

Results of the Focus Group

The project...

It aims to develop a publicly accessible web tool that provides climate information to anticipate the effects of climate change on aquaculture, fishing, and coastal tourism in the Spanish Mediterranean coast over the next 40 years.

The focus groups...

They aim to understand the situation of each sector targeted by the tool, their perception of the climate, and their opinion on the tool in order to take their needs into account and incorporate additional information, if possible



4 Groups: Aquaculture, Fishing, Coastal Tourism, Researchers (cross-cutting)
5 participants per group
1 h per Focus Group
4 blocks

1. Challenges for the development of the activity

AQUACULTURE

Mortality, pathogens, etc. due to high water temperatures
 Deterioration of facilities due to storms
 Difficulty in expanding the activity

FISHING

Divergence between administration and fishermen
 Lack of resources and product promotion
 Difficulty in marketing in a global market

COASTAL TOURISM

Difficulty in enhancing the natural value of some sun and beach destinations
 Loss of biodiversity
 Brain drain (due to pandemic)

2. Possible barriers and "opportunities" arising from climate change

BARRIERS

AQUACULTURE

High water temperature
 Degradation and breakage of installations due to storms, waves, and marine currents

FISHING

Insufficient knowledge of the climate's effect on stocks
 Changes in species distribution (disappearance of valued species)
 Arrival of exotic species

COASTAL TOURISM

Reduction in the number of tourists due to thermal discomfort in summer (high temperatures)
 Loss of sand (e.g., sea level rise, extreme weather events)
 Droughts

OPPORTUNITIES

Study of suitable spaces for installations (better spatial planning)
 Development of new production methods: offshore aquaculture...

Changes in species distribution (appearance of species with high commercial value)

Increase in the number of tourists outside of summer due to potentially milder temperatures
 Opportunity to reconvert the sector by increasing awareness

INITIALLY, IN ALL SECTORS, MORE BARRIERS THAN OPPORTUNITIES ARE PERCEIVED.

3. Known adaptation initiatives against climate change

AQUACULTURE

Utilization of larger-sized seeds (mollusks)
 Semi-submersible cages
 Offshore aquaculture

FISHING

There are no known initiatives or measures being implemented.

COASTAL TOURISM

Planning of tourist destinations and definition of indicators to evaluate the impact of the measures adopted

IN ALL SECTORS, ADAPTATION MEASURES ARE CONSIDERED IMPORTANT.

Initial information about the web tool

Sea-surface temperature
 Heat waves
 Ocean currents
 Maximum air temperature
 Relative humidity

4. Any additional suggested information...

Temperature and salinity at greater depths
 Wave height
 Synergies between sectors
 Nutrients
 Water toxicity
 Heavy precipitation, DANAs, storms, etc.
 Thermal discomfort
 Citizen science...

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