



**Mundus  
maris**  
*Sciences and Arts  
for Sustainability*

# Annual activity report 2022



**2022 was a hopeful year for the ocean**

Member States of the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreed on a Treaty with first steps to reign in harmful fisheries subsidies in time for the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon hosted by Portugal and Kenya. It was a highlight on the lengthy road to put the Ocean centre stage on the political agenda so as to trigger lagging investment into ocean recovery and protection. The expected conclusion of the on-going UN negotiations about protecting biodiversity in the 30% of the ocean beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) by 2030 was closely missed, but the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) agreed on the ambitious Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in December.

All the while, the entire year was dedicated to boosting support for and visibility of small-scale fisheries (SSF) as the United Nations had declared 2022 to be the **International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAF 2022)**. That found expression, for example, in the Small-Scale Fisheries Summit in Rome supported also by Mundus maris. The summit led to a special session at the subsequent FAO Committee of Fisheries (COFI) to recognise SSF. 2022 also saw a series of five regional conferences under the roof of the 4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress (4WSFC) organised by the research platform “Too Big to Ignore” with local institutions. Mundus maris contributed specifically to the European and African regional events.

We continued our advocacy and awareness-raising activities, preferably as part of broader coalitions, notably with RISE UP for the Ocean around and at the UN Ocean Conference. The focus was on blue justice through the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Ensuring Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries. We were moreover an active partner in the large alliance of civil society organisations demanding an end to harmful fisheries subsidies at the WTO and supported several initiatives e.g. for shark protection. We also continued to complement this advocacy work with action research.

For World Ocean Day (8 June), always a highlight of the year, we pulled off again a large number of activities of our groups and with our partners. We thank all those people who stood by us with their donations, their time and expertise. A big THANK YOU to them all as we achieved a lot with a small budget. The wins this year feel gratifying and encouraging.

The report focuses on the major highlights of the year. Find out more by visiting the website [www.mundusmaris.org](http://www.mundusmaris.org) in five languages (English, French, German, Italian and Spanish). You find additional resources and information also on our social media channels. Enjoy the read about the change you helped to achieve.

**Cornelia E. Nauen**  
and the entire  
**Mundus maris** team



**2022 Budget**

Total income from donations and membership fees, including carry-over was **25,659.35 €**. The investments / expenditures by broad category were as follows:

Total ACAD	1,046.00 €
Total YOUTH	1,561.00 €
Total EDUC	5,611.38 €
Total INFO / COMMS	3,146.67 €
Total STOB / OPER	2,349.66 €
Total financial investment	13,714.71 €

ACAD = academic work  
 YOUTH = youth work  
 EDUC = education  
 INFO / COMMS = information & communication  
 STOB / OPER = statutory obligations & operational costs

# Recent Highlights from different places

NB: To expand the information of the annual report, move the cursor over the bold underlined text and click to link to the related webpage.

## Section 1 – Information, Communication, providing resources

We expanded and diversified our general information and communication activities throughout the year. Our investment in this type of work were still modest as we teamed up with others and also continued engagement with the digital media and online events. You can access our monthly newsletters with the highlights of activities at the bottom of the left column of our [website](#).

### Collaborations in several international initiatives

Throughout the year, we participated particularly in four international initiatives together with a broad platform of other civil society organisations:

- **'Make Stewardship Count'**, an initiative of some 90 experts, organisations, and researchers from around the world has been heavily engaged with the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) throughout its multi-year Certification Standard -review. We recognise the immense amount of work that has gone into this review by MSC and stakeholders to deliver the new Fisheries Standard V3.0, released on October 26. Despite an effort at simplification in this review, the Standard and process for certification remain complex riddled with ways that fisheries can undermine the intention of the scoring for the next 10 years years of validity. The MSC has chosen a lower bar for impacts on endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) species, monitoring of fishing practices and catch, and sustainable management objectives than our coalition and many other experts had hoped. Transparency remains poor. A sad outcome overall.

