



NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL REPORT

#7



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EDITORIAL

Before writing this editorial, I started to remember when I was in college -back in the 90's- in my beloved Fisheries School at La Molina National Agrarian University (UNALM). Back in the days, we were taught how to develop a HACCP quality system, as well as its importance and validity in the fisheries sector, in order to maintain safety of hydrobiological products. The HACCP plan was more valid than ever, both in the academic and business sectors. Time has passed and the HACCP is still in force, but now as part of our daily lives. None of us can imagine a food processing facility without a HACCP in place – it is the minimum required to operate. For those working in the food sector, the HACCP plan is part of our DNA.

Furthermore, about 25 years ago, little was heard about the sustainability of fishing resources. There was a bold concern from some people and institutions, who did not have a voice over this matter at the beginning. However, gradually, in the light of changing ecosystems, societies realized that the responsible management of our resources was key to maintain our industry in the long-term. As with the HACCP, sustainability is now part of our daily work and responsibility.

There is no doubt that a sound management of fishing resources will ensure that our sector keeps growing, along with a sustainable vision over time. Now, the following question arises: Who is responsible of the sustainable management of fishing resources? Well, the answer is simple: We all are. From fishermen, shippers, processing plants, certification authorities to public and private institutions, among others. But, how can we articulate all these efforts in order to touch common ground in

terms of sustainability and responsible management of fishing resources? Well, if we talk about the mahi mahi, then the Peru Mahi Alliance (PMA) carries this core goal.

During 2023, the PMA has continued growing as an association aimed at supporting, articulating and fostering activities related to achieving mahi mahi sustainability. I am 100% sure that IMARPE and PRODUCE recognize the PMA as its counterpart in the private sector on the path to develop joint actions to implement Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs) and -in a few years- achieve the MSC certification for the mahi mahi fishery.

From September 2022 to August 2023, the PMA has successfully completed 77% of the activities included in the Annual Work Plan, whilst the remaining 23% is in the pipeline. Among some of the actions we can find the followings: Training for artisanal vessels in filling out the TrazApp electronic log; donation of mahi mahi samples to IMARPE for its biological assessment; assessment of the mahi mahi stock between IMARPE and IPIAP; and next steps in the monitoring pilot project with cameras and logs on board artisanal vessels.

If we talk in marketing terms, the PMA is applying a PUSH strategy along with institutions such as PRODUCE and IMARPE, by supporting all efforts and actions focused on strengthening our assessment and monitoring system for mahi mahi. Yet, the PULL strategy has also come to scene along with PROMPERU, which has resulted in 2 events in the Seafood Expo North America fair (Boston) aimed to promote and disseminate among mahi mahi buyers and clients in the States the pro-

gress as a country in terms of responsible management. For next March 2024, a third event is being coordinated along with PROMPERU for the same fair.

Dear PMA partners and stakeholders of the mahi mahi production chain: up to date, many actions have taken place in the road to achieve the MSC certification; yet it is a long journey. We will only get this certification if WE ALL stay together and focused on these efforts , in order to fulfill our goal. WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU!



Francisco Vía
Peru Mahi Alliance
Secretariat





Alliance of mahi mahi processing and exporting companies established in 2019 with the final goal of achieving this resource sustainability and MSC certification. Thanks to the joint efforts of every stakeholder in the production chain, we aim to foster and implement initiatives that secure this major resource conservation.

MEMBERS



NEW MEMBERS:



PARTNERS:



MISSION

To legally contribute to the conservation and sustainable development of mahi mahi fishery by fostering and coordinating strategic projects among relevant stakeholders of its value chain.

