



# UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

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Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



## EcAp-MED

### Project Document

#### **Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) in the Mediterranean by the Contracting parties in the context of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols.**

**April 2012**

#### **Project Executive Summary:**

The overall objective of this project is to support UNEP/MAP to implement the COP decisions regarding the application of ecosystem approach in the Mediterranean in full synergy and coherence with the implementation of the European Union (EU) Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

The Ecosystem Approach goes beyond examining single issues, species, or ecosystem functions in isolation. Instead, it recognizes ecological systems for what they are: rich mixes of elements that interact with each other continuously. This understanding is particularly important for coasts and seas, where the nature of water keeps systems and functions connected.

With the ultimate objective of influencing the management of human activities the approach of the project is to facilitate that concrete actions be taken towards achieving the agreed 11 priority ecological objectives through the establishment of methodologies for defining Good Ecological Status and targets based on which monitoring programmes and management measures will be revised and/or adopted; further foster integration of the sectorial approaches under UNEP/MAP Strategies and Plans of Actions with a view to strengthen our ability to better understand and address cumulative risks and effects as well as to enhance impact of our responses; and consolidate MAP strategies and action plans in a harmonized and synergistic implementation cycle which is adapted to evolving priorities and is periodically monitored, evaluated and revised on a six years basis.

In particular, the project aims to support implementation of core activities related to the EcAp in UNEP/MAP's Programme of Work and in particular to mobilize the capacity of the Coordinating Unit, the MAP components and that of its partners to achieve the mandates received in decision Decision IG.20/4 on "Implementing MAP ecosystem approach roadmap".

This project will enable UNEP/MAP to further develop the Ecosystem Approach as the new integrated implementation strategy of the Barcelona Convention legal framework and to do so in full coherence with the European Union (EU) Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) as well as to contribute to the process of harmonizing measures and programmes as required by the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols with the EcAp. For those countries which are members of the EU, the project contributes to effectively meet their obligations under the MSFD.

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#### SIGNATURES

Name of Programme Framework  
Coordinating Division Director:

**Review** Signature:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_

Name of Project Managing Division Director:

**Review** Signature:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_

In Approval of the Project submitted by the above Director  
and Coordinator: UNEP Deputy Executive Director

**Approval** Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_

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# 1 Project Overview

## Project Information

**Table 1: Required Project Information**

<b>Identification</b>	<i>Insert Project ID# from Programme Framework Table 3</i>					
Project Title	<b>EcAp MED</b> Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (EA) in the Mediterranean by the Contracting parties in the context of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols.					
Managing Division	<i>From Programme Framework Table 3</i>					
Project Manager and Org. Unit	<i>Insert name</i>			<i>Insert Org. Unit</i>		
<b>Type/Location</b>	<b>Regional: Mediterranean</b>					
Region ( <i>delete as appropriate</i> )	Africa		ENPI South and East			
	Europe					
			West Asia			
List Countries	<b>Mediterranean Countries</b>					
<b>Programme of Work</b>	2012-2013					
Sub-programme	<i>Insert Name and ID# from Programme Framework Table 1</i>					
Expected Accomplishment	<i>Insert Name and ID# from Programme Framework Table 1</i>					
PoW Output(s) to which Project contributes <sup>1</sup>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>
	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>	<i>PF#</i>
Date of Programme Framework Clearance	<i>(dd/mm/yy)</i>					
<b>Other Divisions/Regional Offices involved</b>	<i>Insert</i>	<i>Insert</i>	<i>Insert</i>	<i>Insert</i>	<i>Insert</i>	<i>Insert</i>

1: Use numbering of PoW Output in Programme Framework (Table 1). Must be consistent with the Logical Framework in Section 3.

## Duration and Cost

Project Commencing: <b>06/ 2012</b>	Project Completing: <b>05/ 2015</b>	Total duration in Months: <b>36</b>
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Cost to:	2012-2015 in Euros
Contribution from the European Commission	1,510,280
Programme Support Cost (7 %)	105,720
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,616,000</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,616,000</b>

## 2 Project Justification

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The Barcelona Convention and its seven Protocols represent a political and legal framework for the protection of the marine environment and the coastal areas of the Mediterranean region.

The ecosystems approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promoted conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. The Parties to the Barcelona Convention have engaged into a process to implement the ecosystems approach in the Mediterranean the ultimate objective of which is to influence the management of human activities.

UNEP/MAP Programme of work with regard to ecosystem approach (EcAp) is ambitious with the view to implementing the roadmap adopted by the Parties in 2008, through Decision IG 17/6 and an important vehicle for advancing the implementation of EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD, 2008/56/EC). Contracting Parties decisions reflect the wish to strengthen cooperation and seek synergies with EU initiatives such as the Water framework Directive and the MSFD to achieve a shared vision of “*a healthy Mediterranean with marine and biological ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse for the benefit of present and future generations*”.

The implementation of the programme of work on the Ecosystem Approach has been supported by EU through DG Environment, which falls under the Project of the ENRTP Strategic Cooperation Agreement (SCA) between UNEP and EU.

### **Decisions of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention regarding the Ecosystem Approach**

Through Decision IG.17/6 the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have committed to progressively apply the Ecosystem Approach to the management of human activities with the goal of effecting real change in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment. Parties agreed that the ecological vision of the Ecosystem Approach to be realized through the following strategic goals:

1. *To protect, allow recovery, and where practicable, restore the structure and function of marine and coastal ecosystems – thus also protecting marine biodiversity – in order to achieve and maintain good ecological status allowing for sustainable use.*
2. *To reduce pollution in the marine and coastal environment so as to ensure that there are no significant impacts or risks to human and/or ecosystem health and/or on the uses of the sea and the coasts.*
3. *To preserve, enhance, and restore a balance between human activities and natural resources in the sea and the coasts and reduce their vulnerability to risks.*

In addition, Decision IG.17/6 outlines a roadmap for the implementation of the ecosystem approach. The roadmap consists of several subsequent steps, which in addition to the vision and strategic goals, provide for undertaking of an assessment of marine and coastal properties and pressures including a socio economic analysis, development of ecological objectives, operational objectives and respective indicators, development of good environmental status and targets, the monitoring programmes that takes into account the agreed EA indicators, as appropriate and finally to undertake the necessary management measures and programmes to achieve Good Environmental Status. Moreover, the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention 5 year Programme of Work adopted at the Contracting Parties meeting in Marrakesh in 2009, considers EcAp as its over-arching priority cutting across its six thematic areas.

A project funded by the European Union and UNEP/MAP is ongoing since 2009 for supporting the implementation of the first steps of the roadmap in particular the completion of the integrated ecosystems assessment; development of 11 ecological objectives, operational objectives and corresponding indicators; a timeline; as well as taking initial steps to design a common methodology for determination of GES and targets. The application of the ecosystem approach remains a key agenda for the future.

At their 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Contracting Parties (COP 17) held in Paris from 8 to 10 February 2012 the Parties have taken note of the progress made and have further emphasized the priority nature of all EcAp related activities for all MAP Components during 2012 and 2013 and mandated the update of a number of MAP regional sectorial policies as provided for in the 5 year strategic programme of work of MAP, thus giving an excellent opportunity

to take into account as appropriate the results of ecosystem approach implementation in their revision, as well as to harmonize their implementation within the EcAp concept.

In particular, Decision 20/4<sup>1</sup> on “Implementing the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap” validated the work done so far with regard to the 11 ecological objectives, operational objectives and indicators for the Mediterranean which is aligned with the work under the EU MSFD and other related EU legislation. The 17th Contracting Parties also adopted the timeline for implementing the ecosystem approach until 2019 and established a six-year cyclic review process of its implementation. With regard to future actions the 17th Contracting Parties meeting mandated the Secretariat to mobilize its full capacity with the support of MEDPOL and the Regional Activity Centers in order to:

- Prepare an integrated monitoring programme based on the agreed ecosystem approach indicators with the participation of and contribution from all MAP components in cooperation with other regional competent organizations;
- Work on the determination of Mediterranean Good Environmental Status (GES) and targets during the next biennium through a participatory process involving MAP components, contracting parties and scientific community;
- Prepare in cooperation with Contracting Parties, MAP components and competent partner organizations, an in-depth socio-economic analysis developed through a common methodology;
- Develop a MAP-Barcelona Convention policy on assessments in the framework of the implementation of the EcAp;
- Work in 2012-2013, with the national authorities and the relevant organisations to (i) evaluate the progress made so far in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the conservation of Biodiversity in the Mediterranean (SAPBIO) (ii) to define the orientations of SAPBIO at national and regional levels for the coming years, in accordance with the Mediterranean Ecological Objectives and the Aichi targets; and, (iii) to investigate options for ensuring appropriate financial support for the implementation of SAPBIO at national and regional levels;
- Establish and make operational by 2013, an information system to support the implementation of ecosystem approach and MAP integrated monitoring system;
- Develop a MAP/Barcelona Convention data sharing policy taking into account the SEIS data sharing principles and with due consideration of access rights and confidentiality;
- Ensure that MAP/Barcelona Convention regional policies become coherent with the ecosystem approach progress and outcome and in particular to consider systematically the EcAp indicators when coordinating work of the various MAP components, or evaluating efficiency of MAP actions;
- Undertake the necessary analysis to enhance MAP/Barcelona Convention governance structure with the view to implementing the ecosystem approach; and
- Continue supporting the Contracting Parties in their efforts to implement the other steps of the road map according to the agreed timeline and enhance cooperation with partners and stakeholders and other global and regional process in particular with the EU common MSFD implementation strategy.

