

Contributions to the draft National Action Plan for sea turtles conservation and to the draft National Action Plan for cetaceans conservation in Croatia

NETCET project

*Katja Jelić, Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature (CAEN)
Final conference, Venice, 3-4 Decembre 2015*



The project is co-funded by the European Union,
Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance.



Basis for the National Action Plan development

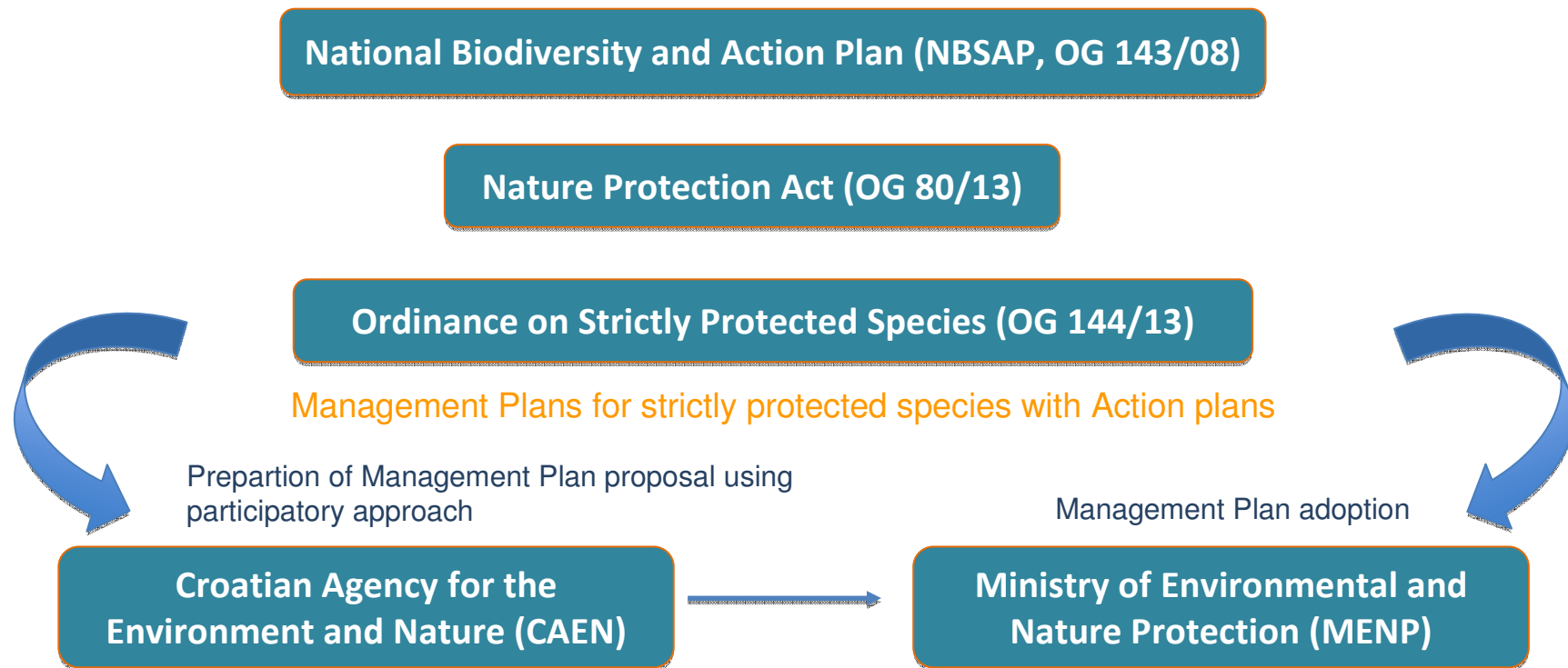
NETCET project – work package 7 „*Instruments for a joint **long term** strategy for the conservation of cetaceans and sea turtles in the Adriatic*”

regional Strategies + **draft National Action Plans** (national partners + other relevant stakeholders)



