

IN THIS NUMBER

- IFOP Director Participates in the Opening Ceremony of the 29th Joint Regional Cruise 2026 of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific **1**
- IFOP Participates in Beach Cleanup in Iquique as Part of Maritime Month **2**
- Water Fair 2026 Brings Students and Community Together to Learn About Aquatic Ecosystems **2**
- IFOP Talcahuano Conducts Practical Species Identification Workshop for Students of the Pencilopolitano High School **5**
- IFOP Strengthens Access to Scientific Information for Mussel Seed Collection Through Workshop Held in Quellón **6**
- The International Workshop of the IIPA-AP Network Project, Pacific Alliance, was a success **7**
- Namibia: Chilean Delegation Participates in Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) Meeting **8**
- Chilean Delegation Attends International Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) **10**
- IFOP Participates in the Development of an Innovative Tool for National Fisheries Management **11**
- IFOP Visits King Edwards School in Quilpué to Raise Awareness of Sea Turtles **12**
- IFOP Participates in Technological Tools Workshops of the Explora Tarapacá Project **13**



IFOP Director Participates in the Opening Ceremony of the 29th Joint Regional Cruise 2026 of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific

Between June 2nd and 5th, at the SHOA facilities in Valparaíso, the opening ceremony of the 29th Joint Regional Cruise 2026 and the meeting of the 19th Specialized Database Working Group (GTE-BD) of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) took place. IFOP was represented by its Executive Director, fisheries engineer Luis Parot Donoso; the head of the oceanography section, oceanographer Hernan Reyes; and Dr. Jaime Letelier, head of the oceanography department.

Presiding over the opening ceremony were Salvador Vega Telias, Secretary General of the CPPS; Commander Edwin Pinto Uscocovich, Director of Scientific Affairs and Fisheries Resources; and the host, Commander Zuñiga, Director of



the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Chilean Navy (SHOA). Representatives from Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, and Chile also participated.

At this meeting, IFOP Oceanographer Hernan Reyes assumed the role of Coordinator for the cruises on behalf of Chile for the 2026-2027 period. The 2026 and 2027 schedule was finalized, and proposals for joint work within the framework of the CPPS were analyzed.

The presenters emphasized the crucial importance of the joint cruise, where the cruises of each member country are key to monitoring the local impacts of ENSO events, especially in their early stages, and the abundance and distribution of fishery resources in the Humboldt Current ecosystem.



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IFOP Participates in Beach Cleanup in Iquique as Part of Maritime Month

As part of the activities commemorating Maritime Month, the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP) actively participated in a beach cleanup organized by the Iquique Port Authority. This initiative brought together various public and private institutions, social organizations, students, and local volunteers.

The activity took place on Cavanha Beach in the city of Iquique and drew dozens of participants who, organized into teams, covered the area collecting waste and promoting, especially among children, the importance of caring for the marine ecosystem. There was broad inter-institutional participation, including naval personnel, students, companies, and representatives from various entities linked to maritime activities.

During the day, the IFOP team enthusiastically joined in the collection and sorting of waste, reaffirming the institution's commitment to protecting the marine environment and the sustainability of fisheries resources. Furthermore, the institutional presence strengthened ties with the community, promoting good environmental practices and education about the impact of pollution on the oceans.

Meeting and coordination points were also set up on-site, with information booths that,



in addition to providing materials about each organization's work, also offered snacks and incentives to participants. The activity culminated in a closing session where participants gathered, highlighting the collaborative work and the importance of these types of initiatives in raising public awareness.

IFOP Iquique's participation in this event aligns with its mission to contribute to the knowledge and conservation of the country's marine resources, reinforcing the importance of joint action between institutions and citizens for the protection of natural heritage.

With these types of actions, the Fisheries Development Institute reaffirms its commitment to sustainable development and the protection of coastal ecosystems, especially during such significant events as the commemoration of Marine Month.

Water Fair 2026 Brings Students and Community Together to Learn About Aquatic Ecosystems

Puerto Varas, May 2026. More than 120 students and community members participated in the Water Fair 2026, a science outreach and community engagement activity organized by the Aquaculture Research Division of the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP), in conjunction with the Native Forest Foundation for Culture and the Arts.

The event took place on May 27 at the Kunstgarten space in Puerto



Fisheries and Aquaculture Law, the Regulations on Hydrobiological Pests, the Environmental Regulations, and the Sanitary Regulations for Aquaculture.

Among the presentations, Nicole Pesse's presentation on Lake Llanquihue stood out. She explained the glacial and volcanic origin of this ecosystem and the risks associated with eutrophication. She emphasized the need to move toward better environmental management practices and promote a process of continuous improvement in human activities within the watershed, in order to reduce the input of nutrients and pollutants into the lake and strengthen citizen commitment to water conservation.

Likewise, Rodrigo Vera, a researcher at the Fisheries Development Institute, presented information on some of the main aquatic pests present in Chile, including *Didymosphenia geminata* and green filamentous algae of the *Rhizoclonium* type. He also addressed the biosecurity measures associated with their control, as well as potentially harmful cyanobacteria, such as those that cause bloom problems in lakes in southern Chile.

Meanwhile, Cristina Díaz, from the Regional Environmental Secretariat of Los Lagos, presented on tools for environmental certification of water in educational establishments, while Eduardo Lemus, from Sernapesca (National Fisheries Service), addressed the importance of Marine Protected Areas and their contribution to biodiversity conservation.

One of the main attractions of the Water Fair was the installation of eight interactive booths, designed to bring scientific knowledge to the community in a fun and engaging way. At each booth, researchers and specialists answered questions and shared experiences that allowed visitors to explore the diversity of organisms and processes that sustain aquatic ecosystems.

Among the exhibits, the booth for the study "Environmental Monitoring of Aquaculture and its Site Systems," led by Pamela Ramírez, stood out. It showcased benthic macrofauna organisms, such as crustaceans, polychaetes, and mollusks.



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Varas, as part of Heritage Month and the commemoration of IFOP's 62nd anniversary. Its objective was to bring scientific knowledge about aquatic ecosystems, watersheds, and the aquatic species present in the region closer to the community.

During the event, attendees participated in talks and visited interactive booths geared toward different age groups. The activities addressed topics such as Lake Llanquihue, eutrophication, biodiversity, global change, the El Niño event, aquatic microorganisms, invasive species, fish parasites, harmful algal blooms, marine protected areas, recycling, and environmental monitoring.

María Angélica Lapostol, director of the Native Forest Foundation for Culture and the Arts, emphasized the importance of creating learning opportunities about local and national natural systems, noting that knowledge is a fundamental tool for promoting the appreciation and protection of ecosystems.

Alejandra Oyanedel, head of the Environment Department of IFOP's Aquaculture Division, highlighted the importance of making information generated through public interest studies available to the public. These studies were developed within the framework of the strategic agreement between the Ministry of Economy and the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture, in accordance with the General



Likewise, the “Fish Parasites and Hydrobiological Health” booth, led by María Paz Navarrete and Jaiber Solano, generated great interest among attendees, who were able to observe a wide variety of parasites using magnifying glasses and viewing audiovisual recordings of live organisms.

The team comprised of Gissela Labra, Catalina Montory, and Ángela Avilés presented a display on Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), commonly known as red tide, explaining the main species present in Patagonian channels, the mechanisms of action of their toxins, and their effects on people and the environment.

Mario Ortiz and Paula Ramírez were in charge of the stand dedicated to *Didymosphenia geminata*, known as “rock snot,” where they explained the characteristics of river basins, their multiple uses, and the impacts this invasive species can have on aquatic ecosystems.

Javier San Agustín explained the work of scientific observers in collecting samples and measurements in the fishing sector, showcasing and providing information on the country’s fishery resources.

The Municipality of Puerto Varas participated with a stand associated with the “Lakes Without Footprint” initiative, focused on the study and management of water quality in the Puerto Varas bay. Patricio Antecao gave the presentation. Representatives from the Association of Municipalities of the Llanquihue Lake Basin also promoted recycling practices and responsible waste management.

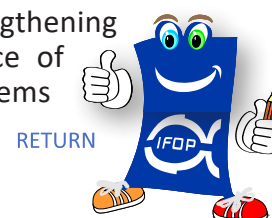
The Chilean Navy, through DIRECTEMAR (Directorate of Maritime Territory and Merchant Marine), presented the “Sea and Society” stand, headed by Petty Officer Edgard Sanhueza, where vessels used for patrol and environmental monitoring in Lake Llanquihue were on display. Similarly, Sernapesca (National Fisheries Service) presented Chile’s Marine Protected Areas system and its importance for the conservation of marine ecosystems.

Attendees also had the opportunity to learn about various instruments used in scientific research and environmental monitoring, including Niskin bottles, Secchi disks, nets for sampling phytoplankton and zooplankton, flow meters, and multiparameter equipment for field measurements.

The high level of participation and enthusiasm from students and the general public reflected the growing interest of the community in understanding aquatic ecosystems and the challenges associated with their conservation. The event established itself as a valuable opportunity for learning, knowledge exchange, and appreciation of the region’s natural heritage.

The organizers emphasized that environmental education and science outreach are fundamental tools for addressing the challenges of global change and the water crisis, contributing to a more informed citizenry committed to the sustainable management of water resources.

The 2026 Water Fair brought scientific knowledge to the community in an educational and participatory way, strengthening awareness of the importance of protecting aquatic ecosystems



The activity focused on identifying pelagic species, such as common sardine, anchovy, sole, cod, and pompano, as well as crustaceans, including yellowtail and red shrimp. Exercises were also conducted on species proportions, measurements, sex determination, maturity stages, and otolith extraction.

Joaquín appreciated participating in the workshop and was grateful for the opportunity, which brought back many memories of his early days, seeing himself reflected in the students from years past. He found it very valuable to reconnect with the teachers in charge of the specialty, now as a professional, sharing the knowledge he acquired at his beloved high school.

Sergio Flores Claramunt, Regional Director of Biobío, explained, "These activities aim to enrich the knowledge of a large portion of the students, who are about to begin their careers in the sector, by providing an overview of key resources in the regional economy."

and fostering the development of new generations committed to caring for our natural heritage and using water responsibly.

IFOP Talcahuano Conducts Practical Species Identification Workshop for Students of the Pencopolitano High School

As part of the ongoing cooperation activities with the Pencopolitano High School B-40 in the Penco district, a practical workshop was held earlier this month for graduating seniors at the school. The IFOP professionals who participated were scientific observers Raúl Rojas, Héctor Pastor, Joaquín Aguilera, Jordans Fierro, and Rui Feng Wang. It is worth noting that Joaquín and Jordan are among the Pencopolitano High School alumni who are now part of our institute.



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IFOP Strengthens Access to Scientific Information for Mussel Seed Collection Through Workshop Held in Quellón

Seed availability is one of the most important factors for the sustainability of mussel farming in southern Chile. Environmental variability, changes observed in historical collection areas, and the need to improve production planning have increased the demand for tools that provide access to scientific information useful for decision-making in the region.

In this context, the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP) held the workshop “Using the Endemic Seed Platform for Decision-Making in Mussel Seed Collection” in Quellón. This workshop aimed to provide producers, public institutions, and stakeholders involved in aquaculture with information generated by the Mussel Larval and Environmental Monitoring Program.

The event took place on May 28, 2026, in the Quellón Municipal Hall and brought together mussel farmers from the municipality, members of the Quellón Mussel Farmers Association, representatives from SERNAPESCA (National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service), the Port Authority, and professionals from the Quellón Municipality’s Fisheries and Aquaculture Office. This initiative was organized by researchers from the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP), belonging to the Environmental Department of the Aquaculture Research Division.

