



FUNDING  
**FISH**

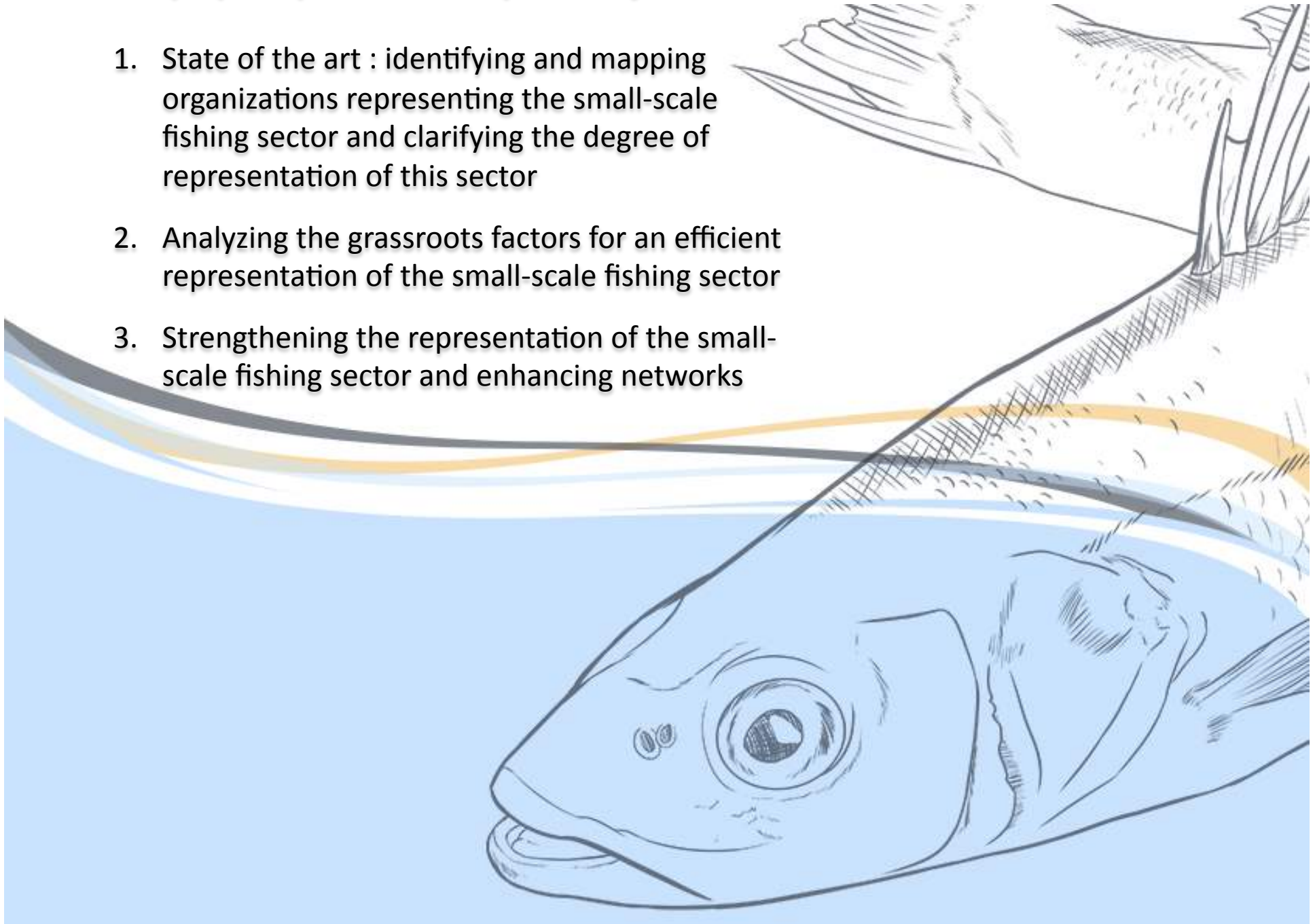
Main results of the Pilot Project “Setting the scene to reinforce  
Small-Scale fishing in SWWAC area”  
(MARE/2014/04 – SI2.724092)

