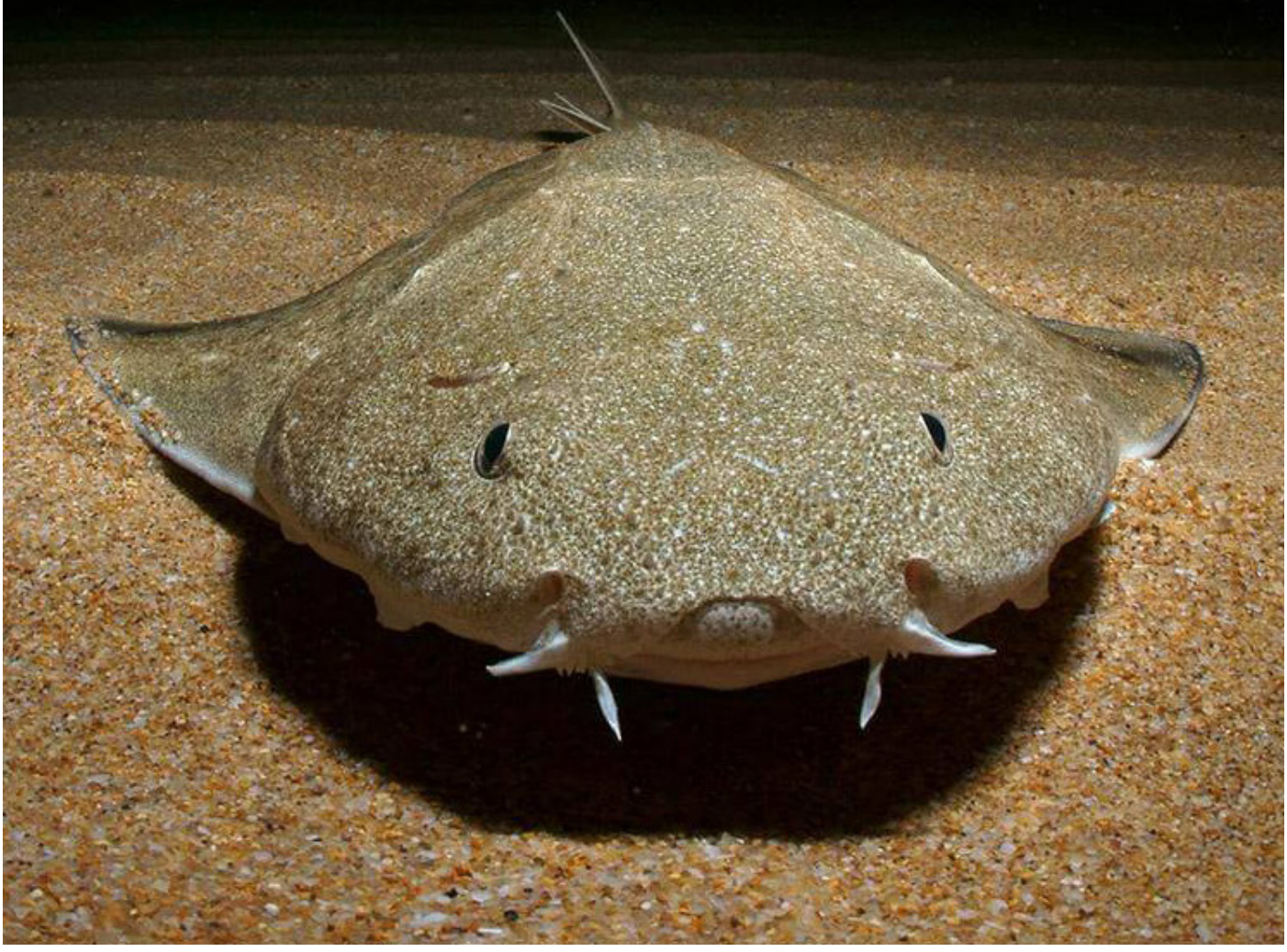
Report of the Secretariat

Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark in the Mediterranean (SSAP Angelshark Med)

