



OSI Consultation Process

Priority 2. Green and resilient shared environment

Specific Objective 2.2. Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution

ITEM 2 - Brief presentation of the chosen OSI theme, its objective and types of activities



Background information

Focus on conservation and sustainable use of the natural capital of the Programme area

- Adriatic Sea is very vulnerable to pollution and overexploitation,
- The coast is highly urbanised with numerous pollution sources,
- vulnerability and degradation risks are increasing,
- Strained resources and services such as spatial planning, public utilities, traffic
- Climate change effects – droughts and floods, increased resource use, changes in biodiversity (see specific objective 2.1)

Consideration of the **megatrends identified by EU Commission's platform for evidence-based policymaking** (e.g. resource scarcity, climate change and environmental degradation, continuing urbanisation, accelerating technological change and hyperconnectivity).





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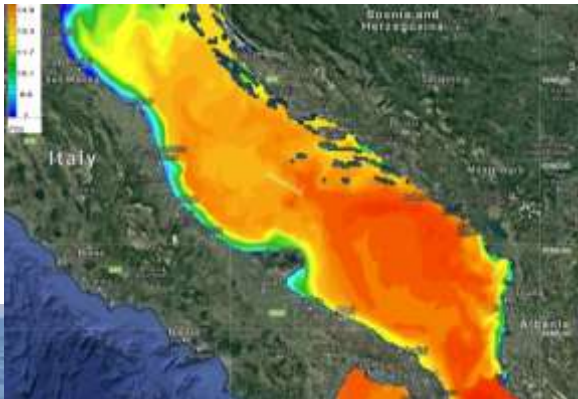
Objectives

1. To **improve knowledge** of natural marine habitats and species as well as impact of human activities on environment and biodiversity
2. To **improve environmental management** and management of natural resources, **enhance awareness** of environmental pollution and threats and pressures to biodiversity.



4 types of activities
to reach these objectives

Type of activity 1: Monitoring and its use: development of joint/shared systems/programmes/protocols, data platforms and data evaluation

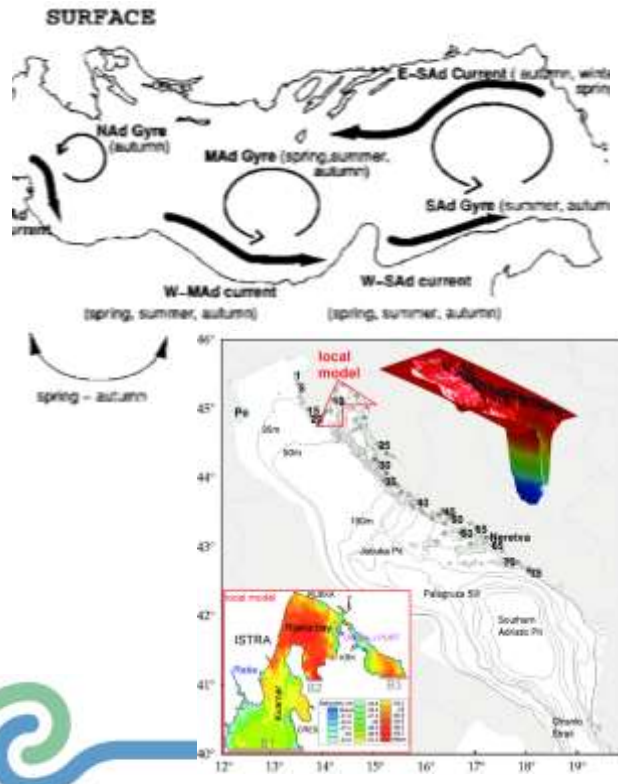


Aims to improve the collection, sharing and use of data about environmental topics, such as species, habitats (in particular in Natura 2000 sites), pollution (including marine litter), coastal land use and its impacts:

- harmonisation of monitoring practices and database structure, devising digital solutions;
- data sharing based on Open Data concept;
- joint indicators and identification and monitoring of threats and pressures;
- Bilateral/Transnational organisation or platform (or upgrading the existing ones) for shared integrated data collection.



Type of activity 2: Development and testing of models and simulations



Models and simulations may provide useful tools for assessment of environmental trends and environmental management. Examples are:

- impacts of anthropogenic activities (e.g. coastal development, aquaculture, port activities, marine litter);
- effects of anti-pollution measures (e.g. heavy metals, hydrocarbons, bacteria);
- effects of threats and pressures on species/habitats and ecosystem services (e.g. seabed habitats, fish populations);
- effects of biodiversity restoration etc.

Type of activity 3: Development and testing of innovative solutions (including use of ICT and pilot actions)



Aims to develop **innovative solutions for various environmental issues**, such as ICT solutions for environmental services, joint pilot actions, feasibility studies, policy recommendations for joint action plans and similar. The issues to target are:

- Reduced resource depletion (reducing resource use) and environmental impacts (anthropogenic pollution);
- improved environmental management, e.g. environmental public utilities, management of wastewater in the marinas and small leisure ports, business models for sustainable tourism;
- improved biodiversity conservation (particularly area-based conservation measures, including protected areas)



Type of activity 4: Joint strategies and action plans for improved environmental management



This type of activity supports **preparation of joint strategies and action plans** for:

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM),
- Marine Spatial Planning (MSP),
- environmental management, and
- improved general spatial planning (beyond ICZM and MSP).



Other aspects

- strong **cross border dimension** is necessary to achieve the objectives!
- Synergies with **EUSAIR** (particularly Pillar 3) and **other European policies** (EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, European Green Deal, Circular Economy Action Plan, Zero Pollution Action Plan, EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030 etc.) as well as **international conventions** (Barcelona Convention)
- Project proposals must respect the **horizontal principles** set forth in Article 9 of the Common Provisions Regulation (fundamental rights, gender equality, non-discrimination, accessibility, sustainable development)
- Where possible, projects should also have **strong transferability potential** providing replicable/transferable solutions.



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