



## NEWSLETTER N°5

## FISHery MEDiterranean NETwork

### FISH MED NET, AN EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PROJECT

The project Fishery Mediterranean Network (FISH MED NET) was launched on 1 September 2019, and is going to conclude on the 31st August 2023. The aim of this project is to provide considerable support to the artisanal fisheries sector, with a view to seizing opportunities for diversification and integration with other sectors.

This project is co-financed by the ENI CBC MED «Mediterranean Sea Basin» Programme 2014-2020, which brings together the coastal territories of 14 countries on both sides of the Mediterranean to create a more competitive, innovative, inclusive and sustainable Mediterranean area.

### FISH MED NET PROMOTES THE DIVERSIFICATION OF FISHING IN PARTNER TERRITORIES:

#### The local training courses on four clusters of fishery diversification

FISH MED NET has identified four clusters of diversification, namely the aquaculture, the food industry, the tourism and the services to community. In March 2023, the partner CIHEAM Bari organized the launch meeting of the international e-learning video on fisheries diversification activities, addressed to the experts who will train fishermen in the Partner countries. The e-learning video lessons subtitled in EN, FR, IT, Arabic and characterised by an innovative approach aimed to increase the knowledge and capacity of fishers to develop fishery diversification businesses in the framework of the blue economy. The e-training is structured in one module for each cluster identified, including interviews with experts and testimonies of good practices. All the video lessons are available on the FISH MED NET e-commerce platform: [fishmednet.com/training](https://fishmednet.com/training).

Following the delivery of the e-learning video lessons on fishery diversification, the local training courses have been implemented in all partners countries, Italy, Lebanon, Tunisia, Plaestina and in Corsica. As instance, the Partner ATDEPA organized the local training on the four modules on fishery diversification activities, in Bizerte, Tunisia, with more than 25 participants, among fishermen, young and future promoters, technical school trainers that benefited from theoretical and practical sessions, and with more than 10 regions involved. The participants benefited not only from the course, but also from the exchange of experiences, good practices, visions, ideas, shared at Mediterranean level.

### INFOS & CONTACTS:



[www.enicbmed.eu/projects/fish-med-net](http://www.enicbmed.eu/projects/fish-med-net)



@FISHMEDNETu



@FISHMEDNETu



[@fishmednetproject-enicbmed](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



As well as, on March 2023 at the port of Okaybeh in Lebanon, the Ministry of Agriculture of Lebanon held the four-days training course. The course provided fishermen and cooperative representatives from different areas of Lebanon with the necessary tools to diversify fisheries activities within the concept of sustainable coastal tourism, discussing also on the possible services to the local community, focusing on the case of protecting endangered marine life, and organizing ocean cleanups to remove plastic waste, thanks to the case of the Natural Reserve of Tyre.

## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EVENTS

Legacoop Agroalimentare participated at the event Seafood Barcelona, organizing a roundtable to discuss with key institute spokespeople and stakeholders the importance of multifunctionality of fisheries. During this event special mention of Fishmednet was made to showcase how their achievements are aiming to create business alliances among fishers and further develop their multifunctionality.

In Italy on the 30 June 2023, Legacoop Agroalimentare conducted the international business event "Tourism in the Mediterranean: realities through FISH MED NET", highlighting the importance of creating business alliances with different sectors and the fishery in order to support and boost the local economy. The event continued with two distinct sessions where MSMEs representatives shared their own experiences from each partner country. Indeed there were MSMEs from Italy along with those from France, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia, that shared their experiences and reasons as to what drove them to diversify their fishing activity.

In Gaza, on Tuesday 12/7/2023, The Economic and Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC) organized an exhibition inside the Gaza port, entitled «Bahric Ya Gaza», in the presence of the Ministry of Agriculture, fishers, media, and local and international institutions. This has been the first occasion of an exhibition for fishermen and their products such as handicrafts, nets, salting and smoking fish. Moreover, through the assignment of «Product Temporary Managers» (PTMs), all Partners are currently providing local MSMEs with consultancy on fishery diversification in the target communities.

