



**European  
Commission**  
Maritime Affairs  
and Fisheries

## **PROJECT TITLE**

*“Actions aimed to enhance the participatory role of Mediterranean small-scale fishing in the decision making and advisory processes at national and EU level”*

**CALL:** MARE/2014/04

**AGREEMENT No:** SI2.723954

**START DATE:** 1.1.2016

**END DATE:** 31.3.2017



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## THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**MARE/2014/04 “Support measures for small-scale fishing”**

Publication: July 2015 by **DG MARE**

The Call is a pilot project financing support actions aimed to:

1. identify and reinforce the degree of involvement of the small-scale fishing sector in industry **organisations**;
2. facilitate the involvement of the small-scale fishing sector in setting up new **Advisory Councils**;
3. promote the exchange of good practices that will further increase the participation of the small-scale fishing sector in the **advisory and decision-making processes**.

Two Projects financed in the Mediterranean:

**ARTFISHMED** (Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, MEDAC area)

**EASTMEDFISHERS** (Malta, Greece and Cyprus)



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## THE ARTFISHMED PROJECT - MAIN OBJECTIVES

- ▶ to contribute to **strengthen the participation** of small-scale fishing into the decision-making and advisory process, in particular within the Mediterranean Advisory Council (MEDAC) and support the participation of small-scale fishing in national and local professional associations
- ▶ **to support the exchange of information** among the stakeholders, in order to increase the participation of small-scale fishing sector in advisory and decision-making processes

### DEFINITION

*“‘Small-scale coastal fishing’ means fishing carried out by fishing vessels of an overall length of less than 12 metres and not using towed fishing gear as listed in Table 3 of Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No 26/2004”*

Reg. (EU) 508/2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), Art. 3



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## THE PROJECT PARTNERS



[www.med-ac.eu](http://www.med-ac.eu)

The MEDAC is made up of European and national **organizations representing the fisheries sector** and other interest groups which operate in the Mediterranean area in the framework of the CFP.

The role of MEDAC includes the preparation of **opinions** on fisheries management and socio-economic aspects in support of the sector in the Mediterranean, to be submitted to the Member States and the European institutions.

MEDAC also proposes **technical solutions and suggestions** at the request of the Member States.



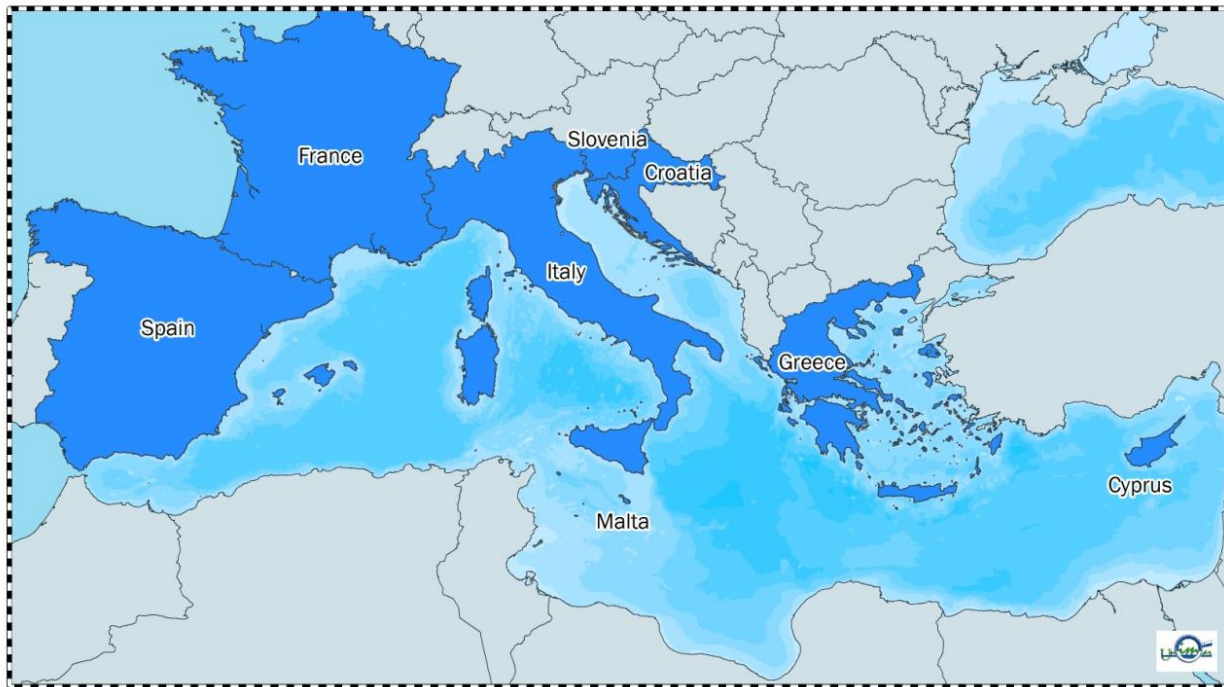
[www.unimar.it](http://www.unimar.it)

