

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



### SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

#### **Fourteenth Session**

Sofia, Bulgaria, 20-24 February 2012

### SALIENT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN MEMBER COUNTRIES

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- 1. This document provides a synthesis of the information contained in 12 national reports received by the Secretariat up to 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012. It covers, in particular, the description of the current situation of national fisheries, progress made in the field of scientific research and data collection, as well as management measures implemented during the intersessional period. The information received was analyzed and summarized in tabular format by the Secretariat as given in Appendix A.
- 2. This document, together with the respective national reports, is intended to help Members identify opportunities for regional cooperation in research activities and management processes.

#### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

- 3. From the information reviewed, the following principal observations have been deduced:
  - 14 National reports have been received by the Secretariat, with a few updates generally focusing on national statistical systems, progress in research and scientific activities, stock assessments and management measures implemented during the intersessional period.
  - Small variations in fleet sizes have been noted, while production remain constant or slightly smaller in some countries
  - More stocks have been assessed by some countries what shows that efforts by certain countries to develop stock assessment programmes are improving.
  - European Union countries have continued to develop their fisheries data collection programme in line with the EU Data Collection Framework.
  - Several of the reporting countries conduct surveys-at sea, with MEDITS and MEDIAS being the most common surveys.
  - Data collection, statistics and the management of national databases have been described in detail by several countries and some have stressed the efforts being made to install electronic logbooks. Some are starting sample based catcheffort surveys as well as biological sampling pilot studies with the support of Regional Projects.
  - Almost all countries have reported on fisheries research projects in progress and a vast amount
    are being conducted in some of the countries. Some improvement has been observed on the
    Socio-economic studies and on the support to small scale fisheries. The major part focus on

- fish population dynamics, fish stock assessment, nursery and spawning areas, fishing gear selectivity, bio-economic modeling, by-catch and discards, Anguilla exploitation, sustainable fishing practices GIS and genetics.
- Besides fisheries-related research, a wide variety of research activities have been reported, mostly being funded by the EU through its 7<sup>th</sup> FP and include projects on alien species, invasive algal species, biodiversity, marine ecology, eutrophication, oceanography, endangered species, marine protected areas, ecosystem-based governance, integrated coastal zone management, marine conservation, reduction of by-catch of non-commercial species and marine pollution.
- An increase in the development of socio-economic data collection schemes was observed and some targeted projects are being conducted.
- Most countries reported on the implementation of management measures albeit in various degrees of detail.
- Suggestions for research put forward by the reporting countries include subjects related to EAF, fishing gear technology, monitoring of specific fisheries resources, socio-economic studies, coastal zone management, population dynamics, genetics, stock-recruitment interactions, essential fish habitats, climate change, and other environmental impacts on fisheries, GSA boundaries, spatial management of fisheries, bio-economic modeling, reference points and indicators, artisanal fisheries, invasive species, biodiversity and taxonomy.
- According to the GFCM Recommendations issued last year 2011, some additional information should be provided through annual National Reports, namely: management plans in force and studies carried out for the exploitation of red coral and for the conservation of monk seals. Not later than 2013, any event of incidental taking of sea turtles should be reported (with details of gear, area, target species, discarded death or released alive) to GFCM Secretariat through Annual National Reports without prejudice of reporting the number caught through task 1. To this purpose, current template will be modified accordingly.

#### SUGGESTED ACTION FOR THE COMMITTEE

4. SAC is invited to review the progress of the national research activities and to identify areas of cooperation among interested Members. Furthermore, gaps in scientific monitoring and research may be identified along with the requirements for specific external support in some countries, including from sub-regional projects and other regional initiatives.

# Appendix A

# **Summary table of National Reports**

Member Country	Description of the fisheries	Status of stocks of priority species	Status of the statistics and information system	Status of research in progress	Status of the social sciences studies in progress	Marine environmental studies in progress	National management measures	Research suggestions for consideration by SAC
Albania				NO DATA	A PROVIDED FOR	2011		
Algeria	■ Fleet: 4 191 vessels; ■Production (2010): 95 167 tonnes	Optimal rate of exploitation for sardine and round sardinella	■ National statistical scheme covers landing sites for marine fisheries. ■ Catch and effort data for marine fisheries as well as data on inland fisheries and aquaculture are collected. ■ An access-based national database is in place. ■ In cooperation with FAO, a project is undergoing in support of the national statistical plan.	■ Main research objectives focus on: -biological studies of living aquatic resources -assessment and conservation of marine resources -monitoring of fishing effort -improvement and development of aquaculture production systems. ■10 projects under the National Research Plan have been recently accepted and will be carried out shortly		•Among the 10 projects under the National Research Plan that have been recently accepted and will be carried out shortly there is one on the control of coastal pollution and one on a new the Electro-Fenton treatment.	Regulations published in 2010-2011: -3 fisheries regulations (décret exécutives) on fishing activities -3 fisheries regulations (décret exécutives) on acquaculture -1 fisheries regulation (décret exécutives) on acquaculture -1 fisheries regulation (décret exécutif) on marine scientific research	
Bulgaria	Activities in GSA 29 Production (2011): 8 130.23 t Fleet: 2 336	•Under DCR EC 199/2008 surveys of turbot and sprat biomass not yet finalized.	The Bulgarian Executive Agency of Fishery and Aquaculture is responsible for the registers of: Licenses for commercial fishery; Tickets	■EC FP7 UBSS, continuation of the BS SCENE project (2006-2008). ■EC FP7 EnviroGRIDS ■EC FP7 PEGASO ■EC FP7 Know Seas ■EC FP7 PERSEUS ■EC FP7 CREAM	A study to analyze different scenarios for testing different fisheries management measures.	■Environmental research of the area of interest of territorial waters (fish, zoo, phytoplankton, macrozoobenthos, macroalgae, ichthyoplankton, geology, chemistry and physics of the area of interest) under contract of IOBAS and Moscow Governmental University;  ■Monitoring of the coastal marine	regulation (EU) No 5/2012 from 12/2012: Fixing for 2012 fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish	

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			for the recreational fishery; Physical persons involved in aquaculture activities; Fishing fleet; First sale centers; Registered buyers; Organizations of fish producers and branch organizations, producing, trade or processing fish and other aquatic organisms; Fishing licenses aiming scientific investigations;  NAFA issues commercial fishery licenses of the physical persons, willing to fish with commercial purposes.			waters (1 mile zone) under the Directive 2000/60/EC, WFD. Biological quality elements investigated in 2011were phytoplankton, macrozoobenthos and macroalgae;  Natura 2000 in Bulgarian marine zone.	stocks applicable in the Black Sea; Commission implementing regulation (EU) No.404/2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy.	
Croatia	Activities in GSAs 17 and 18 Fleet: 4 091 units; Production (2010): 51 438 t.	Outputs of these VPA assessments demonstrated that anchovy and sardine stocks in GSA 17 can be considered as fully exploited (biomass levels	■Croatian Fishing Fleet Register is an electronically- kept register, now web-based, in which relevant data on vessels and vessel activities are registered. ■Fishing vessels	■Monitoring of small pelagic stock by acoustic survey (PELMON) and VPA stock assessment ■Project "DEMMON" Monitoring of commercial demersal (bottom trawl) fisheries ■Project "MEDITS"	•Social and economical studies are currently being developed within the definition of the national data collection program fully in line with the EU DCF rules.	■ Ecosystem permanent national monitoring project "Systematic exploration of the Adriatic Sea as basis for sustainable resources management".  ■ Monitoring of fishery resources (both pelagic and demersal) also provide environmental data related to the marine ecosystems.	•All recommendatio ns on bluefin tuna and swordfish in Mediterranean Sea as adopted by ICCAT and GFCM are fully incorporated in	Consideration should be given to international monitoring of demersal resources in Jabuka Pit. It is considered highly important to

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		in 2010).  *Solea solea stock in GSA 17 is overfished.  *Long-term trends in biomass index in Croatian fishing sea shows high fluctuation with negative changes in last 2-3 years for the most important stocks as hake, Norway lobster and selachians.	equal to or longer than 10 m have to keep and submit a logbook reporting data on catch and landings;  • All sales data are reported via a web-based application in an electronic form.  • In 2011Croatia has embarked on installation of electronic logbooks on all its vessels over 15 m in length (since 1st January 2012 the system is operational on all vessels over 18 m LoA). The process is continuing. Electronic logbook enables the DoF to promptly collect data from fishing activities and cross-check them with the relevant	Mediterranean International Bottom Trawl Survey Project "PRIMO" monitors coastal fisheries and includes fisheries biological sampling on most important fishing gears. Project "SOLEMON" Evaluation of stock of Common Sole (Solea solea) and other flatfish in the Adriatic sea Project "DEEP SEA" Project "UWTV Survey".			Croatian legislation and have been implemented in the inter- sessional period.	intensify research and monitoring activities.  To organize permanent international monitoring of the status of the stocks and fishing effort in this area.  Continue with the activities in the framework of Adriamed.
Cyprus	■Fleet (2010): 542 vessels; ■Production of the most	•Monitoring of demersal and large pelagic species in GSA 25, under the	VMS data.  The data collected by the fishery statistical system are used to fulfill the	National Fisheries Data Collection Programme: biological sampling for the evaluation of	Socio-economic surveyscarried out by Department of Fisheries and	<ul> <li>Research on marine ecology with a particular emphasis on marine biodiversity.</li> <li>Studies on the effects on the marine ecosystem from various</li> </ul>	The National and Community legislation provides for a	■No proposals

