



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



General Fisheries Commission
for the Mediterranean
Commission générale des pêches
pour la Méditerranée

Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in the Mediterranean

Pêcheries et aquaculture soutenables en Méditerranée

Blue Economy Project Conference (Marseille, 30-31 may 2017)



Regional Activity Centre
for Sustainable Consumption
and Production



The role of the GFCM

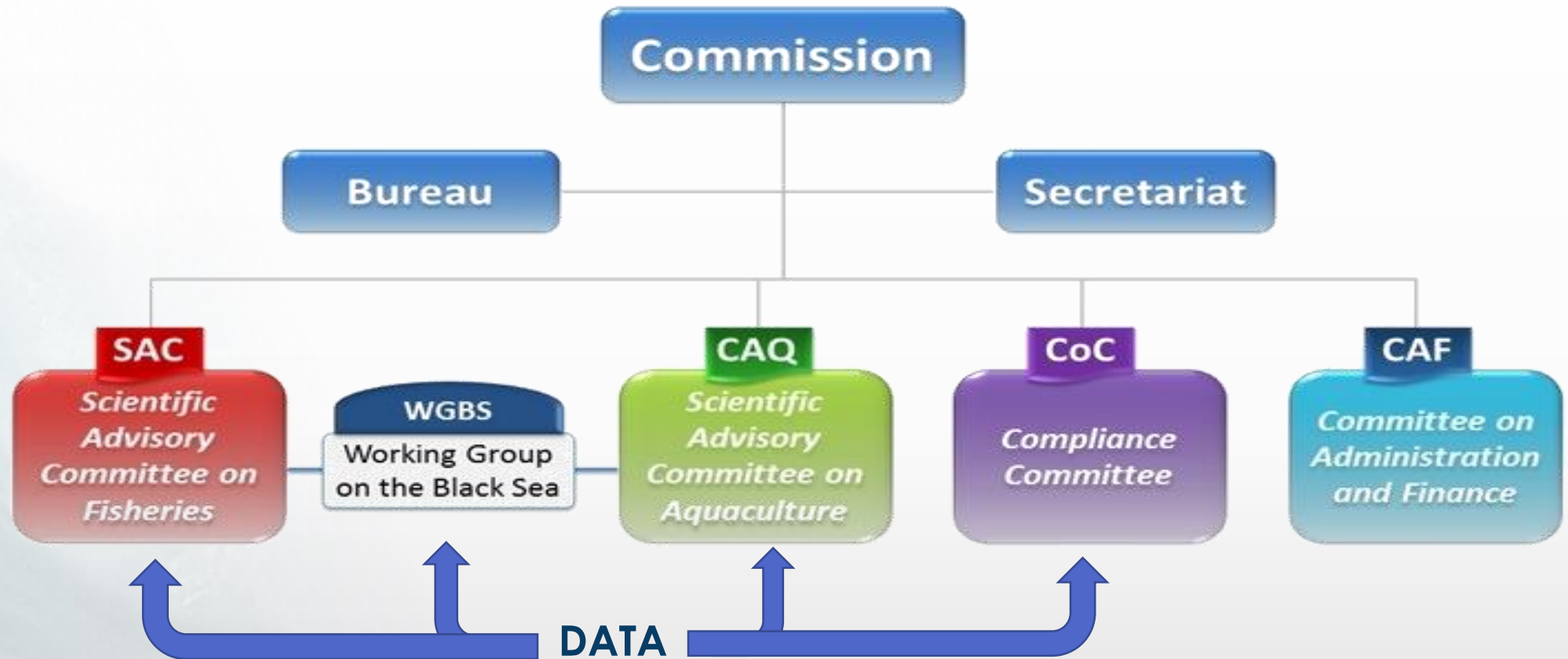
- **Objective:** To ensure the conservation and sustainable use, at the biological, social, economic and environmental level, of living marine resources.
To ensure the sustainable development of aquaculture.
- **Area of application:** The Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea
- **Membership: 24 Contracting Parties:** 19 Mediterranean states, 3 Black Sea states, EU & Japan
3 Cooperating non-Contracting Parties: Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia & Ukraine

Key functions:

- **Adopt binding recommendations for fisheries and aquaculture governance**
 - **Provide technical assistance and level the playing field**

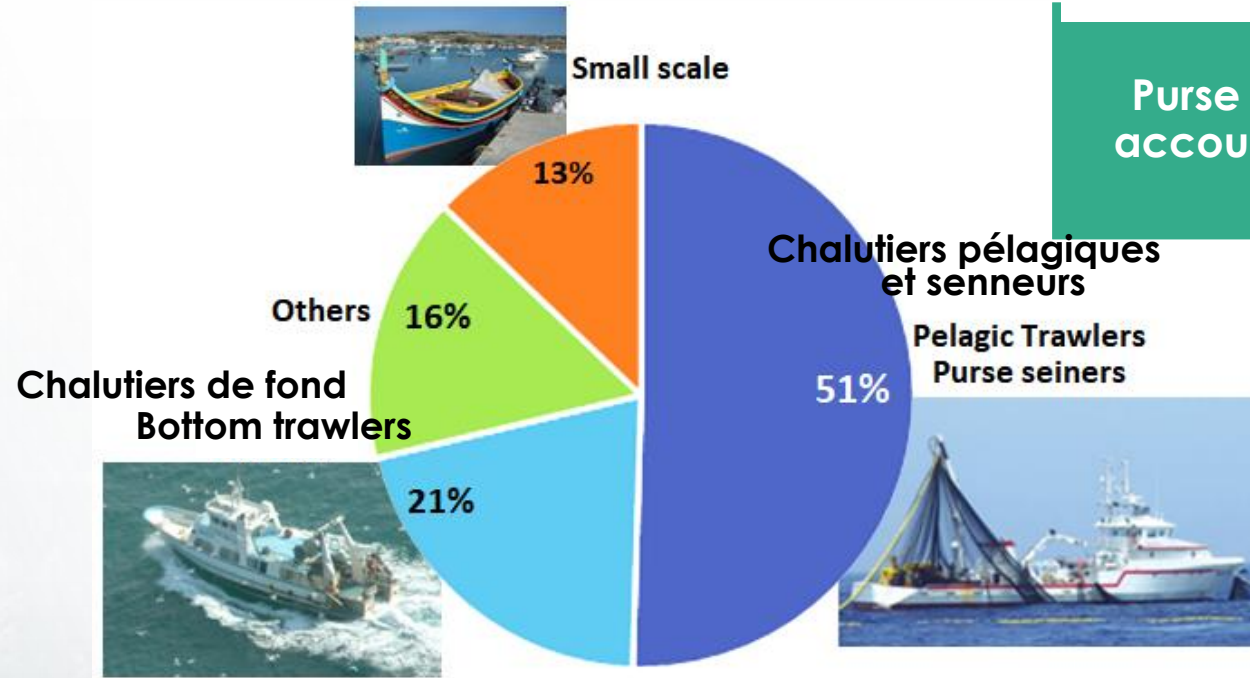


The structure of the GFCM

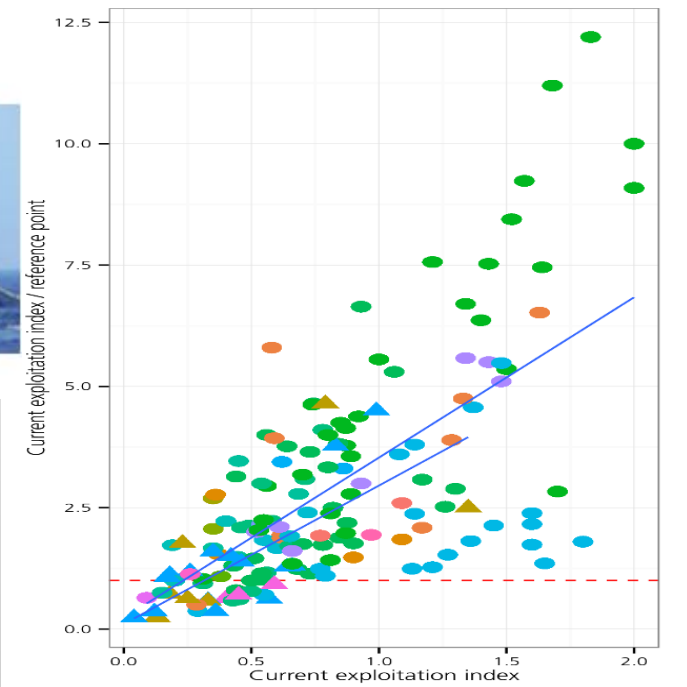
