



MPA4Change Policy Bootcamp – Participant Guide

Interreg Euro-MED MPA4Change
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1. Welcome & Introduction

Welcome to the **MPA4Change Online Policy Bootcamp - Marine Protected Areas: facing the climate emergency!**

This event brings together **policymakers, MPA managers, and regional stakeholders** to exchange insights and strategies for accelerating climate adaptation across Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

MPA4Change is an **Interreg Euro-MED project** that aims to transform MPAs into effective **Nature-based Solutions (NbS)** for climate resilience, through pilot actions, toolkit development, and strategic policy engagement.

The session will focus on **practical tools, case studies, and advocacy strategies**, framed within the **100 MPA MedAlliance**, a campaign to scale up climate adaptation planning across the Mediterranean by 2030.

As part of this event, participants will receive **five concise factsheets** summarising the **MPA4Change Toolkits**. These reference materials illustrate how tested and validated tools can support the integration of climate adaptation and mitigation into MPA policy and management. The factsheets are provided as **pre-reading** and will also be available after the session for further reference.

The Bootcamp will prioritise the **discussion of key policy recommendations**, exploring their feasibility and identifying barriers and opportunities for implementation at both national and regional levels.



2. Bootcamp Agenda

The **MPA4Change Online Policy Bootcamp** is a two-hour virtual session designed to connect **policy, science, and management** for advancing climate adaptation across Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

The event combines concise expert presentations with interactive discussions to identify **feasible policy pathways, funding opportunities, and governance mechanisms** that can strengthen MPAs as **Nature-based Solutions (NbS)**.

Participants will explore key recommendations from the **MPA4Change project** and the **100MPA MedAlliance**, learn how validated toolkits can support the implementation of EU and regional frameworks (e.g. *EU Nature Restoration Law, EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, Barcelona Convention*), and share perspectives on enabling conditions for scaling up adaptation across the Mediterranean.

MPA4Change Online Policy Bootcamp

- **Date:** 17 December 2025
- **Time:** 10:00–12:30 CET
- **Format:** Virtual session (Zoom)
- **Total Duration:** 2h 30 min
- **Platform:** Zoom (link to be provided in participant email)

Time (CET)	Title	Description	Speaker / Facilitator
10:00 – 10:05	Welcome and Agenda Overview	Opening of the session, presentation of objectives, and	Patricia Puig Martí (Oceanogami)



		orientation to the agenda.	
10:05 – 10:15	The Mediterranean Climate Emergency	Overview of current climate trends and vulnerabilities in the Mediterranean.	Dr. Ernesto Azzurro, PhD Research Director National Research Council CNR-IRBIM
10:15 – 10:25	MPAs as Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Adaptation	Presentation of the role of MPAs in building ecosystem and community resilience.	Yaprak Arda (IUCN med)
10:25 – 10:35	Policy Recommendations for Climate Adaptation in MPAs	Introduction to MPA4Change. Key recommendations from MPA4Change and Policy Brief #2, highlighting integration, funding, and implementation priorities.	Patricia Puig (Oceanogami) / María Giménez (Oceanogami)



10:35 – 10:45	From Policy Vision to Practice: The 100 MPA MedAlliance	<p>Overview of the Alliance's vision and link to regional policy frameworks.</p> <p>Presentation of MPA4Change outcomes (toolkits, policy briefs, engagement mechanisms) that support implementation.</p>	Fernando Pinillos (EUROPARC)
10:45-10: 50	Q&A		
10:50 – 11:00	Short Pause / Transition	<p>Brief break before second part.</p>	
11:00 – 11:50	Interactive Group Session: Feasibility of Climate Change Adaptation in Mediterranean MPAs	<p>Breakout discussions on feasibility of recommendations, barriers, and enabling factors.</p>	Facilitated by Oceanogami & EUROPARC team
11:50 – 12:10	Feedback from Groups	<p>Short plenary summary of the main discussion points.</p>	Rapporteurs from each breakout group



12:10- 12:20	Lighthouse Case Studies: Portofino and Brijuni	Practical examples demonstrating monitoring, adaptation, and participatory approaches in MPAs.	Lorenzo Merotto (Portofino MPA) and Andrea Blaskovic (Brijuni MPA)
12:20- 12:25	Q&A		
12:25 - 12:30	How to Support and Engage with the Initiative / Q&A and Wrap-up	Closing reflections, next steps, and information on follow-up.	Patricia Puig Martí & EUROPARC Federation

3. Key Concepts & Policy Context

- **Nature-Based Solutions (NbS):** Ecosystem-based approaches to reduce climate risk while supporting biodiversity.
- **EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030:** Calls for 30% marine protection, including 10% strictly protected.



- **EU Nature Restoration Law (NRL):** Legally binding targets for ecosystem restoration by 2030.
- **Barcelona Convention SAPBIO:** Mediterranean framework for effective, climate-smart MPAs.
- **Kunming-Montreal GBF Targets 3 & 8:** 30x30 protection and integration of adaptation into biodiversity goals.

4. Resources & Downloads

All training materials are available at:

 <https://mpa4change.interreg-euro-med.eu>

Included in this bootcamp package:

- Slide presentation (PDF)
- Toolkit factsheets (PDF x4)
- Policy Brief 1 – *100 MPA MedAlliance*
- Policy Brief 2 – *Toolkits for Climate Adaptation* (in progress)
- Recording or transcript (if applicable)

5. Contact & Support

 <https://mpa4change.interreg-euro-med.eu>

 Subscribe to the mailing list via the project website