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	significant species (2010): 866 t Total working days (2010): 68 515 Fleet operates in GSAs 25 and Internation al waters (Central and Eastern Mediterran ean)	EU Data Collection Framework.  **B. boops, M. barbatus and M. surmuletus were evaluated as "in overfishing state"  **The stock of S. smaris was also evaluated as in overfishing state (2008- 2010). The assessment was endorsed as preliminary by the 2012 SCSA.	following objectives: i) to serve as a guide for management purposes, ii) to provide statistical information to other bodies, iii) to be analysed for scientific purposes The Cyprus National Database for the collection and storage of data in the fisheries sector is comprised of the following databases: i).the Data Collection Network System (Data Transmission), ii) the Central Database and iii) the Fishing Vessel Fleet Register (FVR). The system comprises a series of sub- databases: Fishing capacity, Fishing effort, Catches (Landings and	length and age composition of landings, the estimation of biological parameters (growth, maturity) for a number of species; discards sampling for the evaluation of the discard rates from the different fisheries  The National Programme includes the implementation of the International Bottom Trawl Survey in the Mediterranean (MEDITS) around Cyprus waters (GSA 25)  Research in Aquaculture is being done in the Department's experimental stations. The research projects of Aquaculture include reproduction, development of brood stock populations and good quality and quantity of eggs and larvae of species cultured.	Marine Research (DFMR) through: Inshore Fishery Production Reports, Logbooks, the Fishing Licences and the Sales Notes, interviews.	anthropogenic activities.  Monitoring studies on the appearance and expansion of invasive alien species in the marine environment of Cyprus.  Monitoring of eutrophication events by nuisance macroalgae.  Protection and conservation programs for endangered aquatic species and their habitats, e.g., program for the conservation of marine turtles C. mydas and C. caretta), monk seal (M. monachus), Posidonia oceanica seagrass meadows.  Studies in the framework of the establishment of marine protected areas, including the development of artificial reefs.  Monitoring of marine ecological and environmental parameters, as well as estimation of pollutants in marine organisms.  Assessment of the Ecological Quality Status of coastal waters, under the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).  Study of the ecology and monitoring of the environmental parameters of the Larnaca Salt Lake complex and Akrotiri wetlands.  Implementation of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) as regards to coastal waters.  Implementation of the Marine Framework Strategy Directive (2008/56/EC).	number of management measures for the regulation of the Cyprus fisheries.  •DFMR formulated and implements a Fisheries Management Plan for the Cyprus Fleet targeting demersal and mesopelagic stocks in the coastal zone of the Republic of Cyprus.  •ICCAT recommendatio ns on the management of Mediterranean swordfish, the multiannual recovery plan for bluefin tuna and the conservation of thresher sharks, endorsed by GFCM, are implemented.	

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			Discards), Catch per Unit Effort data series, Biological Measurements, Economic data and processing industry.					
Egypt	■Fleet: 4633 motorised – 3 092 vessels; sail – 1 541 vessels ■Production (2010): 77 388 tonnes	■ Pagellus erytrinus is in overfishing. current F higher than F0.1 and Fmax. ■ Euthynnus alletteratus is overexploited ■ The round sardinella stock in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, North Sinai coast was in balanced position.	Pilot survey on Catch and Effort data started in Egypt with support of EastMed project (GFCM). GAFRD-owned catch/effort system SAMAC has been operating since June 2011 for handling basic functions of the sample-based catch/effort programme. The statistics collection procedures have recently been upgraded and monitoring, control and surveillance activities have been improved.	■Pilot survey on biological sampling started in Egypt with support of EastMed project (GFCM). Includes guidelines on sampling frequencies and number of samples to be collected ■A project to improvement the Egyptian bottom trawl selectivity and reduce its high percentage by-catch. ■Stock assessment of single species studies are conducting at different universities and National Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography.	■Workshop on Socio-economic Assessment of Egyptian Fisheries (2011) ■A study the impact of some variables on rational fishing behavior of motorized boats skippers in two ports along the Egyptian Mediterranean Sea Coast was conducted. ■A preliminary Fisheries Socio- Economic Survey in Egypt is intended to start a sampling frame for the collection of socio- economic data.	The Gulf of Sallum (a nursing ground for many fish and crustacean species on the western coast of Egyptian Mediterranean Sea) was declared in 2010 as the first marine Egyptian protected area in the Mediterranean for the purpose of fisheries and biodiversity conservation.	•Freezing of the issuance of additional fishing boat licenses and a closed season for all fishing activities from 1st May to 30th June each year in the Mediterranean Sea.	■Fishing harbour facilities need to be improved at strategic sites. ■There is increasing need for management of small-scale fisheries within territorial waters. ■Enlarge and modernize offshore fishing in the Egyptian EEZ.

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France	■Activities in two GSAs: GSA 07 and GSA 08 ■1348 vessels (GSA 07); 218vessels (GSA 08) ■Production: 19147 tonnes (GSA 07); 10 most important species not including bluefin tuna)	■ Merluccius merluccius (GSA 07) growth overexploitatio n with a risk of recruitment overexploitatio n.  ■ Mullus barbatus (GSA 07) slightly overexploited  ■ Sardine and anchovy stock (GSA 07) biomass is lower than in previous years.  ■ A large reduction in bluefin tuna catches by the French fleet is coherent with the recovery plan set by ICCAT.	■The "Système d'Information Halieutique (SIH)" managed by IFREMER is carried out within the framework of the Data Collection framework of the EU.  ■Catch and effort surveys and biological sampling carried out for small scale fisheries <12 m LOA.  ■On board observers for trawlers, for marine mammals by-catch and aircraft observers for bluefin tuna  ■MEDITS and PELMED surveys annually	AMPED project:     Marine Protected     Areas for highly     migratory species     HACOUSMED     Harmonisation des     données     ACOUstiques en     MEDiterranée     Bluefin tuna research     IPEP Project: impact     of fisheries on     protected species     Research on     Mediterranean sharks     and on sea turtles	•RP3E National project to assess revenues by reducing fuel consumption and reducing environmental impact		Implementation of EC regulation 1967/2006 by French fisheries	
Greece	•Fleet: 17 164 vessels; •production (2010) 71 633 tonnes	■GSA 22: Anchovy stock is fully exploited with no expected room for expansion. ■The exploitation	•Fishery statistical data are collected by Administration under various Ministries (EL.STAT is the only administrative	■ Structure of Fish Populations an d Traceability of Fish and Fish Products (FishPopTrace) ■ Harmonisation of the acoustic data in the Mediterranean 2002- 2006 (AcousMed)		■ Architecture and roadmap to manage multiple pressures on lagoons (ARCHITECTURE) ■ Concrete Conservation Actions for the Mediterranean Shag and Audouin's Gull in Greece, including the Inventory of Relevant Marine IBAs (ConShagAudMIBAGR)	In addition to EC fisheries management measures (Reg.1967/2006 ), Greece has adopted several national measures for	No proposals.

