



# Transferability Plan at Pilot Areas, Regional Scale and Mediterranean Scale





## DISCLAIMER

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union under the ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of National Institute of Marine Sciences and Technologies (INSTM) and partner and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union of the programme management structures.



## Authors

**Christina Paraskevopoulou**, Post-doc, PlanO2 PC, Greece

**Christina Vlachopoulou**, MSc, PlanO2 PC, Greece

**Ioanna Papaioannou**, MSc, PlanO2 PC, Greece

---

## Reviewers

**Emma Casanova Vázquez**, Fundación Valenciaport, Valencia, Spain

**Carolina Navarro Correcher**, Fundación Valenciaport, Valencia, Spain

## Executive Summary

This document consists of the Transferability Plan at Pilot Areas, Regional Scale and Mediterranean Scale of the Co-Evolve4BG project, presenting and analyzing the Transferability Actions and other supportive structures that took place during the project's elaboration.

The Transferability Plan took into account all levels of reference, from local (Pilot Areas) to Mediterranean (and/or international level), ensuring the successful dissemination of the project's impact and the exchange of experiences and knowledge.

The current document is divided into four (4) chapters. In the first chapter, there is a short presentation of the Co-Evolve4BG content and the brief description of the Transferability Plan referring to its aim and the results is seeing to highlight.

On the second chapter, there is a brief description of the Toolkit and the Threats and Enabling Factors at the Mediterranean Scale. The Chapter concludes with an integrated Table where the main points are underlined.

The third chapter explains the transferability strategy, identifying the key-goals and the target audiences as well as the means of capitalizing the outputs. There is also a brief description of 'Focus Groups', while it is the key method elaborating at the participatory workshops.

The fourth chapter is describing analytically the Transferability Plan as for its main axis, the bottom-up planning, the spatial scale analysis and the key messages it aims to pass. Then, there is the presentation of the Transferability Actions, which were live and online workshops, supported by parallel activities and networking acts. Publication of four scientific articles is finally a transferable action, too.

The Transferability Plan elaborated with success, despite the constraints it faced up with (mainly referring to exogenous factors, occurred independently from the project). All partners coordinated effectively due timelines, guides and procedures.

Finally, the specific results from the Transferability Actions are presented too. The Transferability Plan could offer good practices for a different and/or wider level of reference. Various actions could be adopted from other projects while the networking resulting could lead to future cooperation. The document ends up with some conclusions and perspectives.

## Contents

List of Tables .....	5
List of Pictures .....	5
1 Introduction.....	6
1.1 The Framework of the Co-Evolve4BG Project .....	6
1.2 The Transferability at a Glance .....	8
2 Brief Description of the Results.....	10
2.1 The Toolkit.....	11
2.2 Threats and Enabling Factors at the Mediterranean Scale .....	12
2.2.1 Greece .....	12
2.2.2 Italy .....	16
2.2.3 Lebanon .....	20
2.2.4 Spain.....	24
2.2.5 Tunisia .....	28
3 The Transferability Strategy .....	39
3.1 Identifying the Key-goals.....	39
3.2 Implementing the Method of Focus Groups.....	41
3.3 Target Audiences.....	42
3.4 Outputs Capitalization.....	44
4 The Transferability Plan.....	46
4.1 The Implementation.....	46
4.1.1 Main Axis.....	46
4.1.2 Technical Approach: Bottom-up Planning .....	46
4.1.3 Spatial Scale Analysis .....	47
4.1.4 Key Messages to be Transferred.....	48
4.2 The Actions.....	48
4.2.1 The Workshops .....	49
4.2.2 Draft 4 Scientific Articles.....	51
4.2.3 Networking to ICZM/MSP platform and Blue Growth.....	51
4.2.4 Parallel Activities.....	51
4.3 Best Practices from the Transferability Plan .....	51
4.4 The Results .....	54
4.4.1 Workshop 1: 27th April 2023, Alexandroupolis, Greece .....	54
4.4.2 Workshop 2: 25th May 2023, Murcia, Spain.....	56
4.4.3 Workshop 3: 7th June 2023, Rome, Italy .....	57
4.4.4 Workshop 4: 4th July 2023, Djerba, Tunisia.....	58
4.4.5 Workshop 5: 17th October 2023, Batroun, Lebanon.....	59
4.4.6 Two online meetings: 17th and 18th July 2023 .....	60
Conclusions.....	62
References.....	64



## List of Tables

Table 1 Groups of Toolkit’s Indicators .....	12
Table 2 Threats and Enabling Factors at the Mediterranean Scale.....	32
Table 3 Target audience definition.....	43
Table 4 Scale of direct and indirect capitalization of Co-Evolve4BG results .....	44
Table 5 Proposed communities for Co-Evolve4BG to be involved .....	55

## List of Pictures

Picture 1 The 7 Pilot Areas (PA) of the project.....	7
--	---

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 The Framework of the Co-Evolve4BG Project

This deliverable aims to support the elaboration of a **Transferability Plan** and the implementation of its relevant actions at Pilot Areas and regional and Mediterranean scale of the **Co-Evolve4BG** Project.

The project: "Co-evolution of coastal human activities & Med natural systems for supportable tourism & Blue Growth in the Mediterranean with the acronym Co-Evolve4BG, was created within the framework of the ENI Multilateral Cross-Border Cooperation Program "Mediterranean Sea Basin 2014-2020" (Thematic objective B.4 "Protection of the environment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change" – Priority B.4.4 "Integrated management of zonal factors") by the National Institute of Marine Sciences and Technologies (Tunisia) (as Lead Beneficiary) and the following eight (8) partners - beneficiaries: (a) Region of Lazio (Italy), (b) Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace (Greece), (c) University of Murcia (Spain), (d) Valenciaport Foundation (Spain), (e) National Agency for Environmental Protection (Tunisia) ), (f) Ministry of Public Works and Public Transport (Lebanon), (g) Al Midan NGO (Lebanon) and (h) AMWAJ Environment NGO (Lebanon).

Co-Evolve4BG has stated the Analysis at the Mediterranean scale that aims at assessing and promoting the co-evolution of human activities and natural systems in touristic coastal areas, allowing sustainable development of touristic activities based on the principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)/Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) and promoting Blue Growth.

The sustainable co-evolution in Coastal/Maritime touristic destinations is a prerequisite for the successful management of Pilot Areas (7): Sousse (Tunisia), Djerba (Tunisia), Circeo (Italy), Alexandroupolis and Samothraki (Greece), Murcia (Spain), Batroun (Lebanon), Tyre (Lebanon).

Picture 1 The 7 Pilot Areas (PA) of the project



Source: WP4/ Participatory approach in the Pilot Areas. General Introductory Training (IT1) 06/10/2022

The current deliverable “**Transferability Plan at Pilot Areas, regional scale and Mediterranean scale**” of Co-Evolve4BG is included in the WP2, whose main objective is to coordinate the transfer and capitalization of knowledge, expertise, and tools developed in the framework of the project implementation. This will succeed by extending and mainstreaming the work done throughout WP3 (Analysis at Mediterranean scale) and WP4 (Testing on Pilot Areas), involving relevant stakeholders and ensuring the long-term sustainability of Co-Evolve4BG results.

The Transferability Plan at Pilot Areas, regional Scale, and Mediterranean scale of Co-Evolve4BG, is being built on the work carried out in Activity 2 and includes clear standard guidelines and recommendations to implement the model in line and synergy with relevant policies and instruments and aim at improving the use of data, with a robust sustainability approach for tourism planning at European, national, regional, and local levels. The Transferability Plan will focus on:

- Summing up the main findings which must be transferred in each Pilot Area and at Mediterranean scale
- Identifying best practices to be shared with the relevant targets
- Highlighting how these results could be further disseminated



The Transferability Plan will be built upon project results: processes, tools for achieving coherence between public and private initiatives and between the public authorities at all levels that impact the coastal zones, instruments, procedures, and relevant methodologies for sustainable tourism development. The Transferability Plan will include the main results achieved during the study phase and the Action Plan implementation, the Integrated Coastal Zone Management methodologies, and the workshops to raise awareness and training at regional, local, and Med levels.

## 1.2 The Transferability at a Glance

The **main aim** of the Transferability Plan is the communication and dissemination of the acquired knowledge and information resulting from the implementation of the Co-Evolve4BG project and the possibility of later application of the methods and tools on a wider scale.

The resulting knowledge stems from the results obtained by studying (WP3) and testing phases (WP4) which are used to define the level of sustainability of Coastal/Maritime tourism (baseline and target values) within the Project.

The Transferability Plan includes training/capacity building activities and capitalization workshops, through which tourism-driven action plans are produced, based on the principles of ICZM/MSP and Blue Growth Concept. So, each Pilot Area developed its Action Plan with the prospect of being implemented across the area, tailoring to meet the needs of each Pilot Area while promoting sustainable Coastal/Maritime tourism.

The transfer is carried out at two levels: 1) at Pilot Area level and regional level and 2) at Med level to transfer the Co-Evolve4BG experience, lessons learned, and good practices to other local and regional authorities.

The **main drivers** of the Transferability process are:

- to exploit the project results, transferring the experience for a long (sustainable) time
- to maximize the impact of the project
- to increase global awareness about issues similar to what the project tackled, the sustainable growth of the coastal areas.

**What is being transferred** is described as:

- The characteristics of the Pilot Areas and the Threats they are facing, but also the Enabling Factors emerging through the Toolkit implementation
- The Toolkit potentiality to be widely utilized by other regions worldwide
- Good practices and methods in cooperation processes between the project participants
- The positive results sought to arise from the project implementation; of the sustainable tourism development at the coastal area regarding ICZM, MSP, and Blue Growth in the Mediterranean.

**How is being transferred** is supported by:

- The organization of training events to enhance the planning capacities linked to the sustainable tourism growth of the coastal areas of the regional and local administrations by exploiting the tools (Toolkit) and results developed within the project
- The establishment of appropriate communication channels to be used by interested target audiences to contact project partners and receive further information and guidance
- The organization of dissemination events to spread the results obtained by the project and the main lessons learned strengthening the local and international cooperation
- The direct involvement of relevant stakeholders and authorities to promote the creation of regional and local clusters and focus groups dedicated to the sustainable tourism growth of the coastal areas to define common priorities
- The identification of action plans at pilot areas and highlighting opportunities at the national and Med scale to support stakeholders and interested parties to engage in a future dynamic process to bridge the gap between local priorities and European policies.

## 2 Brief Description of the Results

It should be noted that the purpose of this section is not to present in detail the results of Co-Evolve4BG, but to give a comprehensive overview of what has been achieved. The description will be at all levels of space reference (national - Mediterranean scale).

So far, work has been carried out within Work Package 3 on the Mediterranean scale study. Co-Evolve4BG has stated the Analysis at the Mediterranean scale that aims at assessing and promoting the co-evolution of human activities and natural systems in touristic coastal areas, allowing sustainable development of touristic activities based on the principles of ICZM/MSP and promoting Blue Growth. The assessment that has been carried out in the study phase, provides an integrated analysis of the main Threats and Enabling Factors (T&EF) for a sustainable and ecosystem-based Coastal/Maritime tourism development at the Mediterranean scale and in each pilot area. A list of Threats and Enabling Factors (T&EF) selected in this project is exposed below.

Threats	Enabling factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Climate change and morphological stability</li><li>· Littoralization and urbanization</li><li>· Touristic fluxes and carrying capacity</li><li>· Pollution and other antropogenic pressures affecting ecosystems</li><li>· Safety and security challenges</li><li>· Tourist well-being and health emergencies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Habitat and Endemic Species</li><li>· Cultural and natural heritage sites</li><li>· Coastal protection measures</li><li>· Ecosystems protection</li><li>· Water supply and depuration</li><li>· Transports and accessibility</li><li>· Tourist well-being and infection prevention and control</li><li>· Legislation, Administrative constraints and Governance</li><li>· Local community</li></ul>

There would also be a brief presentation of the Toolkit, underlining its potentiality to be implemented in several cases and best practices would be presented, selected from the European/international experience.

## 2.1 The Toolkit

In the frame of the Co-Evolve4BG project, a Toolkit was designed to assist Coastal/Maritime tourism managers in monitoring tourism activities at a given Destination in the Mediterranean. It was also designed to help them identify which best practices maybe implemented.<sup>1</sup> The "Co-Evolve4BG Toolkit" aims to provide a useful set of indicators for the evaluation and assessment of Coastal/Maritime Tourism Sustainable Development. The space reference would be any Coastal/Maritime tourist destination situated along the Mediterranean coastlines to support toolkit users in decision-making.

Co-Evolve4BG Toolkit is created to be:

- ⊕ **A management tool**, supporting destinations that want to take a sustainable approach to their process of management; and
- ⊕ **A monitoring system**, that is easy to use for collecting data and detailed information and to let destinations monitor their performance from one period to another.

Co-Evolve4BG General Toolkit includes 78 indicators that cover the main elements for developing Coastal/Maritime tourism with particular attention given to the relation of Ecosystems and Human Activities with the sector. These indicators were re-organized according to the different Threats & Enabling Factors for sustainable Coastal/Maritime development in Mediterranean coastal areas and are both Qualitative and Quantitative.

The indicators are divided into two groups:

- A. **Compulsory Indicators.** The first refers to a set of Compulsory Indicators (They will be highlighted in Bold in the Toolkit). 32 Indicators provide a general description of tourism activities and ecosystems at the destination. As they allow for a comparison over time and for benchmarking between the different destinations, they must be selected/filled by all Mediterranean destinations.
- B. **Non-Compulsory Indicators.** Taking into account that each Coastal/Maritime Destination has its different characteristics, the second set -including 46 indicators- is formed to address these specificities and particularities.

---

<sup>1</sup> More specifically, it constitutes the Deliverable 3.2.1.1 (Co-Evolve4BG Tourism Sustainability Index: Toolkit) of the Activity 3.2.1 (Tourism Sustainability at local scale through Sustainability Index: System Implementation) under the Output 3.2 (Tourism sustainability analysis toolkit) of the project.

