

TOGETHER FOR THE MED

Since 2017, the Together for the Med partnership has united 50 Mediterranean organisations across 15 countries to drive impactful, science-based conservation efforts.

Our mission is to reduce fishing pressures and protect coastal ecosystems and communities by connecting governance, science, and policy.



REGIONAL PARTNERS

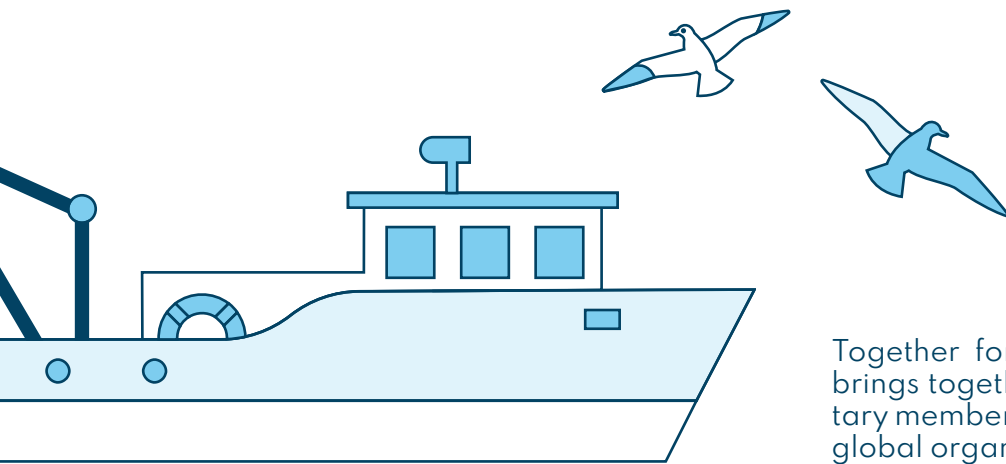


OUR PARTNERS

Our partners have expertise that spans scientific research, policy and advocacy, MPA management, marine conservation financing, fisheries management, and capacity-building, including training and knowledge-sharing.

WITH THE
SUPPORT OF

Pew Bertarelli
OCEAN LEGACY

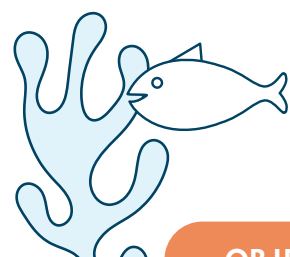


TOGETHER FOR THE MED

Together for the Med is a partnership that brings together a wide range of complementary members—international and local NGOs, global organisations, private companies, and research institutes.

Each contributes unique strengths that, together, make us more effective. Our network spans the entire Mediterranean basin, with partners and fieldwork sites located across its shores.

A PARTNERSHIP BASED ON SYNERGY



WE HAVE TWO MAIN OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1

STRENGTHEN MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

We ensure that marine protected areas (MPAs) are effective and sustain biodiversity and local livelihoods.

OBJECTIVE 2

REDUCE BYCATCH & FISHING IMPACT ON BIODIVERSITY

We improve the sustainability of fisheries and support small-scale fishers' livelihoods.

Each of the objectives below translates into a major project, with pilot sites all around the Mediterranean Sea. In addition, we develop smaller projects with a more targeted focus, or with a sub-regional reach.

OUR STRUCTURE

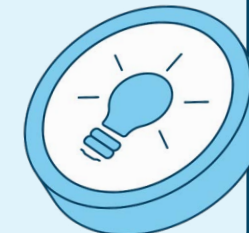
Coordination



Support

Pew Bertarelli
OCEAN LEGACY

Steering committee



HOW DO WE WORK?



BOTTOM-UP APPROACH

We work with coastal communities—the most dependent on marine resources—to ensure that conservation efforts are locally driven, equitable, and viable.



ENSURE PROJECT EFFECTIVENESS & SUSTAINABILITY

We strengthen governance and local leadership through capacity-building, and support the development of financing mechanisms.

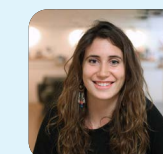


TARGETED & ROBUST SCIENCE DRIVING ACTION

We align actions with the latest research and regional policies, and fill the most critical data gaps to inform strong and relevant policy changes.



CONTACT



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Despite global and regional commitments to protect 30% of the Mediterranean Sea by 2030, marine protection remains insufficient and unevenly distributed in the Mediterranean—with only 8% designated, just 0.04% under strict protection, and 90% of MPAs in EU waters—threatening both biodiversity and local livelihoods.

