



***EU FP7 Project CREAM
Coordinating research in support to application of EAF
(Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries) and management advice in
the Mediterranean and Black Seas***

Deliverable 2.4

***Summary Report of Workshop 2 (Website)
“Comparative analysis of the management systems
adopted in different countries/GSAs of Mediterranean
and Black Seas”***

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The 2nd Workshop of Workpackage 2 (“Comparative analysis of the management systems adopted in different countries/GSAs of Mediterranean and Black Sea”) was held on April 18th, 2013. The main objective of workshop was to perform a common work, among the partners, to summarize and critically analyze, in a comparative view, the management systems in force in each Country/GSA of the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

A preparatory work was done during the two months before the workshop, collecting information from all the partners of CREAM about the main fishing management measures existing in Mediterranean and Black Seas at Country/GSA level. Standardised forms were prepared and distributed to all the partners, according to the following issues.

1) Management measures. The following fisheries/gears were considered:

- 1) BOTTOM TRAWL FISHERIES:
- 2) ARTISANAL/ SMALL SCALE FISHERIES:
- 3) SMALL PELAGIC FISHERIES:

The large pelagic fisheries were not included, as they are managed in the ICCAT context for the whole Mediterranean and Black Sea areas.

For the three types of fisheries, information on the current management/regulation measures was collected, according to:

FISHING CAPACITY

FISHING ACTIVITY

TECHNICAL ASPECTS:

CATCH

SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL CLOSURES/RESTRICTIONS

MANAGEMENT PLANS AND CO-MANAGEMENT:

DEROGATIONS:.

STOCK ASSESSMENT.

2) Forbidden gears

3) Regulations at species level. To resume the regulations issued for every species (minimum landing or catch sizes, seasonal prohibitions)

Detailed information on the existing management systems was provided, even though some heterogeneity was detected. During the workshop a deepen common discussion was carried out, in order to find a general agreement about the meaning of each issue contained in the tables.

Tables 1-4 provide a synthetic overview, according to main basins (Western Mediterranean, Central Mediterranean, Eastern Mediterranean, Black Sea) and also GSA/Country.

As a general picture, the fishing regulations contain many common aspects among all the areas considered. In general, in all the countries the current management measures foresee limitations of the fishing capacity, implemented through regulations of the number of licenses or according to a level of the total GT of the fleet considered. Only in some countries (e.g. Spain, Greece), limitations of the fishing capacity of the single vessel are present.

Fishing activity, in particular of trawling and purse seining, is regulated everywhere; in general a maximum number of fishing days by week is established. Only in a few cases (e.g. in some GSAs of Spain) there is a limitation of the fishing hours per day.

Technical measures, mainly concerning the mesh size or the length/drop of set nets are present in almost all the GSAs considered. The EU Mediterranean countries are standardised by means of the EU Regulation 1967/2006. More diversity was reported for the non EU Countries.

Spatial restrictions are present everywhere, in particular for trawling or for bottom gears (usually in the coastal waters).



No take Zones have been established only in a few areas in the recent years, mainly targeted to the protection of essential fish habitats, as nursery or spawning grounds. Many MPAs were noticed for all the basins considered.

Temporal restrictions are present everywhere, especially for trawling. Seasonal closures are implemented in many countries, with some differences in their application on year basis. Also in the Black sea temporal restrictions are present, but in many cases they are differentiated at species level.

At present, catch quotas are rarely applied: they were mainly reported for some fisheries in Black Sea (e.g. for sprat and anchovy in Ukrainian Seas, for sprat and turbot in Bulgarian Seas. Seas...). In Mediterranean there are only few examples of application of quotas, at small scale, as for the scallop fishery in the Italian GSA17. It is however interesting a recent Regulation issued in Spain fixing a quota for anchovy and sardine from purse seining.

As concerns discard, at present no specific regulations are in force in Mediterranean and Black Sea. It is important to recall that the new Common Fishery Policy, which will be issued in the near future, will likely contain specific indications towards a discard ban.

Very detailed information was provided concerning the regulation at species level. These provisions are present in almost all the countries and principally concern a minimum landing size (MLS) or a period where the fishing is not allowed. The EU Mediterranean Countries are merged by the Reg. 1967/2006 which contains MLS for a list of species.

A similar situation was detected for the prohibited gears, with the EU countries having similar provisions, while those of the non EU countries are more diversified.

The presence of enforced Management Plans was reported in almost 50% of the geographical contexts taken into account. In general, they were more noticed for the EU Mediterranean and the Black Sea countries and some heterogeneity was detected. There are Management Plans at national or supranational level, at GSA level, for single species (e.g. for transparent goby in GSA9, for giant blue and red shrimp in GSA6, for dolphin fish in GSA15, for sturgeon and turbot, in GSA29 and 30). Several Management Plans presented by the EU Member States are currently under evaluation of the STECF Commission.

