



Final Report: Application of the Climagine Methodology In support of development of the Kotor Bay Coastal Management, Montenegro

GEF MedProgramme Child Project 2.1 - Mediterranean Coastal Zones Climate Resilience, Water Security and Habitat Protection

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2.1

Mediterranean
Coastal Zones Climate
Resilience Water Security
and Habitat Protection"

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Introduction

Implemented by UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the [MedProgramme: Enhancing Environmental Security \(2020-2025\)](#) aims to reduce transboundary environmental stresses in coastal areas, strengthen climate resilience, and improve the health and livelihoods of coastal populations. These priorities are translated into four components, including the reduction of land-based pollution in priority coastal hotspots, enhancing sustainability and climate resilience in the coastal zone, protecting marine biodiversity, and regional knowledge management and programme coordination. The MedProgramme also focuses on promoting sound environmental management that benefits both women and men equally through effective gender mainstreaming. It is currently being implemented in 10 Mediterranean countries and is composed of 8 different “Child Projects”.

In the framework of Child Project 2.1 (CP 2.1), “Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Water Security, Climate Resilience and Habitat Protection”, UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centres PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu/RAC are supporting the development of a Coastal Management Plan (CMP) in the Bay of Kotor, Montenegro. These activities are hosted by the Ministry of Tourism, Ecology, Sustainable Development and Northern Region Development of Montenegro¹. The CMP, led by PAP/RAC, is requested by Article 18 of the Barcelona Convention’s Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol and Montenegro’s National Strategy on Integrated Coastal Zone Management, and aims to provide holistic policies and action measures for sustainable coastal development and resource use, supported by a participatory approach.

To ensure stakeholder engagement, Plan Bleu/RAC’s [Climagine](#) approach was implemented from 2021-2023, based on participatory methods and foresight analysis to inform the Kotor Bay CMP’s development, in light of climate change-induced variability and hazards. A similar process is underway in the Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima Region of Morocco to develop a Regional Coastal Scheme (“*Schéma régional du littoral*”), in collaboration with Moroccan national and regional authorities. The development of both Coastal Plans is notably supported by the MedProgramme Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) project, with research and stakeholder engagement activities focusing on climate change risks, coastal adaptation solutions and coastal adaptation finance in both pilot sites and, more broadly, on Mediterranean coastal zones².

This final report compiles the outcomes of the four Kotor Bay CMP/Climagine stakeholder engagement workshops that were conducted by PAP/RAC and Plan Bleu/RAC from December 2021 to July 2023 in the Bay’s main municipalities³. It also provides some observations on the implementation of Climagine in this pilot site, and recommendations for the methodology’s future implementation in other locations.

¹ Formerly the Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism of Montenegro.

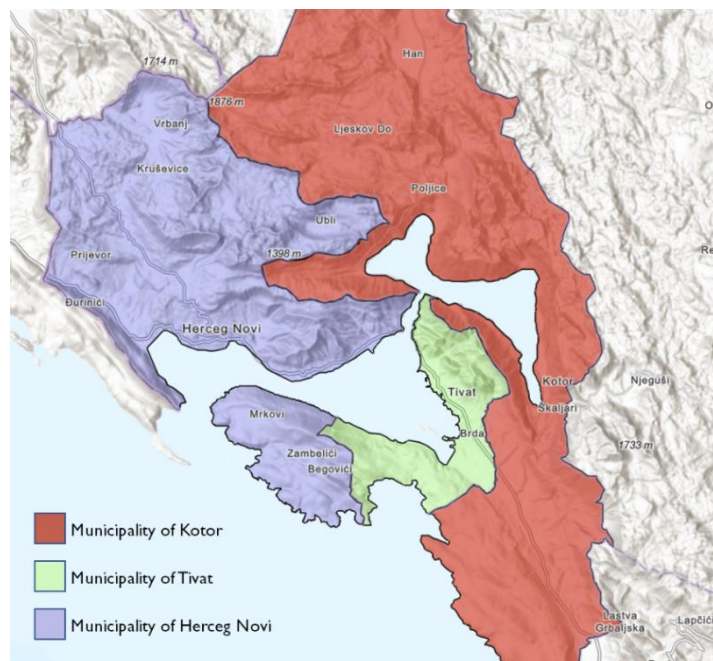
² More information on Plan Bleu’s activities in the framework of the SCCF Project is available [here](#).

