

MEDPAN WORKING GROUP ON FISHERIES AND MPAS - 1ST MEETING

MINUTES



TIRANA, ALBANIA
24 NOVEMBER 2014

The first MedPAN Working Group on Fisheries (WGF) meeting took place on 24 November 2014 in Tirana (Albania) preceding the MedPAN Network annual Experience-sharing Workshop on “Monitoring for Managing Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)” which took place in the same location (25-27 November 2014).

The event aimed at sharing thoughts between participants to identify what actions could be led by the MedPAN Organisation to:

- Support MPA managers with regards to fisheries and MPAs
- Identify what added value could the MedPAN network bring on to existing initiatives

The MedPAN Secretariat prepared and circulated a “positioning document” upstream from this meeting in order to inform discussions (Please see in Annex 1).

And it goes without saying that the brainstorming was most fruitful!

MedPAN wishes to warmly thank attending Members of the WGF for their valuable input and invites all Members of the working group to further contribute.

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This report highlights the main points & conclusions of discussions.

The main positioning document of MedPAN can be found in the e-mail you received with these minutes.

A PowerPoint Presentation delivered during the meeting is attached in annex. The second presentation was based on the guide found at the following link:

<http://www.medpan.org/documents/10180/0/Fishermen+engagement+in+Mediterranean+MPAs/5cd49a5-2fc8-4211-83ab-0956bcc80a48?version=1.1>

1 MEDPAN WORKING GROUP ON FISHERIES LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Mathieu Imbert	Parc National des Calanques, Fr.
Catherine Piante	WWF, Fr.
Francesco de Franco	Area Marina Protetta Torre Guaceto, It.
Elodie Durand	Parc National de Port-Cros, Fr.
Clélia Moussay	Parc National de Port-Cros, Fr.
Hacen Hamdani	Association locale pêche, Alg.
Delphine Marobin Louche	Parc Naturel Régional de Camargue, Fr.
Jorge Moreno	National Park of Cabrera and Natural Park of Eivissa and Formentera salines, Sp.
Juan Carlos Jorquera	Red de Reservas Marinas, Sp.
Alessandra Accornero Picon	Parc National des Calanques, Fr.
Fabio Valarolla	Area Marina Protetta di Torre del Cerrano, It.
Domitilla Senni	Wait Foundation
Valentina Cappanera	Area Marina Protetta di Portofino, It.
Alfonso Ramos	Universidad de Alicante, Sp.
Jean-Michel Culioli	Réserve Naturelle des Bouches de Bonifacio, Fr.
Sandro Dujmovic	Brijuni National Park, Croatia
Chloë Webster	MedPAN
Zafer Kizilkaya	Mediterranean Conservation Society, Turkey
Laurent Sourbes	National Marine Park of Zakynthos, Greece
Victoria Riera	Generalitat de Catalunya, Sp.
Milena Tempesta	Area Marina Protetta di Miramare, It.
Carmella Guidone	Area Marina Protetta di Punta Campanella, It.
Patrick Bonhomme	GIS Posidonie, Fr.
Oscar Sague Pla	SAD, Turkey
Susanna Soglia	Interpreter
Bruno Meola	MedPAN

Excused:

WWF MedPO, Fishermen representative from Cassis (France), *Prud'homie* representative from PACA region in France (CRPMEM), Parc Marin de la Côte Bleue (France), Office de l'Environnement de la Corse / Parc des Bouches de Bonifacio (France), Tavolara MPA (Italy), Federparchi (Italy), Fishermen representative from Spain, Lonxanet Foundation (Spain), MEPA (Malta), APAL (Tunisia), Commissariat National du Littoral (Algeria), Taza National Park (Algeria), Fisheries MPA project (Morocco), SUNCE (Croatia), WWF Turkey, FAO, GFCM, IUCN Med, RAMPAO, MAIA.

2 MEDPAN WORKING GROUP ON FISHERIES: CONTEXT IN 10 LINES & MEETING AGENDA

2.1 Context in 10 lines

Harvesting of the commons appears to stand out on the agenda of MPA managers as an issue riddled with management challenges.

To support MPA managers in bettering their day to day doings, the MedPAN Secretariat provided a document (see annexe 1) which quite simply questions the working group participants on what they believe MedPAN should do to help them deal with a number of fisheries issues.

While the aim of this 1st Meeting has been to identify how MedPAN can support its members (and the positioning document will be updated accordingly), a forthcoming step will be to explore how, according to members, MedPAN can bring some added value to initiatives currently undertaken by regional partners, so to support fastening of conservation goals to 2020 and beyond.

2.2 Meeting agenda

Time	Session
9:30 – 10:00	Welcoming participants & opening of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background on MedPAN's and its partners' first few activities concerning fisheries Examples of what we could focus on in the future - <i>This introduction intends to spark off some brainstorming by providing a few ideas of what actions could support the network and throwing out some open questions</i> Presentation of the meeting objectives and Agenda
10:00 – 10:30	Presentation of the MedPAN "Position statement" <i>This draft document (sent together with this agenda) aims to identify, together with MedPAN members and partners, the needs managers have with regards to fisheries and MPAs and propose some actions to complement activities relating to fisheries within the 2013-2017 network strategy for Mediterranean MPAs. It also intends to position MedPAN amidst its regional partners who have already developed some activities on fisheries in the Mediterranean.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives of the "position statement" Presentation of the contents of the "position statement" with proposed activities in relation to the 2013-2017 MedPAN network strategy
10:30 – 11:00	Discussion on the "position statement"
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:30	Discussion on the "position statement" Explanation on the objectives and process for the afternoon working groups
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:30	AdriaSandBanks project: Artisanal clams fishing in MPAs, Fabio Vallarola and Sergio Trevisani. Co-management & MPAs: results from a regional study, Catherine Piante.

14:30 – 15:30	2 Working Groups Participants will break into 2 small groups and list all the problems encountered in relation to fisheries in the MPAs they know about. Each group will then discuss what the solutions could be and list those. Finally, they will discuss what concrete action MedPAN organisation could take to support MPA managers in implementing these solutions. And what is the added value of MedPAN on this subject. A rapporteur will be identified within the group.
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00	Feedback from the groups and Q&A Discussion – What other actions could MedPAN organisation take beyond direct support to MPA managers? And who should be the main discussion partners for MedPAN to be in touch with regarding fisheries?
17:00	Closure of the meeting

3 INITIAL WGF CONTRIBUTING THOUGHTS: REACTION TO THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Participants were presented with the general principles on which the positioning statement provided by the MedPAN Secretariat was developed. A first round of reactions was recorded to build on these principles:

General

- The two key concepts to focus on are:
 1. The relationship with the fishermen (locally and beyond)
 2. The management of the resource
- When no small scale fisheries (SSF) takes place in an MPA, need to consider issues of spill-over and the need to perhaps create a buffer around the MPA to regulate the harvesting of the spill-over resource
- MedPAN can play a role in supporting traditions in MPAs through artisanal fisheries

