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PERICLES Heritage: Stakeholders meeting in Marsaxlokk, Malta

Date of workshop: 14-11-2019

Place of workshop: Marsaxlokk, Malta

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1. Introduction

Challenges in marine cultural heritage settings

Looking at UNESCO's definition, "Heritage is the legacy that we receive from the past, that we experience in the present and that we will pass on to future generations." However, cultural heritage is not limited to monuments and collections of objects. It also includes lived expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants. These include oral traditions, performing arts, social manners, rituals, celebrations, practices and knowledge and techniques related to traditional handcrafts. Despite its fragility, intangible cultural heritage or living heritage is an important factor in maintaining cultural diversity.

Cultural heritage provides a sense of place, unity, and belonging. Rooted upon history in specific landscapes, seascapes, buildings, stories, traditions, language, and cultural practices. One can add that cultural heritage is a fundamental part of every society. It connects people to each other and to the past and helps guide the future.

Protection and advocacy for cultural heritage can strengthen identity and local society, thereby improving overall quality of life. Culture and heritage are essential in maintaining and building Europe's economic, social, cultural and natural capital. Realizing the potential of cultural heritage in these terms can generate prosperity, bring new jobs, enhance communities and improve environments in ways comparable to Blue Growth initiatives.

Yet, coastal cultural landscapes face risks from climate change, pollution, urbanization, mass tourism, demographic challenges in remote regions, the fundamental transformation of the European fishing industry, neglect, and inconsistent policies of sea and shore conservation across governance scales and between regions.

The PERICLES project

PERICLES (PRESERVING AND SUSTAINABLY GOVERNING CULTURAL HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPES IN EUROPEAN COASTAL AND MARITIME REGIONS) is a project funded by the EU Horizon 2020 program that promotes sustainable, participatory governance of cultural heritage in European coastal and maritime regions through a unique interdisciplinary and geographically wide-ranging approach. The overall aim of the project is to develop and demonstrate a comprehensive framework to understand, preserve and utilize maritime cultural heritage for societal good. PERICLES will:

- a) develop an in-depth, situated understanding of the CH of marine and coastal land/seascapes, including knowledge across local, spatial, environmental, social and economic aspects;
- b) develop practical tools, based on stakeholder involvement and participatory governance, for mapping, assessing and mitigating risks to CH and to enhance sustainable growth and increase employment by harnessing CH assets;
- c) provide policy advice to improve integration of CH in key marine and environmental policies and the implementation of associated EU directives; and
- d) develop effective knowledge exchange networks.



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In Malta

Malta is a popular tourist destination, and the country depends heavily on its tourism industry in terms of GDP. In 2018 2.6 million tourists visited Malta¹, which was more than five times the number of residents. Malta has a rich cultural and natural heritage with no exception. The Maltese history and built-heritage attracts visitors that do not want to miss the combination of fortifications, temples and places where different worlds have been connected through the time.

All the cultural heritage is place in a Mediterranean canvas which makes other visitors such as divers, bird watcher and seafood lovers, a big reason to come.

Like on many islands, there is concern about direct and indirect human and natural impacts, especially when natural resources are limited. Climate change, such as changes in sea level and temperature, more variability and unpredictability in rainfall patterns and high(er) humidity and air temperature, especially in summer. Climate change is however not only associated with threats (and opportunities) for tourism; Malta also anticipates challenges for the agriculture and fishery sectors, and foresees problems with water resources and its population's health. PERICLES will explore the role that marine cultural heritage plays in balancing Malta's multifaceted character as described above, how Malta can deal with the impact of development processes such as tourism or natural hazards (coastal erosion or unpredictable weather) on marine cultural heritage and the role that can play in community engagement and awareness of the state of marine cultural heritage

The fishing village of Marsaxlokk is the selected case for PERICLES. It is one of the sixty-eight local units of Malta with a population of approximately 3,500 (National Statistics Office_ Malta, 2018). The first fishermen settled in Marsaxlokk permanently in the mid-19th century and the fishery community started to grow ("Marsaxlokk Local Council | The Village", n.d.). Traditional daily practices relating to fishing and fishing boat handicraft have been passed down generations through teaching and training from fathers to sons. The activity of different fishing methods, mending the fishing net and the performing *luzzu* boats' maintenance in the waterfront can still be seen in local people's common daily lives and it is part of their cultural heritage, although not as vivid as it was in the past 50 years. The local community is commonly recognized as fishing village, with fishing culture among the most important heritages of Marsaxlokk (Markwick, 1999). However, the traditional fishing culture is facing several challenges (Yeh, 2018).

