

## Welcome to the 5th newsletter of the TUNE UP Interreg Med project

The 5th project semester (January-June 2022) was marked by the completion of the activities in the context of TUNE UP since it is the last semester of the project. TUNE UP partners focused their efforts on capitalisation and dissemination/communication activities having testing and transferring phases been completed at the previous semesters. The lifting of the restriction measures that were imposed due to Covid19 pandemic permitted the conduction of the final event in person. The material that was produced during this period oriented towards many of the deliverables of the project according to the application form.

### Capitalisation phase

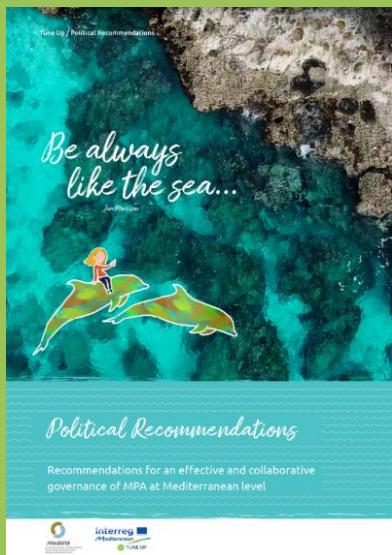
This last phase of the Tune Up project coordinated by [MedWet](#) aimed at transferring the results of the central piece of the Capitalization process, the Regional Policy Toolkit, during the Capacity building Seminars. In this context TUNE UP partners organized Capacity Building Seminars to further exchange and transfer experiences in the effective governance of Marine Protected Areas by inviting local MPAs managers and representatives of regional and/or national authorities in the same territories. The objective of the CB seminars was the uptake of project results into regional policy instruments and regulations and the consequent signing of a Regional Memorandum of Understanding for each TUNE UP pilot.

The CB seminar organized by Tour Du Valat was combined with a field trip in two Turkish MPAs aiming to raise awareness about how voluntary environmental contracts can be used in Turkish MPAs.



Since one of the most crucial aspects on the governance of MPA is the political contribution, MedWet concluded in six political recommendations which was published in a booklet. The publication further promoted the importance of the Environmental Contracts in the optimal management of protected areas especially in territories where no governance schemes and structures are in place.

More specifically the following topics were highlighted:



1. Further encourage Member States to systematize the use of collaborative processes by promoting the appropriation of environmental contract tools and embedding in their regulations.
2. Introduce a common framework fostering a standard approach while allowing for flexibility.
3. Set up funding programs tailored for fostering environmental collaborative process.
4. Foster a financial facility for ensuring the rewarding of environmental collaborative process.
5. Further encourage Member states to involve national, regional and local levels.
6. Encourage the transfer of expertise and experiences between actors and initiatives to improve the capacities of the Mediterranean community and foster its empowerment in the implementation of voluntary cooperation agreements.

Within the first semester of 2022 a series of activities aiming: i) the wide capitalization of TUNE UP methodology at the scientific community at Med and international level ii) the encouragement of synergies with other networks, initiatives and projects and iii) the promotion of a shared strategy for biodiversity preservation took place. These activities were coordinated by MedWet with the active participation and involvement of all PPs.

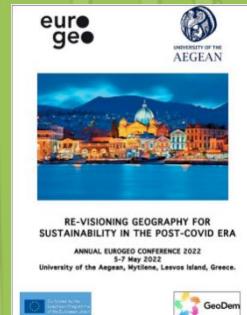


The first workshop was organized by MEDSEA Foundation and MEDWET with the support of the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community (MBPC) on the 18th of January 2022 to present the main principles of the Tune Up project and to seek points of contact between Tune Up and the other Interreg MED projects by sharing and discussing their results. Crucial element of this activity was the promotion of synergies with other networks, initiatives and projects which all share a common vision for the biodiversity preservation.

In April and May 2022 three more capitalization seminars were carried out focused on the scientific community without excluding other actors involved in the multilevel governance of MPAs. These seminars, which followed the first capitalization seminar presented during the IUCN WCC in Marseille (September 2021), took place as below:

**1. Second Capitalization seminar.** Use of voluntary environmental contracts for wetland governance in the European Mediterranean region - (and their adaptation to MPAs): Experiences from the INTERREG MED WETNET & TUNE UP projects, 15th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, Athens 11-14 of April 2022 <https://www.atiner.gr/2022mdt-pro>.

**2. Third Capitalization seminar .**How to improve life below water (SDG14) through participative governance in Mediterranean territories? The experience of adaptation of the Environmental contract, a powerful tool for Marine Protected Areas, Re-visioning geography for sustainability in the post-covid era, Lesvos (Greece) 05th - 07th May 2022.



Two screenshots of event websites for the third capitalization seminar. The left screenshot shows a slide titled 'Tune Up - The experience of Promoting multilevel governance for tuning up biodiversity protection in marine areas - and similar initiatives' with a date of 17 May 2022. The right screenshot shows a slide titled 'Adapt Contract is the key to protect biodiversity' with a date of 17 May 2022.

**3. Fourth (extra) Capitalization seminar.** Tune Up - The experience of – Promoting multilevel governance for tuning up biodiversity protection in marine areas - and similar initiatives, BIODIVERSITY IN TO ACTION! THE IMPORTANCE OF GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS IN MANAGING MPA, [Webinar on Zoom](#) 17th May 2022.

## Project communication

The close and constructive collaboration with the horizontal project MBPC apart from the participation of PPs in more than 15 events/seminars/workshops was topped by the contribution of 4 TUNE UP pilots to the MBPC story maps collection. For more information on the TUNE UP pilots collection please follow the link <https://panaceaweb.adabyron.uma.es/tune-up-collection/>.

The publication of the updated edition of MBPC tools catalogue including the two TUNE UP tools is expected after the end of TUNE UP project.

