



UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention System

Institutional, Regulatory and Implementation Framework for Transformative Change Towards Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean

Meeting of Mediterranean Parliamentarians and Stakeholders on the occasion of the 14th Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD).

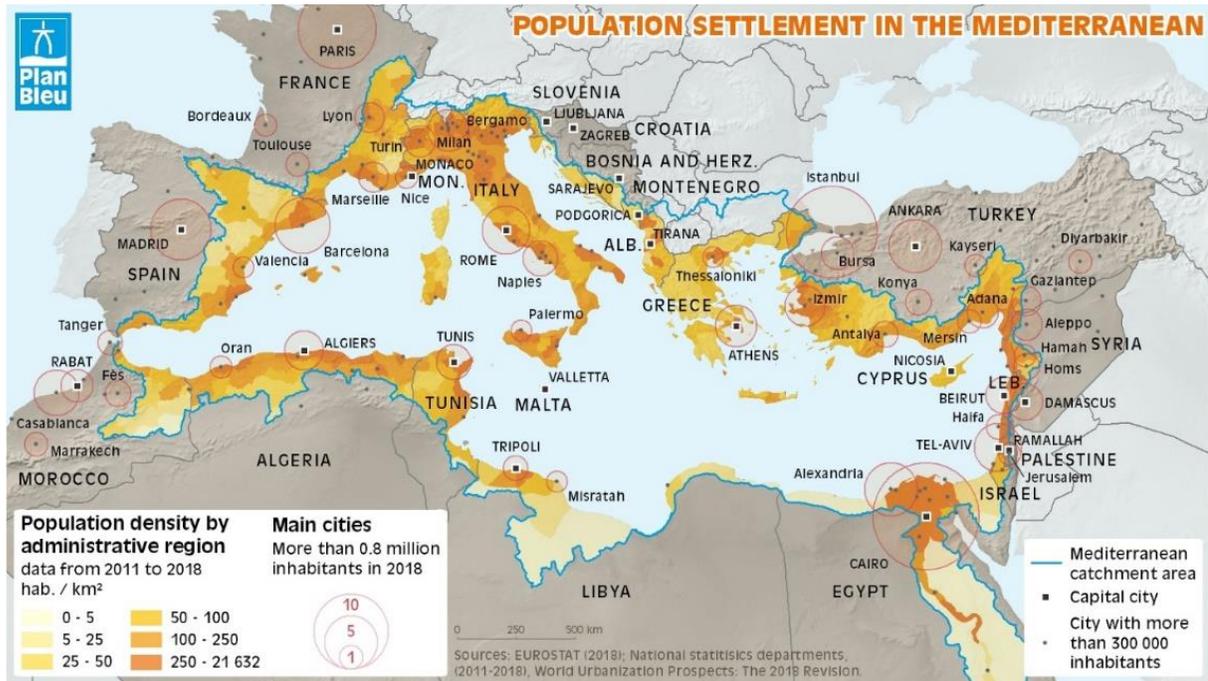
“Launching a new Decade of Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean”.

Parliament of the Kingdom of Morocco, Rabat, 17 December 2019

The UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan – Barcelona Convention System



The Mediterranean region is home to more than 510 Million ~ 7% of world population. Projected growth in 2050: ~ 120 Million



- Young and rising in Southern and Eastern Med countries (SEMC), stable and ageing in Northern Med countries (NMC)
- Urban with a predilection for the coast : 70% live in urban areas; one in three “Mediterraneans” lives near the sea
- Coastal concentration exacerbated by tourism in the coastal zone and summer

The Mediterranean (1% of the world's ocean surface) hosts 18% of the world's known marine species

