



The project is co-funded by the European Union,
Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance



ECOSEA PROJECT
Protection, improvement and integrated management of the
sea environment and of cross-border natural resources
(Code No. 2°ord./0236)

WP3.2

TECHNICAL-SCIENTIFIC ADRIATIC ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE
MARINE RESOURCES -A.A.B.-
THIRD MEETING, FANO (PU) 3 april 2014

REPORT

List of attending official/substitute members of the Technical-scientific Adriatic Advisory Board- AAB:

LB – Veneto Region (IT): Alessandro Vendramini (official)
FB1 – Friuli Venezia Giulia Region (IT): Rossana Giorgi (official)
FB2 – Tavolo Blu Emilia-Romagna Region (IT): Giuseppe Prioli (official)
FB3 – Marche Region (IT): Laura Gagliardini (official)
FB4 – Abruzzo Region (IT): Carla Giansante (official)
FB7 – Zadar County (HR): Lav Bavcevic (official)
FB8 – Ministry of Environment, Forest and Water Administration (AL) : Roland Kristo (official)
Italian National Representative: Prof. Corrado Piccinetti (official).

AAB Coordinator : Prof. Corrado Piccinetti (IT) .

Following the decisions took during the meeting held in Bari (23rd-24th of January 2014) the **third meeting of the Adriatic Advisory Board (AAB)** takes place in **Fano (PU) on April 3rd, 2014**, at the Laboratory of Marine Biology, University of Bologna , Viale Adriatico 1/n.

The meeting is chaired by the coordinator of the AAB, prof. Corrado Piccinetti with the following agenda:

1. Presentation of the results of restocking activities carried out by project Partners;
2. Presentation of restocking pilot actions to be carried out in the field within ECOSEA project;
3. Recommendations of AAB members;
4. Final recommendations of the AAB Coordinator.

Prof. Piccinetti gives a brief overview of the most significant restocking activities at sea carried out by Partners in recent years, based on the report “fiches” sent by each partner .

Kristo R. (AL) and **L. Bavcevic** (Zadar County), underline that in their territories no significant experience of restocking has been undertaken so far.

Dr. **C. Giansante** (Abruzzo) gives a brief outline of restocking activities carried out in the Abruzzo Region (see description abstract attached to these minutes), and gives notice to other partners that on the 2nd of April, ECOSEA project was officially presented by Abruzzo Region at the Fishing Conference.

Some Partners have focused on the actions of repopulation carried out within their regions.

For example, in Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto, Emilia Romagna and Apulia actions were undertaken in the recent years for restocking of eel, Apulia addressed also action to bass and clams and in Emilia Romagna oyster has been a target species.

Bearing in mind the information contained in fiches completed by partners (concerning already existing restocking actions), **prof. Piccinetti** makes some ipotesis/proposals on the target species that could be used in the restocking activities to be implemented under WP4: oyster, squid, sea snails, sea scallops, and gurnard in Marche Region, and eel in Emilia Romagna Region (see documentary evidence enclosed) .

With reference to eels, **Prof. Piccinetti** points out that eels consist of a single population throughout the Mediterranean Sea and perhaps also for the maritime area of Northern Europe, with a single area of restocking.

Prof. Piccinetti reports that in the past, activities aimed at artificial reproduction of eels, with growth of larvae in laboratories have been undertaken.

Giuseppe Prioli, acknowledges AAB members about restocking actions on oyster undertaken in the maritime area of Central Adriatic.

Oysters are hatched on natural beds and there is no uniformity of size. Emilia Romagna has carried out studies in order to create spawning off-limits areas devoted to fishing, such as: tegnae, artificial reefs, cages for farming and mussel farming. In these areas that can be considered spawning areas the strategy is to create a bank of varied shells, where the larvae can take root and begin to grow.

Later on these benches, a selective removal will be carried out and controlled in order to bring to market a product which is dimensionally homogeneous.

The most suitable time to start such activities is April, since in May/June the larvae take root on the bench, and finish the aging period, in summer the collection occurs, in order to obtain a product on the market in the months of October/November.

Therefore, it is shared the idea of creating a nucleus of players in marine protected areas forbidden to fishing, distribute oyster shells and create zones of controlled harvesting, creating a bank to be managed by the mussel farmers.

Sepia officinalis seems to be most appropriate for restocking activities by almost all the partners. The fishing pressure on this species appears to be very heavy. It is therefore advisable to use a large number of offshore structures, in order to facilitate the deposition of eggs. In addition, monitoring to check the success of the action is extremely simple, by subscribing agreements with operators in the fishing sector.

Giuseppe Prioli suggests that the activities on cuttlefish are optimal to implement a Cross-Border Management Plan as planned in the framework of WP5.

Several partners point out that the implementation of recovery actions of cuttlefish will be scheduled for 2015, being too late to use the breeding season in 2014.

Prof. Piccinetti then focuses on activities related to sea snails and scallops, in order to have suggestions and proposals of a management model for the creation of cross-border banks.

Prof. Piccinetti emphasizes that scallop banks should be created in sea areas where sea temperature do not exceed 20 ° C, otherwise the scallop would die. The ideal place where to install the collectors for scallops is a bay with particular environmental characteristics: depth of about 40-50 meters, cyclonic circulation, temperature not exceeding 20 ° C. If these conditions are met, larvae enter into the collectors and growth begins. In Croatia and Albania, there are areas considered favourable places for this activity: the island of Krk and the Novigrad Sea (Croatia), and the Bay of Vlora (Albania).

It is suggested to contact the representative of the AAB of the Primorje and Gorski Kotar County, not present at the meeting, in order to have advices about the areas in which it can be feasible to install scallop banks.

At 13.00 the meeting was adjourned and resumed at 15.00.

The senior expert of the Region of Veneto, **Thomas Galvan**, illustrates restocking actions that will be taken under WP4, using as target species cuttlefish and scallops (see project sheets attached) .

Rossana Giorgi (FVG) illustrates the restocking actions to be undertaken in ECOSEA project with regards to cuttlefish, the realization of structures restocking integrated into systems dedicated to mussel farming and possibly restocking addressed to *Modiolus barbatus* species, in the area where the artificial barriers created with the project ADRI BLUE are located.

Partners share the indications given in the morning by Prof. Piccinetti, considering them as term of reference for the follow up of project implementation activities in compliance with the requirements of WP 4 and 5 of the project.

In conclusion, species on which ECOSEA restocking actions will be undertaken are:

- LP- Veneto Region: *Sepia officinalis* and *Pecten jacobaeus*
- PP1 - Friuli Venezia Giulia : *Sepia officinalis*, *Mullus barbatus*
- PP2 -Emilia Romagna: *Ostrea edulis*, *Sepia officinalis*
- PP3 - Marche Region: *Ostrea edulis* , *Sepia officinalis*, *Nassarius mutabilis*
- PP4 - Abruzzo Region: *Nassarius mutabilis* , *Sepia officinalis*

The LP takes the floor in order to remember some important aspects related to spending and the progress of

project activities. In particular, it is pointed out that, despite the species seasonality limits the immediate realization of some of these restocking interventions, the PP should provide as soon as possible to initiate administrative proceedings for the acquisition of supplies and services necessary for the realization of their pilot actions. In order to give an enhance to spending, PP are exhorted to arrange the purchase of the equipment as soon as possible, even if it means having to storage the equipments for few months before its use. The goal is that to report a significant amount of budget for the purchase of equipment by the 30th of October 2014 (the date on which the cost of the project will be evaluated for a possible further application of the disengagement).

Finally, AAB members share the idea of participating as ECOSEA project at the IX International Fair of Fisheries of Croatia, CRO.FISH, in Umago (Croatia) from 2nd to 4th of May 2014, being an opportunity to maintain a good level of cooperation in the fishing sector which lasts for several years and in consideration of activities to be carried out under WP 5 (cross-border management models). During this meeting, the partners attending will begin to deal with the issue of cross-border management. Concerning that, **A. Fonzo** asks Prof. Piccinetti to prepare a written contribution .

The meeting ends at 17.00.

UDINE, 5^h May 2014

AAB Secretariat

FB1

Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia

Direzione centrale attività produttive, commercio, cooperazione, risorse agricole e forestali

Servizio caccia e risorse ittiche