



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



General Fisheries Commission
for the Mediterranean
Commission générale des pêches
pour la Méditerranée

GFCM FORTHCOMING MANAGEMENT MEASURES OF INTEREST FOR SSF

GFCM SECRETARIAT

30 JUNE 2022



ANNÉE INTERNATIONALE DE
LA PÊCHE ET DE L'AQUACULTURE
ARTISANALES

2022



GFCM MANDATE



Objectives

- The **conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources** at all levels (biological, social, economic and environmental)
- The **sustainable development of aquaculture**

Critical role in fisheries governance in its area of application, having the authority to adopt **binding recommendations** for fisheries conservation and management and for aquaculture development

GFCM DECISION-MAKING PROCESS



GFCM contracting parties meet annually to review and adopt the recommendations made by the GFCM subsidiary bodies:

Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC)

Scientific Advisory Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ)

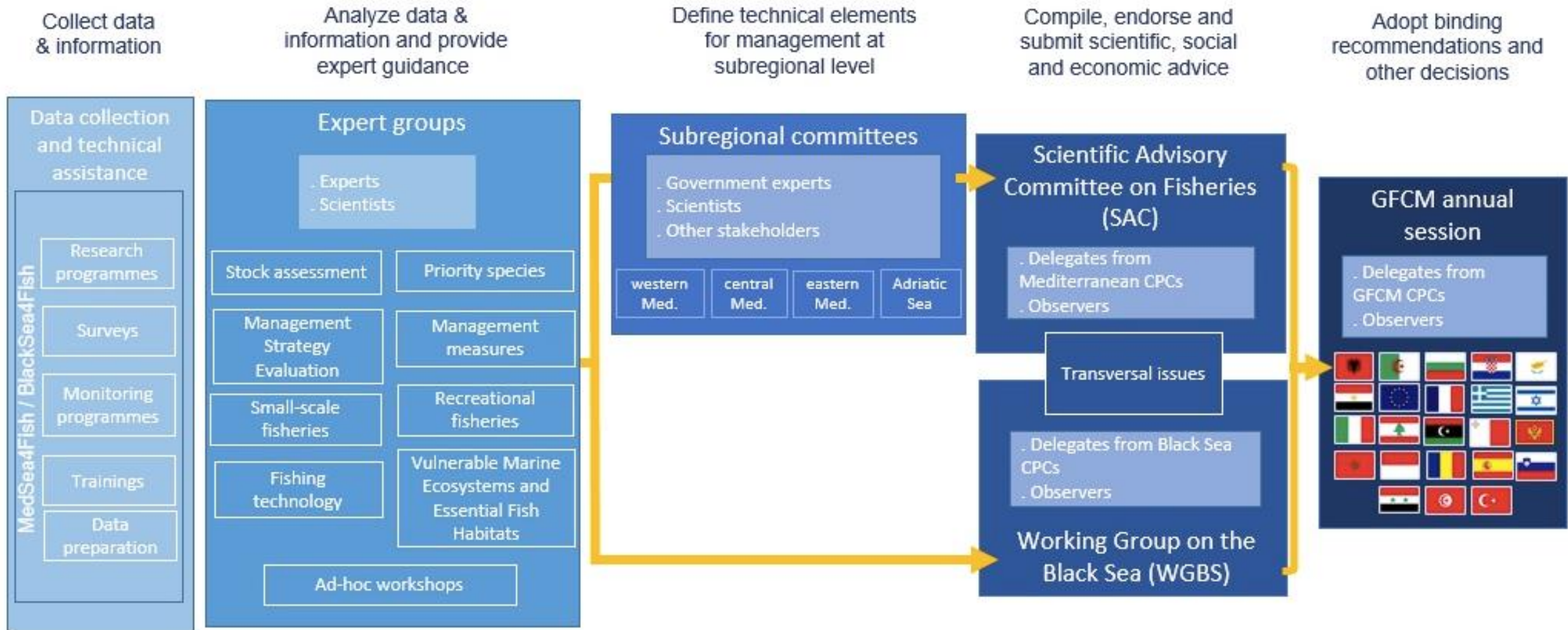
Compliance Committee (CoC)

Committee on Administration and Finance (CAF)

Working Group for the Black Sea (WGBS)

**GFCM Commission
for the adoption of
management measures**

GFCM DECISION-MAKING PROCESS



GFCM DECISION-MAKING PROCESS



• Technical working groups compile and analyse evidence



• Conclusions of working groups are reviewed by GFCM committees (SAC, CAQ, CoC)



• Committees produce advice to support adoption of decisions at the Commission



• Member states make proposals to be adopted by the **Commission** either as **binding recommendations** or non-binding resolutions, based on advice from Committees



• The Compliance Committee assesses compliance with decisions adopted

*Overall coordination of the Commission is overseen by the Bureau,
Secretariat oversees the implementation of activities defined by the Commission*

COLLECTION AND TRANSMISSION OF DATA



The **Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF)** is an instrument to support GFCM contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties (CPCs) in complying with the **binding recommendations in place for the collection and submission of fisheries data**.



- **catch** (landing and catch per species),
- **incidental catch of vulnerable species**,
- **fishing fleet** (fleet register, authorized vessels, vessels operating in the GFCM fisheries restricted areas),
- **fishing effort** (by fleet segment, fishing gear, catch per unit effort),
- **socio-economics** (economic and social data, operating costs, species value),
- **biological information** (stock assessment, length, size at first maturity, maturity data, dolphinfish, red coral, European eel).

SSF IN NUMBERS



83 % of the fleet

29 % of revenue

57 % of employment onboard vessels

15 % of catch



Crucial role in supporting livelihoods

Top 5 species for SSF in the Mediterranean



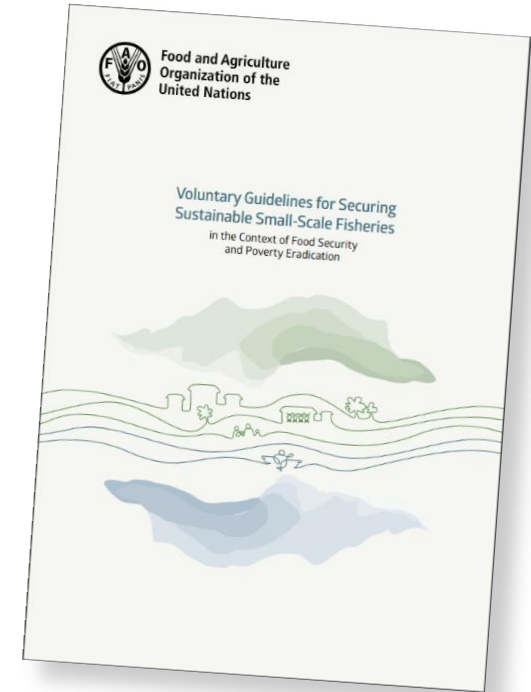


What are the regional instruments existing for SSF in the Mediterranean region today ?

INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

SSF GUIDELINES

- First ever **negotiated international instrument** entirely dedicated to SSF
- Bring together **social development and responsible fisheries**
- Complement other **international instruments**



The SSF Guidelines were developed through a participatory process and endorsed by FAO Members at the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in 2014

What do we have now?

Regional Plan of Action for small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea (RPOA-SSF)

- Based on conclusions from regional conferences and with reference to the SSF Guidelines
- Signed by 18 countries at high-level GFCM conference in 2018
- Concrete actions to be implemented over ten years (2018–2028)



**Vehicle for implementing the SSF Guidelines
in the Mediterranean and Black Sea region**



RPOA-SSF: 9 AREAS OF ACTION



Scientific research

Research on **socio-economic impact** of SSF, **engage fishers** in scientific monitoring



SSF data collection

Participatory data collection, national **fleet registers** including SSF



SSF management measures

Access rights, biodiversity preservation, technology and equipment, MCS



Value chain enhancement

Strengthen **producer organizations**, first **processing** by fishers and direct sales, **consumer awareness**



Participatory approach

Co-management, MPAs, marine spatial planning



Capacity building

SSF platforms, access to **funding, education/training**, livelihood **diversification**, technical assistance



Decent work and social protection

Improvement of **working conditions** and **social protection**



Strengthening the role of women

Projects enabling women to undertake SSF activities, **equal participation** in decision-making



Climate & environment

Support **SSF communities affected by climate change, circular economy**: disposal of marine litter and recycling of recovered nets

GFCM RESOLUTION



Resolution GFCM40/2016/3 on sustainable small-scale fisheries in the GFCM area of application

1. The GFCM should provide **support** to CPCs to **accelerate the implementation of the SSF Guidelines** by adapting them to the Mediterranean and the Black Sea context.
2. The CPCs acknowledge the importance of the work by the Regional Conference on Building a future for sustainable small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea (Algeria, March 2016).
3. The GFCM should **facilitate the elaboration of national strategies for the sustainable development of the SSF sector.**
4. **CPCs should continue to build political will** to invest in **participative management approaches** in order to sustainably develop fisheries. Particular attention should be accorded to **improving livelihoods and socio-economic opportunities** for small-scale fishers, including with marine spatial planning.
5. Specific actions should be foreseen to **elaborate coordinated policies in support of the SSF sector**, including a common regional strategy, in coordination with the existing regional small-scale fisher networks and platforms, and a high-level event on sustainable small-scale fisheries.



What should be considered for future measures for small-scale fisheries?

DATA COLLECTION



Working Group on Small-Scale Fisheries (WGSSF), 10 March 2022

- To ensure adequate data collection and organization of technical activities in support of management, a list of priority species for SSF should be identified.
- Data **collection in SSF should cover all characteristics of the SSF sector** (seasons, spatial and temporal heterogeneity in catches, and SSF vessel characteristics such as gear used, length and power) and that a **minimum set of biological data for priority species is collected** so to facilitate its integration in the assessment.
- **Socio-economic data collection** should continue towards a **comprehensive characterization of SSF** and socio-economic characteristics of the SSF sector should be integrated in the assessment of impacts of existing or potential management measures.
- To better assess the impact that different SSF activities could have on certain groups of vulnerable species, data collection should cover and report a **minimum set of data on the incidental catch** (e.g. species, number, area).

SSF AND RF INTERACTIONS



On the interactions between SSF and recreational fisheries:

- There are **several common species** relevant to both sectors, and a larger number of GFCM priority species that have some relevant catches from both sectors.
- **Information should be collected on such common species**, in particular those that are already included in the GFCM priority species list, and including information on catch, biological aspects, economic importance, to facilitate a comprehensive assessment of resources and fishing sectors.

RPOA-SSF IMPLEMENTATION



For reinforcing implementation of the RPOA-SSF, including by developing new SSF management measures:

- Priorities in relation to the implementation of the RPOA-SSF should include a focus on **responsible consumption of local produce**, the **interactions with vulnerable species**, the need to improve **resilience** of small-scale fishers through **technology and innovation** as well as involve them in **data collection** and **monitoring and control**.
- Focus should also be given to **engaging the youth** in the SSF sector and **strengthen role of women**.



- **Any thoughts?**



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THANK YOU

GFCM