VISION

To be recognized as a leading association in the fishing sector that actively contributes towards the sustainable development of mahi mahi fishery and strengthening of its value chain.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Approved on February 23, 2022

President:
Michael Mc Gregor
Océano Group CEO



Vice-President:
Francisco Takahashi
COINREFRI CEO



Treasurer:
Héctor Olaya
Fisholig Sales Manager



Secretary:
Francisco Vía
SEAFROST New Business Manager



SPECIAL REMARKS

The Peru Mahi Alliance sent a letter to the Ministry of Production with its opinion about the bill #5496-2022-CR "Law that strengthens the formalization process of artisanal fishing vessels". Click the link below to see the letter:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15X05SypSnqWg5Q-kDTiV-JEN0k1wv8Vf/view?usp=sharing>



Lima , October 16 of 2023

Letter N°004-2023- PMA Peru

Mister;

ESDRAS MENIDA MINAYA

President of the Commission of Production Micro and Small Company and Cooperative

Congress of the Republic of Peru

Present . -

Subject: OPINION ON LAW PROJECT N°. 5496-2022-CR, "LAW THAT STRENGTHENS THE PROCESS OF FORMALIZATION OF ARTISANAL FISHING VESSELS".

Of our consideration:

Please receive a cordial greeting on behalf of the Peru Mahi Alliance (PMA), an alliance that brings together the main Peruvian companies that process and export mahi mahi, which represent 80% of the exports destined to the North American market.

As an alliance, we seek to contribute to the conservation and sustainable development of the mahi mahi fishery through the implementation of a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP), which began in 2013. Through this project, an action plan is designed and developed with the aspects that must be improved in the fishery to achieve sustainability based on the principles of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard. This requires a multi-stakeholder effort to address the challenges of the fishery and in the future, achieve MSC certification of the fishery.

Based on this experience, with respect to the mentioned law project, the following observations are made:

1. The international market is increasingly focused on ensuring that the supply of hydrobiological products comes from responsible sources and is free of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. Therefore, there is growing concern about the possible approval of this law, as it could damage the reputation and credibility that our country has achieved through the advances in the formalization process, which have been fundamental in the implementation of the FIP. This law would represent a setback for the mahi mahi FIP, since it would expand the fishing effort to a resource that is fully exploited.
2. The increase in the number of vessels could trigger an imbalance in market prices, given the increase in fishing supply. This situation would have adverse consequences for both the extractive sector and the processing and exporting sector.
3. An average of 42 thousand tons of mahi mahi have been landed annually from 2000 to 2022, according to PRODUCE data. The total number of formal vessels is 3159 according to official sources, with a total hold capacity of 81,922 m3, averaging 25 tons per vessel. The proportion of ice carried by the vessels is 1.5, being the actual raw material capacity a total of 32,768 m3 and an average of 10.37 m3 per vessel. This means that, with the current formalized fishing effort, the average total recommended by IMARPE to maintain the biomass within the Maximum Sustainable Yield would be covered. If the fleet were to increase, it would cause vessels to vessels would have to catch less volume in order to respect the quota, running the risk of not that they will not cover their investment costs and/or in the worst case scenario, illegal landings above the allocated quota will be encouraged.

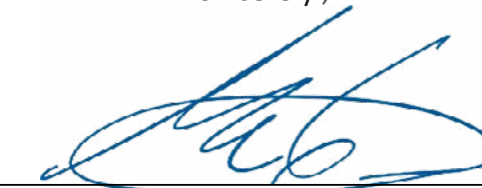


Finally, we consider that law project No. 5496/2022-CR poses a high risk to the sustainability of the main fishery resources from artisanal fisheries, such as mahi mahi and jumbo squid. If approved, it would generate an environment of distrust for international markets that are betting on sourcing from sustainable fisheries and would create instability for the thousands of families that depend on this economic activity.

We request your Presidency to consider the above points during the review process of the aforementioned law project!

Without further ado, I take this opportunity to express to you the expression of my special consideration and esteem.

Sincerely ,






Michael McGregor
President of the Peru Mahi Alliance

HIGHLIGHTS

RESULTS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION (IATTC)

In its 101st edition held in Victoria, Canada, the IATTC took a big leap forward at fostering the mahi mahi fishery development. Through a [resolution](#), research efforts on the stock status in the Eastern Pacific Ocean have been reinforced. This means that IATTC's member countries, in collaboration with other participants, committed to collect key information on this species.

In this regard, three main tasks were established for the mahi mahi research program:

-  Cooperating members and non-members will endeavor to collect fishing biological data until June 30, 2024 using a standardized format.
-  The director is responsible of identifying financial resources for the Commission scientific staff and execute the Research Plan. The Plan comprises the tagging program and monitoring of artisanal fisheries in developing coastal countries.
-  Creation of a working group for a 2-years period.

