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Joint Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Marine Litter Monitoring and
ENI SEIS II Assessment of Horizon 2020/National Action Plans of Waste Indicators

Podgorica, Montenegro, 4-5 April 2019

Agenda item 5: Horizon 2020 Assessment Outline focusing on waste and marine litter management cluster

Assessment Outline of H2020/NAP Indicators on Waste Management including Marine Litter

The meeting has been organized in collaboration with the European Union funded Project ENI SEIS II South Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the ENP South region – SEIS Support Mechanism

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List of Abbreviations / Acronyms

COP	Conference of the Parties
EBM	Ecosystem-based management
EEA	European Environment Agency
EU	European Union
IMAP	Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria
H2020	Horizon 2020 Initiative
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
NAP	National Action Plans
PoW	Programme of Work
SEIS	Shared Environmental Information System
SOED	State of Environment and Development report
UN	United Nations

1 Introduction

1. The work for developing to the extent possible common H2020/NAP indicators has been jointly developed by EEA and UN Environment/MAP under the Contribution Agreement that was signed between UN Environment Programme/MAP and the European Environmental Agency (B03437/B2016/R0/ENIS/EEA.56593), as well as under MAP PoW 2018-2019.

2. In this context, UN Environment Programme/MAP and EEA agreed to cooperate for the implementation of the EU-funded Project “ENI – SEIS II South Support Mechanism” with view of improving the availability and access to environmental information to the benefit of effective and knowledge-based policy making in the ENP South region and ensuring proper linkages with their respective work programs.

3. The H2020/NAP indicators were derived further to extensive revisions and based on the participatory process including a mapping exercise of current regional indicators against the different policies and their reporting requirements.¹ The aim of this exercise was to explain how the H2020/NAP indicators are related to other regional processes. Ensuring the alignment of H2020/NAP indicators with other ongoing assessment processes in the Mediterranean was paramount in revising the H2020 Assessment framework (2015-2020) that would support an integrated assessment and reduce the reporting burden for countries;² hence optimizing the use of data for different purposes. The H2020/NAP indicators address three main cluster: water, industrial emission and solid waste including litter. This list of indicators was updated in 2018.

4. The following points were considered while updating the list of H2020/NAP indicators for the waste and marine litter thematic area/cluster:

- Existing indicators from Regional Seas Programme (RS), IMAP, NAP, SCP and particularly from MSSD and SDG were analyzed, and possible respective synergies were identified;
- Relevant monitoring and reporting requirements of the Decisions of the Contracting Parties Meetings related to ecosystem approach, legally binding Regional Plans implementation under the LBS Protocol of the Barcelona Convention;
- Common operational targets; priority investment measures; efficiency and effectiveness of current institutional and legal frameworks; and status of updated hotspots in 2015 as specified in the updated NAPs.

5. As a result, H2020/NAP Waste and Marine Litter Indicators were designed to establish the necessary framework for informing on H2020 progress (and post 2020 horizon); and for highlighting the necessary interventions for pollution prevention and control aiming to reduce adverse impacts of municipal waste and marine litter on the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment. The framework for the H2020/NAP Waste and Marine Litter Indicators addresses the priorities for action of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP-MED) and the requirements of the legally binding decision for Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean under the UN Environment/ MAP System; as well as complementarities with those proposed by other programmes and initiatives, particularly the SDGs.

6. The Strategic Action Programme to address Pollution from Land-Based Activities (SAP-MED) was adopted in 1997 in support of the long-term implementation of the LBS Protocol. The SAP-MED identified priority target categories of polluting substances and activities to be eliminated or controlled by the Mediterranean Countries. The key activities addressed in the SAP-MED are linked to urban environment and to industrial activities. Municipal waste is addressed

¹ <https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/etc-icm-consortium/library/service-contract-eni-south-2017-2018/key-deliverables/d3.2-concept-note-mapping-indicator-processes-and-country-guidance/d3.2-concept-note-mapping-indicator-processes>

² <https://forum.eionet.europa.eu/etc-icm-consortium/library/service-contract-eni-south-2017-2018/key-deliverables/d3.1-assessment-framework-h2020-phase-ii>

under “Urban Solid Waste.” It includes raw waste released into the sea, directly or indirectly, especially plastics, and through emissions into the atmosphere of pollutants which may be generated by the combustion of these waste products. SAP-MED proposes specific targets through a planned timetable of pollution prevention and control measures and interventions for municipal waste management at national and regional levels.

