Introduction to the Mediterranean Sea study

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The Mediterranean case study includes two sub-cases that examine the multi-species bottom trawl fisheries exploiting the demersal resources of the Aegean (eastern Mediterranean) and Balearic (western Mediterranean) seas. The medium term effects of various input control management measures on economic MSY variants were examined taking also into account biological (i.e. exploitation state of key-stocks) and social constraints (sustainability of the jobs in the fisheries sector). The DSTs shown below summarise the comparisons among those management measures that, depending on the case, include various fishing effort control schemes in the form of temporal closures and capacity reductions, as well as changes in the selectivity pattern of the fishing gears.

Eastern Mediterranean Sea DST description

In the eastern Mediterranean case study, the multi-species bottom trawl fisheries that exploit the demersal resources of the Aegean Sea were considered. The medium term effects of various input control management measures on economic MSY variants were examined, taking into account biological (i.e state of key-stocks) and social constraints (sustainability of the jobs in the fisheries sector). The DSTs summarise the comparisons among temporal closures, capacity reductions and gear selection changes. Effort reductions implied through temporal closures seem to be the more realistic scenario as they seem to improve profits per vessel, satisfying, to a large extent the biological and social constraints. Drastic capacity reductions would decrease the ecosystem impact of the fisheries and also lead to high profit increases in the medium term, but subsidies may be necessary for their application.