

## WORKSHOP ON BLUE CRAB MANAGEMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Rome, Italy, 24 January 2025

- 08:30–09:00** Registration
- 09:00–09:15** Opening of the workshop  
**Welcome speech**
- Mr **Mahmoud Elyes HAMZA**, Director, UNEP/MAP-SPA/RAC
  - Mr **Francesco TOMAS** General Director General Director for Biodiversity and Sea protection, Italian Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security (MASE)
- 09:15–09:20** Overview of workshop objectives and agenda
- Mr **Atef OUERGI**, Programme Officer, UNEP/MAP-SPA/RAC
- Session 1: Status of blue crabs in the Mediterranean**
- 09:20–09:45** Status of blue crabs in the Mediterranean by **Guillaume MARCHESSAUX** (SPA/RAC Consultant)
- 09:45–10:00** GFCM Research programme on blue crabs by **Luca BOLOGNINI** (GFCM)
- 10:00–10:30** *Coffee Break*
- Session 2: Best practices and management measures**
- 10:30–10:45** Blue crab in Tunisia: from a crisis to an opportunity by **Olfa BEN ABDALLAH** (INSTM)
- 10:45–11:00** Blue-Adapt: a cross-border approach to managing invasive species in the Mediterranean (A case study of blue crabs) by **Jamila BEN SOUISSI** (INAT, Tunisia)
- 11:00–11:15** From Curse to Blessing: Revolutionizing Crab Fishing in Tunisia by **Sassi ALAYA** (Tunisian fisherman)
- 11:15–11:30** Chitelix: Transforming Invasive Blue Crab Waste into Sustainable Bio-Compounds by **Anis BENGHALIA** (CEO, Chitelix)
- 11:30–11:45** Impact of blue Crab invasion on aquaculture: the case of Italy by **Stefania CHIESA/Tommaso PETOCHI** (ISPRA)
- 11:45–12:00** Non-Indigenous Species and Sustainable Gastronomy: The Blueat Vision by **Carlotta SANTOLINI** (Leader, Blueat project)
- 12:00–12:15** Consuming the Blue Crab Before and After the Italian Outbreak: Insights for Policymakers and Industry Stakeholders by **Ernesto AZZURO** (CNR-IRBIM)
- Session 3: Outlines of an effective mitigation plan**
- 12:15–12:30** The blue crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) in Corsica. From the Working Group to the development of a Territorial Action Plan by **Marie GARRIDO** (OEC, Corse)
- 12:30–12:45** Italy's initiatives for the containment and management of the blue crab invasion by **Sasa RAICEVICH** (ISPRA)
- 12:45–14:30** *Lunch Break*
- 14:30–16:30** **Roundtables:**
- Definition of a set of best practices for blue crab management measures.
    - o Best practices and management measures for mitigating the spread of blue crabs and addressing their impacts on biodiversity and local economies by **Guillaume MARCHESSAUX** (SPA/RAC Consultant)
  - A draft outline of Mediterranean management strategy.
    - o Outlines of an effective mitigation plan and context-specific management strategy by **Guillaume MARCHESSAUX** (SPA/RAC Consultant)
- 16:30–17:00** **Conclusions and recommendations**