Since the early 2000s, Marsaxlokk experienced a major influx of international tourists from cruises and mass tourism because of the promotion campaign from the tourism authority to brand Marsaxlokk as the only fishing village left in Malta (Losco, 2015). As tourism in Malta was expanding, the village has been in a constant transformation. Since the development in the north has reached its limit in recent years, the less developed areas in the south show great potentials and opportunities and thus attract more people to move in. In addition, Maltese in general who seek less crowded places to live also want to move from the urban areas in the north to the south. Commercial businesses in the waterfront such as restaurants and hawkers have appeared and more tourists have come to enjoy the picturesque view of harbor with colorful *luzzu* and enjoy a freshly caught lunch at the waterfront. Moreover, some of the fishermen turned from the full-time fishermen to part-time fishermen and started to take tourists on to the traditional *luzzu* boats for a boat trip. Tourism has created many new employments in Marsaxlokk (Markwick, 1999). The growth of new residents gradually changes the composition of the community in Marsaxlokk and also brings new practices. Nowadays, the place is known through tourism promotion since it is the only village in Malta that keeps the characteristics of a traditional fishing village ("Marsaxlokk Local Council | The Village", n.d.).

¹https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/lifestyle/travel/92778/malta_received_26_million_tourists_in_2018#Xe4lMehKiUk



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The tourists visit here to enjoy the beaches, rocky cliffs, fresh seafood from the local restaurants, the fishermen lifestyle, the charming *luzzu* and the traditional Sunday market. Most of the main easy-access attractions are located in the waterfront area of the village (see figure 5). All these attractions are composed by a series of rituals and practices that take place every day in the waterfront and are fundamental for the image of the fishing village as a tourist destination. Moreover, as a result of the tourism influence, fishermen and locals have also developed other tourism and commercially related activities at the waterfront. Selling souvenirs, handcrafts or traditional food, together with the boat tours that fishermen and their relatives organized, are some of the new ways in which the local community puts fish on the table (Vegas, 2019).

Objective of the report

The aim of this report is to provide a summary of the perspectives and insights from the Pericles Marsaxlokk stakeholder meeting around the challenges and opportunities to manage and use heritage resources on coastal areas. This report is a common document that serves as a nexus of views and a baseline to start developing initiatives and provide proof of the actual debate in Marine Cultural Heritage in Malta from a multidisciplinary perspective.

Workshop approach

The workshop took place in the Parish facilities of Marsaxlokk on the 14th of November. It was opened with a speech of the Mayor of Marsaxlokk, Mr. Steven Grech, and the Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government, Hon. Dr. Owen Bonnici. An introduction of the PERICLES Heritage project and the actions and events that were done and planned in Malta was presented by Dr. Machiel Lamers and Mr. Jordi Vegas, as representatives of Wageningen University and Research. During the day, two working groups were divided in order to work on specific themes: 1) Reconnecting fisheries, seafood and culinary practices; 2) Enhancing the maritime heritage experience through diversification opportunities. The workshops were facilitated by Dr. Alicia Said (IFREMER, Brest) and Mr. Kurt Mifsud (Mediterranean Culinary Academy), together with Dr. Machiel Lamers and Mr. Jordi Vegas. In the afternoon, a plenary discussion took place based on the results to further develop the topics and design ways to transfer to knowledge into actions.

The workshop was intended to provide a participatory and deliberative approach in addressing the current challenges on how to sustainably manage and use heritage in coastal areas. Its bottom-up approach aims to provide a space for discussion and networking, followed by working groups, expert committees and a roadmap to develop initiatives within the scope of the PERICLES project and beyond.

