



**FARNET TRANSNATIONAL SEMINAR FOR FLAGS  
VIGO (GALICIA), SPAIN 13 - 15 MARCH 2018  
FLAGS and local resource management**



**MSC certification for  
the western Asturias  
Octopus traps fishery  
The role of FLAG**

**FLAG/ORGANIZATION  
CEDER Navia-Porcía**

# M.S.C. CERTIFICATION FOR THE WESTERN ASTURIAS OCTOPUS TRAPS FISHERY – THE ROLE OF FLAG

## Objectives:

- Value the sustainable character of the traditional fishery of octopus captured with octopus traps in the Navia-Porcía region, in order to obtain economic, social and environmental profitability through MSC certification.
- Become the first sustainable octopus fishery certified by MSC worldwide.

## Beneficiaries:

Inshore fishing fleet ( 10-12 m in length and 1-3 crew members) based in the ports of Navia-Porcía region (Puerto de Vega, Ortiguera, Viavélez and Tapia de Casariego) that captures octopus with octopus traps and are included in the fishery management plan of the Principality of Asturias, in force since 2001. Initially, 27 fishing boats were certified. Currently, there are 32 fishing boats certified.

## Actions:

Main action: Process of certification.

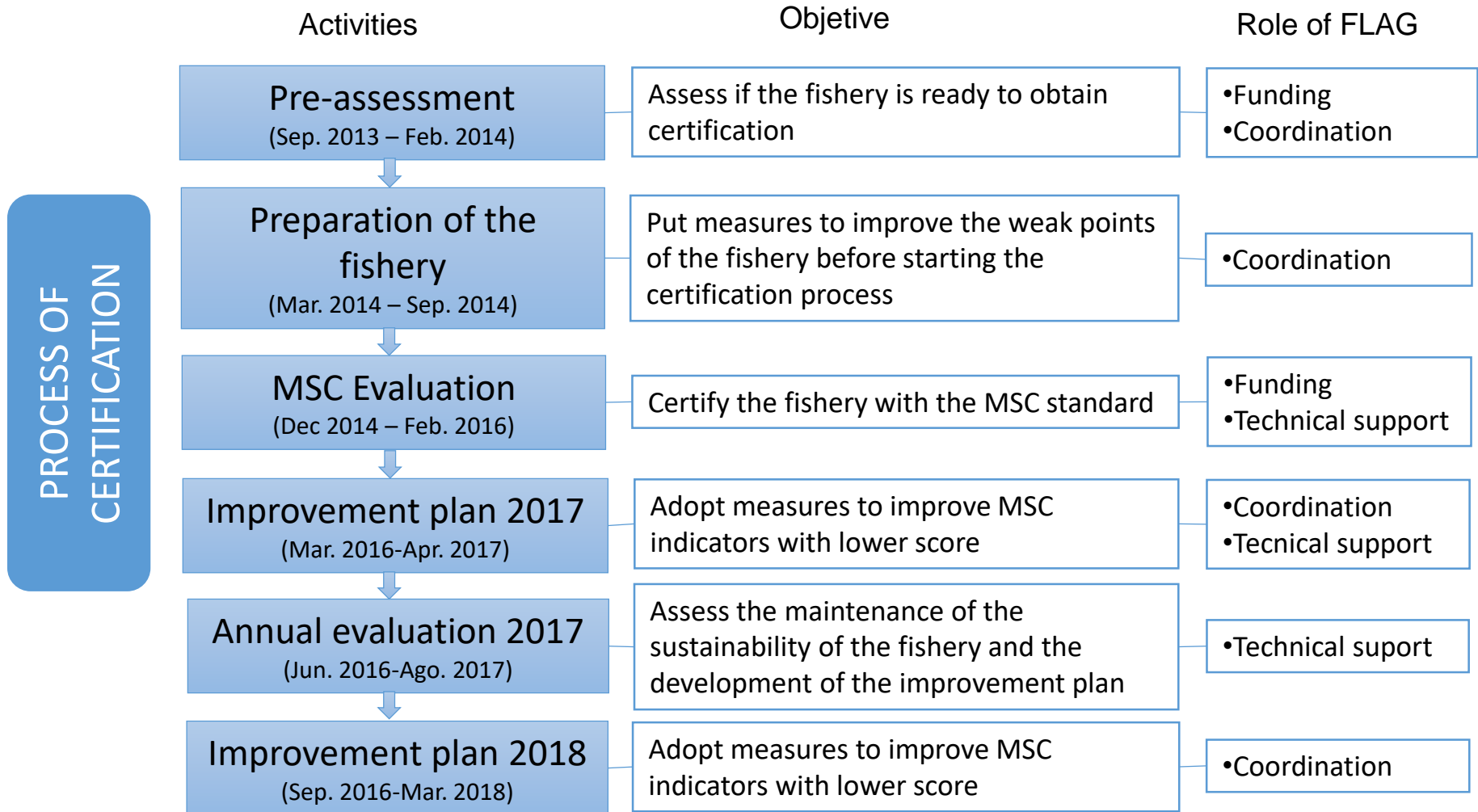
Accessories actions: Promotion of participation / Marketing support / Visualization actions

## Project duration:

From 2010 to now

# THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

SEPTEMBER 2013 – MARCH 2018



# PROMOTING PARTICIPATION

DECEMBER 2010 – MAY 2018

**Objective:** involve all stakeholders from the octopus fishery in the project and create tools to facilitate the participation of the sector in the management of the fishery.

## Activities carried out by the FLAG:

- **Agree on actions** with “Dirección General de Pesca Marítima de Asturias” (manager) and “Centro de Experimentación Pesquera” (science). (Dec. 2010 - Sep. 2013)
- Support the creation of **the commission for monitoring the management of the octopus fishery** through a legal standard. (Dic. 2016)
- **Create the association “ARPESOS”** (Association of Shipowners of the Octopus Fisheries with a Sustainability Certificate) which includes all the fishing boat owners with the MSC certificate. (Feb. 2017 – May 2017)
- **Extending certification to new vessels** of other fishermen's organization (May 2016 – Mar 2018)

# MARKETING SUPPORT

## OCTOBER 2013 – JANUARY 2017

**Objective:** prepare the fishery to obtain the highest economic profitability from the MSC certification

### Activities carried out by the FLAG

- Funding a **study about markets for certified octopus** in Italy, France and Benelux (Oct. 2013 – Feb. 2014)
- Development of a **business plan** for MSC certified octopus. (Feb. 2016 – Apr. 2016)
- Setting up a **new fortnightly auction system** for MSC certified octopus (Dec. 2016)
- Organization of **visits by the traders** to the fishery (Jan 2017)

# ENSURING VISIBILITY

DECEMBER 2010 – FEBRUARY 2018

## VISIBILITY ACTIONS

**Objective:** Publicize the sustainability of the fishery and the work done by fishermen in the certification process.

### Activities carried out by the FLAG

- Presentation of the project **in the media** (press, radio, TV) (Dec. 2010 – Aug. 2017)
- Funding a **website of fishing resources of the region**, with the main role of the certified octopus fishery (Nov. 2014)
- Organizing a **technical workshop** on the octopus fishery in Northern Spain (Dec. 2017)
- Presentation of the project in **national and international seminars**.
- Organization of **FLAG visits** to the fishery
- Inclusion the MSC octopus in **the quality label "Alimentos del Paraíso"** (Food of paradise). (Feb. 2018)