

24th May 2021

To whom it may concern:

This document lists recent meetings and workshops related to sustainable fishing initiatives in which Echebaster personnel have participated and actively collaborated with AZTI ([www.azti.es](http://www.azti.es)). AZTI is a recognized center of excellence in research, technological development and transference in the areas of Oceanography and Marine Environment, Fisheries and Food Technology.

Below are listed Echebaster participations by project type:

**1) International Seafood Sustainability Foundation Skippers Workshops**  
(<https://iss-foundation.org/>)

Description: Annual workshops are conducted with skippers, crew and other relevant stakeholders to discuss bycatch mitigation options and best fishing practices in tropical tuna purse seine FAD fisheries. Subjects such as non-entangling FADs, net and acoustic equipment selectivity, or tested release protocols for bycatch are covered.

Date	Location
27 November 2009	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
13 December 2010	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
27 November 2012	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
7 November 2013	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
6 October 2014	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
30 October 2015	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
18 November 2015	ANABAC, Bermeo, Basque Country
20 July 2016	ARVI, Vigo, Spain
25 October 2016	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
10 August 2017	ARVI, Vigo, Spain
20 October 2017	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
16 July 2018	ARVI, Vigo, Spain
16 November 2018	ECHEBASTAR, Bermeo, Basque Country
7 October 2019	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country

## 2) GAP2: Connecting Science Stakeholders and Policy ([www.gap2.eu](http://www.gap2.eu))

Description: European Project to facilitate collaboration between fishery stakeholders such as fishers, ship-owners, fishery managers and scientists to improve conservation. This particular case study was “Conservation and management issues of tuna fisheries around FADs” and led to collaborations in data sharing and best practice implementation designed between scientists and fishers.

Date	Location
26-27 June 2012	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
12 December 2012	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country

## 3) Revisory Committee for the Code of Good Practices

Description: The fleet of ANABAC and OPAGAC signed an agreement to adopt best practices such as the use of non-entangling FADs and best release practices ([http://www.azti.es/atuneroscongeladores/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Buenas-Pr%C3%A1cticas-OPAGAC-ANABAC-feb-2017-FIRMADO\\_English.pdf](http://www.azti.es/atuneroscongeladores/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Buenas-Pr%C3%A1cticas-OPAGAC-ANABAC-feb-2017-FIRMADO_English.pdf)). Best protocols are revised every year to update the agreement with the newest and best available scientific advice.

Date	Location
4 February 2013	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
15 September 2014	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
24 October 2014	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
13 October 2015	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
23 June 2015	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
20 October 2015	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
16 January 2016	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
9 June 2016	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
16 January 2017	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
6 July 2017	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
18 January 2018	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
26 July 2018	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
29 January 2019	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
18 July 2019	Bizkaia Aretoa, Bilbao, Basque Country
30 January 2020	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
29 January 2021	Online Teams (AZTI-ANABAC)
28 April 2021	Online Teams (AZTI-Echebaster)

#### 4) FAD Limitation Meeting

Description: ANABAC and OPAGAC adopted a voluntary reduction of FAD numbers before the tuna RFMOs implemented resolutions limiting FAD buoys. Workshops were organized by AZTI to discuss with the fishers the monitoring protocols.

Date	Location
3 September 2015	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
19 January 2016	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country

#### 5) DATABIO (<https://www.databio.eu/en/>)

Description: An H2020 EU project on data-driven economy for the application of big data, in this case tuna fisheries, for the competitiveness of the primary sector in the European Union.

Date	Location
26-29 June 2017	Helsinki, Finland

#### 6) BIOFAD

Description: EU project in which the Spanish and French fleet will test at sea 1000 biodegradable non-entangling FADs during 2018 to find best natural materials and designs that minimize pollution impacts. Meetings with skippers and fleet managers have tried to identify best prototypes and train fishers in data collection protocols.

Date	Location
17-18 July 2017	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
14 September 2017	Echebatar, Bermeo, Basque Country
14 November 2017	AZTI, Sukarrieta, Basque Country
4-5 April 2019	Torre Madariaga, Busturia, Basque Country
24 September 2019	AZTI, Pasaia, Basque Country

#### 7) BIODEGRADABLE FAD WORKSHOP

Description: ISSF and AZTI scientists met with Echebatar managers and fishers to discuss new biodegradable FADs focusing on designs that reduce the amount of material used in their structures.

Date	Location
12 December 2019	Echebatar offices, Bermeo

## 8) DEVELOPMENT & TRIALS OF ON DECK ELASMOBRANCH RELEASE DEVICES

Description: AZTI scientists met with Echebstar staff to discuss new release devices such as shark velcros, sorting grids for mobulids and options for trials of hoppers with ramps to improve survival rates of elasmobranchs released from deck.

Date	Location
4 May 2021	Echebstar offices, Bermeo

If you need any further information on the above-mentioned collaborations with Echebstar Fleet, please do not hesitate to contact any of the scientific staff in the Sustainable Fisheries Management Tuna Research Area in AZTI.

Yours sincerely,



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