TUNE UP partners continued being active in external informational events to disseminate project objectives, methodology and outputs.

You can see some of these events:

“The Marine Protected Area Agreement as a tool for successful governance”, in “XXI Europarc-Spain Congress: ESPARC 2022 18 to 22 of May 2022 by Europarc Spain “For living protected natural spaces .

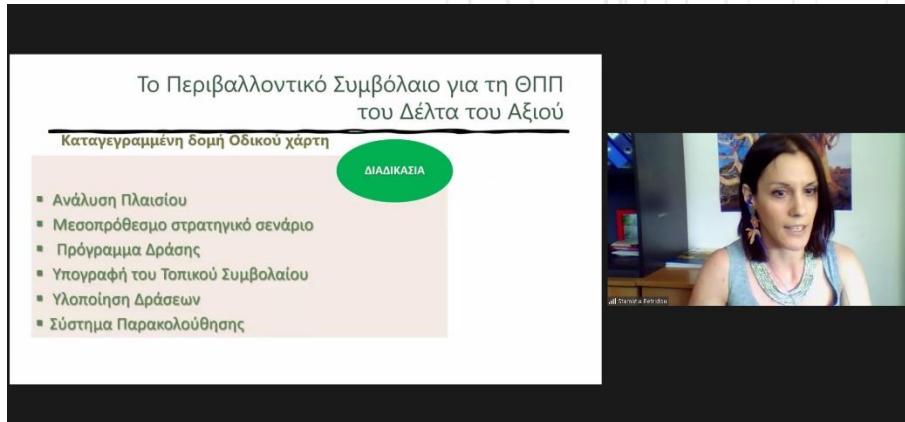
Final conference MISTRAL INTERREG MED PROJECT 8th April 2022, Rome, Italy. <https://mistral.interreg-med.eu/no-cache/news-events/events/detail/actualites/our-final-event/>



Interreg Euro-MED Academy ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT AND MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING online course Webinar 3# 12th May 2022 <https://tune-up.interreg-med.eu/no-cache/news-events/events/detail/actualites/tune-up-at-the-euro-med-academy/>

How to preserve wetlands through a participatory process? (Case study from the Slovenian coast)" and "Wetland Memorandum" as a tool for successful wetland governance" EUROGEO conference 2022 5-7 May 2022, University of the Aegean, Mytilene, Lesvos Island, Greece [https://tune-up.interreg-med.eu/no-cache/news\\_events/events/detail/actualites/tune-up-at-the-eurogeo-conference-2022/](https://tune-up.interreg-med.eu/no-cache/news_events/events/detail/actualites/tune-up-at-the-eurogeo-conference-2022/)

"The environmental contract of Axios Delta MPA" at the INTERREG MED - Coasting Plus online Local Conference, 6th June.



Le vie del Mediterraneo MedWays, 5th Medways Congress in Favignana, Sicily, 15-16 Giugno 2022.



The University of Roma Tre will represent Tune up project at the AESOP Annual Congress 'Space for Species: Redefining Spatial Justice' (July 25-29) in the track 'Governance' with the presentation of the paper "The Marine Protected Area Contract as a collaborative governance tool: the pilots in Lazio region, Italy".

<https://aesop2022.publicon.ee/>



The University of Roma Tre and Aquaprogram have organized in coordination with the Province of Latina (Italy) a virtual Symposium about the ongoing Environmental Contracts in the province of Latina on June 28<sup>th</sup>.



"Integrated approach for the definition of governance tools for Marine Protected Areas and new guidelines in the characterization and management of aquatic ecosystems" at the Committee National Environmental Biologists of the National Order of Italian Biologists, online webinar 29/6/2022 .

## INTERREG MED Tune-Up Final Project and Steering Committee meeting and Final Conference «Promoting multilevel governance for tuning up biodiversity protection in marine areas» June 8 – 9, 2022, Thessaloniki Greece

The project Lead Partner, Anatoliki SA organized the final event of the Tune Up project during the second week of June 2022 in Thessaloniki. The event started with the Steering Committee meeting that was held on the first day. Besides a presentation from each WP Leader regarding the implementation status of each WP, all PPs with pilot areas involved made a small presentation regarding the Capacity Building Seminars and the Regional MoU implementation.



Earlier that day a field Trip to Axios Delta National Park took place and particularly to the information center and to rice fields which occupy a big proportion of the park. Footage relevant to the historical evolution of the area and the park presented to the participants while a very interesting visit followed to agricultural fields where the precision agriculture concept is implemented. In the same area an exhibition was organized which concerned various agricultural tools that were used by the farmers the last two centuries.

The next day on the 9th of June during the Final Conference all PPs shared their experiences in the development of multi-level and multi-stakeholder tools for a more effective management for Marine Protected Areas. The conference was divided in two sessions.

The first session of the event was dedicated to a summary of the main project results, the methodology developed towards the implementation of the Environmental Contracts, as well as a best practice case study of participatory governance approach from the



Greek island of Gyaros. Finally, the specific features of the pilot area of Axios Delta, which all partners had the opportunity to visit during the day before the Final Conference were presented.

During the second session representatives of each of the ten pilot areas that are involved in the Project had the opportunity to present the main features and special characteristics of their pilot area, the description, and the objectives of the Governance Process (both at local and regional level), the output that was achieved during the TUNE UP implementation, as well as the lessons learnt from the whole process so far. The conference concluded with the presentation of the Policy proposals on MPAs Governance.

During the event, the participants had the opportunity to download two recently published materials related to the TUNE UP Capitalization Phase.



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) - *Organization for Local Development*



- [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*



- [N.E.C.C.A.](#) - *the Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency*



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



- [AQP](#) - *AQUAPROGRAM srl*

## Want 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!