



**MEDAC**

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

MEDAC meetings 22-23  
5<sup>th</sup> November – GL3

# Agenda

## 9,30-11,15:

- Adoption of the agenda
- Overall update on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP):
- OECM: opportunity to meet a representative of the CBD Secretariat at Fish Forum 2024
- EC consultation on VMEs, deadline February 5

## 11,30-13,30:

- Overall update on decarbonization (46<sup>th</sup> GFCM commission, Split 11/2023)
1. Project presentation on **Assessment of the carbon footprint of the fishing fleet and application of decarbonization measures** University of Zagreb, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture (Prof. Nikola Vladimir)
  2. **Decarbynt** project (Alessandro Buzzi)
  3. Presentation of the results of the Workshop on **Financing the Energy Transition for Fisheries and Aquaculture - EC Partnership for Energy Transition** (Marina Illuminati)
  4. AOB

# Marine Spatial Planning

- All information available at “**The European Maritime Spatial Planning Platform**”
- <https://maritime-spatial-planning.ec.europa.eu/>



MSP in the EU ▾

MSP Resources ▾

MSP Initiatives ▾

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## The European Maritime Spatial Planning Platform

A service for Member States to share relevant knowledge and experiences on  
Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)

# Marine Spatial Planning



**Finland**



**France**



**Germany**



# Marine Spatial Planning



European  
MSP Platform



European  
Commission



# Marine Spatial Planning

- Several projects (282) are taking place at EU level (e.g., MSPMED; MSP4BIO)
- <https://maritime-spatial-planning.ec.europa.eu/msp-practice/msp-projects?page=0>



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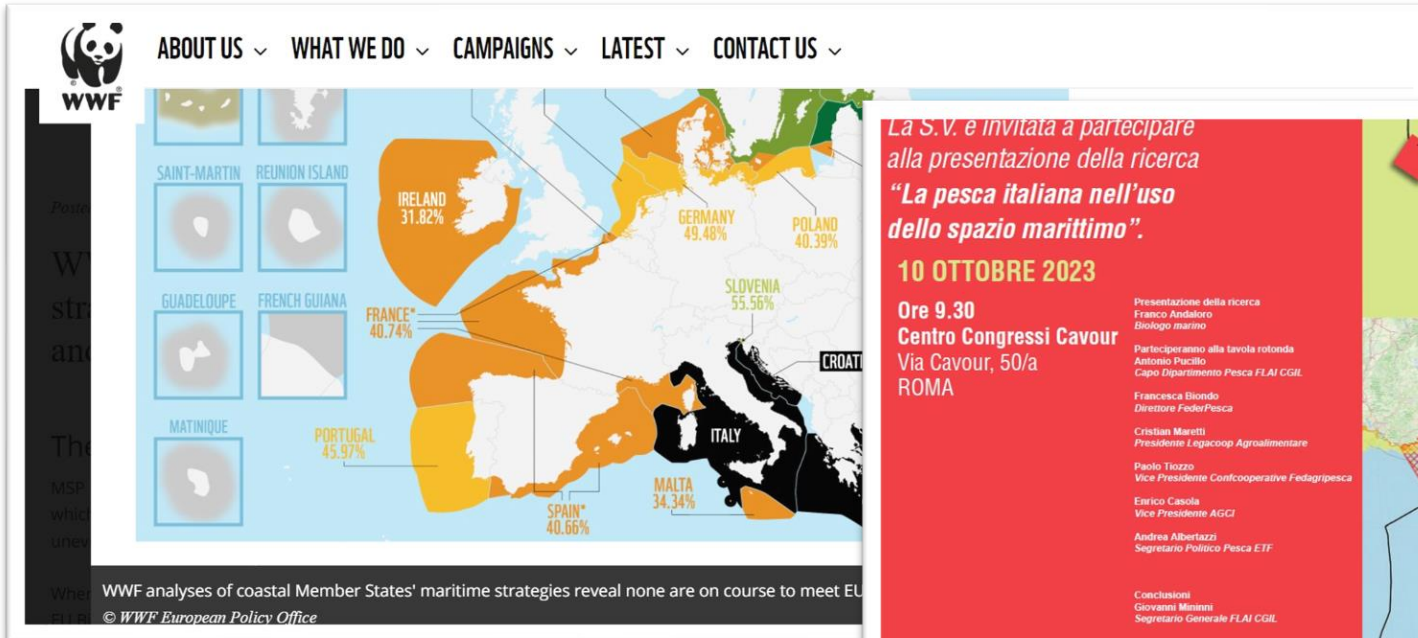
Towards the operational implementation of MSP in our common  
Mediterranean Sea



Co-funded by the European  
Maritime and Fisheries Fund

# Marine Spatial Planning

- Several initiatives are taking place at EU level (e.g., FLAI-CGL; WWF EU)



- Several stakeholders engagement process are taking places (in MSP projects)

*La S.V. è invitata a partecipare alla presentazione della ricerca "La pesca italiana nell'uso dello spazio marittimo".*

**10 OTTOBRE 2023**

**Ore 9.30**  
**Centro Congressi Cavour**  
Via Cavour, 50/a  
ROMA

Presentazione della ricerca  
Franco Andaloro  
Biologo marino

Parteciperanno alla tavola rotonda  
Antonio Pucillo  
Capo Dipartimento Pesca FLAI CGIL

Francesca Biondo  
Direttore FedorPesca

Cristian Maretto  
Presidente Legacoop Agroalimentare

Paolo Tiozzo  
Vice Presidente Concooperative FedagriPesca

Enrico Casola  
Vice Presidente AGCI

Andrea Albertazzi  
Segretario Politico Pesca ETF

Conclusioni  
Giovanni Mininni  
Segretario Generale FLAI CGIL

Modera  
Erida Nacinovich  
Ufficio Stampa FLAI CGIL Nazionale

**LA PESCA ITALIANA NELL'USO DELLO SPAZIO MARITTIMO**

**Scenari futuri e riflessi socioeconomici**

# OECMs

- **Other effective area-based conservation measure** means “a geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ\* conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services and, where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic, and other locally relevant values”
- **The EU’s biodiversity strategy for 2030** is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments.



# OECMs

- **Understanding OECMs to achieve the 30 by 30 target**
- 29 September, 2023 (Natura 2000 marine biogeographical process)
- <https://ebcd.org/understanding-oecms-to-achieve-the-30-by-30-target/>

General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean - GFCM



- **Opportunity to meet the CBD Secretariat at the GFCM Fish Forum**
- 19-23 February 2024
- <https://www.fao.org/gfcm/fishforum2024/en/>

# Understanding OECMs to achieve 30X30 target

## Take-home messages (1)

- **The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) expects societal sectors to be able to demonstrate their own co-benefits in defining and establishing OECMs.** Therefore, any sector of society could apply to propose an OECM for establishment.
- In each proposal for an OECM, certain questions need to be addressed. What are the benefits? These must be identified, assessed, and, importantly, monitored. A scoring system should be established to ensure a cohesive network of OECMs. **Socioeconomic research on human impacts should also be taken into consideration.**
- **Assessments should be conducted both within and outside the selected areas (proposed to be OECMs) to ensure that benefits are not lost due to activities in neighboring sites.**
- **OECMs in fisheries can present opportunities for biodiversity protection and the restoration of fishing resources. This is because, in many cases, existing FRAs have more stringent measures, particularly regarding monitoring, making it easier to have them accepted as OECMs.**
- At the European level, the criteria for identifying an OECM align with those of the CBD.

# Understanding OECMs to achieve 30X30 target

## Take-home messages (2)

- **Currently, there are no OECMs in the EU. The EC is working on guidelines for how OECMs can contribute towards the 30% target.** The aim is not to impose additional requirements on OECMs, but to provide clarification on EU legislation regarding the topic.
- **Currently, OECMs do not appear in any EU legislation.** The only request from the Biodiversity Strategy is for the EC to develop guidance on how OECMs should be counted towards the biodiversity targets.
- MPAs cover 12% of EU seas, with 75% being part of Natura2000. Additional areas are protected under regional sea conventions (GFCM FRAs) or national law. However, the use of OECMs has not been widespread thus far.
- Thus far, six Member States (**Cyprus**, Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, **Spain**, and Sweden) **have made pledges. No existing marine OECMs were included.**
- **OECMs are increasingly recognized as a tool to meet MPA targets in line with the EU Biodiversity Strategy.** However, criteria and guidelines for defining OECMs need to incorporate clearly defined conservation objectives and monitoring approaches, which must be implemented.

