



# **Regional Authorities at the forefront of Biodiversity and Marine Protection:**

## **The perspective of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)**

**Biodiversity and Marine protection in EUSAIR**  
*A contribution to EU Biodiversity strategy 2030*

14 March 2024, Brussels

# The CPMR at a glance



- **Bringing together more than 150 Regions from 24 States from the European Union and beyond.**
- The CPMR campaigns in favour of a more balanced development of the European territory. It operates both as a think tank and as a lobby for Regions.
- Focuses on policies related to :
  - Social, economic and territorial cohesion
  - Maritime policies and blue growth
  - Transport and accessibility
  - Energy and climate change
  - Migration, neighbourhood and development
- **Divided into six geographical commissions:**

[Atlantic Arc »](#)

[Balkan and Black Sea »](#)

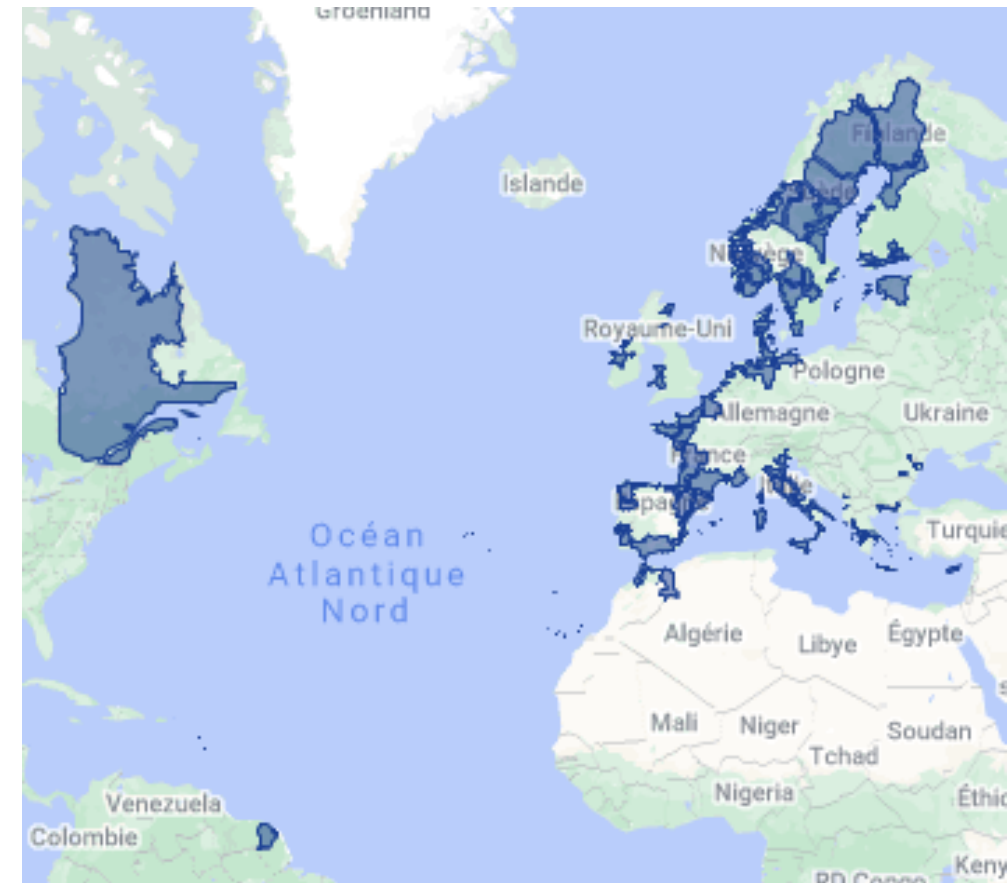
[Baltic Sea »](#)

[Intermediterranean »](#)

[Islands »](#)

[North Sea »](#)

- **Current Presidency:** held by Loïg Chesnais-Girard, President of Brittany Region.



# The CPMR IMC & IC Policy position on the Nature Restoration Law



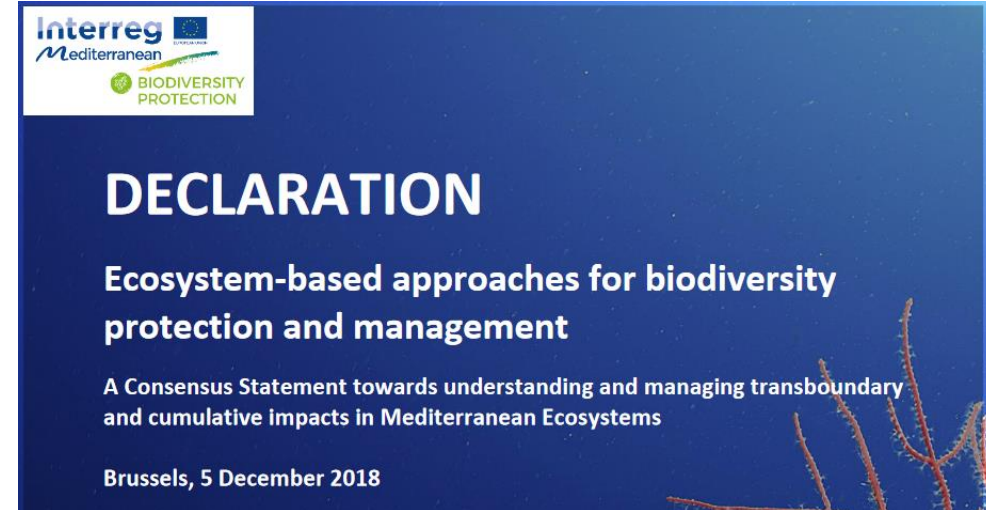
- First major legislative step since the Habitat Directive in 1992 and a major « move » for the Green Deal
- **Final adoption voted by the EU Parliament** 27th February 2024 – next steps -> final vote by the EU Council
- **Objectives:** measures to promote the return of biodiversity to at least **20% of the land and sea areas of EU Member and restoration of at least 30% of certain habitats** (forests, grasslands, wetlands, rivers, lakes and coral beds) **by 2030**, then 60% by 2040 and 90% by 2050.
- **The IMC & IC policy position:**
  - Underlines the **key role of the regions** in the elaboration of the **national restoration plans** and the implementation and monitoring stages of the NRL.
  - Recalls the need to **increase multilevel stakeholders' engagement** at the earliest stage and in decision-making.
  - Reminds to consider the integration of local/regional environmental plans and strategies and evaluate the **specific needs and conditions of local ecosystems and communities, especially in islands.**
  - Expresses concerns about the **access to funding, administrative barriers, capacity building resources and technical expertise** to support an efficient implementation of the NRL at regional and local levels.



