



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



General Fisheries
Commission for
the Mediterranean

Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC)

Workshop on the Decarbonization of the fishing industry (WKDECA)

(online, 18–19 March 2025)

Background and Provisional Agenda

Background

Following the progress made during the first Workshop on the Decarbonization of the Fishing Industry (WKDECA, 2023), and the current Resolution GFCM/46/2023/5 “*on a roadmap towards increased decarbonization of fishing activities in the Mediterranean Sea*”, WKDECA 2025 will continue to focus on advancing the decarbonization of the Mediterranean and Black Sea fishing fleets.

The 47th annual session of the GFCM (Rome, Italy, November 2024), once again emphasized the importance of addressing climate impacts, enhancing environmental monitoring, and exploring decarbonization solutions, particularly for fishing gear and vessel operations. Therefore, in 2025, the WKDECA will focus on sharing technical solutions to improve carbon efficiency in fishing practices, with an emphasis on innovative gear modifications and reducing fuel consumption. Building on early decarbonization trials and feedback from researchers, fishers and other relevant stakeholders, the workshop will foster collaboration to identify the most effective strategies for a low-carbon, renewable energy-dependent fishing sector as also requested by the GFCM Resolution's objectives.

Main Objectives and Participation

Prospective participants are invited to propose presentations in line with the following workshop aims:

- To evaluate the progress of ongoing decarbonization initiatives (e.g. pilot studies, data collection initiatives, trials at sea, etc.) in Mediterranean and Black Sea as well as other EU regions.
- To explore innovative technologies and practices for decarbonizing fishing vessels.
- To identify key challenges and barriers to decarbonization in the fishing industry.
- To enhance cooperation between fisheries, scientific communities, and stakeholders.
- To promote the sharing of best practices for reducing carbon emissions and improving gear selectivity.
- To inform and update on the GFCM regional online platform on decarbonization.



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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

TUESDAY 18 MARCH & WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH 2025

(Working hours: 9:30 – 12:00; 14:30 – 17:30 CEST)

- 1. Opening and arrangements of the meeting**
- 2. Ongoing decarbonization initiatives and pilots**
 - Research, pilot studies, data collection initiatives, conducted since the first WKDECA, focusing on the reduction of fuel consumption and carbon emissions in fishing activities across the Mediterranean and Black Sea region (*potential presentations from Participants*).
 - New technologies such as gear modifications, new fishing equipment, and vessel designs aimed at reducing fuel consumption, enhancing energy efficiency, and minimizing the carbon footprint of fishing operations (*potential presentations from Participants*).
 - Renewable energy solutions (e.g. wind, solar, hybrid engines) and alternative fuels, to assess their applicability and feasibility for the fishing fleet in the Mediterranean and Black Sea (*potential presentations from Participants*).
 - Social, economic, and technological challenges that have emerged during the implementation of decarbonization measures (*potential presentations from Participants*).
- 3. The GFCM regional online platform on decarbonization**
- 4. Next steps**
- 5. Conclusions and recommendations**
- 6. Any other matter**
- 7. Closure of the meeting**