**Table 1 Groups of Toolkit's Indicators**

Type of Indicators	Number	Role	Scale
<i>Compulsory Indicators</i>	32	Provide a general description of tourism activities and ecosystems at the destination	Mediterranean
<i>Non-Compulsory Indicators</i>	46	Address specificities and particularities of each Coastal/Maritime Destination	Local

Co-Evolve4BG Toolkit is an easy-to-use tool. No training is required for end-users. To facilitate its manipulation, the tool consists of a ready-to-use Excel file. The tool is based on several main steps.

To ensure better results, it is recommended that the process -of selecting indicators and filling- be carried out in the interaction with Local Actors.

## 2.2 Threats and Enabling Factors at the Mediterranean Scale

In this section, there is an effort to present comprehensively the main outputs of the project, regarding Activity 3.1.1 (Threats and enabling factors at Mediterranean scale: Med scale analysis) under Output 3.1 (Integrated analysis of Threats and Enabling Factors for sustainable tourism at MED scale) of the project.

### 2.2.1 Greece

**Climate change and morphological stability.** In Greece, the climate characteristics vary from place to place. Greece has one of the longest coastlines globally, characterized as highly vulnerable to climate change. The coastal zone has played a vital role from historical years in the country's socioeconomic life. Most of the main urban areas of the country are located in the coastal zone. The coastal zones in Greece include 80% of the general industrial activities, 90% of touristic activities and recreation, most of the fisheries and coastal ecosystems, 35% of high quality and productivity of the agricultural land, and the majority of critical infrastructures such as seaports, airports, road, and electricity networks, etc.).

**Littoralisation and urbanization.** Greece has traditionally been based on opportunities that the coast offers as most of the Mediterranean. Since the first civilizations, cities have mainly been situated next to the sea, as well as the majority of the population. These trends have not changed in recent years, creating the canvas of the big urban centers in Greece, with 4 out of the 5 biggest cities being located on the coast. At the same time, another important trend has led to urbanization and the urban sprawl of coastal areas; tourism. Even since 1960, tourism started to be considered as the “heavy industry” of Greece.

**Touristic fluxes and carrying capacity.** Tourism in Greece is one of the most important economic activities with a special overall contribution -direct and indirect- to GDP and employment. In recent years, as the central strategic goal is to make the country a leading, attractive, and safe tourist destination, that offers ideal themed tourism experiences 365 days a year, priority has been given to the development of alternative forms of tourism and the reduction of seasonality along with strengthening the traditional "sun and sea" model.

**Pollution and other anthropogenic pressures affecting ecosystems.** Ecosystem services need an implied interest in the distinction between them and their affiliated gains as critical tasks identified by the user community in the Mediterranean Sea. The Greece scale could impact coastal beach tourism, such as cultural diversity. The ecosystems provide a rich source of inspiration for art, folklore, national symbols, architecture, and recreation. The natural areas could be described as providing service in connection to the environment by guaranteeing the well-being of the local population and the relationships of ecosystem elements. The principal impacts from coastal tourism typology mainly affect freshwater quality, solid waste management, eutrophication, soil, noise, aesthetic and light pollution, and threats affecting wetlands and Maritime’s biological diversity.

**Conflict/Synergy among different uses on land and at sea and land-sea interactions in Blue Growth.** Mediterranean coastal zones are experiencing increased pressures due to rapid urbanization, the development of touristic infrastructures, aquaculture, and efficient exploitation of marine resources. High-diversity coastal ecosystems are more vulnerable to environmental perturbation than low-diversity ones and therefore their effect is supposed to be more significant in the Mediterranean than in northern temperate marine ecosystems. Such perturbations may directly or indirectly result from human activities and can be put into the following categories: pollution, over-exploitation of marine resources, habitat erosion, climatic changes (e.g., through the greenhouse effect), and introduction of alien species.

**Safety and security challenges.** The principal impacts from current safety and security challenges regarding Greece tourism are crucial and of paramount importance for the Greek financial status. Tourism remains the “heavy industry” of the country and every adverse impact can distract the national development for many years. The Covid-19 pandemic has shown vulnerability of Greece in terms of economic indicators and the need to develop a national growth plan where tourism will be and other domains as economic pillars.

**Tourist well-being and health emergencies.** Greece is one of the world's leading tourist destinations. In this report, a description of the main tourist trends in the country is made and the effects of the pandemic are described. It seems that although tourism in Greece at least for 2020 received a strong backlash, in 2021, given the vaccination things will get better. It is worth noting that the business support measures taken by the government were successful in the sense that no tourism companies were closed.

**Habitat and Endemic Species.** Greece combines a unique marine ecosystem with great endemic species colonies. Several factors affect biodiversity and endemic species and most often act concurrently. These include climate change, urban and industrial discharges, excessive fishing, tourism, and biological invasions. In Greece, invasive species that have produced problems for indigenous species and biodiversity have already been recorded. This fact makes the approval of preventive measures a crucial priority.

**Cultural and natural heritage sites.** On the eastern side of the Mediterranean, Greece is considered one of the distinguished countries, historically and archaeologically, as archaeological evidence has shown that its history dates back to prehistoric times. This archaeological and historical heritage must be protected to ensure its survival for future generations.

**Coastal protection measures.** The main factors threatening Greek coastal areas are closely linked to human activities that contribute to global warming and climate change. Tourism is one of the principal sectors that are severely affected by these changes. Due to the country's long coastline, the Greek national economy is significantly dependent on tourism, which is mostly centered on coastal areas rather than the more continental country. Therefore, it is crucial to find ways to protect these regions by implementing well-thought-out coastal management practices.

**Ecosystems protection.** The majority of tourism activities take place in coastal areas and that is a key pressure for ecosystems. The main threats to marine and coastal ecosystems are climate change, fisheries, pollution, especially plastic litter, coastal

infrastructure, tourism development, and other anthropogenic pressures, such as the rising population, overexploitation of natural resources, failure to the decision-making process and implementation policies as well. The above pressures can cause damage to marine and coastal ecosystems as well as exacerbate species extinction.

**Water supply and depuration.** Tourism can contribute to a decline in downstream or destination water quality and potable water supplies as a result of poor or no treatment of wastewater, which then enters aquifers and the water system. Significantly, in many increasingly water-scarce regions such as the Mediterranean, the concentration of tourism in time and space as a result of seasonal tourist demand, can place enormous pressures on domestic and industrial water supplies as well as wastewater infrastructure, often at a period when they are least able to cope.

**Transports and accessibility.** Greece's territory is tens of thousands of islands without transportation in great threat, from many aspects. The connection between tourism development and accessibility is more important, especially for island destinations, whose connectivity to the mainland depends completely on the sea and air passenger transport services. In Greece, for many islands, the importance taken by tourism in their island economy makes it one of the essential pillars of the national economy. Greece is a complete tourist destination with an extensive coastline that favors yachting activity.

**Tourist well-being, infection prevention and control.** Greece, after the successful management of the first wave of the Covid-19 outbreak, the high vaccination rates, and the wide implementation of sanitary protocols is considered a Safe Tourist Destination for international tourists.

**Legislation, Administrative constraints, Governance, Financial resources, and mechanisms.** Besides the Ministry of the Environment Physical Planning and Public Works which has a major part of responsibility for land (including coastal) planning and management, other Ministries are also directly or indirectly involved in this process e.g., the Ministry of National Economy, Agriculture, Development, Defense, Health, Interior, and Merchant Marine. Local authorities e.g., regions, prefectures, and municipalities are also involved. The participation of all these organizations in the coastal zone management process causes several problems due to gaps and overlapping of responsibilities.

**Interaction of tourists with local community.** The development of coastal tourism contributes positively to local development, although it must always be done in terms of sustainability. In any case, the development of the blue economy and the adoption



of participatory methods for Integrated Coastal Zone Management seem to be very promising strategies for the people of the Mediterranean.

**Blue Growth.** The Blue Economy established sectors employment is around 2.850.000 jobs and Gross Value Added around €178 billion. Greece's Blue Economy established sectors employment is about 574.102 jobs and GVA over €7.9 billion. This means that Greece's Blue Economy employs many people but does not generate too much GVA. Blue Growth coexistence with coastal tourism may bring conflicts or synergies. As an example, offshore wind farms help to reduce environmental impacts but in return affect some aesthetic issues of the coast.

### 2.2.2 Italy

**Climate Change and morphological stability.** There is a significant chance that Italian coastal areas will be affected by climate change, both due to sea level rise and erosion, and due to changes in sea temperature. This will entail physical changes in the coastal region and some changes in the species living in Italian seas respectively. Moreover, the desirability of Italian tourist regions might change, not only because of coastal modifications but also because of new climate conditions which will make other destinations more suitable.

**Littoralization and urbanization.** While analyzing the issue of urbanization in Italy particularly along Italian coasts, it is important to take into account that the status of the coasts in the Italian regions is very diverse, particularly concerning past and developing phenomena, administrative sensitivities, and management policy actions. Some directions for environmental policies can be set out, addressing the most critical situations in light of the information derived from the indicators used.

**Touristic fluxes and carrying capacity.** Coastal tourism in Italy has been developed starting from the '50s, becoming very important after the '70s. Concerning international tourism, and the expenditure made by international visitors, following Banca d'Italia data, coastal tourism is the typology with the second highest level of expenditure, after cultural towns.

**Pollution and other anthropogenic pressures affecting ecosystems.** In Italy, mining licenses for the exploration and cultivation of hydrocarbons at sea are conferred by the Ministry of Economic Development. By laws and ministerial decrees, the Ministry of Economic Development established areas of the Italian continental shelf where it is possible to practice these activities.

**Conflict/Synergy among different uses on land and at sea and land-sea interaction in Blue Growth.** Italian aquaculture has grown as a highly diversified activity, thanks to the high environmental diversity that characterizes the Italian landscape. No major conflicts between aquaculture and tourism are reported in Italy. Low conflicts between agriculture and tourism are reported in Italy mainly related to landscape banalization and degradation and due to intensive agriculture. A high level of conflict between agriculture and tourism is reported in Italy mainly related to landscape degradation, pollution, and soil contamination.

**Safety and security challenges.** Several steps forward have been taken to date to prevent and respond more promptly to all types of natural disasters. Obtaining economic recovery, it is necessary to concentrate efforts on the restoration of basic infrastructures and services. To this must be added a serious and concrete campaign to raise awareness and promote the area to encourage a rapid restart. Technological progress will allow us to carry out a prevention plan in time that will be even more effective at limiting, if not eliminating, the damage caused by disasters.

**Tourist well-being and health emergencies.** According to a recent study on the impact of COVID-19 on the Italian Travel & Hospitality industry since the national vaccination campaign gained momentum and restrictions eased, Italians' searches related to travel and flights have increased as have searches by foreign tourists to Italy. If the desire to travel has remained unchanged, what has changed are the wishes of tourists. At the moment, one of the priorities of tourists, Italian and foreign, remains the safety factor.

**Impacts on Coastal Ecosystems and Coastal Tourism: Habitat and Endemic Species.** Environmental impacts arising from tourism in protected areas fall into three categories: direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts. Direct impacts are caused by tourism itself to protected areas. Indirect impacts are usually linked closely with tourism and may have more profound consequences on the environment than direct impacts. Cumulative impacts are the processes of cumulative environmental change as a result of tourism in protected areas that may arise from many types of events such as a single large event, multiple interrelated events, catastrophic sudden events, and incremental, widespread, slow change.

**Cultural and natural heritage sites.** Italy is full of archaeological, historical, and natural coastal sites, they differ in terms of size and importance, but they share the presence of many threats surrounding them. Visitors are growing strongly. The greatest increase is recorded from monuments and monumental complexes and museums, while visitors to the archaeological areas decrease.

**Coastal protection measures.** The coastal environment is a dynamic ecosystem in which natural and anthropogenic processes add up and interact, modifying their geomorphological, physical, and biological characteristics, and sandy coasts are the most vulnerable areas, where these evolutions are most evident. Coastal defense interventions carried out to safeguard the coasts from erosion and flooding can hinder the free propagation of wave motion and cause alterations in the neighboring coastal areas. Therefore, it is necessary to plan the defense interventions not as singleworks, but as components of an overall defense system, to be studied on the scale of the physiographic unit, to limit any possible direct and indirect effect on the coastal environment (e.g., erosion, flooding, saline wedge intrusion, alteration of pre-existing habitats, etc.).

**Coastal ecosystem protection.** With more than 7500 km of coastline, Italy has a large portion of territory overlooking the sea, characterized by a high degree of heterogeneity. The restoration and conservation of these ecosystems is therefore a priority at the European level. The Italian coastal dunes are home to numerous plant communities (habitat of community interest sensu Directive 92/43 / EEC) which in recent decades have undergone strong fragmentation and alteration; the damage caused mainly by anthropogenic activities has often proved irreversible.

**Water supply and depuration.** Italy is one of the largest consumers of water in Europe, second only to Greece. One of the problems that is still unresolved is the dispersion of water in the distribution networks. The quality of bathing water is generally good, although there are still many sources of polluted water, mainly from agriculture.

**Transports and accessibility.** Italian infrastructure network comprises some 19.000 km of railways, more than 180.000 km of supra-local roads, and many more local and urban. In addition, a hundred airports exist, of which 37 with commercial traffic, and 16 commercial ports (among more than 200 other ports). In general, the country suffers a widespread delay on all the pillars of competitiveness analyzed, but even more striking is the detailed data relating to the quality of the port infrastructure, compared to which Italy ranks 56th, after Spain (12), Ireland (24), Portugal (25), France (26), Morocco (41), Greece (48), Croatia (49).

**Tourist well-being and infection prevention and control.** In Italy most of the attention is focused on outgoing tourists and public health authorities have specific prevention and information programs. Concerning health prevention in the context of a trip in and to Italy, the recommendations are mainly referred to safe nutrition in the summer. Italy deployed an array of instruments to contain and mitigate the epidemic.

The second set of strategic actions for the control of the epidemic consisted of limiting movement, ensuring physical distancing, and promoting safer individual behaviors, particularly frequent handwashing.

