



LIFE Project Number
LIFE- ENV/000/751

PROGRESS REPORT No. 5
Covering the project activities from 1.08.2003 to 31.01.2004

Reporting Date
27-/02/2004

LIFE PROJECT NAME
ICZM: Demonstration Actions in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos

Data Project

Project location	Zakynthos (Greece)
Project start date:	01/06/2001
Project end date:	31/05/2004
Total Project duration (in months)	36 months
Total budget	1619693 €
EC contribution:	719846 €
(%) of total costs	44,44 %
(%) of eligible costs	50%

Data Beneficiary

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1. Lists of (i) key-words and (ii) abbreviations

i. Key-words

- ⦿ Integrated coastal zone management
- ⦿ Sustainable development
- ⦿ Local initiatives
- ⦿ Code of conduct (good environmental practices)
- ⦿ Awareness plan - active public (local population & visitors) participation
- ⦿ Accreditation & certification of economic activities
- ⦿ Volunteerism

ii. Abbreviations

NMPZ	National Marine Park of Zakynthos
YPEHODE	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning & Public Works
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
STPS	Sea Turtle Protection Society
WWF Ellas	World Wild Fund Greece

iii. Glossary

Dimos	Municipality
Nomarhia	Prefecture

2. Executive Summary (max 1 page)

The National Marine Park of Zakynthos, Greece, is situated in the southern-most part of the island, in Laganas Bay. It is the first fully-established National Park in Greece to have integrated management status with the objective of sustainable development.

The area has suffered for a long period of time from uncontrolled human development, building up pressure on the natural ecosystem and putting in danger the local flora and fauna, especially the loggerhead sea turtles.

The project involves action towards:

- the protection of the environment within the National Marine Park of Zakynthos using 'on site' actions, limiting to the minimum any disturbance to the species and habitats;
- the promotion of the idea of integrated coastal zone management and sustainable development, through local initiatives, amongst the people who are economically active in any sector in the area;
- keeping the people living on the island aware of the values of the environment and the need for its protection through integrated management and participation;
- making sure that visitors to the area are correctly informed about the importance of natural habitats; and
- the provision of the necessary 'on site' demonstration and guidance facilities that will help both the local population and visitors participate in the active management and protection of the area.

It comprises the following six tasks:

- COLLABORATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS IN ACCORDANCE TO THE NATIONAL MARINE PARK OBJECTIVES
- ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION IN THE AREA OF THE NMPZ
- UPGRADING, PROMOTION AND EXPLOITATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT ACTIONS
- INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH OTHER MARINE PARKS SEEKING TRANSFER OF KNOW-HOW AND COMMON PROBLEM SOLUTIONS WITH REFERENCE TO ICZM
- PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT
- MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM OF THE MANAGEMENT AGENCY OF NMPZ

At this stage of implementation, the application of the ZANTECOAST programme in the area of Laganas Bay has contributed to:

- the safeguarding, in perpetuity, of the natural heritage and preservation of the ecological balance in the area where the programme is to be implemented, in conjunction with the development of activities that are in harmony with the conservation of nature and the landscape;
- increased participation and information of the island's inhabitants in the decision-making process for management of the coastal zone;
- increased flow of information to stakeholders and participation of professional groups such as tour operators, hoteliers, fishermen, etc.;
- the protection of the natural resources and landscape from increased disturbance and pollution resulting from lack of appropriate infrastructure and planning;
- integrated planning for the development of services, infrastructure and a monitoring programme for management of the coastal zone;
- the reduction to a minimum of the disturbance to the natural environment within the habitats of Laganas Bay (nesting beaches, sand dune system, forests, marine habitats, etc...);
- the promotion of the idea that "nature, local residents and visitors can coexist and benefit from their cooperation".

3. Project management

- *Describe what the project manager and other representatives of the beneficiary have done to organise/co-ordinate the project: meetings, seminars etc. What the partners have done.*

During the period August 2003–January 2004, several meetings were held between the management board, scientific personnel of the Management Agency, the Life- Environment monitoring team, the consultant Enviplan and contractors (ANNEX 1).

The main subjects that was developed concerned the implementation of the management study of Keri's Lake (please see WP 3.4), the wardening and awareness programme implementation in 2003, the implementation of EMAS in NMPZ' area (please see WP 1.3) and the general evaluation of the implementation of the tasks within the framework of the Life-Environment programme.

