

Strategic Directions from Pollution

In line with SDG 14.1 *“By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution”*:

Strategic direction on pollution

- Enhance Data, Information management, Monitoring and Assessment at **national and** regional level through the development/establishment of guidelines, regional indicators, baselines, monitoring programmes as well as identification of **region-specific** emerging issues through research
- Raise the visibility of relevant pollution issues at all levels and facilitate science/policy interactions emphasizing socio economic impacts and promoting relevant practices / tools / technologies / measures etc
- Raise issues at global level and facilitate regionalisation of outcomes of the GPA IGR4 and mandated global partnerships

Strategic Directions from Climate Change

*In line with SDG 13: 'Take urgent action to combat climate change' and its impacts, Regional Seas will work towards increased resilience **of people, marine and coastal ecosystems, their health and productivity.** and decisions of COP21 of UNFCCC*

Actions for implementation

- Support mainstreaming of climate change into regional and national policies and institutional frameworks.
- Assess the impacts of climate change and the resilience ~~resilience~~ of people, society and ecosystems in marine and coastal areas and propose adaptation strategies. (e.g. Blue carbon. Ecosystem based adaptation)
- Create or support climate research and policy networks towards a better understanding of climate impacts on marine and coastal environment and inter-regional exchange of knowledge and best practices
- Facilitate access to Climate financing instruments at the national and regional levels.

Strategic directions

Integrated, ecosystem-based regional ocean policies and strategies for sustainable marine and coastal resource use and blue growth are developed

Activities for implementation

- Promote application of ~~environmental~~ guidelines, rules and regulations on ~~fisheries and other~~ living and non-living resources exploitation (and exploration) withing RSCAPs ~~on fisheries and~~ develop new ones where necessary using ecosystem based approach
- **Develop where necessary and promote application of existing environmental guidelines, rules and regulations for non living resources exploration and exploitation and develop new guidelines of marine resources within RSCAPs are developed and their implementation is promoted**

2. ~~Collaborative arrangements between RSCAPs, RFMOs, Oil industry and other relevant stakeholders are developed~~

Enhance the effectiveness of RSCAPs through increasing their visibility and role as regional platforms for supporting integrated ocean policies and management

Actions for implementation

1. Support science-based decisions and science-policy dialogue.; and provision of regional guidelines for interpretation and actions.
2. Support member states to develop integrated ocean policy and improve relevant national legislation/policies to enhance coherence across sectors and time
3. Enhance information exchange and interregional cooperation **towards common goals** (e.g. African Ocean Governance; ecosystem connectivity – BSC–Tehran Convention; MSFD provisions)
4. Encourage multistakeholder participation including NGOs and private sector to promote **compliance** with regional seas instruments. existing guidelines. and regulations of ocean management

Cross cutting (over-arching)

- Promote and facilitate the ~~development,~~ ratification/adoption and implementation of ~~conventions. protocols of LBS/A and sea-based sources of pollution relevant Protocols~~ and Action Plans.
- Working strategically in collaboration with other UN agencies. MEAs and other stakeholders and partners.
 - ~~Cross-cutting: Strategic involvement of stakeholders and partners (PS, MEAs, PP)~~ / capacity building / resource mobilization
 - Collaborative arrangements between RSCAPs, RFMOs, Oil industry and other relevant stakeholders are developed