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GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION  
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES  
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN**

**SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Eleventh Session**

**Marrakech, 1-5 November 2008**

**SALIENT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN MEMBER COUNTRIES**

**Introduction**

1. This document provides a synthesis of the information contained in 14 national reports received by the Secretariat up to 27th November 2008. It covers, in particular, the description of national fisheries and management measures as well as the progress made in the field of scientific research. Most of the reports received were compliant with the format adopted by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at its ninth session and respected the maximum length of four pages recommended by the SAC at its tenth session. The information received was analyzed and summarized by the Secretariat (see table in Annex 1). In cases where Members did not submit a national report this year, the information submitted for the previous year was retained in the summary table.

2. This document, together with the respective national reports, should help Members to identify opportunities and synergies for regional cooperation in research activities and management processes.

**General comments**

3. From the information reviewed, the following principal points could be identified:

- Information contained in the reports generally focuses on information updates as well as on progress in research and scientific activities undertaken during the intersessional period;
- Information on the status of stocks is not always available and in some cases the information may not be clear enough ;

- Some countries do not have stock assessment programmes in place or may be in the initial implementation phase;
- Research is undertaken by various national scientific research institutes;
- European Union countries have a data collection programme in line with the EC Data Collection Regulation;
- In some countries the responsibilities for data collection, the management of databases and the publication / submission of data are shared amongst a number of national authorities;
- Several countries are giving more importance to the development of their national fisheries data collection schemes, databases and information systems;
- Though several research activities focus on the dynamics and status of main demersal species, small pelagic species and large pelagic species, the diversity in research activities reported has increased significantly from previous years; these include studies related to biodiversity, ecology, marine conservation, fishing gear technology, oceanography, fisheries economics, coastal zone management and genetics;
- Seven out of the fourteen countries which submitted a national report in 2008, reported on studies in social sciences. In some countries these studies are gaining importance;
- Ten out of the fourteen countries which submitted a national report in 2008 presented information on marine environmental studies in progress. Studies include those on pollution, marine reserves and MPAs, interaction with fisheries of species of conservation concern, alien species, ecosystem monitoring and indicators, benthos and marine habitats;
- Research suggestions for consideration by SAC included studies related to artisanal fisheries, impact of the global economic crisis on Mediterranean fisheries, comparative analysis on market prices, population dynamics of elasmobranchs, by-catch issues, fishing gear selectivity, status of small tuna stocks, fisheries statistics, data collection methods, interactions between fisheries and cetaceans, co-management, oceanography and ecology, spawning and nursery areas, impact of climate change on exploited species, effect of environmental factors on catchability and fleet efficiency, survival of escapees from trawl nets and issues related to EAF.

#### **Suggested action by the Committee**

4. SAC is invited to review the progress of the national research activities and to identify areas of cooperation among interested Members. The Committee may also wish to identify critical gaps in scientific monitoring and research for which some countries may require external support, including from sub-regional projects and other regional initiatives.

### Annex 1. Summary table of National Reports

Member Country	Description of the fisheries	Status of stocks of priority species	Status of the statistics and information system	Status of research in progress	Status of the social sciences studies in progress	Marine environmental studies in progress	National management measures	Research suggestions for consideration by SAC
<b>Algeria (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: about 4,000 vessels;</li> <li>Production: 150,000 tonnes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demersal species at critical level of exploitation.</li> <li>Pelagic species exploited at optimum level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National statistical scheme covers landing sites.</li> <li>A new database is being established.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Main research projects are related to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Biology, fisheries studies, estimation of exploitable biomass of major demersal, pelagic and large pelagic species.</li> <li>-Processing and value-adding techniques for fish products.</li> <li>-Marketing of fishery products;</li> <li>- The coastal environment;</li> <li>- Physico-chemical characteristics and quality of the environment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study on the household consumption of fisheries products was completed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quality and classification of aquaculture zones;</li> <li>▪ Study on the environment of the Bay of Bou-Ismaïl.</li> <li>▪ Research on biological indicators for pollutants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seasonal closure for highly migratory species;</li> <li>▪ Establishment of minimum marketing size for exploited species.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Development of artisanal fisheries.</li> <li>▪ The effect of the economic crisis on the development of fisheries activities in the Mediterranean. Comparative study on fish prices in Mediterranean countries.</li> </ul>
<b>Bulgaria (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fishing activities exclusively in the Black Sea.</li> <li>▪ Fleet: 2,537 vessels</li> <li>▪ Production of main species: 7830 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ exploitation biomass of turbot in the north region of the Black Sea is:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 938.18 tonnes for autumn and winter period of 2007</li> <li>2. 1251.55 tonnes for spring season 2008</li> </ol> </li> <li>▪ exploitation biomass of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Agency of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NAFA) is responsible for registers of: licenses for commercial and recreational fisheries, persons engaged in fishfarming, fishing vessels, fish markets / centres, registered customers, organisations of fish producers,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Trawl surveys since 2005</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Fisheries and Aquaculture Act (FAA) was adopted in 2001 (amended in 2006 and 2008) and determines the management, exploitation, and conservation of the fish resources and the trade with fish and other aquatic organisms.</li> </ul>	

