



CASE STUDY N°2



The GALP Ría de Arousa case study focuses on strengthening climate resilience in one of Galicia's most economically and socially significant estuarine fishing systems. The Ría de Arousa, the widest and shallowest of the Galician rias, supports a highly productive marine ecosystem that underpins inshore fishing, shellfishing, and extensive mussel cultivation. With 465 fisheries-related businesses and over 22% of the local labour force linked to fishing and aquaculture, the sector is central to the region's identity, economy, and social fabric.

However, climate change poses increasing uncertainty and risk. Rising temperatures, salinity changes, extreme weather events, harmful algal blooms, invasive species, and thermohaline stress are affecting marine ecosystems and commercially valuable shellfish stocks. Shifts in species distribution and ecosystem dynamics threaten productivity, infrastructure, and economic stability. Despite this growing vulnerability, there is currently limited structured adaptation planning beyond existing production plans and isolated investments in sustainable practices.

The case study seeks to improve understanding of climate impacts on marine ecosystems, foster dialogue among stakeholders, and support the development of adaptive strategies that enhance ecological resilience and safeguard livelihoods. By reinforcing knowledge exchange and stakeholder engagement within the Fisheries Local Action Group framework, the initiative aims to position the Ría de Arousa as a proactive and climate-aware fisheries territory.



Grupo de Acción Local
do sector Pesqueiro
Ría de Arousa



Organisation: GALP Ría de Arousa
(Fisheries Local Action Group)

Sector: Fisheries

Location: Ría de Arousa, Galicia, Spain



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