MPAs as a support to Small Scale Fisheries

- MPAs can be a support to the survival of artisanal fishermen in the Mediterranean (problem of space and the profession of fishermen is in decline)
- There is a need to create a model in order to support the livelihood of fishermen (their socio-economic condition is decreasing and they need to diversify) – their age is also an issue (fewer & fewer young fishermen)
- These models can involve co-management and need to be adapted to the sub-region and to each MPA

Consultation, involvement, co-management

- Organising meetings between managers and fishermen: very useful to build trust (MPA managers and artisanal fishermen have the same objectives, they are allies and not enemies)

- Partnership agreements with fishermen provide positive solutions and there is a need to enforce co-management
- Consultation of fishermen for management proves to be important
- When creating and/or widening an MPA, the basis is the socio-economic study and consultations with fishermen have to be part of the process
- A problem often encountered concerns the establishment of the list of fishermen allowed to fish in the special regulated zones (while initial discussions can be very difficult with fishermen, they gradually improve over time especially when involving them in decision making processes)

Fast emerging problems

- One concern is on how to effectively regulate the fisheries activities so that they are sustainable when there are **budget restrictions** (the problem being that lower surveillance time at sea means that there is less contact with the fishermen) – hope EU can fill in for these new gaps
- One big problem identified is the significant increase in recreational fisheries. The issue of **recreational fishing** was stressed many times over together with the need to square this activity with professional SSF. The issue of recreational fishermen selling products was raised as well as often occurring and difficult to track (for many recreational fishermen, fish means income). Recreational fishing is thus often an important economic activity (linked to setting up marinas, dockyard, and selling equipment...). It is however more than often done by people who already have a job on land (unfair competition with SSF). Need to define a “*numerus closus*” for recreational activities. (Spain: Thinking about introducing a “code of good practices” in Spanish marine reserves: release of catches that are beyond limits...)
- The challenge for MPAs is to deal with increasing conflict resolution between the different users

Monitoring & Experimental fishing

- Monitoring resource use by both the professional and recreational fishermen is needed
- Consultation of fishermen for and their involvement in monitoring proves to be important
- While some stocks plummet others increase (such as with eels) providing some opportunities for new activities – however experimental fishing need to take place to check for sustainability and fishermen need to be involved in these scientific activities among others

EU specific

- Recalling that the development of networks of fisheries reserves is an EU obligation via the Common Fisheries Policy (reform)
- MPA managers place hope in the new EU legislation to provide funds to support regulation/surveillance initiatives (in response to decreasing national budget allocation)

Regional concern

- While co-management is important, one needs to keep in mind that the approach may be different between the North and South

- Many traditions linked to artisanal fisheries are found outside the EU and MedPAN can play a role in supporting these
- Question: How much can EU regulations / approaches can be applied to beyond the EU; and how much should be? (keeping in mind that too many laws/regulations can make things more complex in a space that is not expandable)

Other:

- Question is not what fishermen want to do? But what is best to ensure the sustainability of the resources? And for this, for the common interest, fishermen sometimes have to change their practices
- development of biodegradable fishing gear

4 GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON THE POSITIONING DOCUMENT

Regarding what the MedPAN network should be promoting (beyond what is listed in the positioning document), participants listed a few additional points:

The 'diversity' of artisanal fishermen

Getting all 'types' of artisanal fishermen involved can be difficult due to their availability of time (some work full time at sea and cannot attend meetings or take part in discussions on the port; and among these are the young ones who certainly need to be involved but are often too busy)

Governance and Co-management

- The administration generally doesn't adopt things that go against fishermen's interest (...)
- The experience interacting with *Prud'homies* (and involving these in MPA management)
- Reviewing all the MPAs/fisheries reserves where they are the 1st users shows the need to involve them
- The process to reach co-management needs to be done in the right order (and the running processes are therefore different between young and old MPAs)

Recreational fishing

- Problem of no declaration of catches, no specific quotas
- Lucrative activities which also creates businesses beyond the direct selling of catches, especially in the Tourism sector and/or associated facilities
- 1 kg of fish taken by recreational fishermen means income (to that fisherman, income lost for SSF, money from the EU and launches the debate between value & price)
- One section of recreational fishing is also to disguise subsistence fishing in the current climate of economic crisis
- Whenever tackling artisanal fisheries, the problem of recreational fishing is a fact and needs to be talked about and addressed alongside
- It can be dangerous to confront artisanal vs recreational fishermen. Defining what space we give to food security is very important. To some extent we can compare to the agricultural

sector, i.e.: “Protect our Farmers of the Sea” (counter argument: however, farming is not the same as harvesting wild resources / notion also to be considered is that of the ‘commons’)

- One solution in response to the growing recreational fishing sector is the “certification of fish”
→ MedPAN could promote a system of certification (link with GFCM?) – The market pressures should be used - eg. SlowFood Association (Biodiversity Foundation)

Cultural & Historical heritage

The issue of recognition of the artisanal fishermen’s profession was raised including how important it is to spotlight their activities, their work and best practice (the question somehow being how this work can be portrayed as more ‘glamorous’ as is currently the case (exhibitions, art exhibitions, etc...))

Aquaculture

- MedPAN needs to develop a positioning on Aquaculture and also very much on the issue of reseedling (concerning the percentage to free and the problems this causes on the environment and species around; eg. As is the case when the fish released doesn’t originally come from this locality, not the same as local fish population) – The issue of the argument whereby reseedling is positive to enrich the environment was debated and counter argued by stating that simply creating MPAs instead makes much more sense!
- Environmental impacts caused by aquaculture and the issue of issues surrounding reseedling are not yet understood by politicians
- Although from a fisherman’s point of view, fish from different origins that mix (ie leading to genetic modification) is not necessarily a problem and can be beneficial to fishermen

→ MedPAN to develop a positioning for the network

Illegal Fishing

Consider that illegal fishing is often done by fishermen coming from outside an MPA using illegal gear/tactics to harvest within the park

Regional considerations

Careful to better integrate the vision, issues and points of view from southern and eastern Mediterranean (most participants at this first MedPAN WGF meeting from European Countries)

Regional considerations from the fisherman’s point of view

- All Mediterranean artisanal fishermen share the same problems and all have the same enemies.
- When MPAs are discussed, it needs to be considered how this is done and need to understand and use the psychology of the little fisherman: how to earn his living!

EU considerations

It should be considered (or highlighted) that MPAs play a role in supporting fisheries recovery in relation to Descriptor 3 of the Good Environmental Status to be reached for the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)

Regarding the CFP, there is a lack of funding now for MPAs who yet have to become multitask in reporting. The CFP needs to recognize the efforts undertaken by MPAs in contributing to

managing fisheries in their area, also from an economics point of view. So when CFP plans its funding, this should be integrated

Other issues

The system of Tutoring between MPAs should be further promoted to share best practice (*parrainage*)

Objective of a MedPAN work programme addressing fisheries and MPAs

A key question was raised:

Before establishing what we want MedPAN to work on, we need to define what it is we want to achieve. That is to say, what is our vision for in 10 to 20 years? What is our Strategic objective regarding the issue of fisheries and MPAs?

Being all based along one coast, the Mediterranean coast, all are in the same ship/problem. MedPAN's role is to help transform fishermen into protectors and the question is: how best to achieve this?