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		<p>turbot in the southern region of the Black Sea is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 958.38 tonnes for autumn and winter period of 2007</li> <li>2. 714.63 tonnes for spring season 2008</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The stock of sprat is not overexploited (current biomass is 32,718.246 tonnes)</li> </ul>	<p>trade and processing, licenses for catching fish for scientific purposes.</p>					
<b>Cyprus (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet: 527 vessels;</li> <li>▪production: 2427 tonnes;</li> <li>▪Total working days in 2007: 103,411</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Biological sampling of the main demersal species (M. surmuletus, M. barbatus, S. smarlis, B. boops, Pagellus erythrinus) and large pelagic species Thunnus alalunga, Thunnus thynnus and Xiphias gladius.</li> <li>▪A study for evaluating the status of the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The Cyprus National Database for the collection and storage of data in the fisheries sector is comprised of the following databases: i) the Data Collection Network System (Data Transmission), ii) the Central Database and iii) the Fishing Vessel Fleet Register (FVR).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪National Fisheries Data Collection Programme: biological sampling for the evaluation of length and age composition of landings, the estimation of biological parameters (growth, maturity) for a number of species, discards sampling from the bottom otter trawls, Medits trawl survey.</li> <li>▪The Fisheries Department is involved in EU biological and Oceanographic research projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Socio-economic surveys through: Inshore Fishery Production Reports, Logbooks, the Fishing Licences and the Sales Notes, interviews.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Projects on: marine ecology and biodiversity, anthropogenic effects on the marine ecosystem, marine invasive alien species, eutrophication, endangered aquatic species, MPAs, monitoring of environmental parameters, Ecological Quality Status</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The National and Community legislation provide for a number of management measures for the regulation of the Cyprus fisheries</li> <li>▪ During the intersessional period, the following new provisions were included in the National Fisheries Law: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase of the minimum mesh</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>

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		<p>stock of <i>Mullus barbatus</i> in GSA 25 was performed during the STECF-Sub-Group for the Mediterranean (SGMED) – no conclusive results.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In 2008 a new database was developed to address the incorporation of biological and economic information, the creation of an administrative mechanism and data transmission of the fisheries data.</li> </ul>			<p>of coastal waters, implementation of the Water framework Directive and Habitats Directive.</p>	<p>size of set nets from 32 to 36 mm</p> <p>2. Prohibitions and further restrictions on the use of fishing gears for a certain category of small scale inshore fishermen with limited fishing effort</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The ICCAT recommendation on the prohibition of fishing for swordfish from October 15 to November 15 2008, endorsed by GFCM, has been transposed to Community Legislation and is implemented</li> </ul>	
<b>Croatia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activities in GSAs 17 and 18: mainly trawling and small passive gears.</li> <li>▪ External</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demersal and small pelagic resources: situation relatively stable and positive for some stocks in comparison with the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National fisheries statistics system in Croatia based on logbook data;</li> <li>▪ Harmonization of statistical data gathering in Croatia with the EU Fisheries Data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Scientific efforts are centered around the national monitoring activities;</li> <li>▪ The Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (IOF) Split participates in the MEDITS survey as well</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study on market organization possibilities;</li> <li>▪ Socio-economical study on certain aspects of fisheries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ecosystem research undertaken in the framework of the project “JADRAN”;</li> <li>▪ Environmental monitoring of pelagic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The main resource management measures include minimum landing sizes, mesh sizes, closed seasons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Validation and interpretation of the results obtained through different scientific methods of stock</li> </ul>

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	waters and fishing grounds: both trawling and purse seines, with bottom-set longlines; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet: 3 710 units;</li> <li>▪Production: 37 387 tonnes.</li> </ul>	previous years.	Collection Regulation (EC 1543/2000); <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Setting up of an EU-compliant fleet register.</li> </ul>	as in the AdriaMed-initiated activities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Specific research projects are taking place, funded directly by the Ministry of Science and Technology.</li> </ul>		ecosystem in the eastern part of GSA 17 within the framework of the PELMON Project; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Numerous projects on environmental impact of fish farming, impact assessments of activities.</li> </ul>	for numerous species, temporal and spatial restrictions for gears; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪GFCM recommendation were considered in the national legislation.</li> </ul>	assessment; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Development of indicators and reference points;</li> <li>▪Research on status of resources in the Jabuka pit;</li> <li>▪Identification of criteria for shared stocks.</li> </ul>
<b>Egypt (Updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet : 3187 vessels</li> <li>▪Production : 131,000 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪There is a little scientific knowledge on stock status and exploitation levels for the main small pelagic fishery and demersal resources off the Nile Delta.</li> <li>▪It is generally recognized that most marine and inland fisheries resources are highly exploited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪GAFRD collects fisheries data by two methods (Whole survey and Sampling): This system not computerized yet and depend on register every fishing unit in a special Log book.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Egypt has a numerous research activities done by Science, Agriculture and veterinary faculties in Egyptian universities.</li> <li>▪National Institution of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF) responsible for most research objectives which carried in fisheries field.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪In general fisheries management in the marine water is at a relatively undeveloped.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>
<b>France</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Not available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Anchovy: increase in biomass;</li> <li>▪Sardine: return of biomass to lower values (83 000 tonnes)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Regular sampling in landing ports; Sampling of commercial fleet landings (measurement of biological</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Programme MEDITS, evaluation of the status of the resources and the impact of fisheries on ecosystems;</li> <li>▪MERLUMED Projet: chemical contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Research on fishing techniques and selectivity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>

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		<p>in comparison to 2003-2005 (231 000 tonnes); Demersal resources: 2006 analyses show an increase in the number of populations with small-sized individuals in the Gulf of Lion and in general in the north-western Mediterranean.</p>	<p>parameters), within the framework of the Data Collection Regulation of the EU.</p>	<p>of the trophic web of hake in the Gulf of Lions;  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CAFE Projet: analysis of the relationship between capacity and fishing mortality in the hake trawl fishery.</li> <li>▪ PELMED Projet: Direct assessment of stocks of small pelagic species in the Gulf of Lions.</li> <li>▪ SARDONE Projet: Studies on anchovy and sardine stocks in the north-western Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean.</li> </ul> </p>				
<b>Greece (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: 17,580 vessels;</li> <li>▪ production 93,639 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GSA 22: Anchovy stock is fully exploited;</li> <li>▪ The stock of sardine is fully exploited or over-exploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fishery statistical data are collected by Administration under various Ministries;</li> <li>▪ Fisheries data are also collected in the framework of the Greek National Fisheries Data Collection Programme;</li> <li>▪ National fisheries data collection programme 2002-2006: in application of regulation EC 1543/2000.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assessment of small pelagic species (SARDONE);</li> <li>▪ Capacity fishing mortality and effort (CAFÉ);</li> <li>▪ A framework for fleet and area based fisheries management (acronym AFRAME)</li> <li>▪ Operational Evaluation Tools for Fisheries Management Options (EFIMAS);</li> <li>▪ Fisheries independent survey based operational assessment tools (FISBOAT);</li> <li>▪ NECESSITY: research in fishing gear technology, selectivity and by-catch reduction;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOFI: Monk Seal and Fisheries: mitigating the conflict in Greek seas;</li> <li>▪ Critical interactions between species and their implications for a precautionary fisheries management in a variable environment;</li> <li>▪ Developing Indicators of Environmental Performance of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In addition to EC fisheries management measures, Greece has adopted several national measures for managing fishing effort: minimum landing sizes, fishing gear restrictions, seasonal and local closures, distance from coast and depth restrictions;</li> <li>▪ Regarding large pelagics, such as bluefin tuna,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PRONE: Precautionary risk methodology in fisheries</li> <li>▪ MADE: Mitigating adverse ecological impacts of open ocean fisheries</li> <li>▪ FISH: Framework contract for the promotion of the dissemination of Scientific information</li> <li>▪ CoralFISH: Assessment of the interactions between corals, fish and fisheries, in order to develop monitoring and predictive modelling tools for ecosystem based management in the deep waters of Europe and beyond</li> <li>▪ Status of ray population in the Mediterranean Sea</li> <li>▪ Dynamic behavior of longline and static nets in deep waters. Experimental trial in the region of Southern Aegean;</li> <li>▪ Dynamic behavior of long line and static nets in deep waters. Experimental trial in the region of Southern Aegean</li> <li>▪ MONOFILAMENT: Investigation of the</li> </ul>		<p>the Common Fisheries Policy (INDECO);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MEECE: Marine Ecosystem Evolution in a Changing Environment</li> </ul>	<p>albacore and swordfish, fishery is regulating by issuing special permits valid for one year;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seasonal closure for swordfish during October to January, with a minimum fish size of 120 cm.</li> </ul>	



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				<p>possibility to use more selective gears targeting the same fish catch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fish Population Structure and Traceability</li> <li>▪ Management and control of terms of access of trawlers in the region of Northern Aegean</li> <li>▪ Management and control of terms of access of trawlers in nursery of the species <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> in Thracian Sea</li> </ul>				
<b>Italy (Updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: 13,583</li> <li>▪ Production: 267 368 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The available information is included in the report of the stock assessment sub-committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The production of Italian fisheries statistics is carried out by Irepa on behalf of the Ministry of agriculture and forestry policies and is included in the ISTAT National Statistic Programme.</li> <li>▪ The Fleet Register of the General Directorate for Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Policies, managed on the basis of Eu Re. 1438/2003 and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fisheries data have been collected in the framework of the Italian National Data Collection Program, which is supported both from the Italian Government and the European Union (Regulation 1543/00, 1639/01 and 1581/04).</li> <li>▪ Research activities on marine living resources have been carried out in Italy by several bodies, both private and public, among which are mainly involved University Departments and Research Institutes.</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spatio-temporal identification of nursery area in the Italian seas</li> <li>▪ Guidelines and technical measures for the management of Fishery Restricted Areas</li> <li>▪ Fishery and marine pollution: studies on the effects of pollutants on marine fishery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technical measures were adopted in order to ensure exploitation and conservation of living aquatic resources or the protection of marine ecosystems</li> <li>▪ Fishing activities (i.e. trawlers) have been temporarily banned</li> <li>▪ Biological stop changed among regions in order to improve the marine environment and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Suggestions include research / studies on: population dynamics and genetics, data collection methods, EAF, oceanography – fisheries interactions, revision of GSA boundaries, stock-recruitment interactions, spawning areas and essential fish habitats, echo surveys, climate change effects on</li> </ul>

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			<p>1277/2007.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statistics are produced on the basis of a sample of national fishing fleet, yearly updated, and their reliability is guaranteed by specific validation software.</li> </ul>				to avoid to the depletion of certain stocks	fisheries, spatial management measures.
<b>Lebanon (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fleet :2,660 vessels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population dynamics studies being carried out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Fleet Register National System is the one introduced by FAO TCP/INT/2904 in 2004. With then assistance of Medfisis, the existing software can be upgraded to provide data for the Operational Units concept.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Marine Resources and Coastal Zone Management program (MRCZM) – collection of commercial fisheries data since August 2005.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new Fisheries draft Law was developed in cooperation with FAO. It is expected to be sent to the parliament for discussion in early 2009</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>Libya (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fleet: 4026 vessels</li> <li>Production: 33,106 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biological and morphometric characteristics of at least seven commercially exploited fish species, namely: Mullus spp., P. erythrinus and M. sermatusus; Balistes carolinensis, Lithognathus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biological and morphometric characteristics of at least seven commercially exploited fish</li> <li>Small pelagic species caught by “Lampara</li> <li>Biological data on large pelagic species</li> <li>MedSudMed project</li> <li>Genotype and distribution of the commercially exploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The data of the socio-economic study based on a regional standardized questionnaire covering all fishing gears and boats, according to size-classes of the artisanal fleet which has been collected last year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of exotic and/or alien marine species.</li> <li>Turtle (Caretta caretta) nesting sites.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trawl fishing for demersal fish species was prohibited during the period June through July 2008</li> <li>Fishing for the Dolphin fish (Coryphaena hippurus ) is prohibited by law from 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional project aimed to assess the stocks and distribution of Elasmobranch fish species</li> <li>ought to be attempted.</li> <li>By-catch regional assessment is also worth studying by</li> </ul>

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		mormyrus. Merlusius marlusius and Scorpaena sp. are being studied during the intercessional period.		exotic Siganus sp.			January to 14 August of each year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fishing for sponges in Libyan waters is being forbidden from 1st of November to 30th of May of each year.</li> </ul>	SAC.
<b>Malta (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fleet: 2,685 vessels</li> <li>Total production of main species: 952.48 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stocks of Thunnus thynnus and Xiphas gladius are overexploited</li> <li>The stock of Merluccius merluccius is overexploited</li> <li>Trawled areas within the 25 nautical mile zone the stocks are overexploited however in non-trawled areas within the zone the stocks are in a virgin state</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malta collects data on catch and effort for each segment by species, by quarter and by geographical origin.</li> <li>Catch figures are based on exhaustive data reported in logbooks (for vessels over 10 m LOA), by sampling the small scale fishery in ports (for vessels under 10 m LOA) and on sales notes from the official fish market</li> <li>The MaltaStat database and information system is developing into an integrated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National programme to routinely collect fleet, catch, effort, economic, biological, resources abundance and processing industry data (EC1639/2001 and 1581/2004);</li> <li>FAO MedSudMed Project</li> <li>EU projects on dynamics and stock status;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine economic survey for fisheries as part of the EC Data Collection Programme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAO MedSudMed project</li> <li>EU funded LIFE project on the impacts of fisheries practices on sea bird populations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malta implemented the management measures in line with EU regulations and according to the recommendations by ICCAT and GFCM.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>

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<b>Montenegro (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: 218 vessels operating in GSA 18</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 10 stations sampled during trawl survey. Preliminary data show that the average biomass of demersal resources is 380.45 kg/km<sup>2</sup> and density 7056.20 individuals /km<sup>2</sup></li> <li>▪ Stock assessments for <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>, L. And small pelagic species have been carried out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New software has been developed for fisheries information system and vessel register (FIS).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project SOLEMON;</li> <li>▪ Biological samples of twenty economically important species were taken from all vessels in three fishing ports</li> <li>▪ Biology and ecology of selected demersal species is being monitored</li> <li>▪ New technology for mussel (European mussels) <i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i> growing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In September 2007 pilot project on collecting socioeconomic data in marine fishery started in line with biological monitoring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The status and movement of alga <i>Caulerpe racemos</i> and the influence on the ecosystem.</li> <li>▪ Preliminary analysis for the location of MPAs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New Law on marine fisheries is being developed and should be adopted by the end of 2008.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None.</li> </ul>
<b>Morocco (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: 3355 vessels</li> <li>▪ Production: 21,190 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Mullus barbatus</i>: overexploited</li> <li>▪ <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>: a reduction in fishing mortality and an increase spawning stock biomass</li> <li>▪ Small pelagic species: fully exploited</li> <li>▪ Stock assessment of large pelagic tunas is carried</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Three Institutions (INRH, ONP and MPM) are involved in the national statistical system which comprises biological, statistical and fishing effort data collection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study on the selectivity of trawls with a 40mm mesh size.</li> <li>▪ Survey of red coral to estimate its abundance</li> <li>▪ Monitoring and assessment of exploited resources</li> <li>▪ Monitoring of trawling, longlining, sardine fishery and artisanal fishery.</li> <li>▪ Monitoring of fisheries of large pelagic species</li> <li>▪ Parasitology of highly valuable species.</li> <li>▪ Study on marine biodiversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Socio-economic evaluation and analysis of artisanal fisheries in the Jebha – Larache region.</li> <li>▪ Monitoring of the establishment of socio-economic indicators of fisheries in the Nador lagoon.</li> <li>▪ Characterisation of artisanal fisheries in the zone between Jebha and Saïdia.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Biodiversity studies.</li> <li>▪ Monitoring of threats to cetaceans and marine turtles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Measures based on effort control and protection of juveniles.</li> <li>▪ Seasonal closure for bluefin tuna and swordfish.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Selectivity of fishing gears ;</li> <li>▪ Biological study on small tunas;</li> <li>▪ Stock structures</li> <li>▪ Interactions between fisheries and cetaceans</li> <li>▪ Study on spawning and nursery areas.</li> </ul>

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		out at regional level by ICCAT.						
<b>Slovenia (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet (in GSA 17): 181 vessels</li> <li>▪ production: 914 tonnes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>): Overexploited</li> <li>▪ Anchovy (<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>): fully exploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Information system InfoRib contains 5 modules: fleet register, fishing permits, logbook, socio-economics, reporting. The modules are stored in a centralized database in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food for collecting and reporting of the marine fishery data;</li> <li>▪ Biological-Sampling data Module is permanently stored in the Fisheries Research Institute database.</li> <li>▪ Inclusion of the GFCM Task 1 into the reporting module of the information system InfoRib is planned.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National monitoring of pelagic fish resources</li> <li>▪ SOLEMON project (Evaluation of the stock of <i>Solea vulgaris</i> in the Central and Northern Adriatic and estimation of the impact of different gear)</li> <li>▪ MEDITS trawl survey programme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Management measures in the Slovenian seas follow the Council Regulation (EC) No 1976/2006 which contains principles and rules relating to the conservation and management of the living resources of the seas.</li> <li>▪ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food on the basis of the expert opinion of Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia temporary stopped issuing new fishing permits for trawlers.</li> <li>▪ In May 2008 Slovenia adopted the regulation on monitoring of catches and selling of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>

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							fisheries products.	
<b>Spain (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: Operates mainly in GSA 1, GSA 2, GSA 5, GSA 6. 3,826 vessels;</li> <li>▪ Production of main species: 67,694 tonnes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GSA 01 – <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> has a low biomass level</li> <li>– <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>: fully exploited</li> <li>▪ GSA 05 – <i>Aristeus antennatus</i>:s fully exploited</li> <li>– <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> fully exploited</li> <li>– <i>Mullus surmuletus</i>: fully exploited</li> <li>– <i>Mullus barbatus</i> is moderately exploited to fully exploited</li> <li>– <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>: fully exploited at above a sustainable level</li> <li>▪ GSA 06 - <i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>: depleted</li> <li>- <i>Mullus barbatus</i> is overexploited</li> <li>– <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>: overexploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Data of landings by species, commercial categories, prices, fishery vessel identification, fishing grounds, landing ports and dates are recorded on a daily basis;</li> <li>▪ IEO collects length and biological data of main commercial species (Reg. (EC) 1543/2000 and Reg (EC) 1639/2001);</li> <li>▪ Data is stored and managed by the SIRENO database developed by the IEO;</li> <li>▪ Secretariat of Maritime Fisheries is developing a global tool to compile the different sources of information in a common database.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IEO ensures the scientific monitoring of the fisheries of the main commercial species at the principal landing sites;</li> <li>▪ Studies on growth and reproduction of demersal and small pelagic objective species are routinely carried out</li> <li>▪ <i>Octopus vulgaris</i> artisanal fishery: fishing effort and on the selectivity of the employed gears</li> <li>▪ In 2006, several tagging surveys on lobsters (<i>Palinurus elephas</i>) were carried out in two Marine Protected Areas</li> <li>▪ IEO research project on the Red Seabream (<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>) fishery in waters off the Strait of Gibraltar</li> <li>▪ Mediterranean tuna research program of the IEO</li> <li>▪ A National Research project on BFT biology and migration patterns has been initiated in 2007-2008.</li> <li>▪ International bottom trawl survey MEDITS;</li> <li>▪ Research activities on</li> </ul>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quarterly surveys monitoring oceanographic conditions off Málaga (GSA 1), Murcia (GSA 6) and Mallorca (GSA 5);</li> <li>▪ Research activities are related to Marine Protected Areas;</li> <li>▪ in each of the 7 Spanish Mediterranean Marine Reserves, several studies are carried out on fisheries enhancement, biodiversity (mapping of sea grasses, maërl and others), effect of climatic change;</li> <li>▪ Studies on interactions between birds, cetaceans and fisheries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Spanish ministerial order ORDEN APA/254/2008, of January 31th, that establishes an integral management plan for fisheries resource conservation in the Mediterranean is currently enforced.