# The CPMR IMC & IC projects | MBPC



- Building up from the PANACeA (2016-2019) Interreg MED Horizontal project and followed by the **Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community** (2019-2022).
- The Ecosystem-based declaration signed at the European Parliament to engage **European and Mediterranean institutions** active in biodiversity protection, management science, practice and policy.
- Setting-up of a knowledge sharing platform about Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection : <https://biodiversity.uma.es/>



# The CPMR IMC & IC Projects | MBPC SAIS EBSA Case study



- **A series of 3 workshops from 2019 to 2022 looking at:**
  - “[Managing Transboundary Impacts In Priority Areas: Towards an Action Plan for Ecosystem-based Management \(EBM\) in the Southern Adriatic Sea Ecoregion](#)”(2019).
  - [Managing Transboundary Priority Areas: Towards a governance mechanism on the conservation of the south Adriatic-Ionian marine ecosystem](#)”(2021).
  - **Potential governance mechanism and action plan for the *South Adriatic Ionian Strait Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Area (SAIS-EBSA) (2022).***
- **See the story map:** <https://biodiversity.uma.es/sais-epsas-storymap/>
- **Lessons learnt:**
  - **Regions are key actors in conservation policy-making** and their involvement is to be considered in Marine Spatial Planning processes.
  - **Biodiversity knows no borders-** transboundary management is crucial to protect biodiversity.
  - **Need for concrete conservation measures and relevant regional stakeholders' engagement**, including involvement by regional sectoral bodies such as the fishery and maritime traffic sectors.



# IMC & IC projects | Regions at the forefront to protect ecosystems



- **Blue Mission** - act as the “Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters” **Mediterranean Lighthouse**. (Horizon Europe co-funded project)

**Partners:** 6 R&I public institutions, 5 NGOs, 3 Mediterranean industrial associations and 2 SMEs from 7 countries of the Mediterranean.

**Mission objective: reducing Mediterranean’s hydrosphere pollution by 30-50 % by 2030.**

*How ?*

- Blue Mission engages **stakeholders from Policy, Business, Research&Innovation and Civil Society**, as well as the so-called **Ecosystem Enablers** to synergize the actions of the Mission Lighthouse in the Mediterranean basin.
- It supports the development and deployment of **transformative innovative solutions in all forms: technological, social, business, governance**.

## Main actions by the CPMR IMC:

- Detecting existing **gaps and barriers** to apply **innovative transformative solutions**,
- Providing **policy recommendations and offering support** to orient **regional investments** (RIS3, Next Generation EU and projects) and relevant policies (e.g. EU Zero pollution, MSFD, WFD) towards the Mission objectives.



# IMC & IC projects | Regions at the forefront to protect ecosystems



NaTour4CChange

Interreg  
Euro-MED



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**NaTour4CC** - **Governing sustainable tourism** in territories with high environmental value: reconnecting tourism and nature for addressing the climate crisis **with an ecosystem-based approach (Interreg Euro-MED project 2024-2026)**

**Partners:** *the Croatia Institute of Tourism, Sardinia Region, Crete Region, the Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature, Plan Bleu, IUCN MED, Zadar County/Natura Jadera, Herzegovina Neretva County, Andalucia Region and the CPMR.*

## Main actions:

- Enable participating regions to assess their **priorities for climate change adaptation and mitigation**, applied to **sustainable tourism**.
- Deliver specific **tourism climate action plans** and testing **nature-based solutions**,
- Promote **cross-fertilization** among participating regions and destinations, to achieve and compare common methods, tested plans and solutions,
- Foster **best practices** and deliver **policy recommendations** at EU level.



# Regions at the forefront to protect ecosystems



Thank you for your attention!

**For further information please contact:**

Intermediterranean Commission: [maria.garcies@crpm.org](mailto:maria.garcies@crpm.org) & [jordi.juarez@crpm.org](mailto:jordi.juarez@crpm.org)

Balkan and Black Sea Commission: [stavros.kalognomos@crpm.org](mailto:stavros.kalognomos@crpm.org)

Islands Commission: [lise.guennal@crpm.org](mailto:lise.guennal@crpm.org)





**CPMR  
CRPM**



**[cpmr.org](http://cpmr.org)**



**[@CPMR\\_Europe](https://twitter.com/CPMR_Europe)**