During the 2nd semester of 2020 the **TUNE UP project** is undergoing the "Testing" phase which aims to develop the local Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) as a tool to improve governance and hence management policies in 10 pilot Marine Protected Areas (**MPAs**) in the Mediterranean.

What are the local MoUs?

The local MoUs are signed agreements between stakeholders that consist of a set of commonly agreed actions that deal with pressures, threats and conflicting interests related to the governance, environment and socio-economic development of the pilot sites. The engaged stakeholders voluntary commit to start the activation of the MPA agreement.

To improve the effectiveness and to strengthen this participatory process, the knowledge and methodology produced during the recently concluded **WETNET** project is being transferred to TUNE UP project partners through "Transferring" phase that includes exchanging and training activities. For this reason, an **e-learning platform** was launched by UNIROMA3. to perform the online seminars for the training of TUNE UP partners in the WETNET methodology tested in Albufera lagoon and Odiel marshes wetland contracts.

Additionally, an **international virtual event** open not only to TUNE UP partners but also to their associated partners engaged in managing pilot MPAs was held on December 17th.

During the 2nd semester of 2020 most testing and transferring activities were carried out virtually due to the covid19 pandemic.

The steps for sharing the local MoUs

Advisory field trips

A group of experts from different partners organizations (TDV, AQUAPROGRAM and MEDSEA) share the experience acquired during the WETNET programme through case-by-case consultations with the remaining project partners to capitalize and integrate the Wetland contract methodology in drafting MoUs for each pilot site.

1st Local Conferences

At each pilot site local communities are informed on the project objectives during public events aimed to engage local actors in the participatory process.
Till the end of December 2020 several partners have organized their 1st Local Conference.

Alternative scenarios

Following the completion of the Territorial Labs, the conclusions on the three scenarios are reported. The trend scenario represents the continuation of the current pattern that limits the involvement of all territorial stakeholders. Therefore, it is not considered as the optimal framework for the achievement of the objectives of improving management and conservation policies.
The oriented scenario aims to improve the trend scenario by maximizing both the environment protection area and the socio-economic development with oriented measures.
Finally, the preferred scenario combines aspects of both trend and oriented scenarios that are considered as most important to the engaged stakeholders by developing the optimum strategy to integrate the desired objectives of environmental protection and socio-economic development.

Context analysis

For each pilot site the project partners identify possible ways to integrate the local MoUs in regional and national territorial strategies. Additionally, for each pilot site they investigate the regulatory framework, collect information on the biodiversity assets and risks, as well as identify key stakeholders to be involved in the participatory process for drafting the local MoUs.

Territorial labs

The participatory process is carried out through thematic meetings (Territorial Labs) with engaged stakeholders, during which three different scenarios about the environmental and socioeconomic growth of each pilot site are examined. This process allows participants to interact and finally end up with the definition of the preferred scenario for the conservation of the pilot MPAs and the subscription of one MoU for each one of them.
Till the end of December 2020 several project partners have initiated the participatory process.

2nd Local Conferences - Signing of local MoUs

The local MoU is presented during a second public event, aimed on one hand to the signing of the MoU by those stakeholders who consented to engage through the Territorial Labs, and on the other hand, to motivate potential future signatories.

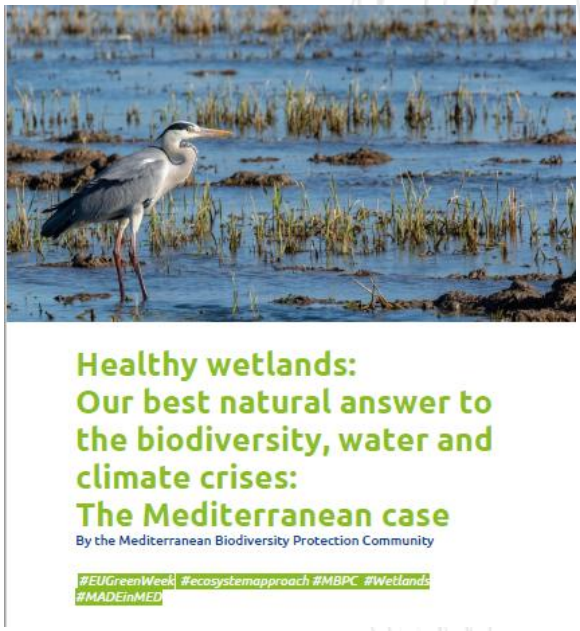
The progress of all the afore-mentioned activities till November 2020 as well as the planning for the 1st semester of 2021, was presented and discussed during the 4th transnational steering committee meeting of the project partners held on November 26th.

Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

During the 2nd semester of 2020 the project partners have implemented networking and dissemination activities by participating in external events, webinars, meetings under the wider context of the Interreg Med Biodiversity Protection and Interreg Med communities such as…

Revamping the Mediterranean Biodiversity Community

click here



Healthy wetlands: our best natural answer to the biodiversity, water & climate crises – the Mediterranean case

click here

Interreg Med - Mainstreaming webinar

click here

Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

To expand transferability of project goals and achievements and facilitate networking activities outside the Interreg community the project partners have also participated in several external events such as...

Urban Promo Green ("Governance in wetlands")

click here

Europarc "Climate change adaptation in Protected Areas – From theory to practice"

click here

Ecomondo "Networking for tackling marine litter in the Mediterranean"

click here

FARNET seminar "Effective local projects for a sustainable Mediterranean and Black Sea"

click here

MedWays seminar "Le vie del Mediterraneo"

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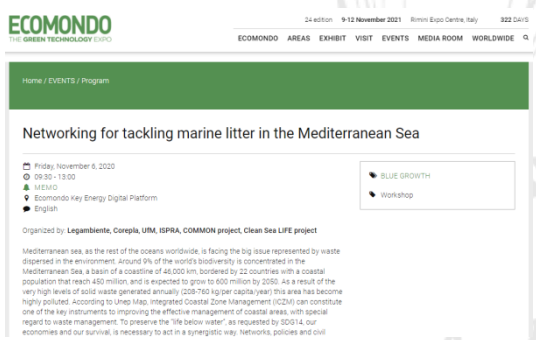

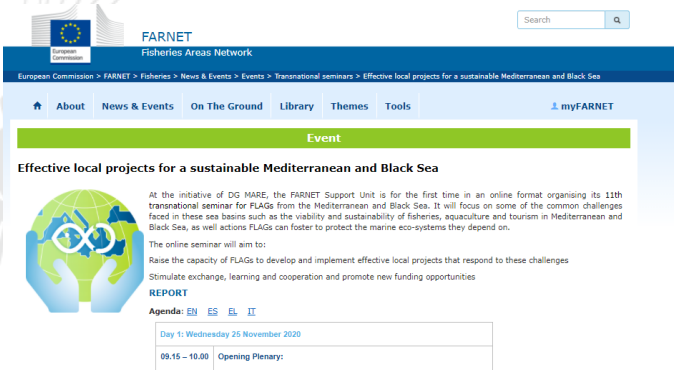

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The TUNE UP project is implemented by 12 partners from Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Albania, Slovenia and Montenegro and is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

- ANATOLIKI S.A. (lead partner)

  Development Agency of eastern Thessaloniki's local authorities

- FAMP - *Andalusian Federation of Towns and Provinces*
- MedWet - *Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative*
- MEDSEA - *Mediterranean Sea and Coast Foundation*
- MM - *Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Albania*
- ZRC SAZU

  Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts

- SEO/*BirdLife* - *Spanish Ornithological Society*
- TDV -*Tour du Valat Foundation*
- UOM - *University of Montenegro - Institute for marine biology*
- AWMB - *Amvrakikos Gulf - Lefkada Management Agency*
- UNIROMA3. - *University of Roma Tre - Department of architecture*
- AQP – *AQUAPROGRAM srl*

What to know more about our project activities?

Visit our website

https://tune-up.interreg-med.eu/

& have a look at our promotional material here.

Stay TUNED for more!