This research progress at regional scale contributes directly to Principle 1 of the MSC, since studies will be reinforced to assess this resource stock.

THE NEW VERSION OF THE MSC STANDARD COMES INTO EFFECT

In October 2022, version 3.0 of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard was published following a general review of the assessment and certification program. This version applies as of May 1, 2023, for all fisheries seeking certification for the first time. The main changes to the standard are as follows:

- Application of catch strategies with a higher degree of behavior
- Increased protection for marine species
- Reduced impacts of lost fishing gear and ghost nets
- Protection of habitats and ecosystems
- Prevention of shark finning

For further information, please click [here](#).

PHYSICAL FISHING LOG APPROVED FOR DATA RECORD

Through Ministerial Resolution #000341-2023-PRODUCE, and in line with the provisions of Article 17 of the mahi mahi Fisheries Management Regulation (ROP), the physical fishing log for extractive activities was approved. In this regard, IMARPE and the Ministry of Production have been developing the first training modules for artisanal fishermen in Paita regarding the correct filling of fishing logs, along with WWF-Peru's support. This action will strengthen research through the collection of fishery-biological and bycatch information. This directly contributes to

the progress of indicators in MSC Principles 1 and 2.

PMA MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE TRAINING PROGRAM ON SUSTAINABLE

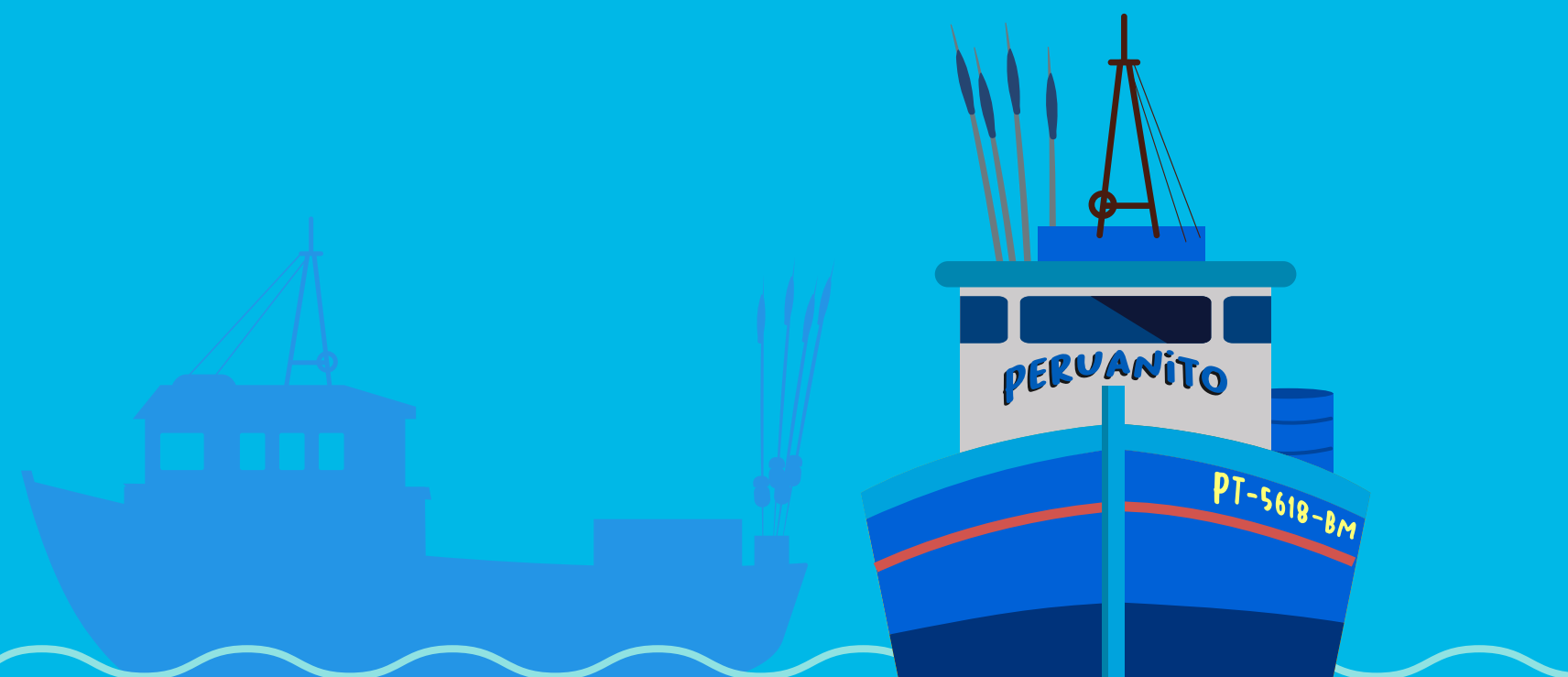


FISHERIES

In order to reinforce knowledge on conservation issues, PMA members participated in the training program “**Strengthening key concepts to understand sustainability in fisheries**” developed by WWF-Peru within the framework of Por la Pesca project. This 5-weeks program included virtual presentations made by specialists who addressed IUU fishing, international sustainability standards such as MSC and Monterrey Bay Aquarium, Fisheries Improvement Projects, etc. Among PMA participants were representatives of 6 companies: **Marfrío, Sercosta, Fernández SRL, Mai Shi Group, Océano Seafood and COINREFRI**, who highlighted the importance of attending these spaces in order to make strategic decisions in favor of the mahi mahi FIP from its role as an industry, along with other fishing stakeholders.

PERU MAHI ALLIANCE CLOSES THE FISCAL YEAR AND DISCUSSES ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT WORK PLAN

During the last week of September, the annual in-person meeting was held with PMA members to share the results and major advances of the 2022-2023 work plan. Furthermore, other relevant topics were presented such as the latest update of the mahi mahi FIP on the Fishery Progress platform and the new MSC standard version. **The day closed with the definition of activities for the new 2023-2024 work plan**, highlighting actions that aim to foster this resource research that contribute to the progress of indicators of Principle 1 and 2. This space is crucial to align the objectives of all members and reinforce the association’s commitment to the conservation and sustainable development of the mahi mahi fishery.



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS (APRIL 2023 – SEPTEMBER 2023)

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



ISSUANCE OF DIGITAL CATCH CERTIFICATES FOR PMA PROCESSING PLANTS IN PERU

Six PMA companies have engaged in a pilot fostered by the Piura Regional Production Directorate and WWF-Peru. The goal is to ensure that processing plants issue digital certificates of inspection, origin and catch and thus comply with the exporting requirements for the European Community and Japan. There are 6 mahi mahi processing and exporting plants that are implementing the pilot of digital catch certificates: **Seafrost, Peruvian Seafood, Oceano Seafood, Fisholg, Mar frío and Fernandez SAC.**



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS (APRIL 2023 – SEPTEMBER 2023)

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT



DISCUSSION GROUP TO STRENGTHEN THE SUSTAINABLE MAHI MAHI FISHING

Together with PROMPERU, and with WWF-Peru's support, the Peru Mahi Alliance fostered the conference "Mahi mahi: leading sustainable artisanal fishing", which aimed to put the topic of mahi mahi sustainability and its fishery in the lens of public institutions of the sector and stakeholders of the productive chain.

During the event, presentations were made to showcase the current status, progress and needs for this resource sustainability. This was in charge of the Peruvian Sea Institute (IMARPE), the Ministry of Production (PRODUCE) and the PMA. **Progress made in scientific research was shared, through the Sample Donation Program for biological analysis and the Monitoring Project with cameras and electronic logs; the current status of the mahi mahi ROP implementation and a summary of the 2022-2023 fishing season.** Furthermore, it was highlighted the need to implement an on-board observers program for the mahi mahi fishery in order to strengthen this resource research and its environmental impact, and thus, comply with international sustainability standards.

Initiatives like these foster spaces for dialogue and collaboration between all stakeholders, and lead to strengthening coordination efforts. Therefore, joint work is bolstered for a sustainable and fair artisanal fishery that is aware of the need to preserve resources for future generations.



RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL WORK PLAN

(SEPTEMBER 2022 – AUGUST 2023)

Approximately 70% of the activities set out in the PMA Annual Work Plan (September 2022 – August 2022) have been met; 23% are still in progress.



Green: Accomplished

Yellow: In progress


Red: No progress yet

MSC PRINCIPLE	RELATED ACTION	ACTIVITIES	FIRST SEMESTER PROGRESS (April 2023 – September 2023)
 <p>Principle 1: Sustainable fish stocks</p>	<p>1.1 Development of monitoring procedures</p>	<p>For the October 2022 – March 2023 season, PMA member companies, along with IMARPE’s support, have trained and committed 10 mahi mahi fishing vessels in filling out the TrazApp electronic log to record the fishing effort and the bycatch of marine fauna.</p>	<p>A total of 37 fishermen (19 in the south and 18 in the north) were trained in filling out the electronic log.</p> <p>The workshops addressed the following topics: I) correct identification of bycatch species in the mahi mahi fishery, such as sea turtles, birds and others; and II) functionality, use and correct registration of the TrazApp application.</p>
	<p>1.2 Stock assessment methods</p>	<p>For the October 2022 – March 2023 season, the collaborative biological research pilot between IMARPE and PMA have continued, collecting at least 10 mahi mahi samples per PMA company with its origin information.</p>	<p>Samples will contribute to the regional stock assessment that IMARPE and IPIAP have been developing, as well as to the mahi mahi reproductive biological studies. Furthermore, IMARPE published the report RESULTS OF THE BIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF MAHI MAHI SAMPLES DONATED BY PERU MAHI ALLIANCE (2022-2023 SEASON). This report concludes that the donated samples constitute a 50% increase in biological sampling of this resource (mainly in the ports of Paita, Matarani and Ilo), closing an important information gap in terms of biology in Peru.</p>
	<p>1.3 Catch Control Rules development and implementation</p>	<p>By 2023, support and follow-up will be provided to IMARPE during the issuance of catch control rules based on regional stock assessments.</p>	<p>IMARPE and IPIAP, during the 13th meeting of the IATTC scientific advisory committee, presented the regional research of the mahi mahi stock status based on the assessment model, developed by Dr. Ruben Roa</p> <p>During the IATTC 101st meeting it was decided to increase research efforts on the mahi mahi stock status in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. This means that IATTC’s member countries, in collaboration with other participants, committed to collect key information on this species.</p> <p>The PMA has managed to provide support to IMARPE through the mahi mahi sample donation program, contributing its biological and reproductive research, as well as genetic research for the identification of the stock unit. Moreover, leverage on executive boards of the Ministry of Economy and Finance in order to showcase the importance of the budget allocation to the on-board observers program for the mahi mahi fishery for the collection of biological and fishing information. These efforts, when they are made, contribute to continue updating and implementing the <u>Catch Control Rules</u>.</p>

Green: Accomplished

Yellow: In progress

Red: No progress yet

MSC PRINCIPLE	RELATED ACTION	ACTIVITIES	FIRST SEMESTER PROGRESS (April 2023 – September 2023)
 <p>Principle 2: Minimizing Environmental impacts</p>	<p>2.1 Development and implementation of a pilot program for remote monitoring of bycatch and interaction with ETP species and loss of fishing gear</p>	<p>For the October 2022 – March 2023 season, replication of the pilot monitoring project through on-board cameras and electronic logs in at least 15 fishing trips have been implemented together with IMARPE.</p>	<p>The electronic monitoring system has been implemented in 12 vessels (7 in Piura and 6 in Arequipa) during the October 2022 – April 2023 season, obtaining an information record of over 30 fishing trips. Currently, recorded videos of this season were analyzed and information was systematized in a database. The latter was shared with IMARPE in order to carry out joint assessments that showcase both degree and type of interaction between marine mammals, birds or others within the mahi mahi fishery.</p>
		<p>By 2023, the results report and database of the fishing information records have been shared with IMARPE, regarding: 1) the electronic monitoring cameras and 2) TrazApp records. Moreover, support will be provided for the implementation of an on-board monitoring program.</p>	<p>The systematization of fishing information for the October 2021 – April 2022 season and 2022-2023 season has been completed in a database validated by IMARPE. Furthermore, a database with images of bycatch identified during fishing trips of both seasons was created.</p> <p>Both databases have already been shared with IMARPE. In this regard, during the next months and in collaboration with WWF, a scientific report will be prepared regarding the experience in the implementation of monitoring cameras for the bycatch record in the mahi mahi fishery.</p>
		<p>For the October 2022 – March 2023 season, each PMA company have managed that at least 10 vessels register their marine bycatch in the TrazApp.</p>	<p>Of the 12 vessels from northern Peru participating in the monitoring project with cameras and logs with a registration record in TrazApp, 2 are suppliers of PMA companies that managed to record bycatch data in the mobile app. Vessels were Maria Felix VI and CAROLINA II.</p>