Structure of the report

After introducing the PERICLES project, objectives and the workshop approach, the structure of the report comes as follows:

Chapter 2 presents the results of each of the break out discussion groups and clustering them into different themes around the current challenges and initiatives. Chapter 3 provides an overview of the plenary discussion as a result of the break out content and develops on other challenges and projects that involve major involvement. Chapter 4 explains how to follow-up on the discussions and take them into real actions through a roadmap. It recommends two initiatives and presents the many others that were brainstormed during the event. Chapter 5 offers a reflection about the workshop and the initiatives to think about the usability and ways to do better in the coming meetings. At the end of the report, annexes are provided regarding the list of participants of the workshop, as well as other documents of interest regarding fishing-tourism policies and digital tools for heritage management.



2. Break out discussions

2.1 Reconnecting fisheries, seafood and culinary practices

2.1.1 Challenges:

a) Defining the Maltese food identity

To consider what the food identity in Malta is, it is important to think about its geographical location in the Mediterranean Sea. Being between land and sea, Malta's harbours have seen for centuries many cultures influencing and shaping the Maltese gastronomy. Sicilians, Spaniards, Turks, Arabs, but also the Knights of St. John have made an impact on the taste of Malta. Even after Malta became independent in 1964 from the UK, the British food has been part of the taste buds of the modern society in Malta. Having such a *melange* for a food identity it is indeed of good value since more ingredients and influences can expand and stimulate the evolution of the food identity. Yet, if there is a way to define in general the food identity in Malta, this relates more to the Mediterranean diet identity.

What it is important to consider, is that even though Malta is an island, it has never been an island with a strong fishing identity like others, although fishing has been practiced, together with hunting and farming as subsistence economy. It doesn't mean that fish is not part of the culinary heritage and identity of Malta but there other food with stronger a image. A generous variety of vegetables, cheeses, honey, olives, capers and wines – or meats such as the rabbit, quails or Maltese sausage - have captured better what the food represents for Malta. All these food products have been connected in part to the Mediterranean landscape in Malta and in small measure, fish has been also part of it. However, it is noticed that fish is not yet much appreciated and not as present as other food products when it comes to represent the Maltese food identity, except for the lampuka which is considered as a 'staple' between August and November. A lot of the fish is imported since Malta joined the single EU market, influencing the demand and the taste for fish towards other species such as salmon. Competitive prices put on the table new species considered healthier and of better quality, making it accessible to almost every consumer. There is room to make visible and stronger the use of more local seafood and fish species as part of the Mediterranean identity that Malta has.

The roots of the Maltese food identity are still present, but international influence and tourism development are seen as a threat. Even if change and openness should not be resisted and innovation is welcome, more efforts are needed in order to protect the identity and the roots in terms of food culture and provide more quality. It is important to remember what the Maltese food identity has to provide, innovate on it and make the "hidden", predominantly traditional, food more present. It is time to stress the value of the Mediterranean food from Malta and celebrate food.

b) Low community engagement and awareness around food identity

Based on the content from the discussions, there is a general impression that there is room for improvement to put more attention and effort in reconnecting the Maltese community with their food identity.

More can be done to set up actions and campaigns to make the Maltese food identity more visible and establish a stronger relation between the Maltese people and the food. Even if food plays a key role in the everyday life in Malta and it is embodied in the culture, there is not enough emphasis on the origins of the food and what they represent for the Maltese identity.

There are good examples such as the *Ftira* in Gozo, the "newly" popular pumpkin pies from Mosta or the traditional *Nougats* show already an interest connected to food, place and identity. Still, it is surprising that Malta, placed in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, does not have a visible strong food identity when it comes to the seafood.



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It is important to rethink the food identity also in the context of what is, and could be, the role of seafood in the Maltese cuisine. How it is connected to the territory, the landscape and the people. As part of the Maltese livelihood, the Mediterranean Sea provides resources that have to be understood not only from an economical perspective, but also from a socio cultural and environmental one. Local residents and fishermen who share the place and the resources could also be connected to the seafood as a cultural extension of their own food identity. By reinforcing the sense of place and the local pride around seafood, more development opportunities might be possible to happen in coastal areas. From strategies and initiatives to attract visitors with specific interest – foodies, cultural tourist, gourmands – to involve and create more local initiatives that could benefit the fishing communities, by encouraging consumers to eat other fish species; or by showing the value and knowledge of the fishing activity. This could possible raise the quality of the tourist experiences in place but also, a good food offer based on a strong food identity linked to the sea, which could boost the development of more projects with a sustainable multiplier effect. As an example, more local gastronomic experiences could be offered, which could allow the interconnection and collaboration between producers, sellers, hospitality and other services to interlink initiatives at a local level and create a stronger local network.

