

Mantis religiosa
Praying Manthis (Green Form)
MEPA ©



Process for Developing
Malta's NBSAP
"Working Hand-In-Hand
with Nature"

Lisa Schembri Gambin

Ecosystem Management Unit

Malta Environment & Planning Authority

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Email: biodiversity.strategy@mepa.org.mt; Website: www.mepa.org.mt



NBSAP Process

Palaeocyanus crassifolius
Maltese Rock Centaury
Endemic to the Maltese Islands –
Malta's National Plant
MEPA ©



- CBD Party: Since 2000 by ratification
- Transposition of CBD Provisions: National Law – Legal Notice 160 of 2002
- Status of NBSAP: Development Ongoing
- Lead Agency: Malta Environment & Planning Authority (MEPA)
- Technical Support: provided in 2004 as part of a twinning mission held between Malta (MEPA) and England (English Nature). Two outcomes are noted - A workshop which was held to introduce the requirement for developing the NBSAP to stakeholders in Malta and the drafting of terms of reference (ToRs) detailing a number of milestones for bringing forth the NBSAP process in Malta.

Ophrys melitensis
Maltese Spider Orchid
Stephen Mifsud ©
www.maltawildplants.com



- Financing: national budget allocation + MEPA budgetary resources
- Relation to the 2010 Target:
The NBSAP process is integrated under the environmental theme within Malta's National Reform Programme in response to the Lisbon agenda. The NRP acknowledges the NBSAP as a tool for addressing the 2010 biodiversity target at a national level, thereby strengthening the impetus to enhance efforts in developing the NBSAP.

Stages in NBSAP Development Process

ORGANISATIONAL PHASE: Setting up an administrative structure – NBSAP coordinating committee and a planning team within MEPA

STOCKTAKING PHASE: Country study involving the compilation of sub-reports addressing a particular issue in relation to biodiversity – this process also involves the preliminary drafting of objectives, strategic directions and a proposed suite of actions and targets

1st PHASE OF CONSULTATION:

- Preliminary workshop;
- Questionnaire based surveys

NBSAP DEVELOPMENT: Compiling the NBSAP document bearing in mind results from the country study and the 1st phase of consultation

2nd PHASE OF CONSULTATION: Consultation with the wider public will be crucial as it will be impossible to implement the strategy and its associated action plan without their help, assistance and support.

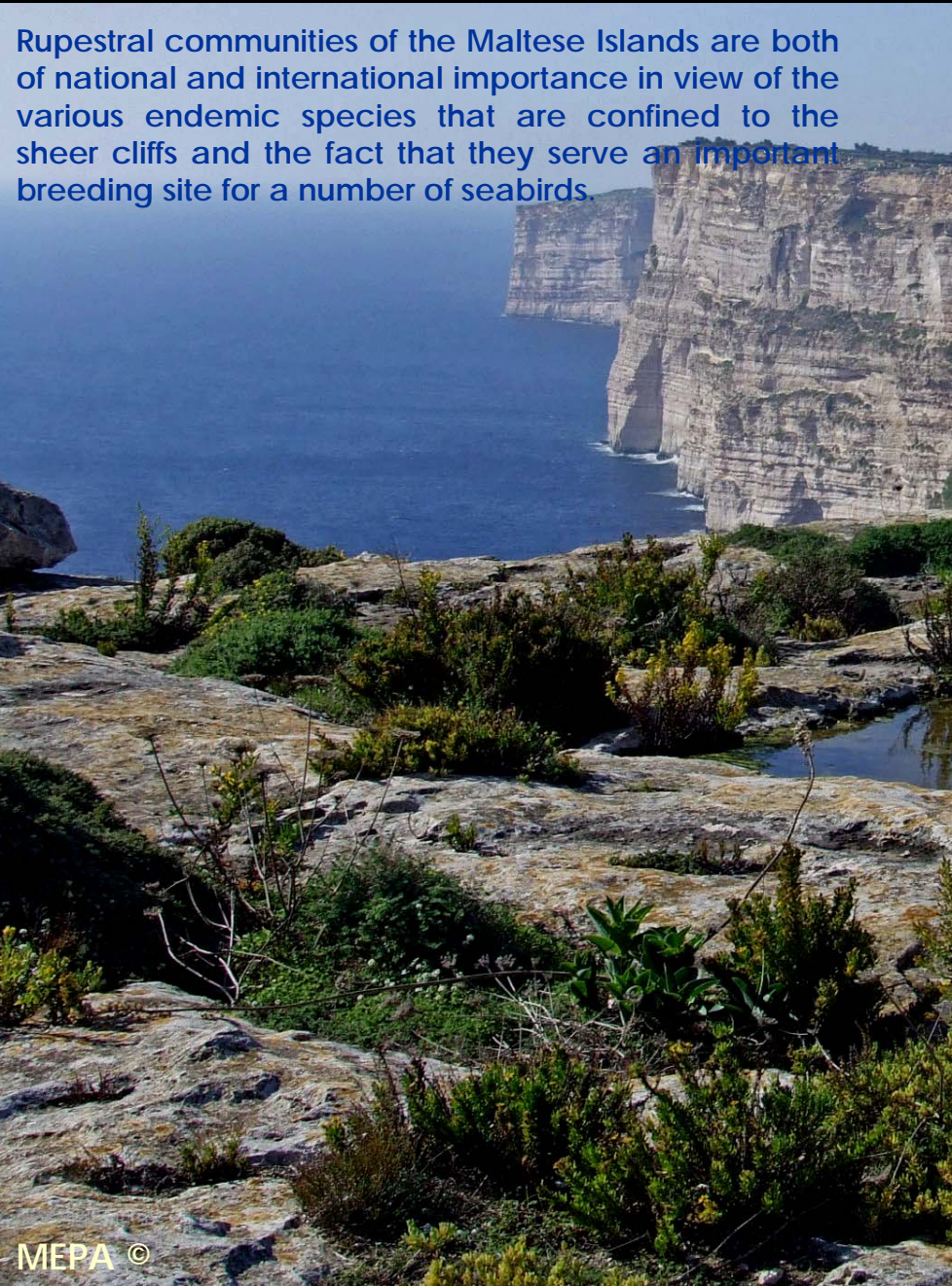
ADOPTION & IMPLEMENTATION

REVIEW: envisaged five years from adoption to assess the efficacy of the strategy and the actions carried out.

Helichrysum melitense,
Maltese Everlasting
Endemic, Restricted to
Island of Gozo

Country Study

Rupestral communities of the Maltese Islands are both of national and international importance in view of the various endemic species that are confined to the sheer cliffs and the fact that they serve an important breeding site for a number of seabirds.



- Status: initiated and ongoing
- Format: involves the compilation of a series of sub-reports which either addresses a specific driver of biodiversity change (such as IAS, wildlife exploitation, resource use) or a cross-cutting issue (such as CEPA, research, sustainable development, monitoring), specifically in relation to biodiversity
- Purpose: to collate all the necessary data upon which to design and propose NBSAP objectives and actions and to identify and address gaps with the final aim of mainstreaming biodiversity concerns in public sectors in Malta

Bases for Sub-report Compilation

When building the substance of the sub-reports reference is being made to the following wherever relevant to the particular issue being addressed:

- The CBD, its provisions, strategic plan, principles and guidelines, and relevant programmes of work;
- Other MEAs, provisions, and relevant publications;
- Relevant reports published by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA);
- Relevant reports published by the European Environmental Agency (EEA);
- EU *Acquis* and relevant policy – including the European Community Biodiversity Strategy and Action plans where relevant and COM/2006/0216 final and EU Action Plan to 2010 and Beyond;
- Nation legislation and adopted policy;
- Any scientific studies and/or national projects that have been undertaken or are in the pipeline;
- National activities implemented throughout these years, or which are being implemented, in parallel with the CBD, EU Nature Directives, the EU Communication on Halting Biodiversity Loss by 2010 and Beyond, MEAs and the State of the Environment process will also be integrated into one single strategy through the NBSAP process.

Mechanisms for Consultation

- Status: ongoing in parallel to the country study
- Format: Tailor-made feedback forms sent to specific target groups – governmental departments, NGOs, educational institutions, research institutions and environmental consultation bodies. Meetings are also held with entities wherever they express problems in providing feedback.
- Purpose: To gain an understanding of which of the ongoing measures are actually contributing to mainstreaming biodiversity concerns and also to shed light into what additional measures are deemed as required nationally to accomplish and strengthen such mainstreaming in the end.
- NBSAP coordinating committee (NBSAP-CC): established to develop further and agree on the suite of objectives and actions (plus target & priority setting) via a series of meetings envisaged to be held later this year.
- Technical experts will also be approached for feedback/comments on the sub-reports and proposed actions where necessary.



Tetraclinis articulata
Sandarac Gum Tree
Malta's National Tree
MEPA ©

Intended End Product

- Targeted product: A NBSAP that is concise and easily understood by the wider public, and including the suite of agreed actions in the form of annexes.
- The NBSAP will be presented to the wider public through a massive consultation process in order to obtain any additional views and recommendations. Revision integrating the received feedback will follow suit culminating in the adoption of the NBSAP in 2009.
- We acknowledge that the NBSAP process is very challenging and we hope that by adopting a participatory approach to the process, ownership by the wider public will be arrived at in order to holistically protect, conserve and sustainably manage the biodiversity of the Maltese Islands as well as effectively achieve mainstreaming of biodiversity concerns.



Potamon fluviatile lanfrancoi,
Maltese Freshwater Crab
Joseph Abela Medici ©



Hyles lineata livornica,
Striped Hawk Moth
MEPA ©

Chalcides ocellatus,
Ocellated Skink,
MEPA ©

Thank You for Your Kind Attention

