

ACTIVITY REPORT 2018

PLAN BLEU



21-24 JANVIER 2019, MARSEILLE

IMPLEMENTATION OF Nature-based Solutions TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

Les SOLUTIONS FONDÉES SUR LA NATURE sont une priorité régionale et internationale

Ces ateliers de 3 jours ont une étoile dans un long processus de collaboration

WCC
BARCELONA
COP 24
IPCC
2019
LMA
POST 2020

Alain
Garnier, LPO
President - 2019
Plan Bleu

Les solutions fondées sur la nature font partie de l'approche de la Métropole de MARSEILLE depuis longtemps

PARC NATURAL DES CALANQUES

... mais nous sommes encore beaucoup de défis à relever!

Notre horizon des travaux d'écouter et écouter

Julien
Régis
Adjoint au Maire
de Marseille

UN's definition for NBS

strategies / actions designed to PROTECT, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE and RESTORE natural or modified ECOSYSTEMS at a landscape scale, to address SOCIETAL CHALLENGES.

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

use of NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS
MANAGED IN RESTORED ECOSYSTEMS
creation of NEW ECOSYSTEMS

Commercial
Forest
Ecosystem
Ecosystem
in
Ecosystem
Management

HUMAN WELL-BEING

BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

12% annual increase in biodiversity

Original
Degraded
Restored Ecosystem

Alain
Garnier

GOVERNANCE

The Association

Plan Bleu is managed by an association under French law (Law 1901). In 2017, the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition recognised the public interest of the activities carried out by Plan Bleu.

The association had 32 members in 2018 and held its General Assembly on 9 October 2018 in Paris.

The Bureau is composed of experts who contribute to the scientific governance of Plan Bleu:

Chairman:

Thierry Lavoux (reporting, indicators, assessments)

Vice-Chairmen:

Christian Averous (Blue economy, peer reviews)

Yves Henocque (Marine ecosystems)

Jacques Theys (Prospective analysis)

Aldo Ravazzi (Blue economy)

Treasurer:

Jean de Montgolfier (Forests, biodiversity)

General Secretary:

Mauricette Steinfelder (General affairs, international cooperation)

Honorary Chairman:

Lucien Chabason

Regional Activity Centre

- The Plan Bleu work programme is approved every two years by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.
- The decisions of the Parties are prepared through discussion with the National Focal Points.
- Plan Bleu meets with its National Focal Points every two years to assess implementation of the ongoing work programme and to discuss and approve the work programme for the next two-year period. The next Plan Bleu Focal Points meeting will be held in Marseille, France from 27 to 29 May 2019.

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EDITORIAL

Thierry Lavoux, Chairman of Plan Bleu



2018 saw the celebration of Plan Bleu's 40th anniversary during a symposium organised in Paris in June, in partnership with Association Serge Antoine, named after a high-ranking French official who was one of the major players in environmental awareness in the Mediterranean.

Our organisation was created with support of the French authorities as one of the main players in implementing the Barcelona Convention and the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP). Since its beginnings, its expertise has focused on observation, diagnostic assessment and studies on the environment and development in the Mediterranean.

An unusual feature of Plan Bleu is that it has initiated projects that go beyond a strictly environmental scope, which is so important in the Mediterranean. Following on from the 1972 Stockholm Conference, our inventive and inquisitive founding fathers, Michel Batisse and Serge Antoine, understood that the basin's future could only be analysed through the lens of the economic and social development models at work in the Mediterranean. For example, they saw how coastal zone development was closely linked to the living conditions of crop and livestock farmers in Southern and Eastern countries, and that sunlust tourism generated prosperity but also negative externalities on these countries' resources.

Europe was built on industrial and economic concerns in the 1950s, but the Mediterranean first started to function as a region in 1975 around the issues of marine pollution and then, more generally, the question of a development compatible with its impacts, i.e. a more sustainable development.

The overused concept of sustainable development comes into action in the governance innovations established by the MAP. The Mediterranean Committee on Sustainable Development (MCSD) represents civil society on the basis of a collectively-adopted strategy, and makes contributions to a shared vocabulary sometimes perfectible. Despite geopolitical difficulties and the demand for development in Southern countries and fairer wealth distribution, spaces for dialogue remain around the the Mediterranean's ecological, economic and social outlook.

2018 also saw the launch of the upcoming Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED 2019) and the start of a foresight exercise for 2050, named MED 2050, intended to be similar to the one carried out in the 1980s. At the time, Plan Bleu focused on the demography of Southern Mediterranean countries and the number of new urban residents, with urban growth rate five times faster than Europe even in its most intense periods. Economic development was expected to grow by a factor of 3 to 5, but for demographic reasons, GDP growth did not induce substantial changes to the individual standard of living in the South. Furthermore, the scenarios suggested that issues associated with food sufficiency, water availability and the preservation of agricultural land would become increasingly important. Mediterranean metropolitan areas would be increasingly difficult to live in and manage, which explained the hope in territorial land planning that makes way for medium-sized towns and cities. It was believed that more careful water management would free up around one third of the resources required to meet needs and that the use of aquaculture could relieve pressure on fish stocks. Other points mentioned included solidarity between the North and South, trade openness and technical cooperation with Europe.

This somewhat gloomy diagnostic assessment has not been proven wrong, despite some notable progress.

The work of Plan Bleu aims to present the crucial ecological issues for the future of the Mediterranean ecosystem and to work with the support of the scientific community to promote methods that could improve it, within a context of harmonious and inclusive development.

INTRODUCTION

Elen Lemaitre-Curri, Director of Plan Bleu



In December 2017, the Parties to the Barcelona Convention met in Tirana for their 20th Conference, during which they gave Plan Bleu an ambitious programme for 2018 and 2019. They approved the preparation of a new Report on the State of the Environment and Development for adoption

by the Parties in 2019 (SoED 2019), and a new foresight exercise at horizon 2050 (MED 2050). They also adopted an indicators dashboard for monitoring the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025, and extended the simplified peer review mechanism (SIMPEER) of national strategies for sustainable development.

These decisions have guided Plan Bleu's work throughout 2018 and into 2019.

The Report on the State of the Environment and Development 2019 has mobilised a large proportion of the team, thereby highlighting a series of concomitant activities and drawing on a network of partners to establish a state-of-play for major environmental and development issues in the Mediterranean and their interactions, almost ten years after the previous report. This report will be especially based on the MSSD's monitoring work and the publication of a second State of Mediterranean Forests in 2018, in partnership with the FAO. A draft version of the SoED 2019 will be discussed by the Plan Bleu Focal Points in May and added to throughout 2019.

To establish possible future scenarios for sustainable development in the Mediterranean, Plan Bleu worked under UN Environment/MAP to launch preparation of a new foresight study on the environment and development at horizon 2050 (MED 2050) in 2018, thereby returning to one of its founding assignments. In 2018 and 2019, Plan Bleu has primarily focused on building partnerships and synergies, and taking stock of key trends building on the contribution of partner scientists and the SoED 2019, which will serve as a reference document for past and current trends.

With the establishment of the first Regional Seas Convention under UN Environment, the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) in 1975, Mediterranean countries agreed to work together on environmental issues. In 1976, this Action Plan was strengthened by a legal mechanism: the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea, which became the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean in 1995.

Plan Bleu is an association under French law (Law 1901), with a team of around twelve people supported by Mediterranean experts. Plan Bleu is part of a network of six regional activity centres across the region which support the implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan managed by the UN Environment/MAP Coordinating Unit. It works in close collaboration with the other network components, including for preparation of the Report on the State of the Environment and Development 2019.

Plan Bleu was created on the proposal of the French authorities, which provide significant support to its activities. Its budget of approximately €1.5 million is mainly financed by Mediterranean countries, France and the European Union. Contributions from various institutions to joint work and projects also constitute sources of funding.

Plan Bleu's focus on observation, diagnostic assessment and analysis of the environment and development enables it to make a unique contribution. It is also notably innovative in its cross-cutting approach to sustainable development issues, including the cultural dimension and a special focus on societies and populations.

The scientific knowledge and facts and figures produced by Plan Bleu provide well-argued, future-looking analysis. Its work, especially on the green and blue economy, has real influence thanks to its network of contacts across all Mediterranean countries. Plan Bleu is an environment observatory and centre for systemic analysis and foresight. It produces reports used by ministries, administrations, local authorities, research institutes and international NGOs. In the global context of the new UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Plan Bleu draws on the formal commitments of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

It contributes to actions of concrete knowledge and development, to a peaceful and ambitious vision of a shared, sustainable and inclusive development.

To help implement Objective 5 of the MSSD 2016-2025 for transition towards a green and blue economy, and Sustainable Development Goal 14 in the Mediterranean, Plan Bleu is committed to further developing and illustrating the recommendations for a sustainable and inclusive economy presented in previous biennia. This will be achieved through a series of case studies prepared in partnership with other organisations, particularly promoting the lessons learned from the three Interreg MED projects on biodiversity (PANACeA project), sustainable tourism (BleuTourMed) and blue growth (InnoBlueGrowth).

On climate change, Plan Bleu has continued to support the Network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC) throughout 2018 and 2019, for which it hosts the scientific secretariat in the framework of a partnership with the Union for the Mediterranean. Activities on analysing coastal risks in a context of climate change continue and Plan Bleu is working in partnership with other organisations to establish recommendations on how to better incorporate nature-based solutions and coastal risk into climate change adaptation strategies. These activities may increase in the coming years.

Finally, Plan Bleu is continuing socio-economic assessment work to support topics covered by the other MAP components, such as plastic litter prevention and reduction measures and ecosystem services, etc. Plan Bleu's methodological support for socioeconomic analysis of regional measures and programmes of measures is set to increase in 2019-2020 with the launch of the MEDREGION project, coordinated by the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research.



ACTIVITIES IN 2018

OBSERVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT TO INFORM DECISION-MAKERS

SoED 2019: new report on the state of the environment and development in the Mediterranean

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 includes an up-to-date assessment of the interaction between the environment and development in the Mediterranean (Strategic Objective 1.4, especially Activity 1.4.1.1).

The new [Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean \(SoED 2019\)](#) will provide a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the state of the environment and the main sustainability issues in the region. SoED 2019 is scheduled for publication early 2020 and is the result of collective work between the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) components, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and numerous external partners, with Plan Bleu in a coordination role.

2018 was a crucial year for the SoED, during which methods were defined for working with around one hundred contributors and reviewers, organised within working groups. The first written contributions to the SoED 2019 were produced and will be completed, compiled and harmonised in 2019, with a view to publishing the report in 2020.

In order to involve the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention early in the SoED 2019 process, national experts have been appointed to contribute or review work at chapter level. A steering committee, comprising national representatives from the North, South and East Mediterranean, the MAP components and four technical partners, was also established to help prioritize and discuss the conclusions of the SoED 2019. This steering committee met for the first time in October 2018 (video conference) and two physical meetings are planned in January and March 2019. A first draft of SoED 2019 will be presented to the Plan Bleu Focal Points and the MCSD in the first half of 2019.

In order to complete this ambitious exercise, central to the work of the Barcelona Convention, Plan Bleu is working with a large number of external volunteer partners as well its team, in order to capitalize a range of other on-going works, and with specific technical skills.

Partners : UN Environment/MAP and its Regional Activity Centres (RACs), and numerous technical, scientific and institutional partners (World Bank, CMI, AViTeM, CIHEAM, IFREMER, FAO, etc.), the National Focal Points, members of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, etc. With the financial support of the MAP, French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), and the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition.



One in three Mediterranean residents live in coastal regions by the Mediterranean Sea.

SEIS, Shared Environmental Information System / Horizon 2020 Initiative

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 includes an assessment of the Horizon 2020 initiative (Strategic Objective 1.4, especially Activity 1.4.1.2).

The SEIS project (Shared Environmental Information System) is a four-year project financed by the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and jointly implemented by the European Environment Agency and UN Environment/MAP with the support of Plan Bleu.

It seeks to help reduce marine pollution in the Mediterranean by developing a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) that supports the regular production and sharing of environmental data, indicators and information in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) South region: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

In February 2018, a meeting of all MAP components was held in Copenhagen to consider how to improve coordination between the various assessment reports covering various aspects relating to the environment and sustainable development in the Mediterranean scheduled for publication in the coming years.

Plan Bleu, in cooperation with the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the Mediterranean Action Plan, organised the [second ENI-SEIS II South workshop on indicators](#), held in Athens (Greece) on 17 - 18 April 2018.

This second workshop aimed to give a more detailed presentation of the methodological aspects associated with indicators, data availability, data gaps, flows and infrastructure corresponding to indicator production.

Based on the ad hoc working group on indicators and following on from the first regional workshop organised in May 2017 in Copenhagen, the H2020 revision mechanism was refined and concept notes were developed to propose a new set of H2020 indicators, in line with other indicator sets including the SDGs. Methodological factsheets were prepared for each H2020 priority.

These factsheets were then used to develop data dictionaries and collection formulas with the cooperation of thematic experts, MED POL, EEA and Info/RAC.

These tools should help collect necessary information for countries and coastal regions in ENP South partner countries, and document the H2020 Initiative assessment report and the Report on the State of the Environment and Development 2019.

Find out more: <https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south>

Partners: EEA, UN Environment/MAP



The region is a hot spot for biodiversity and coastal and marine endemic species, which are vulnerable and threatened by extinction and a loss of habitats.

EcAp, Ecosystem Approach

Through Decision IG.17/6, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention committed to progressively apply the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) to the management of human activities on the basis of a roadmap containing several steps, including initial assessment, revision of the environment monitoring programme and the implementation of programmes of measures with the aim of achieving the Good Environmental Status (GES) of Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystems.

COP 21 adopted the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP). The EcAp MEDII project, led by UN Environment/MAP with the support of the components aims to help Southern Mediterranean countries to implement IMAP at a national level.

Plan Bleu is responsible for coordinating the “Strengthen the science-policy interface (SPI)” component of EcAp to promote information exchange between scientists and environmental managers.

As only a small proportion of relevant scientific knowledge is effectively used for management, the following activities have been planned:

- Identify the main gaps in scientific knowledge for implementing IMAP and organise regional scientific workshops that bring together scientists and managers around specific issues surrounding the implementation of EcAp;
- Continue the action by developing targeted communication tools in order to improve knowledge-sharing and make a specific scientific contribution to the development of national work (implementation and monitoring plans) and the creation of sub-regional and regional policies.

The project was meant to close in June 2018 but was granted a one-year extension to finalise the last actions taken and draft the associated deliverables.

A brochure with the main recommendations was therefore prepared in 2018: organised by EcAp cluster (Marine Biodiversity and Fisheries; Pollution, Contaminants and Eutrophication; Coast and Hydrography), on the basis of workshops organised in 2016 (two thematic workshops) and 2017 (two cross-cutting workshops).

In 2019, Plan Bleu will produce a summary report that will present the thematic analyses and propose key recommendations for implementing or consolidating science-policy interfaces at the regional, national and local levels for implementing IMAP.

Partners: UN Environment/MAP; PAP-RAC; RAC-SPA, with the financial support of the European Union



Mediterranean coastal and marine ecosystems provide important services for residents; but their operation is threatened by past and current land use management.

ESTABLISHING FUTURE SCENARIOS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MED 2050 – A new foresight exercise in the Mediterranean

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 includes a new foresight assessment of long-term development in the Mediterranean (Strategic Objective 1.4, especially Activity 1.4.1.3). In particular, this assessment will take into account climate change and the associated vulnerabilities and risks for marine and coastal areas.

At the 20th Conference of the Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Tirana, Albania, December 2017), the Contracting Parties welcomed the roadmap for the MED 2050 foresight study on the environment and development in the Mediterranean by 2050 and adopted its first phase. Plan Bleu is responsible for coordinating this study.

This roadmap sets out the key directions and six sets of activities for this new foresight exercise scheduled for the 2018-2019 and 2020-2021 programming periods:

1. Mobilizing existing resources and building a network on Mediterranean futures;
2. Assessing trends, breakthroughs and scenarios in a new Mediterranean context;
3. Zooming on under-documented priorities, with a focus on sea and marine ecosystems;
4. Comparing and sharing contrasted visions across the Mediterranean;
5. Co-constructing transition paths and strategies for the short, medium and long-terms;
6. Disseminating the results and transferring to action. Capacity building and technical assistance.

These activities are organised for each two-year programme period with specific outputs. 2018-2019 focuses on sets 1 and 2. A workshop was organised on 6 April 2018 in Marseille, which helped plan the steps for implementing MED2050 in greater detail.

On 5 June 2018, an international conference on “Environment and development in the Mediterranean yesterday today and tomorrow” was organised on the 40th anniversary of Plan Bleu, bringing together over 130 participants in Paris. Experts from both sides of the Mediterranean, decision-makers, representatives of national, European and Mediterranean institutions, and members of civil society discussed challenges and future scenarios for the Mediterranean to provide key information for Med 2050.

An [invitation to participate in the MED 2050 initiative](#) was also launched in 2018 and is still open on the Plan Bleu website as part of implementation of the “MED 2050 network”. In-depth work on sets 1 and 2 is on-going in 2019 in order to better take into account the preliminary results of the Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED 2019).

An updated version of the MED 2050 roadmap will be presented at COP 21, on the basis of additional consultations and the outputs of the 2018-2019 work programme.

Partner: UN Environment/MAP



→ *In 2017, the Mediterranean was home to around 510 million people, representing 6.8% of the world population. Although the population has been stable in the north since 1980, it has more than doubled in the south and east of the basin and is set to increase by another 130 million by 2050.*

MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Simplified peer review mechanism (SIMPEER) of national strategies for sustainable development (NSSD)

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 includes an up-to-date assessment of the interaction between the environment and development in the Mediterranean (Strategic Objective 1.3, especially Activity 1.3.3.1).

The Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER) is based on voluntary and equal participation and seeks to encourage dialogue between Mediterranean countries for a process of mutual learning and improvement based on National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSD). At the 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Athens, Greece, February 2016), the Parties decided to test this approach by adapting a process that has already been well established within other international partnership frameworks such as the OECD.

In the Mediterranean, the Simplified Peer Review Mechanism aims to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 (MSSD 2016-2025), which is used as a frame of reference alongside the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SIMPEER project is implemented by Plan Bleu in line with the strategic priorities of the UN Environment/MAP Secretariat and the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSDD) Steering Committee. SIMPEER focuses more on overall structures and processes that aim to implement sustainable development at a national level than on specific thematic or sectoral issues. It mainly considers concrete experiences in designing, managing, applying and monitoring national policies and activities for sustainability.

A methodology adapted to the Mediterranean context was developed in 2016 with the technical support of the Plan Bleu Bureau. The first pilot exercise was carried out in 2016 and 2017 with France, Morocco and Montenegro. It identified promising practices in national experiments that could be developed in other countries and areas for improvement that could draw inspiration from foreign experience. The countries that participated in 2016-2017 all spoke about how useful the programme had been.

For the 2018-2019 programme period, three countries are involved in the exercise: Albania, Egypt and Tunisia. The approach selected for the second phase of SIMPEER was adapted to improve integration of the existing processes, such as the Voluntary National Reviews presented to the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

The revised approach also allows for greater stakeholder participation and will involve the pilot exercise countries in the peer-review meeting, scheduled for late August or early September 2019, before the MAP Focal Point meeting.

Three national missions are scheduled from April to July 2019. These missions will provide information for expert analysis and ensure proper coordination with recent or ongoing processes, including the Voluntary National Reviews and revision of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, taking into account the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.



85% of Mediterranean countries have ratified the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025 Dashboard

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 includes developing and documenting indicators for the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development Dashboard (Strategic Objective 1.4, especially Activity 1.4.2.1).

This activity is also addressed in Section 3.3 of MSSD 2016-2025, entitled “Towards a monitoring system and a regional dashboard on the implementation of the Strategy”.

A comprehensive monitoring system and relevant indicators are vital for monitoring implementation of the Strategy, in the following two areas: 1) Monitoring implementation of the actions recommended in the Strategy: the level of implementation and any gaps in implementing the objectives in terms of the recommended actions (e.g. the number of countries implementing an action); 2) Monitoring the progress of sustainable development issues: the sustainability dashboard in accordance with the sustainability objectives (e.g. reducing greenhouse gas emissions).

The MCSD has generally considered the list of proposed indicators as a living document that needs to be periodically updated and improved, especially in accordance with the outcomes of the ongoing data collection exercise in order to address the themes of the MSSD 2016-2025 in a balanced way.

The list of MSSD indicators were determined by a joint decision on “Implementation and monitoring of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 and the Regional Action

Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean”, adopted at the 20th meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

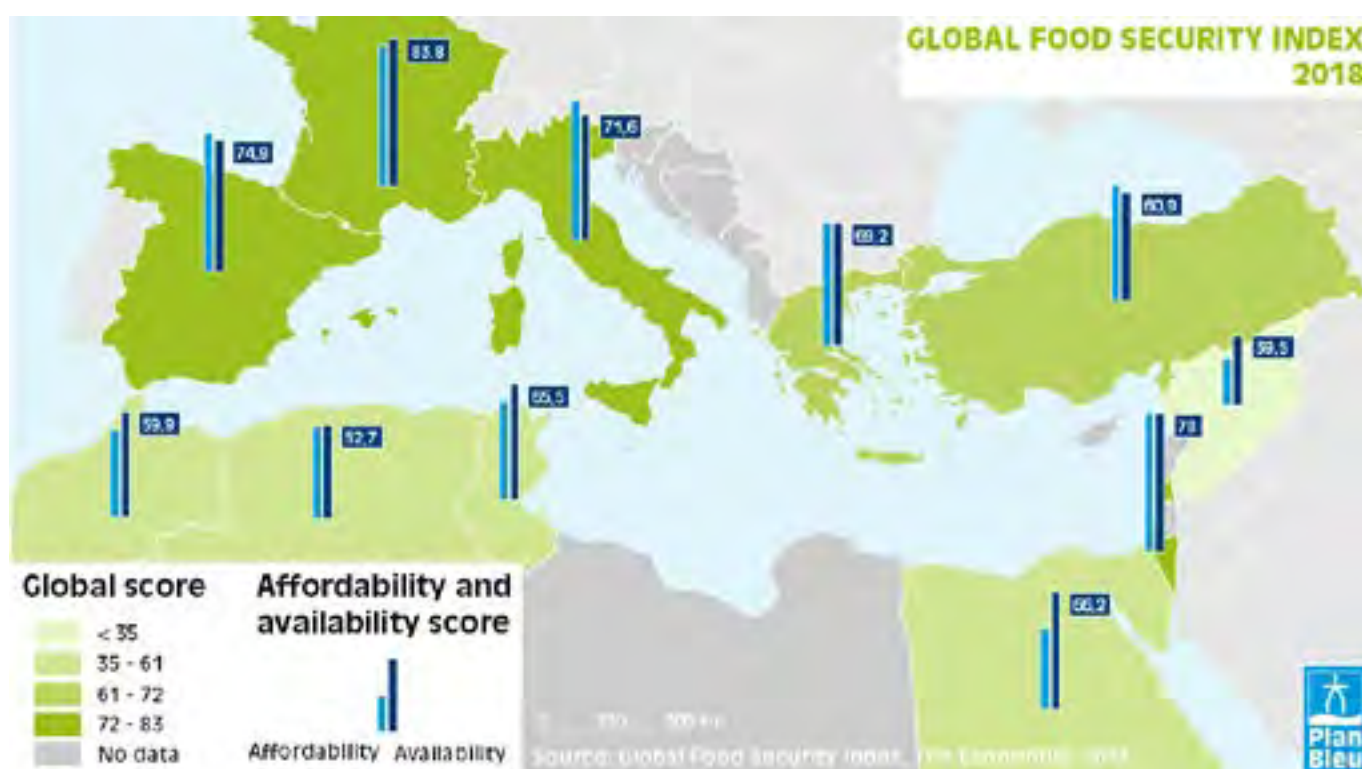
Plan Bleu continued to develop indicators throughout 2018, in collaboration with the MCSD Steering Committee. A work programme was proposed and discussed during the 19th meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee organised by video conference on 20 June.

In December 2018, Plan Bleu produced a new set of analytical and methodological factsheets, underlining the difficulties encountered when including certain indicators without the contribution of competent institutions in the countries.

This work was then presented at the 20th meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee (Athens, 23-24 January 2019) to collect comments and proposed changes to the indicators and factsheets.

By April 2019, Plan Bleu will have revised the list of indicators, created a new version of the analytical factsheets and a “roadmap” for updating the MSSD Dashboard, which will be presented at the Plan Bleu Focal Points meeting (Marseille, 28-29 May 2019) and the 18th meeting of the MCSD (June 2019).

All this work, including the maps created for the dashboard and the SoED will help update the Plan Bleu Observatory website: <http://obs.planbleu.org/en/>.



ESTABLISHING CLIMATE CHANGE AS A PRIORITY

Coastal areas and climate change adaptation

Study programme on the impacts of climate change and options to adapt ecosystems and the services they provide in the RAMOGE coastal zone

The objectives of this programme are as follows:

- propose a joint approach between France, Italy and Monaco, focused on the assessment of risks associated with the loss of ecosystem services (total loss or reduced operation) with regard to precise impacts such as erosion and coastal flooding,
- make the RAMOGE zone an innovative model for managing the impacts of climate change in coastal zones at a sub-regional level.

In 2017 and 2018, climate forcing mechanisms in the RAMOGE coastal zones were studied on land and at sea (up to the boundary of the *Posidonia Oceanica* beds). The outputs of mapping and the economic assessment of the impact of climate change on coastal ecosystems were delivered in November 2018 and are under review by Plan Bleu and the RAMOGE Secretariat.

Partners: RAMOGE Secretariat, MedSea Foundation, one-off collaboration with the University of Genoa



The Mediterranean region is a climate change “hot spot”. Without additional mitigation, regional temperature increase will be of 2.2°C in 2040, possibly exceeding 3.8°C in some regions in 2100.

Integrated Management of coastal and marine habitats in the Gulf of Oristano - MARISTANIS project



Plan Bleu is a partner of the MARISTANIS project launched in 2017 and financed by the MAVA Foundation. This project aims to restore and protect coastal wetlands on the Gulf of Oristano in Italy.

In line with the MAP's strategic outcomes: “Economic valuations of coastal ecosystem services to promote ecosystem-based responses in national climate change adaptation strategies” and “Promotion and improvement of methodological toolkits to support stakeholder participation in climate change adaptation and ICZM in coastal areas”, the role of Plan Bleu as member of the International Steering Committee is to advise the technical partners and help guide decisions.

In 2018, Plan Bleu worked under this project to develop guidelines for the sustainable management of wetlands and marine and coastal habitats.

Find out more: <http://www.maristanis.org>

Partners: MedSea Foundation, AMP de Sinis Mal di Ventre, MedPan, MedWet, PAP/RAC

Strengthen the Science-Policy Interface on climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean: MedECC Network

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 sets the objective to facilitate taking into account climate change in decision-making processes (Strategic Objective 4.4, especially Activity 4.4.1.3).

The Network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC) contributes to this objective and to one of the flagship initiatives of the MSSD 2016-2025, which includes the creation of a regional Science-Policy Interface on the trends and impacts of climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean.

The premises for this scientific network are based in the United Nations COP on Climate Change, which led to the Paris Agreement (2015). MedECC comprises around 600 scientists from 35 countries, including 19 countries parties to the Barcelona Convention. It has successfully brought together voluntary expertise to establish a systematic review of scientific work on climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean and their impacts for decision-makers. Since May 2018, Plan Bleu hosts the scientific Secretariat for MedECC within a partnership with the Union for the Mediterranean and funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

In October 2018, various key MedECC researchers co-published a foundational article in *Nature Climate Change*, entitled "Climate change and interconnected risks to sustainable development in the Mediterranean" (Cramer, Guiot et al. 2018).

In December 2018, the MedECC network produced a preliminary assessment of multiple climate and environmental changes that impact ecosystems, resources and lifestyles in the Mediterranean. This document was presented in a UfM-led side-event at the UNFCCC COP in Katowice in December 2018.

In March 2019, a meeting of around sixty lead authors in Milan helped make progress on drafting the report. A first draft should be submitted for scientific review in mid-2019 and for consultation with stakeholders in Autumn 2019, with publication scheduled for early 2020.

MedECC is making a very active contribution to the preparation of the Report on the State of the Environment and Development 2019 by acting as co-lead on the chapter on climate change, and will make an essential contribution to the MED 2050 foresight exercise.

