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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

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7th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group

Athens, Greece, 9 September 2019

Agenda item 10: Any Other Business

Draft Roadmap for GFCM-INFO/RAC cooperation in the framework of the MoU between UNEP/MAP and GFCM-FAO

Introduction

As stated in the Decision IG.22/7: *"it is an absolute necessity for UNEP/MAP to strengthen its cooperation with the relevant regional bodies, especially in relation to:*

• ***EO1****, both with the* **General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)** *for commercial species of fish and shellfish and the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area (ACCOBAMS), noting that the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative, to be undertaken during 2016-2019, will provide important inputs (in terms of monitoring methodologies, capacity building and reliable data on abundance and distribution of cetaceans);*

• ***EO3****, with the* **GFCM,** *noting that the EO3 related common indicators will be further developed and assessed by GFCM (with assessment results provided to UNEP/MAP in order to undertake the 2017 and following integrated assessments)"*

In the context of the EcAp MED II project and in the framework of the MoU between GFCM and UNEP/MAP, INFO/RAC has started the building of a **specific partnership with GFCM** to ensure that relevant data collection can be shared within the EcAp process.

INFO/RAC has developed the IMAP **Pilot Info System (PIS)** and is now engaged in its completion and finalization (**IMAP Info System)** for the 27 IMAP Common Indicators, including those related to the Ecological Objective 3.

The present roadmap has been developed to clarify the next steps for the implementation and integration of the EO3 (and EO1) Common Indicators in the future IMAP Info System.

GFCM Roadmap

Draft proposal of ToRs for the cooperation between GFCM and INFO/RAC in the framework of the existing MoU between MAP and GFCM-FAO	June 2019
Documents "Main Elements and Roadmap for the Preparation of a UNEP/MAP Data Management Policy" and "Pave the way towards IMAP Data Policy" shared with GFCM	July 2019
GFCM – INFO/RAC roadmap shared with GFCM	July 2019
GFCM – INFO/RAC roadmap shared with EcAp Task Force	July 2019
Preparatory bilateral meeting between GFCM and INFO/RAC in view of November GFCM annual meeting: ToRs of the INFO/RAC – GFCM will be the starting point for the development of a work plan	November 2019
Discussion about ToRs during the Annual GFCM Meeting	November 2019
Deadline for comments and inputs by GFCM Parties	mid December 2019
Approved ToRs of Cooperation Between GFCM and INFO/RAC shared with EcAp Task Force	January 2020

Bilateral meeting between GFCM and INFO/RAC focused on the existing GFCM data policy for its integration in the IMAP context and to define a full and open exchange of data, metadata and products	February 2020
Main results shared with EcAp Task Force	February 2020
Bilateral meeting between GFCM and INFO/RAC focused on the feasibility of the implementation of the data flows for IMAP Common Indicators for Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1), ensuring that relevant data collection can be shared, avoiding mismatch of reporting requirements and duplication of reporting efforts	March 2020
Main results shared with EcAp Task Force	April 2020
Bilateral meeting between GFCM and INFO/RAC focused on the harmonization of metadata as a prerequisite for interoperability, according to SEIS principles, through definition and use of common Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1)	May 2020
Main results shared with EcAp Task Force	May 2020
Bilateral meeting between GFCM and INFO/RAC focussed on technical IT capacity of IMAP Info System to upload EO3 (and EO1) data from GFCM establishing interconnections and interoperability between the respective IT systems and subsequent data flows implementations	May 2020
Main results shared with EcAp Task Force	May 2020
Bilateral meetings with relevant MAP Components (i.e SPA/RAC) to explore possible additional aspects and interlinkages with Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1)	June 2020
Bilateral meeting with all Contracting Parties to share and fine tune Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1) data policy for IMAP	Jul -Nov 2020
Development of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators for Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1)	Jul -Nov 2020
Draft DSs & DDs and main results about Contracting Parties bilateral meetings shared with EcAp Task Force	November 2020
Submission of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators for Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1) to CorMon Biodiversity and Fisheries meeting	December 2020
Implementation of DSs & DDs and related data flows for the new "IMAP Info System"	December - February 2021
Testing phase for IMAP Common Indicators for Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1) data collection	February - March 2021
Progress Report data flows implementation and results of the testing phase shared with EcAp Task Force	May 2021

Document on the development and implementation of data flows in the IMAP Info System in close cooperation with GFCM to be submitted to VIII EcAp CG meeting	July 2021
Deadline for comments and inputs by EcAp CG	September 2021
IMAP Info System completely implemented for IMAP Common Indicators for Ecological Objective 3 (and EO1) data collection and available data uploaded and shared	December 2021