

FINANCING AGREEMENT

Between

MEDPAN

A non-profit organisation governed by the French Law on Associations of 1901, with its registered office at 58 quai du Port, 13002 Marseille, France, represented by Mrs Purificacio Canals, Chairwoman, duly authorised for the purposes hereof

Hereinafter referred to as "**MedPAN**"

And

UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO [Universita' di Palermo], DEPARTMENT OF EARTH AND MARINE SCIENCES [Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra e del Mare, DiSTEM], with its head office at **Via Archirafi 22, I-90123 Palermo**, represented by **Prof. Valerio Agnesi, Dept. Director**, duly authorised for the purposes here of

Hereinafter referred to as the "**Partner**"

Hereinafter jointly referred to as the "**Parties**"

RECITALS

WHEREAS the MedPAN organisation was created at the request of some Mediterranean Marine Protected Area managers in 2008 with the task of coordinating the MedPAN network, the network of Marine Protected Area managers that has existed since the 1990s.

WHEREAS MedPAN works with its members and partners as well as with governmental and non-governmental organisations on a local, national, regional and international level to develop its activities.

WHEREAS MedPAN aims to promote the establishment, the operation and the sustainability of a Mediterranean network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

WHEREAS supporting Mediterranean MPAs is at the heart of MedPAN's mission. To this end, the MedPAN Secretariat has launched a Call for Small Projects. These Small Projects provide direct support to MPAs for the implementation of concrete actions, which aim to improve management effectiveness, test pilot schemes or put in place tools that can be useful to other MPAs.

WHEREAS MedPAN Regular Call for Small Projects are financed by the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the "**Financing Partners**").

1 PURPOSE OF THE FINANCING AGREEMENT

The Financing Agreement sets out the conditions under which the MedPAN organisation provides financial support to the Partner to run the “MPAs and endangered sharks in the Mediterranean: a pilot project in the Pelagie Islands MPA” project (hereinafter referred to as the “Project”), as described in **Appendix 1 “Project Description and Budget”**.

2 CONTRACTUAL DOCUMENTS

The contractual documents that constitute the Financing Agreement are as follows:

- This document
- Its appendices:

Appendix 1 “Project Description and Budget”

Appendix 2 “Call for Funds Template”

Any modification to the Agreement shall be recorded in an amendment signed by both Parties.

3 DURATION OF THE FINANCING AGREEMENT

The Agreement enters into effect from the date it is signed by the Parties and expires on June 30, 2020.

Upon expiration, the Agreement is not automatically renewed. Any renewal of the Agreement shall be subject to a written agreement between the Parties.

4 SUMS PAID AND METHOD OF PAYMENT

MedPAN undertakes to contribute the fixed lump-sum amount of fifteen thousand Euros (€ 15 000) to financing the Project.

Payments shall be made after presentation of the completed Calls for Funds in line with the payment schedule below.

Date or period	Amount
Upon signature of the contract (40%), paid as an advance	6 000 Euros
After MedPAN approves the interim technical and financial report (30%)	4 500 Euros
After MedPAN approves the final technical and financial report (30%)	4 500 Euros
Total amount	15 000 Euros including VAT

Payments are subject to funds availability.

For each Call for Funds, the Partner shall provide a declaration on honour on the recovery/non-recovery of VAT and documentation showing that expenses have been paid in full. This documentation may be in the form of photocopies or duplicate documents that have been certified as true copies (or approved by the institution's financial manager).

Partner undertakes not to discard original documents, to make these documents accessible 5 years after project ending to MedPAN and to provide duplicates that have been certified as true copies if MedPAN so requests. In addition, MedPAN may require the Partner to provide any other documentation proving that the sums corresponding to these expenses have been paid out.

Payment shall be made by bank transfer to the Partner's bank account after reception of the Partner's corresponding Call for Funds.

The Partner undertakes to send the Call for Funds by email, based on the template in **Appendix 2 "Call for Funds Template"**, accompanied by a photocopy of its bank account identification document, by email to the MedPAN organisation, as agreed above.

The deadline for the payment of funds is July 31, 2020, after which no payments shall be made.

Any part of the Grant that remains unused at this date shall be cancelled as of right.

5 CO-FINANCING

Under the Financing Agreement, counterpart is required in respect of MedPAN's financial contribution. This counterpart may take the form of self-financing by the project leader (contribution of human resources, own funds, etc.) or co-financing by local or international financing partners.

In all cases, the maximum rate of financing from MedPAN will be of 75% of the global amount of the project.

These rules shall remain in force for the duration of the Agreement. If changes arise with respect to amounts or sources of co-financing, the Partner must notify MedPAN as soon as possible and modify its Financing Plan in accordance with the rules stated above.

6 PARTNER OBLIGATIONS

6.1 Performance of the project

The Partner hereby declares that it fulfils and complies with all its obligations and commitments and that it is not subject to restrictions of any kind with respect to the project's performance, the carrying out of its activities or the proper use of MedPAN's financial support.

The Partner shall act professionally in preparing, organising, implementing and monitoring the Project. To this end, the Partner undertakes to carry out all formalities necessary to complete the Project (obtaining the necessary authorisations, complying with laws and local regulations, awarding contracts in line with the relevant procedures in force, etc.).