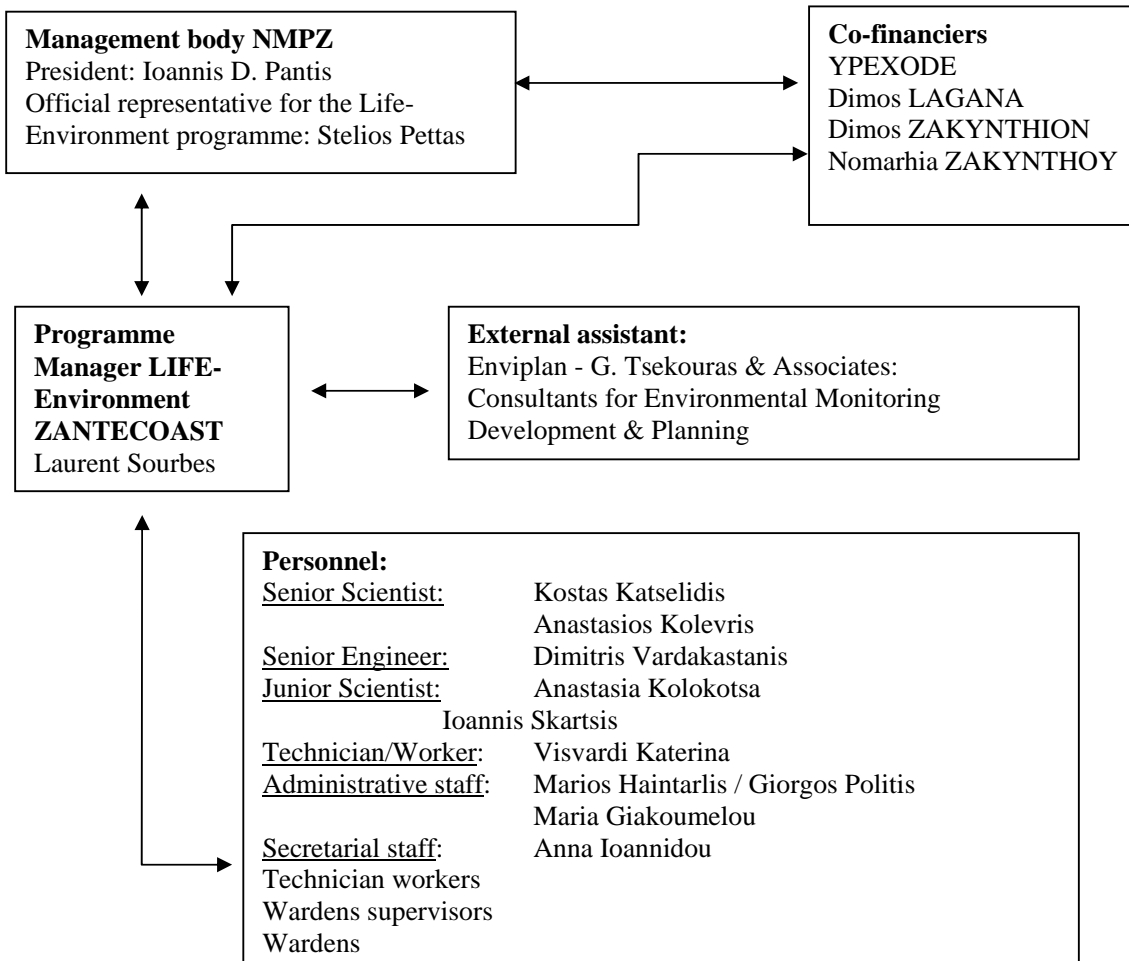
During the visit (19-20/10/03) of Miss. E. Lymberidi and G. Valaora, meetings were held with the coordinators, scientific and technical personnel of NMPZ, involved in the implementation of W.P. 1.1, 1.2, 2.2 & 2.3, representatives of the external assistant ENVIPLAN / G. Tsekouras & Associates, as well as the Mayor, Vice Mayor and councilors of Laganas, the Vice Mayor of Zakynthos, the representative of turtle-spotting boat owners and the representative of the Federation of Rented rooms Owners Associations.

Matters concerning time extension, budget modification and related procedures and implications have been investigated, in collaboration with the external assistant ENVIPLAN / G. Tsekouras & Associates and Miss. G. Valaora of the external monitoring team of LIFE Projects, as well as Miss. E. Lymberidi, the desk officer of the Unit responsible for the project ZANTECOAST.

- *Describe any changes in the project's management structure; partner withdrawn, replaced. Please note that the Commission also must be informed of major modifications in separate notes.*

The project is being implemented according to the initial proposal and no modifications concerning the project's management structure have occurred.

- *A clear informative organigram to be inserted.*



- *Mention what reports have been delivered since the start of the project.*
 - Preliminary Action Plan
 - Guidelines for the use of artificial lights for the protection of Loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta*
 - Wardening - awareness Programme 2002
 - Evaluation of implementation of protection measures in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos (2001, 2002, 2003)
 - Plan generation for participation and awareness campaign
 - Specifications for the development of GIS
 - Preliminary investigation of issues to be included in the code of conduct
 - Code of good practice and endorsement for “turtle-spotting” boat owners
 - Code of Good Practice for Agricultural Farming and stock raising activity in the NMPZ’ area
 - First progress report (01/06/2001-30/11/2001)
 - Interim Technical & Financial Report (1/12/2001 -- 27/07/2002)
 - Third progress Report (28/07/2002 -- 28/01/2003)
 - Action plan 2003for Life-Environment programme
 - Wardening - awareness Programme 2003
 - Guide: Principles for the development of eco-tourism activities
 - Fourth progress Report (29/01/2003 -- 31/07/2003)
 - Code of proper agricultural practice (C.P.A.P.) for the management of agricultural environment: the needs for implementation in the national marine park of zakynthos area (Abstract in English)
- *Indicate if any extension of the project duration is needed or envisioned (also to be included in the executive summary). Please note that a separate note asking for the prolongation with an extensive justification is required.*

Two tasks require an extension of the project duration. Main information concerning the need of extension are given in the chapter 4 Technical development and specifically in Task 1 (Work Package 1.3) and in Task 3 (Work Package 3.4). A official request explaining the reasons for prolongation will be separately send to the DG Environment and.

4. Technical development (You can add more descriptive titles, that refers to the technical content of the project)

- *Describe what has been done regarding the different technical/substantial components of the project (such as research, fieldwork, construction). Avoid describing the objectives and targets as such. Indicate what has been done regarding each task.*

Project implementation during last semester has progressed as follows (per task analysis):

Task 1: Collaboration and involvement of local stakeholders in accordance to the National Marine Park objectives

Implemented action concerns all the work packages of the task, namely WP 1.1 “Good Environmental Practices Code”, Wp 1.2 “Collaboration scheme” and Wp 1.3 “Eco Management Audit Scheme”. More precisely, it refers to:

- Advice and awareness of stakeholders concerning the building activity and economic activities developed in the area of the NMPZ (1/08/2003—31/01/2004):
 - a) Response of NMPZ’ management agency to 9 requests by the town-planning office, concerning artificial lights use permits. No cases of inappropriate use of artificial lights in the NMPZ area were found.
 - b) Response of NMPZ’ management agency to 2 request for advice by a hotel owner (environmental impact assessment study).
 - c) Response of NMPZ’ management agency to 33 requests for advice by local businesses (tavernas, etc.) in order for them to obtain a functioning permit.

d) The handing out (free of charge) of “Guidelines and Specifications on the use of artificial lights” to hotels and rooms to rent that wish to be environmentally friendly and to reduce the light pollution on the nesting beaches.

