

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON MARINE PLASTIC LITTER FROM SEA-BASED SOURCES COSTA RICA



2022-2024

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The information presented in this document does not reflect the views of the IMO, FAO or Norad

Acronyms

CAP	Puntarenas Chamber of Fishermen
CANATUR	National Chamber of Tourism
CCAD	Central American Commission on Environment and Development
CICR	Chamber of Industries of Costa Rica
CIMAR	Centre of Research in Marine Sciences and Limnology
COCATRAM	Central American Commission of Maritime Transport
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GGGI	Global Ghost Gear Initiative
GIA	Global Industry Alliance
GloLitter	GloLitter Partnerships Project
GLP	Global Litter Partnership (GloLitter Partnership)
ICT	Costa Rican Tourism Board
INA	National Institute of Learning
INCOPESCA	The Costa Rican Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture
ITCR	The Technological Institute of Costa Rica
LPC	Lead Partnering Country
MPL	Marine Plastic Litter
MAG	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
MEIC	Ministry of Economy, Industry and Commerce
MINAE	Ministry of Environment and Energy
MOPT	Ministry of Public Works and Transport
MIDEPLAN	Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy
MP	Ministry of Presidency
MRREE	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MS	Ministry of Health
MSP	Ministry of Public Security
NAP	National Action Plan
NAVE	Chamber of Shipowners of Costa Rica
NFP	National Focal Point
NGO(s)	Non-Governmental Organization(s)
NMTP	National Maritime Transport Policy
Norad	Norwegian Agency for Cooperation Development
NTF	National Task Force
PROMAR	Prevention of Marine Litter in the Caribbean Sea
SINAC	National System of Conservation Areas
SNG	Coast Guard Service
SBMPL	Sea Based Marine Plastic Litter
UCR	University of Costa Rica
UTN	National Technical University
VGMFG	Voluntary Guidelines for the Marking of Fishing Gear, 2019

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1. Introduction

Costa Rica participates in GloLitter as a Lead Partnering Country (LPC) thanks to the request made by the Costa Rican Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture (INCOPECA) in March 2020, and the efforts made by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MOPT) in coordination with the National Task Force (NTF) integrated by:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MRREE, by its acronym in Spanish),
- Ministry of Health (MS, by its acronym in Spanish),
- Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG, by its acronym in Spanish),
- Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE, by its acronym in Spanish),
- Ministry of Public Security (MSP) represented by the National Coast Guard Service (SNG, by its acronym in Spanish)
- Costa Rican Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture (INCOPECA, by its acronym in Spanish).

GloLitter is a project funded by the Government of Norway represented by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and implemented by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The project assists developing countries in preventing, reducing and control of Sea Based Marine Plastic Litter (SBMPL) from shipping and fisheries sectors.

The project will develop mechanisms for the sustainability and enhancement of regional cooperation with other countries that are associated with the project with a view of supporting the transition of the shipping and fisheries sectors to a future with less SBMPL. GloLitter achieves its objectives by focusing on some of the areas outlined in the IMO Action Plan to address the SBMPL from Ships and on follow-up actions outlined by FAO, including support for established Voluntary Guidelines for the Marking of Fishing Gear and Ghost Fishing Gear, among others.

The GloLitter is carried out at three levels, with the participation of global, regional, and national partners representing governmental, non-governmental, and industry organizations. Private sector engagement is achieved through the creation of a global industry alliance (GIA) in collaboration with the United Nations Global Compact and promoting public-private partnerships.

The main elements of GloLitter include:

- 1) The development of knowledge products and capacity building tools in support of wider capacity building on the subject, and their dissemination to expand global awareness and stakeholders' support in dealing with SBMPL;
- 2) The preparation of countries' national status, policies, and action plans in tackling SBMPL as a basis for undertaking Legal, Policy and Institutional Reforms (LPIR) at national levels;
- 3) The delivery of capacity building activities to enhance the enforcement of MARPOL Annex V, LC/LP, and relevant FAO instruments as well as port waste management including port reception facilities;
- 4) The development of regulatory and best practice guidelines and tools to prevent and reduce ghost fishing by the reduction of fishing gears' plastic litter;
- 5) Establishment of public-private partnerships to spur the development of cost-effective SBMPL management solutions, promotion of women empowerment in dealing with SBMPL; and
- 6) Setting up of an effective project management and governance system to ensure that the project achieves its intended outcomes

To actively participate in the GloLitter at the national level, Costa Rica established a National Task Force (NTF) that provided information to prepare this National Action Plan identifying the actions to be implemented between 2022 and 2024

In Costa Rica there is no precise data on the SBMPL, because of the lack of a register system and monitoring controls since a detailed or complete inventory has never been done; however, the National Coast Guard Service (SNG), university research centres and some NGOs have collected some information that can give a general idea of the problem.

The SNG has data on fishing gears that was seized or found within the Territorial Sea during the period 2002-2021. Out of 5,851 gillnets, 1,233 (21%) were seized and 4,618 (79%) were founded. These were abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gears (ALDFG) by their owners, becoming a lethal trap for marine species both on the seabed and in the water column, and a hazard to navigation.

The annual average for the last 5 years from (2016 to 2020) is estimated at 56.3 seized fishing gears and 404.4 abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) recovered.

The Environmental Department of SNG made an estimated amount in weight of this plastic of 18.4 tons per year (approximately 234.04 tons of plastic for all period), taking as a reference that each fishing tackle has an approximate average weight of 40 kilograms, the total seizure 5,851 gillnets is equivalent a weight of 234,040 kilograms.

The CIMAR has investigated the presence of microplastics in the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica in different fish species used for human consumption, 30 adult fish of the *Opisthonema libertate* sp., known as “sardine gallera” was taken as a sample in the vicinity of Puerto Caldera. The researchers classified microplastics into two groups: fibres, such as synthetic or clothing fibres and particles, which can be plastic litter from other sources. The results showed a total of 1,101 pieces of plastic inside the digestive tract of the fish were 875 were fibres and 226 particles. An average of 29 fibres and 8 particles were identified in each sample taken.

The Non-Governmental Organization CEGESTI is working through PROMAR on a project financed by the German Cooperation¹ in which Costa Rica, Colombia and the Dominican Republic have joined forces to develop strategies and actions to prevent marine litter. The main objective of PROMAR is to reduce currents of plastic litter that come to the Caribbean Coast and to raise the consciousness of concerned parties.

It is estimated that up to 200,000 pieces of plastic per square kilometre float in the region, on average, 2,014 littered items were found per kilometre of beaches and coastal areas, most commonly including plastic bottles (21%), other single-use plastic items and foam containers.

Since March 2020 the Government of Costa Rica has given priority to Marine Governance, as well as improving the management of fishing and aquaculture activities that contribute to promoting sustainable economic growth, providing quality job opportunities, and promoting development in coastal communities.

The country has not yet approved the MARPOL Convention nor the 1996 Protocol to the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972, despite the efforts made by the Administration, in particular, the Maritime Port Division of MOPT, through the Directorate of Navigation and Safety.

¹ Through the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), implemented by Zukunft Umwelt Gesellschaft (ZUG) led by Adelphi, with the participation in Costa Rica of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and executed by CEGESTI

2. Objectives of the National Action Plan (NAP)

The purpose of this NAP is to establish a guiding framework that contains concrete actions to support the country to improve the management of SBML from shipping and fisheries as identified in the Country Status Assessment developed with the support of the GloLitter project.

3. Country Context

Article 5 of the Political Constitution of Costa Rica states: *"The national territory is comprised between the Caribbean Sea, the Pacific Ocean and the Republics of Nicaragua and Panama..."* *"Cocos Island, located in the Pacific Ocean, is part of the national territory."*

Costa Rica has an area of 51,100 km². The population (2020) was 5,094,114 inhabitants and it has 1,016 km of coastline on the Pacific Coast and 212 km on the Caribbean Coast.

Costa Rica has a vast marine jurisdiction, whose extension is more than ten times greater than the continental surface; and includes both marine territories in its Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) in the Pacific Ocean and in the Caribbean Sea.

Costa Rica is internationally recognized for its commitment with the conservation protection efforts, becoming one of the few countries in the world that has recovered its forest cover from about 21% to more than 55% and it is number 1 in the sustainability ranking of Latin America.

The country has a Romano Germanic Legal System of Civil Law with legislation such as laws, decrees, acts, regulations, and policies that regulate the elimination of one single-use plastic, banned the use of stereophonic materials, as well for the management of waste in general, however does not have specific laws for the management and control of litter from the sea.

Costa Rica has made a sustained effort to establish and enforce the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing and the Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Fishing issued by the FAO, since there is not a specific law that allows a better fishing management.

