

Albania-Marine protected areas

JOINT AUDIT EXPERIENCE

*Joint Audit between SAI-s of Malta, Cyprus, Greece,
Slovenia, Portugal, Spain and Albania*

*Albania has one Marine Protected Area: National
Park Karaburun – Sazan designated on 2010*

Joint Audit on Marine Protected Areas





Ministry of Tourism and Environment

- National Agency of Protected Areas
- Regional Administration of Protected Areas in Vlora

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

- Fishing and Aquaculture Service Directorate

Audited subjects

Main: Has The Management Plan Of The Marine National Park Near Karaburun Peninsula And Sazan Island Been Effective Regarding The Ecosystem Protection And Preservation?

- Has the cooperation between the actors involved in the protection of the Marine Park been effective?
- Are the objectives set in the management plan according to the priorities and the time frame of implementation fulfilled?

Audit Questions

- The main bodies exercising administrative functions in and around the marine park, although having a common purpose, mostly work on their own, without coordination, and there is a lack of information exchange thus affecting the level of efficiency of the process. park administrators
- Since 2010 and beyond, due to the administrative complexity of this area, concrete action plans and cooperation protocols have been missing. There is a formal institutional cooperation required by law, but an unwillingness to concretize it into proper actions.
- Updating and completion of the regulatory framework on aquaculture activities has not been a priority given the delays in issuing bylaws defining areas for the development of this activity.
- Protection of the ecosystem is subject of foreign projects and investments and depending on their implementation the management plan has delayed in meeting the objectives set out
- There is no complete data on all types of habitats part of this ecosystem, consequently regulations on what will be monitored and how are missing. Marine protected areas are a new concept not only for communities and users but also for institutions. Consequently, their knowledge and practices are incomplete.

Audit conclusions

- Because of the lack of a special administration in charge of protected areas, its management was made partially, according to the legal framework of the actors involved (National Agency of Protected Areas created in 2015)
- It is noticed a formal institutional cooperation obligated by law, but a lack of will to properly cooperate and implement the management plan

Message

- Sharing of expertise
- Advantage of mutual consultation
- Better quality of work performance
- Offered a broader spectrum of skills and geographic coverage

Benefits of joint audit

Thank you!