As concerns Local Management Plans, they were noticed only in a few cases, as for Sicilian Channel (GSA16).

In almost all the areas, stock assessments for the most important species are carried out and formally presented to the GFCM or STECF context, even though high heterogeneity and discontinuities are present.

In most cases little consideration by the management process of the outcomes and suggestions of the stock assessments was reported. When an involvement of the stakeholders in the management process was noticed, it was associated with a lacks of formal and standardised procedures.

The work done and the outcomes of the workshop "Comparative analysis of the management systems adopted in different countries/GSAs of Mediterranean and Black Sea" provide a global picture, sufficiently detailed, of the provisions associated to the management measures in force in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

Even though the regulation measures are still diversified and not fully standardized at spatial scale, there are several aspects which indicated that the issues of the Ecosystem Approach for Fishery Management are beginning to be considered. Measures based on spatio-temporal closures, targeted on essential fish habitats are increasing, as well as the attention to the more impacting gears and fishing practices.

Tab. 1 - Synthetic overview of the fishery management measures existing in Mediterranean and Black Seas. Western Mediterranean.

	WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN							
	GSA01	GSA03	GSA05	GSA06	GSA07	GSA09	GSA11	GSA12
	ESP	MOR	ESP	ESP	FRA	ITA	ITA	TUN
Fishing capacity limitations (n. boats and/or total GT and/or total kW)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Individual vessel limitations (engine power and/or length)	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no
Activity limitations (n. days at sea; n. hours at sea, etc.)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no
Gear restrictions (material, meshes, size)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Spatial restrictions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sensitive habitat restrictions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no
Temporal restrictions (e.g. seasonal fishing closure)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Quota restrictions	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	no	no
Discard regulations	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
Specific management plans (for certain fisheries or certain stocks)	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no
Stock assessment routinely carried out (every year for main fisheries)	no	yes						
MLS of main fish stocks	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Gear limitations	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Tab. 2 - Synthetic overview of the fishery management measures existing in Mediterranean and Black Seas. Central Mediterranean.

	CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN						
	GSA13	GSA14	GSA15	GSA16	GSA17	GSA17	GSA20
	TUN	TUN	MAL	ITA	ITA	CRO	GRE
Fishing capacity limitations (n. boats and/or total GT and/or total kW)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Individual vessel limitations (engine power and/or length)	no	no	yes	no	no	no	yes
Activity limitations (n. days at sea; n. hours at sea, etc.)	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Gear restrictions (material, meshes, size)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Spatial restrictions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sensitive habitat restrictions	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Temporal restrictions (e.g. seasonal fishing closure)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Quota restrictions	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
Discard regulations	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
Specific management plans (for certain fisheries or certain stocks)	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no
Stock assessment routinely carried out (every year for main fisheries)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
MLS of main fish stocks	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Gear limitations	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Tab. 3 - Synthetic overview of the fishery management measures existing in Mediterranean and Black Seas. Eastern Mediterranean.

	EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN						
	GSA20	GSA22	GSA23	GSA 22 & 24	GSA25	GSA 26	GSA27
	GRE	GRE	GRE	TUR	CYP	EGY	LEB
Fishing capacity limitations (n. boats and/or total GT and/or total kW)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Individual vessel limitations (engine power and/or length)	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no	no
Activity limitations (n. days at sea; n. hours at sea, etc.)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no
Gear restrictions (material, meshes, size)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Spatial restrictions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sensitive habitat restrictions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Temporal restrictions (e.g. seasonal fishing closure)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Quota restrictions	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
Discard regulations	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
Specific management plans (for certain fisheries or certain stocks)	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
Stock assessment routinely carried out (every year for main fisheries)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes
MLS of main fish stocks	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes
Gear limitations	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes



Tab. 4 - Synthetic overview of the fishery management measures existing in Mediterranean and Black Seas. Black Sea.

	BLACK SEA				
	GSA29	GSA29	GSA29	GSA29	GSA30
	GEO	TUR	BUL	UKR	RUS
Fishing capacity limitations (n. boats and/or total GT and/or total kW)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Individual vessel limitations (engine power and/or length)	no	no	no	no	yes
Activity limitations (n. days at sea; n. hours at sea, etc.)	yes	yes	yes	no	no
Gear restrictions (material, meshes, size)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Spatial restrictions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sensitive habitat restrictions	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Temporal restrictions (e.g. seasonal fishing closure)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Quota restrictions	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Discard regulations	no	no	no	no	no
Specific management plans (for certain fisheries or certain stocks)	yes	no	no	no	yes
Stock assessment routinely carried out (every year for main fisheries)	no	yes	yes	yes	no
MLS of main fish stocks	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Gear limitations	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes