



# Università Ca'Foscari Venezia

**PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE:** SMARTFISH, Valorisation of SMAll-scale ARTisanal FISHery of the Adriatic coasts, in a context of sustainability

**FUNDING PROGRAMME:** INTERREG ITALIA – CROAZIA 2014-2020

**CALL:** Call 2017 Standard

**SCIENTIFIC FIELDS:** Blue innovation

**HOST DEPARTMENTS:** Agri-Environment, Hunting And Fishery Direction, Veneto Region  
Department Of Environmental Sciences, Informatics And Statistics, Ca' Foscari University Venice

**SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE:** Fabio Pranovi

**FINANCIAL DATA:**

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 3.254.230,50	€ 391.425,00

**ABSTRACT:**

Artisanal Small-Scale Fishery (SSF) according to EU is the one employing vessels smaller than 12m LOA, not using towed gear. World-over, it is the most relevant fishery segment, deeply rooted in local traditions, adapted to the environment through coevolution, and inherently sustainable. For this, and for its potential to provide sustainable growth and jobs, in harmony with the marine environment, it is acknowledged at many levels (FAO, EU CFP, ERDF, EUSAIR) to play an important role in the pursuit of Blue Growth. Focusing on the Programme area, SSF sector represents the 50% of the Italian and 90% of the Croatian fleets operating in the FAO Geographic Subarea (GSA)17 (Northern Adriatic). The common challenge it faces, proven also through previous CB projects (e.g. ArtFishMed) is a lack of competitiveness in comparison with other fleets (e.g. trawling and/or dredges), difficult access to market, low prices, decreasing stocks and biodiversity in the catches, decreasing market values and increasing running costs. Due to the common characteristics of SSF throughout the Area, and to the fact that it exploits natural resources shared and freely moving between the waters of the two Countries, it is a challenge that calls for a cross-border cooperation approach. The general objective of the Project is to strengthen the Small-Scale Fishery role in the GSA 17 in the near future, by fostering its potential for innovation within the Blue Growth context. In a sector like the SSF, which has evolved in strong connection with local tradition and in balance with the ecosystem, the elements of innovation most likely to bring the greatest benefits won't be found in processes and technologies, but rather in the approach to management and in the valorisation of the products, in an effort to boost its resilience and sustainability, and market value. Exploiting the great adaptability of SSF, the Project will promote its assumption as a paradigm for the implementation of integrated management strategies, through an Ecosystem-Based Approach. The project will involve all the actors responsible for the management of the coastal area with a bottom-up approach; strategies to

mitigate risk and exploit opportunities will be identified in cooperation with stakeholders, and will serve to strengthen the scientific advice, to improve medium term planning and the policy making process.

The outputs of the project will be:

- A comprehensive body of knowledge on the current state of SSF in GSA17 to drive policy-makers and operators, and to give scientific soundness to the project itself;
- Market and product innovation for the SSF sector, based on knowledge-transfer, co-creation, resilience and sustainability; this will benefit also the coastal environment and consumers;
- Management innovation in the SSF sector, by both empowering its self-management capabilities and streamlining regulations; this will benefit also environmental resources and other users of same coastal areas.

<b>Planned Start date</b>	<b>Planned End date</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> July 2018</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> December 2020</b>

#### **PARTNERSHIP:**

<b>1 Veneto Region</b>	<b>Venice (IT)</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>
<b>2 Ca' Foscari University Venice</b>	<b>Venice (IT)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>3 Autonomous Region Of Friuli Venezia Giulia</b>	<b>Trieste (IT)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>4 Emilia Romagna Region</b>	<b>Bologna (IT)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>5 Marche Region</b>	<b>Ancona (IT)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>6 Region Of Istria</b>	<b>Istarka (HR)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>7 Primorje-Gorski Kotar County</b>	<b>Primorsko-Goranska (HR)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>8 Zadar County</b>	<b>Zadarska (HR)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>9 Institute Of Oceanography And Fisheries</b>	<b>Splitsko-Dalmatinska (HR)</b>	<b>Partner</b>
<b>10 Ministry Of Agriculture</b>	<b>Grad Zagreb (HR)</b>	<b>Partner</b>