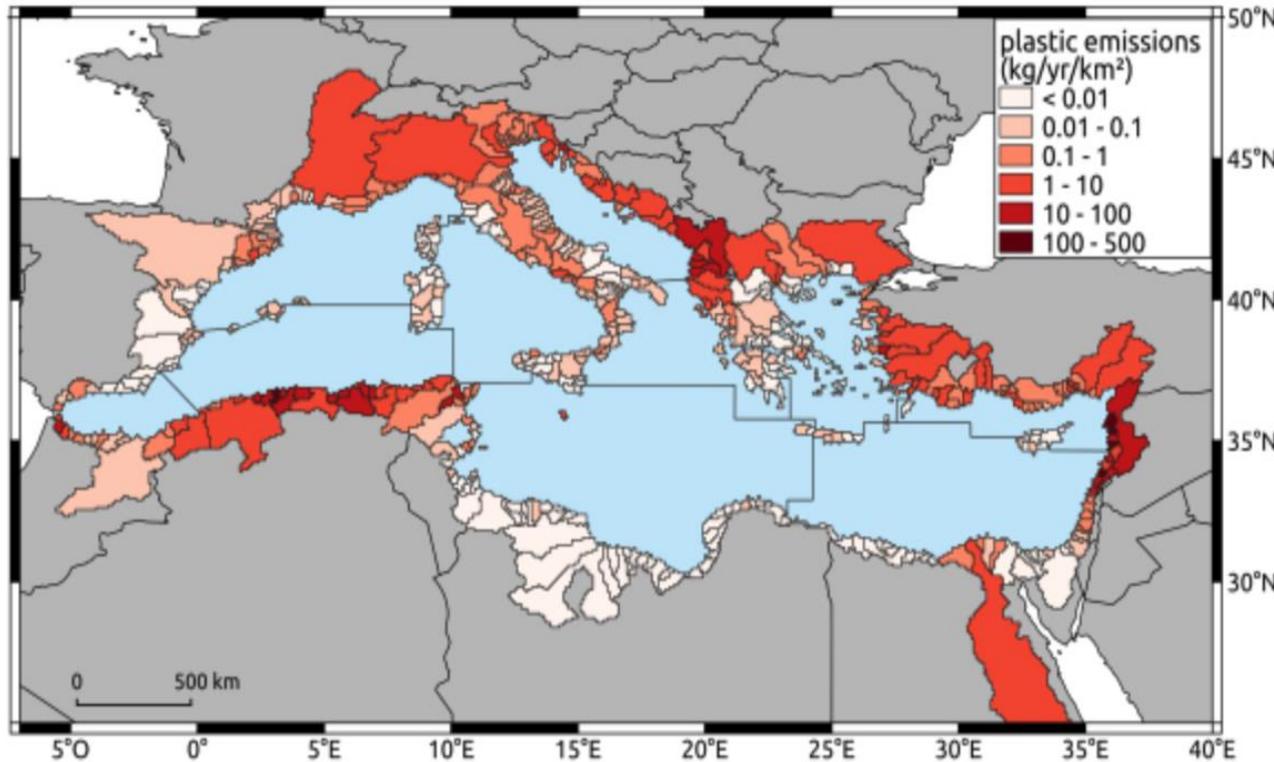
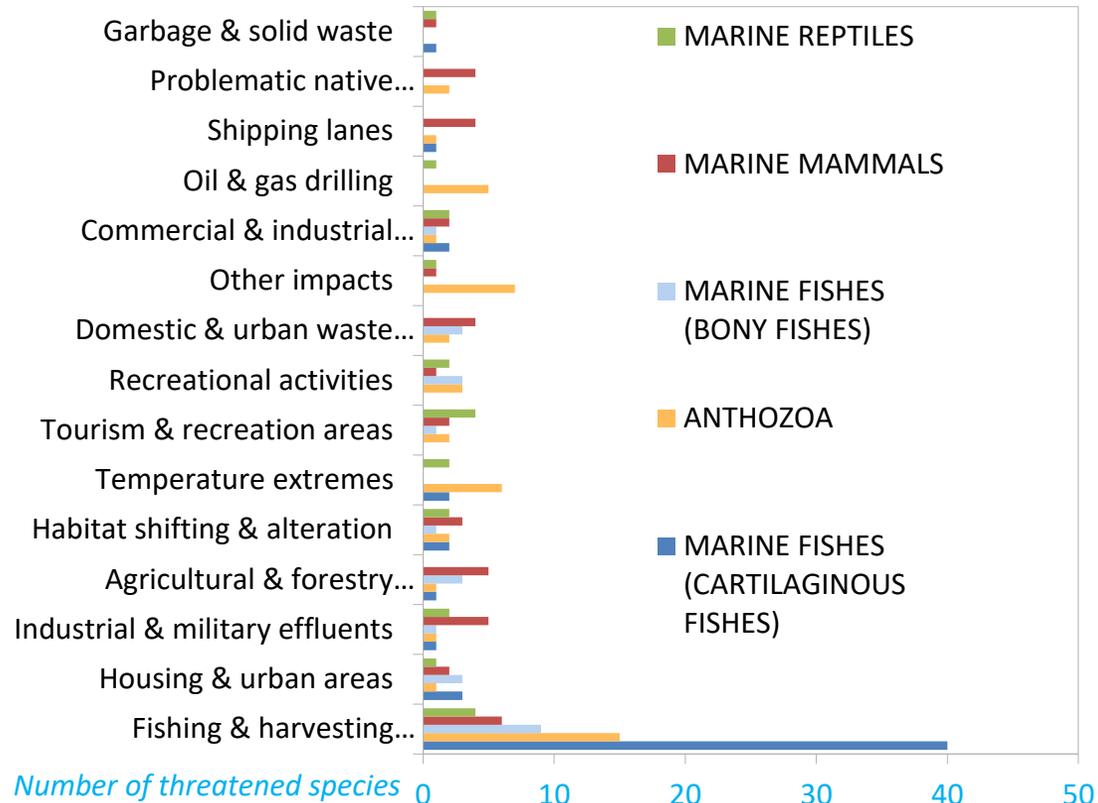


Figure: Estimation of annual specific plastic flows (kg/M³) rejected by watersheds into the Mediterranean Sea. Flows calculated based on Lebreton *et al.* 2017 (Source: Weiss *et al.* 2019)

- **Biodiversity in the Mediterranean is subject to mounting pressures**
- **Marine litter** mostly composed by plastics: concentrations extremely high (>100,000 microplastic items/km²) (up to 64 million particles/km² at the sea surface).
- **Overfishing:** 78% of Mediterranean and Black Sea fish stocks are fished at unsustainable levels.
- **Non-indigenous species (NIS):** presence of more than 1,000 NIS has been recorded.
- **Pollutants:** Main pollutants in the sea are nutrients, heavy metals, POPs, pesticides and hydrocarbons.