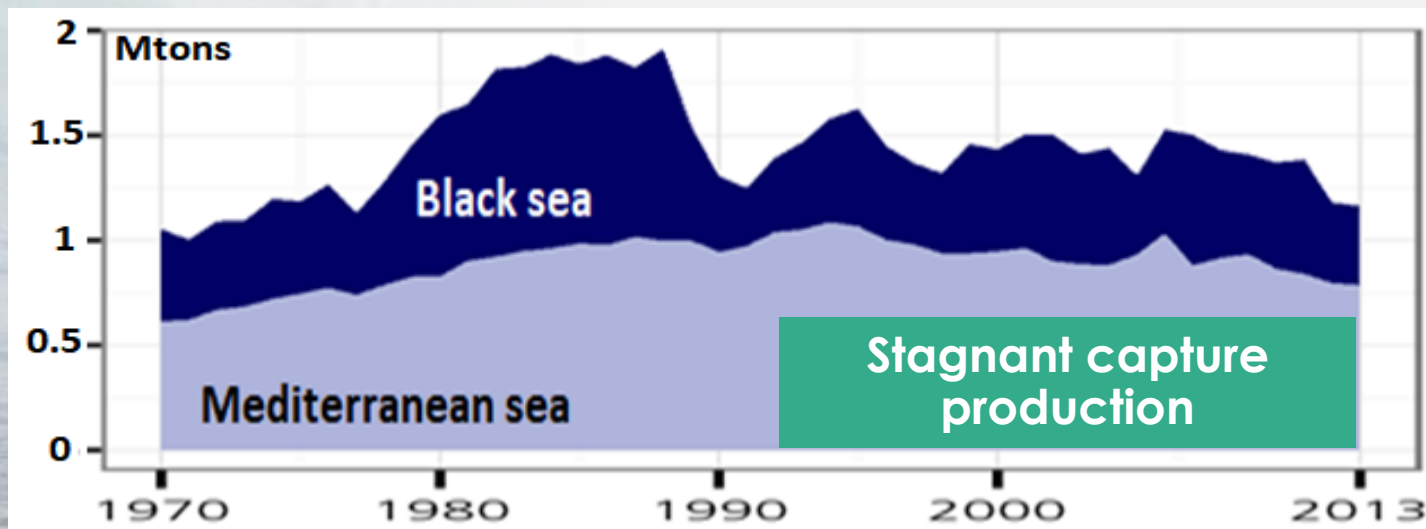


- Strong **cooperation** with ongoing **FAO regional projects** in the Mediterranean
- Cooperation with **other RFMOs** and **international organizations** through several active **MoUs**

