*Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari e forestali*

DIPARTIMENTO DELLE POLITICHE COMPETITIVE,
DELLA QUALITA' AGROALIMENTARE, IPPICHE E DELLA PESCA
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PESCA MARITTIMA
E DELL'ACQUACOLTURA
PEMAC I

# Italian Annual Report on the activities performed in 2015 under the National Data Collection Programs under Council Regulation (EC) N° 199/2008 and Commission Regulation (EC) N° 665/2008

## National Program 2014-2016
## Reference year 2015

## May 2016

# I. General framework

In accordance with the Community Regulations concerning the collection of fishery data, the present annual report illustrates the activities performed in pursuance of national program 2015[1] by providing a detailed description of the progress attained with a view to the accomplishment of the objectives established in the National Program.

There have been no major changes in approach compared to the year before. In implementing the 2015 NP, consistency with data and time series collected under the previous years has been ensured. A particular attention has been given to the regional approach and compliance with RCMMed&BS recommendations has been ensured.

In compiling the present report, we have applied the "Guidance for the submission of Annual Reports on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU, version January 2016.

Table I.A.1 provides the list of all derogations, including previously approved derogations that are still valid.

Table I.A.2 provides an updated list of all the multilateral agreements regarding data collection that are currently valid.

# II. National data collection organisation

## II A National correspondent and participating institutes

National Correspondent:

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The Italian administration has been assisted by partners for the implementation of the national programme. A public notice was lunched on January 2014 to select institutes with the necessary experience and qualification to assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Policies in the implementation of the National Program 2014-2016[2]. After the evaluation of the received candidature, a partner was selected on the 22nd of May 2014. The agreement between the Ministry and the partner was signed on the 17th of July 2014. The selected partner is the consortium constituted by the institutes reported in the following table:

| **Institute** | **Activity** |
|---|---|
| CNR DTA<br>Piazzale Aldo Moro, 7 – ROMA<br>enrico.brugnoli@cnr.it | Leader institute of the Consortium<br>Data collection of primary data on transversal and economic variables of the fleet |
| CIBM<br>Viale Nazario Sauro, 4, 57128 – LIVORNO<br>deranieri@cibm.it | MEDIT GSA 9<br>Biological sampling GSA 9<br>Ecosystem indicators GSA 9 |
| COISPA<br>Via dei Trulli, 18/20, 70045 –Torre a Mare – BARI | Biological sampling demersal species, GSA 18<br>Biological sampling GSA 10 and GSA 19<br>Ecosystem indicators, GSA 10 and GSA 18 |

[1] Decisione C(2013) 5568 del 30 agosto 2013 della Commissione che proroga al periodo 2014 – 2016 il Programma Nazionale Italiano per la raccolta di dati primari di tipo biologico, tecnico ambientale e socio economico nel settore della pesca relativi al periodo 2011 -2013;Italian National Programme 2014-2016

[2] Avviso pubblico per l'individuazione di un Organismo idoneo ad assistere il Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari e forestali nell'esecuzione del Programma Nazionale 2014 – 2016, avviso pubblicato sulla Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana n. 37 del 14 febbraio 2014.

| | |
|---|---|
| lembo@coispa.it | MEDIT GSA 18 and GSA 10 |
| Università di Cagliari<br>Dip.to di Biologia Animale ed Ecologia (GSA 11)<br>Viale Poetto, 1, 09126 – CAGLIARI<br>cau@unica.it | MEDIT GSA 11<br>Biological sampling GSA 11<br>Ecosystem indicators GSA 11 |
| CNR IAMC<br>Via Vaccara, 61, 91026 – Mazara del Vallo (TP)<br>fabio.fiorentino@iamc.cnr.it | MEDIT GSA 16<br>Biological sampling, GSA 16<br>MEDIAS GSA 16<br>Ecosystem indicators, GSA 16 |
| Laboratorio Fano<br>Università di Bologna, Viale Adriatico, 1/N, 61032 – FANO (PS)<br>corrado.piccinetti@unibo.it | MEDIT GSA 17 |
| Università di Bari<br>Dipartimento di Zoologia<br>Via Orabona 4 70125, Bari<br>a.tursi@biologia.uniba.it | MEDIT GSA 19<br>Ecosystem indicators, GSA 19 |
| CNR ISMAR<br>Largo Fiera della Pesca, 60125 – ANCONA<br>a.santojanni@ismar.cnr.it | Biological sampling, GSA 17<br>Biological sampling small pelagics GSA 18<br>MEDIAS GSA 17 and GSA 18<br>Ecosystem indicators GSA 17 |
| Unimar<br>Via Montebello 8, 00185 Roma<br>unimar@unimar.it | Biological sampling large pelagics<br>Recreational fishery, blue fine tune (BFT)<br>Economic data aquaculture sector |
| Università Roma Tor Vergata<br>Dipartimento di Biologia Lesa dell'Università degli Studi di Roma<br>Via Della Ricerca Scientifica 133, 00100 Roma<br>cataudell@uniroma2.it | Eel data collection (biological sampling and recreational fishery)<br>Ecosystem indicators 5, 6 e 7 (VMS) |
| Consorzio Itafishstat<br>Via Irno, 11 84135 Salerno<br>amministrazione@itafishstat.it | Economic data fishing fleet<br>Transversal data<br>Economic data processing industry |

The website "raccolta dati" (http://dcf-italia.cnr.it) is the central point of the technological platform used by Italy within the Data Collection Framework. It presents the data collection framework and activities carried out within the DCF to external users (article 8, Commission Regulation 665/2008).

It is also a web platform for exchange/management of data for the actors involved in the data collection in Italy. It is linked with a database storing the aggregated information transmitted by the main institutes responsible for DCF.

This web platform has been established in order to:

- link the 10 institutes taking part to the implementation of the NP
- share documents, information and best practices
- circulate data necessary for the implementation of sampling plans and ranking procedures (data on capacity, effort and landings)
- homogenize aggregation of data, formats and codification

- create an easy access to the data for the administration
- easily compile data for other end users (EC data calls, GFCM task 1, ICCAT requirements, …).

Different levels of access are possible. The public part of the "dcf-italia" website gives access to information on institutions participating in the data collection in Italy, documentation regarding the data collection regulations, national program, national reports, annual reports, RCMED meeting, STECF reports, international working group /workshops reports on future of the DCF, reports published using DCF data and finally methodological notes.

In addition to that public part, registered users (having then a login and password - the user's password is encrypted -) can run other functions and see more documents and data. Each user registered is associated to a given profile.

One focal point per institution providing data is responsible for updating data in the aggregated database. Depending on his logging parameters, each focal point is allowed to manage specific data.

The web site is accessible at:

http://dcf-italia.cnr.it

https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/8955

Coordination of activities was implemented through several contacts between the CNR DTA (leader of the consortium) and the national correspondent. Information and important news was communicated by the NC during the year to the responsible authority and to the persons involved in DCF on a regular basis. One official national meeting for co-ordination have been organised in 2015 (Livorno, 3-4 December 2015). Research institutes taking part of the implementation of the national program attended the meeting. The coordination meeting discussed the following issues:

- National Programme 2015: state of implementation and main problems
- National Programme 2016: planning of activities
- Updating and development of the existing database
- Presentation of validation processes of the sample survey data (transversal and economic data) and integration with the Data Control Regulation
- Data calls and timetable (DGMARE, GFCM, ICCAT, RCM MED&BS)
- Methodological proposals for review and validation of methodologies and protocols applied to biological sampling and the production of by catch summary data
- Presentation of the following projects: Strengthening regional cooperation in the area of fisheries data collection in the Mediterranean and Black Sea - Reference: MARE/2014/19, Evaluation of specific management scenarios for the preparation of multi-annual management plans in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea: MARE/2014/27
- Main outputs of international coordination meetings: Regional Coordination Meeting (RCM MED&BS-LP), Planning Group on Economic Issues (PGECON), Liaison Meeting, ICES working groups

The report of the national coordination meeting is reported in annex 1 and a pdf format including all annexes is available at: http://dcf-italia.cnr.it/main/docs/10.

## II B Regional and International coordination

### II B 1 Attendance of international meetings

Standard table II.B.1. indicates which meetings have been attended by Italian delegates and experts.

### II B 2 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations and agreements

The list of recommendations made by the RCM, LM, STECF and survey planning groups, relevant to Italy for the AR year (2015) is reported in table II.B.2.

## III. Module of the evaluation of the fishing sector

### III A General Description of the fishing sector

No major changes affected the Italian fishing sector in 2015.

A general description of the fishing sector is reported in table III.A.1.

### III B Economic variables (Mediterranean Sea)

Supra region: Mediterranean Sea

### III B 1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal (Mediterranean Sea)

The purpose of the present module is to attain a statistically significant estimate of the economic parameters in order to analyse the economic situation of the fishery sector in Italy.

The reference period is year 2014. Pursuant to what was established by the agreement between the responsible institute and the Directorate-General of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry Policies, the results pertaining to the period January –December 2014 have been delivered in September 2015. Results of 2015 will be delivered no later than September 2016.

The target population is the Vessel Register (including vessels less than 12 m.). Italy is collecting economic data regarding the fishing fleet for all fishing vessels in the vessel register during the reference year.

The estimate of the following economic parameters was conducted through a specific sample survey:

- other income, wages and salaries of crew, imputed value of unpaid labour, energy costs, repair and maintenance costs, variable costs, non-variable costs, investments in physical capital, debt/asset ratio, engaged crew, energy consumption

In 2014, the sample survey was conducted on a sample of 1500 boats. The data collection procedure is based on a network of data collectors selected through a tender procedure managed by the National Research Council (CNR – DTA).

Data were collected by using a computerised questionnaire specifically designed for the survey. The questionnaire operates on a web platform to allow an easier compilation by the data collectors. The web questionnaire includes checks to avoid wrong typing of data or data actually not coherent. An additional statistical tool was also implemented to check and validate primary data and to impute the non-responses. The manual for the collection and transmission of the economic fleet data is available at: http://dcf-italia.cnr.it/reserved/lineeguida/1.

The value of fixed assets was calculated by processing records derived from the Vessel Register.

Other economic variables (income from leasing out quota or other fishing rights, direct subsidies, number of fishing enterprises/units) were computed through official registers.

Financial position is estimated through an additional and specific sample survey based on analysis of official balance sheets; in fact, the sample survey used to estimate the other economic variables proved to be not appropriate for this parameter.

The number of sample units per stratum and the coverage rate for each individual survey performed is reported in table III.B.1.

*Clustering of fleet segments*

In this section clustering of fleet segments is described and information is given on the segments that have been clustered, as required by the DCF and following STECF recommendations.

Standard Table III.B.2 reports the segments that have been clustered. Clusters are named after the biggest segment in terms of number of vessels.

Segments have been distinguished in: important segments with distinct characteristics; segments similar to other segments; non-important segments with distinct characteristics. Importance of fleet segments has been assessed in terms of landings (value and volume). Similarity is explained in the following text using expert knowledge on fishing patterns and on available data on capacity structure.

Important segments with distinct characteristics have not been clustered. No confidentiality reasons for reporting emerged.

No clustering of “non-important segments with distinct characteristics” has been necessary.

Only “segments similar to other segments” have been clustered for sampling purposes and not for confidentiality reasons. The criteria used to select segments to be merged as well as the approach to determine similarity are explained and described below.

The clustering of dredgers is justified by the fact that dredgers are based almost exclusively in central-north Adriatic coast. Vessels are very specialised targeting only clams and smooth-callista (*Venus gallina* and *Callista chione*) and they are homogenous in terms of size, gears and fishing practises. Vessels have an average LOA of 13.4 meters and 81% of them belong to the class 12-18 meters. Therefore, the split into the class <12 m and > 12 meters is not statistical reliable for this segment. Moreover, it is demonstrated that revenues are not correlated with the LOA of the vessels and this fact proves the high level of homogeneity of the vessels.

Regarding the segment “Vessels using hooks 12 -18 m”, the clustered segment “Vessels using hooks 6 - 12 m” is composed by only 7 vessels and the clustering was necessary in order to design the sampling plan.

The segment “Vessels using hooks 18 - 24 m”, has been clustered with the segment “Vessels using hooks 24 - 40 m” that is composed by only 5 vessels and the clustering was necessary in order to design the sampling plan.

Vessels using polyvalent "passive" gears only 12 - 18 m have been clustered with the 15 vessels >18 m in order to design the sampling plan. In fact these vessels are scattered along the Italian coast (GSA 9, GSA 10, GSA 11, GSA 17, and GSA 19). The average length of these 15 vessels is 19.7 meters, therefore very close to the upper limit of the 12-18 m class.

The unique vessel using active and passive gears 18-24 m has been grouped in the segment 12-18 m.

Purse seiners 6-12 meters include one purse seiner < 6 meters.

The last case is that of pelagic trawlers 12-18 m. Only two vessels in the class 06-12 m was added to the upper length class.

*Capital value and capital cost*

The value of fixed assets and the capital costs are estimated processing data of the Vessel Register and according to the methodology suggested by the study on “evaluation of the capital value, investments and capital costs in the fisheries sector” (No FISH/2005/03).

According to the capital study, the estimation of the capital value (GCS) consisted of three steps:

1. Specification of the composition of the active fleet by age

2. Estimation of price per unit of capacity (e.g. per GT)

3. Calculation of the value of each vintage (year of construction) of the fleet and either converting values of all vintages to current prices or to historic prices using price indices.

The specification of the composition of the active fleet by age has been done by processing the fleet register (which reports the year of construction for each vessel).

More details are given in the table below which refers to specific information required by the Commission guidelines on AR presentation.

| *Questions* | *Answers* |
|---|---|
| 1. Which are the reference values taken into account for the estimation of the Price per Capacity Unit, PCU (e.g. book value, second hand market, etc…)? | The current price (historical value) per unit of capital has been estimated using the RINA construction index. In order to apply the PIM (perpetual inventory method) and in absence of other possibilities, as initial benchmark of the gross capital stock, the RINA (Italian Naval Register) construction index has been used. |
| 2. Which estimation methods and/or models have been used to estimate the PCU? | The construction index taken from the RINA survey was used as initial benchmark of the estimated price per capacity of the gross capital stock of 1992 |
| 3. If a net value has been used, what is the method used to calculate the gross value? (e.g. formula, figures from the balance sheets, etc..)? | digressive (replacement) formula := historical value/ (1-depreciation rate of each asset)^age of the asset |
| 4. What type of index price series have been used (e.g. heavy machinery index, etc..)? | Italian heavy machinery index |
| 5. What depreciation rates? From where do they come (e.g. national legislation, general scheme excel spreadsheet, etc…)? | From assumptions made in the study No. FISH/2005/03: Hull (7%), Engine (25%), Electronics (50%), other equipment (35%) |
| 6. Which age schedule (service life time) has been used? | Hull (25), Engine (10), Electronics (5), other equipment (7) |
| 7. What is the share of each asset on the total value of the capital? | Hull (46%), Engine (25%), Electronics (2%), other equipment (27%) |

Inactive vessels have been included in the evaluation of capital value and capital costs.

*FTE and engaged crew*

*Employment (total and FTE)* is estimated according to the methodology suggested by the study on "calculation of labour including FTE (full-time equivalent) in fisheries" (No FISH/2005/14).

The output of the methodology adopted is the number of engaged crew, i.e. the number of persons employed and the number of FTE in each métier.

FTE is defined as the unit expressing the number of employees into full-time workers.

The basic data to estimate FTE are collected through the questionnaire used for the fleet economic survey. They are:

• average daily hours of fishing and navigation;

• total working hours at shore linked with the fisheries operation. For example: cleaning of gears after fishing, preparing for the fishing gear, sorting of the product, etc. The total hours refer to the average for the whole period (month).

The total working hours per year per crew unit are calculated by multiplying the number of hours (fishing, navigation, at shore) for the number of fishing days.

FTE is then calculated as the relationship between the total working hours per year and the thresholds. The FTE threshold for the estimation of Italian employment data has been determined on the average days at sea per vessel over the last 6 years. The FTE threshold used is the average of the FTE by fishing segments. It is equal to 1,600 hours per year. While the FTE Harmonised (EU level) is calculated using a threshold equal to 2,000 hours per year.

## III B 2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal (Mediterranean Sea)

Table III.B.3 gives details on the sampling methods used (column 'Sampling strategy') and on the achieved values of the accuracy indicators.

Information on data quality is given in terms of achieved sample rate and response rate. In addition, the CV for each estimate has been calculated using a specific software. The instrument is an application developed in Visual Basic for Excel associated with the R environment for statistical computing.

The data sources for estimation of variables in Appendix VI are homogenous, therefore data are consistent. This guarantees that economic indicators on profitability (gross cash flow, gross value added, net profit) are not biased by the use of different data sources.

In case of derived indicators, as FTE, the information about calculation procedures is reported in the previous paragraph.

## III B 3 Actions to avoid deviations (Mediterranean Sea)

The project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program. All parameters have been evaluated as requested and precision levels have been calculated.