³ The specific workshop reports and lists of workshop participants are available [here](#).

I. Summary of the Climagine process in Kotor Bay

The Climagine methodology aimed to ensure both local and national stakeholder engagement throughout the Kotor Bay CMP's development, providing important information and recommendations to inform its elaboration. This effort notably revolved around the collective development by stakeholders of a sectoral, future-oriented sustainability vision for the area, coupled with data collection and analysis between the workshops, led by the project partners and their national expert teams. The data compiled throughout the workshops was drawn from a broad range of state of the art research at the national and local levels, as well as databases in the project area and information gathered by civil society in the Bay. Throughout this process, Montenegrin stakeholders thus actively participated in shaping the common goals and environmental policies and decisions that are crucial to ensure a green and sustainable future for Kotor Bay, characterised by a protected coast capable of ensuring socio-economic, governance and environmental benefits for both humans and the environment. As illustrated in this report, they also formulated strategic recommendations and identified key indicators to monitor and measure progress.

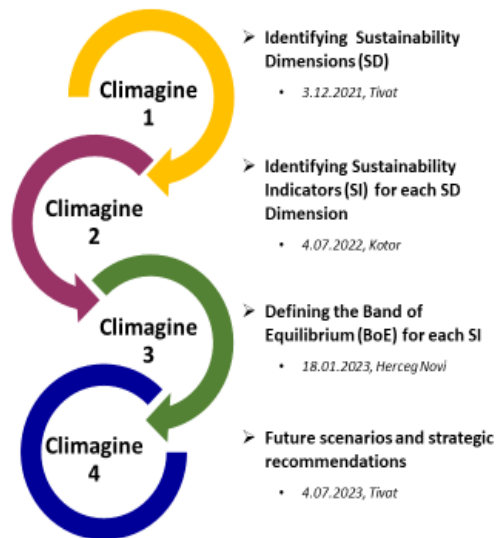
Figure 1. The Kotor Bay region, Montenegro



Source : Plan Bleu, 2022

Each Climagine session corresponded to a specific phase of the methodology's process, as illustrated in Figure 2. Overall, this allowed PAP/RAC to tailor the CMP's strategic vision and priority sectors to align with local and national stakeholders' sustainability vision for Kotor Bay.

Figure 2. Overview of the Climagine process and workshops in Kotor Bay



1. CMP Scoping Stage: assessing the existing state of Kotor Bay, defining key challenges and priorities and establishing a governance structure and coordination mechanisms to develop the CMP.

Climagine 1 allowed stakeholders to set the scene by assessing the local, regional and EU legislative context, while raising their awareness of ICZM guiding principles. Based on group discussions to define the current state of the area and their visions of future sustainability for Kotor Bay by 2030 and 2050, the following sustainability dimensions were subsequently identified:

- Sustainable Tourism;
- Sustainable Transportation;
- Coastal Construction and Infrastructure;
- Water Supply and Wastewater (based on Integrated Water Resources Management);
- Solid Waste Management;
- Nature and Environmental Protection;
- Marine Environment Conservation;
- Agriculture;

Governance and Knowledge-Building (cross-cutting).

Additional institutions and stakeholders to involve in the following stages of the CMP elaboration process were also identified.

2. CMP Diagnostic Stage: defining priority sectors and accompanying sustainability indicators for the CMP.

Based on the outcomes of Workshop 1, priority sectors and accompanying sustainability indicators

were proposed by stakeholders. Each indicator was accompanied by minimum and maximum threshold values to ensure sustainability and maintain each indicator within the “Band of Equilibrium”, with the overall objective of providing specific metrics to measure progress towards sustainability in Kotor Bay and guide decision-making and concrete actions. The list of sustainability dimensions was further refined, leading to the definition of the following priority sectors within the Kotor Bay CMP:

- Spatial Planning (Coastal Construction and Infrastructure);
- Transportation;
- Water Supply and Wastewater;
- Sustainable Tourism;

- Waste Management;
- Environment and Marine Environment.

