

CopeMed II Workshop on methodologies for the identification of stock units in the Alboran Sea

3-6 April 2017, Alicante, Spain

Venue: Casa Mediterráneo. Plaza del arquitecto Miguel López, s/n, Alicante.

Draft Agenda

Monday 3rd April 19:00

1. Opening session

*Welcome event by the local organizers: Casa Mediterráneo and Spanish authorities.
Social dinner*

Tuesday 4th April 9:00 to 18:00

2. Overview of current knowledge and uncertainties about stock boundaries in the Alboran Sea based on different methods:
 - Hydrological connectivity and physical breaks of Alboran Sea.
 - Larval drifting and migrations.
 - Genetic markers (mitochondrial and nuclear)
 - Morphometry and meristics.
 - Parasites as natural markers.

Wednesday 5th April 9:00 to 18:00

- Growth marks and elemental composition of otoliths.
- Stable Isotopes Analysis.
- Life history traits (growth, reproduction, length-at-age, body condition)
- Fisheries characteristics (history of fisheries, spatial distribution of fishing-grounds, historical trends of CPUE and stock status indicators)
- Spatial distribution of Essential Fish Habitats.
- Multi-dimensional identification of stocks: the STOCKMED approach.

Thursday 6th April 9:00 to 18:00

3. Discussion about suitable methodologies, data and resources needs to enhance the knowledge on stock units in the Alboran Sea.
4. Development of a sub-regional medium term research program for the definition of stocks units of selected species in the Alboran Sea.
5. Conclusions and recommendations. Closure of the meeting

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Background and objectives

According to the assessment done in the last years, stocks fished in the Alboran sea (GSAs 01, 02, 03 and 04) are below or close to safe biological limits. These assessments have also evidenced that the different fleets operating in the area exhibit different exploitation patterns. These facts together with differences observed in the biological parameters and size distributions of the species fished in both sides of the Alboran sea have lead the scientists to pose questions about the delimitation of the stocks in the area. After recommendations made by the 39th Session of GFCM and the SAC 18th, the CopeMed II project decided, at its 9th Session of the Coordination Committee to convene an experts meeting (3rd -6th April 2017) to discuss about potential methods for the identification of stock units in the Alboran sea. The main outcome of this technical workshop would be the design of a research program (one to two years) to be covered by the CopeMed II project to define the stock units of one or two priority species. This will help managers to adopt scientific based decisions on the management of these common stocks.

The workshop will consist of technical discussions preceded by introductory sessions by the experts on the description and suitability of the different available methods for this type of studies.

Language

The meeting will be carried out in English.

Participation and Registration

The meeting is open to scientists and fishery experts of the national institutions from western Mediterranean countries.

To register, please send an e-mail to Copemed@fao.org indicating your name and affiliation and the title and abstract of your contribution.

CopeMed II has limited funds to cover travel expenses.

Only participants, who will present a scientific communication and will be nominated by the National Focal Points, will be taken in charge.

Accommodation

All funded participants will be lodged in Hotel AC Alicante, in city center and at one minute walking distance from the meeting venue.

Travel Information

Visa

Should you need a VISA to enter to Spain, you are kindly invited to independently handle the application procedures in due time with the Spanish Embassy in your respective countries. Should an invitation letter be needed to support the application, please do not hesitate to contact the Project.

Flights

There are domestic and international flights that connect Alicante to the main cities in Spain, Europe and Africa. Arrival at the Alicante airport “El Altet airport” is 11 km from the city center. Taxi or bus services are available 24 h.

Trains

RENFE runs daily routes from and to Madrid (3 hours) and Barcelona (5 hours). Find AVE (high-speed train) timetables at: www.renfe.es

Other hotels in the city (for not funded participants)

HOTEL EUROSTARS LUCENTUM ALICANTE*****

Avda. Alfonso X el Sabio, 11 - 03002 Alicante
Booking: +34 96 659 07 00

HOTEL MELIA ALICANTE *****

Plaza del Puerto, nº 3 - 03001 Alicante
Booking: +34 96 514 80 60

HOTEL TRYP GRAN SOL ALICANTE*****

Rambla Méndez Núñez, 3 - 03002 Alacant
Booking: +34 902 14 44 40

HOTEL ABBA CENTRUM ALICANTE*****

C/ Pintor Lorenzo Casanova, 31 – 03003
Booking: +34 965 13 04 40

HOTEL SPA PORTA MARIS & SUITES DEL MAR*****

Plaza Puerta del Mar, 3, 03002 Alicante
Booking: +34 965.14.70.21 email: reservas@hotelspaportamaris.com

HOTEL HOSPES AMERIGO*****

C/Rafael Altamira, 7 | 03002 Alicante
Booking: +34 965 14 65 70; reservations.amerigo@hospes.com