The country does not have registered statistics of the amount of marine plastic litter seized per annum from maritime transport and fishing vessels and does not have enough legal or material resources for the control and management of the SBMPL. However, the efforts taken by the Government and its institutions such as the National Coast Guard Service (SNG) need to be recognized for being aware of recollecting SBML during their patrolling duties on the sea. SNG reports that from 2002 until 2021, 5,851 fishing gears were seized; equivalent to 1,101.2 kilometres in gillnets and lines.

Although there is no precise data, it can be stated that most of the litter found is: Plastic (LDPE) to protect the frozen product (purchased by roll), Buoys (expanded PVC), Nylon Monofilament Rope (HDPE), Food and beverage recipients for long trips: plastic bottles (PET), gallon tanks (HDPE), plastic bags (LDPE), Fish aggregating devices (FAD), and Plastic Recipients (gallon jars, tin cans, plastic containers for oils and fuels), Ropes for docking and undocking, Plastics used for food products, Coolers. Although this is not plastic litter, there are large quantities of D-type batteries for radio buoys that come from fishing activities.

Costa Rica is an ecological touristic spot destination, because of its vast biodiversity of flora, fauna, exuberant vegetation, variety of forests, beaches, volcanoes, and national parks located inside protected areas by the SINAC of the Ministry of Environment, for this reason the marine litter is a very sensitive issue.

Since 1996, the Ecological Blue Flag Program has been Implemented. It is an inter-institutional program that awards stars (from one to five) and grants a Blue Flag to the establishments, beaches, schools, and others that comply accordingly with the management of ecofriendly, sustainable responsible practices such as the reduction of contaminant materials, use of recycled products, and the recycling of trash such as plastic, glass, paper, cans, etc. This Program motivates commercial establishments to start competing with such good eco-friendly practices that benefit the consumers, and positively impact whole country.

The program has several categories; in the "beaches" category, the criteria of litter and its management separation, location and quantity of recycling bins and the management of sewage has a value of 20/100. Additionally, periodic garbage collection campaigns run on the most visited beaches, organized by municipalities and civil society organizations.

In one of the most polluted rivers in Costa Rica (Tárcoles river); a public utility--that generates electricity with a dam-- makes permanent efforts to collect garbage and prevent it to reach the Pacific Ocean and not contaminating the beaches, mangroves, and estuaries.

Costa Rica expressed its interest to become one of the GloLitter LPCs showing its commitment to developing and implementing required compulsory legislation that regulates marine pollution, such as the approval of the accession of Costa Rica to the MARPOL Convention and the London Protocol.

Part of the commitment is the incorporation of those international treaties into the national laws and enforcing them, as well as the improvement of controls for the management of the SBMPL and promoting training aimed at public officials, citizens, private sector, NGOs, and volunteers with the purpose to address the global issue of the SBMPL.

Therefore, to comply with the objectives of the GloLitter project, the Government of Costa Rica designated a temporary National Task Force (NTF). One of the tasks of the NTF was elaborate the Country Status Assessment, which can be seen in Annex 1, that led to the identification of the gaps and priorities in the SBMPL.

The gaps and priorities were discussed during the working sessions of the NTF (composed by representatives of ministries and institutions that have responsibility in this matter) and the actions were agreed upon by all the members of the NTF and included in the NAP. Therefore, all the government entities involved in the NTF agreed to carry out each of the actions, according to their competencies and to monitor the progress of the implementation, as well as by the MOPT in its role as coordinator of the NTF and NFP of the project.

4. Principles and approaches of the National Action Plan

Costa Rica has historically followed²:

- The Precautionary Principle,
- The "polluter pays" Principle,
- The ecosystem approach,
- Citizen participation,
- Responsible consumption and production and apply the best available knowledge and practices.

The precautionary principle stated in article 11 of the Biodiversity Law is widely used in Costa Rica; especially it has been applied by the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC, by its acronym in Spanish) and in matters of biodiversity conservation.

The "polluter pays" principle is a basic environmental regulation that supports the payment of environmental services that the country has successfully developed through an establishment of a tax on fossil fuels, which is not charged to the fishing vessels and is known as a "fishing subsidy".

The ecosystem approach is on which Costa Rica has based all its policies, laws, programs, and projects to promote its sustainability strategy in all fields of development. For example, SINAC to define new protected areas must base the decision on this approach.

Citizen participation is the basis of Costa Rica's democratic system, and the Supreme Electoral Tribunal insists that it is the foundation of everything that has to do with the public interest.

The new laws and strategies for waste management that the country has approved are based on SDG 12 "Responsible consumption and production and applying the best knowledge and practices available" and it is expected that by 2030 all companies in the country will adopt it. In the voluntary report presented by Costa Rica in 2020 it is said that recycling exceeded in 2017 by more than double compared to 2016 numbers.

² The precautionary principle "... It aims at ensuring a Her level of environmental protection through preventative decision-taking in the case of risk. ." <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM%3A132042>

"The 'polluter pays' principle is the commonly accepted practice that those who produce pollution should bear the costs of managing it to prevent damage to human health or the environment."
<https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/explainers/what-is-the-polluter-pays-principle/>

"The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Thus, the application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention: conservation; sustainable use; and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources."
<https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/ea-text-en.pdf>

Citizen participation "... is undoubtedly the fundamental basis of life in democracy, since it is the means by which citizens are present in decision-making in public affairs."
https://www.tse.go.cr/pdf/fasciculos_capacitacion/participacion-ciudadana-en-democracia-espacios-y-mecanismos.pdf

Responsible consumption and production as defined in SDG 12
<https://www1.undp.org/content/undp/es/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-12-responsible-consumption-and-production.html>

5. Specific Actions, responsible authorities/agencies/ institutions, and timelines

5.1. Structure of the National Action Plan (NAP)

The National Action Plan is organized along these 5 sections:

- Actions related to the legal, policy and enforcement reforms
- Actions related to institutional capacity and reforms
- Actions related to education and outreach
- Actions related to regional and global cooperation
- Actions related to private sector engagement

As aforementioned, the NAP was prepared based on the Gaps and Priorities of the Country Status Assessment. The NTF determined that all the priorities related to the approval of conventions and laws that would facilitate the implementation of MARPOL; the Protocol to the LC and FAO Guidelines must be incorporated into the NAP under section "Actions related to the legal, policy and enforcement reforms".

In the same way, it incorporated all the Priorities related to training that would allow an appropriate implementation of MARPOL, the Protocol to the LC, and FAO Guidelines and other secondary laws, under the section "Actions related to education and outreach". The Section related to "Actions related to regional and global cooperation" focuses on the actions required for international cooperation to achieve the objectives of the NAP.

5.2. Summary of Priorities identified in the Country Status Assessment

1-MARPOL Convention implementation and drafting of domestic legislation for its implementation into the national laws and its effective enforcement.

Priorities:

- 1.1. The Executive Power will submit the MARPOL Convention for approval by the Legislative Assembly of the accession of Costa Rica to MARPOL to be incorporated into the laws of Costa Rica.
- 1.2. Drafting of secondary legislation for the implementation of Annex V Provisions of MARPOL Convention

2- Ports and Maritime Transport Policy

Priorities:

- 2.1. Development of a Maritime-Port Environmental Policy
- 2.2. Conclusion of the Marine Waste National Policy

3-Port reception facilities for any kind of garbage, MARPOL training courses, implementing of the Port State Control role on port reception facilities according to MARPOL Annex V Provisions

Priorities:

- 3.1. In future tenders for port concessions the reception facilities must be included
- 3.2. Request of construction of facilities in ports currently in operation
- 3.3. Drafting of the terms of conditions required for the Port State Control role to be implemented in the country (training of Port State Control (PSC) inspectors

3.4. Schedule training courses on the implementation of MARPOL Convention and its Annex V and request international cooperation for their support in lecturing them.

4-Incentives for the use of Port Reception Facilities for fishing gears

Priorities:

4.1. Promotion of the approval of the draft Law number 21 159 (Law that tackles the pollution of plastic waste) by the Legislative Assembly.

4.2. Incorporation of the fishing gears into the circular economy promotion policies

5-Rules on garbage management onboard the domestic fleet

Priorities

5.1. The obligation to keep garbage onboard vessels must be included in all existing laws (annotations in the onboard logbook, including in the departure for sailing regulations, the commitment to properly garbage handle).

5.2. Regulation that requires keeping litter onboard vessels and evaluations within the framework of the Institutional Environmental Management Program (PGAI, by its acronym in Spanish), comprehensive waste management, among others, and in the case of private companies, comply with the comprehensive waste management program as generators.)

5.3. Request inclusion in the Northeast Pacific Regional Garbage Plan and the PROMAR Project and other initiatives and projects that garbage must be kept on board the vessels

6-SBMPL mandates, competencies, and capacities according to LC/LP

Priorities:

6.1. Drafting of national legislation which enables sanctioning the inappropriate handling of garbage

6.2. Training of the national staff according to the London Protocol

7-Implementation of FAO Voluntary Guidelines to address ALDFG problems

Priorities:

7.1. Development and enforcement of specific legislation to sanction non-compliance with the report of loss of fishing gear and devices

7.2. Drafting of regulations for the gillnet market and other fishing devices

7.3. Drafting of regulations for the recovery of fishing gear

7.4. Drafting of regulations for the final disposal or reuse of fishing gear collected in the sea and for the end-of-life fishing gear

7.5. Promotion of the training programs on circular economy for the best use of recovered fishing gear

8- National or local fishing gear best management practices or guidelines for fishers

Priorities:

8.1. Improve the administration of the special marine ordinance and the management of fisheries and other related activities that affect marine governance due to limited personnel and financial resources.

8.2. Clearly define the scope and responsibilities of the stewardship of the sea and its resources

8.3. Provide more resources to INCOPESCA to strengthen its actions as a national authority in the fishing and aquaculture sector

8.4. Elaborate and develop programs at INA to train fishermen to improve the management of fishing gear.

5.3. Relationship between NAP actions and Priorities identified in the Country Status Assessment

Country Status Assessment can be seen in the Annex 1.

Description		Country Status Assessment Priorities
1. Actions related to the legal, policy and enforcement reforms		
Action 1.1	Submission to the Legislative Assembly of the Bill of the Accession of Costa Rica to the MARPOL Convention	1.1
Action 1.2	Submission to the Legislative Assembly of the Bill of the Accession of Costa Rica to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972	6.1, 6.2
Action 1.3	Lobby to promote the approval of the Aquatic Navigation Bill	1.2, 6.1
Action 1.4	Lobby to promote the approval of the Bill to solve the pollution from SBMPL	4.1
Action 1.5	Drafting secondary legislation to implement Annex V Provisions of the MARPOL Convention	1.2
Action 1.6	Drafting of secondary legislation to implement the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972	6.1.
Action 1.7	Drafting and publication in La Gaceta of the-Law Decree of Aquatic Navigation, the national maritime policy and strategy	2.1 2.2
Action 1.8	Enforcement of the Law Decree of the National Plan for Marine Waste	2.2 4.1
Action 1.9	Promotion for the revision of the National Policy of the Sea 2012-2028	2.1
Action 1.10	Incorporation into the national laws and enforcement of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on ghost fishing	7.1 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5
Action 1.11	Drafting and establishment of the Port Environmental Policy according to the Institutional Environmental Policy of the MOPT.	2.1 2.2
Action 1.12	Incentivise the importance of the inclusion of port reception facilities for SBMPL in port development projects under Annex V, MARPOL	3.1 3.2

2. Actions related to institutional capacity and reforms		
Action 2.1	Designation of a permanent National Task Force (NTF) for the continuous monitoring of actions and the implementation process for the efficient, effective and timely fulfilment of the GloLitter Project objectives in Costa Rica	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
3. Actions related to education and outreach		
Action 3.1	Designing and execution of training and awareness courses on MARPOL Convention address to diverse levels: operational, governmental authorities to diverse actors in the maritime and fishing sector, among others	3.4
Action 3.2	Designing and execution of training and awareness courses on the 1996 Protocol to the 1972 London Convention on dumping, for diverse levels: operational, authorities and different actors in the maritime and fishing sector, among others	6.2
Action 3.3	Designing and execution of training courses on FAO Voluntary Guidelines, for diverse levels: operational, authorities and awareness-raising, among others	8.4
4. Actions related to regional and global cooperation		
Action 4.1	Approach international organizations and NGOs to request cooperation and technical assistance in the development of projects aimed to achieve the objectives of Costa Rica such as: elaboration of policies and secondary legislation, training, advice on the execution of international agreements and others	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
Action 4.2	Approach international organizations and NGOs to request cooperation and technical assistance in the execution of projects such as: Reception facilities of waste in ports, river cleaning equipment, identification of vessels and fishing gear with advanced technological equipment and others	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
Action 4.3	Request support from international organizations in the drafting manuals for the effective implementation of waste reception facilities in port and Annex V of MARPOL and to get devices and mechanisms to collect plastics in rivers.	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
Action 4.4	Request support from international organizations for the effective implementation of the controls established in the Protocol to the London Convention of 1972 regarding the reception of garbage in ports and everything related to the Provisions of Annex V of the MARPOL Convention as well as the necessary devices and mechanisms to remove plastics from rivers.	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
Action 4.5	Request Central American Commission of Maritime Transport (COCATRAM) to conduct training courses to inspectors on the controls for the Flag State, Coastal State and Port State, on Annex V of	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations

	MARPOL and the Protocol of the London Convention from 1972.	
Action 4.6	Request IMO to conduct training course for Port State authorities and officers, to implement the controls by Flag State, Coastal State and Port State, in relation to Annex V of MARPOL and the Protocol to the 1972 London Convention	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
Action 4.7	Request FAO to conduct a training course to implement the FAO Voluntary Guidelines	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
5.	Actions related to private sector engagement	
Action 5.1	Promote corporate social responsibility programs to support the implementation of legislation related to marine litter management	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
Action 5.2	Fostering of public-private partnerships to design, promote and execute programs of circular economy, blue economy, and actions related to reusing the litter collected from the sea to eradicate the marine litter issue and taking advantage of it.	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations
Action 5.3	Encouragement of agreements between NGOs and public-private partnerships to work on the collection, separation, valuation, and reuse of marine litter	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations

5.4 National Action Plan (specific actions)

	Description	Priority Level (H, M, L)	Responsible authority	Start Date	End Date	Resources required (staff, tech, etc.)	Progress indicators	Methods of verification
1. Actions related to the legal, policy and enforcement reforms								
Action 1.1	Submission to the Legislative Assembly of the Bill of the Accession of Costa Rica to the MARPOL Convention	H	MS MINAE MOPT (R) MRREE	11/2022	02/2023	Staff: 4 Ministers (MOPT, MINAE Health, Presidency) 1 Director Port Maritime Division 1 Director Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor INCOPESCA 1 President SNG 1 Director General 1 Legal Advisor Tech/Material: 1 Application for institutional coordination 1 IT Infrastructure 1 Document Repository	MARPOL Convention delivered to the Legislative Assembly	Stamp of receipt of the Bill by the Secretariat of the Legislative Assembly
Action 1.2	Submission to the Legislative Assembly of the Bill for the Accession of	H	MOPT (R) MS MINAE MRREE	01/2022	02/2023	Staff 4 Ministers (MOPT, MINAE Health, Presidency)	The 1996 Protocol to the London Convention delivered to	Stamp of receipt of the Bill by the Secretariat of

	Costa Rica to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972					1 Director-General of Maritime and Ports Division 1 Director of Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor INCOPECSA 1 President SNG 1 Director General 1 Legal Advisor Tech/Material: 1 Application for institutional coordination 1 IT Infrastructure 1 Document Repository	Legislative Assembly	the Legislative Assembly
Action 1.3	Lobby to promote the approval by the Parliament of the Aquatic Navigation Bill	H	NTF	11/2021	07/2022	Staff: 4 Ministers (MOPT, MINAE Health, Presidency) 1 Director General of Maritime and Ports Division 1 Director Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor INCOPECSA 1 President SNG 1 Director General 1 Legal Advisor	No. of debates held in the Legislative Assembly No. of consultation meetings held with different sectors and institutions	Copy of minutes of the sessions held by the Legislative Assembly Reports of the meetings held by the Parliament and Ports and Maritime Division with different sectors and institutions

						<p>International Cooperation: Letters from IMO and COCATRAM highlighting the importance of the Aquatic Navigation Bill</p> <p>Tech/Material: 1 Application for institutional coordination 1 IT Infrastructure 1 Document Repository</p>		
Action 1.4	Lobby to promote the approval of the Bill to solve the pollution from SBMPL	H	NTF	08/2022	09/2022	<p>Staff 4 Ministers (MOPT, MINAE Health, Presidency) 1 Director Port Maritime Division 1 Director Navigation 1 Legal Advisor INCOPECSA 1 President</p> <p>SNG 1 Director General 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>Tech/Material: 1 Application for institutional coordination 1 IT Infrastructure 1 Document Repository</p>	<p>No. of debates held in the Legislative Assembly</p> <p>No. of consultation meetings held with different sectors and institutions</p>	<p>Copy of minutes of the sessions held by the Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Reports of the meetings held by the Legislative Parliament and Ports and Maritime Division with different sectors and institutions</p>

