

## EXPECTED RESULTS

### Main result

A Network of research bodies and teams, including third countries in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, to improve coordination of research programmes on fisheries management.

### Secondary results

-Exhaustive diagnosis on the data and methodologies currently available and being used for the implementation of the EAF in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

-Identification of knowledge gaps and opportunities to improve research coordination.

-Proposals for the harmonization of methodologies for data collection and analysis.

-Integration in the network of the regional bodies and the national organisations responsible for fisheries management in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

-Fisheries researchers, technicians and decision makers trained in the EAF and project results disseminated.

Photo: Farrugio

## INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED

•FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations)

•GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean)

•ICCAT (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas)

•UNEP RAC/SPA (Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas of the Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme)

•BSC (Commission of the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution, Black Sea Commission),

will participate as an External Advisory Committee to follow up and feed back on the project development

## PROJECT CONSORTIUM

1. Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza, IAMZ-CIHEAM (Spain). **Coordinator**
2. Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, CSIC (Spain). **Scientific Coordinator**
3. Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, HCMR (Greece)
4. Consorzio per il Centro Interuniversitario di Biologia Marina ed Ecologia Applicata "G. Bacci", CIBM (Italy)
5. University of Rome "La Sapienza" (Italy)
6. Institut Français de Recherche et Exploitation de la Mer, IFREMER (France)
7. Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, IRD (France)
8. Instituto Español de Oceanografía, IEO (Spain)
9. National Research Council – Institute for Coastal Marine Environment, CNR-IAMC (Italy)
10. Institut National de Recherche Halieutique, INRH (Morocco)
11. National Institute for Marine Sciences and Technologies, INSTM (Tunisia)
12. Ege University Fisheries Faculty (Turkey)
13. National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa", NIMRD (Romania)
14. Institute of Oceanology – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, IO-BAS (Bulgaria)
15. Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography, VNIRO (Russian Federation)
16. Southern Scientific Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography, YugNIRO (Ukraine)
17. Alexandria University (Egypt)
18. Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, IOR (Croatia)
19. American University of Beirut (Lebanon)
20. Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs (Malta)
21. Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment (Cyprus)
22. Water Ecology and Fisheries Research Institute Union, WEFRI (Georgia)

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Photo: Oliver



# CREAM

**Coordinating research in support to application of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) and management advice in the Mediterranean and Black Seas**  
(KBBE-2010-1.4.08 – Contract no. 265648 – 2011-2014)

## BACKGROUND

- Fishing impacts on fish resources but also on ecosystem health and human well being. Likewise, fisheries are affected by factors and human actions different to fishing pressure.
- The overexploitation of stocks and impact of fishing on the environment, the increasing number of uses and pressures on aquatic systems, as well as the influence of climate change on the structure and functioning of marine ecosystems and fisheries, calls for more integrated strategies on fisheries and on marine ecosystems management.
- The Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) can integrate multiplicity of factors and scientific uncertainty, ecosystem and socio-economic considerations into the fisheries assessment and management procedures.
- A considerable amount of research on the EAF has been conducted in Mediterranean and Black Seas. But coordinated efforts to develop scientific knowledge between the Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and coastal States are not always carried out.
- Initiatives to coordinate data collection and gather scientific methodologies for assessment and management are needed. A network of research organisations capable to apply EAF in a coordinated manner is still lacking.



## MAIN OBJECTIVE

To set up the basis for a future **NETWORK OF RESEARCH** organisations to coordinate fisheries research for the **EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF THE EAF IN MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEAS**



Picasso. Pez Azul (Blue Fish) – Museu de Ceràmica de Barcelona

## PARTIAL OBJECTIVES

1. Harmonizing data collection and data exploitation
2. Harmonizing assessment methodologies
3. Dialog scientists / international bodies
4. Developing recommendations to improve cooperation
5. Dissemination

## PROJECT WORKING STRUCTURE

### WP 1 – Project scientific and administrative coordination

WP Leader: IAMZ-CIHEAM



Photo: Maynou

### WP 2 – Current understandings in stock assessment and fishery effects on ecosystems

To collate information on the extent of scientific research on fishery data collection in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

To critically review the available knowledge and the methodologies applied in stock assessment and EAF, to identify data, research gaps and opportunities to improve research coordination.

WP Leader: CIBM

### WP 3 – Data needs, quality, harmonization, methodologies and models for EAF

Based on existing data, to propose a series of key prioritized indicators, models and methodologies for the implementation of the EAF in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

Develop data collection protocols, quality evaluation and methods for dissemination of the information.

WP Leader: IFREMER

### WP 4 – Coordination with the assessment and management international/regional bodies

Coordinate and harmonize data collection, research and management activities carried out by international/regional bodies regarding the EAF implementation in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

WP Leader: CSIC

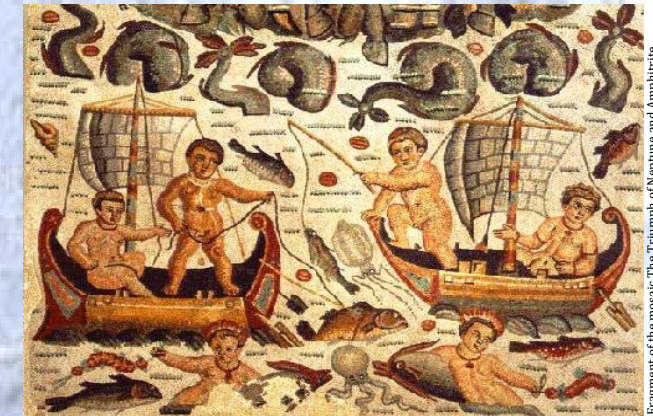
### WP 5 – Training and capacity building. Dissemination

Disseminating the Coordination Action findings to a wide target audience composed primarily of fisheries managers and policy makers.

Addressed not only to researchers of the countries participating in the project but also to stakeholders, NGOs, and other scientists of all Mediterranean and Black Seas riparian countries.

Tools: website, leaflets, workshops, advanced training courses, final conference, publications.

WP Leader: IAMZ-CIHEAM



Fragment of the mosaic 'The Triumph of Neptune and Amphitrite', Constantine, Algeria. Louvre Museum

### WP 6 – Strengthening the scientific basis of EAF application in Mediterranean and Black Seas fisheries

Strengthening the scientific basis for building a generic framework to implement EAF in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

Establishing a network that will coordinate scientific research to make EAF operational.

WP Leader: IRD