Unimar is an Italian scientific institute created in 1995 by the National cooperative **fishers associations** that represent the majority of Italian professional fisheries.

Its main features are:

- **direct link with the fishing sector**
- **network of scientific experts** operating all over the Italian coastline, that allows to carry out scientific and data collection programs with the support of fishers

## THE IMPLEMENTATION AREA



The EU Mediterranean Countries  
(Case Studies focussed on the Northern Adriatic)



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## **THE PROJECT TASKS**

### **TASK A**

Mapping of the existing organisations representing the EU's small-scale fishing sector at local, national or International level

### **TASK B**

Analyze the degree of representation and involvement of small-scale fishing sector in the MEDAC

### **TASK C**

Actions aimed to directly involve the fishers and draw attention on the role of representation (CASE STUDIES)

### **TASK D**

Setting up a pilot network of Small-Scale fisheries





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## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

### TASK A

Mapping of the existing organizations representing the EU's small-scale fishing sector at local, national or International level

## METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Setting up an **Archive of the Organizations** representing SSF at National and local level in the EU Mediterranean Countries, using the Unimar and MEDAC archives and web search
- ▶ Carrying out of a **survey through questionnaires** completed by the organizations in the Archive aimed to collect information on the perception on the representation framework
- ▶ Set up of a SSF **fleet** Mediterranean database

## RESULTS

- ▶ About 300 organizations listed in the Archive
- ▶ More than 200 organizations contacted
- ▶ 45 completed questionnaires (many of those completed on behalf of a higher number of organizations)
- ▶ A database of the Mediterranean SSF fleet

## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

### TASK A

Mapping of the existing organisations representing the EU's small-scale fishing sector at local, national or International level

## RESULTS

(Example from the Organizations questionnaire)

**Q10 Which of the following tools could be the more effective ones for enhancing the representation and involvement of the SSF fishers, in your country? (max 3 options)**







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## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

### TASK B

Analyze the degree of representation and involvement of small-scale fishing sector in the MEDAC

## METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Thematic **analysis of the MEDAC documents** focussing on SSF related issues
- ▶ **Interviews** with the MEDAC staff and members aimed to complete the information

## RESULTS

- ▶ About 300 documents analyzed: 101 opinions and letters and 201 minutes of the meeting including annexes
- ▶ A database of the documents including a search by keyword, published on the project website

## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

### TASK C

Actions aimed to directly involve the fishers and draw attention on the role of representation (CASE STUDIES)

## THE CASE STUDIES



Three **CASE STUDIES** were identified in **Italy**, **Slovenia** and **Croatia**, as asked by the Commission



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## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

### TASK C

Actions aimed to directly involve the fishers and draw attention on the role of representation (CASE STUDIES)

## METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Training of the **Case Studies** facilitators, including the setting up of methodological tools
- ▶ Preliminary description of the **local framework**
- ▶ Building of the **local network**: a link among all the potentially interested entities was up, through contacts and dissemination of information
- ▶ Setting up **tools for information collection and sharing**: semi-structured interviews and questionnaire, promotional stuff, meetings among fishers
- ▶ Organization of a mutual-learning **Event** for awareness-rising of the stakeholders in each Case Study



