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DURATION: 01/01/2021 · 31/12/2023

PROJECT'S BUDGET: 1,636,582 EUROS  
LIFE PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTION: 981,773 EUROS  
CO-FINANCERS CONTRIBUTION: 379,000 EUROS

The **LIFE** program is the financial programme for the environment of the European Union. The overall objective of LIFE is to contribute to the implementation, updating and to the development of policy and EU environmental legislation supporting actions with added value at European level.

COORDINATOR



PROJECT PARTNERS



ISTITUTO DI INGEGNERIA DEL MARE  
INSTITUTE OF MARINE ENGINEERING



SUPPORTING THE PREPARATION  
OF AN EMISSION CONTROL AREA (ECA)  
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

A WAKE UP CALL FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN



This project is funded under the LIFE programme, the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action (Grant Agreement LIFE20 PRE/IT/000002).



# BACKGROUND

Maritime shipping is a major source of pollution (SOx, PM, NOx), impacting human health in coastal areas and ecosystems (sea, land) therefore, the IMO and the EU have jointly worked to set clear and uniform rules to address shipping with the aim to significantly protect human health and the environment at global and EU levels. Shipping represents therefore 10% of total CO2 inventories of Med Countries and the negative side of maritime pollution can spread 200 km away in the hinterland. Cutting these sources may result a significant benefit for human health, as well as biodiversity and the environment.

# WHAT

**LIFE4MEDECA** is a preparatory project aiming at supporting the establishment of an ECA zone in the Mediterranean. As a LIFE preparatory project, it is intended to provide support to the development and implementation of a specific policy and legislation targeting the curbing of maritime shipping pollution. Therefore, LIFE4MEDECA helps the establishment of the ECA through **filling in knowledge gaps, sharing expertise and raising awareness** among Med Countries, both EU and not EU.

# HOW

Setting up an ECA (Emission Control Area) is a complex process, involving many Countries and interests at stakes. LIFE4MEDECA takes into account **the wide diversity of Med economies and positions** in establishing the ECA for helping this policy be successfully implemented. It delivers specific Factsheets for decision makers highlighting the financial, technical, environmental and transport stances. **Drawing on the positive experience of other ECAs**, notably that of the North and Baltic sea, it broadly analyses the implication from different perspectives linked to shipping's emissions reduction. Moreover, it carries out air quality measurements in many Med ports, showing the impact of current ships emissions and hence the benefits of regulating these emissions.

# KNOWLEDGE CENTER

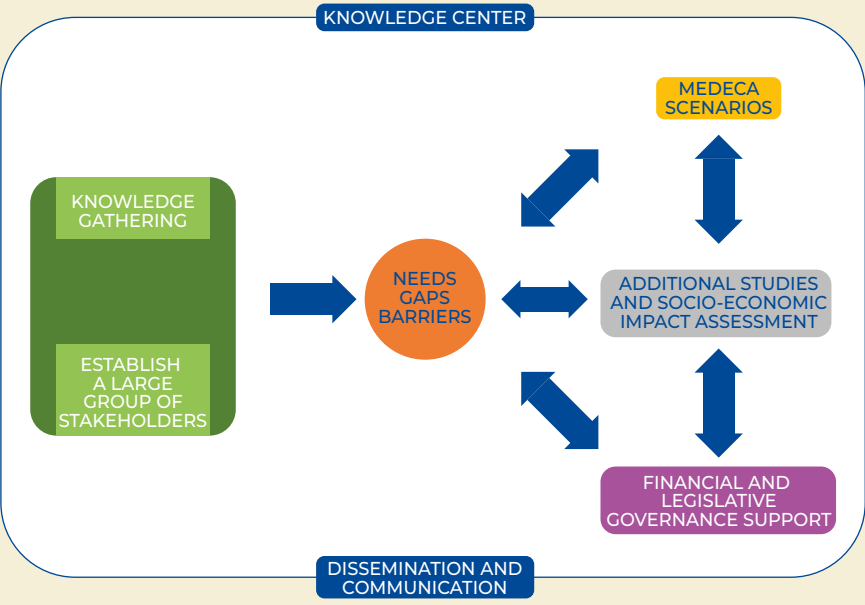
The KNOWLEDGE CENTRE is a repository available on the web created to support capacity building of Mediterranean countries to implement, govern, fund and enforce the MEDECA.

The Life4MEDECA Knowledge centre aims to support capacity building in the mediterranean countries to implement, govern, finance and enforce the MEDECA. The support covers legal, technical and financial aspects and is provided through documents, seminars, courses, interviews, information on project, initiatives, policies, regulations, funding agencies.

# CAPACITY BUILDING



# ACTIONS



# OBJECTIVES



## OBJECTIVE 1

Complete the knowledge gathering based on current understanding and studies in synergy with the work being undertaken internationally under the coordination of REMPEC (the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea)

## OBJECTIVE 2

Carry out additional socio-economic impact assessments on deep sea shipping, short sea shipping and on other relevant activities such as fishing, tourism and others as well as, on biodiversity. Identify needs, bottlenecks and barriers to the designation of an ECA

## OBJECTIVE 3

Develop MEDECA's scenarios and quantifying costs and additional benefits to explore and assess different realistic regulatory steps in terms of geographical scope, air pollutants and date of entry into force

## OBJECTIVE 4

Establish a diverse 'reference' group of stakeholders, and to engage them in targeted consultations to gather relevant additional knowledge, to identify further needs, to facilitate transfer of best practices and to dialog with and across industry. In addition, to assess possible cost impact mitigation including through EU funding opportunities

## OBJECTIVE 5

Provide expertise for technical and legal capacity building, as well as, for financial support of the perspective MEDECA Countries

## OBJECTIVE 6

Establish a mechanism for ensuring full and timely availability of all the deliverables produced by the LIFE4MEDECA to stakeholders, public authorities in countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea at Various levels and to EU Institutions

## OBJECTIVE 7

Define a "after LIFE" continuation plan so as not to lose the knowledge gathered, allow for future updating as necessary of the LIFE4MEDECA scenarios and cost benefit ratios and not to discontinue the technical and legal capacity building (a knowledge center)

# RESULTS

The main overall expected result of LIFE4-MEDECA is a general positive attitude among Med Countries (EU and non-EU) on the designation of the MED as an ECA and a shared best practice among all signatory Countries on how to achieve environment and people wellbeing ambitions across the Med basin such as, for example:

- sustainable port development;
- sustainable tourism and fishing;
- triggered fleet renewal and enhanced energy efficiency with co-benefits on climate change;
- improved environmental profile and healthier maritime business for non-EU flagged ships;
- facilitating more sustainable oil and gas, logistics and maritime equipment manufacturing business in the area.

