

# The development of advice on recreational fisheries in the Mediterranean sea: the experience of EAA organization (European Anglers Alliance) and MEDAC



Co-founded by the  
European Union



# RECREATIONAL FISHERY IN THE MEDAC

The recreational fishery is represented in the «Other Interest Groups»



## **In the 40% of the MEDAC Executive Committee**

6 Sport or Recreational fisheries organisations

One representative in the Presidency

One Working Group on Recreational Fishery



**THE RECREATIONAL FISHERY HAS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COASTAL AREAS, THEREFORE, INTERACTIONS AND SHARED OPINIONS WITH THE OTHER ACTORS INVOLVED SHALL BE CONSIDERED**

**At the end of 2014**, the MEDAC Working Group on Recreational Fisheries, aware of the lack of knowledge on RF, started an attempt to provide rough but serious advice about recreational fishing in the Mediterranean.



**In 2016 was agreed the MEDAC Advice for a regulatory framework and efficient management for recreational fisheries** in the Mediterranean based on “FAO Technical Guidelines on Responsible Recreational Fisheries” (Ref. 155/2016) as a first picture specially thought to provide some initial light to managers and decision-makers but based on the soundest piece of scientific literature

## RECREATIONAL FISHERIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

MEDAC Advice for a regulatory  
framework and efficient  
management

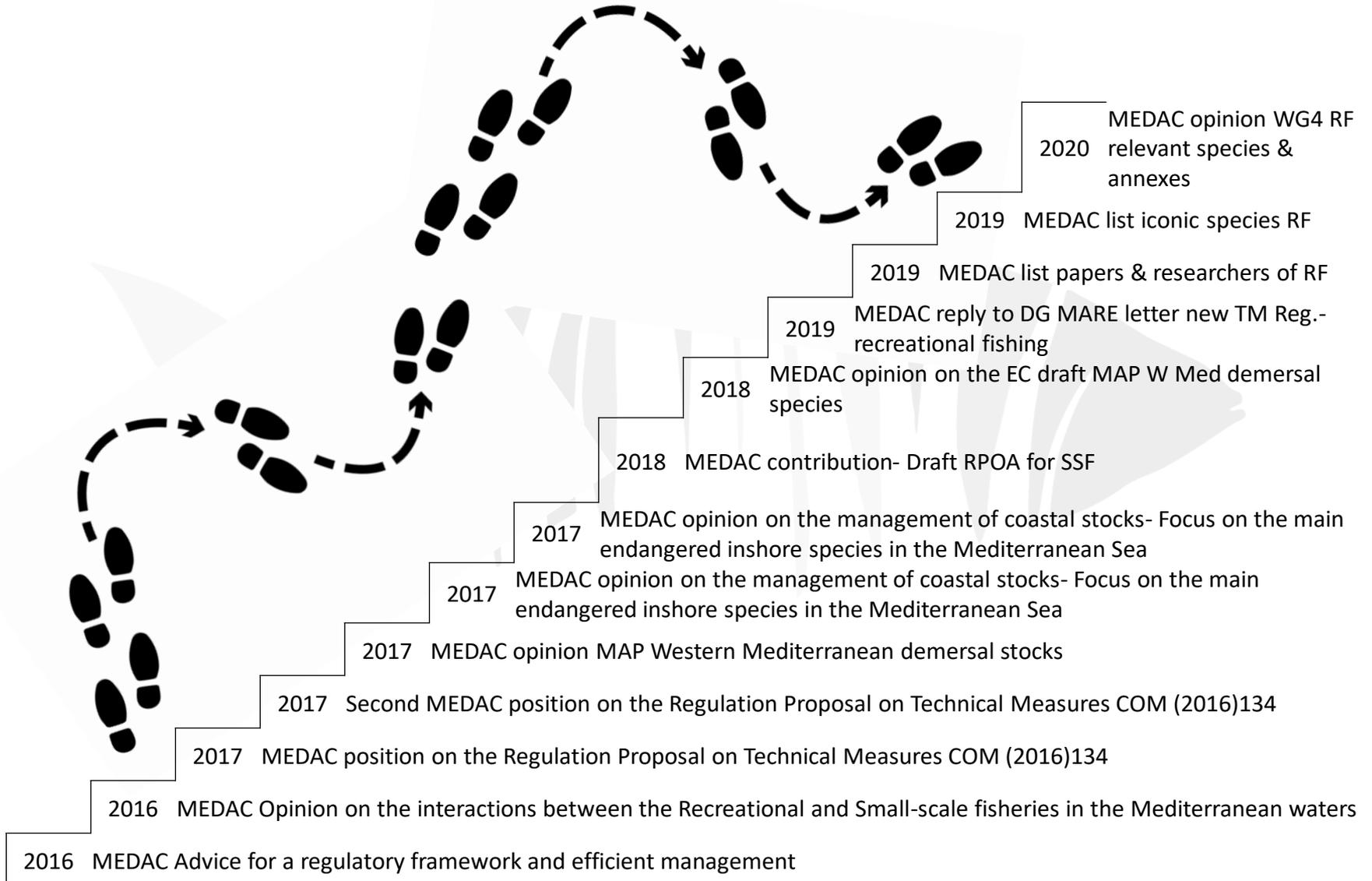
Ref: 155/2016 Split, 20th April 2016



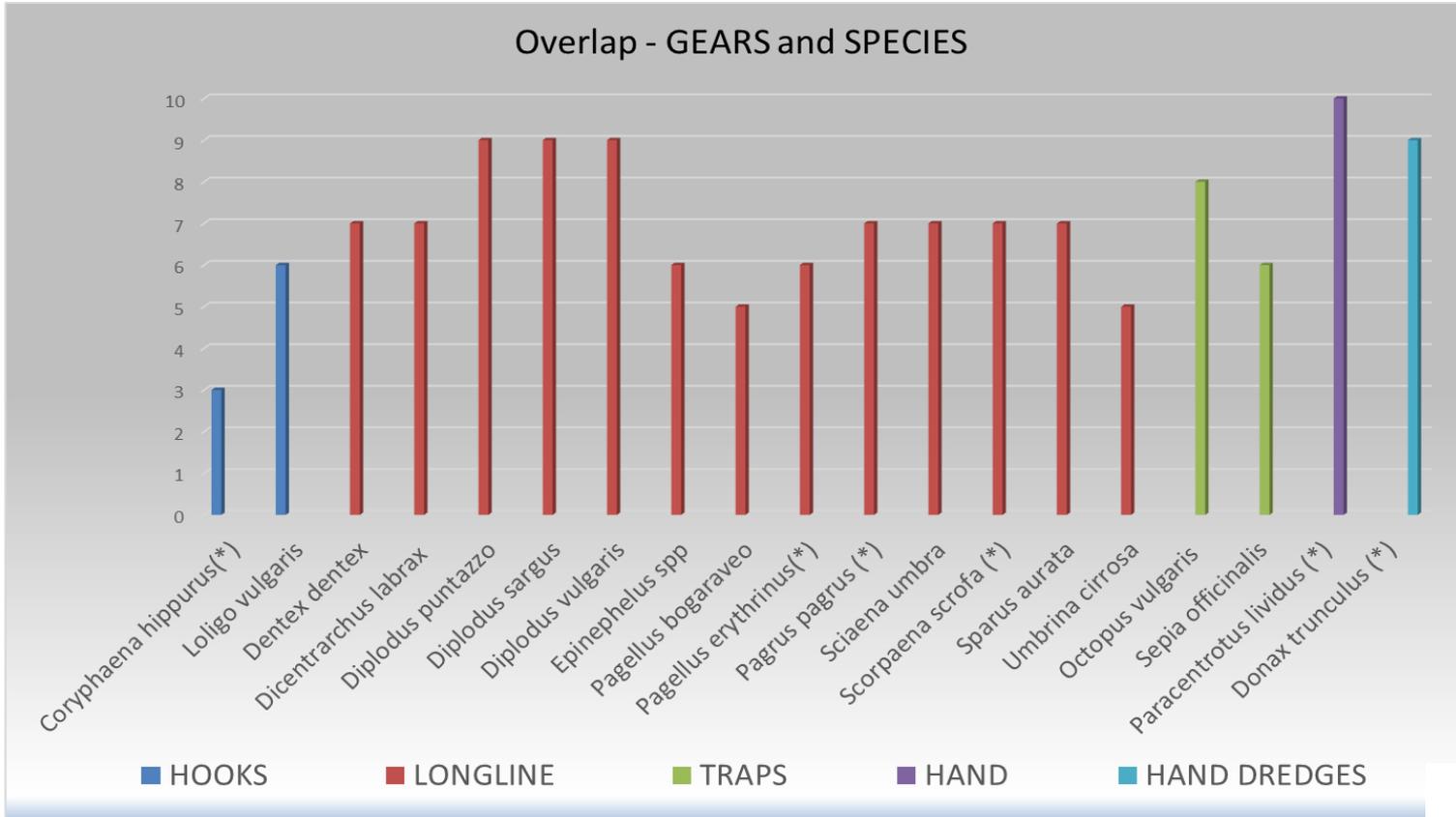
**MEDAC**

MEDITERRANEAN  
A D V I S O R Y  
C O U N C I L

# IMPROVEMENT OF THE DIALOGUE OVER THE YEARS – SHARED OPINIONS



# THE REASONS BEHIND THE CONFLICT BETWEEN SSF AND RF



Ref. MEDAC opinion about Recreational Fisheries (WG4) on relevant species (Ref.62/2020)