- **'Stop funding overfishing – stop harmful fisheries subsidies'** focused on getting member countries of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to deliver a treaty at the 12th Ministerial Meeting in June. After hard campaigning in its run-up, that Ministerial brought at least a partial win ending more than 20 years of stalling. That meant a hopeful message also for the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon a few days later and an immediate switch in the campaign from promoting a treaty to promoting its ratification and enforcement. But that's not enough. Now that WTO has started to move a little bit in the right direction, work needs to gain momentum on a follow-up treaty to close loop holes for adoption during the 13th Ministerial Conference. We are happy to have

contributed to some progress, but a lot is still needed for more tangible change on the water.

- **RISE UP for the Ocean** is a recently formed platform supported by Oceano Azul Foundation of already some 500 civil society organisations and others to join forces for ocean protection. The Blue Call to Action is a joint call by civil society, fisherfolk, Indigenous peoples and philanthropic organisations to governments and corporations to join us and agree on bold action to safeguard the ocean. Among the highlights were impactful side events at the **Ocean Conference** in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July.



Dr. Patricia Morales, Vice-President of Mundus maris (left), with Prof. Sylvia Earle, iconic US ocean researcher, at the Rise Up side event.  
Copyright: Patricia Morales

Support for the European Citizen Initiative to **stop shark finning** in Europe by stopping the trade ran high. The fantastic campaign team headed by Nils Kluger had almost garnered the minimum one million signatures by the end of 2022. Thumbs up! Citizens want sharks to be protected!

## Mundus maris invited to the UN Sustainable Development Transformation Forum

The annual Sustainable Development Transformation Forum (SDTF) organised early March by the UN Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) focused on Sustainable Development Goal 14 'Life under water' (SDG 14). 'Building back better' from the covid pandemic was a prime concern. Cornelia E Nauen of *Mundus maris* was invited and spoke about people on change journeys for implementing SDG 14. [Read more](#)



### Take home for action - IYAF2022

#### At the macro-level top priorities are

- WTO to stop harmful fisheries subsidies (14.6), no loopholes
- Curbing IUU fishing, improving records, research & management
- Conclude negotiations about 30x30 successfully for recovery
- United against climate change through peaceful cooperation

#### Bottom-up priorities are

- Invest in people - education, health, gender equity - and fair institutions, fish for food not for feed
- Connect immediate needs with macro-level political agendas for greater citizen engagement and empowerment
- Implement the SSF Guidelines to support sustainable futures



## Women and Nutrition and Health – International Women's Day, 8 March

**Mundus Maris**  
sciences and arts for sustainability  
<https://www.mundusmaris.org/index.php/en/>

*Recognition Of*  
**WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION TO DOMESTIC FISH SUPPLY FOR NUTRITION & HEALTH.**

In celebration of International Women's Day 2022

Zoom  
**TUESDAY 8TH, MARCH 2022.**  
**7PM W.A.T**  
**6PM G.M.T**

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Dr. Ana Menezes, **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
FAO, Rome

Funmilola Sheliko, **MODERATOR**  
AfrFishNet Nigerian Chapter

Prof. Stella Williams, **MODERATOR**  
Vice President Mundus Maris

Ayjesutani Abiodun-Solanke, **SECRETARY**  
Mundus Maris asbl

Dr. Helen Bola Wilcox-Ewwaraye

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The 'Recognition of Women's Contribution to Domestic Fish Supply for Nutrition and Health' was the central theme of a webinar organised by *Mundus maris* Nigeria for the celebration of International Women's Day 2022. With Ana Menezes of FAO as keynote speaker this was a great opportunity to explore what's special for women beyond official speeches. In a superbly insightful talk Ana impressed the importance of being authentic and caring on her audience. Making sure one's name was associated with honourable memories was crucial for a respected professional career. [Read more](#)

## Mundus maris participates in Small-Scale Fisheries workshop, Ojo, Nigeria

The National Stakeholder and Advocacy Capacity Building Workshop for the implementation of Small-scale fisheries (SSF) Guidelines in Nigeria was held from 9 to 11 May 2022. The workshop was organised by Lagos State University (LASU) with support from the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), WorldFish Centre and the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) based in India. *Mundus maris* participated actively. Prof. Stella Williams, Vice President, talked about the establishment of a National SSF Guidelines Alliance Network (Steering Committee) to promote implementation of the SSF Guidelines. [Read more](#)

## Blue Corridors - MPA networks in the European Parliament

The European Parliament's Intergroup on 'Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development' convened a webinar titled "European marine cooperation in the Mediterranean and beyond: networks of marine protected area managers, key allies!" that took place on 12 May 2022. This was the first of three events to provide the opportunity to discuss the EU marine ambition with the idea of a 'One Blue Belt'. This should be achieved, among others, by boosting international cooperation between networks of MPA managers across the globe to achieve Post 2020 marine conservation targets. MEPs Catherine Chabaud and Stéphane Bijoux were sponsors. We provide short reviews about some of these webinars as they are usually very informative and a good way to keep in touch with work in different fields of interest and with consultative and legislative work of the EP. [Read more](#)

### **Mundus maris contributes to the SSF Summit in Rome**

As part of the official calendar of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022), FAO and others supported the organisation of a Small-Scale Fisheries Summit from 2 to 4 September 2022. This was in preparation of FAO's 35th Committee of Fisheries (COFI) convened the following week to hear about the bi-annual World Fisheries and Aquaculture Report 2022 and give orientations for future work. *Mundus maris* contributed an Africa focused session to the SSF Summit. [Find out more](#)



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### **A glimpse at Marsaxlokk, the traditional fisheries harbour in Malta**

Marsaxlokk, once primarily the harbour for the famously colourful traditional boats, called luzzus, of the coastal fisheries in Malta, is today even more tourist attraction than a major seafood conveyor in Malta's economy and society. It also hosts new types of vessels where tradition meets modernity.



Copyright: Mundus maris

This island in the middle of the Mediterranean, close to Sicily and Tunisia, bears witness of thousands of years of mixing cultures, colonisation and creating a unique blend of architecture, food, arts and practices influenced by the locals, past invaders and today's visitors. Nice restaurants now line the harbour promenade. On Sunday, 11 September 2022 the traditional fish festival attracted masses of people to the fish, fruit, vegetable and souvenir stands of the market along the pier with traditional boats, small tourist transport vessels and other boats anchoring in sight. [Read on here.](#)

### **Madrid, 12 November 2022: Climate justice**

Some 40 environmental organisations throughout Spain had called together to participate, on Saturday, November 12, in a demonstration for climate justice and stronger efforts to curb climate change. The action was aimed at the participants of the UN Summit on climate change (COP27) meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt. *Mundus maris* was present at the large manifestation in Madrid with an inter-generational delegation to point out that the protection of the oceans is also the protection of the climate. [Read more](#)

### **G7++ Plenary in Abidjan, 1-2 December 2022**

The rotating presidency of the long-standing G7++ gatherings of country representatives interested in the maritime safety of the Gulf of Guinea convened its Plenary session this year in Abidjan under the shared lead of Côte d'Ivoire and Germany. The presidency had invited this time also a few representatives of civil society with particular emphasis on the 'Blue Economy'. The SWAIMS project, to which *Mundus maris* members had repeatedly contributed in previous occasions in the form of presentations and meeting participations, had recommended Prof. Stella Williams of *Mundus maris* as one of those speaking for civil society. And speaking up she did. [Find out more here](#)

## Section 2 – Youth

### World Ocean Day – focus on “Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean”

*Mundus maris* and its friends and allies teamed up again this year to celebrate World Ocean Day, 8 June, often prepared by awareness raising weeks before. This year’s UN motto was “Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean”. In Mexico, we supported a broad alliance formed by Limpiemos Veracruz, Kayam, Decididos, Ecosendero, OPEVER and Colegio Bilingue Báltico in the municipality of Alvarado in Veracruz Province. Maria Soledad Logozzo coordinated the different contributions on site. They started out with producing an attractive series of slides to illustrate to secondary school students on why it is so important to care for the ocean. Showing how much they cared a big clean up with youths and entire families collected substantial amounts of garbage from the shores of the lagoon.