### **Synergies and coherence with progress under the EU MSFD**

Seven Contracting Parties that are EU member states have the obligation to implement the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD, 2008/56/EC) the objectives of which are similar with the objectives of the Barcelona convention and its Protocols and fully consistent with Decisions UNEP (DEPI)/MED IG 17/6 and IG. 20/4 on “The Application by the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention of the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean”. Moreover, the EU MSFD clearly establishes a role for regional seas. In this respect, the MSFD requires Member States to cooperate and is promoting cooperation with and through the Regional Seas Conventions and specifically the Barcelona Convention in the Mediterranean Region. Therefore a harmonization of both efforts and ensuring of necessary synergies content and time wise is quite important.

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<sup>1</sup> The 11 Ecological Objectives are: Biological diversity is maintained; Non-indigenous species do not adversely alter the ecosystem; commercially exploited fish and shellfish are within biological limits; alterations of marine webs do not have long term adverse effects; human-induced eutrophication is prevented; sea-floor integrity is maintained; alterations of hydrographic conditions does not affect ecosystems; contaminants cause no significant impact; marine litter does not affect ecosystems; and, noise causes no impact. (<http://www.unepmap.org/index.php?module=library&mode=doc&action=search>).

For these purposes, EU Commission Decision 2010/477/EU *on criteria and methodological standards on good environmental of marine waters* were used as the basis for developing the Mediterranean Ecological Objectives and indicators. Therefore, the 11 adopted objectives are coherent with the EU ones and have been complemented with an objective and indicators which reflect a broader scope of the Barcelona Convention and more in particular its coverage of coastal areas which became a legal obligation upon the recent entry into force of its Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

In addition, at the request of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which are EU members the Secretariat prepared the report entitled *The Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and the Implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (March 2011)* which was presented by these Member States to the meeting of EU Marine Directors on May 2011. The document gives an overview of the outputs by the Barcelona Convention which are relevant to achieving the MSFD aims and discusses UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention contributions to the achievement of the MSFD which happens in particular through the gradual application of the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean. In particular, the cyclic review process for the implementation of the ecosystems approach included in the timeline adopted by the contracting parties last February is based on this work and is fully aligned with the EU MSFD process.

With a view to continue ensuring the synergies between the application of the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean and the MSFD relevant UNEP/MAP staff follow closely and participate in the relevant discussions at the EU implementation structure level. Progress in establishing a common understanding for determining good environmental status, establishing environmental targets, define a common monitoring system, exchanging data, information and knowledge as well as carrying out a socio-economic assessment are of particular relevance for the purposes of this proposal.

### **Objective**

In this context, the objective of this project will be to support UNEP/MAP to implement the COP decisions regarding the application of ecosystem approach in the Mediterranean in full synergy and coherence with the implementation of the MSFD.

While other UNEP/MAP initiatives also contribute to the implementation of measures relevant for the EcAp as well as its information requirements, this project will in particular contribute to ensure that the Ecosystem Approach becomes MAP's core implementation strategy by addressing central issues related to the implementation of the EcAp road-map during this biennium such as establishing targets and good environmental status, the integrated monitoring system, the governance of the application of EcAp and the socio-economic assessment as well some dimensions of the relevant measures.

### **Region Focus**

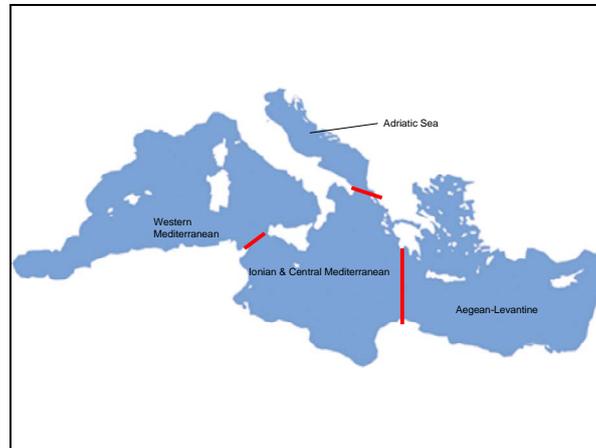
The commitment by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea to the Ecosystem Approach signals recognition of the immense value of the region's seas and coasts, and the singular importance of promoting management that allows for sustainable use.

Mediterranean marine and coastal systems are at risk, and as a result, so too are the communities and countries that border the Basin. However, the Mediterranean Action Plan / Barcelona Convention and its 7 associated protocols offer an excellent foundation for coordinated and effective management of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas.

The Initial Integrated Assessment of the Mediterranean Ecosystem was completed in 2011 as part of the road map for the application of the Ecosystem Approach. It presents the region as a conglomerate of linked coastal and marine ecosystems, with many shared resources, species and common approaches to both environmental monitoring and management. While the integrated assessment was undertaken on the basis of four sub-regions, the overview of the sub-regions, taken together with a review of literature on Mediterranean ecology overall, suggests that commonalities may be more pervasive than are differences between sub-regions. Common to all regions is the recognition that certain coastal and marine habitats deliver extremely valuable ecosystem services that benefit all Mediterranean inhabitants. These multiple services are provided by a wide range of natural habitats, and include not only fisheries resources and tourism values (things for which economic values can be

ascertained relatively easily), but also waste assimilation, medium for transport, ability to buffer land from storms, and maintaining ecological balances that make life on Earth possible.

The characteristics of each subregion are described briefly below.



The Western Mediterranean subregion has a high level of industrialization and coastal development-related habitat loss and alteration in this region – especially on the north coasts. Tourism drives much of the coastal development and pressure on resources, and tourism is behind much of the degradation of coasts and nearshore waters. In addition to the physical alteration of the environment and the degradation caused by pollution and loss of key habitats, growth in tourism and urbanization drive increasing pressure on resources, including freshwater (limiting availability in wetlands and estuaries and increasing the need for desalination, with its attendant pollution impacts) and fisheries. In the southern portion of this subregion, population growth along the coast has led to degradation from sewage inputs and run-off. Maritime industries, including shipping, energy development, and aquaculture also degrade the environment and impact biodiversity, causing localized pollution as well as broader impacts on the delivery of ecosystem services due to trade-offs.

The Central Mediterranean and Ionian subregion experiences some of the same pressures and drivers, though the major impacts are somewhat different from the western Mediterranean, in part because of the differing physical characteristics of this subregion. There is no direct exchange with waters of the Atlantic, and in contrast to the wide open basin of the western subregion, the central subregion has complex bottom topography and numerous straits through which water masses and species pass. Coastlines are generally not as highly developed as in the Western Mediterranean, though urbanization is a factor in some localized areas. Fishing is a major pressure on species and ecosystems, both due to over-exploitation and incidental catch or by-catch, and due to the use of destructive fishing methods, including dynamite fishing, bottom trawling, and destructive removal of deep corals. Shipping pressures are concentrated in the straits between the African continent and the southern Sicilian coast, and nutrient over-enrichment from sewage and run-off puts the southeastern portion of this subregion at risk of hypoxia.

The Adriatic Sea is a semi-enclosed sea within a semi-enclosed sea; given its limited water exchange, agricultural inputs and urbanization along its western flank, and its relative shallowness, eutrophication is a major issue. Although point source pollution by toxic contaminants has been largely controlled and toxic pollution is confined to a few localized industrial areas, run off and inadequately treated sewage continues to upset the nutrient balances of the narrow sea, leading to algal blooms, mucilages, and spreading hypoxia. Climate changes may be exacerbating the impacts of these pressures, as well as compounding the effects of invasive species in the subregion. Fisheries over-exploitation is also identified as a pressure, especially in the northern reaches of the central Adriatic. Yet despite the pressures, the Adriatic Sea is remarkably diverse and productive, with a variety of ecosystems providing valuable ecosystem services. Tourism is important to the region, as are fisheries. The Adriatic is also noteworthy in that several of the countries within this subregion have been exploring ways to coordinate research and management, setting the stage for a facilitated movement towards an ecosystem approach.

The Eastern Mediterranean subregion is perhaps the least known of the four subregions delineated for the initial assessment. This subregion is also very diverse in large-scale biodiversity: extensive archipelagos exist in the north, while a wide shelf with alluvial sediments is found around the Nile Delta to the south. The coastline and bottom topography is highly varied, as are the human uses of coasts and seas. While all the pressures that exist throughout the Mediterranean are found within this subregion as well, invasive species and climate change are the top issues of concern. Spreading hypoxia and lowered water quality result from untreated sewage inputs, desalination effluents, and urban run-off. The trends in water quality, invasive species spread, and tropicalization from climate change have not yet devalued this subregion. The northern portion remains one of the primary coastal tourist destinations in the world, and coastal communities throughout the region continue to depend on marine resources.

The Mediterranean region is now on track to lead to strategic activities across the Mediterranean at three different levels: 1) at the basin level, where having standardized Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives, and Indicators will put everyone on the same page and allow future assessments to tell states what they need to know; 2) at the national level, with countries being guided through a standardized process for determining priorities and developing in-country management actions; and 3) at the site level, where management tools such as protected areas, regional fisheries measures, cooperation to study or protect areas within Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), and bilateral (transboundary) agreements to reduce pollution loading, could take place.

## 3 Project Statement & Approach

### Project Statement

This project will enable UNEP/MAP to further develop the Ecosystem Approach as the new integrated implementation strategy of the Barcelona Convention legal framework and to do so in full coherence with the European Union (EU) Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) as well as to contribute to the process of harmonizing measures and programmes as required by the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols with the EcAp. For those countries which are members of the EU, the project contributes to effectively meet their obligations under the MSFD.