Find out more: <http://www.medecc.org/>

Partners: Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), the Principality of Monaco, French international research programme MISTRALS, IRD (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement - France), Region Sud (France), Government of Catalonia Advisory Council for the Sustainable Development of Catalonia (CADS, Spain), etc.



In the Mediterranean, climate change is increasing the risk of drought, flooding, erosion and fire. In the coming decades, it will also impact water and food security, human subsistence and health.



1st meeting of the lead authors of the MedECC Evaluation Report, Mila, Italy, 4-7 March 2019

TOWARDS A GREEN AND BLUE ECONOMY

InnoBlueGrowth, a horizontal communication and capitalization project for innovation in blue growth at Mediterranean level

A living "Blue Growth Community" in the Mediterranean

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) includes streamlining networks, strengthening communities and consolidating communication based on capitalisation activities (Strategic Objective 1.4, especially Activity 1.4.4.4).

Plan Bleu is a partner of [InnoBlueGrowth](#), a "horizontal communication and capitalization project for innovation in blue growth at Mediterranean level" (2017-2019). It aims to increase the transnational activity of innovative clusters in order to boost smart and sustainable growth in the Mediterranean.

InnoBlueGrowth is coordinated by CoNISMa - Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Scienze del Mare - and is one of six horizontal projects under the Interreg Med Programme for the 2014-2020 period. In particular, it targets communication and capitalization activities for "modular" projects (studies, pilot projects) in blue growth in order to increase their impact and meet shared objectives.

On 20 and 21 June 2018, the "Blue Growth Community" held its third transnational Capitalization and Community Building event in Athens, on the theme of ["The Cluster Approach for a Sustainable Blue Growth in the Mediterranean"](#). This event brought together stakeholders, including higher education and research institutions, SMEs, representatives of various maritime sectors, business support bodies and the private sector. It focused on maritime surveillance with the PROteuS project that seeks to capitalise on this emerging industry's growth potential by creating a "Cluster of Clusters." This would involve establishing a clear harmonised policy and regulatory framework for strategic actions and developing public-private partnerships while taking into account the risks of cultural disparity.

In a world of digital transformation, new skills, training and scientific and technological expertise are key factors for supporting this new age of a holistic marine ecosystem of actors. Other issues included funding for clusters, how to choose an appropriate partner, the importance of governance and the contribution of a cluster to sustainable development and economic growth.

Plan Bleu also participated in the [thematic seminar of the iBlue project on best practices in the yachting sector](#), held in Lisbon, Portugal, on 18 September 2018. The main objective of the iBlue project (2017-2020) is to develop a business model for SMEs and professional organisations involved in the entire chain of yachting activities (manufacturing, service and infrastructure). This methodology will be tested on an SME or professional organisation in each partner country of the project from October 2018 (Albania, Cyprus, Croatia, Spain, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia).



An important step was the [Mid-term conference, "Blue Economy: The Blue Way of Life"](#), which was held on 22 and 23 November 2018 in Barcelona. It presented the initial results and highlighted the importance of cooperation (particularly North-South) through 4Helix partnerships, international clusters, integrated governance approaches and innovative companies. The blue growth community identified the key points of a "blue lifestyle", combining the use and respect of marine resources. In particular, Plan Bleu participated in a session on awareness raising, technological solutions to mitigate environmental pressures and the role of younger generations in the sustainable development of blue economy. Other sessions focused on the internationalisation of Mediterranean clusters, the development of markets and investments for the blue economy, and transnational cooperation initiatives.

The InnoBlueGrowth project is now entering an active phase of capitalisation, drawing up recommendations and disseminating best practices and innovations.

On 16 and 17 April 2019, Plan Bleu will be jointly organising a capitalisation and community-building event in Marseille, entitled ["Strengthening the Science-Practice-Policy Interface in Blue Growth"](#), which aims to present the main deliverables of blue growth projects in terms of knowledge transfer from research to industry and policymakers.

Find out more: <https://blue-growth.interreg-med.eu/>

Partners: Association of Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME), Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) Intermediterranean Commission, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), University of Montenegro - Institute of Marine Biology, Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Scienze del Mare (CoNISMa)

Blue economy in the Mediterranean: Case studies and recommendations

The (sustainable and inclusive) blue economy is one of Plan Bleu's main activity themes. In particular, from 2015 to 2017, Plan Bleu implemented a project funded by the MAVA Foundation on measuring, monitoring and promoting an environmentally sustainable economy in the Mediterranean region, in close partnership with the Regional Activity Centres responsible for Priority Action programmes and Sustainable Production and Consumption. This work resulted in a jointly organised conference in May 2017, where recommendations and synergies between blue economy initiatives and programmes were proposed. International and regional institutions, in particular the OECD and Union for the Mediterranean, also work on this theme. Plan Bleu's work on the blue economy increased in 2018 and 2019, with a number of reports expected.

In particular, the 2018-2019 work programme adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in December 2017 in Tirana includes case studies carried out by Plan Bleu to promote the transition towards a blue economy. These case studies could focus on fisheries and aquaculture, shipping and port activities, wind power, tourism and leisure, or biological resources. They will particularly focus on the economic benefits of environmental services, innovation and inclusion (especially of young people).

This activity is supported by the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) and after the scoping phase, led to the production of factsheets for each case study and the development of a summary report on the results of these case studies and the main lessons learned from these experiences. These recommended areas of improvement also draw on experiences from previous work to implement SDG 14 in the Mediterranean. A draft report will be discussed at the Plan Bleu Focal Points meeting and the MCSD meeting in June 2019.

Partners: over one hundred blue economy partners were contacted and around thirty have contributed to the preparation and analysis of case studies, including partners from the Interreg MED PANACeA, BleuTourMed and InnoBlueGrowth communities, the WWF Med Programme, local authorities (Government of Catalonia, Lazio Region, Andalusia Region, South Region of France), national parks (Al Hoceima, La Maddalena, Taza), ports (Marseille-Fos, Vigo), universities, private stakeholders (Provence Grand Large and innovative SMEs active in maritime sectors such as wave power and the restoration of marine ecosystems). Technical contributions from international financial institutions (World Bank, European Investment Bank) and international organisations (OECD, or projects with the Union for the Mediterranean label) are under discussion.



Over 90% of fish stocks in the Mediterranean are overexploited or facing ecological imbalance.

BleuTourMed, Maritime and Coastal Sustainable Tourism in the Mediterranean

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 includes continued work on sustainable tourism, with a focus on nautical activities, yachting and cruise ships. (Strategic objective 1.1, especially Activity 1.1.3.2).

BleuTourMed is a horizontal three-year project launched in March 2017 and financed by the ERDF under the Interreg MED Programme. It aims to facilitate knowledge sharing and the capitalisation of the results of 17 modular projects intended to support Maritime and Coastal Sustainable Tourism in the Mediterranean Region.

"Our aim is to study, test and capitalise on the innovative instruments and actions to strengthen sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean."

As the member of the MED Sustainable Tourism Community responsible for implementing the BleuTourMed project, Plan Bleu organised and co-organised various events in 2018-2019.

The **MidTerm Conference** in Rome (Italy) from 29 to 30 May 2018 was the first capitalisation event of the Med Sustainable Tourism Community. It aimed to present progress in implementation of the projects underway in the community and discuss the recommendations of the MED Community following their initial results.

The **second capitalisation event** was organised by Plan Bleu in Marseille (France) from 20 to 21 November 2018. It capitalised on and collected the results of various community projects to develop policy recommendations for sustainable tourism.

The **third capitalisation event** was held from 27 to 28 March 2019 in Split (Croatia) and provided an opportunity to organise capitalisation workshops that included all community projects by theme. Participants finalised the drafting of policy recommendations on strategic subjects for the tourism sector in the Mediterranean.

The **Final Conference** of the MED Sustainable Tourism Community will take place from 4 to 7 June 2019 in Barcelona (Spain). It will provide an opportunity to present the community's main outputs and the cross-cutting policy paper with recommendations for sustainable tourism to numerous stakeholders across the Mediterranean. Plan Bleu is coordinating the preparation of policy recommendation documents for decision-makers.

Find out more: <https://sustainable-tourism.interreg-med.eu/>

Partners: ALatin Arch, Barcelona Provincial Council, Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED), Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Adriatic Ionian Euroregion

→ **Mediterranean countries remain the top global tourism destination, with around 30% of international tourist arrivals, which has doubled over the past twenty years.**



Towards sustainable cruise and yachting industries in the Mediterranean

Activity 1.1.3.2 of the MAP Programme of Activities plans for Plan Bleu to continue work on regional instruments for sustainable tourism, including potential guidelines, particularly in the cruise and yachting sectors. A number of ongoing projects contribute to this topic, also drawing on the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production, the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol, SAP BIO, and the Regional Plan on Marine Litter.



In 2019, Plan Bleu received one-off support from the BlueMed initiative to organise three expert meetings or webinars. These discussions will help establish a framework for potential changes in these sectors and their major impacts, and then identify a number of promising innovations for each impact. These innovations will then be presented and discussed by experts, who will work together to identify the ones that appear to have an important potential as levers of transition towards more sustainable and inclusive cruise and recreational boating sectors.

The conditions for disseminating the innovations selected will also be discussed and presented in a report to be used to support the preparation of regional tools and the MED 2050 foresight exercise.

Partners: PAP/RAC, RAC/SPA, REMPEC, SCP/RAC, Porto Antico di Genova (Italy), Eco-Union (Spain), Marseille Cruise (France), RERA SD (Croatia), etc.

