



MariFish

WP7: Prepare and commission shared research programmes

Maurice Heral – WPMG4 Faro, March 2009

Strengthening the links between European marine fisheries science and fisheries management

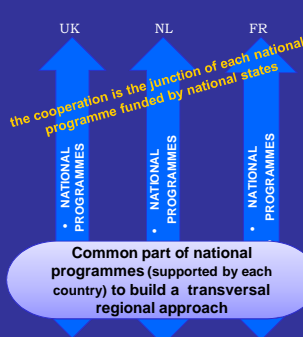
Objectives

- In the WP7, the major objective is to develop cooperation based either on a regional approach (Channel and Mediterranean Sea) or on a thematic focus. Typical options refer to subjects such as "Impact of Climate Change on small Pelagic fish distribution", "Reduction of by-catch and discards" and "indicators to support an Ecosystem Approach to fisheries management".
- All the countries represented in MariFish will have to put in common, on a voluntary basis, the different approaches developed in their national programmes by the most relevant RPOs.
- It is a preliminary test toward what could be the joint programming in Marine Sciences.

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Funding model of the regional scheme

- **WP7 is funded by national programmes** - MariFish WP7 funds will be available in order to develop cooperation, to carry out the project meetings, to communicate regularly, to maintain systems, to exchange students etc as appropriate
- **the MariFish Partners identify the national marine research organizations** which will contribute to common research programmes through studies and expert assessments
- **to develop the cooperative programme, extra-financial contribution could be applied for funding** at various regional, national, European and international institutions



UK NL FR

NATIONAL PROGRAMMES NATIONAL PROGRAMMES NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

the cooperation is the junction of each national programme funded by national states

Common part of national programmes (supported by each country) to build a transversal regional approach

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Progress // 10 Meetings and 3 planned:

| 1-Implementation of the Channel Programme (lead by France) | 2-Implementation of the Mediterranean Programme (lead by France, Spain and Greece) | 3-Implementation of the Thematic Programme "Reduction of by-catch and discards" (lead by UK) | 4-Implementation of the thematic Programme "Influence of climate on fish biology and population dynamics" (lead by Spain) | 5-Managing fisheries within an ecosystem (lead by Ireland) |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| Fast track process | | | | |
| June, 27-29 2007 1 st implementation meeting | | | | |
| January, 11, 2008 1 st management and scientific meeting | February, 7-8, 2008 1 st implementation meeting | June, 11, 2008 2 nd implementation meeting | June, 12-13, 2008 1 st implementation meeting | |
| | October, 6-7, 2008 1 st management and scientific meeting | October, 28-29, 2008 1 st Scientific Committee meeting | | New topic define instead of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries: Use of indicators to support an Ecosystem Approach to Management. |
| December, 18, 2008 2 nd scientific meeting | | | November, 19-20, 2008 1 st implementation meeting | |
| | | | January, 8-9, 2009 1 st scientific meeting | |
| | March, 2009 2 nd management and scientific meeting | September 2009 2 nd Scientific Committee meeting | | April, 6-7 2009 1 st implementation meeting |

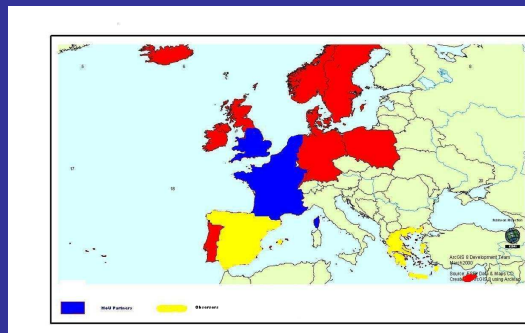
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Progress //

- 3 MoU signed – 1 in progress
- 21 Partners
- 21 RPOs

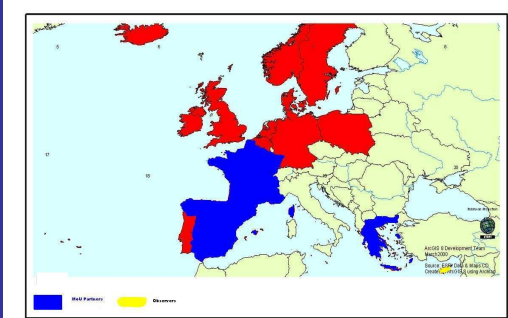
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CHANNEL