Status of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries



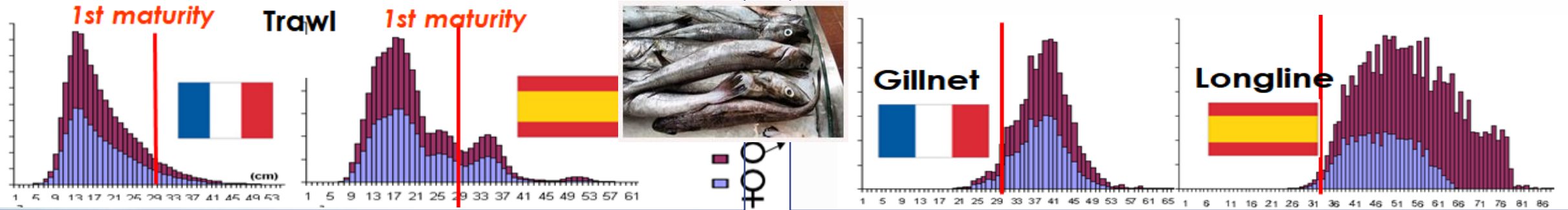
Purse seiners and pelagic trawlers account for the majority of landings by weight



Less than 15% of assessed stocks exploited within safe biological limits

A Trawl fishery often based on the catch of immature fishes

An artisanal fishery much more selective



An example: the Hake *Merluccius merluccius* of the Gulf of Lions

The **small-scale fisheries** play a considerable role in the Mediterranean & Black Sea

March 2016: Regional Conference on "Building a future for sustainable small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea"

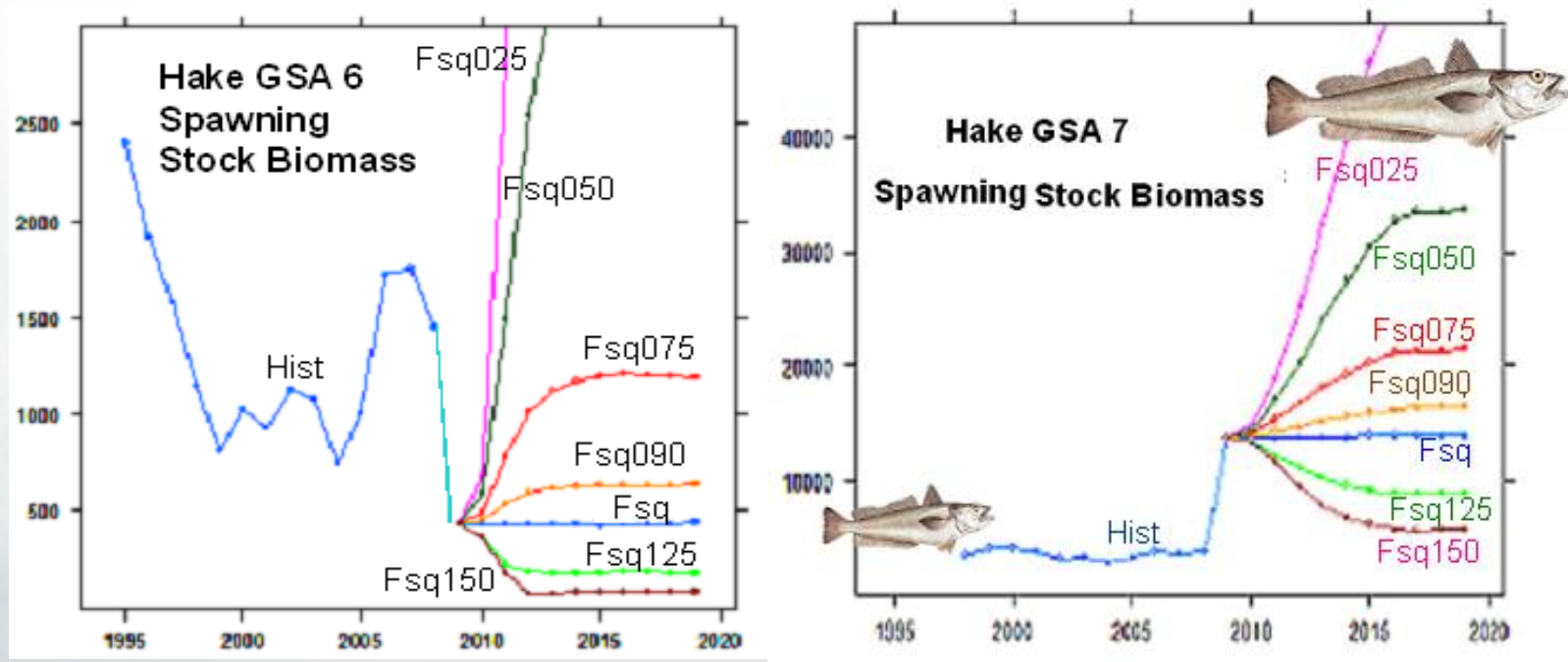
November 2013: First Regional Symposium on Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Med. & Black Sea

