

The AIDCP dolphin safe label signifies:

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- Tuna caught in fishing operations monitored by an observer on board.
- An indication to the consumer that the tuna was caught in sets in which no dolphins were observed killed or seriously injured.
- Tuna caught consistent with a conservation and management program supported by the best scientific information available.
- A labeling standard supported by an international program that incorporates strict operational fishing measures, close supervision, and sanctions for violations – all under a transparent, participative, and verifiable scheme..
- A system for tracking and verification of tuna's dolphin safe status, from the sea to the consumer.
- Compliance with certification standards and guidelines adopted under a multinational Agreement awarded the Margarita Lizárraga medal by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 2005 for its contribution to responsible fisheries.



The AIDCP dolphin safe label was created by the Parties to the AIDCP, which is administered by the IATTC



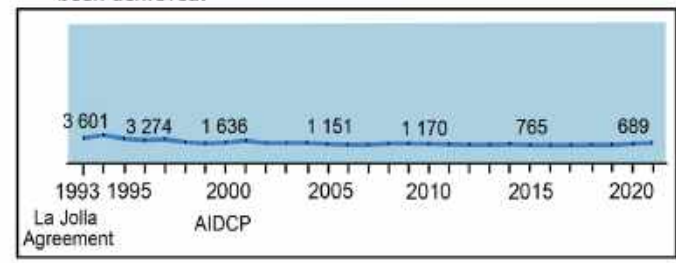
The Parties to the AIDCP are Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, European Union, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, United States, and Venezuela. Bolivia and Vanuatu apply it provisionally.

The AIDCP, which is a binding agreement, builds on the achievements and success of the voluntary 1992 La Jolla Agreement.

The program established by the Agreement was developed for application in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Among its achievements are reducing the incidental mortality of dolphins in the tuna fishery, capturing large yellowfin tunas and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the tuna stocks and the other living marine resources associated with the fishery.



At the beginning of the fishery, the dolphin mortality was above 150,000 and in 1985 nearly 60,000. With the La Jolla Agreement the trend towards a reduction in dolphin mortality was consolidated: the mortality decreased from 15,538 in 1992 to 3,601 in the first year of application of that Agreement (1993). Since the entry into force of the AIDCP in 2000, annual dolphin mortality has been further reduced from 1,636 to 729 in 2021. Accordingly a reduction in dolphin mortalities of 96.5% since the La Jolla Agreement has been achieved.



The AIDCP also promotes the conservation of other marine species, such as turtles, seabirds and sharks-, some of which are threatened.

The AIDCP has many unique features, such as training and certification of fishing captains; strict operating requirements for vessels, such as the backdown maneuver and the use of divers to ensure the safe release of all dolphins captured; 100% coverage by independent on-board observers; full transparency; and enforcement.



A very important aspect of the AIDCP is its system for reporting and sanctioning cases of non-compliance. The International Review Panel, made up of representatives of governments, the industry, and environmental organizations, reviews the performance of the fishing vessels, identifies cases of non-compliance, and notifies the responsible governments so that they may apply sanctions