**Legislation, Administrative constraints, Governance, Financial resources and mechanisms.** Tourism continues to make an important contribution to the Italian economy. Including indirect effects, in 2017 it accounted for 13.0% of GDP and employed 14.7% of the workforce. Tourism industries directly employed 2.0 million people in 2018, accounting for 8.3% of employment. An estimated 216100 businesses were operating in the accommodation sector in 2018. The integration of management of tourist destinations through an ICZM approach will guarantee both the minimization of conflicts with other coastal activities and the respect for the environmental carrying capacity accompanying the development of the coastal zone.

**Local community.** If coastal tourism in Italy has, until today, been mainly based on traditional seaside activities, it is now clear that this type of tourism is unsustainable and does not bring many benefits to local communities, being heavily concentrated in a short peak season covering two to four summer months. This presents several disadvantages including intense pressure on the environment, pressure and disruption in the labor market, stress at peak periods then under-use of infrastructure during the remaining major part of the year.

**State of the Art and Future Development of Blue Growth concept.** The marine and maritime economy is one of the most dynamic sectors in Italy, mainly due to the continuity of capital investments, even during the recent financial crisis. The impact of tourism on the Italian economy, whether nationwide or coastal, is proven by its contribution to the national GDP (about 10%), and to employment numbers, amounting to 13%. However, coastal tourism shows significant differences at the local scale. Some areas are characterized by a high number of tourists while other places, especially in the coastal hinterland, are struggling to become popular tourist destinations and to intercept and integrate with nearby seaside tourism. A fundamental step is a proper assessment of the impact of tourism on the marine environment, its space-time variability, and affected ecosystem services through dedicated monitoring plans.

### 2.2.3 Lebanon

**Climate change.** Lebanon is forecasted to experience notable climatic changes in the future, with temperatures expected to increase, especially in coastal areas. Additionally, the ongoing trend of rising sea levels could lead to escalated risks of coastal flooding and erosion, resulting in the potential loss or alteration of coastal zones and ecosystems. These climatic conditions may also prolong hot and dry climates, leading to more extended periods of drought each year, severely impacting the agricultural sector. This sector's vulnerability is further heightened by the relentless pressures from urban expansion and population growth, which are encroaching on agricultural lands and escalating the water demand.

**Littoralization and urbanization.** The rapid urban expansion has mostly taken place along the Mediterranean coast of the country, stretching 200 km from the North to the South, and around major cities where most of the industrial and commercial centers are located. The urban population (% of total population) of Lebanon increased from 61.06 % in 1971 to 88.93% in 2020 and from 87.2 to 88.9% between 2009 and 2019, growing at an average annual rate of 0.77%. Urban expansion has been a direct driving force causing the loss of natural resources in the country. While ancestors preferred settling over hilly and sloppy lands overlooking the plains and depressions, recent Lebanese prefer the construction along the roads and on the account of cultivated lands.

**Touristic fluxes and carrying capacity.** Lebanon possesses all vital conditions to be visited for natural sceneries, and historical, patrimonial, cultural, religious, and medical tourism purposes. The seasonality observed in winter sports and summer leisure can be bridged by creating the conditions for indoor sports in winter and for winter sports in summer. Paying more attention to enlarging and decentralizing the capacity by creating touristic hotel complexes on the coastal area outside Beirut, with feasible for families' packages, can attract more people to visit the areas and enjoy the mountain and maritime sports due to accessibility and developed tourism industry in the country.

**Pollution and anthropogenic pressures affecting ecosystems in tourism areas.** The Environment in Lebanon is in jeopardy, notably along the coastal zone which attracts the largest population (> 70%) in Lebanon for living. Besides, this created severe anthropogenic pressure on all sectors including tourism. Both the global natural changes and human impact threaten the ecosystems, but the latter is more accentuated. The widespread pollution (terrestrial and marine), and the uncontrolled

man-made encroachment, are two keywords describing the state of environment in Lebanon.

**Conflict/Synergy and Land-Sea interaction.** The major gaps encountering the sustainable management of natural resources in Lebanon and its coastal area are the weak national and local land-use policies. Although the construction law (Decree-law no. 148, issued on September 16th, 1983) states that planned buildings need to conform to the zoning and building regulations, and that illegally constructed buildings must be destroyed, the reality is different notably on unclassified territories. This fact applies not only to housing but also to industrial plants built in sensitive areas. One pristine truth is needed: to promote economic and social development without consuming the remaining land.

**Safety and security challenges in tourism areas.** Lebanon remained the pioneer in the tourism industry in the region until the 1980s when conflicts and security instability affected the country, resulting in the downgrading of Lebanon to become the 5th country in the Arab region after UAE, KSA, Egypt, and Jordan. Tourism in Lebanon has faced several threats due to conflicts and political instability, which have affected the general socioeconomic status of the country. Paradoxically, a country with numerous tourist attractions and a remarkable geographic location is suffering from a continuous decline in its tourism industry. This is exactly the case in Lebanon, where anthropogenic and natural threats severely affect the safety and security of tourism.

**Touristic well-being and health emergencies.** With the economic crisis and COVID-19 outbreak, travel to Lebanon showed a significant traffic decline of 93% in July 2020, associated with 86% and 38% decrease in capacity and load factor respectively. The gradual recovery of Lebanon, its health care infrastructure, and the Lebanese tourism sector from the economic crisis and the consequences of COVID-19, along with the rise of social immunity among the local community, would allow the restart of the tourism business with the return to employment and profit from direct and indirect contribution to the national GDP.

**Habitats and endemic species in tourism areas.** Lebanon represents a typical example where nature-based tourism has a significant role in the development of the tourism industry. The coastal zone of Lebanon, including marine and terrestrial habitats for many flora and fauna species, is one of the main touristic destinations for local visitors and international tourism. The marine habitats support a diversity of marine life, with total species richness estimated in the thousands, and new species continuing to be discovered.

**Cultural and natural heritage sites in touristic areas.** Lebanon has a rich and diverse cultural heritage, inherited from many civilizations that existed in succession on its territory. This cultural diversity is reflected in the many layers of tangible and intangible heritage that are reflected through various festivals, music, cuisine, architecture, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and its historic urban cores. Lebanon hosts five, UNESCO-declared World Heritage Sites. Several biotic and abiotic driving forces like climate change and earthquakes, the Lebanese civil war, the socio-economic crisis, and political instability, deeply affected the natural heritage sites and cultural and touristic sectors of Lebanon. Institutional weakness in Lebanon threatens the cultural and touristic sectors. The involvement of local communities in management actions and plans contributes to better and applicable management.

**Coastal Protection Measures in Tourism Areas.** The coastal zone planning targets its future and sustainability; therefore, factors affecting it (e.g., future trends in visitor use, socio-economic and related pressures, and ecological change) should be controlled and addressed. In addition, gaps raised in previous plans should be highlighted to be dealt with and filled. The main constraints are balancing between coastal ecosystem conservation and the socio-economic requirements of the local community. A successful management plan should occupy several phases.

**Protection of ecosystems in tourism areas.** Nowadays, Lebanese marine ecosystems are experiencing dramatic coastal impacts, due to anthropogenic activities and climate-related factors. The coast has been progressively exploited and regulations are often ignored, resulting in important cumulated human impacts along the coast.

**Water supply and water purification in tourism areas.** The coastal plain is narrow and disconnected, almost invisible in some places. It results from alluvial soil and marine sediments, which alternate with rocky beaches and sandy bays. Lebanon is characterized by a continental slope which is significant for marine ecosystems and helps the light penetrate deeper into the water creating a safer habitat for marine organisms. Not only climate change but also population growth is putting uncommon pressure on the water. Various initiatives can help develop water-based tourism, as a type of tourism providing essential possibilities for improving and implementing the latest sustainable fashions for the control of water resources.

**Transport and accessibility to tourism areas.** Lebanon is in urgent need of a sustainable public transport system that aims to improve residents' as well as tourists' quality of life and mobility experience throughout the country. Adopting a sustainable public transport system would generate great benefits. First and foremost, traffic

volume would decrease. This in turn reduces stress levels, accidents, air pollution, noise pollution, and lost time due to congestion.

**Tourist's wellbeing, infection prevention and control.** After the confirmation of the first case of COVID-19 in February 2020, the Lebanese government initiated a “whole government response”, with the NCC directing the strategy and the MoPH alongside other ministries overseeing the implementation. The tourism sector in Lebanon was heavily affected. All the economic sectors, from the informal workers to the luxury retail and hotels, were the main victims of the measures taken to prevent and control the COVID-19 epidemic in Lebanon. Aiming to ensure the revitalization of the sector in Lebanon, innovative policies and plans were recently issued following the impact of tourist flow reduction.

**Legislation, Administrative constraints, Governance, Financial resources and mechanisms.** The enhancement of the tourism sector still depends on the legal frameworks and legislations which are many but most of them are not effective enough to reduce the descending trend in the tourism industry. The interlinkage between these legislations and laws and their effect on tourism was demonstrated as well and their attributes to the governmental entities (e.g., ministries, etc.) were determined. Nevertheless, an obvious shortage in effective implementation of these legislations and laws is well pronounced and it is recommended to apply new legal reforms based on scientific knowledge and in-depth research to protect the natural components of Lebanon, and then its tourism.

**Maritime/Coastal tourism and the local community.** Actors in the development of tourism in Lebanon have been identified with different levels, starting from locals and small-scale tourism developers, to high-level decision-makers and ministries. However, there is still a gap and a lack of effective coordination between these actors. Tourism in Lebanon requires to be supported by the coordination of several governmental bodies, represented mainly by the concerned ministries and authorities to put a future strategy from which integrated protection and management approaches of tourism sites can be initiated. This can be reinforced by networking with regional and international entities and conventions that often account for Lebanon in their agendas while establishing comprehensive touristic programs for the entire Mediterranean Region.

**Blue Growth.** The Lebanese government announced several MPAs for their nature conservation role but also for their crucial role in educating local communities and visitors about the culture, history, and heritage of Lebanon located on the East Mediterranean. The coastal protected areas can thus become places where people



can observe and compare with the impacts from disturbance by urban encroachment, pollution, overfishing, and over exploitation. Blue Growth is a long-term strategy to support sustainable growth in the coastal and maritime sectors as a whole. Blue Growth also provides support for the protection and development of more intangible 'blue' resources such as traditional ways of life, carbon sequestration, and coastal resilience to help vulnerable states mitigate the often-devastating effects of climate change.

#### 2.2.4 Spain

**Climate change and morphological stability.** Spain is getting warmer and drier because of the climate crisis. This combination of rising temperatures and less and less rain may result in desertification of vast swaths of Spain. Extreme events, such as heat waves, droughts, wildfires, floods, and river overflows will become more frequent. The Spanish coast has periodic episodes of catastrophic rainfall. The main climate change impacts relevant for coastal zones are flooding and erosion, saline intrusion and freshwater shortage, and the loss of coastal ecosystems. Mediterranean Spanish beaches are subject to high tourist pressure.

**Littorization and urbanization.** The main changes in land occupation from 1987 correspond with an increase in artificial surfaces (29.5%) followed by water surfaces (10.4%), while forest areas with natural vegetation show a decrease (1%). The growth of artificial is one of the highest in Europe. The population density in Spain is lower than that of most other Western European Countries. Spain has a high rate of people living in coastal urban populations, except in Madrid with 6,155,116 people. The development of tourism also contributed to this massive rural exodus, which was concentrated on the Mediterranean coast and the Balearic and Canary Islands.

**Touristic fluxes and carrying capacity.** In 2018 Spain was the third-ranked country in the world in terms of the number of tourists received and the second in terms of revenue. The main tourist areas of the Mediterranean coast of Spain are the islands de Mallorca and Barcelona. Tourist carrying capacity (TCT) is a way of measuring or quantifying tourism sustainability, and like this, it has a differentiating feature, which is multidimensionality. The TCT is related to the territory, the environment, the use of resources, infrastructures, connectivity, equipment, local development, the preservation of cultural traditions, etc. The tourist flows in Spain are strongly seasonal with almost half concentrated between June and September.

**Pollution and other anthropogenic pressures affecting ecosystems.** Spanish industry is highly concentrated both geographically and by branches of activity. Spanish industry is characterized by a concentration in agriculture, the chemical pharmaceutical industry, and industrial activities related to transport equipment. The Mediterranean autonomous communities whose industrial fabric is most relevant correspond to Catalonia, Andalusia, and Valencian Community. The main pollution spots on the Spanish Mediterranean coast are Barcelona, Valencia, Cartagena, Tarragona, Algeciras, and the mouth of Ebro River (Amposta).

**Conflict/Synergy among different uses on land and at sea Stability.** In Spain, very little progress has been observed in the integrated management of its coastal areas since 2010. Although Coastal Law is focused on the terrestrial maritime public domain and its easement zone, it does not integrate the management of the entire coastal zone. Regarding the economic resources allocated to coastal management in Spain, it is noticeable the notable decrease in investments on a national scale in the last decade.

**Safety and security challenges.** Today, some phenomena help the propagation or transformation of threats and risks that increase vulnerability. Due to the climatic variety of Spain and its geographical location, located on the edges of the European and African plates, there are various natural risks. The most important risks of anthropological origin are the chemical risk and the transport of dangerous substances since they are necessary for the development of activities in the industrial sector.

**Touristic well-being and health emergencies.** Tourism is one of the great economic powers of the world, especially in the Mediterranean area. Health tourism is a very powerful niche market in Spain as long as you know how to take advantage of the demand well. Covid-19 has especially affected tourism activity and will probably lead to a change in the tourism model developed so far. To recover the tourism development that existed until now, stakeholders must bet on a more sustainable type of tourism that allows to recover consumer confidence.

**Habitat and Endemic Species.** Spain is host to an estimated 85,000 species of animals and plants. More than one-fifth are considered threatened and at least 10% are Near Threatened at the European level, one species is Extinct in the Wild and one species is already Extinct. Many of these species are endemic to Europe and are found nowhere else in the world. Spain has devoted notable efforts to combating invasive species. Spain is one of the first European countries to have an Integrated Coastal Management Strategy and clear targets for its implementation. Negative impacts on

land use and occupation were identified, caused by the excessive presence of people, the introduction of invasive species, and the artificial filling of beaches.