3. **CMP priority measures stage: elaborated on the proposed sustainability indicators for each priority sector, and launched stakeholder discussions around the initial sectoral measures provided by the project partners' expert team.**

The third Climagine workshop involved the stakeholders in discussions to refine and validate a Band of Equilibrium for each sectoral sustainability indicator based on minimum and maximum sustainability values, allowing for the design of “amoeba” diagrams (see below). Participants also discussed the key measures proposed by the Kotor Bay CMP experts to advance sustainability in each priority sector.

4. **CMP Strategic Planning Stage: prioritisation of measures and proposing strategic recommendations.**

This fourth workshop allowed stakeholders to discuss and verify the proposed sustainability measures, and to carry out the exercise of prioritisation of measures for each sector. Workshop 4 validated the outcomes of the previous workshops, including the amoebas and strategic recommendations, and introduced alternative scenarios to further explore potential pathways for sustainable development in the region, based on two different scenarios:

- 2030 “business as usual” scenario, in which current, often unsustainable trends are maintained and no further actions towards sustainability are taken.
- 2030 alternative scenario, based on coordinated and far-reaching efforts to achieve sectoral and overall sustainability in Kotor Bay.

This structured approach demonstrates the logical progression of the Climagine methodology, and highlights the comprehensive nature of the work undertaken to address sustainability challenges in the final list of 5 priority sectors, accompanied by sectoral sustainability indicators and their sustainability threshold values:

- Sustainable Tourism and Agriculture (STI);
- Spatial Planning (Coastal Infrastructure and Transportation) (SP);
- Water Supply and Wastewater (WS);
- Waste Management (WM);
- Environment and Marine Environment (ME).

Number	Indicator level compared to the Band of Equilibrium
1	Unsustainable by default
2	Low sustainability by default
3	Lower sustainability limit
4	Sustainable
5	Upper sustainability limit
6	Unsustainable by excess
7	Very unsustainable by excess

In order to visually represent the sustainability indicators and their threshold values in the amoebas, every indicator was assessed using the following sustainability scale, in which the Band of Equilibrium (BoE) is defined by levels 3, 4 and 5. In the Band of Equilibrium, categories 3-5 represent different levels of sustainability, with 4 constituting the “ideal situation” in terms of sustainability, and 3 and 5 representing the lower and upper limits in terms of sustainability respectively. Unsustainability is described in two different manners: “Unsustainable by default” (1-2) refers to activities that are inherently unsustainable due to their design, nature or characteristics. Examples of such activities are the clearing natural areas for constructions, bottom trawling in fisheries, or investing in highly polluting activities, such as coal-fired power plants. “Unsustainable by excess” (6-7) concerns practices that become unsustainable when their rate exceeds sustainability levels. For instance, excessive water consumption, deforestation rates that exceed the regenerative capacity of natural systems, or overfishing fall into this category.

Based on data availability and a prioritisation of the different indicators by the experts, the final list of indicators was established for inclusion in the Climagine amoeba diagrams, and is presented in Table 1. For numerous SIs, the numerical values were standardised into percentages to allow for the placement of the SIs in the amoeba diagrams.

1. **Sustainable Tourism (ST1; ST4):** The relationship between the number of inhabitants and the number of tourists, as well as the number of beds in collective accommodation per kilometre of coast, indicates potential strains on the region's infrastructure and environment due to overtourism. To improve sustainability, measures such as managing tourism capacity, promoting eco-friendly accommodations, and enforcing regulations on coastal development may be necessary.
2. **Coastal Construction and Infrastructure (SP1; SP3):** The share of population living within 1000 metres of the coastal area, share of apartments for permanent residence, and the share of built/planned construction area in the 1000 metre zone highlight challenges related to coastal urbanisation and infrastructure development. Priority measures may include zoning regulations to control construction, promoting sustainable building practices, and enhancing coastal resilience through nature-based solutions.
3. **Water Supply and Wastewater (WS1; WS3):** The rate of connection to sewage systems and non-revenue water indicate challenges in wastewater management and water infrastructure. To address this, priority measures may involve improving wastewater treatment facilities, reducing water losses through leakage detection and repair, and increasing the coverage of sewage systems to minimise environmental pollution.
4. **Waste Management (WM1; WM6):** The reduced amount of deposited waste and the number of illegal landfills highlight challenges in waste management and illegal dumping. Measures to improve sustainability may include implementing recycling programs, enforcing regulations on waste disposal, and increasing public awareness of proper waste management practices.
5. **Terrestrial and Marine Environment (ME1; ME5):** The habitat distribution of *Posidonia Oceanica*, density trends of non-indigenous species, the assessment of the natural coastline, and beach litter volumes indicate challenges related to marine ecosystem health and coastal pollution. Priority measures may include protecting marine habitats, controlling invasive species, restoring natural coastlines, and implementing beach cleanup initiatives.

Table 1 below synthesises the findings related to the sustainability indicators.

Table 1. Final list of sustainability indicators and values compared to the Band of Equilibrium (current state, 2030 business as usual scenario, and 2030 alternative scenario)

Indicator Number	Sustainability Indicator	Unit	Current value	Current BoE level	2030 BAU scenario value	2030 minimum sustainability value	2030 maximum sustainability value	2030 BAU scenario level on BoE	2030 alternative scenario value	2030 alternative scenario minimum	2030 alternative scenario maximum
ST1	The relationship between the number of inhabitants and the number of tourists/ <i>Odnos broja stanovnika i broja turista Prosječna godišnja razina korištena vodnih bogatstava</i>	%	10.45	5	15	2	12	6	8	1	9
ST4	Number of beds in collective accommodation per km of coast/ <i>Broj ležajeva u kolektivnom smještaju po km obale</i>	%	51.98	5	120	50	70	7	100	60	110
SP1	Population living within 1000m of the coastal area/ <i>Populacija obalnog pojasa od 1000m</i>	%	87	5	70	70	90	3	65	50	75
SP2	Share of apartments for permanent residence/ <i>Udio stanova za stalno nastanjenje</i>	%	48	4	60	30	50	6	50	45	60
SP3	Share of the built/planned construction area in the 1000 m zone/ <i>Udio izgrađenog/planiranog građevinskog područja u 1000m pojasu</i>	%	20	6	30	10	15	7	20	10	15
WS1	Rate of connection to sewage systems (average for all three municipalities)/ <i>Stopa priključenja na kanalizacione sisteme (prosjeak za sve tri opštine)</i>	%	49.7	1	65	80	100	2	100	90	100
WS3	Non-revenue water or total losses: (leakage, burst pipes and poor water management, as well as illegal connections and unauthorized consumption)/ <i>Neprihodovana voda ili Ukupni gubici: (curenje, pucanje cijevi i loše upravljanje vodom, te nelegalni priključci i neovlašćena potrošnja)</i>	%	76	7	45	10	30	6	5	0	10
WM1	Reduced amount of deposited waste/ <i>Smanjena količina deponovanog otpada</i>	%	95	7	60	40	60	5	30	25	40

Indicator Number	Sustainability Indicator	Unit	Current value	Current BoE level	2030 BAU scenario value	2030 minimum sustainability value	2030 maximum sustainability value	2030 BAU scenario level on BoE	2030 alternative scenario value	2030 alternative scenario minimum	2030 alternative scenario maximum
WM6	Number of illegal landfills/ <i>Broj ilegalnih deponija</i>	No.	69	7	25	10	20	5	10	7	15
ME1	Habitat distribution of posidonia/ <i>Distribucije staništa-posidonija</i>	%	70	3	100	50	100	4	100	50	100
ME2	Density trends, temporal occurrence and spatial distribution of non-indigenous species/ <i>Trendovi gustoće, vremenske pojave i prostorne distribucije neautohtonih vrsta</i>	%	5	3	8	3	6	6	3	2	5
ME4	Assessment of the natural coastline / <i>Procjena prirodne obale</i>	%	52	3	50	50	55	3	60	50	80
ME5	Beach litter/ <i>Čvrsti otpad na plažama</i>	Pieces(100)	671	7	90	50	70	5	45	40	55

II. Climagine amoebas for the present state and future 2030 scenarios

Based on the information presented in Table 1, the following amoeba diagrams were developed to represent the position of every sectoral sustainability indicator, based on the current state, future 2030 “business as usual”, and 2030 “alternative” scenarios. These amoebas serve as visual representations of the various dimensions of sustainability and resilience in Kotor Bay region. While the business as usual amoeba illustrates the unsustainable trajectory of the area if no action is taken by 2030, the alternative scenario amoeba represents possible trajectories for the region’s future development, offering a roadmap for achieving a more sustainable and resilient Kotor Bay by 2030. By implementing appropriate priority measures derived from these scenarios, Kotor Bay can effectively work towards enhancing sustainability and resilience.

