



IUCN CENTRE FOR MEDITERRANEAN COOPERATION

INTERSESSIONAL PROGRAMME 2009 - 2012



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1. INTRODUCTION

The IUCN Programme 2009-2012 – Shaping a Sustainable Future - is based on solid evidence and an assessment of political realities: we must work on the link between environmental health and human wellbeing and contribute an environmental perspective to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the 2010 target to reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity. All these have been approved by governments but none will succeed unless they are based on sound environmental principles.

As a component programme of the Union, the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (IUCN - Med), along with IUCN members and regional partners, will work within this framework over the intersessional period 2009-2012 through the implementation of a relevant, focused and sustainable programme that best responds to the priorities of the Mediterranean region.

The current document presents the draft 2009-2012 programme of IUCN-Med to be discussed with members and partners and finalised by the end of September 2007. The programme will be presented for approval during the World Conservation Congress (WCC) in Barcelona in October 2008.

The draft IUCN-Med Programme 2009-2012 was developed on the basis of an extensive situation analysis which will also be finalised and enriched through feedback from the broader IUCN constituency. The following section provides a brief synopsis of the major Mediterranean trends as reflected by this situation analysis.

2. THE MEDITERRANEAN: STATUS AND TRENDS

The Mediterranean-rim countries hold more than 400 million inhabitants and 135 million of them live on the Mediterranean coast. It is estimated that the population of the northern-rim nations will grow by around 4 million between 2000 and 2025 while the population of the southern- and eastern-rim nations will grow by around 93 million over the same period. This population growth is coupled with migration towards coastal areas, and specifically in the south and east of the Mediterranean, which is causing pressure on the coastal environment, and more importantly on its biodiversity. Mediterranean countries are also an international travel destination for nearly 200 million visitors per year, the majority of whom visit the coastal zone.

One of the main characteristics of the Mediterranean economy is its high dependence on its natural resources (water, ecosystems and energy) as well as activities that depend on these resources (agriculture, tourism, industry...). The continuous exploitation of those - including over consumption and inadequate management of water resources - will eventually have a detrimental effect on the economic growth, wealth and social wellbeing of the Mediterranean and its people. 60% of the global population suffering from water deficit (less than 1,000 m³/ hab/ year) live in the Mediterranean basin. The increasing pressures on water resources lead to a dramatic loss of the freshwater ecosystems and of the goods and services they provide.

The Mediterranean region has high levels of endemism that have led to its identification as a global biodiversity hotspot. However, and due mainly to human pressures (habitat loss or degradation, climate change, introduced species, pollution, overexploitation...) this biodiversity is at risk. About two-thirds of the cetaceans, one-fourth of the Amphibians, 42% of the Sharks and rays, more than half the endemic freshwater fish species and 13% of the reptiles are threatened with extinction, while more than 10 species of vertebrates are already extinct.

All across the Mediterranean, protected areas contribute, in addition to their conservation function, to human welfare, poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Among other things, they help protect species and genetic diversity, maintain ecosystem services, support livelihoods for local people, and provide a wide array of goods and opportunities. While the number and size of protected areas have been increasing, biological diversity continues to be lost in the region. One of the reasons for that could be the existing systems and governance aspects relevant to the creation and management of protected sites in the Mediterranean.

There is currently no existing framework in the Mediterranean to allow States to work together or inform each other on intentions to extend jurisdiction beyond the territorial sea. Putting in place such a framework of dialogue would reinforce the stability of the international relations between the States of the region and would also contribute to improving the systems of environmental governance of the Mediterranean, in particular of its high seas.

Aquaculture in the Mediterranean currently faces a significant challenge: how to fulfil the expectation of alleviating the pressure that fishing fleets exercise on fish populations and the increasing demand for sea products in local and international markets without leading to environmental problems. In order to avoid potential environmental disruption issues, it is important that the aquaculture sector is provided with clear, user friendly and scientifically-based guidelines to ensure its sustainable development.

The concept of establishing a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) is a step beyond the more traditional approach of establishing MPAs opportunistically, as single independent entities. The network concept suggests that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Through interconnections and interdependencies, the individual elements of the network contribute positively to each other's integrity and by distributing risk, decrease overall vulnerability. Connections between MPAs may be ecological, socio-economic, or both.

The need to increase the number of protected habitats and the quality of protection in under-represented Mediterranean Sea areas is apparent. Although more than twenty sites have been identified by countries of the Southern and eastern Mediterranean as unique and important habitats in need of protection, little progress in protection has occurred in the last 15 years. There is an urgent need to understand the potential causal factors for the discrepancy in protection between European and non-European MPAs that may include aspects of governance, institutional structures, wealth distribution, social capital, and the available conservation capacity and knowledge. Complimentary studies of marine

biodiversity must also be initiated in these areas to ensure sound design of marine reserves.

