



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION  
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN**



**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES  
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE**

## **Review of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) of the Mediterranean Sea and actions undertaken by the GFCM**

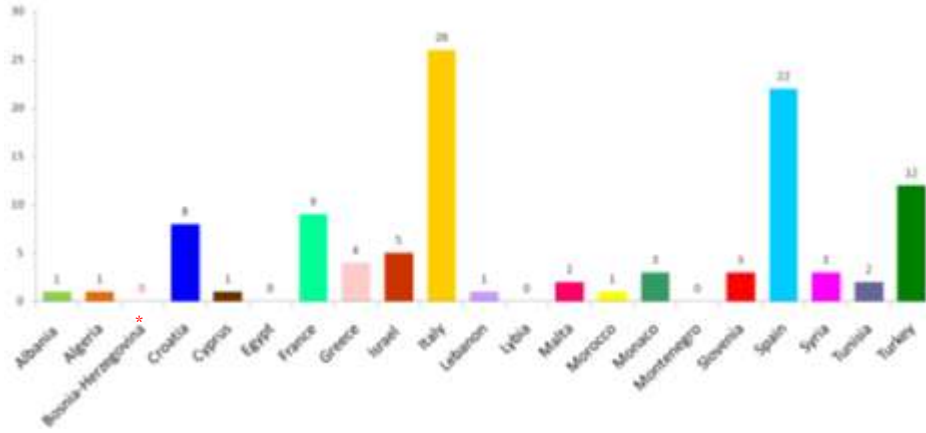
TRANSVERSAL WORKSHOP ON  
SPATIAL BASED APPROACH TO FISHERY MANAGEMENT  
6-8 February 2012, Rome (Italy)

Protected areas were conceived [...] to preserve the *sites of great ecological value*, the *ecosystems* and the *habitats* and to protect *threatened species* as well as *natural resources* and to slow down the *erosion of biodiversity* (UNEP-MAP-RAC/SPA 2010).

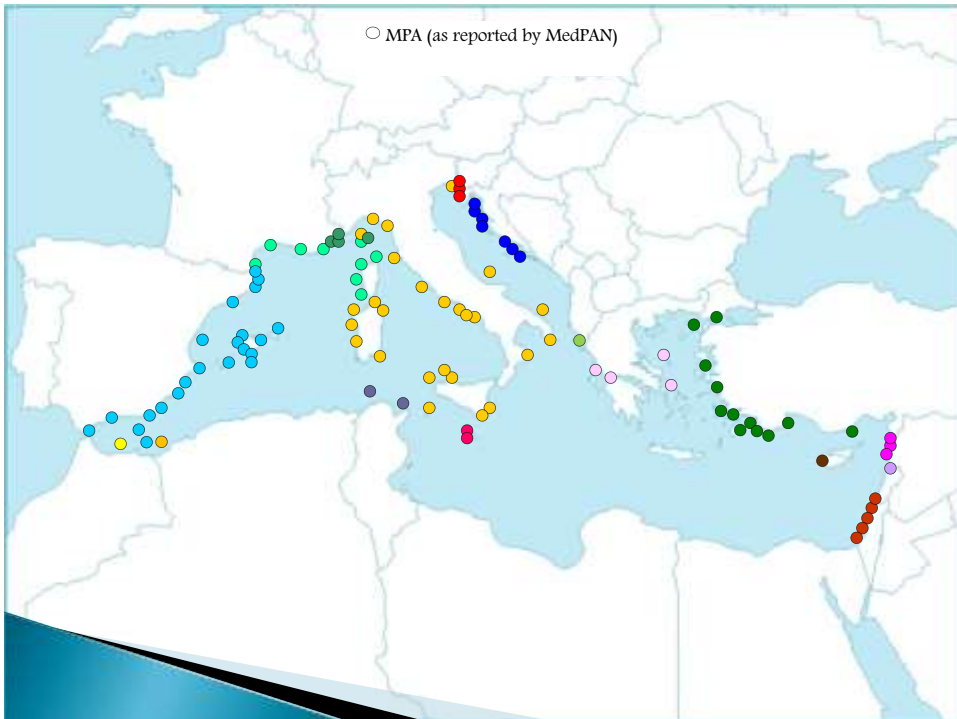


## MPAs of the Mediterranean Sea

data from MedPAN database ([www.medpan.org](http://www.medpan.org))



