



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



15<sup>th</sup> UfM Regional Platform on Sustainable Blue Economy  
Brussels - 27 June 2024

***Annual reporting by Ministerial priority:  
Progress on the Roadmap for the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial  
Declaration on SBE – Türkiye***

# Country reporting template: aim and objectives

- This “country reporting template” has been created with the aim to gather data and information at national level to feed the **2021 UfM Ministerial on SBE Roadmap’s Monitoring, reporting and evaluation system**.
- As reflected in the “[Stand-alone document on the Monitoring system of the Roadmap / 2021 UfM Ministerial on SBE](#)” and its related Annex on “[Sector-specific indicators](#)”, the process kick-starts every year with the **delivery of presentations by the countries** (UfM Focal Points on Blue Economy) in the context of the **Regional Platform on SBE meetings**.
- By filling in this template, countries’ crucial inputs will feed current and future updates of the Roadmap and contribute to analyse progress over time in the implementation of the SBE Ministerial Declaration.
- Instructions to fill in this template are provided in the next slide.

## How to fill in this template

- This template contains **one slide per each of the SBE Ministerial Declaration Priorities** and related progress. Three open questions have also been included at the end of the document.
- For each of the Ministerial Declaration priorities, a simple **table** should be completed by the countries, with the following information:
  - Policies, strategies and plans in place at national (and sub-national) level
  - Projects and initiatives at national in place at national (and sub-national) level
- Please fill in these tables to the best of your knowledge and feel free to enrich with **hyper-links** to key documents, publications, videos, etc. as needed.
- In case of questions, please don't hesitate to send an email to: [alessandra.sensi@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:alessandra.sensi@ufmsecretariat.org) and [adriana.salazar@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:adriana.salazar@ufmsecretariat.org)
- These presentations will be delivered orally by each Focal Point on the UfM Regional Platform Meeting, and should be submitted to the UfM Secretariat team **no later than June 19<sup>th</sup>, end of day.**

# Marine research and innovation, skills, careers and employment

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Development of socioeconomic observatories	National Marine Research Strategy Document	Marine Research Programme
Clusters development		
Training activities		<p>Mediterranean Fisheries Research, Production and Training Institute (AKSAM)</p> <p>Istanbul Technical University Eastern Mediterranean Centre for Oceanography and Limnology</p> <p>Dokuz Eylül University Institute of Marine Science and Technology</p> <p>Istanbul University Institute of Marine Science and Management</p> <p>Middle East Technical University Marine Sciences</p> <p>National Centre for the Sea and Maritime Law</p> <p>MARMARA Research Centre</p>
Other		Conducted via a wide range of National research institutions; MRC, TUBITAK, EMSI, PRI, DEHUKAM, METU IMS, IU-IMSM, DEU-IMST, EMCOL, AKSAM

# Sustainable food from the sea: fisheries and aquaculture

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Establishment of Marine Protected Areas and Fisheries Restricted Areas	<p>More than 70 completely restricted areas in Gokova Bay</p> <p>* The Twelfth National Development Plan, which was accepted by the Turkish Grand National Assembly, entered into force after being published in the Official Gazette dated 1 November 2023</p>	<p>Fisheries Coastal Zones Development Road Map and Governance Model Development Project</p> <p>** Marine Research Programme (TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Center)</p>
Tackling Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing (IUU)	<p>Ratification of FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing-Fisheries Law issued 2020</p>	
Support to Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF)	<p>Financial support for SSF</p>	
Other	<p>Member of the General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GCFM)</p> <p>Full compliance with fisheries management at National level</p> <p>FishEBM MED</p>	<p>MedSea4 Fish Project</p> <p>** Integrated Marine Pollution Monitoring Program (Den-Iz) (TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Center)</p>

# Sustainable, climate-neutral and zero-pollution maritime transport and ports

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Setting up an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides in the Mediterranean Sea	<p>Active role in designation of Med Sea as a whole, as Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides</p> <p>Ratification of MARPOL Annex VI, HNS, BMW and Hong Kong Convention</p>	
Development of alternative and transitional fuels	Financial Support Mechanism for Green Shipping	<p>* Green Port Project</p> <p>Maritime Decarbonisation and Green Shipping Project</p> <p>** LNG Bunkering Project in Marmara Sea</p>
Digitalisation of the sector	National Maritime Single Window operational since 2018	
Other	<p>2053 Transport and Logistics Master Plan</p> <p>National Intelligent Transport Systems and National Smart Cities Strategy</p> <p>*** 2nd National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2024-2030)</p>	



