

# 17<sup>th</sup> SESSION IOCARIBE



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Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

Sub-Commission for the Caribbean  
and Adjacent Regions

Subcomisión para el Caribe y  
Regiones Adyacentes

Bogotá, Colombia  
May 08 - 11, 2023

# OCEAN DECADE GAIN KNOWLEDGE TO RESPOND TO MULTIPLE STRESSORS PROJECT

## ALEJANDRO ACOSTA

LEAD A SUSTAINABLY HARVESTED AND PRODUCTIVE OCEAN WORKING  
GROUP OF THE IOCARIBE DECADE PLANNING GROUP

IOCARIBE XVII SESSION

MAY 9, 2023



GOBIERNO DE COLOMBIA



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## GAIN KNOWLEDGE TO RESPOND TO MULTIPLE STRESSORS

**LEAD: INVEMAR AND GULF AND CARIBBEAN  
FISHERIES INSTITUTE (GCFI)  
MARINE LIFE 2030 AFFILIATED PROJECT**

**PROJECT LEADS: FRANCISCO ARIAS, ALEJANDRO  
ACOSTA, AND IOCARIBE.**



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- Based on the Workshop's co-designed outcomes, Kickoff Conference discussions, and in consultation with the Regional Planning Group, it was recommended to submit a Ocean Decade Action "Gain knowledge to respond to multiple stressors" under Marine Life 2023 programme.
- During preliminary workshops, key oceans-related research priorities were identified & it was recognized that in order to manage multiple stressors, there is need for observations on marine & coastal life & related socio-economic impacts.
- There is a need to fill priority knowledge gaps of ecosystems, & their responses to multiple stressors & develop tools to implement management frameworks that build resilience, recognize thresholds & avoid ecological tipping points.
- Increase participation of stakeholders to facilitate the delivered of science, to enhance the decision-making process.

# WG5 : A sustainably harvested and productive ocean

## Key topics from survey responses

(275 participants, 37 responses)



Ocean  
and Coastal  
Research

CASE REPORT

<https://doi.org/10.1590/2675-2824069.21030aa>

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### Perceptions of the Western Tropical Atlantic and Caribbean stakeholders regarding their role in achieving sustainable fisheries

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# What are the key outcomes of your Decade Action?

- Researchers and government agencies need to engage directly with stakeholders and decision makers at all levels to ensure that all the undertaken activities are targeting all the challenges identified during previous WTA workshops.
- These activities should generate science and socioeconomic based solutions that are adaptive to local and regional communities, traditional knowledge holders, and diverse regional stakeholders. It requires aligning these communities and stakeholders to work together on these activities.
- There is a need to unify programs & efforts while enhancing technical capacities and that facilitate collaboration amongst different disciplines and initiatives through institutional expertise across the region to develop integrated solutions.
- Provide and promote a forum for regional meetings, workshops, and webinars to foster innovative and adaptable solutions and address these actions

## What are key discrete activities for the first 3 years of your Decade Action?

- Due to a large number of organizations, agencies, and institutions presently engaged regionally in activities relevant to this proposal, there is a need to establish a mechanism for an effective engagement of all national and regional stakeholders.
- We are proposing using the Gulf Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI), as one of the primary mechanisms to bring together marine and land scientists, students, NGOs, the private sector, local, national, and regional governments, international agencies, and decision makers under one umbrella to promote and discuss the impacts of Ocean Decade endorsed actions.
- The GCFI provides a perfect forum for a discussion on how Ocean Decade Actions will work together at a national and regional level on stakeholder engagement and co-design; data standards and access; technology development and advancement; and outreach and communications.

# IOCARIBE-GCFI Annual Coordination Workshop of UN Ocean Decade Programs and Projects for the Caribbean Region



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- The GCFI proposes to organize and host annual workshop of the leads and collaborators of Ocean Decade endorsed actions, including programmes, projects, activities, contributors and coordinating entities that have a focus on the Western tropical Atlantic including the Caribbean Sea.
- Workshops would be conducted under the sponsorship of UN organizations engaged in the Ocean Decade. The workshops would allow discussion of progress of the projects that have been endorsed, and facilitate a dialogue on priorities for activities in the region designed to meet Ocean Decade goals.
- The workshop would provide an opportunity for projects to meet and discuss all project developments, and would allow stakeholders in the region to understand and contribute to the goals of the Ocean Decade.

# Workshop Deliverables:

- Possible outcomes from the meetings' technical sessions and poster sessions are technical reports and both non-peer review and peer reviewed manuscripts. Participants will benefit from concrete examples and best practices in ocean science, governance, and co-design from the UNDecade endorsed actions.
- The workshops will allow discussion of progress of the projects that have been endorsed, and facilitate a dialogue on priorities for activities in the region designed to meet Ocean Decade goals.
- Workshop reports will be developed to include proposed co-design activities and opportunities for sponsorship. The outcomes and resulting collaboration plans may also serve as a guide to other programs in developing their own implementation-related plans.
- The workshop will allow stakeholders in the region to understand and contribute to the goals of the Ocean Decade.



# Participating Ocean Decade Programs:

## • TAC endorsed Projects

- Gain knowledge to respond to multiple stressors
- TAC Pollutants Observatory
- TAC Ocean Observing and Forecasting System
- Enhancing capacity development in the TAC Region
- Ocean Literacy in the TAC Region
- Integrating Coastal Hazard Warning Systems for TAC
- MACHC-IOCARIBE Seabed 2030 Project
- Various Ocean Decade Collaborative Centers
- Marine Life 2030
- Remarco Network lead by INVEMAR (18 Countries)
- ProCaribe
- Small Island Developing States
- And other UN Ocean Decade programmes, partners and support organizations

# 76 GCFI UNDecade proposed activities

The meeting will provide the opportunity to convene sessions on specific applications and priority areas of sustainable development throughout the decade. A technical session entitled “Vision of the UN Ocean Decade

Workshop Title	Host/Funding
Developing Harvest Strategies and Adaptive Implementable Management for Achieving Human and Ecological Welfare Objectives in the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico Region	TNC, NOAA, GCFI. (Funded)
Marine Data Mobilization Workshop for Biology and Ecosystem Essential Ocean Variables (BioEco EOVs)	Marine Life2030. Funding TBD
Interactions between human activities and marine megafauna of the Caribbean: progress made through the CAMAC project and potential for future actions	The Agoa Sanctuary and the SPAW-RAC (Funded)
MPA networks as tools to implement ecosystems monitoring programs?	SPAW-RAC (Funded)

# Next Steps

- During each conference between 2023 and 2030, the conference scientific program committee, which includes representatives from all endorsed programs, would discuss how to prioritize the Decade and what partners or focus would enhance collaboration and knowledge sharing on sustainable oceans, focusing on the ocean we want for the future.
- Taking advantage of the diverse network of national and regional stakeholders within IOCARIBE and GCFI allows for UN Decade work to continue beyond the meeting.
- Explore other possible partners and areas of synergy.
- **Identify and secure funding for the initial meeting as well as long-term sustainability of the project.**

**THANK YOU** 

**MUCHAS GRACIAS** 

**MERCI BEAUCOUP** 