

ECOSEA

**Protection, improvement and integrated management of the
sea environment and of cross-border natural resources
(Code No. 2°ord./0236)**

**ECOSEA SC and partnership Meeting
23rd and 24th January 2014
*Bari (IT)***

The following is a summary of the minutes taken at the Project Meeting of the ECOSEA project held on 23rd and 24th January 2014 in Bari (IT).

FIRST DAY – 23rd January 2014

List of attending beneficiaries (please see also the attached Participants' list):

LB – Veneto region (IT)

FB1 – Friuli Venezia Giulia region (IT)

FB2 – Emilia Romagna region (IT)

FB3 – Marche region (IT)

FB4 – Abruzzo Region (IT)

FB5 – Apulia region (IT)

FB6 – County of Primorje and Gorski Kotar (HR)

FB7 – Zadar County (HR)

FB8 - Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration (AL)

The project meeting opens at 15.30 p.m.

Mr Richieri (LB VEN): introduces the works of the two days briefly presenting the agenda and anticipating the intention of the LP to meet the Managing Authority by the end of March, in order to explain and illustrate all progress of the project, both administrative and technical. The most important aspect to demonstrate is the involvement of fishing operator in the project, best practices to be adopted and the selection of senior experts.

WP1 session

Mrs Forzan (TECH. ASS.): faces the main issues with relation to state of play of ECOSEA project. In particular, the presentation (enclose n.1) tackles the following topics: budget shifts proposed by partners and the related level of budget change at project level, PP's engagements in the project; level of project expenditures ; the next reporting deadlines, involvement of partners and the time plan for project implementation.

In particular, the PPs were required to communicate to the LP the forecasted amount of next reporting periods (by the 31st January and by the 30th April 2014) and to verify and update the table with regards to the appointment of project working group (internal staff and external expertise in charge of technical activities).

As far as the participation of Abruzzo Region in the project, the actions put in place by the LP in previous weeks were described: bilateral meeting held in November 2013 in Ancona and its follow up. FB4 has already opened the regional item costs related to ECOSEA project but not engaged anything.

As far as the project modifications asked by PPs, the LP presents the request for shift presented, proposing to go in depth in the activities' modifications requested by FB6 PGC and FB7 ZAD in the upcoming meeting session after the presentation of WP5 Action plan. FB6 PGC anticipates the modifications required are necessary because of the legal rules about fishing sector in Croatia Country are different from the Italian ones, so the County is not in charge to develop activities about the management of the fishery resources, it is a responsibility of the Ministry. Lastly, the LP announced the request to substitute the positioning of the submarine barriers with the positioning of equipment (with consequent budget shift) submitted by FB4 ABR has been accepted by the IPA MA.

With regards to project progress, the presentation underlines that the WP2, WP3 and WP4 have already started, while the activities of WP5 could be launched in occasion of the present meeting. The WP5 will be also interested by the AAB table of the second day.

Partners' contributions: partners agree on launching the WP5 activities. In relation to the budget modification, the major part of the partners agrees on the proposed modifications with the exception of FB1 FVG, who underlines that the request of FB5 APULIA overcomes the threshold of 10% per BL and WP suggested by the LP at the beginning of the project. The LP explains that this was a suggestion given in order to let all the partners ask for budget changes during the whole project lifetime and in a fair way without exceeding the limit of the 20% modification allowed only once time during the project duration.

After this consideration, FB FVG said they would consider the possibility to ask for modifications over the limit of 10% of their budget between cost category and WP in a future request.

In conclusion, the LP says that the formal request for budget changes will present to the Programme Authorities by the end of February.

WP3 session

Mr Fonzo (FB1 FVG): sums up in a few words the results of technical meeting held in Trieste on the 18th of December 2013 about the FISH.GIS implementation. For now, he explains the activity has stopped because of some problems regarding the use of SHAPE project data. To solve this situation a trilateral meeting among Emilia Romagna Region, Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and Veneto Region is planned on the 31st of January in Bologna.

The proposal to use already available ADRIAMED data for Croatia, Albania and Montenegro to complete the FISH.GIS and create a data base on small pelagic and demersal fishes as well as the next step of FISH.GIS implementation has been postponed because of the absence of the GIS expert of FB FVG.

After the trilateral meeting to be held in Bologna, FB FVG will evaluate the need to organize another technical meeting with all the partners.

WP2 session

Mr Spiga (FB2 ER): presents the project web site and brochure and for the further development of both of them requires partners' contribution. In particular, for the web site:

- ✓ the e-mail addresses of people involved in the project have to be communicated/updated (in particular, FB8 ALB and FB4 ABR);
- ✓ some pictures, articles, mailing list, news and other contributions to update the web site contents are welcome and required.

Partners' contributions: partners present the following requests for integration/modification:

- ✓ projects already developed (concluded or on-going) that could be interesting for the main issues faced by ECOSEA have to be included in the web site with a proper link (e.g. Adriamed, Marea, ect.);
- ✓ name, photo and articles of the Croatian and Albanian AAB members to be added to the contribution given by Mr Piccinetti;
- ✓ possibility for each PP to publish news;
- ✓ change the Albanian logo with the new one.

Concerning the project brochure, FB2 presents the layout, drafted according to the coordinated project image, and the contents in Italian. Partners present the following requests for integration/modification:

- ✓ change the fish on the cover page;
- ✓ change the statement about "... not sustainable aquiculture ..." in the page with the formula;
- ✓ add some pictures related to marine habitats and landscapes. FB1 FVG will send photos about habitat and Ms Giansante (ABR) pictures on molluscs and crustaceans;
- ✓ provide PPs with the english version as soon as possible;
- ✓ delete the sentence with reference to the seventh generation;

Finally, PPs ask FB2 to verify if it is possible and how much cost to publish project banner inside specialized web sites.

