



# Fishing Opportunities for 2023 in the Mediterranean Sea

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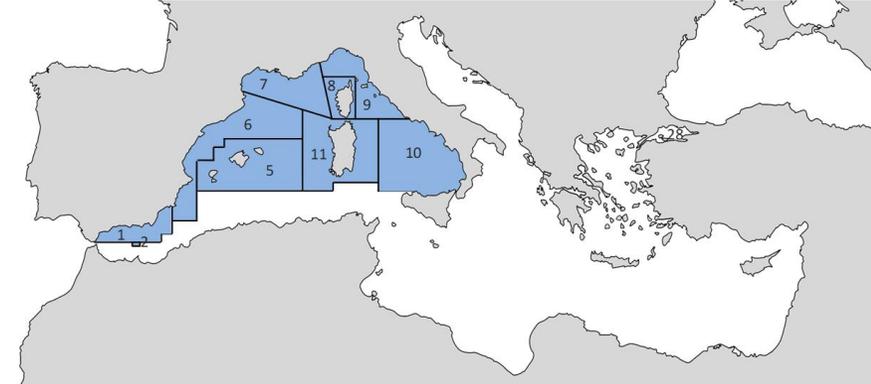
*February 2023, Med AC*

# Western Mediterranean

State of play of management measures for 2023

# Western Mediterranean Multi-annual Management Plan EU Regulation 2019/1022

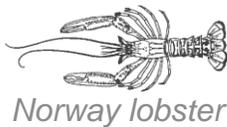
- 1st EU MAP in the Mediterranean Sea
- **Only EU MAP postponing MSY by January 2025**
- Vessels from Spain, France and Italy  
over 4000 full-time jobs on 1400 trawlers
- 6 main target species:



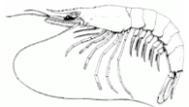
*European hake*



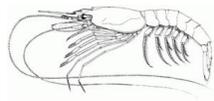
*Red mullet*



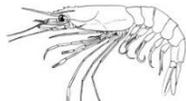
*Norway lobster*



*Deepwater rose shrimp*



*Blue and red shrimp*



*Giant red shrimp*

transparent monthly monitoring  
of trawling activities

# Beginning of implementation in 2020

🕒 5-year transition to achieve MSY by 2025

€ use of EU funds for permanent cessations

✂ various management tools

- Effort regime for trawlers and other gears
- Closure areas
- Technical measures (e.g. increase of selectivity)
- Temporary and permanent cessations
- Recreational fishing (no significant impact, STECF 2021)

📖 Article 7.3.b: “for the second to the fifth year of the implementation of the plan, the maximum allowable fishing effort shall be reduced by a maximum of 30 % during that period. The fishing effort decrease **may be supplemented with any relevant technical or other conservation measures adopted in accordance with Union law, in order to achieve the FMSY by 1 January 2025.**”

📖 Article 7.5: “Where the best available scientific advice shows significant catches of a particular stock **with fishing gear other than trawls**, maximum allowable fishing effort may be set for such particular gear on the basis of such scientific advice.”

# State of Play of MAP implementation in 2022

## ✓ Trawling effort consumption:

- No overshooting of effort allocation
- Between 5% and 23% of fishing days not used

## 🕒 on-going check of longliner effort consumption

## ✓ Catch limits of deep-water shrimps

## ✓ **First year of compensation mechanism**

- Between 50 and 139 extra fishing days by fleet segment

# State of stocks in 2022 (data up to Dec 2021)

**53% West med stocks not at MSY**

✘ 9 stocks **far from MSY** (e.g. hake, blue&red shrimp)

✓ 7 stocks close to **MSY**

🕒 3 stocks **ahead of transition** to MSY

**Additional indicator:**

✘ 4 stocks **confirmed below Blim**

**Fishing mortality decrease required to achieve MSY:**

- 90% for Norway lobster in GSA 6
- **88% for Blue&red shrimp in GSA 1-2**
- 87% for Hake in GSA 8-9-10-11
- 86% for Hake in GSA 1-5-6-7
- **79% for Blue&red shrimp in GSA 5**
- 76% for Red mullet in GSA 1
- 71% for Red mullet in GSA 6
- **69% for Blue&red shrimp in GSA 6-7**
- 44% for Giant red shrimp in GSA 9-10-11

# FO 2023: West Med MAP

**-7% Trawling** effort

**+3,5% compensation mechanism**

(e.g. selectivity, closure areas)

Ceiling **longliner** effort

Catch limits for **deep-water shrimps**

**-5%** for blue&red shrimp in GSAs 1-2-5-6-7

**-3%** for blue&red shrimp in GSAs 8-9-10-11

**-3%** for giant red shrimp in GSAs 8-9-10-11

Use of Compensation mechanism in 2023:

FR: efficient closure areas

ES: coastal fleet: hake temporary closures  
deep-water fleet: 50mm selectivity

IT: ?

# FO 2023: Compensation Mechanism

## Article 8

### Compensation mechanism

1. For the fleet segment concerned, a Member State may grant, in 2023, to vessels flying its flag an additional allocation of fishing days of 3,5 % calculated from the baseline between 2015 and 2017 of that Member State as set out in paragraph 4.
2. The Member State concerned shall notify to the Commission the list of the fishing vessels concerned by such an additional allocation of fishing days, as well as the related number of additional fishing days and the associated condition.
3. The additional allocation shall be calculated from the maximum effort allowed in the baseline between 2015 and 2017 for the relevant fleet segment of the Member State concerned, as from 1 January 2023.
4. A Member State may grant the additional allocation of fishing days referred to in paragraph 1, provided that a vessel fulfils one of the following conditions:
  - (a) the vessel uses a trawl net with a 45 mm square-mesh codend in order to reduce by at least 25 % catches of the juveniles of hake;
  - (b) the vessel uses a trawl net with a 50 mm square-mesh codend for deep-water fisheries in order to reduce by at least 25 % catches of blue and red shrimps with a carapace length (CL) of less than 25 mm in geographical subareas 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and to reduce by at least 25 % catches of giant red shrimps with a CL of less than 35 mm in the geographical subareas 8, 9, 10 and 11;
  - (c) the vessel uses a regulated highly selective gear, the technical specifications of which result in, according to the scientific study by STECF, a reduction of at least 25 % of catches of juveniles of all demersal species or at least 20 % of catches of spawners of all demersal species compared to 2020, such as a sorting grid with 20 mm spacing;
  - (d) the Member State concerned has established temporary closure areas in order to reduce by at least 25 % catches of juveniles of all demersal species or by at least 20 % catches of spawners of all demersal species;
  - (e) the Member State concerned has adopted a new minimum conservation reference size for hake of at least 26 cm, in order to progressively reach the length at first maturity; or
  - (f) the Member State concerned has set a closure of at least four continuous weeks for fishing activities with trawlers in the areas and periods recognised as important, on the basis of the best available scientific advice, for the protection of spawners of hake stocks. Such areas shall also account for spatial patterns of spawners' distribution, including depths from 150 m to 500 m. The periods of the temporary fishing closure shall be from February to March and from October to November.

5. The Member State concerned shall also separately notify every month to the Commission the effort deployed to be counted against the additional allocation referred to in paragraph 4, by using the specific reporting codes for that allocation.
6. The Member State concerned shall submit to the Commission, by 15 October at the latest, all available information related to the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 4, points (a) to (f).

## FO 2023 published end of January

- **MS to send list of vessels and criteria in January**
- **Start of reporting 15 Feb 2023**
- **Summary of use of compensation mechanism at the end of 2023 (Oct)**

# Socio-economic impacts for 2023

- balance fleet capacity*..... ↘ trawler effort
- increase the number of spawners*..... ↘ longliners&netters mortality
- reduce the bycatch of juveniles*..... ↗ selectivity (45mm & 50mm)
- address overfishing*..... **deep shrimp catch limits**
- increase ecosystem resilience*..... ↗ closure areas (spawners&juveniles)

## Socio-economic impacts

jobs reduction by 2025 -1793

changes in gross profit margin by 2025  
*with 2022 average fuel prices* -15%

By 2025: while conservation measures help stock recover, fuel dependency takes at least half of the fisheries costs

# 2023 calendar of scientific advice

27 Feb – 3 March: STECF expert working group on socio-economic indicators and closure areas

September: STECF expert working group on stock assessments  
STECF expert working group on management scenarios

End of October: publication of STECF report

6-10 nov: GFCM annual session

14-18 nov: STECF Plenary

End of November: publication of STECF advice

*Meetings are open to observers (national administration, MedAC etc.)*

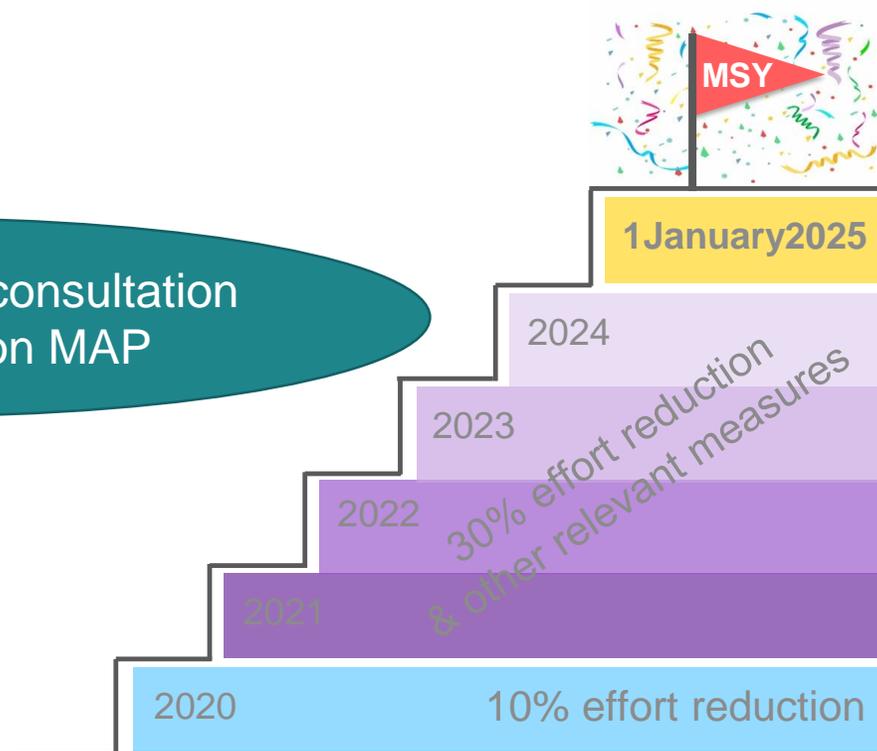
*Terms of reference are online on the STECF website*

*Reports of Plenary are online 2 weeks after the STECF meeting*

# 2023 – year 4 of MAP implementation

only 1 more year until end of transitional period

Upcoming targeted consultation  
for 2024 report on MAP



To apply as from 1/01/2025:

- Ranges of  $F_{MSY}$
- Reference point “ $B_{PA}$ ”

# Thank you



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# GFCM 45 decisions

State of play: 2022 GFCM recommendations to be implemented in 2023

## Management measures

- 5 long-term multiannual management plans
- New effort limits for Adriatic demersal species
- Consolidation of transitional measures for European eel and red coral
- Minimum standards for FRAs
- General framework for the management of recreational fisheries
- Roadmap for a new FRA in Western Med – Cabliers

## Control measures

- 2 international joint inspection and surveillance schemes to support MAPs
- General ban on transshipment
- GFCM logbook – sensitive species data collection
- GFCM record of authorized vessels over 15 m – compulsory mention of vessel name

# 5 New MAPs – Alboran, SoS, Ionian, Levant

- 8 years duration
    - Two-step approach
    - Transitional phase (2/3 years)
  - Catch and/or effort limits
  - Spatio-temporal measures
  - Capacity management
  - Technical Measures
  - Control measures
- ***Blackspot-seabream*** in the Alboran Sea
  - ***European hake and deep-water rose scrimps*** in the Strait of Sicily
  - ***Giant red shrimps and blue and red shrimps*** in the Strait of Sicily, the Ionian and the Levant Sea

# Adriatic Sea

State of play of management measures for 2023

# Implementation of pelagic and demersal MAPs

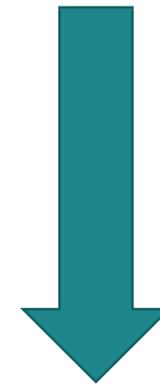
## Small pelagics

- Combined catch limit for anchovy (-5%) and sardine (-9%)

Year	Reference period catch limit baseline	Croatia (ANE+PIL )	Italy (ANE+PIL)	Slovenia (ANE+PIL)
2022	2014 FAO + 2021 catch limit	56304	35394	300
2023	2014 FAO + 2021 catch limit	51735	32941	300

## Demersal stocks

- For otter trawlers overall -6% of fishing effort for otter trawlers and -3% for beam trawlers



# Maximum fishing effort for Adriatic demersals in 2023

Gear type	Geographical area	Stocks concerned	Length overall of vessels	Effort group code	ITALY	CROATIA	SLOVENIA
Trawls (OTB)	GFCM sub-areas 17-18	Red mullet; Hake; Deep-water rose shrimp, and Norway lobster	< 12 m	EFF/MED3_OTB_TR1	3275	10097	(*)
			≥ 12 m and < 24 m	EFF/MED3_OTB_TR2	73599	23524	(*)
			≥ 24 m	EFF/MED3_OTB_TR3	6449	2112	(*)
Beam trawls (TBB)	GFCM sub-area 17	Common sole	< 12 m	EFF/MED3_TBB_TR1	194	0	0
			≥ 12 m and < 24 m	EFF/MED3_TBB_TR2	3635	0	0
			≥ 24 m	EFF/MED3_TBB_TR3	3614	0	0

(\*) Slovenia shall not exceed the effort limit of 3 000 fishing days per year in accordance with paragraph 13 of

# Central and East Mediterranean

State of play: GFCM recommendations to be implemented in 2023

## European hake and deep-water rose scrimps in the Strait of Sicily

- Freeze of fishing effort for trawlers targeting hake for 3 years at 2021 level
- Catch limit for deep water rose shrimp (-3%)
- Spatio Temporal measures + MCRS
- International Inspection Scheme

## ➤ *Giant red shrimps and blue and red shrimps* in the Strait of Sicily, the Ionian and the Levant Sea

- Catch limit = -3% of 2021 catch level
- Spatio Temporal measures + MCRS (in long term plan)
- International Inspection Scheme in SoS and Ionian

# Thank you



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