



MEDAC meeting
FG Eastern Med + WG3
27th February 2024

Agenda

9,30-11,15:

- Opening of the meeting by the coordinators Antonis Petrou
- Adoption of the agenda
- Adoption of the minutes of the hybrid FG East Med meeting held in Barcelona (23 February 2023)
- Presentation of the status of *Aristaeomorpha foliacea* and *Aristeus antennatus* fisheries resources and updates on GFCM latest management decisions and recommendations – Prof. Christos Maravelias (UTH)
- **Relevant MSP projects in the Eastern Med area considering the overlap between VMEs (Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems) and deep-water red shrimp fishing grounds - Marco Costantini (WWF) & George Triantaphyllidis (HCMR)**
- Small-scale fisheries (SSF): monitoring of the GFCM review of existing good practices in the application of holistic and participatory management approaches for SSF – Antonis Petrou (Coordinator)
- Any Other Business

Marine Spatial Planning in Eastern Mediterranean

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



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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



Marine Spatial Planning



Finland



France



Germany



Marine Spatial Planning in Greece

4 projects are taking place at Greece level

- <https://maritime-spatial-planning.ec.europa.eu/countries/greece>
- MARBEFES
- MPA Europe
- MarinePlan
- EcoScope

Status: MSP process ongoing

- Greece has not yet adopted an MSP. Alongside the ongoing MSP process, MSP related issues are also addressed in “Special Frameworks for Spatial Planning” (terrestrial spatial plans - TS Plans) covering specific economic sectors. Sectoral plans have been elaborated so far for aquaculture, (2011, to be revised), tourism (under finalisation) and industry, (2009, to be revised), which include spatial planning guidelines for the land-based, coastal and marine segments of each sector.
- The EU MSP Directive is transposed into national legislation through Law 4546 (GG 101/A/12-June-2018) and Law 4759/2020 (GG 245/A/9-12-2020) amending the previous one through Chapter 2.

Marine Spatial Planning in Greece

Overall Information on Greek Eastern Mediterranean:

- <https://maritime-spatial-planning.ec.europa.eu/sea-basins/east-mediterranean>
- National MSP authority - Greece's Competent Authority for MSP is **the Ministry of Environment and Energy**

Contact

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Marine Spatial Planning in Cyprus

2 projects are taking place in Cyprus

- <https://maritime-spatial-planning.ec.europa.eu/countries/cyprus>
- MPA Europe
- EcoScope

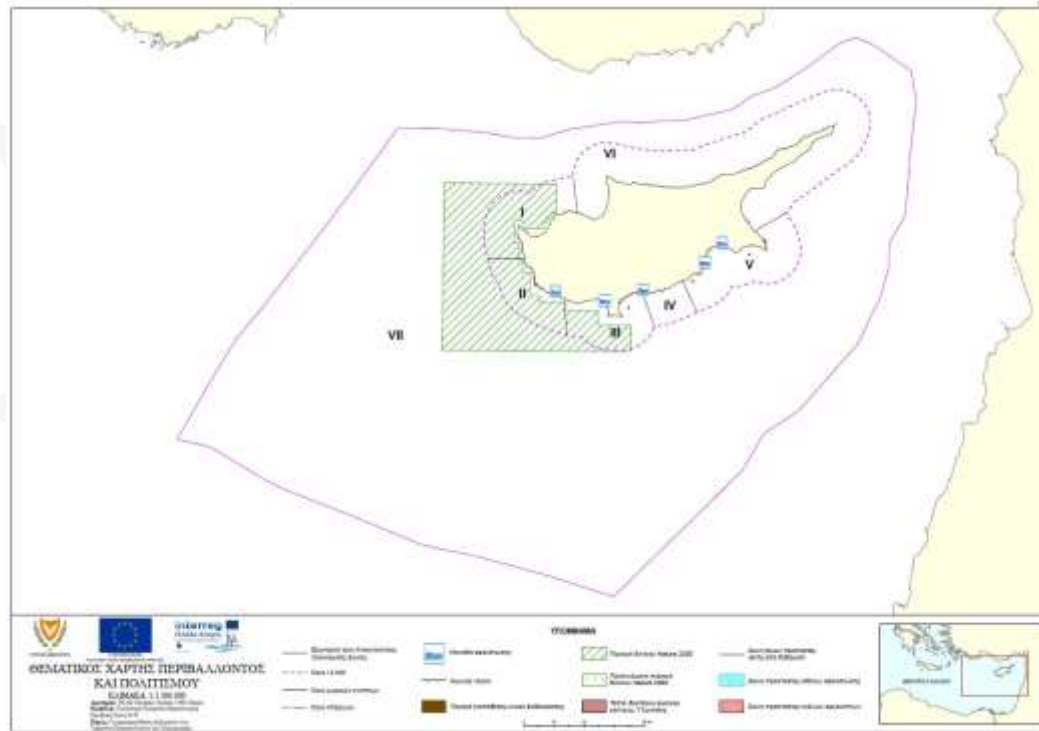
Status: MSP adopted

- **The MSP was approved by the Council of Ministers on 20 December 2023** and published on the Official Gazette of the Republic on 29 December 2023 (Gazette No. 5844, Supplement III (I), P.I. 427/2023). It consists of text, maps per spatial area and sectoral-thematic maps.
- OFFICIAL SITE:
<https://www.dms.gov.cy/dms/shipping.nsf/all/FCD4E14C14CC2F05C22588BF001F29AA?op=endocument>
- The text of the [Maritime Spatial Plan](#) is currently available only in Greek. See the maps of the Maritime Spatial Plan [here](#) (currently available only in Greek). See the sectoral-thematic maps [here](#) (currently available only in Greek).

Marine Spatial Planning in Cyprus

Contact

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Deep-water red shrimps exploited by trawlers in the Eastern Mediterranean



(Source: Otero, M., Mytilineou, C. (Ed.). Deep-sea Atlas of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. 2022. IUCN-HCMR DeepEastMed Project. Publisher, IUCN Gland, Malaga. (VII+371pp.).

Main fishing grounds of trawlers in the deep waters of the E. Mediterranean based on AIS monthly maps

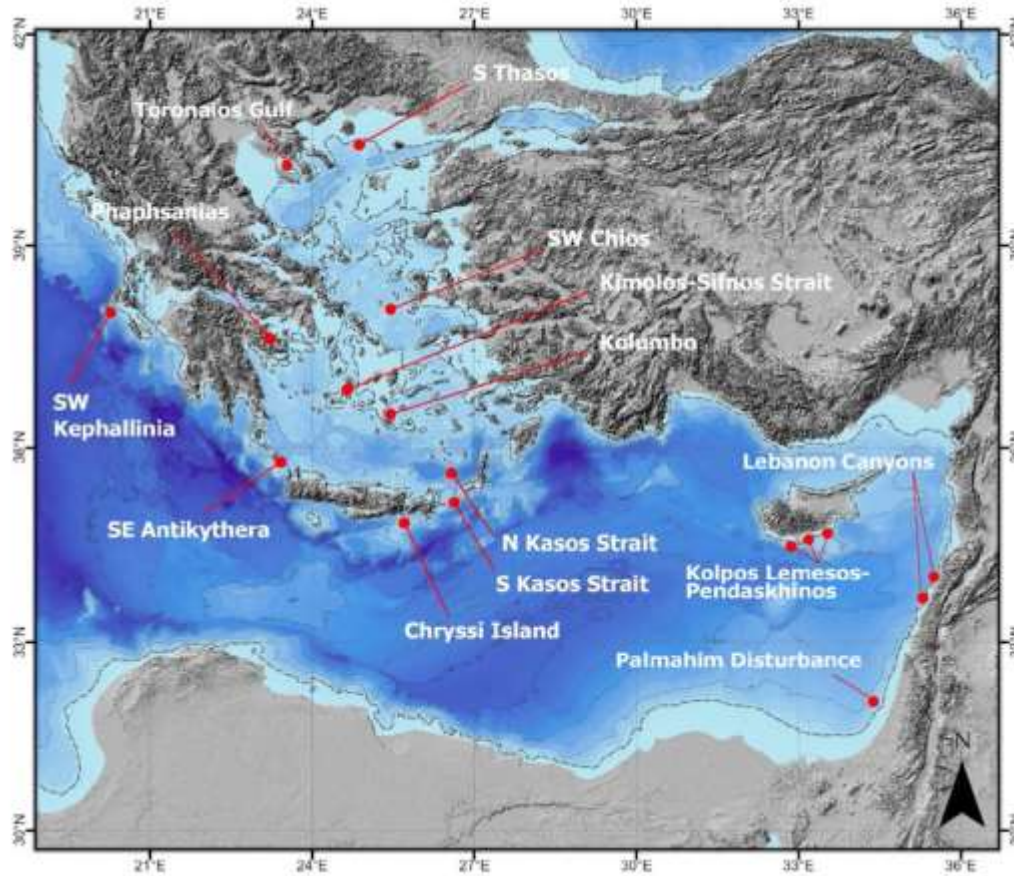


(Source: Otero, M., Mytilineou, C. (Ed.). Deep-sea Atlas of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. 2022. IUCN-HCMR DeepEastMed Project. Publisher, IUCN Gland, Malaga. (VII+371pp.).