The “Endemic Seed” platform integrates information obtained from IFOP’s ongoing monitoring in the southern region, allowing for the visualization of spatial and temporal trends related to mussel larval availability and supporting planning processes associated with seed collection.

During the event, IFOP researcher José Videla presented the main objectives of the Mussel Larval and Environmental Monitoring Program and the current productive and environmental challenges facing mussel farming. Subsequently, researcher Macarena Herrera gave a practical demonstration

of the platform and its query tools, while researcher Óscar Ramírez discussed with the attendees the changes observed in different seed collection areas and the potential influence of physical and environmental factors on seed availability.



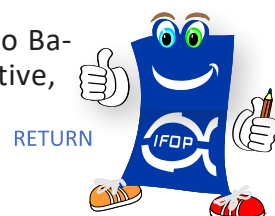
The activity also included practical exercises and hands-on work with the platform, allowing attendees to familiarize themselves with the available analytical tools and discuss specific needs of the region.

One of the main outcomes of the meeting was the strengthening of coordination mechanisms between IFOP (the Fisheries Development Institute), producer organizations, and local public stakeholders, with the aim of facilitating more timely access to relevant information for decision-making regarding seed collection.

In this context, it was agreed to strengthen communication with the local production sector by disseminating information related to significant seed abundances detected through the platform, thus promoting more informed planning processes for producers in the municipality.

The event also provided an opportunity to exchange perspectives on emerging challenges for mussel farming, including the conservation of historical harvesting areas, the protection of larval corridors, the effects of environmental variability, and aspects related to coastal zone management and Indigenous Coastal Marine Areas (ECMPO).

The mayor of Quellón, Claudio Barudy Labrín, praised the initiative,





stating, “This working tool presented by IFOP to mussel farmers is very useful, and we are very pleased that this training provides a valuable resource for the community, especially given the challenges posed by climate change.”

For his part, Manuel Hidalgo Alfaro, Lieutenant Commander of the Puerto Quellón Coastal Command, highlighted the operational and territorial value of the information generated and indicated that, “The Endemic Seed platform is a wonderful and fundamental tool for mussel farmers, as it provided them with data and graphs. Furthermore, it delivered the knowledge in a didactic way, so that each of them could understand how to perform the analyses to prepare for the logistical processes prior to the harvesting dates. For us, as the maritime authority, knowing that mussel farmers are involved in this process allows us to focus our oversight both from the perspective of maritime policing and the care and protection of the aquatic environment.”

From the production sector, Elías Coliboro, president of the Quellón Mussel Growers Association, emphasized the importance of strengthening the connection between applied science and production. “For us, the workshop held with IFOP is of great importance because it addresses topics relevant to our industry that directly relate to the information needed to continue operating within the municipality and the region. Specifically, we are focusing on the main link in the production chain, which is the supply of seed to the different areas and sectors.” He added, “Today, we must work collaboratively with institutions. In this case, IFOP is a strategic ally of ours, and we are also reaffirming our trust after some time. We believe it is a key player in continuing to move forward with the industry and generating alliances and support, using technology and scientific information to strengthen this activity, which is so important for our region.”

For his part, Cristián Hudson, regional director of SERNAPESCA in the Los Lagos region, stated that “This workshop allowed us to address the use of technological tools, particularly

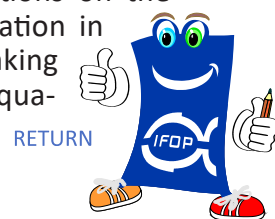
highlighting the Endemic Seed platform, which is a key support for decision-making in seed collection processes by local communities.” He also emphasized that “This type of initiative is fundamental for public services, as it allows us to directly gather the perceptions and experiences of users in the sector. This feedback is crucial for implementing timely and efficient improvements to the available tools and ensuring the delivery of relevant and timely information.”

