



***EU FP7 Project CREAM
Coordinating research in support to application of EAF
(Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries) and management
advice in the Mediterranean and Black Seas***

***Deliverable 2.2
Summary Report of Workshop 1 (website)
“Current understandings in the framework of
Ecosystem Approach of Fisheries in Mediterranean
and Black Sea: summary and critical analysis of the
available information on the anthropogenic ecosystem
impacts and resource assessment”***

Start date of project: 01/05/2011

Duration: 36 months

Due date of deliverable: 31/07/2012

Lead partner for deliverable: Consorzio per il Centro Interuniversitario di Biologia Marina ed Ecologia Applicata

WP leader: Paolo Sartor



The 1st Workshop of Workpackage 2 (“Current understandings in the framework of Ecosystem Approach of Fisheries in Mediterranean and Black Sea: summary and critical analysis of the available information on the anthropogenic ecosystem impacts and resource assessment”) was held at FAO/GFCM headquarters in Rome on 30-31 May 2012.

The main objective of workshop was to perform a common work, with all the partners, to summarize and critically analyze the current understandings on EAF available for the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

The Workshop was attended by 21 participants representing all the partners of CREAM. Paolo Sartor from CIBM (the Institution responsible of WP2) chaired the workshop and coordinated the works.

The workshop was introduced by Jordi Lleonart, the scientific coordinator of the CREAM project. The main concepts and the applicative aspects related to the fishery management based on an ecosystem approach were presented and discussed. It was agreed that the socioeconomic context and the management oriented on spatial-based measures are two of the most important issues to take into account for the EAF application in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

The synthesis of the information received from the partners on the understandings, at partner/country level, related to EAF and fishery management aspects was discussed.

This work was the main task of WP2 in the first year of the project; a standard template was prepared in the two first months of the project and distributed to all partners to store and summarize all the information relevant for this Task.

In total, 180 files have been compiled by all the partners involved in WP2. Existing information available at country level, coming from research and monitoring projects, as well as other types of activity was explored.

Broad and, in many cases, very detailed information has been gathered, even though a rather heterogeneous picture on how the EAF issues are addressed in each country emerged.

Therefore, work to harmonize and to evaluate all the information available under the EAF point of view, was deemed essential and was set as the main task of the present Workshop.

The practical works of the Workshop consisted in filling a standard table to facilitate the common work of synthesis and analysis. In other words, each partner was requested to act as an expert to evaluate, by means of an overall assessment of the activities/projects or initiatives performed in his country, the capacity to address several issues related to the implementation of EAF in the Mediterranean and Black Sea. These issues were grouped into the following main topics, which reflect the FAO's Technical guidelines in research for the EAF implementation:

- 1) Fisheries structure and fleets.
- 2) Fisheries impacts and other anthropogenic impacts.
- 3) Species/habitat knowledge.
- 4) Socio economic aspects and modeling (ecosystem and bioeconomic).
- 5) Assessment of management measures.
- 6) The management process.
- 7) Monitoring and assessments.



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The capacity to address each issue has been evaluated according to a qualitative scale (from “none” to “high”) traduced in a simple score system (from 0 to 3).

The results were presented according to radar graphs in a semi-quantitative manner. This exercise provided an overview of the CREAM’s experts evaluation on the capacity to address the EAF issues in Mediterranean and Black Sea (Figs 1 and 2).

The results highlighted an overall low-medium degree of fulfilling the requirements of EAF in the Mediterranean and Black sea, with some differences related to the different issues considered. In general, the highest scores were reported for the knowledge related to fleets structure/behavior as well as on species/habitats, while the lowest ones were noticed for modeling, socio-economic and management issues.

