



Agenda Item 9

From measures to investment needs and projects (Capacity building session)

Report on training for prioritizing projects for investment needs to contribute to NAPs implementation

Version	Document Title	Author	Review and Clearance
1	Report on training for prioritizing projects for investment needs to contribute to NAPs implementation	Dr. Mohamad Kayyal	Prof. M. Scoullou



Background information

The SWIM and H2020 SM is a Regional Technical Support Program that includes the following Partner Countries (PCs): Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, [Syria] and Tunisia. However, in order to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Union financing or to foster regional co-operation, eligibility of specific actions will be extended to the Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina and Montenegro), Turkey and Mauritania. The Program is funded by the European Neighborhood Instrument (ENI) South/Environment. It ensures the continuation of EU's regional support to ENP South countries in the fields of water management, marine pollution prevention and adds value to other important EU-funded regional programs in related fields, in particular the SWITCH-Med program, and the Clima South program, as well as to projects under the EU bilateral programming, where environment and water are identified as priority sectors for the EU co-operation. It complements and provides operational partnerships and links with the projects labelled by the Union for the Mediterranean, project preparation facilities in particular MESHIP phase II and with the next phase of the ENPI-SEIS project on environmental information systems, whereas its work plan will be coherent with, and supportive of, the Barcelona Convention and its Mediterranean Action Plan.

The overall objective of the Program is to contribute to reduced marine pollution and a more sustainable use of scarce water resources. The Technical Assistance services are grouped in 6 work packages: WP1. Expert facility, WP2. Peer-to-peer experience sharing and dialogue, WP3. Training activities, WP4. Communication and visibility, WP5. Capitalizing the lessons learnt, good practices and success stories and WP6. Support activities.

For more information please visit: <http://www.swim-h2020.eu/>



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1 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention updated their NAPs further to COP 18 Decisions, Istanbul, Turkey 2013, and as a follow-up to Decision IG 17/8 adopted by COP 15 in Almeria, Spain in 2008. The aim of this update was to contribute to the achievement of good environmental status (GES) through the implementation of the requirements of the LBS Protocol regional plans and the provisions of SAP-MED. The updated NAPs were endorsed in COP 19 meeting, Athens, Greece, February 2016. The NAPs include project fiches for financing investments of infrastructure projects in the fields of wastewater collection and treatment, municipal solid waste management, hazardous waste management facilities, and programmes to remediate contaminated industrial sites and close illegal waste dump sites.

1.1 RATIONALE OF ACTIVITY

In order to move the proposed NAP investment projects forward from concept to reality, national environmental agencies have to create the favorable conditions and the supporting environment needed for realization of these projects. In order to achieve this goal, a short training course titled: “From measures to investment needs and projects” was developed. The aim of this course was to assist representatives of national environmental agencies and relevant stakeholders to underline NAP project fiches with the highest potential for realization.

2 OBJECTIVES OF ACTIVITY

The objective of the training course is to further enhance the capacity of the countries in designing project concepts and defining investment needs responding to measures and operational targets as defined in the NAPs.

This objective is achieved by the active involvement by national environmental agencies with key stakeholders in project planning and preparatory phases whereby national environmental agencies should conduct a critical review of project fiches; validate data included in fiches; close gaps in data and information; and assess challenges and identify obstacles that prevent the project from securing the necessary funding for implementation.



3 EXPECTED RESULTS OF ACTIVITY

The expected results of the training exercise are:

- Course attendants have information on moving forward proposed NAP investment projects presented in the “project fiches” from concept to reality.
- Course attendants can define the “favourable” conditions and “supporting environment” needed for realization of these projects by national environmental agencies.

4 PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

Participants included governmental representatives from ministries of environment and environmental agencies, researchers and academics, and consultants. Attendants came from the following Contracting Parties: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey. Jordan also attended the meeting. The UNEP/MAP Secretariat represented by the MAP Coordinating Unit, MED POL Programme, REMPEC and Blue Plan/RAC, and the EU also observed the training exercise. The full list of participants is attached to the present report.

5 EVALUATION OF THE EVENT

5.1 RESULTS OF THE EVENT

A. Organisational, administrative and planning issues before and during the event

The training workshop was carried out as part of the Regional Meeting on NAPs Implementation held on 17 and 18 October 2016 in Marseille, France, at Villa Valmer.

Participants were organized around a U-shaped table, whereby country groups were formed. The objective of the training was explained by the course facilitator. This was followed by a short presentation on the factors impacting the ability of environmental agencies to move an identified project from concept to reality. Projects were selected from the list of project fiches in the NAPs. An example assessment for a project fiche from Montenegro was also presented.