**Cultural and natural heritage sites.** In Spain, there are 48 properties declared World Heritage, which makes it the second country with the most declarations in Europe and the third in the world. Of these 48 places, 42 are cultural assets, 4 are natural; 2 are mixed, and 13 are located in Spanish Mediterranean coastal environments. The main threats to the Spanish World Heritage properties are “Management and institutional factors”, Buildings and Development, Social/cultural uses of heritage, Transportation infrastructures, and Pollution.

**Coastal protection measures.** The Mediterranean coastal zones are threatened by strong anthropogenic pressures, tourism, and coastal overcrowding. Coastal protection measures must adapt to future changes associated with climate change. Coastal management plans or strategies exist, depending on the country, at different administrative levels with disparate competencies (from local to national level). The emergence of the ICZM as a coastal management strategy in the different Mediterranean countries is a great solution to create synergies between the different participating countries in terms of knowledge, study, and approach to problems and search for solutions when managing the coast.

**Ecosystem protection.** The prevention of Climate Change and its consequences is the main objective of the environmental policies developed in recent years. The protection and recovery of coastal areas is fundamental for the fight against Climate Change and the protection of biodiversity. Despite the existence of policies to protect and manage the pressures caused by human beings, the degradation of the environment continues since direct and effective actions must be adopted. The recovery of ecosystems must be carried out taking into account the adaptation of the environment to Climate Change. The development of tourism in the Spanish Mediterranean region has historically occurred exorbitantly, leading to a large series of impacts on the environment that negatively affect tourism itself.

**Water supply and depuration.** The main uses of regenerated waters in Spain are agricultural (70%) and environmental. Currently, Spain does not comply with community legislation on urban water treatment. The level of coverage is close to 90% of the total concerning the pollutant load, but it is especially far from meeting the objectives set by the MSFD for purification in municipalities. Water consumption per inhabitant/day has been decreasing in recent years. The main urban water use in Spain is for domestic use (68%) and industrial and commercial consumption (14%).

**Transport and accessibility.** Air transport is the main form of international tourism, often involving long-distance travel. Sustainable mobility measures are generally well developed, at least in theory, in normal urban environments, i.e., in cities where mobility mostly follows a recurrent pattern related to reasons such as work and studies. Mediterranean cruises are the most convenient for Spaniards. One of the biggest impacts of tourism transport is greenhouse gases. Mitigating this is one of the biggest challenges, both for sustainable energy and climate change.

**Tourist well-being and infestation, prevention and control.** The tourism sector is very vulnerable to health crises; therefore, a more resilient tourism model must be developed, since due to Climate Change it is likely that health crises will be increasingly common. COVID-19 has especially affected the economy of the typical tourist destination, which will have a slower economic recovery than countries where tourism hasn't as much weight in the economy. The recovery of tourism must allow a balance between the protection of the environment and the socioeconomic benefits, so it must count on local communities respecting their culture, making good use of their natural resources, and ensuring long-term economic development.

**Legislation, Administrative constraints, Governance, Financial resources, and mechanisms.** The management of the Mediterranean faces many challenges, such as Climate Change and the effects of tourism, the main economic sector of the Mediterranean region. To have a correct management of Mediterranean tourism, the coordination and cooperation of all the neighboring countries is necessary. Within Spain, it is also necessary a correct coordination and cooperation between the Mediterranean regions and with the administration to achieve the development of tourism and other activities derived from the sustainable Mediterranean. There is a lot of legislation, both At European and national levels, relating to the protection of the coast and the sustainable development of the Mediterranean, although not too many actions have been taken for its development.

**Local community.** With 12% of the Spanish national GDP, tourism is one of the most important sectors of the economy. It represents, among other things, an important source of foreign currency entry for the country. Thus, tourist activity has a knock-on effect in the sectors of transport, communication, crafts, commerce, and construction. The local community is not an undifferentiated mass but consists of people belonging to different economic classes, clans, or groups. Different economic classes, clans or family groups, ethnic groups, both sexes, and different specific. To gain the support of local communities, it is not enough to make them aware of the issues.

**Blue Growth.** The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food are firmly committed to Blue Growth. The EU supports the blue economy through various instruments. There is an ever-increasing demand for coastal tourism, reaching massive concentrations of tourists in certain areas of the Mediterranean during the summer season. This tourism poses a series of threats and dangers to the natural, physical, and even cultural environment. This trend has been changing in recent years, as many tourists are opting for eco-friendly holidays that respect the environment and local cultures.

### 2.2.5 Tunisia

**Climate change and morphological stability.** Tunisia's temperature forecasts show a significant increase. The country is considered one of the richest countries in coastal wetlands, as its coastline is characterized by a much-diversified morphology. An extended part of the beach is under erosion, while more than 50% of coastal wetlands are threatened by marine submersion and the loss of several sandy beaches.

**Littoralization and urbanization.** The two economic sectors: industry and tourism with an extroverted nature have participated in the urbanisation of the coast. The development of industrial and tourist zones through the zoning technique carried out by the three specialized land agencies: THA, TLA, and HLA created in 1973 has contributed to the imbalance between the coast and the interior of Tunisia in terms of urbanization. In the absence, in most cases, of an updated urban development plan that integrates the tourist area with the city, this hybridization takes place in a more or less spontaneous way, according to the land opportunities and the actors at play.

**Tourism fluxes and carrying capacity.** Tunisia has become one of the leading touristic countries on the southern shore of the Mediterranean basin. In the absence of natural resources, tourism is today a strategic sector in the Tunisian economy. Tunisia continues to benefit from its dominant position as one of the most popular Mediterranean destinations for seaside holidays in Western Europe. It receives important flows of visitors interested in beaches, while it does not manage to improve or exploit other types of tourism such as cultural and congress tourism.

**Pollution and other anthropogenic pressures affect ecosystems.** On the Tunisian scale it can be described as a direct impact of beach maritime tourism such as cultural diversity, the ecosystems provide a rich source of inspiration for art, folklore, national symbols, architecture, and advertising. Natural areas may be defined as services about the original environment by ensuring the well-being of the local population and the relationships of ecosystem components. Considering the important climate value

in tourism, ecosystems provide a rich source of climate services explored for coastal tourism sun bathing, pleasure boating, snorkeling, reef walking, and scuba diving. Impacts mainly affect water quality, solid waste management, eutrophication, noise and light, and Threats Affecting Wetland Biological Diversity.

**Conflict/synergy and land sea interaction.** The Tunisian coastlines are today characterized by a general aspect of degradation and pollution, a symptom of the current anthropic pressures which are rapidly increasing. They have undergone considerable spatial changes and mutations, with the expansion of land devoted to agriculture and conservation. Due to rising anthropic activities that put even more increasing pressure on it, changes in the coastal fringe will be occurring faster, and the interests at stake in this space will be greater.

**Safety and security challenges** Land and sea flooding along the Tunisian coastline may constitute a danger for coastal areas and particularly for tourist areas in Tunisia. This synthesis clearly shows that the coastal tourist areas in Tunisia are not threatened by land flooding and that the risk of marine flooding is very low, with a rise in the sea surface not exceeding 1 meter.

**Tourist well-being and health emergencies.** The health crisis of COVID-19 proved that seaside tourism, which dominates tourism in the Mediterranean basin in general, especially in the case of Tunisia, is a product that is very vulnerable to crises. Success at the level of the interception of the first wave of the coronavirus epidemic during the first half of the year 2020 has not enabled Tunisian tourism to attract foreign customers once again. There is an intense need to diversify the Tunisian tourist product by exploiting the natural and cultural potentialities of the various regions of the country to maintain the resilience of the sector in the face of this unprecedented universal crisis.

**Habitat and Endemic Species.** To date, there is no complete inventory of endemic marine species in Tunisia and even less on their status, geographic distribution, and nuisance factors. Several factors affect biodiversity and endemic species, and most often act concurrently. These include climate change, urban and industrial discharges, excessive fishing, tourism, and biological invasions. Invasive species thrive at the expense of native species, especially endemic species.

**Cultural and natural heritage sites.** Tunisia is directly affected by the growth of tourism in the Mediterranean, especially in coastal areas, which requires attention. Analyzing and promoting the co-evolution of human activities and natural ecosystems in tourism in Tunisia and introducing some archaeological sites that soil and

coasts stability/erosion is necessary to formulate an effective strategy to protect and value them become a touristic destination.

**Coastal protection measures.** Some achievements are summarized in the installation of coastal protection measures which can be divided into two groups: Solid structures and flexible techniques for coastal protection measures; *Solid structures for coastal protection* aim to maintain the coastline or modify the evolution of its geometric configuration, while *Flexible coastal protection technology* seeks new flexible methods for coastal protection.

**Coastal Ecosystems protection.** The Tunisian coastline is subject to strong pressures that jeopardize the rational management of its natural resources and therefore its sustainability. Added to this are the risks related to climate change, and more particularly the accelerated rise in sea level. Tunisia has become aware and has developed tools to promote the implementation of ICZM, both at the institutional and legal levels, and the development of knowledge about the challenges involved. However, limitations are nowadays hindering an effective application of this integrated management in the field.

**Water supply and depuration.** There is a trend towards an increase in average maximum temperatures. Climate change threatened the nearly 1150 kilometres of Tunisia's coastal zones to Sea Level Rise. The economic development in Tunisia was accompanied by an evolution of water demand, and by overexploitation of groundwater to satisfy drinking, irrigation, industry, and tourism industries. The agricultural activities using a great number of fertilizers, manure, and pesticides were shown in literature as the main origin of water quality degradation.

**Transports and accessibility.** The evolution of means of transport and the modalities of transport (fixed price, charter, low cost) have participated in the development of mass tourism, at the level of the Mediterranean basin, which also concerns Tunisia. The latter has nine international airports. With only one cruise port, La Goulette, Tunisia does not seize the financial manna that could provide this promising niche, especially since the Mediterranean functions as the leading cruise basin in the world. As for yachting, with only nine moderately equipped ports and its rigid regulations, Tunisia attracts less than 1% of the yachtsmen of the Mediterranean basin, compared to its competitors.

**Tourist well-being and infection prevention and control.** Tunisia and the Mediterranean in general have experienced the frequency of epidemics caused by transmissible infectious diseases. Tourism in Tunisia has suffered greatly due to the closure of borders and the suspension of air traffic for months in 2020. Faced with a

disaster-stricken sector threatened by bankruptcy, different measures have been taken to save it. The change in tourist behavior is a direct consequence of this health crisis.

**Legislation, Administrative constraints, Governance, Financial resources and mechanisms.** The seaside tourist offers in Tunisia, which began with a few occasional hotel units parallel to the shore line, has gone through several tourist development concepts to meet the demand of tour operators who are their intermediaries with international customers. Today, the rapid development of tourist demand, which is becoming demanding in terms of quality, authenticity, and healthy environment, calls for the State to take its role in prospecting and control.

**Local community.** Since its independence in 1956, the Tunisian state has bet on the development of international tourism. Tourism in Tunisia remains particularly a mass seaside tourism, dominated by entrepreneurial actors, in particular hoteliers and tour operators, which today turns out to be an offer at odds with the changes in the international tourist demand. Today, the development choices of the tourism sector are increasingly criticized by its opponents, because of their weaknesses in terms of revenue and territorial traceability. There is a requirement for a great deal of work on the part of the public authorities to change the image of the destination through the prospects of developing new tourism products, particularly the cultural and rural.

**Towards a sustainable Blue Economy.** Concerning the blue economy, the maritime potential existing in Tunisia offers a real opportunity to improve the economic situation of the country and the well-being of the population, while ensuring the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the coast. Recently, the political will to subscribe to the logic of the blue economy has resulted in the creation of the General Secretariat of Maritime Affairs. It has become crucial to put in place a national strategy for the sea.

The Table below tries to point out the most important results that come from the Analysis of Threats and Enabling Factors by factor and country (Mediterranean Scale).



