

Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land Based Activities (SAP-MED) and related National Action Plans (NAP)

Implementation Status 2000–2015



Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

MedPartnership

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UNEP-MAP (www.unepmap.org) is the first regional seas programme involving 21 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the European Union. Through UNEP/MAP, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols are determined to meet the challenges of protecting the marine and coastal environment while boosting regional and national efforts to achieve sustainable development.



UNEP/MAP
48, Vassileos Konstantinou Ave.
11635 Athens
Greece
www.unepmap.org

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The MedPartnership: The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) is a collective effort of leading organizations (regional, international, nongovernmental, etc.) and countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea towards the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean. The MedPartnership is being led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and the World Bank and is financially supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and other donors, including the European Union (EU) and all participating countries

Introduction

The Strategic Action Plan (SAP-MED) is a long-term policy framework to combat pollution from land-based sources in the Mediterranean. SAP-MED was adopted by the Contracting Parties in their 10th Contracting parties meeting in Tunis, 1997 with the view to facilitate the implementation of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources (LBS Protocol) of UNEP/ MAP-Barcelona Convention. The SAP-MED was formulated under the leadership of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention with the financial support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF.) It was preceded by an in depth transboundary diagnostic analysis which led to the identification of priority issues, measures and setting of short, midterm and long term marine and coastal pollution reduction targets.

SAP-MED consists of the following components:

- Regional outputs covering the elaboration of programmes of measures, sets of priority technical guidelines, development of tools supporting monitoring, enforcement, reporting and public participation as well as supporting countries to enhance their implementation on the ground at national and local levels. These regional outputs should be delivered by the Secretariat (MED POL Programme) in the framework UNEP/MAP Programme of Work under the guidance of MED POL Focal Points of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.
- 33 regional pollution reduction targets addressing a considerable number of substances including toxic, persistent and liable to bioaccumulate, heavy metals, organohalogens, radioactive substances, nutrients, suspended solids

and hazardous wastes, as well as sectors in accordance with the LBS Protocol, including urban environment (municipal sewage, solid waste and air pollution), industrial development, physical alterations and destruction of habitats.

- Requirements to develop National Action Plans in accordance with Article 5 of the LBS Protocol with the view to breakdown SAP-MED requirements into national and local actions and to identify priority policy, legal, institutional and pollution reduction measures, including investment needs for meeting the agreed SAP-MED targets.
- Requirements to report on SAP-MED and NAP implementation on a periodical basis (every five years) and in accordance with Article 13 of the LBS Protocol on NAP implementation effectiveness (every two years).

An operational framework for the implementation of the SAP-MED was agreed in 2000 including the establishment of necessary governance set ups at regional and national levels. The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention elaborated their National Action Plans (NAP) in 2004-2005. The NAPs specify key interventions of a policy and regulatory nature, as well as concrete investments in the field of pollution reduction; timetable for their implementation and associated costs. The measures provided for in the NAPs were envisaged to be accomplished by 2010 and 2015. Some of the NAPs also included measures that generally took into account pollution reduction/ abatement investments needs for the period beyond 2015.

The SAP-MED was complemented by other important UNEP/MAP policy and legal developments, as well as relevant international commitments for integrating the ecosystem approach and related Good Environmental Status (GES) targets as well as the legally binding measures and obligations taken by the Contracting Parties through 10

Regional Plans adopted in 2009, 2012 and 2013.

This evaluation was mandated by COP17, Paris, France, 2012 and prepared in the framework of the UNEP/MAP-MED POL Programme under the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project (MedPartnership). The MedPartnership is a collective effort of leading organizations (regional, international, nongovernmental, etc.) and countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea towards the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean. The MedPartnership is led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and the World Bank and is financially supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other donors including the European Union (EU) and all participating countries.

The methodology followed for conducting the evaluation of SAP-MED/NAP implementation consisted of:

- Analysis of the status of implementation SAP-MED regional outputs.
- Desk review of the legal framework, national strategies and plans and all the available information and data on the state of the environment of each Contracting Party with the view to assess the extent to which the Parties support NAP implementation, existing gaps and the way forward.
- Analysis of reported and published data by the Contracting Parties on releases of pollutants into the marine environment (mainly NBB and PRTR) in order to track trends.

Key messages are presented in each section of the Evaluation Report including an overarching chapter addressing the main findings and also the way forward.



Regional Outputs of SAP-MED implementation

The implementation of the Regional component of the SAP-MED led to the elaboration and formulation of a large scope of policy, guidelines and other tools supporting the Contracting Parties in enhancing their efforts to implement the Barcelona Convention and its pollution related Protocols with a particular focus on urban environment, industrial development, physical alterations and destruction of habitats.

Table 1 provides an overview of SAP-MED regional deliverables regarding legally binding measures; regional policies; criteria and standards; quality objectives; technical guidelines; marine pollution monitoring and assessment activities; capacity building and public participation.

Table 1. Overview of SAP-MED regional deliverables

Sector	Urban Environment	Industrial Development	Physical Alterations and Destruction of Habitats
Deliverables			
10 Legally binding measures and timetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Two Regional Plans for reduction of BOD5 from urban wastewater and from food sector.- Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Five Regional Plans for elimination of POPs.- Regional plan for reduction of inputs of Mercury.- Regional plan for phasing out of DDT	
5 Regional policies addressing sectors/ pollutants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Plan on reduction of input of BOD by 50% by 2010 from industrial sources for the Mediterranean region- Strategic framework on marine litter management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Plan for the reduction by 20% by 2010 of the generation of hazardous wastes from industrial installations for the Mediterranean region- Plan for the management of hazardous waste, including inventory of hazardous waste in the Mediterranean region	

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