



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



**SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)  
Thirteenth Session**

Marseille, France, 7-11 February 2011

**REVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES  
CARRIED OUT BY THE COMMITTEE  
DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD**

GFCM:SAC13/2011/2

GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.12

**TRANSVERSAL WORKSHOP ON RED CORAL**

*Alghero (Sardinia), Italy, 16-17 september 2010*

Technical questionnaire prepared by the GFCM Secretariat.  
( information on the fishery, management, conservation, restocking, Research)

**Presentations on management, status of populations & exploitation level**

**Recommendations**

- set up a minimum size
- prohibit the harvesting of the shallow water
- carry out regional pilot studies to assess the impact of the use of new technologies to harvest red coral, (ROV etc..).
- establish a quota system based on number of licenses
- set up a system of no-take zones
- promote a participatory approach of all the stakeholders.
- collect annual data according to GFCM Task 1 requirements



GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.13

**FIRST TRANSVERSAL EXPERT MEETING ON THE STATUS OF ELASMOBRANCHES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA**

*Sfax-Tunisia, 20-22 September 2010*

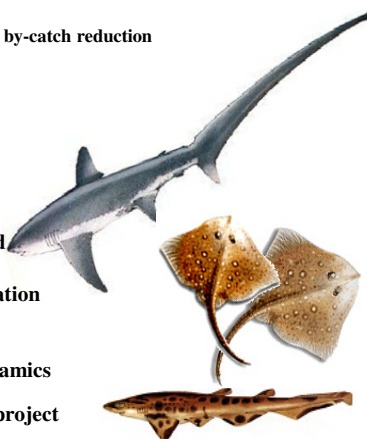
- Review of the available information on elasmobranches in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea
  - Identification of appropriate methodologies to assess the stocks
  - Analyse of existing mitigation methods for by-catch reduction

**Recommendations:**

- Identify & map critical areas (nurseries)
- Pilot studies on measures to reduce bycatch
- Use circle hooks in longline fleets of some GSA's
- Apply fishing area closures of nursery grounds
- Initiate fisheries management strategies for species included in Annex III of the Barcelona Convention.
- Develop National legislation & Action Plans for the conservation
- Include the bycatch data on the Task 1 data gathering
- Create a network of expert at regional scale
- Develop research programs on ecobiology & population dynamics

Enhance the MEDLEM database project

Extend the BYCATCH progr. of ISPRA in a more regional scale



GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.14

**ATELIER TRANSVERSAL SUR L'ANGUILLE EUROPEENNE**

*Salammbô, Tunisie, 23 -25 Septembre 2010*

**Examen des informations biologiques disponibles sur l'anguille européenne dans la zone de compétence de la CGPM**

**Recommandation:**

- Proposer un cadre approprié pour la préparation d'un guide Régional pour la préparation de plans de gestion
- Collaborer avec le groupe de travail anguille de l'EIFAC/ICES
- Envisager la saisie des données sur l'anguille dans la database CGPM
- Effectuer des synthèses sur les modèles de dynamique de population, les réglementations et les paramètres biologiques par type d'habitat



**GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.15**  
**SCSA/SCSI TRANSVERSAL WORKSHOP**  
**ON FISHING CAPACITY**  
*Rome, Italy, 27-28 September 2010*

**Current status of the monitoring of fishing capacity**


GFCM binding decisions on data and information reporting requirements  
for measurement and monitoring of fishing capacity :

GFCM Fishing Capacity database (*Recommendation GFCM/34/2010/2*)

GFCM Regional Fleet Register (RFR),

GFCM Authorised List of Vessels

GFCM Task 1 database



**Draft outline for a Regional Plan of Action for the Management  
of Fishing Capacity in the GFCM area** (*Appendix C of doc Inf.15*)

**Recommendations :**

- Invite the Commission to consider introducing elements of the Draft Outline GFCM RPOA-Capacity into the Recommendation GFCM 34/2010/2
- Engage a consultant to draft a GFCM RPOA-Capacity .
- Convene a workshop to finalize this drafting on the basis of the outline produced and other suggestions made by the GFCM subsidiary bodies.

**GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.16**  
**WORKSHOP ON THE DATA COLLECTION METHODS APPLIED TO ALL**  
**SEGMENTS OF THE FLEET AND THEIR COHERENCE WITH THE**  
**REQUIREMENTS OF THE GFCM TASK 1**  
*Rome, Italy 29th September-1st October 2010*

- **Review of the methods & data collection programmes Within GFCM countries**
  - **List assistance opportunities (sub-regional and regional projects) for Med. & Black Sea countries & procedures for requesting support on**
    - Assessment and design guidelines
    - Documentation & Software
    - Training material & Pilot studies
- **Exchange of experiences on the process going from the data Collection to the submission to GFCM task 1**

**Recommendations :**

- **Nomination of National Correspondents for issues regarding data and info. submissions**
  - Available sources of information for the fulfilment of Task 1.1, 1.2 & 1.4 data submission obligations
- **Detailed list of available sources of information both for large & small scale vessels**
  - Anticipation of problems related to submission of task 1.3 and 1.5 data

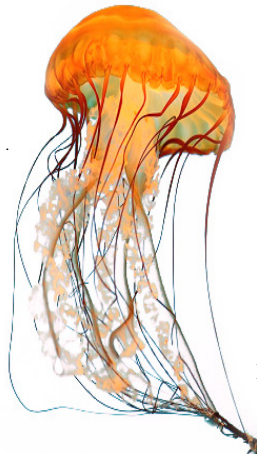
GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.17

**WORKSHOP ON ALGAL AND JELLYFISH BLOOMS  
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BLACK SEA**

*Istanbul, Turkey 6-8 October 2010*

**2 SESSIONS : JELLYFISH BLOOMS & ALGAL BLOOMS**

**Recommendations :**



**Management for research and data acquisition**

- Enforce the ecosystem approach to microalgal and jellyfish blooms issue.
- Strengthen collaboration and synergy among different regional organizations

**Management measures for fisheries**

- Devising and testing selective fishing gear and methods
- Identify and manage fish species that predate on jellyfish or graze on phytoplankton & Prevent transport of resting stages and polyps

**Management measures for aquaculture**

- Mitigate the overload of nutrients and other chemicals
- Risk-based spatial planning of aquaculture farms according to the probability of bloom events

**Management measures relevant to tourism**

**Management measures for chemicals overloads**

**Management measures against introduction of Non-Indigenous Species**

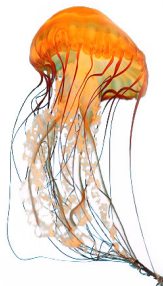
- Control ballast waters, fouling on ship hulls, aquarium trade, imported live seafood

**Management measures for public awareness**

**WORKSHOP ON ALGAL AND JELLYFISH BLOOMS  
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BLACK SEA**

**Proposed multidisciplinary working groups on :**

- (1) Technical guidelines to implement the recommendations
- (2) Protocol for task-force action during a bloom event
- (3) Environmental conditions leading to bloom events.
- (4) Economic valuation of bloom impacts.
- (5) Biogeography and dispersal of blooming species.



**GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.18**  
**TRANSVERSAL WORKSHOP ON THE MONITORING OF RECREATIONAL FISHERIES IN THE GFCM AREA**  
*Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 20-22 October 2010*

- Analysis of the status of the recreational fisheries and its Socioeconomics impacts
- Analysis of the different national regulatory systems In the member countries
- Identification of the key elements for a monitoring framework

**Recommendations**

**The term “recreational fisheries” too generic for management?**

**Adopted definitions (proposed to be added to the GFCM Glossary) :**

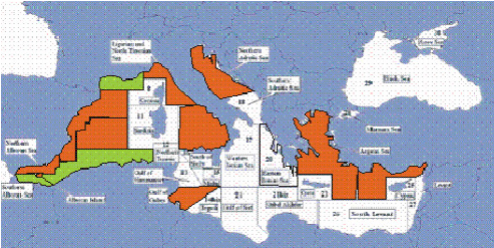


- Recreational Fishing*
- Leisure fishing*
- Sport fishing*
- Charter fishing*
- Underwater fishing*



**GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.20**  
**TRANSVERSAL WORKSHOP ON SELECTIVITY IMPROVEMENT, BY-CATCH REDUCTION AND ALTERNATIVE GEARS**  
*Alexandria, Egypt, 25-27 October 2010*

**Review of recent studies carried out in Mediterranean sea**




**Economic impacts of implementing the 40 mm square mesh codend in trawl fishery:  
case study from Turkey**

**Determine the current status of studies on the effect of the trawl  
40 mm square mesh and 50 mm diamond mesh**

**Methods for reducing the bycatch and the impact of trawl Fisheries on the seabed**

**TRANSVERSAL WORKSHOP ON SELECTIVITY  
IMPROVEMENT, BY-CATCH REDUCTION AND ALTERNATIVE GEARS**



**Follow up of the Technomed network tasks**

**3 databases in excel format will be available on the GFCM website**

1: **MEDSELECTIVITY** database  
Bibliographic collection of selectivity parameters of several species

2 : **MEDTRAWL** database  
Main technical characteristics of Mediterranean bottom trawls

3: **MEDLEGISLATION** database  
Comprehensive information on national & regional legislation on fisheries and technical characteristics

Recommendations:


- Continue to make selectivity experiments on the base of the standardized methodology adopted in GFCM-ATSELMED 1 (Sète, 2005)
- Carry out experiments on alternative or complementary technical devices
- Prepare a new version of this protocol including socio-economical indicators to collect.
- Encourage using pots and traps instead of towed gears & evaluate economic and social effects
- Draw up an Atlas for the different Mediterranean trawls by countries and GSA with reference on main target species and available selectivity parameters.