2026

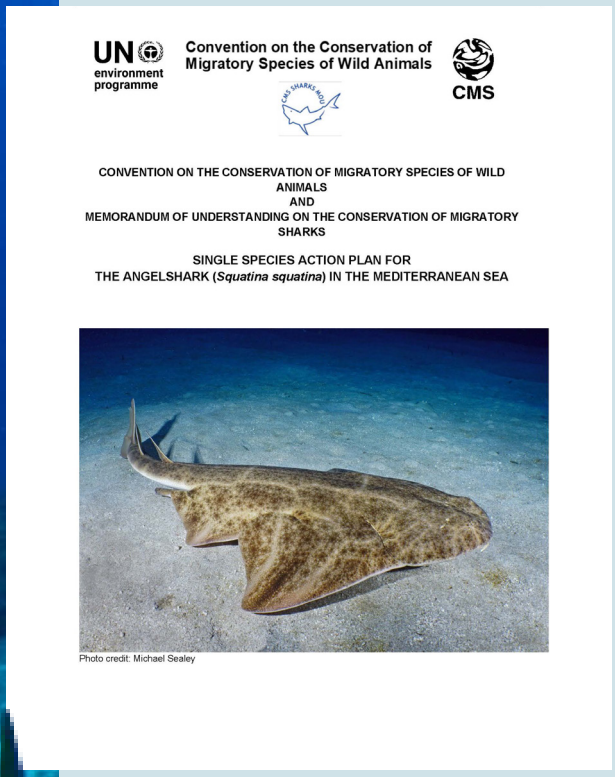


The Government of the Principality of Monaco were recognized as Champion Plus for their generous support and commitment towards the implementation of the Convention for the period 2024-2026. The development of these guidelines was funded with the contribution granted under the Migratory Species Champion Programme.

Cover Image: © Michael Sealey

Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark in the Mediterranean (SSAP Angelshark Med)

Species
Angelshark
Squatina squatina



UN environment programme

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

CMS

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS
AND
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SHARKS

SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLAN FOR
THE ANGELSHARK (*Squatina squatina*) IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Photo credit: Michael Sealey

14.12
CMS Resolution

22 + EU
Range States

10
National Experts

14
Observer Organisations

2
Range State Meetings

2
Working Group Meetings

Photo: © Iker Vildosola

Governance Structure SSAP Angelshark Med Working Group

The Working Group for the implementation of the SSAP Angelshark Med (Angelshark Med WG) serves as the main coordinating body for the implementation of the SSAP Angelshark Med.

The Angelshark Med WG is composed of at least one national government representative (Focal Point) and one national expert from each of the 22 Range States. The European Union, represented by the European Commission, is also a member. In addition to national representation, the WG includes experts from the Angel Shark Conservation Network (ASCN). International organisations participate as either members or observers.

The governance structure also envisages a Chair and a Co-Chair to be elected on a voluntary basis. These individuals will be responsible for overseeing the coordination and progress of the WG's activities, ensuring that the WG functions efficiently and that its efforts align with the objectives of the SSAP.

The CMS Secretariat provides administrative and logistical support for the Angelshark Med WG but does not assume a leadership role in coordinating the implementation of the SSAP.

A designated Coordinator is responsible for the day-to-day coordination and management of the activities of the Angelshark Med WG. In the absence of a Chair and Co-Chair, the Coordinator has taken over the tasks assigned to the Chair and Co-Chair, with close guidance from the CMS Secretariat.