Green: Accomplished

Yellow: In progress

Red: No progress yet

MSC PRINCIPLE	RELATED ACTION	ACTIVITIES	FIRST SEMESTER PROGRESS (April 2023 – September 2023)
	2.2 Turtle Management Strategies	<p>For the October 2022 – March 2023 season, each PMA company have supported the crew of 5 vessels to take the course “Training on handling and release of sea turtles” in coordination with FONDEPES, and with WWF support. Crewmembers have also been equipped with release tools.</p>	<p>This action is expected to be completed once the FONDEPES training course on handling and release of sea turtles, seabirds and other bycatch species begins.</p> <p>Moreover, the PMA, during the next season, will donate a number of kits (TBD) for the release and handling of sea turtles to FONDEPES, in order to provide fishermen, who take the course, with such kits.</p>
<p>By 2023, PRODUCE have been followed up to approve guidelines for the handling and release of sea turtles; this will be the basis for training to artisanal fishermen.</p>		<p>The General Directorate of Policies and Regulatory Analysis of Artisanal Fishing, through Director Miguel Lielish, submitted the technical and format feedback on the guidelines document for the handling and release of sea turtles.</p> <p>WWF is waiting for the resolution process of observations.</p>	
<p>By 2023, a roundtable has been coordinated along with FONDEPES to implement the Sea turtles release course aimed to fishermen, according to the ROP guidelines.</p>		<p>In September, the first technical roundtable was held with the final goal to develop an action plan that allows implementing training modules on “good practices for handling and release of sea turtles, seabirds and other bycatch species”, framed in the mahi mahi ROP.</p>	
 <p>Principle 3: Effective management</p>	3.1 Compliance and enforcement	<p>By 2023, an analysis of the mahi mahi season and activities to support compliance with the mahi mahi ROP, framed in the FIP, has been carried out.</p>	<p>WWF has carried out the historical analysis of the mahi mahi fishery, with statistics on landings, imports, exports, prices, etc. Moreover, an analysis of the mahi mahi first 3 seasons has been carried out.</p>
<p>PMA will foster the consolidation of a committee to review compliance with ROP indicators; such committee will include fishermen, the private sector and civil society.</p>		<p>The Ministry of Production, through the Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate of the General Directorate of Policies and Regulatory Analysis in Fisheries and Aquaculture, published the Monitoring and Evaluation report on the Fisheries Management Regulation of mahi mahi (<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>). This report points out that there is a total of nineteen (19) identified obligations, of which eleven (11) have been executed, representing 58% of compliance with the mahi mahi ROP implementation; whilst eight (8) have not been executed.</p>	

Green: Accomplished

Yellow: In progress

Red: No progress yet

GOAL	OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES	FIRST SEMESTER PROGRESS (September 2022 – February 2023)
 <p>PMA Internal Strengthening</p>	<p>Strengthen internal capacities of the organization for the FIP implementation</p>	<p>By 2023, a Plan for the PMA organizational strengthening has been implemented, which includes: legal registration of the organization, definition of its administrative and accounting system, and reinforcement of its processes, protocols, and organizational structure.</p>	<p>Peru Mahi Alliance already has a consultant who will support the administrative, accounting and financial process of the organization.</p>
		<p>By 2023, PMA members capacities have been strengthened through workshops on FIPs, MSC, IUU fishing, etc., in order to become active members in the FIP.</p>	<p>Six PMA companies participated in the training program “Strengthening key concepts to understand sustainability in fisheries” regarding good practices to tackle IUU fishing and topics of interest related to FIPs and MSC standards fostered by WWF within the framework of Por la Pesca project.</p>
		<p>By 2023, internal monitoring mechanisms have been strengthened to ensure compliance with the commitments made by PMA companies within the FIP framework.</p>	<p>Functions of the Monitoring and Ethics committees were defined. During the first part of next year, this will be shared with all members and the assignment of members to each committee will begin.</p>
		<p>By 2023, an external and internal PMA communication strategy has been implemented.</p>	<p>A communication strategy for the PMA is being implemented through the creation of social media, websites and graphic manual, events, etc. Furthermore, a methodology is being elaborated to monitor compliance with PMA partners’ activities.</p>
		<p>By 2023, progress and results of the mahi mahi FIP have been presented at the Boston Fair.</p>	<p>PMA participated in the Seafood Expo North America 2023 in Boston. During the week of this fair, the Peru Mahi Alliance Forum event “Fostering scientific research for the Peruvian mahi mahi sustainability” was held. Here the results of the regional assessment for the mahi mahi stock were presented by researcher Rubén Roa. Afterwards, Michael McGregor, PMA President, explained the efforts that the alliance has been carrying out together with IMARPE and WWF to support the mahi mahi scientific research. Over 50 stakeholders participated in the event, including American buyers, MSC representatives, NGOs, among others.</p>

Green: Accomplished

Yellow: In progress

Red: No progress yet

GOAL	OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES	FIRST SEMESTER PROGRESS (September 2022 – February 2023)
		<p>By 2023, the PMA have signed at least one institutional agreement with fishing sector entities for compliance with the ROP and MSC standards through FIP indicators.</p>	<p>IMARPE has received the agreement proposal. PMA is waiting the signing of the agreement by the institution.</p>
		<p>By 2023, the plan to strengthen relations with fishermen for joint efforts in the FIP has been designed and implemented.</p>	<p>This activity began with WWF's support, who has held discussion groups on FIPs concepts and objectives, aimed to Social Organizations of Artisanal Fishermen (OSPAS) in northern and southern Peru. In turn, the PM has met with OSPAS representatives in different events and discussion groups related to the mahi mahi sustainability. Coordination efforts are taking place to schedule a meeting between both stakeholders, and thus, align efforts to make progress on this fishery sustainability.</p>
 <p>Compliance with the Fishery Progress social policy</p>	<p>Comply with the social aspects of the mahi mahi FIP</p>	<p>By 2023, PMA companies have signed a code of conduct following the Fishery Progress social policy guidelines.</p>	<p>On March 31, PMA was able to comply with signing the policy statement, according to the requirements of the Fishery Progress social policy. To see the document, visit the following link.</p>
		<p>By 2023, information has been provided about vessels or fishermen that are part of the FIP.</p>	<p>In the last mahi mahi FIP report, in September of this year, the preliminary list of vessels dedicated to mahi mahi fishing was updated and it is under formalization process. The final list is expected once the formalization process by cooperatives is completed, which ends on December 31, 2023.</p>
		<p>By 2023, informative guides have been elaborated for mahi mahi fleet crewmembers, in order to improve their knowledge of labor and social rights, as well as the grievance mechanisms available.</p>	<p>The Human and Labor Rights Guide was presented to OSPAS leaders in Paita and Matarani. During the meeting, fishermen shared their feedback on the guide's contents and its dissemination among crewmembers.</p>

NEXT STEPS



SCIENTIFIC REPORT ON BYCATCH IN LONGLINE MAHI MAHI FISHERY

The remote monitoring project with cameras and electronic logs for the 2022-2023 season on board artisanal mahi mahi vessels in northern and southern Peru has finished. Recorded data was systematized in a database and shared with IMARPE, along with the database for the 2021-2022 season. In this regard, IMARPE will analyze the data in order to prepare a scientific report on the bycatch recorded in this fishery during both seasons, and thus, raising awareness about the interaction of the mahi mahi fishery with other vulnerable and protected species. To define the content of this scientific report, the Directorate of Superior Predators and the Directorate of Pelagic Resources of IMARPE and WWF-Peru agreed to hold the first collaborative meeting on November 28, 2023.