Copyright: Maria Soledad Logozzo

Much smaller quantities were collected in a clean up drive by *Mundus maris* in Hilden, Germany, along a creek discharging into the river Rhine and ultimately the sea - and properly disposed of – particularly large numbers of toxic cigarette butts. In Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria, a clean up was also part of the celebrations orchestrated by Lydia Adeleke of *Mundus maris* at the Federal University of Technology Akure (FUTA) in collaboration with Aquaworld. In addition, a plastic creativity challenge for high school students invited them to turn plastic garbage into a creative object.

All entries were to be auditioned on June 6, at the FUTA Staff Secondary School. In the Lagos area a webinar was organised principally by Fish Party and ably moderated by Prof. Stella Williams, Vice-President of *Mundus maris* and technically supported by Ayojesutomi Abiodun-Solanke, also of *Mundus maris*. Students from the Lagos State University (LASU) had been explicitly invited as main speakers to underscore the importance of engaging young people.

The 2022 edition in Cameroon was held in a boukaro made of plastic bottle waste at Ngoye beach in the seaside town of Kribi with our allies of Bénévoles Océan led by Jeauberte Djamou. This ceremony saw the mobilisation of some 200 children from 10 schools who accompanied their supervisors and a strong mobilisation of volunteers from France, Douala and Yaoundé.

Our long-standing collaboration with the soccer schools in Hann, Senegal, allied in the ‘Amicale Foot’, coordinated by the indefatigable Babacar Ciss, better known as Gabou of Maison Foot, translated again into a big beach cleaning drive on 8 June and was followed again by the now traditional soccer tournament. Group sport for raising environment awareness.

Every year we organise in Argentina, together with the University of Belgrano, an event to celebrate World Ocean Day, ably coordinated by Marcelo L. Morales Yokobori. This year’s hybrid event was challenging, but also particularly inspiring with speakers on-site and online from Africa and Europe covering a range of topics.

The Kawabata Yasunari Primary School in Hann, Senegal, has been collaborating for several years with *Mundus maris* on the occasion of World Ocean Day. This time again with a combination of practical gardening exercises and theatre performances focused on the UN motto. Aliou Sall, *Mundus maris* Vice-President, and artist Bina Diop formed the organising team with headmaster Mme Mbaye.

The week closed with a lovely concert for peace and the ocean with two young musicians in the botanical garden of Louvain, Belgium, carefully set up by Maria del Carmen Patricia Morales, *Mundus maris* Vice President. **Read more**

## Section 3 – Education

It's been a challenge to pick-up the workshops of the Small-Scale Fisheries Academy as a form of adult education and capacity strengthening after the pandemic. In response of an earlier expression of needs to learn more about the working conditions of women micro-fish traders, a study was conducted.

### Supporting the SSF Academy, Senegal



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A Senegalese master student from the University of Nantes, geography department, Mouhamadou Bamba N'diaye, did his final six-months internship with *Mundus maris* in Yoff and Hann to conduct interviews with women micro-fish traders. These women have long been central to marketing catches in small-scale fisheries and thus not only make their own families thrive to the extent possible, but also contribute considerably to household food security at national, even regional levels. Though long ignored by officialdom and development projects, these women have been coping with remarkable creativity and tenacity the many changes their social and economic context has been undergoing since quite some time. Get to know the results of the study [here](#).

### FishBase Guide App as support for anybody interested in sustainable fish

The app, initially developed last year, shows primarily in pictogrammes, the minimum reproductive length of each fish species, the optimum size at which catches would be maximised for ever, and the maximum size of the fish ever recorded. The app also shows a vulnerability index, the principal spawning period of the species and its distribution range. The app can be freely downloaded from the Google Playstore. Helpful feedback from use as an educational tool forms the basis for an upgraded version expected in 2023, including incorporated language translation.

### Renewing with book reviews “A Life by the Sea”

#### ‘The Ocean’s Whistleblower. The Remarkable Life and Work of Daniel Pauly’ by David Grémillet

translated from French to English by Georgia Lyon Froman. Vancouver / Berkely, David Suzuki Institute and Greystone Books, 349 p. ISBN 978-1-77164-754-0 Reading David Grémillet’s well researched biography written with deep empathy and understanding for the scientific and social processes he covers, the reader will dive deeper into the life and work of this enormously prolific and influential scientist who has contributed so immensely to the scientific advances of his field. You will discover many of the companions as well as some adversaries. It’s a book – about the person and scientist – that will not leave you indifferent.

This book review by Cornelia E Nauen was first published in March 2022 in the SAMUDRA Report 87, reproduced [here](#) with kind permission of ICSF.

### And another Review: Atlas of fisheries and fishers in West Africa

**Atlas des pêches et pêcheurs d’Afrique de l’Ouest. États membres de l’UEMOA : Bénin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinée-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Sénégal, Togo.** Editeurs scientifiques: Pierre CHAVANCE et Pierre MORAND. Publié en 2020 par IRD Éditions - Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, Marseille, France, et UEMOA - Union Économique et Monétaire Ouest-Africaine, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. 163 p. ISBN papier: 978-2-7099-2840-3

Reviewer Aliou Sall, Vice President of *Mundus maris* concludes: The atlas is a valuable starting tool for a better appreciation of the importance of small-scale fishing, even if the figures have not been updated since the baselines surveys were done several years earlier. The results of six years of work is made available, among other things, with infographics built on the basis of these surveys.

[Read more](#)



## Section 4 – Academic work



In 2022 *Mundus maris* made again some academic contributions, reporting on our field work, participating in debates and making proposals for future work focused on implementing the Sustainable Development Goals. We also sponsored research in the Rio de la Plata and Paraná River in Argentina through the study of resource variations and indicators of pollution.

### Chapter in the “Handbook of Maritime Security” is finally out

‘Fisheries Crimes, Poverty and Food Insecurity’ is the title of a chapter by Cornelia E Nauen and Simona T Boschetti of *Mundus maris* in the Handbook of Maritime Security published by Routledge. It emphasises the need for addressing the root causes of crimes and inequality to promote human security. The book was published in June 2022.

### 20th IIFET Conference in Vigo, Spain, 18-22 July

Simona T Boschetti and Lydia Adeleke, members of *Mundus maris*, attended the conference in this important fishing port city. *Mundus maris* contributions were among only few papers to focus on social and community aspects and challenges the small-scale fisheries is facing. Simona presented two papers on behalf of other *Mundus maris* members, who were not able to attend. The first presentation, ‘Fighting their corner in the value chain - community based social protection mechanisms specific to women’ illustrated the research based on work of *Mundus maris* founding member Aliou Sall in Senegal, Gambia and Guinea.

The second presentation, ‘A Small-Scale Fisheries Academy - Strengthening Capacities of women and men for collective action’ by Cornelia E Nauen, Maria Fernanda Arraes Treffner, Aliou Sall and Stella Williams, highlighted the active and inclusive adult learning methodology used in the Academy.

[Click here for more.](#)



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### Europe Region - 4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress, 12-14 Sept., Malta

‘Imagine the (Un)imaginable’, thus was the motto of the European regional gathering of the 4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress convened in Malta from 12 to 14 September 2022. Three intense days of presentations and discussions in search of solutions to the open crisis of artisanal fisheries in Europe. One of the parallel break-out sessions was organised jointly by Seas at Risk and *Mundus maris*. In the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA2022), we invited participants of all backgrounds to this moderated workshop session to explore how we can together imagine futures of European artisanal fisheries in the context of rebuilding the ecosystems for and with coastal fishers to make a good living. [Read on.](#)

### Africa Region - 4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress, Cape Town, South Africa’

“Leading by examples”, thus was the motto of the African regional gathering of the 4th World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress convened in Cape Town, South Africa, 21-23 November 2022. This congress concluded the series of five regional conferences, one for each continent, towards the end of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022). Cornelia E Nauen presented some first hand experience together with Aliou Sall on how to make the connections between the principles of good governance in fisheries and how to put these into practice as part of the SSF Academy approach. One of the themes increasingly raised in fishing communities is the ecosystem approach to fisheries, which is finally becoming more broadly recognised. The demand for co-management also voiced at the conference is spreading. [Find out more.](#)

### Monthly V2V webinars

As a result of partnering with the international V2V research platform – from Vulnerability to Viability of small-scale fisheries - we regularly report on the monthly talks on our website and media and contribute to the V2V newsletter and academic interactions. One of the monthly lectures, titled The words we need for the ocean we share by Milena Arias Schreiber was particularly noteworthy. [Read on.](#)

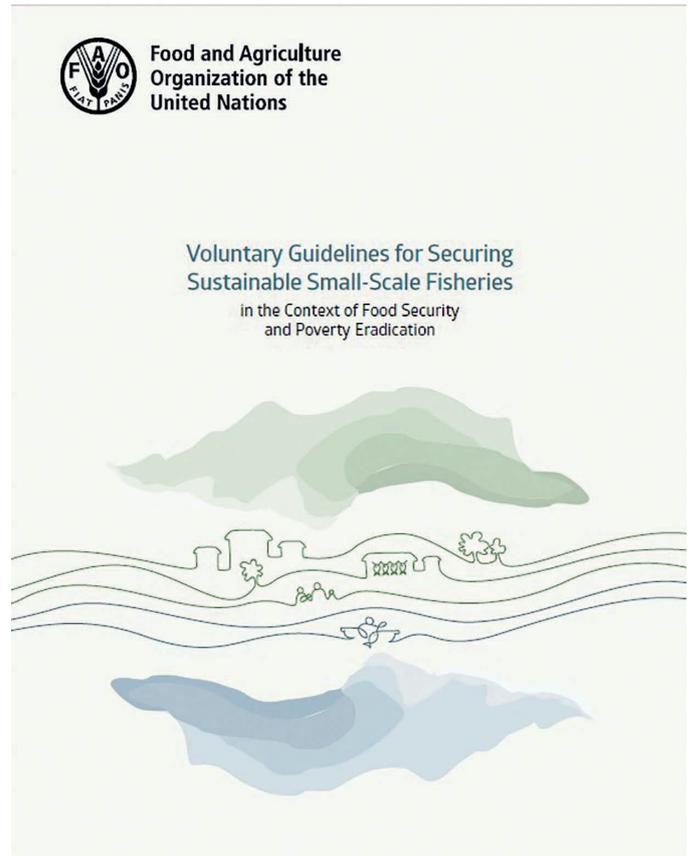
## More information for you

You can also follow our work in the social media and [subscribing](#) to our monthly newsletter.

Contact us at [info@mundusmaris.org](mailto:info@mundusmaris.org) for collaboration or any question about our programme.

We welcome any support towards moving ocean protection and the future of sustainable artisanal fisheries forward. Your time, your experience, your financial contribution make a difference! Be part of the change wave for a healthy ocean and healthy planet.

**FishBase Guide  
App as support for  
fishers and fish  
consumers**



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