Upon completion of the presentation, country groups were provided with selected project fiches (2 to 4) from their own NAPs. They were also given criteria tables with scoring scales for assessing the project fiches, and an empty template table for completion. French speaking countries were provided with French documents. Country groups were requested to select one project fiche and to assess it in line



with the tabulated criteria similar to the example which was explained. Country representatives who did not have project fiches or EU countries were provided with project fiches from countries which prepared the NAPs and were asked to undertake the assessment.

Country groups completed the work in about an hour. A flip chart was prepared on which each country representative was asked to identify the project fiche, country name and to indicate the score reached from the assessment. The results were presented to all participants. Representatives of the highest scoring country (Tunisia) and lowest scoring country (Morocco) were requested to make a presentation of the reasons they have obtained these results. Discussions pursued and findings were explained in plenary.

B. Remarks by the trainer

During the assessment exercise, questions raised by the country working groups were addressed by the course facilitator on an individual basis. Explanations of the criteria and applicability and utilization of the empty table were common questions between all groups.

At the conclusion of the presentations, the course facilitator summarized the key points of the assessment stressing the aim and objective for undertaking this assessment, highlighting the importance for creating the necessary conditions applicable to the highest scores for each criterion in order to render the project financeable; hence moving it from concept to reality.

C. Feedback by participants:

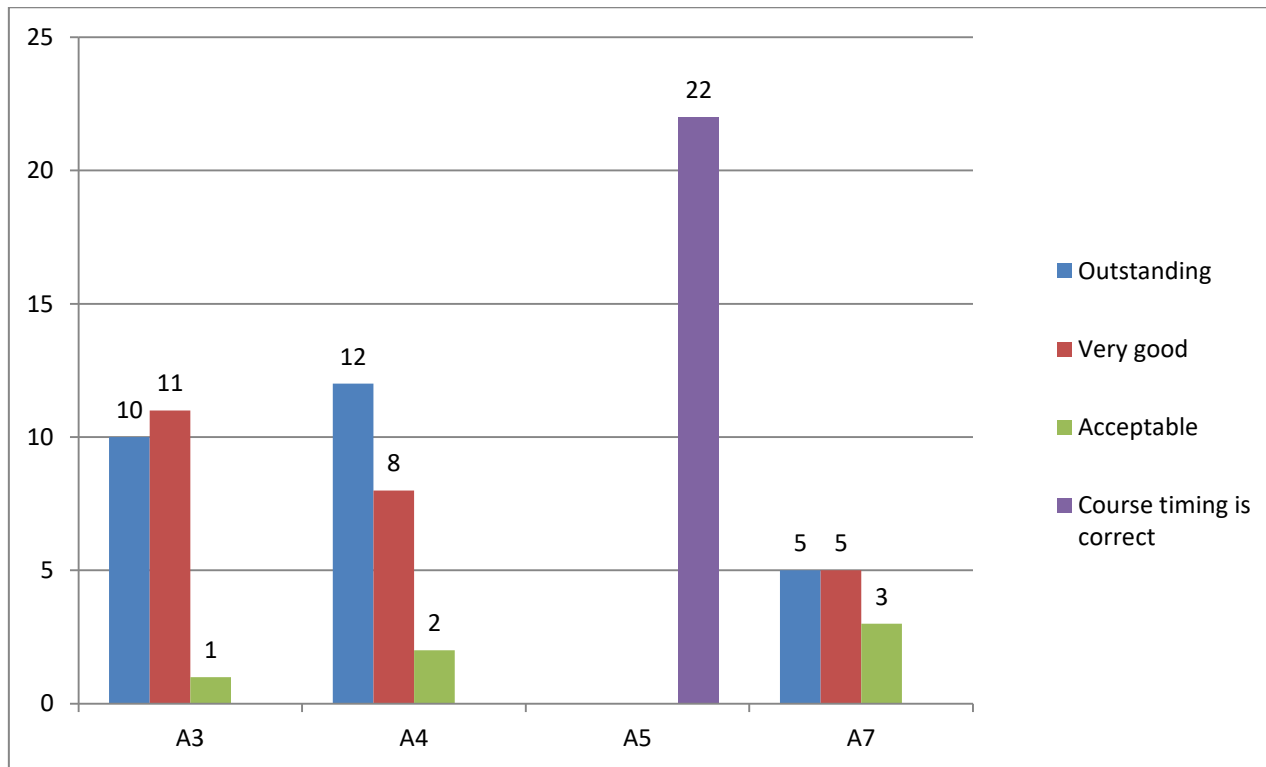
In total, 22 participants attended the short course. Feedback obtained from course attendants regarding the short course topics and delivery focused on answering the following questions:

A3	Adequate communication of objectives and expected outcomes of the capacity building session
A4	Efficient and effective facilitation of the capacity building session
A5	Length of the session (in your view was the workshop duration too long, correct or too short)
A6	Suggestions for improvement if any
A7	How would you rate this capacity building session overall

For each of the questions A3, A4, A5 and A7¹, feedback was obtained by circling the following evaluation criteria 'excellent', 'very good', 'acceptable', 'poor', 'very poor' and "N/A". Questions A6 and A7 provided the opportunity for course attendants to present additional comments and suggestions.

Based on the provided answers from the 22 course participants, the following bar chart provides infographics on the feedback obtained.

¹ Not all countries answered question A7



Additional feedback in the form of comments and suggestions in relation to questions A6 and A7 is summarized below:

- More time was needed for participants to digest contents of lecture taking into account language differences.
- It would have been good to have translation also covering the training course presentation by the lecturer.
- Presentations made by the countries were very positive, and enriched the course contents.
- The interaction between the lecturer and the participants was positive.

6 ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF THE TRAINING COURSE

Based on the feedback obtained from the course participant, the following results are obtained:

- The participants were almost split in giving outstanding and very good evaluation for communicating the objectives and expected outcomes of the capacity building session, and for the efficient and effective facilitation of the capacity building session.
- All participants thought that the timing allocated for the training course was correct.



- Based on the answers obtained from 13 participants, 5 thought it was outstanding, 5 indicated that it was very good; while 3 thought it was acceptable.
- Suggestions for improvement included the need to perform direct translation for the lecture and dialogues of course participants.
- Participants praised the interactive nature of the course and the presentations made by the countries.

7 CONCLUSIONS & OVERALL ASSESSMENT

In order to move the proposed NAP investment projects forward from concept to reality, national environmental agencies have to create the required favourable conditions and the supporting environment needed for realization of these projects. To achieve this goal, a short training course titled: “From measures to investment needs and projects” was developed and presented. The objective of the course was to further enhance the capacity of the countries in designing project concepts and defining investment needs responding to measures and operational targets as defined in the NAPs.

In total, 22 participants from Albania, Algeria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey in addition to Jordan attended the course. Participants represented governmental representatives from ministries of environment and environmental agencies, researchers, academics and consultants.

Based on the feedback obtained from course attendants, the capacity building course achieved the intended outcomes in terms of communicating the objectives and expected outcomes of the training course. Participants confirmed that the course was facilitated efficiently and effectively. This was evidenced by statements indicating that the timing allocated for the course was correct. In total, 3 out of four participants thought that the course’s overall evaluation is outstanding or very good. In fact, course participants praised the interactive nature of the course and the presentations made by the countries. Suggestions for improvement included the need to undertake direct translation for the lecturer and countries’ presentations.



8 ANNEXES

8.1 ANNEX I: AGENDA

No.	Agenda item	Responsibility	Approximate duration
1	Welcoming course participants and assignment to round tables	Facilitator	10 min
2	Presentation on the underlying conditions for realizing investment projects, and criteria for scoring and prioritizing project fiches followed by application on concrete example	Facilitator	35 min
3	Distribution of materials to the working groups; and explanation of the tasks to be carried out	Facilitator	5 min
4	Working group undertakes assessment of project fiches and documents its findings	Country working groups	50 min
5	Presentation of working groups' assessment findings and conclusions	Group representative	50 min
6	Summary points and concluding remarks	Facilitator	10 min

8.2 ANNEX II: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ALBANIA	<p>Mr Rrezart Fshazi Head of EU Integration and International Cooperation Unit Directory of EU Integration and Coordination of Projects</p> <p>Mrs Irtella Lako Environmental Inspector State Inspectorate of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of</p> <p>Mrs Ledia Gjergji Expert National Environment Agency</p>
ALGERIA	<p>Mrs Naima Ghalem Chef de Bureau Ministère des Ressources en Eau et de l'Environnement</p>
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	<p>Mrs Melisa Džonlić B. Sc. Chemical Engineer - Researcher</p> <p>Mrs Melina Džajić – Valjevac MSc. In chemical engineering/NAP expert/ Quality manager in HEIS Laboratory</p>
CROATIA	<p>Mrs Barbara Skevin Ivosevic Head of the Department for Sea and Coastal Protection Department for Sea and Coastal Protection Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection</p>



CYPRUS	Mr Neoklis Antoniou Environment Officer Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
EGYPT	Mrs Ghada Abdel Moneim General Manager of Hazardous substances and Waste Department Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) Mr Samir Nasr Professor of Marine Geochemistry Institute of Graduate Studies and Research – University of Alexandria
GREECE	Mr George Melekis Special Secretary for Water Ministry of Environment & Energy Special Secretariat for Water
ISRAEL	Mr Rani Amir Director Marine Pollution Control Division Ministry of Environmental Protection, Mr Yaron Zinger Director The Center for Water Sensitive Cities in Israel Ministry of Environmental Protection Mrs Sinamis Tehaukho Industrial Waste Water Coordinator Ministry of Environmental Protection
LEBANON	Mr Hassan Hoteit Department of Urban Environmental Protection Ministry of the Environment Mrs Olfat Hamdan Head of Department of Protection of Urban Environment Ministry of the Environment Mr Ahmad Damaj Environmental Specialist Ministry of the Environment
LIBYA	Mr Nassir Naser Bsher MED POL Focal Point Environment General Authority (EGA) Mr Mustafa Soliman GEF Libyan operational Focal Point, Staff member at Sabha Mr Mohamed B Chirgawi National Focal Point /UNFCCC/ Environmental Sciences Department/University of Sabha
MONTENEGRO	Ms Jelena Knezevic Head of Department for Sustainable Development and ICZM Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism Mrs Ana Misurovic National Expert



<p>MOROCCO</p>	<p>Mr Mohamed Elbouch Chef de la Division "Laboratoire National des Etudes et de Surveillance de la Pollution" Ministère Délégué auprès du Ministre de l'Energie, des Mines, de l'Eau et de l'Environnement, chargé de l'Environnement</p> <p>Mr Hafid El Oualja Chef de Service Assainissement Ministère Délégué auprès du Ministre de l'Energie, des Mines, de l'Eau et de l'Environnement, chargé de l'Environnement</p> <p>Mr Mohamed Amounas Chef du Service Déchets Solides Ministère Délégué auprès du Ministre de l'Energie, des Mines, de l'Eau et de l'Environnement, chargé de l'Environnement</p>
<p>SLOVENIA</p>	<p>Mr Leon Gosar Undersecretary Slovenian Water Agency</p>
<p>SPAIN</p>	<p>Mrs Marta Martínez-Gil Pardo de Vera Head of Unit Pollution and Human Activities Directorate for Coast and Sea Sustainability</p> <p>Mrs Maria Victoria Palacios Consultant TRAGSATEC</p>
<p>TUNISIA</p>	<p>Mr Samir Kaabi Chef de département Contrôle et suivi de la pollution Agence Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement</p> <p>Mr Omar Zouaghi Director Agence Nationale pour les déchets solides</p> <p>Mrs Ines Houarbi Ben Salah Chef de Service</p>
<p>TURKEY</p>	<p>Mrs Nazli Yenil Expert General Directorate of Environmental Management Marine and Coastal Management Department Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation of Turkey</p> <p>Mrs Huri Eyüboğlu Branch Manager, Marine and Coastal Management Department of Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation of Turkey</p> <p>Mrs Gülsen Avaz Chief Senior Researcher, TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Center and Project Coordinator of the Preparation of Updating NAP Project Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation of Turkey</p>
<p>OBSERVER JORDAN</p>	<p>Mr. Abdallah Alzyod Director Assistant Head of Policies & Strategies Section Ministry of Environment</p> <p>Mr. Nedal Al Ouran Department of Water Resources and Environment Management Faculty of Agriculture/Balqa Applied University</p>



8.3 ANNEX III: OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

Agenda Item 9

From measures to investment needs and projects (capacity building session)

Purpose of training exercise

- ❑ To move the proposed NAP investment projects presented in the “project fiches” forward from concept to reality.
- ❑ To define the “favorable” conditions and “supporting environment” needed for realization of these projects by national environmental agencies.

Underlying condition for realizing projects

- ❑ Active involvement by national environmental agencies with key stakeholders in:
 - ✓ Project planning phase; and
 - ✓ Project preparatory phase.

Project planning phase

- ❑ National environmental agencies should:
 - ✓ Conduct a critical review of project fiches
 - ✓ Validate data included in fiches.
 - ✓ Close gaps in data and information.
 - ✓ Assess challenges and identify obstacles that prevent the project from securing the necessary funding for implementation.

Project preparatory phase

- ❑ National environmental agencies should:
 - ✓ Coordinate with the principal agency/entity responsible for project implementation, i.e. **implementing agency** such as water and wastewater utility, industrial facilities, landfilling facilities, etc.
- ❑ Specifically, the national environmental agency should accomplish the following three tasks:

Task 1 for the national environmental agency

- ❑ Agree with the implementing agency on the “scope of project” in order to ensure that it:
 - ✓ Targets critical infrastructures.
 - ✓ Stresses the strategic focus provided by UNEP/MAP hotspots list and NAPs.
 - ✓ Addresses regional or cross-border impacts, if applicable.

Task 2 for the national environmental agency

- ❑ Agree with the implementing agency on the “concept of project” in order to ensure that it:
 - ✓ Is technically feasible, cost effective and contributes in an integrated manner to reduction of impacts on the “marine” environment.
 - ✓ Reflects future trends in pressures and impacts according to the present NBB) and related hotspots.
 - ✓ Is effective in meeting the requirements of the SAP; regional plans and GES targets.
 - ✓ Contributes to building human capital, improving institutional structures and national regulatory frameworks.

Task 3 for the national environmental agency

- ❑ Establish the necessary “supporting environment” by ensuring that the project is:
 - ✓ In line with sectoral strategies and national development plans.
 - ✓ Has political backing and support for project concept and selection and is supported by stakeholders.
 - ✓ Coordinated with potential donors in the planning and preparation phases.

Prioritization of project fiches for follow-up with implementation agencies

- ❑ Each project fiche must fulfill a minimum of 50% of the highest score for each category:
 - ✓ Minimum score to qualify for consideration is 20.
 - ✓ Maximum score to qualify for consideration is 40.

Example assessment: Montenegro

Scope of project

- ❑ Provide all settlements along the Bay of Kotor with piped sewerage.
- ❑ Provide all settlements in municipality of Tivat along the Bay with piped sewerage.
- ❑ A WWTP for Tivat and Kotor (72.000 PE) is under construction (financed by KfW)

General situation - Kotor municipality

- Urban area of Kotor municipality is situated in patches around the most inland part of the Bay of Kotor.
- The largest urban cluster is Kotor/Dobrota with 14,000 inhabitants.
- Another 9,000 people live in smaller settlements along the Bay.
- Tourism is relatively low with a peak tourist number of about 10,900. Most of tourist activities take place around the bay.



- Kotor municipality has an industrial zone.
- The present sewerage network of Kotor is connected to the regional transmission main.
- Sewerage coverage inside the town is relatively low.
- The structural condition of the existing network of Kotor is very bad for 70% of the sewerage network which regularly collapses.
- Bathing water quality at many beaches does not meet the relevant national and international standards.

General situation - Municipality of Tivat

- Located around the Tivat Bay, part of the Bay of Kotor.
- The town has a population of about 11,500 permanent residents.
- A further 2,200 citizens live in other smaller settlements.
- Tourism is of importance, more than doubling the population in the summer season.
- The only industry of relevance is the shipyard adjacent to the town.
- The present sewerage network of Tivat is very underdeveloped.
- The structural condition of about 50% of network is bad.
- The sewerage network of Tivat is connected to the regional wastewater system that also serves Kotor and its industrial area.
- Bathing water quality meets relevant international standards.
- However, continued discharge of raw sewage to the sea via short outfalls is a risk both to bathing water quality and public health.

Other relevant project aspects

Depollution potential:

- Regional Plan for reduction of BOD from WWTP (EO5)
- Meets EU Directive 271/91/EEC

Supporting national policies and plans:

- Master Plan for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal for the Montenegrin Coast and the Municipality of Cetinje (2005) - Studies financed by the EU
- Feasibility Study "Wastewater Discharge in the Coastal Region" (2007) - Studies financed by KfW bank.

National plans:

- Master Plan for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal for the Montenegrin Coast and the Municipality of Cetinje (2005) - Studies financed by the EU

Donors and IFIs:

- IFIs will be actively involved in project implementation.

Impacts:

- Improving marine environment, tourism and household income.
- A total score of 37 (from a maximum of 40) is obtained for Montenegro's project fiche No. 4.
- This indicates that the project is indeed a priority investment project.
- Minimum sub-scores are all met.
- It is recommended that the project fiche includes additional details on capacity building activities in addition to details for strengthening existing institutional and legal structures.

Your task: assess two project fiches from your country

- Form country working group teams.
- Pick two project fiches from the pile of provided fiches which you think have potential for scoring highest scores.
- Using provided scoring criteria table, assess two project fiches.
- Fill the blank table of "results of assessment" and score.
- You have 50 minutes to complete exercise for two fiches.
- Be prepared to make a presentation of findings and conclusions of highest scoring project fiche.
- Upon completion of presentations, I will present summary points and concluding remarks.