



OUTPUT 4.2

MED4Waste Mentoring Scheme

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SPAIN | JORDAN | LEBANON | ITALY | TUNISIA | GREECE



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1. Summary of the document

This document serves as an overview of all the work did on Output 4.2 and its activities.

2. Output Introduction

The output refers to the implementation of the IMWM Mentoring Scheme. There have been some changes in this WP to make all the outputs and activities be better connected with each other, and to be able to deliver them to the six public sub-national authorities in a more streamlined way. The main changes are explained below, however a more detailed and extended description of the new structure of the WP can be found in the ToRs of what is called the Med4Waste Mentoring Scheme.

Some of the activities from the outputs 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3 have been redefined to be fitted in the Mentoring Scheme, which encompasses the following activities:

- A4.1.2 Guidance to improvement/development of IMWM plans, policies and other management solutions
- A4.1.4 Integrated municipal waste management twinning and exchange programme
- A4.2.1 Planning and preparation of the IMWM Mentoring Voucher Scheme
- A4.2.2 Implementation of the IMWM Mentoring Scheme
- A4.3.2 Social Entrepreneurship Programme for Integrated Waste Management (Partner responsible: BusinessMed).

Since all these activities are based on selecting six public sub-national waste management authorities, we streamlined the process, so all the outcomes of this activities are offered to the public authorities as one program, the Mentoring Scheme. The only activities not directly related to the Mentoring Scheme are the A4.1.1 Benchmarking and selection of promising outputs and the A4.1.3 Targeted training to increase technical & operational capacities of public/private stakeholder.

2.1. Associated activities

2.1.1. Planning and preparation of the IMWM Mentoring Voucher Scheme (Responsible Partner: MedCities)

Application Form description

This is a crucial step of the transferring pathway and concerns the design & preparation of a mentoring voucher system targeting local authorities/municipalities from MPC. The system was designed to promote adoption of identified promising outputs & their exploitation through improved/developed IMWM Plans. Mentors (external experts) were recruited considering their key qualifications, experience in developing successful tools in the sector & their capacity to conduct peer2peer sessions.

Activity overview

The mentoring scheme was launched on the 30th of November 2022. An online seminar was organised to inform interested municipalities about the call. A total of 76 participants took part. The ToRs were developed in English and French.

A total of 19 municipalities from Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia submitted their application. An application form was developed including the main characteristics, challenges, potential projects and actions of the city's waste management system. Municipalities could also provide extra documentation like their current IMWM or supportive letters from local stakeholders.

Dissemination through MedCities network was key for the success of the activity. 9 out of 19 candidate municipalities are members of MedCities.

2.1.2. Implementation of the IMWM Mentoring Scheme (Responsible Partner: MedCities)

Application Form description

Launch, evaluation, selection & implementation of the mentoring voucher system. The selection of mentoring beneficiaries was made on a competitive basis, according to pre-defined evaluation criteria and following a Call for Proposals. The 6 local authorities selected had a mentor (external expert) assigned to improve/develop IMWM plans integrating capitalisation outputs, & was further encouraged to take part in training, twinning & policy exchange, amongst other activities.

Activity overview

The evaluation and selection of the candidate municipalities was done according to geographic distribution and according to the score obtained when applying the following criteria:

- Clarity and pertinence of the challenges proposed (Up to 4 points)
- Clarity and relevance of the potential actions and/or practices proposed (Up to 3 points).
- Have previous experience of cooperation with CSO in waste management topics (Up to 1 points).
- Having tested some waste reduction/sorting/recycling actions in the territory (Up to 2 points).
- Having performed waste reduction awareness raising campaigns among the territories population (Up to 2 points).

The selection was finalised mid-January 2023. Once selected, MedCities organised online meetings with the different municipal teams to define and tailor the ToR to look for an expert mentor that will accompany each municipality. They were published in February and experts selected at the beginning of March 2023.

Apart from the individual external expert per municipality, MedCities also hired a team of local consultants (MedCities technical coordinator) that coordinated the follow up meetings among the municipality, external expert and project partners involved, and provided guidance in the elaboration / improvement of the IWMP. The mentoring kick-off meetings involving all parts concerned took place between the end of March and the beginning of April 2023.

Between April and July 2023 regular coordination meetings involving MedCities staff, MedCities technical coordinator, the municipal team, the external expert and the project partner financing the study-visit and the tailor-made pilot activity, took place every 2 weeks approximately. The role of the team of local technical coordinators was key to ensure a smooth development of the coordination meetings.

The following table shows the different activities implemented in the municipalities thanks to the IWMP mentoring scheme.

Municipality	IMWP	Supporting action	Twinning	Replicable result
Byrain Jordan	Elaboration	Study on the waste management pricing system applied to the commercial sector	CLIMA Sestri Levante (IT)	Pay as you throw tax and related advocacy
M'Saken Tunisia	Elaboration	Organisation of the informal sector for the collection/recycling of plastics and cardboard in the main commercial street (diagnostic, action plan, training and awareness campaign)	CLIMA Sestri Levante (IT)	Pay as you throw tax and related advocacy
Akkar Al-Atika Lebanon	Elaboration	Training of trainers and awareness campaign for sorting recyclable materials, commercial sorting and reuse of food waste	MEDINA Irbid (JO)	Zero waste policy guidelines
Mahdia Tunisia	Update	Awareness campaign for the recovery of organic waste in the pilot district.	DECOST Vic (ES)	Community compost plant
Deir Qanon ElNaher Lebanon	Update	Action Plan to scale up their waste management service to neighbouring villages.	REUSEMED Cordoba (ES)	Creation of Reuse Circuits & Infrastructures
Madaba Jordan	Update	Training of municipal employees on safety measures, sorting and routine maintenance of sorting equipment	REUSEMED Cordoba (ES)	Creation of Reuse Circuits & Infrastructures

3 municipalites, Byrain, M'Saken and Akkar Al-Atika, developed for the first time a IWMP, while the other 3, Mahdia, Deir Qanon El Naher and Madaba, issued an updated version of their plans with the support of the external expert.