### Project Approach

The project facilitates the continued implementation of the 7 step process for the application of the EcAp as per Decision IG17/6 of the COP in 2008 building on the progress achieved during last biennium which was in a great part facilitated by the outcomes of the project “Support the Barcelona Convention for the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach, including the establishment of MPAs in open seas areas, including the deep sea”, funded by the European Commission under the Thematic Programme for Environment and sustainable management of Natural Resources including energy (ENRTP). The outcomes of the project which were endorsed by COP 17 (February 2012) can be summarized as:

1. The Integrated Assessment of the Mediterranean Ecosystem which was peer reviewed by countries and GESAMP;
2. The 11 Ecological Objectives and corresponding 28 operational objectives and 61 indicators; and,
3. The EcAp timeline for the next 10 years fully aligned with the MSFD implementation process

With the ultimate objective of influencing the management of human activities the approach of the project is to:

- Facilitate that concrete actions be taken towards achieving the agreed 11 priority ecological objectives through the establishment of methodologies for defining Good Ecological Status and targets based on which monitoring programmes and management measures will be revised and/or adopted;
- Further foster integration of the sectorial approaches under UNEP/MAP Strategies and Plans of Actions with a view to strengthen our ability to better understand and address cumulative risks and effects as well as to enhance impact of our responses; and,
- Consolidate MAP strategies and action plans in a harmonized and synergistic implementation cycle which is adapted to evolving priorities and is periodically monitored, evaluated and revised on a six years basis.

In particular, the project aims to support implementation of core activities related to the EcAp in UNEP/MAP’s Programme of Work and in particular to mobilize the capacity of the Coordinating Unit, the MAP components and that of its partners to achieve the mandates received in Decision IG.20/4 on “Implementing MAP ecosystem approach roadmap”.

The project is organized around five specific results which capture the main deliverables under the Decision and further strengthen the application of the seven steps for the implementation of the EcAp agreed in 2008. These are:

1. **Assessment** (step iii). Complement the integrated assessment of the Mediterranean Ecosystem with a socio-economic assessment and establish an assessment cycle by developing a UNEP/MAP policy on assessments of the marine and coastal environment to be periodically implemented;
2. **Targets and Good Environmental Status** (step VI). Work on methodologies for the determination of good environmental status and target for each of the 11 agreed Ecological Objectives; and implement a pilot case which successfully tests EcAp indicators;
3. **Monitoring** (step vi). Prepare an integrated monitoring system based on the indicators and targets;

4. Develop and review relevant **measures** for implementation of EcAp (step vii). The UNEP/MAP Programme of Work foresees updates and revisions of regional measures in accordance with the Ecosystem Approach. This project will contribute to:
  - the adoption of measures at basin-wide level which support implementation of the recently adopted Off-Shore Protocol of the MAP and which is referred in objective 9 of the EcAp preparing the grounds for the adoption of measures in the high seas and open seas;
  - *Provided that necessary funding is secured*, the implementation of a range of activities recommended by the Marine Litter Strategic framework and included in the MAP PW adopted by COP 17 in 2012. Such activities consist of undertaking the assessment of abandoned fishing gears in the Mediterranean, undertaking awareness-raising of decision makers, public at large with a particular focus on fishermen communities and NGOs as well as to support the extension of the integrated monitoring programme and MEDPOL info system so as to include marine litter indicators and data.
5. Overall **governance** of the Ecosystem Approach. Ownership of the Contracting Parties essential. Recognizing the importance of Contracting Parties guidance, engagement and direction COP 17 established a Contact Group to meet every year upgrading the previous Government Designated Expert Group. It also underlined that all activities in furtherance of the EcAp should be undertaken through a participatory approach, involving contracting parties and the scientific community to which this project will contribute to. In addition, implementation of EcAp demands constant coordination and coherence of activities through UNEP/MAP components as well as an intense programming cycle with tight deadlines for which the UNEP/MAP requires assistance through this project with a view to meet the requirements of effective programming and coordination.

The approach is elaborated below in details:

### **1. Adoption of an integrated assessment policy (Project Outcome A, Outputs A1 and A2)**

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have undertaken several sectorial assessments based on which regional policies to guide the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols have been developed and adopted. Such assessments and policies are revised on a regular basis in order to take into account emerging issues and progress achieved. Nevertheless, there is a need to improve the efficiency of their implementation with more holistic approaches that avoid overlapping and harmonize the assessment cycle. For this reason the 5 year programme of work (2010-2015) has already identified the need for an integrated assessment policy. Following the Integrated Assessment of the Mediterranean Ecosystem this activity becomes even more relevant. The assessment underlines the need to strengthen our ability to better understand and address cumulative risks due to the increase of multiple conflictive uses of the Mediterranean space. The Integrated Assessment of the Mediterranean Ecosystem completed in 2011 was a first undertaking that now needs to be standardized; the gaps it identified, in relationship also to the Table of Contents<sup>2</sup> need to be followed up. As such, this activity will consist of two parts.

First, it will contribute to establish **an integrated policy on assessments** for all of UNEP/MAP priority sectorial policies and Action Plans with a common time frame and the synergies to be established between them in order to take into account ecological objectives and progress in their implementation in a coherent and consistent manner. In this process, the gaps identified in these assessments will be systematically addressed.

Specifically, the integrated policy assessments will include formulation of a MAP policy regarding assessment, identification of needs for undertaking thematic assessments per ecological objective and undertaking preparatory activities leading to transform the UNEP/MAP State of the Environment Reports (SOER) into Quality Status Reports. The process of integrated policy development on assessments will be led by the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit, in close cooperation with all components and particularly Blue Plan/RAC, SPA/RAC and MEDPOL.

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<sup>2</sup> Meeting of Government Designated experts meeting, Athens July 2008)

Second, it will complement the integrated assessment by developing by 2014 a **socio-economic assessment** of the Mediterranean, which further develops the preliminary study on ecosystem services carried out by Blue Plan/RAC - UNEP/MAP during the previous project. Consideration of social and economic dimensions is important to elaboration the programs of measures aiming to achieve or maintain the GES. This project should be influential for a common understanding and a fair appropriation of EcAp principles by Mediterranean coastal countries.

The Contracting Parties to Barcelona Convention and its Protocols agreed in COP17 (February 2012, Paris) that EU MSFD is a source of inspiration for the implementation of Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean. As for EcAp, MSFD implementation requires to make an initial assessment as a preparation of marine strategies to be implemented in order to achieve or maintain GES. MSFD Article 8c states that Member States shall make an initial assessment of their marine waters comprising an economic and social analysis of the use of those waters and of the cost of degradation of the marine environment. By contrast to the EcAp-Med project, which is a regional cooperation initiative involving the Mediterranean coastal states, MSFD should be implemented by MS following a Common Implementation Strategy. For this purpose, EC has initiated in due time several working groups (WG) in order to assist MS, in particular for the completion of the initial assessment. Blue Plan/RAC was designated to represent UNEP/MAP in the Economic and Social Analysis working group (ESA WG) whose working plan runs till end of 2012. A first Guidance document has been issued end of 2010. If the economic and social analysis of the use of those waters is rather straightforward, different approaches to estimate the degradation costs have been proposed by participating MS, mainly: the ecosystem services approach, the thematic approach and the cost-based approach. The on-going implementation of these various approaches by MS will certainly provide useful experience for application at regional level in the frame of the present project.

In this context, the program of activities is as follows:

- Preparation of the economic and social analysis at regional and sub-regional scale of the human activities (mainly fisheries, aquaculture, maritime transport, recreational activities, oil industry and offshore) using the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal zone, including the costs of degradation for human wealth in the absence of the implementation of the relevant actions plans and programmes of measures aiming to achieve or maintain GES (step 7 EcAp road map).
- Establishment of an Ad hoc working group for socio economic assessment gathering experts mandated by CP.
- Development of guidelines for national studies adapted to non EU countries, discussed with the Ad hoc working group.

Guidelines for national studies will be built as an adaptation to the Mediterranean context of the Guidance document produced by the ESA WG in the frame of the Common Implementation Strategy (CIS). Other sources of inspirations will be considered as results of relevant other WG of the MSFD CIS, OSPAR assessment, System of Environmental Economic Accounts. Adaptations will be done for Non-MS and will bear on regional aspects such as specificities of the Mediterranean ecosystems or lack of data. Based on a terms of reference to be agreed by parties at first Technical Experts Meeting in 2012, the socio-economic assessment will complement the ecosystems one and both be presented as a major Mediterranean contribution to the UN Regular Process of the General Assembly on the state of the marine environment including socio-economic aspects, in accordance with the Paris Declaration, adopted by COP17 in February 2012.

This work will also benefit from potential synergies that will be developed with two related projects:

- A specific activity of the Regional – Governance and Knowledge generation Project. The ReGoKo project, mainly funded by a GEF grant of \$ 3 million, has been conceived to foster the integration of environmental issues into sectoral and development policies of Lebanon, Morocco, and Tunisia (present Beneficiaries). In coordination with the MAP/CU, Blue Plan/RAC has proposed a specific activity aiming to strengthen EcAp implementation and specially appropriation of EA principles by non-EU MS. The project will consist in developing Pilot Cases within the three beneficiary countries. Pilot cases will aim to make an assessment bearing on an economic and social analysis of the use of the marine waters under their national jurisdictions. Experience gained within these Pilot cases will be discussed within the Ad hoc regional working group for socio economic assessment and will be valuable for the Development of guidelines for national studies adapted to non-EU MS.
- The EC FP7 research project PERSEUS of the 7th Framework Programme for the topic OCEAN.2011-3: Assessing and predicting the combined effects of natural and human-made

pressures in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea in view of their better governance. The project objective is to promote sustainable well-coordinated research efforts in order to characterize patterns of pressure in environmental and socio-economic terms on the Mediterranean and the Black Sea and to develop a framework for future implementation of adaptive policies and management schemes, while fostering international cooperation with neighboring countries, in coherence with MSFD principles.

Blue Plan which leads this activity and participates in the two related projects, in cooperation with the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit will ensure maximisation of synergies and avoidance of technical and financial overlaps.

This work is very important for the definition of the program of measures needed to achieve the EcAp strategic objectives and will contribute among others to the development of targets at regional, sub-regional and national levels. This activity will enable the contracting parties to establish a common understanding and standards with regard to the analysis to be undertaken and impacts to be taken into account while deciding on targets as well as common methodologies including the scale of the assessment per ecological objectives adopted at COP17.

The proposed activities will involve elaborating a common understanding through close consultation and negotiation with countries including through the established EcAp structure and the establishment of an ad hoc working group with the Parties, as required. It will also require internal consultation and mobilization of technical external expertise, collaboration frames with the MAP system and other partners (IUCN, others) and workshops with the representatives of the contracting Parties.

## **2. Further support the development of good environmental status and targets for the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal region. (Project Outcome B, Outputs B1, B2 and B3)**

The objective of this activity is to induce a targeted expert discussion on methodologies, targets, indicators and thresholds for each of the 11 Ecological Objectives of the EcAp for the Mediterranean Sea and coastal region with a new approach to agree on good environment quality and ecological status. It will consist of:

- Identification and consultation with regard to GES and targets: technical workshops with regional, sub regional and national experts, scientific expert advice on GES and targets;
- involving the necessary research, and scientific knowledge through consultation and validation with the scientific community of the work carried out;
- Scientific assistance to Secretariat;
- Existing Data gathering and data gap analysis;
- Proposal to the Contracting Parties meeting in 2013 of GES and targets , for those that data would be available and subject to agreement by the Contracting parties.

The activities should be carried out in order to analyze available data through consultations processes for 11 ecological objectives and their associated indicators. The process will be led by the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit, with the involvement of Blue Plan/RAC, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC, REMPEC and MEDPOL.

Contracting Parties ownership will be generated and enhanced through intensive consultation meetings with the parties at policy level. This will support the continuation of the work by ad hoc ecosystem approach working groups (3-5 working groups (WG) are envisaged, covering all 11 Ecological Objectives clustered in three groups: i.e. Pollution, Biodiversity and Physical Conditions, as well as 2 thematic WGs on specific needs).

In addition, in Tunisia a pilot study will be carried out to demonstrate the applicability and utility of using the proposed EcAp ecological objectives, operational objectives, indicators and targets in interested countries (project will provide financial support to one non-EU country). The pilot study will be complemented by the ReGoKo project case study in Tunisia, which aims at carrying out an assessment bearing on an economic and social analysis of the use of the marine waters under the national jurisdiction of Tunisia. This will strengthen EcAp implementation and specially appropriation of EA principles by south Mediterranean countries.

The pilot study will cover the scoping and scaling of the pilot area; the collection, compilation and organization of available data through a participatory approach with all the sectors concerned in the ecosystem approach (i.e. biodiversity monitoring institutions, fisheries, water and pollution control agencies, coastal zone planning agencies, natural resource agencies, etc); a first analysis of the potential of the available data for the suggestion of

management measure with support from the Secretariat; and a needs assessment, as well as a joint regional seminar with other countries piloting the same information on their own. In the pilot activity it is envisaged to create platforms for the discussion of good ecological status and targets for the Indicators relevant in the pilot study area; the planning for indicator data acquisition and monitoring, the full analysis of the data compiled in conjunction with the target levels in order to suggest possible management measures.

### **3. Supporting the preparation of a regional integrated monitoring programme for ongoing assessment of the quality of the marine and coastal environment in line with the implementation of the Ecosystem approach (Project Outcome C, Outputs C1 and C2)**

The aim is designing an updated integrated monitoring system for the Mediterranean to fit the data needs to assess progress towards GES achievement. The expected regional monitoring programme will take into account the agreed ecosystem approach indicators including biodiversity related. The integrated monitoring programme will be prepared by MED POL in cooperation with SPA/RAC (with contribution from PAP/RAC and REMPEC where appropriate), in line with the EcAp Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives relevant targets and indicators.

The summary of the process is as follows:

- a) Mobilisation of the necessary scientific and technical expertise, including national experts, research projects (i.e. PERSEUS, CoCoNet and others), and international/regional institutions' experts groups (i.e. other Regional seas Conventions around Europe, IUCN, CIESM, etc.)
- b) organisation of technical consultation meetings;
- c) coordination and consultation within MAP system and with other regional bodies where appropriate as per their respective mandates
- d) submission of the proposal to MAP decision making bodies
- e) assessment of countries needs to implement the integrated monitoring programme
- f) capacity building activities in countries in cooperation with on-going initiatives (i.e. PERSEUS)

Steps to be taken towards the preparation of the integrated monitoring programme could include:

- Preparation of TOR for regional experts, who will prepare documents for the integrated monitoring programme of MAP. It is proposed to have experts per group of EOs (Biodiversity including - EO1, EO4, EO6, EO7, invasive species - EO2, Fisheries - EO3, Contaminants - EO9, Eutrophication - EO5, ICZM - EO8, Litter - EO10, Noise - EO11). The number of experts (and the grouping of EOs) depends on the availability of funds. Each expert will work under the supervision of the relevant MAP officer (MED POL for contaminants, eutrophication, litter and noise, SPA/RAC for biodiversity, invasive species and fisheries, PAP/RAC for ICZM). Parties will be requested to nominate national experts for each group of EOs, who will be consulted for assistance in the preparation of documents. The elements to be developed will include: parameters to be included in the MAP integrated monitoring programme, the methodologies to be used, Data Quality Assurance requirements, the strategy for the siting of sampling stations, assessment criteria, reporting, etc.
- Organization of three to four meetings with the participation of national experts on different EOs, which will review and amend the proposed monitoring programme. The integrated monitoring programme will be reviewed by the EcAp Coordination Group and finalized in the MAP FP meeting before being submitted to the Contracting Parties for approval. The programme will also include a cost assessment of implementation at national level and an operational governance part with regard to its implementation.

An assessment of national needs for capacity building for the implementation of the integrated monitoring programme of EcAp will be undertaken in non-EU Mediterranean countries, including a capacity development programme proposal,

### **4. Developing and reviewing relevant measures for implementation of EcAp (Project Outcome D, Outputs D1, D2 and an optional D3 – provided that additional funding is secured in the lifespan of the Project)**

The UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention has already developed several systems to enhance the quality and management of the marine environment and its resources many of which are planned to be revised in the course

of the current biennium including SAP BIO, SAP MED and others. All those revisions as foreseen in the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work will be undertaken through the specific measures and mechanisms identified in the Programme of Work taking into account the progress achieved in the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach both in terms of the objectives to be achieved as well as in terms of the harmonized timeline and cycle agreed.

This project will in particular contribute to the following measures:

i. Offshore Protocol Action Plan

The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and Seabed and its Subsoil, so-called off-shore Protocol which was adopted in 1994 entered into force in 2011 at a time of increasing deep-sea drilling in the Mediterranean. COP 17 recognized the need to take swift action to transform the Protocol into an effective protection tool. It adopted Decision IG. 20/12 requesting the Coordinating Unit and REMPEC to take measures to implement the Protocol through an Action Plan which this project will contribute to implement.

The process will be led by REMPEC together with the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit. The activities will focus on drafting an action plan for the implementation of Offshore protocol, including indicators and socio economic information (to be defined in a later stage) relevant to futures phases of ecosystem assessments. In details:

- Identifying the best practices on the various aspects of offshore exploration and production.
- Benchmarking exercise of current and planned offshore activities in the Mediterranean Area
- Drafting of the Action Plan
- Meeting of the ad hoc working group coordinated by REMPEC composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties and observers from representatives of the concerned industries, relevant international organizations and MAP partners with a view to lead the work for preparing an in depth assessment and stock taking analysis of the existing practical measures in place in the Mediterranean countries with regard to Offshore activities as a baseline to measure progress towards Protocol implementation in the future;
- Meeting of parties to discuss the products of the above-mentioned process

ii. Preparing the grounds for adoption of measures in EBSAs in open seas, including the deep seas

There are 25 SPAMIs already established in the Mediterranean in accordance with article 9 of the SPA and Biodiversity protocol of the Barcelona convention. This number increased to 32, with the decision of COP17 in February 2012, however the representativeness is unbalanced, as only one of them (Pelagos Sanctuary) clearly embraces open seas, including deep seas.

The aim of a Joint Management Action of the European Community with the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) started in 2007 is to promote through the SPAMI system the establishment of a representative network of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean open seas, including the deep seas, as a strategy to reach the Aichi 2020 target, where 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes, and as stated in the decisions of COP 16 in Marrakesh and COP 17 in Paris regarding the Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) in the Mediterranean. The action is implemented by the UNEP MAP Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) according to consecutive different phases.

According to the SPA/BD Protocol, Article 9, proposals for the SPAMI List may be submitted by “(i) two or more neighboring Parties if the area lies wholly or partially in the high sea, and (ii) by the concerned neighboring Parties in areas where the boundaries of national jurisdiction or sovereignty have not yet been defined”.

The first phase was completed in 2009 and included an assessment based on the available scientific knowledge to identify priority conservation areas in the open seas, including the deep seas, likely to contain sites that could be candidates for the SPAMI List. As per the decision IG 20/7 of the COP 17 of the Barcelona Convention the study “Synthesis report on the work carried out regarding EBSAs identification in the Mediterranean” has been presented to the CBD.

The second phase completed in 2011 aimed to facilitate the process of designating as SPAMIs certain sites in areas beyond national jurisdiction included in the priority conservation areas identified during the first phase, by supporting the establishment of agreed procedures among Parties and catalyzing working groups between neighboring countries concerned.

On the basis of the lessons learned from the implementation of the project's second phase, and upon consultation with the project Steering Committee at its third meeting (December 16, 2011. Tunis, Tunisia), the next phase aims to contributing to build a framework with the countries and competent organizations to facilitate the joint establishment of SPAMIs in open seas, including the deep seas.

Several of the follow up activities agreed with the project Steering Committee are included in this proposal, having regard that: a) not all the actions envisaged for a third phase regarding open seas conservation might be financed through the available funds under this Project; b) several non EU countries have shown their willingness for transboundary cooperation for the creation of SPAMIs jointly with their European Union neighbours, notably in the areas of Alboran Sea, Adriatic Sea and Strait of Sicily.

These activities will add up to CBD target on marine protected areas, UNEP/MAP SAP BIO regional priorities and EU biodiversity strategy, Natura 2000 and other EU legal instruments as appropriate, through the improvement of the representativeness of the Mediterranean network of marine protected areas (which is currently mainly made of coastal MPAs).

They contribute to build a framework with countries neighbour to the EU and key competent organizations in the region to facilitate the joint establishment of SPAMIs in open seas, including the deep seas, through:

- National and sub-regional consultation processes facilitation to countries showing interest, both on-going (Alboran Sea) and starting (Adriatic Sea, Strait of Sicily), in order to support the preparation of joint SPAMI proposal in areas embracing open seas and engaging countries neighbour to EU in the process

The countries surrounding the areas that are already involved in coordination processes have proved their involvement and favourable will for those areas conservation. The other two areas to be addressed in this new phase comprise several countries having already expressed to RAC/SPA their willingness for supporting the development of exchanges aimed to the same purpose.

Consultation processes will be set up through the organization of sub-regional meetings. If need be, depending on the national context, national meetings will be supported to inform the different departments and Ministries concerned, with the purpose of facilitating their participation to the sub-regional consultation meetings.

Relying on Decision IG.20/7 and the new section added to the Annotated Format for the presentation reports for the areas proposed for inclusion in the SPAMI List that could be used for the preliminary declaration of SPAMI proposals, the neighbouring countries involved in consultation processes will be strongly invited to use this possibility as a first politically committed step towards the preparation of joint SPAMI proposals.

- Identification of good practices for elaborating, adopting and implementing management plans in the case of those joint SPAMIs in the open seas

Pursuant to the reflections initiated with the "Approach to facilitate the preparation of joint proposals for inclusion in the SPAMI List in accordance with Article 9 of the SPA/BD Protocol", this activity will be done through a study on best practices and case studies related to the management of wide trans-boundary areas, straddle marine resources as well as marine protected areas comprising notably large extensions of ocean. Through this study a particular attention will be given on the institutional aspects related to the elaboration and implementation of the management plans in the Parties which have demonstrated their willingness to participate in the establishment of joint SPAMIs. This study will support the Contracting Parties to get clearer ideas on the kind of existing structures and governance bodies of trans-boundary managed areas, and on their functioning related to the elaboration, adoption and implementation of their management plan.

- Development of a joint strategy with ACCOBAMS, IUCN and GFCM in coordination with MedPAN, on how to address the issues of common interest in Alboran Sea, Adriatic Sea and Strait of Sicily, including promotion and fund raising for oceanographic surveys in those areas

The short and medium term programmes and activities of the above institutions will be jointly analysed and discussed in order to search for commonalities and future synergies favouring the conservation of pelagic and deep seas ecosystems in those areas. In addition, a position paper, containing a comprehensive breakdown of each organization's position on the topics being discussed, informing on current facts on the matter, regarding each organizations, as well as proposals for common resolutions on the issues related to the establishment and management of joint SPAMIs in open seas will be jointly elaborated by the involved organizations (MedPAN, ACCOBAMS, IUCN, GFCM and MAP) and will be sent to their respective Focal Points with the purpose of promoting synergy at the national levels between the different concerned Ministries. Oceanographic surveys will be jointly promoted and fund raising pursued.

The project aims at preparation of joint SPAMI proposals in areas embracing open seas, including identification of good practices for elaborating, adopting and implementing management plans, in Alboran Sea, Adriatic Sea and Strait of Sicily.

Should progress in one of the above prospective SPAMI areas gets stuck, UNEP/MAP, as project coordinator, will submit early enough to the Project Steering Committee proposals for funding reallocation, for example in order to support a better survey and information gathering including through oceanographic surveys, of the areas progressing at commitment level.

- iii. **(Provided that necessary funding is secured) Implementation of the Mediterranean marine litter strategic framework**

The 17th Contracting Parties meeting adopted the Mediterranean Strategic framework on marine litter as well as a set of activities for its implementation that were adopted as part of MAP programme of work. The proposed activities will focus on strengthening the MEDPOL information system in this respect taking into account the EcAp related indicators and include assessment and public awareness issues in order to complete the information gathered on marine litter during the last years with up to date information on marine litter sources including in particular the abandoned fishing gears. The activities related to monitoring are included in the respective chapter on monitoring of this project proposal. The following activities will be undertaken under this work item:

- a) Assessment of abandoned fishing gears in the Mediterranean
- b) Workshop (Focal points, NGOs, partner organisations, fishermen communities) contributing to agreement on a baseline and a target reduction of marine litter
- c) Extend the information system of MEDPOL to marine litter indicators on impact and sources

## **5. Overall governance of the Ecosystem Approach (Project Outcome E)**

The objective is to support the overall governance of the EcAp in the Mediterranean through enabling UNEP/MAP Secretariat to effectively program and coordinate the implementation of EcAp, as well as enhance the CPs ownership by an efficiently operating EcAp Coordination Group, as decided by the 17th Contracting Parties in 2012, which will be composed MAP focal points, the Coordinating Unit, the MAP components and MAP partners to oversee the implementation of the ecosystem approach, identifying progress gaps in the implementation of the road map and find feasible solutions for the advancement of the EcAp agenda. This Coordination Group will inform the Bureau about the results and the MAP components on the action they need to take. The group will validate at policy level and in an integrated manner the results of the scientific and technical work carried out at regional and sub-regional level and prepare the necessary draft decisions for the MAP and CPs meetings consideration. The meeting is proposed to be held every year, and every second year back to back with the MAP focal points meeting

The implementation of the project will be coordinated by MAP Secretariat. This project is complex and involves a large number of activities, the organizations of several workshops and meetings with scientists, partners, and contracting parties' representatives. The project should be also implemented in an integrated manner and involves almost all MAP components /Regional Activity Centres. Follow up of the EU MSFD implementation platform, ensuring the necessary synergies and effective coordination within the MAP system are key for the success of the project. Therefore there is a need to establish a full term post for undertaking the necessary tasks related to supporting the project coordination.

For the period 2014-2015, a proposal will be submitted to the Contracting Parties during COP 18, as a demonstration of the Parties commitment to the Ecosystem Approach that, depending on budget availability, MTF covers an agreed share of this item; the funds to be released will be used for other EcAp activities, already described in the present contract, to be decided in more detail by the Project Steering Committee.

## Stakeholder Analysis

UNEP MAP relies on and has close ties with numerous internal and external stakeholders who are instrumental in ensuring the ongoing success of initiatives and resource efficiency approaches. Challenges to effectively engaging partners and stakeholders include accurately identifying the issues on the table, credibility of the process, impartiality of facilitation and coordination body and vision and commitment of key stakeholders. To avoid problems related to complex and controversial nature of wide stakeholder engagement, different level of engagement will be established: low that involves of exchange of ideas and perceptions through consultative seminars and interviews with objective to contribute inputs to the process, medium that requires proactive participation in meetings and workshops, and high which is based on key stakeholders engagement also in management of the process.

Specific Stakeholder groups vary from project to project, however an encompassing representation includes:

- **Government decision-makers at national and local levels** - representatives from the beneficiary country ministries of environment, fishery as well as relevant general directorates
- **Scientific community** - expertise of researchers from universities, consultants as well as technical staff based in the regions
- **Civil Society** - most notably non-governmental organizations (NGOs), play a crucial role in society by raising awareness of important issues and linking society with decision makers in both government and the private sector. Due consideration will be given to work with professional association on issues of their mandate and concern such as fishery and aquaculture communities.
- **International Institutions** - global initiatives and institutions incorporating experts and representatives from government, business and industry.
- **Other regional seas conventions around Europe (OSPAR, HELCOM, Bucharest Convention)**
- High level of engagement will be pursued with the following bodies:

- **General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)**

Consisting of 23 Member countries along with the European Union, the GFCM's objectives are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and best utilization of living marine resources, as well as the sustainable development of aquaculture in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and connecting waters. It plays a key role in the implementation of the Ecosystem approach to fisheries in the Mediterranean. The GFCM has the authority to adopt binding recommendations for fisheries conservation and management in its Convention Area and plays a critical role in fisheries governance in the Region including its authority for the creation of fisheries restricted areas (FRA) in open seas, including deep seas.

- **The Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)**

ACCOBAMS is a cooperative tool for the conservation of marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean and Black Seas. It is an Agreement of the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). Its purpose is to reduce threats to cetaceans in Mediterranean and Black Sea waters and improve our knowledge of these animals.

- **MedPAN**

MedPAN is the network of managers of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean. The objective of the network is to improve the effectiveness of marine protected areas management in the Mediterranean. The MedPAN network today counts over 39 members, mainly managers of marine protected areas from the entire Mediterranean basin, and 22 partners that are keen to contribute to the strengthening of the network. These partners manage more than 30 marine protected areas and are working towards the creation of several new sites.

- **The International Union for the Conservation of Nature, IUCN**

Founded in 1948 as the world's first global environmental organization, IUCN is today the largest professional global conservation network and a leading authority on the environment and sustainable development. It embraces more than 1200 member organizations including 200+ governmental and 900+ non-governmental organizations. It is a neutral forum for governments, NGOs, scientists, business and local communities to find pragmatic solutions to conservation and development challenges. IUCN is being very active in supporting gatherings and exchanges to aid improving governance of the Mediterranean.

- Other regional level initiatives:

- **PERSEUS**

PERSEUS is a demonstration project involving 29 partners from 12 countries, and funded by the EU FP7 security programme. Its goal is to define a system of systems for maritime surveillance, to deploy it across the Mediterranean and to operate it by exercising a comprehensive set of maritime surveillance cross-border scenarios in 2013 and 2014.

