



NAFCOAST

NEWSLETTER 7

AUGUST 2020



PROJECT CO FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

↓ BLUE CRAB: WHEN TUNISIA TURNS THREAT INTO OPPORTUNITY

Global climate change has clearly affected the nature of climate; first to suffer the harmful effects of climate change is the sea (increase in sea water temperatures, decline in fishery resources, etc.) Due to these, In Tunisian Sea, there is the appearance of new invasive species such as the Blue Crab. It appeared in late 2014 in the Gulf of Gabes (Tunisian southeast) and quickly proliferated.

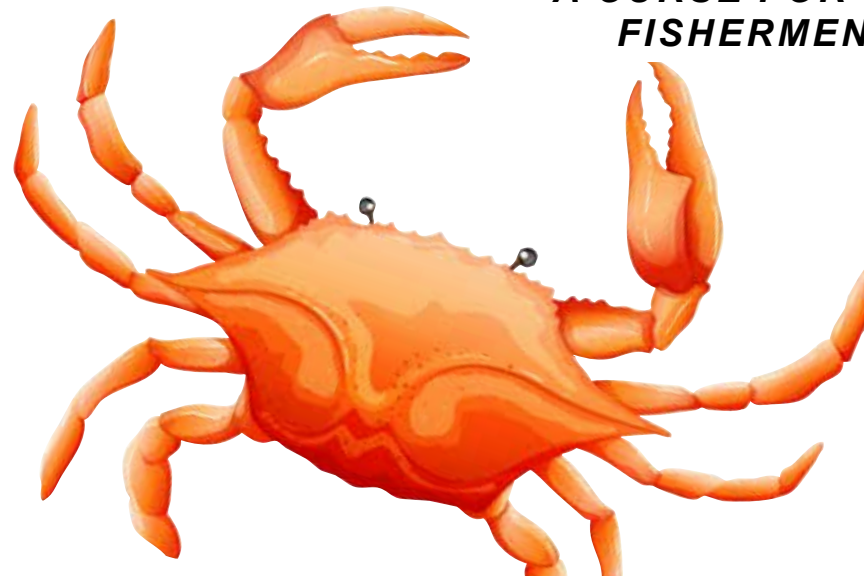
These Crabs have "quickly become a curse for the fishermen. They devour fish, sea bream, wolf, red mullet and shear the nets, it has exacerbated the economic hardship of many fishermen.

But now, the situation is highly different, blue crab is a favorite food for many people, the Ministry of Tunisian Agriculture subsidizes the purchase price: for a kilo fished and sold on average 1.8 dinars, Tunisia produced 1,450 tons of blue crab in the first seven months of 2018, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, worth nine million dinars, the blue crab fishery is now valued and supported and fishermen are engaged in it.

1 OPPORTUNITY FOR OF WOMEN - GENDER ASPECT- IN DJERBA ISLAND

For the past year, more than 100 women from the town of Ajim, in the southwest of the island of Djerba, have responded to a call launched by a Tunisian NGO, Funded by the UNDP-Tunisia as part of the « Addressing climate change vulnerabilities and risks in vulnerable coastal areas of Tunisia » project, for training sessions on developing the value of blue crab meat, which is profitable and exportable. And now the women of Ajim are preparing to lead their own transition and adapt to a new context imposed by climate change instead of leaving their city. This initiative will solve their economic problems.

THESE CRABS HAVE "QUICKLY BECOME A CURSE FOR THE FISHERMEN.



2 A LABELING PROJECT IN SIGHT

Blue crab later labeled as local product specific to the locality of Ajim, Tunisia. Hundreds of fishermen and women are engaged in crab hunting and factories which produces frozen crab intended for export.

3 Blue crab awareness and tasting day in Ajim Djerba

In July, 2019 at the place of the municipality of Djerba Ajim. More than 500 citizens of Djerba responded present at the awareness day and tasting of blue crab, This event aimed to support the adaptation of the fishing families of Ajim to a new context imposed by climate change and this through the improvement of the exploitation and enhancement of the blue crab fishery,

KEY-WORDS: Tunisian sea, climate changes, fisheries, fishing, economic, blue crab, adapting to climate changes

NAFCOAST CHALLENGE COVID19 & LAUNCH ONLINE TRAINING COURSES



NAfCOAST managed to lunch a series of online training courses that was coordinated and performed by NARSS with the attendance of candidates from all partners (Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania). The training courses were accomplished according to NAfCOAST pre-scheduled training programs. The courses are mainly aiming at transferring knowledge and skills to all partners and unify the level of expertise in producing the two services generated from NAfCOAST; SDP1 (Potential Fishing Zone Mapping - PFZ) and SDP2 (oil spills Monitoring - OSM). It also to create better dialogue and venue of communication with the political decision makers.

PROJECT NEWS

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NAfCOAST project completes the scheduled training program by providing a series of online training courses.

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NAfCOAST has held five online training session with Tunisia, Morocco & Mauritania with up to 8 trainees each time for about 12 training days covering both SDPs (1&2)

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NAFCOAST communication team made intervention and made visibility to our project and AUC and EC during celebration world environment day on 5 June 2020.



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NAF-COAST DECIDED TO PROMOTE VIRTUAL TRAINING AND MEETINGS



1 The Training on Oil Spill Monitoring was held from 7-9 April 2020. Oil spill is considered one of the serious marine pollution problem in the Mediterranean Sea. The training helped the participants to understand how to map and identify oil spill from Sentinel 1 satellite SAR data and monitor such spill frequently.