May 2014: First Regional Programme on Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Med. & Black Sea (2014-2018)

March 2016: Regional Conference on "Building a future for sustainable small-scale fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea"



The **SPAWNING STOCK BIOMASSES**
would return above reasonably safe levels
by a strong reduction in fishing mortality.



A decrease in the fishing effort of the large boats
- particularly the trawlers - will result in a substantial
increase of the small-scale vessels catch per unit effort

The Mediterranean artisanal Fleet today

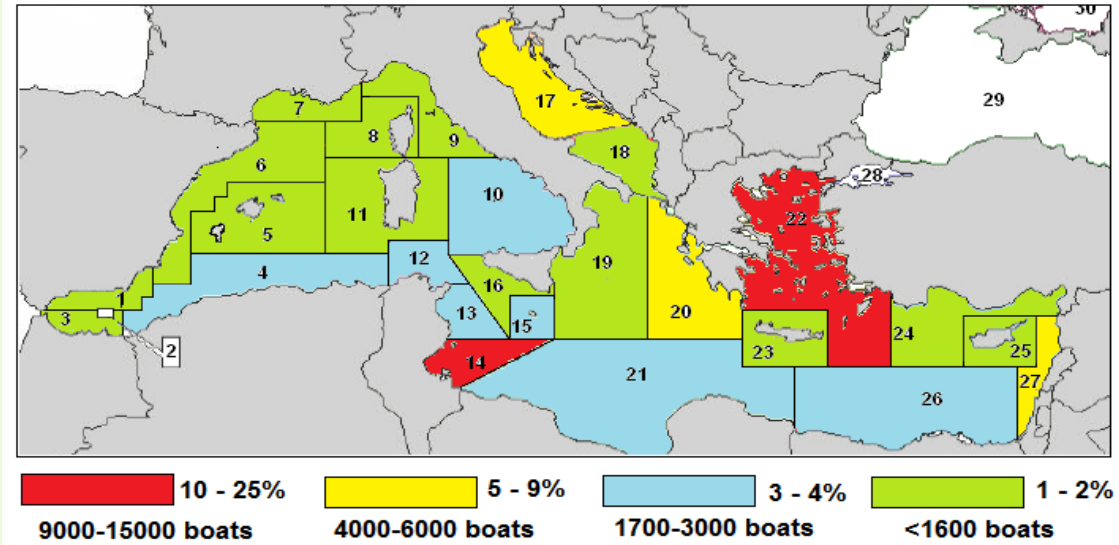
High quality production



High economic value



70 000 boats
80% of the overall regional fleet
Small vessel sizes
Low capital investment



