



ZAVOD REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE
ZA VARSTVO NARAVE



3. Mednarodno strokovno srečanje o ohranjanju biotske raznovrstnosti v Jadranu
OBLIKOVANJE REPREZENTATIVNE MREŽE MORSKIH ZAVAROVANIH OBMOČIJ V JADRANU
Piran, 28. - 29. oktober 2010

3rd International Expert Meeting on Marine Biodiversity in the Adriatic
TOWARDS A REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN THE ADRIATIC
Piran, October 28th – 29th, 2010

Zaključki in priporočila, Piran 29. oktober 2010

Conclusions and Recommendations, Piran 29th October 2010



Taking into account the "Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean including the High Sea", adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention during their last Meeting in Marrakech in November 2009, the 2012 target adopted within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as within the environmental policy of the European Union.

The participants to the international workshop "Towards a representative network of MPAs in the Adriatic", through their interventions and discussions, agreed on the following:

The current situation of MPAs in the Adriatic (Mediterranean) is unsatisfactory in terms of representativity and in terms of management.

The MPA agenda is progressing too slowly to be able to accomplish the goal of protecting the region's biodiversity in order to halt and reverse degradation effectively.

An evaluation on the national level of the status, the representativity and the effectiveness of the marine and coastal protected areas should be carried out throughout the Adriatic countries as soon as possible. National strategies that aim to ensure conservation for all types of marine biodiversity, including resources, should be elaborated, ensuring also that appropriate human and financial resources are made available to protected areas so they can meet their goals.

An *ad hoc* multi-disciplinary working group of experts should be set up that would:

- take stock of existing habitat inventorying and/or mapping initiatives in the area
- initiate studies on connectivity throughout the Adriatic (habitat mapping, tagging, genetics etc.) and agree on a common assessment methodology and on a monitoring plan that could be conducted on a regular basis,
- use a precautionary approach when data limitation cannot be overcome in an appropriate time frame;
- identify missing scientific information concerning EBSAs and propose ways and means to secure this missing information, and
- based on the EBSA defined in the Adriatic, and the findings of the relevant recent investigations, further develop the identification of marine areas that could be proposed as SPAMIs.

The relevant organizations such as RAC/SPA, IUCN, WWF, etc. are invited to provide support and facilitate the setting up of this working group as well as the progress of the work.

The administrative and legal constraints to the establishment of SPAMIs in areas beyond the territorial waters, including deep waters should be identified.

Based on the national strategies and regularly updated with newly achieved scientific information, a sub regional (Adriatic) strategy with the aim to ensure conservation for all types of marine habitats in the Adriatic should be elaborated and implemented through existing or newly developed frameworks.

Beside the development of a representative network of MPAs it is of uttermost importance in terms of conservation that the national strategies, as well as the regional one, focus also on a better governance system outside MPAs. In this context The EU Integrated Maritime Policy, in particular, Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) has the potential to help further integrating the MPAs with the other seas uses. Identification, design and effective management of MPAs should be included as a priority in the process of Marine Spatial Planning.