## NEED OF AN INNOVATIVE STRATEGY TO SHARE ADVICE



Created by Krisada  
from Noun Project

## “Actual fisheries”

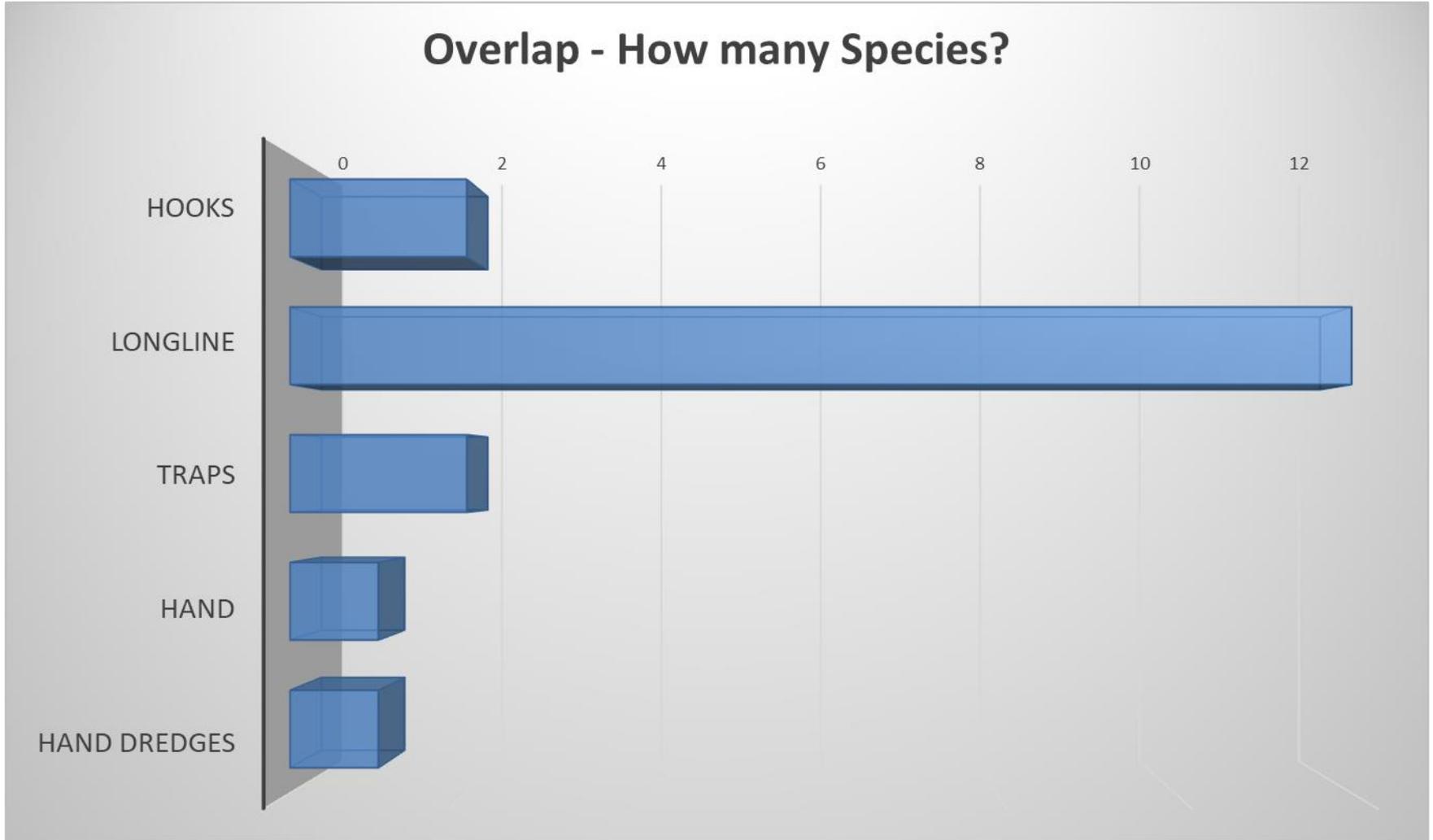
“the real situation related to the fishing gear actually employed by the recreational fisheries sector and used by Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) to catch the target species; it has therefore been possible to identify the cases in which the gear used by both fishery sectors overlap.”