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2023-2024 WORK PLAN

On September 28, the PMA annual meeting was held to share the achievements and progress of the 2022-2023 Work Plan, as well as to approve the new 2023-2024 Work Plan. Among the approved activities of the new plan -soon to be executed- are the followings:



NEXT STEPS

- Donation of tools for sea turtle release and handling training:** Last September, FONDEPES held the first technical roundtable to address the development of the action plan to implement trainings on “Good Practices in Handling and Release of Sea Turtles” in compliance with the provisions of the mahi mahi ROP. Although the institution has already made progress with pilot trainings in northern and southern Peru, for next training modules and as an incentive, **the PMA has allocated a budget to secure tool kits that will be donated to FONDEPES with the final aim to improve the practical part of trainings** and deliver kits to fishermen who have demonstrated major commitment in terms of gaining knowledge and skills to achieve the best handling practices.
- Implementation of the observers program:** During the mahi mahi fishing season (October 2023 – April 2024), IMARPE will implement the observers program on board artisanal vessels thanks to the collaboration of CSOs, such as the PMA. **The Alliance will contribute to the monitoring of this fishery by hiring 3 observers on board**, adding to the number of observers already hired by the NGO Pro Delphinus.
- Sample donation program:** The PMA, for the fourth consecutive time, will implement the donation program of mahi mahi specimens for scientific studies of stock units identification that are being carried out between the research institutes of Peru (IMARPE) and Ecuador (IPIAP); in addition to the reproductive biological studies at national scale. In order to run this program,

a consultant has been hired in the northern region to support coordination efforts between shipowners, which supply PMA companies and IMARPE; meanwhile WWF-Peru is supporting coordination endeavors in the southern region.

- Strengthening IMARPE database:** The PMA will hire a consultant to support IMARPE in the entry of biological-fishery information obtained through the mahi mahi fishing logs, published last September. Furthermore, the person to-be-hired will provide field support to IMARPE’s activities in the central region, specifically, to Pucusana Artisanal Fishing Landing (DPA) – a venue that records significant mahi mahi landings.



BALANCE SHEET

In September 2022, all PMA members met to review the September 2022 – August 2023 Annual Work Plan, where they established a budget for its implementation. Thus, we proceeded to calculate the contributions per company based on the internal regulations, which establishes that each member contributes with a \$4,000 base plus a variable amount according to the number of mahi mahi tons exported during the last fishing season in order to complete the required budget.

It is worth mentioning that if a new company joins the alliance during the Annual Work Plan implementation, it can participate in the activities execution but shall not make any contribution until the approval of the next Work Plan, where it will also be included as a FIP participating company.

Collection and execution of committed funds for 2022-2023 activities

DONOR	AMOUNT	BUDGET EXECUTED OR COMMITTED *	BALANCE	Comments
Donations from PMA companies (2022-2023)	\$57,743.42	\$46,276.75	\$11,600	This fund has been used mainly to cover the costs of implementing the PMA Annual Work Plan 2022-2023. The balance refers to the audit for 2024.
Por la Pesca project	\$29,030	\$29,030	\$0.00	Project funded by USAID and Walton Family; it includes budget for PMA internal strengthening, activities and travels.
US FIP Participants Program	\$44,663.07	\$44,663.07	\$0.00	Additional funds were received from FIP member companies in the US, which were used to cover salaries of the team in charge of coordinating and implementing the mahi mahi FIP.
Resources Legacy Fund (RLF) Sustainable Fisheries Fund (SFF)	\$42,487.9	\$42,487.9	\$0.00	This fund was raised to support the compliance with the Fishery Progress Social Policy.
TOTAL		\$171,967.47		

* Committed budget: it is the budget that is committed due to the elaboration of contracts with consultants or vendors; however, this has not yet been paid because final products are in standby.







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