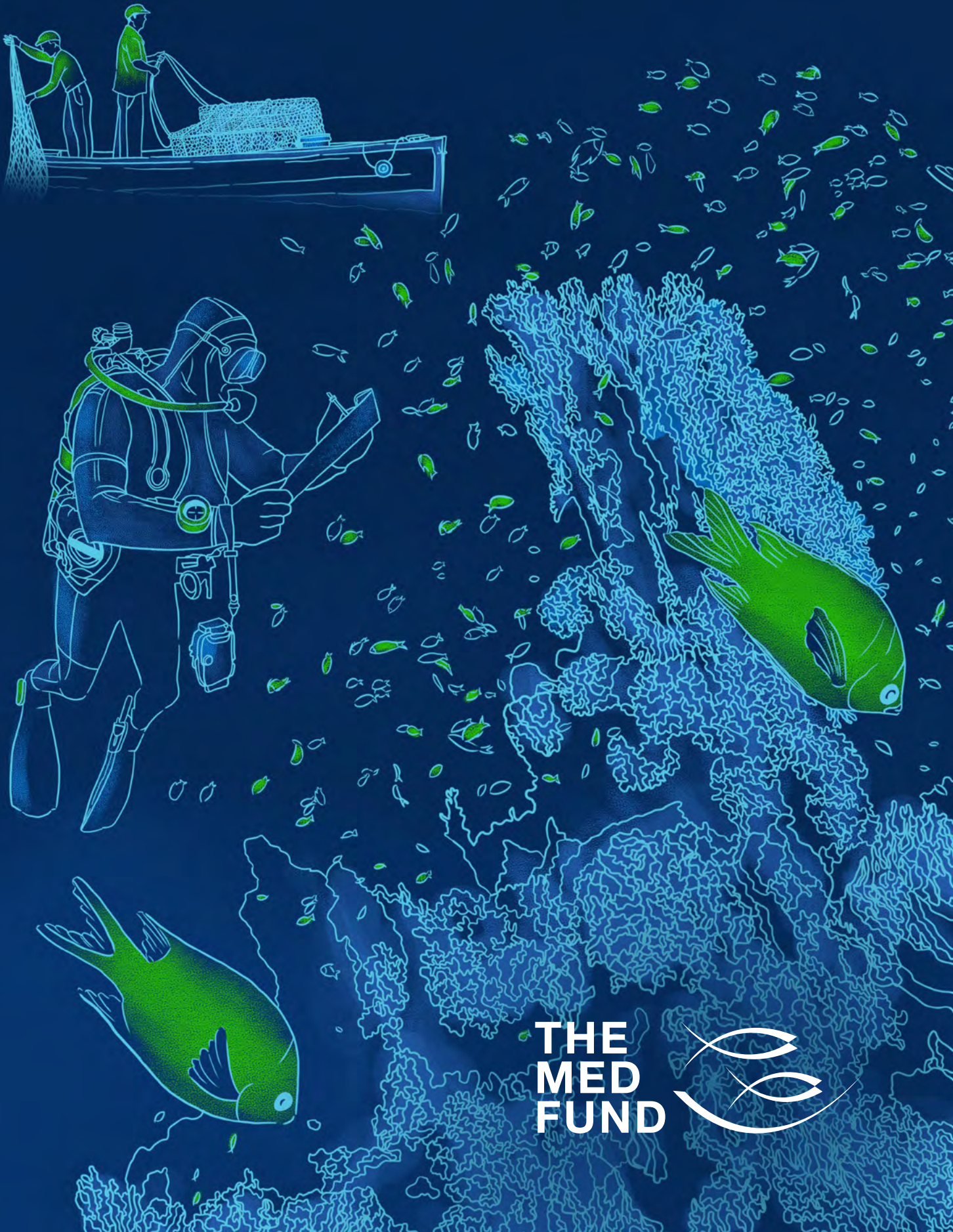


Protect the Mediterranean sea,
protect our future



THE
MED
FUND





The Mediterranean is home to a significant part of the world's biodiversity

Although the Mediterranean represents only about 1% of Earth's sea surface, it is home to 10% of the marine species known to date. An ecological wealth on which millions of people depend. However, its resources are being degraded : the intense pressure of human activities and the effects of climate change are impacting it significantly. Today, the Mediterranean sea can no longer regain its ecological balance without efficient protection.

