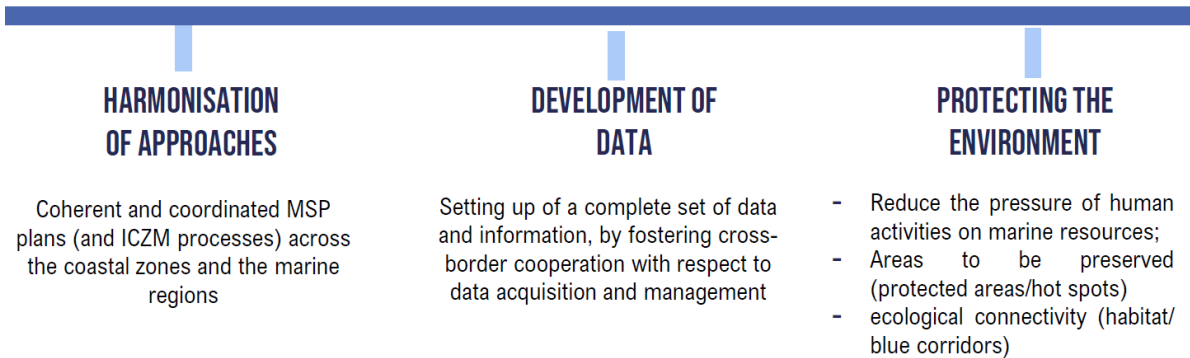


II ACTIONLAB–REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SMART/GREEN PORTS HUB CONCEPT

1–Synthesis of the flagship

PILLAR 3 – FLAGSHIP 3.3: PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE GROWTH OF THE AI REGION BY IMPLEMENTING ICZM AND MSP

“Maritime spatial planning plays a central role in delivering Europe’s decarbonisation and biodiversity protection objectives”(COM 2021 240 final)



2–Results from the analysis of the actions foresee by the ETCprogrammes

The analysis of the actions revealed that ETC programmes are going to support all the sub-topics of the flagships. Clearly, maritime ETC programmes (ADRION; IT-HR; GR-IT; IPA South Adriatic) are the most interested by this flagship. Italy Slovenia*, a terrestrial CBC programme with a maritime dimension, has planned several actions in line with the flagship.

The main actions for the different sub-topics are the following:

- **Harmonisation of approaches:** 3CBCs (IT-HR; Greece-Italy; IPA South Adriatic) foresee actions related to MSP, by promoting maritime spatial plans for integrated management of sea, coast and river environment and of cross-border natural resources (IT-HR); by elaborating MSP in areas of common interest to address the balance between conflicting uses of the sea (GR-IT) or on specific issues such as marine litter (GR-IT). Moreover, IT-HR foresees to design integrated policies aimed at limiting the anthropogenic pressure on coastal and inner regions with a specific focus on the promotion of green ports and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture models. In addition, ADRION has foreseen the following action: Improve governance of the maritime space as well as management and monitoring of marine protected areas for a sustainable and transparent use of marine and maritime resources (ADRION).
- **Development of data:** this sub-topic is addressed mainly by Adrion and IT-HR. ADRION has included an action “to promote the collection of data and big data, including cross border maritime data in all key actors in order to achieve evidence-based policy making”. IT-HR includes actions for developing indicators to harmonize data collection and monitoring systems (IT-HR); tools to assess and monitor vulnerability and ecosystem, such as for example the setting-up cross-border monitoring systems and shared platforms and pilot studies (IT-HR); the use of digital solutions to evaluate ecosystem services especially in the sea basins (IT-HR).

- **Environmental quality:** in this sub-topic, ETC programmes will focus in particular on Ecological connectivity: by promoting blue/green infrastructure (IT-SLO; IT-HR; GR-IT; IPA South Adriatic); protection and restoration of coastal and marine biodiversity and Natura 2000 sites (IT-SLO). It is worth stressing that both ADRION and IT-HR foresee to support the setting up of transnational/CBC MPAs: Supporting feasibility studies for setting up cross-border protected marine areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) (IT-HR); Support the creation of transnational natural protected areas and the rehabilitation of degraded habitats (ADRION); Improve governance of the maritime space as well as management and monitoring of marine protected areas for a sustainable and transparent use of marine and maritime resources (ADRION).