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		rate of sardine was found to produce high fishing mortality and the stock abundance was estimated as intermediate.	body gathering fisheries data from vessels having overall length more than 10m).	■Rapid assessment of alien marine species in the Albanian and Montenegrin coast (ALBAMONTE) ■Estimation of maximum net length of trammel nets, gillnets and combined bottom set nets by using the volume or the mass of the net (ARCHIMEDES) ■Bycatch and Discards: Management indicators, trends and location (BADMINTON) ■Bio-Economic Modelling TOOLs (BEMTOOL) ■Developing fisheries management indicators and targets (DEFILNET MARIFISH) ■Management & Monitoring Of Deepsea Fisheries and Stocks (DEEPFISHMAN) ■Judgment And Knowledge in Fisheries Involving StakeHolders (JAKFISH) ■Mediterranean		<ul> <li>Assessment of the interactions between corals, fish and fisheries, in order to develop monitoring and predictive modelling tools for ecosystem based management in the deep waters of Europe and beyond (Coral FISH)</li> <li>Coordinating research in support to application of EAF (Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries) and management advice in the Mediterranean and Black Seas (CREAM)</li> <li>The identification and mapping of Essential Fish Habitats using Geographic Information Systems (EFH-GIS)</li> <li>Collection of environmental, ecological, oceanographic and fishery data for the Argolikos gulf (KOUPONIA)</li> <li>Mitigating adverse ecological impacts of open ocean fisheries (MADE)</li> <li>Mediterranean Sensitive Habitats (MEDISEH)</li> <li>Maximising yield of fisheries while balancing ecosystem, economic and social concerns (MYFISH)</li> <li>Planning a network of marine protected areas for the Mediterranean Sea (NETMED)</li> <li>Options for Delivering Ecosystem-based marine management (ODEMM)</li> <li>People for Ecosystem-based Governance in Assessing</li> </ul>	managing fishing effort: fish minimum sizes, certain characteristics of the fishing vessels and fishing gear, seasonal and local closures of fisheries, banned fishing gears, minimum distance of the shore and depth restrictions where fisheries can operate Regarding large pelagics, all recommendation son BFT and swordfish in the Mediterranean sea as adopted by ICCAT and GFCM were fully implemented during the intersessional period. Thunnus thynnus, Thunnus alalunga and Xiphias	
				Network of		Sustainable Development of	gladius, fishery	

Member Country Of the fisheric	of pric	iority es	Status of the statistics and information system	Status of research in progress	Status of the social sciences studies in progress	Marine environmental studies in progress	National management measures	Research suggestions for consideration by SAC
				sustainable small- scale fishing communities (FISHINMED)  Mediterranean hAlieutic Resources Evaluation and Advice – HORIZONTAL SERVICES (MAREA)  Monitoring and Evaluation of Spatially Managed Areas (MESMA)  Métiers in Small Scale Fisheries (Met- Sma-Fish)  Updating the inventory of Marine Invasive Alien Species across European Seas (MIAS)  Assessing the causes and developing measures to prevent the escape of fish from sea-cage aquaculture (PREVENT ESCAPE)  Socio economic effects of management measures of the future CFP (SOCIOEC)  Surfacing System for Ship Recovery		Ocean and coast (PEGASO)  Contribution in the elaboration of the Strategic Study of Environmental Impact of aquaculture within the frame of the National Cadastral Design and Sustainable Development plan for aquaculture (SMPE)  Water body in Europe: integrative system to assess ecological status and recovery (WISER)	is regulating by issuing special permits valid for one year.  Seasonal closure for swordfish from October to January.	

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				(SuSY)  Management plan for the demersal trawl fisheries in the Greek seas (TRAWLPLAN)				
Israel				NO DATA	A PROVIDED FOR	2011		
Italy	■Fleet (2010): 13 301 ■Production (2010): 223 000 t	■ Hake stocks are heavily overfished. ■ Red mullet is also overfished, but with less intensity than hake. ■ Several other species are overfished or overexploited in the 7 GSAs relevant for Italy: Solea vulgaris, Pagellus erythrinus, Mullus surmuletus, Parapenaeus longirostris, Nephrops norvegicus, Aristaeomorph a foliacea, Engraulis encrasicholus, Sardina pilchardus.	■The production of Italian fisheries statistics is carried out by IREPA on behalf of the Ministry of agriculture and forestry policies and is included in the ISTAT National Statistic Programme.  ■Within the European Regulation on Data Collection (EU reg. n. 199/2008) a centralized database has been developed to store fishery statistics (capacity, effort and landings data), economic data of the fleet, economic data of the aquaculture sector, economic	■Fisheries data have been collected in the framework of the Italian National Data Collection Program 2010, according to the legal European Union framework put in place in 2008. ■Development of a net (ITAFISHNET) for the exchange of information between national researchers. ■Development of the System GIS-PESCA on the entire coastline. ■Assessment of bycatch of protected species in the pelagic trawl. ■Strategies for the commercial exploitation of the Adriatic bluefish. Networks and relations with the territory; ■Bio-economic	■Cooperation development in the Mediterranean fishery sector — the labour context, the producers associations, training.	■Spatio-temporal identification of nursery area in the Italian seas. ■Guidelines and technical measures for the management of Fishery Restricted Areas. ■Fishery and marine pollution: studies on the effects of pollutants on marine fishery.	■Technical measures were adopted in order to ensure exploitation and conservation of living aquatic resources or the protection of marine ecosystems. ■Fishing activities (i.e. trawlers) have been temporarily banned. ■Biological stop changed among regions in order to improve the marine environment and to avoid to the depletion of certain stocks. ■In 2010 - Adjustment plans of	■International interest on shared transboundary fishery stocks' data. ■Suggestions include research / studies on: population dynamics and genetics, data collection methods, EAF, oceanography – fisheries interactions, revision of GSA boundaries, stock-recruitment interactions, spawning areas and essential fish habitats, echo surveys, climate change

