



Smart Tools for Preserved Seas: The MSP4BIO Ecological Toolkit and Real-World Applications

Date: 28/05/2025

Time: 09:30-12:30 CET

Theme: Ecological Toolkit application

ONLINE



Webinar Summary

The webinar will present one of the main outputs of the Horizon Europe MSP4BIO project: the Ecological Toolkit - ESE 1. The toolkit has been designed to offer a variety of solutions and a detailed step-by-step guide to help decision makers navigate the complex processes of MPA connectivity and prioritization. It is based on the latest ecological knowledge and climate resilience principles and lists and integrates methodologies and tools needed to develop climate-resilient and appropriate conservation scenarios.

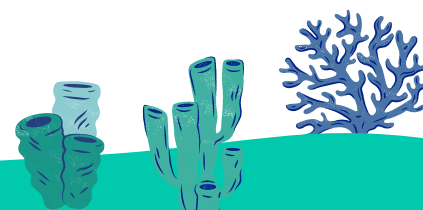
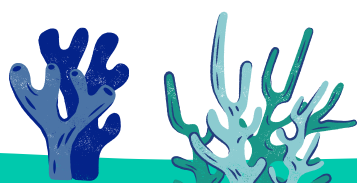
The webinar will briefly describe the practices of the toolkit, the work done on ecological questions, the improvement of ecological and climate macro-criteria and the implementation of the Decision Support Tools (DST) included in the toolkit. Further sessions will also be dedicated to introducing the rationale behind the climate guidelines on integrating climate change scenarios into protection and prioritization strategies for the development of climate-smart MPAs, and to show how ESE1 module has been integrated into the MSP4BIO Ecological-Socio-Economic (ESE) management framework. Finally, some examples of ESE1 application in MSP4BIO pilot sites will be presented.

Key Takeaways

- The MSP4BIO Ecological Toolkit (ESE1) equips decision-makers with a science-based, step-by-step guide to improve marine conservation planning, with a strong focus on functional ecology ecological connectivity and climate resilience.
- The toolkit integrates improved ecological and climate macro-criteria, practical methodologies, and Decision Support Tools (DSTs) to support the prioritization and design of effective and future-proof Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).
- Real-world applications from MSP4BIO pilot sites demonstrate how the toolkit can be used to address ecological questions and develop tailored, climate-smart marine spatial planning strategies.

Registration available until the 27th of May.

- Register [here](#)



AGENDA

Session 1: MSP4BIO project Ecological toolkit (ESE1)

09:30 - 9:50 **Introduction to the MSP4BIO project**
(Ivana Stojanovic, sPro, coordinator MSP4BIO)

The MSP4BIO ecological toolkit (ESE1): introduction and practices
(Lucia Bongiorno, CNR)



Session 2: Insights into the toolkit

09:50 - 10:30 **Defining ecological questions for conservation**
(Martina Bocci, CNR)

Improving ecological criteria guiding marine conservation
(Lucia Bongiorno, CNR)

Improving Climate Change smart protection
(Eleonore Cambra, CNR)

Decision Support Tools for area-based management
(Francisco R. Barboza, UTARTU; Stefano Menegon, CNR)

Integration of ESE1 module in the general Ecological-Socio-Economic management framework
(Martina Bocci and Stefano Menegon, CNR)

11:15 - 11:30 *Short break*

Session 3: ESE 1 application

11:30 - 12:00 **Application of ESE1 in MSP4BIO test cases: some examples**
(Francisco R. Barboza, UTARTU & MSP4BIO test case leaders)

12:00 - 12:30 **Questions and Answers & Closing**