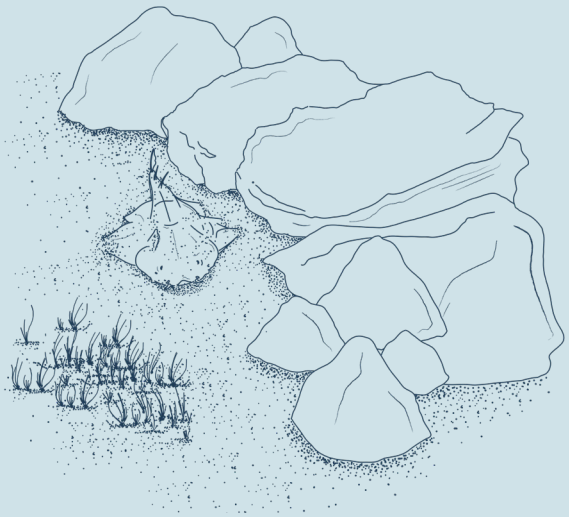


Illustration: © Angel Shark Project

Current compositon of the SSAP Angelshark Med WG

The SSAP Angelshark Med WG has 22 participating Range States plus the EU and 14 observer organisations that are members of the Angelshark Med WG (see Annex 1 for the full membership list).

Thanks to the generous funding of the Principality of Monaco, Ms Eva Meyers was recruited by the CMS Secretariat, as the Coordinator of the Angelshark Med WG (current contract December 2025-December 2026).



Funding

The CMS Secretariat wishes to extend its gratitude for the financial contribution of the Principality of Monaco for the recruitment of the Coordinator, funding the report of the and funding attendance and a side event at the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP15), hosted in Campo Grande, Brazil in March 2026, and the funding of the report writer for the 1st WG meeting.

The Secretariat, together with UNDP Libya and members of the Angel Shark Conservation Network, co-developed a concept note and full project proposal for the Kunming Biodiversity Fund (KBF), which was successfully funded. The 2-year project will start end of 2026 and contribute to the implementation of the Angelshark Med SSAP in Libya.

Implementation of mandates and activities

The meeting summary report of the 1st Meeting of the Working Group for the Implementation of the SSAP Angelshark Med (Angelshark WG1) on 21 July 2025, online is provided as information document: UNEP/CMS/AngelsharkWG2/Doc.Inf.2 and the full report is available as a COP15 information document: UNEP/CMS/COP15/Inf.25.6.3a

Since Angelshark WG1, the following activities have been undertaken by the Secretariat.

