

# Regional Capacity Building Initiative

Supporting partner country participation in ENPI CBC Programmes 2007 - 2013

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<i>Name of the Project</i>	<b>Comparative biological study of diverse species of common fishing interest to Andalusia and Morocco</b>
<i>Regions Involved</i>	Andalusia and Morocco
<i>Timeframe</i>	01 April 2003 – 31 December 2007
<i>Budget</i>	€ 657,900
<i>Sources of Finance</i>	Project funded by the Community Initiative Funds INTERREG IIIA Andalusia - Morocco (ERDF funds)
<i>Project Partners</i>	OPAM, Universidad de Cadiz, Junta de Andalucía, Universidad de Abdelmalek Essaadi
<i>Field of Intervention</i>	Environmental protection
<i>Aims of the Project</i>	The project aims to unify the criteria used by the two countries in order to establish protection measures for the fishing area in regard to the minimum catch size for each species and the definition of the biological closure period
<i>Activities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• specify the species that make up each of the categories being caught and sold</li> <li>• study the growth parameters for each species</li> <li>• determine the minimum catch size</li> <li>• study the reproduction cycle, the gonad-somatic index and the ovulation cycle</li> <li>• study the fertility and its variation based on size and determine the size for the first reproduction</li> <li>• compare the Mediterranean and Atlantic species according to the above-mentioned parameters</li> </ul>
<i>Results</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comparative overview of the life cycle of various fish species in the Mediterranean and Atlantic coastal waters of Andalusia and Morocco</li> <li>• Basic criteria for the definition of quality for fishing products</li> </ul>
<i>Cross Border Impact</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stronger common understanding through agreement on catch sizes in the joint fishing areas</li> <li>• Joint fish stocks and biodiversity in a maritime cross-border region better protected</li> </ul>

## Key Factors for Success

- Joint preliminary studies that allowed the recommendation of unified criteria regarding protection measures for the fishing area
- Mix of scientific and policy-making stakeholders

