

## Welcome to the 3rd newsletter of the **TUNE UP Interreg Med project!**

Despite the ongoing covid19 crisis, the 3rd project semester (January – June 2021) was full of activities for the TUNE UP partnership.

The “Testing phase”, aimed to develop local Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) as a tool to improve governance and hence management policies in

### **10 Marine Protected Areas** (MPAs)

in the Mediterranean Sea, is now concluded. The local MoUs are signed agreements between stakeholders that consist of a set of commonly agreed actions that deal with pressures, threats and conflicting interests related to the governance, environment and socio-economic development of the project pilot sites. To this end, the partnership engaged a variety of public and private stakeholders through a participatory process in the form of territorial labs. At each pilot site, the territorial labs were framed by local conferences, aimed to first introduce stakeholders to the project objectives and methodology and invite them to participate in the labs and then to encourage them to sign the local MoU.

### What we have achieved so far...



**21**  
**local conferences**



**39**  
**territorial labs**



**10**  
**signed MoUs**

Mémorandum  
d'Accord

Memorandum  
di Intesa

Sporazum  
o Sodelovanju

Manifesto d'Intenti

Memorandum  
of Understanding

Memorandum  
të Mirëkuptimi

Memorandum  
o Razumijevanju

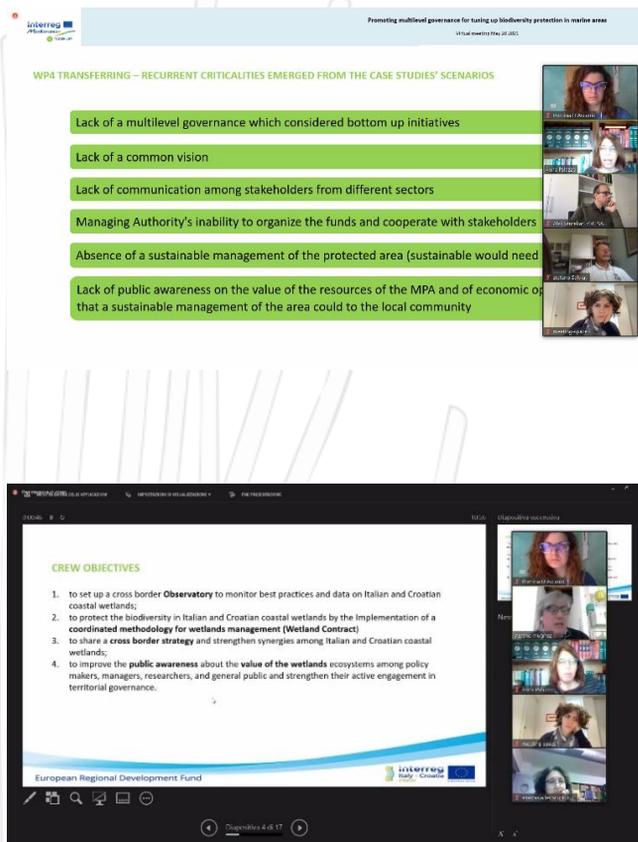
Μνημόνιο  
Συνεργασίας

Memorando  
de cooperación

To promote the local MoUs as a tool that could be replicated in other areas, as well as to engage more stakeholders in the future, the partnership produced **short videos**, where local and regional stakeholders talked about their ongoing activities and presented their vision for a better future at each pilot site and at the Mediterranean region as a whole.



Following the Testing phase, the partnership has also initiated the second stage of the “**Transferring phase**” that aims at transferring the produced knowledge and know-how to different contexts and to potential stakeholders beyond TUNE UP pilot sites. To this end, the partnership has been evaluating local experiences derived from the drafting of the local MoUs to prepare a report on **joint methodology for MPAs integrated management** that will be later disseminated through special events to a wide audience. An internal meeting was held in late May to discuss on the criticalities emerged in each pilot site with the participation of representatives from the [CREW Interreg Italy-Croatia project](#) who presented their own experience.



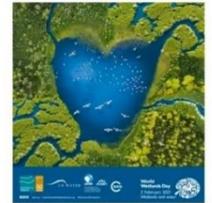
During this semester the partnership attended several **informational events** in order to disseminate the project objectives, methodology and outputs within the Interreg Med community and beyond, but also to learn more about similar initiatives that are carried out in the Mediterranean region and establish synergies with ongoing projects.

The semester started and concluded with two important dates, the World Wetlands Day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February and the World Environment Day on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. The partnership celebrated both dates by attending a [workshop](#) organized by the CREW Interreg Italy-Croatia project, as well as the virtual sessions of the [2020 MPA Forum](#) and a [workshop on pollution](#) in the Mediterranean, both of which were held during the [EU Green Week 2021](#).



**WWD 2021**

The 2021 campaign "WETLANDS AND WATER" highlights the contribution of wetlands to the quantity and quality of freshwater on our planet and encourages actions to restore them and stop their loss.



European Regional Development Fund



THE 2020 FORUM  
of Marine Protected Areas  
in the Mediterranean

Organised by:



www.medmpaforum.org

In partnership with:



With the financial support of:



MARINE PROTECTED AREAS:  
Everyone's Business.