Ship emissions control in coastal areas

In February 2016, the 21 Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean adopted the Regional Strategy for the Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships, which aims to assess the possibility of identifying all or part of the Mediterranean Sea as a sulphur oxide emission control area.

The French National Plan for the Reduction of Air Pollutant Emissions (PREPA), adopted into French law in 2017, plans for the implementation of new Emission Control Areas (ECAs) in the Mediterranean.

It is in this context that the ECAMED project was launched with the support of the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition.

Plan Bleu contributed to regional work on the subject, by organising a regional workshop on 6 and 7 September 2018 in Marseille, bringing together members of the Expert Technical Committee and representatives of eleven Mediterranean countries, in collaboration with REMPEC.

Since 2019, Ineris and its partners, Citepa, Cerema and Plan Bleu, presented the results of the [ECAMED study](#), which aimed to assess the costs and benefits for air quality of creating low-emissions zones in the Mediterranean Sea. The conclusions demonstrate the advantages of establishing this type of measure and present the benefits in particular but not exclusively for port cities.

This study confirms and serves as a useful supplement to the one carried out by REMPEC.

A results promotion and dissemination period will run from 2019 to 2022.

Partners: AFD, French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, CEREMA, INERIS, CITEPA, REMPEC



→ *The ECAMED study showed that establishing Emission Control Areas in the Mediterranean would provide health benefits at least three times greater than the costs.*

Socio-economic analysis for appropriate management of Mediterranean resources

PANACeA : a regional initiative to streamline management efforts in Protected Areas for enhanced protection in the Mediterranean Sea

The UN Environment/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) includes streamlining networks, strengthening communities and consolidating communication based on capitalisation activities (Strategic Objective 1.4, especially Activity 1.4.4.4).

PANACeA is a three-year project co-funded by the Interreg MED programme. It seeks to build management capacities and streamline networks of protected areas in order to adapt and improve protection measures aimed at preserving the biodiversity of protected marine and coastal ecosystems and to better take into account protected areas in regional development strategies (information sharing, strategies, regulations, etc.).

A Community on Biodiversity Protection was therefore created, composed of the 11 projects under the Interreg MED Programme: ACT4LITTER, AMARe, CONFISH, ECOSUSTAIN, FishMPABlue2, MEDSEALITTER, MPA-ADAPT, PHAROS4MPAs, PlasticBustersMPAs, POSBEMED, WETNET.

Various events were organised in 2018 as part of the PANACeA project:

On 18-19 April 2018, the eight communities of the Interreg MED Programme 2014-2020 met in Rome around the Fab Lab (Fabrication Laboratory) concept. This **MADE in MED event** presented the initial results of the 90 projects of the Programme through a conference and exhibition.

The **seminar** held in Podgorica, Montenegro, on 16 and 17 May 2018 aimed to highlight and transfer practical methodologies and tools developed by EU and Mediterranean research, management and policy projects, in order to foster Euro-Mediterranean technical and political debate on the latest strategies and tools for ecosystem-based management and biodiversity conservation.

A knowledge-sharing workshop on **"Transferring ecosystem-based management tools: increasing regional capacities"** was held in Marseille on 23 October 2018, in collaboration with the South Region.

As part of the **22nd edition of Ecomondo** (Rimini, Italy, 6-9 November 2018), the MED Biodiversity Protection Community worked with five other Interreg MED thematic communities (Green Growth, Blue Growth, Renewable Energy, Urban Transports, and Sustainable Tourism) to organise a session on "Empowering territories for a sustainable Mediterranean"

A **side event** was organised by the UfM and MED Biodiversity Protection Community within the framework of the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 14), in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, on 27 November 2018. The meeting focused on ecosystem-based approaches to managing transboundary and cumulative impacts in the Mediterranean Sea.

The **Mid-term workshop and public hearing** on the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Committee took place in Brussels on 4 and 5 December 2018. The aim was to transfer the lessons learned from the Interreg MED Community of Biodiversity Protection projects and protected areas to national and international policymakers. In this context, the Interreg MED Biodiversity Protection Community presented the **"Declaration on Ecosystem-based approaches for biodiversity protection and management in the Mediterranean"** to the European Parliament.

A side event entitled **"Promoting co-management as an innovative tool for the sustainable use of coastal and marine natural resources"** was held on 10 December 2018 as part of the Fish Forum 2018.

The MED Biodiversity Protection Community attended MARLICE 2019, the international forum on marine litter and the circular economy, (Seville, Spain, 10 - 12 April 2019) to present the shared work and results of its Interreg MED Marine litter initiatives.

Next steps

The MED Biodiversity Protection Community is organising a capitalisation event on 6 and 7 May 2019 in Rome (Italy). The aim is to bring together the 11 projects to discuss the latest developments, plan future actions and present the lessons learned from public debate with key research institutes, networks and institutions from the public and private sector.

Find out more: <https://biodiversity-protection.interreg-med.eu/>

Partners: ETC-UMA, University of Malaga (Spain), Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, CPMR (France), UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union (Italy), Barcelona Metropolitan Area as Secretary General of MedCities (Spain), Regional Environmental Centre - REC (Montenegro)



The marine area covered by conservation measures represents over 8.9% of the surface of the Mediterranean Sea.

Communication campaign on the value of coastal wetlands in the Mediterranean

Plan Bleu is part of a consortium of 11 international partners working on a communication campaign for coastal wetlands, coordinated and launched by MedWet in 2017. This project aims to implement a global communication campaign to raise awareness of the value of coastal wetlands and promote the need to preserve and restore these ecosystems in the Mediterranean to regional and national policymakers. Three sites particularly benefit from the project: Oristano (Italy), Ghar el Melh (Tunisia) and the Bojana-Buna Delta (Montenegro-Albania). The campaign aims to improve knowledge of the functions and values of these important ecosystems and the advantages of integrated management of the land-sea interface. It is supported by work carried out on the pilot sites, particularly in Albania, Italy, Montenegro, Tunisia and on Mediterranean islands. By increasing the visibility of results and using scientifically proven arguments, the campaign should convince decision makers and stakeholders around the demonstration sites of the need for the protection and sustainable management of these habitats. The campaign also aims to provide the community of Mediterranean wetlands with a real opportunity to experiment while also learning how to demonstrate the catalyst role played by bringing together various governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in the region.

A campaign task force was established following the kick-off meeting in Bizerte in September 2017. This included Plan Bleu and aimed to define the campaign's priority targets and develop a communication strategy with a clear objective to **"Deepen the understanding of coastal wetlands to ensure a more effective conservation of these habitats"**.

Plan Bleu has participated in the seven Task Force meetings that have been held by video conference since its creation. Clear communication principles have been adopted, and an international calendar of key communication events, a work plan and a roadmap have been defined.

A campaign logo, graphic charter and key message have also been adopted by all partners. A website has been created: <http://offyourmap.org/>



Using the key message **"Life Begins in Wetlands"**, the campaign focuses on the essential role of coastal wetlands for providing subsistence to millions of people living in these zones and protecting their houses by reducing the risks of disasters such as flooding and storms. Coastal wetlands are nature-based solutions as they improve water quality and offer a source of freshwater. They are also an important tourist destination and generate revenue for local economies. These ecosystems provide an appropriate habitat for various indigenous plants and animals, many of which are endangered.

Plan Bleu has worked in partnership with Tour du Valat to draft a report on "The status of coastal Mediterranean wetlands", which was used to develop key messages for the campaign. A policy note entitled **"Water, wetlands and nature-based solutions in a nexus context in the Mediterranean"** was produced for the World Water Week (Stockholm, 26-31/08/2018).

Side events were organised at the 13th Session of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP13), which took place in Dubai from 21 to 29 October 2018.

Finally, articles were published for World Wetlands Day 2018.

Partners: Mava, MedWet, BirdLife, DiversEarth, GWP Med, IUCN Med, MedINA, MedPAN, PAP/RAC, Tour du Valat, Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory, Wetlands International, WWF

→ **Wetlands provide a variety of essential services for populations: food, water supply, flood protection, etc.**

Saltpan Initiative “Addressing wetland conservation in the Mediterranean: salt pans and socio-economic assessment initiatives”

Since 2017, Plan Bleu has been a partner of this three-year project coordinated by BirdLife International and Tour du Valat.

The project aims to assess the threats facing salt pans (pollution, impact of climate change, commercial development, etc.), provide capacity building for local communities and estimate the range of ecosystem services provided by Mediterranean wetlands, in particular on three pilot sites: Ulcinj Salina (Montenegro), Ghar El Melh (Tunisia) and Oristano (Sardinia).

From 6 to 9 March 2018, Plan Bleu took part in a socio-economic workshop in Cagliari, Italy, organised as part of the BirdLife International project and hosted by the Mediterranean Sea and Coast Foundation (MEDSEA).

Plan Bleu shared its experience in the economic valuation of ecosystem services by presenting the methodology and lessons learned from the Med-ESCWET project with the other partners.

This workshop also aimed to train all partners in the TESSA tool (Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment) and develop a roadmap for implementing socio-economic assessments on the pilot sites. Plan Bleu is supporting the S'ena Arrubia site in Sardinia to implement the TESSA tool.



The area of natural coastal wetlands such as wet meadows and marshlands has fallen by over 10% in recent decades.



Partners: BirdLife International, Tour du Valat, Les Amis des Oiseaux association in Tunisia, Centre for Protection and Research of Birds of Montenegro (CZIP), Doğa Derneği in Turkey, MedPan network.

6th Mediterranean Forest Week

Held every two years, Mediterranean Forest Week (MFW) is a key platform for regional forestry cooperation and dialogue between the research community, policymakers and other relevant stakeholders. It highlights the specific challenges faced by Mediterranean forests and calls attention to their global importance.

