



Ca' Foscari University of Venice

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: SMARTFISH, Valorisation of SMAll-scale ARTisanal FISHery of the Adriatic coasts, in a context of sustainability

FUNDING PROGRAMME: INTERREG ITALIA – CROAZIA 2014-2020

CALL: Call 2017 Standard

SCIENTIFIC FIELDS: Blue innovation

HOST DEPARTMENTS: Agri-Environment, Hunting And Fishery Direction, Veneto Region
Department Of Environmental Sciences, Informatics And Statistics, Ca' Foscari University Venice

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Fabio Pranovi

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 3.254.230,50	€ 391.425,00

ABSTRACT:

Artisanal Small-Scale Fishery (SSF) according to EU is the one employing vessels smaller than 12m LOA, not using towed gear. World-over, it is the most relevant fishery segment, deeply rooted in local traditions, adapted to the environment through coevolution, and inherently sustainable. For this, and for its potential to provide sustainable growth and jobs, in harmony with the marine environment, it is acknowledged at many levels (FAO, EU CFP, ERDF, EUSAIR) to play an important role in the pursuit of Blue Growth. Focusing on the Programme area, SSF sector represents the 50% of the Italian and 90% of the Croatian fleets operating in the FAO Geographic Subarea (GSA)17 (Northern Adriatic). The common challenge it faces, proven also through previous CB projects (e.g. ArtFishMed) is a lack of competitiveness in comparison with other fleets (e.g. trawling and/or dredges), difficult access to market, low prices, decreasing stocks and biodiversity in the catches, decreasing market values and increasing running costs. Due to the common characteristics of SSF throughout the Area, and to the fact that it exploits natural resources shared and freely moving between the waters of the two Countries, it is a challenge that calls for a cross-border cooperation approach. The general objective of the Project is to strengthen the Small-Scale Fishery role in the GSA 17 in the near future, by fostering its potential for innovation within the Blue Growth context. In a sector like the SSF, which has evolved in strong connection with local tradition and in balance with the ecosystem, the elements of innovation most likely to bring the greatest benefits won't be found in processes and technologies, but rather in the approach to management and in the valorisation of the products, in an effort to boost its resilience and sustainability, and market value. Exploiting the great adaptability of SSF, the Project will promote its assumption as a paradigm for the implementation of integrated management strategies, through an Ecosystem-Based Approach. The project will involve all the actors responsible for the management of the coastal area with a bottom-up approach; strategies to mitigate risk and exploit opportunities will be identified in cooperation with stakeholders, and will serve to strengthen the scientific advice, to improve medium term planning and the policy making process.

The outputs of the project will be:

- A comprehensive body of knowledge on the current state of SSF in GSA17 to drive policy-makers and operators, and to give scientific soundness to the project itself;
- Market and product innovation for the SSF sector, based on knowledge-transfer, co-creation, resilience and sustainability; this will benefit also the coastal environment and consumers;

- Management innovation in the SSF sector, by both empowering its self-management capabilities and streamlining regulations; this will benefit also environmental resources and other users of same coastal areas.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
1st July 2018	31st December 2020

PARTNERSHIP:

1 Veneto Region	Venice (IT)	Coordinator
2 Ca' Foscari University Venice	Venice (IT)	Partner
3 Autonomous Region Of Friuli Venezia Giulia	Trieste (IT)	Partner
4 Emilia Romagna Region	Bologna (IT)	Partner
5 Marche Region	Ancona (IT)	Partner
6 Region Of Istria	Istarka (HR)	Partner
7 Primorje-Gorski Kotar County	Primorsko-Goranska (HR)	Partner
8 Zadar County	Zadarska (HR)	Partner
9 Institute Of Oceanography And Fisheries	Splitsko-Dalmatinska (HR)	Partner
10 Ministry Of Agriculture	Grad Zagreb (HR)	Partner