**Table 2 Threats and Enabling Factors at the Mediterranean Scale**

Threats and Enabling Factors	National Scale				
	Greece	Italy	Lebanon	Spain	Tunisia
<b>Climate change and morphological stability</b>	Greece is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea and characterized by the Mediterranean climate which varies from place to place. Greece has also one of the longest coastlines globally	There is a significant chance that Italian coastal areas will be affected by climate change	The agricultural sector will suffer the most from the increased drought periods, exacerbated by the growing pressure of urbanization and population growth (increased demand for water) in the coming decades	Extreme events, such as heat waves, droughts, wildfires, floods, and river overflows will become more frequent	Tunisia is considered one of the richest countries in coastal wetlands and it is characterized by a much-diversified morphology
<b>Littoralisation and urbanization</b>	Big urban centers in Greece, with 4 out of the 5 biggest cities being located on the coast	The high coastal urbanization has become a serious issue	Urban expansion has been a direct driving force causing the loss of natural resources in the country. Recent Lebanese prefer the construction along the roads and on the account of cultivated lands	Spain has a high rate of people living in coastal urban populations	The two economic sectors: industry and tourism with an extroverted nature have participated in the urbanization of the coast
<b>Touristic fluxes and carrying capacity</b>	Priority has been given to the development of alternative forms of tourism	Coastal tourism is the typology with the second highest level of expenditure, after cultural towns	The seasonality observed in winter sports and summer leisure's can be bridged by creating the conditions for indoor	Tourist carrying capacity has a differentiating feature, which is multidimensionality. The tourist flows in Spain are strongly seasonal	Tunisia receives important flows of visitors interested in beaches. The results of studies on the Carrying Capacity evaluation for



Co-Evolve4BG

Threats and Enabling Factors	National Scale				
	Greece	Italy	Lebanon	Spain	Tunisia
			sports in winter and for winter sports in summer		recreational purposes highlight the need to reduce the number of users for several over-saturated beaches and seaside resorts
<b>Pollution and other anthropogenic pressures affecting ecosystems</b>	Effects mainly affect freshwater quality, solid waste management, eutrophication, soil, noise, aesthetic and light pollution, and threats affecting wetlands and Maritime's biological diversity	There are 141 industrial districts identified	The Environment in Lebanon is in jeopardy, notably along the coastal zone which attracts the largest population (> 70%) in Lebanon for living	Spanish industry is highly concentrated both geographically and by branches of activity	The natural areas may be defined as service concerning the original environment by ensuring the well-being of the local population and the relationships of ecosystem components
<b>Conflict/Synergy among different uses on land and at sea and land-sea interactions in Blue Growth</b>	Coastal environmental degradation could be of high importance since the ecological role of these ecosystems is significant, both in terms of their productivity and as nursery grounds for populations	No major conflicts between aquaculture and tourism are reported in Italy. Low conflicts between agriculture and tourism are reported in Italy. A high level of conflict between agriculture and tourism is reported	The major gaps encountering the sustainable management of natural resources in Lebanon and its coastal area are the weak national and local land-use policies	In Spain, very little progress has been observed in the integrated management of its coastal areas since 2010	The Tunisian coastlines are today characterized by a general aspect of degradation and pollution, a symptom of the current anthropic pressures which are rapidly increasing
<b>Safety and security challenges</b>	Tourism remains the "heavy industry" of the	it is necessary to concentrate efforts on	Tourism in Lebanon has faced several threats	The most important risks of anthropological origin	Despite all the security measures taken by the

Threats and Enabling Factors	National Scale				
	Greece	Italy	Lebanon	Spain	Tunisia
	country. There is a need to develop a national growth plan where tourism and other domains as economic pillars	the restoration of basic infrastructures and services	due to conflicts and political instability	are the chemical risk and the transport of dangerous substances since they are necessary for the development of activities in the industrial sector	Tunisian authorities, the tourist clientele does not seem to be tolerant towards the destination of Tunisia
<b>Tourist well-being and health emergencies</b>	It seems that although tourism in Greece at least for 2020 received a strong backlash	At the moment, one of the priorities of tourists, Italian and foreign, remains the safety factor. The Covid-19 emergency has highlighted the importance and fundamental role of digital technology in supporting companies	The gradual recovery of Lebanon, its health care infrastructure, and the Lebanese tourism sector from the economic crisis and the consequences of COVID-19, along with the rise of social immunity among the local community, would allow the restart of the tourism business with the return to employment and profit	To recover the tourism development that existed until now, stakeholders must bet on a more sustainable type of tourism that allows to recover consumer confidence	The tourist sector remains very fragile in the face of crises, especially health crises
<b>Habitat and Endemic Species</b>	Greek combines a unique marine ecosystem with great endemic species colonies. Several factors affect biodiversity and	Indirect impacts are more difficult to measure, but can ultimately be more important	The coastal zone of Lebanon, including marine and terrestrial habitats for many flora and fauna species, is one of the main touristic	Of the total number of species assessed in the country more than one-fifth are considered threatened and at least 10% are Near	Several factors affect biodiversity and endemic species, and most often act concurrently. These include climate change, urban and industrial

Threats and Enabling Factors	National Scale				
	Greece	Italy	Lebanon	Spain	Tunisia
	endemic species and most often act concurrently		destinations for local visitors and international tourism	Threatened at the European level. Spain is one of the first European countries to have an Integrated Coastal Management Strategy and clear targets for its implementation	discharges, excessive fishing, tourism, and biological invasions
Cultural and natural heritage sites	This archaeological and historical heritage must be protected to ensure its survival for future generations	Cultural sites share the presence of many threats surrounding them	Institutional weakness in Lebanon threatens the cultural and touristic sectors. The involvement of local communities in management actions and plans contributes to better and applicable management	The main threat to the Spanish World Heritage properties are “Management and institutional factors”, Buildings and Development, Social/cultural uses of heritage, Transportation infrastructures, and Pollution	The growth of tourism in the Mediterranean, especially in coastal areas, and the effects of climate change will continue to affect landscapes
Coastal protection measures	The main factors threatening Greek coastal areas closely linked to human activities that contribute to global warming and climate change	It is necessary to plan the defense interventions not as single works, but as components of an overall defense system	The main constraints are balancing between coastal ecosystem conservation and socio-economic requirements of the local community	Coastal protection measures must adapt to future changes associated with climate change	The installation of coastal protection measures can be divided into two groups: Solid structures and flexible techniques for coastal protection measures



Co-Evolve4BG

Threats and Enabling Factors	National Scale				
	Greece	Italy	Lebanon	Spain	Tunisia
<b>Ecosystems protection</b>	The majority of tourism activities take place in coastal areas and that is a key pressure for ecosystems	The Italian coastal dunes are home to numerous plant communities. The damage caused mainly by anthropogenic activities	Lebanese marine ecosystems are experiencing dramatic coastal impacts, due to anthropogenic activities and climate-related factors	The protection and recovery of coastal areas is fundamental for the fight against Climate Change and the protection of biodiversity.	The Tunisian coastline is subject to strong pressures that jeopardize the rational management of its natural resources and therefore its sustainability
<b>Water supply and depuration</b>	Tourism can contribute to a decline in downstream or destination water quality and potable water supplies as a result of poor or no treatment of wastewater	Italy is one of the largest consumers of water in Europe. One of the problems is the dispersion of water in the distribution networks	Not only climate change but also population growth is putting uncommon pressure on the water. Environmental kinds of tourism provide essential possibilities for improving and implementing the latest sustainable fashions for the control of water resources	Currently, Spain does not comply with community legislation on urban water treatment	The economic development in Tunisia was accompanied by an evolution of water demand, and by an overexploitation of groundwater
<b>Transports and accessibility</b>	Island regions are increasingly confronted with new challenges in the tourism sector linked to transportation means. Yachting in Greece	Italy is in 43rd place in the world ranking for the quality and efficiency of maritime transport infrastructures. The country suffers a	Lebanon is in urgent need of a sustainable public transport system that aims to improve residents as well as tourists' quality of life	Sustainable mobility measures are generally well developed, at least in theory, in normal urban environments	The evolution of means of transport and the modalities of transport (fixed price, charter, low cost) have participated in



Co-Evolve4BG

Threats and Enabling Factors	National Scale				
	Greece	Italy	Lebanon	Spain	Tunisia
	presents an upward trend	widespread delay in all the pillars of competitiveness			the development of mass tourism
<b>Tourist well-being, infection prevention, and control</b>	Greece is considered a Safe Tourist Destination for international tourists	In Italy most of the attention is focused on outgoing tourists and public health authorities have specific prevention and information programs	Aiming to ensure the revitalization of the sector in Lebanon, innovative policies and plans were recently issued following the impact of tourist flow reduction.	The tourism sector is very vulnerable to health crises; therefore, a more resilient tourist model must be developed, since due to Climate Change it is likely that health crises such as the current one will be increasingly common	The health issue is fundamental for any tourist visit. Tunisia and the Mediterranean in general have experienced the frequency of epidemics caused by transmissible infectious diseases
<b>Legislation, Administrative constraints, Governance, Financial resources, and mechanisms</b>	The participation of many organizations in the coastal zone management process causes several problems due to gaps and overlapping of responsibilities. the role of all local organizations is very limited	The integration of management of tourist destinations through an ICZM approach will guarantee both the minimization of conflicts with other coastal activities and the respect for the environmental carrying capacity accompanying the development of the coastal zone	The enhancement of the tourism sector still counts on the legal frameworks and legislations which are many but most of them are not effective enough to reduce the descending trend in the tourism industry	To have a correct management of Mediterranean tourism, the coordination and cooperation of all the neighboring countries is necessary	Better planning of the evolution of human coastal activities especially tourism, is more than necessary if not essential and relevant

Threats and Enabling Factors	National Scale				
	Greece	Italy	Lebanon	Spain	Tunisia
Interaction of tourists with the local community	The development of coastal tourism contributes positively to local development	Coastal tourism in Italy has, until today, been mainly based on traditional seaside activities, which type is unsustainable and does not bring many benefits to local communities	There is still a gap and a lack of effective coordination between actors. Tourism in Lebanon requires to be supported by the coordination of several governmental bodies	To gain the support of local communities, it is not enough to make them aware of the issues	The product offered by Tunisia is mainly a hotel product, which has no relation to the nature of the territory. There is a requirement for a great deal of work on the part of the public authorities to change the image of the destination through the prospects of developing new tourism products, particularly the cultural and rural
Blue Growth	Greece's Blue Economy employs many people but does not generate too much GVA	Coastal tourism shows significant differences at the local scale. A fundamental step is a proper assessment of the impact of tourism on the marine environment, its space-time variability, and affected ecosystem services	Blue Growth is a long-term strategy to support sustainable growth in the coastal and maritime sectors as a whole	The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA-Blue Growth) is firmly committed to Blue Growth. many tourists are opting for eco-friendly holidays that respect the environment and local cultures	Concerning the blue economy, the maritime potential existing in Tunisia offers a real opportunity to improve the economic situation of the country and the well-being of the population

## 3 The Transferability Strategy

### 3.1 Identifying the Key-goals

The proposed framework of the Transferability Plan aims at cooperation between stakeholders, securing the connectivity of all the partners, and thus serving as a prior strategy for the ongoing implementation of the Co-Evolve4BG project's results.

Transferability is established by providing interested parties and relevant individuals or groups with evidence that the results of a study and/or research can be applied to different contexts, situations, times and populations.

Transferability involves the diffusion of knowledge gained by research or project and it could be defined as the process in which original and utilized knowledge is produced in an area, which gradually becomes available to external actors. This knowledge could be used by both an individual and a group of interested people/stakeholders except from its original creator. Essentially, the diffusion of knowledge begins when an idea that arose from a particular actor is learned and used by someone else. Especially in recent years, the diffusion of knowledge has been established as a direct source of economic growth (Dostis, 2020).

Dissemination is another way of expressing transferability that makes the project visible, consolidates networks of 'actual' and 'potential' uses, permits a prospective formal recognition of the subject, and allows for ongoing user feedback. Dissemination can be a precursor to the sustainability and transferability of a project and its outputs when these circumstances are met (although the list may be longer). Hence, dissemination will begin right away and continue throughout the entire project. The following key goals are being pursued:

- Supporting the ongoing dissemination of project's outcomes and results at local, regional, national, and international levels.
  - The goal is twofold: on the one hand, each pilot area and partner country will develop topical debate and increase awareness among practitioners and experts; on the other hand, wider conversation will promote the exchange of ideas, developing critical thinking and disseminating best practices across Europe and/or transnationally.
- Encouraging the durability of project outputs through the participation of a significant number of project participants.

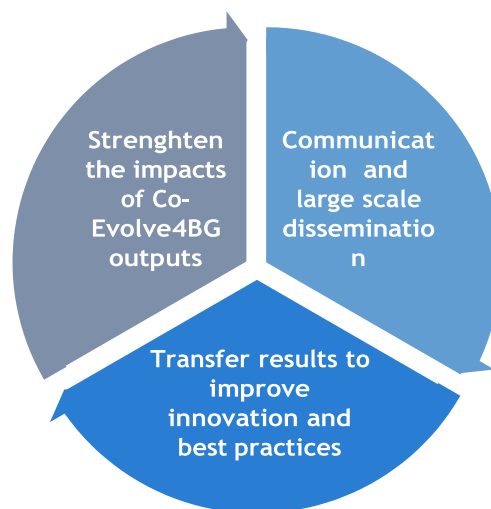


## Co-Evolve4BG

Developing a transferability plan starts with identifying the message and audience. For each component, it is necessary to decide on and properly outline the aims and objectives for dissemination. Several issues require attention. So, deciding on and precisely outlining the dissemination's unique objectives is essential. Target audiences' appropriate communication methods must also be determined. Study participants, other researchers, media outlets, community groups and members, and government/policymakers are some examples of the audiences that need to be taken into account. For each audience, messages and educational materials must be customized. For the information to reach different categories of people through different types of venues, various dissemination channels must be used. Using the resources already in place within a community or organization is also crucial.

In conclusion, defining the main aim of the Transferability Plan it could be noted that this is the utilization of the results of the Co-Evolve4BG program to the objectives of the program to be successfully promoted and for strong and long-term network relationships at the national and Med scale to be created:

- At the national level: The goal is to transfer Co-Evolve4BG experience, with its lessons learned and good practices, to other local and regional authorities.
- At the Mediterranean level: The objective is to transfer the experience to other countries too.



The purpose of the Transferability Plan is to describe and document the overall strategy of the dissemination activities of the Co-Evolve4BG project and to ensure that the partners' activities are coordinated. In addition, this deliverable explains how

various instruments and tools will be used to disseminate information on project activities and results to key target audiences.

The transferability plan should involve **potential end-users and stakeholders**. End-users could come from the partners' regional, national, and international networks or from the value chains they operate in. They could be involved as user groups tasked with testing the results and providing feedback.

Explaining **how the project results are expected to be applied is also very important, offering the main advantages of new solution(s) to emerge**. The results could be direct - like a toolkit, test, model, better product/service or process, or improved understanding of mechanisms or indirect - like reduced material or energy usage, improved safety, or better-trained staff.

Once the research is complete, there is an urgent **need to take further steps** to implement the project's results in actual practice. Some examples are standards to be agreed on, scaling up promoting acceptance by final recipients or other partners in a value chain. Policymakers may also set up follow-up actions to incorporate the findings into regulations.

### 3.2 Implementing the Method of Focus Groups

The Co-Evolve4BG project is an ongoing project providing significant results and observations that should be organized effectively so the project can be sufficiently distributed and utilized by any interested people or groups of people and stakeholders at a comprehensive spatial level of reference. For the successful operation of Activity 2 (five hybrid events and two online trainings) the methodology of **focus groups** was employed.

The focus group has the comparative advantage of allowing researchers to swiftly identify the whole range of opinions held by the respondents. Also, the interactional, synergistic aspect of the focus group enables members to clarify or improve their discussion contributions considering issues raised by other participants, thereby developing contributions that could be underdeveloped in an in-depth interview.