Marine Protected Areas bring health, productivity and resilience to our ecosystems

Designed as tools for ecological protection, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are marine and coastal spaces delimited and managed with the aim of conserving biodiversity and restoring the resources necessary for our economic and social development.



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> Restoring biodiversity

MPAs are refuges for marine flora and fauna, they preserve and restore habitats, they also contribute to the reproduction of species while safeguarding nurseries and growing areas.

> Aiming for sustainable social and economic development

The rebuilding of fish stocks strengthens food security and consolidates sustainable fishing activities. In addition, the preserved landscapes of MPAs support tourism, coastal recreation, economic growth and employment.

> Contributing to climate change mitigation

Healthy marine ecosystems function as true carbon sinks and thereby mitigate climate change by sequestering CO₂.

> Reinforcing the protection of coastlines

Posidonia meadows constitute a natural protection against the impact of waves; they limit coastal erosion and the scope of natural disasters.

The worrying situation of Mediterranean MPAs

At a time when several States are committing to protecting 30% of marine and coastal areas by 2030, Marine Protected Areas represent only about 8%* of the Mediterranean basin and still too few of them are effectively managed. Without sustainable financing and successful collective management, a very large number of Mediterranean MPAs are considered as nothing more than «paper parks».

*Source : MAPAMED 2019, MedPAN SPA/RAC



We have ten years
to build a new future for the Mediterranean Sea



5 Essential conditions for the success of MPAs in the Mediterranean

- > **Have competent men and women** present in the field.
- > **Develop a scientific** monitoring system that allows MPA managers to adopt measures specific to the local socio-economic context and evaluate their effectiveness.
- > **Mobilize a high level of surveillance** that ensures the enforcement of regulations to guarantee the conservation of the marine environment.
- > **Boost the active engagement of local communities** to strengthen the sustainable management of marine resources.
- > **Deliver environmental education** and raise awareness to promote the development of local job-creating initiatives such as ecotourism and sustainable fishing.

Efficiently managed MPAs bring tangible ecological, economic and social benefits :

Below are the results of five years of effective management of the Gökova Bay MPA in Turkey, which is based on strong collaboration between marine professionals and managers :



+ **27%**
increase in the
fish population



+ **19%**
increase in the brown
grouper population



+ **53%**
income increase of the fishermen
of the Akyaka fishing cooperative

Source : Kızılkaya, Zafer & Ünal, Vahdet & Yildirim, Zeynep. (2013). Three years' experience with small-scale fishers and No-Take-Zones in Gökova Bay (Eastern Mediterranean), Turkey.

The MedFund

A steady key player in the long-term financing of MPAs is a guarantee of their success

Initiated by France, Monaco and Tunisia with the support of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, The MedFund represents the achievement of the collective commitment of several Mediterranean states as well as international environmental organizations. These actors are all convinced that the future of the Mediterranean and its populations requires immediate action.

The MedFund is an innovative tool designed to sustainably finance and mobilize all the actions essential to the management of MPAs over the long term. It contributes to the implementation of many international agreements such as : the Barcelona Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The MedFund

A responsible environmental fund

The environmental fund is partly based on an innovative financing mechanism that aims to capitalize reliable and consistent financial amounts, the regular profits of which are reinvested sustainably in strengthening MPAs.

The fund is managed in a transparent manner and has a high level of security. The MedFund pursues a responsible investment policy that responds to the challenges of a new, more sustainable economy around the Mediterranean basin.

The objectives set by The MedFund for 2025

Support
20 MPAs

Protect
7000 km²
of natural marine
and coastal areas

The MedFund's partners

This initiative is supported by an alliance
of public and private donors



Our actions are shaping the future of the Mediterranean

Today you can contribute to
building a new sustainable future
by joining The MedFund.

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