- Collaboration scheme with the local stakeholders involved in economical activities in the NMPZ’ area:

a) The co-operation with the turtle-spotting boats owners went on until the end of 2003. In January 2004, as it was specified in the contract signed with the associations, a report of activity was delivered to the Management Agency (ANNEX 2). The main facts and remarks are the followings:

- From May to September 2003, 23.000 tourists participated in this activity. About 55% of those tourists were coming from England, 20% from Holland, 20% from Germany and 10% from Scandinavian countries.
- In the framework of the co-operation between the NMPZ, the association of Turtle spotting boats and the Sea Turtle Protection Society (Archelon), about 50% of the trips were provided with information from the STPS volunteers.
- The fact that big excursion boats (more than 20 meters length and more than 100 people on board) are attending to spot turtles in the area near the shore into the Lagana’s bay is mentioned as the first source of problem. Both the risks for turtles and swimmers are underlined. It is specified that the code of conduct has to be implemented for all users of the maritime area of the Lagana’s bay.
- More information concerning the sea turtle watching code of conduct must be given to people operating in the area of Lagana, and especially operators renting pedalos and private motorboats.
- The wardening of the lagana’s bay from both NMPZ and port police authority during the summer season must be reinforced.
- More information concerning the co-operation scheme between the NMPZ and the association of turtle-spotting boats and concerning the logo “endorsed by the NMPZ” must be given to tourists.
- The co-operation with the NMPZ must be continued and reinforced.

Details concerning this activity are also given in the STPS’ report “Report on Turtle spotting boats and Nature World Travel catamaran trips in the bay of Lagana during 2003” (ANNEX 3)

It is also worth noting that the use of the logo “ Endorsed by the NMPZ” is only given to operators that respect the code of good practice. In this way, the endorsement of operators must be considered as an award for good environmental practices.

b) The Guide: “Principles for the development of eco-tourism activities” was finalized by the end of May 2003 (ANNEX 4).

The endorsed activity concerning Marine Excursions and Hiking were conducted until August 2003. As specified in the fourth progress report, a contractual agreement was signed with a local tour operator (World Tour Travel) for these activities.

The report concerning these activities for 2003 is still pending. However, some facts concerning marine excursions are described in the STPS’ report “Report on Turtle spotting boats and Nature World Travel catamaran trips in the bay of Lagana during 2003” (ANNEX 3).

c) EMAS implementation in the NMPZ’ area

The Management Body of the NMPZ undertook a final decision (65/5.09.2003) about the contracting party that will undertake the study for the EMAS implementation in the NMPZ’ area. The consultancy Euroconsultants S.A. was thus chosen and a contract with the NMPZ’ Management Agency was signed on 19/09/2003 (protocol 909/2003) (ANNEX 5). The first phase of the study was initialised on 26/09/2003 and was finalized on 12/11/2003 and was accepted – following the recommendations of the steering committee - by the NMPZ on 28/11/2003. The second phase began on 2/12/2003 (protocol 1077/2003).

In accordance with the contract, two reports were delivered to the NMPZ’ Management Agency:

1) First report, A’ Phase November 2003 (abstract: for more details please see ANNEX 6)

During the A’ Phase of the project implementation the following tasks were realized:

- Research to determine those hotel and tourism enterprises which are located in the area of the National Marine Park of Zakynthos (NMPZ).

- Composition and communication to the NMP Agency (NMPZ) of specimen press release invitation to the informative workshop addressed to the hotel and tourism enterprise owners. The press release specimen was adjusted by the NMPZ according to local conditions and was published in the form of an invitation to the workshop in three local newspapers (ANNEX 7). At the same time a press conference was organized by the NMPZ for the specific subject (EMAS programme presentation) broadcasted on two local radio stations (Stigma FM, ERA Zakynthos).
- Preparation and sending NMPZ informative reading material for those interested, concerning the values and benefits of the implementation of the Environmental Management System, according to EMAS. The material was sent by the NMPZ to hotel unions, tourism agencies and the association of rented rooms owners in Zakynthos, and was also specifically addressed with names to all local tourism agencies and to some hotel owners.
- First-contact questionnaire construction and “Workshop Participation” leaflet, for planning meetings with those interested.
- Organisation of an informative workshop – presentation of the principles, benefits, methodology and prerequisites for an effective cooperation, to those parties interested.
- Plan and make contacts using the structured questionnaire, with those hotel owners and tourism agencies interested.
- Collection and processing of the results from making the contacts.
- Situation evaluation and proposal for 3 enterprises which may, under conditions, be included in the following phase.

The research for determining hotel and tourism enterprises was carried out mainly using electronic sources (Internet), aiming at finding those enterprises located in the NMPZ area. Telephone contacts were made with those enterprises for which the necessary data was not collected, before our first visit to Zakynthos. From this research we were able to locate about 100 hotel and 25 tourism enterprises.

The press release which was prepared in order to inform on the workshop was used by the NMPZ as a base and was adjusted by the Agency in order to extensively fulfil the needs of the publication.

The informative material was at the disposal of those interested before and during the workshop; in addition the leaflet “Workshop Participation” was used and completed by those entrepreneurs present, so therefore the study team was able to know which enterprises showed initial interest.

Workshop participation was very low, despite the relevant press release (ANNEX 7) and radio broadcasts informing about the day and venue of the workshop, organized by the NMPZ. Less than 10 people showed up at the briefing, who were representing 5 hotel enterprises and no tourism enterprises. Only 2 entrepreneurs of those representatives present, showed interest and the rest stated that they were not ready to proceed implementing an Environmental Management System, according to EMAS.

Due to low participation, telephone contacts were necessary, in order to attract more people, which were not included to the initial plan, due to the publicity given by the NMPZ. Finally, 5 structured interviews were carried out during 2 days, which were followed by quite a few unsuccessful attempts to plan more appointments.

The questionnaire created for the needs of the first contact, gave the opportunity to collect all necessary data for the initial evaluation of the environmental aspects of the enterprises contacted.

