

EMD

EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY
IN MY COUNTRY



Natural
heritage

Interreg
Euro-MED



Co-funded by
the European Union

“Governance solutions for Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas”

EMD In My Country workshop

Athens, July 3rd, 2025

Goal of the workshop: To provide MPA managers and stakeholders with tools and strategies developed under Interreg Euro-MED Natural Heritage Mission projects and EU Programmes, offering practical solutions to be used/adopted in the management of their areas.

1st Round Table / **Monitoring**

- **LIFE EL BIOS** = Hellenic Biodiversity Information System: An innovative tool for biodiversity conservation (Duration: 2021 - 2025) / Konstantinos Moschopoulos, NECCA

The LIFE EL BIOS project aims to create a national, open-access biodiversity database (geoportal) by uniting key Greek biodiversity datasets. It integrates remote sensing, wireless sensors, and field data from Natura 2000 pilot sites. Led by the Green Fund with seven partners, the project supports NECCA in data management, information exchange, and funding prioritization.

- **MedEOS** = Mediterranean coastal water monitoring (Duration: 2019 - 2022) / Manolis Tsiros, KartECO

The MedEOS project is part of the ESA Regional Initiatives programme, supports Mediterranean priorities by developing Earth Observation (EO) products using Sentinel and other mission data. It aims to improve the monitoring of land-based pollution in Mediterranean coastal waters through high-resolution, multi-mission maps of water quality and innovative products like river plume contours, enhancing regional strategies and cooperation.



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2nd Round Table / **Governance**

- **GreenList4MPAs** = Standards assessing the effectiveness of MPAs (Duration: 2024 - 2026) / Lucía Prieto Fustes, IUCN

The GreenList4MPAs project, funded by the Interreg Euro-MED programme, aims to promote sustainable management and governance of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Mediterranean, adopting the IUCN Green List standards. It focuses on improving MPAs' performance, achieving environmental and socio-economic goals through effective and resilient practices. The partners are from Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, and Spain.

- **TUNE UP** = Promoting multilevel governance for turning up biodiversity protection in marine areas (2019 - 2022) / Christina Kassara, NECCA

TUNE UP promotes collaborative Mediterranean MPA management by adapting the River/Wetland Contract model from the WETNET project. Through 11 MPA Contracts, it strengthens stakeholder coordination, integrates governance tools into policies, and enhances transnational cooperation. The project aims to balance biodiversity protection with economic needs and ensure the transferability of results across Mediterranean countries.

- **COASTRUST** = Promoting shared stewardship for Mediterranean Coasts (Duration: 2024 - 2026) / Flaminia Squitieri, Fondazione per lo sviluppo sostenibile

The Interreg Euro-MED COASTRUST project, funded by the Interreg Euro-MED programme, aims to establish environmental and coastal stewardship strategies in target areas, as multi-stakeholder governance mechanisms, for: biodiversity protection, sustainable use of natural resources, and better management of natural environments.



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3rd Round Table / **Restoration**

- **PosBeMed2** = Governance and management of Posidonia beach dune systems across the Mediterranean (Duration: 2019 - 2022) / Christos Xagoraris, Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature

The Interreg MED PosBeMed2 project focuses on the sustainable management of Mediterranean Posidonia coastal zones, which face heavy environmental pressures, especially in tourist areas. It brings together stakeholders to develop strategies, guidelines, and good practices for preserving Posidonia meadows, enhancing local capacities, promoting sustainable tourism, and improving decision-making and policy integration in protected coastal areas.

- **ARTEMIS** = Accelerating the Restoration of Seagrass Meadows in the Mediterranean area through Innovative ecosystem-service based Solutions (Duration: 2024 - 2026) / Dimitra Syrou, The Green Tank

The Interreg Euro-MED ARTEMIS project focuses on restoring and conserving seagrass meadows in the Mediterranean by using innovative restoration protocols and integrating ecosystem services into financial and policy frameworks. The project aims to strengthen the resilience of marine ecosystems while encouraging sustainable management approaches, creating a replicable model. The collaborating partners are from Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, and Spain.

- **LIFE TRANSFER** = Seagrass transplantation for transitional Ecosystem Recovery (2020-2025) / Sofia Reizopoulou, HCMR

The LIFE TRANSFER project's specific objective is to restore and consolidate priority habitat 1150* in 6 coastal lagoons, by transplanting submerged phanerogams to promote ecosystem self-sustainability. The project aims to contribute to the achievement of a good ecological state of transitional water, demonstrating the effectiveness of the proposed actions to pursue the objectives set in the WFD 2000/60/EC.



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4th Round Table / **Climate Change Adaptation**

- **MedSeaRise** = Supporting Adaptation to Mediterranean Sea Level Rise
(Duration: 2024 - 2026) / Vasiliki Papadopoulou, ANATOLIKI S.A.

The Interreg Euro-MED MedSeaRise project addresses the urgent issue of sea level rise in the Mediterranean because of climate change. Through the enhancement of risk assessment methods and the development of sustainable adaptation strategies, with the engagement of stakeholders, it aims to protect coastal ecosystems and cultural heritage. The collaborating countries are France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, and Spain.

- **INVALIDIS** = Protecting European Biodiversity from Invasive Alien Species
(Duration: 2018 - 2023) / Orfeas Roussos, NECCA

The Interreg EUROPE INVALIDIS project enabled the participating territorial authorities to address common challenges associated with biological invasions such as: (a) knowledge gaps in ecosystems' vulnerability to biological invasions and species' distribution, (b) lack of awareness about IAS environmental and socioeconomic risks, (c) low level of cooperation between public authorities and key stakeholders for the implementation of IAS management measures, and (d) conflicts of interests.



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