One of the challenges that the Mediterranean will be facing in the coming years is climate change. Scientific observation is confirming the perception of a warming world and other climate changes linked to increased emissions of greenhouse gases (such as CO₂) from human activities (energy, transport, agriculture, etc.). All countries in the Mediterranean are facing this global challenge. This has taken diverse pathways in the different countries, ranging from development of national legislation, private sector involvement, promoting knowledge and scientific research, investigating innovative adaptation strategies, and at times, in very few countries, looking at it as a distant threat that is too early to tackle.

With the additional threat of climate change, the Mediterranean region will be more vulnerable to drought and desertification. In combination with continuing pressure for economic growth, and the rapid population growth rates across the Mediterranean region, this will further threaten food security, unless coherent land tenure, adequate legal and institutional frameworks and effective management policies are established and enforced.

Land degradation, poverty, development pressures and climatic factors interact in a complex manner to influence food security. It is, therefore, essential that an integrated approach is developed to tackle those challenges, an approach that combines institutional and legal reform; economic and social development strategies; spatial planning and nature conservation; strategic environmental assessment of plans and programs; international partnerships; capacity building; and financial sustainability.

Energy use in the Mediterranean is linked to population growth and the Human Development Index: as a country develops, energy consumption patterns increase. The future projections of energy supply and demand in the region present a real challenge in terms of the potential impact on biodiversity, as well as the economic and socio-economic implications.

This overview of Mediterranean challenges presents the pressing need to develop an innovative programme that takes into account all the emerging issues that the region is facing, while at the same time giving special importance to activities that conserve biodiversity and promote sustainable and equitable use of natural resources. The challenges related to climate change and energy will need to be an integral part of this programme, examining their effects on the livelihoods of the people and on their security.

The IUCN programme for 2009-2012 – Shaping a Sustainable Future - cleverly responds to those challenges, and its key thematic areas will allow IUCN and its members and partners to work together on a results-based integrated programme that is relevant to the region. Those key thematic areas are detailed in Section 4 below.

3. IUCN VALUE PROPOSITION

IUCN is a knowledge-based organization. It makes its knowledge on practice and policy available to allow others to make informed decisions. It provides knowledge and tools, builds capacity to use these tools, and helps others develop more effective policies and laws, instruments and institutions.

Our strategy for change in Knowledge, Empowerment and Governance combines with our value chain to influence, encourage and assist natural resource managers to develop more sustainable practices. IUCN's interventions may take place at any point along the chain and are based on the understanding that empowering people to use relevant knowledge can influence decisions that will result in change.

IUCN's STRATEGY FOR CHANGE

Knowledge

IUCN generates knowledge that is applied by intended users to measurably support ecosystem and human wellbeing

Empowerment

IUCN increases the capacity and ability of key stakeholders to participate in relevant decision-making processes

Governance

IUCN delivers the evidence and guidance for improved and new policies and governance arrangements that conserve biodiversity and improve livelihoods

IUCN's main assets are its dedicated networks of members and volunteer experts, its constituency of both governments and private bodies, and its highly motivated world-wide Secretariat. Recognizing that nothing short of a global alliance and new ways of thinking and conceiving solutions will achieve the changes necessary for a more sustainable world, IUCN seeks to manage and deliver its work based on the following value proposition:

A. IUCN provides credible, trusted knowledge and strong technical capacities

IUCN is known for its sound scientific base in conservation and sustainable resource management, particularly in the fields of ecosystem management; marine, forest, water, and species conservation; protected area management; sustainable development linked to poverty reduction; and natural resource management and decision-making tools. IUCN derives its value as a trusted source of knowledge from its expert commission networks, its members, partners and its highly competent and committed staff. IUCN intends to improve its ability to produce and support the use of cutting-edge knowledge and to respond to emerging conservation and sustainable development issues.

B. IUCN builds consensus and partnerships for action

Its unique structure and credibility allow IUCN to convene a range of stakeholders to address the most important conservation issues. The Union can bring divergent views together, build consensus and promote joint actions and solutions.

C. IUCN has a global and strategic reach

IUCN Members value the Union's global reach and spread, and the potential to share resources across political and cultural boundaries. Its essence is to connect governments, civil society, NGOs, science and the business communities to improve conservation policy and action. It connects the actions of its various

networks in the field with global policy work. And it connects the conservation issues and achievements to wider societal objectives such as security and poverty reduction at the national and international level.

