WestMED National Event – Italy

Italian National Hub and National Coordinator

IMP / Blue Growth / MSP

Thanos Smanis

EU MSP Platform Expert Coordinator and member of the WestMED AM

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Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP), set in place in 2007, provide a coherent approach to maritime issues, with 3 main targets:

- **Sustainable** development of maritime economy
- **Cooperation** of all maritime players across sectors and borders
- Protection of the **environment**

To reach these IMP suggests several **tools** and cross-cutting **policies**:

- **Blue Growth** a cross-cutting policy tool
- Maritime Data and Knowledge
- **MSP**
- Sea-Basin Strategies

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) stands for the **environmental pillar**

MSP is presented as the **economic pillar** that helps Blue Growth to evolve
MSP essential for future development

- Providing a vision for the sea as a source of sustainable national development
- Important Blue Growth function both for coastal and open maritime space
- Aligned with other policy tools
- Integrate a wider set of maritime policies, so address a wider set of challenges and unlock future development

Therefore should be understood that MSP may not act just as an integrative tool, but integrate itself into the sector-specific Blue Growth policies both at EU and at national level
To ensure sustainability of the various uses and the environmental health of marine areas, MSP should employ an ecosystem-based approach that ensures the sustainable use and protection of the natural resources.

Ensure that pressure from human activities is kept within levels compatible with a good environmental status while enabling the use of marine goods and services by present and future generations.

Developing a Maritime Spatial Plan based on the ecosystem-based approach requires a vision on the use of the maritime area. This vision must incorporate both environmental factors and human uses and it needs to be in line with the regional marine strategy.
Thanos Smanis

Core team of the WestMED AM & EU MSP Platform Expert Coordinator