MEDAC WG4 - STEP 2				
SPECIES	EU SIZE Reg. 2019/1241 Annex IX T.L. cm	GEARS USED BY RF (1)	GEARS USED BY SSF (2)	CONFLICTS ON GEARS OVERLAP (3)
<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i> (*)	n.d.	Hooks (rod or handline) - spearguns	Set nets - purse seine - FAD - Hooks (trolling lines) - longline	☺
<i>Dentex dentex</i>	n.d.	Hooks (rod or handline) - spearguns - longline - traps	Set nets - purse seine - longline	☹
<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	25	Hooks (rod or handline) - spearguns - longline	Set nets - longline	☹
<i>Diplodus spp</i>				
<i>Diplodus annularis</i>	12	Hooks (rod or handline)	Set nets - longline - traps	☺
<i>Diplodus puntazzo</i>	18	Hooks (rod or handline) - spearguns - longline	Set nets - longline - traps	☹
<i>Diplodus sargus</i>	23	Hooks (rod or handline) - spearguns - longline	Set nets - longline - traps	☹
<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	18	Hooks (rod or handline) - spearguns - longline	Set nets - longline - traps	☹
<i>Epinephelus spp</i>	45	Hooks (rod or handline) - spearguns - longline	Set nets - longline	☹
<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> (*)	n.d.	Hooks (rod or handline) - longline	Set nets	☺
		Hooks (rod or handline)		☺

...AND OTHERS

## Overlap - How many Species?



## MEDAC opinion about Recreational Fisheries (WG4) on relevant species (Ref.62/2020)

The MEDAC members agreed on a set of proposals aimed to improve the interactions between recreational and professional fishers.

Among the proposals, the MEDAC reiterates that it is **in favour of the following**, as already stated in previous MEDAC opinions:

- The introduction of legislative and economic tools in order to improve efforts to **tackle, and possibly to eradicate, the problem of illegal trade of fish products** by fishers who do not have a commercial licence.
- It is necessary to start an **evaluation of the impact of the catches from Recreational Fishing on the stocks** in each of the Member States, as well as a **socio economics** evaluation related to Recreational Fisheries.



MEDAC opinion about Recreational Fisheries  
(WG4) on relevant species (Ref.62/2020)

## Recreational Fishery in the decision-making process through MEDAC

### Some experiences of MEDAC in the decision-making process related to Recreational Fishery

MEDAC contributions presented during the GFCM WGRF on February 2021 and based on the previous MEDAC opinions:

- ✓ MEDAC Stakeholder suggestions for priority coastal species (Ref.292/2017)
- ✓ MEDAC Interactions of fishing gears used by RF and SSF (Ref.61/2020)



22<sup>o</sup> session of the GFCM Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)  
Online, 22-25 June 2021

Took into consideration also the MEDAC contribution

*The GFCM Scientific Advisory Committee agreed that a common framework was needed to support the **analysis of the impacts of recreational fisheries on select species** at the subregional and regional levels. To this end, it endorsed the proposed list of species to guide the collection and analysis of recreational fisheries data and ultimately support the provision of advice on the management of these fisheries.*

*MEDAC opinion on the Proposal for a Regulation of the EP and of the Council establishing a MAP for the fisheries exploiting demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea. (COM (2018) 115 final) Ref. 189/2018*



Reg. EU 2019/1022 on a MAP in WMED  
Article 8  
Recreational fisheries

1. Where scientific advice indicates that recreational fishing is having a significant impact on the fishing mortality of a stock listed in Article 1 (2), the Council may set **non-discriminatory limits** for recreational fishermen.
2. When setting the limits referred to in paragraph 1, the Council shall refer to **transparent and objective criteria, including those of an environmental, social and economic nature.** **The criteria used may include, in particular, the impact of recreational fishing on the environment, the societal importance of that activity and its contribution to the economy in coastal areas.**

# MEDAC Interactions of fishing gears used by RF and SSF



Thank you for your attention

Further info: [segreteria@med-ac.eu](mailto:segreteria@med-ac.eu)



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