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

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



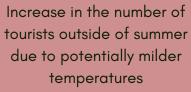
Study of suitable spaces for installations (better spatial planning)

Development of new production methods: offshore aquaculture...

OPPORTUNITIES



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



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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