Proposals for MedPAN Action

- ☞ Setting up an Observatory of results of fisheries management in MPAs (in this way, fishermen could see the results and the increase in CPUE). A question remaining is what format should this observatory adopt (report, database ...)?
- ☞ Participants agreed that a follow-up to the useful Carovigno 1st meeting (although quite tense to begin with) would be good.
- ☞ Participants agreed that a positioning needs to be developed on recreational fishing specifically addressing the coexistence between recreational fishing and small-scale fisheries
- ☞ Work on spotlighting fishermen's products (consumption markets)
- ☞ It was agreed raising awareness among the consumers and promote fish products that come from sustainable fisheries is very important. MedPAN could develop kind of a Mediterranean label on fisheries products that come from MPA (Slow food vibration!)
- ☞ Communicate on success stories (where MPA have managed to work successfully with fishermen)

A last piece of advice: to involve fishermen successfully, think of them before thinking of biodiversity or else it won't work.

(Discussion on the fact that fishermen are part of the biodiversity to be protected. If biodiversity is put first, then it can be protected for the benefit of fishermen) -> *Regard croisé – different analytical perspectives of the issue*).

Issues not yet addressed (or not enough) in the positioning document:

- Gender / fisherwomen
- Financial aspects / funding / budgets
- Cultural and historical aspects

- All against trawling in SSF
- Consumer markets
- Aquaculture (and human health – viruses included)
- Southern and Eastern points of view
- Common Awareness
- Engagement versus Decision power (governance)
- Spotlighting the fisherman's profession

5 WORKING GROUP STATEMENTS

OBJECTIVE

Based on the presentation of the Positioning Draft Paper circulated to participants and presented in the morning, the role of working groups was initially:

- ☞ For MPA managers to voice their needs!
- ☞ To prioritise the actions the MedPAN organisation should do to support MPA managers – giving concrete examples of what could be undertaken.

5.1 Group One – Setting Long Term Objectives for Fisheries & MPAs and defining what MedPAN activities should be

Participants

Alfons Ramos - Victoria Riera – Elodie Durand – Hacene Hamdani – Jorge Moreno – Mathieu Imbert – Alessandra Accornero Picon – Catherine Piante – Bruno Meola

Concluding recommendations to MedPAN on what should be done

- Identify MPAs that are concerned with the management of fishing activities
- Support this objective together with MPAs
- Based on the relationship with GFCM & RAC/SPA, ensure the managers questions relating to recreational fishing also go up onto their agendas

MedPAN should

- play the role of the linkage between policies and the field (facilitate dialogue between MPAs and their field issues and higher administrative and political level (RAC/SPA and GFCM)
- when new MPAs are about to be created, MedPAN could raise awareness on the importance of taking into account fisheries in their management plan
- have its own 'fisheries focal point' in each country (representing fishermen's interests while understanding MPA issues)
- help reinforce MedArtNet (and similar platforms)
- integrate the messages that came out of Carovigno and disseminate, build upon these
- support the implementation of the management of artisanal fisheries in collaboration with fishermen in many more MPAs (a question remains on the role MedPAN could play in relation to this on a much broader scale)
- offer technical advice and support more exchanges (tutoring)
- find ways to support fishermen in their activity by promoting short circuit for products
- explore the opportunity to support training programmes
- Be a vector of messages which are meaningful to all users, not just managers

MedPAN should think to act on two scales: the short-term one and the longer term one (partly because it is a long process to establish a fisheries management plan)

5.2 Group Two – Paving the road for a position on Small Scale Fisheries *versus* Recreational Fishing in MPAs and defining what MedPAN activities should be

Participants

Oscar Sague Pla - Patrick Bonhomme - Fabio Vallarola - Jean-Michel C. – Zafer Kizilkaya – Francesco de Franco – Juan Carlos Jorquera Gamez – Boris Daniel – Sandro Dujmovic – Valentina Cappanera – Laurent Sourbès - Clélia Moussay – Domitilla Senni - Chloë Webster

This group focused very much on the issue of positioning **recreational fishing** versus small scale fisheries.

Discussion & Concluding recommendations to MedPAN on what should be done

- Recreational fisheries should not be allowed to sell their catch.
- Biggest problem is that there are no quotas on recreational fishing (especially regarding no-take zones of SSF)
- Not only involving fishermen but also divers that see things underwater.
- Issue of surveillance of recreational fisheries → a survey intended to recreational fishermen to better know their activity, their motivation... (example of Port-Cros logbook on recreational fisheries).
- Spain has regulations concerning recreational fishing.
- Recreational fishermen use much more modern gears than artisanal fishermen are allowed to... What to do with it?
- Big issue of Recreational fishing using very modern and technological gear/methods versus SSF using old and traditional gear. The former should be stopped in using such performant gear. The issue of openly available data on geo-localised fish stocks should be discussed namely on how that data is used by recreational fishermen (data on N2000 at sea).
- The issue of the 'commons' was debated based on the fact that recreational fishing also has many social and economic aspects attached to it (and human tradition/rights).
- Working with recreational fishermen is more challenging (compared to artisanal fishermen) because there is a wide array of motivations behind the users.

MedPAN could help with the following points:

- First we need to define what it is we want to reach regarding this issue (taking into account biodiversity conservation, who has what rights and by choosing what then we aim at).
- MedPAN: help identify all stakeholders related to fisheries (involve all users and sit them around a table).
- Lines to adopt regarding the links between recreational and artisanal fisheries.
- The process should be 1. To stabilise SSF; then 2. To ensure fishing effort; then 3. To ensure responsible fisheries (best practice); then 4. Only allow recreational fisheries if possible (with a number of permits & if stock is good and stable/increasing).

- Collect examples on Recreational vs Artisanal that can illustrate the situation throughout the Mediterranean and then find case studies that are typical of sub-regions.
- Promote studies on users and surveillance (often too little data).
- MCS (Mediterranean Conservation Society from Turkey can share its questionnaire on recreational fishing).
- Be in touch with the recreational fishery sector.
- Have to avoid being confronted to the 'recreational fishing lobby'.
- Talk with Spanish administration to get to know the regulations on recreational fishing.
- Identify what regulations could be needed even when the threat is not there yet.
- Capacity assessment (of the Common Fisheries Policy) in MPAs: this approach could be promoted in MPAs – and based on these assessments, MedPAN could recommend better inclusion of recreational fishing to EU CFP (DG Mare).
- Find a way to insert recommendations on modern gear use by recreational fishermen.
- Position and recommendations from MedPAN.
- Position – Guidelines – Recommendations
- Focus on 'least impact' scenarios for the commons and the 'zoning' approach.

6 PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Presentation Fabio Valarolla

4 MPAs in project in the Adriatic Sea.

AdriaSandBanks Project: on the preservation of sandbanks in the Adriatic Sea: universities and marine protected areas. Using traditional practices (such as traditional dredging) as touristic attractions. [See Annex 2](#)

6.2 Presentation Catherine Piante

Final publication of the MedPAN North project: "Fishermen engagement in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas".

Not necessarily co-management (managers – fishermen), but fishermen engagement, commitment (co-management being the ultimate level of fishermen engagement).

