

MODERATION OF THE NATIONAL WORKSHOP IN EGYPT

Deliverable on activity 1.1.1.1: *“Identify existing CV&C monitoring program and available data in each participating country, as well as options for data sharing in view of developing a multicounty Information sharing portal”*.

Project title

“Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM protocol in the Mediterranean”

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INTRODUCTION

Egypt is a party to the Barcelona Convention. Concerning Climate Variability and Change (CVC), a number of researches has been published since the beginning of the nineties, in particular:

- The Framework for the National Action Plan for Climate Change, drafted by EEAA, 1995;
- Not less than 20 studies published by Dr. El Reay (alone or in collaboration with other experts) between 1993 and 2009 and dealing with various aspects of climate change in Egypt, including both general studies (notably on adaptation to the impact of climate change) and monographies focusing on specific issues (such as vulnerability assessments of sea level rise over specific zones);
- A general synthesis carried out under the auspices of the OECD in 2004 entitled “Development and Climate Change in Egypt: focus on coastal resources and the Nile”.

Even if Egypt has no national climate change strategy as such, the country is perfectly aware of the risks associated with global warming. CVC impact on water resources is clearly identified, in particular its impact both on the flow of the River Nile and on the sea level, including salt water intrusion in coastal areas. The authorities are also well aware of its actual and potential effects on farming, livestock and fisheries even if a detailed quantitative assessment on those aspects has not been carried out yet. Above all, the coastal zones and notably the delta are recognized as representing a stake of utmost importance because of their population and their multiple economic activities, from industry to tourism: in fact, CVC is duly taken into account in the National Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

The Mediterranean Integrated Climate Information Platform (MedICIP) is the first pillar of the UNEP MAP (Mediterranean Action Plan) and Plan Bleu project towards a regional adaptation framework for climate change in the Mediterranean. Its purpose is to “develop knowledge, data serving and exchange of information on climate variability and change in the Mediterranean region, on the expected impact (on society, economy and rural resources), on vulnerability and on adaptation measures; and document good practices of integrated climate risk management and climate adaptation in support of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Mediterranean Basin, to facilitate the information exchange and to enable scientists, the civil society and policy makers to access these data”.

From the point of view of Egypt, its Mediterranean coast represents only a part of its maritime facade; the rest is constituted by the Red Sea coast where, in fact, touristic activities in particular have rapidly expanded. Nevertheless, the Mediterranean shoreline is most vulnerable to sea level rise due to its relatively low elevation and its human and economic importance is paramount, in particular because of the concentration of activities in the Nile delta.

This report is representing the results of the national workshop held in Cairo (Heliopolis), October 23 - 24 2013, to validate the inputs of the country – in terms of data, indicators, source of information and institutions in charge of their hosting – to the MedICIP platform.

OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

The objectives of the workshop, taken from the document that circulated to the participants with the agenda, were presented as follows by the consultant.

Objective I. Review of existing and missing data

- Present the main points of the national report prepared during the inception phase;
- Discuss about the compilation of the existing monitoring programs on CVC;
- Select the available data that can be shared in order to feed the MedICIP platform;
- Identify gaps;
- Define modalities of data extraction and sharing options.

Objective II. Start selecting relevant indicators

- Review the first selection of indicators;
- Suggest a core set needed for the country;
- Discuss indicators and data: which methodology for the selection?

Objective III. Present the MedICIP platform

- Present and discuss contents of the platform
- Analyze the users' needs in terms of format (table, graph and links towards report...) and topics/sectors (water, agriculture, tourism...).

The expectations were also clearly presented at the beginning of the workshop and in the documentation:

- Opening remarks by Dr. Fatma Abou Shouk and by Dr. Mona Mohamed Kamal;
- Production of a working factsheet for the analysis of users' needs which will be taken into account in the MedICIP platform items;
- National report completed with the concerned institutions;
- Validation, by the participants, of data and gaps highlighted in the report;
- A draft of a first core set of indicators.

