

# SNAPSHOT OF FISHERIES

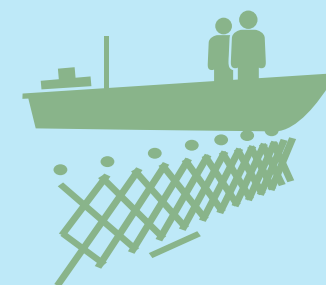
## IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BLACK SEA

Despite a reduction in landings, revenue and jobs, fisheries make a significant contribution to food production, livelihoods and the economy.

**85 200**  
vessels



**87%** operate in the Mediterranean Sea  
**13%** operate in the Black Sea



**82%** of the fleet is composed of small-scale fisheries vessels

**500K**  
jobs along the value chain



**194 000** jobs are on board vessels



Job numbers decreased by **14%** in 2018–2020

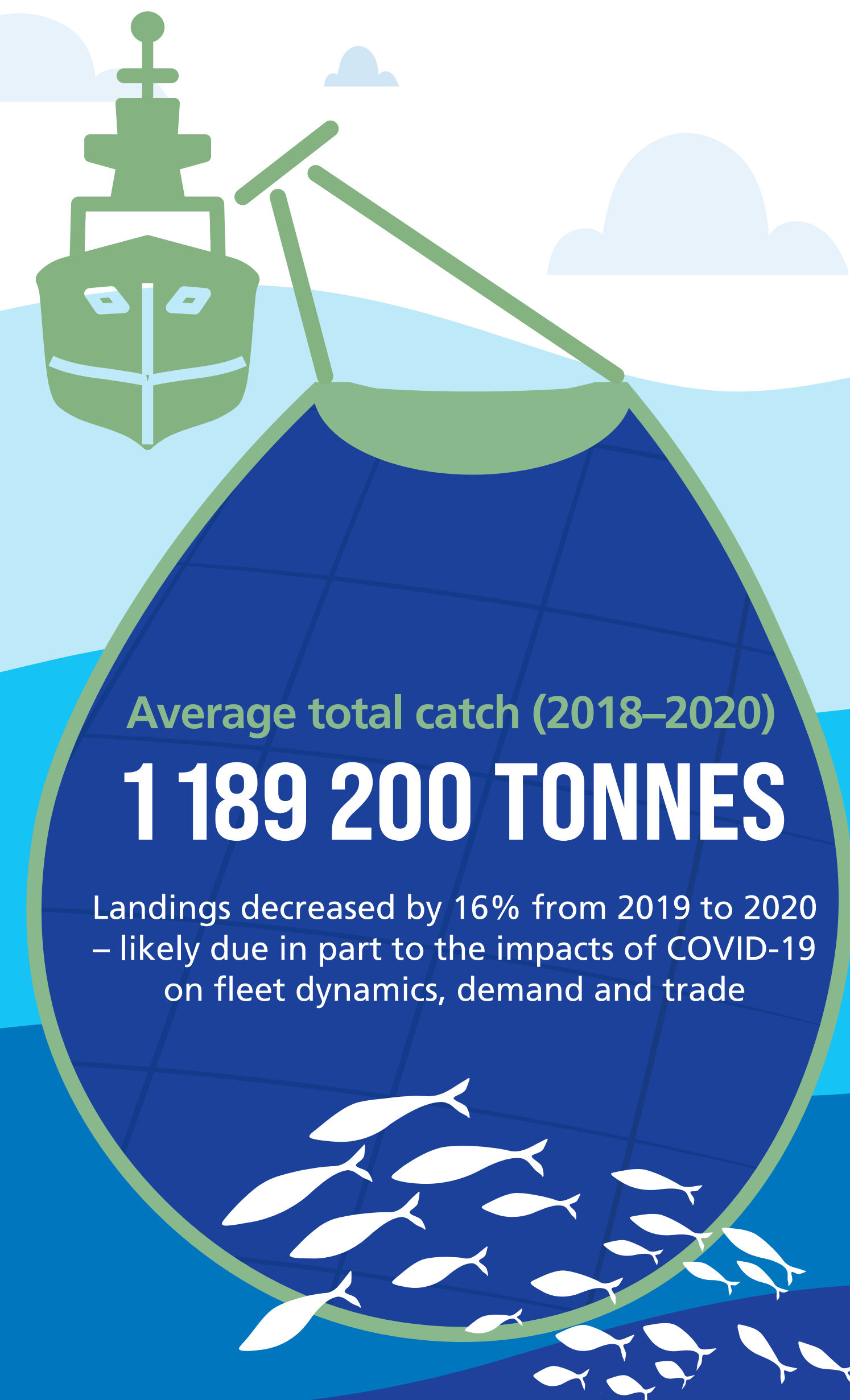
**2.9 billion**  
annual revenue  
(2020 USD)



Estimated total contribution to the regional economy is **USD 7.7 billion**



Revenue decreased by **19%** in 2018–2020



# FISHERIES RESOURCES

## IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BLACK SEA

Overexploitation of stocks has decreased during the past decade.  
However, most commercial species are still fished at unsustainable levels.

