



Coordination to Support Fisheries Management in the
Western and Central Mediterranean. CopeMed Phase II
(GCP/INT/028/SPA; GCP/INT/006/EC) and
ArtFiMed (GCP/RAB/005/SPA)



FAO CopeMed II CC04/2011/03

4th Meeting of the CopeMed II Coordination Committee Madrid, Spain 28-29 April 2011

Report on the intersessional activities of the Project ArtFiMed (May 2010-March 2011)

Introduction

ArtFiMed (*Sustainable Development of Artisanal Mediterranean Fisheries in Morocco and Tunisia*) coordinated by CopeMed II, is a pilot project implemented in three sites: Ghannouch and Akarit in Tunisia and Dikky in Morocco. Main goal of ArtFiMed is improving the livelihood of fishers and his families, but the whole artisanal system (fisheries, resources, marketing, intermediaries, social and economic aspects, including education) is a target.

Overall Objective

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to reduce the poverty of the target artisanal fisheries communities by improving their livelihood in the respect of the ecosystems which they exploit as to contribute to improve positive integration of these communities in the dynamic which affect them directly, in particular the management of fisheries and the development of the coastal areas.

Summary of Immediate Objectives and Expected Results

Immediate objectives are:

1. To contribute improving the socio-economic situation and sustainable livelihood of the target communities in Morocco and Tunisia.
2. To promote and extend the results of the project to other artisanal areas based on lessons learned through implementation and the application of methodologies.
3. To reinforce the information base line on Mediterranean artisanal fisheries.

The expected results concern three different levels:

1. Results obtained at the three artisanal communities where the project is carried out (i.e. Dikky in Morocco; Ghannouch and El Akarit in Tunisia);
2. Results obtained at country level (Morocco and Tunisia) and particularly with regard to the promotion of the artisanal fisheries at national scale; and
3. Results obtained at the GFCM level, strengthening the artisanal fisheries information and promoting lessons learned and methodologies in the region.

PROGRESS REGISTERED FROM MAY 2010 TO APRIL 2011

Objective 1. To contribute in improving the socio-economic situation and sustainable livelihood of the target communities in Morocco and Tunisia.

1.2. Identification and planning

- The participatory identification of priority activities to be undertaken under the project is a permanent process with beneficiaries and actors in Morocco and Tunisia, coordinated in the framework of an internal (FAO) and regional process:
 - ArtFiMed Internal Committee (CPSI). Last meeting was held in November 2010 in Tunis.
 - FAO Mediterranean project's Coordination meetings (December 2010, Malta), (January 2011, Italia) and (February 2011, Marseille)

1.3. Implementation

Promotion and support to sustainable fisheries

ArtFiMed promotes responsible fisheries through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) principles and the dissemination of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF):

- **Support/reinforce the collaboration process between fisheries actors (Administration, research and profession) for sustainable fisheries management:**

ArtFiMed meetings and activities contributed to create/reinforce the dialogue and the understanding between the fisheries actors. All the followings contributed to this result:

 - Fishermen Cooperative creation process in Tunisia and Morocco
 - Small scale fisheries day organization and preparatory meetings in Tunisia and Morocco
 - Consultation for revision the small scale fisheries monitoring system in Tunisia
 - Meeting on illegal practices in Tunisia
 - Training on safety at sea in Morocco and Tunisia
 - Trainings and dissemination on fisheries legislation in Tunisia
- **Contribute to disseminate the fisheries legislation and the good practices**

ArtFiMed is working on field guides and material on small scale fisheries legislation and good practices in the 3 sites: (Documents in preparation)

 - Small scale fisheries in the Gabès region (Tunisia)
 - Landed species guide in Gabès and El Akarit (Tunisia)
 - Guide on small scale fishing gears in the Gabès region (Tunisia)
 - Small scale fisheries in Dikky (Morocco)
 - Landed species guide in Dikky (Morocco)
 - Guide on small scale fishing gears in Dikky (Morocco)
 - Authorized landed sizes; Measurement guide of species landed by the small scale fishery in Dikky (Morocco) and El Akarit (Tunisia)
 - The code of the fisherman good practices in Tunisia
 - Risks to human health associated to the exploitation and consumption of shellfish in the area of El Akarit (Tunisia) during closures
 - Management of clam fishing area in El Akarit (Tunisia)

- **Support the monitoring of the small scale fisheries activities**

Monitoring fishing activities is a component of the project essential to have information and statistics of the activity in the various project sites. A system for regular monitoring was established to:

- Monitor the activity and review developments in the fishing and marketing of products
- Update the information collected during the diagnostic phase on the economic viability of fisheries
- Provide the necessary information for calculating indicators for the project monitoring system

Despite common goals, this monitoring system has been implemented according to the specificities of each site. However, for reasons of durability and consistency with the project objectives, and in particular the co-management vision, monitoring is provided by members of the fishing community. ArtFiMed selected and trained human resource in each site to enable them to provide reliable and regular information on their own activities.

- **Support fishermen's organization**

Through a participatory process with beneficiaries and actors ArtFiMed supported the creation of producers' organizations in Tunisia and in Morocco:

- Facilitating the process of consultation with fishers to identify the needs and expectations of the fishermen and the roles of the future cooperative.
- Preparing a proposal for formulation of a cooperative agreement and conducting a consultation to review and adopt the statutes.
- Supporting the organization and holding of the Constituent General Assembly of the fishing cooperative
- Overseeing the Dikky fishing cooperative in its initial stage on:
 - the administrative and financial management of cooperatives;
 - Support for integrated cooperative network of existing fishing cooperatives (Cooperative Union of the Northern Region)
 - Solve some problems of members.
- Facilitating the process of consultation with fishers to develop a Protocol for management of winches by the cooperative of Dikky.

(The planned activities with the Tunisian fishermen organization in Ghannouch were postponed due to the situation in Tunisia)

- **Contribute to prevent and deter unreported unregulated fishing activities**

In Ghannouch (Tunisia) ArtFiMed organized a participatory process and meeting with fisheries administration, local authority and fishermen organizations to reduce illegal practices and use of destructive fishing techniques and practices and to promote sustainable fisheries.

Moreover, as a large number of fishermen are illegal because of non-registration of their boats, ArtFiMed assisted them to prepare an application for regularization of these boats, for the Fisheries Department. From an initial list of 100 boats, the authorities have initiated the process of regularization of 50 boats, which should allow the owner to comply with fisheries legislation and thus be eligible for social coverage and facilities provided for the small scale fisheries sector development.

In Akarit (Tunisia) the development of toxic algal blooms is a major problem for the women collecting clams, which results in making this fishing activity very precarious and potentially dangerous for consumers. ArtFiMed fishing monitoring system in Akarit reveals an important illegal activity, practiced during the closure of the fishing area.

A training and awareness process is organized with women, researchers and authorities and shall proceed in the coming months.

- **Enhance safety at sea and improve the working conditions**

ArtFiMed support the provision of mechanical winches for fishermen organization in Dikky. The locations for the installation of these winches (under construction) have been identified by fishermen themselves. A Protocol for the management of winches by the cooperative is in progress.

- **Support the fisheries product transformation and quality**

ArtFiMed is organizing training on quality and transformation of fisheries products for women in Tunisia. Indeed, it has been identified possibility of processing fishery products by fisher's wives in Ghannouch.

ArtFiMed is organizing training on quality and hygiene of processing fishery products and opportunities for enhancement and conservation of sardines, currently poorly valued.

Sustainable livelihood and socioeconomic development

The small scale fishing communities living in very difficult social and economic conditions, due to irregular and declining revenues generated by this activity. The dependency of this community to the fishing activity is very important, because of the lack of alternatives due to the low access of social, health, education and financial facilities.

To improve living conditions and try to reduce the vulnerability of artisanal fishing communities ArtFiMed encourages diversification and development of alternative income generating activities.

- The project supported the creation of a women's organization in Morocco and the training of its members on administrative and financial management of collective organizations and alternative income-generating activities.
- With the same purpose, it also organized and supported technical training for fishers (men and women) on:
 - Design and repair of small scale fishing nets (6 month on-the-job training for 25 women)
 - Artisanal fisheries legislation (2 weeks training for 25 women)
 - Beekeeping for Moroccan small scale fishing families (1 week and on-the-job for 10 fishermen)
 - Manual and traditional Tunisian embroidery for women collecting clams in Tunisia (6 month on-the-job training for 25 women)
 - Traditional carpet weaving for women collecting clams in Tunisia; (10 month practical on-the-job for 25 women)
- ArtFiMed supports the development of alternative income generating activities initiated
 - Support the promotion of artisanal products in Tunisia (products guide in preparation)
 - Support the beekeeping production (Support the creation of a cooperative and technical support from the production to the commercialization of the products). Those activities should allow the beneficiaries to receive some facilities (materiel, technical support, subsidies...) from the Moroccan Agricultural Ministry

Objective 2. To promote and extend the results of the project to other artisanal areas based on lessons learnt through implementation and the application of methodologies.