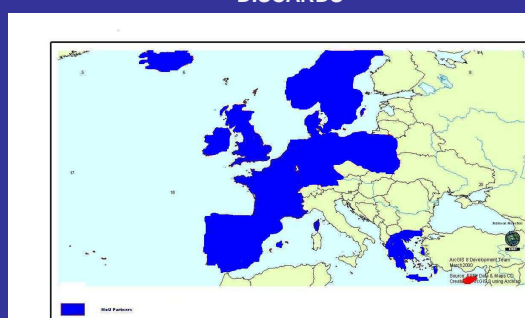
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MEDITERRANEAN



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DISCARDS



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Progress // programmes:**1) The Channel case study**

- ❑ *The common programme developed by four countries (MoU) on "Towards adopting an ecosystem based approach for fisheries management in the Channel spatial characterization and contribution to the management of fishing effects" is on a good track*
- ❑ It includes the characterization of the habitats, the identification of the different métiers and the spatialisation of their fishing efforts. The impact of fishing will be determine by a modeling approach which needs to be validated. Some difficulties occurred with the common access to data but it is on the way to be resolved
- ❑ Additional funds are being requested to national funding agencies (e.g. ANR in France) to fill the gaps of the national programme) concerning the fishing impacts.



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Progress // programmes:**2) The Mediterranean case study**

- ❑ The Mediterranean joint regional programme on "Towards an ecosystem approach based for fisheries management in the Mediterranean : essential fish habitats and their trophic interactions" is agreed by the 3 Mediterranean MariFish members in an MoU
- ❑ After an extensive inventory of the national programmes, it has been retained that mapping of the critical habitat for the large pelagic fish (tuna, swordfish) and the small pelagic fish has to be addressed in relation with the environmental conditions
- ❑ Trophic relationships will be focused on hake with a comprehensive approach on contaminants
- ❑ Data from the Medits surveys, including the historical data, will be joined in a common data base with free access to the scientists involved



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Progress // programmes:**3) Reduction of by-catch and discards**

- ❑ For "Approach to fisheries management and reduction of by catch and discards ", a MoU has been signed by 14 partners
- ❑ Partners provided a list of topics for cooperation
- ❑ Partners agreed on a selection of 10 priorities
- ❑ A process is on the way to avoid duplication of programmes which are soon financed by the commission and also the ones which are soon coordinated by ICES



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Progress // programmes:**4) Influence of climate on fish biology and population dynamics**

- ❑ The project began in November 2008, and is now active
- ❑ A group of 8 countries is preparing a MoU to develop a common programme about how the recruitment processes are affected by environmental conditions, developing coupled biophysical models of the pelagic ecosystem
- ❑ The work will be focused on small pelagic fish in specific eco-regions.



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Progress // programmes:**5) The use of indicators to support an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management**

- For the subject on "Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management" it has been decided at the last Steering Committee meeting (Reykjavik) June 25-26 2008) to reduce the scope, considering it was too wide and complex. It was decided to identify a less ambitious but more realistic issue while avoiding what is already under development within the ICES community
- The new topic, more feasible, becomes now: "The use of indicators to support an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management: Current status and future directions"

First workshop : April 2009



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WP7: what should be done?

- **Regional or thematic cooperation between the different states members must be efficient**
 - strong common interest for inovative thematic topics not already coordinated by other structure
 - common vision of research developped at a regional level
- **To be sure that the scientific planed programme are working efficiently:**
 - Organize more management and scientific committees to report on the progress function of the time table
- **Organize common review procedure to evaluate the excellence and added value of MariFish programmes**



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General comments

- The difficulty encountered to have free exchange of data to build shared databases under common format
- To build common programme without extra money coming from the Commission is the challenge of the WP7:
- This experimental approach of building the first bricks of joint programming, is an important process which needs a mix up of competitive and non-competitive funding
- To raise awareness and mobilize national resources to implement these projects:
- Are they challenging enough?



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