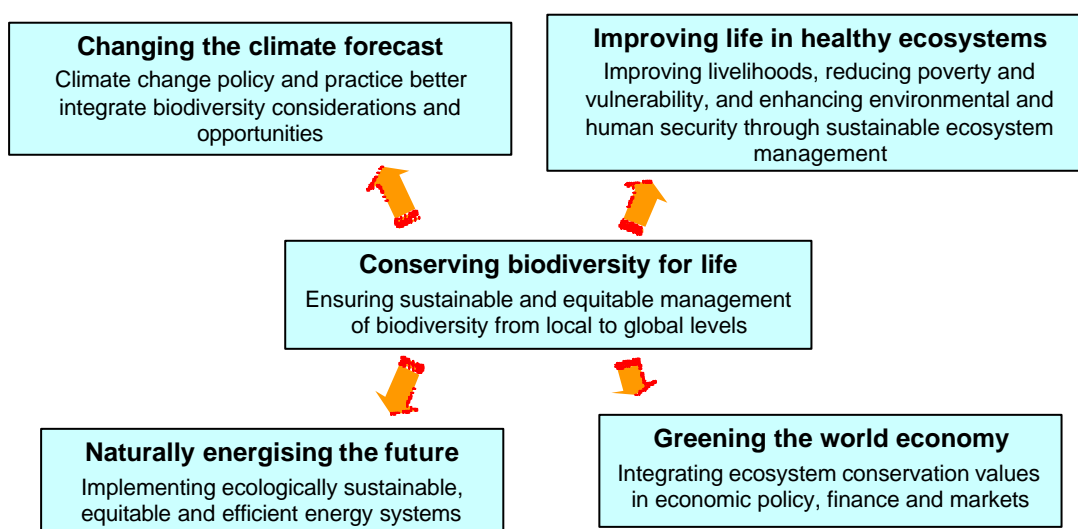
D. IUCN is nature’s representative at the United Nations

IUCN is the only qualifier environmental organisation with a seat at the UN General Assembly. This provides IUCN members with an important and unique entry into the significant world of international debate on environment and development. Its UN Observer Status is a powerful conduit for the concerns of its members at the international level.

Through purposeful management and governance IUCN strives to ensure that the different elements of the Union contribute their knowledge, skills and expertise to achieve a stronger level of influence and impact than would be possible as individual actors. The IUCN Programme 2009-2012 is based on these unique strengths and seeks to improve them where possible to deliver conservation and sustainable development at both global and local scale for the benefit of people and nature.

4. IUCN GLOBAL THEMATIC PRIORITIES AND GLOBAL RESULTS

The IUCN Programme simultaneously strengthens the Union’s heartland work on conserving the diversity of life, while developing more effective and strategic interventions linked to the global agenda for sustainable development in the areas of climate change, energy, poverty and security, and economy and markets. The five thematic priority areas of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012 are not equal: thematic priority area 1 (conserving the diversity of life) underpins areas 2 to 5 and it is the interaction between environmental policy and practice with the 4 other areas the IUCN Programme 2009-2012 focuses on.



For the first time, the IUCN Programme 2009-2012 is fully results-based. It will incorporate clear indicators and measures of success for each result at global and component programme level to monitor progress. It will also explicitly recognise the importance of cross-cutting themes including cultural sensitivity, rights-based approaches and gender equity in achieving successful conservation.

The IUCN Programme 2009-2012 identifies a set of 10 global results within the 5 Thematic Priority areas:

Thematic priority area 1 - Conserving the diversity of life

Ensuring sustainable and equitable management of biodiversity from local to global levels

Global result 1.1: Biodiversity-related policies and governance systems enable action towards the achievement of biodiversity conservation.

Global result 1.2: IUCN standards, tools and knowledge for sustainable natural resource management available and used for biodiversity conservation including effective management of global and regional common natural resources.

Thematic priority area 2 - Changing the climate forecast

Integrating biodiversity considerations and opportunities into climate change policy and practice

Global result 2.1: Climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and practice include biodiversity concerns from local to global level.

Global result 2.2: Natural resources management policies and strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change are adopted and implemented.

Thematic priority area 3 - Naturally energizing the future

Implementing ecologically sustainable, equitable and efficient energy systems

Global result 3.1: Energy policies and strategies mitigate the impact of the growing energy demand on biodiversity.

Global result 3.2: Ecosystem services that underpin sustainable and equitable energy, are incorporated in energy policies and strategies

Thematic priority area 4 - Managing ecosystems for human well-being

Improving livelihoods, reducing poverty and vulnerability, and enhancing environmental and human security through sustainable ecosystem management

Global result 4.1: Development policies and strategies support vulnerable and poor stakeholders, especially women, to sustainably manage ecosystems for improved livelihoods

Global result 4.2: Sustainable environmental management reduces vulnerability to natural hazards and conflicts.

Thematic priority area 5 - Greening the world economy

Integrating ecosystem conservation values in economic policy, finance and markets

Global result 5.1: Economic, trade and investment policies better integrate biodiversity values.

Global result 5.2: Companies, industry associations and consumer groups incorporate ecosystem values into planning and action.

5. MEDITERRANEAN COMPONENT RESULTS AND SUB- RESULTS

The Programme framework strengthens the Union’s heartland work on conserving the diversity of life, while developing more effective and strategic interventions linked to the global agenda for sustainable development in the areas of climate change, energy, poverty and security, and economy and markets.