To conclude in short, the interest of the hotel and tourism enterprises located in the NMPZ area is very low; in addition, the infrastructure for implementing the Environmental Management System according to EMAS remains at a very early stage, which is a fact deducted while making the contacts but also expressed by the businesses themselves.

It must be noted that the evaluation was carried out only with those with which a structured personal contact was made and where the questionnaire was used, because the majority of the remaining enterprises did not show much interest at this stage on behalf of the entrepreneur, and as long as there is no commitment from management from the start, the success of the project is debatable.

The main problems identified during the phase A’ are developed below:

- Seasonality of the activity of hotel units.
- Low workshop participation on behalf of hotel units and the total absence on behalf of tourism agencies.
- Further telephone contacts to make the relevant briefs.

- A general lack of interest of the entrepreneurs.
- Technical & Legal weaknesses in their technical infrastructure and difficulties in communicating with local authorities and other professionals about matters which are absolutely necessary for the smooth implementation of the B' Phase.

Suggestions for successful Phase B' implementation, were also considered such as:

- Project time extension,
- Broadening of the span of enterprises and inclusion of hotel units located outside the NMPZ' boundaries.

2. Phase B', intermediate report (January 2004)

The result of Phase B' implementation and therefore of the overall action of implementing the Environmental Management System according to EMAS will be to audit the two hotel units and one tourism agency suggested, according to EMAS.

For the same enterprises the main expected results from implementing Systems according to EMAS will be the following:

- Reduction of operational costs due to a more rational management and use of raw material and natural resources.
- Competition increase by communicating their environmental policy and proving their sensitivity for this sector.
- Public profile improvement.
- Proof of operations according to the Legal requirements.
- Reduction in time and cost of managing environmental incidents.
- Improvement of environmental performance customer & supplier satisfaction, who are increasingly becoming environmentally aware.

The above results will only be achieved if the request for a time extension is given, in order to realize this action. Otherwise, if this request is not met, but alternatively the request for broadening the enterprises and the possibility of approaching and introducing the action to hotel units located in Zakynthos town is met, the results will be as follows:

More specifically, during the period November 2003 – December 2003, the following tasks were completed:

a) Commitment of 3 pre-selected enterprises, by assignment of Agreement Contacts with NMPZ Agency (ANNEX 8).

The enterprises in question are: i) Zante Park Hotel (I & II), located at Pantokratoras (Laganas), ii) CRYSTAL Hotel, located at Laganas and iii) FIDELITY travel agency, located at Zakynthos.

b) Initial Environmental Review and drafting of related reports.

The methodology adopted by the study team, in order to achieve this task, comprised the following operational steps:

- Drafting of an appropriate questionnaire for the collection of information and data.
- In situ inspection and completion of questionnaire.
- Collection of all supporting material (permits, certificates, receipts etc.).
- Drafting of initial environmental reviews in accordance to Annex VI of the Regulation 761/2001.

Simultaneously, the first part of the next phase was accomplished, namely the formulation of an Environmental Policy for each enterprise.

The focus of Environmental Programmes varies according to the specific characteristics of each enterprise / activity concerned. Thus, in reference to FEDELITY S.A. main emphasis is given to issues concerning suppliers and sub-contractors and internal enterpreunerial operation.

In the case of ZANTE PARK, energy savings, treatment of liquid waste and assessment of environmental performance of supplies and sub-contractors will be the main points of the environmental programme.

Finally, in the case of CRYSTAL the emphasis will be on operational matters, management of the beach and environmental performance of supplies and sub-contractors.

At this stage, the main problems encountered are

- Seasonal operation of the two hotel enterprises
- Lack of records concerning environmental matters and especially measurements of specific parameters - indicators
- Belated response of CRYSTAL Hotel contact person.

Task 2: Environmental management and protection in the area of the NMPZ

Action related to this task concerned all three relevant Work Packages, namely the *Marine area delineation network, Public awareness and surveillance* and the *Training and awareness of local professionals* (Wp 2.1, 2.2 & 2.3 respectively). More specifically, it included the following activities:

- WP 2.1 Marine area delineation network

In order to follow the recommendations of the permit delivered to the NMPZ' Management Agency for the delineation of the marine area (General Navy Staff, hydrographical service) and because very few buoys were damaged during the summer season, it was decided to keep the buoys in the protected marine area during the winter period.

It is also worth noting that, according the wardens' reports, illegal entrances observed in the A area in 2003 was the half that those observed in 2002, fact that proves the efficiency of both marking of the marine area and information delivered to the visitors concerning the protection measures.

- WP 2.2 Public awareness and surveillance

Wardening & public awareness programme

As mentioned in the fourth progress report, five out of six nesting beaches were guarded 24 hours a day from the 19th of May until the end of September. The Wardening Project Manager, assisted by 3 supervisors, trained, organized and managed 25 wardens, who were hired to work during this period. Main facts and of this year's programme are presented in the "Short report on the implementation of the guarding programme within the National Marine Park of Zakynthos, Greece 2003" (ANNEX 9). Furthermore, in order to allow a comparison with reports delivered by the Sea Turtle Protection Society (STPS), three reports (2001, 2002, 2003) are presented in ANNEX 10. Complementary information panels (information signs, direction signs) (ANNEX 20) and wardens equipment (clothes) were also acquired. Warden huts were maintained.

Building control within the Park area

From August 2003 to the end of January 2003, the following actions have been implemented:

- Questioning /reporting to the appropriate authorities of 6 cases of potential illegal building activities
- Response of NMPZ' management agency to 9 requests by the town-planning office, concerning artificial lights use permits. No cases of inappropriate use of artificial lights in the NMPZ area were found.
- Response of NMPZ' management agency to 2 request for advice by a hotel owner (environmental impact assessment study).
- Response of NMPZ' management agency to 33 requests for advice by local businesses (tavernas, etc.) in order for them to obtain a functioning permit.

