



FISH MED NET



NEWSLETTER N°4

FISHery MEDiterranean NETwork

FISH MED NET, A EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PROJECT

The European Fishery Mediterranean Network (FISH MED NET) project was launched on September 1, 2019, and takes place over a period of 48 months. The objective of this project is to provide considerable support to the artisanal fishing sector, with the aim of seizing opportunities for diversification and integration into other sectors.

This project is co-funded by the ENI CBC MED Program "Mediterranean Sea Basin" 2014-2020 which brings together the coastal territories of 14 countries from both shores of the Mediterranean for a more competitive, innovative, inclusive and sustainable Mediterranean area.

INFOS & CONTACTS:



www.enicbmed.eu/projects/fish-med-net



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FISH MED NET PROMOTES THE DIVERSIFICATION OF FISHING IN PARTNER TERRITORIES

On October 20 in Ajaccio, Corsica, "Les Assises Régionales de la Mer" took place with the aim of bringing together public and private players in Corsica's maritime economy. The Community of Communes of South Corsica was invited within the framework of the FISH MED NET project and was thus able to meet all the local partners of the project. During the workshops and plenary sessions, the importance of fisheries diversification and the blue economy was highlighted. The FISH MED NET project was also presented during the Sustainable Tourism Workshops in Porto Vecchio, Corsica, on November 28, 2022.

Legacoop Agroalimentare organized three events to promote the FISH MED NET project in the regions of Sardinia, Puglia and Liguria. The first event «Festival delle Peschiere» took place from September 28 to October 1 in the cities of Oristano, Cabras and Marceddi, while on October 19 in Bari with the «Fiera del Levante» and from November 4 to 6 in Imperia during the event «Olioliva». Round tables were organized in order to discuss aspects related to fishing and more particularly to the creation of a sustainable working environment in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. It was estimated that a total of over 600 people attended these promotional events, and interviews were conducted by regional media during the Nuova Fiera del Levante, giving visibility to the project to a wider audience. These international events were used by Legacoop Agroalimentare as a launching event to gather the first signed the commercial alliance agreements for all three project implemented regions.



The international event of the Nuova Fiera del Levante was held in Bari on 19 October 2022 where the partner Legacoop Agroalimentare signed the first commercial alliance agreements for the Puglia region.

The Palestinian partner ESDC participated in the celebration of the Mediterranean Day 2022 organized by the States of the Union for the Mediterranean on November 28 by producing a short video for the fishermen of Gaza, around the question: «What is the Mediterranean means according to the five senses?», the videos are available on the project's YouTube channel.

COLLABORATION AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AT THE HEART OF THE PROJECT

During the events organized in Italy, Legacoop Agroalimentare collected the first signatures of business partnership agreements, thus strengthening collaboration between fishermen in the three regions where the project was implemented.

As a main activity under the FISH MED NET project, the Palestinian partner ESDC has officially signed 10 business alliances with its beneficiaries among fishing companies active in diversification activities (tourism activities/food industry/public services).

Photo: Signature of a commercial alliance with a beneficiary of the FISH MED NET project thanks to the project partner ESDC.

ESDC also launched a call for proposals on December 8, 2022 to select a temporary product manager (PTM) to assess the diversification services of fisheries-related SMEs and provide support to these companies. ESDC has selected four local trainers to participate in an international online training course on fisheries diversification who will provide local training in Palestine.



ATDEPA, our partner in Tunisia, organized its 2nd Round Table on June 29, 2022 on the mapping of the value chain of a product/service in the fishing sector within the framework of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP). They also organized the 6th Project Management Board on July 14 and 15, 2022 in Tunisia, and signed corporate partnership agreements with five beneficiaries.

On December 21, a 3rd Round Table was scheduled by ATDEPA in collaboration with the Municipality of Rades and dedicated to Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in Tunisia. Public authorities, professional organizations and fishermen took part. The topics covered included the discussion about the standard PPP packages created within the framework of FISH MED NET, adapted to the Tunisian context and to PPP mechanisms in small-scale aquaculture and artisanal fishing. Participants also discussed the list of different projects and activities that can be carried out in PPP. Finally, the local actors reflected on a project idea for the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sector that could be carried out if funding were available. In sum, this round table on PPPs was an opportunity to discuss in depth the future of the fisheries and aquaculture sector in the country.

Association Tunisienne pour le Développement de la Pêche Artisanale organized a national training on January 11 and 12, 2023 in Bizerte-Tunisia for the benefit of representatives from public authorities, as well as representatives of civil society-professional organizations on partnerships between public and private sectors in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture. During this training, discussions around the national legal texts related to the partnership between public and private sectors were put forward and their compatibility and adaptation with the standard packages developed through FISH MED NET project were evaluated. In addition, project ideas were developed and discussed, in the form of workshops, that could be realized under a public-private partnership.



The 3rd round table in Corsica on November 24, 2022.

3rd CCSC ROUND TABLE IN PORTO-VECCHIO

The Community of South Corsica Communes organized the 3rd round table of the project with public and private partners on November 24, 2022 to discuss the development and anchoring of the diversification of fishing in fishing ports in Corsica. The agenda included the progress of the project, FISH MED NET business models for supporting projects and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). The participants discussed the needs and the activities to be put in place to enable fishing professionals to diversify their activity through tourism.