Figure 3. Amoeba of the current state of Kotor Bay - the Band of Equilibrium appears in green, and the current values of sustainability indicators appear in blue

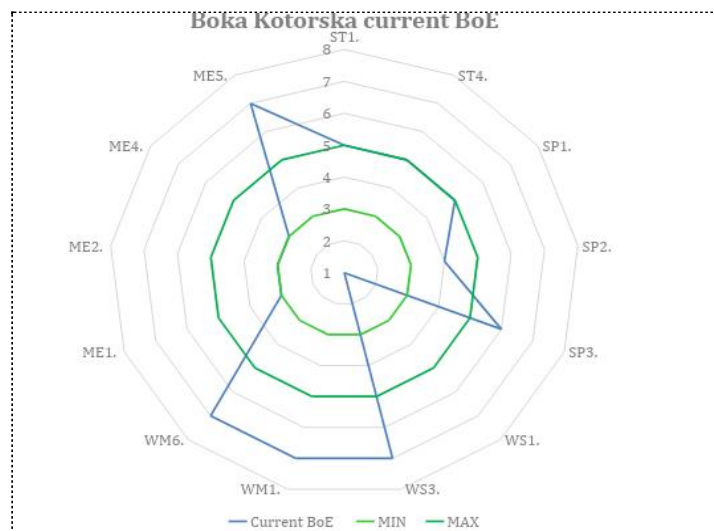


Figure 4. Amoeba of the 2030 Business as Usual scenario of Kotor Bay - the Band of Equilibrium appears in green, and the 2030 Business as Usual values appear in red

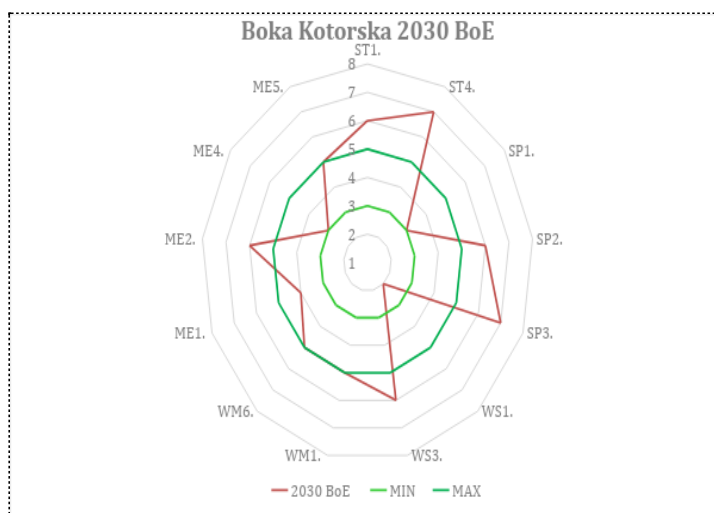
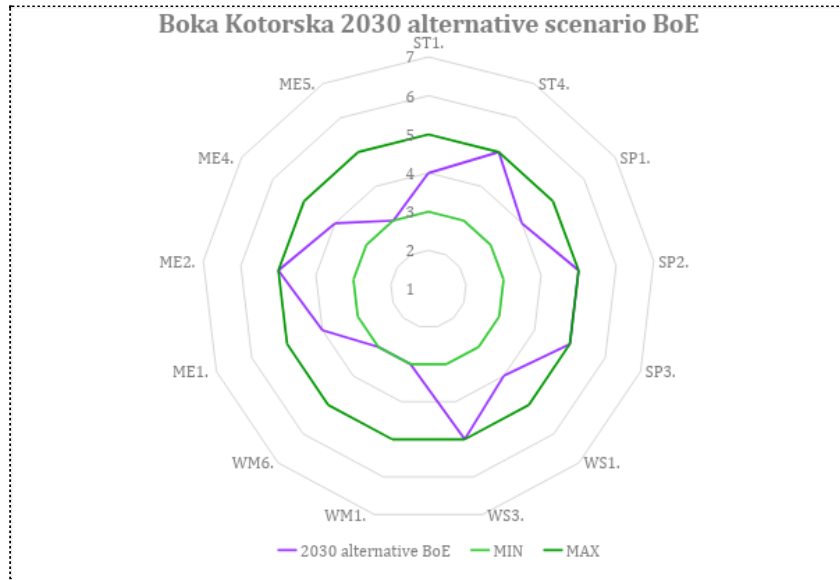
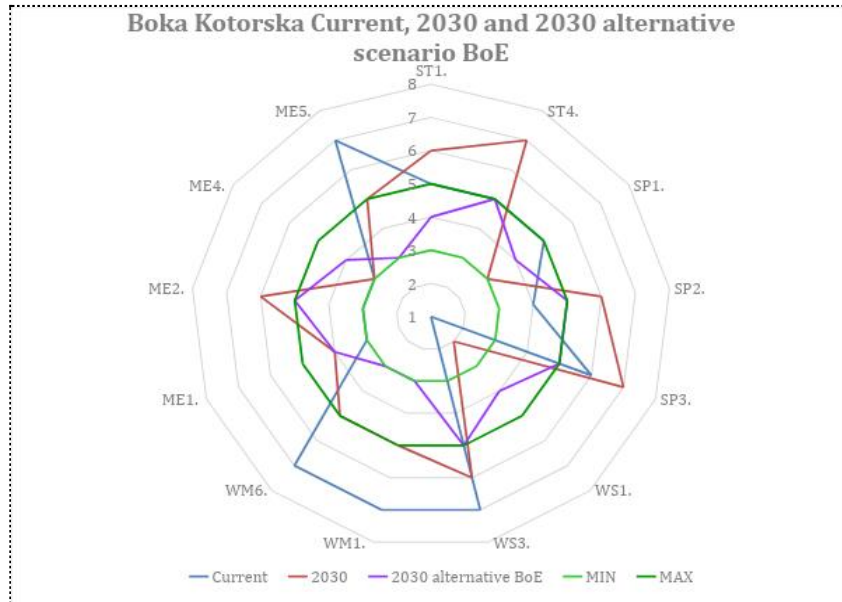


Figure 5. Amoeba of the 2030 alternative scenario of Kotor Bay - the Band of Equilibrium appears in green, and the 2030 alternative values appear in purple



Compiled amoeba containing the current state (blue), 2030 Business as Usual scenario (red), 2030 alternative scenario (purple) and Band of Equilibrium (green)



III. Future 2030 alternative scenario for Kotor Bay: vision and recommendations

This section synthesises the recommendations of stakeholders that were formulated throughout the CMP/Climagine process in order to push towards sustainability in the priority sectors listed above.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM: GREEN DIGITAL TOURISM IN KOTOR BAY

The sustainable tourism plan for Kotor Bay seeks to ensure eco-friendly practices, community involvement, and the preservation of the area's natural and cultural heritage. The plan involves developing a comprehensive sustainable tourism strategy, promoting green accommodation and infrastructure, and introducing a green certification program for touristic businesses. Digital tourism promotion is emphasised, utilising social media, travel blogs, and virtual reality to showcase the region's commitment to sustainability. The diversification of touristic experiences is encouraged, including nature walks, eco-tours, cultural events, and gastronomic experiences. The plan also addresses waste management and recycling, sustainable transportation, and community involvement in decision-making processes. Digital tourist information centres are proposed, and a monitoring and reporting system for key sustainability indicators is to be implemented, ensuring continuous progress tracking and transparency. Overall, the plan aims to make Kotor Bay a model for green digital tourism, while fostering community engagement and environmental conservation.

SPATIAL PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION: THE GREEN FUTURE OF KOTOR BAY

Spatial planning and transportation measures include reducing cruise ship numbers by 70%, implementing and enforcing stricter regulations to ensure sustainable boating practices, and encouraging eco-friendly camping facilities that are strategically located for minimal environmental impact. The plan involves reducing private boat licences, restricting private cars in the Bay in favour of electric shuttles and public transportation, and enforcing a strict ban on further construction (such as apartment buildings, condos...). Green corridors and connectivity will support biodiversity, enhance pedestrian and cycling paths, fostering eco-friendly and healthy transportation and enhancing citizen and tourist wellbeing. Public awareness campaigns will educate locals and tourists on the importance of sustainable planning, and stakeholder collaboration and engagement will ensure collective commitment to this plan. Continuous monitoring and evaluation of key indicators, such as cruise ship numbers and traffic flows, will guide adjustments to optimise sustainability outcomes.