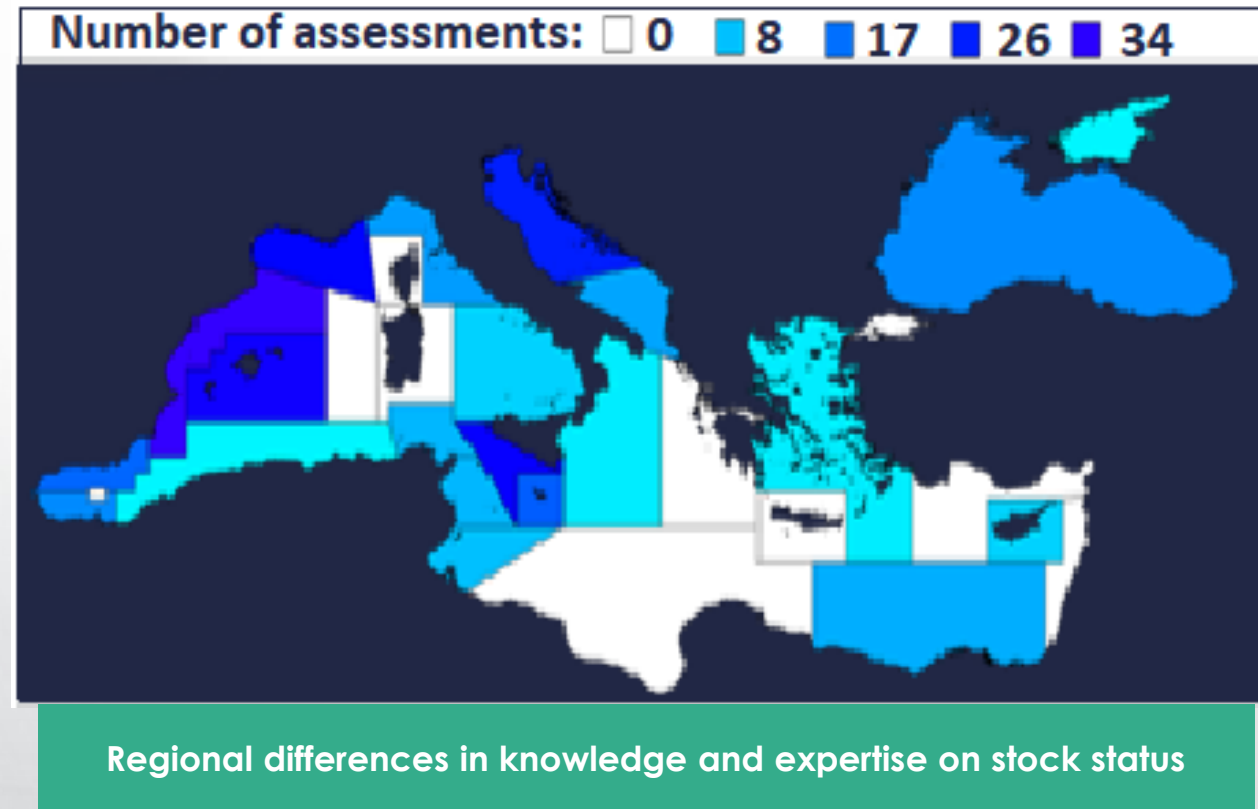
Around 150.000 persons working in the artisanal sector :

Fishing, Net & gear making, Boat building & maintenance
Engine repair and maintenance, Ice production,
Fish processing & packaging, Marketing, distribution ...