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			data of the processing industries, biological data (parameters of the population by species and surveys data), and ecosystem indicators.	models Nutritional and safety aspects of fish species from fishery and aquaculture Assessment of Anguilla anguilla in the framework of UE Reg. 1100/2007 Pilot project for the development of stereoscopic video images to estimate size of bluefin tuna			Fishing Effort in order to achieve a sustainable balance between capacity and resources was implemented within the framework of the Fisheries Operational Programme.	effects on fisheries, spatial management measures, bio- economic models, reference points and indicators for EAFM.
Japan					A PROVIDED FOR	2011		
Lebanon	■Fleet (in GSA 27): 2 662 vessels ■Production: n/a	■n/a	■University of Balamand (IOE- UOB) has been collecting commercial fisheries data in the Mohafaza (district) of North Lebanon and Akkar on a regular basis since August 2005. ■Data is entered into a software application FLOUCA - Fish Landing Operational Utility for Catch Assessment - structured into	■First record of Diadema setosum (Leske, 1778) (Echinodermata, Echinoidea, Diademat idae) from Lebanon, Eastern Mediterranean. ■Biological Study and Stock Assessment of Boops boops, Diplodus sargus sargus, and Lagocephalus scleratus off the Coast of North Lebanon (M. Sc. Thesis). ■Puffer fish: Lagocephalus sceleratus, a Review Report.	■n/a	■Overview of the conservation status of the marine fishes of the Mediterranean Sea. ■Marine Reserve Network for the Lebanese Waters ■Integrated Management of East Mediterranean Coastline (IMAC) project ■UNDP early recovery of NBC surrounding municipalities' project ■People for Ecosystem-based Governance in Assessing Sustainable Development of Ocean and Coast (PEGASO) ■Environmental Resources Monitoring Project-UNEP ■Evaluating coastal risk on the Chekka El Heri beach through the assessment of the physical oceanographic parameters	•Minister Decision 676/1 on 27/7/2011 regarding ban on fishing, transporting, selling, and consuming certain kinds of fish (puffer fish).	■Promote and integrate fisheries research as part of the Ecosystem Based Management. ■Developing an "information system" for artisanal fisheries. ■Monitoring of invasive species in the Lebanese waters and their population dynamics. ■Assess stocks

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		three distinct but interrelated components.	<ul> <li>Historical Catch         Reconstruction for         fisheries in Lebanon.</li> <li>Juvenile fish         assemblages in the         pelagic waters of the         eastern         Mediterranean.</li> <li>Reproduction of the         Lessepsian invader         Fistularia         commersonii in the         eastern         Mediterranean.</li> <li>Biology of shore         crabs along the         Lebanese coast.</li> <li>The marine fishes of         Lebanon.</li> <li>First record of the         blacktip grouper         Epinephelus         fasciatus.</li> <li>First record of the         cube boxfish         Ostracion cubicus         (Ostraciidae) and         additional records of         Champsodon vorax         (Champsodon vorax         (Champsodontidae)         from the         Mediterranean.</li> <li>CANA Project by         Lebanese National         Council for Scientific         Research (CNRS)</li> <li>Status of the social         sciences studies in         progress or achieved         during the</li> </ul>				commercial fish species in Lebanon.  Research the impact of invasive species on commercial stock in particular and the coastal marine ecosystem in general.  Update on a yearly basis of the fish biodiversity richness in the Lebanese territorial waters.  Monitoring of marine macro- algae in the perspective of climate change.

Member Country	Description of the fisheries	Status of stocks of priority species	Status of the statistics and information system	Status of research in progress	Status of the social sciences studies in progress	Marine environmental studies in progress	National management measures	Research suggestions for consideration by SAC
				intersessional period (economy, relevant legislation, sociology, etc.)				
Libya				NO DATA	A PROVIDED FOR	2011		
Malta	•Fleet: 3 039 vessels •Total production of main species: 1 835 t.	■GSA 15 (reference year = 2010) P. longirostris – overexploited M. merluccius – overexploited A. foliacea— overexploited M. barbatus— overexploited P. erythrinus— overexploited ■Maltese scientists in collaboration with Italian scientists in Sicily carried out assessments in GSAs 15 and 16 combined for the species: Raja clavata, Aristaeomorph a foliacea, Mullus barbatus and Pagellus erythrinus.	■Malta collects data on catch and effort for each segment by species, by quarter and by geographical origin. ■Catch and effort figures are based on exhaustive data reported in logbooks (for vessels over 10 m LOA), by sampling the small scale fishery (for vessels less than 10 m LOA) through an exhaustive sampling survey questionnaire, on sales notes from the official fish market and from direct sales data. The data collected is in line with the EU Data	■Stock status of commercially important demersal species ■Determination of growth parameters for Coryphaena hippurus ■Confirming the taxonomic status of the Squalus blainvillei and subsequent determination of population dynamics, aspects of the ecology and analysis of stock status for the Central Mediterranean ■A detailed analysis of ecology and stock status of commercially important cephalopod species with particular reference to Octopus vulgaris ■Genetic analysis of Octopus vulgaris tissue samples from Tunisian, Maltese	■Socio-economic data is being collected per fleet segment on a number of parameters as required for the fulfilment of the EU DCF. ■Although fish processing activities are limited, a survey amongst local operators has been carried out annually. ■Data is collected by means of postal questionnaires or questionnaires completed during direct interviews. ■Malta annually submits the report on efforts to achieve a sustainable balance between fishing capacity	■Identification and mapping of the spatial distribution of sediment types and biocenoses in GSA 15, including the spatial distribution of sensitive habitats such as maerl beds.  ■Researching gear alternatives for the artisanal prawn ( <i>Palaemon</i> and <i>Processa</i> spp.) beam trawl traditionally used on <i>Posidonia oceanica</i> meadows.  ■Researching the biology of prawns ( <i>Palaemon</i> and <i>Processa</i> spp.) targeted by artisanal beam trawls traditionally used on <i>Posidonia oceanica</i> meadows.	■Malta implemented the management measures in line with EU regulations, and according to the recommendatio ns by ICCAT and GFCM. ■In 2011 Malta submitted its updated Fisheries Management Plan in line with EC 1967/2006 to the EC. ■The plan outlines fisheries management measures for the fleet segments bottom otter trawlers, tartarun, lampara,	•Further promoting the regional identification of critical habitats (nursery and spawning areas) as well as stock structure for commercially important species throughout the Mediterranean

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Member	Description	Status of stocks	Status of the	Status of research in	Status of the	Marine environmental studies	National	Research
Country	of the	of priority	statistics and	progress	social sciences	in progress	management	suggestions
	fisheries	species	information		studies in		measures	for
			system		progress			consideration
								by SAC
			Collection	and Sicilian waters	and fishing		dolphinfish	
			Framework	(GSAs 12-16)	opportunities in		purse seiners	
			(DCF) EC	<ul> <li>Genetic analysis of</li> </ul>	accordance with		and gangmu in	
			199/2008, EC	Engraulis	Commission		2011-2015.	
			949/2008, EC	encrasicolus	Regulation (EC)			
			93/2010.	(anchovy) tissue	1013/2010.			
			■In 2011 Malta	samples from	Amongst other			
			submitted data	Tunisian,	sections, the			
			collected	Maltese and Sicilian	report presents a			
			within the	waters (GSAs 12-16)	set of technical,			
			framework of the	■Monitoring and	biological,			
			DCF to several	evaluating spatially	economic and			
			international	managed marine	social indicators.			
			bodies / for use	areas (EU FP7	social maleators.			
			by several	project MESMA)				
			1 -	•·Ecosystem				
			projects.					
			■Malta is at	Approach to				
			present	Fisheries (EAF)				
			developing a new	management (EU				
			Fisheries	FP7 project				
			Information	CREAM)				
			System (FIS)	■Bridging the GAP				
				between fisheries				
				scientists and fishers				
				(EU FP7 project				
				GAP)				
Monaco								
				NO DATA	A PROVIDED FOR	2011		
				1,0 2,111	1110 (1222 1 011			
Montenegro	■Fleet: 218	■Results of the	■Monitoring and	•Activities within the	■Description of	■Under the RAC SPA activities in	■The Parliament	■No proposals.
3	vessels	stock	initial activities	framework of	the achievement	Montenegro, a preliminary	of Montenegro	
	operating in	assessments on	on setting up of a	ADRIAMED.	and/or progress	analysis of the establishment of	adopted the	
	GSA 18	Merluccius	database on the	■Pilot study on	in activities	the MAP of Katić (Budva	Law on Marine	
	■As from	merluccius in	statistical and	biological samples	related to the	Municipality) is underway. It is	Fisheries and	
	2010, 10	GSA 18	information	continued in 2011-	national research	expected that by 2015, Katić	Mariculture in	
	more	showed that	(Vessel register,	2012. Samples of 18	on the socio-	MPA will be set up and it will be	August 2009	
	trawlers	Montenegrin	logbooks, VMS,	commercially	economic aspects	the operational model for the	(Official	
	and 20	trawlers	etc.) framework	important species	of the fishing	development of a national system	Gazzette No.	
					_		56/09).This law	
	purse	account for	has begun in	were taken on a	communities and	of MPAs in Montenegro.	Julus Jaw	1

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	seiners.	about 1% of F, considering that also Albania and Italy are involved in hake fishery in GSA 18 most of F is derived from Italian fleet (92-93%).  Biomass assessment of small pelagic fish species were performed in all GSA 18 in the framework of the AdriaMed project.	Montenegro. The expectations are that, by the end of 2012 a fully operated Fishery Information System (FIS) will be in place with fully operational VMS on vessels over 10m LOA. Also laws and legislations are expected to be totally harmonized with Common Fisheries Policy CFP-EU and with GFCM Recommendation s.	monthly basis from all vessels in three fishing ports.  Population parameters for juvenile anchovy and sardine from small scale fisheries in Boka Kotorska Bay will be shortly published in a PhD Thesis.  In 2009, in Bakakotorska Bay, experimental farming of oysters started in order to develop mariculture and introduce new, native species in farming process.	fishing sector.  In 2011, a pilot project on collecting socio-economic data in marine fishery has not developed. Further elaboration and continuation of this project is expected in the next period.	Documents on Coastal Area management Programme (CAMP) and Special Plan for the Coastal Area of Montenegro (PPPOP), under development as well by same scientists involved in the creation of the new MPA.	lays down the objectives and principles for sustainable management of living marine resources and governs the general fishery policy.  The National program of Fisheries Development (NFP) from 2009 to 2013 was adopted in February 2009; it indicates middle-short terms aims of fishery development and the measures, programs, financial support necessary for the implementation of fishery policy.  A two years IPA project on Sustainable management of marine fisheries funded by EU	