WATER SUPPLY AND WASTE WATER: A FUNCTIONAL AND PROTECTED KOTOR BAY

This strategy aims to enhance communal infrastructure access to water by providing reliable water supply connections, reducing reliance on unsustainable sources. The plan involves designating sanitary protection zones for water sources to prevent pollution and contamination, with increased monitoring through a 70% boost in the number of inspectors. A comprehensive water quality monitoring system will assess and address potential pollution sources. Water conservation is promoted through incentives for residents and businesses, supported by educational efforts. Wastewater treatment facilities will be upgraded, and advanced treatment methods implemented to minimise impacts on the marine ecosystem. Collaborating with the tourism industry to promote responsible water use, engaging local communities, fostering public-private partnerships, and establishing a comprehensive, adaptable long-term water management plan are key components of this strategy.

WASTE MANAGEMENT: RECYCLED WASTE FOR A GREEN KOTOR BAY

Key initiatives of this strategy include establishing a state-of-the-art regional recycling centre for bulky waste, capable of recycling 100% of items such as furniture and electronics. A comprehensive program targets the recycling of 100% of construction and demolition waste through collaboration with construction companies. Waste segregation at the source is promoted through education and convenient recycling bins, while incentive-based programs encourage individuals and businesses to participate in recycling efforts. Public awareness campaigns highlight the benefits of recycling, and initiatives like green procurement and collaboration with recycling industries aim to create a circular

economy. Monitoring and reporting systems track waste management data, and investments in skills development support the growth of green jobs in waste management and recycling. Additionally, the strategy emphasises waste reduction and prevention initiatives, promoting reusable products and addressing issues like plastic waste and single-use items.

ENVIRONMENT AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT: CONSERVE THE COASTLINE AND MARINE ZONE FOR A SUSTAINABLE KOTOR BAY

Coastal conservation measures include the establishment of protected areas along the natural coastline to safeguard ecosystems and biodiversity, policies for beach restoration, and collaboration for biodiversity conservation. Marine environment protection involves combating pollution through strict measures, regular water quality monitoring, and management programs for non-indigenous species. Sustainable fishing practices are promoted through the adoption of sustainable techniques and the establishment of additional Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). By drawing insights from the management and conservation practices implemented in existing MPAs, stakeholders can better inform the design and implementation of new protected areas. Additionally, the potential connectivity between existing and new MPAs is a significant consideration, as it can enhance the effectiveness of conservation efforts by creating larger, interconnected networks of protected marine habitats. This strategic approach to MPA establishment and connectivity aligns with the broader goals of this conservation strategy, which emphasises collaborative governance, stakeholder engagement, and ICZM principles to ensure the sustainable preservation of Kotor Bay's marine environment. Climate change adaptation plans assess vulnerabilities and aim to enhance resilience, including restoration projects for forest and seagrass beds. Public awareness and education campaigns target residents, businesses, and tourists, emphasising the importance of conserving the marine environment.

IV. Overview of the Climagine process in Kotor Bay

This section presents the observations of Plan Bleu's national Climagine consultant in Kotor Bay, Dr. Srna Sudar, in terms of the implementation of the methodology in this pilot site. All in all, the Climagine process in Kotor Bay fostered stakeholder collaboration and inclusivity, laying the foundation for collaborative and inclusive environmental, sustainable and climate actions in the area. The process itself was influenced by external factors, which underscored several opportunities for the further enhancement and implementation of the Climagine methodology in the future.

INCLUSION AND COORDINATION OF MUNICIPALITIES

What Worked: The Climagine methodology demonstrated impartiality and inclusivity by conducting workshops in each municipality within Kotor Bay. This approach ensured that stakeholders from every community had the opportunity to participate, allowing for a comprehensive understanding and voicing of local perspectives, concerns, and issues. By engaging stakeholders from diverse backgrounds, Climagine facilitated a more contextualised and nuanced comprehension of the area's key challenges and potential solutions.

Potential Improvements: While the workshops successfully engaged stakeholders at the municipal level, there is an opportunity to deepen coordination between these municipalities. This could be achieved by incorporating an additional step in the process that focuses on individual approaches tailored to each community's unique challenges and priorities. Furthermore, fostering a regional layer of consensus-building among national and local government stakeholders, as well as other relevant parties, would enhance collaboration and the alignment of different sustainability visions. Future iterations of the Climagine process should aim to develop methodologies that effectively balance diverse stakeholder interests and encourage meaningful collaboration among municipalities.