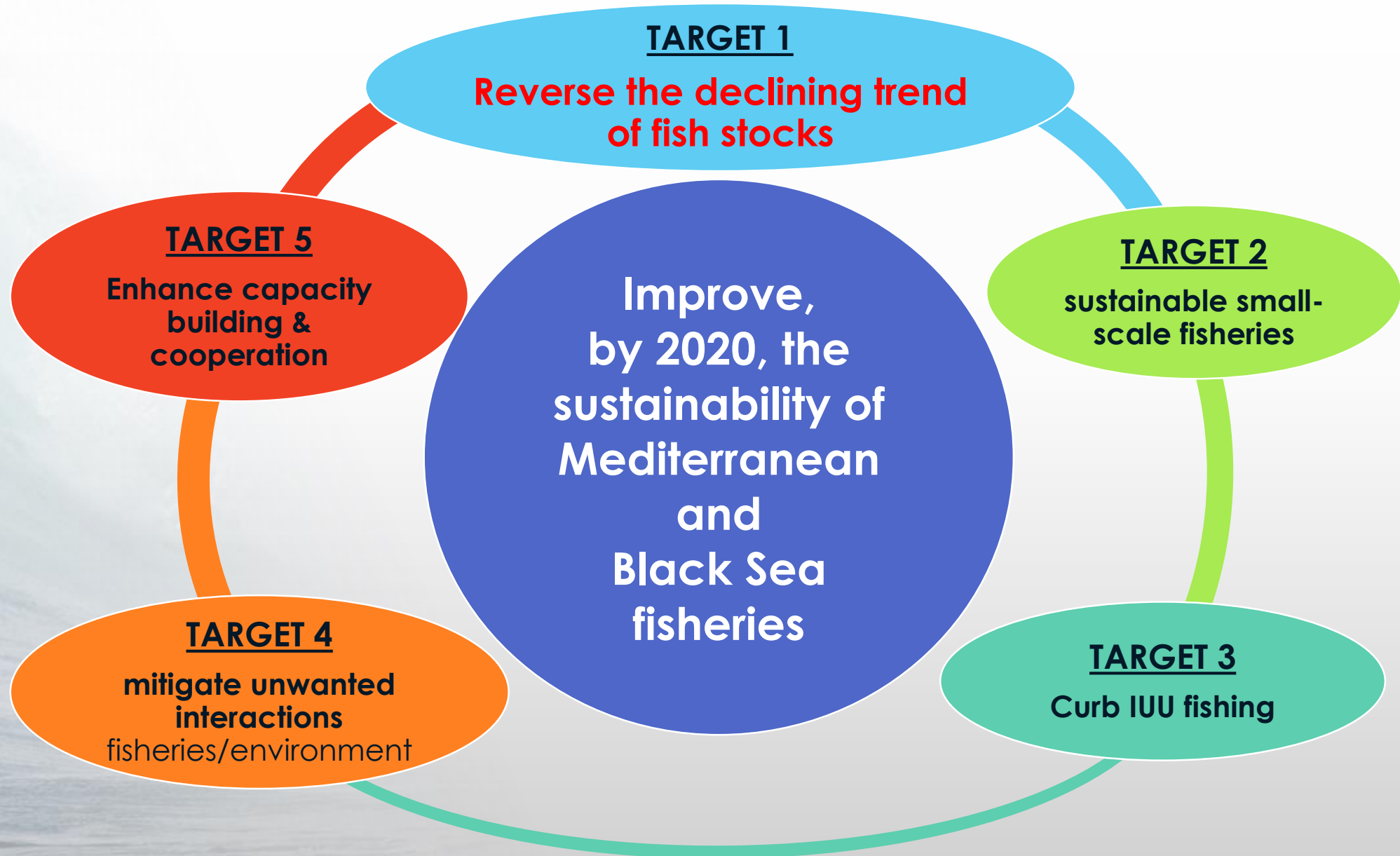
Current state of stock assessment advice

Advice in support of management measures still focuses on a **limited number of topics** and still addresses a **small percentage of exploited stocks**, marine populations, ecosystems and areas.



Only a very small percentage of the landings come from fisheries regulated by comprehensive management plans.

GFCM Mid-term strategy (2017-2020)



TARGET 1: Strengthened scientific advice

Actions

Output 1.1

Improved knowledge and expertise on Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries

- The creation of a **GFCM Forum on Fisheries Science** (GFCM FishForum)
- The realization of **regional surveys at sea**, including acoustic surveys for pelagic species as well as trawl surveys for demersal fisheries
- The compilation of a **catalogue of fishing activities** by GFCM subarea

Output 1.2

Socio-economic information and analysis incorporated into scientific and management advice

- The completion of a comprehensive **regional survey on the socio-economic impact of fisheries**
- The development of **bioeconomic models** for the incorporation of socio-economic information into the assessment and the provision of advice

Output 1.3

Enhanced **science-based GFCM regulations** on fisheries management

- The implementation of a **dedicated approach for the provision of advice** to the Commission by its subsidiary bodies
- The **revision of existing management plans / development of new management plans**
- The operationalization of the **GFCM Review Panel**

Activities in the field of AQUACULTURE



Formulation of advice on the following aspects:

- (i) sustainable management of coastal lagoons;
- (ii) use of regional indicators to monitor sustainable aquaculture development;
- (iii) use of environmental monitoring programmes (EMP);
- (iv) aquaculture stock enhancement;
- (v) data reporting for the transmission of information on aquaculture production centres

The GFCM collects data and information on aquaculture production statistics as well as other data relevant to the function of its Scientific Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) through the **Information System for the Promotion of Aquaculture in the Mediterranean (SIPAM)**, one of the CAQ subsidiary bodies.