7. The Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean was agreed by the Contracting Parties in COP 18 in Istanbul, Turkey in 2013. It provides specific measures and operational targets to achieve good environmental status for marine litter. The Regional Plan integrates marine litter measures into the LBS National Action Plans with the aim for developing and implementing appropriate policy, legal instruments and institutional arrangements for marine litter prevention and reduction; monitoring and assessment programmes for marine litter management; programmes for removal and environmentally sound disposal of existing marine litter; and awareness raising of the adverse impacts of marine litter on the marine environment. The Contracting Parties agreed to implement the measures of the Regional Plan according to specific timetables extending till 2025 at the latest.

8. The present document: “Assessment Outline of H2020/NAP Indicators on Waste Management including Marine Litter,” prepared in consultation with EEA, takes into account existing best practices at regional/ international level in relation to assessments. It defines the context, conceptual approach, and current development of the Horizon H2020/NAP indicator-based assessment report that will be jointly produced by EEA and UN Environment /MAP to inform on the progress of the Horizon 2020 initiative for a cleaner Mediterranean established under the Union for the Mediterranean.

9. As presented in Chapter 4.4 of the present document, the preparation of Horizon 2020 Assessment for Waste and Marine Litter Cluster report will be closely linked with the midterm evaluation of the implementation of the updated NAPs and Regional Plans adopted under the UN Environment/ MAP - Barcelona Convention (LBS Protocol).

2 Horizon H2020/NAP Indicators: Waste and Marine Litter Cluster

10. The first set of H2020/NAP indicators was discussed during the 2018-2019 biennium in the 1st Indicators Workshop, held in Copenhagen in May 2017, and finally were agreed during the 2nd Indicators Workshop, held in April 2018 in Athens, Greece in the framework of ENI SEIS II project and in synergy with UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work. The 2nd Indicators Workshop also reviewed for the proposed indicators a set of methodological specifications and reporting processes, including regional infrastructures. The methodological factsheets for each H2020/NAP indicator can be found in the Report of the Meeting of the 2nd Indicators Workshop.

11. With regards to the infrastructure for data management and population of indicators, the 1st ENI SEIS South Supporting Mechanism Regional Workshop on Infrastructure and Data Management was held on 4-5 October 2018 in Rome, Italy. The Regional Workshop addressed regional and national needs with regards to collection and sharing of data through Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) as a reporting infrastructure developed by UN Environment/MAP-INFO/RAC including existing information system relevant to H2020/NAP indicators.

12. The list of H2020/NAP Waste and Marine Litter Indicators is presented in Table 1, including three H2020/NAP indicators on municipal waste generation; hardware of waste management and software of waste management and 23 sub-indicators.

Table 1: List of H2020/NAP Waste and Marine Litter Indicators

INDICATOR	SUB-INDICATORS
IND 1. Municipal Waste Generation	IND 1.A Municipal waste composition
	IND 1.B Plastic waste generation per capita
	IND 1.C % of population living in Coastal Areas
	IND 1.D % of Tourists in Coastal Areas
IND 2. “Hardware” of waste management	IND 2.A Waste Collection IND 2.A.1 Waste Collection Coverage IND 2.A.2 Waste Captured by the formal waste sector
	IND 2.B Environmental Control IND 2.B.1 % of waste to uncontrolled dumpsites IND 2.B.2 Uncontrolled dumpsites in Coastal Areas IND 2.B.3 Waste going to dumpsites in Coastal Areas
	IND 2.C Resource Recovery IND 2.C.1 % of plastic waste generated that is recycled
IND Q. “Software” of waste management	Q.A MARINE LITTER & WASTE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK IND Q.A.1 Is there a National Assessment for ML and its impacts? IND Q.A.2 Is there a National Plan or Strategy for ML? IND Q.A.3 Is there a National Plan or Strategy for Waste Management? IND Q.A.4 Is there a National Law on Waste? IND Q.A.5 Is there a national plan or target to close the dumpsites before 2030? IND Q.A.6 Is there a National Information system for waste management in place?
	Q.B RESOURCE RECOVERY IND Q.B.1 Is there a National Plan or Strategy for Waste Prevention? IND Q.B.2 Are there mandatory targets for recycling - recovery of packaging waste? IND Q.B.3 Are there EPR or Deposit- Return schemes for packaging waste? IND Q.B.4 Are there national policies to eliminate or reduce single-use plastics? IND Q.B.5 Are there financial incentives for reuse – resource recovery activities?
	Q.C SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION IND Q.C.1 Are there Sustainable Consumption and Production plans or strategies? IND Q.C.2 Are there green procurement rules for the public sector in place? IND Q.C.3 Are there policies to support sustainable tourism? IND Q.C.4 Are there policies to support eco-labelling and eco-design?