The analysis on the actions identified the following nodes in terms of complementarity between ETC programmes:

- ADRION actions that have a higher potential for synergies with CBCs:
 - o to promote the collection of data and big data, including cross border maritime data in all key actors in order to achieve evidence-based policy making;
 - o Improve governance of the maritime space as well as management and monitoring of marine protected areas for a sustainable and transparent use of marine and maritime resources.
- Ecological connectivity is one of the flagship sub-topics with the highest complementarities between CBCc (IT-HR; IT-SLO*; IPA South Adriatic; GR-IT).

3 –RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSION

Which are the complementarities emerging among the Programmes?

Programmes emphasized the importance of distinguishing between different levels of complementarities and interactions among programmes. The participating programmes expressed the need of a clear definition of the roles among different strands (cross-border vs. transnational), where the TN programme ADRION could play a relevant role at policy-making level. Depending on the topic, a higher or lower degree of complementarity may emerge and only in some cases a higher level of synergies may be required.

This flagship is very detailed and actions to be supported are clear, especially in terms of soft activities (such as training, networking, agreements, definition of joint models / practices, etc.)

What is the role ADRION programme could play?

The programmes recognized that ADRION should play a coordination role especially at policy-making level, by means of the definition of the main policy needs throughout the interaction with the relevant policy makers, which means that ADRION could play a pivotal role for CBCs, which can build on the results achieved by the transnational programme for future CBC projects (e.g. pilot actions). This role should be considered only for topics that require to define the policy framework by involving key actors. CBC Programmes identified several topics in which this role of coordination could be pursued based on the complementarities that emerged: green/blue investments, transition towards circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental risks prevention and management. Some programmes acknowledged ADRION's role also as a link between the CBCs and EUSAIR.

Which actions can support complementarity in embedding?

Time is important in establishing complementarities, according to the programmes. They will be finalised soon, and the first call will be issued in the first half of the year. Platforms for programme exchanges are regarded as extremely valuable, particularly because they allow for exchanges between CBCs and between ADRION and CBCs. A network of Mas (see the Baltic example) would serve as a relevant discussion forum for the coordination and the alignment of the call's calendars. Programmes specifically expressed the relevance of common calls or common elements (topics, type of actions etc.) as well as the need for “capitalising” on results and common resources, linked to the coordination role of ADRION. For this point, the suggestion is that ADRION might provide the framework for specific calls on the topics of the flagship whilst CBC programmes can implement specific actions at their level.

Programmes also suggested the involvement of pillar’s coordinators by providing inputs to the calls and actions to be supported and financed, as well as input to concrete proposals.

In this sense, joint thematic clusters/platforms/groups of projects (including all strands) as well as the involvement of TSG members as well as the link with TSG’s annual work plan.

Based on the ADRION’s experience, the thematic clusters already implemented could be used as informal platforms for exchange and integration, as well as a discussion forum for projects’ coordination and integration of actions and alignment with TSG inputs and members.

4 -Participants

| FLAGSHIP | PROGRAMMA | NOME | COGNOME |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 3.3 PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE GROWTH OF THEAI REGION BY IMPLEMENTING ICZM AND MSP ALSO TO CONTRIBUTE CRF ON ICZM OF BARCELONA CONVENTION AND THE MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS | Italia - Albania - Montenegro | Mauro | Novello |
| | Italia - Albania - Montenegro | Davide | Marcianò |
| | Grecia - Italia | Chrysoula | Pierrri |
| | Croazia - Serbia | Davor | Skocibusic |
| | Italia - Croazia | Francesca | Bonesso |
| | ADRION | Giulia | Frattini |
| | Serbia - Montenegro | Emil | Kocan |