# Understanding OECMs to achieve 30X30 target

## Take-home messages (3)

- **OECMs can be designated and acknowledged by Member States (MS) and could contribute to both biodiversity and restoration targets.**
- **The FAO presented the Handbook on Marine Fisheries OECMs (as done in MEDAC). Fisheries OECMs fall under the jurisdiction of fisheries management agencies.**
- **The FAO's definition of a fishery OECM includes established, spatially defined management and/or conservation measures other than MPAs aimed at fisheries benefit.**
- These may include fisheries closures and restricted areas.
- **The advantages include the recognition of effective area-based fisheries management, including co-benefits for biodiversity, the enhancement of management and monitoring, dialogue and cooperation between fisheries and the conservation community, and the joint contribution towards global targets and objectives.**

# Understanding OECMs to achieve 30X30 target

## Take-home messages (4)

- **OECMs are not MPAs.** However, both OECMs and MPAs contribute to achieving the 30%.
- **A fisheries closure can also be considered an OECM** in addition to a fishery measure.
- **Article 11 of the CFP** pertains to spatial measures by Member States, which can adopt national measures, and these **can also be taken into account as OECMs.**
- **The OECM concept is compatible with industrial fisheries.** OECMs can be a measure to manage the objectives and impacts of industrial fisheries.
- If you can have MPAs or FRAs inside a fishery area, why wouldn't you have OECMs inside the same fisheries area? However, biodiversity in OECMs must be well monitored.
- **Who can identify OECMs? Community-based approaches, Member States, NGOs.**

# EC consultation on VMEs (deadline February 5)

- **It is not pertinent to Mediterranean fisheries** because Council Regulation 734/2008 was adopted to transpose UN resolution 61/105 on sustainable fisheries related to the impacts of destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling, on vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) on the high seas.
- The Council Regulation 734/2008 regulation sets out the rules for fishing vessels registered in an EU country on using bottom fishing gear on the high seas, i.e. **outside areas regulated by regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs, in our case GFCM)** or where these organizations have not adopted measures for these fisheries.