3 Horizon 2020 indicator-based Assessment outline

3.1 Main elements

13. In 2017-2018, the H2020 assessment framework was revised in a way that it complements ongoing regional initiatives and provides the highest added value for the Mediterranean region and its countries. The second H2020 assessment will be based on an integrated approach, covering the three priority pollution sources of the Mediterranean Sea (solid waste, wastewater and industrial emissions), and across all levels of the Drivers-Pressure-State-Impact-Responses (DPSIR) framework. Rather than focusing mainly on describing the problem, the assessment will highlight the progress towards tackling pollution from those key sources, namely what has been achieved (e.g. through policies,

H2020 investments and cooperation), and how this can be potentially reflected through the H2020/NAP indicators set, across the chain “pressure-state-impact”. The assessment aims to put emphasis on solutions and best practices by illustrating case studies.

14. The 3rd Steering Committee of the ENI SEIS II South Support Mechanism project and the 9th Meeting of the H2020 Review and Monitoring (RM) Group, held on 6-7 November 2018, in Vienna, noted that the operating model of the assessment report needs to embrace the complexity of the region including Northern Mediterranean, West Balkans, Turkey and agreed on guiding principles for development of the H2020 Assessment report.³

15. The development of the H2020 assessment will complement and integrate other regional assessments, such as the State of Environment and Development (SoED) report, currently in preparation and planned to be published in 2019 in the framework of UN Environment/ MAP PoW (led by Plan Bleu), and the Quality Status Report for the Mediterranean Sea (MED QSR 2017 and 2023) based on 11 Ecological Objectives of the Mediterranean Seas and Coast, adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2012. The SoED together with QSR cycle can reciprocally benefit from and contribute to the H2020 Assessment.

16. Figure 1 shows a schematic representation of the components of the H2020 Assessment. The assessment will be introduced with a first chapter on the assessment framework H2020, where the three pillars of H2020 will be briefly explained. In addition, the concept of Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) and the importance thereof for a holistic approach of the system will be introduced.

17. The second chapter of the assessment is an analysis of the regional drivers behind the pressures of pollution. Socio-economic trends and regional policies will be discussed and analyzed in light of the thematic assessment on the progress on addressing pressures of pollution for the three components of pollution.

18. The third chapter is the thematic assessment which will assess in parallel Municipal Waste and Marine litter, Water and Industrial emissions. In this chapter, information will be provided on indicators trends; progress on collection of data and information from the region and uncertainties related to the indicators; and discussion of findings considering responses and drivers.

3.2 Main assessment products

19. The 2nd H2020/NAP Indicator-Based Assessment Report will consist of three main products as illustrated in Figure 2:

1. **Summary/synthesis report:** including key messages from the regional assessment, achievements, lessons learned and main recommendations. This report will be distributed to UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change in 2020; National and regional decision makers; and key stakeholders. It will be produced in three languages (French, English, Arabic) for press and general public; also available in 5 to 10 pages in paper format.
2. **Integrated Regional Assessment report:** a basin-wide integrated assessment addressing the three priority areas of H2020 and progress towards reduction of the key sources of pollution, in particular on how H2020 Initiative has contributed to such achievements. This report will target key stakeholder, mostly technical audience.

