



Cap Roux, France. © C. Mastrandrea / WWF Mediterranean

A set of measures for sustainable small-scale fisheries

The Interreg Med project FishMPABlue 1 (2014-2015) developed a small-scale fisheries (SSF) governance toolkit for Mediterranean MPAs, a set of measures that can be applied in MPAs where SSF-related activities take place.

FishMPABlue 2 (2017-2019) has tested the toolkit in 11 pilot Mediterranean MPAs. The results are in the upgraded version of the toolkit, available online on the [project website](#).

The SSF governance toolkit

The toolkit is a set of SSF-related management measures. It is organized in five areas – MPA enforcement, fishers' engagement in the decision-making process, knowledge and ownership, SSF sustainability, SSF financial viability – each with specific actions that can be applied by an MPA managing body to reduce the environmental impact of small-scale fisheries and improve their socio-economic sustainability.

These measures mainly aim to:

- Enhance MPAs' capacities in surveillance and patrolling.
- Set up an MPA-related SSF management plan in agreement with local fishers.
- Ensure fishers are represented in MPA decision-making processes.
- Engage fishers in MPA activities and support sustainable fisheries.

While addressed to MPA managers, these measures necessarily involve local artisanal fishers since a co-management approach is central to the development and implementation of the toolkit.

MPA ENFORCEMENT

FISHERS'
ENGAGEMENT

KNOWLEDGE &
OWNERSHIP

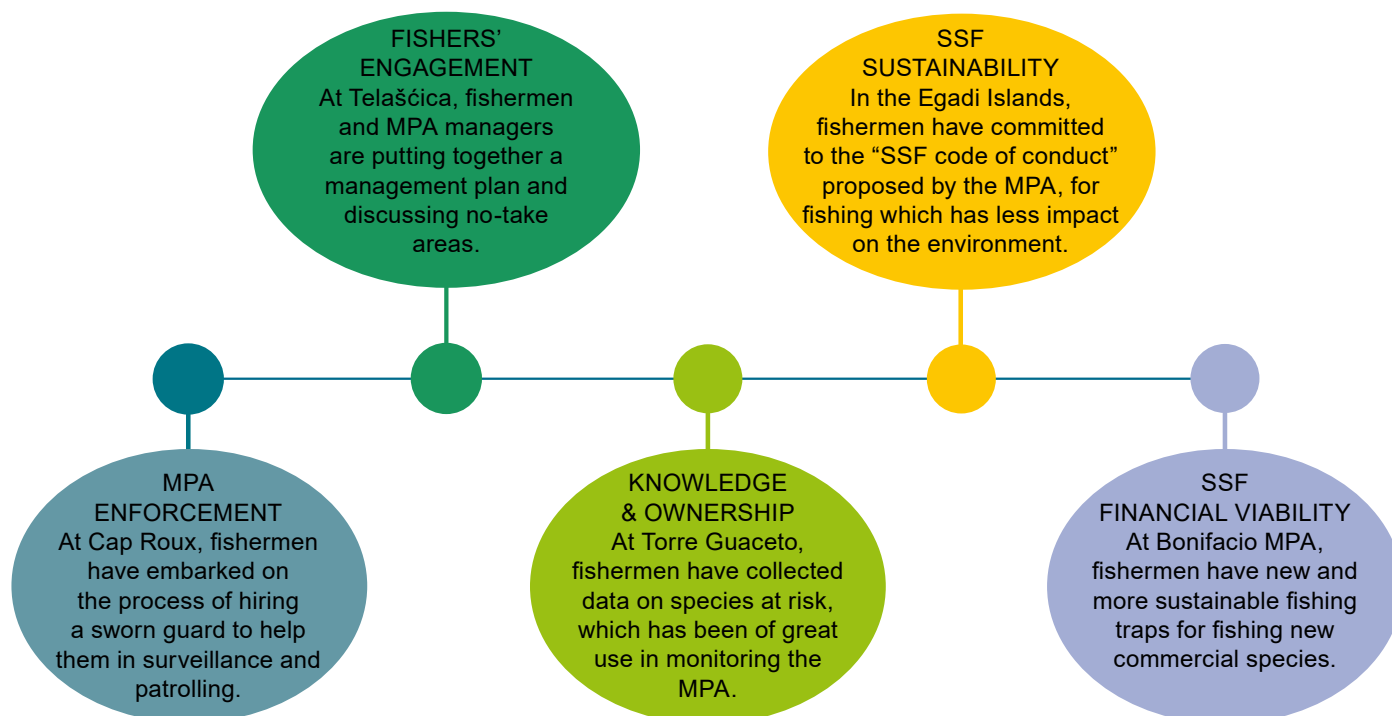
SSF SUSTAINABILITY

SSF FINANCIAL
VIABILITY

A platform of cooperation

The FishMPABlue 2 project has tested the toolkit in 11 Mediterranean MPAs through an ad hoc process, involving local fishers and MPA managing bodies in a common and formal platform of cooperation – the Local Governance Cluster (LGC). Each LGC decided on the measures to be implemented in their MPA and evaluated the final results. The testing experience of the 11 pilot MPAs has highlighted that enforcement and fishers' involvement must go hand in hand, with the SSF management plan as the starting point (if already existing) or final aim (if not existing).

Below are a selection of the measures which have been tested in the 11 pilot MPAs. The complete set of measures is available [online](#).



The 11 Pilot MPAs in 6 Mediterranean countries: Spain, France, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Greece

project partners



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Lead partner contact
Luca Santarossa
Federparchi – Europarc Italy
luca.santarossa@parks.it

Communications contact
Anne Rémy
WWF Mediterranean
aremy@wwfmedpo.org

fishmpablue2.interreg-med.eu