- **PEGASO**

People for Ecosystem-based Governance in Assessing Sustainable development of Ocean and coast Project – PEGASO has the objective to build on existing capacities and develop common novel approaches to support integrated policies for the coastal, marine and maritime realms of the Mediterranean and Black Sea Basins in ways that are consistent with and relevant to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean. It is funded by the European Union within FP7- Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

## Partnership Analysis

UNEP is committed to close cooperation with other UN offices and divisions, as well as with key inter-agency networks and external partners. An extensive external partnership base already exists amongst academics, organizations, universities, governments, IGOs and NGOs. The Project incorporates a range of partners both specific and broader depending on the deliverables and scope of the project.

MED POL and UNEP MAP's regional activity centres (RACs) will play a critical role in the implementation. The following RACs will be implementing agencies of the project:

### **MED POL(Coordinating Unit, Greece)**

The MED POL Programme (the marine pollution assessment and control component of MAP) is responsible for the follow up work related to the implementation of the LBS Protocol, the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (1980, as amended in 1996), and of the dumping and Hazardous Wastes Protocols. MED POL assists Mediterranean countries in the formulation and implementation of pollution monitoring programmes, including pollution control measures, including drafting of action plans aiming to eliminate pollution from land-based sources.

### **Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre (BP/RAC), France**

The Blue Plan is an international centre which, in the framework of regional cooperation, is entrusted with producing information and knowledge along with drawing up scenarios for the future in order to alert the decision makers and stakeholders to the challenges facing the Mediterranean countries as well as to assist in the decision making process in matter of environmental issues and sustainable development.

### **Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC), Tunisia**

Focuses on biodiversity and is involved in the protection of Mediterranean species, their habitats and ecosystems. It is responsible for the follow up work related to the implementation of the ASP/BD Protocol, the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (1995), It further implements the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean Region (2003), develops management plans, information tools for monitoring, and promotes awareness campaigns and the circulation of information among specialists and relevant international organisations including NGOs.

### **Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), Malta**

Assists Mediterranean coastal states to build up their national prevention and response capabilities to be prepared for major marine pollution incidents, such as the Erika and the Prestige. The centre also facilitates cooperation between countries in combating accidental marine pollution from a range of hazardous substances including oil. REMPEC is managed under the joint auspices of MAP and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).

## **Socio-economic Contribution, including Gender and Poverty Alleviation**

The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. It is based on the application of appropriate scientific methodologies focused on levels of biological organization which encompass the essential processes, functions and interactions among organisms and their environment. It recognizes that humans, with their cultural diversity, are an integral component of ecosystems.

The first principle of Ecosystem Approach state that the objectives of management of land, water and living resources are a matter of societal choices. Different sectors of society view ecosystems in terms of their own economic, cultural and society needs. Indigenous peoples and other local communities living on the land are important stakeholders and their rights and interests should be recognized. Both cultural and biological diversity are central components of the ecosystem approach, and management should take this into account. Societal choices should be expressed as clearly as possible. Ecosystems should be managed for their intrinsic values and for the tangible or intangible benefits for humans, in a fair and equitable way.

The management should be decentralized to the lowest appropriate level. Decentralized systems may lead to greater efficiency, effectiveness and equity. Management should involve all stakeholders and balance local interests with the wider public interest. The closer management is to the ecosystem, the greater the responsibility, ownership, accountability, participation, and use of local knowledge.

Management interventions in ecosystems often have unknown or unpredictable effects on other ecosystems; therefore, possible impacts need careful consideration and analysis. This may require new arrangements or ways of organization for institutions involved in decision-making to make, if necessary, appropriate compromises.

Recognizing potential gains from management, there is usually a need to understand and manage the ecosystem in an economic context. Any such ecosystem-management programme should:

- Reduce those market distortions that adversely affect biological diversity;
- Align incentives to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;
- Internalize costs and benefits in the given ecosystem to the extent feasible.

The greatest threat to biological diversity lies in its replacement by alternative systems of land use, which may hamper the poverty eradication efforts.

The changing land use often arises through market distortions, which undervalue natural systems and populations and provide perverse incentives and subsidies to favour the conversion of land to less diverse systems.

Often those who benefit from conservation do not pay the costs associated with conservation and, similarly, those who generate environmental costs (e.g. pollution) escape responsibility. Alignment of incentives allows those who control the resource to benefit and ensures that those who generate environmental costs will pay.

Conservation of ecosystem structure and functioning, in order to maintain ecosystem services, is a priority target of the ecosystem approach. Ecosystem functioning and resilience depends on a dynamic relationship within species, among species and between species and their abiotic environment, as well as the physical and chemical interactions within the environment. The conservation and, where appropriate, restoration of these interactions and processes is of greater significance for the long-term maintenance of biological diversity than simply protection of species.

The ecosystem approach should be undertaken at the appropriate spatial and temporal scales. The approach should be bounded by spatial and temporal scales that are appropriate to the objectives. Boundaries for management will be defined operationally by users, managers, scientists and indigenous and local peoples, with a special emphasis on gender.

Recognizing the varying temporal scales and lag-effects that characterize ecosystem processes, objectives for ecosystem management should be set for the long term. Ecosystem processes are characterized by varying temporal scales and lag-effects. This inherently conflicts with the tendency of humans to favour short-term gains and immediate benefits over future ones.

The ecosystem approach should seek the appropriate balance between, and integration of, conservation and use of biological diversity. Biological diversity is critical both for its intrinsic value and because of the key role it plays in providing the ecosystem and other services upon which we all ultimately depend. There has been a tendency in the past to manage components of biological diversity either as protected or non-protected. There is a need for a shift to more flexible situations, where conservation and use are seen in context and the full range of measures is applied in a continuum from strictly protected to human-made ecosystems

The ecosystem approach should consider all forms of relevant information, including scientific and indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices. Information from all sources is critical to arriving at effective ecosystem management strategies. A much better knowledge of ecosystem functions and the impact of human use is desirable.

The ecosystem approach should involve all relevant sectors of society and scientific disciplines. Most problems of biological-diversity management are complex, with many interactions, side-effects and implications, and therefore should involve the necessary expertise and stakeholders at the local, national, regional and international level, as appropriate.

Traditionally women are key actors in livelihoods directly linked to natural resources. By improving the quality of the ecosystems and their resilience, the project outcomes will have direct or indirect positive impacts on socio-economic life, health and social inclusion of women..

Moreover, the principles of the internationally recognized information tools, to be promoted within this project, will ensure that gender imbalances are considered and addressed. This will be linked to the international agreed development goals and intergovernmental commitments towards gender equality.

## **Critical Success Factors**

### **General success factors for the project include:**

- Adequate resources to undertake the activities and meet the expectation of key stakeholders supporting the process
- Commitment and engagement of key stakeholders in the process
- Effective and transparent mediation, coordination and management by UNEP staff and RACs in the region
- Effective support and delivery of administrative services in UNEP and UNON
- Shared sense of responsibility and commitment for uptake of the concepts and best practices by the convened parties.
- Due to global and national focus of certain sub-activities the results will also depend on geo-political and social stability.

## Logical Framework

**Table 2: UNEP Logical Framework<sup>1</sup>**

1. Project Outcome = Expected Accomplishment or PoW Output	Indicators <sup>2</sup>	Means of Verification	
Substantive progress achieved by contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention in the implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap in the context of the decisions to be adopted on the subject by the 17th Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and in full synergy with the EU MSFD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substantive progress reported on implementation of Decision (s) leading to the further implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap and new decisions adopted by the 18th Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention</li> <li>Contracting Parties' ownership generated</li> </ul>	Decisions on the implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap and report by the COP.	
2. Project Outputs:	Indicators	Means of Verification	PoW-EA Output <sup>3</sup>
A) An integrated assessment policy adopted & Socio-economic assessment continued on Ecosystem services and development of a common understanding amongst PC	<p>An integrated MAP Assessment policy developed and endorsed</p> <p>Completion of the study at regional and sub-regional scale</p> <p>Establishment of an Ad hoc working group for socio economic assessment to strengthen common comprehension and appropriation by CP</p> <p>Socio-economic assessment adopted by COP 18</p>	<p>The Policy Report</p> <p>Mandate of working group transmitted to Contracting Parties</p> <p>Socio-economic assessment Decision of COP 18</p> <p>Decision of the COP on the integrated MAP assessment policy</p>	<p>1.2.1.4</p> <p>1.2.1.5</p> <p>3.1.1.2</p>
B) Scientifically sound methodology for the definition of GES and targets identified for the ecosystems approach indicators through a process of consultation, with a pilot case of successfully tested EcAp indicators	<p>Full ownership by Contracting Parties of the scientific and technical level work on GES and targets achieved</p> <p>Pilot implementation realized</p>	<p>Decision of the COP on the definition of GES and setting of targets</p> <p>Pilot implementation report</p>	1.2.1.4
C) An updated integrated monitoring programme for the Mediterranean designed to fulfil data needs to assess progress towards achievement of targets which gradually expands from pollution to biodiversity and coastal issues in accordance with the objectives agreed to address as a matter of priority under the ecosystem approach.	<p>An integrated monitoring programme in line with the implementation of the Ecosystem approach is in place</p> <p>A national needs assessment undertaken</p>	<p>Decision of the COP on the approval of the integrated monitoring programme of MAP</p> <p>National needs assessment report</p>	<p>1.2.1.3</p> <p>4.1.1.1</p> <p>4.1.1.2</p> <p>4.1.1.3</p>