In addition, the Partner hereby declares that it holds, or undertakes to obtain, all legal, customs, and administrative authorisations and rights required for the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

The Partner undertakes, where applicable, to compensate MedPAN for any claims, as well as any expenses or damages that could arise from these claims.

6.2 Allocation of funding

The Partner undertakes to allocate the sums paid to it by MedPAN directly, completely and exclusively to the financing of the Project under the conditions set out in this Agreement. It shall also mark these payments in its accounting records (using a stamp or handwritten note to the effect that it is a MedPAN Small Project).

If the Partner fails to comply with the provisions of this Article, MedPAN reserves the right to terminate the Agreement in accordance with Article 12.1.

6.3 Lawful origin of co-financing

The Partner undertakes to ensure that all co-financing funds, with the exception of public funds, that are invested in the Project are not of unlawful origin, pursuant to French law. In particular, the funds must not be connected with activities including but not limited to the illegal drug trade, fraud affecting the financial interests of the European Communities, corruption, organised crime, terrorist financing, etc. The Partner also undertakes to ensure that these funds are not of unlawful origin pursuant to the law to which it is subject. The Partner undertakes to notify MedPAN immediately if it becomes aware of information that raises doubts as to the lawful nature of these funds.

6.4 Acts of Corruption

The Partner declares that the Project has not given rise to any Act of Corruption (in particular during the negotiating, awarding and performance of contracts financed using funds paid out) in accordance with the international standards recognised and recommended by the OECD and the United Nations Convention against Corruption of 31 October 2003 pertaining to tender procedure and transparency principles.

6.5 Submitting and monitoring information

6.5.1 Submitting reports

The Partner undertakes to send MedPAN (marked for the attention of Marianne Lang):

- Two months at the latest after this Financing Agreement is signed, proof of commencement demonstrating that project activities have begun;
- An interim financial report listing expenses incurred, the allocation of sums paid by MedPAN and co-financing, as well as a technical report on activities completed as part of the Project (MedPAN shall provide the Partner with an interim technical and financial report template). The interim report should cover the first six months of the project and is due by December 31, 2019;

- Not later than July 31st 2020, i.e. 1 month after the end of the project, a final report including a financial review and the technical review of the actions carried out and their impacts with regard to the initial objectives of the project (MedPAN shall provide the Partner with a final technical and financial report template). The final report should cover the full period of the project (twelve months).

The Partner undertakes to submit any modification of provisional expenses or the Financing Plan to prior approval from MedPAN. If any additional costs arise with respect to the Financing Plan, the Partner undertakes to put in place the financing necessary to cover any budget shortfall, in conditions that are considered satisfactory by MedPAN.

The Parties agree that if the Partner fails to provide proof of commencement of project activities, MedPAN reserves the right to request a refund of the sums paid to the Partner under the Agreement.

The Parties agree that if, at the expiration of the Agreement, the financial documents submitted show that MedPAN paid more than the sums actually spent by the Partner for the Project, the Partner shall refund the surplus amount to MedPAN within a period of two (2) months from Agreement's date of expiration, unless MedPAN agrees to reallocate the surplus to one or more other activities in the public interest that the Partner suggests within the same period. If this is the case, an addendum to this Agreement shall be drafted to cover the reallocation of this surplus.

6.5.2 Right to access and inspect information

In order for MedPAN to be able to ensure the financial support granted is used in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, the Partner undertakes to make all documentary evidence of expenses available to MedPAN or any other authorised person upon request.

MedPAN may, at its own expense, carry out one or more checks on the conditions under which the Agreement and the Project are being performed by the Partner, if it notifies the Partner in advance.

6.5.3 Other information

The Partner undertakes to inform MedPAN in writing of any planned collaboration with other partners related to the Project.

7 COOPERATION OF THE PARTIES

The Parties agree to designate preferred contact persons (hereinafter referred to as the "**Preferred Contact Persons**") for all exchanges relating to the Agreement (such as sending Calls for Funds, etc.) and the Project (such as technical and financial reports).

The Parties' preferred contact persons are:

For MedPAN:

Marianne Lang

58 quai du Port

13002 Marseille

FRANCE

Tel.: +33 4 91 58 09 62

Email: marianne.lang@medpan.org

For the Partner:

Marco Milazzo, Associate Professor

Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra e del Mare (DiSTEM)

Università di Palermo

Via Archirafi 20, I-90123 Palermo (Italia)

Tel.: +39.091.23862863

Mobile: +39.338.9889508

Email: marco.milazzo@unipa.it

If one of the Parties designates another Preferred Contact Person, it shall inform the other Party of this in writing.

For written exchanges and the performance of the Agreement, all notifications must be correctly addressed to the Preferred Contact Persons, either by e-mail with written confirmation of receipt by the recipient, or by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt (with effect from the date it is first presented, if it is not received), and sent to the electronic or postal address given above, unless a change of address is notified.

8 COMMUNICATION – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

8.1 Communications activities

The Parties shall inform each other of all communications activities concerning the Agreement and/or the Project.

The Partner shall mention the financial support provided by MedPAN and the Financing Partners of the Regular Call for Small Projects (FFEM and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation). It shall include their names and logos (logos shall be sent by MedPAN to the Partner) in all publications (including activities reports, brochures, press kits, press releases, websites, intranet websites, newsletters, social networks, posters and any other of the Project's outreach activities using any media) in such a way that they can be easily seen and read.

