



BULLETIN 2 - JANUARY 2011

Welcome to the second issue of the Pegaso project (People for Ecosystem-based Governance in Assessing Sustainable development of Ocean and coast). Pegaso is a collaborative project between 25 Mediterranean and Black Sea institutions and organisations that seeks to identify the instruments needed, and to build the capacity for implementing the principles of the new Protocol for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Mediterranean and its applicability in the Black Sea. The ICZM Protocol is a novel agreement that formalizes an integrated coastal management between the riparian countries based on the ecosystem approach.

The Pegaso Project is funded by the European Union within FP7 programme (ENV.2009.2.2.1.4) and started in February 2010. The core of the project is the development of an ICZM Governance Platform that could be used to share data and information to bridge the science and decision-making; producing innovative tools and testing them in countries, case studies and in the whole basin. Doing that Pegaso will produce a common understanding on priority issues and institutional perspectives affecting the coastal zones and the sea of the two regional seas. In this bulletin, some of our partners introduce the various activities that have been carried out over last months, the progress on our communication activities and upcoming events as well as the work and the views of the end-users community.

More background information on the project is available at: <http://www.Pegasoproject.eu>

Pegaso News

As you might know, the Pegaso project officially began with the kick-off meeting held in Venice on the 12-14th of April 2010. The meeting was attended by over 90 participants, including project partners, end-users from the Mediterranean region, members of the Black Sea Strategic Panel and representatives of the case studies. This represented the very first meeting of the members of the shared ICZM Governance platform. Since then, partners, stakeholders and end users have been engaged through interviews, meetings and events and the organisation of the project have progressed significantly.

ICZM Stock-take gathers pace

Over the last months a survey was prepared to provide a broad picture of the policy, legal and institutional aspects of ICZM across the countries of both the Mediterranean Basin and the Black Sea. The survey elaborated through a stocktaking questionnaire was

designed to provide a comprehensive analysis of the current legislative, institutional, policy and financial framework for ICZM governance at the different national, regional (sub-national) and local levels.



National Focal Points from the Mediterranean discuss the ICZM Stocktaking Questionnaire at Portoroz, 24th September 2010

This stocktaking needed to be validated first by the PAP/RAC National Focal Points (NFPs) and the NFPs of the Bucharest Convention (Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution) and with this purpose, a workshop for PAP/RAC's National Focal Points from around the Mediterranean was held on the 24th September 2010 at Portoroz (Slovenia).

The results that will be gathered from this questionnaire over the following months will support the future implementation of the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean and collect valuable information for the Black Sea. Furthermore it will assist evaluating the capabilities and providing the means for the application of the ICZM protocol of the countries.

Regular Meeting of the ICZM Advisory Group to the Black Sea Commission discussed Pegaso and agreed on ICZM stock-taking for the Black Sea

30 Sept - 01 Oct 2010, Istanbul, Turkey



The Pegaso project as well as the ICZM stock-taking questionnaire were presented and discussed at the 13th Regular Meeting of the Advisory Group on the Development of Common Methodologies for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM Advisory Group – ICZM AG) to the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (the Black Sea Commission – BSC, www.blacksea-commission.org). The meeting was held from the 30th of September to the 1st of October 2010 in Istanbul, Turkey.

The Black Sea Commission convenes these meetings periodically for the ICZM Focal Points of the Black Sea coastal countries (Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey, and Ukraine) to report on state of their coast, their progress in coastal

zone management and any related legal, policy and institutional developments.

This year the ICZM Advisory Group meeting discussed the national ICZM progress reports presented by each country; the recommendations of the Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context developed for the Black Sea region in cooperation with the ESPOO Convention Secretariat (Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, 1991); the undertaking of the stock-taking questionnaire prepared by the Pegaso project as well as their work program for 2011.

Pegaso End Users Committee

Feedback on the Alexandria Inception CASEs Workshop - 6-8th October 2010

**By Christophe Le Visage,
Focal Point of the End User Committee**

As pilot sites, the CASEs (Collaborative Application SITES) are an important component of the Pegaso project. The CASEs are particularly adapted for validating the Pegaso toolbox under development and the diverse approaches that can be produced at different coastal sites. They represent a sample of coastal problems at different scales: tourism pressure, industrial activities, overexploitation of resources, difficulties to make compatible protection and developments, etc. Furthermore, they have the potential to reinforce the “bottom-up” component of the project and be considered as a second focal point of the project dedicated to integration and decision processes.

The workshop held last October in Alexandria (Egypt) was organized as a first encounter of the different CASEs in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. This workshop was an opportunity to note significant progress of the project, as well as to appreciate the diversity of the CASEs, which represent a very relevant sample of coastal issues in the Mediterranean and Black Sea basins. The Pegaso CASE study sites are in Bouches de Rhone

(France), Nile Delta (Egypt), Al Hoceima Coast (Morocco), Dalyan-Koycegiz Specially Protected Area (Turkey), Guria Coastal Region (Georgia), North Lebanon Coastal Zone, and Aegean Sea Islands (Greece).

