



WORKSHOP MEDIGREEN PROJECT

Beyond Borders: Mediterranean–Black Sea Exchanges on Maritime Spatial Planning as a Driver of Ecological Transition at Sea

29 September 2026 | 13:00–18:00

Venue: Burgas - International Congress Centre

Marine station - Burgas 8000, Bulgaria

Room: Burgas hall

Objective

Organised within the framework of the **MEDIGREEN EMFAF** project, this workshop will take place back-to-back with **the Black Sea Common Maritime Agenda (CMA) Annual Stakeholder Conference** and provide a platform for dialogue and exchange between the **Mediterranean and Black Sea communities working on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)**.

The event will explore how MSP can support the objectives of the European Green Deal and the emerging priorities of the EU Ocean Pact, with particular attention to ecological transition, climate resilience, and the sustainable management of marine and coastal spaces.

As most of the EU coastal countries have now approved their first generation of MS plans, the focus is increasingly shifting from plan provision to implementation. In this context, the workshop will discuss tools, governance arrangements, and planning provisions that can support the effective integration of key sectors and policy areas, including fisheries, aquaculture, offshore renewable energy, nature conservation, biodiversity protection, and climate-proofing of maritime activities.

By bringing together experiences from the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, the workshop pursues two main objectives. First, it will create a space for mutual learning, enabling participants to identify common challenges, shared opportunities, and discuss practical solutions related to governance, sectoral integration, environmental protection, and climate resilience.

Second, it will support interregional cooperation by identifying shared pathways for strengthening collaboration between the two communities, while contributing to a more integrated understanding of MSP as a practical tool for balancing sustainable blue economy development with marine ecosystem protection.



AGENDA

12.00 - 13.00 | Registration and networking light lunch

13.00 - 13.15 | Introduction

- Welcome and introduction to the workshop (*Folco Soffiatti, IUAV*)
- The Common Maritime Agenda promoting uptake and operationalisation of MSP (*Mihaela Mirea, Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea*)
- MEDIGREEN project (*Elena Gutiérrez-Ruiz, IEO/CSIC*)

13.15 - 14.50 | Session 1 - MSP implementation in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

- MSP implementation in the Mediterranean (*Marina Markovic, PAP/RAC*)
- MSP implementation in Bulgaria (*Stanislava Atanasova, MSP Authority*)
- MSP implementation in Türkiye (*Levent Bilgili, Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law*)
- MSP implementation in Romania (*Alina Spinu, National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa"*)
- Interactive discussion in working tables

14.50 - 16.10 | Session 2 - MSP for the sustainability of maritime sectors

Moderator: Folco Soffiatti (IUAV - Italy)

- MSP and the European Green Deal objectives in the Mediterranean: activities and preliminary results of the MEDIGREEN project. (*Martina Bocci, CORILA-Italy*)
- Panel discussion "How can Maritime Spatial Planning support the sustainability of key maritime sectors?"
 - Glen Pearce-Oroz (United Nations Office for Project Services)
 - Hristo Stanchev (*Center for Coastal and Marine Studies - Bulgaria*)
 - Ivana Stojanovic (*Sustainable Projects GmbH - Germany*)
 - Mihaela Mirea (Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea)
- Concluding remarks: From discussion to regional cooperation (*Thanos Smanis, Sea Basin Strategy*)

16.10 - 16.30 | Coffee break

16.30 - 18.00 | Session 3 - MSP at the regional scale: the Communities of Practice

Moderator: Thanos Smanis (Sea Basin Strategy)

- The MED-MSP-CoP: structure and achievements (*Emiliano Ramieri, MED-MSP-CoP co-chair, CNR, Italy*)
- The BS-MSP-CoP (*Natasa Vaidianu, Ovidius University of Constanta, University of Bucharest, EU MSP platform, Romania*)
- Interactive discussion in working tables

18.00 - 18.10 | Conclusions and farewell

Following the workshop | Networking cocktail