\* not CFM Member



The **General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean** has the key role in the sustainable management of the Mediterranean, Black Sea and connecting waters



*It [...] promotes the development, conservation, rational management and best utilization of living marine resources [...]*

### **Given the interest and the role of the GFCM on issues related to the protection of sensitive habitats and ecosystems ...**

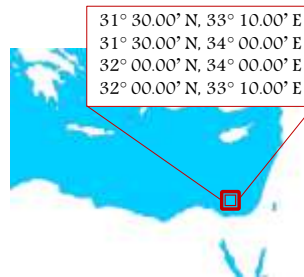
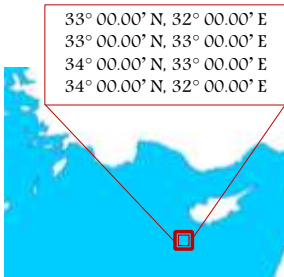
- Specific Recommendations on the subject were issued in the last years;
- The Recommendations incorporate the indications made by the National Experts during the meetings held on the topic in the years [e.g. [Transversal Workshop on Marine Protected Areas](#) (in collaboration with RAC/SPA) Salammbô, Tunisia, 24–25 May 2007].



Rec. GFCM/2006/3 On the establishment of fisheries restrictive areas in order to protect the deep sea sensitive habitats

a) Fishing with towed dredges and bottom trawl nets shall be prohibited in the areas bounded by lines joining the following coordinates:

- *Lophelia* reef off Capo Santa Maria di Leuca (Italy)
- The Nile delta cold hydrocarbon seeps area (Egypt)
- The Eratosthemes Seamount (Cyprus)



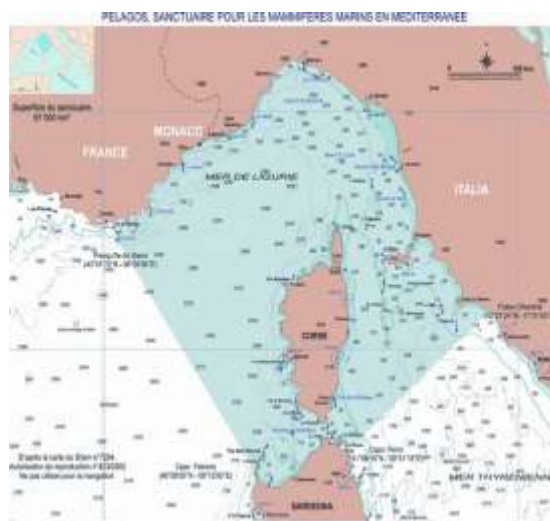
39° 27.72' N, 18° 10.74' E  
39° 27.80' N, 18° 26.68' E  
39° 11.16' N, 18° 04.28' E  
39° 11.16' N, 18° 32.58' E



Rec. GFCM/31/2007/2

On the Pelagos Sanctuary for the Conservation of Marine Mammals

The GFCM Secretariat is requested to cooperate with the Pelagos Secretariat on the exchange of data and each would report to its respective Governing Body.



Rec. GFCM/33/2009/1

## On the establishment of a fisheries restricted area in the Gulf of Lion to protect spawning aggregations and deep sea sensitive habitats

- The **fishing effort for demersal stocks** [...] shall not exceed the level of fishing effort applied in 2008 in the fisheries restricted area of the eastern Gulf of Lions **as bounded by lines** [...]

- Members shall communicate to the GFCM Secretary [...] the list of **vessels that have used towed nets, bottom and mid-water longlines, bottom-set nets in the area** [...]

- **Members shall establish a register of the fishing vessels authorized to fish in the area** which ensure that the vessels not having records of fishing in the area are not authorized to start fishing therein [...]

42°40'N, 4°20' E;  
42°40'N, 5°00' E;  
43°00'N, 4°20' E;  
43°00'N, 5°00' E.



 A map of the Mediterranean Sea region with the GFCM logo at the top center. The logo is an oval containing a globe and the text 'GFCM' and 'OSIN'. Below the logo, the text 'What about the future?' is written in large red font. Below this, there are four bullet points in dark blue text. At the bottom right, the text 'Thank you !' is written in large red font.
 

## What about the future?

- The discussion stays open...
- New proposals for FRAs are expected to be submitted
- GFCM in collaboration with partner Organizations will enhance the use of spatial tools to improve management of fisheries
- Recommendations from meetings and experts are the basis to build new protected areas!

**Thank you !**