Synergy of actions undertaken in collaboration with local authorities and central administrative services (port authority, Land Service department, and police)

The NMPZ continued the effective collaboration scheme that was recently established (see also interim report) with the central administrative services. More precisely:

- The Port Police of Zakynthos (Coast Guard) reported 34 cases in which the NMPZ regulations were violated. All of them were subsequently fined. Among the reported infractions, 16 concerned unauthorized speed of the motorboats in the B and C zone, 12 concerned forbidden anchoring in A and B zone and 6 concerned forbidden transit in the A zone.
- The NMPZ, in cooperation with the Land Service Department of Zakynthos, carried out inspections in businesses operating on the nesting beaches.

- The police helped the Marine Park wardens perform their duties, especially concerning the deliberate horse riding activity and illegal driving on nesting beaches.

Co-operation with Environmental Organisations

The co-operation with the Environmental Organisations (WWF-Ellas and Medasset) is a on-going process and was still running in 2003.

The NGO Archelon and the NMPZ' Management Agency signed an agreement in May 2003 – based on the co-operation memorandum signed in 2002 - to jointly conduct nesting activity monitoring and public awareness projects during the summer season 2003.

- WP 2.3 Training for local professionals

During the period in question, contacts with the Ministry of Agriculture's relevant departments were made and exchange of views took place regarding matters concerning Code of Proper Agricultural Practice (C.P.A.P.) and Animal Rearing.

After the publication of the amended CPAP from the Ministry of Agriculture in mid-November the NMPZ official for this matter (Mr. A. Kolevris) carried out a detailed cross check of the Park's draft code with that suggested by the Ministry. It should be pointed out that there were minimum alterations made to the draft simply because a large number of the Park's suggestions were taken into consideration by the ministry when drafting the aforementioned code. An abstract of this code with title "Code of proper agricultural practice (C.P.A.P.) for the management of agricultural environment: the needs for implementation in the national marine park of zakynthos area" is presented in ANNEX 11 (in English)

In summary, at the present time, the general framework of the Code is available at national level as well as the local. The environmental and agricultural criteria presented in the code will be assessed and more precisely quantified within the framework of the study "A plan for the sustainable management, development and protection of the agricultural and livestock zones of NMPZ" (Ministry of Agriculture – Directorate of Planning & Environmental Protection) that will begin in February 2004.

With regard to matters concerning the promotion of the code and the training of local professionals a training workshop will be organized by the NMPZ' Management Agency– in a joint-venture with the Zakynthos Agricultural Cooperatives Union - in February 2004. Since it will concern all farmers and local agricultural cooperatives of the island, it is expected that more than 70 people will follow this training workshop.

Task 3: Upgrading, promotion and exploitation of the environment actions

Action concerned workpackages 3.1, 3.2 & 3.4, namely the **Dissemination of information** (Wp 3.1), the **Engineering and construction actions** (Wp 3.2), the **Upgrading, promotion and exploitation actions** (Wp 3.3) and the **Promotion and exploitation actions** (Wp 3.4). More specifically, it included the following activities:

- WP 3.1 Dissemination of information

The new information material edited was distributed during the summer period. More precisely:

- The leaflet with title " For the visitors of the marine area" that give information about the protection measures within the whole marine area of the NMPZ was distributed to the port police authority as well as the NMPZ' endorsed partners and different users of the protected marine area.

- The poster with title "National Marine Park of Zakynthos" was printed in 2000 copies. It was available at the information centre and at the information kiosks. It was also distributed in the framework of the tourism exhibitions and the international seminary held in France concerning the management of protected areas (see W.P. 4)

The CD-Rom, in Greek, that includes a general presentation of the NMPZ (slide show), the comic "Chelonionos", the website of the NMPZ and the video of the NMPZ Management Agency was mainly distributed in the framework of the tourism exhibitions and the international seminary held in France concerning the management of protected areas (see W.P. 4)

On the field, the following activities were carried out :

- The information centre in Zakynthos town was operated until the 15th of September 2003. From 1/08/2003 until 15 September, 6174 visitors participated in the activity. In total, for all the summer season, 11099 people visited the information centre in 2004, that is to say almost two times the number of visitors registered in 2002. Half of them were foreigners and half Greek people.
- The two information kiosks in Lagana (Bouka) and in Vasilikos (Gerakas) were operated until the 15 of October 2003, from 10.00 to 18.00 daily.
- Daily slide shows at hotels of the Marine Park area, in co-operation with “ARCHELON”.
- Slide shows and guided tours targeted at organised groups by N.M.P.Z. staff. From August 2003 to January 2004, about 1000 persons participated in those activities.
- From August 2003 to December 2003, a awareness campaign was initiated through the renting of an advertisement panel (See ANNEX 12) positioned on two urban buses used for the needs of the daily itinerary Zakynthos town – Kalamaki – Lagana.
- Information to the visitors was given along the summer period through written (mainly leaflets) and oral information. It’s estimated – according to the data monitored on a daily basis at the entrance point of the nesting beaches - that at least 210.000 visitors were informed about the regulation and specificities of the nesting beaches. Considering the information also given in the framework of the other activities developed by the NMPZ’ Management Agency, it is estimated that about 300.000 visitors got accurate information about the Park, the nesting beaches and the sea turtle in 2003 (about 60% of the tourists).
- As in 2001 and 2002, a specific programme involving French scouts and volunteers was implemented in the NMPZ area that included beach cleaning (Vasilikos, Gerakas, Kalamaki), rehabilitation actions in Sekania area and Vasilikos and recycling of solid wastes in collaboration with the Zakynthos Cleaning Association. More specifically, 38 French scouts from the regions of Britain and Grenoble participated in this program from 8 to 19 August 2003 (see ANNEX 13) and it is estimated than more than 2,000 kilos of rubbish were collected.

The NMPZ’ management agency participated also in four major tourism exhibition in Greece (Filoxenia, Thessaloniki, 30/10—2/11/2003), in England (World Trade Market, London, 10/11—13/11/2003), in Holland (Vakantiebers, Utrecht, 13/11-18/11/2003) and in Austria (Ferien Messe, Vienna, 15/11-18/11/2003). The participation in these exhibitions was the result of a co-operation between the NMPZ, the Ionian Islands region, the Zakynthos prefecture and the Zakynthinian association of tourism agencies. Exhibition material produced in the framework of the Life – environment programme was used in each exhibition. One member of the NMPZ’ staff, I. Skartsis, provided visitors with information about the NMPZ at the exhibition held in London (England) and in Thessaloniki (Greece).

The programme’s website was updated (<http://www.nmp-zak.org/life/LifeEnv/>) and includes information about the project implementation, the progress reports delivered to the European Community and the main activities undertaken in 2002-2003.

- **WP 3.2 Engineering, construction and other upgrading actions**

The main infrastructure acquired was the modelling of the NMPZ’ area (2 *2.5 meters, scale: 1: 10.000) (ANNEX 14). Complementary acquired infrastructure concern stands and exhibition panels.

- **WP 3.3 Upgrading, promotion and exploitation actions**

In order to reach the task’s objectives, the installation of information booths equipped with interactive computers was initially planned. However, the NMPZ Management Agency has realised that the aims and expected results of this task can be achieved in a more cost-effective way. More precisely the concept of information booths can be implemented by an interactive CD-ROM installed in computers located at the “Foskolos” information centre as well as in the two information kiosks.

The main contents of the CD-Rom are presented below:

- a) Presentation of the NMPZ as landscapes, species, historical and cultural data, management etc...(50-70 screens, 50-70 fotos, movies, animation flash, music, dictionary)
- b) Games and quiz (Matching pairs, interactive quiz, interactive puzzle, interactive games Tile shuffle, paint the turtle, Find the differences)

- c) Photo album (400 photos)
- d) Demo mode
- e) Video presentation

- **WP 3.4 Promotion and exploitation actions**

The first phase of the study was finalized on 5/5/2003 and was accepted by the NMPZ' Management Body on 19/05/2003 (ANNEX 15).

The second phase of the study began on 26/05/2003 and it was expected that the whole study should be finalized by the end of August 2003.

On the 1/8/03 (ANNEX 16), the NMPZ having examined the B' part of the "Keri Study" let the consultant know about their remarks, asking the consultants to respond to their requests within 10 days. The main points of the NMPZ comments to B' part of the study are as follows:

- It is lacking a comprehensive management plan.
- Strategic choices are based on an extremely limited statutory base.
- The study does not have proposals for a broader zone of 500m in depth surrounding the designated area of NMPZ.
- It is lacking an analytical presentation of technical interventions and their implementation cost as well as the possible sources for finance from existing programmes such as the 3rd Community Support Fund.
- The study should take into account recent alterations to the Presidential Decree concerning NMPZ.

In the consultants' response to the above, dated 6/8/2003, it is stated that having considered point by point the remarks made by NMPZ's supervisors, they believe that the study covers adequately these points; however there should be a meeting between the two parts to consider matters in more detail in order that clarifications are presented by both parts. Due to the summer holiday the consultants propose that this meeting should take place at the end of August.

The "Park" accepts the proposition of the consultants and a meeting is arranged for the 29th August 2003.

Following the meeting of the 29th August 2003, the consultant sent in written form his proposal concerning the changes required by letter, on 4th September 2003.

To this letter NMPZ makes in brief the following requests in written form on the 11th September 2003:

- An analytical consideration to be given to the presentation of the development strategies.
- Land uses and activities compatible with those allowed by a recently modified Presidential Decree for NMPZ.
- Analytical forms of interventions including implementation cost and technical specifications.
- Interventions should also be prioritized in terms of time depending on their relative importance and cost of implementation.
- Identification and substantiation of additions and alterations to the existing legal and institutional framework which could constitute a mid-term management aim.

In December 2003, in order to unblock the whole process, more details concerning the expected contents of the B' phase were sent to the consultant.

Until now, the contractor did not re-submit the report of the second phase. It's expected, before appropriate legal actions to be undertaken, that the final B' phase will be submitted before the end of March 2004.

Task 4: International cooperation with other Marine Parks seeking transfer of know-how and common problem solutions with reference to ICZM

As specified in the Fourth progress report, the NMPZ' Management Agency co-organized the International Conference held in Zakynthos (Greece, "Applying EU Environmental Legislation in the Field of Marine Protection") on 19-20 May 2003. The programme and the participants are presented in ANNEX 17.

In January 2004 (19-29 January 2004), the Life- Environment programme manager Mr L. Sourbes, participated in a training seminar on the planning of marine protected areas management planning (ANNEX 18) in Marseilles (France). This seminar was organised by the UNEP and more specifically the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA Tunis). Ten Mediterranean countries participated in this seminary. In the framework of the seminary, the case of the NMPZ was presented to the participants and emphasis was given to the co-operation scheme with local operators developed in the Life programme.

Opportunity was also given to Mr Sourbes to have a meeting with the responsible of international relations in the National Marine Park of Port Cros, Mr Gerardin. The main subject concerned the elaboration of an general agreement that will allow both parks (NMPZ and Port Cros) to build in a long term co-operation. Emphasis will be given on themes such as the co-operation scheme with local operators, farming products certification process and GIS management.

Task 5: Programme management of the whole management project

Action concerned two of the three Work Packages of this task, namely the **Programme planning finalisation** (Wp 5.1) and the **Management tasks (Progress reports and meeting preparation)** (Wp 5.2). More specifically, it included the following activities:

- **WP 5.1 Programme planning finalisation**
- **WP 5.2 Management tasks**

The implementation of actions foreseen in 2003 (Please see the “Action plan for the Life-Environment Programme in 2003, Fourth progress report) was evaluated and followed up on a monthly basis. More specifically, in the framework of the co-operation between the programme management consultant (ENVIPLAN- G. Tsekouras & Associates) and the NMPZ management agency staff, the main themes developed were the evaluation of the whole programme implementation, the completion of pending actions (mainly the EMAS implementation, the Keri's Lake Management Study and sub-actions of dissemination and promotion and exploitation actions), the preparation of the Progress Report and deliberations on how to proceed with matters concerning project duration and budget modification.