Food identity is key when it comes to connect fisheries, seafood and cuisine, but little is known about the seafood identity of Malta. Hence, stories and experiences should come to the foreplay and encourage people to know more. The traditional *Festa* or food festivals are recognized as a way forward to highlight the traditions and the cultural features of Malta. Is in these occasions, where challenges of bringing people together, to discuss about food heritage, seafood and instill the local pride are possible. Even though festivals are not yet promoting and involving seafood to a next level, opportunities are there since there is an annual fish fest in Marsaxlokk. This could be seen as a way to bring the success of the pumpkin pea from Mosta to the seafood domain in Marsaxlokk.

Through gatherings and celebrations, food heritage can be discussed and more initiatives and campaigns can follow. Within the seafood identity in Malta, knowledge and experiences can be shared and can make visible the overlooked heritage behind seafood, by promoting more traditional seafood recipes and more local and diverse seafood species, together with the customs and traditions.

c) Low visibility and availability of locally-sourced seafood and traditional recipes

Seafood is a challenging food product when it comes to indicate its origin and distinct it from being local or imported. Finding local fish and seafood species at the fish market, supermarkets and restaurants is possible but it is not always the case. In some occasions, there is no enough visibility or effort to indicate the origin but also some fish species are obscured by the main stream of seafood consumption.

Not only the local fish and seafood species but also the traditional Maltese recipes where seafood is used do not have much visibility or are available. In many restaurants, fish is on the menu but it does not necessary mean that is seasonal or represents a Maltese dish. This becomes in some occasions an odyssey when it comes to find places where to eat traditional Maltese seafood recipes or eat local fish.

Although it is challenging and requires a big effort from many stakeholders to make a change within the seafood value chain to provide a more responsible sourcing, it is still possible to think about potential underutilized local fish that could play a bigger role in widen the availability and connecting to what it is local to the plate. This could not only help the local economy but also could help to bring more seafood recipes that are also underutilized.



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There is a need to work together with fishermen, chefs and hospitality to bring back 'lost' recipes and underutilized fish species to make it fashionable and attractive for the community, the new generations and visitors. Encouraging this economic and socio cultural pride in the value chain could also have benefits to become more sustainable.

d) Need for food and culinary education

Although it is already stressed that more seasonal and local fish should be more available and visible, it is true that consumers have also an influence to make a change. More consumers tend to eat convenient fish that it is ready to be cooked, or species that are easy to fillet. One of the reasons behind this behavior is that in many occasions, consumers don't know much how to use certain fish species or how to prepare traditional seafood dishes. Even if people don't want to fillet all the fish themselves, there is a need for more sensitization and education on how important is to know about seafood and how to prepare it. More educational initiatives and campaigns are needed to show on local and national media how to work with local fish and provide courses and tools than can help young generations to develop or bring back the traditional taste.

e) Low appreciation of food producers

Farmers, and especially fishermen, are not sufficiently appreciated as a profession, and their role is highly disregarded by the society at large. Their role is not only to provide food, but they also influence in shaping the landscape and creating places with strong identity. They are an essential part of the territory and they are often looked down upon their ideas, language and lifestyle in general. In fact, it is very common to find whole articles on newspapers criminalizing fishing activity simply because fishers legally deploy nets close to diving sites (TOM, 2010) While casting a negative light on this fishing sector, little is done to improve their situation and add value to their profession. Farming and fishing should be revaluated and be promoted as part of the Maltese heritage. The know-how or *savoir faire* of those who work the land and the sea to provide food should be valorized. There are techniques and professions in danger and a general perception that food will always be available on the table just masks the reality of what it could mean for Malta to lose its traditional harvesting knowledge.

