



MANTIS: Marine protected Areas Network Towards Sustainable fisheries in the Central Mediterranean

Report of the stakeholders meeting of the Adriatic

Split, Croatia

11-09-2018

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The 4th Mantis stakeholder meeting for the Adriatic Sea took place in Split on the 11th September 2019 and was hosted by IZOR. In addition to representatives of the Mantis project from Italy and Croatia, the meeting was attended by representatives of the Croatian ministry and the Croatian fisheries, representatives of FAO AdriaMed and MEDAC representatives.

Nedo Vrgoc and Giulia Prato introduced the Mantis project and the meeting objectives. Enrico Arneri from FAO stressed that Jabuka Pit is the largest experiment for fisheries management in the Mediterranean and it is hence key to collect fishers' perception to improve scientific knowledge and understanding of the area.

Rosa Caggiano from MEDAC announced the establishment of the working group on co-management for Jabuka Pit within Medac.

The representative of Croatian fishers, who has been fishing for 27 years in the area and owns 3 boats, confirmed that Croatian fishers are seeing the results of Jabuka after one year of closure: hake is growing and the number of adults has increased. He suggested to maintain the closure of Jabuka Pit and extend a no-take zone to everyone, including longliners. He raised complaints about an Italian fisher from Giulianova who is fishing in the no-take zone.

Lorenzo D'Andrea from University Tor Vergata presented the modelling approach adopted for the Adriatic case study and the preliminary results. It was stressed that simulations were affected by the lack of landings data per vessel from Croatia (catch /day/vessel), since data was complete only for Italian trawlers. The presentation allowed to review the data and cross-check the preliminary results with participants, which led to the identification of a number of technical issues. Overall the modelling tool was appreciated by participants, however several suggestions were provided in order to improve it. The collected suggestions and data adjustments were integrated into WP3 work.

The Croatian fishers representative provided some historical information, remembering that Jabuka Pit used to be full of Norway lobsters, while close to the Tremiti islands 50 years ago this species was absent. Since trawling started, Norway lobsters appeared also in the Tremiti. He stressed that the same phenomenon is happening now with shrimp, coming from the Otranto channel and now appearing outside of Zadar. He suggested that with the increase in sea temperature, shrimps are increasing in the northern areas, becoming the most important commercial fish in the Adriatic, while Norway lobsters are decreasing.

Finally, Silvia Angelini from CNR-Ancona presented the Sea-Grid database and the usefulness of the platform for fishers and other stakeholders.



AGENDA

Mantis - Stakeholder Meeting N. 7

IZOR Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Split, Croazia

11 September 2018

- **9h30** *Nedo Vrgoc IZOR*: Welcome and introductions
- **9h45** *Fabio Fiorentino CNR/Giulia Prato WWF* Mantis project presentation and meeting objectives
- **10h00** *Lorenzo D'Andrea Conisma*: Preliminary project results on fisheries management scenarios in the Adriatic
- **10h30** Open discussion with stakeholders
- **11h30** **Coffe Break**
- **11h45** *Silvia Angelini CNR*: GRID platform presentation
- **12h15** Open discussion on marine uses and conflicts
- **13h** *Fabio Fiorentino CNR/ Giulia Prato WWF*: Conclusions