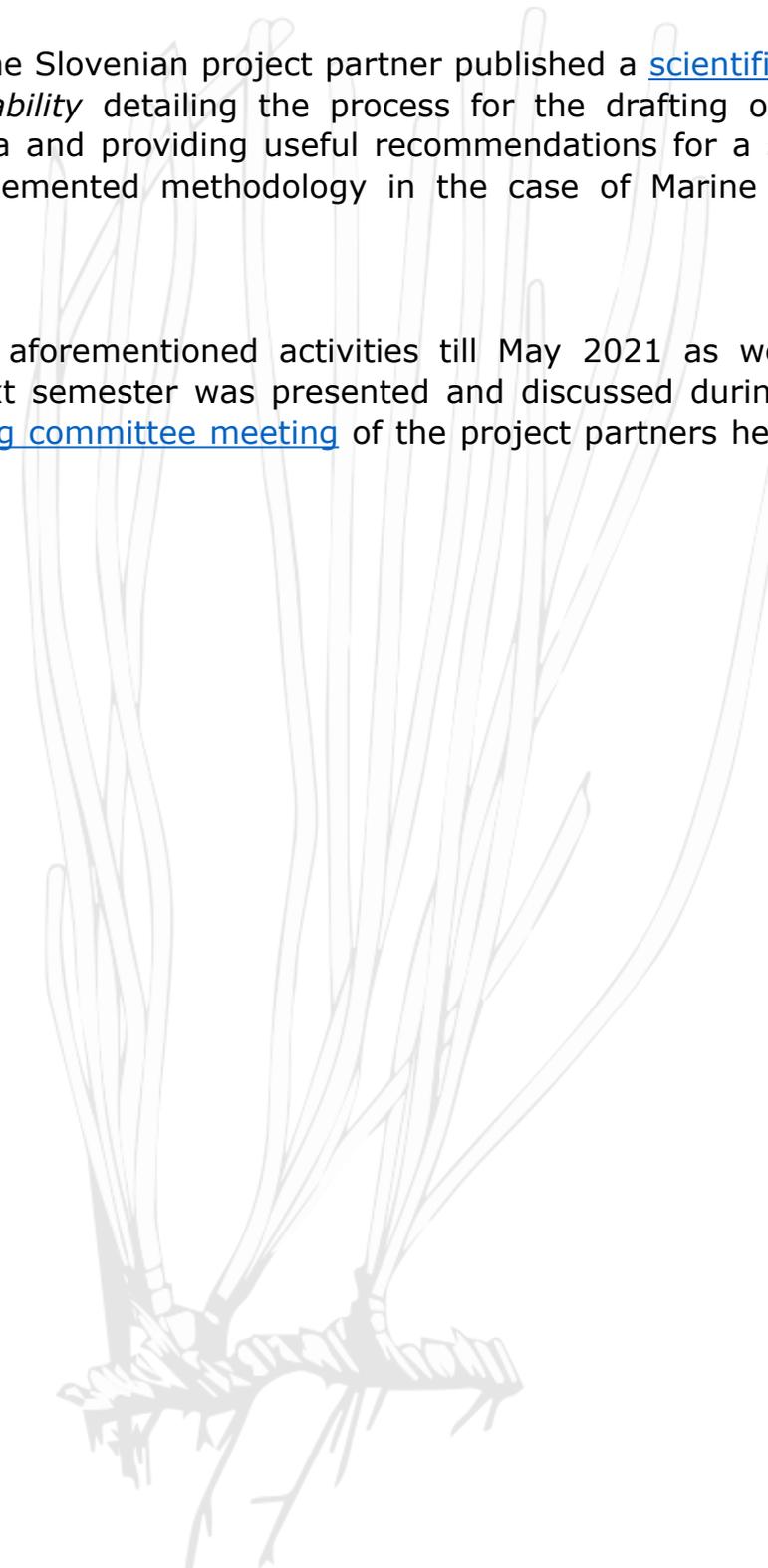
The project partnership attended various webinars organized by the [Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community](#) focusing on integrated ecosystem monitoring and management and sustainable management of natural resources, as well as contributed to the production of a technical factsheet regarding [Marine Renewable Energy in the Mediterranean Region](#).

The project partnership also attended a [training course](#) on advocacy and communication and a [webinar](#) on capitalization of Interreg Med projects, both organized by the [Interreg Med](#) project, as well as several external events, such as

- the [XVI Conference on fragile areas](#),
- the conference "[Marine Protected Areas: governing the complexity](#)"
- and the webinar on [Restoration of sand dune systems](#).

Last but not least, the Slovenian project partner published a [scientific study](#) in the journal *Sustainability* detailing the process for the drafting of Wetland Contracts in Slovenia and providing useful recommendations for a successful transfer of the implemented methodology in the case of Marine Protected Areas.

The progress of all aforementioned activities till May 2021 as well as the planning for the next semester was presented and discussed during the [5th transnational steering committee meeting](#) of the project partners held on May 13<sup>th</sup>.



The TUNE UP project is implemented by 12 partners from Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Albania, Slovenia and Montenegro and is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.



- [ANATOLIKI S.A.](#) (lead partner)

*Development Agency of eastern Thessaloniki's local authorities*



- [FAMP](#) - Andalusian Federation of Towns and Provinces



- [MedWet](#) - Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative



- [MEDSEA](#) - Mediterranean Sea and Coast Foundation



- [MM](#) - Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Albania



- [ZRC SAZU](#)

*Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts*



- [SEO/BirdLife](#) - Spanish Ornithological Society



- [TDV](#) - Tour du Valat Foundation



- [UOM](#) - University of Montenegro - Institute for marine biology



- [AWMB](#) - Amvrakikos Gulf - Lefkada Management Agency



- [UNIROMA3.](#) - University of Roma Tre - Department of architecture



- [AQP](#) - AQUAPROGRAM srl

**What to know more about our project activities?**

Visit our website

<https://tune-up.interreg-med.eu/>

& have a look at our promotional material [here](#).



**Stay TUNED for more!**