Participants include forest administrators, the scientific and academic community, the private sector, financial institutions, civil society, environmental agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

The Sixth Mediterranean Forest Week (MFW) was held in Lebanon from 1 to 5 April 2019 on the topic of “**Role of Mediterranean forests in the Paris Agreement: challenges and opportunities**”. It sought to bring together a large range of participants to discuss how Mediterranean forests could help countries in the region to meet their targets under the Paris Agreement in response to climate change.

It also showcased the use of forest-based solutions to address broader regional challenges such as sustainable development, energy transition, demographic change and migration.

Plan Bleu was involved in this event as an organising member, particularly in the following two sessions:

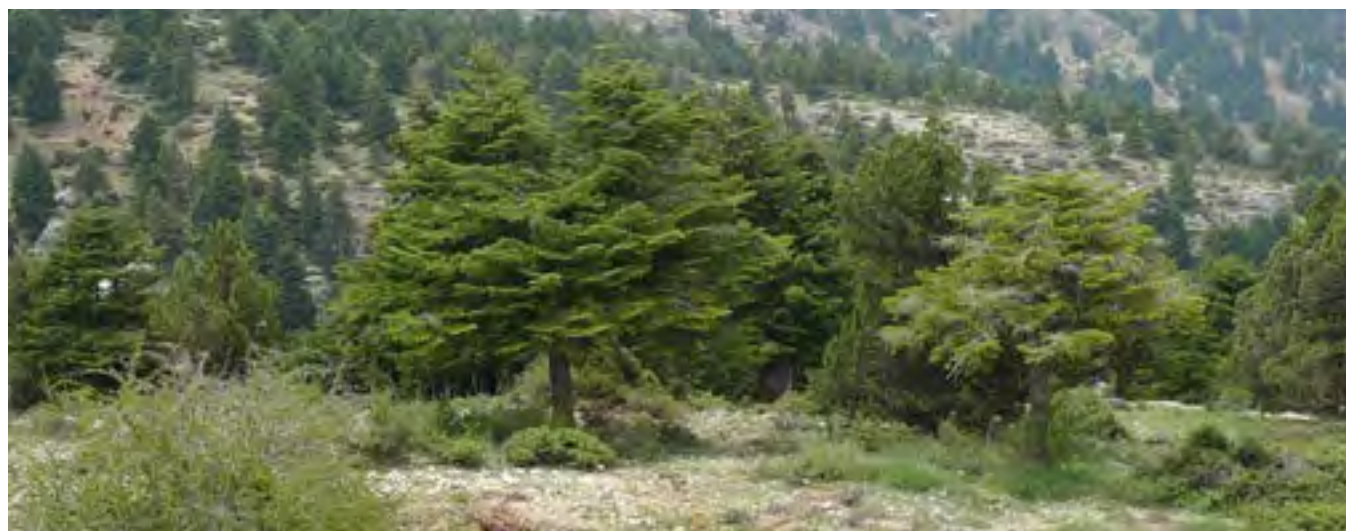
- session 2 “Forest-based solutions - Link with other sectors” in partnership with AIFM,
- side event: “Preservation and valorization of Mediterranean forests from mass tourism impact”

Partners: FAO *Silva Mediterranea* Committee, AIFM, CTFC (Centre Tecnològic Forestal de Catalunya), EFIMED (Mediterranean Regional Office of the European Forest Institute), Cofor International



VI MFW Mediterranean Forest Week

→ *Restoring biodiversity in forests increases their resilience to anthropogenic pressures and is therefore an essential “insurance policy” and safeguard from the expected impacts of climate change.*



State of Mediterranean Forests 2018

Plan Bleu and FAO aim to regularly publish a reference guide entitled the State of Mediterranean Forests in order to compensate for the lack of data and provide strong foundations for future management of Mediterranean forests. The first edition was published in 2013.

In 2018, Plan Bleu and the FAO Silva Mediterranea Committee published the English version of the second edition of the [State of Mediterranean Forests](#). An executive summary is also available. The French version will be published in 2019.

According to the report, between 2010 and 2015, the total forest area increased by 2% in the Mediterranean (1.8 million ha), almost the size of Slovenia. However, there has been significant degradation and forests are increasingly threatened by climate change, population growth, forest fires and water shortages.

Partners: FAO *Silva Mediterranea* Committee, FAO FLRM (Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism), FAO UPF (Urban and Peri-urban Forestry), Univ. Madrid, University of Florence (Italy), Directorate General of Combatting Desertification and Erosion (Turkey), EFIMED, FSC Italy, FSC Spain, GDF Algeria, Univ. Sapienza, Italy, University of Lisbon and WWF Mediterranean Program (Portugal), INRA Avignon (France), Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium), GDF Tunisia, CIFOR-INIA (Spain), etc.



« Mediterranean forests have long been adapting to pressures caused by human development. But never have these pressures been so extreme as they are now. Unless we do more to combat forest degradation, more than 500 million people across 31 countries and three continents will soon face a wide range of economic, social and environmental problems », M. Hiroto Mitsugi, FAO Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department.

« In a context of rapid climatic, societal and lifestyle changes in the Mediterranean, forest and tree-based solutions are critical to the region overall sustainability, with an expected impact well beyond forested areas. Upstream forests, agro-forestry, and urban trees and parks can help preserve key ecosystem services, reduce soil degradation and transition towards a circular, resource-efficient, bio-based, low carbon and socially fair green economy. Reaching this potential will require using a range of instruments, including participatory approaches, innovative economic instruments and partnerships », Mme Elen Lemaitre-Curri, Plan Bleu's Director.

➔ **Forest areas are growing in the Mediterranean region but are increasingly threatened by degradation due to climate change, forest fires and water shortages.**

Implementing public-private partnerships for the management of Mediterranean protected areas

The project “[Public-Private Partnerships \(PPP\) serving the environment in the Mediterranean](#)” is financed by the French Development Agency (AFD) and has been implemented by Plan Bleu since 2016.

Its aim is to encourage stakeholders to draw on the financial and technical capacities of the private sector through PPPs to ensure the sustainable funding of protected areas and develop a participatory management approach with civil society.

In 2018, roadmaps were developed to implement Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) on two chosen sites: Kuriat Islands in Tunisia, and Ifrane National Park in Morocco.

This phase was finalised when Plan Bleu took part in the second breakfast on Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), organised by AFD in Paris on 1 February 2019. The breakfast’s theme was PPPs serving the environment in the Mediterranean or “How to rethink the link between human ecosystems and natural ecosystems?”.

In 2019, these two roadmaps will be published along with a regional summary report.

Partner: French Development Agency (AFD)



→ *The sustainable management of protected areas requires the development of permanent funding mechanisms.*

Marine litter: socio-economic analysis on key best practices to prevent/reduce single-use plastic bags and bottles

Under the MAP framework, Plan Bleu works with the support of the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea in close collaboration with the other relevant components (MEDPOL, SCP/RAC) to coordinate a socio-economic analysis on key best practices to prevent/reduce single-use plastic bags and bottles. This study has already produced or will produce the following outputs:

- A review to select the best practices and key measures that could be assessed, with a focus on preventing/reducing plastic (bags and bottles). This study is carried out in collaboration with MEDPOL and SCP/RAC to provide an overview of best practices implemented in the Mediterranean region;
- Socio-economic analysis of plastic prevention/reduction measures in Mediterranean countries based on cost-benefit, cost-effectiveness and multi-criteria assessment methods;
- Development of case studies on key practices presented using factsheets;
- Two sessions on socio-economic analysis at international meetings on exemplary practices for marine litter, in order to disseminate the case studies and discussion of any recommendations (Izmir, Turkey, October 2018 and Seville, April 2019).

- A summary report will present regional-level recommendations to apply the best marine litter reduction and prevention measures, with a focus on single-use plastic bags and bottles.

Partners: MEDPOL, SCP/RAC



→ *The increased use of plastic products, non-sustainable consumption patterns, unsuitable and inefficient waste management systems, and strong pressures such as tourism and shipping have caused high levels of marine litter in the Mediterranean.*

EVENTS

In 2018, Plan Bleu organized or co-organized **17 events** (seminars, workshops, side-events, etc.) bringing together more than **900 participants**.