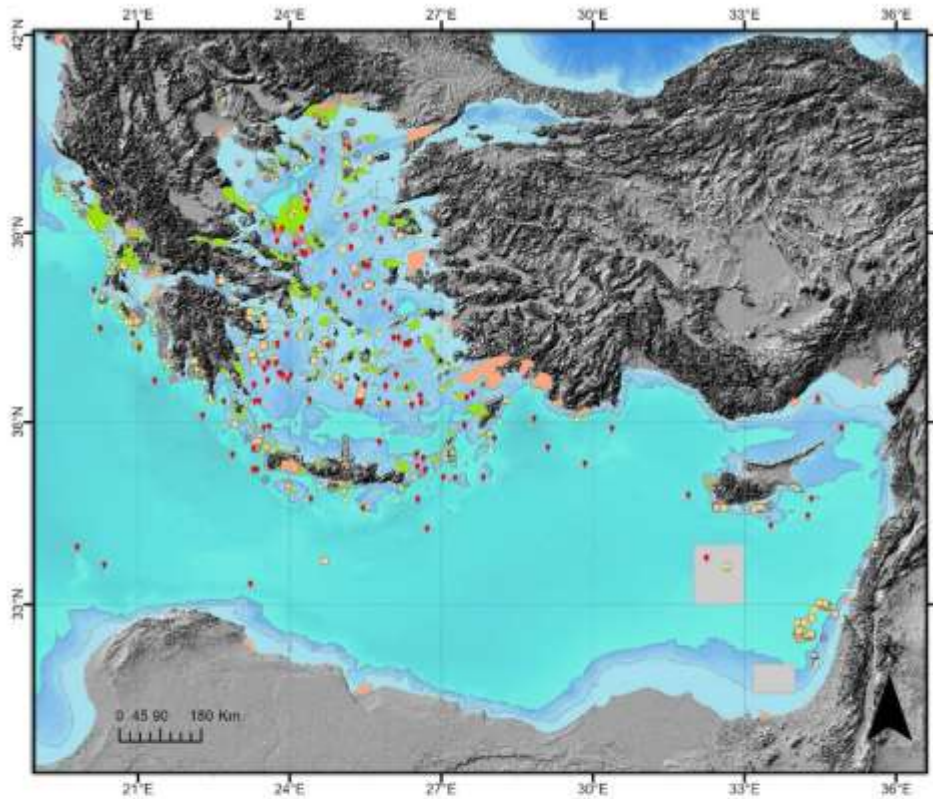
Deep-sea shrimp stock status according to the latest GFCM SAC assessment. The fisheries reference point used (Fref) is equivalent to F0.1.

 SPECIES	 GSA	 2023 SAC ASSESSMENT	
		QUANTITATIVE STATUS (F/F_{REF})	STOCK STATUS (EXPLOITATION AND BIOMASS LEVEL)
<i>Aristeus antennatus</i>	1	0.92	Sustainable exploitation
	2	1.51	In overexploitation
	5	4.45	In overexploitation
	6	4.91	In overexploitation, with relatively low biomass
	18-19-20	4.43	In overexploitation
<i>Aristaeomorpha foliacea</i>	9-10-11.1-11.2	1.8	Biomass above reference point and in overexploitation
	18-19-20	2.25	In overexploitation

Deep sea hotspots of benthic biodiversity



(Source: Otero, M., Mytilineou, C. (Ed.). Deep-sea Atlas of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. 2022. IUCN-HCMR DeepEastMed Project. Publisher, IUCN Gland, Malaga. (VII+371pp.).



Biodiversity protection areas

- Fisheries Restricted Area (FRA)
- Marine N2000 Site
- MPA of National Status
- Ban of bottom trawling beyond 1,000 m (towed dredges and trawlinets fisheries)
- Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI)

Benthic species group

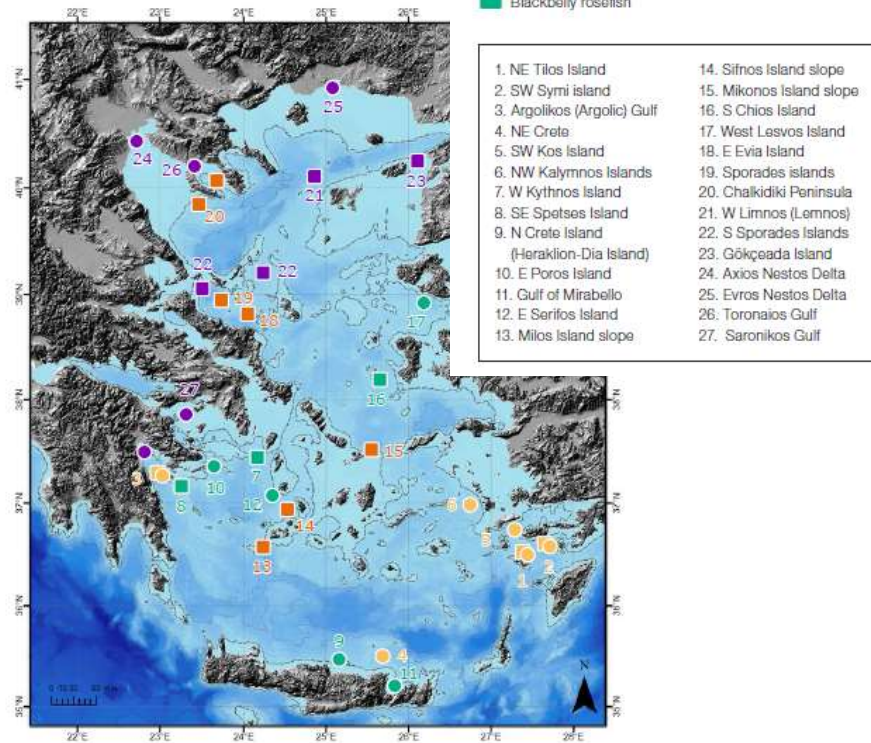
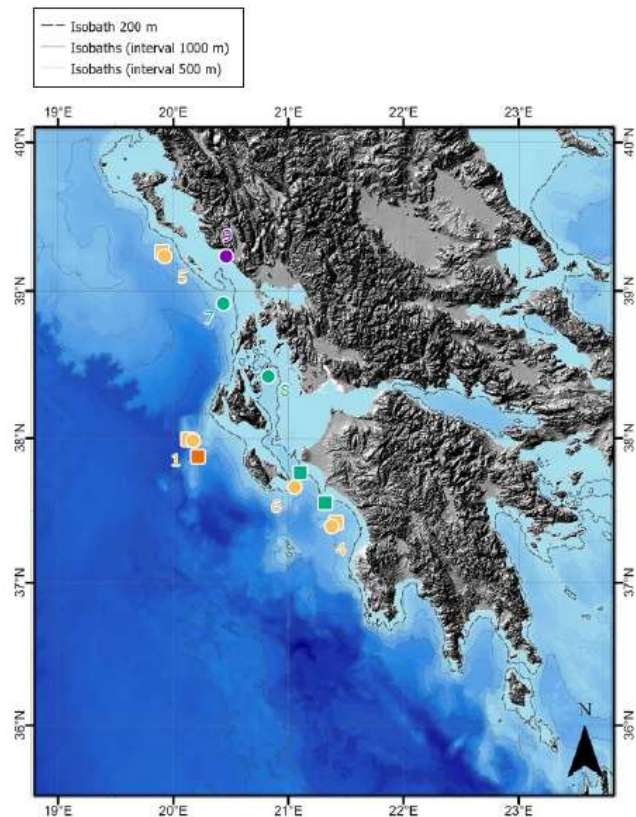
- Corals
- Sponges
- Sea pens
- Other emergent fauna

- Seamounts and seamount-like structures

Overlapping areas of specific geomorphological features with recorded presence of different benthic fauna.

(Source: Otero, M., Mytilineou, C. (Ed.). Deep-sea Atlas of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. 2022. IUCN-HCMR DeepEastMed Project. Publisher, IUCN Gland, Malaga. (VII+371pp.).

Species-specific potential Essential Habitats



(Source: Otero, M., Mytilineou, C. (Ed.). Deep-sea Atlas of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. 2022. IUCN-HCMR DeepEastMed Project. Publisher, IUCN Gland, Malaga. (VII+371pp.).



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