



SRC-WM – GFCM 17-19 February 2021



MAIN TOPICS ADDRESSED

- **Overview of the Status of fisheries in western Mediterranean**, as emanating from the GFCM report on the State of Mediterranean and Black Sea Fisheries (SoMFi) 2020 - <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb2429en>

Outcomes of relevant technical activities for the management of fisheries in the western Mediterranean – presentations:

- **Status of western Mediterranean fisheries**, including assessments emanating from plenary and relevant benchmark sessions of the Working Groups on Stock Assessment
- **New FRA Proposal in the Ebro Delta (GSA 06)** (Marta Coll and Miquel Ortega)
- Establishment of **several no-take areas along the entire GSA 06** after consensus with Fishery Associations (Joan B. Company)
- **Technical inputs to the regional adaptation strategy to cope with the effects of climate change on fisheries in the Mediterranean Sea** (Manuel Hidalgo) – See the Annex
- **Future needs for recreational fisheries monitoring, including for select coastal species**



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Discussion on other subregional matters and follow-up activities, including within the mid-term strategy and the new strategy – Presentations:

- Pilot study on **DNA metabarcoding to investigate biotic aspects through the reconstruction of the composition of catches obtained from bottom-trawl fishing vessels** (potential pilot study in western Mediterranean countries proposed by G. Maiello & T. Russo).

The potential applications in the West Med Region:

- *Data collection about distribution and catches of key species*
- *Characterization of by-catch associated to different fishing grounds*
- *Investigation of the effect of global changes on stock distribution, including the detection of non-indigenous invasive species*

- **Transboran Project progress** (Marcelo Vasconcellos)

Revealing, in the Alboran Sea and adjacent waters, the transboundary stock structure of:

- **Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*)**
- **Blackspot seabream (*Pagellus bogaraveo*)**
- **Hake (*Merluccius merluccius*)**

Some preliminary results have been presented: some connections and differentiations among geographical areas have been highlighted.

Next steps: Thematic workshops on hydrodynamic modelling and stocks analysis will be planned.



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Other topics and presentations:

- Preliminary results from GFCM surveys at sea and initiatives to improve knowledge on interactions between fisheries and the environment:
- Discards monitoring in Algeria (2019-2020) (Ahmed Inal)
- Interaction between cetaceans and fisheries in the Alboran sea (Juan Antonio Camiñas)
- Discards monitoring and Surveys at sea in Morocco (2019-2020) (Najib El Ouamari)
- **Present state of the Blue Crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) fishery in the Ebro Delta (Catalonia, Spain)** (Eva Visauta and Pere Abelló)
The key information for the management of this species distributed along the delta ecosystem has been provided.

The **official report** of the meeting will be available **after the GFCM SAC** (Scientific Advisory Committee) - **LATE JUNE**

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