22-24 JANUARY 2018

Session « Water and climate change », 3rd Mediterranean Water Forum, Cairo, Egypt. [More information...](#)

21 MARCH 2018

Session « How does the Mediterranean community contribute to the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 », 9th European Ramsar Meeting, Olomouc, Czech Republic. [More information...](#)

14-18 APRIL 2018

2nd ENI-SEIS II South workshop on indicators, Athens, Greece. [More information...](#)

18-19 APRIL 2018

Event « MADE in MED – Crafting the future Mediterranean », gathering the eight community's of the INTERREG MED Programme, Rome, Italy. [More information...](#)

16-18 MAY 2018

Seminar « Empowering the Mediterranean Community: tools for Ecosystem-based Management », Podgorica, Montenegro. [More information...](#)

29-30 MAY 2018

BleuTourMed MidTerm Conference: Re-connecting tourism: Promoting evidence based policies for sustainable development, Rome, Italy. [More information...](#)

5 JUNE 2018

Conference « Environment and development in the Mediterranean yesterday, today and tomorrow » on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Plan Bleu, Paris. [More information...](#)

6-7 SEPTEMBER 2018

International technical workshop « Data, trends, impacts and benefits associated with the creation of an emission control area by vessels in the Mediterranean », Marseille, France. [More information...](#)

23 OCTOBER 2018

Knowledge sharing workshop « Transferring ecosystem-based management tools: increasing regional capacities » co-organized by MED Biodiversity Protection Community and Région Sud, Marseille, France. [More information...](#)

6-9 NOVEMBER 2018

Session « Empowering territories for a sustainable Mediterranean » organized by six Interreg MED thematic communities, 22nd edition of Ecomondo, Rimini, Italy. [More information...](#)



20-21 NOVEMBER 2018

Second capitalisation event of the MED Sustainable Tourism Community, Marseille, France. [More information...](#)

22-23 NOVEMBER 2018

Mid-term Conference of InnoBlueGrowth Project on blue economy, Barcelona. [More information...](#)

26 NOVEMBER 2018

Side-event on Ecosystem based Management in the Mediterranean, 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 14), Charm el-Cheikh, Egypt. [More information...](#)

28 NOVEMBER 2018

Side-event «The regional dimension of a Sustainable and Inclusive Blue Economy: the model of the Mediterranean», First global conference on Sustainable Blue Economy, Nairobi, Kenya. [More information...](#)

4-5 DECEMBER 2018

Mid-term workshop and public hearing of the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community, Brussels. [More information...](#)

10 DECEMBER 2018

Side-event « Promoting co-management as innovative tool for the sustainable use of coastal and marine natural resources », Fish Forum 2018, Rome, Italy. [More information...](#)

13 DECEMBER 2018

Side-event « A science-policy interface on risks of climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean region », COP 24, Katowice, Poland. [More information...](#)

22-24 JANUARY 2019

International Workshop « Implementation of Nature Based Solutions to tackle climate change: Focus on the Mediterranean region », Marseille, France. [More information...](#)

SPECIAL FEATURE

40th anniversary of Plan Bleu

Environment and development in the Mediterranean, yesterday, today and tomorrow



Over 130 participants met in Paris on 5 June 2018 for the 40th anniversary of Plan Bleu during an international conference jointly organised with Association Serge Antoine. Experts, decision-makers, representatives of national, European and Mediterranean institutions, and members of civil society discussed challenges and future scenarios for the Mediterranean.

The morning focused on the creation of Plan Bleu at the initiative of Serge Antoine. It was an opportunity to look back on forty years of discussion and actions in favour of sustainable development in the Mediterranean. Mediterranean countries have worked together within the framework of the Barcelona Convention since the late 1970s to make progress on many common environmental challenges, despite geopolitical tensions.

In the afternoon, speakers discussed issues including marine ecosystem management, sustainable tourism, integrated rural and agricultural development, the blue economy, sustainable water and soil management and biodiversity, and talked about possible and desirable futures. The fragility of the Mediterranean sea and its coastlines and watershed catchment areas, and the many pressures they are facing, require the mobilisation of all stakeholders.

Plan Bleu also announced the launch of MED 2050, a new foresight study at horizon 2050 designed to mobilise decision-makers and stakeholders from the North and South beyond geographical and institutional borders. Work will be carried out over the next four years based on dialogue, partnerships and shared visions of transition pathways and the investments required to build a desirable future for the Mediterranean basin.

The quality of the speakers' presentations, the presence of all UN Environment/MAP components and many of Plan Bleu's historical partners and fruitful discussion with the floor made for a successful event. It would not have been possible without Association Serge Antoine and the support of the History Committee of the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, the High Council for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas (CGAAER) of the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and the Mediterranean World Economic Foresight Institute (IPEMED).



SPECIAL FEATURE

Implementation of Nature Based Solutions to tackle climate change: Focus on the Mediterranean region



The City of Marseille hosted the workshop “Implementation of Nature Based Solutions to tackle climate change: focus on the Mediterranean region” from 22 to 24 January 2019. This event was organised by Plan Bleu, the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, the IUCN French Committee, Conservatoire du Littoral, Tour du Valat, MedWet and Wetlands International, and brought together researchers, practitioners and policymakers in the Mediterranean region and European Union to discuss the benefits and challenges associated with the implementation of Nature-based Solutions.

Nature-based Solutions are defined by IUCN as “actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits”.

Today’s societies are facing a broad range of challenges: unsustainable urbanisation and related human health issues, degradation and loss of natural capital and the ecosystem services it provides (clean air, water and soil), climate change and an alarming increase of natural disaster risks. There is growing recognition and awareness that nature can help provide viable solutions that use and deploy the properties of natural ecosystems. These Nature-based Solutions provide sustainable, cost-effective, multi-purpose and flexible alternatives to civil engineering structures and technologies. They can also help create new jobs and boost economic growth.

This workshop aimed to capitalise on the outcomes and lessons learned from projects that are being carried out in the Mediterranean by partners across different ecosystems, including coastal, forest and urban ecosystems. It also aimed to share European and Mediterranean best practices and challenges in terms of Nature-based Solutions among researchers and wetland managers, to create new collaborations and to raise awareness of policymakers on the importance of healthy ecosystems for effective adaptation to climate change, specifically by bringing Nature-based Solutions into action.

In the framework of this workshop, a Policy Paper will be published in 2019 with support from AFD and Mava, and will be presented to the Plan Bleu Focal Points.



COMMUNICATION

One of Plan Bleu's main missions is to raise the awareness of Mediterranean stakeholders and decision-makers on issues associated with the environment and sustainable development in the region, and to help them make informed decisions. In this context, communication is a key part of Plan Bleu's activities, which needs to be adapted in line with changes to uses and digital media. Plan Bleu is also committed to producing targeted communication for specific audiences on both sides of the Mediterranean.

A new communication strategy was therefore developed in 2018 in order to better promote the outputs of the studies and activities carried out by Plan Bleu and its partners, and to disseminate its key messages more broadly. This new strategy includes the increased use of social media, stronger relationships with the press, the use of new more attractive media (videos, infographics, policy papers, factsheets, etc.) and the development of more powerful messages. On a broader level, it is part of the MAP's new communication strategy.

In 2018, Plan Bleu published several reports and notes, all available on its website, and broadcast three new issues of its electronic newsletter, each sent to more than 1,000 subscribers, in particular all national Focal Points and members of the Plan Bleu General Assembly. Plan Bleu has also endeavored to communicate regularly on social media through its Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn pages.

The website remains a key communication channel for Plan Bleu. Updates have continued this year, with an average of 3,000 visits per month. In order to further improve online visibility and better meet users' expectations, Plan Bleu is working on the development of a new website to be launched late 2019.

WEBSITES

www.planbleu.org: our institutional website is constantly updated to showcase our activities, and latest news, projects, events and publications.



www.obs.planbleu.org: website featuring statistics, indicators and maps on environmental and sustainable development issues in the Mediterranean.

<http://docs.planbleu.org>: website providing access to around 9,000 reference documents on environmental, economic and sustainable development issues in the world, especially in the Mediterranean.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter:



NEWSLETTER



Sign up to the Plan Bleu online newsletter to keep up with all the latest news:

<http://planbleu.org/en/subscribe-plan-bleus-newsletter>

PUBLICATIONS

COASTAL AREA

Climagine, co-building the coast of the future



Mediterranean coastlines are places of strategic importance, which are home to a rich diversity of ecosystems. However, they also face numerous pressures. For over twenty years, the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has warned that these fragile zones could be severely impacted by climate change. Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is recognised as the best way to promote the sustainable development of these vulnerable spaces and it now fully incorporates this issue. However, the participatory nature of ICZM means that

it faces a major challenge in order to give stakeholders the tools they need to coplan their territory while taking into account the impacts of climate change. A new method has been developed to meet this need, known as Climagine. ([download the Note in French](#) or [English](#))

FORESTS

State of Mediterranean Forests 2018



The Mediterranean forest area has increased by two percent between 2010 and 2015, resulting in a rise of 1.8 million hectares – about the size of Slovenia, says a the new report published by FAO and Plan Bleu. But Mediterranean forests have also been considerably affected by degradation and are increasingly in jeopardy from climate change, population rise, wildfires and water scarcity, the report warns. ([download the report](#))

FORWARD-LOOKING

Towards a new foresight exercise on environment and development in the Mediterranean: Benchmark report of existing studies



This report was prepared as part of the preparation of the roadmap for the new MED 2050 prospective exercise. It aims to establish a state of the art foresight exercises already available in the Mediterranean. ([download the report in French](#))

MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

Human impacts on Mediterranean marine ecosystems and the economy: Regional workshop



This document was drafted following a workshop co-organised by the Centre Scientifique de Monaco and Plan Bleu, held in Monaco in October 2017 where 45 experts from 17 countries and from various fields of expertise, social sciences and natural sciences, participated. It analyses the main threats, vulnerability and ecological and human impacts. On the consensus of a wide range of specialists in different disciplines then some responses and policy options as well

as main knowledge gaps and needs are proposed as conclusions for Mediterranean decision makers. ([download the Note in English](#))

SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACE

Science-policy interfaces for environmental governance in the Mediterranean



Science-policy interfaces (SPIs) are tools that can be used to improve environmental conservation and management in the Mediterranean region. However, in order to do so, a shared understanding of the concept needs to be established, and current gaps need to be identified. This document is based on the work of several institutions, including Plan Bleu, and sets out to provide stakeholders in Mediterranean environmental governance with a brief analysis of the

SPI concept within the regional context. ([download the Note in French](#) or [English](#))

Science-Policy Interface (SPI) to support monitoring implementation plans as well as sub-regional and regional policy developments regarding EcAp clusters on pollution, contaminants & eutrophication, marine biodiversity & fisheries, coast & hydrography

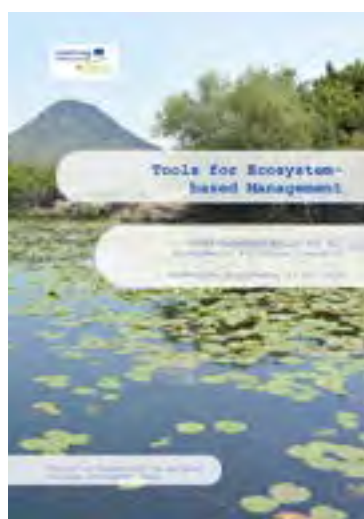


This new report provides Mediterranean stakeholders with key recommendations and conclusions that emerge from three workshops to support the roadmap for the implementation of Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) and of Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast (IMAP) decision by strengthening SPI. ([download the Note in English](#))

LEAFLETS, BROCHURES, POSTERS...