</li> <li>▪ The General Secretariat for the Sea keeps on managing the seven Spanish Mediterranean Marine Reserves existing at present, with enforcement through guards on the spot, follow up, awareness programs, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The impact of environmental changes (climatic variability, increase of gelatinous plankton, etc.) on the early life stages of exploited species;</li> <li>▪ Studies on the influence of environmental factors affecting catchability and fleet efficiency.</li> <li>▪ The study of survival of specimens in the escapements through the trawl meshes.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Engraulis encrasicolus: low biomass</li> <li>– Sardina pilchardus: high fishing mortality</li> </ul>		<p>Albacore (Thunnus alalunga, ALB) were developed on board recreational and long-line fishery vessels targeting ALB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Small tuna species, mainly Atlantic bonito (Sarda sarda), Atlantic little tuna (Euthynnus alletteratus), and bullet tuna (Auxis rochei) were monitored and sampled in tuna traps.</li> <li>▪ Biological sampling of Xiphas gladius.</li> </ul>				
<b>Tunisia (updated 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: more than 12,000 vessels</li> <li>▪ Production: about 105,000 tonnes</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The national Data collection system is managed by the “Direction générale de la pêche et de l’aquaculture”;</li> <li>▪ Development of the information system FEIS, coordinated by MedSudMed .</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assessment of marine resources in Tunisian waters (since 1996);</li> <li>▪ Research programmes ESREB, ESSATEL and ERACHID (since 2006);</li> <li>▪ BIHARE Project: Biology of pelagic and demersal exploited species (since 2007);</li> <li>▪ LAMPAROS Projet: Eggs and larvae, abundance and migration of pelagic species;</li> <li>▪ CHANCHOUL Projet: Selective pelagic trawling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Socio-economic indicators of the fisheries of the Gulf of Gabès and of the north and east regions of the country;</li> <li>▪ Use of bio-economic models for the king prawn fishery in the Gulf of Gabes.</li> <li>▪ Study on the profitability of vessels targeting small pelagic species.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Status of benthos and essential habitats (EBHaR).</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementation of the EAF in fisheries management.</li> </ul>
<b>Turkey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: 18 790 units;</li> <li>▪ production: 488 966 tonnes in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Scientific stock assessment studies are currently not in place in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A Fisheries Information System (FIS) has currently been developed in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A project to strengthen national institutional capacity for scientific research on stock assessment;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The MARA is conducting a comprehensive social-economic study on the Marmara Sea</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Amended draft Fisheries Law is at the Turkish parliament for approval - forms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve the conventional Mediterranean type bottom trawl nets used</li> </ul>

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	2006.	Turkey.	<p>order to create the applications and procedures needed to both comply with the EC fisheries acquis and improve fisheries management;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Data on marine, inland and aquacultural production are collected from 81 Provincial Directorates of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) with collaboration of Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT);</li> <li>▪ The MARA is planning to launch a work on the integration of GFCM's Task 1 data system into its FIS system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ certain studies on the selectivity of fishing gears with the aiming of reducing bycatch are underway.</li> </ul>	<p>fisherman;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Estimation of socio-economic indicators in marine small-scale fisheries;</li> <li>▪ Socio-economics of fishing enterprises in the Black Sea Region;</li> <li>▪ The role of women in marine capture fishery in the Aegean, Turkey;</li> <li>▪ The relationship between the fish price and the fishing effort in Gokova bay fishery;</li> <li>▪ Success and failure of fishery cooperatives in the Aegean, Turkey.</li> </ul>		<p>the basics of the new implementation, including Fisheries Information System, Vessel Monitoring System and brings new regulations in respect to enhanced control, enforcement and standards for market.</p>	<p>in the Aegean Sea;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Selectivity and survival experiments are of importance for fisheries management - supported by basic biological studies related to spawning period, growth, recruitment, and mortality of some important demersal fish species and also studies on fish behavior observations with underwater devices.</li> </ul>