunities might be identified for the different countries to address their respective MSP processes and Blue Economy strategies.
- Potential synergies for future collaborations might be identified.
- Identification of recommendations for a coherent MSP across borders.
- A report will be elaborated explaining the methodology conducted during the organization of the workshop, the knowledge and experience shared, the participatory session and the main conclusions from the event. This report will contribute to Deliverable n° 40 of the MSPMED project.

## Draft agenda

### Day 1

DAY 1 -Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	
Evening	Arrivals
18:00	Welcome cocktail

### Day 2

DAY 2 -Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	
9:45 – 10:00	Registration of participants
10:00 - 10:20	<b>Welcoming remarks</b> <i>Abdallah Benmansour, Director of Strategy and Cooperation</i> <i>Mohamed Yassine El Aroussi Head of the Cooperation Division.</i> <i>María Gómez-Ballesteros, Deputy Technical and Advisory Director, Spanish Institute of Oceanography, IEO(CSIC)</i>
10:20 -10:35	<b>MSPMED and the transboundary cooperation</b> <i>Cristina Cervera Núñez, Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO, CSIC) (10'+5Q&amp;A')</i>
SESSION 1 – SHARING EXPERIENCES	
10:35 -11:25	<b>MPA project in Morocco – Laila Bensmail, Marine Fisheries Department, Morocco (15'+10' Q&amp;A)</b> <b>MSP in Spain, lessons learnt – Aurora Mesa Fraile, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Spain (15'+10'Q&amp;A)</b>
11:25 -12:00	<b>COFFEE -BREAK</b>
SESSION 2 – AQUACULTURE AND MSP	
12:00 -12:25	<b>Access to space and water for marine aquaculture – Emilie Riclet, European MSP Platform / MSP Assistance Mechanism (15'+10'Q&amp;A)</b>

<b>12:25-12:55</b>	<b>Challenges and opportunities when planning aquaculture in Morocco -</b> <i>Adel Lisser, National Agency for the development of aquaculture, Morocco (10'+ 5'Q&amp;A)</i>
	<b>Challenges and opportunities when planning aquaculture in Spain –</b> <i>Elena Gutiérrez-Ruiz, Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO, CSIC) (10'+ 5'Q&amp;A)</i>
<b>SESSION 3 – RENEWABLE ENERGIES AND MSP</b>	
<b>12:55 -13.25</b>	<b>Challenges and opportunities when planning marine renewable energies in Morocco –</b> <i>tbc, Ministry for the Energy Transition and the Sustainable Development (10'+ 5'Q&amp;A)</i>
	<b>Challenges and opportunities when planning marine renewable energies in Spain -</b> <i>Aurora Mesa-Fraile, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Spain (10'+ 5'Q&amp;A)</i>
<b>13:25-14.30</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
<b>SESSION 4 – PARTICIPATORY SESSION</b>	
<b>14:30 – 16:00</b>	<b>Guided discussion</b> Moderator: <i>Mónica Campillos-Llanos, Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO,CSIC)</i>
<b>Conclusions and final remarks</b>	
<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Conclusions and farewell</b>



## QUESTIONS FOR THE GUIDED DISCUSSION

### GOVERNANCE (15'+10' discussion)

- Is there a national strategic plan for aquaculture/renewable energy in your country? Which are the main goals/perspectives of aquaculture/renewable energy nowadays?
- Is there a specific governmental body specifically dedicated to aquaculture/renewable energy development in your country?
- List major challenges for aquaculture/renewable energy in terms of:
  - Environmental Sustainability
  - Production
  - Space conflict (current and future)

### LESSONS LEARNT (10'+5' discussion)

- List main lessons learnt from your aquaculture/renewable energy system that could be replicated in other countries.

### TRANSBOUNDARY EXPERIENCES (10'+10' discussion)

- Have you participated in any transboundary activity/project/initiative regarding aquaculture/renewable energy?
- Do you see interesting the setting up of a transboundary group for sharing experiences at the technical level regarding these topics or others related to MSP and Blue Economy?