



Meeting on the initiation of CAMP activities in Montenegro

(Split, 18 -19 December 2006)

REPORT

Report
of the Meeting on the initiation of CAMP activities in Montenegro
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Introduction

1. In accordance with the decision of the Contracting Parties at their 14th Ordinary Meeting in Portoroz (November 2005) to start preparatory activities for a CAMP project in Montenegro, PAP/RAC organised a meeting with the representatives of Montenegro. The main objectives of the meeting were: to discuss the issues related to coastal zone management in Montenegro; to get acquainted with the gaps in coastal management and the need for CAMP; to discuss the next steps in the preparation of the project; and to discuss other joint projects of PAP/RAC and Montenegro.

2. The meeting took place in the premises of PAP/RAC in Split, on 18-19 December 2006. It was attended by the representatives of the relevant Montenegrin institutions. Complete List of Participants is attached as Annex I. The Agenda of the meeting is attached as Annex II to this Report.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

3. Mr. M. Prem, Deputy Director of PAP/RAC, welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. He presented the objectives and introduced the agenda of the meeting, which was the first one related to the preparatory activities for the CAMP in Montenegro. He invited the participants to contribute to the meeting with any other relevant item they would wish to discuss.

Agenda item 2: Information on the status of Montenegro within MAP

4. Ms. J. Knežević from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, presented the latest developments with regard to the formal status of Montenegro within MAP after the declaration of independence and recognition of the country by the UN. She said that currently they had the status of an observer and that they were planning to sign and ratify the Barcelona Convention in the Parliament at the earliest time possible, and then, to deposit these documents to the depository of the Barcelona Convention. In this way, Montenegro will become a full MAP member state. It is important to note that despite the current status of Montenegro, all the activities initiated by MAP in Montenegro earlier are on-going and face no restrictions.

Agenda item 3: ICZM in Montenegro

5. The Montenegrin participants gave a detailed overview of the main issues and pressures related to coastal zone in their country, and in particular of the ways and means used to respond to the development proposals that are constantly being presented to the relevant authorities. Currently, the national spatial plan is under preparation, as well as the ICZM Strategy that will give recommendations and propose concrete measures in order to find the best decisions for the development and preservation of coastal areas. With regard to the ICZM Strategy, they stressed the importance of this document once adopted, and they asked PAP/RAC to provide a feedback to the draft presented in order to improve the text. They stressed that the moment in which all these changes are taking place is rather favourable because they can take into account many initiatives and proposals from the international level, such as the MSSD, ICZM Protocol, Millennium Development Goals, EU Directives and alike. All this is a good opportunity to achieve synergies among various documents at the international level and those under preparation in the country.

6. The role of MAP, and PAP/RAC in particular, is seen as very important and it is expected that the support with suggestions on concrete and most urgent issues would be provided in the future, too. In this context, CAMP project is seen as a crucial initiative that could give concrete

answers/proposals to main problems and priorities presented in the ICZM Strategy, as well as to those that will be the result of the Feasibility Study.

7. The discussion focused also on the definition of the coastline, where the experience of Croatia and the related Decree were mentioned. One of the main issues in Montenegro is a very rapid development of coastal areas. In the opinion of the participants, big investors are much easier to deal with and can cause less problems vis-à-vis small private land owners who build houses and apartments along the beach. In addition to the occupation of the space and uncontrolled developments on the coast, the main problem is the loss of the public access to the beach and its 'privatisation'.

8. In conclusion of the discussion on this agenda item, it became clear that CAMP project comes at the right time, and that it should be used to address some of the problems pointed out during the discussion.

Agenda item 4: CAMP

9. The PAP/RAC participants presented the current situation concerning the MAP CAMPs, namely, the on-going CAMPs and those that are under preparation. Among the on-going CAMPs, the projects in Slovenia and Cyprus were presented, in particular the activities and organisational aspects of the projects. Also, the main lessons learned to be used in CAMP activities in Montenegro were underlined. Briefly, the CAMPs for Spain and Morocco were presented, both being in their preparatory phase, namely, finalisation of the Agreement for Morocco and approval of the legal aspects of the Agreement for CAMP Spain.

10. The main stages of CAMP projects and their implementation details were also presented. This gave an overview of the efforts to be done in each of the stages (especially initiation and preparatory stage), and of the time frame needed. The follow-up activities (once the CAMP project is completed) were discussed and presented as a very important element of the initiative. CAMP should assist and support the real needs of the country and, therefore, its activities should be tailored having this in mind. The country financial contribution, as one of crucial elements for the success of CAMP, was also stressed, as well as the need to relate the outputs of the CAMP to the legal requirements in the country (such as the law on spatial planning).

Agenda item 5: Other ICZM-related initiatives

11. Among the other main ICZM-related initiatives, the progress of the ICZM Protocol and the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) were explained. The progress made since the decision adopted at the last Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, where it was decided to establish a working group (WG) and to prepare the final draft of the ICZM Protocol by 2007, was presented. In particular, the information was given about the work of the WG at its last meeting, which was not attended by the representative of Montenegro. In this respect, the MSSD objectives and actions related to coastal zones were mentioned. ICZM Protocol is the main action within the implementation of the MSSD, into which PAP/RAC puts a lot of resources. However, all other PAP/RAC activities in this biennium, as approved by the Contracting Parties, fit into the context of the MSSD implementation.

