

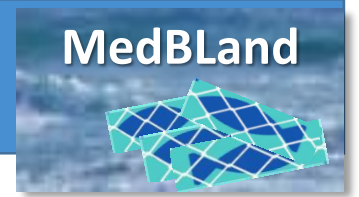
MEDAC - Meeting WG1 - April 16, 2021

**CALL FOR TENDERS EASME/2020/OP/0013
EASME/EMFF/2019-1.3.2.6 – LO measures and discard rates**



Synthesis of the Landing Obligation Measures and Discard Rates for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea MedBLand

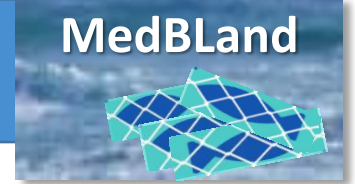
Maria Teresa Spedicato (coordinator)



Geographical scope and the Consortium



Main contributors: José Luis Lizaso (University of Alicante, Spain), Evelina Sabatella (NISEA, Italy), Konstantinos Tsagarakis (HCMR, Greece), Violin Raykov (IO_BAS, Bulgaria), Paolo Sartor (CIBM, Italy), George Tserpes (HCMR, Greece), Victor Nita (NIMRD, Romania), Giuseppe Lembo (COISPA, Italy)



Objectives

- to contribute to an **improved understanding of the implementation of the landing obligation** by mapping, assessing and evaluating the management measures put in place.
- build up knowledge on whether these measures were **successful in reducing discards**.
- assess the **impact of the management measures on the development of the discard rates**.

Case Studies address specific fisheries, taking into account possible geographical differences in terms of ecosystems and productivity; compliance to the regulation; management of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), which provides incentives for supporting changes



Task 0. Coordination

Task 1. Overview of the management measures implemented to facilitate the implementation of the Landing Obligation

Task 2. Assess the impact (success) of the combination of measures implemented regarding the **reduction of discards rates**

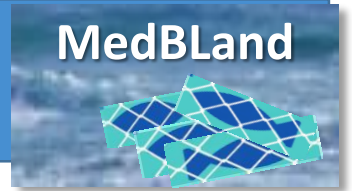
Task 3. Identify and evaluate the measures, structures and resources adopted by Member States' authorities to **ensure control, enforcement and inspection** of all activities relevant to the landing obligation.

Task 4. Lesson learnt

Project duration: 1 year



relationships between project tasks and case studies



Overview will focus on the measures applied in the final year before the Landing Obligation implementation, compared to the measures implemented from 2015 onwards



Review Task 1 and 2

- **Legislations** applied by the different Member States;
- **Technical** regulations;
- **Pilot studies** and published information;
- **Voluntary actions** (e.g. from the sector) to reduce discards;
- **Scientific peer review literature**
- **Technical reports** and STECF reports
- **Member States annual reports** on the implementation of the LO

The identification of:

- a) initiatives/legislation to **improve selectivity**;
- b) **spatial and temporal measures** to promote a better selectivity of the catches;
- c) **measures** to ensure **control**;
- d) initiatives to provide **incentives** to fishers to **improve selectivity, improve compliance** and to land and record all catches.

Reviews	Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3	Paper 4	Paper 5
Gear selectivity	•	•	•	•	•
Area closure	•	•	•	•	•
Season closure	•	•	•	•	•
Combination measures	•	•	•	•	•



Data Analysis and modeling – Task 2

Estimates from data obtained by the Data Collection Framework as well as in other research and monitoring projects;

- estimation of discard rates related to the species which the LO applies per fishery;
- an assessment on discard estimates/rates quality and representativeness.

Model discards variations according to different drivers:

- based on the available primary/detailed data gathered from the Institutes involved in this study and in DCF samplings, from selected areas a **modelling approach** will be applied
- the effect of factors such as time period, region, environmental characteristics, gear used, duration of the fishing operation, catch composition and others examined.

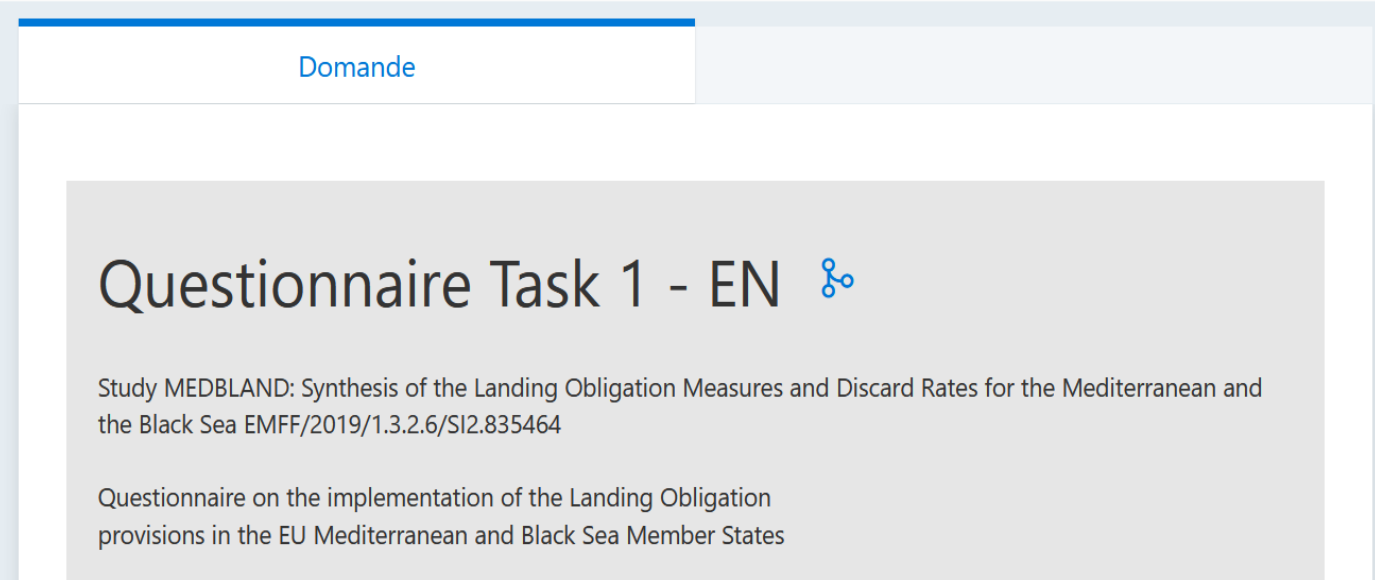
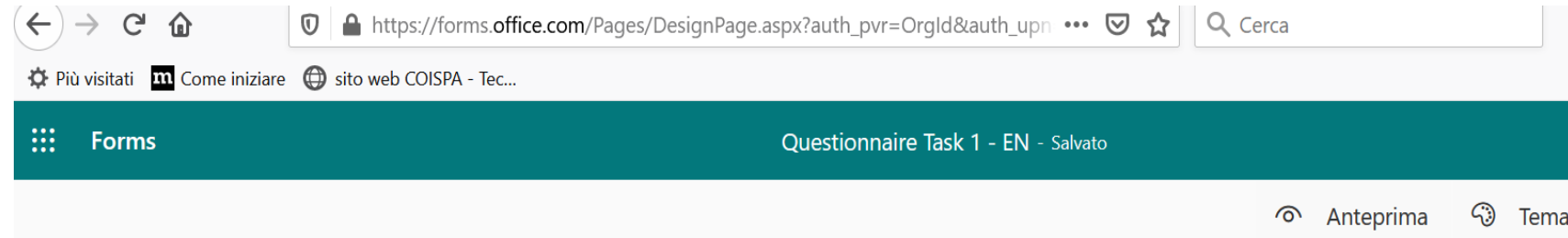


Task 1 and 2

Focus groups of stakeholders with similar profiles

Online Questionnaires

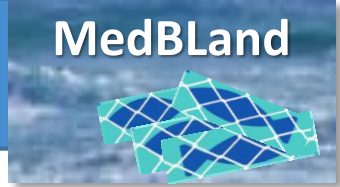
Web meetings



Bilateral contacts/meetings



- Member States' national Administrations, including the relevant Ministry and Executive Agencies dealing with the Common Fisheries Policy (implementing the landing obligation);
- Regional Administrations
- The European Fisheries Control Agency;
- The Advisory Councils (Mediterranean and Black Sea);
- Regional Coordination Group of the Mediterranean and Black Sea;
- The production and marketing plans setup by the Producers Organisations - entailing details of the implementation of the landing obligation and the industries' effort.
- Research institutions, e.g. the scientists, working on DCF or other relevant projects for LO and discards at national or international levels;
- End-users, as STECF and GFCM;
- Representatives of FLAGs;
- Representatives of fish trade platforms/organizations;
- Others.



Communication with stakeholders:

- describe the project in a nutshell;
- highlight the expectations from the specific stakeholder;
- Explain/Invite/Give access to join





Objectives of Task 3

- Task 3 aims at identifying and evaluating the **measures, infrastructures** at ports, as well as the **resources** adopted by Member States' authorities to ensure control, enforcement and inspection of all activities relevant to LO
- It also aims at identifying and evaluating the measures employed to ensure the detailed and accurate **documentation of all the fishing trips and relevant catch data**.

Working method of Task 3...consultation with

- Representatives of the Member States, national and local Administrations (if any), **Ministries and Agencies** in charge of the implementation of the CFP and the LO.
- Representatives of **Fishermen associations**.
- Representatives of **fish trade organizations**.
- Representatives of **Maritime control bodies** (e.g., Coast Guard, etc.).
- Representatives of the **European Fisheries Control Agency**.



Make the project results more accessible and readily understandable by using different kind of visualization, as

- ❖ Fact sheets;
- ❖ Maps;
- ❖ Infographics.

Some examples: boxes for synthetizing key findings, highlights, focus on and key messages

Discard ban, landing obligation and MSY in the Western Mediterranean Sea - the Italian case

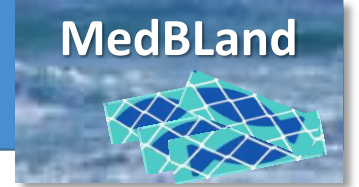
3. OVERVIEW ON LANDING OBLIGATION

KEY FINDINGS

- There have not been major consequences of the LO regulation for fishers so far, mainly because of the use of the “de minimis exemptions”.
- Consequences of LO: increase of the work on board and possibly in the number of employees; **lack** of an appropriate **governance process** to handle the unwanted catches once landed.
- The regulation is still in **its transitional period** therefore data is still not sufficient for an evaluation of its economic and social impacts.
- In the Mediterranean, LO can be interpreted as a deterrent against the unselective fishing.
- Avoidance of unwanted catch through improved **selectivity**, **gear technology**, **fleet behaviour** should be the primary focus.
- Discard mitigation through **innovative technologies** and fishing practices.
- Monitoring and data gathering through direct sampling techniques.



- ❖ Overview and perspectives;
- ❖ Reflections post phase in;
- ❖ technical problems, identifications and proposals for solutions
 - ✓ Written procedure through documents of WG1;
 - ✓ Participation to web meetings
 - ✓ Questionnaires



**Thank you very much for your
attention**