

The Fishery in the Mediterranean

Context

- Fishing in the Mediterranean Sea is a major economic activity, in terms of jobs, revenues and food supply.
- It is an artisanal sector in which a large number of small boats are used.
- Fishing in the Mediterranean Sea is organized mainly on the basis of bilateral agreements or even traditional provisions; there is no exclusive economic fishing zone.
- Today, Member States face the problem of over-fishing.

Impact of the free-trade zone

- The fishery sector seems to be excluded from the euro-mediterranean partnership.
- The direct impacts of the implementation of a free-trade zone should be reduced.
- It is however expected that the actions started within the framework of the partnership in terms of the environment act in favor of a restriction of fishing quotas.
- On the other hand, the exchange of techniques, of know-how and of experience will influence the structures of the fishing economy in the whole Mediterranean Sea.

Stakes and axes of co-operation

Stake 1 - To take into account the specificities of the mediterranean region within the framework of the structural policy of the Union

Axis 1.1 Regionalization of the common fishing policy

Axis 2.2 Implementation of a policy for the preservation of the artisanal coastal fishery

Stake 2 - To implement a control on the fishing and capture techniques

Axis 2.1 Creation of a mediterranean concertation structure associating north/south professionals and responsible representatives.

Axis 2.2 Creation of mediterranean fishing labels

Stake 3 - To develop the mediterranean aquaculture

Axis 3.1 Implementation of a research programme on mediterranean aquaculture.