



Output factsheet: Salinas mapping and sustainability index

Project index number and acronym	A_A.1.2_0234 / MedArtSal - sustainable management model for Mediterranean Artisanal Salinas
Lead partner	CUEIM Consorzio Universitario di Economia Industriale e Manageriale (ITALY)
Output number and title	OT3.2.Salinas mapping and sustainability index
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP4: University of Cádiz
Project website	https://www.enicbcmmed.eu/projects/medartsal https://medartsal.com
Delivery date	03/08/2023

Summary description of the implemented activity(s), explaining the specific goal(s) and target groups

The specific goal of this activity was to create a Salinas Sustainability Index (SSI) which could measure sustainability of Salinas in terms of economic, biodiversity and social aspects. Taking the information from the surveys (see OT 3.1) we could have the data to create the first index in Salinas that measures sustainability taking into account these three aspects.

Once created the SSI UCA could rank the Salinas and map them. This output was firstly thought for the whole Med but after realizing the difficulty to obtain the exact location of the Salinas in some countries, the maps were developed for the project countries.

A total of 31 completed surveys were received, of which 21 were from artisanal Salinas. Seven extensive Salinas and one salt mine also responded. Therefore, the index constructed in this document is based on the 21 artisanal Salinas that participated by completing the survey.

This information is the main aim of the project and has been used for pilot actions. Each salina measured its SSI before and after the sub-granted action. Most of the Salinas (>80%) improved their SSI.

EU/MPC region(s) where activity(s) have been conducted

The activities include all partners of the MedArtSal project, and the salt owners that provided the information from Spain, Italy, Tunisia and Lebanon

Full description of the output

Through a bibliographic review of different existing indexes and taking into account data obtained from the survey, we developed an index to evaluate the sustainability of artisanal Salina in the Mediterranean from a socio-economic, environmental and diversification point of view. There was any published index which combines all these aspects. This index was validated after sending it to different experts in Salinas (MAVA Foundation, SALARTE, SEO).

Thanks to this index, we could evaluate the weaknesses and strengths of the Salinas that collaborate with the project applying for the sub-grants with the final aim to make them improve in sustainability. We evaluated the SSI score of each Salina before and after the sub-grant and evaluated the increase in sustainability.

The MedArtSal model has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of Artisanal Salinas in the Mediterranean region, with the objective of enhancing their sustainability. Central to this effort is the Salinas Sustainability Index (SSI), which evaluates 22 key variables encompassing socio-economic, environmental, and diversification aspects of Salinas. An online survey was designed to gather critical insights from salt owners who actively engaged in the MedArtSal project. It focused on assessing key sustainability aspects like annual salt productivity, eco-tourism activities, product marketing strategies, and environmental conservation measures, among others. The initial responses prior to the implementation of the actions funded by the MedArtSal project were used to establish the upper and lower limits for each variable. Subsequently, through collaboration among experts and specialists from various countries, a scale of values was determined to measure the influence of these variables on each of the mentioned categories. Based on this information, SSI was created as a practical tool for salt owners and managers to evaluate the sustainability of a salina in terms of economy, environment, and innovation.

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Once the SSI index was developed, the information was translated to a map developed in Q-GIS software in which different sheets can be viewed.

Expected impacts and benefits of the results achieved



MedArtSal

We believe that the MedArtSal index could help salt owners, managers, researchers, ONGs associations and other stakeholders to measure sustainability in salinas. Through this index not only a rank can be done, but the result indicates which part must be improved. Therefore, this can help to improve the business model for the enhancement of sustainability in artisanal salinas.

Sustainability of the output and developed activity(s) and their transferability to other territories and stakeholders

The questionnaire to measure the SSI is available at www.medartsal.com. As this page will be maintained after the project, the sustainability is not at risk. A total of 31 enterprises elaborated the survey, of which 7 extensive salinas and one salt mine. That led to suppose that this kind of self-assessment tool can be transfer for a wide range of salt producers, even not target of this project,

Lessons learned from the development and implementation of output and added value of transnational cooperation

The building of the map and the SSI were achieved thanks to the cooperation of all the MedArtSal consortium, for the scouting of the salinas in their territories. That methodology allowed to increase the knowledge of the consortium about the salt producers insisting in their territories, facilitating the next tasks of the project.

As we stated in OT 3.1 a lesson for the project operativity is to know that to get data from artisanal salinas was a very time-consuming activity and sometimes impossible, so we have to shorten our goal to the project countries instead of the whole Med. This task was not possible without transnational cooperation.

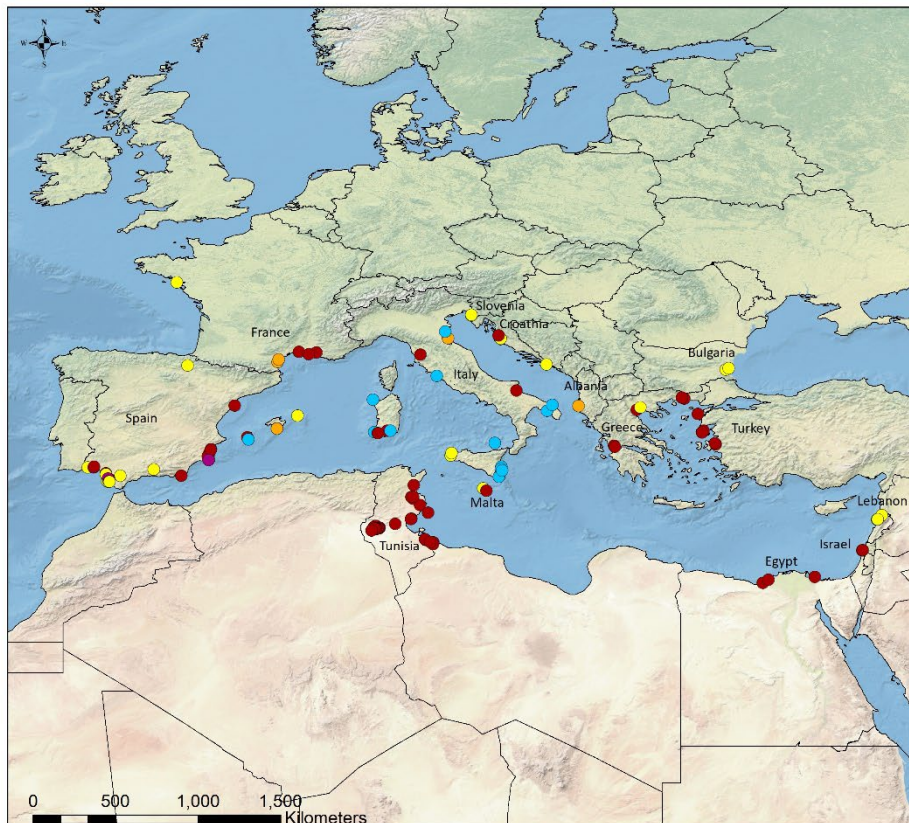
References to relevant deliverables and web-links

If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The main output was:

- Maps in Q-GIS of the active salinas of the 4 countries involved in the project
- Salinas Sustainability Index (tested through the pilot actions) - <https://medartsal.com/b2b/>

All the reports are available in www.medartsal.com



MedArtSal active Salinas

- Artisanal
- Demonstrative
- Extensive
- Mixed
- Wetland