³ <https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south-communication/news/annual-meeting-of-the-steering-committee-of-the-eni-seis-ii-south-support-mechanism-project-and-horizon-2020-h2020-review-and-monitoring-rm>

3. **Horizon 2020 indicators factsheets** developed by the ENP-South countries, describing their national situation with respect to the H2020/NAP indicators, in line with the Indicator Specification sheets and the guidance on Indicator Assessment. The factsheets will target key stakeholders, mostly technical audience.

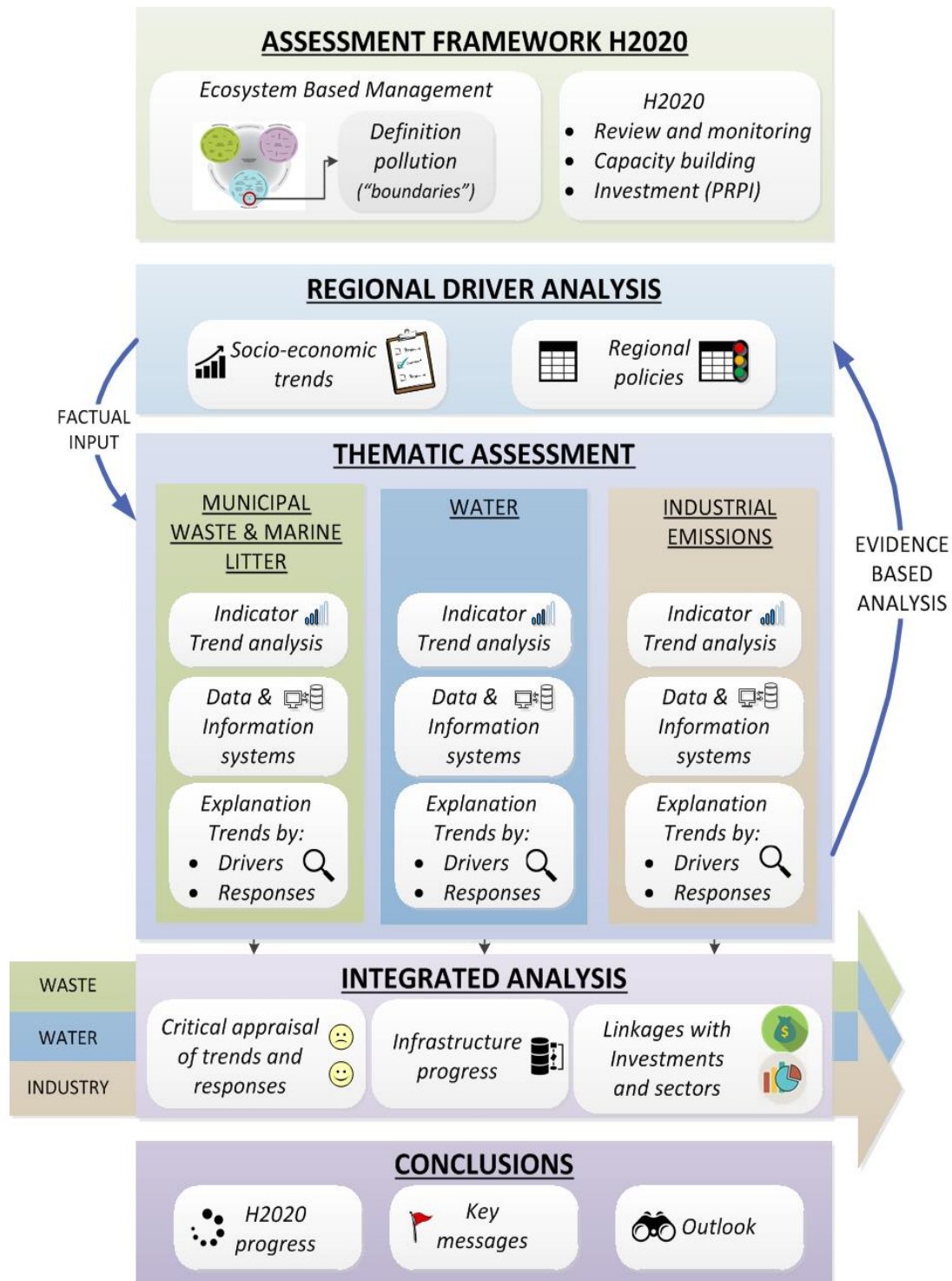


Figure 1: Schematic representation of the components of the H2020 assessment

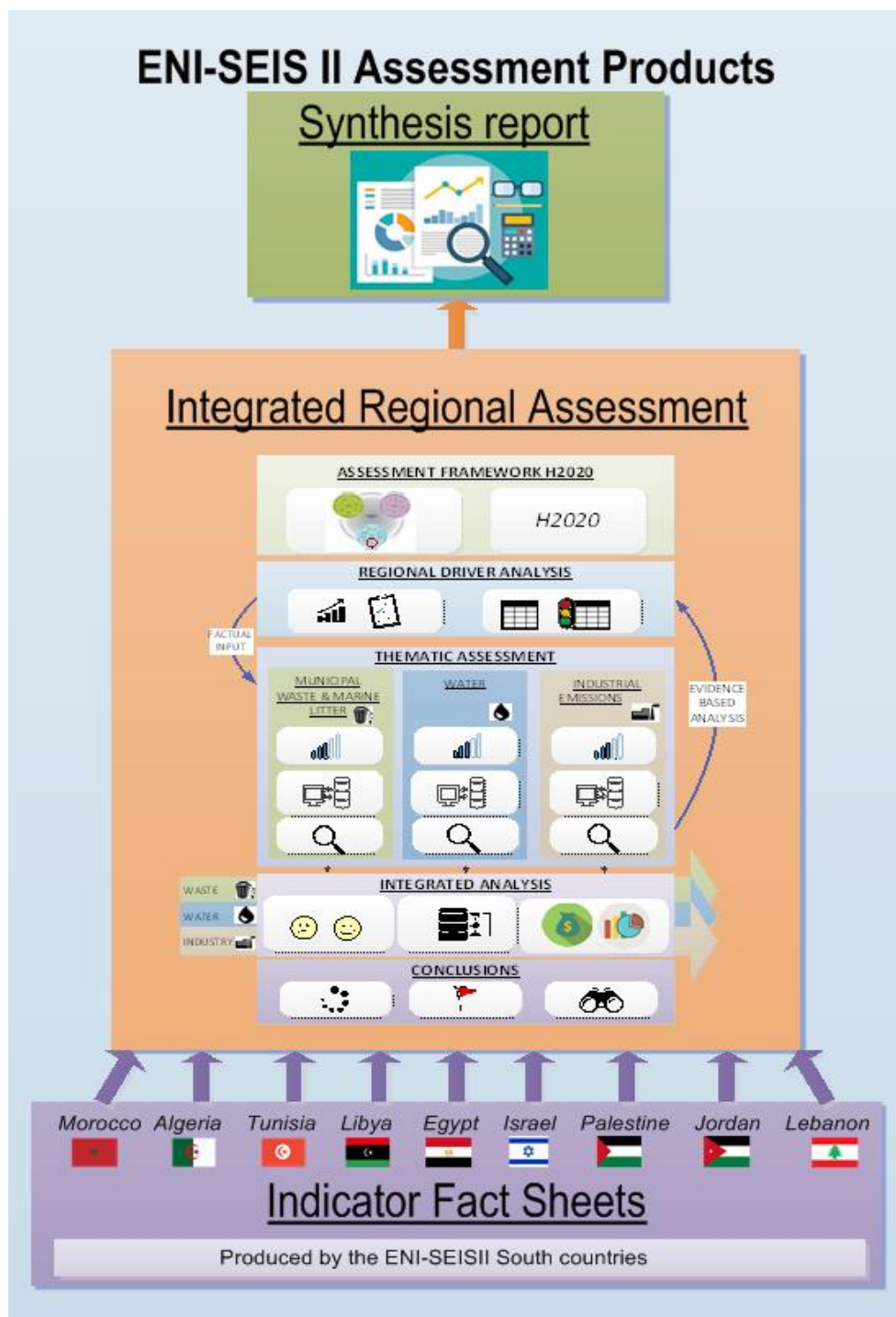


Figure 2: The three main products of the 2nd H2020 indicator-based Assessment

3.3 Links to the Mid Term Evaluation of National Action Plans, Regional Plans Implementation and IMAP

20. At their 19th Ordinary Meeting in Athens, Greece, on 9-10 February 2016, the Contracting Parties mandated the Secretariat (MED POL) to undertake an indicator-based midterm evaluation of the NAPs implementation. The evaluation included regional analysis of pollutants' loads and releases to the Mediterranean. A specific section addressed the Urban Environment with regards to Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generation, collection rates, and disposal methods in each of the Mediterranean Countries for 2003, 2007 and 2011.

21. At their 20th Ordinary Meeting in Tirana, Albania, on 17 to 20 December 2017, the Contracting Parties mandated also the Secretariat (MED POL) to prepare reports on the implementation of existing Regional Plans/measures including Marine Litter Management to be submitted to COP 21 in December 2019. Evaluation findings will look at the level of conformance of Countries to meet the legally binding measures and set deadlines as stipulated in the Marine Litter Regional Plan.

22. At their 19th Ordinary Meeting in Athens, Greece, on 9-10 February 2016, the Contracting Parties adopted the Decision IG.22/7 on the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme for the Mediterranean Sea Coast and Related Assessment Criteria (IMAP). Two Common Indicators 22 and 23 were introduced both dealing with the monitoring and assessment of beach, seafloor, floating marine litter including microplastic. In contrast, H2020/NAP indicators on waste and marine litter are designed in such a way that supplements the IMAP indicators with information and data about the generation of municipal waste/ marine litter from inland and coastal areas. To this extent, IMAP tackles monitoring, assessment and related impacts, while H2020/NAP deals with drivers, pressures and response.

23. The thematic Chapter on Waste and Marine Litter of the H2020 Assessment aims to provide evidence-based analyses based on indicators populated with data for all relevant H2020/NAP indicators with the aim of focusing on Pressures, Drivers and Responses. It also focuses on the regional data landscape in terms of data availability and accessibility including regional and national progress on further building a sustainable data management and data sharing policy at regional and national levels.

24. This Chapter will also address regional responses in terms of implementation of regional measures including NAPs and Regional Plans related to Waste and Marine Litter. The data collected for the H2020/NAP indicators will also be used to undertake evaluation of NAPs implementation and for developing new measures for pollution prevention, reduction and elimination in the Mediterranean.

3.4 Proposed Questions for response by the H2020 Assessment Report

25. Based on the assessment outline described above and data collected, and the indicator factsheets submitted by the Countries in line with the data standards and data dictionaries uploaded to the MAP/MEDPOL Infosystem and InfoMAPNode for Waste and Marine Litter; the H2020 Assessment report aims at responding to the following key questions:

I.A. Why is municipal solid waste a priority issue in the Mediterranean? (Indicator-based trend analysis – Drivers), with focus on the following issues:

- i. Impact on hygiene, health, living environment.
- ii. Impact on marine litter.
- iii. Institutional set-up of municipal solid waste management as one of the main responsibilities of local authorities /municipalities.
- iv. Reduction from source and improving management.

I.B. What are the main factors impacting waste management in the Mediterranean? (Indicator-based trend analysis – Drivers), with focus on the following issue:

- v. Socio-economic factors affecting waste generation and management and marine litter: coastal population, coastal tourism and tourism activities.

The above questions will address Indicators IND 1C and IND 1D (population and tourists on coastal areas) to inform about drivers.

II. What are the trends in municipal solid waste generation? (Indicator-based trend analysis – Pressures), with focus on the following issues:

- i. Trends of waste generation (total and per capita).
- ii. Trends of waste composition.

The above question will address Indicators IND 1A, IND 1C and IND 1D to inform about trends and progress in municipal waste generation and composition. It will also provide specific information on plastic based on indicator IND 1B (Plastic waste generation per capita)

III. How is the region responding to the issue of waste and improving waste management? (Indicator-based trend analysis – Response), with focus on the following issues:

- i. Main *regional policies* (e.g. H2020 initiative, links with MED SCP framework and Action Plan, Marine Litter Regional MED Action Plan, specific investments and SDGs etc).
- ii. Examples of national policies links with updated *NAPs*
- iii. How specific *H2020 PRPI investments* can be reflected in the progress made (as informed by the thematic indicators).

