



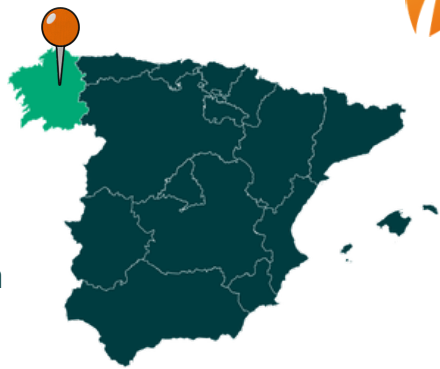
# CASE STUDY N°1



The Ría de Pontevedra case study focuses on strengthening climate resilience in a **coastal territory with an estuarine typology**, highly urbanised, **economically diverse**, and with **a great tradition of exploiting fishing and shellfish resources** in Galicia, Spain. Although the area hosts significant tourism and industrial activities, fishing and **shellfishing** remain essential for **territorial** cohesion, particularly in municipalities such as **Poio** and **Bueu**. The fishing area covers 292 Km<sup>2</sup> and supports 268 fisheries-related businesses, employing over 6% of the local workforce affiliated with the fishing and aquaculture sector.

Climate change poses increasing risks to fisheries resources and biodiversity. Rising temperatures, salinity changes, extreme weather events, **invasive species and algal blooms**, **as well as toxin episodes in mollusks that prevent their commercialisation**, and thermohaline stress are affecting shellfish stocks and distribution patterns **of fish species with commercial interest**, potentially reducing yields and economic returns. Additional pressures stem from adjacent ecosystem changes, including river alterations and wildfire impacts, **all of which are factors affecting coastal ecosystems and biodiversity as a whole**.

Currently, **climate change** adaptation measures are mainly limited to production plans of fishers' guilds and investments in sustainable fishing practices and ecosystem restoration. However, coordinated exploitation plans among several "cofradías" demonstrate a collaborative governance approach in resource management, **which in the case of fisheries is also achieved through shared management between the sector and the administration**. The case study aims to enhance understanding of climate impacts, reinforce coordinated management frameworks, and support adaptive strategies that safeguard marine ecosystems, fisheries productivity, and the socio-economic stability of the Ría de Pontevedra.



**Organisation:** GALP Pontevedra (Fisheries Local Action Group)

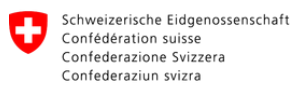
**Sector:** Fisheries

**Location:** Ría de Pontevedra, Galicia, Spain



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