Action 1.5	Drafting of secondary legislation to implement Annex V Provisions of the MARPOL Convention	L	NTF	06/2023	6/2024	<p>Staff MOPT 1 Director-General of Maritime and Ports Division 1 Director of Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor MS 1 Director Environmental Health Legal Advisor</p> <p>MINAE 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>SNG 1 Director General 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>JAPDEVA 1 Port Manager 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>INCOP 1 Operations Manager 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>Tech/Material: 1 Application for institutional coordination 1 IT Infrastructure 1 Document Repository</p>	No. of Law Decrees, acts and other regulations published	Copy of Decrees and other regulations published in La Gaceta
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Action 1.6	Drafting of secondary legislation to implement the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972	L	NTF	06/2023	6/2024	<p>Staff MOPT 1 Director-General of Maritime and Ports Division 1 Director Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>MS 1 Director Environmental Health 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>MINAE 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>JAPDEVA 1 Port Manager 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>INCOP 1 Operations Manager 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>SNG 1 Legal Advisor 1 Environmental Advisor</p> <p>Tech/Material: 1 Application for institutional coordination 1 IT Infrastructure</p>	No. of Decrees and other regulations published	Copy of Decrees and other regulations published in La Gaceta
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						1 Document Repository		
Action 1.7	Drafting and publication in La Gaceta of the Law Decree of Aquatic Navigation, the national maritime policy and strategy.	M	NTF MIDEPLAN	06/2022	12/2023	Staff MOPT 1 Director-General of Maritime and Ports Division 1 Director of Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor MS 1 Director Environmental Health 1 Legal Advisor MINAE 1 Legal Advisor MIDEPLAN 1 Policy Director JAPDEVA 1 Port Manager 1 Legal Advisor INCOP: 1 Operations Manager 1 Legal Advisor SNG 1 Legal Advisor 1 Environmental Advisor	No. of aide-memoire of meetings No. of Law Decrees published .	Copy of aide-memoire Copy of Law Decrees

						3 Members of the Maritime Authority in a broad sense and the private sector		
Action 1.8	Enforcement of the Law Decree of the National Plan for Marine Waste	H	NTF	12/2021	12/2030	Staff MOPT 1 Director-General of Maritime and Ports Division 1 Director of Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor MS 1 Director Environmental Health 1 Legal Advisor MINAE 1 Legal Advisor SNG 1 Director General 1 Legal Advisor JAPDEVA 1 Port Manager 1 Legal Advisor INCOP 1 Operations Manager 1 Legal Advisor INCOPECA	Law Decree Published	Copy of Law Decree and published in La Gaceta

						1 President MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister NAVE 1 Executive Director		
Action 1.9	Promoting the revision of the National Policy of the Sea 2012-2028	H	Marine Governance Commission (R) MIDEPLAN MRREE	01/2022	12/2022	Staff MOPT 1 Director-General of Maritime and Ports Division 1 Director of Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor MS 1 Director Environmental Health 1 Legal Advisor MINAE 1 Legal Advisor MRREE 1 Foreign Policy Representative ICT 1 President MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister	Request addressed to the Marine Governance Commission.	Request receipt

						<p>INCOPESCA 1 Representative</p> <p>SNG 1 Director General 1 Legal Advisor 1 Environmental Advisor</p> <p>IMMIGRATION OFFICE 1 Representative</p> <p>MIDEPLAN 1 Development Analysis Director</p> <p>JAPDEVA 1 Port Manager 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>INCOP 1 Operations Manager 1 Legal Advisor</p> <p>NAVE 1 Executive Director</p>		
Action 1.10	Incorporation into the national laws and enforcement of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on ghost fishing	H	MAG INCOPESCA (R) MREE	06/2022	12/2022	<p>Staff MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister INCOPESCA 1 President 1 Tech Advisor 1 Legal Advisor</p>	Law Decree published	Copy of Law Decree and published in La Gaceta

Action 1.11	Drafting and enforcement of the Port Environmental Policy according to the Institutional Environmental Policy of the MOPT.	M	MOPT (R) MINAE JAPDEVA INCOP MIDEPLAN	07/2022	06/2023	Staff MOPT 1 Director-General Ports and Maritime Division 1 Director Navigation and Safety 1 Legal Advisor MIDEPLAN: 1 Development Analysis Director MS: 1 Director Environmental Health 1 Legal Advisor MINAE 1 Representative SNG 1 Legal Advisor 1 Environmental Advisor International Cooperation: 1 Expert IMO 1 Expert COCATRAM	No. of aide-memoire of meetings. Law Decree published	Copies of aide-memoire Copy of Law Decree published
Action 1.12	Incentivise the importance of the inclusion of port reception facilities for SBMPL in port development projects	L	MOPT (R) MINAE JAPDEVA INCOP	01/ 2022	06/2024	Staff MOPT 1 Representative to the National Port Commission	No. of promotion meetings	Copies of aide-memoire of meetings

	under Annex V, MARPOL					1 Secretary National Council of Concessions 2 Advisors to the Maritime and Port Division		
2. Actions related to institutional capacity and reforms								
Action 2.1	Designation of a permanent National Task Force (NTF) for the continuous monitoring of actions and the implementation process for the efficient, effective and timely fulfilment of the GloLitter Project objectives in Costa Rica	M	NTF	01/2022	06/2024	Staff: MOPT 1 Director of Navigation and Safety MS 1 Director Environmental Health MINAE 1 Representative SNG 1 Director General MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister INCOPESCA 1 Representative MRREE 1 Representative	Law Decree published	Copy of Law Decree published
3. Actions related to education and outreach								
Action 3.1	Designing and execution of training and awareness courses on MARPOL Convention address	L	NTF (R) INA UCR UTN ITCR	06/2023	06/2024	Staff: MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety	Number of courses designed and taught.	Copy of the designed courses.

	to diverse levels: operational, governmental authorities to different actors in the maritime and fishing sector, among others.		Coast Guard National Academy.			UCR 1 Civil Marine Director INA 1 Nautical Fishery Director UTN 1 Representative Coast Guard National Academy. 1 Director ITCR 1 Representative INCOPECSA 1 Representative International Cooperation: 1 Expert IMO 1 Expert COCATRAM Tech/material: 10 computers 1 Graphic Designer for the courses		Attendance lists of the courses taught.
Action 3.2	Designing and execution of training and awareness courses on the 1996 Protocol to the 1972	L	NTF (R) INA UCR UTN	06/2023	06/2024	Staff: MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety UCR	Number of courses designed and taught.	Copy of the designed courses.

	London Convention on dumping, for diverse levels: operational, authorities and different actors in the maritime and fishing sector, among others.		ITCR Coast Guard National Academy			1 Civil Marine Director INA 1 Nautical Fishery Director UTN 1 Representative Coast Guard National Academy. 1 Director INCOPECSA 1 Representative International Cooperation: 1 Expert IMO 1 Expert COCATRAM Tech/material: 10 computers 1 Graphic Designer for the courses		Attendance lists of the courses taught.
Action 3.3	Designing and execution of training courses on FAO Voluntary Guidelines, for diverse levels: operational, authorities and awareness-raising, among others.	M	NTF (R) INA UCR UTN ITCR INCOPECSA	01/2023	06/2024	MAG: 1 Advisor to Vice Minister INCOPECSA: 1 President 1 Tech Advisor 1 Legal Advisor UCR	Number of courses designed and taught.	Copy of the designed courses. Attendance lists of the courses taught.

						1 Civil Marine Director INA 1 Nautical Fishery Director ITCR 1 Representative MREE 1 Representative of Cooperation International Coast Guard National Academy. 1 Director International Cooperation: 1 Expert FAO Tech/material: 10 computers 1 Graphic Designer for the courses		
4. Actions related regional and global cooperation								
Action 4.1	Approach international organizations and NGOs to request cooperation and technical assistance in the development of	M	NTF MIDEPLAN MRREE	06/2022	06/2024	Staff: MRREE 1 Expert on International Cooperation MOPT	No. of proposals prepared to IMO and FAO	Copy of the proposals prepared to IMO and FAO

	projects aimed to achieve the objectives of Costa Rica such as: elaboration of policies and secondary legislation, training, advice on the execution of international agreements and others					<p>1 Director Navigation and Safety</p> <p>MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister</p> <p>INCOPESCA: 1 President 1 Director of Cooperation International</p> <p>SNG 1 Director General 1 Environmental Advisor</p>		
Action 4.2	Approach international organizations and NGOs to request cooperation and technical assistance in the execution of projects such as: Reception facilities of waste in ports, river cleaning equipment, identification of vessels and fishing gear with advanced technological equipment and others	M	NTF MIDEPLAN MREE INCOPESCA	06/2022	06/2024	<p>MRREE 1 Expert on International Cooperation</p> <p>MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety</p> <p>MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister</p> <p>INCOPESCA: 1 President 1 Director of Cooperation International</p> <p>SNG 1 Director General</p>	No. of proposals prepared to United Nations	Copy of the proposals prepared to United Nations