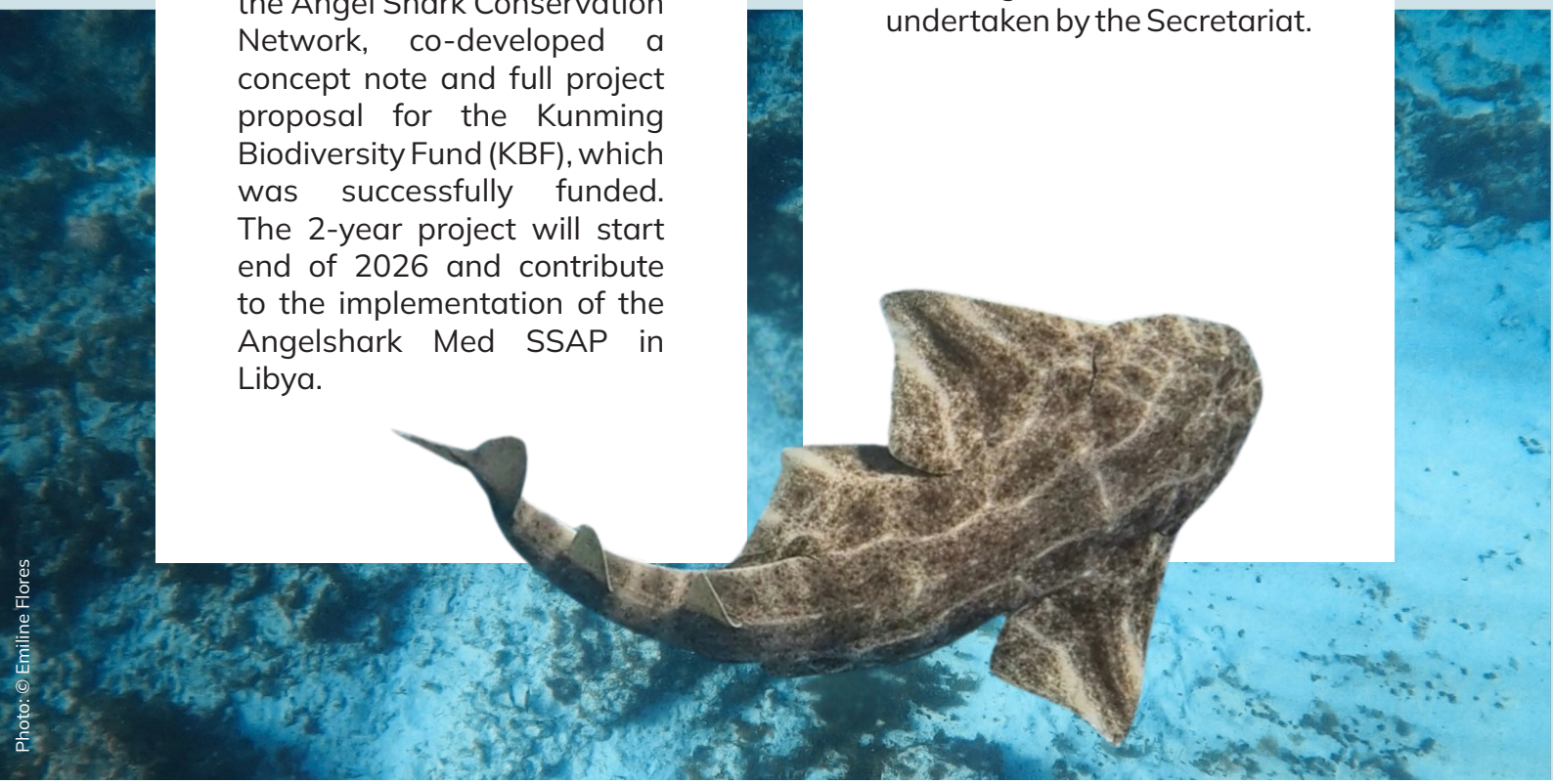


Photo: © Emiline Flores

CMS COP15

The SSAP Coordinator participated at the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP15) in March 2026, Campo Grande, Brazil.

During the meeting, a reception entitled “Angel Sharks & Friends” was organised and hosted by the SSAP Coordinator. The event was funded by the Principality of Monaco and by WWF Mediterranean, both also a member of the Working Group. Invited speakers included Ms Celine van Klaveren-Impagliazzo (Principality of Monaco), who spoke about the angel shark under CMS, Ms Simone Niedermüller (WWF Mediterranean) who spoke about the policy panorama in the Mediterranean Sea and Dr Rima Jabado (Chair of the IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group and CMS COP-appointed Councillor for fish) on Important Shark and Ray Areas (ISRAs), as well as the government of Brazil, introducing their angel shark listing proposal.

The SSAP Coordinator also took part in a side event hosted by the IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group on Important Shark and Ray Areas (ISRAs). At this event, the Coordinator presented the work on spatial advice for the angelshark in the Mediterranean.

The COP15 decisions relevant to angel sharks are provided in the information document UNEP/CMS/AngelsharkWG2/Inf.1.





IUCN Shark News

A story on the journey of Angelsharks under CMS entitled Angelsharks: A Convention on Migratory Species Success Story, was published in the IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group's Shark News. In addition, a news article on the topic was released on the CMS website.

2026 European Elasmobranch Association Meeting (EEA 2026)

The SSAP Coordinator gave a presentation on the SSAP Angelshark Med and the activities of the Working Group. The conference was hosted online by the Shark Trust and brought together 230 delegates from more than 37 countries. The presentation was part of the Conservation session.