2.1-2.3. Identification of indicators, monitoring system elaboration and implementation

A document has been finished defining the ArtFiMed protocol for monitoring activities and indicators. The monitoring system, involving members of the fishing communities and professionals, has been implemented in each site to collect fisheries-related information and statistical data and is operational. All this information is recorded in a database in the project's offices.

2.4. Information and communication

Activities related to the project's visibility, public and media information and priority information on the results and follow-up to be transmitted to FAO, the donors and the countries involved.

- In order to contribute to the dissemination of documents and information on the implementation of the activities, the project website www.faoartfimed.org is periodically updated. Moreover, the project elaborated and distributed several posters and informative flyers.
- The project participated in different national and international meetings and Workshop, promoting the results obtained and the role of artisanal fisheries, including: the CopeMed II annual Coordination Committee meeting and the coordination meeting between the different FAO Mediterranean projects; GFCM Subcommittees, SAC and Commission meeting; Technical meeting with Fishery ministry and national fisheries institutions in Morocco and Tunisia; Training course in CIHEAM, Zaragoza (Spain) on artisanal fisheries products markets and on gear selectivity; an Extraordinary Meeting of the Focal Points for SPAs and the 2nd Meeting of the SAP BIO National Correspondents (Istanbul, Turkey).

Reinforcement of the regional cooperation with the FAO subregional projects

In order to consolidate and coordinate common activities to strengthen international and regional cooperation, CopeMed II and ArtFiMed interacts closely with the other FAO Regional Projects, mainly with MedSudMed and GEF-MedLME and participating in the Coordination Committees of the other projects.

- Coordination between the different FAO project's experts and meetings were carried out during the Sub Committees meeting in Malta and the SAC meeting in Marseille (France).
- A Coordination meeting within FIRF (Marine and Island Fisheries Service, Fisheries Department, FAO) was organised during January 2011 with the participation of the Mediterranean projects CopeMed II and ArtFiMed.
- The project staff participated at a retreat meeting organised by FAO-FIRF Service to review the Medium Term Plan 2010-13 and prepare the work programme for the biennium 2012-13.
- CopeMed II staff helped the EastMed staff in implementing different FAO procedures during the first months of the project.
- The FAO Mediterranean Projects, namely AdriaMed, MedSudMed, CopeMed II, EastMed, ArtFiMed, MedFisis and the GEF-supported Partnership for the Mediterranean (MED-LME) were present during the COFI meeting with a joint stand. Documents and products, including posters and flyers were available to the participants.
- Finally, representatives of CopeMed II/ArtFiMed were present during the Coordination meeting of AdriaMed (Slovenia), and EastMed (Turkey) presenting the progress of the two

projects and supporting and coordinating with the other projects activities on common objectives.

2.5. Facilitate the involvement of authorities and stakeholders in the activities.

All the activities implemented in the framework of ArtFiMed, follows a process of consultation with beneficiaries and authorities, by involving all the relevant actors, from the identification until the implementation phase. This allows not only to keep all partners informed about the project activities, but also to involve the authorities and stakeholders in project implementation and achievement of expected results.

2.6. Dissemination of results to the authorities and competent bodies and identifying needs for consolidation and extension of learning

Due to the ArtFiMed and CopeMed II experiences and results on fisheries monitoring system and statistics, Tunisia Direction General for Fisheries and Aquaculture requested the projects support and expertise, to assess the current national system for monitoring artisanal fisheries. ArtFiMed and CopeMed II are working with Tunisian fisheries actors to identify and implement a monitoring system, which will produce updated statistical data on artisanal fisheries to provide the necessary data for the sustainable management of small scale fisheries. The project recruited an international expert on fisheries statistics and two national experts (one from the DG Fisheries and Aquaculture and one from the INSTM) to support the activities of the international expert during a programmed visit. A one-week visit of this expert to Tunisia is planned for the end of April 2011 aiming to contribute to:

- Evaluate the current systems for collecting statistics related with the artisanal fisheries
- Prepare a proposal for implementing a new statistical systems, and
- Prepare a draft project document PCT to help the DGPA in implementing a new artisanal fisheries statistics system in Tunisia.