The Partner shall also publish on its website for the duration of the Agreement a text written in advance and approved by MedPAN which presents the Project and MedPAN's activities.

The Partner shall refrain from any direct or indirect communication, whether oral or written, that could harm the image of MedPAN or its Financing Partners.

Upon request, the Partner must suspend or stop any communication that mentions the financial support from MedPAN or the Financing Partners and/or features their Distinctive Marks.

Whatever the circumstances, notwithstanding the provisions above, the Parties may freely mention MedPAN Small Project financing for their communication needs, especially institutional communication, whether internal and external, using any media, for the duration of the Agreement.

8.2 Conditions of use for the Distinctive Marks of each Party and Financial Partner

Each Party acknowledges that the names and logos (hereinafter referred to as the “Distinctive Marks”) of the other Party and the Small Project Financing Partners are and remain their property. It undertakes never to challenge the validity of these Distinctive Marks, nor commit acts likely to harm them.

The Parties and Financing Partners grant each other the right to use and reproduce their Distinctive Marks free of charge for non-commercial and non-promotional purposes, as limited by the purpose of this Agreement. This right is non-exclusive and non-transferable, and may be exercised on a worldwide basis, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, and in forms or contents that do not affect these organisations’ goodwill or reputations.

The Partner undertakes to use the logos of MedPAN and the Financing Partners as transmitted by MedPAN. In addition, MedPAN shall also transmit a “MedPAN Small Projects” logo, which may be used in the Partner’s communications (publications, stickers, stamps, etc.)

This authorisation shall be valid for the duration of the Agreement.

The Parties and Financing Partners undertake to comply with the graphic charter of the logo of the Partner or Financing Partners, or ensure this graphic charter is complied with.

The Parties agree to undertake to ensure the obligations listed in Article 6 of the Agreement are complied with by all persons taking part in or associated with the Project or its implementation.

8.3 Use of the Partner’s Visuals

8.3.1. With this Agreement, the Partner expressly authorises MedPAN and the Financing Partners to use a selection of at least five (5) of the Partner’s Visuals (for which it holds physical and intellectual property rights) in their communication on the Project (hereinafter referred to as the “**Visuals**”).

The Partner shall provide MedPAN’s Preferred Contact Person with all communication tools produced under the Project before being printed or posted online. An online space will be set up for each small project to facilitate the sharing of these files.

8.3.2. The Partner undertakes to provide MedPAN with a file of photos illustrating the Project’s various activities. These photos shall be submitted to MedPAN at the same time as the interim and final technical reports. The Partner shall provide high-resolution photos along with short descriptions and photo credits. These photos shall not be sent in Word or PDF documents.

8.3.3. The Partner authorises MedPAN and the Financing Partners to use these Visuals free of charge, on a worldwide basis, for a period of five (5) years following the date of submission.

MedPAN and the Financing Partners may use and reproduce these Visuals:

- For internal and external communication activities that aim to present and promote MedPAN’s financing of Small Projects
- Without restrictions as to the nature, type or format of the media used; in other words, they may use the Visuals for written publications, invitations, audiovisual content, electronic content, intranets or websites
- Without restrictions as to the number of reproductions or representations.

MedPAN and the Financing Partners may adapt, modify and develop the Visuals, subject to obtaining the Partner’s approval if these modifications alter the Visuals’ initial content.

MedPAN and the Financing Partners undertake to mention photo credits as communicated by the Partner.

8.3.4. Upon MedPAN's request, the Partner undertakes to confirm without reservations and at any time its authorisation allowing MedPAN and the Financing Partners to exercise the rights it accords them, by way of any confirmation document that shall be considered an integral part of the Agreement.

8.3.5. The Partner guarantees MedPAN and the Financing Partners against any claims and/or actions that could be filed for any reason by persons who directly or indirectly took part in completing these Visuals.

As such, the Partner guarantees MedPAN and the Financing Partners that it holds all copyrights for these Visuals, and that it has authorisations from the persons likely to appear in the Visuals to use their right to personal portrayal such that it has the legal right to allow the Visuals to be used regularly and free of charge, subject to the limits in the Agreement.

9 TERMINATION

9.1 Breach of contract

Any breach by one of the Parties of its obligations under the Agreement shall lead to the automatic termination of the Agreement if the other Party so desires, after the Party at fault is given formal notice to comply with its obligations under the Agreement by way of registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt, and this letter is not acted upon, without prejudice to any damages or interest.

9.2 Automatic termination

The Agreement shall be automatically terminated without prejudice to any damages or interest in the following situations:

- If the completion of the Project is suspended or postponed for a period exceeding three (3) months; if the Project is cancelled before it begins or while it is in progress; or if part or all of the Project covered by this agreement is abandoned, postponed or prohibited by a administrative, legal or regulatory measure or following a judgment by the French legal system or a foreign legal system
- If the Partner is liquidated or wound up, subject to the public policy provisions in force.

10 FORCE MAJEURE

The Parties shall be liable for any breach of their obligations, unless this breach arises as a result of events or incidents that could not reasonably be foreseen or controlled and that make all or part of the Project impossible to complete or delays their completion.

The Party invoking the force majeure clause must immediately notify the other Party using any the means at its disposal. In this situation, neither Party shall be required to fulfil its obligations for the period affected by the situation of force majeure. Each Party must inform the other Party when the situation of force majeure comes to an end.

The Parties shall attempt to resolve difficulties arising as a result of a situation of force majeure by mutual agreement. However, if the situation of force majeure lasts for more than three (3)

months, either of the Parties may terminate the Agreement by informing the other Party in writing. No compensation shall be paid to either of the Parties as a result of this termination.

11 TRANSFER OF THE FINANCING AGREEMENT

This Agreement is concluded on *intuitu personae* (on a non-transferrable basis). Consequently, none of the rights and obligations under the Agreement may be assigned or transferred to a third party in any way whatsoever without the prior approval of the other Party.

12 APPLICABLE LAW – DISPUTES

12.1 Applicable law



This Agreement is a legal document and subject in all respects to French law.

12.2 Dispute resolution

If issues arise with respect to the validity, performance or interpretation of the Agreement, the Parties shall attempt to resolve their differences amicably.

If these differences cannot be resolved, fifteen (15) days after a registered letter with proof of receipt is sent to the Party at fault, the dispute shall be referred to the courts of Marseille, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction, notwithstanding multiple defendants or third parties are introduced.

The Parties have signed this Agreement in their respective names on the dates below:

<p>For University of Palermo, Department of Earth and Marine Sciences (DiSTEM) Valerio Agnesi</p>	<p>For MedPAN Purificacio Canals <i>Manu Romani P10 Purificacio Canals</i></p>
<p>Signature and stamp <small>Firmato digitalmente da Valerio Agnesi Organizzazione UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO/80023730825 Data:08/07/2019 17:34:04</small></p> 	<p>Signature and stamp  Association MedPAN 58 quai du Port 13002 Marseille Tél: (+33) 0491580962 Fax: (+33) 0491487714</p>
<p>Signed in On 8th July 2019</p>	<p>Signed in <i>Marseille</i> On <i>10/07/19</i></p>

APPENDIX 1

Project Description and Budget

1 Summary

1. THE PROJECT LEADER

Country	Italy
Name of the organization	Department of Earth and Marine Sciences (DiSTeM) – University of Palermo
Legal status of the organization (MPA, NGO, association, private company, scientific institution, etc.)	University
Creation date	2011 (Dept.)
Full postal address	Via Archirafi 22, I-90123 Palermo (Italy)
Phone (with country code)	+39.091.23862863
Website	https://www.unipa.it/dipartimenti/distem
Name of the head of the organization and email address	Valerio Agnesi; valerio.agnesi@unipa.it
Name of the project manager and email address	Marco Milazzo; marco.milazzo@unipa.it
Are you official member or partner of MedPAN?	NO (but Pelagie Islands MPA is a MedPAN partner)

2. THE PROJECT

Country	Italy
Name of the MPA and Management body (if more than one, specify)	Pelagie Islands MPA
Theme	Increasing MPAs' contribution to their territory by supporting the sustainable development of socio-economic activities, particularly tourism.
Project title	MPAs and endangered sharks in the Mediterranean: a pilot project in the Pelagie Islands MPA
Project partner(s)	University of Palermo (DiSTeM), Pelagie Islands MPA,

General purpose of the project	The sandbar shark <i>Carcharhinus plumbeus</i> , an endangered species in the Mediterranean sea, has been frequently sighted in the shallow waters of the Pelagie Islands MPA (S-Italy). This project will collect data on this shark population, will transfer knowledge to MPA staff/stakeholders to increase awareness, and will develop focused management measures (i.e. code-conduct) involving local stakeholders and tourists, to find tune between conservation and recreational activities.
Final beneficiary	MPA management, MPA stakeholders and tourists
Expected results	We will provide the first baseline ecological and behavioural data on a Mediterranean <i>C. plumbeus</i> population before and after the shark diving season. This will identify the main threats potentially affecting the shark population of Lampione Island (Pelagie Islands MPA) and will highlight specific opportunities to improve their conservation. The main aim of the project is the dissemination of the results (through communication materials such as leaflets and film shorts) to increase peoples awareness, encourage specific conservation actions and to develop a long-term management strategy for underwater shark watching within the MPA borders. Through field surveys, workshop and public initiatives, the project will develop a tailored code-of-conduct that will limit detrimental effects of diving tourism on sandbar sharks, hence promoting their conservation, while sustaining economies of local communities. To improve shark conservation at the Mediterranean level, the project outcomes will be shared with other MPAs having similar management issues.
Project launch date	June 2019
Duration	12 months

3. BUDGET

	Category I - classic	Category II - cooperation	Category III - reinforcement
Category (tick the corresponding box)	X		

	Total amount of the project	Amount requested from MedPAN	Self-funding	Co-funding
Sources	/	MedPAN	Applicant	To fill in
Euros	20000	15000	5000	0
%	100	75%	25%	0%

2 PROJECT PRESENTATION

1. Name and status of the Marine Protected Area(s) covered by the project

- Name of the MPA (if more than one, specify): **Marine Protected Area Pelagic Islands**
- Name of the management body (if more than one, specify): **municipality of Lampedusa and Linosa**
- Status of MPA(s) (e.g. National Park, Natura 2000 Site, Nature Reserve, etc.): **Marine Protected Area**
- Year of creation of the MPA(s): **2002**
- Management framework document (e.g. charter, document defining objectives, management plan, etc.):
http://www.ampisolepelagic.it/pdf/Regolamento%20Esecutivo%20delle%20discipline_04_02_2008_Isole%20Pelagic.pdf

2. Project background

Elasmobranchs are worldwide threatened by overexploitation (e.g., by targeted fisheries and incidental catches) and habitat degradation. Several elasmobranch species are commercially exploited also in the Mediterranean Sea (MED) or represent bycatch and discard, especially of trawl and longline fisheries. Elasmobranchs display slow life history characteristics (e.g. slow growth, late age of maturity and low reproductive rate) so their recovery can be disrupted, even in presence of strong conservation strategies. As a result, elasmobranchs **are generally declining in abundance, diversity and range of distribution inside the MED**, facing a worse scenario than elasmobranch populations elsewhere in the world (Walker et al. 2005 IUCN). The IUCN reported more than 50% of Mediterranean Chondrichthyes (i.e. 39 species) as threatened (Critically

Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable), with this estimate being potentially worse as an additional 20% of the species are considered as Data Deficient. Elasmobranchs have the potential to structure marine communities and their decline in abundance triggers cascading effects with negative consequences for entire ecosystems (Ferretti et al. 2010 Ecology Letters).

Marine protected areas (MPAs) are increasingly used as spatially explicit tools for conservation purposes around the world, but how they can benefit mobile species, such as sharks, is still unclear. Indeed, information on abundance, distribution patterns and behaviour of shark species in the MED is **extremely scant** (Ferretti et al. 2008 Conservation Biology). This issue has impeded the implementation of focused conservation strategies, which typically rely on by-catch mitigation measures, spatial or seasonal closure to fishing, improvement of monitoring, support of ecotourism. For this reason, a deeper knowledge of the biology and ecology of shark species has a crucial importance for the implementation of management measures aimed to protect the existing populations and for the stability of marine communities. Moreover, such charismatic species may lead to **economic benefits for local communities** as well as representing a flagship for conservation efforts.

Since recent years, ecotourism in the form of **shark diving** (viewing sharks underwater by either snorkeling or scuba diving) has become a **conservation tool** and a promising industry generating millions of dollars for local economies worldwide. At global level, this activity contributes to shift the socio-economic importance of sharks from a fishery-based product to a more valuable resource (Gallagher et al. 2015 Biological Conservation).

In the late '60s, an aggregation of the sandbar shark *Carcharhinus plumbeus*, an **IUCN endangered species**, has been firstly recorded in the Pelagie Islands MPA off the remote and uninhabited Lampione Island (Strait of Sicily, Southern Italy). Since then, ever-increasing amounts of recreational scuba divers visit the island to make a shark watching experience. **Scientific information on this shark population is presently lacking**, and the only available knowledge actually belongs to amateur underwater videos from recreational scuba divers (e.g., <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D72pbKaTn-Y>).

Information on the effects of recreational diving activities on sandbar shark behavior and population structure is now strongly needed to **make more effective conservation efforts**. In this regard, very recent evidence suggests that shark behaviour is negatively affected by intense human activities (e.g. near populated areas) with potential consequences for the fitness of a co-generic species (i.e., *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos*) living along the New Caledonia archipelago (Juhel et al. 2019, Scientific Reports).

Issues and challenges covered by the project

Tourism in the Pelagie Archipelago is constantly growing, with more than 750000 nights spent by tourists in the islands (Linosa and Lampedusa) between 2013 and 2014. The local diving centers have increased their business, including **shark diving tourism** in Lampione, a small island (surface: 0,036 km²) located 10 nautical miles off Lampedusa Island. Seven diving centers operate in the archipelago. 940 scuba divers visited (MPA staff, 2018) Lampione island last year to dive with sandbar sharks. The MPA staff states that this recreational activity has increased in the last few years. The increase in human

presence may create a **new threat** for the species, which is classified as **endangered species in the Mediterranean sea by IUCN (2016)**.

The current legislation for Lampion Island MPA affords sandbar sharks some protection as fishing sharks around the islands is strictly prohibited. Increasing numbers of divers, on an annual basis, are likely to have negative impacts on the behaviour of this already elusive species. Shark diving tourism, if well managed and well controlled, may offer a positive strategy to increase public awareness and to promote conservation measures. However, if this recreational activity is not adequately regulated the impacts for the sandbar shark population could be detrimental, e.g. pushing individuals outside the MPA borders, where they are vulnerable to other threats such as fishing.

This project is designed to address these issues and challenges by designing and developing a management strategy for dive tourism in the MPA, including a tailored code-of-conduct that will help limit any potential negative impacts on the sandbar sharks. This action can help maintain and promote the growth of a positive sustainable economic activity for the local community.

- Origin of the project proposal

Shark diving tourism is commonly practiced only in three well-known diving spots inside the MED: Lampion Island (Italy), Gököva bay (Turkey) and in Lebanon. The factors contributing to shark presence in these sites are currently understudied, as well as the potential consequences of tourism activities on the shark behaviour.

- *Explain if this project is based on the experience of another MPA manager that you would like to transfer to your site or with whom you would like to exchange.*

The only available information on the MED sandbar sharks is about the populations living in the Gököva bay (Turkey) and in the Gulf of Gabes (Tunisia). These locations are reported to be spawning/nursery areas. But, the sandbar shark is heavily exploited in the Tunisian waters and no protection scheme is presently underway in the Gulf of Gabes. By contrast, a strict protection is enforced inside the Gököva bay, where sharks are flagship species attracting many visitors each year. Whether tourist frequentation may affect this shark population it is still unknown.

