The Mediterranean MPA network: how it contributes to the implementation of marine Natura 2000 objectives

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MedPAN
The Network of Managers of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Mediterranean

What are we?
The Network Mission

The MedPAN mission is to provide support to MPA managers and relevant organisations to reach and sustain an ecologically representative, well connected, efficiently managed network of Mediterranean MPAs. Thus, it contributes to achieving the objectives of international conventions & agreements (CBD, Barcelona Convention Protocol on Specially Protected Areas, ACCOBAMS) and European policies.
Brief History of the Network

- 1990 : MedPAN launched
- 1996 : activities stopped
- 2001 : Port-Cros National Park delegates the relaunching of the network to WWF-France
- 2005 - 2007 : INTERREG III C MEDPAN project with 23 partners
- 2007 : 1st conference of the Mediterranean MPA (Porquerolles – France)
- 2008 : Creation of the MedPAN Organisation at the request of MPA managers (legally independent)
- 2009 : Permanent Secretariat of the Organisation based in Hyères then Marseilles in 2013 (France)
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• « bottom-up » approach
• Project: common actions
• Governance of the network
The Network today

- The network counts to date
  - 9 founding members
  - 51 members
  - 37 partners

- A ‘human network’
  - women and men from 18 countries
  - representing close to 90 MPAs

- The Secretariat counts 7 staff

- The goal is to support MPA managers in order to enhance the management effectiveness of marine and coastal sites under protection
The Network governance

Board of Directors

The Secretariat

The Scientific Committee

The Advisory Committee

Steering Committees

General Assembly

Strategic & Financial Partners

60 members = MPA managers
The Network institutional links

MedPAN organisation
Board of Directors + Secretariat

Key International Conventions
- CBD: Convention on Biological Diversity
- UNFCCC: Convention on Climate Change
- CMS: Convention on Migratory Species

Key Regional Players / Partners
- UNEP-MAP
  - RAC/SPA
  - Blue Plan
  - PAP/RAC
- ACCOBAMS
- GFCM
  General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (& black sea)
- UfM - Union for the Mediterranean

Key Regional Players / Partners
- WWF
- IUCN
- Conservatoire du Littoral
- National Players
  - French MPA Agency
- Other: UNDP, AFD, Oceana, ...

Key European Directives/Policies/Agencies
- MSFD
- Obs. MEG / MSCG
- Bird & Habitats Dir.
- WFD
- CFP
- MSPD
- EEA / JRC / ETC

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Some of the Network projects

MedPAN organisation
Board of Directors + Secretariat

Key Regional Players / Partners including scientific institutions

- CoCoNET
- MEET
- MedSeaties
- FishMPABlue
- ECOSAFIMED
- REMARE
- ClicoMED
- MedTrends
- MedSea
- CoastNet
- MedPAN North

Support to other projects:
- UNDERSEE
- MERCES
- SeaAware
- Take the Med
- ATOLO
- Adriaptation
- ...

PROJECTS
Direct support to MPAs + N2000
Call for small projects for MedPAN members & Partners
Some of the Network projects

MedPAN organisation
Board of Directors + Secretariat

Key Regional Players / Partners including scientific institutions

- UNEP-MAP Towards an ecologically representative and efficiently managed network of Mediterranean MPAs (RAC/SPA – WWF MedPo – MedPAN)
- Excellent management of marine coastal territories, islands in the Mediterranean (Conservatoire du Littoral – WWF Med Po – MedPAN)

PROJECTS
Direct support to MPAs + N2000

Call for small projects for MedPAN members & Partners

- CoCoNET
- MEET
- MedSeaties
- FishMPABlue
- ECOSAFI MED
- REMARE
- ClicoMED
- MedTrends
- MedSea
- CoastNet
- MedPAN Nord
- ...
A successful strategic partnership

Barcelona Convention

UNEP-MAP

RAC/SPA
Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas

MoU

Members

Partners

MedPAN
The Network of MPA managers in the Mediterranean

TOP
DOWN

UP
BOTTOM
A successful strategic partnership

Barcelona Convention

- Conserving sensitive habitats, species and sites / Assessing and mitigating the impact of threats on biodiversity in the Mediterranean
- Institutionnal working hand in hand with Civil Society / Human network
- Common initiatives for concrete results (Database, Analytical Reports, Regional Events – eg. Forum, Think tank, Training, Experience-sharing workshops for managers…)
- Support the creation of MPAs (SPAMIs) and reinforcement of the management of existing MPAs (including Natural 2000 at sea sites)
- Collaboration through regional projects
- Collaboration Regional with European (EuropAid)
- Sharing experience with other networks (eg. SPAW/RAC (Carribean) with the CAMPAM network of MPA managers)
The Network Strategy 2012-2017

1. Be a network for knowledge, information, anticipation and synthesis

2. Reinforce the vitality of the network, the interactivity between members and build their capacity effective management of MPAs with stakeholders

3. Reinforce the network’s sustainability, prominence, its governance and resources

5 major transverse intervention areas:

- Scientific Strategy
- Communication Strategy
- Capacity building Strategy
- Sustainable financing
- Governance and Secretariat consolidation
Analysing the Status of Protection of MPAs in the Mediterranean

Integrated Consultation process:

- Common Database on Designated Areas (CDDA)
- European Environment Agency
- World Database on Protected Areas
- Agence des aires marines protégées
- ACCOBAMS: Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Areas
- PANACHE network
- MAIA: Marine protected areas in the Atlantic Area
- OSPAR COMMISSION: Protecting and conserving the North-East Atlantic and its resources
Marine Natura 2000 Biogeographical Kick-off seminar
St Malo, France, 5-7 May 2015

Analysing the Status of Protection

MAPAMED
www.mapamed.org

2005
Global Directory of MPAs in the Mediterranean

2006 - 2008
• Development and update of the directory
• Information made available online
• Publication of the first Mediterranean MPA Status Report

2010 - 2012
• Further development and update of the online database
• Publication of the second Mediterranean MPA Status Report

Next Mediterranean MPA Status Report to be published in 2016
The 2012 results

- 170 designated MPAs
- 507 Natura 2000 sites
- 4 Fisheries Restricted Areas (GFCM)
- Zones of deep-sea trawling ban

4.56% of the Mediterranean Sea total area (1.08% without Pelagos sanctuary)
5.26% of the Med. Sea total area

The Natura 2000 at sea sites add about 8000 km² more in surface protection

www.mapamed.org
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea  → *In terms of science & CB*

- Promote a coordinated, harmonized and open access approach to MPA-relevant data
- Encourage habitat mapping in MPAs & at regional level through scientific entities
- Promote systematic long-term monitoring of MPAs and their surrounding waters
- Advance the understanding of ecological coherence gaps and critical components such as connectivity

- Scientific Watch – Top 10 publ. Monthly
- Scientific Special Edition
  Science for MPA management

- Practical Training Workshops
- Virtual Library on MedPAN website
MedPAN network

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➢ MedPAN DIRECTORY of MONITORING Tools  
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**Practical Scientific Support to MPA managers**

- With scientists
- T-MedNET
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> Practical guides
Example: Snorkel monitoring of the marine environment
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- Modelling connectivity of MPAs (passive particles / propagules / grouper larvae)
- Proximity study

In terms of science & CB
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea  → *In terms of science & CB*

- Establish a core set of indicators to measure MPA network efficiency
- Promote the incorporation of adaptive approaches and new and emerging issues such as climate resilience / invasive species
- Provide information on options for conservation governance in the open sea

- Guide for quick evaluation of management in Mediterranean MPAs
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea → *In terms of science & CB*

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- Network Strategy on Invasive Species for MPA managers (now led by IUCN Med)
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea → *In terms of science & CB*

- Provide culturally tailored guidance to promote stakeholder engagement and incorporate socio-economic issues
- Promote cross-sector partnerships and develop pilot projects that link marine monitoring with maritime surveillance

- Conference for Decision Makers
- Brochure for local decision makers

Socio-Economic benefits of coastal and marine protected spaces – what contribution to the sustainable development of territories?
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea → In terms of science & CB

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- Experience sharing workshops
- Exchange visits

2013 eg: Surveillance and enforcement of regulations in MPAs: how to maximize the efficiency and sustainability of actions
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea → In terms of science & CB

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➢ Experience sharing workshops
➢ Exchange visits

2014 eg: "Monitoring for managing Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)"
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea → An array of support tools

Part of the MedPAN Network Capacity Building Strategy
MedPAN Support to the Natura 2000 network at sea → The Link between Policy + Research + Management

→ Events where all encounter
→ Field visits where all encounter
→ Databases & Information portals

DG Environment
DG Mare
DG Research
Conclusions / lessons learnt:

- Contribute to a better understanding of conservation and management needs of MPAs through a bottom-up and Ecosystem based approach.
- Promote technical and concrete actions (human and material resources) to mitigate the negative impacts of anthropogenic activities on species and habitats.
- Implement precautionary principle (e.g. scientific watch, preventive actions)
- Reinforce the Ecological coherence and understand ecological integrity, develop synergies.
- Deliver adequate information to decision makers and stakeholders
- Ensure the sustainability of management through adequate financial tools
- Strengthen and support sustainable development of local communities
What future for an N2000 Marine Biogeographic working group linked to the Mediterranean Sea?

- « Decentralized/local » Governance to be enhanced
- Monitoring and evaluation of conservation status of habitats & species to be adapted for representetiveness of bio-regions
- Financial capacity to be made adequate for management capacity/effectiveness – link to capacity building
- Sub-regional networks to be set up as needed (with bottom-up approach) – sub-regional seas (Alboran, Aegean, Adriatic etc…)
- Animated collaborative platform to be set up as a support tool
- Human links – sharing experience encounters- platforms
- Cross-sectoral links (fishing, tourism, industries) to be enhanced at all levels (Across DGs of EC, accross RACs of Regional Seas) + at National Ministerial level
Thank You!

http://www.medpan.org

Http://www.rac-spa.org