Growth in key sectors is increasing pressures on Med ecosystems

Figure: Main threats affecting Mediterranean marine species in risk of extinction (IUCN Red List Categories CR, EN and VU) in the Mediterranean region



- **Tourism:** International arrivals sextupled (x6) since 1970, reaching 337 millions (2017). Cruising tripled (x3) since 2000.
- **Agriculture:** Quantities of fertilizers and pesticides used are above global averages.
- **Fishing and aquaculture:** aquaculture production quadrupled (x4) in 20 years (~30,000 fish farms); capture landings decreased.
- **Extractive industries:** +200 offshore oil and gas platforms; possible expansion with new discoveries (Levantine basin).
- **Transport:** The Mediterranean is one of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

The Mediterranean region is warming 20% faster than the global average (BAU scenario: +2.2°C temperature rise by 2040)

Impacts: Coastal flooding, diminished food and water security, mass deaths of marine species, increased wild fires, non-indigenous species, reduction in bodyweight of fish, increased mortality of aquaculture species, etc.

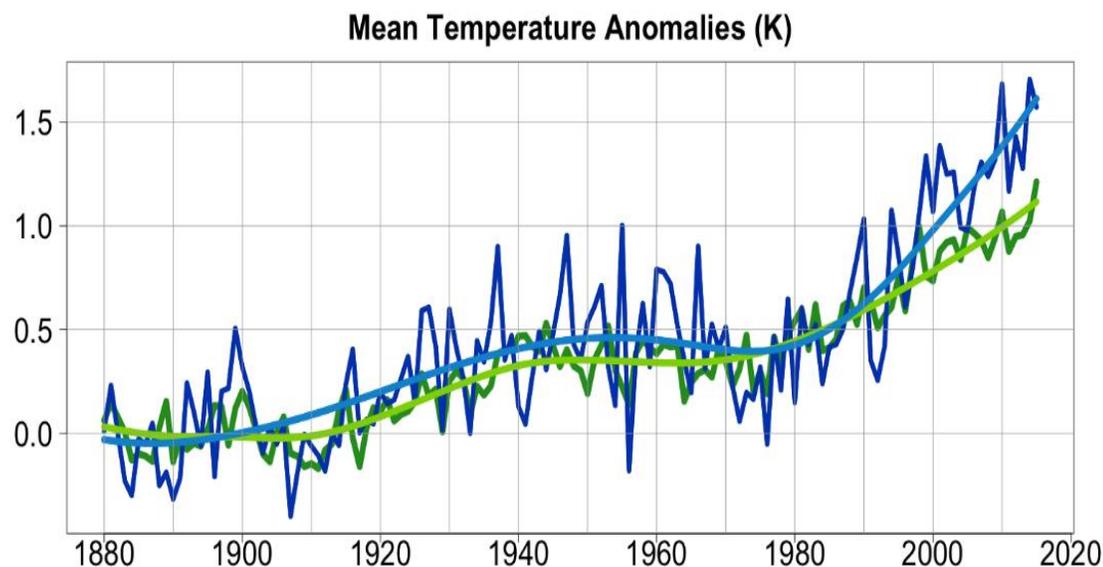
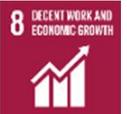


Figure: Historic warming of the atmosphere, globally and in the Mediterranean Basin. Annual mean air temperature anomalies are shown with respect to the period 1880-1899, with the Mediterranean Basin (blue) and the globe (green) presented with and without smoothing (Source: Data from Berkeley Earth available at <http://berkeleyearth.org/> (Cramer et al., 2018))

- **Impacts on marine life:** Marine heatwaves more frequent and intense.
- **Major risks for Mediterranean societies and economies.**
- **Decline in summer precipitation:** between -10 % and -30% in a 2°C scenario.
- **Sea level rise:** 0.45m to above 2m by 2100.
- **Water and food security:** increased wild fires, reduction in bodyweight of fish.

Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

| MSSD Objectives | UN-SDGs |
|--|---|
| 1. Ensuring sustainable development in marine and coastal areas |  |
| 2. Promoting resource management, food production and food security through sustainable forms of rural development |    |
| 3. Planning and managing sustainable Mediterranean cities |   |
| 4. Addressing climate change as a priority issue for the Mediterranean |  |
| 5. Transition towards a green and blue economy |    |
| 6. Improving governance in support of sustainable development |   |

- The MSSD is a strategic guiding document for all stakeholders and partners to translate the 2030 Agenda at the regional, sub-regional and national levels.



- The MSSD is an adaptation of international commitments to regional conditions, in the context of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.

Thank you



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