This section details the results and sub-results that IUCN-Med will be working closely with all its members and partners to implementing the programme for 2009-2012, in an effort to make a difference in the Mediterranean region in the years to come. This programme is based on the thematic priority areas of the Global IUCN Programme – Shaping a Sustainable Future – and contributes to its results. Throughout the 4 years of this intersessional programme, IUCN-Med will develop annual work plans based on these results to deliver a comprehensive programme that responds to regional priorities, and will engage with members, partners and new constituencies to make an effective and valuable impact.

Thematic priority area 1 - Conserving the diversity of life Ensuring sustainable and equitable management of biodiversity from local to global levels

Global result 1.1: Biodiversity-related policies and governance systems enable action towards the achievement of biodiversity conservation.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>1.1.1</p> <p>The coherence and representativeness of the Mediterranean MPA network is enhanced by increasing the number and quality of MPAs in the underrepresented South and East Mediterranean Coast</p>	<p>Knowledge of under-studied and under-protected species, habitats and landscapes improved in the region</p> <p>The Mediterranean Action Plan of the Barcelona Convention, GFCM and other relevant actors identify linkages to promote a spatial system for the protection of Mediterranean marine biodiversity</p> <p>A widely-accessible, centralised information platform is develop to provide standardised scientific data to decision-makers and resource managers</p> <p>Areas of biological importance and gaps in the protected areas networks are identified, based on species, habitat and landscape data</p> <p>Clear support to the network of protected areas, especially Marine Protected Areas, in terms of capacity building, legal framework and management tools is provided to at least 4 under-represented countries in the Mediterranean</p> <p>Institutional challenges to MPA designation in 5 countries in the underrepresented regions are</p>

	<p>assessed</p> <p>Social resilience of associated communities and the impacts of MPAs on local populations are assessed in 5 countries.</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>The high endemism of the Mediterranean Sea provides a strong motivation to develop a comprehensive plan for the conservation of its biodiversity. Thus, marine protected area (MPA) efforts in the Mediterranean should prioritise those species and habitats of global ecological importance. However, the long history of resource exploitation and the multi-jurisdictional governance impose socio-economic and political constraints on MPA implementation and management. In particular, before Mediterranean MPAs can contribute to marine conservation globally, it is imperative that they protect a comprehensive network of regional habitats representative of the ecological resources of this shared basin. Today, Mediterranean MPAs are far from being representative. Of the 70 marine areas currently under some type of protection or management in the region, all but one are coastal, and the majority (56 or 80%) are located along the basin's northern shore. Ten (14%) are in the east and 4 (6%) are located in the south.</i></p>	
<p>1.1.2</p> <p>Knowledge, dialogue and cooperation is enhanced to improve the management of Mediterranean high seas (the pelagic and deep sea ecosystems)</p>	<p>Multi-stakeholder dialogue established for the management and protection of the Mediterranean high seas (the pelagic and deep sea ecosystems)</p> <p>The ecology and governance specificities of the Mediterranean high sea ecosystems are better understood and documented</p> <p>Policy framework for marine governance in the high seas is analysed and improved</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>For historical and geographical reasons, the Mediterranean coastal states did not declare their Exclusive Economic Zones. Therefore most of the Mediterranean falls under the regime of the high sea or under pseudo EEZ that are not fully recognized by neighbours. Better knowledge of the Mediterranean high sea (pelagic and deep sea ecosystems) and improvement of the regional governance through enhanced consultation are the necessary steps towards the protection of these valuable ecosystems.</i></p>	
<p>1.1.3</p> <p>Strategies of at least 2 of the IUCN-Med main donors and cooperation agencies clearly take into account Mediterranean priority issues for biodiversity conservation when providing development aid</p>	<p>At least 2 Cooperation Agencies include conservation priorities for the Mediterranean, identified and developed through IUCN and its constituencies, in their cooperation strategies</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>Development cooperation in the Mediterranean is expanding, and donor agencies in the Northern rim are allocating more funds to support conservation and sustainable development efforts of neighbouring countries in the Mediterranean. IUCN could add value to this aid through providing input into the priorities that need to be supported and the main drivers that should be tackled to make this cooperation more effective. Through the IUCN constituency, this information at the country level is available and could guide priority setting and strategies for North-South cooperation.</i></p>	