This workshop is part of the ongoing research program “Monitoring and Surveillance of Mussel Larval Availability for the Sustainability of Aquaculture in Southern Chile (Phase XIV), 2026-2027,” an initiative funded by the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECON) and with technical support from the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (SUBPESCA).

The International Workshop of the IIPA-AP Network Project, Pacific Alliance, was a success

On June 16 and 17, the in-person International Workshop of the IIPA-AP Network project, “Contributing to a comprehensive understanding of the fisheries reality by incorporating the socioeconomic dimension into the diagnostic, management, and decision-making processes in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in the Pacific Alliance countries,” was held in Viña del Mar. The project is funded by the Pacific Alliance Cooperation Fund and implemented by the Department of Economics and Statistics (DEE) of IFOP. For more information, visit: <https://www.ifop.cl/nuestro-que-hacer/la-investigacion-pesquera/departamento-de-economia-y-estadistica-dee/alianza-del-pacifico/>

This event featured presentations on the use of socioeconomic information in diagnostic and decision-making processes in fisheries and aqua-





Namibia: Chilean Delegation Participates in Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) Meeting

culture by each of the member countries of the Pacific Alliance (Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru), as well as by the Alliance's observer country, Argentina. In addition, FAO Expert Daniela Kalikoski presented the talk: "Addressing the Social Dimensions of Fisheries Management."

To watch a video of the event, click here: <https://shre.ink/3a0r>

Luis Carroza L., senior researcher at IFOP and project leader, indicated that this activity culminates a process that began in April of this year and provides key input for achieving the project's objectives. Indeed, the assessments conducted in each country have allowed us to identify commonalities and particularities regarding the use of socioeconomic information. Furthermore, a network of professionals working on this dimension is being consolidated in the Pacific Alliance countries, and through their joint efforts, we can implement mechanisms that promote and incentivize the incorporation of this type of information into the design and evaluation processes of public policies for fisheries and aquaculture within the framework of the Pacific Alliance.

For his part, Camilo Torres, head of the Department of Economics and Statistics, noted that the workshop's objectives were met. These objectives focused on understanding each country's results regarding the evaluation of the use of socioeconomic information in sectoral diagnostic and decision-making processes. A consensus was reached on the recommendations and lessons learned from the process, enabling the identification of mechanisms to incorporate the socioeconomic dimension into decision-making in fisheries and aquaculture in the countries that are part of the Network. It is worth highlighting that this was a learning experience for all participants, as understanding the specific characteristics of each country reinforced the need for socioeconomic aspects to be fundamental for the sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture, given the interaction between people, markets, and countless productive relationships with other sectors of the economy.

The Ninth Meeting of the Working Group on Population and Conservation Status (PaCSWG9) and the Thirteenth Meeting of the Working Group on Seabird Bycatch (SBWG13) were held in Swakopmund, Namibia, from May 25 to 29, 2026. These events were part of the scientific meetings of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP), which concluded with the Fifteenth Meeting of the ACAP Advisory Committee (CA15) from June 1 to 5, 2026.

SBWG13 reviewed a total of 23 working papers and 17 information documents focused on:

Fisheries Mitigation: Review of best practice guidelines to reduce seabird bycatch in Longline and trawl fisheries.

Conservation crisis: Update on global threats affecting the 31 species protected by ACAP.

Health and environment: Monitoring the impact of climate change, marine plastic pollution, and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza on colonies.

All reports generated during these days were formally submitted for adoption by the international delegates of the Advisory Committee during the first week of June (CA15).

A Chilean inter-institutional team was comprised of:

Chilean Focal Point to ACAP: Representatives of the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Subpesca), Mr. Luis Cocas, Coordinator of the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management Unit of the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

ACAP SBWG Member: Semi-senior Researcher Mr. Luis Adasme M. of the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP).



Member of the ACAP SBWG: Mr. Cristián G. Suazo, Researcher and Coordinator of the Albatross Task Force (ATF – Chile) of BirdLife International.