12. The participants from Montenegro expressed once again their support to the ICZM Protocol, and stressed that they would take into account the proposed obligations in various articles when elaborating their ICZM documents. They also find it very useful when negotiating different proposals at governmental level.

13. A recent activity of PAP/RAC on beach management was presented, and in particular the Bathing Area Registration and Evaluation (BARE) methodology for the evaluation of the quality

of beaches. The methodology was particularly interesting to the participants from the Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro (*JP Morsko Dobro*), which is responsible for the management of the beaches in Montenegro. Should there be a possibility, PAP/RAC will take the opportunity and discuss the BARE methodology in more detail with the Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management staff.

Agenda item 6: Next steps for CAMP Montenegro

14. The first concrete step in the preparation of the CAMP Montenegro should be the elaboration of the Feasibility Study (FS). The main contents of the Study was briefly presented, and in the discussion that followed it was said that many of these elements had already been elaborated in the recent ICZM documents prepared in co-operation with GTZ. It was suggested that Montenegro should nominate a consultant to prepare the FS, possibly in view of becoming a Project Co-Ordinator. The Project Co-ordinator is seen as a key person in the implementation of the CAMP and needs to have a full support of the institutions and responsible officers at various levels of administration. One of the obstacles mentioned was the language and the need for translation of all reports in English.

15. Some possible activities for the CAMP were proposed, such as: analysis of the existing documents (plans, legislation, strategies, projects) and institutions; proposal of the institutional arrangement for the co-ordination/management of coastal areas; water resources management; techniques and tools for ICZM; SEA for coastal areas; definition of the coastline/setback zone; economic instruments; and demonstration plan on local level. However, the final list will be proposed in the FS that will take into account the relevant documents, such as the priorities from the ICZM Strategy.

Agenda item 7: Other joint projects

16. The PlanCoast project was presented as an Interreg IIIB CADSES project, where both PAP/RAC and Montenegro participate as partners. The information about the current state of the project was exchanged. The problems at this stage are mainly related to the negotiations with the contracting authorities with regard to the content of the project and its budget. Contracts are about to be signed in the following weeks and the project, according to the information from the Lead Partner, is expected to start in January 2007. The first activity in the project is the elaboration of a national report on ICZM in the country, with an emphasis on spatial planning and marine spatial planning. Co-ordination details for this task, which is to be prepared jointly, were discussed. However, only when the ToRs for the report are confirmed by the Lead Partner, concrete activities in this project could start.

17. The GEF Large Marine Ecosystems was presented as another project where both partners are involved. PAP/RAC in co-operation with the Montenegrin partners elaborated a project proposal that has to be based on the ecosystem approach related to biodiversity and water resources management, and to have a cross-border character. Details on the pilot area and possible obstacles with the municipalities involved, as they have lots of different initiatives on their territories, were discussed. Therefore, priorities within the project should be well defined in order to create some added value to the existing ICZM-related documents at the local level.

Agenda item 8: Conclusions

18. The following are the conclusions of the meeting:

a) The final Draft of the ICZM Strategy will be sent to PAP/RAC by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Montenegro. PAP/RAC will provide comments and suggestions to this document.

b) As soon as the consultant for the preparation of the Feasibility Study for CAMP Montenegro be nominated by the Ministry, PAP/RAC will contract the elaboration of the Study. PAP/RAC will

provide the Terms of Reference and some case studies to facilitate the preparation of the report. PAP/RAC will inform the other RACs about the initiation of this CAMP.

c) PAP/RAC will invite the expert on the FS and possible Project Co-ordinator to the events related to CAMPs in other countries (such as a Final Presentation Conference, Inception Workshop) to get best acquainted with the project formulation/co-ordination.

d) PAP/RAC and relevant Montenegrin institutions will co-operate on other joint projects (PlanCoast, GEF LME) and will exchange experience and lessons learned from other PAP/RAC initiatives (for example, ICZM Protocol, Croatian Decree for coastal areas, Beach Management).

e) Montenegro will promote PAP/RAC web site and training initiatives, such as MedOpen and Educom@Med.

19. Mr. I. Trumbić, PAP/RAC Director, expressed his best wishes for the future collaboration between PAP/RAC and Montenegro, and thanked the participants for very constructive discussions. The meeting was closed on Tuesday, 19 December 2006 at 12:30 hours.

Annex I

List of Participants

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Annex II

Agenda

Monday, 18 December

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| 9:30 - 9:45 | Opening of the meeting. |
| 9:45 - 10:00 | Information on the status of Montenegro within MAP. |
| 10:00 - 11:00 | ICZM in Montenegro: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– main issues, pressures;– initiatives and projects implemented and on-going related to ICZM (ICAM Strategy, legal framework, institutions, partners, etc.);– gaps, need for CAMP. |
| 11:30 - 13:30 | CAMP: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– on-going CAMPs;– stages of CAMP and its implementation (co-ordination, consultants, etc.). |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | Other ICZM-related initiatives: ICZM Protocol, MSSD, Beach management (BARE methodology). |

Tuesday, 19 December

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| 9:30 - 10:30 | Next steps for CAMP Montenegro: Feasibility Study. |
| 10:30 - 11:00 | Other joint projects (PlanCoast, GEF). |
| 11:30 - 13:00 | Conclusions. |
| 13:00 | Closure of the meeting |