Global result 1.2: IUCN standards, tools and knowledge for sustainable natural resource management available and used for biodiversity conservation including effective management of global and regional common natural resources.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>1.2.1</p> <p>At least 4 countries and 1 regional agreement clearly incorporate threatened (and invasive) species components in their conservation strategies</p>	<p>Review of the Barcelona Convention's species related annexes takes into account IUCN's latest species updates</p> <p>National species assessment processes are in place and affect conservation policies</p> <p>Regional status and threats of 8 taxonomic groups assessed to help guide conservation strategies</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> <i>IUCN enjoys the long term credibility of the Global Red List as a global assessment and monitoring tool while ensuring that global standards are made available at the national level. The principal base to ensure sustainability lies in the support of the scientific networks (also within Regional Conventions), relevant government agencies and NGOs that can sustain Red Listing assessment and species information processes in the future, as well as stimulating the capacity to deal with periodic assessments and use the Red Lists at a national level and regional levels. This will be coupled with transferring this knowledge into policy to actively affect conservation.</i></p>	
<p>1.2.2</p> <p>Biodiversity conservation is enhanced in 4 priority ecoregions of the Mediterranean Sea through clearly taking into consideration science-based knowledge on ecosystems, landscapes, habitats and species</p>	<p>Priorities identified and conservation action promoted on the basis of comprehensive analysis of landscapes, habitats and species data in at least 3 different ecosystems</p> <p>Knowledge on ecosystems, landscapes, habitats and species data are integrated to help guide effective biodiversity conservation</p> <p>Knowledge is developed to share and guide actions and results across Mediterranean countries on management of invasive species</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> <i>As part of the Mediterranean Representative Areas and Species (RAS) Program in IUCN-Med a major component will be to identify conservation priorities for the Mediterranean Sea. This project will highlight key species, habitats, associated threats and broader geographical areas in need of urgent action in order to guide the implementation of a representative network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) that is mentioned above. An information and management tool for decision support will be developed for decision-makers. The work will be undertaken in collaboration with scientists, managers and policy-makers in the region to compile, analyze and communicate integrated information. This will allow a more comprehensive analysis to be conducted and areas to be identified for priority conservation actions. The project builds on existing knowledge in the Mediterranean and aims at creating a science-based foundation to allow conservation planners and managers to make informed decisions.</i></p>	
<p>1.2.3</p> <p>National conservation action plans and programmes in at least 4 countries in the Mediterranean take into consideration the recommendations of ratified International Conventions and Agreements</p>	<p>CBD Programme of work on protected areas (POWPA) mainstreamed in national conservation policies in 2 countries</p> <p>The Ecosystem Approach guides sustainable development actions in 4 priority sectors</p> <p>Pilot initiatives are developed to help guide the implementation of IMO action plans (ballast</p>

	waters, Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas - PSSAs) and the UNCCD 10 year Strategic Plan
<p><i>Rationale</i> International commitments, and specifically for southern and eastern Mediterranean countries, are frequently regarded as top-down, and delivering on those commitments is cumbersome as it is viewed as a parallel process to efforts undertaken at the national level. This result will help mainstream both processes and imbed those commitments within national programmes and strategies to make it support and guide national conservation planning. There are several successful initiatives relevant to that in the Mediterranean, and sharing of knowledge and know-how will form an integral part of delivering that result.</p>	

**Thematic priority area 2 - Changing the climate forecast
Integrating biodiversity considerations and opportunities into climate change policy and practice**

Global result 2.1: Climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and practice include biodiversity concerns from local to global level.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>2.1.1</p> <p>Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries (likely to be most climate change effected regions in the Mediterranean) are better able to access international funds and mechanisms for climate change adaptation and mitigation</p>	<p>IUCN position papers more clearly reflect regional (Mediterranean) issues</p> <p>IUCN climate change knowledge and strategies (adaptation and mitigation) relevant to different ecosystems and/or economic activities (i.e. agriculture, tourism...) are conveyed to members and partners to enhance their effective participation in national and regional debates</p> <p>Participation of Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries is effectively enhanced within global climate change policy negotiations</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> International policy negotiations urge extended knowledge of the issues being debated in order for national and regional positions and concerns to be included in the international conservation agendas. With some exceptions, several members and partners in the Mediterranean still need support to actively participate in this process. This was expressed as a priority need for members in North Africa, and the position papers and knowledge that IUCN produces will form the base for delivering that result. This will also extend to negotiations of various debates (CBD, CITES, CAP...) when climate change is implied.</p>	

Global result 2.2: Natural resources management policies and strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change are adopted and implemented.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>2.2.1</p> <p>Adaptation strategies that enhance the security of vulnerable communities, with a focus on gender, are operationalised in</p>	<p>Pilot projects are defined and implemented in at least 3 priority areas to asses vulnerability and strengthen social resilience, with special attention to communities in drylands, agricultural areas and islands</p>

selected priority areas where IUCN and its members are active	Knowledge is provided to vulnerable groups, with special regard to women in natural hazard areas, on how to manage risk to reduce vulnerability to disasters
<p><i>Rationale</i> <i>Cooperation among Mediterranean countries will be promoted as climate change is not just centralised in one country or one ecosystem, and neither will its effects be. Pilot initiatives will be developed to benefit from national experiences to affect regional policies which will ultimately contribute to global challenges, taking into account the development of adequate knowledge and proposing strategies that would help inform decision-makers, especially in the fields of energy, transport and agriculture. This will include measures that minimise vulnerabilities to climate variability and extreme weather events, which can help vulnerable communities reduce their exposure to climate-related hazards and extend options for sustaining livelihoods. Managers of natural resources will increasingly need to pay more attention to how to incorporate climate change into their decisions and develop strategies for adaptation.</i></p>	
<p>2.2.2</p> <p>Strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change developed and implemented in at least 3 Mediterranean priority ecosystems (forest, dryland, marine and water ecosystems)</p>	<p>Strategies relevant to adaptation of Mediterranean ecosystems, especially forests and drylands, to climate change is developed and applied within at least 2 pilot sites</p> <p>Principles of ecological resilience, as developed for coral reefs, are applied to Mediterranean marine habitats</p> <p>IUCN knowledge on environmental flows is promoted, tested and implemented in the Mediterranean, in at least 5 sites</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>At the Mediterranean level, a recent Europe-wide assessment investigating ecosystem service supply during the 21st century (Schröter et al) found out that large changes in climate and land use typically resulted in large changes in ecosystem service supply. Those changes will increase vulnerability due to a decreasing supply of ecosystem services and adaptation strategies should be developed and applied to help ecosystems and the communities depending on them cope with that change. IUCN-Med will promote the application of ecological resilience principles* in understanding and managing the impacts of climate change on priority ecosystems and habitats.</i></p> <p><i>* Ecological resilience can be defined as the capability of a system to undergo, absorb and respond to change and disturbance (i.e. recover), while maintaining its structure and functions.</i></p>	

Thematic priority area 3 - Naturally energizing the future
Implementing ecologically sustainable, equitable and efficient energy systems
Global result 3.1: Energy policies and strategies mitigate the impact of the growing energy demand on biodiversity.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>3.1.1</p> <p>At least 3 private partners develop and implement initiatives that mitigate the impacts of their activities on biodiversity and security</p>	<p>Dialogue with energy sector initiated to mainstream conservation issues into their development activities</p> <p>Guidelines on best practices are elaborated, in collaboration with IUCN Business and Biodiversity programme, and shared with members and partners to guide their actions and decisions</p>

	Criteria developed and disseminated for mainstreaming gender, equitable access and biodiversity in energy related issues
<p><i>Rationale</i> The energy sector through, its close dependence and subsequent impact on natural resources, should play an active role in offsetting its ecological footprint. Improving knowledge and developing best practice guidelines, including equitable access, to accompany energy development projects and technologies could be one of IUCN's strengths in engaging with this sector.</p>	

Global result 3.2: Ecosystem services that underpin sustainable and equitable energy, are incorporated in energy policies and strategies

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>3.2.1</p> <p>Impact management tools and methods (avoidance / mitigation / offsets) are incorporated into national energy policy and/or energy development initiatives in at least 2 countries in the Mediterranean</p>	<p>Cost-benefit analysis and strategic impact assessment (including consumption) of available and possible energy options on biodiversity and livelihoods is undertaken in at least 2 countries</p> <p>Knowledge and expert advice is provided to at least 2 Mediterranean governments to assess the impact of energy development initiatives</p> <p>Biodiversity offsets (protected area designation, landscape restoration, carbon credits...) are developed and effectively implemented in at least 2 countries</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> Through increased understanding, Impact Assessment provides people with some measure of "positive" control over the environment by opposing the "negative" control that development might exert. Impact assessment provides analytical methods to study organisms and their relationships to, and interactions with, their environments. It can also describe significant changes in ecological and social interactions and identify significant negative effects and possible remedies. Impact assessment and monitoring programs face a number of technical constraints that lead to inconclusive assessments on which management decisions can be based. As a result, assessment and monitoring programs may infrequently detect impact. However, pragmatic designs and adequately communicating uncertainty will lead to more prudent conservation and management. In the event that biodiversity impacts can not be avoided, offsetting impacts may be an alternative solution. The aim of a biodiversity offset is to ensure that the overall status of biodiversity, following anthropogenic impacts or a development project, is at least as good as it was before development activities or human impact occurred</p>	
<p>3.2.2</p> <p>Incentives are developed to ensure sustainable use of ecosystem dependent energy sources in at least 3 pilot sites</p>	<p>Marketable alternative energy sources identified and sharing of knowledge and transfer of technology are facilitated across the Mediterranean</p> <p>Economic, institutional, legal, fiscal and policy incentive options that are adaptable to the Mediterranean context are developed and shared to guide action, in at least 2 relevant contexts across the Mediterranean</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> Alternative energy options are becoming more and more attractive for Mediterranean Governments, but adopting one or several of those options should be dealt with due diligence to ensure their adaptability, impact on natural resources and livelihoods and long term viability.</p>	

To ensure that, sharing of experiences and dialogue is essential and IUCN will help in facilitating that and bringing the private sector together with members and partners to identify the best available and suitable technologies. Natural resources, and in many instances, are not used sustainably and thus the provision of the services they provide is becoming limited. In the international market, most of the products or services, such as energy for example, do not integrate the real value of the ecosystems and the cost of its degradation in the final price. In that way, incentives like subsidies provided by state or organisations as quotas or credits, taxes... will be used as a key managing tools to act at different levels (macro and micro-economy) to influence the energy practices in a sustainable way. This should be coupled by several other incentives and mechanisms like political, legal and institutional to be effective on the long term.