Traditionally, the activity of farming and fishing has been passed on from generation to generation, but these professional activities are in decline (Said 2017). Farmers and fishermen do not want their children to take over the family profession and they are sent to receive a higher education with the aim to get different jobs, in a more 'comfortable' and job security life. However, food needs to be produced and professions in decline preserved or supported, if they want to remain as part of the Maltese identity. One of the challenges for fishermen in Malta is their scale, since they are competing with large companies both in Malta and across Europe. Their economic contribution might not be the highest but they are still part of the coastal communities and their social and cultural value has a big contribution in the Maltese identity. More education and awareness to sensitize the fishermen profession is needed in order to preserve the profession but also to keep alive what makes Malta different. One clear example is how the *Luzzu* are highly valued in tourism but the people behind them are not. It could happen that a low appreciation of fishermen could have a direct consequence to the *Luzzu*. For the benefits of the sectors, more collaboration between tourism, fisheries and heritage departments is needed.



f) Low collaboration within food producers and between other sectors

It is stressed that farmers and fishermen in Malta are in the majority of the cases self-employed and they have to work hard in order to get by in competitive sectors. The low support and collaboration between the food producers does not contribute in making them more competitive and the individualistic mentality to make sure that the business goes on is a logical behavior but an impediment at the same time to get organized. Even the existence of associations and cooperatives, new forms of collaborations could be explored in order to provide more value to their sectors and explore ways to diversify their activities.

Collaboration with other key sectors in Malta such as tourism can be enhanced. Given that every single tourist has to eat while in Malta, more use and promotion of local food could be done, together. Even if tourism is strong in numbers, in quality has not reached yet the top. There is more need to collaborate and believe more in what the local and traditional agriculture and fisheries and highlight what they represent for Malta. This collaboration opportunity could also be applied for the cultural and heritage public departments.

2.1.2 Initiatives

In order to tackle some of the challenges that are mentioned in the previous section, different initiatives and measures were discussed and considered. This report has clustered in four main themes all the measures in the following section. More detail and explanation are provided in section 4.2 of this report.

a) Educational and awareness initiatives in festival events

It was stressed that festival events are good opportunities that can be used as education tools and to raise awareness around the local Maltese food and the local recipes, as well as the behind the food production. Festivals can be used as gatherings to celebrate food and provide value to sense of place. It can be an opportunity for knowledge transfer and to educate on how to prepare underutilized fish species or how to innovate on traditional recipes.

b) Promotional materials

Other ways to have the community more involved disseminate and preserve the culinary heritage around the fisheries and the Maltese food identity is through books. It can help to connect the food to the holders of the traditions. For instance, having a cooking book based on fishermen recipes, online website, books for children or promoting through brochures and leaflets at the markets what are the fishes and recipes from Malta. It can be promoted across different organizations and crowd-sourced.

c) Provide platforms and structures

An interesting suggestion was to create a consultation committee to inform and advise the festival manager about tradition and local Maltese food. Having an interdisciplinary committee would help to provide different type of expertise but it could help in bringing closer different ministries or government departments. With a committed working group, funding and development opportunities will come in order to involve more participants and actions within festivals. This is indeed a long-term strategy that can be co-managed with a budgeted in order to be developed. It is important then to think about a platform with different people, to not only have give advice and implementation but also be a point of reference for people willing to get more participative in festivals.



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Other structures and platforms were suggested in order to provide more visibility to fishermen and farmers, to show not only what they produce but also to connect them. Having more visual materials could also show what are the hobbies and interests and become a way to gather information about the value behind the professions.

In order to further explore these possibilities, another meeting within the framework of PERICLES to discuss a more practical and logistic approaches to food at festivals are recommended as well as to involve more experts on gastronomy.

d) Collect and use information/data for strategic development of actions/initiatives

Last but not least, it is important to remark the importance of gathering data and information in order to make some of the initiatives, a reality. Crowd sourcing for creating promotional materials or stimulating the knowledge transfer in festivals becomes a key activity for several reasons: the content quality; the community engagement and awareness; and the preservation of the intangible heritage. The crowd-sourced knowledge could be accompanied by visual materials that could exponentially contribute in having a better impact and self-realization (i.e. people posting their recipes and photos of their traditional or innovative dishes online) as well as databases that could help to monitor and evaluate the impacts, behaviors and state of the food identity in coastal areas or contribute into research projects.

