



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



General Fisheries
Commission for
the Mediterranean

Small-Scale Fishers' Forum

**“Connecting scientists and fishers in the process towards data collection and management of European eel in the Mediterranean”
Second workshop**

Orbetello, Italy / Hybrid
28 February 2023 – 2 March 2023

Annotated Agenda

MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY

- *Arrival at hotel*
- *Dinner (departure from hotel at 20:00)*

TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY

09.30–18.00 (CET) (departure from hotel at 9.00)

- 1. Welcome, introduction of participants and introduction to the SSF Forum (9:30-10:00)**
- 2. Overview of the GFCM European eel activities (10:00-11:00)**
 - *Introductory video*
 - *GFCM Decisions (45th session of the GFCM Commission) and future work*
 - *Discussion*

Coffee break (11:00-11:20)

- 3. Select case studies and best practices in the management of European eel in the Mediterranean (11:20-13:00)**
 - *Coastal lagoon fisheries over time: environmental management and resources valorization in Orbetello lagoon (Italy), with specific reference to the eel*
 - *European eel fishery management in Ghar el Melh & Northern Tunis lagoons (Tunisia), and perspectives for fisher-scientist collaborations*
 - *Eel fishery and research in Sardinia (Italy) for a sustainable stock management*
 - *Historical aspects of eel fisheries in the Tevere river (Italy) and their evolution from commercial fisheries to scientific monitoring*
 - *Discussion*

Welcome from the President of the Province of Grosseto and Lunch (13:00-14:30)

3. Select case studies and best practices in the management of European eel in the Mediterranean (cont.) (14:30-18:00)

- Collaboration between fishers and scientists in the evaluation of the European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) local stock and the silvering process, in the Karavasta lagoon (Albania)
- Fishers and scientists together: the case of Lake Vistonida (NE Greece)
- Eel fisheries in the Koygeciz Lagoon (Türkiye): establishing collaboration with scientists
- Eel fisheries in Lake Brollous (Egypt), and future perspectives for eel monitoring

Coffee break (16:10-16:30)

- Collaboration between scientists and the concessionaire in El Mellah and Oubeira lagoons (Algeria), to set up a monitoring system for eel
- Silver eel releases in the French Mediterranean: an example of close cooperation between fishers, scientists and the administration to study and manage an endangered species
- *Discussion*

Gala Dinner (20:00) (departure from hotel at 19:30)

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH

08.30–18.00 (CET) (departure from hotel at 8.15)

4. Excursion to the Orbetello lagoon (8:30-13:30)

- Visit of work houses with a fisher's breakfast (at the Nassa fishfarm)
- Tour of the lagoon cleaning facilities (including collection of seaweed)

Lunch (13:30-15:00)

5. The fishing history, sustainable exploitation and management model of Europe's largest wild eel fishery, the Lough Neagh Fishers Co-operative Society, Northern Ireland; experiences between researchers and fishers from beyond the Mediterranean (15:00-15:30)

6. Socio-economic survey of European eel fisheries in the Mediterranean (15:30-16:00)

7. Informal discussion: giving voice to the fishers on the way forward and capacity building needs (16:00-18:00)

- Common needs and challenges
- Way forward in scientist-fisher collaboration: an eel monitoring network for eel and eel habitats across the Mediterranean
- The second phase of the GFCM eel research programme
- Capacity building activities in the context of the SSF Forum

Dinner (20:30) (departure from hotel at 20:00)

THURSDAY 2 MARCH
09.00–11.30 hours (CET)

8. Presentation of conclusions (9:00-11:00)

Coffee break and end of workshop