Plan Bleu's communication in 2018 also included a poster for the 9th European Ramsar Meeting, joint creation of a brochure on the blue economy and distributing press releases.

Furthermore, several brochures and factsheets were produced under Plan Bleu partner projects, including PANACeA, BleuTourMed and InnoBlueGrowth.



TEAM

Activities were carried out in 2018 by a team of a dozen people, supported by Mediterranean experts.

EMPLOYEES:

Lemaitre-Curri Elen, *Director*

Bourlion Nelly, *Programme Officer « Forest ecosystems, biodiversity »*

Camerini Aurélia, *Accountant and management controller*

Clavreul Alyssa, *Project Officer « Agriculture and biodiversity »*

Comolet Arnaud, *Senior economist « Blue economy and reporting »*

Dubreuil Céline, *Programme Officer « Water and climate change »*

Dulbecco Sandra, *Bilingual secretary, Executive assistant*

Fouchy Kelly, *Project Officer « Environment and development »*

Giraud Jean-Pierre, *Deputy Secretary General, Programme Officer « Indicators and information systems »*

Lafitte Antoine, *Programme Officer « Integrated coastal zone management »*

Mancini Raffaele, *Expert « Blue economy and sustainable tourism »*

Nublat Milan, *Project Officer « Statistical and Geographic Information System »*

Rousseaux Hélène, *Project Officer « Information-Communication-Web »*

Tode Lina, *Programme Officer « Foresight studies and environmental economics »*

LONG-TERM CONSULTANTS:

Agullo Florian, *Consultant « Human resources »*

Colin Brigitte, *Consultant « Human resources »*

TRAINEES:

Ben Harb Nedja

Froment Alexandra

Goubert Anna



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Plan Bleu's funding sources include Mediterranean countries, the European Union, a donation from the French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, and contributions to shared projects from various institutions and partners.

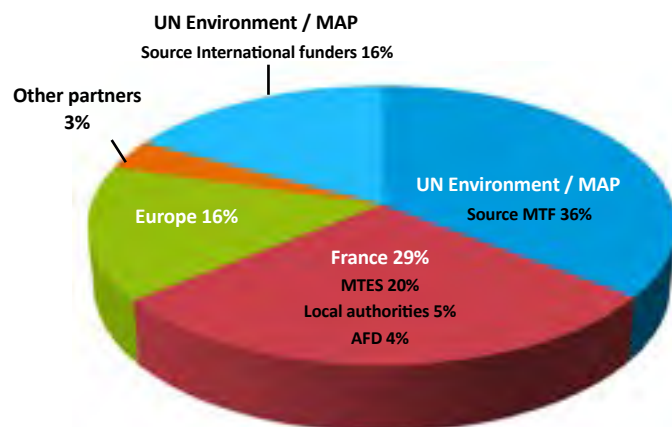
2018 Income

In 2018, our total operating income was approximately €1.3 million.

Plan Bleu also raised approximately €174K of contributions in kind, of which €65K involved the release of premises and €109K of volunteer contributions (members of the Bureau).

Breaking down the various financial contributions by source shows four main sources of funding:

- UN Environment / MAP: 52% (MTF 36 %, other contributions 16%)
- France: 29 %
- Europe: 16 %
- Other partners: 3 %



2018 Expenditure

Expenditure (financial and contributions in kind) came to a total of €1.5 million, broken down as follows:

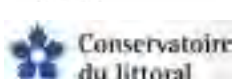
- Activities: 71%
- Overheads: 15%
- Administrative staff: 14%



MAP's MID-TERM STRATEGY & PLAN BLEU'S ACTIVITIES

Mid-term strategy of UN Environment/MAP MTS 2016-2021		Activities implemented by Plan Bleu	
1.1.3.2	Continue to work on regional tools, including possible guidelines, on sustainable tourism with a particular focus on nautical activities, pleasure boating including cruises.	BleuTourMed, Maritime and Coastal Sustainable Tourism in the Mediterranean Towards sustainable cruise and yachting industries in the Mediterranean	p. 15 p. 16
1.3.3.1	Strengthen and sustain the Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER).	Simplified peer review mechanism (SIMPEER) of national strategies for sustainable development (NSSD)	p. 9
1.4.1.1	Organise the preparation of the State of the Environment and Development Report 2019 (SoED)	SoED 2019: new report on the state of the environment and development in the Mediterranean	p. 5
1.4.1.2	Prepare jointly with the EEA the Second report on the Implementation of H2020 initiative for a Healthy Mediterranean.	SEIS, Shared Environmental Information System / Horizon 2020 Initiative	p. 6
1.4.1.3	Develop and implement the first set of activities included in the Med 2050 Roadmap in accordance with Decision IG. 23/4.	MED 2050 – A new foresight exercise in the Mediterranean	p. 8
1.4.2.1	Improve the work on the indicators of the Mediterranean sustainability Dashboard in accordance with Decision IG. 23/4.	Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025 Dashboard	p. 10
1.4.4.1	Implement, sustain, and strengthen the mechanism to assist Barcelona Convention with scientific institutions.	Strengthen the Science-Policy Interface on climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean: MedECC Network EcAp, Ecosystem Approach	p. 12 p. 7
1.4.4.4	Streamline networking and focus on community building and strengthen communication based on capitalisation activities.	InnoBlueGrowth, a horizontal communication and capitalization project for innovation in blue growth at Mediterranean level PANACeA : a regional initiative to streamline management efforts in Protected Areas for enhanced protection in the Mediterranean Sea	p. 13 p. 17
2.2.2	Regional programmes of measures identified and negotiated for pollutants/categories (sectors) showing increasing trends, including the revision of existing regional plans and areas of consumption and production	Marine litter: socio-economic analysis on key best practices to prevent/reduce single-use plastic bags and bottles	p. 22
4.4.1.2	Implementing the SDG 14 in the Mediterranean by promoting the Blue Economy	Blue economy in the Mediterranean: Case studies and recommendations Implementing public-private partnerships for the management of Mediterranean protected areas	p. 14 p. 22
4.4.1.3	Develop/consolidate tools to facilitate climate change integration into the decision-making process.	Coastal areas and climate change adaptation	p. 11
7.2.3.1	Economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by ecosystems located at the land-sea interface in terms of climate change.	Implementation of Nature Based Solutions Communication campaign on the value of coastal wetlands in the Mediterranean Saltpan Initiative "Addressing wetland conservation in the Mediterranean: saltpans and socio-economic assessment initiatives"	p. 25 p. 18 p. 19
7.4.1.1	Develop vulnerability and impact indicators of climate change on biodiversity and natural resources, also addressing socio-economic trends.	6th Mediterranean Forest Week Activity being launched with RAC/SPA and LabexMed	p. 20

MAIN PARTNERS



LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADEME (French Environment & Energy Management Agency)
 AFD (French Development Agency)
 AIFM (International Association for Mediterranean Forests)
 ASCAME (Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry)
 CEREMA (French Center for Studies and Expertise on Risks, Environment, Mobility and Development)
 CGAAER (French General Council of Agriculture and Food)
 CITEPA (Interprofessional Technical Centre for Studies on Air Pollution)
 COP (Conference of Parties)
 CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions)
 CTFC (Centre Tecnològic Forestal de Catalunya)
 EAE (European Environment Agency)
 ECA (Emissions Control Areas)
 EcAp (Ecosystemic Approach)
 EFIMED (Mediterranean Regional Office of the European Forest Institute)
 ENP (European Neighbourhood Policy)
 ENPI (European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument)
 ERDF (European Regional Development Fund)
 FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations)
 GES (Good Environmental Status)
 ICZM (Integrated Coastal Zone Management)
 IMAP (Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme)
 INERIS (French National Institute for Industrial Environment and Risks)
 INFO/RAC (Regional Activity Centre for Information and Communication)
 IPEMED (Institut de Prospective Economique du Monde Méditerranéen)
 IRD (French Institute of Research for Development)
 MAP (Mediterranean Action Plan)
 MCSD (Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development)
 MedECC (network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and environmental Change)
 MFW (Mediterranean Forest Week)
 MPA (Marine Protected Areas)
 MSSD (Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development)
 MTES (French Ministry of Ecological and Solidary Transition)
 MTS (Medium-Term Strategy)
 NGO (Non Governmental Organization)
 NSSD (National Strategies for Sustainable Development)
 NTUA (National Technical University of Athens)
 OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)
 PPP (Public-Private Partnership)
 RAC (Regional Activity Centre)
 RAC/SPA (Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas)
 RAC/SPA (Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas)
 REMPEC (Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea)
 SCP/RAC (Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production)
 SDG (Sustainable Development Goals)
 SEIS (Shared Environmental Information System)
 SIMPEER (Simplified Peer Review Mechanism)
 SME (Small and Medium-sized Enterprise)
 SoED (State of Environment and Development)
 SPI (Science Policy Interface)
 UfM (Union for the Mediterranean)
 UN (United Nations)

Plan Bleu pour l'environnement et le développement en Méditerranée

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