



Document title	The MSPglobal initiative
Code	6-3
Category	INF
Agenda Item	6 - MSP related projects and events
Submission date	27.3.2019
Submitted by	VASAB Secretariat
Reference	

Background

MSPglobal is a new joint initiative launched on 11 and 12 February 2019 by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) and the European Commission to develop new international guidelines on Maritime Spatial Planning.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.

MSP global



MSPglobal is a new joint initiative launched on 11 and 12 February 2019 by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) and the European Commission to develop new international guidelines on maritime spatial planning.

Intensified activities in coastal and marine waters require integrated planning and decision-making as well as enhanced efforts to achieve sustainability. By fostering integrated management practices to protect and restore marine and coastal ecosystems, strengthen resilience and promote a healthy and productive ocean, international marine/maritime spatial planning (MSP) proves to be an important means to achieve global ocean governance goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Over the course of three years, the **MSPglobal initiative will contribute to improving cross-border and transboundary cooperation where it already exists and promoting MSP processes in areas where it is yet to be put in place, with the objective to triple the marine area benefiting from MSP effectively implemented by 2030.**

More specifically, it aims to:

- Develop guidance on international cross-border planning;
- Perform pilot regional projects in the West Mediterranean and Southeast Pacific areas.

MSPglobal will provide the context for active and effective participation of policy-makers, scientists, citizens and other stakeholders to improve governance at multiple levels and achieve an ecosystem-based approach in support of the blue economy.

The MSPglobal Initiative is part of **the Joint Roadmap to accelerate Maritime/Marine Spatial Planning processes worldwide**, adopted by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) and the IOC-UNESCO as part of the conclusions of the 2nd International Conference on MSP, jointly organized in Paris in March 2017.

In order to implement the Joint Roadmap, series of international MSP Forums have been organized (kick off in May 2018, 2nd Forum on 26-29 March 2019, La Reunion (FR)). It is agreed that next international MSP Forum will be hosted jointly with Baltic 3rd MSP Forum in Riga, on 19-21 November 2019.

MSPglobal is co-financed by the European Commission's European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.