<p>D) Relevant measures for implementation of EcAp developed and reviewed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The process to contribute to building a framework with countries neighbour to the EU and key competent organizations in the region to facilitate the joint establishment of SPAMIs in open seas, including the deep seas, as an effective tool to implement the ecosystem approach in those areas</li> </ul>	<p>Approved the draft SPAMI proposals or SPAMI intended creation texts by NFP for SPA</p> <p>Good SPAMI management plans practices are reported</p> <p>Strategy text validated by concerned institutions</p>	<p>Timely completion of facilitation meetings for the interested sub-regions (one on-going from previous phase and two ones starting in this phase)</p> <p>Consultants reports, RAC/SPA staff reports on the interested subregions, Draft SPAMI proposal texts contents facilitation to the sub-regional working groups</p> <p>Report on the good practices for elaborating, adopting and implementing management plans in the case of joint SPAMIs in the open seas in the interested subregions</p> <p>Joint strategy with ACCOBAMS, IUCN and GFCM on how to address the issues of common interest for marine areas in Alboran, Adriatic and Strait of Sicily including promotion and fund raising for oceanographic surveys</p>	<p>1.1.5.2</p> <p>3.3.1.4</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An action plan for the implementation of Offshore protocol developed, including indicators and socio economic information relevant to futures phases of ecosystem assessments</li> </ul>	<p>The identified best practices on the various aspects of offshore exploration and production.</p> <p>The successfully driven development process of Offshore Action Plan</p> <p>The Meeting of the ad hoc working group coordinated by REMPEC</p>	<p>Report on best practices</p> <p>The Offshore Action Plan validated by participants and submitted to COP18</p> <p>The Meeting Report</p>	<p>1.2.1.5</p>
<p>E) UNEP MAP Secretariat strengthened to be able to meet the requirements for effective programming and coordination throughout the process with regard to the implementation of the ecosystem approach.</p>	<p>Project coordination arrangements and coordinator in place</p> <p>Efficiently operating EcAp Coordination Group</p>	<p>The project coordinator contract</p> <p>EcAp Coordination Group meeting reports</p>	<p>1.1.5.1</p>

3. Project Milestones <sup>4</sup> :	Expected Milestone Delivery Date
<b>M1</b> A proposal for the Contracting Parties at its 18th Meeting on the methodology for the determination of GES and targets for the ecosystem approach objectives (Output A milestone)	Adoption of the policy on targets at the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties
<b>M2</b> Submission of a MAP integrated monitoring programme	Submission of the preliminary outcomes of the integrated monitoring programme at the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties The final version of the monitoring programme to be ready in the third year of the Project.
<b>M3</b> Submission of a MAP Assessment policy	Adoption of the MAP assessment policy at the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties
<b>M4</b> Launching of Action Plan of the Offshore Protocol	Adoption of the Offshore Protocol Action Plan at the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties
<b>M5</b> Launching of the Report on economic and social analysis of the impact of human activities (including fisheries, aquaculture, maritime transport, recreational activities, oil industry and offshore), including the costs of degradation in case of non-action on the proposed measures	Adoption of the Socio-economic report at the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties
<b>M6.</b> The enlargement of the SPAMI network and the improvement of their representativeness to the open seas, including the deep seas, are promoted through demonstrated engagements by Contracting Parties; funds planned for three areas concentrate since this stage in the ones which have reached the milestone	Annotated Format for preliminary declaration of SPAMI proposals presented at the 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties
<b>M7.</b> The enlargement of the SPAMI network and the improvement of their representativeness are undertaken by mainstreaming the ecosystems approach to management of the open seas, including the deep seas.	Adoption of the new SPAMI List at the 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties
<b>M8.</b> Effective coordination of project activities with Contracting Parties, UNEP/MAP network of RACs and relevant EU services; decision-making process supported by quality knowledge and efficient processes; and, full coordination with developments in the context of the application of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and Global Developments such as the UN Regular Process secured.	All project duration

1: Risks and assumptions should be captured in the Section 4. 2: Include baseline and targets. 3: Use nomenclature in the Programme Framework (Table 1). 4: A milestone is not equal to a summation of tasks or activities. Rather, it should represent the achievement of a feasible Project management stage and be *strictly* answerable with a yes or no answer.

## 4 Risk Analysis

**Table 3: Project Risk Log**

RISK LOG						
	Risk Description	Category	Impact Severity	Likelihood	Risk Management Strategy & Safeguards	By When/ Whom?
1.	Scarcity of financial resources	Financial	High	Medium	Identify additional fund sources	UNEP/MAP COORDINATING UNIT
2.	Relevant Focal Points to be identified	Organization	Medium	Medium	Ensure that the representative of the Ad hoc Working Group is involved in the management of offshore activities in its country  Ensure that the representatives of the GES and Targets Working Group are national experts for the relative Ecological Objectives	Contracting Parties and Secretariat
3.	No identified knowledge point on the definition of GES and targets for some of the Ecological Objectives and monitoring methodologies	Organization	High	Medium	Hire consultants and strengthen the coordination with other components involved	MED POL
4.	Scarcity of human resources	Organization	High	Medium	Hire a consultant	All components

5.	Reluctance to participate in an exercise which could end up with new standards and regulations, for the stakeholders.	Economic	Medium	Medium	Ensure coherence with other legal instruments regulating offshore activities and ensure the involvement of the concerned industries at an early stage	Stakeholders
6.	No identified knowledge point on the various issues involved by offshore activities within the MAP	Organization	Medium	High	Hire a consultant and strengthen the coordination with other components involved (steering group)	REMPEC
7.	Possible reticence to share information on activities and projects related to offshore activities, for the Contracting Parties.	Political	High	Medium	Renew the commitment of the Contracting Parties to fully cooperate	REMPEC
8.	The overall topic could provoke adverse effect on regional cooperation	Political	Medium	Medium	Insist on the technical side of the work to overcome political interference	UNEP/MAP COORDINATING UNIT, MEDPOL, REMPEC
9.	Part of the information could be considered as essential and not communicable	Economic	High	High	Consult the stakeholders and if the risk is confirmed, design a policy on confidentiality of sensitive information	REMPEC, MED POL
10.	Countries do not cooperate with national information for the prospective SPAMI	Political	Medium	Low	Fluent direct communication with Parties by the side of RAC/SPA and UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit	Tailored to events and shortly after arousal/ Project Officers, UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit Coordinator and Programme Officer if needed

11.	The concerned countries refuse to cooperate in the processes of elaboration and submission of SPAMI presentation reports	Political	High	Medium	Appropriate recall and promotion of Parties' engagements towards the Protocol ASP/BD and CBD Aichi targets; plus reallocation of remaining available funding only to support countries with demonstrable cooperation ongoing	Tailored to events and shortly after arousal /UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit Coordinator and Programme Officer
12.	Countries lack means to contribute national information for the prospective SPAMIs	Financial	Low	High	Support through the project means collaborations frames with other organisations, notably by raising funds for surveys in synergy with them	From the beginning/ RAC/SPA Project Officers, team of consultants, collaborations by other organisations
13.	Ad hoc working group on EcAp socio economic issues does not work efficiently	Political	High	Low	The EcAp government designated expert group has demonstrated a strong interest of Mediterranean Coastal countries for EcAp and especially socioeconomic assessment. This interest should guarantee a timely forming and an efficient work of the Working Group.	Month 6 after the beginning of the action / CU action responsible
14.	Idem	Organization	Medium	Low	Plan Bleu has long experience of the organization and facilitation of Working Group.	Month 12 after the beginning of the action / Plan Bleu action responsible

### Project Specific Opportunities

The Project provides a strong potential for replicability in other Regional Seas Programmes, notably aiding value to the governance of open seas and deep seas around the Parties to other Regional Seas Conventions.

## 5 Reporting & Evaluation

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### Progress & Financial Report

The Project will follow UNEP standard processes and procedures including for reporting and evaluation.

Reporting is an integral part of the UNEP Project Manager's responsibility, including getting the necessary inputs from any sub-contracted partners.

A unified half-yearly 'Progress & Financial Report' will be submitted to the relevant Programme Framework Coordinating Division in an electronic format with a copy to QAS by:

- 31 July for the period between 1 January and 30 June or parts thereof for any given year **AND** by
- 31 January for the period between 1 July and 31 December or parts thereof for any given year.
- The last Progress & Financial Report (Final Report) must be submitted within 60 days of Project Closure.

### Monitoring

#### Activity reports

On a half-year basis monitoring and evaluation information will be collected from partners and analyzed by the project coordinator and submitted to the Executive Secretary and Coordinator of United Nations Environment Programme Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan. Activities will be monitored against the Logical Framework and Objectively Verifiable Indicators. Moreover, the activity reports should include: progress achieved in the planned activities, targets reach, problems encountered and actions taken to overcome the difficulties and expenditures incurred. If deviations from planned project progress are detected corrective actions will be taken.

#### Final report

Within 60 days of the completion of the project, a final report will be prepared by Programme Officers using the format required.

#### Administrative financial reports

Administrative and financial evaluation is to be conducted according to the UN Rules and Regulations and includes a final project evaluation.

The programme officers will regularly communicate with project partners to follow up with them on project expenditures. Project partners will submit financial reports to the project coordinator based on the schedule outlined in the project documents agreed. A final expenditure account will be prepared jointly with the programme officers within 90 days of the end of the project.

#### External evaluation

It will be carried out at the end of the project.

#### Indicators

The indicators proposed for the monitoring and evaluation are measurable (both by its nature and due to availability of information sources) and reflect desired expected accomplishments of the project. They are presented in the logical framework matrix.

### Evaluation

The project will be externally evaluated according to UNEP's standard procedures. The evaluation will use the indicators defined in the log-frame matrix as indicators on to what extent the project contributes to the global consensus and promotion of tools and training approaches, in striving towards global consensus.

The funds for evaluation of activities is included in the project budget, and will cover a desk study, on line data collection, and a representative number of missions to conduct face-to-face interviews.