**SCSA WORKING GROUPS ON STOCK ASSESSMENT**

**DEMERSAL SPECIES**

*Istanbul, Turkey/18<sup>th</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010*


32 tech.pap.



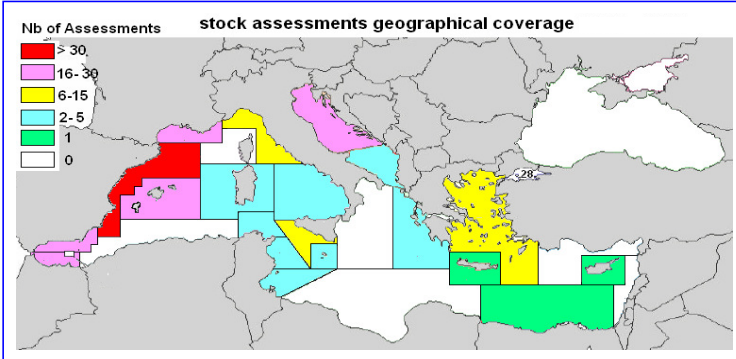
**SMALL PELAGIC SPECIES**

*Mazzara del Vallo, Italy 1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2010*

11 tech. pap.



**34/43 ASSESSMENTS  
VALIDATED**



**Nb of Assessments      stock assessments geographical coverage**

Red	> 30
Pink	16-30
Yellow	6-15
Cyan	2-5
Green	1
White	0

**11th SESSION OF THE 4 SUB-COMMITTEES**

*Saint George's Bay Malta, 29 November-2 December 2010*

GFCM:SAC13/2011/Inf.5

**MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND ECOSYSTEMS (SCMEE)**

GFCM:SAC13/2011/Inf.6

**STATISTICS AND INFORMATION (SCSI)**

GFCM:SAC13/2011/Inf.7

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (SCSS)**

GFCM:SAC13/2011/Inf.8

**STOCK ASSESSMENT (SCSA)**

GFCM:SAC13/2011/3

**CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**OF THE FOUR SAC SUB-COMMITTEES**

GFCM: SAC13/2011/Inf.10

**10th COORDINATION MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES (CMSC)**

*St George's Bay, Malta, 3rd December 2010*

Proposals from the 4 sub comm. Endorsed by the CSC :

- Carry out a regional study to obtain an overview of recreational fishing activities
- Elaborate a Code of Practice/technical guidelines for the management of recreational fisheries in the GFCM area
- SAC should discuss on a mechanism to optimise the submission of fleet-based information, in reducing the number of datasets
- Look for a Permanent Statistical Assistance Entity within the GFCM Secretariat.
- Elaborate a list of "unwanted" species to be included in the Task 1 reporting scheme
- Task 1 data access policy :statistical bulletin and other general statistical outputs should be available to the public by default. SAC should only discuss the modality of data access
- SAC should discuss whether there is sufficient evidence to set up a threshold effect in reporting catches through logbooks

### 10th COORDINATION MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES (CMSC)

- Include the bycatch on elasmobranchs, gelatinous zooplankton, algae & red coral in the data submission protocol of GFCM (task 1.4)
- Organize an assessment meeting on Elasmobranchs for 2011 considering the ongoing works of ICCAT and ICES
- Recommend the management measures proposed for the Red Coral
- Update of the TECHNOMED selectivity protocol
- Hold a workshop for Elasmobranch stock assessment using “less data demanding” methods, inside the Demersals WG (4 sp. ready to be assessed in 2011).
- Consider the possibility of using of circular hooks, grids and separators to specific fisheries
- Analyze the effects of a wide range of square mesh sizes and of separator panels

### 10th COORDINATION MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES (CMSC)


#### INPUTS FROM THE FAO REGIONAL PROJECTS TO THE SUB-COMMITTEES

- Participation of national experts to the GFCM Sub-Committees activities
- Supporting countries through training and capacity building programmes


#### STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PRELIMINARY 2011 WORKPLAN OF SAC

- Organize the workshop proposed by the SCSI on the development of a scheme for the reporting of biological data
- Hold a specific WG on socio-economic indicators back-to-back with the next SCESS meeting
- Organize an age reading training course within the framework of the Mid Term Working Program for Elasmobranchs
- Strengthen collaboration with CIESM on the alien species, and jellyfish blooms topics
- Maintain close collaboration between SAC and RAC/SPA (as in 2010 for elasmobranchs, eel, bycatch reduction and selectivity).






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