**73%** of commercial stocks are fished outside biologically sustainable limits

**44%** of stocks have relative low biomass levels

Average fishing pressure is still **2X** the sustainable level

But average pressure has decreased by **21%** in the last decade, 10% of it in the last two years

Pressure for species under management plans

**-75%**  
Common sole

Adriatic Sea

**-62%**  
Turbot

Black Sea

**-39%**  
European hake

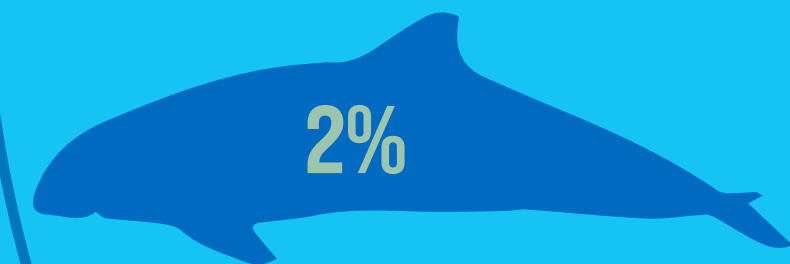
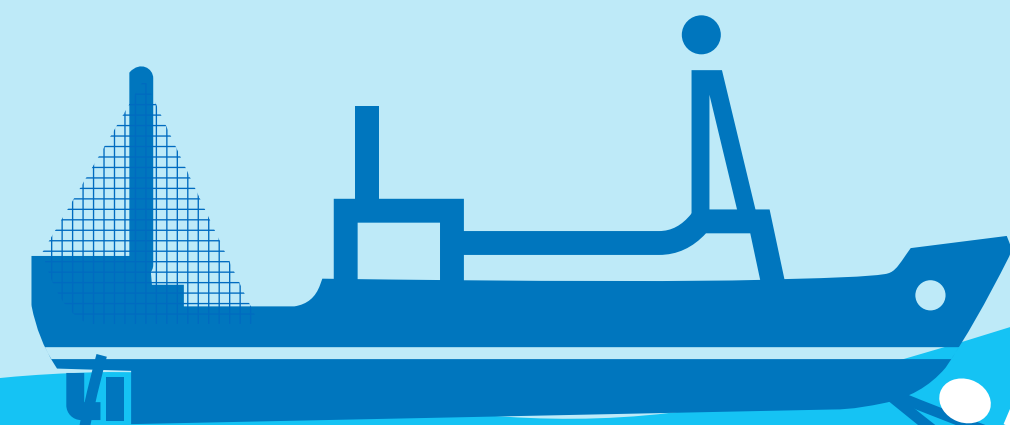
Mediterranean Sea