GROUP DISCUSSIONS

What Worked: The open dialogue format of group discussions allowed for the exchange of ideas, fostering collaboration and a sense of inclusivity among stakeholders. The structured framework ensured that all participants had equal opportunities to voice their opinions and contribute to the discussion. This approach facilitated the exploration of various perspectives and the identification of common goals and challenges.

Potential Improvements: To enhance the effectiveness of group discussions, it is essential to increase the representation of stakeholders directly involved in the defined sustainability sectors throughout the entire Climagine process, from the first to the last workshop. This would ensure that discussions are enriched by diverse perspectives and that decisions reflect the interests of all relevant stakeholders.

THE LOCAL FACILITATOR'S ROLE

What Worked: The presence of a local facilitator played a crucial role in bridging the gap between national and local perspectives, ensuring structured discussions, and facilitating understanding of the process and expected results. Local facilitators were instrumental in guiding participants through the workshops and facilitating meaningful dialogue in Montenegrin.

Potential Improvements: Additional training or support for local facilitators could further enhance their effectiveness, particularly in areas such as conflict resolution among stakeholders with different visions and objectives for sustainable development. Investing in the development of facilitation skills and conflict management techniques would enable facilitators to navigate complex discussions and ensure that workshops are productive and inclusive.

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

What Worked: Recognizing and acknowledging the differing perspectives of national and local institutions was a crucial step towards finding common ground and building collaborative solutions. By acknowledging these differences, stakeholders were able to identify areas of alignment and opportunities for collaboration.

Potential Improvements: Efforts could be made to create a common understanding framework through initial workshops or seminars focused on aligning the understanding of the positions of national and local institutions. This would foster common goals and better cooperation among stakeholders, enabling more effective collaboration towards shared objectives.

CIVIL SOCIETY INCLUSION IN LOCAL PLANNING

What Worked: Acknowledging the importance of civil society's inputs to the process demonstrated a commitment to inclusivity and grassroots participation. Indeed, civil society organisations play a vital role in advocating for community needs and priorities, and their inclusion in local planning processes is essential for ensuring that decisions reflect the interests of the broader community.

Potential Improvements: To address the desire for increased civil society involvement, a more structured approach could be adopted. This might include formalising mechanisms for input, such as advisory boards or regular forums, where civil society organisations can present their ideas and contribute to decision-making processes in a meaningful way.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING BEYOND THE LOCAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET

What Worked: Recognizing the need for additional funding is the first step towards addressing financial challenges. By acknowledging the limitations of local municipal budgets, stakeholders can begin to explore alternative funding sources to support sustainability initiatives.

Potential Improvements: Exploring alternative funding sources, such as grants, partnerships, or crowdfunding, could alleviate the financial constraints faced by local activities. Additionally, efforts to streamline municipal budget allocation and increase transparency might attract external funding, enabling the implementation of more robust sustainability initiatives.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION'S INFLUENCE

What Worked: Understanding the impact of the political situation in Montenegro highlighted the need for stability in decision-making processes and the importance of fostering a culture of sustained engagement. By recognizing the influence of external factors, stakeholders can develop strategies to navigate political transitions and ensure continuity in implementing sustainability efforts.

Potential Improvements: Establishing resilient governance structures that can withstand political transitions is crucial for maintaining momentum in sustainability initiatives. This might involve creating long-term partnerships and commitments that transcend political changes, ensuring that progress towards sustainability goals continues regardless of changes in government structure. Additionally, efforts to engage political stakeholders in sustainability discussions and decision-making processes can help build consensus and support for sustainability initiatives across political transitions.

Concluding Remarks

Climagine's implementation in Kotor Bay applied participatory foresight and stakeholder engagement approaches in an effort to inform the development of the area's Coastal Management Plan, led by PAP/RAC. Throughout the process, Climagine allowed local and national stakeholders from the national government, municipalities, academia and civil society to directly participate in the elaboration of this legal tool, illustrating Montenegro's will to further its ICZM and sustainability efforts in line its national sustainability, spatial planning and climate change adaptation objectives, in line with the aims of the Barcelona Convention.