26 Case Studies.

Scientific study in Columbretes Islands: the spillover effect offset the loss of the fishing ground due to the creation of the MPA... But how long to put this effect in evidence?

Fishermen engagement in the Mediterranean Sea: a large proportion of high fishermen engagement, but no examples of co-management so far.

73 % of MPAs showed a positive effect on CPUE.

MPA passport: management plan, number of fishermen allowed to fish into the MPA, gears authorized... Interesting for the 2015 data collection survey!

See the following link:

<http://www.medpan.org/documents/10180/0/Fishermen+engagement+in+Mediterranean+MPAs/5dcd49a5-2fc8-4211-83ab-0956bcc80a48?version=1.1>

7 ANNEX 1

Developing the position of MedPAN organisation on Fisheries

Prepared by MedPAN Secretariat for discussions

Rationale

The present document intends to:

- **capture the general approach** the MedPAN organisation is to adopt on fisheries;
- begin pinpointing **how best to support MedPAN members** - ie. MPA managers - on issues relevant to fisheries and MPAs;
- describe the **activities MedPAN organisation could undertake** in relation to fisheries and in accordance with the 2013-2017 Strategy for the MedPAN network - Hence, MedPAN partners need to ensure the proposed activities do not overlap with their own and weigh whether teaming up on these activities could bring added value.

This document is neither an official position statement of the MedPAN organisation nor a lobbying tool. Rather, it aims to sketch out the field of action and fuel discussions on how to progress with the issue of fisheries and their interactions with MPAs.

Overall, MedPAN proposes to take the angle of Fisheries from the **artisanal fisheries** and **recreational fisheries** perspectives. Indeed, these largely coastal practices occur commonly in and around MPAs - which incidentally are also found mostly in coastal waters. Besides, many large NGOs work on the industrial fisheries sector for many years and continue to do so. While one of strongest pressure on the marine biodiversity and habitats is associated with Industrial Fisheries which account for about 20% of the total Mediterranean fishing units, the other 80% of the units are small-scale/artisanal ones (Maynou *et al.*, 2013, FAO/GFCM documents) - although sometimes semi-industrial - which deserve renewed attention from a regional standpoint.

MedPAN proposes to adopt an approach whereby the network of MPAs in the Mediterranean promotes constructive initiatives by:

- working together with the small-scale fisheries sector while inciting it to become better structured, and encouraging co-management,
- fostering and showcasing responsible practice in commercial sustainable small-scale fisheries (in and near MPAs), and supporting diversification of financial resources for fishermen
- discouraging the unsustainability of the Industrial Fisheries sector (through supporting incentive/dicentive programmes as well as endorsing sustainable consumer market schemes).

We believe actions should mainly be pitched from “bottom-up” although this wouldn’t preclude us taking part in some top-down initiatives at the policy level when necessary by sharing results of our doings.

A list of some **useful background reading** material is provided at the end of this document ([click here](#)).

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WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH

- MoU with GFCM: 2012-2013 and 2014-2017 (currently finalised):
 - MAPAMED database and 2012 Status Report
 - 2012 Mediterranean MPA Forum and 2020 roadmap
 - MAPAMED Database update (to include national fisheries reserves and Fisheries Restricted Areas (FRAs))
 - 1st Symposium on small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean & Black Sea (Malta – 2013) and preparation of the 2nd symposium in 2015
 - Background document on small-scale fisheries and MPAs co-produced with the GFCM
 - Coordination of the session III on integration of small-scale fisheries in MPAs
 - MPA working group of the GFCM
 - SAC of the GFCM and sub-committees
- MedPAN support to the MedPAN North project (programme MED) coordinated by WWF France:
 - Font T., Lloret J., Piante C. 2012. Recreational fishing within Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean. MedPAN North Project. WWF-France. 168 pages. MedPAN collection
 - MedPAN collaboration: “Fishermen engagement, a key element to the success of artisanal fisheries management in Mediterranean marine protected areas” (2014)
- MedPAN support to the MedPAN South project coordinated by WWF Mediterranean and MedMPAnet project coordinated by the RAC/SPA 2nd Mediterranean MPA Regional Training Workshop - “PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES IN MARINE PROTECTED AREAS” in 2010 in Kas (Turkey)
- MedPAN support to FishMPABlue project (Programme MED) coordinated by Federparchi
- Questionnaire on Artificial Reefs in the Mediterranean MPAs presented during the Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Artificial Reefs, held from 5 to 8 February 2013, in Marseille
- Contribution to FAO sessions on MPAs and small-scale fishing during the World Park Congress (Sydney, 2014)
- Support to sessions on fisheries during the 2012 Mediterranean MPA Forum
- MedPAN Scientific Special Edition (n°1) on artisanal fisheries (2014)

A Mediterranean definition of Artisanal Fisheries?

From experience, it is easier to come to agreements when the very subject under the spotlight is well defined and understood by all in the same way. This has implications for the activities we will plan.

- ☞ Do we agree there is a need to define the activity for all MedPAN network to agree on?
- ☞ We could work with MedPAN Partners and Members and collaborate with GFCM/FAO, and Fishermen's Groups, on an "official" Mediterranean definition of Artisanal Fisheries (or small-scale fisheries)?
- ☞ How to take into account the differences between countries in such a definition? In particular, some destructive practices are not illegal in all countries or not convicted in some. The same goes for species of conservation concern that can be the target.

Artisanal Fisheries / small-scale fisheries

What we understand it is:

A professional commercial activity where the owner of a boat (of maximum 15 meters in length) is the one practicing the activity, along with 1 or 2 employees, sometimes family members. He uses the alternation of gears (polyvalence) that are largely passive, generally doesn't trawl* and fishes in coastal waters (within 15 nautical miles) spending maximum of a day out at sea (exceptionally 48 hours). He holds solid knowledge of the field, ecosystems and of the life cycle of many species. His link to this territory is strong as are his social roots and contribution to the local coastal communities. The products are sold through short commercialisation circuits via small family-type businesses.

Artisanal fisheries are a tradition infused with diverse cultural features.

80% of Mediterranean commercial fisheries units are artisanal ones.

The existing features that should describe artisanal fisheries and that we encourage:

High selectivity; Passive gear; low percentage of discards; low fuel consumption; short commercial circuits; the integration of women.

**The main feature we believe we should disagree with in small-scale fisheries*

What we would like to promote:

- Artisanal fishing communities to set up official groups for recognition of their voice (associations, NGOs, *confradias*, *prud'hommie*, cooperatives...); them joining regional groups (eg: MedArtNet) and interacting with other organisations concerned by the fish resources and their ecosystems.
- Incorporation of fishermen's knowledge and views in the design, zoning decisions, creation and development of protected areas management plans, as well as in implementing management measures of MPAs where commercial resources are present. We recognize that the fishermen's knowledge of their environment brings light to the goal of an ecosystem based management of fisheries.
- Dialogue and mutual understanding between MPA practitioners and fishermen.
- Sound use of the commons by communities of fishermen (both spatial and of the resource)
- Co-management (not just consultation) – Fisherman have good knowledge of the resource while MPA managers have good knowledge of the ecosystems / impacts on ecosystems; the two should be integrated.
- Community based self-management/regulatory measures (fisheries reserves – quotas – zoning – seasonal/temporary bans)

- Advocacy within the Mediterranean fishing community / exchanges.

What specific activities could MedPAN organisation initiate in relation to the MedPAN network strategy?

Axis 1 of the MedPAN strategy: knowledge

- Conduct a short study on the valorization of local fisheries products practices in the Mediterranean and disseminate (with illustrative examples ; example of Miramare MPA action in the MedPAN North project)?
- Consider national fisheries reserves and Fisheries Restricted Areas in our analysis (inventory under way for MAPAMED) with support of GFCM.
- On no-take zones & seasonal closures: initiate additional research on spill-over effects and the link with social and economic factors? (link with the medpan scientific committee)
- Should we also tackle red coral exploitation?

Axis 2: networking; communication

- Produce a guide/guidelines for MPA managers on how to develop co-management of fish resources in an MPA?
- Carry out a training course on how to lead consultation for involving fishermen in management (co-management)?
- Continue organising some exchange visits that allows fishermen from different MPAs meet and discuss no-take zones management & benefits?
- Contribute to organizing a follow-up to the meeting MedPAN North organized in Carovigno in 2012?
- Encourage, when recreational fishing is active in an MPA, that regulatory measures be applicable to that section of fisheries on the same level as for artisanal fisheries (access to the commons should not penalize those who depend on it for income)?
- Showcase best practices in MPAs with a Brochure for fishermen "by fishermen" (who are involved with MPAs) & for Ministries of fisheries?
- Meet fishermen when visiting an MPA and systematically record their views?
- Make a brief on sensitive issues (looking at impacts and solutions) to be used by MPAs on a local level (illegal fishing – dynamite fishing – poison fishing – shark finning – etc...)?
- Keep track of latest news in relation to artisanal fisheries and fisheries & MPAs to be disseminated in the MedPAN Newsletter?

Axis 3: representation; governance

- We will welcome and encourage fishermen's associations as members of MedPAN if they manage an area (for example a fisheries reserve) and as partners if they are not involved in the management of a site (as approved by the Board of Directors)
- Enter the CFP discussions and make recommendations on their documents (in relation to MPAs)? – link with DG Mare – promote EMFF contribution to marine Natura 2000 sites management
- Continue collaborating with GFCM
- Make links with all national and/or sub-national fisheries authorities that manage some kind of restricted zone, with the support of GFCM.
- Co-organise the thematic session on fisheries and MPAs at the Regional Conferences of GFCM on small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean & Black Sea (example symposium 2015).
- Encourage, via local NGOs working on MPAs, that fishermen get organized in representative units (associations, local platforms, national ones, MedArtNet, Lonxanet Foundation, etc...)?
- Get better involved in the LBS / offshore protocols implementation namely with the angle of artisanal fisheries?
- Define key messages to be communicated to the European Commission (DG Mare in particular)?
- Define and promote the role of MPAs to support fisheries in relation to the EC MSFD and Descriptor 3 (The population of commercial fish species is healthy) of the GES? and Barcelona Convention ECAP?
- Fine tune the MedPAN position on aquaculture, shell fishing, artificial habitats and reefs in particular, aggregation devices and recreational fisheries with identifying examples in MPAs of the network?
- Identify a pool of speakers within the network who could represent the MedPAN network in important fora (GFCM – DG Mare – FAO etc...)?

Recreational Fishing

Are we happy to use the definition produced by Font T., Lloret J., Piante C. (2012) which encompasses the FAO broad definition¹ as well as the 2011 GFCM specific definitions which distinguish between recreational fishing, leisure fishing, sport fishing, charter fishing and underwater fishing:

Recreational fishing in the Mediterranean is basically as follows: all non-commercial fishing that is carried out mainly for pleasure or sport, where the catch - the selling of which is illegal - is used for one's own consumption (or for one's family and friends).

- ☞ Do we agree that recreational 'fishing' means not just fish species but all aquatic organisms?
- ☞ Do we agree that the current trend in many coastal areas where fishing occurs is that recreational fishing often competes with small-scale commercial fisheries?
- ☞ Do we recognise that in some Mediterranean countries where people are most affected by the economic crisis or war-torn situation, the line between recreational fishing and subsistence fishing has grown thinner? (although to distinguish between the two, we could

¹ FAO definition: " *Recreational fishing is thus defined as fishing of aquatic animals (mainly fish) that do not constitute the individual's primary resource to meet basic nutritional needs and are not generally sold or otherwise traded on export, domestic or black markets (EIFAC, 2008; see Mike and Cowx, 1986 for exceptions where recreational fishers sell surpluses to offset costs).* "

adopt the following rule from the FAO: recreational fishers have the financial capacity to substitute the fishing products by other products to meet nutritional needs and secure protein intake and survival)

- ☞ Should we gain more knowledge of the interaction between the two types of activities?
- ☞ Do we acknowledge that recreational fishing is far less regulated than small-scale commercial fisheries and that it is under weak surveillance?
- ☞ How should we pitch our discourse with, on one hand the freedom of access to the commons, and on the other, the need to regulate the activity based on the tragedy of the commons? And so perhaps we could argue to favour 'responsible recreational fishing' incentives afore advocating the adoption of stricter legal measures?

What specific activities could MedPAN initiate in relation to the network strategy?

Axis 1

- Support a study on the interaction between artisanal fisheries and recreational fishing using case studies?
- Work on from the MedPAN North (Font *et al.*, 2012) to assess whether each of the regulations/measures put into place in MPAs of the MedPAN network are adequate and how to fill the gaps?

Axis 2

- Provide guidelines for MPA managers on how to conduct public awareness on the issue?
- Inventory recreational fishing organisations/clubs (on the local, national and sub-regional scale) to then explore potential for collaborations and awareness?

Axis 3

- Promote the use of voluntary "self-regulation" (code of conduct / charters / innovative logbooks...)?
- Promote national regulations on recreational fishing and in particular fishing permits

Industrial fisheries

MedPAN will not focus on this issue unless this activity poses a threat to a given MPA or if MPA managers expressly ask us to lead a given action on this.

MedPAN will follow the GFCM meetings.

- ☞ MedPAN could team up with some partners who work on protecting nurseries/ reproduction grounds of some key species targeted by industrial fisheries?
- ☞ MedPAN could support research on connectivity regarding key species targeted by industrial fisheries?

Although Commercial fishermen hold hands, a section of the small-scale fisheries sector is more inclined to adopting responsible practices. As such, MPAs teaming up with them could bring support in discouraging the unsustainable practices of the Industrial Fisheries.

Aquaculture / Fish farms

MedPAN doesn't intend to work directly on this subject aside possibly for some filter organisms which could benefit MPAs both socially and financially.

Our perspective on aquaculture is generally tinted by the following prospects: It appears that these practices are wrongly brought in as a positive alternative to unsustainable fisheries. Indeed, they seem to translocate some problems and prompt a new equally unsustainable type of fishery to feed the captive fish - without mentioning diseases and the pollution remedial strategies associated to this practice. Aquaculture more than often tends to affect the ecosystem functioning beneath

and around its installations with consequences for habitats and species including some of conservation and/or commercial importance.