The external experts, always in cooperation with the municipal teams, first submitted a methodological note (deliverable 1), defining the stages for the solid waste management diagnosis, plan development and tailor-made supporting action.

Regarding the diagnosis planning, most methodological notes considered an analysis of the legal framework and stakeholders mapping, definition of stakeholders meetings, focus groups and/or task force, data collection and site visits, gap analysis and detailed timeline.

Regarding the plan development / improvement, methodological notes considered community inclusivity and capacity building strategies, contents of the plan and detailed timeline.

Methodological notes were submitted along the month of April 2023.

Between May and June 2023 the municipalities submitted the diagnosis (deliverable 2) of their waste management, which included an exhaustive data analysis (infrastructure, equipment, waste flows, etc.), and were presented to the key local stakeholders as the first activity to develop/improve IWMP. This was also the opportunity to work on the definition of the tailor-made action aligned with the plan development. Initially this activity was foreseen to be defined and implemented once the plan was developed. However, due to the project time constrains, the tailor made action was defined taking into account the results of the diagnosis.

Between July and August the municipalities submitted the final IWMPs (deliverable 3). All deliverables submitted were reviewed and validated carefully by MedCities technical coordinator, apart from also guiding the whole mentoring process. All IWMP were developed in a participatory approach, involving key local stakeholders. Every IWMP was tailored to each municipality's context.

Deliverable 4 was the definition of the tailor-made activity. This was mainly submitted during the month of June, taking into consideration the key findings from the diagnosis. Again, each activity was tailor-made to the municipality's context, possibilities and resources. They were implemented as from July till the end of the project life cycle. The financing project partner for each municipality was responsible for the implementation, enriching the whole learning exchange process but also posing some administrative challenges in order to

coordinate the correct implementation of all actions in due time and according to the plan. As you can see in table above, municipalities implemented feasibility studies, action plans, trainings and awareness raising campaigns.

Finally, the external experts were also asked to submit a lessons learned document (deliverable 5) that was also used to develop the policy tool-kit recommendations lead by MIO-ECSDE.

As you can also see at the table above, 4 twinning activities / study visits were organised with the selected municipalities.

The first study visit was organised in Cordoba (Spain), on 3-4 May 2023. The external expert and 2 municipal employees from Deir Qanon El Naher and Madaba participated at the final event of the project REUSEMED on creation of reuse circuits and infrastructures. During the final event, the participants of Med4Waste mentoring scheme met REUSEMED partners and could see the reuse circuits, infrastructures and festivals carried on in Deir Alla, Capannori, Sakiet Ezzit and Córdoba itself. On the second day of the visit, the delegations of Deir Qanon ElNaher and Madaba met the environmental department of Córdoba city council, who have developed the 'city climate change adaptation plan' through a participatory process. Finally, they visited the waste separation plant in Córdoba, where they saw the automatized and manual systems to separate different types of plastics from cupboard and organic matter.

The second study visit was organised in Irbid (Jordan) on 17-18 June 2023. The external expert, the mayor and main waste management responsible of Akkar Al-Atika took part in the exchange to learn about the actions implemented in Irbid on zero waste management thanks to the MED-InA project. A significant highlight of the visit was a high-level meeting between Mayor Mohammad Khalil of Akkar and Mayor Nabil Kofahi of Irbid. The mayors engaged in fruitful discussions regarding the challenges faced by Akkar in delivering services with limited governmental funds and Irbid's strategies for adapting to lower-than-cost-recovery waste fees. Throughout the two-day study tour, the visiting group participated in a series of site visits and interactive discussions. One of the key areas of interest for Akkar Municipality was learning from Irbid's experience in Sorting at Source Initiatives. The team had the opportunity to visit a commercial market where packaging waste is efficiently sorted, the wholesale vegetable market and how organic materials are sourced for the compost facility, the transfer stations operated by Irbid Municipality and the landfill.

The third study visit was organised in Vic (Spain) on 22-23 June 2023. The external expert and the main waste management responsible and director of international relations of the municipality of Mahdia took part in the exchange to learn about community compost plant practices and organic waste management strategies at large implemented in Vic thanks to the DECOST project. Participants particularly visited the DECOST pilot experience in Les Masies de Roda, where they had the opportunity to learn hands-on how the community composting system is working at a real scale. The visit was accompanied by the mayor of Masies de Roda, Mr Jordi Vistós. Since the end of the DECOST project, the community composting system is managed by the municipality due to its success in reducing the amount of organic waste that ends up mixed with other fractions, and the great satisfaction of the citizens with the model. They also visited the waste management plant "Mancomunitat la Plana", a union of small towns that share all their waste management by creating a single entity.

Lastly, the fourth study visit was organised in Sestri Levante (Italy) on 20-21 September 2023. Two delegations headed by the mayor of Byrain and the Secretary General of M'Saken visited Sestri Levante to particularly learn about the "pay as you throw" waste management system and related advocacy actions implemented thanks to the support of the CLIMA project. The PAYT system requires a complex monitoring system to control the generation of waste via GPR/GPRS. Participants had the opportunity to visit the collection and sorting facility of the municipality, to learn in detail how the monitoring system works, and to the reuse centre, where citizens can donate non-recyclable products to give them a second life. The centre, owned by the municipality, is run by volunteers. Participants also learnt about the food recovery network in

Genova and Sestri Levante: their legal framework and their functioning via public and private partnerships. A representative from Ricibo network shared their experience dealing with food recovery and poverty.