Role of the End User Committee for the CASEs

The CASEs Workshop of Alexandria was also a very good opportunity to reflect on the potential contribution of the End User Committee concerning the CASEs. The End User Committee of Pegaso is involved in the "Shared ICZM Governance Platform" and in the CASEs of the project. For the end-users, the CASEs represent a unique opportunity to compare and analyze at large scale (Mediterranean and Black Sea) the very different situations and responses that ICZM can bring.

Interview of Mr. Mitja Bricelj (Slovenia), member of the End User Committee

Last 24th-25th of September a Coast Day celebration was organized jointly by PAP/RAC and Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) in collaboration with the Slovenian Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning in Portorož (Slovenia). During this celebration we took the opportunity and invite Mr. Mitja Bricelj who is one of the members of the Pegaso End User Committee, as well as the PAP/RAC National Focal Point in Slovenia for his feedback on the process and views on the ICZM Protocol:

Julien Le Tellier (Plan Bleu, UNEP/MAP), participatory team coordinator of the Pegaso project:

With the recent ratification of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol by Syria, there are now 6 Contracting Parties that have ratified the Protocol, which will soon enter into force. Could you, please, share with us your feedback on this very good news? What are now the main challenges related to the implementation of the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol?

Mitja Bricelj, Secretary of the Slovenian Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Environment Directorate, Water Department:

The recent ratification of the ICZM Protocol by Syria as the 6th Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention is very encouraging for all the coastal countries of the Mediterranean. With the impending entry into force of the ICZM Protocol, the Mediterranean countries are entering a new era of intersectorial cooperation for development, based on a tailor-made approach for shaping sustainable solutions that take into account the local and regional needs. With the Mediterranean ICZM Protocol, we finally have a legally binding instrument in our hands to change the existing development planning practices that neglect ecosystem assets and services in the Mediterranean coastal regions. This is a historical challenge and we need to start promoting good practices.

Julien Le Tellier:

Could we have your feedback on the Portorož NFPs meeting and the Coast Day in general?

Mitja Bricelj:

I am very optimistic, given the active participation at the NFPs meeting in Portorož. As I see it, the active response of the NFPs to the forthcoming ICZM Protocol implementation is an indicator of the high expectations from new intersectorial ICZM approaches to address the existing problems of the Mediterranean and provide more user-friendly and efficient solutions.

The very constructive debate among the high-level representatives (President of the Slovenian Parliament, ministers, UNEP/MAP Coordinator and EC representative) on the importance of implementing a sustainable management of coastal areas represented a very concrete contribution to the celebration of the Coast Day in most Northern areas of the Mediterranean. This was a very good message towards all sectors and developers that "somebody" does care about the implementation of a holistic approach for the

quality of life and well being in the Mediterranean coastal areas. The Coast Day was very much welcomed by all the media and NGOs, who contributed through several activities.

Capacity building-Vision and road map

A crucial issue in the implementation of ICZM is the understanding and training of stakeholders to address coastal zone issues. Therefore two key aspects of capacity building and enhancement are considered through the project. First, the Pegaso consortium is fostering internal capacity to ensure that the team members can engage effectively with each other in this complex, multi- and trans-disciplinary project. Secondly, the consortium is building and enhancing capacity in the end-user communities, so that the outcomes of the project are implemented, sustained and lead to an improved management and better policy practices within the study region. These actions lead by the Marine Resources and Coastal Zone Management Program at the Institute of the Environment, University of Balamand (MRCZM-IOE-UOB) in collaboration with other partners involved in this project, has also taken on the responsibility to explore additional support and funding to strengthen this key programme ensuring that networks of research and experience are sustained beyond the project lifetime.

The first phase of capacity building has started by assembling the training needs among the consortium members in order to identify and plan the future work for internal partners, end-users and stakeholders. The results from this compilation have been the benchmark to develop the framework of this action and further enquiries will assess the needs of end users and stakeholders at the local and regional level.

Sharing information

The project is intensively working in developing the ground pillars for building a shared Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) among partners, which will be made available to the different stakeholders for guidance and analysis of coastal issues and planning.

Survey Questionnaires have been sent to member countries and partners to identify their development needs to build a common framework structure for data sharing as well as the education and training facilities available, the existing data information and internal data policies. The analysis of the survey results will help determine capacity needs and information support to build the Spatial Data Infrastructure.

Visibility

Pegaso presented at the International Black Sea Day 31 Oct – 02 Nov 2010, Trabzon, Turkey

International Black Sea Day celebrations took place in 2010 in Trabzon, Turkey.

The International Black Sea Day of October 31st was established back in 1996 by the coastal states on the occasion of signing the Strategic Action Plan for the Rehabilitation and Protection of the Black Sea. The celebration activities of the International Black Sea Day were concentrated in Trabzon, Turkey and were jointly organized by the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry and the Black Sea Commission (BSC). The Minister of the State of Turkey, Romanian, Russian and Turkish Members of the Black Sea Commission, Trabzon Governor, Trabzon Major, Resident Representative of the UNDP, Deputy General Secretary of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and Deputy Secretary of its Parliamentary Assembly, Rector of Karadeniz Technical University, as well as members of the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Under secretariat of the Maritime Affairs, representatives from several international organizations,

governmental bodies, universities around the Black Sea, private sector, teachers and NGOs participated in the jointly organized environmental panels and events, hosting up to 400 participants. The highlight of the event was also the Black Sea Education Box and the teacher training workshops that were convened in parallel to the Stakeholder Meeting sessions. Full coverage of the Black Sea Day 2010 is available at the Black Sea Commission webpage (see <http://www.blacksea-commission.org/bsday2010.asp>).

The Stakeholder Meeting was held at the Karadeniz Technical University campus on 31 October – 02 November 2010 as the keynote event of the Black Sea Day activities. The Pegaso Project was present at the session specifically devoted to the issues on integrated coastal zone management and marine conservation. The panel was chaired and reported by the representatives of IUCN, MEDCOAST and Black Sea Commission Permanent Secretariat. The report from this meeting can be accessed at http://81.8.63.74/Downloads/BlackSeaDay2010/Panel_Report_6.doc.

One of the main recommendations of the ICZM panel was to call for urgent support towards the introduction of development control instruments such as ICZM protocol in the Black Sea region.

Pegaso Dissemination

Project website and Intranet platform

The Pegaso Web site (<http://www.Pegasoproject.eu/>) is already functional and will be the main support for working and knowledge sharing with stakeholders and public in general.

The size of the Pegaso consortium means there is a complex management structure that requires a set of useful electronic tools whose main purpose is to improve and promote interaction and communication among the partners and to facilitate the consortium

management process. An important tool to help this process was to develop a project intranet “the Pegaso content management platform”.

The Pegaso intranet is the restricted/internal site of the project offering a common space where the project partners can share and exchange information, communicate with each other and work together on the different tasks and project documents.

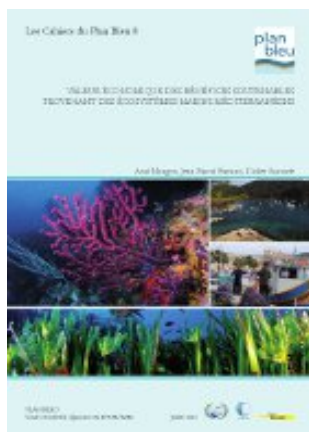
The members of the End User Committee have also access to the Pegaso intranet forum with a specific workspace dedicated to information exchange and discussion of key issues.

Project leaflet and poster

The first leaflets and the poster of the Pegaso Project have been printed. If you would like to receive some of these materials please contact us at: Prof Erdal Ozhan (ozhan@metu.edu.tr) and Gloria Salgado (Gloria.Salgado@uab.cat)



Recent publications by Plan Bleu: *The economic value of sustainable benefits rendered by the Mediterranean marine ecosystems*



This recent study aims at estimating the economic value of the marine ecosystems' direct contributions to human well being. It has been supported by the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP-MAP), the French Research Institute

for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer), the French global environmental fund (FFEM), the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). "The Blue Plan Papers" (n°8) is available on Plan Bleu's website (www.planbleu.org) both in English and French:

http://www.planbleu.org/publications/Cahier8_marin_EN.pdf

http://www.planbleu.org/publications/Cahier8_arn_FR.pdf

MEDCOAST 2011

10th International Conference on the Mediterranean Coastal Environment 25– 29 October 2011, Rhodes, Greece



MEDCOAST's bi-annual conference series focusing on ICZM in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea will celebrate the bronze jubilee with the 10th event in Rhodes, Greece this coming October. The annual conference that was started in 1993 has become one of the most regularly organised and well reputed meetings in this field. As a result, to date it has published 22 volumes of

proceedings and six special issues in coastal management journals.

In addition to the regular oral and poster presentations, this year several thematic sessions including the Med Partnership for the Large Marine Ecosystems (GEF project coordinated by the UNEP MAP), Coastal Eco-hydraulics (with UNESCO Working Group and LOICZ) and the ICZM Protocol Implementation (with PAP RAC) will enrich the scientific program of MEDCOAST 2011. Furthermore, we will be working to have a special Pegaso session discussion on the interim achievements of the project to date and a capacity building event parallel to the conference.

The 10th MEDCOAST conference will be organised under the auspices of the Southern Aegean Islands Regional Government and the Rhodes Municipality and will be supported by several international and Greek institutions.

International Coast Day, 25th September 2011

<http://www.coastday.org/>

It has become tradition in the Mediterranean to celebrate the Coast Day on September 25th. This year the central regional celebration will be organised at the "Sheraton" hotel in Algiers, under the high patronage of H.E. Mr. Chérif Rahmani, the Algerian Minister of Land-use Planning and Environment. The theme of the celebration will be "The Protocol has entered into Force".

Since a wide participation of Mediterranean experts involved in environmental issues is expected, this occasion will be used to organise a workshop on ICZM Indicators in the North African Countries (Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia). It has been envisaged by the programme of the Pegaso project.

To get more information about the Pegaso project please contact Prof Françoise Breton at Francoise.Breton@uab.cat