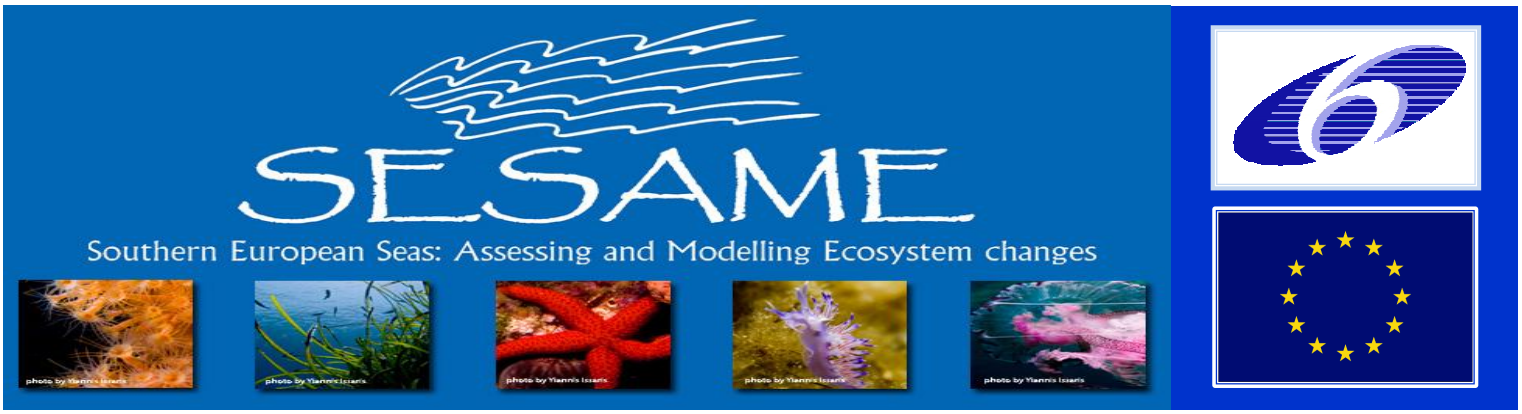


Southern European Seas: Assessing and Modelling Ecosystems Changes

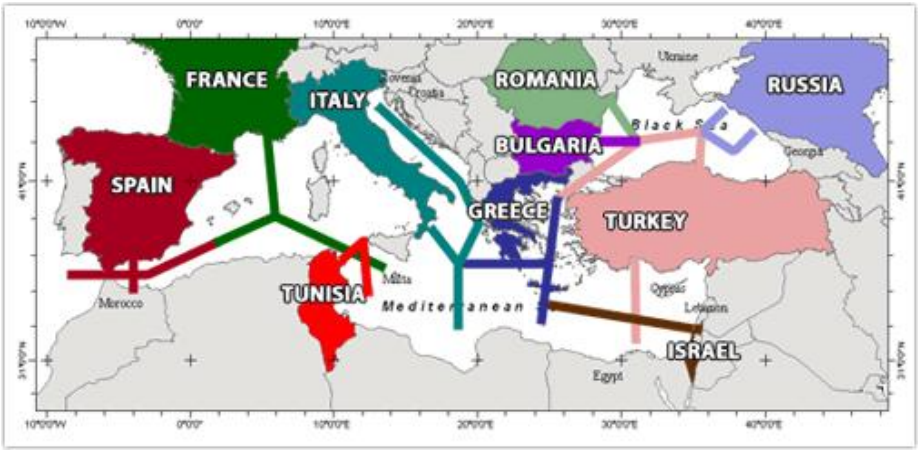
Local Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Emin ÖZSOY

2006-2011

The objectives of the project are to assess and predict changes in the Mediterranean and Black Sea ecosystems in order to provide goods and services.

The assessment of the Mediterranean and Black Sea ecosystem changes will be based on the identification of the major regime shifts that occurred during the last 50 years. Mathematical models will be used to predict ecosystem responses to changes in climate and anthropogenic forcing during the next five decades. The new data will be obtained during oceanographic cruises in the Mediterranean and Black Sea. These data will provide an overall picture of the Mediterranean and Black Sea for model validation.

SESAME will also study the effect of the ecosystem variability on key goods and services with high societal importance like tourism, fisheries, ecosystem stability through conservation of biodiversity and mitigation of climate change through carbon sequestration in water and sediments.



Partners and Funding

The SESAME is an FP6 EU funded project. It will stimulate and strengthen international cooperation in the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions through the participation of research organizations from Member States, Associated States, Associated Candidate countries, non-EU Mediterranean and NIS countries as well as international organizations.

Study areas for model definition and validation

1. The Alboran Sea - Gibraltar Strait (South Western Mediterranean)
2. The Gulf of Lions (North Western Mediterranean)
3. The Sicily Straits
4. The Eastern Levantine Basin
5. The Turkish Straits System and North Aegean Sea
6. The North Western Black Sea
7. The North Eastern Black Sea

Oceanographic Cruises

Ten (10) oceanographic vessels will be coordinated to conduct cruises along selected transects

For information visit: http://www.sesame-ip.eu/