# Interactions between marine litter and the blue economy

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
<p>Prevention measures and circular approaches</p>	<p>Regional Plan for the Marine Litter Management in the Med 2013</p> <p>Marine Environment Protection Strategy Document and Action Plan</p> <p>Party to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Med Sea Against Pollution</p> <p>Adopted Mediterranean strategy for Sustainable Development</p> <p>MEDPAN</p> <p>Black Sea Marine Litter Regional Action Plan 2018</p> <p>Zero Waste Regulation 2019</p> <p>Circular Strategy on the Preparation and Implementation of Marine Litter Provincial Action Plans 2019</p> <p>5 Year Marine Litter Provincial Action Plans</p>	<p>Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter Sharing Report</p> <p>Zero Waste Project Zero Waste Blue</p> <p>DEEP Project Assessment of Türkiye's Potential on Transition to Circular Economy</p> <p>Den-Iz Integrated Marine Pollution Monitoring Program (TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Center)</p>
<p>Raising awareness and addressing marine litter including microplastics</p>	<p>EBM Based Monitoring and Management Plan for Clean Mediterranean Project</p>	<p>Project: removing abandoned fishing equipment</p> <p>Den-Iz Integrated Marine Pollution Monitoring Program 202-2023 Mediterranean</p>
<p>Other</p>		<p>Training centre for the response to marine oil &amp; NHS pollution via the Turkish National Maritime Safety Centre</p>



# Coastal and maritime tourism

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Eco-tourism, slow tourism and reduction of carbon emissions of the industry	<p>The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans prepared at the regional level encourage eco-tourism in coastal areas.</p> <p>The provision stating that;</p> <p>«it is obligatory to create the necessary policies and strategies for the development of eco-tourism in the plans to be made by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to ensure the protection of coastal and marine areas» encourages eco-tourism in coastal regions at the implementation level.</p>	
Promotion of the digitalisation of the sector		
Other		





# Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Stakeholder engagement, consultations or establishment of MSP plans	<p>Blue Plan 2053</p> <p>By Law on Preparation of Spatial Plans including procedures of the Integrated Coastal Zone Plans to be prepared with a strategic approach for coastal areas and their hinterlands and guide the zoning plans</p> <p>Blue Economy was planned a part of the Maritime Spatial Planning at our plans and entegrated with MSP.</p>	<p>GIS Project: establishment of blue economy information platform based o geographic information systems Project</p> <p>Maritime Spatial Planning Project</p>
Other	Member of MedPAN	



# Marine Renewable Energies

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Research and innovation on MRE technologies	Hydrogen Technologies Strategy and Roadmap announced 2023	Efficiency Increasing Project Support Program (VAP)
Specification of licensing procedures		
Other	* National Energy Plan 2023	Offshore Wind Farms Large-Scale Integration in Türkiye - Windflag Project



# Maritime safety and security of blue economy activities

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Development of training activities	Turkish National Maritime Safety Centre	
Exchange of information, expertise, technical assistance and best practices		
Other		

# Open questions

1 – Related to the priority on Governance and the future of sea basin strategies in the Mediterranean region: **Is there any overarching blue economy strategy in your country? Or any process initiated leading to the**

**We have strategies that include blue economy components, although currently they are not under the name of the national blue economy strategy. Blue economy strategies are being created within the scope of the authorities and responsibilities of different ministries.**

**In the medium/long term, while providing economic growth based on the sea, the 2053 National Sustainable Blue Economy Action Plan will be prepared to protect the seas and marine ecosystems.**

2 – Related to the priority on Sustainable investments in the blue economy: **is there any national funding/financing scheme related to the blue economy (or any of its sectors) promoted by your country? If yes, please specify.**

**Turkey's blue economy has been growing rapidly in recent years, and the added value created by sea-based industries in our country is also increasing. In addition, Turkey's blue economy is supported by a strong maritime sector that includes shipbuilding, ship repair and port activities. It is not difficult to predict today that these developments may have much more positive reflections when looking at the developments in green and sustainable finance markets in the coming period.**

**In this context, innovative financial instruments can create a very serious leverage effect for these sectors with strategic steps to be taken. We have some projects and action plans regarding the blue economy. For instance blue economy is an important part of maritime spatial planning.**

3 - **What are the main challenges, issues or bottlenecks for the implementation of the SBE Ministerial Declaration in your country?**

**The most important bottleneck is that blue economy issues fall under the jurisdiction of many different institutions. This fact may cause the work to proceed slowly.**