According to this, one additional outcome of the present proposal is to develop a **collaboration with researchers from the Gököva MPA (Turkey) to share monitoring protocols and the outcomes of our project** in order to elucidate whether human frequentation may threaten *C. plumbeus*. In this regard, we have contacted Dr **Zafer Kizilkaya** from the Mediterranean Conservation Society, which has been building and overseeing the **Gököva MPA**. Dr Kizilkaya expressed his interest (see the email attached to this proposal) in being involved in the present research, as one of the ongoing projects of the **Gököva MPA** is to set up IP cameras and tag some sandbar shark individuals.

Such collaboration will give the opportunity to enhance knowledge and make comparisons between two Mediterranean sandbar populations, however due to budget limitations to this FAF we do not foresee any exchange visit with the staff of Gokova MPA.

3. General purpose and specific objectives of the project

The general aim of the project is to promote a **novel approach** in which **scientists, MPA governance and stakeholders cooperate for the implementation of long-term management and conservation measures focused on an endangered shark species in the Mediterranean.**

Such overall goal will be reached through:

1. The collection and analysis of **baseline ecological and behavioural data** on a Mediterranean *C. plumbeus* population before and after the peak of shark diving season. This activity will identify the main threats potentially affecting the shark population within the MPA borders and will highlight specific opportunities to improve their conservation.
2. The assessment of the **stakeholders' perception** on the potential ecological and socio-economic benefits of sandbar shark presence in the Pelagie Islands MPA (for small-scale fishing, tourism, and local community) in terms of direct and indirect values (e.g., increasing MPA attractiveness, visitors' satisfaction, jobs generated, local community well-being) but at the same time to perform sustainable management plan.
3. The dissemination of communication materials (leaflets and film shorts) to increase the awareness of **tourists and stakeholders** on the potential ecological and socio-economic benefits of sandbar shark presence in the Pelagie Islands MPA, **encourage specific conservation actions**, and develop a **long-term management strategy for dive shark tourism** within MPAs. Through field surveys, workshops and public initiatives, the project will develop a tailored code-of-conduct that aims to limit detrimental effects of diving tourism on sandbar sharks, promote their conservation, and sustain economies of local communities. To improve conservation of this endangered species, we will promote a **longer-term approach** that will involve and engage MPA staff, fishermen and diving centers helping to increase buy-in and improve compliance. The code of conduct will contain a set of **best practices** including: increased surveillance; fishery regulations; bans on shark feeding (the offering of food to attract and habituate fish to human presence), quotas for recreational scuba diving activities; and 'good' diver behaviour.

Since the project outcomes will be shared with other MPAs (e.g. Gokova MPA) having similar management issues, an additional objective of this project will be the improvement of shark conservation at Mediterranean level.

Given that the specific objectives of the project are:

Objective 1: to collect baseline ecological and behavioural data on the sandbar shark population in the Pelagie Islands MPA

Objective 2: to assess public perception about the potential socio-economic values of shark presence in the MPA

Objective 3: to develop a code of conduct dealing with the best practices for tourists and stakeholders operating within the MPA and being involved in shark watching

Objective 4: to disseminate the project results through public events and the participation to scientific meetings

4. Description of the activities

The project will carry out the following activities:

1. Replicated Baited-Underwater-Video (BUV) surveys off shark diving spots to assess population structure (abundance, size, and biomass of individuals) and behaviour (number and type of approaches to the bait) of the sandbar sharks. BUV replicates will be deployed at the beginning and the end of the tourist peak season, respectively (i.e. early and late summer) to assess potential differences in the temporal dynamics of the shark population structure and in the behaviour of the shark individuals.
2. Questionnaire surveys to evaluate people awareness on the presence and the importance from a conservation and socio-economic perspective of a stable sandbar shark population in the Pelagie Islands MPA.
3. A Workshop will be held in Lampedusa Island involving MPA staff and identified stakeholders to promote the importance of this flag species for conservation efforts and to plan specific management measures (e.g. code of conduct with best practices for divers, tourists and other stakeholders)
4. Creation of communication materials for the dissemination of the results during public events that will be held in the Pelagie Islands MPA and participation to scientific meetings.

- *Describe your approach and methodology.*

The proposed project will have **an integrated approach** encompassing ecological and socio-economic aspects of the sandbar shark presence within the Pelagie Islands MPA waters.

The Objective 1 will be reached with the application of a **standard scientific survey methodology** (e.g., the Baited Underwater Video technique) allowing the description of ecological and behavioural aspects of the shark population.

The Objective 2 and 3 will follow a **socio-economic approach** using questionnaire surveys and organizing a workshop involving the **MPA management body, and focus groups of the local community (e.g. fishermen, diving centers and other stakeholders: e.g. tourists)**. This approach will allow us to obtain information on people perception about the **potential economic and social value of shark presence** within the MPA. This will lead to the development and signature of a tailored code-of-conduct that will limit detrimental effects of diving tourism on sandbar sharks, hence promoting their conservation, while sustaining economies of local communities.

Finally, the Objective 4 will allow **the dissemination of the main results of the project** (through public events, scientific meetings and social networks).

Establish relevant indicators that allow you to measure and determine the evolution throughout the implementation phase of the project. To be relevant, these indicators should be specific, measurable in a fixed term, clear and realistic

The following indicators will be used to reach the different objectives of the project:

For the objective 1, the sandbar shark population structure (density, as number of individuals per hour, size, and biomass) and behavioural response (number of bites, type of approach towards the bait, e.g. neutral, twisted or straight-line approach) will be assessed on July and September 2019. Analyses will be completed by April 2020.

For the objective 2, the perception of the local community (diving operators, fishermen, tourists) will be assessed through questionnaires administered during the first 5 months of the project (from May to September) aimed at collecting the following information: e.g. n° of shark encounters per year, n° of shark diving activities per year, perceived economic importance of shark presence within the MPA, perceived shark response to divers encounters, main shark tourism typologies proposed by diving centers; n° of shark individuals caught per year, fishing effort, and so on). Analyses of the questionnaires will be carried out from November to December 2019.

For the objective 3, a workshop will be held in Lampedusa Island to inform the public and a tailored code-of-conduct dealing with best practices for divers, tourists and other stakeholders to limit the impact on sharks will be signed at the end of the project (April-May 2020).

For the objective 4, communication material (e.g. leaflets, video footages) will be created before the workshop (i.e. from April to June 2020), thematic meetings and/or congresses (e.g. presentation at the MedPAN meeting on highly mobile species e.g., elasmobranchs; October 2019).

5. Expected results

This project will collect the first data on the ecology and behaviour of sharks in the MED, and such data will be used to create and implement specific MPA management measures to improve shark conservation in shallow waters. Moreover, this approach will contribute to strengthen the cooperation between MPA management staff and the MPA stakeholders aiming at improving local economies through the promotion of sustainable activities focused on this charismatic species.

- *For each objective and each activity, indicate the expected results.*

The present project will be pilot for shark conservation and management in Mediterranean MPAs. We expect to reach the following results:

Objective 1-Results 1.1 and 1.2: increase knowledge on behaviour and ecology of this threatened species in the MED.

Objective 2-Results 2.1: knowledge on the general perception of tourists, local people and stakeholders about the importance of the sandbar shark presence within the MPA waters (questionnaire surveys)

Objective 3-Results 3.1: sharing results of the project and creation of the code of conduct for local people and tourists. Development and signature of the code of conduct will lead to a long-term management on shark diving tourism.

Objective 4-Results 4.1: increase the awareness on the ecological, economic and social importance of sandbar shark presence in the MPA. Dissemination of the main results of the project (meetings, social networks).

6. Project logical framework

Indicate the objectives, activities and results in a table following the model shown below (lines and columns can be added). Please take great care in developing your logical framework.

Specific objectives	Activities to be carried out	Expected results	Indicators
Objective 1 To obtain baseline scientific data on the sandbar shark population in Lampione Island	Activity 1.1 Baited Underwater Video (BUV) surveys and video analyses	Result 1.1 data on the structure of the sandbar shark population	Indicator 1.1 Sandbar shark population structure (density, size, biomass)
	Activity 1.2 Baited Underwater Video (BUV) surveys and video analyses for the assessment of tourism on shark behaviour	Result 1.2 Data on the species behaviour before and after the tourism season	Indicator 1.2 Number of bites and types of approaches towards the bait.
Objective 2 To obtain information on public perception of shark presence in the MPA	Activity 2.1 Questionnaire surveys and analyses	Result 2.1 Data on the general perception of tourists, local people and stakeholders about the importance of the sandbar shark presence in the MPA	Indicator 2.1 Number of shark encounters per year. Economic importance of shark presence. Shark response to divers encounters. Main shark tourism typologies proposed by diving centers; n° of caught shark individuals per year, etc...
Objective 3 Creation of a code of conduct for tourist and stakeholders	Activity 3.1 Workshop involving MPA management body, fishermen, diving operators Educational and awareness raising activities	Result 3.1 Sharing results of the project and creation of the code of conduct for local people and tourists	Indicator 3.1 Number of signatories among local diving centers and fishermen
Objective 4 Dissemination of project results	Activity 4.1 Public events with MPA management body, local stakeholders and tourists.	Result 4.1 Increase the awareness on the ecological, economic and social importance of	Indicator 4.1 Communication material (e.g. leaflets, film shorts). Presentation at

	Participation to scientific events, (congresses, meetings) to present the project results.	sandbar shark presence in the MPA. Dissemination of the main results of the project (meetings, social networks).	specific meeting and/or congress
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7. Project Implementation Schedule

Using the example below (lines and columns can be added), indicate the schedule for the implementation of the activities. Blue boxes below are shown as examples only. They must be adapted to the project proposed.

Actions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Activity 1.1-1.2 (BUV surveys and video analyses)						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Activity 2.1 (Questionnaire surveys and analyses)						X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Activity 3.1 (Workshop, educational and awareness raising activities)																X	X		
Activity 4.1 (dissemination of project's results)											X					X	X	X	

8. Human capacity

Describe the actors involved during the project implementation (internal staff, consultant, expert, etc.). The responsibilities between the different actors must be clearly defined.