Due to the project experiences in monitoring small scale fisheries, ArtFiMed is involved in the Mediterranean GEF LME project, Sub-Component 3.2. *Promote the Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources in the Mediterranean through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries*, and particularly in the implementation of the activity 3.2.3 *to support fisher's participation in monitoring and management of coastal MPA's*. That mean ArtFiMed experience is supporting the participation of the fishing communities on the monitoring of fishing activities and will contribute to the diffusion of the results and to build sustainable consultation mechanism for the elaboration and implementation of management measures in a MPA.

Objective 3. To reinforce the information base line on Mediterranean artisanal fisheries.

3.1. Identification and monitoring of indicators at regional scale

Information and data on national artisanal fisheries is necessary for the management of fisheries and other coastal activities, although countries do not always carry out periodical sampling. ArtFiMed, by preparing diagnostic reports and follow-up methodologies, contribute to reinforce the national information and also the regional information and databases.

3.2. Promotion and Experience sharing

ArtFiMed prepare publications on small-scale fisheries in Tunisia and Morocco, to contribute to promote sustainable fisheries and disseminate the ArtFiMed results, regarding the specificity of the small scale fisheries, the fishing gears and techniques, the landed species, and the fisheries legislation.

3.3. Project promotion and improvement of artisanal fisheries database

In coordination with the Fisheries administrations in both countries, ArtFiMed is working on the organization of a small scale fisheries day in Tunisia and Morocco. The main objective of this meeting is to contribute to better understanding the role of the artisanal fisheries in the context of the national fisheries, promotion and visualization of the artisanal fisheries and reinforce the information base on Mediterranean small scale Fisheries. These two national events will be held the 2 of June 2011 in Tangier (Morocco) and the 22 of June in Tunis, with a large representation of stakeholders involved in small scale fisheries at national, regional and global level.

ArtFiMed Reports:

Technical documents

CopeMed II and ArtFiMed maintain a series of Technical documents and a series of internal documents. The list of technical documents produced by CopeMed II and ArtFiMed are available to the national focal points and donors in www.faoartfimed.org.

Reports and publication in preparation:

1. La pêche artisanale dans la région de Gabès (Tunisie)
2. Guide des principales espèces débarquées par la pêche artisanale dans la région de Gabès (Tunisie)
3. Guide sur les engins utilisés par la pêche artisanale dans la région de Gabès (Tunisie)
4. La pêche artisanale dans la région de Dikky (Maroc)
5. Guide des principales espèces débarquées par la pêche artisanale à Dikky (Maroc)
6. Guide sur les engins utilisés par la pêche artisanale à Dikky (Maroc)
7. Le code du pêcheur en Tunisie (Tunisie)
8. Diagnostique de la filière apicole dans la région de Tanger (Maroc)
9. Situation actuelle de la pêcherie du thon rouge dans le détroit de Gibraltar en Méditerranée Marocaine (Maroc)
10. Les risques sanitaires liés à l'exploitation des coquillages dans la zone de El Akarit (Tunisie)
11. La gestion des sites de collecte de palourdes dans la zone de El Akarit (Tunisie)

Internal documents (Cf Annexe 1)

ArtFiMed internal document includes:

- A monthly report of activities by the national responsible of Morocco and Tunisia;
- Fields reports after each duty travel of the national responsible in Tunisia and Morocco.
- Fields reports on the fisheries activities and updated database monthly in the three sites.

Travel Reports (Back to Office Reports)

Internal report to inform the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department are produced after each duty travel of the staff:

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed BTOR Istanbul (Turkey) 05/2010 Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Casablanca y Rabat (Morocco) 09/2010: Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tunis and Gabès, Tunisia (19-22/10/2010) Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tunis, (11/2010) Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Malta, 12-2010 GFCM SAC Sub-committees. Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Rome, December 2010, EAF Training, Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tangier, February 2010, ArtFiMed activities, Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tangier, February 2010, CopeMed & ArtFiMed activities, Camiñas & Bernardon

Progress reports

ArtFiMed reports to Spain every 6 months to inform the donor (AECID) on the progress achieved and the planned activities.

GFCM reports

In coordination with the other FAO subregional projects, ArtFiMed produces an annual report to inform the SAC and an annual report to inform the CGFM on the main achievements of the project.

Activities related with the donor (AECID, Spain)

Contacts with the donor have been maintained: telephone and mail contacts; visits to Madrid and meeting with the AECID Technical Cooperation Officers during visits to the African countries.

- At request of the SG del Mar, the project' staff prepared a draft proposal in March 2011 to extend CopeMed II, including the activities of ArtFiMed for 3 additional years.
- A meeting with AECID in October 2010 and discussion by email and telephone along the year facilitating the coordination and flow of information.
- The project has reported twice a year to the Spanish donors on the activities of the project.
- AECID agreed in the extension, without increasing the budget, of the activities of ArtFiMed until the end of July 2011.
- The donor (including technical offices) has been invited and/or in copy of all the activities carried out by the project.

Project Coordination and Management, Information and Communication.

The fourth meeting of the ArtFiMed internal coordination committee (CPSI) was organized in Tunisia (November, 2010). The objectives of this coordination meeting were the monitoring and discussion of the activities implementation and planning and the project work plan. This meeting permitted to coordinate the project activities and exchange between staff on lessons learned and experiences in Morocco and Tunisia. A report of the meeting was produced.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS BY THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee is invited to review the ArtFiMed Year 3 Progress report and to advise the Project staff on the necessary actions to be included in the annual Planning.

Annex 1: ArtFiMed Monitoring system and publication

ArtFiMed National Project Personal Reports to Malaga (May 2010-March 2011)

	Activity reports		Field reports	
	Morocco	Tunisia	Morocco	Tunisia
May	1	1	1	1
June	1	1	4	3
July	1	1	5	5
August	1	1	4	2
September	1	1	5	3
October	1	1	9	4
November	1	1	4	3
December	1	1	5	5
January	1	1	4	3
February	1	1	4	1
March	1	1	6	1
TOTAL	11	11	51	31

ArtFiMed Fishing Activities monitoring system (FAMS)

Akarit (Tunisia)

- **Authorized clam Fishing season 2009-2010 (November to May):**
Database updated from November 2009 to May 2010
- **Authorized clam Fishing season 2010-2011 (November to May):**
Database updated from November 2010 to March 2011

Ghannouch (Tunisia)

- Fishing activity monitoring: Database updated from 1 November 2009 to 31 December 2010
- Fishing gear pilot selectivity study : March to December 2010

Dikky (Morocco)

- Fishing activity monitoring Database updated from March 2009 to December 2010

ArtFiMed staff Back to office reports to Rome

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed BTOR Istanbul (Turkey) 05/2010 Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Casablanca y Rabat (Morocco) 09/2010: Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tunis and Gabès, Tunisia (19-22/10/2010) Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tunis, (11/2010) Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Malta, 12-2010 GFCM SAC Sub-committees. Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Rome, December 2010, EAF Training, Camiñas & Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tangier, February 2010, ArtFiMed activities, Bernardon

BTOR CopeMedII/ArtFiMed Tangier, February 2010, CopeMed & ArtFiMed activities, Camiñas & Bernardon

ArtFiMed: Reports and publication in preparation:
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12. La pêche artisanale dans la région de Gabès (Tunisie)
13. Guide des principales espèces débarquées par la pêche artisanale dans la région de Gabès (Tunisie)
14. Guide sur les engins utilisés par la pêche artisanale dans la région de Gabès (Tunisie)
15. La pêche artisanale dans la région de Dikky (Maroc)
16. Guide des principales espèces débarquées par la pêche artisanale à Dikky (Maroc)
17. Guide sur les engins utilisés par la pêche artisanale à Dikky (Maroc)
18. Le code du pêcheur en Tunisie (Maroc)
19. Diagnostic de la filière apicole dans la région de Tanger (Maroc)
20. Situation actuelle de la pêcherie du thon rouge dans le détroit de Gibraltar en Méditerranée Marocaine (Maroc)
21. Les risques sanitaires liés à l'exploitation des coquillages dans la zone de El Akarit (Tunisie)
22. La gestion des sites de collecte de palourdes dans la zone de El Akarit (Tunisie)