OVERALL RESULTS

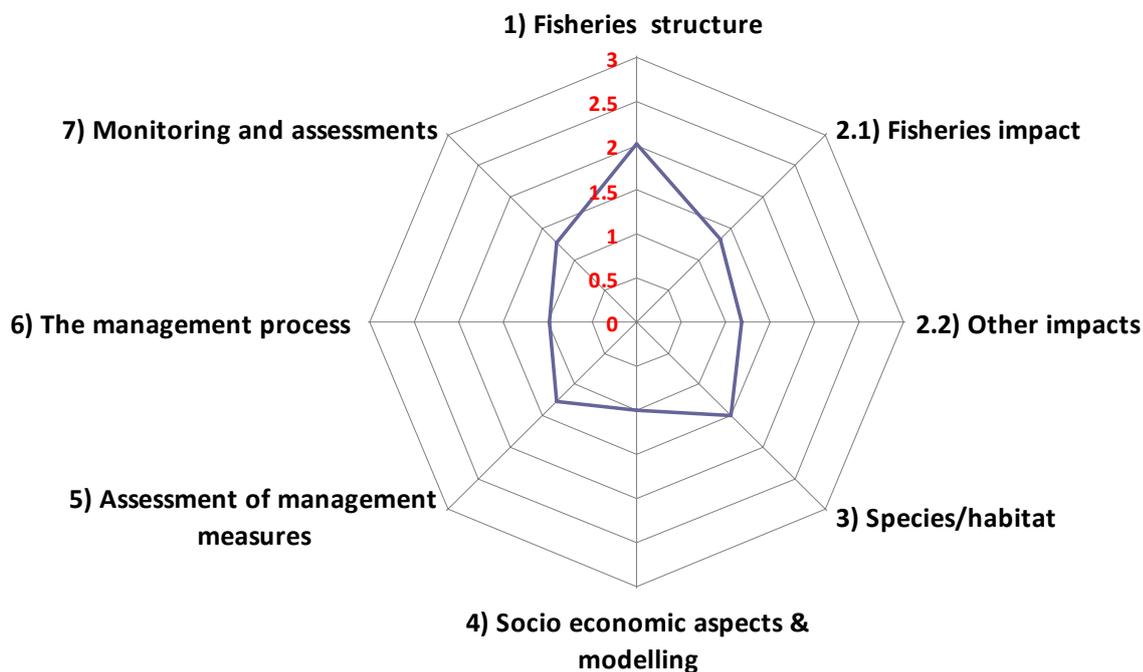


Fig. 1. Results of 1st CREAM WP2 Workshop – The overview of the CREAM’s experts evaluation on the capacity to address the EAF issues in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

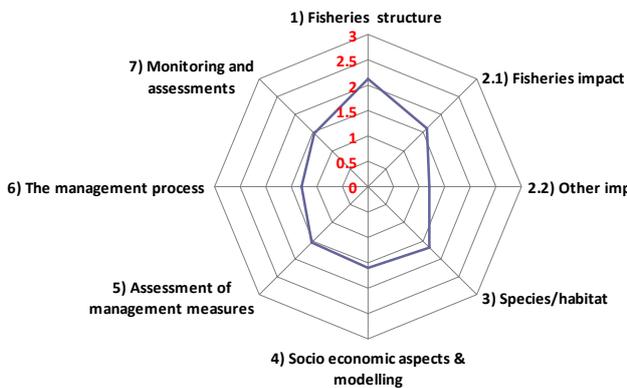


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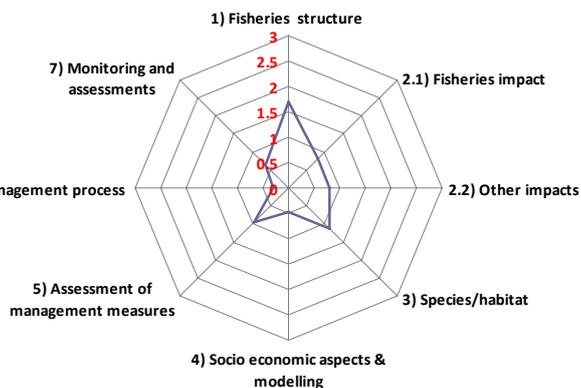
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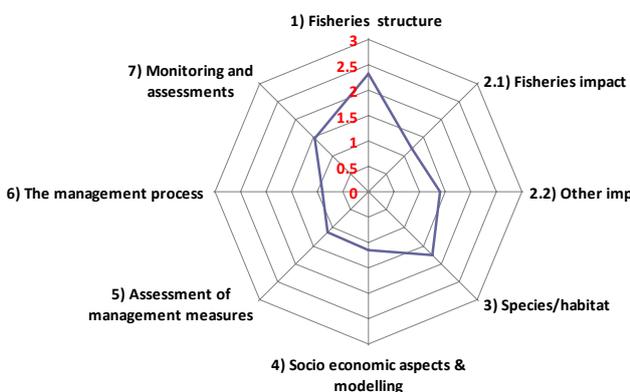
WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN



EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN



CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN



BLACK SEA

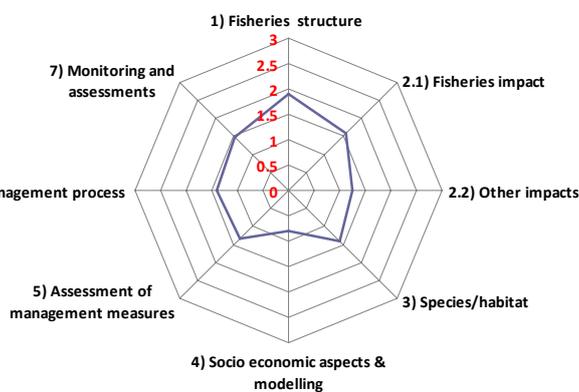


Fig. 2. Results of 1st CREAM WP2 Workshop - The overview of the CREAM's experts evaluation on the capacity to address the EAF issues, according to main basins of the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

These results though being only semi-quantitative, provided a first global picture at wide geographical level, which can provide useful information to properly address the implementation of EAF in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.