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Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Area (RAC/SPA)  
Boulevard du Leader Yasser Arafat -  
B.P. 337 - 1080 Tunis Cedex - Tunisia  
Tel.:(+216) 71 206 649  
(+216) 71 206 485  
(+216) 71 206 851  
Fax:(+216) 71 206 490  
[www.rac-spa.org](http://www.rac-spa.org)

**Mr. Atef OUERGHI**  
Project coordinator  
E-mail: [atef.ouerghi@rac-spa.org](mailto:atef.ouerghi@rac-spa.org)

**Mr. Yassine Ramzi SGHAIER**  
Project technical assistant  
E-mail: [yassineramzi.sghaier@rac-spa.org](mailto:yassineramzi.sghaier@rac-spa.org)

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UNEP



United Nations Environment Programme  
Mediterranean Action Plan  
Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas



**MKH**  
MEDKEYHABITATS

Mapping of key marine habitats in the Mediterranean and promoting their conservation through the establishment of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI)



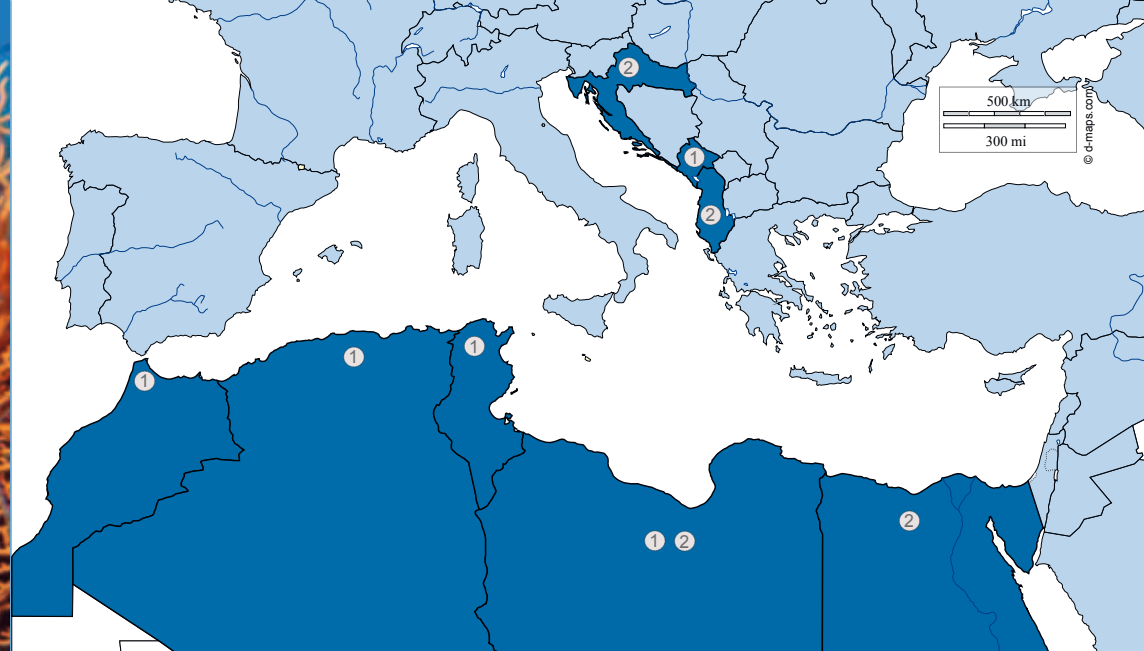
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① Objective 1 ② Objective 2

**DURATION:** 2013-2016 (30 months)

**OBJECTIVES:**

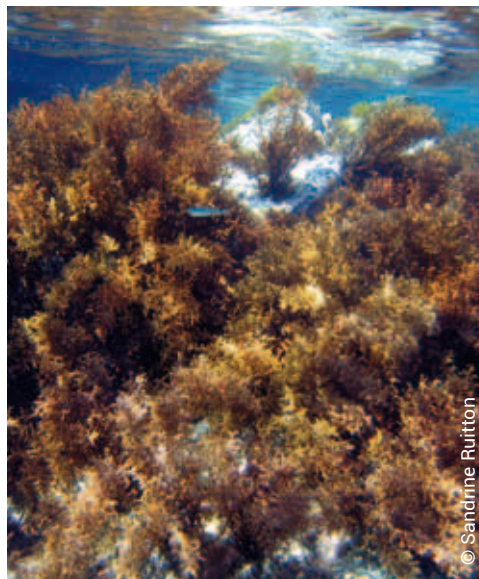
The project aims at establishing cartographic inventory of marine key habitats of conservation interest to extend the Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance network (the SPAMI network), as required by Barcelona Convention's Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA/BD Protocol).

The project will assist the countries to implement the appropriate measures in relation to the priorities of the SAP-BIO and the recommendations of the Action Plans for the conservation of marine vegetation, the conservation of the coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions and the conservation of dark habitats (marine caves, canyons, etc...).

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:** MAVA Foundation

**BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES:**

8 Mediterranean riparian countries: Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro and Tunisia.



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**PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND MAIN ACTIVITIES**

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Elaboration of cartographic inventory of marine key habitats of conservation interest.

**Action 1:** Undertake an inventory and characterization of the most important habitats and the ones that could be considered as natural monuments by field survey.

**Action 2:** Mapping selected marine key habitats with conventional methods (transects, aerial photos) and / or innovative (satellite imagery and side-scan sonar).

**Action 3:** Strengthen existing monitoring networks and to initiate new one for key habitats.

**Action 4:** Communicating on key habitats and their role, on the progress and results of the studies and monitoring undertaken.

**Action 5:** Provide training for national experts on the techniques used.

**OBJECTIVE 2:** Strengthening of the SPAMI network.

**Action 6:** To organize a seminar in order to discuss the SPAMI list, and in particular by assessing the listed sites and proposing new ones for inclusion on the list. To the seminar, will be invited SPAMI managers, scientists, policy makers and donors.

**Action 7:** Assist countries to nominate sites for inclusion on the SPAMI list by providing the necessary expertise in accordance with the procedure adopted.



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