



Illustrations © Marc Dando

Flat Shark Showcase

Fish Forum 2024

WELCOME

TO THE FLAT SHARK SHOWCASE

Flat sharks: sawfish, giant guitarfishes, guitarfish, angel sharks and rays, rank as the most threatened families of elasmobranchs on the IUCN Red List.

Flat sharks represent over 50% of the elasmobranchs listed on Annex II of the Barcelona Convention & GFCM/42/2018/2. Yet conservation action in the Mediterranean is still urgently required for: three species of Critically Endangered angel shark; the Blackchin Guitarfish; Common Guitarfish, and a host of rays – from the sizeable Endangered Giant Devil Rays to Butterfly Rays, and the endemic skates.

The Flat Shark Showcase presents the breadth of work being delivered across the Mediterranean by a diversity of partners and organisations, collaborating across multiple countries.

Visit the **Flat Shark Resource Hub**, and online content will signpost delegates to opportunities, resources, and willing project partners.

Facilitating efforts for countries to honour existing conservation commitments, and establish - and implement - domestic and regional regulations to better protect highly threatened flat sharks across the region and beyond.



Angel Shark
Conservation Network



LIB Leibniz Institute for the Analysis
of Biodiversity Change



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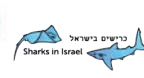


MAP OF THE REGION



Flat Shark Collaborators

1. Universidad de Murcia
2. LAMNA
3. SUBMON
4. Save the Med
5. ASP: Corsica
6. ASCN
7. ASP: Croatia
8. Med Sharks
9. M.E.C.O
10. IUCN SSC SSG
11. Sharklab ADRIA
12. ASP: Greece
13. iSea
14. Mersea
15. Enalia Physis
16. SPOT
17. Sharks in Israel
18. ASP: Libya
19. ASCOB-Syrtis
20. Shark Trust



Video

ANGEL SHARK CONSERVATION NETWORK

Angel Shark
Conservation Network

Angel Shark Conservation Network:

www.angelsharknetwork.com

Since 2016, the ASCN Partners and a wide range of collaborators have focused on developing strategic conservation planning documents for angel sharks.

A number of Action Plans have been developed at different geographical scales via multidisciplinary workshops. All these documents sit underneath the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Angel Shark Conservation Strategy, and aim to identify the key actions needed to overcome major threats to angel sharks in each specific region.

The ASCN actively encourages individuals or organisations across the range to get involved in delivering the Action Plans in collaboration.

Partners:



Leibniz Institute for the Analysis
of Biodiversity Change



Angel Shark Project

Website: www.angelsharkproject.com

Twitter: @angelshark2014

Our aim is to secure the future of Critically Endangered angel sharks throughout their range.



علم الأحياء البحرية في ليبيا
Marine Biology in Libya



LIB Leibniz Institute for the Analysis
of Biodiversity Change



ASCOB-Syrtis

Website: www.ascob.net

L'ASCOB-SYRTIS est une association pour la Conservation de la Biodiversité dans le Golfe de Gabès. Nous avons pour mission de:

- Développer les connaissances relatives aux différents niveaux de la biodiversité marine et terrestre dans le golfe Gabès et autres écosystèmes.
- Contribuer à la connaissance du statut de conservation des espèces
- Promouvoir la conservation des espèces vulnérables
- Partager les connaissances sur la biodiversité afin de mieux gérer et conserver nos côtes et nos océans.
- Contribuer à la mise en place et la gestion d'espaces protégés
- Susciter l'intérêt d'agir pour la biodiversité et la conservation des sites.

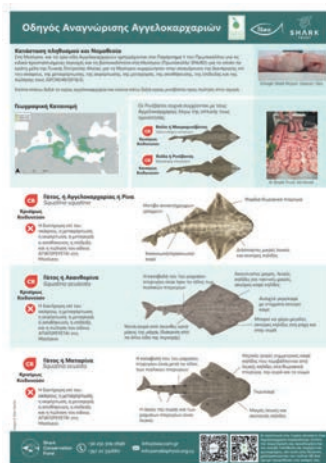
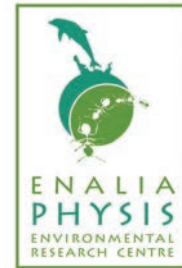


Enalia Pysis

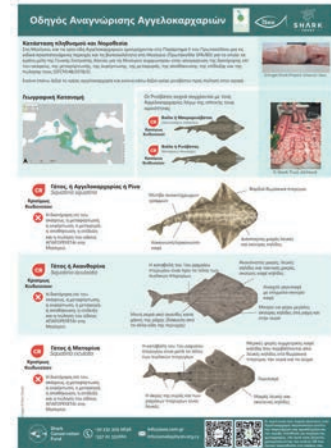
Website: www.enaliaphysis.org.cy

Twitter: @enaliaphysis

Our research projects cover a wide range of fields such as fisheries science, marine benthic and cave ecology, marine protected areas, invasive species, marine litter, coastal ecology as well as social sciences.