This international meeting aimed to share the results of research and projects, review rules and procedures, plans, and programs, and begin preparations for the meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP), which will take place in the same city from June 1st to 5th, 2026.

The meeting was attended by approximately 50 participants, including official members of the Secondary Capture Working Group (SBWG), as well as registered observers from non-member countries of the agreement (Namibia, the United States, and Chinese Taipei). Igor Debski (Convenor), Department of Conservation, New Zealand; Sebastián Jiménez (Vice-Convenor), National Directorate of Aquatic Resources, Uruguay; Sebastián Jiménez; Dimas Gianuca (Vice-Convenor), BirdLife International Marine Programme, based in Brazil; and Megan Tierney, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), United Kingdom.

Luis Adasme, a professional from the Fisheries Assessment Department of IFOP and an official member of the SBWG, stated, “We, as the Chilean delegation, are very pleased with the progress achieved, particularly the incorporation of the so-called ‘third-line curtain’ as a mitigation measure recognized and adopted by ACAP for trawl fisheries operating with sounding lines, a structure associated with a high incidence of bycatch. The adoption of this measure by this agreement reflects international recognition of the scientific, technical, and regulatory work carried out by our country to reduce the bycatch of seabirds in trawl fisheries. This measure is now officially integrated into the Agreement’s recommendations for fleets operating with sounding lines, strengthening the tools available for mitigating these interactions.”

The researcher emphasized that this progress demonstrates Chile’s capacity to generate innovative solutions in conjunction with the fishing sector, based on scientific evidence, thus consolidating its contribution to international conservation commitments and the development of sustainable fishing under an ecosystem approach.



Luis Cocas, a professional from the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and ACAP focal point in Chile, highlighted the progress achieved during the 15th Meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC15), noting that “the meeting allowed for the consolidation of the implementation of the agreements adopted by the ACAP Parties, strengthening the conservation of albatrosses and petrels through the updating of measures to reduce incidental catch in different fisheries, the strengthening of cooperation with the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), and the adoption of actions against emerging threats such as highly pathogenic avian influenza and pollution by plastics and PFAS.”

He also indicated that Chile reported on the progress being made by national institutions in research and conservation, highlighting that “population monitoring data for black-browed and grey-headed albatrosses in the Diego Ramírez Archipelago are being updated, contributing to reducing knowledge gaps identified by ACAP regarding the status of these species.”

Regarding Chile’s participation in the international arena, Cocas emphasized that “our country offered to host the 16th Meeting of the ACAP Advisory Committee (AC16), which would take place in Punta Arenas during August or September 2027.” He added that the proposal was very well received by the members of the Advisory Committee, who appreciated Chile’s willingness to host this important international coordination forum.

Finally, he noted that holding AC16 in Punta Arenas represents an opportunity to strengthen Chile’s leadership in the conservation of Southern Hemisphere seabirds and in promoting measures aimed at reducing the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels in fisheries.

Cristian G. Suazo, representative of the Albatross Task Force (ATF – Chi-



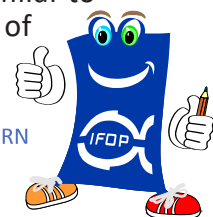
Chilean Delegation Attends International Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)

The XVII Annual Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission was held in La Jolla, California, from June 8 to 12, 2016. A delegation representing Chile attended the meeting, headed by Lezlie Camila Bustos, Sector Specialist from the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture, and researcher Patricio Barría Martínez from the Fisheries Development Institute.

During the meeting, the status of tuna fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) was analyzed. In addition, population health indicators and stock assessments of tropical tuna were examined, particularly for bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*), and skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*).

In general, it was indicated that the three populations are healthy and that during 2024 and 2025 they experienced extraordinary catches exceeding 1 million tons. The tuna fishery has been affected by changes in its spatial distribution, with its operating area being more geographically limited, a condition attributed to the climatic and oceanographic conditions in the Western Hemisphere (WH).

