



First Regional Symposium on Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries  
in the Mediterranean and Black Sea

27–30 November 2013, St. Julian's, Malta

**Thematic session I**

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION on the CURRENT SITUATION of SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES in the MEDITERRANEAN**



*Henri Farrugio in collaboration with FAO regional projects AdriaMed, CopeMed, EastMed and MedSudMed*



### **Definition of artisanal fisheries/SSF**

***"artisanal" = "small-scale" ?***

**Small vessel sizes**

**Low levels of technology and capital investment**

**Landing sites widespread along the coasts**

**Great number of fishing gear (>50 types)**

**Gear very selective**

**Multispecificity of the catches**

**Fishing mainly on continental shelves & coastal lagoons**

**Intensity & strategies fluctuate rapidly in space & time**

**Monitoring and control very difficult**

**Few regional analyses periodically carried out**

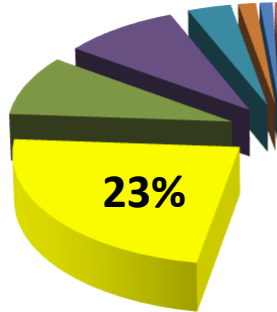
**Data series lacking or obsolete (some from the 80's)**

Data from  
GFCM TASK 1

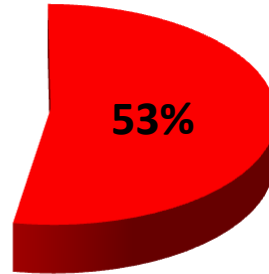
## FISHING TECHNIQUES

10 categories

- traps
- surrounding nets
- dredges
- harvesting machines
- seine nets
- gear not known
- lift nets
- miscellaneous gear
- other gear
- trawls



■ hooks & lines



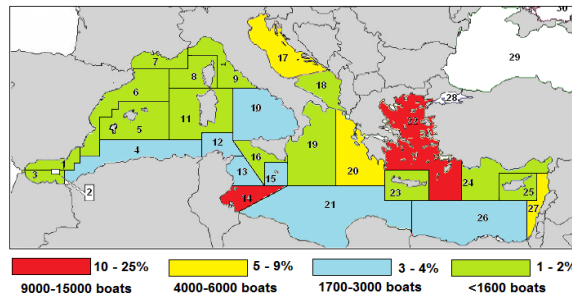
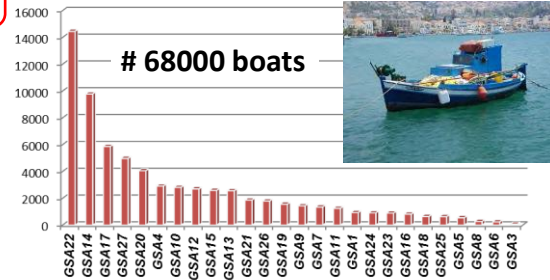
■ gillnets  
& entangling nets



GSA22 Aegean sea	14447
GSA14 Gulf of Gabes	9776
GSA17 Northern Adriatic	5860
GSA20 Eastern Ionian sea	4051
GSA4 Algeria	2908
GSA10 South & central Thyrrenian	2810
GSA12 Northern Tunisia	2697
GSA27 Lebanon	2662
GSA15 Malta island	2587
GSA13 gulf of Hammamet	2562
GSA21 Lybia	1866
GSA26 Egypt	1791
GSA19 Western Ionian sea	1559
GSA9 Ligurian & North Thyrrenian	1437
GSA7 Gulf of Lions	1346
GSA11 Sardinia	1244
GSA27 Syria	1157
GSA1 Northern Alboran sea	929
GSA24 North Levant	904
GSA23 Crete island	892
GSA16 South of Sicily	811
GSA18 Southern Adriatic	640
GSA27 Palestine	632
GSA25 Cyprus	628
GSA5 Balearic islands	542
GSA27 Israel	519
GSA8 Corsica Island	270
GSA6 Northern Spain	234
GSA3 Southern Alboran sea	70

50%

## FLEETS SIZES



■ data from GFCM task1  
□ data from other sources

## FISHWORKERS & ASSOCIATED EMPLOYMENTS

**The largest part of the population of the fishery sector :  
around 250.000 fishermen in 2008 : 55% in the artisanal sector**

**Artisanal fishery is:**

Family activity

Often part time activity (fishing & agriculture)

**Additional related employment and income:**

net/gear making, ice production, marketing distribution  
boat building/maintenance, fish processing packaging,  
engine repair and maintenance...



**Fishers organisations :** Professional syndicates and structures

Old ones : traditional Prud'homes, Cofradias ...

Modern socio-economic structures : cooperatives and organizations of producers.

## PRODUCTION COMMERCIALIZATION & MARKETING

Up to 100 different fishes & crustaceans Spp

Landing places widespread along the coast

High quality production

High economic value

Small-scale fisheries provide food for local,  
national and sometimes international  
markets

SSF generally ignore the "classical"  
infrastructures (auctions, fish markets)

No information at regional level exists  
neither on the captures nor on the  
socio-economic dimension.



## ELEMENTS FOR **PLANNING** & **MANAGEMENT** PURPOSES

Necessity to elaborate **FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

- Including all major stakeholders
- With agreed objectives (economic, social and ecological )
- With specific rules and regulations

### First step = improvement of the knowledge on SSF :

Improvement of the quality of the **statistics** in general

Improvement of knowledge on **biological & biogeographical parameters**

Studies on interspecific and trophic **relationships**

Understanding of the mechanisms of **biomasses fluctuations**

Studies on the **determinism of recruitment** linked to the environment

**Spatial analysis** of the fleets activity and resources distribution.

Particular attention to the **new species** of lessepsian origin

## MONITORING

### PERIODICALLY UPDATING OF THE INFORMATION

Stratified random sampling in space and time

Installation of networks of samplers on the coasts (human and financial investment )

Capacitating the team involved in field surveys and analysis

- Ensure the continuity of the sampling in the long term
- Make available longer historical series of data for the assessment analyses



# THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