The agenda of the workshop is presented in Annex I. In total, 29 experts have attended to the workshop in the presence and opening of Dr. Fatma Abu Shouk, EEAA CEO. It was co-chaired by Dr. Mohamed El-Raey from the Institute of Graduate Studies and Research, University of Alexandria, Dr. Mona Mohamed Kamal, Head of Environmental Indicators & Reporting Unit and national focal point of Plan Bleu – Regional Activity Center and Philippe Coste consultant from Plan Bleu.

The list of participants is attached in Annex II.

EGYPT AVAILABLE DATA AND GAPS

The working session was based on a comprehensive set of three excellent papers:

- “ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean” by Marko Prem, Deputy Director, Priority Actions Programme of UNEP MAP;
- “National ICZM strategy for Egypt” by Geo. Mohamed Abdel Moneim Farouk, Head of the Central Department of the Integrated Management of Coastal Zones (EEAA),
- “An overview of the climate change challenges in Egypt” by Dr. Elsayed S. Mansour, senior expert, involved in “Low Carbon Economy, ENPI-ClimaSouth Programm”.

The three papers are attached in Annex III.

The data available include:

- A detailed description of bio-physic and socio-economic impact of CVC on coastal areas can be found in above mentioned papers which contain a rich collection of figures, maps, tables and charts describing the vulnerable areas in the Mediterranean coastal zone and identifying the main stakes in each of them;
- A description of the administrative services dealing with climate change and the management of coastal zones;
- A list of the different sources of information available on the subject.

In general, it was recognized that most of the data were available through the CAPMAS (Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics).

The gaps are clearly identified in each category of data and related to the existing shortcomings or inadequacies (important lack of properly trained personnel, problems of coordination, data not specifically CVC oriented or not easily accessible...).

After appropriate clarifications given about the modalities of data sharing, the participants seemed to agree with a large degree of openness.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

From the vivid debates which took place during the workshop, the following points stand out.

- Given the serious shortage of adequately trained personnel, most of the participants recognized that an important effort was needed in the field of capacity building: some of them requested that a specific assistance could be provided by Plan Bleu and UNEP MAP's centres and other institutions working on this topic in the Mediterranean region.
- Several suggestions were proposed so as to facilitate the informal communication between the different administrations concerned by the subject:
 - Organize meetings with EEAA and the various Ministries (Construction, Transport, Health, Tourism...),
 - Set up an electronic network among the stakeholders,
 - Prepare incentives encouraging data sharing...
- The necessity was recognized:
 - to develop guidelines for monitoring each indicators;
 - to go further with some indicators such as storms, marine and coastal indicators, sensitive coastal areas including protected areas;
 - to implement a pilot project in Egypt called "adjustment community in the coastal lagoon";
 - to underline the interaction between mitigation and adaptation (as far as climate change is concerned) through the inclusion of low-carbon policies in the integrated management of coastal areas and coastal development strategy.
- Finally, the participants recommend to invite members of the National Committee for the integrated management of coastal zones and the Plan Bleu to participate in the National Workshop for community adaptation in coastal areas due to take place in Cairo from December 17 to 19, 2013.

Generally speaking, the debate showed a very good participation and a keen interest for the project.

ANNEXES

- 1) Agenda of the meeting
- 2) List of participants
- 3) Three papers



Workshop on “the identification of the existing monitoring programmes, the available data on CVC related to coastal zone and the data sharing options in view of developing a multicountry information sharing portal”



وكاسية مسجدين الوزراء - جهاز شكون البيشة

23rd & 24th October, Formont Hotel in Heliopolis area, Cairo, Egypt.

Tentative Agenda

Context

The “Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean” UNEP/MAP project, funded, among others, by the Global Environment Facility, was launched on 17 May 2012 in Istanbul (Turkey). It is a 2-year project, ending in December 2014. This project is articulated with the MedPartnership programme.

Plan Bleu is charged of the design of a regional data sharing portal on climate variability & change (CVC). For that purpose, Plan Bleu shall identify the existing monitoring programmes as well as the available data on CVC in each participating country; and propose the data sharing options.

During the kick-off meeting on 17 May 2012 in Istanbul, countries’ representatives presented their national experiments as well as the programmes and strategies monitoring on climate. The national report produced in 2011 should be completed for a regional synthesis compilation of the existing monitoring programmes on CVC, data availability and identification of gaps in each country.

A work was done by national experts in the inception phase. But during this workshop we have to specify data availability and sharing options according to what is needed for the multi-country information sharing portal, i.e. data to describe the CV&C indicators identified.

Objectives of the workshop

Data available and gaps

- Present the main points of the national report prepared during the inception phase.
- Discuss about the compilation of the existing monitoring programmes on CVC.
- Select the available data that can be shared in order to feed the multi-country portal named MedicIP (Mediterranean Integrated Climate Information Portal).
- Identify gaps.
- Define modalities of data extraction and sharing options.

Regional Portal

- Present and discuss contents of the portal (MedICIP).
- Analysis of users' needs. The countries will provide a sheet in which they will show the kind of data they could provide: form (table, graph, and links towards reports...) and topic/sector (water, agriculture, tourism,). A template is proposed (see below "expected results" section).

Indicators

- National experts will also have the opportunity to comment the first selection of indicators and make suggestions about a core set they need.
- Discussion about indicators and data: which methodology for the selection?

Expected results

1. Production of a working factsheet for the analysis of user's needs ([annex 1](#)) which will be taken into account in the MedICIP portal items.
2. National report completed with the concerned institutions.
3. Validation, by the assembly, of data and gaps highlighted in the report (experts who attend the WS).
4. A draft of a first core set of indicators.

Day 1

9:00-9:30 **Introduction by the host country for opening of the workshop and round table**

(Dr. Fatma Abu Shouk EEAA CEO and Dr. Mona Mohamed Kamal Plan Bleu's National Focal Point for Egypt and P.Coste, consultant from PB/RAC)

9:30-9:50 **1. Presentation of the scope and objectives by Plan Bleu** *(P.Coste, consultant from PB/RAC)*

- Reminder of the objectives of the whole project and those of the national workshop.
- Agreement on the objectives of the workshop.

9:50-10:00 Discussion

10:00-10:30 **2. Presentation by the expert, author of the national report about « Climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement ICZM Protocol »** *(Authors of the national report)*

- Introduction of the main part of the national report.
- Presentation of the existing monitoring programmes on CVC.
- Presentation of the available data that can be shared and identification of gaps.
- Propose modalities for data use and sharing options.

10:30-11:00 Discussion

11:00-11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30-12:10 **3. Presentation of the possible content of the MedICIP portal and the indicators** *(P.Coste, consultant from PB/RAC)*

- Presentation of the functionalities and contents of MedICIP.
- Presentation of the first possible set of indicators and discussion about the methodology for their selection.

12:10-12:30 Discussion

12:30-14:00 *Lunch time*

14:00-17:30 **4. Working session and analyse of users' need** (*Authors of the national report and P.Coste, consultant from PB/RAC*)

With coffee

break 15:30-

16:00

➤ Whereupon the presentation of monitoring programmes in countries, data available, gaps,... done the morning by the expert / author of the national report, the assembly could discuss/brainstorm about for instance:

- What kind of data will be available and could be exchanged?
- In which frame are they?
- What are the data networks in the country?
- How do they work?
- A consensus on data sharing among countries has to be sought.

Day 2 - Morning

9:00-12:00 **5. Conclusion and next steps** (*Authors of the national report and P.Coste, consultant from PB/RAC*)

With coffee

break 10:30-

11:00

➤ Presentation and discussion of conclusions

- An overview of results.
- An overview of the next steps: relationship with the portal and the regional synthesis on CVC data availability and gaps.
- Agreement on the distribution of tasks and upcoming events.
- Revision of the national report produced during the inception phase of the project.

Annex 1

Egypt

Kind of data that the country could provide

Topic/sector 1 (Coastal zone)

- Form (table, graph, ...)
- Reports available on this topic/sector
- Institutions that host/manage the related data

Topic/sector 2 (Climate)

- Form (table, graph, ...)
- Reports available on this topic/sector
- Institutions that host/manage the related data

Topic/sector 3 (Land use)

- Form (table, graph, ...)
- Reports available on this topic/sector
- Institutions that host/manage the related data

Other topic...

- ...
- ...

- ...

What are the users' needs/concerns regarding MEDICIP platform? For you, what is the value of the platform?

Technical and scientist assistance

- to develop and implement a national monitoring programme of climate variability and change
- to model climate change (running scenarios/models)
- to develop technical tools (guidelines, manual, etc)
- to develop adequate legislation regarding climate variability and change adaptation into national policies, plans, regulations and programs.

To have data in a topic (specify in which topic)

Stakeholder class

- Decision makers,
- managers,
- scientists, ...

Proposed List of Participants in the framework of the project entitled “Integrating Climate Change issues into National Strategies to implement the Integrated Management of coastal zones Protocol”

In the presence and opening of:

Dr. Fatma Abu Shouk: EEAA CEO

Participants from EEAA:

Serial	Name	Authority
1.	Eng. Ahmed Abou El Soud	Head of EEAA Regional Branches Sector
2.	Dr. Mona Mohamed Kamal	Head of Environmental Indicators & Reporting Unit and National focal point of Plan blue Program
3.	Geo. Mohamed Abdel Moneim Farouk	Head of the Central Department for the Integrated Management of Coastal zones
4.	Eng. Hisham Eissa	Head of Central Department for Climate Change
5.	Dr. Sayed Madian	General Director of Red Sea Branch
6.	Eng. Hoda Mustafa	General Director of Alexandria Branch
7.	Dr. Manal Tantawy	General Director of Marine pollution control & follow up of ports affairs
8.	Mohamed Farouk Ameen	Central Department for the Integrated Management of Coastal zones
9.	Abeer Abdulaziz Youssif	Central Department for the Integrated Management of Coastal zones
10.	Noha Sami Sayed	Central Department for the Integrated Management of Coastal zones
11.	Mr. Mohamed Meatedmed	Environmental Indicators & Reporting Unit
12.	Ms. Suzan Killany	Environmental Indicators & Reporting Unit
13.		Admin & Financial Affairs Sector

Participants from other authorities

Serial	Name	Authority
14.	General. Mohamed Magdy Abdel Sammee	Chief of Naval Staff
15.	Dr. Khaled Abdel Aziz El Hassany	Head of General Authority for Fish Resources Development
16.	Eng. Usama Moustafa Mahmoud	Chairman of Board of Directors for General Authority of Shore Protection
17.	Mr. Serag Eddien Saad	Head of General Authority for Tourism Development
18.	Prof. Abdullmoneam Abdullwadood El banna	Head of Agriculture Researches Center
19.	Dr. Eng. Assem El Gazar	Head of Urban Planning Authority
20.	General. Mohammed Abdulkader Gab	Head of Maritime transport sector
21.	Eng. Mohammed Gado	Industrial Safety Authority - Ministry of Petroleum
22.	Prof. Ibrahim Abdullmajeed Elshennawy	Director of Shore researches Institution
23.	Dr. Ahmed Abdel Aall	Head of central department of Climate Researches, Metrological Authority
24.	Mr. Hassan Abed El Megeed	National Research Agency
25.		Representative of Foreign Affaire climate change sp.
26.	Dr. Mahmoud Khamis	Professor at Faculty of Science - Alexandria University
27.	Dr. Mohamed Borhan	Marine Environmental Export
28.	Dr. Mohamed El Raay	Expert of ICZM
29.	Prof. Sayed Sabri	Expert of Climate Change