A brief description of the contribution of the Programme management consultant is as follows:

- Consultation on Action Plan & Priorities issues
- Clarification to the call of tender for EMAS - Drafting of the contract and the special technical specifications accompanying the contract terms
- Contents, procedures and legalities of contracts regarding external services and especially in the frame work of the task 1 of the programme.
- Planning of a Conference for the promotion of the programme which included topics-speakers-cost
- A proposal for the use of special indicators for evaluating LIFE ENV/GR/000751 "ZANTECOAST" (see ANNEX 19).
- Participation in technical meetings, most important being:
 - f) Management tasks meetings during field visit (19-21/10/2003) of Ms. E. Lymberidis and Dr. G. Valaoras, with the coordinators, scientific and technical personnel of NMPZ, involved in the implementation of W.P. 1.1, 1.2, 2.2 & 2.3, as well as the Mayor, Vice Mayor and councilors of Laganas, the Vice Mayor of Zakynthos, the representative of turtle-spotting boat owners and the representative of the Federation of Rented rooms Owners Associations.
 - g) Meetings concerning matters of time extension, budget modification and related procedures and implications and consultation sessions on problem-solving with Dr. G. Valaoras.

It is also pointed out that in accordance with the accounting conventions imposed to the Management Agency by Greek Law, an external Auditor ensures that there is a clear trail for the accounts of any project implemented by the Agency, including the ZANTECOAST Life Environment Programme.

Task 6: Monitoring and evaluation system of the management agency of NMPZ

The development of a Geographic Information System and the processing of maps that present the activities developed in the area of NMPZ are an on going-process. In ANNEX 20 two thematic maps (Information signs within the NMPZ' area in 2003, Activities and operators endorsed by the NMPZ in 2003) are presented.

- *Compare the progress made with the established time schedule*

Actual output is delayed regarding the initial planned progress, especially concerning the W.P. 3.2 and 3.3.

5. Problems encountered

- *Problems or difficulties encountered or foreseen and their implications for future actions. They may be technical (equipment delivery is delayed, construction of infrastructure takes longer than anticipated), financial (the costs are not likely to correspond with the budgeted amounts) or organisational (role of partners are changing).*
- *If the project seems likely to become/stay behind schedule, please indicate this clearly. The beneficiary must signal, in a separate note to the Commission, changes to the baseline implementation programme (or subsequently updated versions).*

The following problems were encountered:

Eco Management Audit Scheme (WP 1.3)

Despite the fact that the implementation of EMAS certification process has been proved efficient during the last six month (Please see Chapter 4 -Technical development - WP 1.3 and Annexes 5, 6, 7, 8 of this progress report), due to the seasonal operation of the local tourism business, the EMAS certification and accreditation procedures cannot be completed before the end of 2004.

The tasks like Monitoring and measurement, EMS internal audit, Management review, Public communication and Validation, verification and registration require the full functioning of the tourism companies.

According to the EMAS consultant's report, the procedure will be fully completed on November 2004. A total number of three companies is expected to be certified until that date.

Keri's Lake Management Study (WP 3.4)

The mains facts concerning the problems the NMPZ' Management Agency encountered for the implementation of the B' Phase of the study are analytically described in the Chapter 4 – Technical development – W.P. 3.4.

Delays in implementing the Engineering and construction actions as well as upgrading, promotion and exploitation actions (W.P. 3.2, 3.3)

Due to a cash flow problem, the NMPZ' management agency delayed the acquisition of complementary infrastructure and equipment foreseen in the Work Packages 3.2 and 3.3. as specified in the fourth progress report. Nevertheless, concrete actions were undertaken through the designing of an interactive CD- ROM. A contract was signed in August 2003. It is expected that the tasks 3.2 and 3.3 will be completed by the end of May 2004.

6. Dissemination

- *Activities which have given publicity to the project; like seminars, newspaper (local, popular, national) articles, scientific articles, presentations, radio and TV broadcasts. Remember that an overall objective of the LIFE programme is demonstration, i.e. informing about the project and its results so that others can benefit from the experience gained with EU support.*

Information concerning dissemination activities is presented in paragraph 4, Task 3, Work Package 3.1 "Dissemination of Information".

7. Envisioned progress up to 31.05.2004 (next 4 months)

- *What will be done during next 4...7 months, i.e. up to the next progress report. Describe the development of different tasks or entities and envision the milestones to be achieved; interim report, all field work finished, infrastructure construction finished etc.*

Activities that are planned to be implemented in the next semester are presented below on a Work Package basis:

WP 1.1 Good Environmental Practice Code

WP 1.2 Collaboration scheme

- Printing of Leaflet “Code of conduct : smooth observation of the sea turtle *Caretta Caretta*”
- Preparation of a memorandum of co-operation with the professional divers
- Meetings with operators endorsed by the NMPZ’ Management Agency, evaluation of the co-operation, proposals for amendment of the contracts. Renewal of contracts for the summer season 2004.

WP 1.3 Eco Management Audit Scheme

- Basic implementation of the evaluation of Environmental Management Scheme process (On going process)
- Request for six month extension of the task

WP 2.1 Marine area delineation network

- Maintenance of delineation network

WP 2.2 Public Awareness and surveillance

- Maintenance of infrastructure works and equipment (Warden huts, boat....)

WP 2.3 Training and awareness of local professionals

- Training of local farmers in the framework of a training workshop that will be organized by the NMPZ’ Management Agency– in a joint-venture with the Zakynthos Agricultural Cooperatives Union - in February 2004.