The activities of data processing related to 2014 were carried out in accordance with the National Programme. As for the collection of data pertaining 2015, the phase of receiving the data has been completed at the date of preparation of this report.

**SUPRA-REGION: Other Regions**

## III B 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal (Other Regions)

At 1st of January 2014, 10 vessels are included in the vessel register as vessels operating outside the Mediterranean Sea. None of these vessels actually operated in 2014.

Therefore these vessels have been classified as inactive and only capital costs and capital value have been estimated according to the methodology suggested by the study on “evaluation of the capital value, investments and capital costs in the fisheries sector” (No FISH/2005/03).

## III B 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal (Other Regions)

No data collection carried out because no fishing activity occurred.

## III B 3 Actions to avoid deviations (Other Regions)

No shortfalls occurred.

## III C Metier-related variables

Region: Mediterranean Sea

## III C 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal (Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea)

Sampling has been performed in order to evaluate the quarterly length distribution of species in the catches, and the quarterly volume of discards. Data have been collected by métier referred to level 6 of the matrix defined in Appendix IV of the DCF and agreed at Regional Level (RCMMed&BS 2009 and 2010).

The GFCM/FAO geographical disaggregation (Geographical Sub Areas, GSA) has been applied for the sampling procedure. In all tables III.C, the fishing ground is represented by the GSA (for a total of 7 GSA around Italian waters). For this reason, with the exception of the métier targeting large pelagic and eel, all the collection and analysis of data (i.e. métier sampling for demersal and small pelagic species) has been performed and reported in the appropriate Tables, at GSA level.

For sampling purposes, only the major metiers have been considered. In order to identify the metiers to be sampled, the ranking system at GSA level as described in the DCF EU Dec. 93/2010, has been applied. For each GSA, metiers which contribute for less than 10% in terms of total effort, landing or values have been excluded from the sampling plan (Table III.C.1). The ranking system, for the sampling program 2015, has been performed based on 2012-2013 landing, value and effort data. Results of this exercise are reported in Table III.C.1. Based on the ranking system exercise have been selected, in the whole area, 52 metier.

For each selected metier, the total number of fishing days to be sampled has been defined proportionally to the effort (number of days at sea for each métier) of previous years. According to the regulation, the minimum number of fishing days to be sampled has been at least 1 fishing day (one day= one trip) per month during the fishing season. Sampling strategies in each GSA have been a mix of concurrency-at-sea (sampling directly on board by observers and scientists) and concurrency-at-landing site (sampling directly on landing site, at market, by observers and scientists). The Italian fishing fleet is characterized by vessels of small or medium size that perform their activities mostly within the 12 miles. Fishing trips last about 12 hours on average. This is true for the majority of the fleet in all geographical areas. Bigger trawlers, mostly in Sicily Channel (GSA 16), and long liners > 24 meters mostly in Ionian Sea (GSA 19) and Sicily Channel (GSA 16), perform fishing trips of more than one day. All these vessels represent less than 2% of the total fleet. In these cases, the biological sample has considered this specificity and the fishing trip have been sampled accordingly. The number of fishing-days/trips that has been sampled by métier and GSA is reported in Table III.C.3.

*Metier targeting demersal and small pelagic species*

Biological sampling, for demersal and small pelagic species, has covered all the main fishing activities for a total of 1181 sampling days. Overall, in the 7 GSA, have been sampled 52 metiers. The number of fishing-days (on board and at landing/market place) that have been sampled by metier in each GSA is reported in table III.C.3.

Among the selected metiers, no sampling activity has been carried out only for the fyke nets targeting demersal species (FYK_DES_0_0_0). This métier, in the GSA 17, has been selected only for fishing effort. Due to the fact that this metier is operating mainly in lagoon and that landing is represented by fish of the family *Atherinidae* and *Gobiidae* and by *crustacenas Brachyura* and *Caridea*, it has not been considered in the 2015 sampling activities. On the contrary, purse seine PS_SPF_>=14_0_0 in GSA 17 it has not been selected through the ranking system and has been picked up due to the importance of small pelagic species in the area (e.g. *E. encrasicolus* and *S. pilchardus*). The selected metier OTM_MPD_>=20_0_0, in the GSA 19, has showed a very low operation activity in 2015 (no activities have been recorded for the same metier also in 2014). Furthermore, the activity of this metier, targeting small pelagic species, is mainly concentrated in the second quarter of the year; after this period the fleet can change gears and targets species. Following these issues, it has been possible carrying out only two fishing trips. Problems linked to the seasonality of the fishing activity were related also to the long line for demersal LLS_DEF_0_0_0 in Sardinia waters (GSA 11). For this reason it was impossible to perform all expected samplings.

The other few slightly inconsistencies with the sampling program were mainly linked with the delay in the 2015 sampling activities, due to administrative problems. Notwithstanding the short delay in the programme, around

96% of the planned activities (in terms of fishing trips) have been achieved (1181 sampling days have been performed on the 1245 planned).

The length composition by species has been sampled in order to derive the length frequency distribution (LFD) by species and fishing day. Length measures, approximate to the half centimetre lower, have been collected for *finfish*, *cephalopods* and *crustaceans*. *Fish*: total length (TL) from the head to the end of the caudal fin for all demersal and small pelagic species. *Cephalopoda*: mantle length (LM), expressed in millimetres, from the virtual median line that goes through the eyes reaching the end of the mantle. *Crustaceans*: carapax length (LC), in millimetres, from the back margin of the orbit to the median margin of the carapax.

In the table III.C.6, are reported the sampled species of G1 and G2 listed in the Appendix VII of the EU Decision 93/2010 (including all the shark species) plus the species of G3 agreed at Regional Level (see RCMMed&BS 2010 report, Slovenia).

As mentioned before, in the table III.C.6, following the described sampling strategy, all the achievements have been reported at GSA level.

Concerning discards, as agreed at Regional level (see RCMMed&BS 2009 "Discards template"), the survey has covered all the following trawlers activity:
- bottom otter trawl for demersal species OTB_DES_>=40_0_0
- bottom otter trawl for deep water species OTB_DWS_>40_0_0
- bottom otter trawl for mixed demersal and deep water species OTB_MDD_>40_0_0
- pelagic pair trawl for small pelagic species PTM_SPF_>=20_0_0
- beam trawl for demersal species TBB_DES_0_0_0

For the above selected métiers, discards have been monitored for the Group 1 and Group 2 species, as defined in the Commission Decision 93/2010 Chapter III. Data on the quantities of the target discarded species has been collected directly on board. The length composition by discarded fraction has been also sampled in order to derive LFDs by species and fishing day.

Should be recalled that, following the regional agreement of the RCMMed&BS 2009 discards for

- Boat dredge for molluscs DRB_MOL_0_0_0
- Pots and traps for demersal species FPO_DES_0_0_0
- Fyke nets for demersal species FYK_DES_0_0_0
- Hand and pole line for cephalopods LHP_LHM_CEP_0_0_0

can be considered negligible (see report RCMMed&BS 2009 "*Sampling of discards*"). These metier are to be considered not mandatory for discards sampling and MS need not ask for derogations.

For all other metier, following the outputs of the pilot studies conducted both in 2005 and 2011 (see table I.A.1) a derogation for the collection of discard data has been granted.

*Metier targeting large pelagic species*

Regarding metier targeting the large pelagics species, the metier selected for the sampling program have been Drifting longlines [LLD_LPF_0_0_0] and Miscellanea [MIS] (harpoon, FADs). Métier coverage has been achieved also for some purse seine targeting *Thunnus thynnus* (PS_LPF_0_0_0). Should be recalled that, on the basis of the recent ICCAT Recommendations (2010/04 and 2012/03) and the EU Reg. 500/2012, the observer on board of the PS_LPF, can be only appointed by ICCAT. There is no landing or market observations for this métier due to the fact that tuna are transferred alive in the cages. Following this issue, it is not possible to cover the sampling activity of this metier. Observations have been allocated and intensified for the other large pelagic métiers (i.e. longline LLD_LPF_0_0_0).

Data have been collected following the ICCAT recommendation and the agreements reached at Regional level. Methodologies and sampling strategies have been applied at national scale.

In Table III.C.6, following the agreement reached at Regional level, have been reported the results achieved to métier level 7:

LLD_LPF_0_0_0 SWO

LLD_LPF_0_0_0 BFT

LLD_LPF_0_0_0 ALB

The survey for estimating length distribution covered a one-year period. The planned specimens (agreed at Regional level during the PGMed) to be used for estimating the LFDs for large pelagic, were collected during a total number of 212 sampling fishing days (see table III.C.3 for disaggregation of sampling intensities among different métier). Discards have been monitored during the sampling days on board, but for the mentioned métier they can be considered negligible (Table III.C.6). The length composition by species has been sampled in order to derive the length frequency distribution (LFD) by species: length to the fork (FL) for all the species have been collected, with the exception of swordfish for which the length of the lower jaw (LJFL) was also considered.

*Metier targeting shark species*

Regarding sharks, as reported in the NP 2014-2016, collection of "sharks" biological variables (i.e. length frequency distribution) has been associated to the Metier-related variables following the concurrent sampling approach. Should be underlined that most of the proposed species in the Appendix VII (the list presents 47 species of sharks and rays) of the Commission Decision 93/2010, are rare and with a sporadic and not confirmed presence in the Mediterranean area. No precision target is associated with the collection of shark's variables. During the three annual period 2014-2016 all shark species will be collected concurrently only for length. Moreover, as agreed at Regional level, no stock-based sampling will be added if metier-based sampling failed to provide an appropriate precision for length distributions. In table III.C.6 all the shark species that have been sampled during the 2015 sampling activities are included.

Overall, for all the group of metier and species above mentioned (demersal, small and large pelagic species, and sharks) tables III.C.3, III.C.4, and III.C.6 report all the information (i.e. achieved number of trips at sea/on shore per metier and GSA, number of fish measured) collected during the sampling year.

**Note**:
Table III.C.6 – In this table under the column "*Achieved no of fish measured at a national level by metier*" data are reported at GSA level.

## III C 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal (Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea)

As quality indicator has been used the method developed by Vigneau and Mahevas (2004). This method allows estimating the precision (in terms of CV) for each length class and for the whole length frequency distribution (LFD) at métier level. CV for length of demersal and small pelagic species is calculated annually for each métier and per GSA.

Regarding the large pelagic species Italy has followed the RCMMED&BS recommendation. At Regional Level an agreement was reached for the sampling intensities needed to achieve a good precision levels on a Mediterranean-wide basis for the large pelagic species included in group 1 list (*Thunnus thynnus, Xiphias gladius*) and group 2 list (*Sarda sarda, Coryphaena hyppurus, Thunnus alalunga*). The quality indicator, in terms of Coefficient of Variation (CV) of the Length Frequency Distributions (LFDs) was assessed using COST tools (packages in R), following RCMMed&BS 2011 recommendation. This method allows estimating the precision, in terms of coefficient of variation (CV) for each length class and for the whole LFD at stock level. In 2015, for all the large pelagic fish, included both in group 1 and in group 2 list, the sampling plan (i.e. number of individuals to be sampled) has been performed at national level following the Regional agreement (RCMMed&BS reports 2014). This minimum number of large pelagic fish to be sampled, that has been set at Regional level with the relatively sampling intensity needed to achieve precision levels on a Mediterranean-wide basis, will be revised annually and monitored during the different Regional Coordination Meeting.

Concerning sharks, as agreed at Regional Level (RCMMed&BS 2009 recommendation – see also table See Table I.A.1), shark species have been collected concurrently only for length and not quality indicator has been associated. For this reason during the RCMMed&BS has been decided that no minimum number or sampling strategy (and as a consequence no quality indicator) should be associated to the collection of all the "sharks" species reported in the Appendix VII (EU Dec 93/2010).

All the data collected under Module "C" have been sent, in due time and following the quality control, to the different data calls (i.e. STECF-SGMED) and, on request, to the different end-users (e.g. GFCM, ICCAT etc.).

### III C 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls (Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea)

The 2015 project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program, following also the agreement reached at Regional level by the RCMMed&BS and the PGMed.

The few differences in the coverage of the selected metiers, and on the data collection (i.e. length) of some species, are mainly related with a slightly delay in the planned activities during the first quarter. In 2016 the activities are already started without any delay.

Should be remarked the problem related to the collection of samples of bluefin tuna with the purse seine: observers on board of the purse seine can be only appointed by ICCAT and no fish is landed. This issue is continuously discussed with the other Mediterranean countries, involved in the fisheries of large pelagic, in order to optimize the sampling "coverage" at regional level.

## Region: Other regions

### III C 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal (Other Regions)

In 2015, the Italian fleet operating in the outside community waters (CECAF Region), is composed of only 7 vessels fishing Gulf of Guinea (FAO Area 34.1), targeting mainly cephalopods (OTB_CEP_>=70_0_0), and one single vessel (PS_LPF_0_0), targeting mainly tuna, operating in the IOTC Region (Indian Ocean FAO 51.7).

Table III.C.1 reports preliminary official landing and effort data related to the fishing activities in other regions. Till now there has been no requirement for Italy to sample these two fisheries, as they were sufficiently covered by the Spanish sampling program (report RCM LDF, Constanta, 2013: "*Based on this information and providing that these proportions of landings and effort for the above metiers do not significantly change over the next years, there is no requirement for Italy to sample these fisheries*"). Available landing and effort data of these vessels operating both in the CECAF and IOTC areas has been already sent to the RCM Long Distance Fishery (Vilnius, June, 2016).

### III C 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal (Other Regions)

No deviations

### III C 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls (Other Regions)

No shortfalls incurred.

### III D Recreational fisheries

### III D 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Recreational fisheries of bluefin tuna

The main basis of the data collection program has been the overall census of recreational and sport fisheries that will cover all the Italian coast line and islands that means more than 800 ports and landing sites. Starting from this census, information on fleet and type of activities per administrative region has been obtained. Total catches have been reported in official sheets that recreational fishermen are obliged to compile and send to port authorities. Ad-hoc questionnaires have been used in order to acquire the information on catches of tuna. Moreover, the register of boats authorized to fish for sport and recreation bluefin has been analysed. There was no deviation from the provisions of the national program. In 2015 around 10 tons (10897 kg) of recreational catch of *T. thynnus* have been recorded. Collected data have been transmitted in due time to ICCAT.

Recreational fisheries of eel

In Italy, recreational fishery of eel is carried out exclusively in inland waters (rivers, lagoons and lakes) and without the use of any kind of boats.

Since 2010, a program of interviews has been implemented, involving the National Sport-fishing Associations. In order to identify a sample considered representative of recreational fishermen, the Italian Federation of Sport Fishing and Diving (FIPSAS) was used as reference list. From 2011, and hence also for the following years, it was possible to enlarge the sample of recreational fishermen, by adding to FIPSAS another Federation, ARCI FISA, thus increasing the representativeness of the interviews. Ad-hoc questionnaires (around 800 answers have been received) have been used in order to acquire the information on catches of eels. Questionnaires also included information on specific features of eel fishery like the gears used and the seasonality. Information have been also gathered concerning fishing effort (i.e. days/year), and about frequency and consistency of the catch.

The total national catch for eel recreational fishery resulted around 84 tons.

Recreational fisheries of sharks

Since 2014, Italy is using ad-hoc questionnaires in order to acquire the information on catches of sharks. Recreational catch data for large pelagic sharks in the Mediterranean should be submitted to ICCAT either online or using the data sheets provided. So far, no data on sharks recreational fisheries have been stored in this database (e.g. in the ICCAT database have been submitted information on some sharks species like *Alopias vulpinus*, *Prionace gluaca*, *Squalus spp,* and *Exanchus griseus* but caught with other gears).

Furthermore, since 2011, Italy is implementing the project: SHARKLIFE - Urgent actions for the conservation of cartilaginous fish in Italy, LIFE10 NAT/IT/000271. In line with the European Plan of Action for Cartilaginous Fishes this project aims to contribute to the conservation of cartilaginous fishes, particularly basking sharks and pelagic stingrays in Italian seas by reducing the mortality rate caused by commercial and leisure fishing. Among its objectives, the project is also aimed at collecting all information and data on sharks in fishing competitions through the use of a specific questionnaire. In particular, the project has implemented a 'tag and release' policy for fishing tournaments. FIPSAS (Italian Federation for Recreational Fishery and Diving) has already issued a ban on shark catches during tournaments.

## III D 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Recreational fisheries of bluefin tuna

In 2015, data have been collected following the methodologies reported in the NP with no discrepancies with activities planned in the NP. Data on capacity has been collected exhaustively. Continuity and consistency of the series collected is assured by the methodology applied that will be the same as in previous programs.

Recreational fisheries of eels

As reported in the NP regarding the Eel Recreational Fishery the methodology foresees the implementation of interviews through forms specifically prepared. The sample has been statistically chosen according to the relative importance of the different regions. Sample data has been raised to the universe of the Italian fishermen practising eel fishing through statistical techniques. Interviews, according to what requested by Reg. 199/2008, gave information on the distribution and consistency of the activity, different gears used and on reasonable estimate of the amount of catches.