Basis for the National Action Plan development

Legal framework for the National Action Plan development in the Republic of Croatia



Basis for the National Action Plan development

Content of the Management Plan - prescribed by the *Ordinance on Strictly Protected Species*

Main chapters

1. Summary
2. Introduction, including Management Plan drafting methodology
3. Description of the species biology
4. Population status and habitats status
5. Threats
6. Species conservation (mechanisms and capacity)
7. Evaluation of the Management Plan implementation
8. Vision, general objective and specific objectives
- 9. Action Plan in detail**
10. Implementation, supervision and revision of the Management Plan
11. Bibliography and Annexes



Basis for the National Action Plan development

Detailed Action Plan

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE							
Activities	Year/Time frame	Responsible body	Implementing body:	Priority	Finance source	Implementation success factor	Costs
1.1.							
1.2.							
1.3.							
2. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE							
Activities	Year/Time frame	Responsible body	Implementing body:	Priority	Finance source	Implementation success factor	Costs
2.1.							
2.2.							



Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

Taking into account that cetaceans and sea turtles are the subject of the same stakeholders, the process of drafting both NAPs was parallel

➤ **First step:** Establishment of the working group of representatives/experts from relevant institutions (responsible for writing NAPs, communication with stakeholders, compilation of informations, definition of the planning process)

- Ana Štrbenac, Jasna Jeremić, Ana Maričević, Katja Jelić, Irina Zupan (CAEN)
- Mrs Ljiljana Vrbanec (Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection – Nature Protection Directorate)
- Mrs Karin Gobić (Marine Educational Centre Pula)
- Željko Mihaljević, PhD (Croatian Veterinary Institute)
- Draško Holcer, PhD and Peter Mackelworth, PhD (Blue World Institute)
- Tomislav Gomerčić, PhD and Martina Đuras, PhD (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb)
- Bojan Lazar, PhD (University Primorska, Koper)



Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

- April 2015. – **first meeting of the working group**
 - definition of the planning process
 - identification of main stakeholders

- May 2015 – **first round of the conversation with relevant ministries**
 - Mrs Dubravka Lulić Krivić (Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure – Maritime Safety Directorate)
 - Mr Ivan Radić (Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection- Department of Marine and Coastal Protection)
 - Mrs Mirjana Fonjak (Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection - Nature Inspection Directorate)
 - Mrs Ivana Petrina Abreu and Mrs Josipa Runjak (Ministry of Agriculture – Directorate of Fisheries)
 - Mrs Jelena Šobat (Ministry of Tourism - Directorate for Competitiveness)



Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

- May 2015. – **first moderated workshop for stakeholders**

28 participants from relevant institutions:

- Ministries
- National Parks and Nature Parks
- County Public Institutions for Managing Protected Areas
- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb
- Croatian Veterinary Institute
- Marine Education Centre Pula
- County Guild of Fishermen
- City of Rijeka
- Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature
- Blue World Institute
- University of Primorska from Slovenia



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Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

1. Introductory part of the workshop

- Lectures about legislative framework, NETCET project, Strategy for the Cetaceans and Sea Turtles Conservation in the Adriatic were held by Jasna Jeremić, Ana Štrbenac and Katja Jelić (Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature)
- Lecture on cetaceans population's status in the Adriatic Sea was held by Draško Holcer (Blue World Institute)
- Lecture on sea turtles population's status in the Adriatic Sea was held by Bojan Lazar (University of Primorska, Koper)

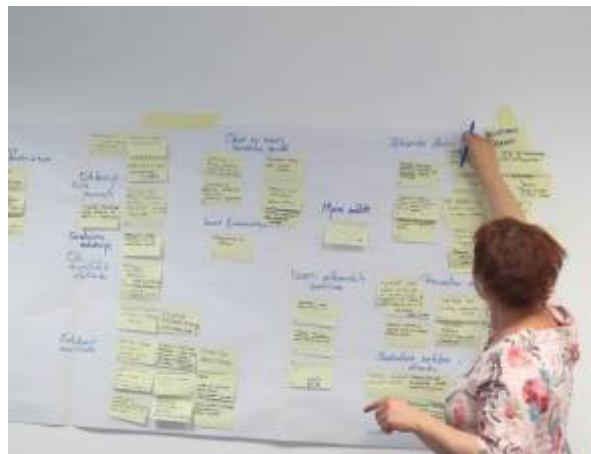


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Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

