



Implementation of  
the MSFD to the deep  
Mediterranean sea

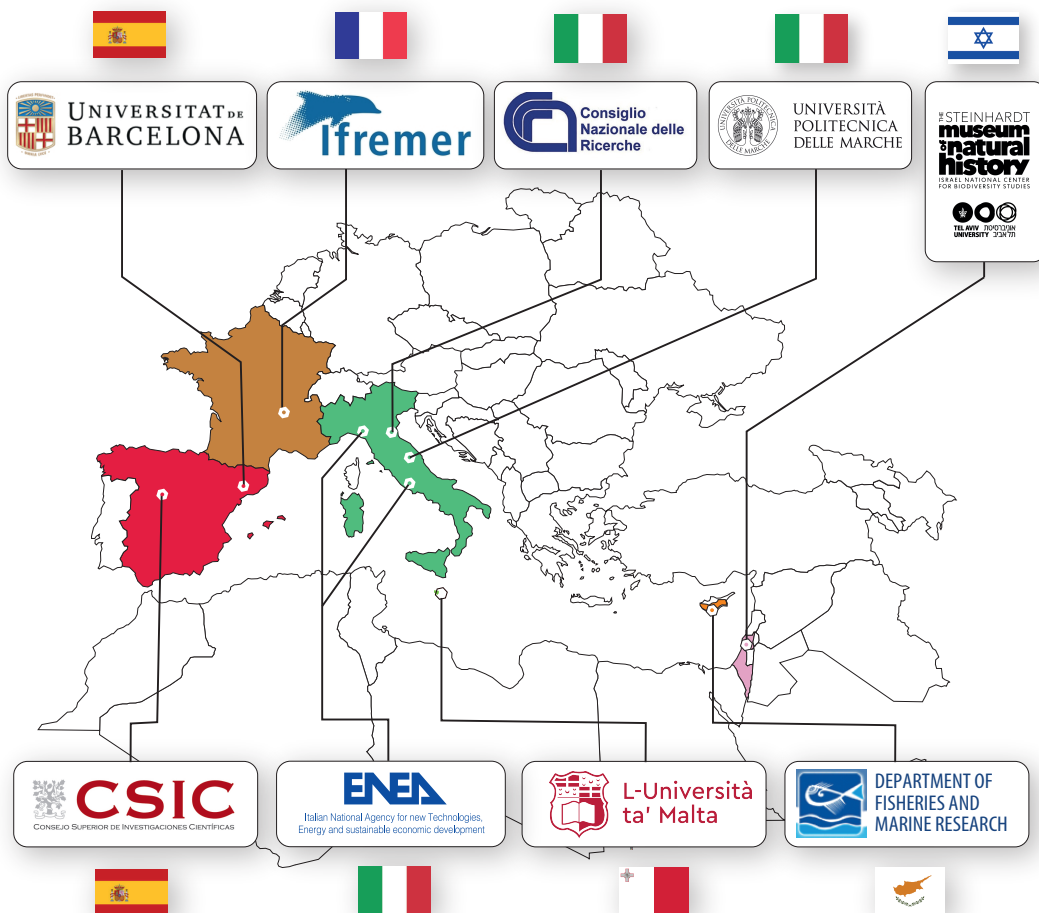


## MSFD Deep Med

The project IDEM ("Implementation of the MSFD to the DEep Mediterranean Sea") aims to support the next phase of MSFD implementation for the Mediterranean deep Sea (below 200 m of depth).

The project is coordinated by Polytechnic University of Marche (Italy) with the involvement of institutional partners of the Mediterranean area from EU and non-EU countries (8 EU partners and the University of Tel Aviv -Israel- as non EU member).

The two-years project IDEM (started in April 2017) has been funded through the call "Implementation of the second cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive: achieving coherent, coordinated and consistent updates of the determinations of Good Environmental Status, initial assessments and environmental targets" by the DG Environment of the European Commission.



IDEM website: [www.msfd-idem.eu](http://www.msfd-idem.eu)

