

## SEArICA event on Biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean

### *Solutions to upscale EU biodiversity conservation policies*

Organised with the support of the [Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions](#) back-to-back with the [Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community Final Event](#)

**4 November 2022 – 9:30-12:30 (Brussels time)**

Hybrid event (European Committee of the Regions – Room JDE51 & Online)

Registrations: [CLICK HERE](#)

On 22 June 2022, the European Commission published its proposal for a Nature Restoration Law, setting an overarching target of restoring 20% of the EU's land and sea area by 2030 and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050. This proposal comes at a time when binding targets and concrete commitments and actions to restore nature and stop biodiversity loss are extremely necessary. This Regulation will require Member States to develop National Restoration Plans and will influence public authorities at national, regional and local level, as they would play a role in mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services, and in planning, funding, implementing and monitoring restoration programmes.

In addition, other fundamental EU policies related to the marine environment are under review and evaluation, as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, to be revised by 2023, following an impact assessment and consultations with experts and stakeholders and the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive, whose implementation was the object of a report published in May 2022 by the EC.

With this event, organised back-to-back with the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community (MBPC), the SEArICA Intergroup aims at up-taking policy recommendations from the MBPC project focusing on the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation into marine and maritime policies.

## DRAFT AGENDA

9:00 – 9:30 Registration in loco

9:30 – 9:45 Opening session

Moderated by Ms **Barbara Favaro**, CPMR Policy Analyst, Maritime affairs and relations with the European Parliament

- Ms **Dania Abdul Malak**, ETC-UMA, MBPC project leader - Key messages of the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community's transformative change policy paper – Viable uptake to feed policy developments at the EU, national and international level. Recommendations from a Mediterranean perspective.

9:45 – 11:00 **SESSION 1: Area-based nature conservation actions and the review of marine and maritime EU policies**

Moderated by Ms **Elodie Nunes**, Executive Secretary of CPMR Intermediterranean Commission

**Keynote speech** by Mr **Laurent Markovic**, Policy officer, Zero Pollution - Marine Environment & Clean Water Services, DG ENV

- Mr **Eduardo Carqueijeiro**, Policy Officer - Healthy Oceans and Seas Unit, DG RTD;
- Ms **Céline Frank**, Policy Officer - Blue Economy, Maritime Space and Environment, Blue Economy Sectors, Aquaculture and Maritime Spatial Planning Unit, DG MARE;
- Ms **Tatjana Hema**, UNEP/MAP coordinator, Constituents of the “healthy, clean, sustainable, and climate resilient Mediterranean Sea and coast” 2022 -2027 vision (*online*).

**Feedback from:**

- Mr **François Guerquin**, Director, Plan Bleu; *wetland ecosystems restoration in the Mediterranean and link with Nature restoration Law proposal (online)*;
- Ms **Milena Kapa**, Secretary of the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning, Parliament of Montenegro, *showcasing national efforts in nature conservation and their transferability*.

**Reactions round:**

MEP **Cyrus Engerer**, ENVI Committee member and SEARICA member (video message)

11:00 – 11.15 Short Break

**11:15 – 12:20 SESSION 2: Territorial cooperation answers to respond to urgent biodiversity challenges - Regional solutions for improved conservation**

Moderated by Ms **Anouska Kinahan**, independent consultant

**Keynote speech** by Mr **Sergi Tudela i Casanovas**, Director-general, Directorate-General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food, Government of Catalonia (*online*)

Multilevel authorities' representatives:

- Mr **Adrian Zittelli**, Director-General for European Union Affairs for the Region of Murcia, Region Murcia, *on ecosystem restoration*;
- Mr **Marino Spilotros**, Project and Policy Officer, ASSET, Puglia Region, *on marine pollution management*;
- Mr **Pedro Figueiredo**, Norte Region, contribution from another sea-basin on the topic of biodiversity protection and interregional cooperation (*online*);
- Mr **Josep Canals**, Secretary General, MedCities.

Representatives from cooperation programmes and institutional frameworks:

- Ms **Tarja Richard**, Director, Region Sud, Interreg EuroMed programme managing authority (*online*);
- Mr **Roberto Raimondi**, Director, Regione Autonoma della Sardegna, ENI CBC Med programme representative managing authority (*tbc, online*);
- Ms **Alessandra Sensi**, Head of Sector, UfM Water Environment and Blue Economy Division, Union for the Mediterranean (*online*);
- Mr **Andrés Alcántara**, Corporate Department, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN-Med) (*online*).

**12:20 – 12:30 CONCLUSION: Engaging a wider and stronger community of EBM supporting multilevel stakeholders to foster EU maritime and marine policies**

Ms **Dania Abdul Malak**, ETC-UMA, MBPC project leader

# INTERGROUP SEAS, RIVERS, ISLANDS AND COASTAL AREAS



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