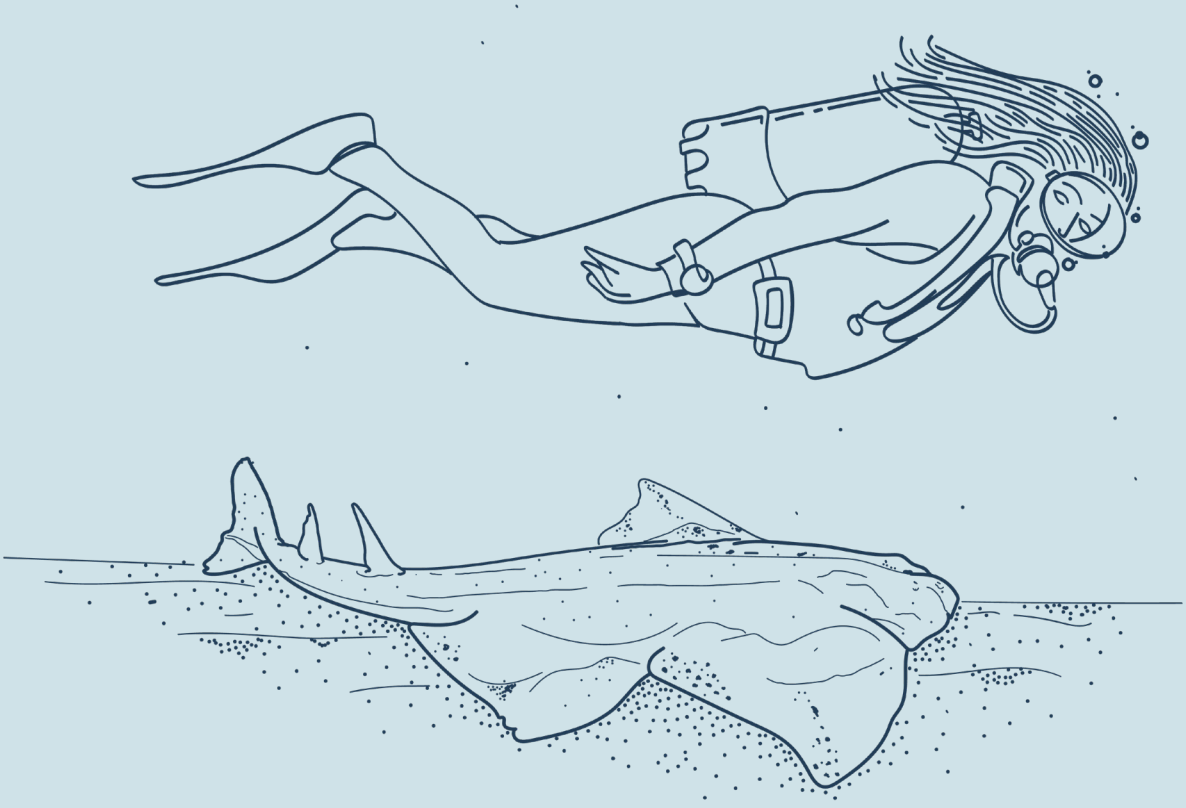


Illustration: © Angel Shark Project

National Reporting 2026

In addition, the Secretariat prepared the consultation and the analysis of the national reports for 2027 which can be found in document UNEP/CMS/Angelshark WG2/Doc.4.1.

Website

A dedicated website for the SSAP Angelshark Med was developed and is hosted under the CMS website. The Secretariat is also preparing an interactive map showing the projects and organisations across the Mediterranean that are implementing activities relating to angel sharks and the SSAP. The website is subject to ongoing updates. Further information, including the resources and tools collected in Annex IV of the SSAP Med, will be added and made available to the Angelshark Med WG.



