

SPANISH COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF FISHERIES

1. BACKGROUND

2011

Oceanographic Vessel (OV) Miguel Oliver carried out cooperation campaigns with the different Central American states of Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector of the Central American Region (OSPESCA).

OV Emma Bardan made a project with Morocco.

INTERMARES Vessel carried out training campaigns in the Caribbean, Uruguay and African countries (Mauritania and Morocco),

However, since 2011 the budgetary constraints have not allowed the development of free research campaigns, which were being developed in countries such as Peru, Ecuador, Panama, El Salvador, Uruguay, Mauritania or Namibia

2012

New MoU with Mexico in 2012.

Collaboration Agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment and the *Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza* (IAMZ), the *International Center for Higher Mediterranean Agronomic Studies* (CIHEAM) for the joint organization of an official master's degree in sustainable fisheries management within the projects of cooperation for sustainable development, including the countries that are members of CIHEAM and third countries with which the General Secretariat for Fisheries (GSF) maintains fisheries cooperation agreements. The total contribution to this Convention has been 171,024.09€ spread over these four years (2012-2015).

2013

In collaboration with the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) and the Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO), a training course for 20 scientists and managers from Latin American countries, dedicated to the training of professionals in getting information about Catches and efforts, in order to know the state of the fish stocks and to be able to make catch projections of for following years.

2014

MoU Renewal with OSPESCA, which includes Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Panama.

In the FAO framework, the GSF finances the COPEMED II cooperation project with the European Union (DG MARE) since 2008.

The previous phase (COPEMED project, 1995-2004) was financed entirely by the AECID. This was the first FAO Fisheries Cooperation project in the Mediterranean, whose example was fundamental for the subsequent constitution of the remaining projects currently in the region (MEDSUDMED, ADRIAMED and EASTMED). The general objective of the COPEMED II Project ("Coordination in Support of Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Mediterranean") is the sustainability of the fishery resources of the sub-regions of the Western and Central Mediterranean and their ecosystems, taking into account the environmental, biological, economic, social and institutional aspects, as well as promoting interregional scientific cooperation. The eight coastal states of this Mediterranean area are participating in the project: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Malta, Italy, France and Spain, although the beneficiaries are the countries on the southern shore. The headquarters is in the Deputy Delegation of the Spanish Government in Malaga.

Although the first three years (2008-2011) the GSF contributed with 300,000€/ year and the DG MARE 150,000€/year, subsequently the contribution of Spain has been reduced and the EU contribution has been increased. Since 2014 annuity, the GSF contribution is 90,000€ per year in the form of a "voluntary contribution to international organizations"; This contribution by Spain ("donor") is an indispensable requirement for the EU contribution to be made (estimated at 75% of the total and framed in article 88 of Regulation 508/2014 on FEMP).

In the same field of cooperation with FAO, the FWP of the GFCM (First Framework Program of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, 2013-2018) is being developed. This program was launched in 2013 as a platform to promote sustainable development and cooperation through multi-year agreements / voluntary contributions with various members of the GFCM or other interested organizations, based on different actions. The GSF contributes to this program with 15,000€ per year from 2014 (except for the 2016 annuity, which could not be realized due to the anticipated closure of the budget), also in the form of a "voluntary contribution to international organizations".

2017

We are exploring the possibility of re-launching campaigns with our vessels in different countries. In this way, the aim is to achieve greater coordination between the various national, EU and multilateral actors, to enable more effective and efficient cooperation to be implemented and to alleviate the lack of economic resources. The scope of the renewed MoU with OSPESCA is seeking funding to carry out a campaign in the Pacific and Atlantic waters of the Central American countries.

In addition, as it has been pointed out, two lines of support (COPEMED II and FWP project of the GFCM), both in the form of voluntary contributions to international organisations (€ 90,000 for COPEMED II and € 15,000 for the GFCM).

As for the Marine Reserves is concerned, the Ibero-American Network of Marine Reserves is a network of managers that pretends to be a meeting point of management experiences in protected Ibero-American marine spaces, that allows sharing information and putting managers in contact .

Adherence to the Network is free, with the commitment to participate in cooperation and exchange of information. To join the Network, an adhesion protocol must be signed.

Currently, this network is made up of protected marine areas located in Mexico, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Venezuela. It is made up of 10 marine reserves in Spain along with 16 other protected areas in the Spanish marine environment and 25 protected areas in Ibero-America.

2. PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Reactivation of the INTERMARES Cooperation vessel. We are now a days working with the Army in a joint management agreement to run the vessel.

- Maintenance of the lines of contribution to FAO in the fisheries sector, as part of contributions to the Framework Program of the GFCM (FWP), as well as to the COPEMED II Project.

In this regard, the GFCM's adoption in 2016 of the "Medium-term strategy (2017-2020) for the sustainability of fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea", also endowed with Extrabudgetary funds, a priori from DG MARE.

- Exploration of the possibility of establishing a voluntary contribution to CIHEAM, starting in 2018, in the same line as the contributions to FAO, to collaborate in a Fisheries Management Master.

- As for marine reserves, encourage contact with managers in the different spaces part of the Ibero-American Network, as well as its possible expansion.