

THE MEDPAN SOUTH PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Objective

To enhance the effective conservation of regionally important coastal and marine biodiversity features by:

- supporting the countries in the south and east of the Mediterranean to achieve effective management in Marine Protected Areas (MPAs);
- promoting the establishment of new MPAs;
- strengthening MedPAN, the Mediterranean network of MPA managers.

Duration

4 years, 2009-2012

Beneficiaries

MPA managers, practitioners and authorities in Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

Components

- Five pilot projects to strengthen MPA management;
- a region-wide capacity building programme to support the MPA network.

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WITH THE KIND SUPPORT OF



*Our Mediterranean,
our future*

WWF Mediterranean

WWF Mediterranean's mandate is to pursue WWF global priorities to conserve biodiversity and reduce the human footprint on nature in the Mediterranean through field projects in priority landscapes, river basins and marine regions and through advocating improvements in regional and national policy processes affecting nature conservation and resource management. Complementing the work of the five WWF national organizations active in the region (France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Turkey), WWF Mediterranean operates in fourteen countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Syria and Tunisia.

www.panda.org/mediterranean

MedPartnership

The MedPAN South Project is part of the "Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem" (MedPartnership) project, led by UNEP. The objective of the MedPartnership project is to leverage reforms and investments to address marine and coastal biodiversity conservation priorities for the Mediterranean. The main project partner of WWF Mediterranean on this project is the Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) of UNEP-MAP. In the framework of the MedPartnership project, RAC/SPA is also coordinating the MedMPANet project, which aims to promote the establishment of new MPAs in the south and east of the Mediterranean.

www.medpartnership.org • www.racspa.org

MedPAN

Created in 1990 and revived by WWF France in 2004, the MedPAN network brings together the managers of Mediterranean MPAs and supports them in their management activities. Now a legally independent structure based in Hyères, France, MedPAN teams up with partners to deliver on its objectives. It specifically partners with WWF Mediterranean on the implementation of the MedPAN South Project. MedPAN also partners with WWF France on the MedPAN North Project, an EU-funded project which began in July 2010.

www.medpan.org



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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WWF FACTSHEET 2011

