



UNEP/MED WG.482/3



2 November 2020 Original: English

Integrated Meetings of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Groups on IMAP Implementation (CORMONs)

Videoconference 1-3 December 2020

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap

Implementation of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap

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Note by the Secretariat

During the 2018-2019 biennium, the Secretariat developed, in cooperation with the Contracting Parties through the Ecosystem Approach governance structure, the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap and Needs Assessment, which was endorsed by COP 21 (Naples, Italy, December 2019) with Decision IG.24/4. The 2023 MED QSR Roadmap defines the vision for successful delivery of the 2023 MED QSR, and outlines key IMAP-related processes, milestones and outputs to be undertaken, with their timelines. In the same COP Decision, the Secretariat was requested to define in 2020, together with the Contracting Parties and CORMONs, concrete requirements and deadlines of output delivery at the level of Common Indicators per each Contracting Party in order to ensure effective data collection and to address knowledge gaps to enable the entire MAP system to successfully deliver the 2023 MED QSR.

Activities related to the implementation of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap, including the organization of CORMON Meetings, which will guide the process from a technical point of view, are implemented in the current biennium, as part of the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work for 2020-2021 (Decision IG.24/14). The implementation of the 2023 MED QSR, and IMAP in general, is expected to be boosted by activities under UNEP/MAP-led projects, including mainly three EU-funded Projects, i.e. IMAP MPA, ECAP MED III and Marine Litter MED II.

The present document provides information on the progress achieved in 2020, in relation to the implementation of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap, structured around the Roadmap's main processes and milestones. The document also provides information on the way forward to 2023 MED QSR, including gaps, concrete requirements and deadlines of output delivery, as well as a 2023 MED QSR Operational Plan 2020-2023 with concrete activities per Milestone/Output of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap supported by the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work and externally funded Projects.

A table on the status of IMAP implementation per Common Indicator and Contracting Party with predefined categories is developed and attached to the present document with the view to having it completed during the meeting based on inputs to be provided by the participants.

List of Abbreviations / Acronyms

BAC Background Assessment Criteria

CI Common Indicator

CMEMS Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service

CMLS Copernicus Land Monitoring service

COP Conference of the Parties

CORMON Correspondence Group on Monitoring

DD Data Dictionaries**DS** Data Standards

EAC Environmental Assessment Criteria

EcAp Ecosystem ApproachEO Ecological ObjectiveEU European Union

GEF Global Environment Facility
GES Good Environmental Status

GFCM General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean

HELCOM Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission

IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

IMAP Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme

IMO International Maritime Organisation

MAP Mediterranean Action Plan

MEDPOL Programme for the Assessment and Control of Marine Pollution in the

Mediterranean Sea

MESL Marine Environment Studies Laboratory

MPA Marine Protected Area

MSFD Marine Strategy Framework Directive

NIS Non-indigenous Species
OC Organic Contaminants

OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment for the North-East

Atlantic

Programme of Work
PT Proficiency Tests

QA/QC Quality Assurance/Quality Control

QSR Quality Status Report
SPI Science Policy Interface

TE Trace Elements
TG Technical Group

TGML Technical Group on Marine Litter

WG Working Group

WG DIKE Working Group on Data, Information and Knowledge Exchange

1. Progress on the implementation of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap in 2020

- 1. Following the endorsement of the Roadmap and Needs Assessment for the 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (2023 MED QSR Roadmap) by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at the 7th Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group Meeting in Athens, Greece, 9 September 2019 and the 21st Ordinary Meeting (COP 21) in Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019 through Decision IG.24/4 Assessment Studies, the main focus of work of the Secretariat in 2020 has been to plan and initiate the concrete operationalization of the Roadmap, as described in section 2 of the present document.
- 2. During the period under review, the secretariat has developed concept notes and full-fledged project documents in the framework of ENRTP-GPGC framework, namely the "Efficient Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach-based Integrated Monitoring and Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea and Coasts in synergy with the EU MSFD (EcAp-MED III)" and the "Marine Litter MED II" projects. The EU-funded IMAP MPA project has entered in a concrete phase of implementation. The GEF MedProgramme child project 1.1 titled: "Reducing Pollution from Harmful Chemicals and Wastes in Mediterranean Hotspots and Measuring Progress to Impacts", which has an important component on IMAP Implementation including a section for the preparation of the Offshore strategy and TDA, has initiated its activities.
- 3. Table 1 below provides an overview of the progress marked in the implementation of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap during the nine first months of 2020, structured around the Roadmap's main processes and milestones.

Table 1. 2023 MED QSR Roadmap implementation in 2020

2023 MED QSR Roadmap Main Processes and Milestones

1. Timely negotiation and agreement of Contracting Parties through the Ecosystem Approach Governance Structure at regional (and as appropriate at sub-regional) level on the scale(s) of monitoring, assessment and

reporting

Ongoing

In line with the MAP Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021 and the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap, during first three trimesters of 2020, the Secretariat initiated the work for the preparation of scales of assessment related to IMAP Pollution Cluster and the Ecological Objective 1 of IMAP Biodiversity Cluster towards integrated GES Assessment. This is aimed to conclude a concrete proposal for the scales of assessment that are fit-for-purpose based on application of the optimal nested approach for integration of the scales of monitoring and respective monitoring units for both: (i) the Ecological Objectives 5, 9 and 10 related to IMAP Pollution Cluster; and (ii) the Ecological Objective 1 related to IMAP Biodiversity Cluster, whilst taking into account Ecological Objectives 7 and 8 of IMAP Coast and Hydrography Cluster. The proposal of the integrated scales of assessment related to IMAP Pollution Cluster is aimed for consideration by the CORMON Meetings foreseen in April 2021.

Seven regional assignments, are ongoing in the framework of the EU-funded IMAP-MPA Project, aiming at supporting: (i) the integrated implementation of IMAP at pilot scale in MPA and High-Pressure areas for Pollution-Marine Litter, Biodiversity-NIS, and Coast & Hydrography, including a broad package for enhancing capacity building activities and technical capacities; and (ii) the work on scales of monitoring and assessment, including an analysis of knowledge gaps with focus on scales per cluster (i.e. for Habitats, Species, NIS, Eutrophication, Contaminants, Marine Litter and Coast and Hydrography).

In the framework of IMAP-MPA Project, further contribution will be provided to the establishment of the scales of assessment, through in-depth analysis of the scales of monitoring that are proposed for IMAP Common Indicators of Biodiversity Clusters within the national Biodiversity IMAPs of the Southern

Mediterranean countries, prepared with support from the EcAp MED II Project. Regarding the IMAP Pollution Cluster, the project activities will contribute to the integration of national IMAPs related to Pollution with national IMAPs on Biodiversity and Coast and Hydrography. The GEF Adriatic project is also supporting the preparation of thematic national integrated IMAPs in Montenegro and Albania.

Concrete activities and outputs have also been designed and included in the new EU-funded project EcAp MED III to support the delivery of the 2023 MED QSR, including through additional progress on scales of assessment for all mandatory Common Indicators, as well as integrated scales of assessment across clusters, on the basis of consultations through regional and sub-regional expert group meetings and CORMONs.

2. Development and agreement of Contracting Parties through the Ecosystem Approach Governance Structure on necessary methodological tools and assessment criteria to allow and promote **integrated** assessment of GES at the level of Ecological Objectives and to the extent possible, across relevant Ecological Objectives

Ongoing

In line with the MAP PoW 2020-2021 and 2023 MED QSR road map, during 2020 work has started to: (i) propose upgraded assessment criteria for contaminants and the preparation of integrated GES assessment for EOs 9 and 10; and (ii) propose assessment criteria for IMAP Common Indicator 14, i.e. nutrients, and preparation of integrated GES assessment for EO 5. The proposal of upgraded assessment criteria related to trace elements (TEs), organic contaminants (OCs) and bio-markers as established by IG.22/7 (COP 19, 2016) and IG.23/6 (COP 20, 2017), along with a proposal of the assessment criteria related to nutrients, as well as a proposal of integrated GES thematic assessment methodologies for IMAP Ecological Objectives 5, 9 and 10, are likely to be submitted for consideration by the CORMON Meetings on Pollution and on Marine Litter planned to be held back to back in April 2021.

The results and outputs related to assessment criteria and methodologies for integrated assessment of GES supported through the implementation of the Programme of Work PoW 2020-2021, will be further elaborated and complemented at sub regional and national scales under the EU-funded IMAP-MPA project. This will ensure for national-level activities and results under the IMAP-MPA project to inform work on integrated GES assessment at regional level. A series of national meetings are planned in 2021 in seven countries, namely Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, aiming at establishing National IMAP Steering Committees with the participation of all concerned stakeholders being involved in monitoring and assessment at national level, with the view to coordinate and ensure synergies for all set of activities pertinent to the integrated implementation of IMAP, supported and coordinated by UNEP/MAP.

Ongoing cooperation between OSPAR, HELCOM, and REMPEC should be noted regarding the definition of Significant (oil) spill, format of reporting systems and the determination of GES for significant acute pollution events (EO9 CI19 / MSFD D8C3- D8C4).