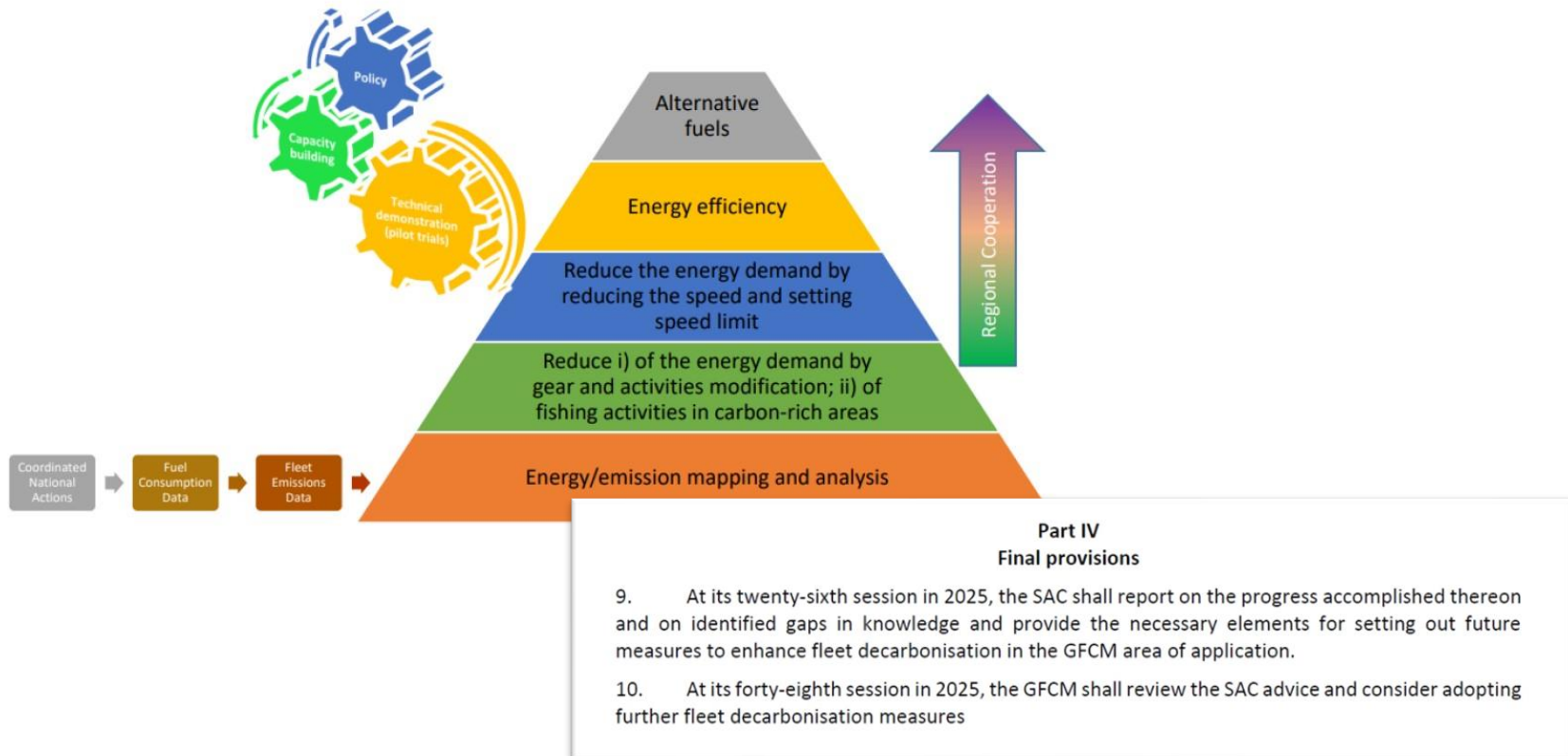
# DECARBONIZATION

## 11,30-13,30:

- Overall update on decarbonization (46<sup>th</sup> GFCM commission, Split 20223)
- 1. Project presentation on **Assessment of the carbon footprint of the fishing fleet and application of decarbonization measures** University of Zagreb, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture (Prof. Nikola Vladimir)
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- 4. AOB

# 46<sup>th</sup> GFCM commission, Split 11/2023

Resolution GFCM/46/2023/5 on a roadmap towards increased decarbonization of fishing activities in the Mediterranean Sea





## Side event:

- Abstract – PAGE 1
- ❑ The Mediterranean fisheries sector is struggling with **the critical challenge of an aging workforce**, necessitating a comprehensive strategy involving various stakeholders.
- ❑ **This event aims to present initiatives for attracting new generation of fishers.**
- ❑ Key approaches include establishing **education and training programs**, emphasizing sustainable fishing practices aligned with the three pillars of sustainability.
- ❑ **Collaboration with educational institutions, fisheries organizations, and government agencies is imperative** for successful program development and promotion. Promoting responsible fishing techniques is pivotal, with training on best practices, including selective fishing and measures to prevent overfishing, thereby preserving marine ecosystem balance and livelihoods simultaneously. Integration of technology is vital for sector revitalization, encompassing advanced navigation systems, onboard security, and eco-friendly and efficient fishing gear.
- ❑ To overcome financial barriers, offering **incentives** and support is recommended, encompassing public funds, private investments, and grants for fisheries innovation. This alleviates initial capital constraints for new-generation fishers, ensuring that financial limitations do not discourage potential entrants.

## Side event:

- Abstract – PAGE 2
- ❑ **Encouraging entrepreneurship** fosters the perception of fishing as a viable business opportunity, providing support for business planning, marketing, and financial management, thus empowering aspiring fishers.
- ❑ **Research is pivotal driver of sector progress**, with investments in sustainable fishing. Collaboration between scientists, researchers, and fishers cultivates new technologies for environmental stewardship and economic gains.
- ❑ **Networking events are vital**, bringing experienced fishers together with aspiring individuals, creating a community for learning. Improving working conditions is crucial for attracting and retaining workforce.
- ❑ **Addressing safety standards, ensuring fair remuneration, and providing healthcare benefits** creates an attractive work environment.
- ❑ **Promoting diversification encourages exploring alternatives such as integrated fisheries and aquaculture systems and eco-tourism**, enhancing economic resilience and fostering a more sustainable fisheries sector. Implementing these strategies empowers the sector to address the challenges posed by an aging workforce.



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**MORE INFORMATION:**

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