Underlying the main advantages of proposing focus groups, it could be observed that focus groups are set up easily and relatively quickly, and the group dynamic can provide useful information that collecting data individually cannot serve an integrated

## Co-Evolve4BG

purpose. It can also gain insight into a topic that any other data collection method could gather more difficulty.

Furthermore, the focus group is adaptable enough to consider each participant's agenda and uses its explicit interactional quality to elicit differing opinions and experiences rather than attempting to reach a consensus. In this regard, focus groups are an excellent tool for creating hypotheses, investigating unexplored areas, and/or clarifying them.

The risks of implementing the focus group method are that the discussion may take some directions away from the interests of some participants, and data analysis will consume much time without maybe corresponding to the individuals' needs. So, these perspectives should be taken into serious consideration in designing the focus groups.

The interaction between group members results in the researcher's influence on the process being less and more weight being given to the participant's responses. Regarding the more general composition of the focus group, the aim is to create a functional group that will produce useful research material through efficient and constructive discussions. The main conditions for creating a comfortable and productive debate are that the participants are active, interact with each other, and feel comfortable discussing the topics related to the research.

It's crucial to ensure that focus groups cover the complete spectrum of potential observations. Under this context, the researchers identify those salient characteristics likely to influence variability in focus group responses by drawing on their personal and prior expertise of the subject under examination. A similar procedure is followed in the facilitated workshops, which are workshops for extracting data and information from a group of participants who do not have common characteristics.

### 3.3 Target Audiences

The Co-Evolve4BG project will benefit from the categories below<sup>2</sup>:

- Coastal municipalities and regional authorities
- Ministries of environment, tourism, and development
- SMEs and tourism-related companies
- Research institutions and universities.

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/co-evolve4bg>



Co-Evolve4BG

Transferability serves different target audiences for a variety of purposes. The target audiences for the utilization and dissemination of the results are:

- *Authorities, decision-makers:*
  - Publishing of articles, papers in journals or special issues of online or printed publications,
  - Dissemination of experiences at workshops, and conferences.
- *Planners, experts:*
  - Presentation of results in training and educational programs
  - Presentation of results in specific programs,
  - Sharing of lessons learned at conferences and workshops

The *specific target audiences* are:

- Decision-makers (e.g., ministries, governmental institutes)
- NGOs
- Governments
- Local governments
- Policy-makers and spatial planners
- University students
- Researchers.

In Table 3, key stakeholder and their needs are identified, and reviewed during the project lifespan.

**Table 3 Target audience definition**

Target audience	Needs
<b>Target group 1</b> <b>Policymakers: Local, National Med scale level (Coastal Municipalities, Ministries of environment, tourism, and development. DMOs)</b>	Being able to find brief and well-structured basic information about the project and in-depth information about the method and research findings potentially relevant to inform recommendations about development actions related to tourism and the environment
<b>Target group 2</b> <b>SMEs and tourism-related companies</b>	Being able to get well-informed about the findings in relevant topics and implement actions in light of the findings and recommendations
<b>Target group 3</b> <b>Education community (schools, universities, and other educational contexts and organizations, etc.)</b>	Being able to find brief and/or in-depth and well-structured basic information about the project and in-depth information about resources related to the topic and the project

<b>and researchers/research institutions, regional authorities</b>	method, pilots, research findings, such as scientific articles and reports, and information about participation in conferences and scientific events
<b>Target group 4 Project partners</b>	Being able to use the transferability plan for any communication, dissemination, and exploitation requirements to share texts, files, and, if needed, messages in a collaborative tool
<b>Target group 5 General audience</b>	Being able to find brief and well-structured basic information about the project and activities, to understand its key aspects quickly

### 3.4 Outputs Capitalization

Four different levels of capitalization for Co-Evolve4BG outputs could be identified: local, national, regional (Med scale), and transnational/international. In turn, at each of these levels, two main kinds of stakeholders to target could be identified too: those who can capitalize on this knowledge directly, and those who will be affected indirectly. Table 4 offers a summary of the different groups identified:

**Table 4 Scale of direct and indirect capitalization of Co-Evolve4BG results**

Type/Level	Direct Capitalization	Indirect Capitalization
<b>Local</b>	Local municipalities	Local NGOs, civil society associations, and Collectives, local champers
<b>National</b>	Ministries dealing with environmental protection, spatial planning, and infrastructure development National champers (technical, commerce, etc.)	Local NGOs, civil society associations, and Collectives
<b>Regional (Med scale)</b>	Med basin countries (Barcelona Convention) Union for the Mediterranean, an independent network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC) PANORAMA - Solutions for a Healthy Planet, The MedPAN Network	Regional NGOs, regional infrastructure, and biodiversity conservation projects



## The Transferability Plan



<p><b>Transnational / International</b></p>	<p>International conventions (UNEP, Plan Bleu Regional Activity Center) IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme and UNDP: Protected Area Solutions</p> <p>European Union decision-makers and stakeholders</p>
---	---

## 4 The Transferability Plan

### 4.1 The Implementation

#### 4.1.1 Main Axis

The Transferability Plan of Co-Evolve4BG Project was determined as described in subsection 3.1 hereof and then, its actions were proposed. Therefore, in the period of implementation of the Co-Evolve4BG Project and until the publication of the current deliverable, as well as in the context of the dissemination and diffusion of the results of the project, basic actions were carried out based on **two main axes**:

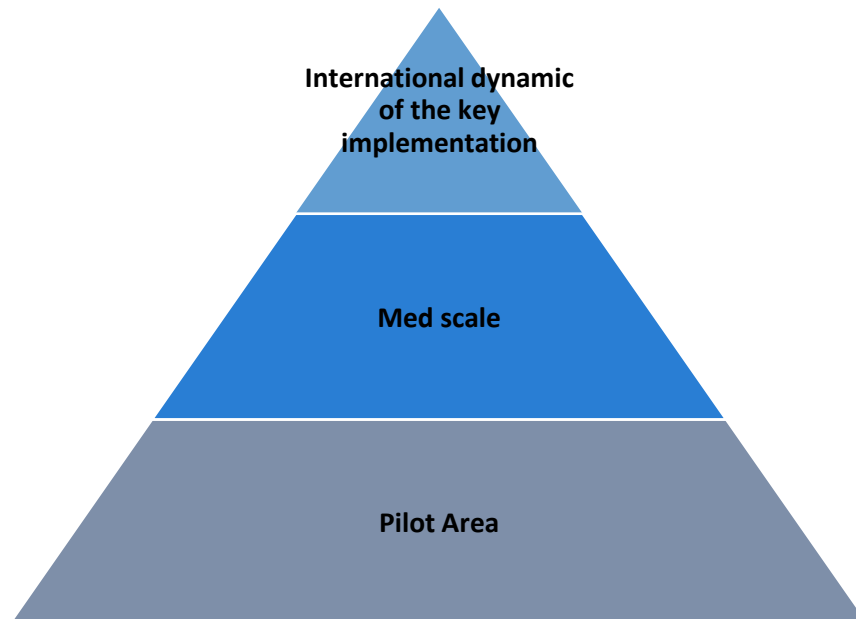
#### 1. The participation

#### 2. The presentation, consultation, and discussion of the results and decisions.

#### 4.1.2 Technical Approach: Bottom-up Planning

The approach followed is **Bottom-up**. Bottom-up constitutes the strategy of information processing and knowledge ordering, used in a variety of fields and management and organization. It is the piecing together of systems to give rise to more complex systems. In a bottom-up approach the individual base elements of the system are first specified in great detail. These elements are then linked together to form larger subsystems, which then in turn are linked, sometimes on many levels, until a complete top-level system is formed. In practice, it can be seen as a style of thinking, teaching, or leadership.

The Co-Evolve4BG Project set the vision and planning taking into account the opinions and ideas of the citizens and the operators of the pilot areas, under the technical guidance of the working groups of the project partners. In the Bottom-up process, bodies from the Regions and the States, such as Ministries (national scale), were invited and participated, too. Then, there are the international events at the Med scale that took place, bringing together all the beneficiaries of the participant countries to succeed the Med scale goal of the project, running Co-Evolve4BG to a more global level.



#### 4.1.3 Spatial Scale Analysis

The two main axes of the project were developed at **two levels of spatial reference**:

**At the local level**, the results of the indicators defined by the Toolkit were recorded for each pilot area. Then, workshops and 'participatory approach' meetings were organized where the vision and joint decisions of the participating agencies and stakeholders (parties/citizens) were shaped for their region (per pilot region). The same process followed for the determination of the specific Threats and Enabling Factors, as selected by the participants. These Threats and Enabling Factors were characterized as the most relevant and important sectors which thus emerged in terms of the degree of environmental burden and which need immediate recovery. Then, the 'Action Plan' for each Pilot Area was planned and co-decided, including some specific actions proposed to deal with the problems every Pilot Area presented as the most important.

**At med-scale (partnership) level**. During the Co-Evolve4BG Project meetings of the representatives of all the pilot areas were held, to achieve interaction and communication between them, to present the experiences on national and pilot area scale. Furthermore, these meetings supported the process of defining the broader vision of the beneficiaries of the Co-Evolve4BG Project at Med scale for a sustainable



## Co-Evolve4BG

tourism development structured on a common basis and in harmonization with the principles of:

- ✓ Integrated Coast Zone Management (ICZM)
- ✓ Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)
- ✓ Blue Growth in the Mediterranean.

### 4.1.4 Key Messages to be Transferred

The **key messages** to be transferred are:

- The establishment of a dialogue on the sustainable tourism development of coastal areas between the med (supranational) level and the local/pilot areas dimension
- The better exploitation of opportunities for discussions with high institutional levels to directly promote local priorities and (infra)structural needs
- The implementation of the methodology developed within the Co-Evolve4bg project:
  - a. Baseline analyses
  - b. Toolkit implementation, measures, and results
  - b. Structured involvement of stakeholders
  - c. Action Plans per Pilot Areas to design sustainable solutions beneficial for all: the community, the private and public sector, the tourists.

## 4.2 The Actions

The Transferability “Actions”, will consist of a methodology based on the transfer of knowledge at Med scale through training and capitalization workshops (meetings) involving Pilot Area partners and key stakeholders. To this end, 5 face-to-face meetings and 2 online trainings were conducted. The actions also included publications and establishing networking, while parallel activities were conducted too, mainly referring to the communicational process.

#### 4.2.1 The Workshops

The Transferability Plan achieves the dissemination of experience at Pilot Area scale and the diffusion of knowledge at Med scale through the organization **5 five face-to-face meetings** and **two online meetings** at Med Scale.

The 5 face-to-face meetings included 1 meeting per each pilot country: (1) Tunisia, (2) Lebanon, (3) Spain, (4) Greece and (5) Italy.

5 face-to-face meetings	Description/subject	Participants
<b>27th April 2023, Alexandroupoliss, Greece</b>	<b>Event on sustainable tourism and Blue Economy in Alexandroupoliss</b>	Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts
<b>25th May 2023, Murcia, Spain</b>	<b>Participatory workshop on integrated coastal zone management and blue tourism</b>	National Authorities, Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts, tourism operators, and fishermen associations
<b>7th June 2023, Rome, Italy</b>	<b>Coastlines and sustainable tourism</b>	National Authorities, Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts, Donors
<b>4th July, Djerba, Tunisia</b>	<b>Hybrid Event to disseminate and transfer sustainable Coastal/Maritime tourism best practices in Tunisia</b>	National Authorities, Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts, Users and Donors
<b>Batroun, Lebanon</b>	<b>Results sharing (Hybrid Event)</b>	

The Transferability Plan also runs two online meetings at Med scale. These transfer events resulted in the exchange of good practices, maximizing impact through dissemination and collaboration with local stakeholders. Participants explored innovative approaches to sustainable tourism, working collaboratively to ensure a lasting positive impact on Mediterranean coastal communities.

2 online meetings	Participants
17th July 2023, online meeting	Experts, stakeholders and project partners from the Mediterranean region
18th July 2023, online meeting	

### The Target Groups

The Target Groups of the workshops were mainly local factors and stakeholders but other interested people from the Pilot Areas referred to the face-to-face meetings. In the online meetings other people, and representatives of other/similar groups of interest were also invited.

### The process

The workshops included a theoretical introduction to ICZM, territorial diagnosis (challenges and opportunities based on SWOT Analysis) served by Group work in the "World café" format, restitution of results, and collectively identifying actions that could be implemented to strengthen the sustainability of tourism in the area. The intervention focused on reflecting the major findings at Pilot Area scale (T&EF analysis at PA scale, Toolkit, Participatory Approach, and Action Plan, highlighting the positive/negative experiences at Pilot Area scale

The online meetings followed a specific agenda and focused on summarizing the major findings at Med scale describing the main results of WP3 and WP4 at Med scale, and also the presentation and highlighting the Positive/Negative experiences at Med scale related to WP3 and WP4 experience. A significant part of the online meeting was explaining how the experience related to WP3 and WP4 can be further transferred to a broader target audience.

## The outputs

The workshops produced the presentation summarizing the major findings at Pilot Area scale, the presentation of highlighting the positive/negative experiences at Pilot Area scale, and the presentation of explaining how the experience can be further transferred to a broader target audience. The formulation of Action Plans for each Pilot Area was also a significant part that took place, regarding the T&Efs each Pilot area has chosen to be considered in the sustainable tourism implementation.

### 4.2.2 Draft 4 Scientific Articles

4 Scientific Articles were drafted. The main content of the 4 articles is referring to;

1. The Toolkit
2. Analysis at Med level
3. The Participatory Approach
4. The Blue Growth

### 4.2.3 Networking to ICZM/MSP platform and Blue Growth

To create a network linked to the ICZM/MSP platform and Blue Growth to strengthen networking between project partners, area pilot, and other subjects, there were communication via email where partners were asked to register to the following platform

<https://medblueconomyplatform.org>

### 4.2.4 Parallel Activities

Many relevant and regular meetings (mainly online) took also place with the participation of all stakeholders of the project. These meetings were conducted after consultation through phone calls and emails, to come to a full understanding and agreement on the content and the way of conducting the proceedings.

## 4.3 Best Practices from the Transferability Plan

The Transferability Plan of Co-Evolved4BG project includes the Actions performed for the successful promotion of the Co-Evolved4BG project function and results. It could

## Co-Evolve4BG

provide the Mediterranean and/or the world community with a list of good practices for the transferability and dissemination of the project's scope in the area of sustainable tourism in coastal areas.

The project has identified a series of Transferability Actions, described analytically above, that can strengthen the role of the Pilot Areas in achieving innovative approaches for the dissemination of the results. The Transferability Actions have been the inspiration for the development of Action Plans per Pilot Area for promoting sustainable tourism that will be implemented in Co-Evolve4BG project's area in the next years, as a strategic planning work framework. With the appropriate prerequisites and conditions and these actions can also bring positive results to other regions and relief them also from their problems generated by uncontrolled human activities in coastal/marine areas. Transferability of knowledge (in that case Transferability Actions) is a multidimensional practice that requires collective effort from many stakeholders, various actions, as well as effective organization.

One of the initial outputs of Co-Evolve4BG project was the recognition of multiple characteristics and needs of the Pilot Areas as regards their role on co-evolution of human activities and natural systems in touristic coastal areas, allowing sustainable development of touristic activities on the principles of ICZM/MSP and promoting Blue Growth. This is generated by the variation of the participants' forms as they include national and regional authorities, universities and organizations. There is a common opinion between the participants, that it is essential to strengthen their role in sustainable tourism planning in order to promote the new environmentally friendly human activities and minimize the negative effects from the current situation. For this reason, during the implementation of the Co-Evolve4BG project, an exhaustive exchange of knowledge and practices between the participated groups took place.

The relation and contribution of the selected Good Practices of the Transferability Plan is based on specific steps of the Pilot Areas as presented below.

**Step 1:** Integrated analysis the current situation of threats and enabling factors for sustainable tourism at Mediterranean level

**Step 2:** The Toolkit implementations containing indicators for analyzing the level of sustainability of tourism

**Step 3:** Training and participatory processes addressed to partners and local actors involved in pilot actions

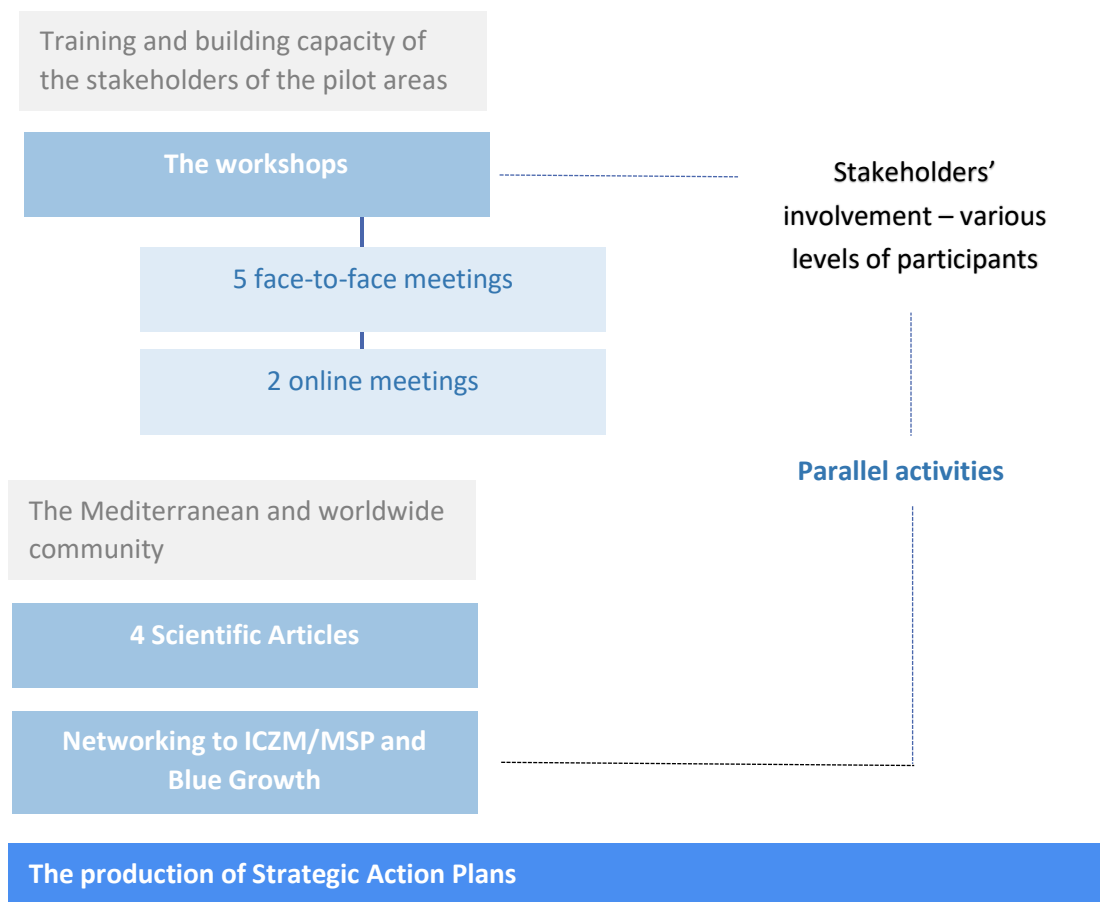
**Step 4:** 7 pilot actions for developing sustainable tourism in the pilot areas.



Co-Evolve4BG

The successful transferability actions as good practices were based on the identification and deep understanding of the particular characteristics, conditions and needs of the environment in the pilot areas, but also supplementary actions that facilitated the transferability process. The general framework that the transferability plan was formed provided with the conditions for good cooperation between the representatives of each pilot area. The framework was more strategic and defined the overall transferability actions to be done through the used communication channels.

The Co-Evolve4BG Transferability Plan constitutes a knowledge transfer ‘package’ of actions presenting general guidelines and levels of actions, which should be initiated by the key players of other areas and organizations in Med scale and/or worldwide who wish to establish an effective communication and cooperation platform for transferring know-how of sustainable tourism in coastal areas regarding human activities and their effects.



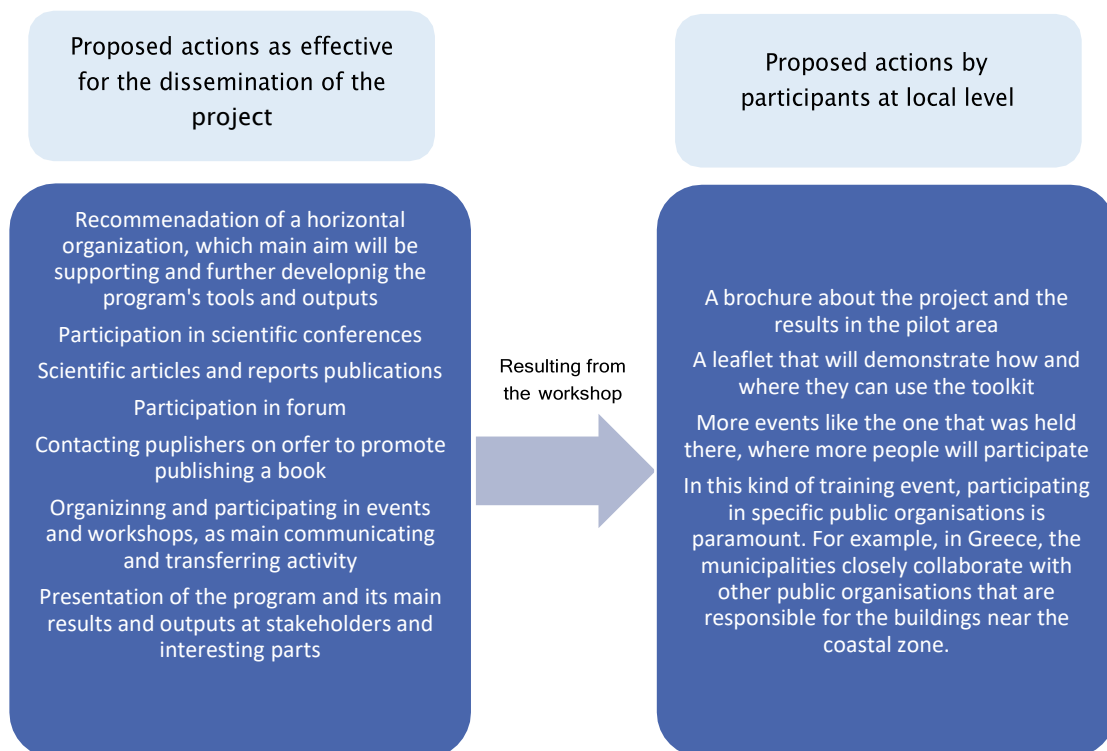
## 4.4 The Results

### 4.4.1 Workshop 1: 27th April 2023, Alexandroupoliss, Greece

The workshop of 27th April 2023, Alexandroupoliss, Greece was held including two sessions, conducted with an audience familiar with the basic theme of the project (12 people participated) representing the following categories of actors: Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts.

The main content of the workshop highlighted the importance of the project and its paramount importance in the applicability of its results, presented the toolkit and some results from the Co-Evolve4BG for the Pilot Area of Alexandroupoliss and Samothraki, discussed sustainable tourism in the Pilot Area, in light of the training and general information about sustainable tourism, and presented the pilot area's threats and enabling factors, also describing the toolkit applicability and transferability.

The resulting point was developed by questioning the participants about which action could be found more effective at disseminating the Co-Evolve4BG project, by providing the participants with some guides. Participants also proposed a different bunch of actions, at the local level.



In the following Table, there are proposed communities where Co-Evolve4BG could participate or be a member. Those communities are also conducting events, workshops, meetings, and/or publish scientific works and reports to own and/or other publications.

**Table 5 Proposed communities for Co-Evolve4BG to be involved**

Name/Type	Description/Scope	Website
<b>Independent network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC)</b>	The MedECC was launched in 2015 by about 40 motivated scientists working on the issues related to climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean. The MedECC community keeps growing and counts more than 700 persons, mainly researchers, but also policymakers, stakeholders, practitioners, and citizens interested in being informed about the MedECC's actions	<a href="https://www.medecc.org/">https://www.medecc.org/</a>
<b>Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME)</b>	A non-profit international organization that represents the private sector of the Mediterranean, regrouping the Chambers of Commerce and Industry and similar entities from 23 countries on both shores of the region.  ASCAME is today considered the most important representative of the Mediterranean private sector	<a href="https://www.ascame.org/">https://www.ascame.org/</a>
<b>PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet</b>	Partnership initiative to document and promote examples of inspiring, replicable solutions across a range of conservation and sustainable development topics.  PANORAMA allows practitioners to share and reflect on their experiences, increase recognition for successful work, and learn with their peers how similar challenges have been addressed around the globe	<a href="https://panorama.solutions/">https://panorama.solutions/</a>
<b>MedPAN organization</b>	Created at the request of some Mediterranean Marine Protected Area managers in 2008 with the mission to coordinate the MedPAN network	<a href="https://medpan.org/">https://medpan.org/</a>
<b>Centre for the study and sustainable exploitation of Marine Biological Resources (CMBR)</b>	Integrative large-scale Greek Research Infrastructure (RI) of the National Roadmap for RI's, dedicated to the advancement of Blue Growth through the study and sustainable exploitation of marine biological resources in the Eastern Mediterranean.	<a href="https://cmbr.hcmr.gr/">https://cmbr.hcmr.gr/</a>



<p><b>Mediterranean Blue Economy Stakeholder Platform (MedBESP)</b></p>	<p>Previously known as Virtual Knowledge Center - is a regional networking platform for sharing knowledge and supporting the development of the blue economy. It can be defined as a “one-stop shop/online web portal allowing for the consolidation and sharing of general, technical, and sectoral information related to marine and maritime affairs in the Mediterranean”.</p> <p>The MedBESP is a web-based portal aimed at providing a systemic and coherent framework to improve maritime governance in the Mediterranean</p>	<p><a href="https://medblueconomyplatform.org/">https://medblueconomyplatform.org/</a></p>
<p><b>IUCN</b></p>	<p>Membership Union of Government and civil society organizations. Together, we work to advance sustainable development and create a just world that values and conserves nature</p>	<p><a href="https://www.iucn.org/">https://www.iucn.org/</a></p>

#### 4.4.2 Workshop 2: 25th May 2023, Murcia, Spain

The workshop of 25th May, Murcia, Spain was conceived as a way to offer the stakeholders of the territory (decision-makers, scientists, economic actors, citizens, etc.), the opportunity to contribute to the transferability of the project results, which was part of the participate action plan workshops due to time constraints. A total of 32 people participated in the workshop, representing the following categories of actors: National Authorities, Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts, tourism operators, and fishermen associations.

The main content of the workshop was the reinforcement of the context of the project and the thematic studies that have been conducted at the pilot site, while the stakeholders of the territory had already been able to highlight the importance of issues related to climate change and pollution in the perspective of sustainable tourism for Murcia. As such, the workshop was designed by giving particular importance to these two themes, in addition to the central theme of sustainable tourism and it was broken down into two half-day sessions, with the final objective of co-constructing a detailed action plan for a more sustainable and resilient tourism in the area. In the second part of the workshop, a special table was organized to deliver special action for the transferability plan.

The results of the workshop obtained on new actions proposed by the participants in the workshop on transferability of results in Spain:

Action 1. Formative motivation in educational environments: educational promotion in educational environments. Aimed at all levels of society: from the youngest to the oldest and to different sectors. It would be carried out by the administrations in collaboration with NGOs and associations in the area.

Action 2. Improve social networking: targeting the sectors related to blue tourism and environmental sustainability, as well as the economic sector. It would be carried out by local and regional administrations in a correct way and in collaboration with previously identified regional key actors.

Action 3: Create a forum for media participation (TV, radio; influencers) in the form of a chat room to promote and implement the project results: to all regional and national audiences and sectors of interest. Led by the local and regional administration in collaboration with the tourism sector.

Action 4: Polling the population through google for forms: it will help to mature the Implementation of Co-Evolve4BG solutions and results. Universities in partnership with civil society.