During 2015, the collection of data on recreational fishery of *Anguilla anguilla* has proceeded with remarkable efficiency. For these reasons, there are no discrepancies with activities planned in the NP.

## III D 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program.

## III E Stock-related variables

REGION: Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea

## III E 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal (Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea)

The present project, conducted by Italy under the Module E of the NP 2014-2016, allowed the evaluation of the composition of the Italian catches by size related to age, weight, sex and maturity. The 2015 biological sampling has been conducted by the scientific institutions designated by the relevant Italian Administration separately for each Geographical sub-area (GSA) and by group 1 species (only for small pelagic and demersal species - see sampling plan Table III.E.2).

Following this issue, 2015 stock biological sampling plan has primarily covered: *Merluccius merluccius*, *Mullus barbatus*, *Mullus surmuletus*, *Solea vulgaris*, *Engraulis encrasicolus*, *Sardina pilchardus*, *Aristeus antennatus*, *Aristaeomorpha foliacea*, *Parapenaeus longirostris* and *Nephrops norvegicus* (Table III.E.2).

As reported in the EU Decision 93/2010, information on stock related variables (i.e. age, sex ratio, maturity and weight) for *Anguilla anguilla*, large pelagic species, all Group 2 species, and Group 3 species (as established during RCMMed&BS 2010, 2011), must be reported every three years (see Table III.E.2). Accordingly, the complete results of those other groups of species will be reported in 2016. However, some preliminary data have already been collected in 2015 and are presented in table III.E.3.

Stocks included in the sampling scheme are presented in Table III.E.I of the NP. Average landing data and share in EU landing have been obtained from the RCMMed&BS-LP 2015 (Rome, 2015) report. Should be underlined that, due to inaccurate species identification, for some species (i.e. *Lophius spp.*, *Mullus spp.*, *Trachurus spp. Eledone spp.* and Mugilidae) the Regional percentage contribution (%) might be not precise (as also stated by RCMMed&BS-LP) and it is reported at the level of genus.

Species not sampled are highlighted in grey in the Table III.E.I. In most cases, the landing by weight for the "grey" species correspond to less than 10% of the total Community landings from the Mediterranean Sea or to less than 200 tonnes. Concerning two G2 species, *Mugilidae* and *Sparus aurata*, (as already mentioned in the National Programme) the landing of these species is very fragmented along the Italian coasts and it is subject to seasonal variability, to yearly fluctuations (i.e. *S. aurata*) and, to the problems related to the catch-ability of the selected metier. Those species represent in fact the by-catch of trawlers and/or small scale fishery,. The sampling of just few individuals in these metiers could forces to largely increase the sampling effort, and decrease significantly the efficiency of the sampling for other commercial species. Moreover, fish and landing of Mugilidae occur in the lagoons (see also Table I.A.1).

Overall, the structure of the biological sampling program was very complex due to the number of species examined, the type of fishing techniques and the Geographical Sub Area (a total of 7 GSA) involved. The sampling scheme has been designed taking into account the spatial and temporal (quarterly) variability of the landings.

Biological parameters (sex, weight, maturity) have been collected both from survey and from commercial fisheries (i.e. landing, market place, on board sampling) following the sampling stratum. In each stratum, fishing day has been the primary sampling unit and the commercial fishing vessel the secondary sampling units. The survey has covered a one-year period, subdividing the whole time in quarters, in order to detect seasonal differences in the demographic structure and composition of the landings.

*Demersal and small pelagic species*

In table III.E.3 the sampling intensity by demersal and small pelagic species planned at national level (following the specifications requested by the Annual Report Guidelines), and the number of specimens achieved for the related stock related variables (sex ratio, length at age, weight and sexual maturity) is reported. Stock related variables (i.e. sex ratio, maturity, and weight) have been properly collected for each G1 species following the yearly sampling plan (Table III.E.2). Generally, the total number of specimens achieved at National level resulted higher than the planned ones (only *Solea vulgaris* resulted in a slightly under sampling). Many observations have been conducted on board of commercial vessels, so following the concurrent sampling approach was possible to measure and to collect data on different species and specimens. Concerning the oversampling of some species, Italy has carried out the activities without any consequences on the planned costs (i.e. no additional cost have been requested in the NP 2014-16).

Stock related variables for all G2 and G3 species (demersal and small pelagic), must be reported every three years as described in table III.E.2. However, as already before mentioned, some additional data on the collected specimens related to each stock variable, have been reported. For some G2 and G3 species (e.g. *Lophius*

*piscatorius, Eutrigla gurnardus*) it was not possible to reach a "consistent" number of specimens due to the seasonal availability of the species, to the seasonal activity of the selected metier, to the low catches of the species, and in some cases to other "bureaucratic" problems linked to the possibility to have observers on board. For all these species, prior of the final analysis that should be presented in the AR 2016, Italy will try to increase the sampling activities.

*Shark species*

Concerning the sharks sampling, as also stated before for Module C, most of the proposed species in the Appendix VII (actually the list presents 47 species of sharks and rays) of the Commission Decision 93/2010, are rare and with a sporadic and not confirmed presence in the Mediterranean area. As agreed at Regional Level shark species have been collected concurrently only for length. No stock-based sampling has been added if metier based sampling fails to provide the appropriate precision for length distributions. For this reason during the RCMMed&BS has been decided that no planned minimum number, sampling strategy and quality indicator should be associated to the collection of all the "sharks" species reported in the Appendix VII. Moreover, should be also underlined that the landings of most of the shark species represent less than 200 tons at National Level. However, as additional information, the number of specimens, for each stock related variables (sex, maturity weight) that has been collected during the sampling period, has been reported in Table III.E.3.

*Large pelagic species*

Stock related variables (i.e. sex ratio, maturity, and weight) for all large pelagic species (*T. Thynnus, S. Sarda, X. gladius*, Istiophoridae, *C. Hyppurus* and *T. Alalunga*) must be collected and reported every three years (as described in the table III.E.2).

For large pelagic species, following the agreement at Regional level, the collection of biological variables (sex, age, weight, maturity) should be carried out during 2014 and 2015 and the results will be presented in 2016 (see sampling plan Table III.E.2).

*Eel*

Also for eel, even data are foreseen in 2016 (see Table III.E.2), some preliminary data (e.g. on weight @length parameter) and information on methodology are reported in this section. Data on commercial fishery of eel have been collected for the year 2015 by a sample survey, based on the census of all fishers' on the whole national territory performed in 2011.

The aim of the sample survey was the statistically significant estimation of catch per unit effort (CPUE), defined as weight (kg) per fisherman (Castelnaud & Beaulaton, 2008). This parameter has been considered the most important in order to extrapolate the total catch at the national level and for each stratum.

The survey took into account all commercial fisheries (mainly fyke-nets and barrier) operating in Italy. The sampling design was at one stage-stratified. The sample units (catches) were selected without replacement and with equal probability. The stratification was designed to take into account the level of disaggregation of the information required by Regulation 199/2008, and was based on two auxiliary variables:

- The first stratification variable was the Region, as this is the UG (management unit) defined for the management of eel fisheries, as implemented in the National Eel Management Plan (Regulation 1100/2007).
- The second variable regards the habitat typology, also used in the context of national and regional management plans to distinguish the type of environment in which the fishing activity is carried on (lake, lagoon, managed lagoon, river).

On the basis of Regulation 100/2007, there are 9 management units (Regions) were eel fisheries are at present allowed, on the basis of their participation to the eel recovery programme implemented through the eel National Management Plan. Therefore, the sample survey considered only these 9 regions. Considering the presence or absence of the different typologies described in the 9 Italian regions, 24 strata have been identified.

During 2015, the interviews have been carried out using questionnaires prepared ad hoc. Data concerning catches and fishing effort (time and gears) were requested on a seasonal basis and for each different stage of the eel ("glass eel", "yellow eel" and "silver eel"), as required by EU Reg. 199/2008.

The results, checked and validated, have been stored into a database and then processed for the extrapolations necessary to characterize the fishing activities in the different management units.

Biological samplings of catches have been carried out to evaluate their composition by length, maturity stage, age and sex. Samplings have been carried out on a management unit/typology basis ("yellow eel" and "silver eel").

During 2015, eel biological sampling has been completed for the management units (UG) where it was possible to carry out this work. All methodologies used are those currently validated and intercalibrated by international working groups.

As requested from the EU Regulation, samples were part of commercial catches. Unfortunately, it was not possible to carry out all the planned sampling activities due to several problems that affected the fishing activities. In the North-East Regions, due to bad weather conditions and/or stop of the fishing activity, it was not possible to perform the biological sampling as planned.

In the following table the number of individuals (yellow eels and silver eel), and stratum sampled for each Management Unit (Regional) are reported.

| **Region** | **Stratum** | **yellow eel** | **Silver eel** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lombardia | Lago | 15 | 50 |
| Friuli V.G. | Laguna | - | - |
| Veneto | Laguna | 45 | 41 |
| Emilia R. | Laguna | 48 | 44 |
| Toscana | Laguna | 54 | 40 |
| Umbria | Lago | 48 | 25 |
| Puglia | Laguna | 69 | 45 |
| Sardegna | Laguna | 50 | 50 |
| Lazio | Laguna | 60 | 54 |

Peculiarities of eel fisheries are due to the life cycle of the species, to its distribution and to the different and extremely heterogeneous exploitation typologies. The management, as well as the collection of data concerning the eel fisheries is therefore rather complex.

## III E 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal (Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea)

*Demersal and small pelagic species*

During 2015, the collection of catch data has proceeded with remarkable efficiency. Quality indicator for stock related variables of demersal and small pelagic species of G1 has been calculated annually for all metiers combined and for each GSA. The method used to calculate the precision has been developed by Vigneau and Mahevas (2004). This method allows estimating the precision for each length class and for the whole length frequency distribution (LFD) at metier level.

Concerning the oversampling, as already stated in the previous paragraph, must be clarified that no financial implications there have been in the NP 2015.

*Large pelagic species*

Stock related variables (i.e. sex ratio, maturity, and weight) for all large pelagic species (*T. Thynnus*, *S. Sarda*, *X. gladius*, Istiophoridae, *C. Hyppurus* and *T. Alalunga*) must be collected and reported every three years (as described in the table III.E.2).

Problem relating to the estimation of the quality indicator for large pelagic species have been approached at Regional level (RCMMed&BS-LP 2014, 2015). Regional group is continuing the exercise for calculating the quality indicators figures for stock related variables for large pelagic, trying to standardize and optimize the methodology at Regional Level.

*Eel*

Stock related variables (i.e. sex ratio, maturity, and weight) for eel (*A. anguilla*) must be collected and reported every three years (as described in the table III.E.2).

Also for eel, during 2015, the collection of catch data has proceeded with remarkable efficiency. Even if in some Italian regions it was not possible to achieve the planned number of specimens for the biological samplings, due to the problems above mentioned, a good representation of the whole sector has been achieved at National Level. It should be mentioned that ICES highlighted the opportunity to reduce the number of samples that resulted oversized.

All the data collected under this Module have been sent, in due time and following the quality control, to the different data calls (i.e. STECF-SGMED) and, on request, to the different end-users (e.g. GFCM, ICCAT etc.).

### III E 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls (Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea)

The project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program.

Concerning the “Regional” problems related to the estimation of the quality indicators for stock related variables of large pelagic species, Italy is actively participating to the regional meeting (RCMMed&BS and PGMed) in order to find out the best approach to standardize and optimize the methodology at Regional Level.

## Region: Other regions

### III E 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal (Other regions)

No data are reported because no biological sampling has been carried out in Other Regions.

As mentioned under Module C, there was no requirement for Italy to sample this vessel, as this fishery (mainly targeting demersal cephalopods) is sufficiently covered by the Spanish sampling program (report RCM LDF, Constanta, 2013).

### III E 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal (Other regions)

No sampling activity has been carried out.

### III E 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls (Other regions)

No sampling activity has been carried out. Italy will attend the RCM Long Distant Fishery and will participate to any coordinated program that will be proposed.

## III.F Transversal variables

### III F 1 Capacity

### III F 1 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

The following parameters have been estimated for capacity:

- number of vessels

- GT, kW, Age (as defined in Regulation (EC) No 26/2004)

Parameters are given annually, per fleet segments (Appendix III) and per supra-regions (Mediterranean & Black Seas and Other regions).

The basic data source is the fleet register at the 1st of January.

### III F 1 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Data are collected exhaustively from the vessel register.

### III F 1 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program.

### III F 2 Effort

### III F 2 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Effort has been estimated according to the variables and disaggregation levels listed in Appendix VIII.

Effort data are collected for all the métiers. From a methodological point of view, the major problem in respecting the required disaggregation is given by the disaggregation by métier (Level 6 of Appendix IV, 4).

The national law (Ministerial Decree of 26 January 2012) considers 25 authorized gears that are aggregated into 12 different licences. Each vessel can utilize all the gears indicated in the license. More than 77% (9600 vessels at January 2015) of the Italian fishing-vessel licences allow the use of more than one fishing system. Therefore, only 3000 vessels have a single authorization – about 1300 for trawling and almost 1,700 for nets.

The problem of multi-gears utilization is resolved by using the concept of prevalent activity as specified in section 2 of Chapter III of the Council Decision 2010/93 / EU. To assess which fishing technique is prevalent, different data sources are used: a) information derived from previous surveys, b) information obtained through specific field surveys carried out with the help of the network of data collectors used in the sample surveys, c) information obtained from landing declarations and logbooks.

In 2015 the sample survey was based on a panel of 1519 vessels (around 12% of the fleet), including the small scale (vessels < 12 m). The data collection procedure is based on a network of data collectors selected through a tender process managed by National Research Council (CNR – DTA).

Data on fishing effort, vessel activity and fishing area are recorded by gear and species using purposely formulated questionnaires. Results for each area, by month and by métier are obtained by applying raising factors to the sampled data. Statistical methods described in the 2014-2016 NP have been applied.

Table III.F.1 reports the information collected during the sampling year.

### III F 2 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Elementary and aggregated data have been checked to verify their reliability. Consistency among different variables has been analysed.

Table III.F.1 reports the values of the accuracy indicators.

### III F 2 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The sample survey for effort estimation should take place every week on a continuous basis, as reported in the National Program. However, because of a delay in the 2015 tender for appointing the data collectors, due to administrative delays, a procedure of data "rebuilding" has been used and the information has been consolidated and stored on a monthly basis. Nevertheless, the sample survey has covered all the units indicated in the sampling plan.

## III F 3 Landings

### III F 3 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Landings have been estimated according to the variables and disaggregation levels listed in Appendix VIII.

Commercial landings have been assessed on the basis of a sampling procedure. The methodology of the survey for estimation of landings per species was approved by Eurostat during the meeting of the working group "fishery statistics" held in Luxembourg, 18-19 February 2002.

In 2015, the survey was based on a sample of 1519 vessels that corresponds to around 12% of the total fleet. The sample is stratified according to fishing segments and geographical areas. Elementary data are collected through questionnaires filled by data collectors, which are scattered along the Italian coast. Data on landings (weight and prices) and fishing area are recorded by gear and species. This allows post-stratifying the final estimates according to the métiers level (Level 6, Appendix IV, 4). Annual average prices per species are calculated using weighted averages.

The sample survey covers the entire Italian fleet which operates in the Mediterranean Sea. However, data related to BFT landings (including tuna farming) are provided by a specific data collection implemented by the national administration in accordance with ICCAT procedures and, as such, are excluded from the sample survey.

Landing data of vessels fishing beyond the straits ("Other regions") are recorded on a census basis and taken from the compulsory documentation.

Table III.F.1 reports the information collected during the sampling year.

### III F 3 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Accuracy indicators are reported in table III.F.1.

### III F 3 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The sample survey for landings estimation should take place every week on a continuous basis, as reported in the National Program. However, because of a delay in the 2015 tender for appointing the data collectors, due to administrative delays, a procedure of data "rebuilding" has been used and the information has been consolidated and stored on a monthly basis. Nevertheless, the sample survey has covered all the units indicated in the sampling plan.

## III. G Research surveys at sea

### III G 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

According to appendix IX of DCF (EU Dec. 93/2010), the Italian National Program for the period 2014-2016 includes two surveys:

- MEDITs, MeDiterranean International bottom trawl survey
- MEDIAS, Pan-Mediterranean pelagic survey

MEDITs

The Medits Program aims to conduct coordinated demersal scientific surveys from bottom trawling in the Mediterranean Sea. Parameters have been evaluated since 1994 so as to provide comparable results for all Italian seas and for the surveys conducted within the Medits projects in other Mediterranean countries.

The Medits survey program produces basic information on benthic and demersal species, on the basis of an annual survey, in terms of population distribution, abundance, and size composition of an aggregate of around 38 species found in an area with a depth ranging from 0- to 800 m within the seas adjacent to Italy (around the 7 Italian GSA – maps of the MEDITS surveys conducted in each Geographical Sub-Areas GSA are provided in the following figures from 1 to 7).

The 2015 Italian data collection program retained the Medits project with no technical modifications with respect to the standard protocol survey (MEDITS-Handbook version 2013).

