



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

