

## **Implementing management plans and voluntary initiatives regarding FADs: the OPAGAC experience – an update**

*Miguel Herrera (1), Isadora Moniz (1), Julio Morón (1)*

*(1) OPAGAC. Madrid, Spain. Main author contact details: miguel.herrera@opagac.org, Phone +34 914314857*

### **Summary**

In recent years, tuna-RFMOs have adopted various management measures for tropical tuna fisheries, in order to follow scientific advice regarding the status of stocks, and ecosystem impacts of the fisheries directed at them. Some of those measures address recommendations concerning fisheries using FADs.

This document provides an update of the actions undertaken by the members of the Producers' Organization OPAGAC, which include nine fishing companies, 48 purse seiners, with activity in tropical and sub-tropical waters of four tuna-RFMO. The measures implemented are intended to evaluate and mitigate, where required, the impact of the OPAGAC fishery on target and bycatch species, and the ecosystem, focusing on the potential impacts of FADs. It represents an update to the document presented at the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Joint Tuna RFMOs FAD Working Group and covers initiatives the OPAGAC fleet has been implementing since 2010, some of them on a voluntary basis. In 2016 OPAGAC initiated a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) through which it has consolidated previous work and initiated new actions. The document provides a snapshot of what has been achieved so far, current activities, and future prospects.