

THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADVICE ON SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES



Co-founded by the
European Union

**The experience of Pancyriot
Association of Professional
Fisherman -PAPF (Cyprus)**

&

**the new MEDAC Focus Group on
the East Mediterranean**

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PAPF PROFILE COASTAL SMALL SCALE

**The backbone of Cyprus fishing fleet comprising of
85% of the total registered professional fishing vessels**

Coastal Small Scale Polyvalent Vessels with length : 0-12 m

Excursions up to 2-3 nm and up to 150m deep

Three sub-categories:

A (full-time-) and B (part- time)

C (periodic) and are limited to 70 fishing trips annually

Gears: set and trammel nets, benthic longlines, jigs and traps

Number of Licences (approx.)

323 licenses - Category A & B

420 licenses – Category C

PAPF MISSION

The Association's mission is to:

Represent and promote the general interests of coastal small scale fishermen

Actively participate in the development of regulations and law for managing resources at National Level, and through the CFP and EMFF

Participation at National level and Parliamentary level as the main fishing sector stakeholder

Is the only stakeholder from Cyprus to participate in MEDAC.

Experience of MEDAC participation

- Has led to an understanding of Mediterranean wide issues e.g. Interaction with Recreational Fisheries
- Has highlighted that participation at EU level is beneficial
- Has shown that some issues are not as local as fishers think they are e.g Invasive species,
- Has shown that even fishers from the least productive areas in the Mediterranean, can have a role to play by participating.

Small Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean

- Although many differences occur throughout the Med, there are a great number of similarities when it comes to PROBLEMS facing the SSF sector:-
 - Socioeconomic issues
 - Competition for resources with other professionals and recreational users
 - Dwindling stocks
 - Climate Change / Invasive species effects
 - Lack of recognition of the sector due to its small production
 - Interaction with non- EU fishers with offshore fleets

Participation in Decision Making and Management Processes

MEDAC actively participates in all SSF events and fora organized by other bodies such as FAO-GFCM, and others, and through this communication SSF associations such as PAPF are able to participate, contribute and be informed of ongoing higher level initiatives such as:

- MedFish4Ever Forever (2017) ,
- Regional Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea - RPOA-SSF (2018)
- And many others

Importance of bottom-up participation is crucial to install hope, give support and show that at EU level consideration is been given to SSF.

PAPF is an example of an association that is looking further than its interaction with local authorities -the members feel that they have to reach further than their immediate authority to affect change

The latest 'tool' through a MEDAC initiative is the formation of the Focus Group for the Eastern Mediterranean

Focus Group on East Mediterranean

- Newly Formed FG by MEDAC
- This will help bring to the forefront the specific issues facing the Eastern Basin.
- This aims to give opinions / assistance to the issues affecting the Eastern part of the basin
- FG comprised of associations based in Cyprus and Greece.
- 2 Associations are already members of MEDAC and attempts will be made to attract more participants who have interests in the issues of the FG
- Consultants will also join the FG

First Items of Concern of FG Will Be

- Draft Proposal for a Recommendation amending Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/3 on a multiannual management plan for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting for the giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Levant Sea (GSAs 24 to 27)
- - Draft Proposal for a Recommendation amending Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4 on a multiannual management plan for a sustainable trawl fisheries targeting for the giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Ionian Sea (GSAs 19 to 21)

Potential Items of Concern of FG

- **All EU related decisions, recommendations and directives**
- **Discuss and express opinions on Issues of Importance to East Med**
- **Discuss the problems faced by the enforcement of EU legislation that is problematic in the East Med especially when considerations have been made based on West Med data and knowledge**
- **FG will follow closely issue of climate change and especially Invasive Species interaction with fisheries.**



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