From the perspective of tuna fisheries management, progress in the evaluation of management strategies (ESS) was presented. The meeting analyzed and discussed the evaluation of bigeye tuna management strategies and the proposed management procedures for tropical tunas in the WH. Additionally, another investigation by IATTC staff addressed the evaluation of the interim multispecies and multipopulation exploitation strategy for tropical tunas, the results of which were similar to those obtained from the analyses of individual populations.



RETURN



le) of BirdLife International and advisor to the Chilean delegation on albatross and petrel colonies, as well as on evidence-based mitigation measures to reduce the bycatch of seabirds in Chilean national fisheries.

“This agreement is one of the most important opportunities to share experiences in research and conservation efforts to ensure the survival and future of critically endangered seabird populations, such as albatrosses and petrels. At BirdLife International, we are delighted that our experimental work on netting systems for trawl fisheries has been recognized and supported by Subpesca, IFOP, and the fishing sector. This support will allow us to follow up on the experimental evidence we presented at the SBWG meeting in Lima in 2024.

Generating local evidence and working collaboratively to improve minimum standards—including the crucial participation of fishing fleets—will help ensure the effectiveness and compliance of measures. This is, and will continue to be, key to achieving our collective mission: guaranteeing the survival of albatrosses and petrels.”



Other topics discussed at the meeting included the ecosystem approach and bycatch in tuna fisheries. The IATTC's shark sampling program and the proposed best practices for shark handling were also reviewed.

Regarding climate change, a work plan for IATTC tuna fisheries was presented. Finally, the Commission's staff recommendations and prioritized tools for the next three years were shared. In particular, the development of a Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) program for tuna fisheries was highlighted. This program will consist of a climate change scenario planning exercise and a risk assessment of conservation and management measures (CMMs).

Regarding temperate tunas and other species, stock assessments of Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*), a fishery not currently overfished, were presented, along with management strategies for albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) in the North and South Pacific. Staff recommendations for the conservation and management of temperate tunas and related species were also discussed, with special mention of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*).

Regarding the swordfish fishery, a new stock assessment in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) was recommended. A collaborative network of researchers from six countries is currently in place, and scientific research priorities for swordfish were established for the period 2026-2030. This research program aims to generate new scientific knowledge to strengthen the macro-scale assessment of swordfish populations in the EPO. The program comprises three strategic lines: data and monitoring, stock assessment, and management.

Regarding fisheries monitoring, the program aims to harmonize data collection and databases among the various countries that fish for this



species, increase observer coverage, and advance electronic monitoring. It also seeks to standardize biological sampling protocols and develop new biological and fisheries indicators. Furthermore, it will estimate large-scale biological parameters of population processes such as growth, reproduction, and sexual maturity. With respect to stock assessment, the conceptual model will be updated with new scientific information generated in the coming years. Oceanographic variables will be integrated into the population model to assess their effects on recruitment and spawning stock. Additionally, genetic/genomic information will be used to establish the spatial structure of the population, and the results of tagging and migration studies will provide information on the geographic distribution ranges of this species in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO). In addition, CIAT staff will explore the use of a new demographic and genetic model (CKMR) for abundance estimation. Finally,

IFOP Participates in the Development of an Innovative Tool for National Fisheries Management

With the aim of contributing to the advancement of ecosystem-based management for decision-making in the national fisheries sector, a team of researchers from the School of Marine Sciences (ECM) at the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaíso (PUCV) and the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP) are developing an innovative decision support tool within the framework of a FONDEF IDEA R&D 2026 project.



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the interaction of people, markets, and countless productive relationships with other sectors of the economy. Therefore, this project aims to contribute to this effort, integrating the socio-economic component of fisheries management into the biological and operational data.

IFOP Visits King Edwards School in Quilpué to Raise Awareness of Sea Turtles

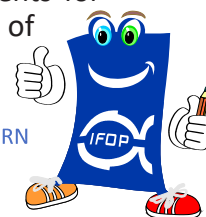
In observance of World Sea Turtle Day, professionals from the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP) visited King Edwards School in Quilpué, where they gave educational talks to students from first to sixth grade, with a special appearance by “Laudita,” the leatherback sea turtle mascot.