TRAINING REPORT FOR THE ONLINE COURSE OF NAFCOAST

SDP1: OIL SPILL MONITORING (OSM)

SDP2: POTENTIAL FISHING ZONES (PFZs)

NO.	SDP	TRAINING NAME	DATE	TIME (EEST)	PERIOD	NO. OF ATTENDEES	PARTNERS	ORGANIZER
1	SDP 1	Oil Spill Monitoring (OSM)	7-9 April 2020	10:30 AM-01:30 PM	3 Days	7	Tunisia & Mauritania	NARSS
			11 May 2020	01:00 PM	1 Days	4	Mauritania	
			08-10 June 2020	11:00 AM-01:00 PM	3 Days	8	Morocco	
2	SDP 2	Potential Fishing Zones (PFZs)	13-15 April 2020	10:30 AM-01:30 PM	3 Days	6	Tunisia & Mauritania	NARSS
			18-19 May 2020	12:00 AM-01:30 PM	2 Days	8	Morocco	



2 The training on the "Detection of Potential Fishing Zone" was held on 13-15 April 2020. The objective was to highlight the potentiality of EO technologies to estimate and map Potential Fishing Zones (PFZ) over the Northern coast of Africa. Monitoring and detecting the PFZ is essentially based on mapping the changes in related marine parameters such as sea surface temperature –SST and chlorophyll-a CHL_a, which are detected using Sentinel 3 and MODIS satellite data.

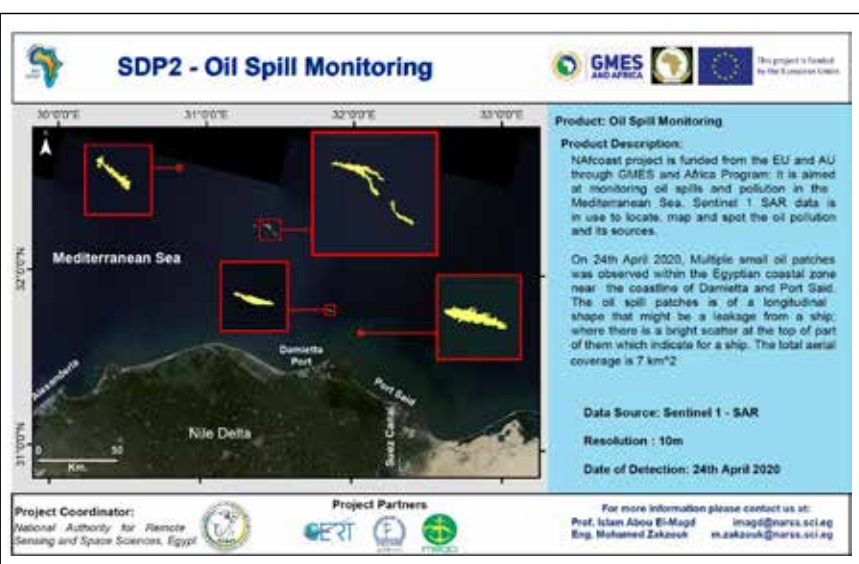


NAFCOAST WAS CELEBRATED THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY ON 5TH JUNE

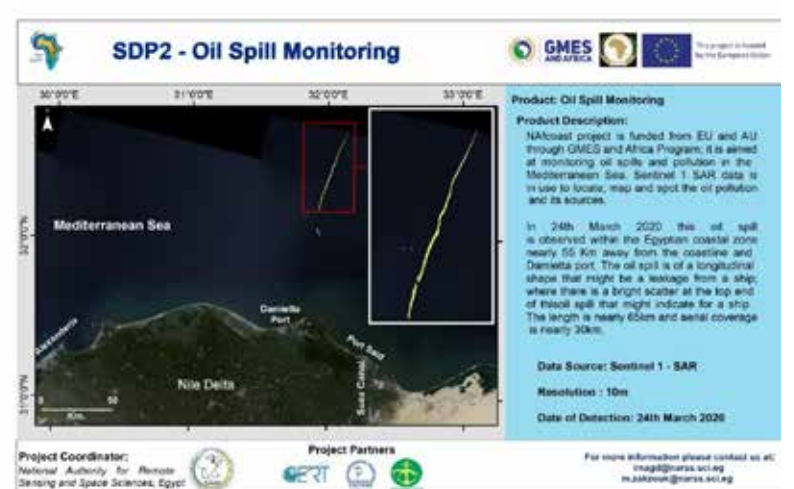
In the occasion of World Environment Day 5 June 2020. NAFCOAST communication team participated in a TV interview, the interview highlights the challenges facing global ecosystem due to covid-19 pandemic and the importance of biodiversity conservation and it's role to meet such challenges in the future, and the importance of the NAFCOAST project in monitoring coastal and marine environmental changes to face challenges ahead.



NAFCOAST MONITORS SEVERAL OIL SPILLS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA NEAR THE COAST OF EGYPT



Multiple small oil patches were observed within the Egyptian coastal zone near the coastline of Damietta and Port Said on 24th April 2020.



On 29th May 2020, this oil spill was observed within the Egyptian coastal zone nearly 75 Km away from the coastline of Kafr El-Shaikh. This event of oil spill is of a longitudinal shape that might be a leakage from a ship. The length is nearly 9 km and aerial coverage is nearly 8 km².