## 6 Delivery Plan, Budget, and Organization

### Project Delivery Plan and Budget

Table 5: Project Delivery Plan and Budget

ID <sup>1</sup>	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO <sup>2</sup>	Partner(s)	2012-2015		Budget EURO			
				Start Date	End Date	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Total
IMIS	<b>Project Output A:</b> An integrated assessment policy adopted	Coordinating Unit, REMPEC, BLUE PLAN and MEDPOL							
A1	Formulation of cyclical MAP policy regarding assessment, identification of needs for undertaking thematic assessments in line with the EcAp. – Strengthening the information system for the implementation of the EcAp. Mapping, GIS and Preparatory activities leading to the preparation of a State of Environment report 2015	<i>Coordinating Unit, MEDPOL and Blue Plan RAC</i>		M1	M25	28,000	31,000	36,000	95,000
A2	Further develop the study on socio-economic assessment on ecosystem services carried out by Blue Plan RAC. Analysis of ecosystem services and exploration of priority sectors, including assessment of cost of degradation. Elaborating a common understanding and appropriation strengthening in negotiation with countries through the establishment of an Ad Hoc working group with the Parties. Development of guidelines for national studies adapted to non-EU MS, discussed within the Ad hoc working group.	<i>BP RAC and Coordinating Unit</i>		M2	M30	22,500	27,500	43,500	93,500
IMIS	<b>Project Output B:</b> Scientifically sound GES and targets identified for the ecosystems approach indicators through a process of consultation	UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit	MED POL, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC, REMPEC, Blue Plan						

ID <sup>1</sup>	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO <sup>2</sup>	Partner(s)	2012-2015		Budget EURO			
				Start Date	End Date	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Total
B1	<p>Scientific and policy support to the development of targets to achieve good environmental status and for the Mediterranean sea and its coastal region.</p> <p>a) 3-5 technical workshops with regional and national experts; targeted expert discussion on indicators and thresholds for the Mediterranean region,</p> <p>b) scientific assistance to Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>advisory consultations /meetings with countries, data gathering,</li> </ul> <p>c) workshop on the assessment of policy requirements at national and regional levels complementing scientific analysis with targets definition.</p>	UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit		M1	M10	154,000	83,000	88,000	325,000
B2 and E2	<p>Generate contracting Parties ownership through intensive consultation meetings at technical expert and higher level</p> <p>a) Meeting of the EcAp Coordinating Group that will be established due to the decision adopted during COP17 in Paris, France.</p>	UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit		M3	M33	38,000	35,000	35,000	108,000
B3	<p>Piloting of EcAp indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Testing of indicators with a view to assess the applicability with regard to programmes and measures in one selected area of the Mediterranean to be presented to the Parties at the 18th COP.</li> </ul>	UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit		M3	M12	45,000	45,000		90,000
IMIS	<p><b>Project Output C:</b> An updated and integrated monitoring programme for the Mediterranean designed to fulfil data needs to assess progress towards achievement of targets which gradually expands from pollution to biodiversity and coastal issues in accordance with the objectives agreed to address as a matter of priority under the ecosystem approach</p>	MEDPOL and Coordinating Unit							
C1	The mobilisation of the necessary scientific and technical expertise through the organisation of technical consultation meetings, synergies and coordination with other Partner organisations for	MEDPOL and Coordinating Unit		M1	M17	38,000	145,000	10,000	193,000

ID <sup>1</sup>	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO <sup>2</sup>	Partner(s)	2012-2015		Budget EURO			
				Start Date	End Date	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Total
	elaboration and implementation platform of the integrated monitoring programme.								
C2	Needs assessment for capacity building and Technical assistance to countries based on the requirements identified providing an indication of the needs for drafting national monitoring programmes after 2014	MEDPOL and Coordinating Unit		M20	M32			88,000	88,000
IMIS	<b>Project Output D:</b> Relevant measures for implementation of EcAp developed and reviewed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An action plan for the implementation of Offshore protocol developed, including indicators and socio economic information relevant to futures phases of ecosystem assessments</li> <li>• The process of establishing joint SPAMIs in open seas, including the deep seas supported, as an effective tool to implement the ecosystem approach in those areas</li> </ul>	SPA RAC, REMPEC and Coordinating Unit							
D1	To draft an action plan for the implementation of Offshore protocol, including indicators and socio economic information (to be defined in a later stage) relevant to futures phases of ecosystem assessments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Identifying the best practices on the various aspects of offshore exploration and production.</li> <li>– Benchmarking exercise of current and planned offshore activities in the Mediterranean Area</li> <li>– Drafting of the Action Plan</li> <li>– Meeting of the ad hoc working group coordinated by REMPEC composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties and observers from representatives of the concerned industries, relevant international organizations and MAP partners with a view to lead the work for preparing an in depth assessment and stock taking analysis of the existing practical measures in place in the Mediterranean countries with regard to Offshore activities as a baseline to measure progress towards Protocol implementation in the future;</li> </ul>	REMPEC and Coordinating Unit		M1	M18	75,000	84,000		159,000
D2	Contributing to build a framework with countries neighbour to EU and key competent organizations in the region to facilitate the joint establishment of SPAMIs in open seas, including the deep seas:	SPA RAC, and Coordinating Unit	ACCOBAMS, IUCN and GFCM	M1	M27	47,000	98,500	41,500	187,000

ID <sup>1</sup>	Project Outputs & Activities	Responsible Division/RO <sup>2</sup>	Partner(s)	2012-2015		Budget EURO			
				Start Date	End Date	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	Total
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“National and sub-regional consultation processes facilitation to countries showing interest, both on-going (Alboran Sea) and starting (Adriatic Sea, Strait of Sicily), in order to support the preparation of joint SPAMI proposal in areas embracing open seas and engaging countries neighbour to EU in the process”</li> <li>Identification of good practices for elaborating, adopting and implementing management plans in the case of those joint SPAMIs in the open seas               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a joint strategy with ACCOBAMS, IUCN and GFCM on how to address the issues of common interest in Alboran Sea, Adriatic Sea and Strait of Sicily, including promotion and fund raising for oceanographic surveys</li> </ul> </li> </ul>								
	<b>Project Output E:</b> Overall governance of Ecosystem Approach is ensured	UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit							
E1	Coordination is ensured within the UNEP MAP network (including MED POL and all Regional Activity Centers) as well as with the EU for effective integration of the ecosystem approach into the 5 year strategic work programme and its implementation as well as next programming cycles	UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit		M1	M36	60,000	45,000	66,780	171,780
IMIS	Total	<i>Managing Division/Org Unit</i>		<i>M1</i>	<i>M36</i>	<b>507,500</b>	<b>594,000</b>	<b>408,780</b>	<b>1,510,280</b>

1: After PAG approval an IMIS account breakdown by Project Output (including all activities under such an Output) will be required.

2: Must be the Division/Organisational Unit responsible for delivering Project Outputs (all activities below a Project Output falls under that Responsible Division).

## Project Organization and Management

The Project organization has assigned roles and responsibilities with respect to:

- Project governance (Project Steering Committee) and links to external partners,
- Project management both on the UNEP MAP and any partner organizations side, and
- Project quality assurance through a Technical Advisory Committee

### Project Management by UNEP MAP

UNEP rules and regulations will be applied on the management of the Project.

UNEP MAP will be responsible for coordination, management, monitoring, supervising and evaluating the implementation of the project. RACs will have several programme officers working as project managers of their respective activities. RACs and MED POL will also nominate responsible officers for their respective activities. Where necessary, all divisions will recruit consultants to assist needed activities, in line with applicable UNEP/MAP rules. A project manager will be designated at UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit in Athens, Greece.

### Project Steering Committee (PSC)

The PSC will have overall responsibility for project activities. It will provide strategic guidance and oversight and approve the work plans and budgets. The members of the PSC will include a representative of European Union, the president of EcAp Coordination Group and the Executive Secretary and Coordinator of the United Nations Environment Programme Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (Chairperson). The PSC will meet annually. Additional meetings based on the requirements of the Project may be convened exceptionally. The meetings will be convened by the Chairperson. For emergency issues the PSC may conduct its business electronically. The agenda and supporting documentation will be prepared and disseminated by the UNEP MAP Coordinating Unit. PSC members may make requests for items to be included on the agenda. A quorum of the PSC will consist of all the committee members.

The primary responsibilities of the PSC will be to:

- Review and endorse the Annual Work Plan and Budget submitted by project coordinator; ensure their conformity with the requirements of the EU Fund; ensure the quality of project documents to receive funding from the Fund.
- Discuss the project requirements and priorities concerning, inter alia:
  - project management, including consistent and common approaches to project costing, cost recovery, implementation modalities, results-based reporting and impact assessment,
  - information management, including appropriate Fund and donor visibility.
- Ensure that appropriate consultative processes take place with key stakeholders at the regional level in order to avoid duplication or overlap between the Fund and other funding mechanisms.
- Approve the reporting mechanism for the project.

### Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be established to provide technical advice to support project implementation. TAC has been envisaged as a set of platform for focused discussions, on key issues related to the objectives of the Project, as well as EcAp at a wider perspective. On-line discussions and provided that there are funds, in-person meetings will be facilitated for the operation of TAC. TAC is comprised of a core membership, and a wider network of scientific community, country representatives and other stakeholders might be invited to online discussions and attend meetings with respect to the agenda. The core membership of TAC will consist of 3- 4 experts in their relevant fields aligned with 11 Ecological Objectives, which the exact number will be decided referring to the outcomes of the EcAp Workshop that will take place in late May 2012.

## Use of Legal Instruments

The range of legal instruments commonly used by UNEP, such as procurements, consultancies, internal and external cooperation agreements will be used:

- with institutions to assist in providing technical and logistical support.;
- for individual contracts to provide technical expertise and support to initiative activities and documentation;
- with institutions to define strategic alliances for long-term collaboration on various activities;
- for inter-UNEP project implementation;
- with donors for shared funds and obligations; and
- any other deemed necessary.