



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN**

**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES POUR
LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



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(DRAFT)

Committee on Aquaculture

Workshop on National legislation on Siting, Monitoring programme and on Environmental Impact Assessment for finfish marine aquaculture (*ShocMed*)
(13-14 July 2009 Vigo, Spain)¹

Centro Tecnológico del Mar-Fundación CETMAR.

Draft annotated agenda and Timetable

Monday 13th July

Morning session (9.30 – 13.00)

1. Opening and arrangement of the meeting (*Local authorities*)

2. Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda of the meeting will be introduced and discussed (CETMAR)

3. Working Group on Siting and Carrying Capacity (WGSC) and ShocMed Project.

The progress made on the activities of the Subsidiary Bodies of the Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ, the GFCM Working Group on Siting and Carrying Capacity (WGSC) and on the state of implementation of the activities of ShocMed programme in support of the WGSC will be presented (GFCM Secretariat / Coordinator of the WGSC)

¹ the prospectus of this Workshop is in Appendix.

4. Key issues: Licensing procedure and Environmental Impact Assessment in Europe and in the Mediterranean countries.

The current situation regarding the licensing procedures applied at European level and at national level in the different countries will be presented. Attention will be given to the environmental aspects; site selection for aquaculture, environmental impact and environmental monitoring will be also presented (farmers associations, countries experts, local authorities)

Discussion

5. Environmental impact assessment and monitoring in aquaculture in Mediterranean countries.

The most recent technical reviews and guidelines on the environmental impact' assessment and environmental monitoring as well as environmental regulation methods in aquaculture in Mediterranean countries will be presented

Discussion

Afternoon session (14.30 – 17.00)

6. Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Analysis

The conclusion obtained from the questionnaires sent to the different Mediterranean countries and referred to different legal and administrative aspects (organizational system, site selection, planning, monitoring, environmental impact, etc.) will be presented and discussed. These will be based on the ShocMed questionnaires and on the other sources of information analyzing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of aquaculture legal system in Mediterranean countries (CETMAR).

General Discussion

Tuesday 14th July

Morning session (9.30 – 13.00)

7. Aquaculture Planning

The aquaculture planning models existing in Mediterranean countries and related to the allocation of areas for the marine aquaculture will be presented . Discussion about best practices in aquaculture planning and models.

8. Site selection criteria

Presentation and discussion of a synthesis of environmental and technical criteria used for site selection. Discussion will be also focused on existing information on environmental quality standards for aquaculture. The main parameters considered essential to be monitored during the aquaculture activities at Mediterranean level will be presented and discussed .

9. Conclusion

Specific suggestion, identification/updating of priorities issues will be discussed among participant. Particular attention will be given to the priorities issues to be addressed on the major gaps in regulation, reporting and communication of monitoring program. The conclusions will be also incorporated in the report of the first year of ShocMed project.

Workshop on National legislation on Siting, Monitoring programme and Environmental Impact Assessment regulatory framework for finfish marine aquaculture (*ShocMed*) (13-14 July 2009 Vigo, Spain)

Prospectus

The Project in support to the activities of the GFCM-CAQ Working Group on Siting and Carrying Capacity (WGSC) ShocMed “*Developing siting and carrying capacity guidelines for Mediterranean aquaculture within aquaculture appropriate areas*” is funded with the contribution of European Commission (EC) DG Mare and is operative since the October 2008.

The aim of ShocMed is to produce criteria for enhancing the integration of aquaculture in Coastal Zone Management by improving site selection and holding capacity standards, in order to provide a basis for harmonization of standards, policies and legal frameworks across the Mediterranean thus ensuring equal terms of market competition and minimal environmental damage.

For the implementation of ShocMed, the GFCM has envisaged a series of activities including, among others: a review on major gaps in regulations; reporting and communication of the monitor programmes of the aquaculture regulation; a review on existing procedures for site selection used across the Mediterranean; and an evaluation of the impact of the regulatory schemes and Environmental Impact Assessment procedures.

A meeting of the WGSC was convened at University of Biology of Crete (Greece, October 2008). and focused its discussions on: the parameters for monitoring aquaculture activities; salient aquaculture impacts on the environment; gaps concerning the legal framework for site selection and the implementation of the workplan of ShocMed. During the meeting the issue of “Legal framework for site selection for aquaculture activities in the Mediterranean” was discussed mainly based on the data collected by CETMAR within the framework of the IUCN/FEAP document “*Guide on Site Selection and Site Management*” and taking into consideration the FAO NALO database. The WGSC among other considered that deeper analysis covering all the Mediterranean countries is necessary to achieve a clear understanding of the legal framework on aquaculture with particular attention to the analysis of the criteria and regulatory system applied and on the national enforcement in application of EIA and in monitoring and protecting benthic habitats.

Within the framework of the CAQ-WGSC, the GFCM agreed to hold a “*Workshop on National legislation on Siting, Monitoring programmes and EIA regulatory framework for finfish marine aquaculture (ShocMed)*”.

Meeting objectives:

The aim of this workshop is to present and discuss on the main key issues on the licensing procedures in the Mediterranean countries. In addition the workshop will focus on the environmental aspects related to the site selection and to the environmental impact and monitoring activities.

Furthermore the workshop has been assigned the following objectives:

- a. discuss the main feature related to the National legislation on Siting, Monitoring programmes and EIA regulatory framework for finfish marine aquaculture

- b. make a synthesis of the questionnaires sent to the different Mediterranean countries in the different legal and administrative aspects in monitoring aquaculture activities in order to identify the main priorities in terms of i) licensing procedures; ii) aquaculture planning, iii) environmental protection and iv) site selection;
- c. to bring together experts from different Mediterranean countries and present their experience and to illustrate the main environmental aspects related to the site selection and to the environmental impact and monitoring;
- d. to agree on the priorities issues to be addressed on the major gaps in regulation, reporting and communication of monitoring program of finfish marine aquaculture including legal aspects and administrative producers.

Workshop aim features:

The workshop is a closed working session.

Participation is open to experts linked to the aquaculture issues in the GFCM member countries. A number of experts will be invited in their individual capacity from a range of disciplines (technical, legal, policy, environment, etc.), having direct involvement in the aspects related to the site selection and monitoring marine aquaculture. Active participation from attendees and their inputs on the issues covered are crucial to ensure the success of the workshop.

The outputs of the workshop will serve as basic contribution for the production of criteria and related guidelines for aquaculture site selection in the GFCM region within the activities of CAQ-WGSC (ShocMed Project).

The outputs of the workshop will be incorporated in the final report of the first year of ShocMed project.

Support documents:

Report of the - GFCM-CAQ Working Group on Siting and Carrying Capacity (Crete, Greece 21-23 October 2008) <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/meeting/014/aj319e.pdf>

The IUCN Guideline “*Aquaculture site selection and site management*” 2nd Guide for the Sustainable Development of Mediterranean Aquaculture, will be available for the participants before the meeting.

Date and Venue

The Workshop on *National legislation on Siting, Monitoring programmes and EIA regulatory framework for finfish marine aquaculture* will be held from 7th to 8th July, 2009 in Vigo, Spain organized in cooperation with and kindly hosted by Centro Tecnológico del Mar-Fundación CETMAR <http://www.cetmar.org/en/default.aspx> .