On June 18, professionals from the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP) visited King Edwards School in Quilpué to give an educational talk about sea turtles, in recognition of World Sea Turtle Day, celebrated on June 16. The day was divided into two sessions: one for students from first to fourth grade and another for groups of fifth and sixth graders, tailoring the approach to each age group.

The team consisted of Patricia Zarate, head of IFOP’s Fisheries Assessment Department; Ilia Cari, a researcher with the Highly Migratory Resources Monitoring (SRAM) project, and Martina Bacigalupo, a student intern from the University of Valparaíso, were present.

During the session, Dr. Patricia Zarate addressed topics such as the habits, diet, migratory routes, and main challenges and threats facing sea turtles in their conservation. The activity aimed to introduce students to technical knowledge in an engaging way, fostering an interest in environmental stewardship and the protection of different sea turtle species from an early age.

One of the most anticipated moments for the students was the appearance of “Laudita,” the leatherback turtle mascot who has already accompa-



RETURN

The two-year project is titled: “Decision Support Tool to Support the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in the Management of National Fisheries: The Case of Demersal Fisheries.” The purpose of this project is to develop a decision support tool, or dashboard, based on key performance indicators (KPIs) related to biology, ecosystems, production, economics, and social factors. This will expand and strengthen the application of the ecosystem approach to national fisheries management, advancing the integration of the human dimension and emphasizing the measurement of the biological, ecosystem, economic, and social impacts of implemented fisheries management measures.

At IFOP, the project is led by the Department of Economics and Statistics (DEE), with additional participation from the Departments of Resource Assessment (DER), Fisheries Assessment (DEP), and Oceanography and Environment (DOMA).

In this regard, Camilo Torres, Head of the Economics and Statistics Department at IFOP, emphasizes that progress in this area will significantly contribute to the information available for decision-making in our sector. He explains that considering socioeconomic aspects is fundamental for sound fisheries management, especially given



nied IFOP in various outreach activities, and who on this occasion generated great enthusiasm and participation among the children at the school.

The students of King Edwards School welcomed the IFOP professionals with great enthusiasm and active participation, asking questions and sharing what they already knew about these marine animals.

This type of activity is part of IFOP's scientific outreach work, which seeks to bring fisheries research and marine species conservation closer to the school community, instilling in new generations a commitment to caring for the ocean and its resources.

IFOP Participates in Technological Tools Workshops of the Explora Tarapacá Project

As part of its commitment to scientific outreach and engagement with the educational community, the Fisheries Development Institute (IFOP) participated in the Technological Tools Workshops of the School Research and Innovation Program (IIE) of the Explora Tarapacá Project. This initiative aims to bring science and technology closer to students and teachers in the region.

These workshops included two sessions:

The first took place on June 12 at the Nazaret School in Alto Hospicio, with the participation of approximately 70 students and teachers, along with the school community.

The second session was held on June 23 at the Esmeralda Annex of the University of Tarapacá, bringing together around 130 participants who attended the technology exhibition and complementary workshops in groups.

In both activities, IFOP was present with an interactive booth, showcasing various tools, methodologies, and instruments used in the scientific and technological work related to the study of marine and fisheries resources.

This participation allowed IFOP to connect its work with elementary and high school students, fostering interest in scientific research and innovation. During the sessions, attendees were able to interact directly with the professional team, learn about monitoring and research experiences, and understand the importance of using technology in the study and conservation of marine ecosystems. These events also facilitated the exchange of knowledge and strengthened networks between scientific institutions and the educational community. IFOP's participation in these activities reaffirms its commitment to science education and the promotion of early careers, contributing to the development of research and innovation capacities in the Tarapacá Region. IFOP Regional Iquique thanks the Explora Tarapacá Project for the invitation, as well as the institution's colleagues for their interest in participating and the support provided for the development of these activities.



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