SSF8, deliverable 10

BG SEA CONSULTING EIRL, October 2017

## The proposal pointed three specific objectives :

1. State of the art : identifying and mapping organizations representing the small-scale fishing sector and clarifying the degree of representation of this sector
2. Analyzing the grassroots factors for an efficient representation of the small-scale fishing sector
3. Strengthening the representation of the small-scale fishing sector and enhancing networks



# Specific objective 1: State of the art

Identifying and mapping organizations representing the small-scale fishing sector and clarifying the degree of representation of this sector in the steering board of these organizations

Organizations representing the small-scale fishing sector have been exhaustively identified and listed

**Deliverable 1**

Representation of the small-scale fleet within existing organizations have been detailed: quantitatively through their share within the management boards and, qualitatively, through interviews

**Deliverable 2  
& Report from analysis of field interviews**

Participation of the small-scale fishing fleet within the SWWAC through fishing organizations and among regions have been assessed

**Deliverable 3  
& Results from the on-line questionnaire led with AZTI**

# Methodology implemented to deliver the specific objective 1

- **Recruitment procedure to benefit from sociological input was undertaken** and led to selecting 2 service supply: one on typology of fishing organizations to select field interviews, the other one on accompanying the interview process (draft interview guides, contribute to the analysis, focus on influence means and levers, analyze the influence of the small-scale fishing sector at national and European scales).
- **Methodological note to select field interviews** (*Note méthodologique sur la production d'un échantillon représentatif d'un point de vue typologique en vue d'analyser la place de la petite pêche dans les processus de décision*, Annie Gouzien et Alain Menotti, 2016). Interviews were then selected in accordance with this note and the distribution of the small-scale fishing fleet segment at NUTs-3 scale from data of the Community Fleet Register.
- **Exploratory interviews to draft interview guides for both fishers and fishing organizations.**
- **Selection procedure and recruitment of field consultants to conduct field interviews.** A checklist was also produced to ensure consistency throughout the area. First interviews made by the field consultants were discussed and commented to ensure consistency and common analysis.
- **An extensive process of interviews** has been conducted along the area with 111 qualitative interviews with fishing organizations (out of 262 for the whole area) and 56 with fishers. In most regions, more than 50% of the organisations have been interviewed. In 5 regions, less than 50% of the organisations have been interviewed: Canarias (14%), Andalusia (33%), Galicia (36%), Asturias (26%), Spanish Basque country (26%). Duration of interviews last between 1hour and 3 hours for fishing organizations, and 20' to 1h30' with fishers.
- **Exhaustive thematic analysis of field interviews.** All interviews have been thoroughly read and main elements were quoted around main themes that have been used for the global analysis (data on the organization, stakes, governance issues, social capital, fisheries management, influence). A spreadsheet was used to gather all information and – additionally to the qualitative interview – scores were given for each theme to every organizations to undertake a multiple correspondence analysis. A report was produced from this analysis : *Understanding grassroots' factors that enable the small-scale fishing segment to influence fisheries' management in the south western waters of the European Union*, Benoît Guerin, 2017.
- **Statistical analysis of fishing organizations' membership data and scoring data from fishing organizations**
- **Maps were produced to present results (QGIS ©)** from both data collected through the field interviews and the Community Fleet Register.
- **An on-line questionnaire was prepared along with AZTI** after the presentation of the interim results to the SWWAC. It was launched in the 3 AC's languages (French, Spanish, Portuguese) through **MonkeySurvey ©**.



# Specific objective 1: main issues

- **Deliverable 1**

An exhaustive census has been led to register every fishing organizations along the SWWAC's area. The field work (extensive interviews' process along the coast) also allowed to collect data about membership, nature of the fishing organization (POs Vs other representations) and the share between SSF and the other fleet segments.

