



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



General Fisheries Commission  
for the Mediterranean  
Commission générale des pêches  
pour la Méditerranée



HIGH-LEVEL  
MEETING

Building together a new strategy for Mediterranean and  
Black Sea fisheries and aquaculture

**Abdellah SROUR**, GFCM Executive Secretary

Keynote address

Recent developments in fisheries and aquaculture  
governance within the GFCM



**MID-TERM STRATEGY  
(2017-2020)**

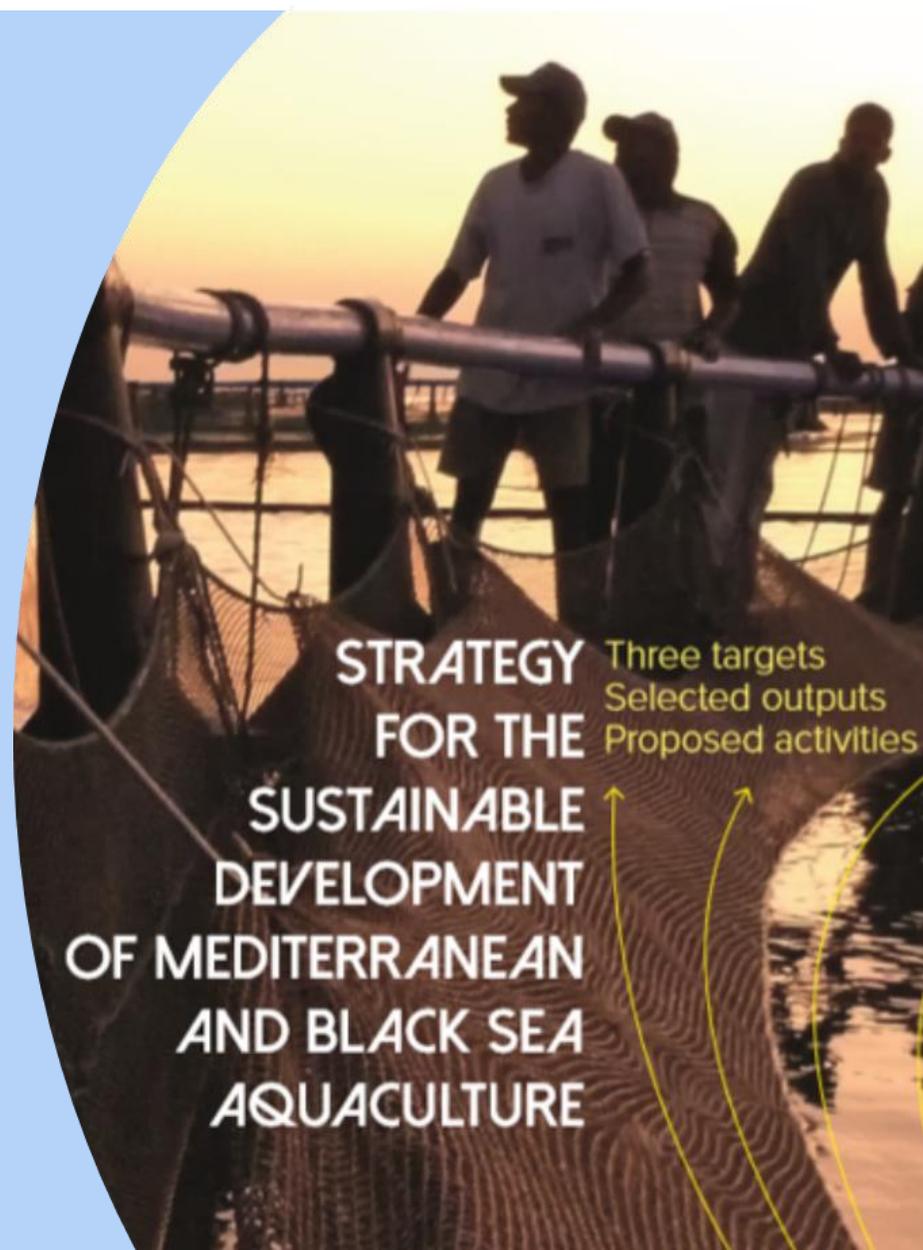
Five targets  
Selected outputs  
Proposed actions

**TOWARDS THE  
SUSTAINABILITY  
OF MEDITERRANEAN  
AND BLACK SEA  
FISHERIES**

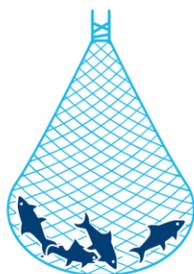
Translating political  
commitment into  
concrete action  
through dedicated  
strategies

**STRATEGY  
FOR THE  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
OF MEDITERRANEAN  
AND BLACK SEA  
AQUACULTURE**

Three targets  
Selected outputs  
Proposed activities



# Mid-term strategy (2017-2020) towards the sustainability of **FISHERIES**



## 1. Reverse the declining trend of fish stocks

- Strengthened scientific advice
- Multiannual management plans
- Assessed socio-economic impacts



## 2. Support livelihoods for sustainable small-scale fisheries

- Livelihood diversification, market access and decent working conditions
- Participatory mechanisms
- Profitable fisheries



## 3. Curb illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing

- Modular monitoring, control and surveillance
- Regional standards for vessel monitoring and control practices
- Reinforced inspections



## 4. Minimize and mitigate unwanted interactions

- Focus on climate change, marine litter and non-indigenous species
- Enhanced gear selectivity
- Spatial management measures