Photo: © Julian Kolb

Annex 1 - Membership List

Range State	Name	Government Focal Point
Albania	Ms. Edit Vardhami	Government Focal Point
Algeria	Ms. Naima Mouchouka	Government Focal Point
Algeria	Mr. Samir Rouidi	Technical Focal Point
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ms. Nada Mlinar	Government Focal Point
Croatia	Ms. Ana Kobaslic	Government Focal Point
Croatia	Ms. Ivana Jelenić	Government Focal Point
Cyprus	Mrs. Charis Charilaou	Government Focal Point
Cyprus	Mr. Ioannis Giovos	Technical Focal Point
Egypt	Dr. Moustafa Fouda	Government Focal Point
EU	Ms. Bianca Wiles	Government Focal Point
France	Ms. Lugdiwine Burtschell	Government Focal Point
France	Ms. Stéphanie Belna	Government Focal Point
France	Mr. Anthony Acou	Technical Focal Point
France	Ms. Caroline Bousquet	Technical Focal Point
Greece	Dr. Charalampos Ververis	Government Focal Point
Greece	Mr. Ioannis Giovos	Technical Focal Point
Israel	Mr. Noam Leader	Government Focal Point
Italy	Ms Silvia Giardina	Government Focal Point
Italy	Mr. Lorenzo Senni	Government Focal Point
Lebanon	Ms. Lara Samaha	Government Focal Point
Lebanon	Dr. Myriam Lteif	Technical Focal Point
Libya	Mr. Ibrahim Ben Amer	Government Focal Point
Libya	Ms. Sara A.Almabruk	Technical Focal Point
Malta	Mr. Brian Christie	Government Focal Point
Malta	Mr. Brian Christie	Technical Focal Point
Monaco	Ms. Céline van Klaveren-Impagliazzo	Government Focal Point
Montenegro	Ms. Ivana Mitrovic	Government Focal Point
Montenegro	Mr. Ilija Cetkovic	Technical Focal Point
Morocco	Mr. Zouhair Amhaouch	Government Focal Point
Slovenia	Mr.Andrej Bibic	Government Focal Point
Spain	Ms. Elvira Garcia-Bellido	Government Focal Point
Spain	Ms. Sandra Barrios	Government Focal Point
Spain	Ms. Eva Meyers	Technical Focal Point

Syria	Mr. Muhannad Abutarab	Government Focal Point
Tunisia	Dr. Hela Guidara	Government Focal Point
UK	Ms. Caroline Daisley	Government Focal Point

The Shark Trust	Ms. Ali Hood	Observer organisation
Save Our Seas Foundation	Ms. Sarah Fowler	Observer organisation
World Wide Fund Mediterranean	Ms. Simone Niedermüller	Observer organisation
Mersea	Ms. Aylin Ulman	Observer organisation
Angel Shark Project / Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change	Ms. Eva Meyers	Observer organisation
IUCN Species Survival Commission - Shark Specialist Group // CMS Cop Appointed Councilor for Marine Fish // Sharks MOU Advisory Committee	Dr. Rima Jabado	Observer organisation
iSea	Dr. Ioannis Giovos	Observer organisation
Submon	Mr. Alex Bartoli	Observer organisation
University Catania	Dr. Francesco Tiralongo	Observer organisation
Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn Sicily Marine Centre	Dr. Carlo Cattano	Observer organisation
Al-Azhar University	Dr. Mahmoud Farrag	Observer organisation
President of Syrian Society for Aquatic Environment Protection	Dr. Adib Saad	Observer organisation
Sharks MOU Advisory Committee Chair	Dr. James Ellis	Observer organisation
	Dr. Mohamed Kenzine	Observer organisation
Mediterranean Science Commission CIESM	Ms. Loraine Mendez	Observer organisation

SSAP Angelshark Mediterranean
Working Group

SSAP Angelshark Med Coordinator:
Ms Eva Meyers eva.meyers@un.org

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Photo: © Michael Sealey