Main issues to be underlined :

- **Lack of representation of the SSF sector in Portugal mainland** (around 30-40% of the fleet out any kind of fishing organization)
- **Split in the fishing sector's representation between the northern part and the southern part of the area :**
  - Galicia southward (Galicia included) : average members within organization is low and fishing organizations are weaker (few staff, weak economic dimension, ...), SSF is mostly out of POs
  - Galicia northwards (Galicia excluded) : average members within organization is higher and fishing organizations are stronger (technical staff, stronger economic dimension, ...), SSF is mostly inside the POs

- **Deliverable 2**

Data on membership and management boards of the fishing organizations have been collected for all interviewed organizations (111 out of 262) considering the 12m threshold. For all these organizations a qualitative interview has been conducted.

Main issues to be underlined :

- **Split in the fishing sector's representation between the northern part and the southern part of the area :**
  - Galicia southward (Galicia included) : much more organizations over whole with about 40% of these organizations almost exclusively representing the small-scale fleet (>96%)
  - Galicia northwards (Galicia excluded) : much less organizations with a "mixed" representation of the fleets (e.g. membership is made of various fleet segments)
- Looking into the share within the management boards of the organizations, **representation appears to be statistically unbalanced for the Centre of Portugal, Brittany and some organizations in northern Andalusia**. It appears to be fair in other locations even if the test would fail to detect unbalances
- **Considering however economic criteria** (landings in value and weight) for French Producers' Organizations the small-scale fleet would **on the contrary be over-represented**.
- Participation of small-scale fishermen in their organizations has been assessed as quite good at local level but hugely decreasing while moving to central level.
- **Fishing organizations appear to play as a filter for issues on fishing practises (for example excess of fishing effort) and mitigate the reality of the field.**

# Specific objective 1: main issues

- **Deliverable 3**

Based on the SWWAC's membership list and the data on membership collected throughout the field work it has been possible to compare the percentage of the fleet being actually represented within the SWWAC through a fishing organization. It should be noted however that data from the community fleet register may not be accurate with – from different expert comments – a part of the below 12m fleet being actually passive. In addition, for French fishing organizations – as they represent all the sector by law – a complete coverage of the fleet has been considered.

It is important to stress that membership does not reflect actual participation to the fishing organization as a very important percentage of skippers hardly ever participate to meetings.

Main issues to be underlined :

- **Some regions appear to be poorly represented**, especially those from the southern part of the area (Andalusia and Portugal mainland with none organization from Algarve) where it was shown that about 40% of the organizations are exclusively representing the small-scale fleet.
- **Most participatory fishing organization within SWWAC are also the most influential**. They are “mixed” organizations (<12m fleet segment represents 45% of the fishing organisations' membership on average) and are located in the northern area only. On average they are much bigger and do count on more members and more technical staff.
- **POs appear to be far more participatory within the AC** (56% do belong to the AC whereas only 16% of the non POs fishing organizations do participate)

- **On-line questionnaire with AZTI towards SWWAC's traditional fisheries working group's members**

Main issues to be underlined (18 respondents) :

- 2 main reasons were quoted for **the lack of participation being economic reason, and lack of interest** (especially for Portugal mainland)
- The majority of the respondents considered there **was a responsibility of the SWWAC to adequately represent the various fishing areas and fleet segments**
- The majority of the respondents considered **the SWWAC should also deal with local issues** (not only European)
- The majority of of the respondents **criteria should be established to participate into this working group**

# Specific objective 2: analyzing the grassroots factors

## Analyzing the grassroots factors for efficient representation

The conditions for active participation of the fishermen from the small-scale fishing sector have been identified

### **Deliverable 4**

**& Report from analysis of field interviews**

Capacity of the organizations to efficiently represent the small-scale fishing sector has been analyzed and key factors have been identified