The project meeting ends at 7.00 p.m.

SECOND DAY – 25th October 2013

The project meeting opens at 9.30 p.m.

List of attending official/substitute members of the ECOSEA SC:

- LB – Veneto region (IT)
- FB1 – Friuli Venezia Giulia region (IT)
- FB2 – Emilia Romagna region (IT)
- FB3 – Marche region (IT)
- FB4 – Abruzzo region (IT)
- FB5 – Apulia region (IT)
- FB6 – County of Primorje and Gorski Kotar (HR)
- FB7 – Zadar County (HR)

WP5 session

Mrs Forzan (TECH. ASS.): introduces the action plan for the WP5 (enclose n. 3).

Partners' contributions: partners agree on launching the WP5 activities.

Proposal of project modifications session

Mrs Forzan (TECH. ASS.): illustrates the main modifications of activities proposed by FB6 PGC and FB7 ZAD (enclose n. 4). In particular:

- ✓ FB6 PGC, proposes to change the pilot actions under WP4, WP5 and WP6 realizing at first a study of mariculture effects on the environment in County of Primorje and Gorski Kotar and then preparing a draft of local management plan of renewable natural resources of County of Primorje and Gorski Kotar based on ecosystem approach in fisheries.
- ✓ FB7 ZAD instead of the application of local co-management protocols applying CB management model, proposes a start up a programme for train, educate and prepare a local fishing cooperative. This programme will be useful for the acknowledgement of the local fishing cooperative as producer organization (PO) and for the opportunities arising from the application of "co-management" and sustainable practices in fishery. Furthermore, FB7 ZAD instead of the installation of low impact open sea fish plants proposes the establishment of policulture on fish farm cages.

Partners' contributions: change in project activities under WP4, WP5 and WP6 depends on the impossibility of FB6 PGC and FB7 ZAD to conduct the originally planned activities since a lack of competences in matter.

Considering the impossibility for Croatian countries to develop activities initially foreseen in the project AF and the positive feedback given by the AAB members and also by the LP with regard to the administrative issues, PPs agree on their request for changes.

The ECOSEA STEERING COMMITTEE meeting opens at 1.00 p.m.

The ECOSEA SC assumed main decisions with regards to:

WP1 – Project management and coordination

- ⇒ The requests for budget shift presented by following PPs are approved:
 - FB1 FVG
 - FB4 MARCHE
 - FB5 APLULIA
 - FB6 ZADAR
- ⇒ Also the requests for change project actives presented by following PPs are approved:
 - FB6 PGZ
 - FB7 ZADAR
- ⇒ The LP will submit the request for change at project level to the Programme Authorities by the **end of February**.
- ⇒ All the partners must be actively involved in project activities and Partners who did not appoint their senior experts in marine biology, must do it **by end of February**.
- ⇒ With regards to Abruzzo region, LP will monitor the real involvement of PP4 proposing a re-entry plan with precise deadlines to be respected. A bilateral meeting is expected by mid February.
- ⇒ The next reporting deadlines are on 30/04/2014 and 30/06/2014 (deadline to send the report and the supporting documents to the FLCo).
- ⇒ The next ECOSEA SC will be organised in Zadra County in the first weeks of May (t.b.c.).

WP2 – Communication and dissemination

- ⇒ Partners PPs will send comments, pictures, ect. to FB2-ER by **3rd of February**.
- ⇒ FB2 ER will send project brochure text translated in EN to all PPs by **31st of January**.
- ⇒ PPs will send comments and additional pictures to FB2-ER by **10th of February**.
- ⇒ in accordance with the coordinated image of the project, FB5 APULIA will produce:
 - transportable promotional materials (roll-up or notice board - one per each PP in EN language),

- a 5 minutes video reportage describing the sustainability of the fishery activities in the most representative areas of each PP,
- set of promotional materials (pencils, pens, shoppers, USB devices, ect.).

WP3 – FISH.GIS

⇒ PP1 FVG, after bilateral meeting with PP2 ER will propose, if necessary, another technical meeting reserved to GIS technicians (mid February t.b.c.).

WP4 – RESTOCKING ACTIVITIES

FB1 FVG presents his future activities for restocking and FB2 ER presents an experience conducted about an oyster farm.

AAB Recommendations with regards to WP3, WP4 and WP5

- ⇒ The ECOSEA SC adopts the following recommendations of the AAB:
- Marche region will prepare a model sheet through which collecting restocking experiences results, aquaculture system applications and exiting management plans;
 - organize by the end of February the local table meeting and present to the stakeholders the results of restocking activities already collected;
 - PPs have to provide the AAB with that sheet filled in by in occasion of the next meeting in March;
 - in the framework of WP4 activities, PPs have to propose restocking local action plans;
 - in the framework of WP5 activities, PPs have to identify the target species (scallop, oysters, squid, eel) and spatial scale (local, regional, ect.) for the management local plan application. In the cross border model there should be information on state of the environment, target species chosen and on the market demands;
 - start working from the existing management plans as provisional for the drafting of ECOSEA cross border management plan;
 - work in collaboration with some fishermen (young men or the most innovative operators) in order to define a preliminary management plan (i.e. the best rules to be applied) with the main aim to balance the market requirements with the environmental conservation (i.e. restocking activities).

The next ECOSEA AAB meeting will be organized in Fano (IT) in March.

The project meeting ends at 2.00 p.m.