2. Moderated active work of all stakeholders with the purpose of identifying solutions for effective protection

- 3 topics:
 - nautical tourism and maritime traffic
 - fishery
 - research



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Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

➤ June 2015. – **second moderated workshop for stakeholders**

- Presentation of the results of first workshop
- 27 participants
- 7 topics:
 - maritime traffic
 - fishery
 - research and monitoring
 - capacity building
 - education and public awareness
 - tourism
 - environment



- For each topic preliminary objectives and activities were elaborated
- This time, through moderated active work, participants continued to work on supplementing the objectives and activities and they were also proposing the leaders, implementers and sources of funding for the activities



Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

- June - sending the results of the 1st and 2nd workshop to the representatives of the working group and receiving their comments
 - **second meeting of the working group**

- June/September – delivery of texts by representatives of the working group
 - For cetaceans
 - Draško Holcer, PhD (Blue World Institut)
 - Martina Đuras, PhD (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb) i Ana Galov, PhD (Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb)

 - For Sea turtles
 - Bojan Lazar, PhD (University Primorska, Koper) and Draško Holcer, PhD (Blue World Institut)

- November - **second round of the conversation with relevant ministries**



Process of development of NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

- November – **third workshop for stakeholders**
 - presentation of the results of all meetings and workshops (draft NAPs)
 - discussion on further steps



Results of the process of development NAPs for cetaceans and sea turtles

1. Draft Management Plan with Action Plan for cetaceans
2. Draft Management plan with Action Plan for sea turtles



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 1 – MARITIME TRANSPORT

General objective

Maritime transport is conducted in a way that respects the needs of safety, primarily of people, but also recognizes the needs to protect cetaceans and sea turtles, and planning the future development of these activities takes into account the conservation of these species and their habitat as one of the fundamental values of the Adriatic Sea.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 1 – MARITIME TRANSPORT

- 4 specific objectives + 9 targets

Specific objective 1.1.

The students of the maritime schools, colleges and maritime faculties are educated and informed about the Code of conduct during cetaceans and sea turtles observation, and about the Protocol for alerting and monitoring of sick, injured or dead strictly protected marine species.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 1 – MARITIME TRANSPORT

- 4 specific objectives + 9 targets

Specific objective 1.2.

Participants in the maritime transport are educated and informed about the Code of conduct during cetaceans and sea turtles observation.

Specific objective 1.3.

Participants in the maritime transport are educated and informed about the existing Protocol for alerting and monitoring of sick, injured or dead strictly protected marine species in the Adriatic Sea.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 1 – MARITIME TRANSPORT

- 4 specific objectives + 9 targets

Specific objective 1.4.

Safety equipment for the propellers of marine engines is used in high speed vessels.



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Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 2 – FISHERY

General objective

Use and conservation of marine resources are conducted in a way that reflects reconciled interests of fisheries and cetaceans and sea turtles.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 2 – FISHERY

- 4 specific objectives + 10 targets

Specific objective 2.1.

All the departments responsible for the inspection and control at sea according to Marine Fisheries Act and the fishermen are educated and informed about the Code of conduct during cetaceans and sea turtles observation.

Specific objective 2.2.

All the departments responsible for the inspection and control at sea according to Marine Fisheries Act and the fishermen are educated and informed about the existing Protocol for alerting and monitoring of sick, injured or dead strictly protected marine species in the Adriatic Sea.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 2 – FISHERY

- 4 specific objectives + 10 targets

Specific objective 2.3.