### **Deliverable 5**

**& Report from analysis of field interviews**

**& Report on the influence of the small-scale fishing sector at National and European scales**

# Methodology implemented to deliver the specific objective 2

- **The same methodology used to deliver the first objective did also contribute to deliver this objective**
- **Complementary interviews(17) were conducted with national and European players** (national administrations, European commission, European parliament, large-scale fishing organizations, NGOs) and led to a report : *Rapport sur l'influence de la petite pêche aux échelles nationales et européenne*, Cédric Polère, 2017.
- **Benchmarking of the existing organizations** has been undertaken through a selection of field interviews focusing on variety and diversity of organizations encountered (in size, fleet's representation) and taking into account the complementary interviews with the large-scale fishing organizations.
- **Workshops have been organized throughout the area by the field consultants.** List of locations were agreed with AZTI in order to allow a better coverage of the SWWAC's area. 5 locations have been selected: Conil (Andalusia, Cadix province), Faro (Algarve), Santiado de Compostela (Galicia), São Miguel (Azores), Quimper (Brittany).

**Guidance of the workshops have been developed with Beatriz Nieto from WWF Spain**, who is acting as facilitator for field initiatives with the fishing sector and participative tools were advised for workshops' organization.

Workshops gathered **both representatives and fishers and focused on needs assessment** in order to clearly identified the key points for further strengthening of the small-scale fishing sector

Workshops have been adapted on the various situations:

- **For Andalusia**, the needs' assessment was already done and a specific deliverable was produced by the consultant on thihs aspect. A workshop was organized with the SWWAC's general secretary to present the SWWAC to fishing organizations from Andalusia
- **For Alargve**, a first workshop was successfully organized and – because participation to the second workshop was very weak – it was decided to run a **national consultation towards the Portuguese mainland fishing** organizations based on the results of this workshop
- **For Azores, Galicia, and Brittany**, 2 workshops were organized to further clarify recommendations to strengthen the small-scale fishing sector



# Specific objective 2: main issues

- **Deliverable 4**

Specific questions were being asked during the field interviews, both with representatives and with fishers. Additionally the issue was thrown into relief in each workshop.

Main issues to be underlined :

- Due to very little time available, **proximity of the meeting place** is key for participation of the fishers. In the same extent, **the limited scale of the fishery** is also a positive factor to participation.
- The **participation of “key” fishers or “leaders”** is contributing to enforced participation from the rest of the fishers
- **Facilitation and participative meetings** encourage participation. As big organizations may filter conflicting issues (as for example on fishing practises), there is a need to collect and fairly reflect everyone’s opinion.
- Recognition by managers is also key and thus **the institutional set-up** surrounding fishing organizations. The more the organization is capable of changing the regulation the more the fishers will participate

- **Deliverable 5**

Specific questions were being asked during the field interviews, both with representatives and with fishers. Through the thematic analysis of the interviews, Fishing organizations’ influence was scored and linked with other factors. Additionally the complementary interviews and specific report on influence of the small-scale sector at national and European level help to better understand how influence works. Lastly, The issue was thrown into relief in each workshop.

Main issues to be underlined :

- **The small-scale fishing fleet need to be fairly taken into account within each fishing organization, meaning that opinions of the different “métiers” need to be identified and reflected in the organization’s messages.** This consideration also puts a stress on the importance of neutrality and wider general interest that would need to be brought within fishing organization internal dynamic.
- 4 levers have been identified for influence : **unity, economic weight, soft power (expertise and networking), and institutional set-up (recognition by managers).** On all these different items the small-scale fishing sector appears to be much less influent.

# Strengthening the representation of the SSF sector

## Strengthening the representation of the small-scale fishing sector and enhancing networks

A needs assessment of fishing organizations has been performed

**Deliverable 6**

Guidelines to strengthen the small-scale fishing sector have been written down (including list of human resources dealing with small-scale fishing sector)

**Deliverable 7**

A training template for fishers has been drafted

**Deliverable 8**

### Communication and networking

Results have been communicated in different occasions (TBTI seminar in Tenerife, EAFE seminar in Dublin, International Congress in Conil, EMFF seminar in Tallinn)

Guidelines have been edited in 4 languages, printed and disseminated throughout the area (more than 200 fishing organizations) and should be put on line on Farnet's website.