**Thematic priority area 4 - Managing ecosystems for human well-being
Improving livelihoods, reducing poverty and vulnerability, and enhancing
environmental and human security through sustainable ecosystem management**

Global result 4.1: Development policies and strategies support vulnerable and poor stakeholders, especially women, to sustainably manage ecosystems for improved livelihoods

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>4.1.1</p> <p>Development of aquaculture and fishing activities in 4 pilot sites developed to emphasize sustainability and gender equity of benefits</p>	<p>Integrated management of sustainable aquaculture and fishing is tested in 4 pilot sites, taking into consideration relevant governance issues</p> <p>Guidelines for the application of ecosystem approach to aquaculture in the region developed and disseminated</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> Aquaculture practices are quickly developing. But they raise many concerns too. The impact of aquaculture facilities and infrastructure may affect the local fauna and flora negatively, including threatened species, and are having a major impact on the resources of local communities. The sustainable development of aquaculture is a major issue, and to make it sustainable, we need to see the whole picture. There are numerous options available to make it durable and environmentally safe through best management practices and appropriate siting, but others as facilities with close water systems, offshore farms or low density aquaculture are possible. Many challenges can fade away by improving the management of fish farms and aquaculture practices and by following the existing codes of conduct (e.g. Food and Agriculture Organization – Federation of European Aquaculture Producers) and good practices, making the industry more sustainable and equitable.</p>	
<p>4.1.2</p> <p>Improved natural resource governance (land tenure, property rights...) is supported in at least 3 countries in the Mediterranean to contribute to the livelihoods of local communities and the sustainable management of ecosystems</p>	<p>Improved governance of the drylands is supported in at least 2 countries to mitigate ecosystem degradation and livelihood insecurity</p> <p>Enabling policies are defined to support the role of Protected Areas in livelihood security in selected countries</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> Current governance structures in a number of Mediterranean countries, mainly relevant to drylands, protected areas and forest areas, threaten to exacerbate both ecosystem degradation and livelihood insecurity. There is an urgent need to resolve inequitable tenure and rights regimes, strengthen democratic decision-making and help resolve natural-based conflicts. A main component for that to succeed is the empowerment of local communities in land use planning and decision-making to guarantee their right to food water and health.</p>	

Global result 4.2: Sustainable environmental management reduces vulnerability to natural hazards and conflicts.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>4.2.1</p> <p>Security (food, health, water...) of communities, especially in drylands, increased through traditional resource management in at least 8 pilot initiatives</p>	<p>Traditional uses & methodologies (water harvesting, land management, pastoral activities, biodiversity conservation and diversification...) are compiled and applicability tested is at least 3 pilot sites</p> <p>Integrated management of water resources in the Mediterranean basin is promoted and effectively implemented in 5 pilot sites</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>Traditional uses and methodologies will be studied and their relevance to present economic, demographic and ecological conditions will be tested through pilot initiatives. This will allow for the provision of ample knowledge of needed and relevant technologies that could accompany traditional ones and that contribute to livelihood security of local communities. Moreover, water scarcity and land degradation are among the key drivers that affect livelihood security and there will be special emphasis on those, with applied research and implementation in pilot sites.</i></p>	
<p>4.2.2</p> <p>Resilience of communities to natural and associated policy or governance changes is enhanced in 5 priority areas</p>	<p>Social resilience of resource-dependant communities is assessed and impacts in of resource management policy minimised in 5 countries</p> <p>Managing ecosystems for reducing vulnerability is promoted in at least 3 priority areas (such as desertification, conflicts and for a vital and threatened resource in islands).</p> <p>Vulnerable groups, threats and potential tools (Protected Areas, forest restoration, collaborative management, etc.) for addressing these threats are identified and implemented in at least 2 pilot cases.</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>Mediterranean ecosystems are under unprecedented threat. Management strategies (such as protected areas or restoration efforts for example) are often pursued with vigour however have too often been only a qualified success. Management strategies can fail to achieve conservation and socioeconomic goals if they fail to integrate the human dimension, i.e. they are too expensive, meet with resistance and conflict or fail to equally distribute their costs and benefits. Understanding the tensions associated with natural or policy change and investing in information that can minimise costs and inequities in the cost burden is key to maximising management effectiveness. This result is designed to increase the potential for management success by describing a framework to assist with integrating the human dimensions. We look towards North Africa as a priority and show how knowledge of the relationship between people and the resource (resource dependency), the consequences of altering the relationship (social resilience) and attitudes towards conservation provide the foundations for improving prospective management success. In these areas, managers and relevant actors will be supported in understanding the social and economic ramifications of policy implementation that may exceed the resilience of resource-users. By measuring resource dependency, social resilience and conservation attitudes we can assess the potential risks associated with policy change and develop strategies to minimise negative social consequences to improve its long term viability and utility.</i></p>	
<p>4.2.3</p> <p>Ecosystem goods and services</p>	<p>Sustainable tourism principles are promoted through at least 3 projects, contributing to the livelihoods and communities living in and</p>

<p>contribute directly, sustainably and equitably to improved livelihoods in at least 8 selected areas</p>	<p>around protected areas;</p> <p>At least 3 projects which integrate conservation in spatial planning and land use in key sectors (such as tourism, agriculture and development initiatives) are promoted</p> <p>Valuation of dryland ecosystem services is undertaken and their contribution to the economy is assessed in at least 4 pilot sites</p> <p>Gender empowerment of vulnerable biodiversity dependent communities is undertaken in at least 2 pilot initiatives</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> There is a strong need to demonstrate the value of ecosystem services to be able to send a stronger message to decision-makers on the urgent need to conserve those ecosystems. Valuation of those services and their integration into national planning processes will support those efforts. Development plans in several Mediterranean countries are still jeopardising many of the ecosystems on which the livelihoods of several communities depend. Adequate tools will be identified and promoted to support the integration of environmental criteria in spatial planning for the limitation of urban sprawl and the protection of Mediterranean biodiversity. This will also allow for integrated management of natural resources and their taking into account within the overall national planning processes.</p>	

Thematic priority area 5 - Greening the world economy – The Mediterranean context -

Integrating ecosystem conservation values in economic policy, finance and markets

Global result 5.1: Economic, trade and investment policies better integrate biodiversity values.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>5.1.1</p> <p>Key selected sectors (aquaculture, tourism, maritime traffic) clearly integrate biodiversity issues in their operations</p>	<p>Mediterranean coastal countries integrate the risks of maritime traffic on biodiversity in their maritime regulations</p> <p>IUCN/Med, Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and other relevant actors (World Tourism Org) develop and apply sustainable tourism principles in the region</p> <p>Guidelines for the sustainable development of aquaculture are elaborated, disseminated and applied in the region, in collaboration with the aquaculture production organisations and the national/regional government, intergovernmental bodies and other relevant partners</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i> Several marine, maritime and tourism development sectors have been operating without taking much care of the environment, or doing so timidly as part of their corporate social responsibility programmes. However, recently, those sectors are realizing how important it is for their operations to take care of the ecosystem services that they are using. Establishing dialogue and working with those sectors will allow IUCN to introduce conservation and sustainable use principles into their regulations, code of practices and code of conducts.</p>	

Global result 5.2: Companies, industry associations and consumer groups incorporate ecosystem values into planning and action.

IUCN-Med Component Programme Results	IUCN-Med Component Programme Sub-Results
<p>5.2.1</p> <p>Five major businesses clearly incorporate environmental concerns into their operations, plans and strategies</p>	<p>Internal corporate policies to promote environmental conservation (green grants, micro-credit, environmental funds, sponsorships, best practices, codes of conduct, etc.) are identified and promoted with at least 5 private businesses/associations</p> <p>Mediterranean leading maritime companies adopt action plans for addressing the risks of maritime traffic on biodiversity</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>Human activities as mass tourism and agriculture are major contributors to the economy of the Mediterranean and have direct and indirect impacts on biodiversity. Several private companies in the Mediterranean are aware of their foot print and have already initiated some activities for biodiversity conservation, but those actions or activities are implemented in sporadic way and would function more efficiently with an integrated approach or strategy. Mainstreaming environmental concerns into strategies will allow the private sector to be pro-active in finding adapted technologies and solutions for biodiversity conservation, thus serving risk management and creating further business opportunities.</i></p>	
<p>5.2.2</p> <p>Conservation financing is pursued and supported through the development of local green businesses</p>	<p>Assessment of entrepreneurial possibilities through North-South cooperation is undertaken to contribute to the development of ecosystem-based businesses (fair trade, labelling...) , with special focus on gender empowerment</p> <p>Public-private partnerships are investigated in 2 pilot areas, in collaboration with the IUCN Business and Biodiversity Programme</p>
<p><i>Rationale</i></p> <p><i>Several nature-based businesses have shown success in contributing to biodiversity conservation and improving living standards, mainly of women in North Africa, through giving economic value to natural resources and linking the ecosystem directly or indirectly to economic growth and security. In a region shared by countries at different levels of economic development and ecological visions, cooperation and partnerships could play a main role in instigating green entrepreneurship. That partnership could take different forms, from biodiversity issues and improved understanding among potential business stakeholders, to long term contractual arrangements and act as a real tool to make initiatives more efficient and sustainable.</i></p>	