2.2 Enhancing the heritage experience through diversification opportunities

2.1.1 Challenges

a) Low community involvement and awareness around heritage

Local communities can still be more connected and aware of their heritage. In some occasions, when you approach locals or somebody ask questions about what are they doing, communication can get difficult due to the lack of awareness and education around cultural heritage. Hence, more education would be beneficial to protect the cultural heritage but also to find other potentials. It is important to realize that in Marsaxlokk for instance, cultural heritage represents more than a market and the fishermen. It requires more awareness to realize the importance of the place and provide more pride and knowledge. The connection with the place has to become stronger, starting from the local community and the Maltese in general, and then think about strategies about engaging and communicating with them.

b) Low information and visibility of heritage

Even though cultural and natural heritage can be evident for some, if you are not a local resident or a frequent visitor of Marsaxlokk, having access to information about sites, history, traditions and seascape can be challenging. Unlike other places in Malta, Marsaxlokk still has some room for improvement in this subject. Marsaxlokk contains a lot of tangible and intangible heritage and more information and visibility would help not only to promote it, but make it "real", which could help in raising awareness. Online platforms such as the local council website are present but they require more attention and maintenance. A better use of social media and websites to increase the quality and quantity of available information is recommended. The same could be applied for the offline promotional materials, since there are not many information panels, brochures or visual materials regarding the heritage of Marsaxlokk.



c) Low provision of attractions and activities around heritage resources

As previously mentioned, Marsaxlokk is more than just a waterfront. However, the current situation is a bit different. The majority of visitors coming to Marsaxlokk are mainly eating and shopping, as part of the Marsaxlokk experience. Those who experiment a bit more and feel adventurous (and with more time to spend), take one of the local boat tours. Apart from this and having the chance to go for a swim in summer, the area is not offering much more around, and it gets quieter in winter. There is a general awareness that Marsaxlokk has many heritage resources; from historical sites, stories, traditions to more food products than just *lampuka* or imported fish. All these resources can be used to reconnect locals with their heritage but also to develop projects and initiatives that can contribute in sustaining the local economy, preserve the environment and provide value to their own culture. It could also add value to the current experiences, by adding an extra layer to provide better experiences while offering educational and information about the place.

As an example, it could be that local boat tours are more connected to actual tours such as historical sites, and to the authenticity of the fishing tradition through artisanal fishing trips, to enhance and make stronger the experience but also the link between actors and place.

d) Combining tourism and leisure activities with marine resource sectors

Tourism plays a key role when it comes to use and promote heritage resources to provide experiences and attractions. However, in the case of Marsaxlokk, tourism could still do more to highlight the importance of its cultural and natural heritage and show what makes the place different. We refer to marine resource sectors as the human and natural activities that are individually or collectively combined and placed in coastal areas. For instance, human activities such as fishing or other economic activities such as wind power production, as well as geographical characteristics or specific biodiversity that shape ecosystems in coastal areas. Marsaxlokk has a strong fishing identity and combined with tourism, many initiatives can be developed. It could be easy to think that fishing-related activities or spending a day with a fisherman as part of a experience in Marsaxlokk, form part of combining sectors. The tourism hub of the Malta Tourism Authority, sitting at the Marsaxlokk waterfront, could provide an important link of how to better combine the two niches, through on-the-ground information and marketing systems about such tours and more.

Although tourism and fisheries are easy to identify, individually, it becomes a challenge when it comes to merge their activities. In order to do so, it is also important to have more conversations between tourism and marine resources sectors to think about what experiences can be developed in Marsaxlokk. Although it has been developed in other countries, there is no policy in Malta and knowledge and training around the activity would be needed to become real. What it is for sure is that small scale fishing boats are placed in the middle of an international and competitive sector. By diversifying their activities and income, more chances to be become flexible towards change, preserve traditional activities and innovate with new experiences can be possible. The future should not be comprised of fishers abandoning their livelihood to become boat drivers to give tours (as can be gathered from the current trend), but to have tourists boarding fishing vessels and living the experience with fishers. In other words, it is about pushing tourism into fishing and not fishers into tourism (Said 2017). Through the right marketing means, this could work as the fishing sector would be able to tap on the already-existing tourist visitation rates.