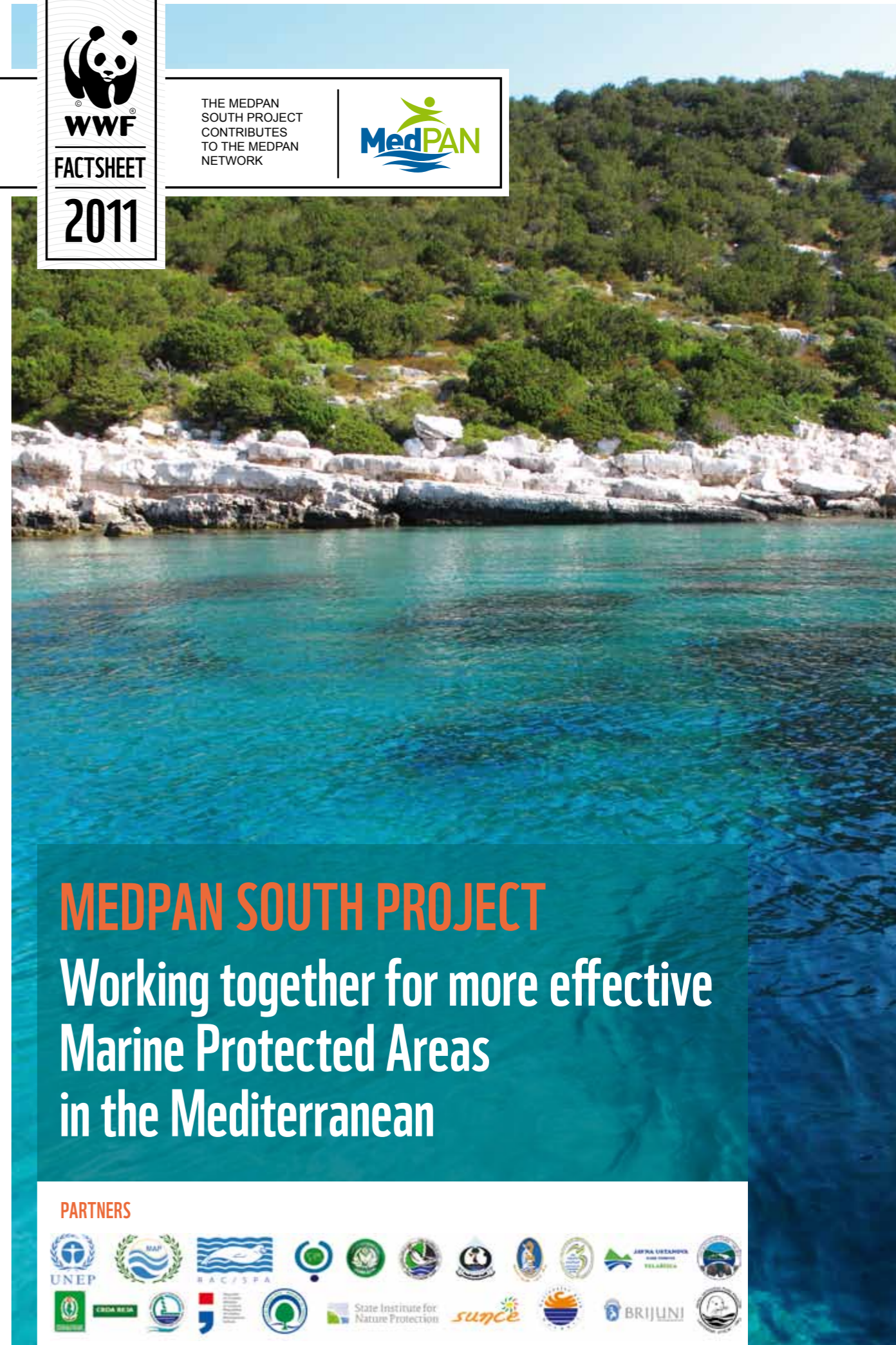


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FACTSHEET

2011

THE MEDPAN SOUTH PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO THE MEDPAN NETWORK



MEDPAN SOUTH PROJECT Working together for more effective Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean

PARTNERS



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MORE AND BETTER MANAGED MPAs IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Together with over 20 partners across the region WWF is working to enhance the management effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas and establish new ones with 5 pilot projects.



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1. CROATIA

STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL MPA NETWORK

The Ministry of Culture, the State Institute for Nature Protection, environmental association Sunce and WWF partnered to support the National Parks of Brijuni, Kornati and Mljet, and the Nature Parks of Lastovo Islands and Telašćica, in the development of their management plans through a standardized MPA management planning process. Additionally, a participatory process was enabled at each site to engage local communities, fishermen, public administrations, private sector and NGOs in the planning process and establish the foundations for a more effective management of these areas.

2. ALGERIA

EXTENDING TAZA NATIONAL PARK TO THE SEA

With WWF's support, the staff of Taza National Park launched a participatory process to develop the management plan of the marine area adjacent to the Park, involving all local stakeholders, other coastal national parks, the Direction Générale des Forêts, the Ministère de l'Aménagement du Territoire et de l'Environnement, the Commissariat National du Littoral and local universities. This work is laying the foundation for an official declaration of an MPA within Taza National Park.



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5. TURKEY

DEVELOPING THE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE KAŞ-KEKOVA SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREA

The Environmental Protection Agency for Special Areas (EPASA) and WWF-Turkey promoted a participatory process to develop the management plan for the marine area of the Kaş-Kekova Specially Protected Area. Consultation and awareness efforts with recreational activities professionals, such as diving club owners, tourist boat operators, restaurant owners or artisanal fishermen is contributing to building a strong management plan in this increasingly popular area. EPASA plans to take advantage of the lessons learned in Kaş-Kekova to strengthen the entire system of Specially Protected Areas in Turkey.

4. LIBYA

ESTABLISHING THE FIRST MPA

The Environmental General Authority, together with WWF and the Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA), identified the Ain Al-Ghazalah Gulf (northeastern Libya) as a priority marine and coastal area for protection. The Gulf was officially declared an MPA in January 2011. Baseline studies were completed and a detailed work plan was developed to build local capacity and ensure adequate preparation for the effective management of the new Libyan MPA.



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3. TUNISIA

MANAGING THE MARINE AND COASTAL AREA OF CAP NÉGRU-CAP SERRAT

The Agence de Protection et d'Aménagement du Littoral joined the Direction Générale des Forêts and the Commissariat Régional au Développement Agricole de Beja to establish the office of the Cap Négro-Cap Serrat Marine and Coastal Protected Area and recruit staff. They also developed a business plan, which sets out long-term sustainable financing solutions for all activities in the MPA, as well as for all other MPAs in Tunisia. WWF facilitated the process and provided technical assistance to the partners.

CAPACITY BUILT FOR OVER 300 MPAs PRACTITIONERS IN THE REGION

WWF implemented an innovative capacity building programme, together with the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and RAC/SPA, which delivers interactive and participatory trainings courses tailored to meet MPA practitioner's needs.



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REGIONAL AND NATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS

At the regional scale, training workshops target MPA practitioners from all countries participating in the MedPAN South Project enhancing their ability to manage resources effectively, engage with stakeholders, communicate results and explore adaptive approaches to MPA sustainability. At the national scale, training workshops are tailored to specific MPA priorities that arise from national socio-economic conditions, providing practitioners with the tools needed to assess and manage resources, resolve conflict with local stakeholders and promote sustainable activities to benefit their MPAs.



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MENTOR PROGRAMME

WWF with its partners launched the first Mentor Programme in the region. Mentors, appointed by national MPA authorities in each project country, act as regional catalysts for the network of practitioners. They exchange information and ideas and apply lessons learned at the national level. Mentors continuously monitor and adapt the capacity building programme to the needs of the region. Mentors also contribute to creating a pool of regional instructors to ensure the sustainability of a long-term capacity building programme for MPA managers in the Mediterranean.



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IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

WWF created the Implementation Programme to bring knowledge and tools acquired in the classroom into the field. Through grants, exchange visits, and collaboration with experts, practitioners can consolidate their capacity to manage resources effectively, dialogue with stakeholders and find creative solutions to environmental problems. Specific Implementation Agreements are a commitment of each country to apply what is learned during training in the field. They allow for networking, peer-to-peer discussion and experience sharing across the region.