# VULNERABLE SPECIES

## IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BLACK SEA

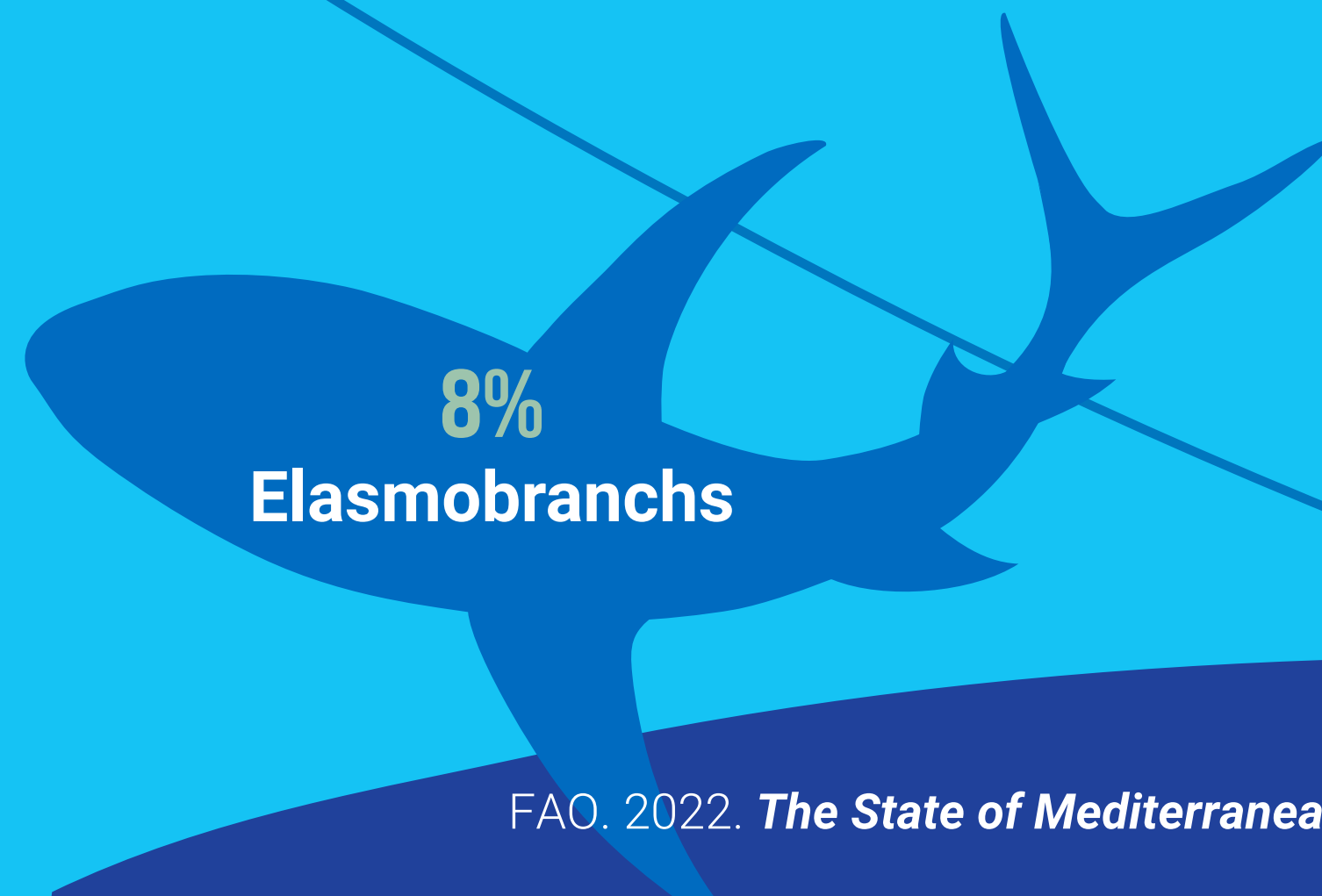
Vulnerable species are affected by different anthropogenic stressors, including climate change, plastic pollution, habitat degradation and negative interactions with fisheries.