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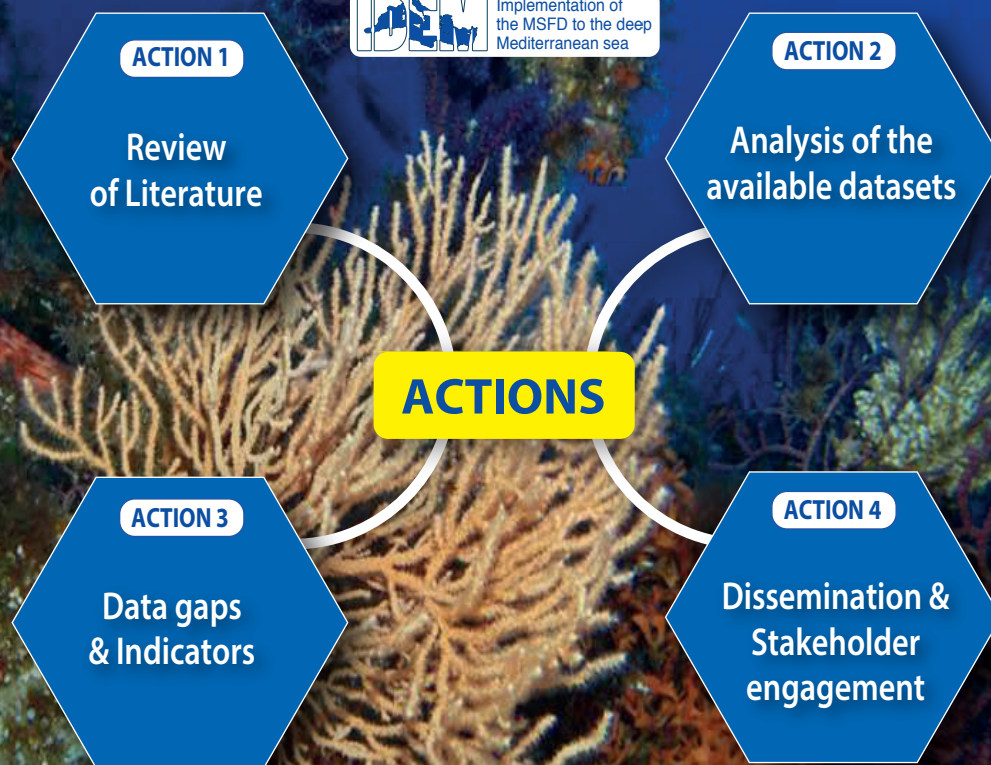


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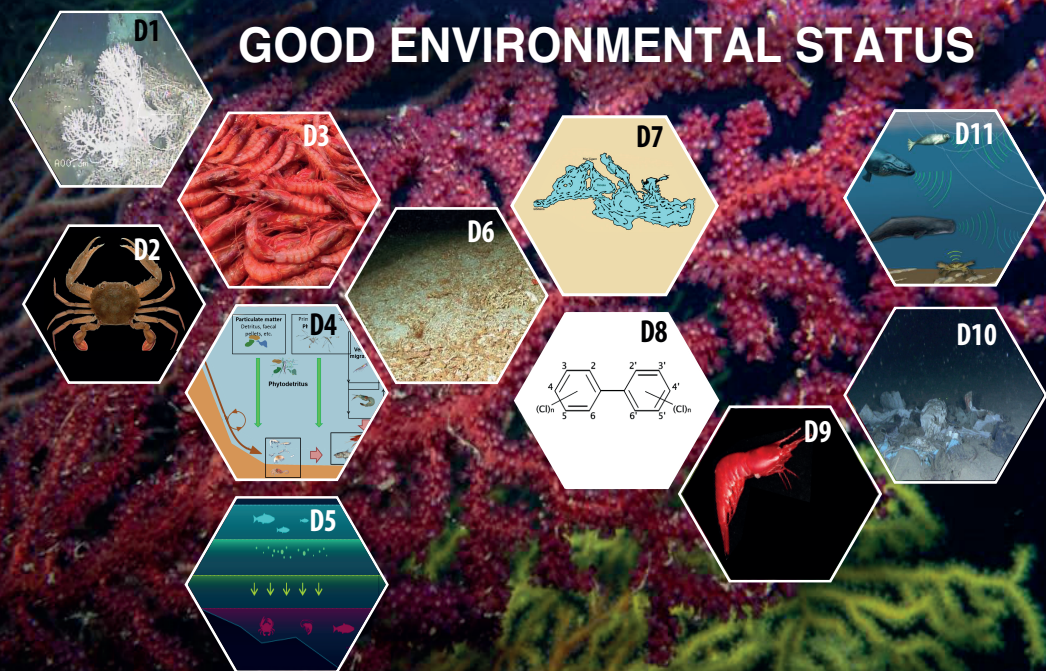


## Project goals

- to achieve a regionally coherent, coordinated and consistent initial environmental assessment and determination of Good Environmental Status (GES), as well as the definition of sets of environmental targets for the Mediterranean deep Sea;
- to focus at understanding, quantifying and mapping drivers, anthropogenic pressures and impacts, current knowledge and spatial coverage of data regarding the MSFD descriptors in the Mediterranean deep sea. These represent crucial steps towards developing a comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated indicators/criteria that can be used to extend the concept of GES to the deep sea;
- to review and update the determination of GES, environmental targets and criteria/indicators assessed so far for Mediterranean Sea coastal areas to be adapted to the Mediterranean deep-sea basin. Analysis of all indicators will be performed in order to establish key areas for monitoring;
- to provide information for the conservation and management of the deep Mediterranean sea, contributing to initiatives for the identification of Special Areas of Conservation and the design of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) networks.



## GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS



## The structure of IDEM project

### Main Activities

- review of literature relevant for MSFD implementation in the Mediterranean deep sea;
- collection of existent and newly acquired databases in order to create GIS maps of the spatial extent of the descriptors/criteria/indicators as well as human pressures/impacts on the Mediterranean deep-sea ecosystems;
- adaptation of the MSFD descriptors/criteria/indicators to the Mediterranean deep sea;
- identification of threshold/baseline values for GES in the Mediterranean deep sea;
- identification of the gaps in knowledge concerning the 11 descriptors in the Mediterranean deep sea, for each sub-basin;
- release of guidelines for monitoring deep-sea environments and for designation of areas to be potentially protected;
- stakeholder engagement and dissemination of IDEM results.