Data on the incidental catch (bycatch) of cetaceans and sea turtles are collected and analysed.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 2 – FISHERY

- 4 specific objectives + 10 targets

Specific objective 2.4.

Fish resources are preserved.



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Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 3 – RESEARCH AND MONITORING

General objective

Research and monitoring of cetaceans and sea turtles are regularly conducted and sufficient information necessary for the effective conservation of these species at national level is provided.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 3 – RESEARCH AND MONITORING

- 5 specific objectives + 33 targets

Specific objective 3.1.

National Monitoring Protocols for the assessment of the conservation status of populations of cetaceans and sea turtles according to the Habitats Directive are developed.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 3 – RESEARCH AND MONITORING

- 5 specific objectives + 33 targets

Specific objective 3.2.

Protocol for alerting and monitoring of sick, injured or dead strictly protected marine species is implemented.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 3 – RESEARCH AND MONITORING

- 5 specific objectives + 33 targets

Specific objective 3.3.

Threats to the conservation of cetaceans and sea turtles are identified.

Specific objective 3.4.

Specific research related to the cetaceans, sea turtles and their habitat are conducted and necessary studies are prepared.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 3 – RESEARCH AND MONITORING

- 5 specific objectives + 33 targets

Specific objective 3.5.

Cooperation and development of new projects.



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Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 4 – CAPACITY BUILDING

General objective

Legislation, inter-sectorial cooperation, human resources, organization, equipment and funding follow the needs to protect cetaceans and sea turtles and their habitat as one of the fundamental values of the Adriatic Sea.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 4 – CAPACITY BUILDING

- 5 specific objectives + 18 targets

Specific objective 4.1.

Inter-sectorial cooperation related to the conservation of cetaceans and sea turtles is established.

Specific objective 4.2.

Measures for the conservation of cetaceans and sea turtles are integrated in the relevant legislation of the various sectors and harmonised.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 4 – CAPACITY BUILDING

- 5 specific objectives + 18 targets

Specific objective 4.3.

Equipment for the implementation of conservation measures for cetaceans and sea turtles is ensured.

Specific objective 4.4.

Human resources for the implementation of conservation measures for cetaceans and sea turtles are strengthened.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 4 – CAPACITY BUILDING

- 5 specific objectives + 18 targets

Specific objective 4.5.

Financial resources for the implementation of conservation measures for cetaceans and sea turtles are provided.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 5 – TOURISAM

- 1 specific objectives + 9 targets

General objective

Tourism is developed in line with the needs and measures to protect cetaceans and sea turtles and their habitats as one of the fundamental values of the Adriatic.

Specific objective 5.1.

Touristic programs and promotion are developed in line with the needs of the cetaceans and sea turtles.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 6 – EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

- 1 specific objectives + 10 targets

General objective

Public is educated about the needs and measures to protect cetaceans and sea turtles and their habitats as one of the fundamental values of the Adriatic.

Specific objective 6.1.

Educational and information campaign to increase public awareness is implemented.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 7 – MARINE ENVIRONMENT

General objective

Marine environment is preserved in line with the needs and measures to protect cetaceans and sea turtles and their habitats as one of the fundamental values of the Adriatic Sea.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Topic 7 – MARINE ENVIRONMENT

- 3 specific objectives + 11 targets

Specific objective 7.1.

Good state of the marine environment is achieved in line with the needs and measures to protect cetaceans and sea turtles and their habitats as one of the fundamental values of the Adriatic Sea.

Specific objective 7.2.

Removal and disposal of waste from the sea is regulated.

Specific objective 7.3.

Underwater noise is regulated.



Draft National Action Plans for cetaceans and sea turtles

Next steps

- Sending the final draft of the Management Plan with action Plan for cetaceans and the Management Plan with Action Plan for sea turtles to the Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection (MENP)
- Public consultation
- Adoption of the Management Plans by MENP
- Possibility for financing the activities - Operational Programme Competitiveness and Cohesion for the period 2014 – 2020



Thank You for your attention!



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