Moreover, based on the results and learning achievements of the international training held by CIHEAM Bari, local training courses were implemented in Italy, Corsica, Tunisia, Lebanon and Palestine. Indeed, the partner in Palestine, ESDC has implemented a successful two-day national training on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in small-scale fisheries and aquaculture.

The participants were among representatives from public administrations, NGOs, fishermen, and professional organizations, who acquired a deeper understanding of PPP in the small-scale fishery sector and aquaculture. The training also covered the standards packages that were developed as part of the FISH MED NET project to facilitate PPP creation. Watch the video to discover more on the local training: <https://fb.watch/ITDBYXkjKG/>

Moreover, practical training on aquaculture has been implemented by ESDC in Gaza. It was an enriching and eye-opening experience to learn about sustainable aquaculture practices and see them in action.



## THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, THE CORE OF THE PROJECT

FISH MED NET supported a well-structured and effective Public-Private Partnership between the Al Tawfiq Cooperative and the General Directorate of Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture. Indeed, in the framework of services to community cluster of diversification, Al Tawfiq Cooperative society, that provides services to 4,000 fishermen in Gaza, received a subgrant from the Palestinian Partner ESDC. The idea of the subgrant aimed at rehabilitating and developing fish cold storage with energy-saving devices and solar systems. Storing and preserving daily fish caught by fisheries, which are consumed by fish markets in both Gaza Strip and West Bank.

What did the Al Tawfiq Cooperative do? They have been able to install 2 cooling units with a cooling capacity of 8 horsepower to improve fish cooling and preservation and in order to enhance storage conditions for fisheries catch. They maintained the existing water desalination unit with a capacity of 30 m<sup>3</sup> per day to ensure efficient operation of ice-making machines that used by fisheries to preserve fish in the sea, and to guarantee of fresh and high quality of the caught fish.

## THE CLOSURE OF FISH MED NET

The FISH MED NET Partnership held the own last Project Management Board on the 14th and 15th June in Porto Vecchio in Corsica.

The Lead Beneficiary, la Communauté de Communes Sud Corse hosted the entire partnership to finalize the last steps of the project, and programme the upcoming last activities. It was an occasion to work on the Capitalization Plan of the project as well as an occasion to brainstorm on future project occasion. On the 4th July 2023 at Palazzo Merulana in Rome, Legacoop Agroalimentare organised the final event of the project. The event was an opportunity to present to the various stakeholders in the sector the results achieved by the project, and to show how the partnership has worked jointly and synergistically with other projects to actively act within the framework of the programme for a more innovative, inclusive and sustainable Mediterranean basin at an economic, social and environmental level.

The event, hosted in the building managed by coopculture, was an opportunity to meet and exchange good practices aimed at the development of multifunctionality in the fishery supply chain, declined according to the vocation of the different partner territories.



In the field of the tourism diversification, ATDEPA in Tunisia allocated one subgrant to the Association Kratten du Développement Durable de la Culture et du Loisir, in partnership with the Commissariat régional au Tourisme de Sfax, on on Techniques for welcoming customers and marketing.

Indeed, fifteen fishermen and their families will benefit from training related to the organization of sea trips «reception, catering and hygiene, first aid, digital marketing» and the necessary equipment for the development of their boats for the organization of sea trips.

Our Lebanese partner also allocated one of the two subgrants to the Tyre Coast Nature Reserve, in partnership with the Municipality of Tyre, in the field of services to the community. Men and women active in the fishery sector are involved in the process of cleaning activities to remove marine litter in the sea of Tyre, especially floating plastic waste and fishing nets.

The idea is to provide essential equipment and establish basic infrastructure for the syndicate of fishers guaranteeing a sustainable cleaning sea in Tyre city and to establish and develop a sustainable and strong network between syndicate of fishers, Municipality of Tyre, and Tyre Coast Nature Reserve.