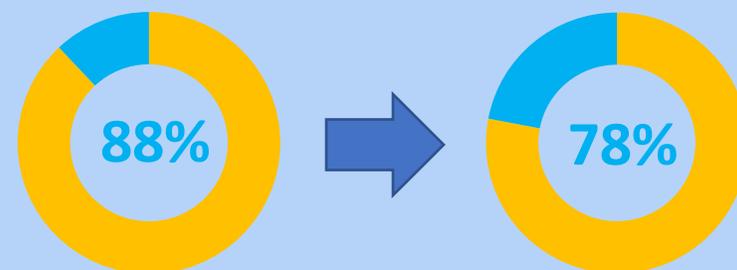
## 5. Enhance capacity building and cooperation

- Science-policy interface
- Synergies with relevant international organizations
- Training and technical assistance

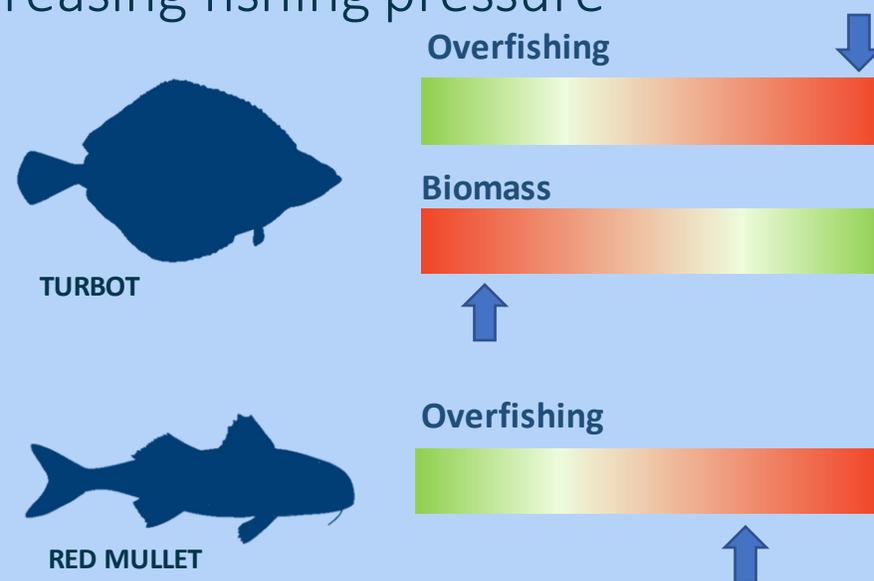
# MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS: Science and management

- **10 management plans** adopted
- **9 fisheries restricted areas** implemented
- Data improved through 4 scientific **surveys-at-sea**
- Large-scale **research programmes** and a discard monitoring programme to enhance knowledge
- **Science-policy interface** boosted through the Forum on Fisheries Science

Reduction of 10% in overexploitation since 2014



Decreasing fishing pressure



# MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS: Socio-economic dimension

- 10-year (2018-2028) **Regional Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries (RPOA-SSF)** adopted as a political commitment toward the long-term sustainability of SSF
- Awareness raised on the contribution of fisheries to **social development** and **livelihoods** through:
  - More accurate and comprehensive socio-economic data
  - Improved information on the role of social protection



Scientific research



SSF data collection



SSF management measures



Value chain enhancement



Capacity building



Decent work and social  
protection



Strengthening the role of  
women



Climate & environment



## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS: Compliance and enforcement

- Adoption of a **Regional Plan of Action to Fight against IUU Fishing (RPOA-IUU)**
- **Legal framework** and capacity reinforced to ensure **compliance**
- Proclamation of the **International Day in the Fight Against IUU Fishing** as an official UN observance
- Best practices in fighting IUU fishing awarded





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# Strategy for the sustainable development of **AQUACULTURE**



**TARGET 1: BUILD AN EFFICIENT REGULATORY AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK TO SECURE SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT**



**TARGET 2: ENHANCE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN AQUACULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT WHILE ENSURING ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE**



**TARGET 3: FACILITATE MARKET-ORIENTED AQUACULTURE AND ENHANCE PUBLIC PERCEPTION**

# MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS: Aquaculture

- Capacity-building and knowledge sharing promoted through **Aquaculture Demonstrative Centres**
- Implementation of **dedicated zones for aquaculture**
- **Market-oriented production and social acceptability** promoted
- Environmental services of aquaculture highlighted
- Collaboration between producer organizations strengthened





# A modern Commission constantly adapting to emerging priorities in the region

- Enhanced subregional approach
- Improved cooperation with stakeholders, including civil society (17 MoUs)
- Strategic activities promoted through specific projects from extrabudgetary funds
- Flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances, including the COVID-19 pandemic





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# Building upon the momentum: a new GFCM strategy

Expected to stem from the  
outcomes of the second  
GFCM performance review  
(2019) and the priorities  
defined by countries and  
stakeholders



# Select strategic topics to be addressed



Enhance fisheries sustainability, including through better compliance and enforcement



Sustainably develop aquaculture and boost responsible investments



Support the socio-economic dimension of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors,  
including through robust value chains



Improve conservation of the marine environment, including interactions with  
fisheries and adaptation to climate change impacts



Promote innovation, scientific research, technology transfer and capacity building,  
including through broader partnerships and stakeholder engagement



# Proposed timeline

3 Nov 2020

Online high-level meeting

- Brainstorm on pressing priorities for the fisheries and aquaculture sectors

1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2021

Wide consultation and online coordination meeting

- Consultations with a wide array of stakeholders to gather inputs
- Consolidate inputs and develop a zero draft of the new GFCM strategy

June 2021 (Greece)

High-level meeting on the new strategy

- Adoption of the new GFCM strategy

Nov 2021 (Albania)

44<sup>th</sup> session of the GFCM

- Adoption of a multiannual workplan for the implementation of the new strategy and the identification of funding sources



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# Thank you for your attention

Abdellah SROUR, GFCM Executive Secretary