- ☞ MedPAN could keep an eye on when aquaculture and fish farms affect an MPA of the network?
- ☞ MedPAN could showcase some examples of best practice from the network?

Artificial reefs (and the like – ie. Offshore wind-farms?)

MedPAN would tend to favour natural restauration and the management of destructive activities before installing artificial devices. In other words, 'preventive' and 'curative' care should prevail over 'palliative' care and stopgaps. Furthermore, we should be quite adamant that artificial reefs do not constitute MPAs but can, on some occasions and prior to an EIA, become one of the management tools.

While artificial reefs have demonstrated positive results in bringing back teaming life in barren areas and in providing alternative fishing grounds to fishermen when no-take zones have been established in their original fishing grounds, they also bear a number of adverse effects (both environmental and social) while being often costly.

- ☞ MedPAN should be an observer on projects involving artificial reefs in MPAs?
- ☞ MedPAN could inventory MPAs, within the network, which have artificial reefs installations and disseminate the results of the monitoring which is associated with it?
- ☞ MedPAN could support the initiative and actions lead by the French MPA Agency and the city of Marseille on this subject

Other issues to discuss

- **Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs moored/drifting)**
- **Non-indigenous species & invasive species**
- **Global change / shifting baselines**
- **Fishing gear, quotas & bans**

Links with networks & projects working on fisheries and regional / sub-regional / national projects

- ☞ Should MedPAN help inventory past and current projects on small-scale fisheries that bear relevance to MPAs?

Millennium challenge Corporation – Morocco

<https://www.devex.com/projects/tenders/small-scale-fisheries-project-in-morocco-developing-a-national-strategy-for-marine-protected-areas-mpas/1017>

FAO/GFCM projects (cooperation)

<http://www.gfcm.org/gfcm/topic/16108/en>

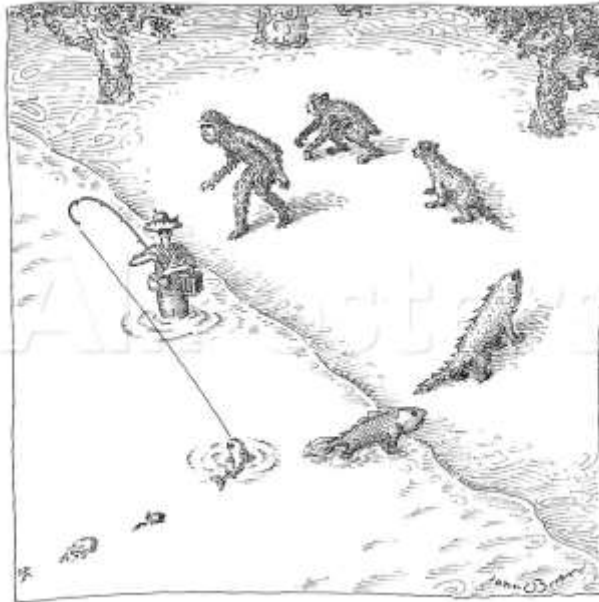
EU funded projects

EMBASEAS / CREAM (FP7) – A scientific network in support of EAF in the Mediterranean & Black Sea

<http://www.cream-fp7.eu/pdf/Deliverable%206.1%20CREAM%20Exec%20Report%20of%20the%20interm%20meeting%20incl%20a%20scientific.pdf>

Projects that have been or will be initiated by some MedPAN partners (WWF, IUCN, Federparchi...).

Now, Let's brainstorm !



USEFUL BACKGROUND READING

(click [here](#) to get back to the start of the document)

Responsible Fisheries / Fisheries and MPAs:

MedPAN Scientific Special Edition (n°1) on artisanal fisheries – to get a concise overview of the issue:

http://www.medpan.org/librairie-virtuelle?p_p_id=110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_col_id=column-2&p_p_col_pos=1&p_p_col_count=2&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_struts_action=%2Fdocument_library_display%2Fview_file_entry&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_fileEntryId=203174

Meeting of Artisan Fishermen & Marine Protected Areas of the Mediterranean : Final report:

<http://www.medpan.org/documents/10180/0/Final+report+meeting+of+artisan+fishermen/fbcde7fe-2b83-4c2a-969c-414d3d2e126b?version=1.2>

MPA and fisheries: Key results of the MedPAN North project :

<http://www.medmpaforum2012.org/en/node/1235>

Co-management:

Di Franco A., Bodilis P., Piante C., Di Carlo G., Thiriet P., Francour P., Guidetti P. 2014. Fishermen engagement, a key element to the success of artisanal fisheries management in Mediterranean marine protected areas. MedPAN North Project. WWF France. 135 pages.

<http://www.medpan.org/documents/10180/0/Fishermen+engagement+in+Mediterranean+MPAs/5dcd49a5-2fc8-4211-83ab-0956bcc80a48>

MedPAN-GFCM background document for the 1st Symposium on small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea (Malta, 2013) aimed at informing Thematic Session 3:

Draft currently being finalized by GFCM – **summary is in Annex of this document (click here)**

Conclusions and Recommendations of the GFCM 1st Symposium on small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea (Malta, 2013):

<http://www.ssf-symposium.org/Documents/Conclusions/FinalConclusionsSymposium.pdf>

FAO – Code of conduct for responsible fisheries:

Background of the Code of conduct: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/code/en>

The full document: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1900e/i1900e.pdf>

A shorter explanatory document explaining what it is: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/003/x9066e/x9066e00.pdf>

A video on the Code of Conduct: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBdSAqKB3YQ>

The EU and the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP):

Background: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm

Information and documents on the reform of the CFP valid from 2014:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/reform/index_en.htm

Facts and figures on the CFP: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/pcp_en.pdf

Natura 2000 & the CFP: http://climategate.nl/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Fock_N2000andCFP.pdf

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/docs/Fisheries%20methodology.pdf>

EMFF and Natura2000:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/financing/docs/Natura2000financingHandbook_part%201.pdf

Proceedings of a MedPAN Workshop on « Sustainable management of fisheries and surveillance in the Marine Protected Areas of the Mediterranean » (2006):

http://www.medpan.org/librairie-virtuelle?p_p_id=110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_col_id=column-2&p_p_col_pos=1&p_p_col_count=2&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_struts_action=%2Fdocument_library_display%2Fview_file_entry&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_fileEntryId=76194

Maynou, F.; Morales-Nin, B.; Cabanellas-Reboredo, M.; *et al.* 2013. Small-scale fishery in the Balearic Islands (W Mediterranean): A socio-economic approach. Fisheries research, 139: 11-17.

Recreational fisheries:

Font T., Lloret J., Piante C. 2012. Recreational fishing within Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean. MedPAN North Project. WWF-France. 168 pages.