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## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

### TASK C

Actions aimed to directly involve the fishers and draw attention on the role of representation (CASE STUDIES)

## RESULTS

- ▶ **16 ports** involved
- ▶ 3 mutual-learning **Events** -October 2016- in Venice (Veneto, Italy), Izola (Slovenia), Poreč (Istria, Croatia) - total 135 attendants
- ▶ 90 **questionnaires** completed by the fishers
- ▶ 1 **database** of the questionnaires data
- ▶ 1 **brochure** printed in Italian, Slovenian, Croatian and English aimed to the involvement of the stakeholders
- ▶ 2 preparatory **meetings** in Istria - total 31 attendants
- ▶ **Uncountable results**: new links and relationships among fishers from the three countries, ideas, proposals, contributions, best practices

## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

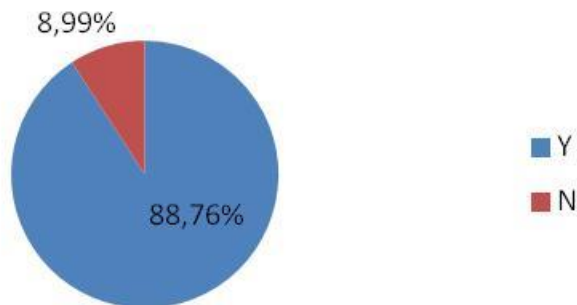
### TASK C

Actions aimed to directly involve the fishers and draw attention on the role of representation (CASE STUDIES)

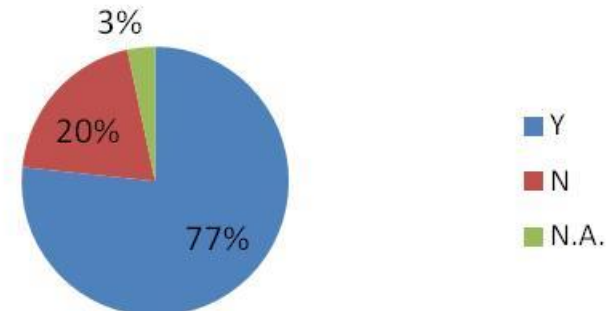
## RESULTS

(Examples from the case studies questionnaire)

Are you available to share with other fishers project initiatives to be proposed in the framework of European funding?



Do you think that associations can play a role in representing the interests of fishers of small-scale fishing?





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## WHAT WE HAVE DONE

### TASK D

Setting up of a pilot network of Small-Scale fisheries

## METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Setting up a **web site** to be used as a platform for the for the stakeholders from both the Case Studies and from the MEDAC
- ▶ Stimulate the establishment of **contacts** among associations and individual stakeholders, through the website, e-mail, paper brochure and sharing of the addresses set up during the project activities

## RESULTS

- ▶ The website [www.artfishmed.eu](http://www.artfishmed.eu), online for the next 3 years, containing all the project details and results
- ▶ A **brochure** summarizing the project results, promoting the website and inviting the stakeholders to contribute to establish networks
- ▶ Contributions from the stakeholders, to be shared on the website





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## POSSIBLE FUTURE CHALLENGES

The results obtained by ArtFishMed -also compared with the EastMEDFishers outcomes- highlighted the usefulness of the “bottom up” approach and the need of improving dissemination in order to strengthen the representation and participation of the SSF sector at local, national and EU level.

The experience gained has allowed to identify some potential challenges:

- ▶ Identification and **mapping of fishers' needs** (common and local specific ones)
- ▶ Extend the action to **other countries/case studies**
- ▶ Promote new **associations** where non already existing
- ▶ Expand the data set through **new surveys** (also through online tools)
- ▶ Creation of national/local **focal points** with the possibility of networking.
- ▶ Joint **conferences**
- ▶ Maintain and improve the **communication** platform (including new IT tools)
- ▶ Regular **meetings** with fishers and training
- ▶ Replicate the models in **extra-Mediterranean** contexts



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*Thanks to your collaboration of you all, the  
Project could achieve these results.*



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