The new EU-funded project EcAp MED III, developed to support the delivery of the 2023 MED QSR, will be instrumental in ensuring additional progress on testing and application of the assessment criteria for all clusters at national level, as well as in the testing of the integrated assessment approaches/methodologies, including approaches to interrelate pressures/impacts/state of the marine environment, and to propose and develop integrated assessments to the extent possible for the 2023 MED QSR. This includes regional cooperation on

assessment methodologies through regional and sub-regional expert group meetings and CORMONs and a stronger Science-Policy Interface

of IMAP-based national

es throughout the Mediterranean to enable the region to and real time data during 2020-2022

6. Continuous **support** and technical assistance to the Contracting Parties in areas

3. Full **implementation** Ongoing

Support to National IMAPs implementation has been given the highest priority. monitoring programm Further to activities under implementation of the MAP PoW 2020-2021, three EU-funded projects were developed and launched in 2020 to support national implementation of the IMAP in Southern Mediterranean Countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia), building mainly on generate quality assured the results of the EcAp MED II project which supported the development of national IMAPs for all clusters in the seven countries, but also on the results of Marine Litter MED Project pertinent to the development of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24:

- 1. Towards achieving the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast through an Ecologically Representative and Efficiently Managed and Monitored Network of Marine Protected Areas (IMAP MPA Project) (August relation to all the above 2019 – February 2023).
 - 2. Support to Efficient Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach-based Integrated Monitoring and Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea and Coasts and to delivery of data-based 2023 Quality Status Report in synergy with the EU MSFD (EcAp-MED III Project) (1 September 2020 – 31 August 2023).
 - 3. Marine Litter MED II (1 September 2020 31 August 2023).

These projects, in particular IMAP-MPA and EcAp MED III, will support the beneficiary countries in implementing their national monitoring programmes in high-pressure and MPA areas with the aim to achieve a minimum of 3 sets of data on IMAP Common Indicators for EO5, EO9, EO10; a minimum of 1 set of data on IMAP Common Indicators for EO1 and EO2, and a minimum of 1 set of data on IMAP Common Indicators for EO7 and EO8.

Some other projects will also be instrumental for the implementation of National IMAPs, such as GEF Programme for activities related to monitoring of CI 15, 16 and CCI 25, with the view of completing the coastline and land cover of as much the Mediterranean region as possible, as well as GEF Adriatic, supporting the monitoring of CI 16 related to coastline in Montenegro and Albania. The recently launched CAMP project in Bosnia and Herzegovina will assist monitoring activities in the country, related to pollution and marine litter as well as CI 16.

With regards to IMAP pollution cluster, with the aim of further assisting the Contracting Parties in the implementation of their respective National IMAPs in line with the PoW 2020-2021, MED POL has been working on the harmonization and standardization of the monitoring and assessment methods in line with IMAP, along with the proposal for integration and aggregation rules for monitoring, assessment and reporting of data on the state of marine environment toward integrated assessment of GES.

To support the strengthening of national capacities, questionnaires were also prepared and submitted to respective MED POL Focal Points for their feedback with the aim of assessing the capacities of IMAP competent laboratories related to: (i) equipment availability; (ii) experience in sample collection and sample processing; (iii) analytical procedures; and (iv) application of good laboratory

practices, respectively proposing relevant recommendations for consideration at the Meetings of CORMON on Pollution Monitoring.

Means of implementation established for the revision of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA), with support through the GEF-funded MedProgramme, further address a need to support the development of a strategy for offshore monitoring and data sharing policy for the Mediterranean.

Of great importance is the communication with the Contracting Parties, advising them on the need for establishing National Steering Committees for IMAP implementation and the data submission call for the unreported 2019 data and the 2020 data, in line with the respective COP decisions as described below.

A tool to mark progress in IMAP implementation per Common Indicator and per Contracting Party was designed and is attached to the present document, with the aim to have it completed during the meeting with inputs from Parties' representatives, relating to the status of implementation across four categories: (i) establishment of national IMAPs; (ii) nomination of national IMAP users; (iii) submission of available data; and (iv) collection of 2020 data and readiness for submission in 2021.

- 4. Delivery and operationalization of a user-friendly and SEISbased IMAP Info System to collect and process data produced by IMAP-based national
- 5. Development and implementation of **Monitoring Protocols and Data Quality Assurance** and Quality

Control for IMAP

Common Indicators

Ongoing

In line with COP Decisions IG.22/7 and IG.23/6 providing for 'the Contracting Parties to regularly report quality-assured data deriving from the implementation of the updated integrated national monitoring and assessment programmes', in June 2020 the call has been opened for the Contracting Parties to start uploading and sharing their monitoring data using the approved Data Dictionaries and Data Standards for 11 selected IMAP Common Indicators, respectively CI 1, 2, 6, 13, monitoring programmes 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 23. The Contracting Parties have been invited to upload all available and compatible data, as soon as possible, preferably by September 2020 at the latest. Expected new 2020 monitoring data are to be uploaded no later than 31 January 2021.

> It should be noted that the IMAP Pilot Info System developed and launched in 2019, has been designed for 11 IMAP Common Indicators (CI 1, 2, 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 23). Testing phase with the participation of 10 Contracting Parties, namely Albania, Croatia, Cyprus, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, Slovenia and Spain, took place from July 2019 to end of May 2020 with test datasets provided for CI 1, 2, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21 and 22. Data from the MED POL datasets built over last two decades have been formatted according to IMAP Data Dictionaries (DD) and Data Standards (DS) for IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14 and 17 for ongoing migration into the IMAP Pilot Info System.

> Whilst Data Dictionaries (DD) and Data Standards (DS) have been developed for CI 1, 2, 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 23 in the 2018-2019 biennium, DD and DS for CI 25 need to be prepared based on the agreed Guidance Fact Sheet and for CI 19 need to be agreed for integration of existing data under MEDGIS-MAR within IMAP Info System. The activities aimed at preparation of Data Dictionaries (DD) and Data Standards (DS) for IMAP CIs 18 and 20 are foreseen by MED POL within implementation of MAP PoW for the biennium 2020-2021.

Further expansion and full operationalization of the IMAP Pilot Info System to cover all IMAP mandatory Common Indicators and development of DD and DS for CI 3, 4, 5 and 25 is planned for 2021, also with support through the EU-funded EcAp MED III project.

In line with UNEP/MED WG. 467/13 related to schemes for database Quality and Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) of data related to Pollution that was approved at the 7th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group, MED POL is jointly working with INFO/RAC for the establishment of the means for preparation of the proposal of Schemes for Quality Assurance and Control to be applied into IMAP Pilot Info System.

Further assistance for establishment and implementation of QA/QC schemes and categories to be applied into IMAP Info System is planned for 2021-2022 as part of the EcAp MED III project.

In accordance with the MAP Programme of Work (PoW) 2020-2021, activities have been undertaken in order to continue supporting harmonized and coordinated quality assurance programmes at national level, as well as preparing the protocols for applying good laboratory practices related to eutrophication and contaminants in the framework of MEDPOL's collaboration with the Marine Environment Studies Laboratory (MESL) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The Monitoring Guidelines related to IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17 and 20 are submitted for review by the present meeting. Monitoring Guidelines for IMAP Common Indicator 18, along with the Monitoring Guidelines related to data quality assurance and reporting are under finalization for consideration by the CORMON Meeting on Pollution foreseen in April 2021.

It should be noted that the Guidance Factsheets and Monitoring Protocols were already developed for Common Indicators 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. The Guidance Factsheets for IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 were further updated in 2019, and approved by the 7th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group, along with Guidance Fact Sheets for IMAP Candidate Indicators 25, 26 and 27.

The new Proficiency Tests (PTs) were also launched in the second trimester of 2020 for the determination of trace metals and organic contaminants in sediment and biota related to IMAP Common Indicator 17, resulting with the nomination of IMAP competent laboratories from 16 Contracting Parties for participation in this inter-calibration laboratory testing. Given several nominations were received with delay in early September, the communication with nominated laboratories and sending of samples was started with a delay. In addition, administrative biosecurity issues related to shipment of fish samples to EU country laboratories further delayed realization of PT for determination of trace elements.

7. Outreach to regional Ongoing

partners to provide inputs to the 2023 MED QSR, establishment of solid partnerships and development of a communication and visibility strategy for the 2023 MED QSR

inputs to the 2023 MED Outreach to regional partners was supported throughout 2020 through bilateral QSR, establishment of meetings and exchanges to ensure synergies and collaboration for the development of the 2023 MED QSR.

The synergies and complementarities between the European Union's Marine Strategy Framework Directive MSFD and Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) implementation have been improved, including through use of relevant recent developments under MSFD, as well as close within collaboration of the Secretariat with the MSFD Working Groups (WG) - in

particular, WG on Good Environmental Status, WG on Data, Information and Knowledge Exchange and WG on Good Environmental Status and Technical Groups on Marine Litter, Chemical and Noise.

In that respect UNEP/MAP representatives participated in the following meetings: Meeting organized by permanent Secretariat of ACCOBAMS within ASI Project; Meetings organized by HCMR within MEDREGION project; meetings organized by EEA within Copernicus and EMODnet Projects, as well as the meetings of MSFD technical bodies as follows: 22nd Meeting of the Working Group on Data, Information and Knowledge Exchange (WG DIKE), March 2020; Drafting Group on Good Environmental Status (DG) GES) Workshop on Horizontal Issues, March, 2020; EMODnet-CMEMS Thematic Workshop on Coastal Issues, June 2020; 14th Meeting of the Technical Group on Marine Litter (TGML), June 2020; 15th Meeting of the MSFD Common Implementation Strategy Technical Group on Underwater Noise (TG-Noise), June 2020; MSFD Expert Network on Contaminants annual (Webex) meeting, April 2020 and Meeting related to deselection of Priority Substances, June 2020; Drafting Group on Good Environmental Status (DG GES) Workshop on Thresholds, September, 2020; 23 Meeting of the WG on GES; MSFD Expert Network on Contaminants Core group: Significant oil spills, June 2020; 16th Meeting of the MSFD Common Implementation Strategy Technical Group on Underwater Noise (TG-Noise), 6-7/27 October 2020; 23rd Meeting of the Working Group on GES, 13 October 2020.