The above question will address Indicator IND Q (“software”) to inform about waste management policies/responses)

IV. Is appropriate disposal and treatment improving? (Indicator-based trend analysis – Pressure/ Response), with focus on the following issues:

- i. Collection:
 - a. Trends of Municipal waste collection (rate, urban/rural, coastal cities).
 - b. Role of the informal sector (or case studies on informal sector).
- ii. Dumping:
 - a. Percentage of waste in uncontrolled dumpsites, uncontrolled dumpsites in Coastal Areas.
 - b. Waste going to dumpsites in Coastal Areas.
- iii. Recycling:
 - a. Recycling rate for some waste categories.
 - b. Focus on recycling rate of plastics using the indicators IND 2C.1 “% of plastic waste generated that is recycled”;
- iv. Based on the above, it is important to further examine the waste hierarchy to reduce marine litter in the Countries (i.e. what is the regional and national response to implement waste hierarchy, and how much is this approach reflected in the regional and national legal frameworks and institutional structures).

The above question will address Indicator IND 2 (“hardware”) to inform about trends and progress in municipal waste management

V. What is the extension of the issue of marine litter in the Mediterranean? (Indicator-based trend analysis – Impact/ Response), with focus on the following issues:

- i. Narrative on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean (based on other regional assessments and studies) to inform of impacts of mismanaged waste (quantities, e.g. beach litter, socio-economic and environmental impacts of Marine Litter, etc.)
- ii. Case-studies/ highlights from countries? (e.g. beach litter monitoring in Egypt and Jordan? Marine LitterWatch, etc.)
- iii. Case studies on “Socioeconomic analysis on marine litter key best practices to prevent/ reduce single use of plastic bags and bottles including socioeconomic analysis of key selected measures.”

The above question will address Indicator IND Q (“software”) to inform about Marine Litter, Plastics, recovery, etc.

26. The meeting is expected to discuss the proposed structure and key questions of the H2020 Assessment Report and to advise and agree on the way forward for the completion of the H2020 Assessment Report.

4 H2020 Assessment: Next Steps and Timeline

27. The population of H2020/NAP indicators via InfoMAPNode with the support of Info-RAC and EEA - *in progress*.

28. The population of Waste and Marine Litter H2020/NAP indicators/sub-indicators supported through a number of SSFAs with the countries funded either through ENI SEIS II Project or MED POL through its MTF funded PoW – *in progress*.

29. For the purpose of H2020 Assessment with regards to Waste and Marine Litter Cluster, the Countries can also benefit from the following ongoing reporting exercises:

- The Barcelona Convention Reporting System (including LBS Protocol and Regional Plans); National reports are under preparation.
 - *Deadline for the Contracting Parties to submit their national reports for the 2016-2017 biennium is end of February 2019; Reports for previous years already submitted to MED POL with some gaps.*
- Reports and data gathered for several H2020/NAP indicators.
 - *Countries submissions in progress in line with the implementation of Small-Scale Funding Agreements (SSFA) supported both by ENI SEIS II Project and MED POL through its MTF funded PoW.*
- Results of the evaluation on implementation of the Regional Plan for Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.
 - *Currently undertaken by MED POL and any relevant reports provided by the Contracting Parties in support of this evaluation exercise.*

30. The countries will be provided with technical assistance to ensure that the assessment facts sheets for each H2020 Waste and Marine Litter Indicators are timely prepared in conformity with data specifications and standards that were commonly agreed in 2018.

31. The proposed timeline for development of the H2020 Assessment Report is as follows:

- H2020 Assessment Outline prepared and agreed with annotations till April 2019.
- Collection of data and fact sheets for each indicator by the Countries, latest end of July 2019.
- Extensive consultations with the Countries on the Draft H2020 Assessment in July and August 2019.
- The last day for data and case studies submission end of August 2019.
- The H2020 Assessment Report to be finalized by end of October 2019.