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							started in September 2010.	
Morocco				NO DAT	A PROVIDED FOI	R 2011		
Romania	■Fleet in 2010 (in GSA 29): 430 vessels (206 active). ■Production in 2010: 258 t.	■Sprat, turbot, whiting and dogfish are the most important species. ■Production declined dramatically in the last ten years (from 2 476 t in 2000 to 258 t in 2010).	■Fisheries data obtained by NIMRD projects. Data are transmitted to Romanian NAFA in the frame of National Data Collection Program. Fisheries data are also uploaded in JRC data base. ■In parallel way, National Fisheries Report transmitted annually to the Black Sea Commission. ■With the help of the NAFA statistics/collecting data system are performed crosscheck verifications between the logbooks, declarations of origin and (first) sales notes of fish and other aquatic	■National Fisheries Data Collection Program/ NAFA-DG Mare. ■Service of fish species inventory. ■CE/CBC - Strengthening the regional capacity to support the sustainable management of the Black Sea Fisheries – (SRCSSMBSF). ■FP7/KBBE Coordinating research in support to application of EAF (Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries) and management advice in the Mediterranean and Black Seas (CREAM); Policy- oriented marine Environmental Research for the Southern EUropean Seas (PERSEUS). ■ FP7: OCEAN: A COast to COast NETwork of	Not provided.	■National monitoring programme of coastal and marine waters (permanent). ■NATO: Bio-optical characterization of the Black sea for remote sensing applications. ■ESA: Ocean color-Application for the Western Black Sea. ■Meris Validation data. ■ CE/PC7 European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODNET). ■ UE/CBS: Industrial Symbiosis Network for Environment Protection and Sustainable Development in the Black Sea Basin. ■EU/FP7: Pan - European infrastructure for Ocean&Marine Data Management (SEADATANET II); Options for delivering ecosystem-based marine management (ODEMM); Development and pre-operational validation of upgraded GMES Marine Care Services and capabilities (MyOcean). ■NP II – ERA NET Radiation background of Black Sea coastal environment (RACE); Molecular approaches for rapid and quantitative detection of cyanobacteria and their toxins	■Law No. 82/20.11.1993, on the Constitution of the Biosphere Reserve "Danube Delta" ■Law No. 137/1995, on Environmental Protection ■Law No. 23 /2008, on Fishing Fund, Fishery and Aquaculture ■Order No.179/1 2001, regarding the Registering and transmission of the data related with the marine fishing activity; ■Order No.262/16 2001, regarding the Preparation of the Directory of Vessels and Fishing boats; ■Order no.	Research regarding distribution and abundance of the two main species in the Black Sea: turbot and dogfish.

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			organisms and reports.	protected areas: from the shore to the deep sea.		from the coastal Black Sea (MARCY).	422/30/2001 for development of the commercial fishing activities in the Black Sea waters; Annual Order on the Fishing Prohibition (753/2008); Order no. 344/2008 for the operational and functional manner of fishing vessel and boats file; Order no. 342/2008 on minimal size of the aquatic living resources; Order no. 449/2008 on technical characteristics and practice conditions for fishing gears used in the commercial fishing.	

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Slovenia	• Fleet (in GSA 17): 186 vessels • 2011 Production: 719 t.	■Sardine (Sardina pilchardus): Fully exploited ■Anchovy (Engraulis encrasicolus): Fully exploited	■Information system InfoRib contains several modules. The modules are stored in a centralized database in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food. ■Preparation of the national plan for the implementation of the validation system in line with the Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 ■The year 2012 will be greatly marked by the building of the Electronic Logbook Module.	■ Slovenia is performing two research surveys at sea: MEDITS and MEDIAS. ■ SOLEMON project (Evaluation of the stock of <i>Solea vulgaris</i> in the Central and Northern Adriatic and estimation of the impact of different gear) in the frame of AdriaMed.	Three studies on the basis of Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 and of Appendix VI to the Commission Decision: (1) Module of evaluation of the fishing sector; (2) module of the evaluation of the aquaculture sector and (3) module of the evaluation of the evaluation of the processing industry.	In October 2010 a 3-year survey started, determining biological and ecological characteristics and seasonal dynamics of five commercially important fish species in the Portorož Fisheries Reserve.	■Management measures in the Slovenian seas follow the Council Regulation (EC) No 1976/2006 which contains principles and rules relating to the conservation and management of the living resources of the seas.  ■The Regulation on monitoring of catches and selling of fisheries products (from 2008) is being revised in line with the new EC Control Regulation.	•No proposals.
Spain	•Fleet: Operates mainly in 4 GSAs •Fleet (2010): 3 219 vessels; •Production of main species:	■GSA 01  - Merluccius merluccius overfishing status, biomass in intermediate level of abundance, ■GSA 05  - Aristeus antennatus	■The Spanish fisheries statistics and information system is based on the data from three different sources: sales notes, logbooks and landing declarations.	IEO ensures the scientific monitoring of the fisheries of the main commercial species at the principal landing sites; Studies on growth and reproduction of demersal and small pelagic objective	■Not provided	■IEO quarterly surveys monitoring oceanographic conditions off Málaga (GSA 01), Murcia (GSA 06) and Mallorca (GSA 05); ■2010-2011: research activities related to Marine Protected Areas: quantification of exported biomass from the MPAs to adjacent areas, evolution of the resources in areas previously	•Fishery Law 3/2001: measures on conservation of fisheries resources, protection and regeneration of fisheries resources, management	•For the assessment of marine resources more emphasis is encouraged on studies focusing on the impact of environmental changes