OBJECTIVE 1

STRENGTHEN MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

OBJECTIVE 2

REDUCE BYCATCH & FISHING IMPACT ON BIODIVERSITY

Unsustainable fishing—including bycatch—poses a serious threat to vulnerable Mediterranean marine species such as sea turtles, dolphins, sharks, rays and seabirds. Despite recent efforts, significant knowledge gaps remain and proven solutions are not yet widely adopted, leaving both marine life and coastal livelihoods at risk.

OUR MAIN PROJECT



With this project, we are expanding and strengthening the MPA network in the region to improve its socio-economic and environmental benefits.

PROTECTING WHERE IT IS NEEDED

Designate new MPAs in countries with less than 2% of MPA coverage, in the southern and eastern parts of the Med.

GETTING EVERYONE INVOLVED

Improve the management effectiveness of existing MPAs and promote participative governance.

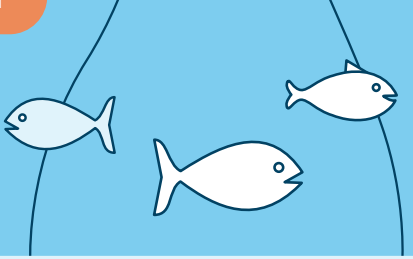
CREATING STRICTER PROTECTION

Increase the proportion of strictly protected areas, either in MPA core zones or by creating new no-take zones.

ENSURING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Improve policy frameworks, governance structures, and regional coordination.

OUR MAIN PROJECT



With this project, we strive to make bycatch reduction a lasting and integral part of sustainable fisheries management.

USING EVIDENCE-BASED METHODS

Roll out proven technical solutions to reduce impacts on turtles, dolphins and sharks, while safeguarding livelihoods.

FINANCING SOLUTIONS

Provide socio-economic incentives for small-scale fishers to adopt selective fishing and sustainable practices.

COLLECTING DATA

Engage fishers in data collection, including through self-reporting apps and remote electronic monitoring.

ENSURING FUTURE ACTION

Advocate for policy reform and bycatch action plans at national and regional (GFCM and EU) levels.

350+ STAKEHOLDERS WERE TRAINED
for effective management and business planning

8 MPAs WERE IMPLEMENTED
with co-management models, improving governance and conservation effectiveness

505 KM² OF NTZs WERE ESTABLISHED
reinforcing fish stock recovery



10 MITIGATION TECHNIQUES WERE TESTED
including gear modifications and alternative bait

2,500 FISHERS WERE INVOLVED
in the project, creating a long-lasting trust relationship for future projects



1 REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR VULNERABLE SPECIES
was adopted by the GFCM

WANT TO JOIN THIS INITIATIVE? CONTACT US.



IN THE MEANTIME, WE'VE ALREADY STARTED.

**CYPRUS**



REWILDING CYPRUS
A project to reduce fishing pressures, implement two no-take zones and restore seabird and sea turtle habitats in northern Cyprus.

**MED-WIDE**



MEADOWS4COAST
A project to promote Posidonia meadows as a nature-based solution against erosion and climate change, including through innovative financing mechanisms.

**SPAIN**



CHANGING NARRATIVES FOR 30x30
A project to build public and political support for strict protection. It is implemented in Spain with Med Sea Alliance and aims to expand to the Mediterranean.

**CYPRUS**

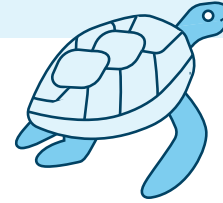
INVEASTMED
A project to implement monitoring, new fishing practices, and market-driven solutions for invasive species in Cyprus, and to reduce ecological impacts and support local fisheries.

**TUNISIA**

BLUE BUSINESS INCUBATOR
A project to empower coastal communities in Al Houararia, Tunisia, through eco-entrepreneurship as an alternative to unsustainable fishing practices.

**CYPRUS**

'SPOTLIGHT' ON FISHERIES
A project with community-based actions for bycatch reduction and fish stock recovery, and support of sustainable seafood supply chains in northern Cyprus.



Together for the Med has developed smaller, targeted projects to address the local challenges of our partners.

TOGETHER FOR THE MED |

Together for the Med connects people. We ensure that field efforts contribute to a broader regional impact. We design, monitor and secure funding for projects. We are a platform for knowledge exchange.

OUR COORDINATION TEAM MAKES THIS WORK POSSIBLE.

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

LEARN MORE AT:
togetherforthemed.org

