



# SUSTAINABLE SSF: SUCCESS STORIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MPAs

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The webinar has been organized in the framework of the Mediterranean Biodiversity Protection Community (MBPC) Interreg Med project and its Working Group 2 on “Sustainable Use of natural resources”, coordinated by the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission and supported by ETC-UMA.

The **key messages** from the webinar:

- Currently, **SSF is a key topic** both from a conservation point of view and at political level
- SSF management must be established by competent authorities at **local level** and set up as a **win-win process** where fishers, local administrations and other key stakeholders find their interest/benefit
- **Participatory approaches and co-management** are the key methods to make more effective any kind of measure, and this should be reflected in the new EU maritime policy, especially in the **EMFF-related selection criteria**
- Systems for an **integrated monitoring of impacts** must be set up, ideally before the implementation of any measure
- **Enforcement of the SSF management, recreational fisheries and IUU** (Illegal, Unregulated or Unreported fishing) constitute a “**cluster of open issues**” that need to be tackled together, because:
  - Enforcement: increasing the “authoritativeness” of the SSF-related authority
  - About recreational fishers: a management plan set up with a participatory process can avoid or at least decrease such a conflict
  - IUU is a law infringement, an unfair competition and unpaid taxes, so an alliance with the professional fishers should be one of the main solutions for the IUU-related prosecutors.