A total of 749 hauls (around 99% of planned targets) have been carried out during the period of the survey (see Table III.G.1). Hauls have been allocated within the following bathymetrical strata: 0-50 m, 50-100 m, 100-200 m, 200-500 m and 500-800 m (Table 1).

Data, both on hauls (date, timings, latitude, longitude and so on) and relating to the processing of biological samples have been collected following the relevant procedures. The information have been registered on paper-based documents and subsequently computerized.

*Table 1 -Number of hauls required and performed from the different GSA during the Medits 2015*

| *GFCM Geographical sub areas (GSA)* | *N. of hauls required* | *N. of hauls achieved* |
|---|---|---|
| 9 Ligurian Sea/Upper Tyrrhenian Sea, | 120 | 120 |
| 10 Lower Tyrrhenian Sea | 70 | 70 |
| 11 Sardinian | 100 | 99 |
| 16 Sicilian Channel | 120 | 120 |
| 17 Upper and Middle Adriatic | 180 | 180 |
| 18 Lower Adriatic | 90 | 90 |
| 19 W. Ionian Sea | 70 | 70 |
| **Total** | **750** | **749** |

MEDITS SURVEYS: POSITION OF THE HAULS IN THE DIFFERENT ITALIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SUB-AREAS (GSA)

*Figure 1 - GSA 9 (Ligurian Sea/Upper Tyrrhenian Sea)*

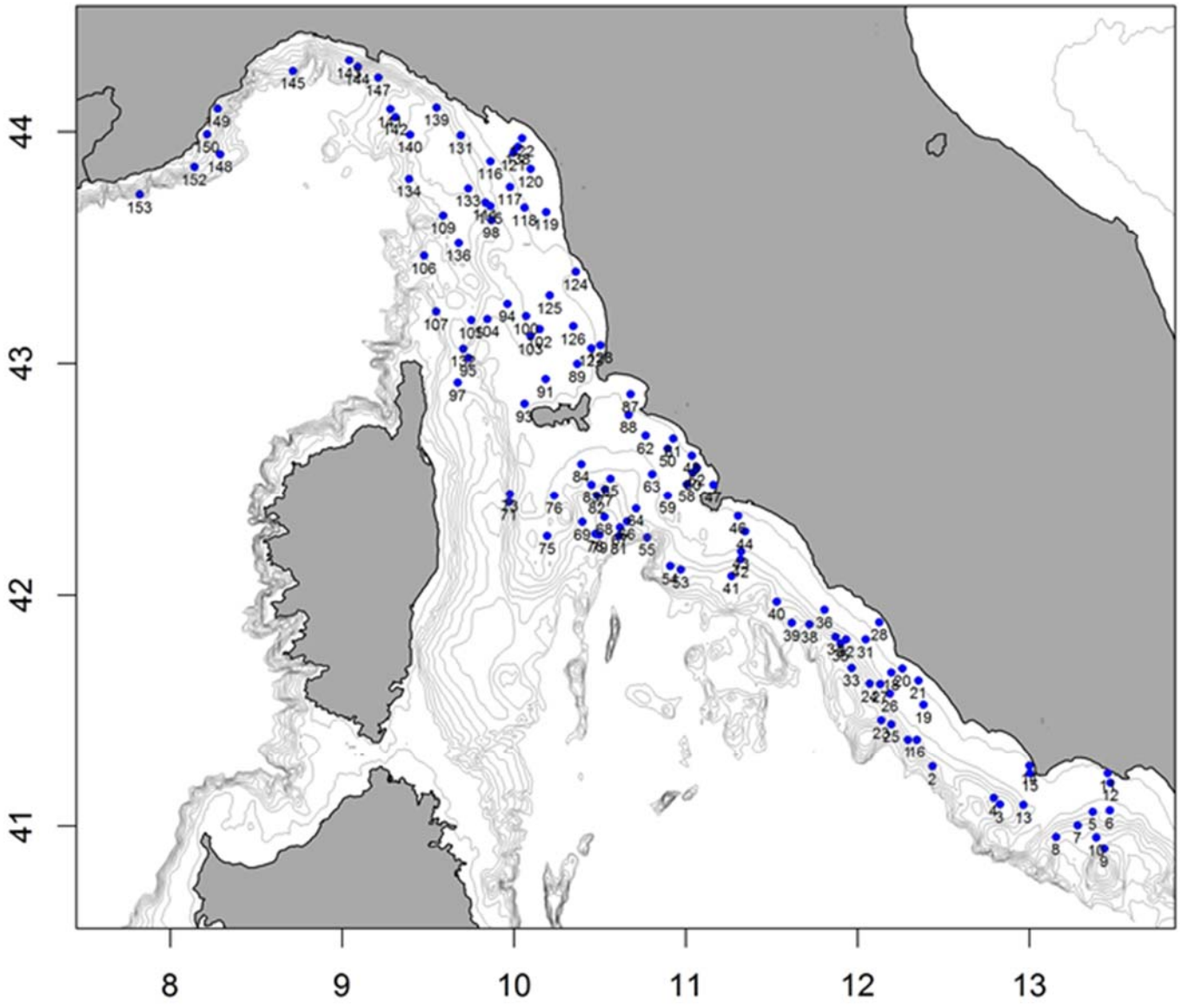


*Figure 2 - GSA 10 (Lower Tyrrhenian Sea)*

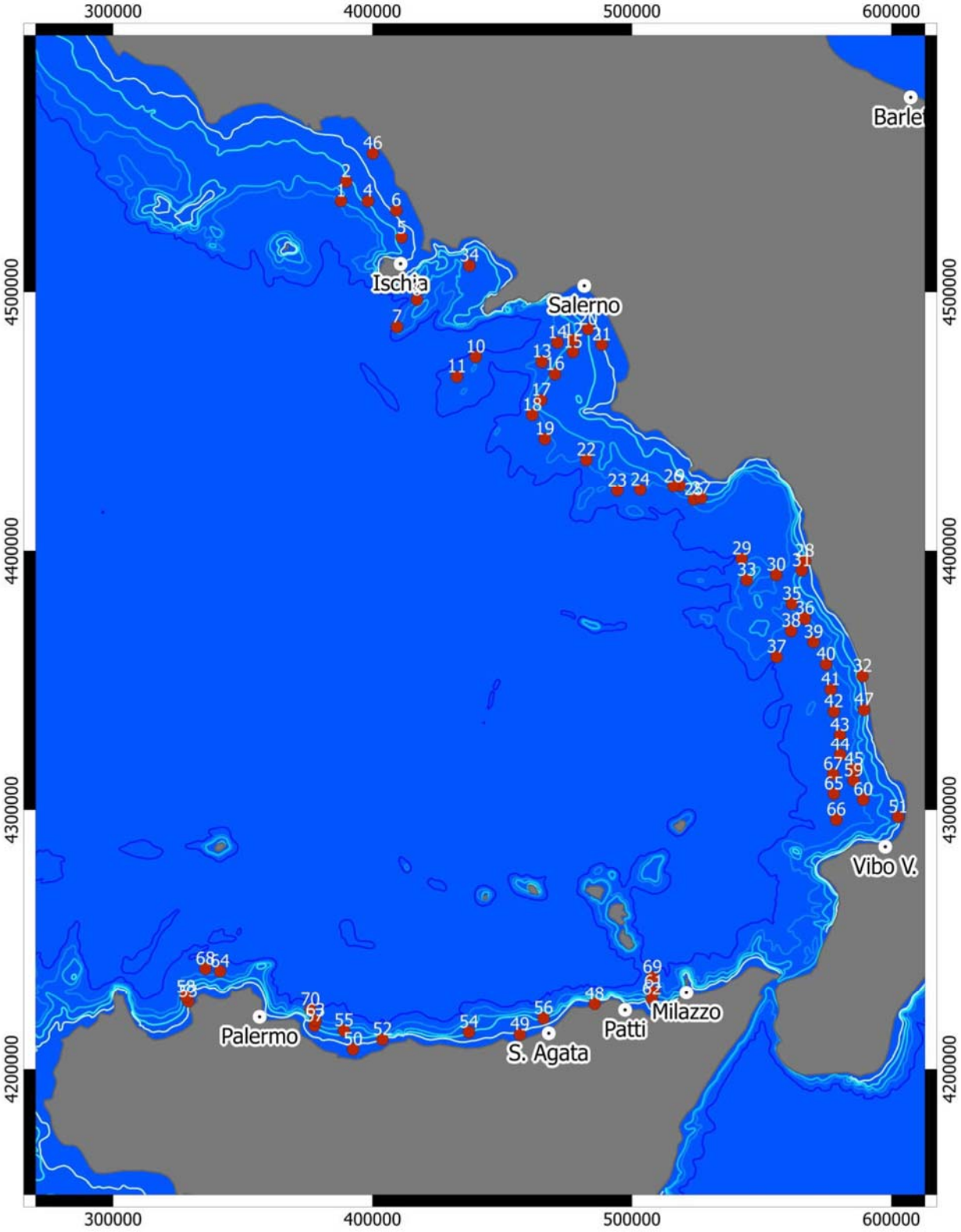


*Figure 3 - GSA 11 Sardinian seas*

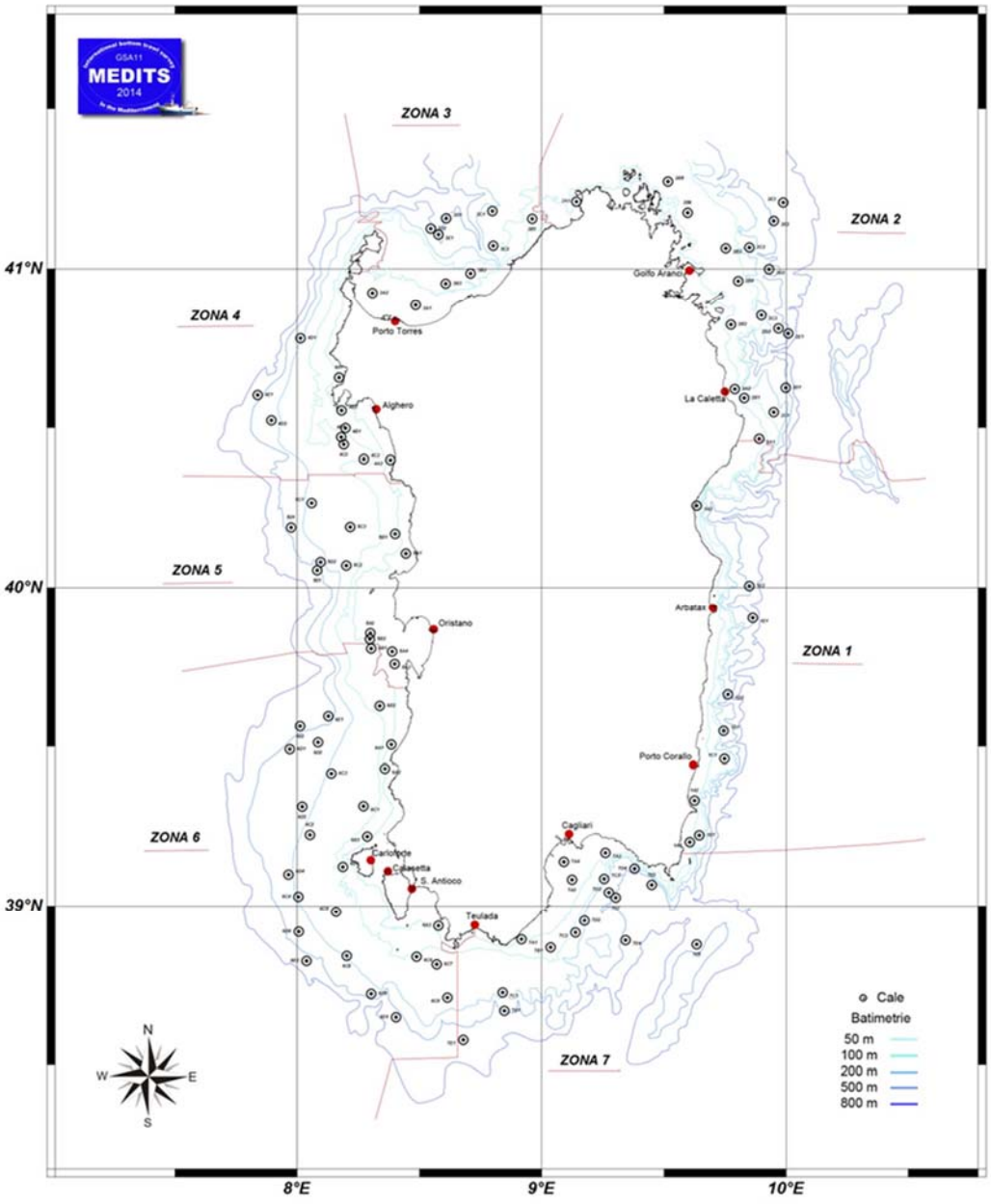


*Figure 4 - GSA 16 Sicilian Channel*

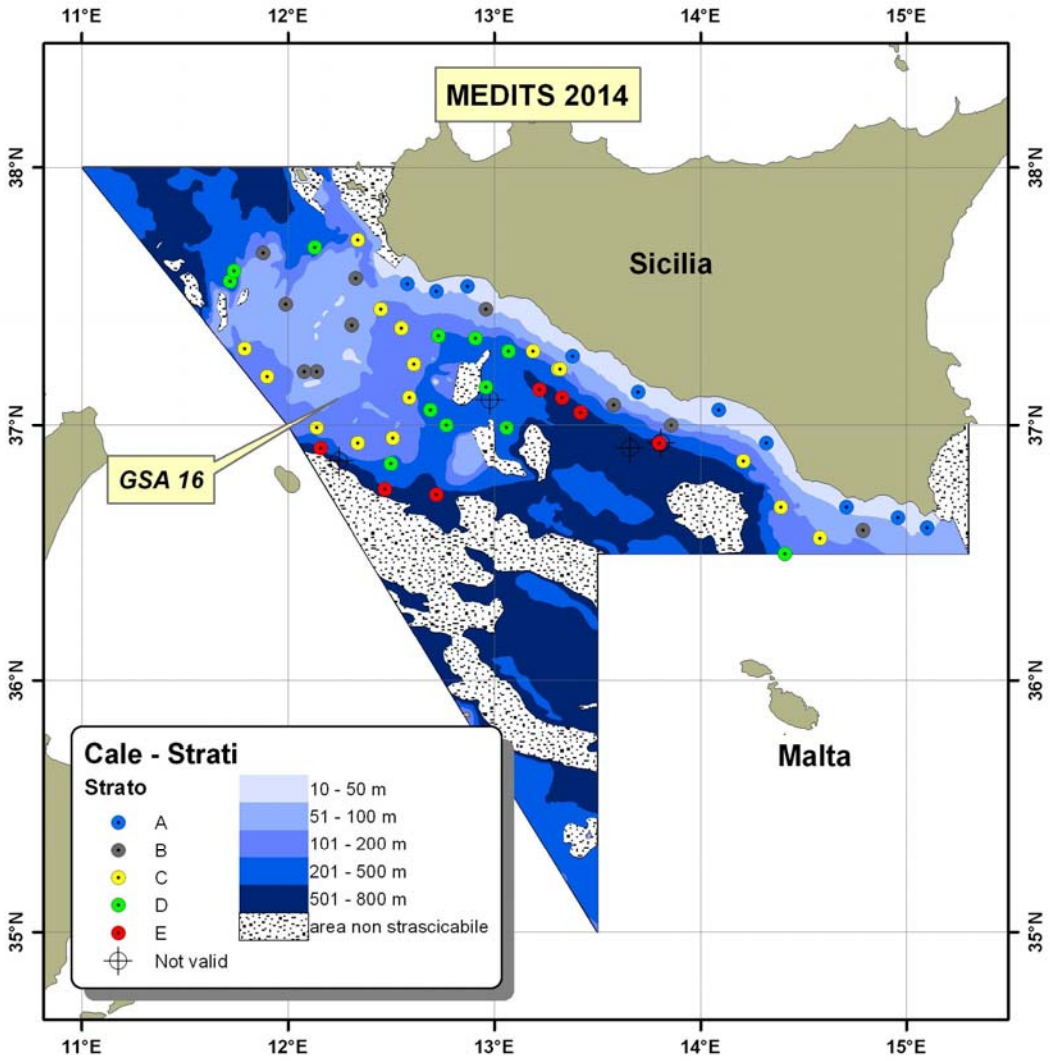


*Figure 5 - GSA 17 Upper and Middle Adriatic*

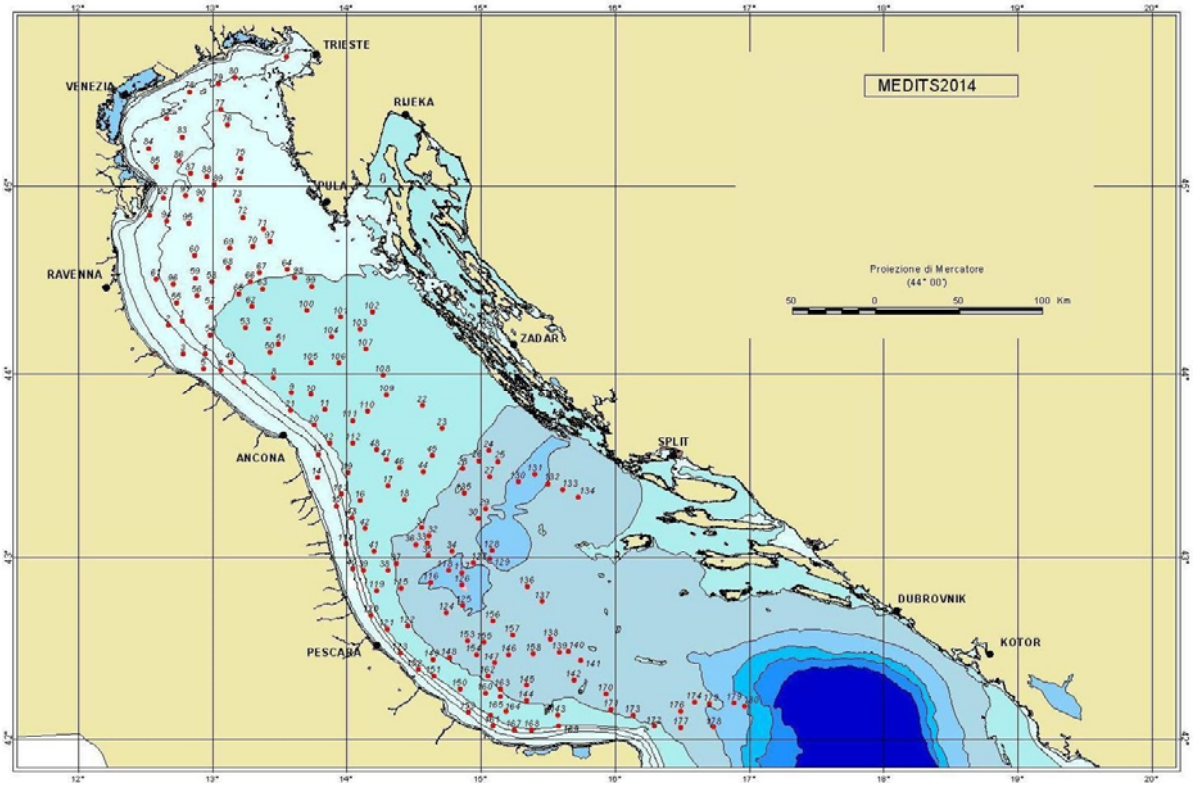


*Figure 6 - GSA 18 Lower Adriatic*

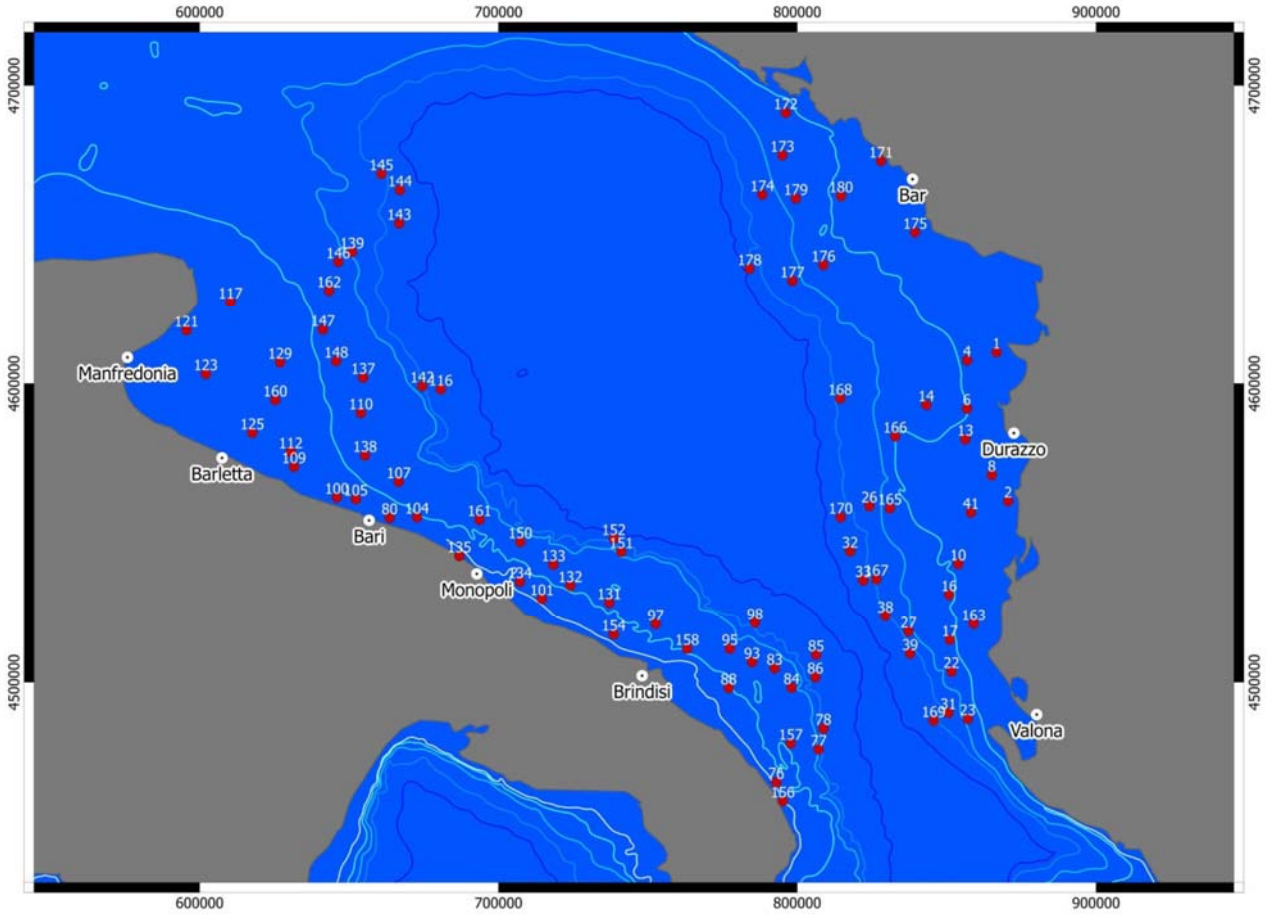
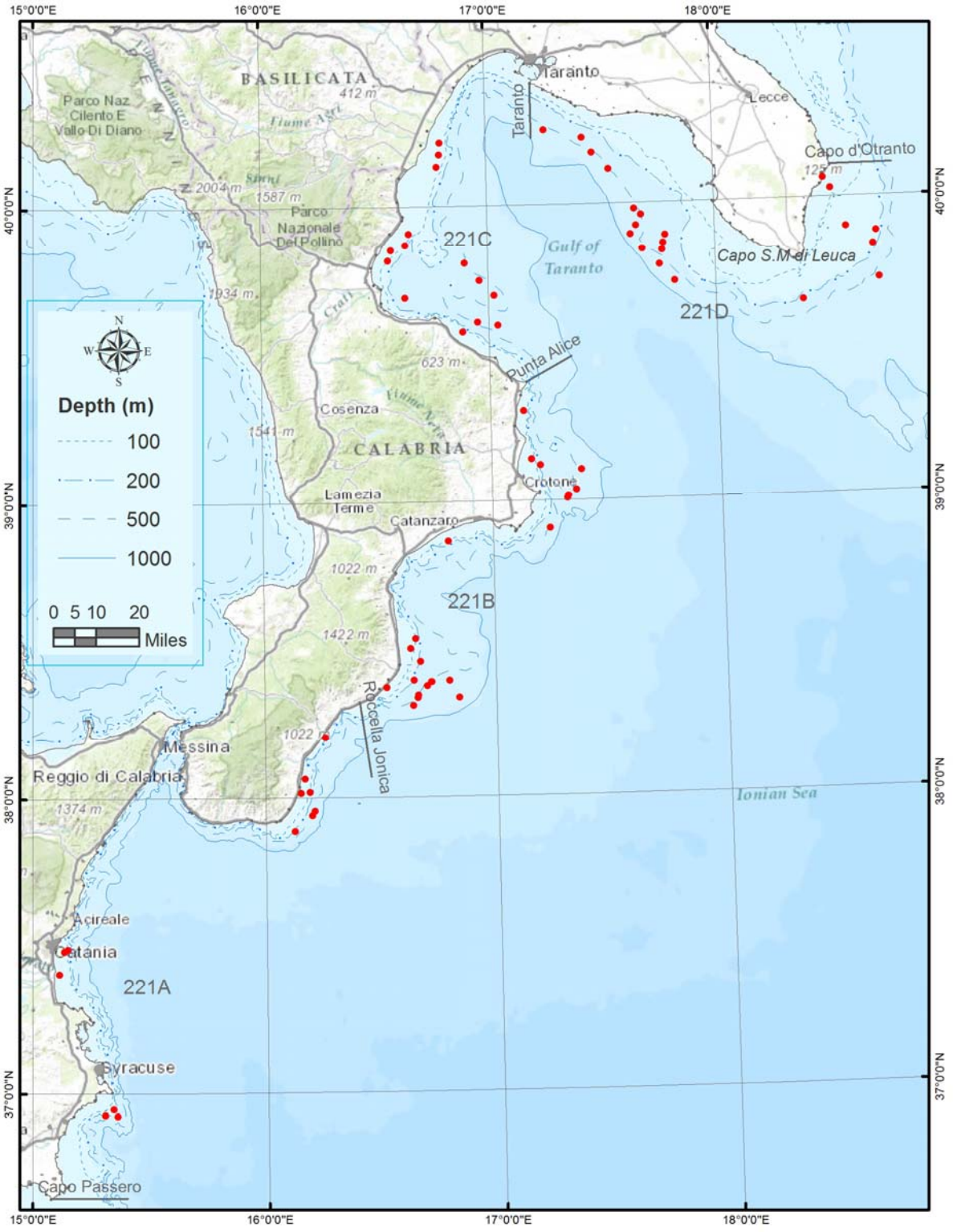


*Figure 7 - GSA 19 Western Ionian Sea*



MEDIAS

MEDIAS survey (Figure 8) has been carried out annually since 2009 for the assessment of the abundance and spatial distribution of small pelagic species in the Mediterranean Sea by means of acoustic methodology. Demographic structure in terms of size, age and sex of the pelagic populations has been derived from pelagic trawls. For an ecosystem based approach, synoptically to the acoustic survey an environmental monitoring has been performed.

In 2015 the surveys have been conducted following the methodologies and protocols agreed by the MEDIAS steering committee (MEDIAS-Handbook Common protocol for the Pan-MEDIterranean Acoustic Survey, 2013, 20 pp. in MEDIAS Steering Committee Report, 73 pp.)

The 2015 MEDIAS survey both in the Adriatic Sea (GSA 17 and GSA 18 – Figure 9) and Sicilian Channel (GSA 16 – Figure 10) has been carried out without any problems.

Overall a total of 2797 nautical miles (GSA 17= 1502, GSA 18=395, GSA 16=900), 78 midwater pelagic hauls (GSA 17= 33, GSA 18= 14, GSA 16= 31), and 236 stations using the CTD sonde (GSA 17= 82, GSA 18= 58, GSA 16= 96) have been performed (Table III.G.1).

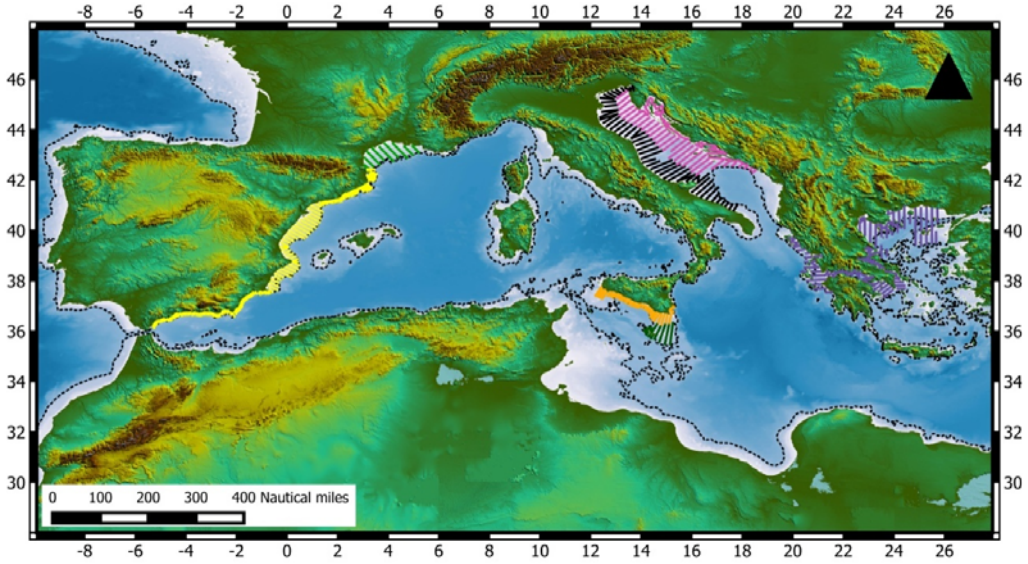



*Figure 8* - **MEDIAS acoustic surveys design.**

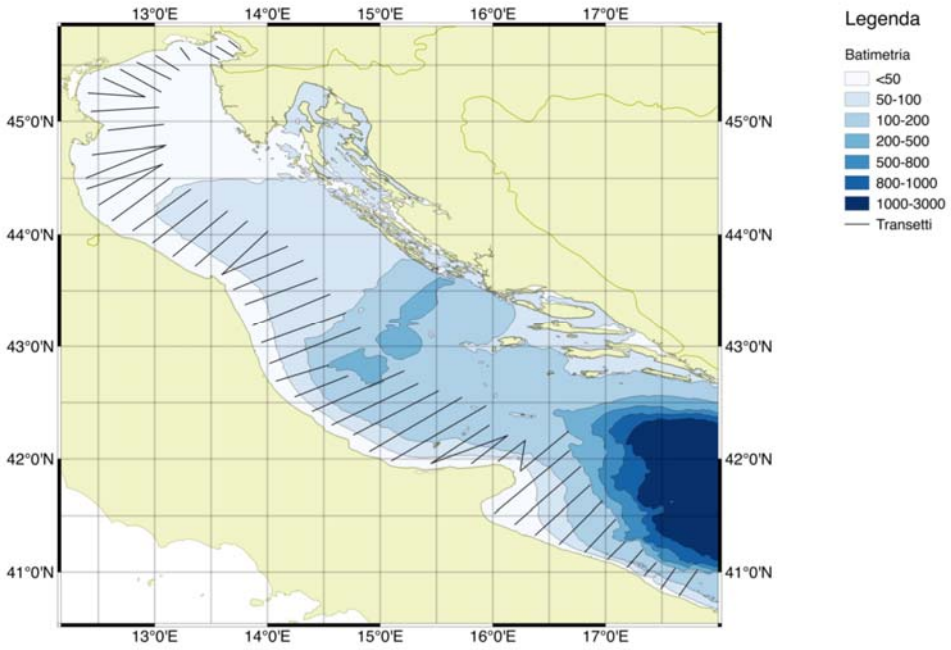



*Figure 9* - **MEDIAS in the GSA 17 (North-western Adriatic) and in the GSA 18 (South-western Adriatic)**

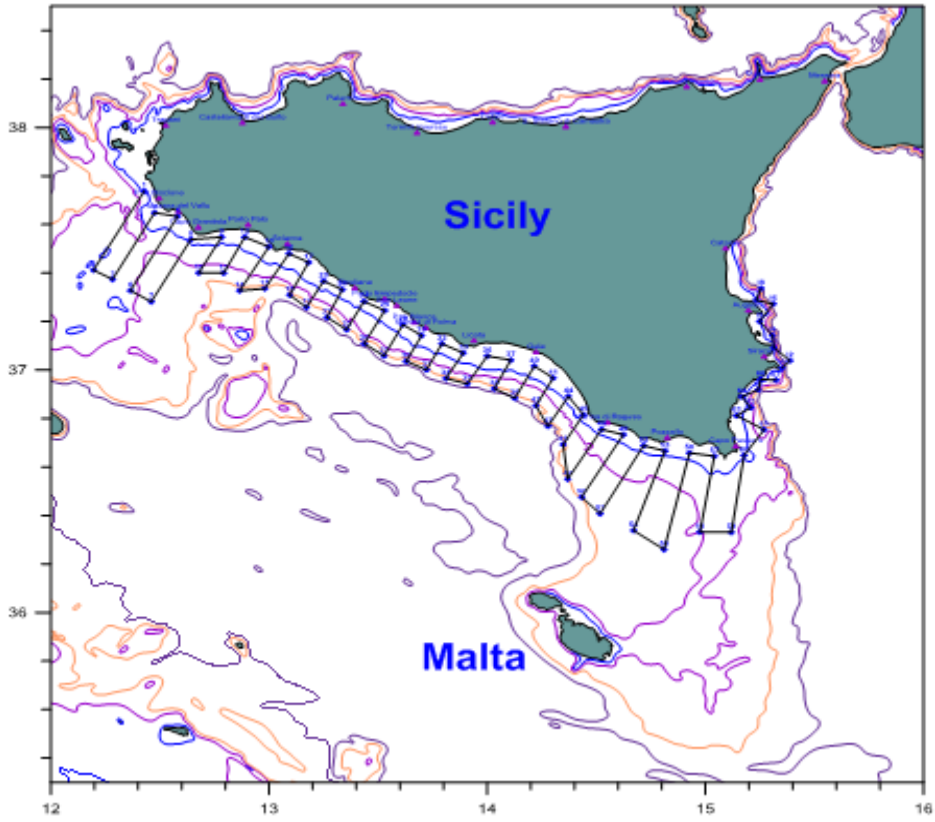



*Figure 10* -**MEDIAS in the GSA 16 (Sicily Channel)**

## IV G 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Both Steering Group MEDITS and MEDIAS are working in order to finalize (Medias) or preparing a database (Medits) for each specific survey.

MEDITS: During the 2015 Medits Working Group, progresses were made towards the implementation and finalization of a common data base and now the Medits database it has been finalized. The software-house that implemented the FishTrawl platform now it is freely available for the MEDITS group. The system was developed as a web application, designed for scientific trawl survey data as MEDITS, for data input, analysis, import/export, storage, check, sharing. The application can be accessed from any modern web browser. The scripting language used is Python and the database server on which the demo instance of FishTrawl runs is MySQL. During the Medits WH 2014 and 2015, it has been also stated that the software layer that handles the database has been designed so that it can be easily adapted to other DBMS.

MEDIAS: concerning the MEDIAS database, the steering committee group is still working in the framework of the Acousmed project (Contract MARE/2009/09 SI2.557652) in the "Standardization of a common format for an acoustic data database". The aim of this task was the proposal of fields and algorithms for a common database that will serve the needs of acoustic surveys in order to fulfil DCF requirements and standardize the output of surveys estimations. For that reason, MEDIAS group revised the format of existing databases related to acoustic surveys per study area and MEDIAS partners. Activities on acoustic data analysis and a Common Database proposal were proposed during the 2015 Medias meeting.

All the data collected under this Module have been sent, in due time and following the quality control, to the different data calls (i.e. STECF-SGMED) and, on request, to the different end-users (e.g. GFCM, ICCAT etc.).

## IV G 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Both MEDIAS and MEDITS project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program.

## IV. Module of the evaluation of the economic situation of the aquaculture and processing industry

## IV A Collection of data concerning the aquaculture

### IV A 1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

During 2015 (reference year 2014) data related to the production of the different aquaculture segments, in marine waters and fresh waters, have been collected.

In 2015 the sampling design was unchanged from the previous year, as it has not changed the size of the sample of firms for production segment. In the following table, all the segments included in the census are reported.

| Code | Segment |
|---|---|
| 2.2 | Trout_on growing |
| 2.3 | Trout_combined |
| 2.4 | Trout_cages |
| 3.1 | Sea bass & Sea bream_hatchery nursey |
| 3.2 | Sea bass & Sea bream_on growing |
| 3.3 | Sea bass & Sea bream_combined |
| 3.4 | Sea bass & Sea bream_cages |
| 4.2 | Carp_on growing |
| 5.2 | Other freshwater fish_on growing |
| 5.3 | Other freshwater fish_combined |
| 5.4 | Other freshwater fish_cages |
| 6.2 | Other marine fish_on growing |
| 6.4 | Other marine fish_cages |
| 7.2 | Mussel_Long line |
| 8.2 | Oyster_Long line |
| 9.3 | Clam_Bottom |

The minimum number of units required to consider a segment in the sampling plan has been set at 5 units. The companies in the segments 2.4, 3.1, 5.3, 5.4, 6.4, 8.2 were, therefore, excluded from the universe of reference as auto-representative of the same segment. In addition, companies in the segment 4.2 have been aggregated to the segment 5.2 because homogeneous from the point of view of the type of farming used. Following this approach, a total population of 598 units have been defined.

For the extraction of the sample of aquaculture farms for the year 2014, as for previous years, a stratified sampling plan was applied. The population was subdivided into subpopulations or strata, on the basis of some stratification variables. The choice of the stratification variables is aimed at minimizing the size of the sample; in fact the goal is to get segments internally homogeneous and heterogeneous between them.

Companies have been stratified according to classes of total production defined by the quartiles of companies in the 2011 Census.

During the implementation of the census of the sector in 2014, following EUROSTAT requirements, the structural elements useful for redesign, on the basis of the DCF segmentation, the universe of the national aquaculture industry were collected. In the 2016 program (reference year 2015) the new segmentation will be adopted.

The methodology adopted for the allocation of sampling units among stratum has been the Bethel method that is an extension of Neyman approach for multivariate sample surveys.

The final number of sampling enterprises has been 180 units. The sampling plan is presented in table IV.A.2.

The sampling companies have been randomly extracted from the population.

## IV A 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

National Program considered a sample of 180 companies on a total population of 598 units (2011 census data). At present, collection of economic data is going to be finalized.

Parameters in table IV.A.3 are available and indicators were processed.

Discrepancies in achieved sample rate with respect to the NP are due to the necessity to monitor only companies operating exclusively in the segment foreseen in the sampling plane. Very often, national companies operate in different segments, with different technologies including also activities like processing and commercialization.

## IV A 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

In the implementation of the NP, several actions have been undertaken to solve some problems encountered in previous years. These actions can be summarized as follows:

- Updating of the population of aquaculture companies on the basis of EUROSTAT Census, in order to better represent the sector in relation to the collection of economic data. Such updates will be made operational from 2016 (reference year 2015).
- Selection of companies for each segment with balance sheets that are referred to only one economic activity and not cumulated with other economic activities as for instance processing and commercialization of other products. On the basis of a random selection, companies not under this principle are substituted.
- Collection of economic parameter on the basis of the balance sheets and further investigation with each company. For these reasons companies with short balance sheets have not been monitored. For some segments, due to non-availability of financial statements, the sample surveyed was lower than predicted.
- Greater attention has been placed on the collection of the economical and productive data, by segment, so as to optimize the controls between the DCF data and those of the aquaculture sector by Eurostat.

## IV B Collection of data concerning the processing industry

## IV B 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

The collection of data related to the fish processing sector during the year 2015 (reference year 2014) has been carried out in conformity with what planned in the National Programme 2014-2016, paragraph IV.B “Collection of data concerning the processing industry”, even if with some improvements.

The data collection carried out during the year 2015 was adjusted, as for the previous year, to the specific request of 2014 data call (Call for data concerning the EU fish processing industry 2008-2012 / Ref. Ares (2014) 2569674 - 04.08.2014). Indeed, although not compulsory, Member States were requested to submit, if available, also economic data for the processing industry at the segment level (where each segment is defined by the number of employees). To this aim, the planned survey has been extended and a more detailed and organized source of primary information has been used.

The collection of the data required by Annex XII of the DCF regulation has been carried out by mean of a specific sampling survey. The reference list for the selection of the survey has been the list of all the firms declaring to exert the NACE economic activity 10.20.

The main data have been collected by mean of queries on different datasets (Chamber of Commerce, AIDA BvD, etc….) in order to obtain the balance sheets and financial accounts of the sampled enterprises.

Unlike the provisions of the National Programme, the survey has not been realized by differentiating the data collection according to the legal form of enterprises. The experience gained in the field, allow to assert that the variable that affects the economic performance is, indeed, not the legal form, but the dimension, defined by the number of employees. For this reason, the focus of the investigation (during the collection and estimation of final data) has been moved to the size (defined by number of employees), adding to the stratum already defined in the

NP (NUTS2) a further stratum, the size class (although not mandatory in EC 93 / 2010, but still required, on a voluntary basis to Member countries on the occasion of the calls to date).

Data collection was carried out in 2015 (referring period 2014), with the aim of acquiring data for both the segment on enterprises that, during 2014, have carried out the fish processing activity as a core business ("main") as well as for the segment including those enterprises that, during 2014, have carried out the fish processing activity as a secondary activity ("non-main"). The survey has covered a population of 779 enterprises of which 574 “main” and 205 “non-main”. The achieved sample has covered 46% of the total population (40% for the “main” segment and 63% for the “non-main”).

For the segment "main” the survey has allowed to estimate, according to Commission Decision 93/2010 Appendix XII, the following parameters:

- Turnover
- Subsidies
- Other income
- Labour costs
- Energy costs
- Raw material costs
- Other running costs
- Depreciation
- Financial costs, net
- Extraordinary costs, net
- Capital value
- Net investments
- Debts
- Employment
- Number of enterprises

For the segment "non-main" the survey has collected, according to the Commission Decision 93/2010, the number of enterprises and the turnover (data requested for the first programming year). The data collection concerned the basic data (number of enterprises and total turnover) for companies in the sample. The estimation of the share of the processing activities related to fisheries products ("non-main") has been made through the application, to the primary data collected, of the “non-main” percentage activity collected in the previous year survey. This has allowed the estimation of 2014 data, ensuring continuity to the time series (although there was no obligation, according to the DCF regulation, for the second programming year).

The number of employees has been chosen as the factor to raise sample data to the universe, both for the “main” and “non-main”. The economic variables, in particular the turnover of the fish processing firms, are strongly influenced, in fact, by the firms’ dimension defined as the number of workers employed. The number of people employed is a parameter known from the beginning, alongside the number of enterprises, both collected from the national registers (Chamber of Commerce, AIDA BvD, MintItaly BvD, etc….). In few cases missing data on employment have been estimated by using averages-

Table IV.B.1 gives details on the sample size and on the sampling strategy.

## IV B 2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

The use of more detailed and organised data sources (other than what originally planned in the NP, as explained in section IV.B.1) allowed to bring substantial improvements to the survey on the collection of data for the fish processing industry. Beside allowing a deeper segmentation, including the size classes, this change has allowed to increase the coverage sample, from a planned 13% to 46% actually achieved (see tables IV.B.1 and IV.B.2 1).

## IV B 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No substantial shortfall detected.

## V. Module of evaluation of the effects of the fishing sector on the marine ecosystem

### V 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Environmental indicators listed in Appendix XIII of the DCF have been suitably estimated. Since 2012, Italy has created a specific working group dealing with the implementation and the evaluation of appropriate methodology to calculate/estimate the ecosystem indicator and to propose a common approach. The outputs of this working groups has been applied during the sampling period 2015 in order to standardize at GSA level the calculation of the indicators reported in the following table (where is indicated also the data sources used for each indicator):

| Code specification | Indicator | Definition | Source |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Conservation status of fish species | Indicator of biodiversity to be used for synthesizing, assessing and reporting trends in the biodiversity of vulnerable fish species | MEDITs/MEDIAS |
| 2 | Proportion of large fish | Indicator for the proportion of large fish by weight in the assemblage, reflecting the size structure and life history composition of the fish community. | MEDITs/MEDIAS |
| 3 | Mean maximum length of fishes | Indicator for the life history composition of the fish community | MEDITs/MEDIAS |
| 4 | Size at maturation of exploited fish species | Indicator of the potential "genetic effects" on a population | MEDITs/Biological sampling of catches |
| 5 | Distribution of fishing activities | Indicator of the spatial extent of fishing activity. It would be reported in conjunction with the indicator for 'Aggregation of fishing activity'. | VMS data<br>Vessel Register |
| 6 | Aggregation of fishing activities | Indicator of the extent to which fishing activity is aggregated. It would be reported in conjunction with the indicator for 'Distribution of fishing activity'. | VMS data<br>Vessel Register |
| 7 | Areas not impacted by mobile bottom gears | Indicator of the area of seabed that has not been impacted by mobile bottom fishing gears in the last year. It responds to changes in the distribution of bottom fishing activity resulting from catch controls, effort controls or technical measures (including MPA established in support of conservation legislation) and to the development of any other human activities that displace fishing activity (e.g. wind farms). | VMS data<br>Vessel Register<br>Other sources |
| 8 | Discarding rates of commercially exploited species | Indicator of the rate of discarding of commercially exploited species in relation to landings. | Biological sampling of catches |
| 9 | Fuel efficiency of fish capture | Indicator of the relationship between fuel consumption and the value of landed catch. It will provide information on trends in the fuel efficiency of different fisheries. | Economic data, see chapter III B of the NP |

### V 2 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The 2015 project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program.

## VI. Module for management and use of the data

### VI 1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Management of the data

In order to comply with the provisions contained in Reg. (EU) 199/2008 and subsequent Reg. (EU) 665/2008, the NP 2009-2010 included the implementation of a Databank for the fishing sector directed toward the collection, storage, management and systemisation of data of an economic and biological nature pertaining to the sector, coming from different sources and intended for differentiated users.

During 2015, this database has been used to store all data and information regarding the NP. A project to update the database and to include additional tools is under preparation. The present database works with a Web platform that, in addition to allowing the updating and loading of data directly by the suppliers, permits different degrees of access in compliance with the requirements of the Commission and the Central Administration, as well as providing for a level of less detailed data available for general use.

The “raccolta dati” website is hosted on a Linux (Ubuntu operating system) server with Apache Web Server for service. The database for aggregated data is a Postgres database. The website is in Italian only. Different levels of access are possible. The public part of the “raccolta dati” website gives access to information on institutions participating in the data collection in Italy, documentation regarding the data collection regulations, national program, national reports, annual reports, RCMED meeting, STECF reports, international working group /workshops reports on future of the DCF, reports published using DCF data and finally methodological notes.

In addition to that public part, registered users (having then a login and password - The user's password is encrypted -) can run other functions and see more documents and data. Each user registered is associated to a given profile which can be:

- “Viewer”: can view economic and biological data and documents loaded on the website.
- “Focal point”: can use in addition, functions allowing updating data from the aggregated database.
- “Documents manager”: is in charge of updating the sections referring to documentation and can upload/Delete documents.
- “Administrator”: has access to all functions with all rights.

The database management system (DBMS) of the 199 database is Postgres, an object-relational database management system. It is designed with the PL/pgSQL, a loadable procedural language that can be used to create functions and trigger procedure.

Two documents were elaborated to describe the kind of data files the focal point should provide: « Vol 1_ Codifiche_Parametri_Data_Collection_Reg_199_2008 Versione 2012 » for biological information and the “Vol 2_ Codifiche_Parametri_Data_Collection_Reg_199_2008 Versione 2012” for economic, transversal, aquaculture and processing industry data. Each data file structure will correspond exactly to the structure of a specific storage table in the database. Therefore it will be easy to identify the table to be uploaded and to perform checks regarding the rights of the focal point to load the type of data.

The two documents contain also the dictionaries (Meta data) used for referencing coded information (ex: GSA, species coding).

In all database’s tables for a given chapter (ex: Annex 1:“Codifiche per Pesca_dati economici” for economic data), there are some common fields (ex: nation, GSA, supra region, year, prevalent fishing gear, length class) which makes it possible to apply specific queries for combining different kinds of information stored in the tables related to the chapters. This data warehouse system is not optimal in terms of space but it presents the advantage of easily collecting the information and retrieving the most common request leaving nevertheless the possibility to apply more advanced queries allowing performing ad hoc aggregations.

Use of the data

Table VI.1 describes the data transmission to end-users.

## VI 2 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The project activities were specified in agreement with the reports foreseen by the national program.

## VII. List of acronyms and abbreviations

| | |
|---|---|
| ALP | Archivio Licenza Pesca – Vessel Register |
| ASIA | statistical archives of active companies |
| ATECO code | Codification for sectors of economic activities |
| CPUE | Catch per Unit of Effort |
| DCR | Data Collection Regulation |
| DGPA | Direzione Generale Pesca e Acquacoltura |
| GFCM | General Fishery Commission for the Mediterranean |
| GRT | Gross Registered Tonnage |
| GSA | Geographical Sub Areas |
| ICCAT | International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas |
| ISTAT | National statistical institute |
| MEDIAS | Pan-Mediterranean pelagic survey |
| MEDITS | Mediterranean International Trawl Survey |
| MIPAF | Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry Policies |
| RINA | Registro Italiano Navale |
| SAC | Scientific Advisory Committee of GFCM |

## VIII. Comments, suggestions and reflections

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## IX. References


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## X. ANNEX 1: Report of the National Coordination meeting, 3-4 December 2015

# PROGRAMMA NAZIONALE RACCOLTA DATI ALIEUTICI

## Riunione Coordinamento Nazionale 2015

## 3 e 4 Dicembre 2015

## Livorno, Hotel Gran Palazzo - Viale Italia, 195

**PARTECIPANTI**

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**CNR-IAMC**

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5. FIORENTINO Fabio (Coord. Scient. Programma)
6. GANCITANO Vita
7. PATTI Bernardo
8. PULEO Maria

**CNR-ISMAR**

13. BIAGIOTTI Ilaria
14. COSTANTINI Ilaria
15. LEONORI Iole
16. MARINI Mauro
17. MARTINELLI Michela
18. PANFILI Monica
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27. VIVA Claudio

**COISPA**

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30. SPEDICATO Maria Teresa

**ITAFISHSTAT**

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43. LEONE Chiara
44, RUSSO Tommaso

**APLYSIA Soc. Coop a r.l.**

45. ROSSETTI Ilaria
46. SARTINI Marina
47. DE CARLO Francesco
48. MASSARO Andrea

**ARPAT**

49. SERENA Fabrizio
50. VOLIANI Alessandro

**AGENDA**

**Giovedì 3 dicembre – Ore 14:30-19:45**

1. Interventi di apertura.
2. Approvazione dell'agenda.
3. Programma Nazionale 2015: stato di attuazione e principali criticità.
4. Programma Nazionale 2016: programmazione delle attività ed eventuali criticità.
5. Aggiornamento e sviluppo della banca dati esistente (www.dcf-italia.cnr.it). Presentazione dell'analisi di fattibilità.
6. Presentazione dei processi di validazione dei dati della rilevazione campionaria (dati trasversali ed economici) e possibile integrazione con i dati del regolamento controllo.
7. Richieste di dati da parte di utilizzatori esterni e calendario dei *data call* (DGMARE, GFCM, ICCAT, RCM MED&BS).

