

ActionMed Scientific Workshop:

**SYSTEMATIC SOLUTIONS OF CURRENT GAPS AND NEEDS IN RELATION TO ARTICLES 8, 9, 10 OF
THE MSFD. FOCUS ON BIODIVERSITY**

May 23rd – 25th, 2016,

University of Salento, DiSTeBA – BIOforIU meeting room

Workshop presentation

ActionMed (Action Plans for Integrated Regional Monitoring Programmes, Coordinated Programmes of Measures and Addressing Data and Knowledge Gaps in Mediterranean sea) is a DG Environment funded project whose main aim is to support and improve the implementation of the MSFD cycle across the Mediterranean in close collaboration with the Regional Sea Convention in this region (UNEP/MAP) and its Ecosystem Approach.

The Workshop will focus on two main aspects:

- GES and Environmental Targets definitions and thresholds. The environmental heterogeneity of the Mediterranean Sea entails flexible GES definitions, set on the requirements of the specific sub-regions. Socio-economical aspects must be also accounted in a way to integrate environmental conservation with human development.
- Case studies development. The case studies are focused on testing indicators for an integrated biodiversity assessment and evaluating the applicability of descriptors D1, D4, D6, D7 in the Mediterranean.

During the first two days, the Workshop is targeting to the ActionMed working groups and is organised as an Operational Table to deepen the discussion within the ActionMed partnership on the two main aspects reported above and to boost the implementation of the deliverables expected from actions 1.1.3 (Applicability of D1, D4, D6, D7 indicators to case studies) and 1.2.2 (Mid-term action plans in development of recommendations for best practices). On the third day the Workshop is targeting the key ActionMed Institutional Stakeholders opening to them the discussion on perspectives regarding GES target definitions and thresholds, the challenges and key most likely recommendations.

A brief presentation of the key achievements of the ActionMed project related to the two points highlighted above will take place, in order to trigger an open discussion.

Agenda

Day 1: 23/05/2016

09.30-11.00: Session 1

- Welcome address by A. Basset and S. Reizopoulou
- Good Environmental Status: Definition of targets and thresholds (by A. Basset and S. Reizopoulou)
- Socio-economical considerations in setting environmental thresholds (by S. Niavis)

11.00 – 11.30: Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00: Session 2

- Joint Discussion (all participants)

13.00 – 14.30: Lunch Break

14.30 – 16.00: Session 3

- Reporting on GES: targets and threshold definition
[In preparation of the Mid-Term Action Plans manual] (Introduction and coordination by A. Basset and S. Reizopoulou)
- Joint Discussion (all participants), identification of key sections and organisation of working groups

16.00 – 16.30: Coffee Break

16.30 – 18.00: Session 4

- Group activity

18.00 – 18.30: End of the day and visit to the BIOforIU Research Centre

20.30 – 23.00 – Workshop ‘Welcome Dinner’

Day 2: 24/05/2016

09.00 – 11.00 Session 5

- Introduction (by K. Pagou)
- Activity 1.1 – Key outputs and work in progress
 - Subtask 1.1.1: General overview of MSFD – Available catalogue (by Th. Paramana)
 - Subtask 1.1.2: Electronic catalogue of indicators (by F. Cozzoli)
 - Subtask 1.1.3: Case studies on applied indicators – (by F. Cozzoli)
 - A) Case study: monitoring biodiversity and sea bed integrity with benthic invertebrates in the LifeWatch VREs 1 (by C. Arvanitidis)
 - B) Case study 2 monitoring biodiversity and eutrophication with phytoplankton in the LifeWatch VREs (by F. Cozzoli)

11.00 – 11.30: Coffee Break



11.30 – 13.00: Session 6

- Biodiversity and Habitat integrity:
 - EcApRHA project: Development of an integrated assessment method for benthic habitats (by L. Guerin)
- ActionMed: key objectives and status of implementation (Pagou)

13.00 – 14.30: Lunch Break

14.30 – 18.00: Parallel sessions

Room1

- Data sharing session
- Data analysis session

Room2

ActionMed Steering Committee meeting

You can download the SSC agenda here: [ActionMed 3rd SSC Lecce.pdf](#)

Day 3 25/05/2016 Dissemination day

09:30 – 11:00 Session 7

- 09.30 – 09.45** - Biodiversity GIS tools: development of the habitat risk assessment (HRA) index (by P. Drakopoulou)
- Presentation of key achieved results from action 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 (Basset & Reizopoulou)

11.00 – 11.30: Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00: Session 8

- General discussion with the invited stakeholders

13.00 – 14.30: Lunch Break