Action 5: Training of politicians with responsibilities on the coast and coastline: to politicians at local, regional, and national level. Universities in the area and NGOs.

#### 4.4.3 Workshop 3: 7th June 2023, Rome, Italy

The workshop on 7th June 2023, Rome, Italy was held in two parts where more than 40 people took part in the event and the final discussion with ideas and proposals to transfer the results of the project in other coastal areas. It was conceived as a way to offer the stakeholders of the territory, National Authorities, Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts, Donors the opportunity to contribute to transferability of the project results.

The main content of the workshop was delivered by two sessions, including an introductory of update and framing of the project (Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Marine Spatial Planning, Mediterranean strategies), stressing the importance of promoting the project in the frame of Mediterranean strategies, presenting the activities related to integrated coastal zone management and maritime spatial planning carried out in Lazio Region and finally describing the peculiar coastal management in protected marine area of “Regno di Nettuno”. The share of experiences of Co-Evolve4BG pilot area of Alexandroupolis-Samothraki were also

part of the workshop, presenting the results of the project at Mediterranean and local scale, while those regarding the project toolkit with the indicators developed to assess the level of sustainability of tourism in coastal areas were dealt by U-Space.

The results come out of the workshop were about;

Transfer of project results to the Biosphere Reserve (MAB) network in Italy

Transfer of Co-Evolve4BG toolkit to the "Blue Economy" Department in Lazio Region to be used by the local municipalities for coastal management

Communication of project results through specific campaigns

Dissemination of project results by taking part to scientific conferences and forums; organization and participation in workshop and events

#### 4.4.4 Workshop 4: 4th July 2023, Djerba, Tunisia

The workshop on 4th July, Djerba, Tunisia, has held on two sections. A total of 79 persons participated in the workshop, representing the following categories of actors: National Authorities, Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts, Users and Donors.

The content of the workshop delivered by two sessions. The first one highlighted the issues addressed by the project and the collective approach to dealing with sustainable tourism, erosion, and transport regularly. Then the emphasis was on the significance of sustainable development efforts beyond the coastal/maritime tourism sector and highlighted the crucial role of local actors and also the importance of active participation in new calls while leveraging and building upon existing initiatives. The second session was devoted to Knowledge Transfer: Co-Evolve4BG Achievements at Djerba Scale & Next Steps for Disseminating Best Practices.



Co-Evolve4BG

The workshop resulted with a Collaboration Agreement between Co-Evolve4BG and ATCOGEN (la Marsa association – Tunisia) signed. To ensure the long-term impact of Co-Evolve4BG results, INSTM took a proactive step by signing an agreement with the esteemed association "MEGARA des villes durables intelligentes," which represents the Tunisian municipality's network. This agreement aims to foster bilateral cooperation and facilitate knowledge-sharing between the two entities. INSTM will provide expertise on the utilization of the Toolkit, while MEGARA will actively disseminate it among Tunisian Coastal/Maritime municipalities.

The further results of the workshop are presented below:

Action 1: Support for the adopted action plan by detailing it in a very important strategic territorial planning approach: by adopting existing examples in Tunisia and abroad

Action 2: Official establishment of an integrated management committee for the coastal zones of Djerba and implementation of the action plan finalized during the implementation of the previous action: idem: by adopting existing examples in Tunisia and abroad

Action 3: Prepare a detailed spin-off and transferability program

#### 4.4.5 Workshop 5: 17th October 2023, Batroun, Lebanon

The workshop on 17th October, Batroun, Lebanon, was held online and had a total number of 21 people participated, representing the following categories of actors: National Authorities, Regional Authorities, Municipalities, NGOs/citizens, Scientists/Experts.

The workshop was designed by giving particular importance to issues related to major topics identified Land use change, Littoralization, Chaotic urban expansion, pollution, etc., in addition to the central theme of sustainable tourism.

The discussion was very positive and responsive towards the protection of green land cover and ecosystem services. The vision for the port of Batroun was to rehabilitate

## Co-Evolve4BG

the sidewalks to allow for alternative income generating activities in ecotourism to the most vulnerable fishermen group. The director of MARSATI adopted the recommendations and reported continuation of work to convert the city of Batroun into very attractive touristic site with a large modern port providing advanced services promoting eco-tourism and blue growth.

The results of the workshop are presented below:

**Action 1** Consolidate the efforts of the local community, stakeholders, municipality, and entrepreneurs to protect the green spots and remediate the hot spots indicated in the Co-Evolve action plan.

**Action 2** Continue developing the eco-touristic sector and blue growth and expanding eco-touristic activities with special attention to preventing marine pollution with solid wastes and wastewater, nano and microplastics to protect the marine and coastal ecosystems and biodiversity.

### 4.4.6 Two online meetings: 17th and 18th July 2023

The two online workshops took place on 17th and 18th July 2023, bringing together more than 50 participants including experts, stakeholders, and project partners from the Mediterranean region.

The content of the meetings was the promotion of sustainable practices in coastal and maritime tourism while disseminating the main ideas and achievements of the project. During the meeting, the participants discussed the following aspects:

- Unveiling the Project's Transferability Plan, ensuring the project's knowledge and outcomes are effectively applied in other regions
- The general toolkit of Co-Evolve4BG, which offers valuable resources for the development of sustainable tourism
- Highlighting the achievements and results developed in each area to promote sustainable tourism practices.
- It was also the presentation of how the transfer of the project is being carried out
- Lastly, how to create synergies on blue economy issues through the Mediterranean Blue Economy Platform was exposed.

The results of the online meetings could be summarized as:

Exchange of good practices,  
maximizing impact through  
dissemination and collaboration with  
local stakeholders

Participants explored innovative  
approaches to sustainable tourism,  
working collaboratively to ensure a  
lasting positive impact on  
Mediterranean coastal communities

The online meetings as the  
Transferability event that provided a  
platform for valuable discussions and  
exchange of ideas, emphasizing the  
significance of collaborative efforts in  
building a sustainable future for the  
Mediterranean's coastal and maritime  
communities

## Conclusions

Co-Evolve4BG is an ongoing process trying to facilitate cooperation between the participating countries at the Mediterranean Scale. The real implementation of the project in the Mediterranean is still to be tested and professionals from many coastal and marine disciplines should coordinate. To support both coastal and marine spatial planning, working groups comprising land and sea experts were required. Harmonization between land and sea planning (as MSP and ICZM) is getting close to being realized.

Co-Evolve4BG project should aim to produce specific guidelines for regional planners and to improve capacity at the regional and local level, and the knowledge acquired should be transferred to stakeholders and society to boost the blue economy and ensure a sustainable and safe development of human activities in the marine environment.

Effective, well-managed communication is essential to the success of the Co-Evolve4BG project. The main facets of dissemination and transferability operations are tied to be covered in this document. The plan is supplemented by partners' regional and national communication efforts that reflect the results and deliverables produced during the project's lifecycle. When necessary, communication in partners' languages ensure the transferability of outputs to all target audiences.

There are also some measures, a combination of which is a prerequisite for succeeding in sustainable coastal tourism. Some main measures are being highlighted in Activity 3.1.1 of the project. There is also an attempt for a brief description of the Activity's 3.1.1 results to be given in the current Transferability Plan. Among others, some of the main highlights are; the proper environmental management, and the consideration of tourists' and local population needs. It would be generally agreed that the concept of the Co-Evolve4BG project is to improve the quality of the environment (clean beaches, seas, healthy marine life) and the tourism industry (ecotourism, sustainable tourism) in the Mediterranean territory.

The impacts of the Transferability Plan and the results from the previous Deliverables of the project may be extended to serve the needs highlighted above and also the mid-and long-term project's implementation.

The area of impact expected to happen is the Blue Growth of coastal/marine areas in the Mediterranean responding to the principles of ICZM and MSP. Every Pilot Area of the Co-Evolve4BG project defined special needs to be solved, taking into consideration



## Co-Evolve4BG

the results came from the areas' diagnosis and the toolkit implementation, but also the knowledge transferable from a pilot area to another and the exchange of experience. The outputs created would enforce other coastal/marine areas to make similar moves towards succeeding their sustainable tourism. Many people but mostly specific groups of interest, stakeholders and decision makers are potential users of the results of the project, starting from governmental bodies to local people, residents and entrepreneurs. The building capacity of the Co-Evolve4BG involvers would lead to connect with other structures nationally and/or internationally to exceed the project's starting point.



## References

- European Union's Horizon research, (2020). WP5 Exploitation of Results, D5.3 Transferability Analysis, DOCKSTHEFUTURE defining the concept of "Port of the Future", co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union, available online: [D5.3-Transferability-Analysis-FINAL-after-Expert-and-RIA-workshop-202006\\_compressed.pdf](#) (docksthefuture.eu), last accessed: 19/4/2023
- Jamali, S.S., Shiratuddin, M.F. and Wong, K.K. (2014). A Review of Augmented Reality (AR) and Mobile-Augmented Reality (mAR) Technology Learning in Tertiary Education. *The International Journal of Learning in Higher Education*, 20, 37-54
- Leung, C. (2005). *The Perceived Value of Location-Based Services in New Zealand Tourism*, Research conducted as part of a MCom (Marketing) thesis at the University of Auckland
- Morfoulaki, M., Chatziathanasiou, M., Chrysostomou, K., Giarandoni, A., Tu, E. and Dolce, C. (2018). Manual on "Transferability of good practices, policies and experiences from the REFORM Project to other European Regions", European Union and European regional Development Fund, available online: [https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user\\_upload/tx\\_tevprojects/library/file\\_1564061549.pdf](https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1564061549.pdf), last accessed: 19/4/2023
- Nagy, C. (2021). Transferability Study and Strategy for Best Practices, ConnectGREEN Project "Restoring and managing ecological corridors in mountains as the green infrastructure in the Danube basin", Danube Transnational Programme, Interreg, available online: [https://www.interreg-danube.eu/uploads/media/approved\\_project\\_output/0001/48/d89fe87c98d5814f5cff19c9f5ef83f60d831f24.pdf](https://www.interreg-danube.eu/uploads/media/approved_project_output/0001/48/d89fe87c98d5814f5cff19c9f5ef83f60d831f24.pdf), last accessed: 19/4/2023
- Ντόστης, Α. (2020). Έρευνα και Διάχυση Γνώσης στην Ευρώπη. Διπλωματική Εργασία υποβληθείσα στο Τμήμα Οικονομικών Επιστημών του Πανεπιστημίου Πειραιώς ως μέρος των απαιτήσεων για την απόκτηση Μεταπτυχιακού Διπλώματος Ειδίκευσης στην Οικονομική και Επιχειρησιακή Στρατηγική
- Stead, D. (2012). Best Practices and Policy Transfer in Spatial Planning, *Planning Practice & Research*, 27: 103-116. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02697459.2011.644084>
- WP4/ Participatory approach in the Pilot Areas. General Introductory Training (IT1), 06/10/2022

## Websites

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

<https://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/co-evolve4bg>

[https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/grant-management/dissemination-of-results\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/grants/grant-management/dissemination-of-results_en.htm)

<https://www.confesercenti.toscana.it/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/webinar-WINTER-MED-transferability-phase.pdf>

<https://www.tibl-project.eu/web/en/about-the-project/projects-results/transferability-and-evaluation-guide/>

<https://www.statisticssolutions.com/what-is-transferability-in-qualitative-research-and-how-do-we-establish->

[it/#:~:text=Transferability%20is%20established%20by%20providing,study's%20findings%20will%20be%20applicable.](https://www.statisticssolutions.com/what-is-transferability-in-qualitative-research-and-how-do-we-establish-it/#:~:text=Transferability%20is%20established%20by%20providing,study's%20findings%20will%20be%20applicable.)

[https://projects2014-](https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1564061549.pdf)

[2020.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user\\_upload/tx\\_tevprojects/library/file\\_1564061549.p](https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1564061549.pdf)

[df](https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1564061549.pdf)

[https://co-evolve.interreg-](https://co-evolve.interreg-med.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/Sites/Sustainable_Tourism/Projects/CO-EVOLVE/Library/Studying/3.13/3.7.1-3.13.1_ISMAR-PAPRAC_Synthesis_FINAL.pdf)

[med.eu/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Sites/Sustainable\\_Tourism/Projects/CO-](https://co-evolve.interreg-med.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/Sites/Sustainable_Tourism/Projects/CO-EVOLVE/Library/Studying/3.13/3.7.1-3.13.1_ISMAR-PAPRAC_Synthesis_FINAL.pdf)

[EVOLVE/Library/Studying/3.13/3.7.1-3.13.1\\_ISMAR-PAPRAC\\_Synthesis\\_FINAL.pdf](https://co-evolve.interreg-med.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/Sites/Sustainable_Tourism/Projects/CO-EVOLVE/Library/Studying/3.13/3.7.1-3.13.1_ISMAR-PAPRAC_Synthesis_FINAL.pdf)

[https://www.eea.europa.eu/help/glossary/eea-glossary/integrated-coastal-zone-](https://www.eea.europa.eu/help/glossary/eea-glossary/integrated-coastal-zone-management)

[management](https://www.eea.europa.eu/help/glossary/eea-glossary/integrated-coastal-zone-management)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JOhCe\\_HO43k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JOhCe_HO43k)

<https://www.docksthefuture.eu/project/>

[https://www.enicbcmed.eu/sites/default/files/2020-12/Co-Evolve4BG\\_leaflet.pdf](https://www.enicbcmed.eu/sites/default/files/2020-12/Co-Evolve4BG_leaflet.pdf)

[ConnectGREEN - Interreg Danube \(interreg-danube.eu\)](https://www.enicbcmed.eu/sites/default/files/2020-12/Co-Evolve4BG_leaflet.pdf)

<https://wiserstrategies.com/focus-groups/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bottom%E2%80%93up\\_and\\_top%E2%80%93down\\_design](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bottom%E2%80%93up_and_top%E2%80%93down_design)

[REFORM | Interreg Europe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bottom%E2%80%93up_and_top%E2%80%93down_design)

[The SUMP Concept | Eltis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bottom%E2%80%93up_and_top%E2%80%93down_design)