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SMALL-SCALE FISHERS' FORUM

Strong SSF organizations: the basis for developing projects and funding requests, and the digital transition

18-20 April 2024
Torrevieja, Spain

Agenda

Objectives

The objective of this workshop is to discuss with small-scale fishers and fish workers how to establish a strong and sustainable SSF organization in a community of fishers, in order to increase productivity and solidarity, diversify the fishers' activities, and attract younger fishers. In particular, the workshop will provide the space to share experiences of fishers in creating an organization, with a focus on the local model, *las cofradías de Pescadores*, while also highlighting good practices from across the region. The workshop will further delve into project development and applying for funding as a SSF organization, discussing opportunities, barriers, and solutions.

THURSDAY 18 APRIL

1. Welcome and introduction to the SSF Forum
2. Establishing a SSF organization: objective, socio-economic aspects and contribution to local communities
 - *Las Cofradías de Pescadores*: a unique associative model in Europe (*José Basilio Otero Rodríguez, Federación Nacional de Cofradías de Pescadores*)
 - Models and good practices across the Mediterranean (*group discussions*)

3. Participatory management in Spain and across the region: case studies

- Conclusions of the GFCM working group on small-scale fisheries on participatory management (*Constance Verlhac, GFCM Secretariat*)
- The example of marine reserves of fishing interest (RMIP) and the marine reserve of Tabarca Island (*Alfonso Ramos, University of Alicante; SGP*)
- Catalonia co-management scheme for SSF (*Miguel Gómez Muñóz, WWF Spain*)
- Other good practices from across the Mediterranean

4. Developing projects as a SSF organization: opportunities and benefits

- The example of *cofradías de Pescadores*
- Group discussion

WWF side session: The digital transition: how new technologies can support SSF organizations in promoting sustainable small-scale fisheries (Fish-X Horizon Europe Programme)

- Presentation of Fish-X project
- Case studies in of the project in Croatia and Portugal: “Benefits and challenges of digitalisation”
- Other examples of digitalisation: “tracking and data collection in Motril, Spain”
- Q&A: (a) how digitalisation is helping a smooth implementation of EU control-regulations? (b) what are the opportunities for non-EU countries?

FRIDAY 19 APRIL

Visit to the Island of Tabarca and to the *Cofradía de Pescadores de Torrevieja y Santa Pola*

SATURDAY 20 APRIL

5. **Applying for funding as a SSF organization: procedures, challenges and solutions** (*Marta Pascual, WestMed/Spanish administration and Margaux Janin, Blue Seeds*)
6. **Closing discussions and conclusions: potential organizational and participatory management models in to develop in countries across the region**