



Meet Our Members

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When did you start to participate in LDAC meetings? What is your motivation for participating in them?

I personally started participating in LDAC meetings since 2014. I believe that the effective management of our seas and oceans requires an open dialogue between all stakeholders and EU decision-makers. The LDAC offers an ideal platform for discussing the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy, which positively contributes to EU policy making. Furthermore, its exceptional supporting secretariat adds substantial value to the discussions.

What are in your view the three main priorities/current challenges for achieving sustainable fisheries?

1) Effective management works! As recommended by FAO, 100% of fisheries and aquatic habitats should be under effective fisheries management.

2) Governance and Cooperation: distant water fleets often operate in areas with overlapping jurisdictional boundaries and varying levels of regulation and enforcement. Strengthening regional and international frameworks, such as regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), and promoting collaboration among countries and fleets are key priorities.

3) Level playing field: all fleets operating in the same areas (including international waters) should be subject to similar rules to guarantee fair competition, an equal opportunity environment for all operators and a race to the top.

Can you name an inspiring figure in your field of expertise?

Javier Garat, a prominent figure in the field of fisheries and marine conservation, known for his leadership and advocacy for sustainable fishing practices.

Which book, radio show, TV series or film related to the sea would you recommend?

It's a bit old but I would recommend "the Abyss", a 1989 science fiction film written and directed by James Cameron and starring Ed Harris among others (great soundtrack as well). It's about an American submarine that sinks in the Caribbean. A US search and recovery team works with an oil platform crew, racing against Soviet vessels to recover the boat. Deep in the ocean, they encounter something unexpected...

This movie reminds us of the grandiosity and vastness of the oceans and that there is still much to explore.

What is your favourite fish dish and why?

I cannot pick just one... Grilled nephrops, spider crab cooked in sea water, baked turbot, cod in pil pil, grilled sea bass... I'll better stop now, my mouth is watering.