<http://www.medpan.org/documents/10180/0/Recreational+Fishing+Within+Marine+Protected+Areas+In+the+Mediterranean/7b9f4bfb-e80c-4c7a-a097-dd8db8ef9067?version=1.0>

Quantification of recreation fisheries effort in National Park of Port-Cros:

<http://www.medpan.org/documents/10180/0/Quantification+de+l%27effort+de+p%C3%AAche+de+plaisance+via+le+web+%C3%A0%20Port+Cros/43182bd5-29b6-48c5-a560-6212e86fa374>

Environmental impacts: http://www.medpan.org/librairie-virtuelle?p_p_id=110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_col_id=column-2&p_p_col_pos=1&p_p_col_count=2&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_struts_action=%2Fdocument_library_display%2Fview_file_entry&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_fileEntryId=76543

FAO background: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/topic/14831/en>

FAO technical guidelines for responsible fisheries – Recreational Fisheries:

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/016/i2708e/i2708e00.pdf>

GFCM: RECREATIONAL FISHERIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES: A REVIEW OF EXISTING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS (2007): <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/a1500e/a1500e.pdf>

An interesting paper on EU & recreational fishing (2008):

http://151.1.154.86/GfcmWebSite/SAC/2010/Recreational_Fisheries/doc/Pawson.pdf

Aquaculture / fishfarms:

GFCM - INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE IN MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA COUNTRIES - Guide for the use of indicators to monitor sustainable development of aquaculture:

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3194e/i3194e.pdf>

On certification: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/i2296t/i2296t00.htm>

An interesting paper on perspectives for sustainability: http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/08_simard_1.pdf

Artificial reefs:

Publication Claudet *et al.*:

<http://www.medpan.org/documents/10180/0/Marine+protected+areas+and+artificial+reefs/b8d810f6-0ff4-44e4-b061-1038176e4942?version=1.0>

Proceedings of the 2013 Conference on the Management of Artificial Reefs:

http://www.medpan.org/librairie-virtuelle?p_p_id=110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_col_id=column-2&p_p_col_pos=1&p_p_col_count=2&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_struts_action=%2Fdocument_library_display%2Fview_file_entry&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_fileEntryId=172270

Results of the questionnaire on Artificial Reefs in the Mediterranean MPAs presented during the Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Artificial Reefs, held from 5 to 8 February 2013, in Marseille, France.

http://www.medpan.org/librairie-virtuelle?p_p_id=110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_col_id=column-2&p_p_col_pos=1&p_p_col_count=2&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_struts_action=%2Fdocument_library_display%2Fview_file_entry&_110_INSTANCE_cLoCbLvceDw6_fileEntryId=72193

FAO background: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/topic/14861/en>

GFCM background: <http://www.gfconline.org/activities/fisheries/artificialreefs/>

GFCM practical guidelines for the Mediterranean:

https://gfcmsitestorage.blob.core.windows.net/contents/ARs/Fabi_et_al_GFCM_ARs_Guidelines_2014.pdf

An interesting publication: [http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?pid=S1679-](http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?pid=S1679-87592011000500017&script=sci_arttext)

[87592011000500017&script=sci_arttext](http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?pid=S1679-87592011000500017&script=sci_arttext)

An interesting book: <http://www.springer.com/environment/environmental+management/book/978-0-7923-5845-9>

An interesting EU website: [\[adapt.eea.europa.eu/viewmeasure?ace_measure_id=607#website_anchor\]\(http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/viewmeasure?ace_measure_id=607#website_anchor\)](http://climate-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

ANNEX



GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE

INTEGRATION OF SMALL-SCALE FISHING IN MPAs

Background document–Thematic Session III

SUMMARY

Bertrand CAZALET

Note to readers: This summary is based on an 80 page-long document which objective is to inform discussions among the participants to the Thematic Session III on Artisanal Fisheries and MPAs in the Mediterranean (namely MPA managers, scientists, decision makers and fishermen). As such, the document does not have the ambition to be exhaustive in its review nor to stand as a purely scientific or theoretical contribution. Although the author comes from the human and social sciences perspective (public law), the content of the document has naturally taken a multi-disciplinary approach, essential to integrating the array of issues relating to small scale fisheries and MPAs in the Mediterranean.



SUMMARY

Within the general framework of the 1st Symposium on Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Seas and of its main objectives, the present study settled its principles and orientations of the optimal and sustainable integration of small scale fisheries to Mediterranean MPAs (Marine Protected Areas). Three strong lines of thoughts have surfaced – synoptic overview:

Towards a win-win strategy between MPAs and small scale fisheries

The management objectives of MPAs and of artisanal fisheries intersect on many aspects due to the spatial character of related issues. The positive effects of MPAs on exploited marine resources are largely known and communicated, as much with respect to the biological and ecological dimensions as for the social and economic aspects. The establishment of spatial rules determines the thresholds for restrictions through the patterns of access rights/exploitation. This must warranty the optimal conservation of ecosystems and their sustainable use. Reaching a win-win strategy must achieve an ideal integration, the equitable sharing of space (between fisheries activities and conservation) while strengthening synergies between artisanal fisheries and MPAs, as stated in the strategic objectives 2 and 3 of the 2012 Antalya Declaration (2012 Forum of MPAs in the Mediterranean).

What are the expectations of small-scale fishermen?

Historically, the management of small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean is grounded on models of decentralised community-based regulations attached to clearly defined fishing grounds that are recognised and warranted by the State authorities. Today, the economic crisis affects the general state of small scale fisheries in the Mediterranean leading to the weakened of fishermen's groups and of their capacity to organise the sector on the local scale. Beyond the difficulties affecting the resources (depletion, variations), problems encountered are also internal to the profession (weak renewal, aging, demographic loss, community divide and erosion of the representativity of the profession) and amplified by various external factors, namely the increase of coastal human activities and uses (the cause of spatial conflicts) and environmental degradation (pollution, contaminants, etc...). For all these reasons, MPAs must be able to contribute significantly to the sustainable and spatial management of small-scale fisheries. The multiplication of uses and regulations within the marine environment makes the sharing of space and resources more difficult. These parameters require that the different actors engage in a negotiation approach. Although they share common responsibility the issues differ, in particular with regards to small scale fisheries which fully depends on the state of resources and access/exploitation rights. The main expectations of small scale fisheries towards MPAs can therefore be summarised as follows:

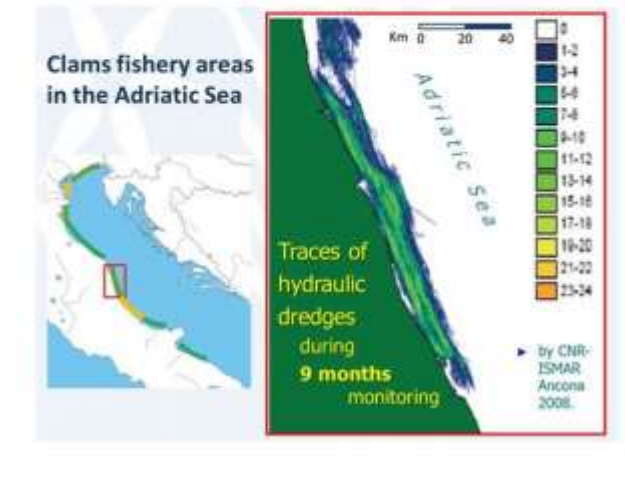
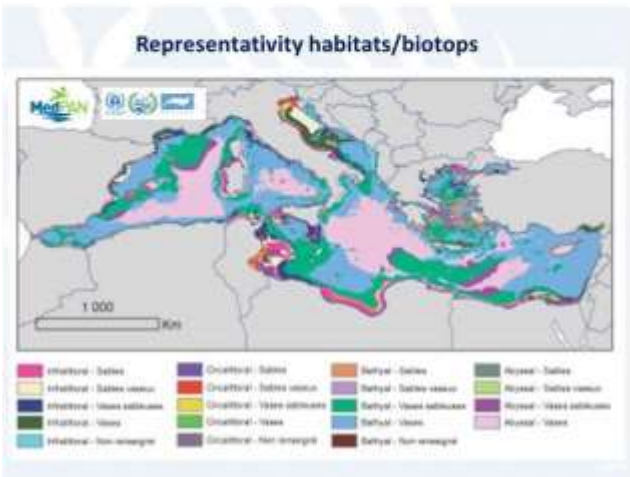
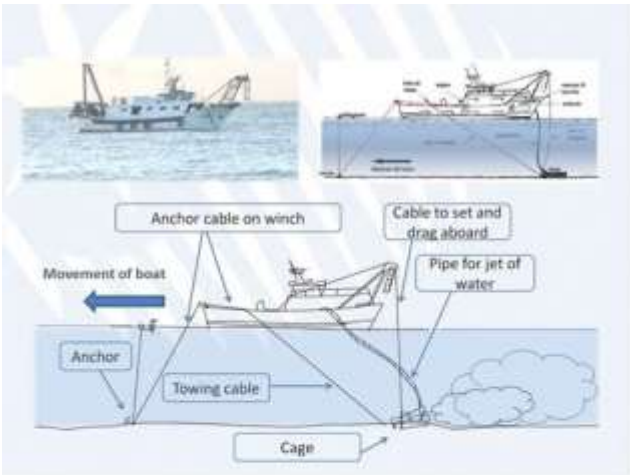
- Avoid increasing regulatory and spatial constraints which tend to multiply and which make access to the exploitation of living resources more complex;
- Improve the quality/resilience of natural environments by acting in a similar and complementary way towards other factors of marine degradation (pollution among various pressures) and of mortality of living resources;
- Develop tools allowing the improvement of marine natural productivity;

- Warranty the safekeeping of the diversity of fishing units, an essential feature of this professional sector in the Mediterranean;
- Support the diversification of artisanal fisheries activities;
- Flagship the sustainability of artisanal fisheries practices and the quality of its products;
- Encourage the protection of the coastal zone (3 to 5 n.m.) as a key and priority activity area for artisanal fisheries;
- Implement measures and sufficient capacity to limit and monitor the growing fishing effort which is not undertaken by the professional sector;
- Improve the planning and decision mechanisms aimed at fisheries and MPAs;
- Secure the systematic representation of artisanal fisheries professional within governance processes of MPAs.

What strategies for MPA managers?

Various forms of MPA management exist, depending on their status, their objectives and local constraints the managers encounter. No MPAs presents identical circumstances with regards to small scale fisheries occurring inside or outside a protected site. Broadly speaking, the following orientations can be taken into account when looking at the daily relations between MPAs and small scale fisheries:

- Refine communication and the dynamic relations between fishermen, MPA managers and scientists. Artisanal fishermen foster links of varying degrees with managers and scientists. These links can be improved as they are more or less strong and fruitful while sometimes also suffering from mutual misreading (on objectives, contents, methods, consequences, risks, and so on).
- Identify or set up groups of stakeholders. The very concept of governance places the participation of interested parties/actors at the heart of concerns. This worthy intent implies that actors of the artisanal fisheries sector are identified, structured and institutionalised, if at all possible, in order to guaranty their operative implication in the various processes. This prerequisite is further necessary to groups and communities of fishermen so they can get organised and ultimately endorse the 'MPA tool' to secure their effective and dynamic involvement within the dimension of the 'conservation of resources'.





Conservation problems and threats

Effects of hydraulic dredging fishery

- mechanical impact on benthic communities
- sediment disturbance
- acoustic pollution
- selective pressure on *Chamelea gallina* population
- removal of marine phanerogams or molluscs (PIR)
- loss of ecosystem services

Coastline erosion

Generalized anthropization of the coastline



Ecosystem services loss



Old artisanal fishery techniques of *Chamelea gallina*



• Marittimo (1910)



• Giustiniana (1915)

... old artisanal fishery techniques of *Chamelea gallina* ... 2



• Pineto (1962)

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- **Preserving and restoring the sandbanks** for the conservation of high levels of functionality and production of ecosystem services .
- **Contrasting the sandbanks specific biodiversity loss** linked to the fishery and anthropic pressures.
- **Preserving and improving the ecological quality** of the sandbanks.
- Building a shared Adriatic knowledge about the management and **transfer of protected species** (*Pinna nobilis*) .
- Build stakeholders' capabilities to enable them to support delivery of integrated management, to **reduce conflicts** between coastal and marine-resource users, and to enhance the environmental, economic and social sustainability
- **Restore an artisanal form of bivalve fishing, integrated with ecotourism market connected with fishing tourism.**

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ACTIONS

C. Concrete conservation actions

- C1. Installation of Beacon based system to monitoring environmental parameters linked, also, to the **traceability of out-SIC fished clams**.
Installation of video and acoustic WEB-based control devices against illegal activities
- C2. Restoration of Seagrass (eg. *Zostera marina* or *Cymodocea nodosa*) meadows and *Pinna nobilis* populations.
Utilization of *Pinna nobilis* coming from Slovenia; utilization of UNEDU Hatchery and UNITE aquaria; genomic characterization and pathology diagnosis of *Pinna nobilis*; Croatian *Pinna nobilis* test cultivation;
- C3. Transferring of biota living on the surface of sediment to less rich sandbank habitats
- C4. Setting up of suitable protocols for the implementation of **artisanal fishery techniques of *Chamelea gallina*** inside the SIC and less impacting fishery techniques inside the contiguous zones of Marine Protected Areas.
- C5. Participatory planning of social-economic development actions to be linked to the implementation of either management plans or action plans.

EXPECTED RESULTS

PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION :

- The establishment of a **new SIC "Piceno Mare"**
- Designing of **3 management plans for the SIC** IT5320005, IT5320006 and IT5310006.
- **Enlargement of the SIC "Torre del Cerrano" area** through the implementation to **ZPS**.
- Enhancement of interest on behalf of stakeholders and of the population towards actions of protection and **sustainable clams artisanal fishing**.
- **Reduction of illegal activities** in the sandbank SICs.
- International Adriatic **networking on sandbanks habitats management**.

... EXPECTED RESULTS 2

BIODIVERSITY :

- Increase of biodiversity in the sandbank SICs
- Production of scientific data on target sites necessary so as to evaluate the up to date ecological status and to plan the conservation measurements.
- An international level action plan in the Adriatic area on the management of the translocation and of reproducers of *Pinna nobilis*.

AWARENESS :

- Increase of social awareness on the ecological importance of sandbanks and the species which inhabit them
- Increase of knowledge of the value and of the beneficials of Natura 2000 network.

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Thank you!
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