**Venerdì 4 dicembre – Ore 9:00-17:00**

8. Proposte metodologiche per la revisione e la validazione delle metodologie e dei protocolli applicati al campionamento biologico e alla produzione dei dati di sintesi di cattura.
9. Presentazione dei Progetti:
    a. Strengthening regional cooperation in the area of fisheries data collection in the Mediterranean and Black Sea - Reference: MARE/2014/19.
    b. Evaluation of specific management scenarios for the preparation of multi-annual management plans in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea: MARE/2014/27.
10. Stato dell'arte sulla revisione del regolamento DCF e del Data Collection Multi Annual Plan (DCMAP) per il periodo 2017-2020.
11. Principali output delle riunioni di coordinamento internazionale del 2015: Regional Coordination Meeting (RCM MED&BS-LP), Planning Group on Economic Issues (PGECON), Liaison Meeting, ICES working groups.
12. Situazione finanziaria.
13. Varie ed eventuali.

*Interventi di apertura*

Quest'anno la riunione è stata organizzata dal CIBM di Livorno e Paolo Sartor ha svolto il compito di moderatore della riunione.

La DGMARE, invitata alla riunione, non è presente e non lo sarà neppure nella videoconferenza programmata nella seconda giornata. Ha comunque provveduto ad inviare una presentazione in .ppt relativa al Data Collection Framework.

Dopo una breve illustrazione sullo svolgimento delle due giornate (coffee break, pranzo, cena, connessione wireless, …) viene approvata l'Agenda che comunque è piuttosto elastica poiché trattasi di una riunione interattiva.

Fabio Fiorentino, Coordinatore Scientifico del Programma Raccolta Dati, ringrazia il CIBM per l'ospitalità offerta e per la bella sede scelta per l'incontro e ribadisce l'importanza della riunione dovuta anche al fatto che l'anno scorso la Riunione di Coordinamento nazionale non ha avuto luogo. Augura un buon lavoro a tutti i presenti anche da parte del Direttore del CNR-DTA che non è potuto intervenire a causa di impegni improrogabili precedentemente assunti.

Fiorentino sottolinea che numerosi aspetti relativi al Programma Raccolta Dati necessitano di un aggiornamento anche considerando il nuovo FEAMP e la nuova proposta di regolamento. Auspica che in questa fase di transizione tra il vecchio ed il nuovo regolamento si approfondiscano varie questioni, in primo luogo quelle legate all'integrazione delle diverse fonti di dati, inclusi quelli dei regolamenti sui

controlli per giungere alla formulazione del Programma 2017-2020 con maggiore efficacia rispetto al passato.

*Aspetti finanziari*

Dà avvio alla riunione Luca Bedin intervenuto in rappresentanza del MiPAAF.

Con riguardo alla situazione finanziaria del Programma informa che per quanto concerne il saldo relativo all'annualità 2012 il Ministero ha provveduto ad effettuare il versamento della somma spettante all'ATS. Per quanto riguarda il saldo 2013, questo verrà erogato entro il prossimo gennaio 2016. Per quanto concerne l'anticipo del 2015, l'Amministrazione provvederà a versarlo non appena ottenuta la conferma della validità delle polizze fidejussorie dei partner privati dell'ATS; prevede di farlo entro la prossima settimana.

Relativamente alla rendicontazione delle spese sostenute dal Programma nel 2014, siamo in attesa dell'approvazione da parte della CE del Programma Operativo italiano. Comunque sia, non dovrebbero esserci stravolgimenti delle regole, ma anzi il nuovo Programma dovrebbe prevedere varie agevolazioni. Il MiPAAF illustrerà bene la questione con le Linee Guida che invierà a breve alla Mandataria e a tutte le Unità Operative (UU.OO.) dell'ATS.

Bedin precisa che la fatturazione delle spese sostenute nel 2015 potrà essere successiva al 31 dicembre 2015, essenziale sarà però fare riferimento ad attività svolte, come da Programma, nel 2015. Il FEAMP richiede che le fatture, ancorché emesse dopo il 31 dicembre, riportino in oggetto la specifica che le attività sono state svolte entro il 31 dicembre.

Anche per quanto riguarda le spese di personale, i cedolini degli stipendi potranno essere imputati al 2015 pur se emessi nel 2016.

Bedin informa, infine, che Luigi Polizzi, Dirigente PEMAC I - Affari generali e ricerca scientifica, è stato trasferito e che al momento la sua posizione è vacante.

*Programma Nazionale 2015: stato di attuazione e principali criticità.*

Si parte quindi con il **1° punto all'OdG** "Stato di attuazione del Programma 2015". Le UU.OO. presentano l'attività svolta per i moduli di competenza, come elencato di seguito:

- Sbrana Mario: Campbiol GSA9 e MEDITS
- Carbonara Pierluigi: Campbiol demersali e piccoli pelagici GSA 10 e 19; Campbiol demersali GSA 18; MEDITS GSA 10 e 18
- Maiorano Porzia: MEDITS GSA19
- Follesa Maria Cristina: Campbiol GSA11 e MEDITS
- Fiorentino Fabio: GSA16, demersali e MEDITS
- Patti Bernardo: GSA 16, piccoli pelagici e MEDIAS
- Piccinetti Corrado: MEDITS GSA 17
- Leonori Iole: MEDIAS GSA 17-18
- Santojanni Alberto: Campbiol GSA 17 e piccoli pelagici GSA 18
- Labanchi Lucio: dati trasversali, dati economici e industria di trasformazione
- Russo Tommaso: VMS e indicatori relativi alla pressione di pesca
- Mariani Adriano: grandi pelagici, pesca ricreativa tonno rosso e dati economici acquacoltura
- Leone Chiara: anguilla (pesca ricreativa e Campbiol)

In allegato al presente verbale vengono fornite le schede di sintesi con le informazioni relative alle attività svolte nel 2015 redatte sulla base di un template inviato alle Unità Operative prima della

riunione (**Allegato 1**).

Dalle presentazioni è emerso che il Programma, grazie al costante lavoro di tutte le UU.OO., nonostante le difficoltà di tipo amministrativo-finanziario incontrate quest'anno, è stato svolto quasi regolarmente, a parte il ritardo dell'inizio delle attività di campionamento biologico che ha interessato soprattutto il primo trimestre.

Il campionamento biologico delle catture commerciali è risultato soddisfacente (è stato anche possibile imbarcare un maggior numero di personale), mentre per quanto riguarda il rilevamento dei dati trasversali ed economici 2015 sussistono molte criticità. Le attività di rilevamento infatti non sono ancora iniziate; il Coordinatore Scientifico ha comunicato che il perfezionamento del bando per i rilevatori dovrebbe avvenire intorno a metà gennaio.

A tale proposito si è sviluppata un'ampia discussione dalla quale è emersa la notevole criticità relativa alle carenze di una base informativa indispensabile per produrre i dati trasversali relativi al 2015, considerato, inoltre, che tali dati sono fondamentali per il corretto svolgimento anche di altri moduli, in particolare il campionamento biologico delle catture commerciali. Tali dati sono infatti utilizzati nell'ambito degli specifici gruppi di lavoro del GFCM e dello STECF per la valutazione dello stato di sfruttamento degli stock.

Un'altra problematica che è stata evidenziata da molte UU.OO. riguarda le pratiche amministrative per l'autorizzazione all'imbarco degli osservatori a bordo. E' stato fatto esplicito invito all'Amministrazione per il rilascio di un documento unico di riferimento, con i requisiti delle imbarcazioni. L'Amministrazione si è impegnata a rispondere in tal senso.

I dati delle campagne in Adriatico (sia MEDITS che MEDIAS) si estendono anche a Paesi extra EU (Montenegro, Albania). Tali campagne vengono svolte nelle acque territoriali di tali Paesi dai battelli di ricerca delle Unità Operative italiane e nella maggior parte dei casi questi campionamenti aggiuntivi rientrano in accordi stipulati con ADRIAMED. Inoltre, le Unità Operative coinvolte trattano i dati acquisiti in questi contesti in maniera disomogenea (alcune li includono nel data call, altre no). È necessario approfondire tale aspetto e, se necessario, stipulare dei protocolli di accordo tra le Amministrazioni dei Paesi interessati per decidere come trattare i dati (anche in funzione dell'archiviazione nelle banche dati).

Si viene informati che le attività Medias sono state svolte anche nelle GSA 9 e 10 dal CNR-IAMC sulla base di una convenzione "ad hoc" stipulata con l'Amministrazione.

Sono emerse le difficoltà per il campionamento biologico del tonno catturato dalla tonnara volante in quanto le catture sono destinate quasi esclusivamente alle gabbie e tali attività sono soggette all'obbligo di monitoraggio da parte dell'ICCAT.

L'utilizzo dei dati VMS all'interno del Programma Nazionale sta producendo risultati molto interessanti ed utili per la formulazione di pareri scientifici a supporto delle scelte gestionali. Allo stato attuale il monitoraggio copre la flotta obbligata dal regolamento controllo ad attivare il VMS. Inoltre dati importanti possono essere acquisiti tramite il sistema *Automatic Identification System* (AIS).

E' stato evidenziato che non esiste un protocollo per il trasferimento dei dati VMS dall'Amministrazione all'ATS. Tale problema riguarda anche gli altri dati derivanti dal regolamento controllo (giornale di bordo, note di vendita, dichiarazioni di sbarcato) o da altre fonti amministrative (come i trasferimenti finanziari). È necessario quindi definire un protocollo di trasferimento dei dati, in modo da avere tempi certi di consegna e formati standard. Ad esempio il trasferimento potrebbe avvenire su base semestrale.

*Programma Nazionale 2016: programmazione delle attività ed eventuali criticità.*

Paolo Carpentieri presenta le attività da svolgere nel corso del 2016, sottolineando le modifiche rispetto a quanto svolto nel 2015.

Viene presentata, inoltre, la lista dei metier da campionare per ciascuna GSA. Tale lista è il risultato dell'esercizio di ranking che classifica i metier in base allo sforzo (giorni di pesca), alla produzione (tonnellate nello sbarcato), e al valore (ricavo in euro). L'esercizio di ranking è stato condotto sulla base

dei dati delle annualità 2013 e 2014. I risultati hanno evidenziato come le modifiche rispetto all'anno precedente siano minime e riguardano solo alcuni metier di minore impatto in alcune GSA (es.: FPO_DES GSA 18). Tale presentazione ha evidenziato tuttavia un problema trasversale ad alcune UU.OO. e che riguarda la difficoltà di raccolta dati biologici per quei metier che hanno una attività sporadica (sia spaziale che temporale) sul territorio nazionale. A tal proposito è stato ricordato che se la pesca è stagionale il campionamento, seguendo le indicazioni della Dec. 93/2010, può essere concentrato solo nel periodo (es.: mesi e/o trimestri) durante il quale si svolge l'attività di pesca.

Viene inoltre ricordato che nel 2016 andranno prodotte le stime triennali sui parametri biologici non solo per le specie del gruppo 1 ma anche per quelle del gruppo 2 (sesso, maturità, peso ed etá).

Infine, Carpentieri ricorda che la pesca ricreativa deve coprire non solo l'anguilla e il tonno rosso ma anche gli squali. Ad oggi non è stata svolta alcuna attività e lo STECF ha notato questa problematica. Adriano Mariani interviene informando che in realtà i dati di cattura degli squali nell'ambito della pesca ricreativa vengono raccolti dalle associazioni di pesca sportiva. Quindi, UNIMAR si rende disponibile ad acquisire tale informazione contestualmente alla raccolta dei dati sulla pesca sportiva del tonno rosso.

L'Unità di Gestione e Supporto (UGS) rammenta che la scadenza per la presentazione del rapporto annuale dell'attività 2015 è fissata a maggio 2016. Rispetto all'anno scorso la DGMARE ha aggiornato le Linee Guida per la presentazione del rapporto annuale. Di conseguenza, a inizio anno, l'UGS aggiornerà il template per la redazione dei rapporti tecnici sulla base delle nuove Linee Guida della DGMARE e invierà tale template alle Unità Operative, che dovranno inviare le relazioni entro il 31 marzo o 30 aprile a seconda dei moduli. Viene ricordato che è importante giustificare qualsiasi deviazione dal Programma Nazionale.

Per quanto riguarda le relazioni finali 2014, la cui scadenza era stata fissata al 30 novembre, mancano ancora le relazioni di alcune UU.OO.

*Aggiornamento e sviluppo della banca dati esistente (www.dcf-italia.cnr.it). Presentazione dell'analisi di fattibilità.*

Francesco Colloca presenta una sintesi dello stato dell'arte della banca dati, strumento fondamentale per l'Amministrazione. Suggerisce di costituire un Gruppo di Lavoro di 2-3 persone con un referente per lavorare insieme a tutte le UU.OO. al fine di valutare lo stato attuale della banca dati e di caricare i dati mancanti.

Sarebbe anche utile iniziare a lavorare per disegnare una nuova banca dati, interrogabile e flessibile.

Necessario un Protocollo dettagliato per l'elaborazione dei dati ed eliminare le ridondanze anche al fine di diminuire i margini di errore.

Anche se la banca dati restasse una sorta di repository bisognerà inserire dei controlli supplementari.

L'Amministrazione ad oggi non è purtroppo in grado di ottenere facilmente i dati, occorre invece rendergli questo compito più semplice affinché possa poi fornirli agli "end users". La banca dati deve essere uno strumento capace di rispondere alle data call, cosa più agevole per i dati primari Medits che per i dati aggregati di Campbiol.

Occorrerà contrattualizzare alcune unità di personale da dedicare alla banca dati poiché, comunque, al momento è fondamentale adattare alle varie necessità lo strumento di cui disponiamo, che è ormai solo in parte rispondente ai parametri richiesti, e soprattutto coordinare e controllare l'immissione dei dati mancanti, che è un compito di tutte le UU.OO. dell'ATS.

Le attività relative alla banca dati si svolgono su due binari paralleli: a) aggiornare l'attuale banca dati sulla base delle richieste pervenute al CNR dalle varie Unità Operative; b) predisporre un progetto da presentare all'Amministrazione per una banca dati ampliata rispetto ai contenuti e alle funzionalità e che sia in grado di recepire gli aggiornamenti derivanti dall'evoluzione del quadro normativo e al rafforzamento del coordinamento regionale.

Riguardo all'aggiornamento dell'attuale banca dati interviene Lucio Labanchi ricordando che:

- l'attuale banca dati 199, in termini tecnici, è una banca dati a tutti gli effetti e non un semplice repository. Come fisiologico, è necessario un lavoro di manutenzione che ne consenta l'adeguamento a modifiche o estensioni del Regolamento di riferimento;
- la banca dati risponde perfettamente a quanto richiesto dal Regolamento 199, come evidenziato dalla verifica di un Ente esterno quale Devstat che, nell'ambito di un Progetto della DGMARE, ha espresso giudizi estremamente positivi sullo strumento sviluppato in Italia, raccomandando la sua estensione anche ad altri SM UE.

Spedicato ricorda tuttavia che:

- la banca dati 199 non risponde più alle necessità di essere in linea con i formati dei file prodotti per i vari moduli del programma Raccolta Dati, sia CAMPBIOL (campionamento biologico delle catture), che MEDITS;
- nella banca dati 199, i formati per la data call, relativi ai moduli del campionamento biologico, sono obsoleti, infatti tali dati devono essere riprodotti dalle singole Unità Operative per rispondere alle data call e non possono essere richiamati dalla banca dati 199, proprio per la non rispondenza dei formati;
- il caricamento dei dati MEDITS da parte delle UU.OO. richiede manipolazioni dei dati stessi, per renderli compatibili con i formati della banca dati 199. Tali manipolazioni comportano disallineamenti nella restituzione dei dati quando richiesti da qualunque data call;
- la banca dati 199 non effettua alcuni necessari controlli di coerenza dei dati relativi ai moduli del campionamento biologico e MEDITS.

In sostanza, è opportuno procedere su due direttrici che solo con il tempo potranno convergere.
Da un lato assicurare il rispetto del Regolamento 199, con la manutenzione dell'attuale banca dati, dall'altro procedere rapidamente alla stesura di un Progetto che definisca cosa deve fare la nuova banca dati e, solo successivamente, interpellare un team di informatici per procedere all'analisi di fattibilità.

Labanchi, inoltre, comunica che ITAFISHSTAT ha svolto un'analisi di fattibilità delle richieste di modifica intervenute a seguito della riunione dell'ATS dello scorso mese di luglio. Tale analisi di fattibilità è riportata nell'**Allegato 2**. Inoltre ITAFISHSTAT propone di aggiungere all'attuale banca dati un insieme di "metadati" che servono come corredo ai dati prodotti, così come previsto dalle linee guida di EUROSTAT sulla produzione statistica. Tale proposta è riportata nell'**Allegato 3**.

Dopo una discussione articolata viene deciso di istituire un gruppo di lavoro sulla banca dati che sarà coordinato da Colloca. Tale gruppo di lavoro dovrà fornire le indicazioni per implementare ed armonizzare la banca dati per rispondere in primo luogo alle esigenze delle varie data call. I risultati di tale lavoro dovranno essere presentati entro 3 mesi.

*Presentazione dei processi di validazione dei dati della rilevazione campionaria (dati trasversali ed economici) e possibile integrazione con i dati del regolamento controllo.*

Lucio Labanchi e Paolo Accadia del Consorzio ITAFISHSTAT presentano le modalità di validazione dei dati della rilevazione campionaria, sottolineando le modifiche apportate agli usuali strumenti di

controllo per far fronte al ritardo nell'avvio delle operazione di rilevamento dei dati campionari. Inoltre, sono state presentate delle analisi comparative tra i dati del rilevamento campionario con i dati di altre fonti (logbook, VMS, dichiarazioni di sbarco, ecc.). Le presentazioni (**Allegato 4**) evidenziano che gli approcci metodologici proposti (in particolare l'utilizzo dei modelli ARIMA e RegARIMA) oltre che utili nella fase di controllo e validazione dei dati potrebbero essere utilizzati a fini previsionali. In questo senso Labanchi precisa che nell'ipotesi dovesse venire meno la rilevazione 2015, ITAFISHSTAT, nel rispetto dei compiti ad esso affidati, si farà carico di produrre sia i dati trasversali che quelli economici, utilizzando tali metodologie statistiche.

Tommaso Russo interviene illustrando il lavoro svolto per integrare i dati di sforzo con le fonti del rilevamento satellitare. La fonte primaria dei dati è il rilevamento; tuttavia i dati del regolamento controllo possono essere molto utili, ad esempio nella fase di stratificazione della flotta.

Il Coordinatore Scientifico propone, al fine di avere una più ampia e corretta visione dei dati trasversali, di pensare ad un sistema che permetta di incrociare i diversi dati ottenuti. Tutto ciò partendo dalle differenti tipologie di dati raccolti (Campbiol, sforzo di pesca, rete di rilevamento dati trasversali, etc.) e tenuto conto delle logiche del nuovo Regolamento di Raccolta Dati in corso di preparazione.

Il nuovo Regolamento Raccolta Dati e il futuro EU MAP conterranno disposizioni volte a una maggiore integrazione dei dati amministrativi (ad esempio del regolamento controllo) con quelli raccolti nell'ambito del Programma Nazionale. Sarebbe, quindi, utile sviluppare uno studio pilota per approfondire questi aspetti anche in relazione al nuovo regolamento raccolta dati (assestare i dati di logbook e VMS e verificare le discordanze rispetto ai dati campionari e al camp biol). Tale studio potrebbe essere sviluppato nel 2016 e fornire elementi utili per la redazione del Programma Raccolta Dati dal 2017. Lo studio è finanziabile nell'ambito dell'articolo 77 del FEAMP. In alternativa, si potrebbe istituire un Gruppo di Lavoro presso l'Amministrazione.

Viene tuttavia ribadita, da diversi interventi, la necessità di disporre di dati campionari trasversali affidabili, considerata la criticità che le differenti fonti presentano in termini di coerenza, come peraltro evidenziato dalla stessa analisi svolta da ITAFISHSTAT.

*Richieste di dati da parte di utilizzatori esterni e calendario dei data call (DGMARE, GFCM, ICCAT, RCM MED&BS).*

Il Corrispondente Nazionale, Evelina Sabatella, presenta brevemente l'elenco dei data call ufficiali a cui bisognerà fornire i dati nel corso del 2016:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DGMARE | Acquaculture | Maggio-Giugno |
| | FleetEconomic | Febbraio-Marzo |
| | Med.&BS | Giugno-Luglio |
| | Proc. Industry | Luglio-Agosto |
| | GFCM, TASK 1 | Maggio |
| | GFCM,TEST | Gennaio-Marzo |
| | ICCAT | Maggio-Giugno |
| | RCM MED&BS | Luglio |

Le attività relative ai data call richiedono molto tempo e precisione nel rispondere alle richieste di chiarimento da parte della DGMARE. Il mancato invio dei dati è una delle ipotesi di inosservanza grave che possono comportare un'interruzione dei termini di pagamento o la sospensione dei pagamenti nell'ambito del FEAMP.

A maggio 2016 bisognerà inviare i dati alla GFCM ancora secondo il protocollo della task 1. Sempre a maggio 2016 la Commissione della GFCM dovrebbe approvare in via definitiva un nuovo programma di raccolta dati (Data Collection Reference Framework - DCRF) che dovrebbe rendere più semplice l'invio dei dati al segretariato della GFCM. L'Italia si è offerta di partecipare alla fase di test del nuovo sistema nel periodo compreso tra gennaio e marzo 2016.

A prescindere dai data call ufficiali, l'Amministrazione riceve molte richieste di dati (da marzo a novembre 2015 circa 30 richieste pervenute da Progetti di Ricerca, Università, Associazioni di categoria). Le richieste dei dati e le risposte fornite vanno archiviate e devono essere rintracciabili, così come richiesto dai regolamenti comunitari.

In tale contesto la pubblicazione dell'annuario delle strutture produttive e dello stato delle risorse (SIBM, NISEA, 2015) finanziato dal MiPAAF rappresenta uno strumento divulgativo essenziale. I partecipanti invitano l'Amministrazione a valutare la possibilità di finanziare tale volume su base sistematica annualmente.

Il Corrispondente Nazionale invita quindi le Unità Operative a verificare che i dati siano correttamente caricati sulla banca dati 199. Nel caso siano intervenute delle revisioni alle serie di dati già comunicate all'Amministrazione è necessario aggiornare i dati con tempestività. Inoltre, ogni utilizzo dei dati raccolti nell'ambito del PNRDA in qualsiasi contesto deve essere comunicato all'Amministrazione (articoli 19 e 20 Reg. CE 199/08).

*Proposte metodologiche per la revisione e la validazione delle metodologie e dei protocolli applicati al campionamento biologico e alla produzione dei dati di sintesi di cattura.*

Nel corso della riunione viene costituito il seguente Gruppo di Lavoro tecnico al fine di aggiornare i protocolli di acquisizione dei campionamenti biologici e il trattamento dei dati raccolti: Alessandro Mannini (CIBM), Pierluigi Carbonara (COISPA), Maria Cristina Follesa (Univ. di Cagliari). Per adempiere a quanto stabilito tutte le UU.OO. dovranno coordinarsi per trattare i dati.

Tale attività è propedeutica all'invio dei dati alla DGMARE nell'ambito dei gruppi di lavoro dello STECF che dovranno preparare gli stock assessment. È necessario coordinarsi per poter superare i problemi incontrati nel corso del 2015.

*Presentazione dei Progetti: Strengthening regional cooperation in the area of fisheries data collection in the Mediterranean and Black Sea - Reference: MARE/2014/19 e Evaluation of specific management scenarios for the preparation of multi-annual management plans in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea: MARE/2014/27.*

Maria Teresa Spedicato, in qualità di coordinatore, presenta i due progetti finanziati dalla DGMARE e che hanno notevoli implicazioni per il PNRDA. Le presentazioni sono riportate nell'**Allegato 5**.

*Stato dell'arte sulla revisione del regolamento DCF e del Data Collection Multi Annual Plan (DCMAP) per il periodo 2017-2020.*

La Commissione Europea ha presentato una proposta di revisione del Regolamento CE n. 199/08. Tale revisione è resa necessaria per adeguare il contesto normativo alle nove esigenze e obiettivi individuati dalla PCP (Reg. UE 1380/13), in particolare per quanto riguarda: rafforzamento del coordinamento in ambito regionale, approccio ecosistemico, l'integrazione delle fonti di dati raccolte nell'ambito di diversi regolamenti, impatto della pesca sull'ambiente, sostenibilità dell'acquacoltura,

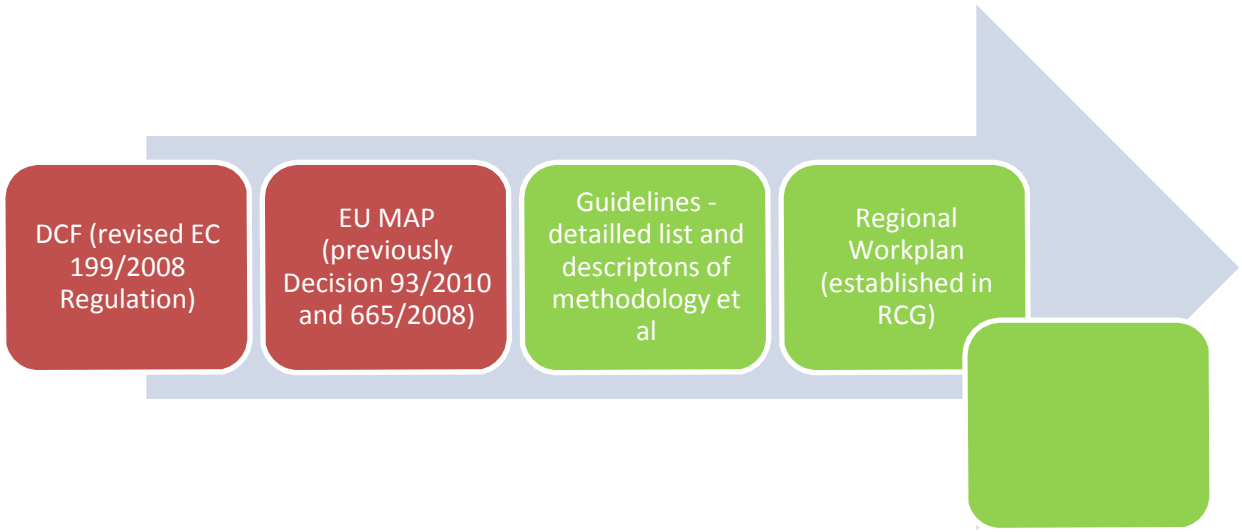
maggiore facilità di accesso ai dati. La proposta della Commissione è attualmente in fase di discussione presso il Parlamento Europeo.

La Commissione invita gli Stati Membri a porre l'accento sul miglioramento dei loro sistemi di raccolta dei dati (in particolare per semplificare l'organizzazione e migliorare i sistemi di archiviazione e trasmissione dei dati), sugli investimenti destinati a migliorare il controllo della qualità dei dati e sul lavoro di preparazione necessario per adeguarsi ai nuovi requisiti in materia di dati.

Parallelamente la Commissione sta preparando la proposta per la decisione sul nuovo Programma Pluriennale (MAP, Multi Annual Program) che definirà i contenuti minimi obbligatori dei Programmi che gli Stati Membri dovranno presentare entro ottobre 2016. Ancora maggiore enfasi è posta sulle questioni metodologiche (armonizzazione in ambito regionale) e di controllo della qualità del dato (tramite l'utilizzo di procedure di validazione internazionali).

La DGMARE, non potendo intervenire alla riunione, ha inviato una presentazione sulla proposta del nuovo regolamento raccolta dati e sul futuro EU MAP che coprirà il periodo 2017-2020. La presentazione è riportata nell'**Allegato 6**.

Il regolamento relativo al DCF e l'EU MAP si limiteranno a stabilire regole e criteri di base per quanto riguarda i dati che devono essere raccolti e a garantire che il contenuto del Programma Pluriennale dell'UE e le relative modifiche siano basati sui principi enunciati all'articolo 25 del regolamento sulla PCP.
Elementi quali le esatte variabili, le specie, i segmenti, le dimensioni nonché il livello di aggregazione (quali dati raccogliere) e la metodologia (come raccoglierli) dovrebbero essere specificati in un documento di linee guide (redatto da gruppi di esperti designati dalla DGMARE) e dai gruppi di coordinamento regionale. Il piano di lavoro da preparare entro ottobre 2016 dovrà recepire tuti questi elementi.



L'agenda di lavoro per i prossimi mesi è molto intensa e ci saranno molti tavoli tecnici a cui l'Italia sarà chiamata a partecipare. È necessario che anche l'ATS si faccia promotrice di iniziative a sostegno della
preparazione del piano di lavoro per le annualità 2017-2020.

Alcuni aspetti come la lista dei survey scientifici e l'elenco degli stock da campionare sono stati già affrontati durante la riunione di coordinamento regionale (Roma, settembre 2015).

A proposito delle richieste della Commissione di aumentare le specie da valutare mediante l'analisi delle catture commerciali con metodi di dinamica di popolazione, Fabio Fiorentino esprime le sue perplessità
sulla possibilità di avere buoni dati sulla struttura delle catture per specie minori che costituiscono by
catch delle attività di pesca e sono spesso soggette a forte scarto. Piuttosto che estendere il numero di specie sottoposte a valutazioni analitiche riconducibili alla VPA, sarebbe meglio limitarle alle specie che
costituiscono il bersaglio delle attività di pesca e valutare lo stato delle popolazioni a mare delle altre specie facendo dinamica di popolazione sui dati ottenuti con le campagne scientifiche.

*Principali output delle riunioni di coordinamento internazionale del 2015: Regional Coordination Meeting (RCM MED&BS-LP), Planning Group on Economic Issues (PGECON), Liaison Meeting, ICES working groups.*

Il Corrispondente Nazionale, riferendo sul RCM MED&BS tenutosi presso il CNR lo scorso settembre, informa sulle raccomandazione ricevute. Sia nel RCM che nel LM si è molto discusso del
Regional Data Base. L'Italia potrà fornire un importante contributo a questo riguardo. Informa che la prossima riunione si terrà in Spagna a settembre 2016. Sia il verbale del RCM MED&BS-LP che il
verbale del PGMED saranno caricati sul sito web del raccolta dati.

Pierluigi Carbonara presenta i lavori svolti nell'ambito dei seguenti gruppi di lavoro:

- Working Group on Biological Parameters (WGBIOP) - 7-11 settembre 2015 Malaga, Spagna.
- Workshop on Age Reading of Horse Mackerel, Mediterranean Horse Mackerel and Blue Jack Mackerel (Trachurus trachurus, T. mediterraneus and T. picturatus) (WKARHOM2) - 26–30 ottobre 2015 Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Isole Canarie, Spagna.
- Workshop on Maturity Staging of Mackerel and Horse Mackerel (Scomber scombrus, Scomber colias, Trachurus mediterraneus and Trachurus trachurus) (WKMSMACS2) - 28 settembre-
  2 ottobre 2015- Lisbona, Portogallo.

Nell'**Allegato 7** sono riportate le schede con le conclusioni principali di tali gruppi di lavoro.

Nell'ambito di tale attività, sono stati prodotti due importanti volumi: uno sui protocolli per la lettura degli otoliti e un altro sulle scale di maturità. I partecipanti hanno sottolineato la rilevanza scientifica del
materiale prodotto e sostengono la proposta di Carbonara di chiedere all'Amministrazione la disponibilità di finanziare la stampa di tali volumi.

*Varie ed eventuali*

Il resoconto di questa riunione verrà allegato alla Relazione Annuale come previsto dalla normativa comunitaria.

Mauro Marini del CNR-ISMAR riporta quanto avvenuto durante la prima riunione del Comitato di Sorveglianza del FEAMP, che sarà operativo da giugno 2016, di cui lui è membro in rappresentanza del CNR. 50 sono i Membri con diritto al voto tra Enti pubblici e privati. La CE ha raccomandato di utilizzare tutti i fondi messi a disposizione.

Stefano De Ranieri fa presente che, insieme a Lucio Labanchi, è stato indicato dal CNR DTA quale membro del nucleo di valutazione previsto dalla convenzione tra il Ministero e l'ATS. Si è ancora in attesa della nomina dei componenti da parte dell'Amministrazione. De Ranieri auspica che il nucleo di valutazione possa essere costituito al più presto per poter svolgere i propri compiti.

**La riunione termina alle ore 17:00**