



# A pre-financing facility to catalyze sustainable small-scale fisheries (SSF) in the Mediterranean

FARNET Transnational Seminar  
Effective local projects for a sustainable Mediterranean and Black Sea -  
November 2020

# The context

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Although funds are available (**EMFF**), Mediterranean SSF fishers infrequently have access to funds to develop sustainable fishing.

The difficulties - encountered by the fishers in accessing funding - are:

- the **lack of upfront capital**;
- the access to bank credits;
- a strong need for **technical assistance** to deal with the EMFF procedures.



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# The partnership

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A partnership is in charge of developing a pre-financing facility to catalyze sustainable small-scale fisheries (SSF) in the Mediterranean

The project, known as “EMFF project” is led by WWF MMI, co-implemented with Blueseeds.

- WWF MMI collaborate with SSF fishers and MPAs in **80+** local communities
- WWF officers and consultants are operating in Spain, France, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Greece, Turkey, Tunisia and Algeria
- With [GFCM](#), we are coordinating the international platform “[Friends of SSF](#)”
- <https://www.wwfmmi.org/>



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# BLUE SEEDS

SUSTAINABLE MARINE CONSERVATION



- **Financial sustainability** of marine conservation projects
- **10 different pilot sites** across the Mediterranean Sea
- **Cross-functional expertise** and a **multidisciplinary** team
- Long term vision, sustainability, passion, innovation, commitment
- Website: <https://bluseeds.org/>

# Our approach

**Goal:** Develop the concept and assess the feasibility of a pre-financing facility to foster the transition of Mediterranean SSF to sustainable fisheries.

**How:** Through a pre-financing mechanism, we will test if by providing upfront capital and by giving technical assistance to SSF fishers, we can catalyze the use of EMFF.

**Expected result:** After having assessed the effectiveness of the pre-financing mechanism, we will develop the concept of a revolving fund mechanism.



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# We aim to:

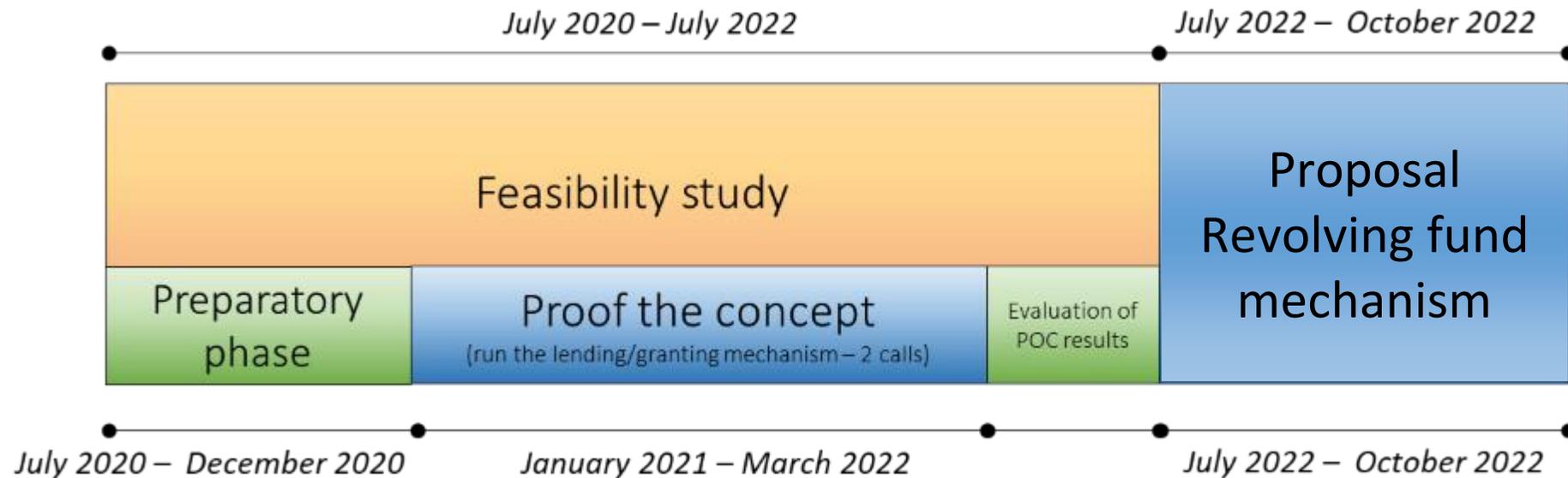
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- Enhance the use of EMFF in SSF in European Mediterranean countries
- Accelerate the implementation of the FAO-GFCM Regional Plan of Action on SSF (RPOA-SSF).
- Contribute to the implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication, in short the SSF Guidelines.



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# Project time-frame



- We are now in the preparatory phase
- Between January 2021- March 2022, we will **launch 2 public calls for funds to provide upfront capital for SSF fishers**
- Between March 2022 and October 2022, we will develop the concept of a revolving fund mechanism to foster the transition of Mediterranean SSF to sustainable fisheries.

# Selection criteria

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**Applicants:** SSF Fishers

**How:** By submitting a proposal to a selection panel, SSF fishers can be provided with an upfront capital (up to 20.000 Euros) to develop EMFF application.

**Selection criteria:** RPOA-SSF topics (co-management, selectivity, reduction of the fishing effort, alternative livelihood, ...)

**Technical assistance:** The project will provide the beneficiaries of this pre-financing mechanism with the technical assistance necessary to develop applications for EMFF funds.



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# Where to find info

Calls will be published on WWF Mediterranean Marine Initiative and BlueSeeds websites:

- <https://www.wwfmmi.org/>
- <https://bluseeds.org/>

Calls will be disseminated through FARNET, MEDAC, FoSSF, fisheries associations, NGOs, national administrations.

Please contact us if you are interested:

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## QUESTIONS: A pre-financing facility to catalyze sustainable small-scale fisheries (SSF) in the Mediterranean

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