PARTNERS	ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY
University of Palermo	Project leader: project activities implementation and dissemination

IRBIM-CNR	Project collaborator: project activities implementation
Pelagie Islands MPA	Consultant: logistic support
Goköva MPA	Project collaborator

9. Expected challenges

In a few sentences or bullet points, please state what problems may be encountered during the implementation of the project and that could be an impediment in reaching objectives (contextual problems with the management, social aspects, political situation, weather ...).

Weather conditions could represent a limitation for the activity implementation of the Objective 1. However, we plan to conduct the surveys on different visits both before and after the touristic season starts.

An impediment in reaching the expected results of the objectives 2 and 3 (questionnaire surveys and workshop for the compilation of the code of conduct) could be represented by the diffidence of some stakeholders. For this reason, we plan to involve the MPA staff and local municipality for the questionnaire surveys to facilitate good relationship with local stakeholders.

10. Cost of the project and provisional budget

Using the table below (lines can be added), present the total provisional budget specifying the budget per activity and indicating the type of expenses involved. Amounts must be given in Euros.

Note: the expenses are considered eligible starting from the official announcement date of the selection.

Expenses items	Total cost (in Euros)	MedPAN contribution (%)	Co-financing (%)
Salary	5000	0	100 (self-financing from salaries of personnel of the University of Palermo)
Subcontracting related to the whole project	0	0	0
Travel (indirectly linked to the activities)	1300 (participation to meeting or congress for the result's dissemination)	100	0
Communication	1500	100	0
Operation	2000 (travel's costs to the Pelagie Islands MPA plus	100	0

	communication expenses and office supplies)		
Activity 1 BUV surveys and video analyses	5300	100	0
To be specified (<i>consultant, subcontracting, purchase of equipment, room rental, travels, etc.</i>)	1300 (equipment) 1000 (room and board) 3000 (rent boat for surveys)	100	0
Activity 2 Questionnaire surveys and analyses	1700	100	0
To be specified (<i>consultant, subcontracting, purchase of equipment, room rental, travels, etc.</i>)	1500 (local consultant) 200 (organization expenses)	100	0
Activity 3 Workshop and public events	2100	100	0
To be specified (<i>consultant, subcontracting, purchase of equipment, room rental, travels, etc.</i>)	800 (room and board) 1300 (organization expenses)	100	0
Activity 4 Dissemination of project's results	1100	100	0
...	700 (room and board) 400 (organization expenses)	100	0
TOTAL	20000	75	25

Information note

Salary: Salaries (or part of the salaries) and benefits (social security, insurance, etc.) of people working on the project and charged to the budget.

Subcontracting related to the whole project: Expenses related to contracts signed with an external body (consultant, consultancy firm, university, etc.) for specific tasks related to the project.

Travel (indirectly linked to the activities): Expenses related to travels outside the project area (participation in exchange visits, meetings, etc.): flight tickets, accommodation, taxi, visa, per diem, etc.

Communication: Expenses related to communication: modelling, printing, films, etc.

Operation: Expenses necessary for the operation of the structure responsible for the project and for the proper implementation of the project (communication expenses - phone, Internet -, office supplies, banking fees, etc.); as well as costs of travel to the project area.

The project leader must justify the purchase of the equipment required for the project (except for office equipment):

Equipment	Benefit for the project
Ropes, baits, batteries, hard-disks, go-pro video cameras	Equipment for field surveys and video analyses
Mobile echo-sounder	This equipment will allow a cheaper cost for boat rental during the field surveys.

3 PROJECT MANAGER STATEMENT

I, the undersigned, as the person responsible for this action in the applying organization, hereby certify that the information given in this file is true and correct.

Name: Marco Milazzo


Function: Project leader

Date and place: Palermo 20th June 2019

Sign and seal:

Milazzo



08-07-2019
OK Marianne Long
Agnes
OK depense.
08/07/19


APPENDIX 2
Call for Funds #1

08.07.2019

MedPAN Association
58 quai du Port
13002 Marseille
FRANCE

Re: Call for Funds pursuant to the Financing Agreement between MedPAN and University of Palermo, DiSTeM dated 8th July 2019

Dear Sir / Madam,

In accordance with the provisions of the Financing Agreement between MedPAN and **University of Palermo, DiSTeM** dated on 8th July 2019 with respect to the "*MPAs and endangered sharks in the Mediterranean: a pilot project in the Pelagie Islands MPA*" project, we hereby request you to transfer the sum of € 6000,00 (sixthousand/00 Euros) to our bank account, the details of which appear in the attached document.

Yours sincerely,

Valerio Agnesi

Firmato digitalmente da: Valerio Agnesi
Organizzazione: UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO/80023730825
Data: 08/07/2019 16:22:38

Area Economico Finanziaria

HOME - Amministrazione - Area Economico Finanziaria



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Modulistica contabilità Anno 2015

Ascolta

Nell'area intranet è pubblicata la modulistica delle disposizioni 2015

Coordinate Bancarie

Ascolta

Dati Fiscali:
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Piazza Manna, 61 - 90133 PALERMO
Codice Fiscale: 80023730825
Partiva IVA: 00605880822

Servizio di cassa
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CC: 000300004577 - ABI 02008 - CAB 04682
IBAN: IT 09 A 02008 04682 000300004577
Codice Swift: UNCRITMMPAE



Banca d'Italia
CC: 00037212
IBAN: IT81F0100003245515300037212

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