The aim of this project was to make a socio-economic analysis of the fishing activities in the Black Sea Region.

The fishing vessels operating in the Black Sea Region were examined in two categories: length category; operational type category (type of fishery). While the length category contained the fishing vessels of 8 m and less than 8 m in length, of 8-12 m, 12-20 m, 20-30 m in length, and of 30 m and more than 30 m in length; the type category contained the coastal fishing (small-scale fishery) and medium-scale fishery (purse-seiner, trawler, trawler-purse seiner). The analyses were made on these two categories.

The analysis of the selected fishing vessels in the Black Sea Region has revealed that the vessels are 4.00-62.00 m in length and that while 82.14% of the vessels are coastal fishing vessels, 17.86% of them are medium and large-scale fishing vessels. Out of the medium and large-scale fishing vessels, 6.82% are purse-seiners, 9.09% are trawlers, and 1.95% are trawler-purse seiners.

Based on the observations, the coastal fishing vessels in the Black Sea Region are 4.00-17.45 m in length, they have a total average capital of YTL 10,551, they have an average fishing income of YTL 6,113, and the crew expenses constitute the highest
57.31% of the fishermen, which is a considerably high rate, have completed only their primary education and are covered by the social security system of the Social Security Institution (SSK).

Regarding the purse-seiners operating in the Black Sea Region, the vessels are 12.12-62.00 m in length, they have a total average capital of YTL 1,044,857, they have an average fishing income of YTL 148,464, and the crew expenses constitute the highest expense item with a rate of 40.90% as observed for coastal fishing. 52.38% of the fishermen, which is also a considerably high rate, have completed only their primary education and are covered by the social security system of the Social Security Institution (SSK) and the Social Security Organisation for Artisans and the Self-Employed (BAĞ-KUR).

Regarding the trawlers operating in the Black Sea Region, the vessels are 12.12-27.50 m in length, they have a total average capital of YTL 183,714, they have an average fishing income of YTL 36,407, and the crew expenses constitute the highest expense item with a rate of 39.12% as observed for both coastal fishing and the purse-seiners. 67.86% of the fishermen, which is also a considerably high rate, have completed only their primary education – the only category where there is no trawler owner who holds a university degree – and are covered by the social security system of BAĞ-KUR.

Regarding the trawler-purse seiners operating in the Black Sea Region, the vessels are 14.00-27.00 m in length, they have a total average capital of YTL 304,667, they have an average fishing income of YTL 30,324, and the crew expenses constitute the highest expense item with a rate of 41.68% as observed for all the categories. 83.33% of the fishermen, which is quite a high rate, have completed only their primary education and are covered by the social security system of BAĞ-KUR as in purse-seiners and trawlers.

As another finding of the research, a majority of the fishermen in the Black Sea Region, i.e., 62.34%, has been found to be a member of a fisheries co-operative.