						1 Environmental Advisor		
Action 4.3	Request support from international organizations in the drafting manuals for the effective implementation of waste reception facilities in port and Annex V of MARPOL and to get devices and mechanisms to collect plastics in rivers.	M	NTF MIDEPLAN MREE	06/2022	06/2024	Staff: MRREE 1 Expert on International Cooperation MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister SNG 1 Director MS 1 Director Radiology Protection 1 Director of Environmental Health International Cooperation: 1 International Expert	No. of proposals prepared to GIZ and EU	Copy of the proposals prepared to GIZ and EU
Action 4.4	Request support from international organizations for the effective implementation of the controls established in the Protocol to the London Convention	M	NTF MIDEPLAN MRREE	06/2022	06/2024	Staff: MRREE 1 Expert on International Cooperation MOPT	No. of proposals prepared to JICA	Copy of the proposals prepared to JICA

	of 1972 regarding the reception of garbage in ports and everything related to the Provisions of Annex V of the MARPOL Convention as well as the necessary devices and mechanisms to remove plastics from rivers.					1 Director Navigation and Safety MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister SNG 1 Director MS 1 Director Radiology Protection 1 Director of Environmental Health International Cooperation: 1 International Expert		
Action 4.5	Request Central American Commission of Maritime Transport (COCATRAM) to conduct training courses to inspectors on the controls for the Flag State, Coastal State and Port State, on Annex V of MARPOL and the Protocol of the London Convention from 1972.	M	NTF MIDEPLAN MRREE	06/2022	06/2024	Staff: MRREE 1 Expert on International Cooperation MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister SNG 1 Director	No. of proposals prepared to COCATRAM	Copy of the proposals prepared to COCATRAM

						MS 1 Director Radiology Protection 1 Director of Environmental Health International Cooperation: 1 Expert COCATRAM Staff: MRREE 1 Expert on International Cooperation MIDEPLAN 1 Expert on International Cooperation MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister SNG 1 Director MS 1 Director Radiology Protection		
Action 4.6	Request IMO to conduct training course for Port State authorities and officers, to implement the controls by Flag State, Coastal State and Port State, in relation to Annex V of MARPOL and the Protocol to the 1972 London Convention	M	NTF MIDEPLAN MRREE	06/2022	06/2024		No. of proposals prepared to present to IMO	Copy of the proposals prepared to IMO

						1 Director of Environmental Health		
						International Cooperation: 1 Expert IMO		
Action 4.7	Request FAO to conduct a training course to implement the FAO Voluntary Guidelines	M	NTF MIDEPLAN	06/2022	06/2024	Staff: MRREE 1 Expert on International Cooperation MIDEPLAN 1 Expert on International Cooperation MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister SNG 1 Director General INCOPESCA 1 President MS 1 Director Radiology Protection	No. of proposals prepared to present to FAO	Copy of the proposals prepared to FAO

						1 Director of Environmental Health		
						International Cooperation: 1 Expert FAO		
5. Actions related to private sector engagement								
Action 5.1	Promote corporate social responsibility programs to support the implementation of legislation related to marine litter management	L	NTF NGOs Private Sector ICT	09/2022	06/2024	Staff: MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety MS 1 Director Environmental Health 1 Director Radiology Protection MINAE 1 Representative SNG 1 Director General 1 Environmental Advisor MAG 1 Advisor to Vice Minister INCOPESCA 1 Representative MRREE 1 Representative	No. of Social Responsibility Programs executed	Copy of the reports on the Social Responsibility programs carried out

Action 5.2	Promote public-private partnerships to design, promote and execute programs of: circular economy, blue economy and actions related to marine litter	L	NTF JAPDEVA INCOPESCA Private Sector NGOs ICT Bank public and private	09/2022	06/2024	INCOP General Manager JAPDEVA Development Manager INCOPESCA 1 Tech Advisor	No. of the relevant companies included and successful action in blue economy, circular economy and recycling programs	Copy of the reports for blue economy, circular economy and recycling programs
Action 5.3	Encouragement of agreements between NGOs and public-private partnerships to work on the collection, separation, valuation, and reuse of marine litter	L	NTF Private Sector NGOs ICT Bank public and private Municipalities	09/2022	06/2024	Staff MOPT 1 Director Navigation and Safety MS 1 Representative MINAE 1 Representative SNG 1 Environmental Advisor INCOPESCA 1 Representative CANATUR 1 Executive Director CICR 1 Executive Director ONGs 3 Executives Directors	No. of campaigns executed to collect SBMPL.	Copy of reports of campaigns executed to collect SBMPL.

5.5. GloLitter support request³

Action	Action Description	Country Status Assessment Priorities	GloLitter support options
Action 1.5	Drafting secondary legislation to implement Annex V Provisions of the MARPOL Convention	1.2	Will recruit national legal consultant that will work together with int consultant to support Costa Rica
Action 1.8	Enforcement of the Law Decree of the National Plan for Marine Waste	2.2 4.1	Training on enforcement can be offered
Action 1.10	Incorporation into the national laws and enforcement of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on ghost fishing.	7.1 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5	Will recruit national legal consultant that will work together with int consultant to support Costa Rica
Action 1.11	Drafting and establishment of the Port Environmental Policy according to the Institutional Environmental Policy of the MOPT.	2.1 2.2	This action will be considered at the time of the recruitment of the national consultant
Action 3.3	Designing and execution of training courses on FAO Voluntary Guidelines, for diverse levels: operational, authorities and awareness-raising, among others.	8.4	Will be prioritized as a topic for a regional training with other countries
Action 4.2	Approach international organizations and NGOs to request cooperation and technical assistance in the execution of projects such as: Reception facilities of waste in ports, identification of vessels and fishing gear with advanced technological equipment and others	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations	NTF will present a menu of actions during 2022 to GloLitter-PCU to request support to identify partners
Action 4.3	Request support from international organizations in the drafting manuals for the effective implementation of waste reception facilities in port and Annex V of MARPOL	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations	GloLitter will be shortly issuing Guidelines on developing port waste management plans. Training will be offered on this Guidelines document
Action 4.4	Request support from international organizations for the effective implementation of the controls established in the Protocol to the London Convention of 1972 regarding the reception of garbage in ports and everything related to the Provisions of Annex V of the MARPOL Convention	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations	GloLitter will be shortly issuing Guidelines on developing port waste management plans and will explore with the office of LP what assistance and guidance (technical manuals) to implement the Protocol can be received.
Action 4.6	Request IMO to conduct training course for Port State authorities and officers, to implement the controls by Flag State, Coastal State and Port State, in relation to Annex V of MARPOL and the Protocol to the 1972 London Convention	Coming from NTF meetings and deliberations	This is beyond GloLitter. GloLitter will explore the options within the IMO on how to address this request.

³ Actions adjusted to the GloLitter objectives

6. Monitoring Progress

The NTF that currently exists will become a permanent working group. The MOPT as the National Maritime Authority, representative to the IMO, NFP, and the NTF Coordinator to the GloLitter project, will continue with the coordination and monitoring progress of the achievement of the goals and objectives of the project.

Since the NAP has been prepared by the NTF and all the governmental institutions involved have formally committed to its execution, the actions reflected in it automatically become duties that the institutions must undertake in the coming months as scheduled. Each one of the institutions will allocate resources.

The NTF will schedule sessions every 6 months to ensure that the NAP is running as planned and scheduled.

Annex 1 - COSTA RICA - Country Assessment Report on sea-based MPL with specific reference to shipping and fisheries

1. Country Context

Key facts and geographical scope of the Assessment

1.1 General Information	
Population: 5.094.114 (2020) ⁴	Coastline (km) Pacific Coast 1016 km y Caribbean Coast 212 Km ⁵
1.2 Language:	
Spanish, Bribri, Cabécar, Maleku, Ngöbe, Guaymí, Boruca, Limon kryol ⁶	

2. Summary of findings

1-MARPOL implementation and drafting of domestic legislation

Gap: MARPOL has not yet been approved.

Priority:

- 1.1. The Executive Power will submit MARPOL Convention for approval of the accession of Costa Rica to MARPOL to be incorporated into the laws of Costa Rica by the Legislative Assembly.
- 1.2. Drafting secondary legislation to implement Annex V Provisions of the MARPOL Convention

2-Ports and Maritime Transport Policy in the Marine Litter

Gaps:

- There is no Maritime-Port Environmental Policy
- National Marine Waste Policy has not been finalized

Priorities:

- 2.1. Development of a Maritime-Port Environmental Policy
- 2.2. Conclusion of the Marine Waste National Policy

3-Port reception facilities to receive any kind of garbage, MARPOL training, exercise the full role of Port State Control role on port reception facilities according to MARPOL Annex V Provisions

Gaps:

- There are no facilities to receive solid or liquid waste in any port in the country.
- Lack of training for the enforcement of MARPOL in institutions involved
- The full role of the Port State is not exercised (only documentation is verified)

Priorities:

- 3.1. Include in future tenders for port concessions the reception facilities
- 3.2. Request of construction of facilities in ports currently in operation

⁴ <https://datos.bancomundial.org/indicador/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=CR>

⁵ <https://www.fao.org/3/ad668s/ad668s03.htm>

⁶ <https://www.dipalicoli.ucr.ac.cr/articulos/lengua/>

- 3.3. Elaborate and implement the characteristics that are required for the role of the Port State to be exercised in the country (hiring of inspectors to exercise the role of Port State Control (PSC))
- 3.4. Schedule training on the implementation of MARPOL and its Annex V and request international cooperation for their support in giving them.

4-Incentives for the use of Port Reception Facilities for fishing gears

Gaps:

-There is no legislation that promotes incentives for reception facilities

Priorities:

- 4.1. Promotion of the approval of the draft Law number 21 159 (Law that tackles the pollution of plastic litter) by the Legislative Assembly.
- 4.2. Incorporation of the fishing gears into the circular economy promotion policies

5-Rules of garbage management onboard domestic fleet

Gap: there is no clear and specific legislation that requires regulates on garbage onboard vessels.

Priorities

- 5.1. The obligation to keep garbage onboard vessels must be included in all existing laws (annotations in the onboard logbook, including in the departure for sailing regulations, the commitment to properly handle garbage).
- 5.2. Regulation that requires keeping waste onboard vessels and evaluations within the framework of the Institutional Environmental Management Program (PGAI), comprehensive waste management, among others, and in the case of private companies, comply with the comprehensive waste management program as generators.)
- 5.3. Request inclusion in the Northeast Pacific Regional Garbage Plan and in the PROMAR Project and other initiatives and projects that garbage be kept onboard the vessels

6-SBMPL mandates, competencies, and capacities according to London Convention/London Protocol

Gaps:

- The Protocol is not yet ready for presentation to the Legislative Assembly
- There is not enough national legislation for the management of SBMPL

Priorities:

- 6.1. Drafting of national legislation that allows sanctioning the inappropriate handling of garbage
- 6.2. Training of the national staff according to the London Protocol

7-Implementation of FAO Voluntary Guidelines to address ALDFG problems

Gaps:

- There is no specific legislation to sanction breaches
- There is no legislation for the gillnet market and other fishing devices
- There are no specific regulations to resolve the recovery of tackle
- There is no solution for the final disposal or for the reuse of collected fishing gear
- Lack of adoption and implementation of secondary regulations in the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for the marking of fishing gear
- Secondary legislation has not been implemented to regulate marine litter.

Priorities:

- 7.1. Development and enforcement of specific legislation to sanction non-compliance with the report of loss of fishing gear and devices
- 7.2. Drafting of regulations for the gillnet market and other fishing devices

- 7.3. Drafting of regulations for the recovery of fishing gear
- 7.4. Drafting of regulations for the final disposal or reuse of fishing gear collected in the sea and also for the end-of-life fishing gear
- 7.5. Promotion of the training programs on circular economy for the best use of recovered fishing gear

8-National or local fishing gear best management practices or guidelines for fishers

Gaps:

- Legal overlaps and lack of legal clarification to properly exercise authority on the subject between MAG, MINAE, and INCOPECSA
- Lack of resources in INCOPECSA prevents compliance with the scope of its constitutive law.
- Lack of training for fishers on the management of fishing gear

Priorities:

- 8.1. Improve the administration of the special marine ordinance and the management of fisheries and other related activities that affect marine governance due to limited personnel and financial resources.
- 8.2. Clearly define the scope and responsibilities of the stewardship of the sea and its resources
- 8.3. Provide more resources to INCOPECSA to strengthen its actions as a national authority in the fishing and aquaculture sector
- 8.4. Elaborate and develop programs at INA to train fishers to improve the management of fishing gear.

9-Identify maritime and fisheries training centres, institutes, or other organizations capable of instructing on MARPOL Annex V, London Convention.

Nautical and Fishing Center of INA
 National Coast Guard Academy
 Bachelors in civil marine Caribbean Campus of the UCR

10-Number of vessels registered under national active fleet, including domestic operating fleet and fishing vessels

Class	No of Licenses	Type of gear
Small scale	1,861	hand line gear, traps, trammel, diving
Medium scale	228	longline fishing (palangre)
Semi industrial	3	longline fishing (palangre)
Sport fishing	680	line gear
Others*	5	
Total	2,901	

*4 cetacean watchers and 1 research boat

11-Number and characteristics of foreign flagged vessels active or licensed in your waters

163 vessels: Mexico 1, Guatemala 11, Panamá 30, Nicaragua 32, and Venezuela 89

12-Estimate of the current share of marine plastic litter that originate from ships

Between 2001 and 2021 they seized or collected:

Seized 1,233

found abandoned	4,591
Total	5.824

They are equivalent to 1,101.2 km

13- List most frequently found plastic litter objects from ships

- Plastic (LDPE) to protect the frozen product (purchased by roll)
- Buoys (expanded PVC), Nylon Monofilament Rope (HDPE)
- Food and beverage recipients for long trips: plastic bottles (PET)
- Gallon tanks (HDPE)
- Plastic bags (LDPE)
- Fish aggregating devices (FAD) and Plastic Recipients (gallon jars, tin cans, plastic containers for oils and fuels)
- Ropes for docking and undocking
- Plastics used for food products
- Coolers.
- Although they are not plastic litter, there are large quantities of D-type batteries for radio buoys that come from fishing activities

3. Brief description of governance system

The Costa Rican State has a Romano Germanic Legal System of Civil Law with legislation such as laws, decrees, acts, regulations, and policies. Costa Rica is a republican government system, divided into three fundamental powers: Executive (President and Ministers), Legislative (Legislative Assembly) and Judicial (Courts of Justice), whose functions and powers are set out in the Political Constitution of the Republic of Costa Rica.

Law Decree No. 41775-MP-MSP-MAG-MINAE-MOPT-TUR creates the Commission for Marine Governance as a permanent inter-ministerial coordinating body that will serve as the articulated and integrated management authority between the different public sector entities that make up part of the Costa Rican marine-coastal institutional framework.

The objectives of the governance mechanism of marine spaces under the jurisdiction of the Costa Rican State are:

- Consolidate an instrument that promotes inter-institutional coordination for the management and participatory management of marine resources in order to take advantage of the ecosystem services that offer, and;
- Guarantee the active and effective participation of society in the integral management of the sea, through the zoning of Costa Rican jurisdictional waters and the establishment of regional bodies for formal citizen participation.

Regarding the implementation of marine governance, at the national and international levels, there are various mechanisms, through norms, policies, guidelines, and action plans.

4. Overview of policies and legislation relating to maritime transport, fishing sector, marine environment protection and waste management, in particular in relation to sea-based marine plastic litter

4.1. National Maritime Transportation Policy			
Major Industries Do your major industries include any of the following?		Imports and Exports Do your imports/exports include any of the following?	
Crude oil	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crude oil	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gas or natural gas	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gas or natural gas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dangerous goods (chemicals)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dangerous goods (chemicals)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shipbuilding or Ship repair	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Tourism involving domestic ferries or passenger ships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Passenger Transportation: (No. per annum) 239.293 (2019)⁷		Maritime Tourism: (No. of cruise ships per annum) 264 (2019)⁸	
National Maritime Transportation Policy			
Adopted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In preparation	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maritime Strategy & Policy: (brief description)			
National Transport Plan 2011-2035 Work is being done on a Maritime-Port Environmental Policy from the MOPT Law Decree No. 37738-MOPT Officializes the National Policy of the Sea and reforms to Law Decree No. 37212 "Creation and Operation of the National Marine Commission", Law Decree No. 38014-MINAE-MAG-SP-MOPT-RE-MIVAH-TUR.			

⁷ <https://www.ict.go.cr/es/documentos-institucionales/estad%C3%ADsticas/cifras-tur%C3%ADsticas/cruceros/1845-2019-2020/file.html>

⁸ <https://www.ict.go.cr/es/documentos-institucionales/estad%C3%ADsticas/cifras-tur%C3%ADsticas/cruceros/1845-2019-2020/file.html>

4.2. National Maritime Administration

Focal point (Ministry):

Nelson Soto,
Director of Navigation and Safety, Maritime and Port Division, Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MOPT), nelson.soto@mopt.go.cr +5062523200
Paola Acuña,
Legal Advisor, NFP and NTF coordinator paola.acuna@mopt.go.cr +5062523200

4.3 Maritime Legislation

National Legal Framework

National Merchant Shipping Act / Merchant Marine Code:

Adopted Not adopted In progress

Enforcement Monitoring Authority:

Legal Framework for Marine Environment Protection (MARPOL)

National Legislation:

Adopted Not adopted In progress

Enforcement Monitoring Authorities: (Please list)

Maritime and Port Division of MOPT
Harbor Masters of MOPT
Coast Guard
Environmental Health Department of MS
Vice Ministry of Water and Oceans of MINAE

Flag State Implementation & Port State Control Responsibilities

Flag State Implementation

No. of Surveyors:	15 (4 Harbor Master officers and 11 inspectors)	No. of Ship Detentions (under National Flag): (last 2 years). Specify type of vessels (cargo, fishing, passenger etc.)	211 (2019-2020)
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Port State Control (PSC) Implementation

MoU(s) on PSC: None

Abuja MoU	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paris MoU	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black Sea MoU	<input type="checkbox"/>	Riyadh MoU	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caribbean MoU	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tokyo MoU	<input type="checkbox"/>

Indian Ocean MoU <input type="checkbox"/>	Viña del Mar or Latin-American Agreement <input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing <input type="checkbox"/>	
NO, it is in the process of elaboration implementing the regulation AMERP	
Enforcement Monitoring Authorities: (Please list)	
Customs Service Costa Rican Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute Harbor Masters Port Authority of the Pacific Port Authority of the Atlantic Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture	
No. of Port State Control Officers:	
INCOPESCA 8 (2 for region)	

Main and Secondary Ports:

No. of Fish Landing Facilities:	7	No. of Cargo Terminals:	3	No. of Cruise Ship Terminals:	2
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4.4 Marine Environment Protection

Pollution prevention

Port Reception and Waste Management Facilities:

Available Yes No There are no reception facilities, but waste is collected and transferred to sanitary landfills, regulated by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of the Environment.

If yes, which Annex of the MARPOL Convention is applicable?

MARPOL Annex V, which is in the process of being approved by the Legislative Assembly.
 Political Constitution: Articles 21 (Right to health) and 50 (Right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment)
 L.5395, General Health Law, Title III, Chapter II (Obligations and restrictions related to the collection and disposal of waste solid)
 L.7554, Organic Law of the Environment
 L.8495, General Law of the National Animal Health Service
 L.8839, Law for Comprehensive Waste Management and its regulations
 By Law 27001-MINAE, Regulations for the management of industrial hazardous waste
 By Law 36093-S, Regulation on the management of ordinary solid waste
 By Law 40557-S, Regulation for the co-processing and management of waste in cement kilns
 Law Decree-41527-S-MINAE, General regulation for the classification and management of hazardous waste, incorporates the standardized codes of hazardous waste of the EU
 Port Operations Regulations

Information on dumping under London Convention/Protocol (LC/LP)

Legal Framework for Dumping at sea (LC/LP)

National Legislation: On August 26, 1974, Law 5566 approved the accession of Costa Rica to the London Convention.

In the process of preparing to present the London Protocol to the Legislative Assembly for its due approval

Adopted

Not adopted

In progress

Enforcement Monitoring Authorities:

- Ministry of Public Works and Transport
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Environment
- Coast Guard
- Port Authorities

Applicable national legislation:

1. Political Constitution: Articles 50 Right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment
2. Law Decree No. 40803 — MOPT, organizational and functional reform of the Maritime Port Division, Ministry of Public Works and Transport
Article 11.- General Objective of the Directorate of Navigation and Safety:
Ensure the safety of navigation in national waters, applying the control measures established in the current regulations of the country and in the international agreements signed; likewise, order navigation and water transport to prevent pollution from this activity and oversee the protection of port facilities and ships, as well as ensure that the vessels that make up the national fleet and foreign-flagged ships that visit us meet the appropriate technical conditions for maritime activity in accordance with current regulations.
3. Article 14 °- Objective of the Department of Safety and Protection
Promote the safety of navigation, human life at sea, maritime protection, and the prevention of aquatic pollution.
Article 17. Issue the corresponding recommendation to the Directorate of Navigation and Safety with respect to the viability or unfeasibility of authorizing the dumping of waste and other matter at sea, in accordance with the standards and parameters established in current international conventions.
4. By Law No. 33601, Regulation of Dumping and Reuse of Wastewater.
5. Law No. 276 Water Law.
6. Law No. 5395 General Health Law.
7. Law No. 7554 Organic Law of the Environment

4.5. Maritime / Fisheries Training

Competencies (STCW 1978 and STCW-F)

EI STCW 1978 approved ratified on 09.02.2017. STCW-F not yet

Authority Issuing Certificates of Competency:

Directorate of Navigation and Safety of the MOPT

No. of Training Centers for officers for fishing vessels:

1

No. of Training Centers for officers for other vessels:

2

No. of Certified Officers	130 UCR INA 262 coastal sport fishing 320 basic navigation skippers	No. of Certified Ratings	0
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4.6. National Fishing Policy

Adopted In preparation No information

Does the National Fishing Policy include any specific actions/initiatives aiming to prevent and/or reduce marine plastic litter?

Yes Fisheries and Aquaculture Law (No. 8436) article g)

No

Does the National Fishing Policy include any specific actions/initiatives aiming to prevent and/or ALDFG?

Yes Board of Directors Agreement AJDIP/115-2016 of the Costa Rican Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute

No

4.7. National Fishing Administration

Focal point (Ministry):

INCOPECSA:

Mr. Heiner Mendez,
CEO of INCOPECSA email: presidenciaejecutiva@incopesca.go.cr [hmendez@incopesca.go](mailto:hmendez@incopesca.go.cr)

Mr. José Rafael Centeno,
Head of the International Cooperation Department of , INCOPECSA, email: jcenteno@incopesca.go.cr

Ms. Pilar Arguedas,
Environmental Management Coordinator, Head of San Carlos Regional Office, parguedas@incopesca.go.cr +506 84197276

Strategy & Policy:

Brief description regarding prevention and/or reduction of marine plastic litter

Law of Fisheries and Aquaculture (N ° 8436).

Article 38. The executing authority of this Law will determine the prohibited methods, techniques, equipment, and fishing gear. In the jurisdictional waters of the Costa Rican State, the following is prohibited: g) Dumping into surface, subterranean and maritime territorial waters, directly or indirectly, liquid, solid, gaseous residues, or wastes.

Law for Comprehensive Waste Management (N ° 8839)

The purpose of this Law is to regulate the integral management of waste and the efficient use of resources, through the planning and execution of regulatory, operational, financial, administrative, educational, environmental, and healthy monitoring and evaluation actions.
- ARTICLE 56.- Legal provision. A prison sentence of two to fifteen years shall be imposed on the person who illegally abandons deposits or dumps hazardous waste. The penalty may be increased by one third when hazardous waste is abandoned, deposited, or dumped in water resource protection areas, protected wild areas, the maritime-terrestrial zone, marine or continental waters and bodies of water intended for human consumption.

Government Directive 014-MINAE. Regulation of the use, consumption, and labeling of single-use plastic. –

Article 1. Preparation of regulation for RCM classification (renewable, compostable, compostable in marine environment).

Article 2. Instructs the Ministry of Education, the Costa Rican Social Welfare Institution and the National Penitentiary System of the Ministry of Justice and Peace, to refrain from the purchase, use and consumption of single-use plastics, including those made with expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam)

Article 3. Implement education and information campaigns, aimed at the consumer and the general public, in relation to the National Strategy for the replacement of single-use plastics by renewable and compostable alternatives 2017-2021, and the RCM classification

Article 4. Comply with the guideline so that the institutions and organs of the central administration do not include single-use plastic in their procurement processes.

Brief description regarding prevention ALDFG

Board of Directors Agreement AJDIP/115-2016 of the Costa Rican Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute: To accept and approve the proposals of 1-) The Marking of fishing equipment of medium-scale and advanced commercial vessels, 2-) The Logbook of fishing operations to be used in vessels Medium-scale commercial fishing and Advanced commercial fishing

4.8. Fishing Legislation

National Legal Framework

Fishing Act / Code:

Adopted

Not adopted

In progress

Does the Fishing Acts/ Codes include provisions to prevent and/or reduce marine plastic litter? If yes, please list them.

It is not in the fishing legislation but there are, among various regulations, the following:

Law of Fisheries and Aquaculture (N ° 8436) article 38 g)

Law of Concession and Operation of Tourist Marinas (No. 7744) article 3

Law for the Integral Management of Waste (N ° 8839) article 56
 National Strategy for the Substitution of Single-Use Plastics for Renewable and Compostable Alternatives 2017-2021
 Directive 014-MINAE. Regulation of the use, consumption, and labeling of single-use plastic

Does the Fishing Acts/ Codes include provisions to prevent and/or reduce abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear? If yes, please list them.

No, it does not have specific inclusions in the Fisheries Law.

Enforcement Monitoring Authority:

MINAE/SINAC
 Coast Guard
 Harbor Master
 Costa Rican Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute

4.9. Description of key maritime and fishing sector characteristics

This is an overview of the maritime/fisheries industry in terms of international shipping and domestic shipping fleet, fisheries fleet, ports, and cargoes/catch received at main and secondary ports.

Registered Cargo Fleet	No.	GT		No.	GT
Dry Cargo Ships			Passenger Vessels	Tambor II	998,21
Tankers				Tambor III	932,00
Other				S. Lucas I	567,87
				S. Lucas II	1058,00

Volume of fisheries landings per port	Volume ton	USD	Type of fishery (scale)		
Port 1 Guanacaste	196,00		Small-scale		
Port 2 G. de Nicoya	1.814,27		Medium-scale		
Port 3 Quepos	454,68		Small-scale		
Port 4 Golfito	137,50		Small-scale		
Port 5 Limón	64,70		Small-scale		
Port 1 Guanacaste	891,40		Medium and advanced		
Port 2 G. de Nicoya	5.439,93		Medium and advanced		
Port 3 Quepos	1.402,27		Medium and advanced		
Port 4 Golfito	520,33		Medium and advanced		
Port 5 Limón	239,91		Medium and advanced		
Port 2 G. de Nicoya	87,06		Semi industrial		

Port 2 G. de Nicoya	3.933,42		Foreign Tuna Fleet for National Waters		
Port 2 G. de Nicoya	2.430,84		Foreign Tuna Fleet for International Waters		

Port	Guanacaste	G. de Nicoya	Quepos	Golfito	Limón		
	volume Kg	volume Kg	volume Kg	volume Kg	volume Kg	US\$	CRC
Small Scale	196 005,59	1 814 270,07	454 679,25	137 499,66	64 698,53	\$8 263 390,00	₡4 793 342 697,00
Medium/Large Scale	891 399,35	5 439 934,01	1 402 272,25	520 329,93	239 803,32	\$2 742 660,00	₡1 590 932 577,00
Semi industrial		87 062,00				\$344 184,00	₡199 650 799,00
Foreign Tuna Fleet for National Waters		3 933 420,00				\$9 208 450,00	₡5 341 545 026,00
Foreign Tuna Fleet for International Waters.		2 430 840,00				\$5 690 790,00	₡3 301 056 412,00

Exchange rate
1 CRC: 0,00172
USD

31/12/2019

Class	No of Licenses	Type of gear
Small scale	1,861	hand line gear, traps, trammel, diving
Medium scale	228	longline fishing (palangre)
Semi industrial	3	longline fishing (palangre)
Sport fishing	680	line gear
Others*	5	
Total	2,901	

*4 for cetacean observation and 1 for research

In addition, from 2014 to 08.25.2021, 163 licenses with a duration of 60 days have been extended to foreign vessels for tuna fishing (Mexico 1, Guatemala 11, Panamá 30, Nicaragua 32 and Venezuela 89)

National definitions:

Small-scale: fishing carried out in an artisanal way by natural persons, without using a boat, in continental waters or in the coastal zone or practiced on board a boat with an autonomy to fish up to a maximum of three nautical miles in the Costa Rican territorial sea.

Small-scale commercial fishing vessels authorized to fish within the Papagayo, Nicoya and Dulce gulfs cannot be longer than 10 m length, outside the gulfs at a maximum of 12 m length

Medium scale: fishing carried out by natural or legal persons, on board of a boat with autonomy to fish up to a maximum of forty nautical miles

Advanced: fishing carried out, by mechanical means, natural or legal persons, on board of a vessel with autonomy to fish for more than 40 nautical miles, aimed at catching pelagic species with longlines, and other species of commercial importance

Semi-industrial: Fishing carried out by natural or legal persons, on board of vessels aimed at the extraction of sardines and tuna with a purse seine.

Industrial: Fishing and industrialization carried out by natural or legal persons, with vessels capable of carrying out fishing, freezing, packing and industrialization of their catches on board.

Major Industries

Do your major industries include any of the following? Please include your national definition of industrial/large scale fisheries.

The tuna industry located in Puntarenas is a tuna processor.

Fishing gear manufacture and market

Do your national manufacture, imports/exports include any of the following fishing gear types?

Materials are imported to manufacture and are not imported as such: longlines, seine nets, trawls, trammel nets, traps and, lines and hooks.

In Costa Rica there are no factories or manufacturers of fishing gear, all the materials for build them are imported, usually from Panama. And mostly the owners of the boats are assembled or hired by people "rederos" (netters) to assemble the fishing equipment.

Materials are obtained in any hardware store, there are not necessarily companies exclusive to buy these teams.

	Import National consumption	Export		National	Import	Export
Longline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Longline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purse seine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Purse seine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seine nets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seine nets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trawls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trawls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gillnets and entangling nets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gillnets and entangling nets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Traps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hooks and lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hooks and lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Overview of regional cooperation related to marine plastic litter reduction activities/agreements

This section includes a short list of relevant agreements and activities related to marine plastic litter with a focus/component on sea-based sources.

4.11. Regional Cooperation and agreements

Agreement related to Marine Plastic Litter (MPL):

- Northeast Pacific Regional Waste Plan (in validation):

The sub-region goes from Mexico to Colombia; it is made up of 8 countries: Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia.

It proposes measures applicable to the municipal, national, and regional context, which make it possible to address the problem of marine litter in an effective and sustainable way over time, contributing to sustainable economic growth, social development, and the improvement of local prosperity. Likewise, it protects and restores the ecosystems, biological diversity, and marine areas of this sub-region.

Focal Point: MINAE, Olman Mora, DIGECA omora@minae.go.cr

Prepared by MarViva, Alberto Quesada alberto.quesada@marviva.net

UNEP: Alejandra Fernández, maria.fernandezgarcia@un.org

-Marine Corridor of the Eastern Tropical Pacific CMAR

It is an initiative integrated by Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, and Colombia that promotes an effective geographic space for the sustainable use and conservation of biological diversity (in particular, of elements of marine and coastal biodiversity) of the Central Eastern Tropical Pacific Region, which involves the islands of Coco, the Galápagos Archipelago, Malpelo, Gorgona and Coiba, as well as the space between them.

Focal Point: MINAE-SINAC, Ricardo Meneses, ricardo.meneses@sinac.go.cr

- Round Table of High Level of Marine Litter and Microplastics

Informal group of countries that meets to discuss the issue that presents its reports via UNEP to the UNEA. The principle is maintained that cross-border problems require strong multilateral responses.

Focal point: Embassy of Costa Rica in Kenya, Giovanna Valverde, embcr-ke@rree.go.cr

4.12. State of Knowledge on SBMPL at National and Local levels

This section includes a list of relevant national and local stakeholders (government agencies, academia, expert NGOs, civil society organizations (CSO), etc.) working on building evidence of the marine plastic litter problem and their related activities with a focus/component on sea-based sources.

National and Local Stakeholders building evidence on SBMPL

Name of the initiative/project/program:

Civil society organizations involved in SBMPL issues*

Asociación Amigos de la Isla del Coco (FAICO) /Friends of Cocos Island
Asociación Costas del Surf (ACOS) /Costa Rican Surf Association

CEGESTI
CooperSolidar R. L.
CRUSA
Fundación Verde Agua / Green Water Foundation
Green Wolf
MarViva
Movimiento Operación Rich Coast /Operation Movement Rich Coast
Terra Nostra
Un Puerto Limpio /A Clean Port

National System of Conservation Areas Guanacaste Conservation Area
Osa Conservation Area, Central Pacific Conservation Area

UN System

United Nations Development Programme

Other Public Institutions

Puntarenas Marine Park

Academy Centers

Centre of Research in Marine Sciences and Limnology of the University of Costa Rica
Interdisciplinary Program for Research and Water Management of the National University
National University School of Biology emphasis marine biology

In Rivers and watersheds

Alianza Nacional de Ríos y Cuencas /National Rivers and Basin Alliance

ALIARSE

Amigos del Río Torres/Friends of Torres River

Corredor Biológico Interurbano/Interurban Biological Corridor

Cuenca del Río Tárcoles/Tarcoles River Basin

EcoRunners

Río Urbano

Private and Public Organizations

FEMSA (Coca Cola)

Florida Ice&Farm (Brewery)

Compañía Nacional de Fuerza y Luz (CNFL National Company of Power and Light (dams in the Virilla river basin)

Pedregal (quarry in the Virilla river basin)

*It is not possible to translate all the names of the organizations, a list of which could

Costa Rica Forever Association

Live Sea

Friends of the Cocos Island Association (FAICO)

Osa Conservation Association (ACO)

Inter-American Association for the Environment (AIDA)

Central American Association for the Economy, Health, and the Environment (ACEPESA)

CEDARENA Center for Environmental Law and Natural Resources (CEDARENA)

Youth Network for Water

Diwo Environmental

Green Heart Foundation

Nicoya Peninsula Waterkeeper

A Clean Port

Send me

I am an Environmental Hero

MareBlueCR

The Recycle Studio

ACOS Group
OKEANS
Conservation International
Pacific Foundation.
FECOP
CoopeSolidar R. L.
Keiko Foundation.
Corcovado Foundation.
Green Water Foundation
Endangered Marine Species Rescue Center (CREMA)
Shark Mission