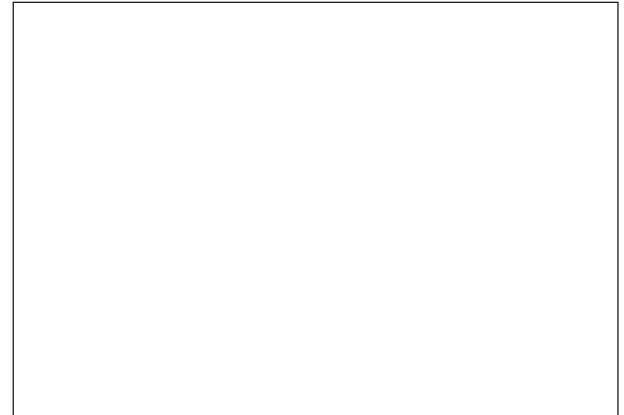
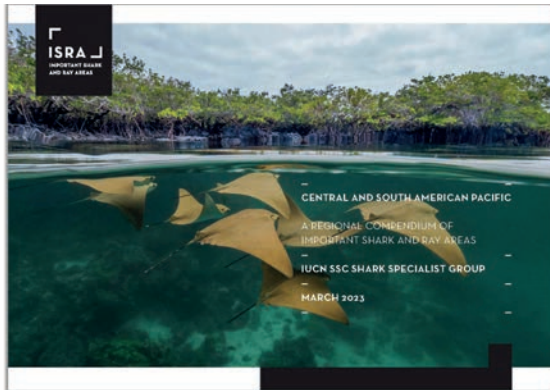
iSea is an Environmental Organisation founded in 2016 in Thessaloniki, Greece. Our goal is to preserve the aquatic habitats, including the fauna and flora, which inhabit them through research, raising awareness and the promotion of conservation policies.



IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group



Website: www.iucnssg.org
www.sharkrayareas.org
Twitter: @IUCNShark



LAMNA

Website: www.associaciolamna.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/associaciolamna/



Treballem pels taurons i rajades de la costa valenciana.

We work for the sharks and rays of the valencian coast.

Trabajamos por los tiburones y las rayas de la costa valenciana.



M.E.C.O.

The Mediterranean Elasmobranch
Citizen Observation Project

Website: www.mecoproject.org

Twitter: @theMECOproject

The MECO project is dedicated to transforming the way we gather data on the incredible diversity and distribution of sharks, rays, and skates in the Mediterranean. Our unique approach revolves around citizen scientists collaborating via existing social media platforms to share their elasmobranch sightings with our dedicated research teams who follow the MECO protocol.



Med Sharks

Website: www.europeansharks.eu

Twitter: @MedSharks

MedSharks is a non profit research and conservation association which aims to promote the knowledge, awareness and protection of the Mediterranean ecosystem and particularly of Mediterranean sharks. MedSharks is partner in the European project Clean Sea LIFE, an awareness project on marine litter co-funded within the LIFE programme.



Mersea Marine Consulting

Website: www.mersea.org



Our Mission is to improve the marine realm through completing scientific research on marine fisheries and ecology, focusing on marine conservation with the aim of improving gaps in policy. Due to our wide range of expertise, and collaborators spanning the globe, we can contribute to many different causes and projects. We provide a wide range of services such as conducting underwater research on biodiversity, benthic macrofauna, fish & invasive species, elasmobranchs and vulnerable species. We also conduct fisher interviews, fisheries assessments, data analyses, scientific writing and native English editing for peer review.



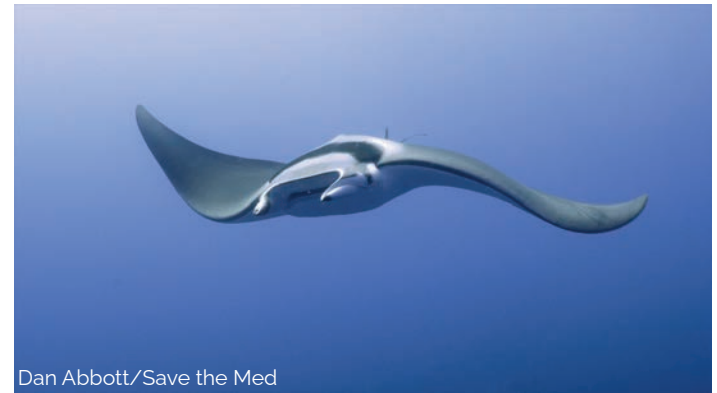
Save the Med Foundation

Website: www.savethemed.org

Twitter: @SaveTheMed_



Save The Med's research programmes aim to increase the current knowledge of potentially vulnerable species in the Mediterranean in order to protect them and their habitats.



Dan Abbott/Save the Med

Sharklab Adria:

Center for marine and freshwater biology

Website: www.sharklab-adria.org



At the heart of our activities lies multidisciplinary cutting-edge research, where we delve into the ecology, pathology, and conservation of elasmobranchs



Sharks in Israel

Website: www.sharks.org.il



Sharks in Israel is a registered non-profit organization established in 2018. Its activities began back in 2014, with the recognition that there are significant gaps in the knowledge, perception and conservation efforts of sharks and rays in Israel.

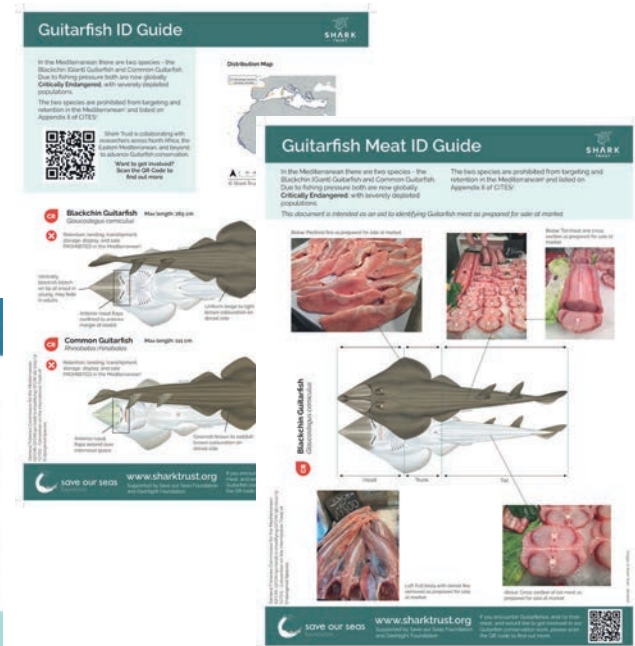


SHARK TRUST

Website: www.sharktrust.org

Twitter: @sharktrustuk

Safeguarding the future of sharks & rays through positive change. Realised through science, education, influence & action. Advocating for political change & generating collective action. Believing that positive change is realistic. A vision of a future where sharks & rays thrive in a globally healthy marine ecosystem.

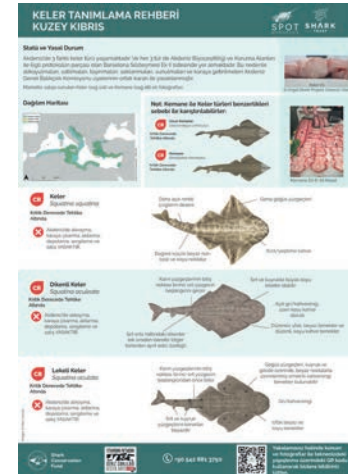


SPOT

Website: www.cyprusturtles.org

Twitter: @spot_turtles

Our work includes monitoring bycatch of all vulnerable species, examining fishery impacts, identifying, and protecting marine habitats, understanding and mitigating marine pollution, developing policy, advocacy, education, engaging and training stakeholders and awareness raising. For more information see our project pages.



SUBMON

Website: www.submon.org

Twitter: @submon_

At SUBMON we work to conserve marine biodiversity and to achieve a sustainable use of the marine environment, and we do so by promoting a change in the relationship between society and the sea, through on-site actions and using and transmitting knowledge.



UNIVERSIDAD DE MURCIA

MARINE ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION GROUP



UNIVERSIDAD
DE MURCIA

Website: www.facebook.com/MECResearch

Twitter: @UMU

The work of the group covers several broad fields:

- Reef fish biology and ecology, specially focusing on the conservation of apex predators.
- Marine protected areas (MPAs) ecology and monitoring.
- Dispersion and mobility of marine organisms and connectivity between populations.
- Spatial and temporal assessment of artisanal and recreational fisheries.
- Marine ecosystem functioning, modelling and their responses to global changes.
- Marine governance, assessment and conservation of marine ecosystems service.



Acknowledgements

Shark Trust would like to thank all the contributors to the Flat Shark Showcase at Fish Forum 2024, and to acknowledge all those who work in research and conservation of Chondrichthyan fishes. We especially thank all the funders past and present which includes (but is not limited to), Dashlight Foundation, Disney Conservation Fund, Save our Seas Foundation and Shark Conservation Fund.

Funded by:

