Economic performance of small scale fisheries versus active gears: the Albanian case study

362 km coastline
Geographical Sub Areas 18

4 main ports: Durrës, Vlore, Shengjini, Sarande

Fishing activity almost exclusively on continental shelf

Tot. number of active vessels 438 in 2012 of which 70% small scale fisheries
Single stage sample stratified over 3 variables:

- Geographical
- Technical
- Dimensional

Polyvalent passive < 6 m
Polyvalent passive 6-12 m
Polyvalent 12-24 m
Demersal trawlers 12-18 m
Demersal trawlers 18-24 m
Demersal trawlers 24-40 m

trammel nets, gillnets, fishing ponds, pots

long lines and gillnetters
Sciaena umbra, Diplodus spp., Sarda sarda, Dicentrarchus labrax, Xiphias gladius, Lepidopus caudatus, Scomber spp, Pagellus spp.

Dentex spp., Soleidae, Diplodus spp., Parapenaeus longirostris, Octopus vulgaris, Mugilidae, Platichthys flesus, Sepia officinalis
SSF is the most important sector in Albania in terms of number of vessels (70% out of the total)

The remaining 30% is represented by trawlers that account for the 60% of total GT. This may generate interactions/conflicts between the two segments (e.g. overlapping of fishing areas, competition for resources);

Passive gears and trawlers appear to be economically profitable in 2012, with a moderate rate of return on investment for artisanal vessels (around 9%) and a high rate (around 46%) for big trawlers;

The outcomes of the survey could be considered a reference background for decision-makers for any management strategies for the development of small scale fisheries in Albania;

The establishment of a routine monitoring system (landings, socio-economic, biological aspects, etc.) for small scale fisheries in Albania is a priority.