Networking has been done along the project with LIFE, SWWAC, scientists from the TBTI network, AZTI, and the 3 reviewers of the project : Miguel Gaspar (IPMA), Sergio Lopez (ex galician cofradias federation general secretary), Serge Larzabal (Trade union representative, and current SWWAC's vice chair).

A scientific paper is under preparation by Miguel Gaspar (IPMA)

# Methodology implemented to deliver the third specific objective

- **The same methodology used to deliver the first two objectives did also contribute to deliver this objective**
- From the key factors for an efficient representation of the fishing fleet's interests (deliverable 5), **main needs have been pointed either regarding the fishing organization itself or considering external conditions**, and 11 recommendations have been produced.
- **These recommendations have been assembled to produce guidelines (deliverable 7) for which a designer has been hired to edit the document in each language** (English, French, Spanish, Portuguese). The brochures have been sent directly to more than 200 fishing organizations throughout the SWWAC's area. They were also distributed to last SWWAC's meetings in Santiago de Compostela.
- In order to produce the **deliverable 7, the EMFF regulation was analyzed** to identify all possible articles which could answer the different recommendations. Farnet's coordinator and the European Commission were requested to comment on these possibilities. After that, **the 3 different operational programs (from Portugal, Spain, France) were analyzed to check whether the relevant articles were open for funding** in order to adapt the guidelines for each member state.
- **Networking** has been constant throughout the lifespan of the project: with TBTI European network (mails' exchanges with scientist), the three project's reviewers (organization of 4 review meetings), presentations made at each SWWAC meeting (April 2016, October 2016, May 2017 and October 2017). Results and main findings have also been presented at different seminars: TBTI seminar in July 2016 in Tenerife, EAFE seminar in Dublin in April 2017, International congress on small-scale fishing in Conil in October 2017, and the European seminar on the future of the EMFF in Tallinn in October 2017.
- **To be continued ...** Guidelines should be put on the Farnet's website. A scientific paper (and even two) would be prepared by Miguel Gaspar (IPMAR). Fishing organizations may use the guidelines to build projects and initiatives for the small-scale fishing sector.

# Comments regarding the third specific objective

- **Deliverable 6 / Main issues to be underlined :**
  - **Technical expertise is lacking** for many fishing organization which hinder them to fully contribute to the decision-making process
  - **Diversity of opinions is insufficiently taken into account** by the organizations which tend to push for consensus
  - **Fishing organization's chairs or representatives** do have key role but they are insufficiently trained and they would need to be compensated to participate to external meetings
  - The **European fisheries management model** would need to further **manage coastal fisheries with adequate tools** (and probably more base on fishing effort and technical conservation measures) and **give responsibilities to local fishing organizations**
- **Deliverable 7 / Main issues to be underlined :**
  - **Existing networks** could help to build such initiatives and get the funding while small fishing organizations do have difficulties to have access to the EMFF funding
  - **The FLAG's network may play a very positive role** on fostering the building and funding of such initiatives. It may also **strategically work on developing a baseline for small-scale fishing management** within the current Common Fisheries Policy.
- **Deliverable 8 / Main issues to be underlined :**
  - **Trainings should have direct link with the day to day job** as fishers are mainly not interested in theories but in facts
  - It is however important to give them a **wider perspective on the fisheries world** listing the different players
  - **The whole decision-making process should be explained through *in situ* visits** in fishing organizations, scientific institutes, European institutions, ...testimonies, examples
  - While trainings should be based on fisher's daily reality, they would also be triggered by **disseminating to them main issues and stakes they may encounter and what training or institution can bring solutions.**