In conclusion, it was decided to put in place a memorandum of understanding aimed at determining a framework for the exercise of pesca-tourism and itti-tourism practices to remove the regulatory obstacles to the diversification of fishing and to include this approach in the Mediterranean arc in order to promote professional artisanal fishing in the ports of Corsica. In the coming months, FISH MED NET will take care of carrying out this work and supporting the projects carried out by fishing professionals, such as the product processing workshop, the marketing and communication of pescaturism offers, the structuring of the pesca-tourism sector, organization of local events and participation in international events on fishing, tourism and diversification.



The 3rd round table in Tunisia on December 21, 2022.



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STAYING CONNECTED: THE E-PLATFORM AND YOUTUBE CHANNEL OF THE FISH MED NET PROJECT



www.fishmednet.com

The online platform of the FISH MED NET project is now available! It allows you to discover the fishing companies participating in the project, as well as the diversification activities they offer and to contact them directly to organize a fishing experience or to benefit from their services. Do not hesitate to consult it to find out more about initiatives to diversify fishing in the Mediterranean.

Legacoop Agroalimentare also presented the online platform during the events organized in September, October and November 2022, allowing visitors to see the fishing structures present in the region and inviting fishermen from other Mediterranean countries to participate and join freely.



[@fishmednetproject-enicbcomed](https://www.youtube.com/@fishmednetproject-enicbcomed)

The project's YouTube channel is also online! You can now follow the progress of the project and discover the testimonies of fishermen involved in the project. Don't hesitate to subscribe so you don't miss anything and stay informed of the project's news.

The partner CIHEAM Bari, within the framework of the FISH MED NET project, organized from November 28 to December 1 in Bari, an International Training on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for local development led by the Community Led Local Development (CLLD). The participants came from the eight competent authorities from Tunisia, Lebanon and Palestine, in particular the Tunisian Association for the Development of Artisanal Fisheries and the Agency for Ports and Fishing Installations, the Center for Economic and Social Development of Palestine, the Municipality of Tyre of Lebanon and the National Center for Marine Sciences of Lebanon.

The topics discussed concerned the EU's experience with FLAGs (Fisheries Local Action Groups), the positive aspects, the results obtained and the obstacles encountered. Many stories and know-how in the sector were shared with the participants during the technical visits to the LAG (Local Action Group) Ponte Lama in Molfetta and to the marine protected area of Torre Guaceto to present the models of governance. This training also made it possible to confront public actors with concrete situations on the ground and to understand how the CLLD approach involves fishing in the blue economy and the link with small-scale fishing and local development. In addition, on December 1 and 2, 2022, the CIHEAM partner Bari planned the 7th meeting of the project management board, during which all the project partners met, face-to-face and by videoconference. The Community of Communes of South Corsica was responsible for introducing this meeting and announced the guidelines. The objective of this meeting was to share everyone's progress on the project's activities: management, promotion and communication, commercial alliances and components of the public-private partnership, within the framework of the new action plan, by identifying the constraints and the solutions. practice.

THE «BLUE GROWTH SYMPOSIUM» ON 17-18 JANUARY 2023 IN BEIRUT, LEBANON

The event «Blue Growth Symposium» hosted in Beirut by the project partner the Ministry of Agriculture in Lebanon focused on the theme of the Blue Economy. Main institutional actors were invited and together with the representatives of other ENI CBC MED financed projects to share knowledge and ideas in attempt to capitalize on joint results and potential synergies for a collaborative economic, social and environmental development in the Blue Economy.

The session was opened by the Ministry of Agriculture, with the Director Chadi Mohanna, who welcomed the participants and wished them a fruitful session, followed by Francesca Ottolenghi, president of Haliéus, as the first spokesperson. The key message in Haliéus' speech is that the success of any project is a strong collaboration between partners, such as the strong Mediterranean Partnership of FISH MED NET. This point was further reinforced by Cristian Maretti, president of Legacoop Agroalimentare, emphasizing that cooperatives act as a catalyst by empowering the people involved, ensuring success for the private sector in which ENI CBC MED projects can offer unique and equal opportunities in line with the UN agenda on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of 2030. In conclusion, Maretti extended an invitation to all participants in this symposium on the occasion of the final event to be held in Rome during the summer of 2023.

The event concluded on the 18th with the steering committee held in the city of Tyre. As a special guest, the Tyre Coast Nature Reserve shared their experiences during this event on how local tourism development projects have been developed over time and how this has benefited local fishermen in diversifying their income. Dr. Mohamed Elarby, director of Technical support unit from General Authority for Fish Resources Development (GAFRD) of Egypt, continued by deepening the theme of diversification on how the development of aquaculture in Egypt has favored a migration of fishermen, with an adequate incentive, towards aquaculture activities. ENI CBC MED partners who participated in these two days of knowledge and information sharing events gave positive feedback leaving them with more food for thought on possible synergies for the success of their projects.

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