The SIPAM WEB PORTAL is the official aquaculture information system of the GFCM.

Projects launched in the framework of the

project **InDAM**, on “**Indicators for Sustainable Development of Aquaculture and Guidelines for their use in the Mediterranean**”, **CAQ** funded with the contribution of the EU DG MARE.

Objectives:

Provide a decision-support tool based on **indicators, reference points** and **guidelines** adapted to the Mediterranean and the Black Sea,

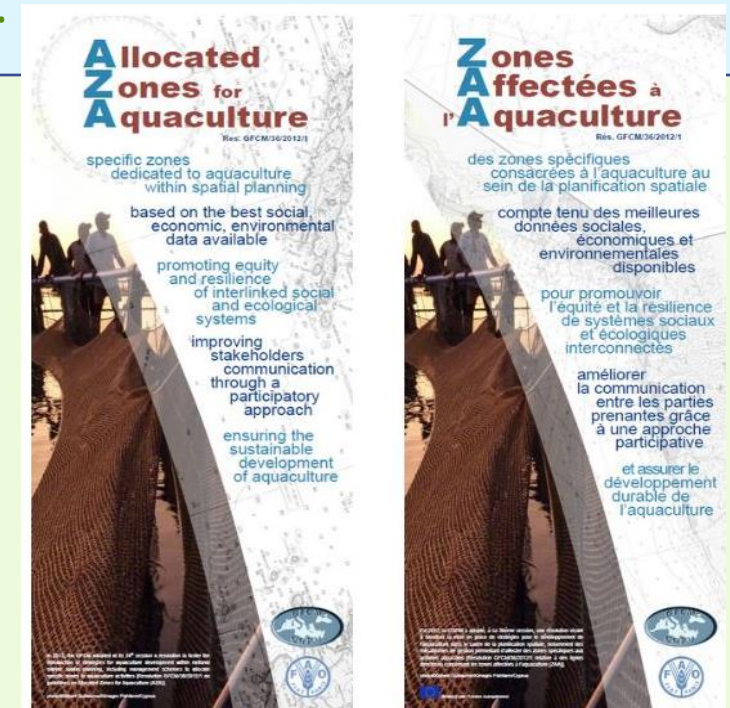
Establish a regional **reference system** for sustainable aquaculture in the coastal zone following an **ecosystem approach** to aquaculture (EAA).

project **SHoCMed**, on “**Developing site selection and carrying capacity guidelines for Mediterranean aquaculture within aquaculture appropriate areas**” funded with the contribution of the EU DG MARE.

Objectives :

Produce site selection criteria to enhance the integration of aquaculture in coastal zone management through the use of allocated zones for aquaculture (AZA);

Provide a basis for the harmonization of standards, aquaculture policies and legal frameworks across the Mediterranean region to ensure equal terms of competition and minimal environmental impact.



Forum on fisheries science in the Mediterranean and Black Sea ("GFCM FishForum")

4TH Quarter 2018 – FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy

Interdisciplinary focus: scientific, social science and economic

Build a **lasting network**, discuss **advancements in research**,
Integrate scientific knowledge in support of **decision-making**
Identify **research priorities for the coming decade**.



Preparation of the next edition of *The State of Mediterranean and Black Sea Fisheries (SoMFi)*



2018 SoMFi under preparation

- Part 1 – Overview of the status and trends of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries
 - Insights and data on the region's fleet, trends in landings, socio-economic characteristics, stock status, bycatch and small-scale fisheries
- Part 2 – Management of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries
 - GFCM management measures and strategic initiatives

Thank you for your
attention

Merci pour votre
attention