UNEP/MAP and EEA invited jointly Morocco and Tunisia to prepare a Feasibility Study to implement Land cover change indicator (EO8) based on Copernicus Land Monitoring service (CMLS) in collaboration with the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS) that may also provide info related to EO5 and EO9 of IMAP or relevant descriptors of MSFD. Technical details were discussed so that the product can be used by both organisations and contacts with relevant focal points were coordinated. Similar cooperation is expecting for the implementation of GEF Programme projects.

In line with the Naples Ministerial Declaration calling for bold action to protect Mediterranean ecosystems, including through the enhancement of a regional science-policy interface enabling the articulation of evidence-based sustainable development policies, the Secretariat, in close collaboration with the Italian Oceanographic Commission, the IOC-UNESCO and the European Commission, supported the organization of the Regional Workshop "The Mediterranean Sea We Need for the Future We Want" that was held from 21 to 23 January 2020, in Venice, Italy, in the framework of the preparations for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 (Decade). It was an excellent opportunity to connect numerous institutions and initiatives contributing to strengthened marine environment knowledge and science in the Mediterranean region, as well as to encourage future research partnerships and collaboration in the region. As a follow up to Mediterranean Regional Workshop, the strategic orientations and related initial set of actions will be reviewed by the present meeting (UNEP/MED WG.482/26). It capitalizes on information from two sources: (a) SPI recommendations to support IMAP implementation produced under the ECAP MED II Project; and (b) Implementation Plan on the UN Decade Ocean Science. These re-confirm the commitment of UNEP/MAP to the objectives of the Implementation Plan of United Nations Decade on Ocean Science for Sustainable Development for

period 2021 - 2030, by supporting knowledge management at regional level, including through the policy and science interface and strengthening of related partnership modalities.

The preparation of the Study on trends and outlook of marine pollution from ships and activities and of maritime traffic and offshore activities in the Mediterranean is ongoing (REMPEC, 2020) including the comparative review of existing reporting procedures and formats related to maritime transport in the frame of different governance systems: international conventions under the auspices of the IMO; Protocols, Agreements and Regulations under the Barcelona Convention; and European Union Directives relevant for the Mediterranean European Member States.

A timeline for implementation of activities related to outreach, partnership development and communication and visibility for the 2023 MED QSR are defined as part of the workplan of the EU-funded EcAp MED III project.

8. Regular and **effective** Ongoing

regional
cooperation and
coordination with the
Contracting Parties,
through CORMONs,
under the guidance of
the Ecosystem
Approach Coordination
Group

The implementation of the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap is progressing in coordination with the Contracting Parties and through the Ecosystem Approach Governance Framework.

under the guidance of the Ecosystem

Approach Coordination
Group

Progress in the implementation of IMAP and the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap by all MAP Components is regularly reviewed by the EcAp Task Force which meets virtually on a monthly basis. The EcAp Task Force members keep updated monitoring tools on the nomination of IMAP users, submission of monitoring data in the IMAP Info System, and the work under regional assignments, which enable the Secretariat to identify challenges and take rectifying actions when needed. In this respect, the relevant MAP Components contacted again in September 2020 their Focal Points which had not yet formally nominated their national IMAP users. Regarding monitoring data submitted during the pilot phase of IMAP Info System, it was decided to re-upload them in the system, with an indication of "testing data", requesting the relevant Contracting Parties to validate them for official re-uploading into the system. The re-establishment and scope of IMAP online working groups is expected to be operationalized through the CORMON meetings discussion.

The present Integrated CORMON meeting is a key milestone in the QSR Roadmap implementation aiming at reviewing the implementation progress, and a proposed approach and structure for the 2023 MED QSR, as well as a number of technical documents on specific IMAP Common Indicators. During the meeting, the Secretariat will also launch two important EU-funded Projects, namely the ECAP MED III and Marine Litter MED II, which are expected to boost the implementation of IMAP and the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap.

A provisional calendar of key EcAp and QSR Roadmap governance meetings, supported through the UNEP/MAP PoW 2020-2021 and EcAp MED III project, is also annexed to the present document.

2. Way forward to 2023 MED QSR: analysis of gaps, concrete requirements and deadlines of output delivery

a) Overall analysis of gaps and needs

4. The 2017 MED QSR identified several knowledge gaps and provided recommendations on key directions to address in order to deliver a fully data-based 2023 MED QSR:

General directions:

- Harmonize and standardize monitoring and assessment methods.
- Improve availability and ensure long time series of quality assured data to monitor the trends in the status of the marine environment.
- Improve availability of the synchronized datasets for marine environment state assessment, including use of data stored in other databases were some of the Mediterranean countries regularly contribute.
- Improve data accessibility with the view to improve knowledge on the Mediterranean marine environment and ensure that Info-MAP System is operational and continuously upgraded, to accommodate data submissions for all the IMAP Common Indicators.

Biodiversity:

- Improve knowledge on distributional range, extent and condition of habitats, as well as on the pressures affecting them, their spatial distribution and potential cumulative effects, leading to structured data-led assessments of environmental status of the Mediterranean's marine habitats.
- Define the reference state of habitats and species as well as a target threshold value to achieve at the national and sub-regional levels.
- Improve information on distribution, population abundance and demographic characteristics of key species (marine birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and cephalopods) and on the condition of their habitats, as well as on the pressures affecting them, leading to structured data-led assessments of environmental status of the Mediterranean's marine species.
- Work to further improve the develop assessment criteria, when feasible, for those habitats and species based on adequate data availability.
- Develop a specific roadmap, in line with Decision IG20/4, for the upcoming CORMONs to discuss, on how to further develop Ecological Objectives, which are currently not part of IMAP, namely Ecological Objective 4 "Food webs" and Ecological objective 6 "Sea-flor integrity".
- Better estimate the trends in rates of introduction, abundance and distribution of non-indigenous species, through elaboration of regular dedicated monitoring.
- Provide for sound conclusions with regard to impacts of non-indigenous species, based on experiments or ecological modelling.

Coast and Hydrography:

- Enhance human and technical capacities for monitoring and assessment of the coast and hydrography.
- Fill the knowledge and scientific gaps (e.g. impacts of hydrographic alterations to habitats).
- Further develop the indicator on land use change with the view to be included in the Common Indicators list.

Pollution and Litter:

- Review the scope of the biological effects monitoring programmes and confirm the added value of biomarkers in long-term marine monitoring as 'early warning' systems.
- Further develop harmonized monitoring protocols, risk-based approaches, analytical testing and assessment methodologies for monitoring levels of the contaminants in commonly consumed sea food.
- Test new research-proved tools for monitoring toxic effects.
- Develop region-wide harmonized criteria for reference condition and threshold/boundaries values for key nutrients in water column, taking account of available standards for coastal waters.

- Develop assessment criteria for integrated chemical and biological assessment methods.
- Continue the work on underwater noise and its impact on marine fauna, in close collaboration with the relevant bodies, especially ACCOBAMS.
- Improve knowledge on Emerging Chemicals.
- Ensure testing of the Background Assessment Criteria (BACs) and Environmental Assessment Criteria (EACs) and thresholds application on a trial basis in interested countries and regional and sub-regional level.
- Have application of the BACs and EACs as an evolving process to be updated on a continuous basis, their further update and refinement need to be ensured as to take into account new available data, as well as sub-regional specificities in the Mediterranean basins.
- Sea-based sources of litter should be further analyzed and specified, given the fact that Mediterranean is a global hotspot for maritime transport and sea-based tourism such as cruises.
- Follow up development of harmonized and standardized monitoring and assessment methods for marine litter and its impacts, including through active participation of MAP in relevant processes such as the ongoing work of MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter. Such methods would facilitate and be used for monitoring the implementation of the Regional Action Plan against marine litter and of achievement of the 20% reduction target (by 2024) established by COP 19 Decision on marine litter [including enhancement of the identification and evaluation of marine litter accumulation (stranding fluxes, loads and linkage with specific sources) and hotspots using GIS and mapping systems and modelling tools, as well understanding of transport dynamics and accumulation zones.
- 5. Based on the above, the Secretariat developed in 2020 an Operational Plan for the implementation of 2023 MED QSR Roadmap herein after referred to as QSR Operational Plan. It includes per each Milestone/Outputs of the MED 2023 QSR Roadmap concrete activities supported by the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work and externally funded Projects namely EcApMED III, IMAP MPA, ML MED II, the timeline of which is fully aligned with 2023 MED QSR Roadmap ensuring a strengthened action at country, sub regional and regional levels and full complementarities.
- 6. The QSR Operational Plan is attached as Annex I to the present document.
- 7. Tables 2 and 3 below provide a provisional calendar of key QSR Roadmap implementation meetings and a provisional calendar for data reporting and assessment for the 2023 MED QSR.

Table 2. Provisional calendar of key QSR Roadmap implementation meetings

Meeting	Date
Integrated and Thematic CORMON meetings	December 2020 (videoconference)
Thematic/cluster CORMON meetings and back to back sub- regional meetings	March/April 2021
8 th Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group Meeting	September 2021
22 nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention	December 2021
Thematic/cluster CORMON meetings and back to back sub- regional meetings	April 2022
Integrated CORMON meeting and back to back sub- regional/SPI meetings	March 2023
9 th Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group Meeting	September 2023
23 rd Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention	December 2023

Table 3. Provisional calendar for data reporting and assessment for the 2023 MED QSR

Requirements	Deadlines
Reporting in the IMAP Pilot Info System of data sets for CI 1, 2, 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 23 monitored prior to 2020 by the CPs	30 September 2020
Reporting in the IMAP Pilot Info System of data sets for CI 1, 2, 13, 14, 17, 21, 22 and 23 monitored in 2020 by the CPs	31 January 2021
Reporting in the IMAP Pilot Info System of 2 nd data sets for all available CI, as appropriate (EO1, EO5, EO9, EO10)	30 September 2021
First draft national assessment factsheets prepared for all available CI	31 October 2021
First draft assessment factsheets for EO3 common indicators prepared by GFCM	31 October 2021
Baseline sub-regional assessment conducted for CI15	February 2022
Reporting in the IMAP Pilot Info System of CI 6 data	30 June 2022
Reporting in the IMAP Pilot Info System of CI 16 data	31 August 2022
Reporting in the IMAP Pilot Info System of 3 rd data sets for all available CI, as appropriate (EO1, EO5, EO9, EO10)	30 September 2022
Data collection from complementary sources finalized for non-mandatory indicators and those not included in the IMAP Pilot Info System (EO4, EO6, CCI 24, 26, 27 as applicable)	30 September 2022
National assessment factsheets updated for all available CI	October-December 2022
Assessment factsheets updated for EO3 by GFCM	October-December 2022

b) IMAP implementation at the level of Common Indicators

- 8. Major progress has been achieved in the 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 biennia to support the establishment and enable the implementation of IMAP at the national level. As part of the first phase of the IMAP implementation process, harmonized guidance and standards were developed for 11 Common Indicators to allow standardized monitoring of these indicators across the region; national IMAP-compatible monitoring programmes were developed in Southern Mediterranean and Adriatic basin countries; the IMAP Pilot Info System was developed to provide a common data management and reporting tool for the Mediterranean region for 11 IMAP Common Indicators.
- 9. 12 mandatory Common Indicators (CI 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 20) are not yet included in the IMAP Pilot Info System. CI 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 20 will be added to the IMAP Pilot Info System as part of the EcAp MED III project and activities undertaken under the 2020-2021 UNEP/MAP Programme of Work. Discussions with the GFCM are underway to agree on collaboration modalities for data sharing for CI 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 (EO3), in line with the proposal for a Roadmap and TORs for INFO/RAC-GFCM collaboration presented at the 7th Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group Meeting.
- 10. Two Ecological Objectives (EO4: Marine Food Webs and EO6: Sea-Floor Integrity) have yet to be developed as part of the second phase of IMAP development and implementation, and the elaboration of related Common Indicators is planned in 2021-2022 through regional consultations, in particular through the CORMON.
- 11. Work on several candidate common indicators (CCI 24, 25, 26 and 27) is ongoing to evaluate their maturity for their possible inclusion in the IMAP as mandatory indicators.

12. Two tables for completion by the meeting providing information on the status of IMAP implementation per Common Indicator and per Contracting Party, on the following categories: (i.a) National IMAP in place and operational; (i.b) National IMAP users officially nominated; (ii.a) Up to 2019 Data submitted/validated in the IMAP Info System; (ii.b) New 2020 data collected for submission in the IMAP Info System by January 2021, are attached as Annex II to the present document

Annex I 2023 MED QSR Operational Plan 2020-2023

2023 MED QSR Road	_	_			rough ECAP MED III, IMAP-MPA, ML MED II IEP/MAP POW activities	
2023 MED QSR Outputs/Milestones	2020	2021	2022	2023	Related activities/milestones under EcAp MED III, IMAP-MPA, ML MED II and UNEP/MAP 2020- 2021 POW	
1. Scales of Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting					EcAp MED III Project Output: 2.1.1: Analysis for each IMAP cluster on knowledge gaps, with a focus on the scales of assessment/reporting prepared/agreed and scales of monitoring for all IMAP Common Indicators agreed/progressed 2.1.2: Assessment criteria/thresholds/ baseline values proposed/updated for the 10 IMAP Common Indicators included in the current IMAP Pilot Info System as well as one candidate indicator (Noise)	
Analysis for each IMAP cluster on knowledge gaps, with focus on scales of monitoring prepared (mid 2019 - end 2020)					2.1.1.1. Undertake in-depth analysis of knowledge gaps related to scales of assessment for all mandatory CIs of IMAP, except those related to the Biodiversity cluster covered under the IMAP-MPA project	EcAp MED III
(mid 2019 - end 2020)					1.1: In depth identification at country level of the capacities required to enable IMAP implementation and facilitate the provision of reliable and quality assured data for the MED 2023 QSR; 1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings (regional consultants)	IMAP-MPA
					1.5 Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work.	ML MED II
					1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines; 2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF

Approaches on scales of monitoring for IMAP Common Indicators included in the IMAP Pilot Info System defined (2019)					2.1.1.2. Propose updated/new scales of assessment for all mandatory CIs as applicable; 2.1.1.3. Prepare GIS atlas for scales of monitoring and scales of assessment to be integrated into IMAP Pilot Info System;	EcAp MED III
(2019)					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
					_	ML MED II
					1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines; 2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF
Scales of monitoring for all IMAP Common					2.1.1.2. Propose updated/new scales of assessment for all mandatory CIs as applicable;	EcAp MED III
Indicators agreed (2021)					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
					1.1 Support countries to further advance and operationalize monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, with a focus on the ground implementation of the operation strategy as developed during the first phase of the Marine Litter MED Project.	ML MED II
					1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines; 2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF

Scales of assessment products for all IMAP Common Indicators clustered per Ecological Objectives proposed (2021-2022)				2.1.1.2. Propose updated/new scales of assessment for all mandatory CIs as applicable; 2.1.1.4. Develop a proposal on integrated assessment scales as appropriate across clusters;	EcAp MED III
(2021-2022)				1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings;	IMAP-MPA
				_	ML MED II
				1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines; 2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF
Assessment criteria/thresholds/ baseline values proposed/updated for IMAP Common Indicators included in the IMAP Pilot Info System (2020-2021)				2.1.2.1. Update/upgrade and develop assessment criteria using trend and threshold approach as appropriate for 10 CI already included in the IMAP Info System (CI 1, 2, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23); 2.1.2.2. Develop guiding documents for the application of assessment criteria, thresholds and baseline values for all IMAP clusters at the national level; 2.1.2.3. Test integrated assessment approaches/methodologies, including approaches to interrelate pressures/impacts/state of the marine environment, developed by UNEP/MAP (document WG.467/7 and other relevant UNEP/MAP documents in the process of elaboration, as appropriate) in three pilot areas based on the results and data coming from output 1.1 of ECAP MED III project and data coming from IMAP-MPA project monitoring activities. and taking into account the outcome of activities 2.1.1.1-2.1.1.4 and 2.1.2.1-2.1.2.2; 2.1.2.4. Based on the outcome of testing under activity 2.1.2.3, adjust and further develop IMAP methodology on integrated assessments for discussion at CORMON and EcAp Coordination Group meetings, in view of the preparation of thematic assessment products for the 2023 MED QSR under activity 2.2.5.2;	EcAp MED III

				1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings;	IMAP-MPA
				_	ML MED II
				1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines; 2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF
Assessment criteria/thresholds/ baseline values initiated for all IMAP Common Indicators (2021-2022)				2.1.2.1. Update/upgrade and develop assessment criteria using trend and threshold approach as appropriate for 10 CI already included in the IMAP Info System (CI 1, 2, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23); 2.1.2.2. Develop guiding documents for the application of assessment criteria, thresholds and baseline values for all IMAP clusters at the national level; 2.1.2.3. Test integrated assessment approaches/methodologies, including approaches to interrelate pressures/impacts/state of the marine environment, developed by UNEP/MAP (document WG.467/7 and other relevant UNEP/MAP documents in the process of elaboration, as appropriate) in three pilot areas based on the results and data coming from output 1.1 of ECAP MED III project and data coming from IMAP-MPA project monitoring activities and taking into account the outcome of activities 2.1.1.1-2.1.1.4 and 2.1.2.1-2.1.2.2;	EcAp MED III
				1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
				1.3 Update Baseline Values and establish threshold values for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24.	ML MED II

				1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines; 2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF
Reporting formats adjusted to agreed scales of monitoring and scales of assessment products (2021-2022)				2.1.2.4. Based on the outcome of testing under activity 2.1.2.3, adjust and further develop IMAP methodology on integrated assessments for discussion at CORMON and EcAp Coordination Group meetings, in view of the preparation of thematic assessment products for the 2023 MED QSR under activity 2.2.5.2;	Ecap MED III
				1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
				1.2 Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.	ML MED II
				1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines; 2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF
2. Integrated assessment of GES				EcAp MED III Project Output: 2.1.2: Assessment criteria/thresholds/ baseline values proposed/updated for the 10 IMAP Common Indicators included in the current IMAP Pilot Info System as well as one candidate indicator (Noise) 2.2.4: Develop and publish 2023 MED QSR in 2 languages; make it available online and present at COP 23.	

Analysis of interrelations between sectors, activities, pressures, impacts and state of marine environment for each Common Indicators included in the IMAP Pilot Info System prepared (2018-2019)				2.1.1.4. Develop a proposal on integrated assessment scales as appropriate across clusters; 2.1.2.3. Test integrated assessment approaches/methodologies, including approaches to interrelate pressures/impacts/state of the marine environment, developed by UNEP/MAP (document WG.467/7 and other relevant UNEP/MAP documents in the process of elaboration, as appropriate) in three pilot areas based on the results and data coming from output 1.1 of ECAP MED III project and data coming from IMAP-MPA project monitoring activities. and taking into account the outcome of activities 2.1.1.1-2.1.1.4 and 2.1.2.1-2.1.2.2; 2.1.2.4. Based on the outcome of testing under activity 2.1.2.3, adjust and further develop IMAP methodology on integrated assessments for discussion at CORMON and EcAp Coordination Group meetings, in view of the preparation of thematic assessment products for the 2023 MED QSR under activity 2.2.5.2;	EcAp MED III
				-	IMAP-MPA
				1.4.1.1 Undertake actions defined in 2023 MED QSR roadmap related to IMAP cluster on Pollution toward integrated assessment of GES	POW/MTF
Approaches for mapping the pressures/impacts/status of marine environment for the above IMAP Common Indicators defined (Rome Meeting); (2019-2020)				2.1.2.3. Test integrated assessment approaches/methodologies, including approaches to interrelate pressures/impacts/state of the marine environment, developed by UNEP/MAP (document WG.467/7 and other relevant UNEP/MAP documents in the process of elaboration, as appropriate) in three pilot areas based on the results and data coming from output 1.1 of ECAP MED III project and data coming from IMAP-MPA project monitoring activities. and taking into account the outcome of activities 2.1.1.1-2.1.1.4 and 2.1.2.1-2.1.2.2; 2.1.2.4. Based on the outcome of testing under activity 2.1.2.3, adjust and further develop IMAP methodology on integrated assessments for discussion at CORMON and EcAp Coordination Group meetings, in view of the preparation of thematic assessment products for the 2023 MED QSR under activity 2.2.5.2;	EcAp MED III
				_	IMAP-MPA

				_	ML MED I
				1.4.1.1 Undertake actions defined in 2023 MED QSR roadmap related to IMAP cluster on Pollution toward integrated assessment of GES 1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines	POW/MTF
Methodological concept developed and proposed to assess the interrelation of pressures/impacts/status of marine environment (2020)				2.1.2.3. Test integrated assessment approaches/methodologies, including approaches to interrelate pressures/impacts/state of the marine environment, developed by UNEP/MAP (document WG.467/7 and other relevant UNEP/MAP documents in the process of elaboration, as appropriate) in three pilot areas based on the results and data coming from output 1.1 of ECAP MED III project and data coming from IMAP-MPA project monitoring activities. and taking into account the outcome of activities 2.1.1.1-2.1.1.4 and 2.1.2.1-2.1.2.2; 2.1.2.4. Based on the outcome of testing under activity 2.1.2.3, adjust and further develop IMAP methodology on integrated assessments for discussion at CORMON and EcAp Coordination Group meetings, in view of the preparation of thematic assessment products for the 2023 MED QSR under activity 2.2.5.2;	EcAp MED III
				-	IMAP-
				_	ML MED II
				1.4.1.1 Undertake actions defined in 2023 MED QSR roadmap related to IMAP cluster on Pollution toward integrated assessment of GES 1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines	POW/MTF

Methodological concept to support better integration of thematic assessment products related to IMAP Common i.e. integration between Ecological Objectives (at national, sub-regional and regional scale) is agreed and tested (2020-2021)					2.1.2.3. Test integrated assessment approaches/methodologies, including approaches to interrelate pressures/impacts/state of the marine environment, developed by UNEP/MAP (document WG.467/7 and other relevant UNEP/MAP documents in the process of elaboration, as appropriate) in three pilot areas based on the results and data coming from output 1.1 of ECAP MED III project and data coming from IMAP-MPA project monitoring activities. and taking into account the outcome of activities 2.1.1.1-2.1.1.4 and 2.1.2.1-2.1.2.2; 2.1.2.4. Based on the outcome of testing under activity 2.1.2.3, adjust and further develop IMAP methodology on integrated assessments for discussion at CORMON and EcAp Coordination Group meetings, in view of the preparation of thematic assessment products for the 2023 MED QSR under activity 2.2.5.2;	EcAp MED III
					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
					_	ML MED II
					1.4.1.1 Undertake actions defined in 2023 MED QSR roadmap related to IMAP cluster on Pollution toward integrated assessment of GES 1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines	POW/MTF
Thematic assessment products are prepared (2021-2022)					1.1.4. Prepare national assessment factsheets for the selected indicators; 1.2.2. Support a baseline national, sub-regional and regional assessment for the entire list of NIS; 1.2.3. Develop national/sub-regional assessment factsheets for NIS based on the results of joint monitoring and baseline study; 2.2.4.2. Collect and analyze data per each IMAP cluster to support the development of the 2023 MED QSR, prepare thematic assessment products, and prepare 2023 MED QSR content in line with agreed assessment and aggregation methodologies;	EcAp MED III

					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
					1.5 Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work.	ML MED II
					1.4.1.1 Undertake actions defined in 2023 MED QSR roadmap related to IMAP cluster on Pollution toward integrated assessment of GES 1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines 2.4.3.1: Update thematic assessment products related to pollution and marine litter cluster of IMAP	POW/MTF
2023 MED QSR delivered (2023)					2.2.4.1. Define the methodology, outline, structure and contents of the 2023 MED QSR; 2.2.4.2. Collect and analyze data per each IMAP cluster to support the development of the 2023 MED QSR, prepare thematic assessment products, and prepare 2023 MED QSR content in line with agreed assessment and aggregation methodologies; 2.2.4.3. Establish a web-based platform to host the contents of the 2023 MED QSR online, including procurement, design, content management and maintenance; 2.2.4.4. Review, revise and finalize 2023 MED QSR for publication and for presentation at COP23 in two languages (including editing, layout, translation and printing).	EcAp MED III
					-	IMAP-MPA
					1.5 Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work. (Data collected to feed 2023 QSR)	ML MED II

					1.4.1.2 Support the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR by capitalizing on the results of SoED 2019, MSSD Dashboard and MedECC assessment report	POW/MTF
3. Implementation of national IMAPs throughout the Mediterranean 6. Technical assistance and support					EcAp MED III Project Output: 1.1: National and Joint Monitoring carried out of selected Common Indicator(s) (CIs) in beneficiary countries based on national IMAP 1.2: Joint monitoring pilots designed and implemented 1.3: Undertake baseline sub-regional assessments for CI 15 and support implementation of monitoring for CI 16 in at least one area per beneficiary country 2.1.3: Regular regional/sub-regional expert group meetings, i.e., expert group per sub-region per topic established and operational to address monitoring and assessment scales, monitoring protocols and assessment criteria 2.2.2: Strengthen SPI networks of scientists and policy makers for the IMAP and its implementation; Design and implement 1-2 pilots at country level;	
State of the national implementation of IMAP reported by the Contracting Parties (2018/2019, 2020/2021, 2021/2022)					2.1.3.1. Support organization of regular regional and sub-regional expert group meetings/workshops in order to share experience between countries and provide an opportunity to connect national-level expertise and progress with regional processes; 2.1.4: Support to CORMON meetings per cluster ensuring strong participation and inputs to its work from expert networks established at sub regional level for the beneficiary countries 2.1.4.1. Support organization of CORMONs (for all three clusters as well as integrated CORMON meetings); 2.1.4.2. Support the participation of experts from country and sub-regional teams in CORMON meetings under each cluster to bring the results of their work to CORMON meetings and benefit from the discussions on cross-cutting issues.	EcAp MED III
					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings	IMAP-MPA
					1.7 Support national Governments and competent entities in building capacity through technical assistance, training and collaboration for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine inputs, and microplastic deriving from WWTP.	ML MED II

					2.4.1.1: Continue supporting updated national monitoring programmes on marine litter, contaminants and eutrophication in line with IMAP, the LBS protocol and the Regional Plan on ML	POW/MTF
Minimum 3 sets of data on IMAP Common Indicators (EO5, EO9, EO10) reported by the Contracting Parties (2019, 2020, 2021/2022)					1.1.1. Design concrete monitoring plans (complementing monitoring programmes) per country, specifying monitoring sites/transects, their respective CIs, selected methodologies and protocols for their measurements, quality assurance and reporting schemes, costs of implementation and other elements necessary to build, support and implement a reliable process for implementation of monitoring activities of the project. 1.1.2. Prepare and support implementation of field survey programmes per each beneficiary country (combining and applying specific monitoring plans). 1.1.3. Organize national and sub-regional validation meetings/workshops. The activities indicated in points 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 above will be done at the national level and validated by national meetings/workshops with relevant institutions responsible for IMAP implementation. 1.1.4. Prepare national assessment factsheets for the selected indicators.	EcAp MED III
					1.1: In depth identification at country level of the capacities required to enable IMAP implementation and facilitate the provision of reliable and quality assured data for the MED 2023 QSR 1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
					1.1 Support countries to further advance and operationalize monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, with a focus on the ground implementation of the operation strategy as developed during the first phase of the Marine Litter MED Project; 1.5 Assess knowledge and data gaps for the riverine inputs of marine litter in the Mediterranean; propose relevant monitoring methodologies based on existing experience and adjust them into the Mediterranean needs; ensure synergies with the EU MSFD TGML work; 1.7 Support national Governments and competent entities in building capacity through technical assistance, training and collaboration for monitoring	ML MED II

					IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine inputs, and microplastic deriving from WWTP.	
					2.4.1.1: Continue supporting updated national monitoring programmes on marine litter, contaminants and eutrophication in line with IMAP, the LBS protocol and the Regional Plan on ML	POW/MTF
Minimum 1 set of data (EO1 and EO2) reported by Contracting Parties (2021/2022)					1.1.1. Design concrete monitoring plans (complementing monitoring programmes) per country, specifying monitoring sites/transects, their respective CIs, selected methodologies and protocols for their measurements, quality assurance and reporting schemes, costs of implementation and other elements necessary to build, support and implement a reliable process for implementation of monitoring activities of the project. 1.1.2. Prepare and support implementation of field survey programmes per each beneficiary country (combining and applying specific monitoring plans). 1.1.3. Organize national and sub-regional validation meetings/workshops. The activities indicated in points 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 above will be done at the national level and validated by national meetings/workshops with relevant institutions responsible for IMAP implementation. 1.1.4. Prepare national assessment factsheets for the selected indicators. 1.2.1. Implement the joint monitoring and assessment programme for NIS at national and sub-regional levels (East Mediterranean sub-region) for seven agreed species and support the reporting of the results and related data in the IMAP Info System;	EcAp MED III
					1.1: In depth identification at country level of the capacities required to enable IMAP implementation and facilitate the provision of reliable and quality assured data for the MED 2023 QSR 1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA

					3.4.1.1 Monitoring programmes for key species and habitats as well as invasive species, as provided for in the IMAP are developed and implemented, including on the effectiveness of marine and coastal protected areas, and on climate change impacts; 3.4.3.1 Cooperate at sub-regional level to test joint monitoring activities in (a) selected area(s), thus supporting countries to implement joint monitoring programmes in line with IMAP recommendations in MPAs/SPAMIs.	POW/MTF
Minimum 2 sets of data (EO7, EO8) reported by the Contracting Parties (2020, 2021/22)					1.3.1. Provide technical support to data monitoring and processing for CI 16 in line with IMAP monitoring practices, including reporting, in Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia (in at least one area per beneficiary country); 1.3.2. Develop methodology and conduct baseline assessment for CI 15 in all eligible countries; 1.3.3. Prepare a report on lessons learned to be discussed at sub-regional/CORMON meetings	EcAp MED III
					1.1: In depth identification at country level of the capacities required to enable IMAP implementation and facilitate the provision of reliable and quality assured data for the MED 2023 QSR 1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings; 2.1: Integrated/joint monitoring in MPAs and high-pressure areas carried out in identified pilot sites for agreed common indicators	IMAP-MPA
					-	ML MED II POW/MT
					4.4.2.2: Support implementation of national IMAPs Coast and Hydrography cluster	POW/MT

Country capacity building trainings organized in line with their needs (2019-2021)					1.1.2. Prepare and support implementation of field survey programmes per each beneficiary country (combining and applying specific monitoring plans). 1.1.3. Organize national and sub-regional validation meetings/workshops. 1.2.1. Implement the joint monitoring and assessment programme for NIS at national and sub-regional levels (East Mediterranean sub-region) for seven agreed species and support the reporting of the results and related data in the IMAP Info System; 1.2.2. Support a baseline national, sub-regional and regional assessment for the entire list of NIS; 1.3.1. Provide technical support to data monitoring and processing for CI 16 including reporting in Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia 2.2.2.3. Develop ToRs and set up 2 national SPI pilots in 2 beneficiary countries to support the implementation of IMAP 2.2.2.4. Organize national thematic events/workshops in line with the respective country priorities and needs	EcAp MED III
					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings	IMAP-MPA
					1.7 Support national Governments and competent entities in building capacity through technical assistance, training and collaboration for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, riverine inputs, and microplastic deriving from WWTP.	ML MED II
					2.4.1.1: Continue supporting updated national monitoring programmes on marine litter, contaminants and eutrophication in line with IMAP, the LBS protocol and the Regional Plan on ML; 2.4.1.3: Undertake harmonized and coordinated quality assurance programmes (contaminants, ML, eutrophication) at regional, sub-regional and national levels; 2.5.1.1 Support countries in the implementation of IMAP with a particular focus on scales of assessment, offshore monitoring, integration of indicators towards GES and joint monitoring; 3.5.1.1 Capacity-building programmes related to the development and management of marine and coastal protected areas, to the conservation and monitoring of endangered and threatened coastal and marine species and key habitats, and to monitoring issues dealing with climate change and biodiversity developed and implemented, including pilots to support efforts aimed at MPA/SPAMI establishment and implementation;	POW/MTF

					4.4.2.2: Support implementation of national IMAPs Coast and Hydrography cluster	
Sub-regional/regional workshops and trainings, in areas of common capacity needs and knowledge gaps, organized (minimum 2 per sub-region), (2019-2021)					1.1.3. Organize national and sub-regional validation meetings/workshops. 1.2.1. Implement the joint monitoring and assessment programme for NIS at national and sub-regional levels (East Mediterranean sub-region) for seven agreed species and support the reporting of the results and related data in the IMAP Info System; 1.2.2. Support a baseline national, sub-regional and regional assessment for the entire list of NIS; 2.1.3.1. Support organization of regular regional and sub-regional expert group meetings/workshops in order to share experience between countries and provide an opportunity to connect national-level expertise and progress with regional processes; this activity will be implemented in conjunction with output 2.2.3 of this project, and to the extent possible, meetings will be organized back-to-back with CORMON meetings under activity 2.1.4.1;	EcAp MED III
					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings	IMAP-MPA
					2.5.1.1 Support countries in the implementation of IMAP with a particular focus on scales of assessment, offshore monitoring, integration of indicators towards GES and joint monitoring	POW/MTF
Joint monitoring pilots designed and implemented (minimum 2 in participating countries), (2019-2021)					1.2.1. Implement the joint monitoring and assessment programme for NIS at national and sub-regional levels (East Mediterranean sub-region) for seven agreed species and support the reporting of the results and related data in the IMAP Info System; 1.2.2. Support a baseline national, sub-regional and regional assessment for the entire list of NIS; 1.2.3. Develop national/sub-regional assessment factsheets for NIS based on the results of joint monitoring and baseline study.	EcAp MED III

					2.1: Piloting the joint monitoring of biodiversity and pollution in MPAs and high-pressure areas	IMAP-MPA
						ML MED II
					2.5.1.1 Support countries in the implementation of IMAP with a particular focus on scales of assessment, offshore monitoring, integration of indicators towards GES and joint monitoring; 3.4.3.1 Cooperate at sub-regional level to test joint monitoring activities in (a) selected area(s), thus supporting countries to implement joint monitoring programmes in line with IMAP recommendations in MPAs/SPAMIs.	POW/MTF
4. IMAP Info System 5. Monitoring Protocols and Data Quality Assurance and Quality Control					EcAp MED III Project Output: 1.4: IMAP Info System expanded to include all mandatory CI of IMAP, fully operational enabling the Contracting Parties to report their monitoring data in 2020, 2021 and 2022.	
IMAP information and data sharing policy developed (2019)					1.4.6. Implement the IMAP Data sharing Policy and optimize IMAP Info System operations for the receipt and hosting of reported data and information for the project beneficiary countries.	EcAp MED III
					_	IMAP-MPA ML MED
					_	ML MED II
					1.1.2.9 Develop the MAP data management policy, including the IMAP InfoSystem; 1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels e) related data sharing policy reviewed and implemented	POW/MTF
IMAP Pilot Info system ready to upload monitoring data (end of 2019)					1.4.1. Upgrade the hardware and software (HW&SW) platform to support data collection and data consultation with web GIS platform and dashboards;	EcAp MED III IMAP-MPA ML MED II
2017)					_	IMAP-MPA
					_	ML MED II

				1.5.1.2 Complete IMAP Info System development for all IMAP Common Indicators and further develop data dictionaries, information standards and quality controls	POW/MTF
Data dictionaries and data standards finalized for all IMAP Common Indicators (mid 2021)				1.4.2. Develop Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) for all IMAP CIs that have not been included in current IMAP Pilot Info System (CI 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 20), harmonized with MSFD standards wherever possible, and implement the related data flows; 1.4.4. Define and implement Quality Assurance and Quality Control procedures for application in the IMAP Info System for the full set of Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) of IMAP CIs (EO3 not included);	EcAp MED III
				_	IMAP-
				1.2 Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.	ML MED II
				1.5.1.2 Complete IMAP Info System development for all IMAP Common Indicators and further develop data dictionaries, information standards and quality controls; 2.4.1.2: Consolidate data dictionaries and data standards for all IMAP CI related to pollution and apply data quality control schemes	POW/MTF
IMAP Pilot Info System updated to cover all IMAP Common Indicators (mid-2022)				1.4.1. Upgrade the hardware and software (HW&SW) platform to support data collection and data consultation with web GIS platform and dashboards; 1.4.2. Develop Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) for all IMAP CIs that have not been included in current IMAP Pilot Info System (CI 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 20), harmonized with MSFD standards wherever possible, and implement the related data flows; 1.4.4. Define and implement Quality Assurance and Quality Control procedures for application in the IMAP Info System for the full set of Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) of IMAP CIs (EO3 not included);	EcAp MED III

					_	IMAP-MPA
					1.2 Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.	ML MED II
					1.5.1.2 Complete IMAP Info System development for all IMAP Common Indicators and further develop data dictionaries, information standards and quality controls	POW/MTF
IMAP Info System fully operational enabling the Contracting Parties to report their monitoring data in 2020, 2021 and 2022					1.4.1. Upgrade the hardware and software (HW&SW) platform to support data collection and data consultation with web GIS platform and dashboards; 1.4.2. Develop Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) for all IMAP CIs that have not been included in current IMAP Pilot Info System (CI 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 20), harmonized with MSFD standards wherever possible, and implement the related data flows; 1.4.3. Assess the capacity, compatibility and interoperability with IMAP Info System of National information systems for the IMAP CI based on analysis of national data collection systems at country level; 1.4.4. Define and implement Quality Assurance and Quality Control procedures for application in the IMAP Info System for the full set of Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) of IMAP CIs (EO3 not included); 1.4.5. Provide dedicated support to beneficiary countries to use the IMAP Info System and collect, transfer and validate data using data flows on the final set of CIs;	EcAp MED III
					_	IMAP-MPA
					1.2 Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.	ML MED II

				1.5.1.2 Complete IMAP Info System development for all IMAP Common Indicators and further develop data dictionaries, information standards and quality controls	POW/MTF
Monitoring Protocols drafted for IMAP Common Indicators included in the IMAP				_	Ecap MED III IMAP-MPA ML MED II
pilot Info System; (2018/2019)				_	MAP-MPA
				_	ML MED II
				2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP	POW/MTF
Quality Assurance and Quality Control schemes in place for IMAP Common Indicators included in the IMAP Pilot Info System (2019-				1.4.4. Define and implement Quality Assurance and Quality Control procedures for application in the IMAP Info System for the full set of Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) of IMAP CIs (EO3 not included);	EcAp MED III
2020)				1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings	IMAP-MPA
				_	ML MED II
				1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels d) Actions of QSR 2023 roadmap related to all IMAP components with regards to scales of monitoring and assessment, data quality assurance and integrated assessment of GES developed as per agreed timelines 1.5.1.2 Complete IMAP Info System development for all IMAP Common Indicators and further develop data dictionaries, information standards and quality controls; 2.4.1.2: Consolidate data dictionaries and data standards for all IMAP CI related to pollution and apply data quality control schemes; 2.4.1.3: Undertake harmonized and coordinated quality assurance programmes (contaminants, ML, eutrophication) at regional, sub-regional and national levels	POW/MTF

Quality Assurance and Quality Control schemes expanded to cover all IMAP Common Indicators (2021-2022)					1.4.4. Define and implement Quality Assurance and Quality Control procedures for application in the IMAP Info System for the full set of Data Standards (DSs) and Data Dictionaries (DDs) of IMAP CIs (EO3 not included);	EcAp MED III
					_	IMAP- MPA
					1.2 Develop reporting templates, data standards and data dictionaries based on the agreed standardized monitoring protocols, including data quality assurance and quality control tools, to enable the reporting to the Secretariat of national data with regards to IMAP Candidate Indicator 24, through the IMAP (Pilots) Info System.	ML MED II
					1.5.1.2 Complete IMAP Info System development for all IMAP Common Indicators and further develop data dictionaries, information standards and quality controls; 2.4.1.2: Consolidate data dictionaries and data standards for all IMAP CI related to pollution and apply data quality control schemes	POW/MTF
7. Outreach and visibility					EcAp MED III Project Output: 2.2.1: Establish and implement a communication and visibility strategy for the MED 2023 QSR; Outreach to key partners is undertaken and relevant meetings held 2.2.2: Strengthen SPI networks of scientists and policy makers for the IMAP and its implementation; Design and implement 1-2 pilots at country level 2.2.3: Develop and implement a time-line for regional data sharing between partners	
Timeline for data-sharing with regional partners defined (2019-2021)					2.2.3.1. Map sources of data and partners to address 2023 MED QSR data gaps, and establish mechanisms and a timeline for data sharing, technical advice and peer review; this activity will be implemented in conjunction with and building on the results of outputs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2;	EcAp MED III
						IMAP-
					-	ML MED II POW/MT
					_	POW/MT

Agreements reached with Regional Partners (2020)				2.2.3.1. Map sources of data and partners to address 2023 MED QSR data gaps, and establish mechanisms and a timeline for data sharing, technical advice and peer review; this activity will be implemented in conjunction with and building on the results of outputs 2.2.1 and 2.2.2;	EcAp MED III
				_	IMAP- MPA
				_	ML MED II
				1.3.1.2 Undertake periodic reviews of bilateral cooperation with partner organizations to enhance synergies and impact on the ground on areas of common interest	POW/MTF
Communication and visibility strategy for the 2023 MED QSR				2.2.1.1. Develop and implement a communication and visibility strategy for the 2023 MED QSR	EcAp MED III
developed and agreed (2021)				_	IMAP-
(2021)				_	ML MED II
				_	POW/
Outreach to key partners is undertaken and relevant meetings held (2019-2020)				2.2.1.2. Develop and implement a collaboration mechanism and Partnership Plan for the 2023 MED QSR; this will be done building on the mapping of projects and institutions conducted under output 2.2.3; 2.2.1.1. Develop and implement a communication and visibility strategy for the 2023 MED QSR	EcAp MED III
				_	IMAP-
				_	ML MED II
				1.3.1.2 Undertake periodic reviews of bilateral cooperation with partner organizations to enhance synergies and impact on the ground on areas of common interest	POW/MTF
Communication and visibility strategy for the 2023 MED QSR is				2.2.1.1. Develop and implement a communication and visibility strategy for the 2023 MED QSR	EcAp MED III
2023 MIDD QUICIS				_	IMAP-

implemented (2021- 2023)					_	ML MED II POW/M
					_	POW/M
2023 MED QSR published in 2 languages and on line available and presented at COP 23					2.2.4.1. Define the methodology, outline, structure and contents of the 2023 MED QSR; 2.2.4.2. Collect and analyze data per each IMAP cluster to support the development of the 2023 MED QSR, prepare thematic assessment products, and prepare 2023 MED QSR content in line with agreed assessment and aggregation methodologies; 2.2.4.3. Establish a web-based platform to host the contents of the 2023 MED QSR online, including procurement, design, content management and maintenance; 2.2.4.4. Review, revise and finalize 2023 MED QSR for publication and for presentation at COP23 in two languages (including editing, layout, translation and printing).	EcAp MED III
					_	IMAP- MPA
					-	ML MED II
					1.4.1.2 Support the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR by capitalizing on the results of SoED 2019, MSSD Dashboard and MedECC assessment report	POW/MTF
8. Effective Regional Collaboration					EcAp MED III Project Outputs: 2.1.3: Regular regional/sub-regional expert group meetings, i.e., expert group per sub-region per topic established and operational to address monitoring and assessment scales, monitoring protocols and assessment criteria 2.1.4: Support to CORMON meetings per cluster ensuring strong participation and inputs to its work from expert networks established at sub regional level for the beneficiary countries 2.2.2: Strengthen SPI networks of scientists and policy makers for the IMAP and its implementation; Design and implement 1-2 pilots at country level	

CORMON meetings are held (minimum 1/year/cluster between 2019-2022)				2.1.4.1. Support organization of CORMONs (for all three clusters as well as integrated CORMON meetings) to review and support the deliverables under this outcome; this will be done in conjunction with MAP PoW related activities as well as output 2.2.3 of this project; at no cost for participation of non-eligible country representatives; 2.1.4.2. Support the participation of experts from country and sub-regional teams in CORMON meetings under each cluster to bring the results of their work to CORMON meetings and benefit from the discussions on cross-cutting issues.	EcAp MED III
				_	IMAP- MPA
				_	ML MED II
				2.4.1.4: Harmonize and standardize the monitoring and assessment methods of pollution and marine litter in line with IMAP; 3.4.1.1 Monitoring programmes for key species and habitats as well as invasive species, as provided for in the IMAP are developed and implemented, including on the effectiveness of marine and coastal protected areas, and on climate change impacts; 4.4.2.2: Support implementation of national IMAPs Coast and Hydrography cluster	POW/MTF
Integrated CORMON meetings are held (minimum 1/biennium 2020, 2022)				2.1.4.1. Support organization of CORMONs (for all three clusters as well as integrated CORMON meetings) to review and support the deliverables under this outcome; this will be done in conjunction with MAP PoW related activities as well as output 2.2.3 of this project; at no cost for participation of non-eligible country representatives; 2.1.4.2. Support the participation of experts from country and sub-regional teams in CORMON meetings under each cluster to bring the results of their work to CORMON meetings and benefit from the discussions on cross-cutting issues.	EcAp MED III
				_	IMAP-MPA
				-	ML MED II

					1.4.3.1: Support the coordinated implementation of IMAP at regional, sub regional and national levels a) Coordinated approach followed to organize CORMON meetings	POW/MTF
Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group meetings are held (minimum 1/year between 2019-2023)					1.1.2.3 Organize the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points preceded by the MAP Component/Thematic Focal Points and the EcAp Coordination Group Meetings	
Sub-regional expert groups to address monitoring and assessment sub-regional specifics, including scales of assessment products and their integration, are held (minimum 1/biennium for all 4 sub-regions in integrated manner, for all clusters)					2.1.3.1. Support organization of regular regional and sub-regional expert group meetings/workshops in order to share experience between countries and provide an opportunity to connect national-level expertise and progress with regional processes; this activity will be implemented in conjunction with output 2.2.3 of this project, and to the extent possible, meetings will be organized back-to-back with CORMON meetings under activity 2.1.4.1; 2.2.2.1. Identify relevant existing SPI related frameworks, processes and institutions at national level; 2.2.2.2. Provide inputs to CORMONs and EcAp CG meetings on issues related to regional/sub-regional topic-specific SPI work	EcAp MED III
					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings	IMAP-MPA
					_	ML MED II
					1.4.4.2 Contribute to strengthen Science Policy Interface in the Mediterranean with regards to IMAP implementation and for feeding the knowledge gap to promote effective measures to achieve GES; 2.5.1.1 Support countries in the implementation of IMAP with a particular focus on scales of assessment, offshore monitoring, integration of indicators towards GES and joint monitoring	POW/MTF
Online expert groups are held for each cluster, to ensure continuous work between CORMON meetings (to be re- established in CORMONs in 2019)					2.1.3.1. Support organization of regular regional and sub-regional expert group meetings/workshops in order to share experience between countries and provide an opportunity to connect national-level expertise and progress with regional processes; this activity will be implemented in conjunction with output 2.2.3 of this project, and to the extent possible, meetings will be organized back-to-back with CORMON meetings under activity 2.1.4.1;	EcAp MED III

					2.2.2.1. Identify relevant existing SPI related frameworks, processes and institutions at national level; 2.2.2.2. Provide inputs to CORMONs and EcAp CG meetings on issues related to regional/sub-regional topic-specific SPI work	
					1.2: Capacity building and exchange of best practices at the national, sub-regional and regional level through specific training sessions and meetings	IMAP-MPA
					_	ML MED II
					2.5.1.1 Support countries in the implementation of IMAP with a particular focus on scales of assessment, offshore monitoring, integration of indicators towards GES and joint monitoring	POW/MTF
Bilateral meetings on MoU implementation are held, new MoUs are considered and					2.2.1.2. Develop and implement a collaboration mechanism and Partnership Plan for the 2023 MED QSR	EcAp MED III
partnerships with key partners are further					-	IMAP-
strengthened					_	ML MED
					1.3.1.2 Undertake periodic reviews of bilateral cooperation with partner organizations to enhance synergies and impact on the ground on areas of common interest	POW/MTF
Progress reports are submitted to the meetings of the Bureau of the					Throughout project duration	EcAp MED
Contracting Parties, the meetings of the MAP					Throughout project duration	IMAP-
Focal Points and the COPs (2019-2023) for guidance and approval as					_	ML MED
appropriate					1.1.2.1 Organize COP22 1.1.2.2 Organize the 89th, 90th, and 91st Meetings of the Bureau as we all meeting on the eve of COP22; 1.1.2.3 Organize the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points preceded by the MAP Component/Thematic Focal Points and the EcAp Coordination Group meetings	POW/MTF



National IMAP National IMAP in place and operational

IMAP users National IMAP users officially nominated

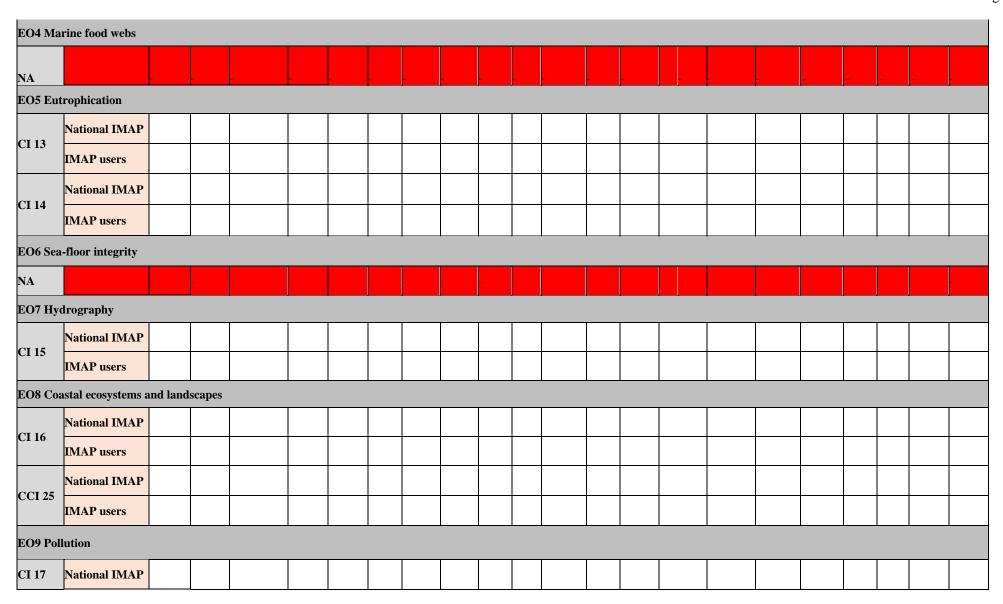
Yes

Partial

No

CIs	Category	Alba nia	Alge ria	Bosnia and Herzego vina	Cro atia	Cyp rus	Eg ypt	Fra nce	Gre ece	Isr ael	Ita ly	Leba non	Lib ya	Mal ta	Mona co	Monte negro	Moro cco	Slove nia	Sp ain	Sy ria	Tuni sia	Tur key
EO1 Bio	diversity																					
CI 1	National IMAP																					
CI 1	IMAP users																					
CI 2	National IMAP																					
	IMAP users																					
CI 3	National IMAP																					
	IMAP users																					
CI 4	National IMAP																					

					1							1		
	IMAP users													
CI 5	National IMAP													
CI 5	IMAP users													
EO2 Noi	n-indigenous spec	eies	,			<u>'</u>								
CI (National IMAP													
CI 6	IMAP users													
EO3 Ha	rvest of commerc	ially exp	oloited fi	ish and she	llfish									
QT =	National IMAP													
CI 7	IMAP users													
CI O	National IMAP													
CI 8	IMAP users													
CI O	National IMAP													
CI 9	IMAP users													
GT 10	National IMAP													
CI 10	IMAP users													
CT 11	National IMAP													
CI 11	IMAP users													
SIT 11	National IMAP													
CI 12	IMAP users													



CCI 27	National IMAP											
CCI 21	IMAP users											

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Annex II

Up to 2019 data	Up to 2019 Data submitted/validated in the IMAP Info System
2020 data	New 2020 data collected for submission in the IMAP Info System by January 2021







CIs	Class	Alba nia	Alge ria	Bosnia and Herzego vina	Cro atia	Cyp rus	Eg ypt	Fra nce	Gre ece	Isr ael	Ita ly	Leba non	Lib ya	Mal ta	Mona co	Monte negro	Moro cco	Slove nia	Sp ain	Sy ria	Tuni sia	Tur key
EO1 Bio	diversity																					
CI 1	Up to 2019 data																					
CI 1	2020 data																					
CI 2	Up to 2019 data																					
CI 2	2020 data																					
CI 3	Up to 2019 data																					
CIS	2020 data																					
CI 4	Up to 2019 data																					
C1 4	2020 data																					

								•												
CI 5	Up to 2019 data																			
CIS	2020 data																			
EO2 No	n-indigenous spec	ies							'								,	,	,	
CIA	Up to 2019 data																			
CI 6	2020 data																			
EO3 Ha	rvest of commerci	ially exp	loited fi	sh and shel	lfish															
CI 7	Up to 2019 data 2020 data																			
CI /	2020 data																			
CI 8	Up to 2019 data																			
CIS	2020 data																			
CT 0	Up to 2019 data																			
CI 9	2020 data																			
GT 10	Up to 2019 data																			
CI 10	2020 data																			
a= 11	Up to 2019 data																			
CI 11	2020 data																			
	Up to 2019 data																			
CI 12	2020 data																			
EO4 Ma	arine food webs									ı										

NA		-	-	-	_	_	-	_	-	_	_	_	-	_		-	_	-	_	_	_	_
	rophication																					
	Up to 2019 data																					
CI 13	2020 data																					
	Up to 2019 data																					
CI 14	2020 data																					
EO6 Sea	D6 Sea-floor integrity																					
NA		-	-	-	_	_	-	-	-	_	_	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	_		-
ЕО7 Нус	A O7 Hydrography																					
CI 15	Up to 2019 data																					
	2020 data																					
EO8 Coa	stal ecosystems a	nd land	scapes																			
CI 16	Up to 2019 data																					
	2020 data																					
CCI 25	Up to 2019 data																					
	2020 data																					
EO9 Pol	lution																					
	Up to 2019 data																					
CI 17	2020 data																					

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EO10 Marine Litter																					
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ergy including u	nderwate	er noise																			
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Annex II

2020 data											