



MedSudMed's Expert Consultation
Spatial distribution of demersal resources in the Strait of Sicily and the
influence of environmental factors and fishery characteristics

(10-12 December 2002, Malta)

Agenda

Tuesday 10th December

- 09.00 Arrival of participants
- 10.00 Opening of the meeting by **Dr. Philip Von Brockdorff**, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and **Dr. Anthony Gruppetta**, Director General of the Fisheries Conservation and Control Division.
- Introduction by **Fabio Massa**, Project Director, recalling the objectives of the meeting and the expected outputs.
- 10.45** *Coffee break*
- 11.00 Introduction by Pr **Dino Levi**, MedSudMed Scientific Coordinator
 Election of **Chairman and Synthesis /Technical reporting group**
 Presentation of the agenda – eventual modifications, organization of the meeting
- 12.30** *Lunch*
- 14.00 “Influence of bio-ecological parameters and fishery on the exploitation of octopus in the gulf of Gabes (South eastern Tunisian coasts)” by **Soufia Ezzeddine & Amor El Abed** (*Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer, La Goulette, Tunisia*)
- 14.25 “The effects of environmental factors on crustaceans distribution in Tunisia coastal” by **Hechmi Missaoui** (*Institut National Agronomique de Tunis, Tunisia*)
- 14.50 “Influence of environmental parameters and fishery on demersal fish distribution in the Tunisian coasts” by **Othman Jarbouï & Amor El Abed** (*Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer, Sfax, Tunisia*)
- 15.15 “The “Ressources application”, tool for fishing surveys data management and assistant for the spatial analysis of abundance indicators, the Tunisian example” by **Alexis Bensch** (*FAO Copemed*)

15.45 *Coffee break*

- 16.15 “Knowledge and Spatial Management Tools for the Environmental Sciences” by **Matthew Gatt****, **Carol Agius**** and **Matthew Camilleri*** (*Malta Centre for Fisheries Sciences* & Mapping Unit, Malta Environment and Planning Authority***)
- 16.45 “Overview of the available biological information on demersal resources of the Strait of Sicily” by **Demersal Group IRMA-CNR (Mazara del Vallo, Italy)**
- 17.15 “Overview of the available knowledge on the spatial distribution of the demersal resources, benthic biocoenosis and fishing pressure in the Strait of Sicily” by **Demersal Group IRMA-CNR (Mazara del Vallo, Italy)**
- 17.45 Break
- 18.15 Synthesis / discussion / questions
- 18.45 Adjournment

Wednesday 11th December

- 09.00 “Distribution and abundance of demersal fish community of Klang Strait (Malaysia) in relation to environmental factors”, by **Salem Zgozi (Marine Biology Research Centre, Tajura, Libya)**.
- 09.20 “Environmental and fishing impact on benthic habitats in Tunisian waters” by **Kerim Ben Mustapha, Afli Ahmed, Hattour Abdallah & Amor El Abed (Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer, Salammbô, Tunisia)**
- 09.45 “Maltese offshore benthic habitats and biota” by **Patrick J. Schembri (Marine Ecology Research Group, University of Malta)**
- 10.00 “Acquisition and analysis of benthic photographs” by **Dr Derek Pilgrim (Institute of Marine Studies, University of Plymouth, UK)**
- 10.15 “Environmental management and planning: a context to the ecosystem approach to fisheries resources management” by **Michael Sant (Malta Environment and Planning Authority, Malta)**

10.30 *Coffee break*

- 11.00 “Mapping of the hydrological characteristics relevant to fisheries in the vicinity of the Maltese Islands”, by **Dr. Aldo Drago (Physical Oceanography Unit, IOI-Malta Operational Centre, University of Malta)**
- 11.15 “Available meteorological data series relevant to the ecological aspects of fisheries”, by **Capt. Francis T. Gauci (Permanent Representative of Malta with WMO)**
- 11.30 “Application of Remote sensing technology to study the spatial distribution of demersal resources and the influence of environmental factors in the Strait of Sicily” by **Charles Galdies / Anton Micallef (Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Insular Coastal Dynamics, Malta)**
- 11.40 “Modelling of environmental conditions relevant for assessment of fishery resources and ecosystem in the Straits of Sicily” by **Dr. Slobodan Nickovic / Anton Micallef (Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Insular Coastal Dynamics, Malta)**

11.50 “The HRPT Station at IRMA-CNR in Mazara del Vallo for acquisition and analysis of satellite data in the Straits of Sicily” by **Dr. Giuseppe Pernice** (*Remote Sensing Group IRMA-CNR, Mazara del Vallo, Italy*)

12.15 “Review of public environmental data available on the web” by **Vincenzo Giacalone** (*FAO MedSudMed*)

12.30 Lunch

14.00 Preparation of the synthesis

14.30 Synthesis and comprehensive summary of the several presentations. Definition of the framework in which the Project will concentrate, and focus on the activities to be implemented in the near future

Discussion / listing of the gaps, hypothesis to verify, key issues

List of available data banks

15.45 Coffee break

16.15 Outline of a work plan

18.00 Adjournment

Thursday 12th December (*work-plan, training programmes, calendar of activities*)

09.00 Outline of a work-plan (following)

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 Discussion of a calendar and task assigning

12.30 Lunch

14.00 Training activities to be implemented

15.45 Coffee break

16.00 Agreement on activities to conduct, work-plan, calendar and training program

18.00 Adjournment

20.00 Official dinner is offered to all participants by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries