



Environmental Quality
EUSAIR

Pillar 3 – Environmental Quality

3.1 The marine environment

- a) threat to coastal and marine biodiversity
- b) pollution of the sea

3.2 Transnational terrestrial habitats and biodiversity





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Overall Objective

- to address the issue of **environmental quality**, with respect to marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems in the Region.
- environmental quality is essential for underpinning human activities in the Region and for ensuring economic and social **well-being** for its peoples.
- Pillar 3 deals with the environmental issues that can only be adequately tackled through cooperation at **macro-regional level and scale**.





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Specific Objectives

- ensure a good **environmental & ecological status** of marine & coastal environment by 2020 in line with EU acquis and the ecosystem approach of Barcelona Convention.
- contribute to the goal of **EU Biodiversity Strategy** to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services by 2020, and restore them in so far as feasible, by addressing threats to marine and terrestrial biodiversity.
- improve **waste management** by reducing the flows to the rivers and sea of waste, nutrient and other pollutants.



Pillar 3 - Environmental Quality

List of priority actions approved on November 11th

topic 3.1a Threats to coastal and marine biodiversity

- increase marine knowledge, with focus on **maritime spatial planning** (including interaction with coast through **integrated coastal zones management**) and **marine protected areas**, also beyond territorial waters
- enhancing the protection of **marine species** by local/regional/national networking

topic 3.1b Pollution of the sea

- implement a life cycle approach to **marine litter** (focus on floating litter & micro-litter), supporting **clean-up** programmes in coordination with relevant stakeholders (fishery)
- addressing pollution **diffuse sources** (both land and maritime sources), also from agricultural practices, waste water and solid waste; drafting and implementation of a large-scale pollution **Contingency Plan**

topic 3.2 transnational terrestrial habitat & ecosystems

- Develop joint management plans for transboundary habitats and ecosystems and for managing population level of large carnivores;
- Protection and restoration of wetlands and karst fields relevant for the Adriatic Flyway

Cross-cutting proposals of Pillar 3 Thematic Steering Group

Strategic Action on MSP transversal to 4 Pillars

- **Italy** prepared a first draft of a **MSP governance paper** (objectives, legal obligations, institutional coherence, work plan) as proposal of P3 to other Pillars, to be discussed & integrated in inter-Pillar meetings.
- Need to focus on **data** management and on interdependence of single **projects**, to avoid overlapping and duplications
- P3 coordinators will officially ask to Barcelona Convention (**UNEP/MAP**), DG Mare and DG Environment, a clear focus on MSP in the framework of the **Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021**

Coherence among priorities/targets of all Pillars

- **Italy** prepared a **matrix** to cross the example of targets listed in the EUSAIR Action Plan for each Pillar with P3 targets, in order to highlight possible criticalities, incoherencies and/or synergies
- P3 will propose to evaluate priorities chosen by other Pillars basing on **criteria of environmental sustainability**, both to guarantee concrete results in terms of environmental quality and to ensure mutual support to P3 from other Pillars in terms of synergies of funding.