**80%** of incidental catches of vulnerable species are recorded in long-liners and bottom trawlers



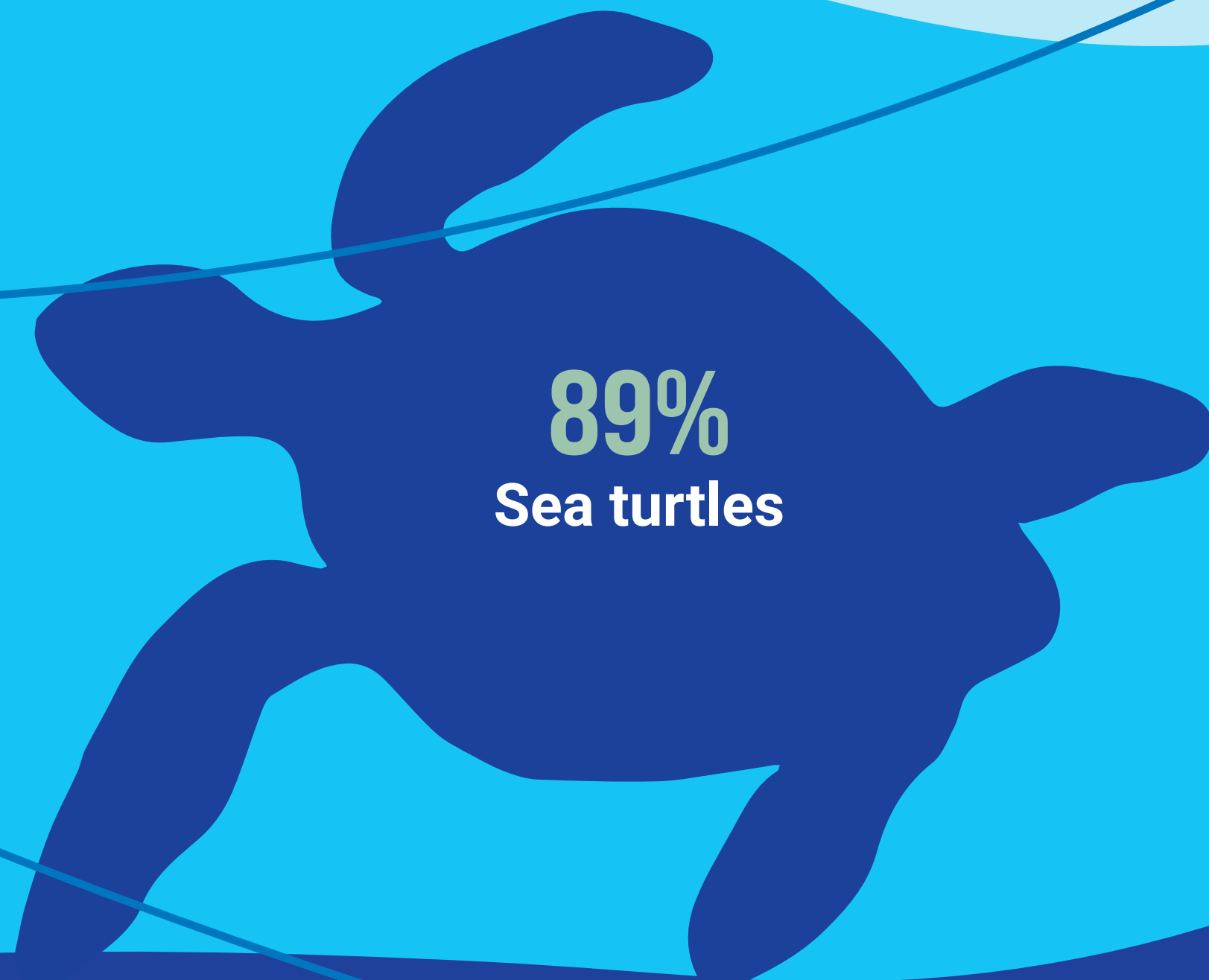
2%

Cetaceans



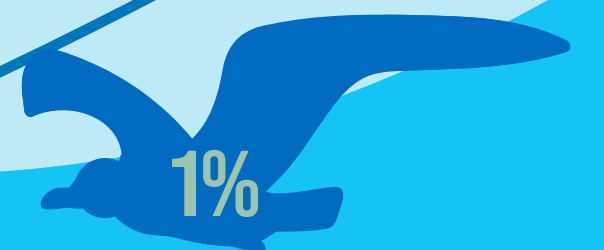
8%

Elasmobranchs



89%

Sea turtles



1%

Seabirds

# HUMAN DIMENSION OF FISHERIES

## IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BLACK SEA

Fisheries are an important source of livelihoods for men and women and are embedded in the fabric of coastal communities. Targeted social support for the sector helps ensure their resilience.



On average, 1 in every 1 000 coastal residents is a fisher

49% OVER THE AGE OF 40



17% UNDER THE AGE OF 25



52% OVER THE AGE OF 40



10% UNDER THE AGE OF 25



2018

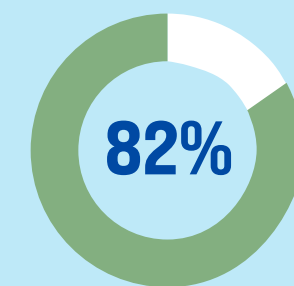
2020

AGEING WORKFORCE

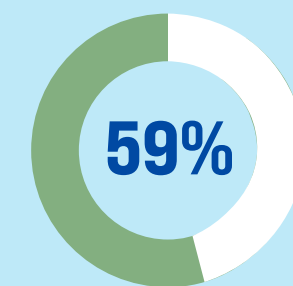


Non-vessel-based jobs are estimated to employ almost **2.5 times** as many people as those on board vessels and women play an important role in these jobs

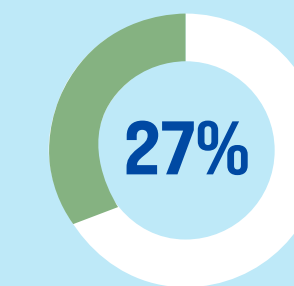
Small-scale fisheries play a vital role, accounting for:



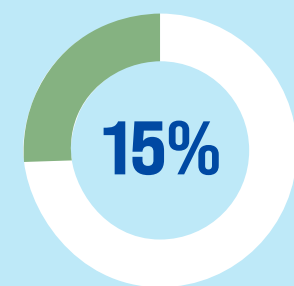
of the fishing fleet



of total onboard employment



of total revenue



of total catch



Remuneration of small-scale fishers is half of what industrial fishers earn



The small-scale fisheries sector has a limited profit margin



67% of GFCM countries provide social security benefits to small-scale fishers



50% of GFCM countries provide unemployment benefits and this is the fastest growing social protection category



# FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

## IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BLACK SEA

A regional governance framework is providing tangible results in reducing unsustainable fishing pressure on key species, but it needs to be extended and enhanced to drive greater sustainability.

**10** management plans involving +6 500 vessels

**10** fisheries restricted areas (FRA) covering 1 760 000 km<sup>2</sup>