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	46 071 t.	overexploited - Merluccius merluccius overexploited - Mullus surmuletus overexploited - GSA 06 - Mullus barbatus overexploited, low level of abundance - Parapenaeus longirostris overexploited Engraulis encrasicolus fully exploited, low abundance - Sardina pilchardus overexploited - GSA 07 - Merluccius merluccius overfishing status, low abundance - Mullus barbatus overfishing status, intermediate level of abundance.	length and biological data of main commercial species under the guidelines of the National Program supported by the EU for the collection and management of fisheries data.  Data is stored and managed by the SIRENO database developed by the IEO; Secretariat of Maritime Fisheries is developing a global tool to compile the different sources of information in a common database.	species are routinely carried out.  The annual international bottom trawl survey MEDITS was carried out with the aim of estimating relative abundance index of the main demersal species.  MEDIAS, the international acoustic survey in the Mediterranean, was carried out in summer 2011.  IEO Mediterranean tuna research program.  The National Research project on BFT biology and migration patterns initiated in 2007 (MIGRATUN), has been developed along 2010.  In 2010 a study on bluefin tuna was developed using tuna traps as scientific observatories. The first part of this project includes the monitoring of fishing activities, sampling of size of catches, collection of biological samples		exploited and currently protected and the monitoring of artisanal fisheries. experimental fishing and underwater visual census surveys in the Columbretes Islands Tag-recapture experiments  The project TROFOALBORAN continues focusing on the pelagic ecosystem trophic web dynamics influencing the early life stages of sardine and anchovy.  The project INDEMARES launched in 2009 aiming to comply with commitments regarding the marine European Natura 2000 network and reinforce the application of International conventions on the sea (as OSPAR and Barcelona) and raise public awareness on biodiversity conservation has established its webpage which outlines its main activities and objectives (www.indemares.es)	measures of fishing activity, regulation of recreational fisheries and inspection and control measures.  Ministerial Order APA 2529/2011: management measures for purse seine fisheries.  Royal Decree 347/2011 establishes a National Register of authorised vessels, The General Secretariat for the Sea keeps on managing the seven Spanish Mediterranean Marine Reserves.	(climatic variability, increase of gelatinous plankton, etc.) on the variability of marine resources, as well as, on their effect on fishing catchability and fleet efficiency.

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				for various studies and the monitoring of releases of bluefin tuna alive when the TACs were reached.  Research activities on Albacore (Thunnus alalunga, ALB) were developed on board recreational and long-line fishery vessels targeting ALB.  Small tuna species study on maturity and fecundity rates, age and growth.  In 2012 Sarda sarda life cycle completed in captivity within the SELFDOTT/IEO project.  Biological sampling and tagging of Xiphas gladius.				
Syria				NO DATA	A PROVIDED FOR	2011		
Tunisia	■Fleet: more than 12 000 vessels ■Production (2010): about 102 066 t ■ Fishing operations in GSAs		■The national Data collection system is managed by the "Direction générale de la pêche et de l'aquaculture"; ■Improvements to the system developed in	■Assessment of marine resources in Tunisian waters (1996-2002); ■Research programmes ESREB, ESSATEL and ERACHID (2002-2006); ■BIHARE,	■Socio-economic indicators of the fisheries of the Gulf of Gabès and of the north and east regions of the country; ■Use of bio-economic models for the caramote	<ul> <li>Monitoring of nesting sites of turtles.</li> <li>Experimenting circular hooks for turtles by-catch reduction</li> <li>Monitoring network for turtles and cetaceans.</li> <li>Genetic studies on turtles and sharks.</li> <li>Age and growth studies of elasmobranches.</li> </ul>	Trawling ban in GSA 14 between 1st July 2011 and 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2011.	

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	12, 13 and 14.		1995 are foreseen in the coming years;  Data collection is through logbooks for vessels >15 m LOA and port sampling for smaller boats.  DGPA with FAO/CopeMed II: pilot action for collection and improvement of artisanal fisheries statistical data in Monastir	LAMPAROS and CHANCHOUL Projects: final reports transmitted to relevant Ministry  3 complementary actions in 2011: Demersals and Small Pelagics Stock Assessment and fisheries management and Improvement of gear selectivity Stock Assessment of S. sphyraena, M. Merluccius, and P. longirostris. The two last within the framework of MedSudMed project who also facilitated an Intercalibration exercise of 2 research vessels with the Italian team for standardisation of collection methods	prawn fishery in the Gulf of Gabes.  Study on the profitability of vessels targeting small pelagic species. The study has finished and results are available.	Identification of nursery areas. Systematics of Dasyatidae. Interaction of cetaceans with entangling nets, an experiment to test pingers to deter cetaceans from purse seines.		
Turkey			<u> </u>		A PROVIDED FOR	2011		