WP 3.1 Dissemination of information

- Participation in international tourism exhibition
- On going awareness activities of specific groups (schools, associations...)
- Workshop/ training session for local tour-operators

WP 3.2 Engineering and construction actions

WP 3.3 Upgrading, promotion and exploitation actions

- Completion of interactive CD-Rom (on going process)
- Installation of interactive computers

WP 3.4 Promotion and exploitation actions

- Completion of the Keri’s Lake study
- Request for six month extension of the task

WP 4.1 International co-operation

- Memorandum of co-operation with a National Marine Park (on going process)
- A Conference for the promotion of the programme

WP 5.2 Management tasks

- Evaluation criteria for assessment of the programme’s implementation (on going process)
- Drafting of strategic and methodological parameters for the integrated management of coastal areas adaptation to the case study of the marine park

- Request for six month extension of the task

WP 5.3

- Preparation of the final progress report
- Technical meetings with the external assistant ENVIPLAN

WP 6.1 Evaluation system and planning tool

- Creation of thematic maps (on going process)

8. Financial issues

PROJECT COSTS INCURRED

	Cost category	Total cost according to the Commission's decision*	Costs incurred from the start date to 31.01.2004	%**
1.	Personnel	868893	626681	72,12%
2.	Travel	44750	21354	47,72%
3.	Outside assistance	292050	131922	45,17%
4.	Durables: total <u>non-depreciated</u> cost	270000	75672	28,03%
	- <i>Infrastructure sub-tot.</i>	<i>180000</i>	<i>49393</i>	<i>27,44%</i>
	- <i>Equipment sub-tot.</i>	<i>90000</i>	<i>26279</i>	<i>29,20%</i>
	- <i>Prototypes sub-tot.</i>			
5.	Consumables	40000	18117	45,29%
6.	Other costs	29000	12912	44,52%
7.	Overheads	75000	41129	54,84%
	SUM TOTAL	1619693	927787	57,28%

*) If the Commission has officially approved a budget modification indicate the breakdown of the revised budget

**) Calculate the percentages by budget lines: How many % of the budgeted personnel costs are incurred by xx.xx.xxxx

- *Comment on the budget posts, particularly discrepancies (for example why 80% of one post is spent although the overall level is 30% of the budget spent) and indicate if any budget modification is expected.*

A discrepancy is still observed concerning the durable goods posts, in regard of the actual over planned cost.

- *If before interim payment, indicate when the 40 % threshold value of eligible costs is expected to be reached.*

The interim report was accepted by the Commission on 2/12/2002 (D5/3577).

9. Progress and planned activities (Gantt-chart)

Table 1. Implementation Progress (Gantt-chart)

LIFE00 ENV/GR/000751	ZANTECOAST															
	ICZM: Demonstration Actions in the National Marine Park of Zakynthos															
	2001				2002				2003				2004			
Tasks	2T	3T	4T	1T	2T	3T	4T	1T	2T	3T	4T	1T	2T	3T	4T	
Collaboration and involvement of stakeholders																
Good Environmental Practices Code	Baseline	.	...	...	...	..					
	actual		xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx								
Collaboration scheme	Baseline			.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual			x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Eco-management audit	Baseline			.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual				xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx	
Environmental Management and Protection																
Marine area delineation	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual		xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Public awareness & surveillance	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual	x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Training & awareness of local professionals	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual		xx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Upgrading, Promotion & Exploitation actions																
Dissemination of information	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual	x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Engineering & construction actions	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual	x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Upgrading, Promotion & Exploitation actions	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual	x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Promotion & Exploitation actions	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...			
	actual	x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx	xxx	xx
International cooperation	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual		xx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		
Programme Management																
Programme planning finalisation	Baseline	.	...	..									
	actual	x	xxx	xx												
Management tasks	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	actual	x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx		
Final technical & financial report	Baseline												..			
	actual											x	xxx	xxx	xxx	
Monitoring & evaluation system (G.I.S.)	Baseline	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
	actual		x	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx		

..... Initially Planned progress
 xxx xxx Actual (& expected) Progress

10. Annexes

- **Maps, drawings, technical designs, technical memos etc. as appropriate.** Make a reference to the annexes in report text. In case the annexes are presented in local language a summary (titles, headings, map keys etc) in English should be included, either in the report text or in the annexes

List of Annexes

Annex 1: Minutes of the technical meetings held in the framework of the Life-Environment project management.

Annex 2: Association of Marine Excursions Boat of Lagana's bay : Description of the activity for 2003 (May – October 2003).

Annex 3: Sea Turtle Protection Society "Report on Turtle spotting boats and Nature World Travel catamaran trips in the bay of Lagana during 2003"

Annex 4: Guide: Principles for the development of eco-tourism activities

Annex 5: Contract with the consultancy Euroconsultants S.A. for the implementation of EMAS in the NMPZ' area

Annex 6: Euroconsultants S.A. : Planning, development and implementation of EMAS in the NMPZ' Area. First report, A' Phase November 2003

Annex 7: Press release for EMAS presentation (Eleftheria, 21/10/2003)

Annex 8: Agreement Contact with NMPZ Agency in the framework of EMAS implementation

Annex 9: "Short report on the implementation of the guarding programme within the National Marine Park of Zakynthos, Greece 2003"

Annex 10: Sea Turtle Protection Society: Reports on sea turtle conservation on Zakynthos (Greece) in 2001, 2002, 2003

Annex 11: Code of proper agricultural practice (C.P.A.P.) for the management of agricultural environment: the needs for implementation in the national marine park of zakynthos area (Abstract)

Annex 12: News release and photo of advertisement panel positioned on urban buses

Annex 13: Press release for specific programme involving French scouts (Ermis, 1/09/2003)

Annex 14: Photo of the modelling of the NMPZ' area

Annex 15: Extracts of the A' Phase of the Keri's Lake management study

Annex 16: Letter to consultant concerning the B' Phase of the Keri's Lake management study

Annex 17: Programme of the Conference held in Zakynthos (Greece, "Applying EU Environmental Legislation in the Field of Marine Protection") on 19-20 May 2003

Annex 18: Programme of training seminar on the planning of marine protected areas management planning in Marseilles (France)

Annex 19: Indicators for evaluating life env/gr/000751 "ZANTECOAST"

Annex 20: Two thematic maps (Information signs within the NMPZ' area in 2003, Activities and operators endorsed by the NMPZ in 2003)