

Preserving protected species and fishing businesses

Tarta-Tur

Local fishers and scientists team up to monitor interaction between fishing and two protected species: turtles and dolphins.



Historically there has been a lack of trust between fishers and the scientific community. The four FLAGs involved in this cooperation project hope to improve relationships, benefiting both the marine environment and socio-economic conditions in Northern Adriatic fishing communities.

Local fishers are helping to monitor the relationship between fishing and these protected species, as well as the presence and number of turtles and dolphins. This is studied by University of Padua researchers taken aboard their boats. As well as supporting data collection, fishers have also been trained on procedures to be adopted if they encounter protected species, especially if injured or in danger.

The project is already proving successful. Fishers and the four FLAGs involved are united in recognising that certain marine areas need protection through the limitation, though not prohibition, of fishing activities.

ITALY

VeGAL FLAG



Stand 21

RESULTS

- ▶ Over 200 fishers involved, 50 fishermen trained, and 10 vessels used for monitoring
- ▶ Methods identified for reducing interference between fishing and protected species
- ▶ Operational protocol established in the event of accidental capture for a single species

Total project cost: €110 000

FLAG (inc. EMFF): €110 000

Project Promoter

VeGAL FLAG

Giancarlo Pegoraro

“This project helps build trust between scientists and fishermen, which is key to the responsible management of the regions’ coastal resources.”

Paolo Valeri, VeGAL FLAG