e) Tourism development as both a threat and a driver for sustainable development

In Marsaxlokk, tourism has been a great opportunity for some of the local people to make good money. Selling houses to be transformed into restaurants and using the waterfront to set terraces and souvenirs are some examples. However, it is perceived that tourism is only benefiting a few, while the majority of the local residents are just mere spectators or facing some undesired



consequences. The market is taking place of the boats and the area is now obscuring the fishermen, which in part are the reason why visitors come. It is then important to understand the dynamics of tourism, the role of tourism as a driver for sustainability and ensure that initiatives remain at a local level. Mass tourism helps to recreate and preserve certain activities, but in this case tourism is taking over the entire place and transforming Marsaxlokk. There is a risk of losing authenticity because of tourism, unless a strategy to retain the traditional traits is implemented, giving sufficient space and recognition of what makes Marsaxlokk sustainably attractive.

f) More coordination between the local council and organizations is necessary

In order to manage, promote and sustainably use heritage in Marsaxlokk, it is important to highlight the role of the local council and the local organizations that have a relation to, or govern, it. There is an existence of some organizations but there is not much collaboration or dialogue between them. More involvement from organizations in Marsaxlokk to think about strategies around heritage would be desirable. One example and opportunity to establish a collaboration framework could be considered through the initiative of organizing a working group upon festivals.

Even gather those representatives with common interests and lobby for what you want, through discussions and a strategy. For it, an infrastructure could be possible but there are also local associations working with heritage that could look for places to have meetings and start developing projects, to increase the involvement of other local stakeholders. This could also be linked to the need of having a museum as way to canalize the platform and give a space to those organizations who want to be more involved in the heritage of Marsaxlokk. However, part of discussion is where the museum should be place and restoring an old building seems to be an impediment, while not considering looking for other places and starting developing the project.

2.2.2 Initiatives

a) Provide more information of the characteristics of a place for locals and visitors

There are many initiatives and opportunities to enhance the information and visibility of the heritage resources, for both locals and visitors. It is important though, that this information helps to appreciate local heritage with the aim to instill the local pride. Many options are suggested in order to enhance the provision of information, which combine offline and online actions.

Offline initiatives differ from having information points with local residents to welcome and assist visitors, to also have a better appreciation through info panels, by using arts, community film nights or talks in collaboration with the MTA hub in Marsaxlokk. In addition, the use of events such as festivals could be also the place for promoting the heritage and identity of Marsaxlokk. What is highly recommended is to enhance and provide a better online expose. More visuals and communication online through social media, websites and digital platforms could help to connect locals and visitors with the place, and promote other activities related to intangible heritage of Marsaxlokk such as the fishing activities. The use of technologies then should be part of a new strategy to promote and inform people with an interest in Marsaxlokk.

b) Provide more activities related to the place

As stressed in the challenges, more activities and experiences can be offered in Marsaxlokk. What remains as a “must” for these experiences is to be local. Having as a reference the local beer tourism or chocolate tourism in Brussels, more local cultural and food related experiences can be explored, around the fishing traditions, for instance. Seasonal festivities to earmark particular fishing seasons could be identified, similar to what is already ongoing for the lampuki festival annually in September. What is remarked as important for these activities is to contain a social cultural aspect, combined with the ecology of the area. Using the traditional fishing boats to offer experiences such as watching



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dolphins, spending a day with the fisherman or tuna tourism are some ideas. More can be offered and told regarding the fishing traditions, arts and crafts, as well as other cultural events such as the festa, the blessing of the boats. It

Marsaxlokk could also provide more cultural heritage trails, combining history, sites and nature. Having good tracks, digital tours and some panel information could help in attracting more flows in the areas, enhance the quality experience of visitors and attract more interest for better maintenance and structure, not only of the trails but also of the area.

c) Rethinking the image of the place

One of the discussed initiatives goes around the image of Marsaxlokk. Until now, the place has been perfect for a quick visit and for those who want to eat fish in a traditional waterfront. Having specific “to do’s” in Marsaxlokk means that the place is sending out an image in order to attract certain profiles. However, it would be good to rethink about what other profiles can be also interested in coming to Marsaxlokk, in order to bring more quality over the existing quantity. Interesting work can be done with tourism companies to think about potential package tours that could contribute in providing “good” tourists. It is needed to see for instance if artist or people with more cultural and gastronomic interest would be interested in coming and enjoying the place and the different experiences offered in place. Also, to do more research about the profiles visiting the place and the willingness to pay for more experiences in Marsaxlokk.

d) Education and knowledge transfer

Once more, education and knowledge transfer is seen as a strategy to communicate and engage with the local community. Dissemination and educational materials such as books could help to connect with children through primary and high schools. Appreciation for culture and good communication to educate locals and visitors about intangible and tangible heritage could help in raising awareness and caring more about it. A long term education policy integrating such elements would be a good step forward. As an example, education and knowledge transfer initiatives can be implemented through documentary storytelling and digital tools that inform and educate about historical sites, local lifestyle, traditions, artifacts, etc. They can provide good visuals but also contribute in engaging many actors while providing authentic content. Another proposed example is through family archives. They could also play an important role, as they hold the stories and the history of Marsaxlokk. More could be told around the community development, the festa, the folklore, the fishing traditions, together with the existing tangible structures.

All in all, by involving and engaging those who hold the knowledge and the content with stakeholders that are capable to capture it with good visuals and content, more educational initiatives can be done and ensure that the local knowledge does not gets lost.



3. Plenary discussions

The plenary discussion brought together the main points that were discussed within each of the break out groups and provide an overview to start a further discussion with all the participants.

From the different topics that were discussed, it was repeatedly mentioned the importance of ownership and sense of place of heritage from the local community perspective. The reconnection of local residents with their own heritage is basic and the initiatives from PERICLES Heritage project and beyond should prioritize the Maltese communities.

Another important aspect is the sensitization and education to transfer knowledge to young generations. It comes from the food heritage perspective to promote and innovate on traditional and local gastronomy, by also on how to promote traditional professions such as fishing to young people. For this last aspect, it was remarkable the willingness and variety of opportunities to set up an NGO to repair luzzu vessels but also educate and create live experiences with fishermen, Life for Luzzu.

It was stressed within the plenary the challenges and opportunities of fishing-tourism related activities, on how to adopt and design policies and activities to develop more initiatives that could add value at the cultural heritage related to professional activities with character. It was difficult to proceed within the discussion since fishermen representatives were not present until the end of the event. There were doubts about the willingness of fishermen to participate and under which conditions. However, at the end of the meeting, it was possible to know more about fishermen's perspective and clarify some of the doubts, since a member of the cooperative committee joined. It certainly seems that there is an interest and more development should be done about fishing-tourism related activities and involving fishermen in cultural heritage projects, since they are already involved in restoring luzzu vessels. This report provides a policy document with analysis on fishing-tourism in Spain as a way to provide guidance and guidelines on how it could be implemented in Malta (see ANNEX III).

Another remarkable topic discussed the development of a fishing museum. Instead of focusing on opportunities and what possibilities are available to capture the intangible heritage of fishermen and create a space, the discussion centered its attention on the restoration of a tangible heritage element for the potential emplacement of the museum.

The plenary discussion concluded with a brief discussion on how to develop a roadmap, to materialize some of the ideas and think about it. All the initiatives, together with the steps forward and the proposed PERICLES demos, are further explained in the following section.

4. Towards a roadmap

The previous sections have provided a report based on the discussions held during the first stakeholder workshop. It has shown the current challenges and potential initiatives to manage and use marine cultural heritage in Marsaxlokk and Malta. There are many initiatives and projects that can be developed, but before this, it is important to think about some aspects to prioritize and take action.

It is important to take into account a few aspects such as the scope and length of the PERICLES project, as well as the feasibility of the initiatives around the different available resources and those who can make decisions. The PERICLES project will officially come to an end in March 2021 and the aim is to develop and execute initiatives in 2020. In order to do so, we propose two initiatives that are feasible in terms of economic, time and human resources.



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4.1 Demos

In order to materialize the initiatives into actions, and given the discussions and the conversations that were held during the stakeholders event, the PERICLES Heritage team proposes two “demos” or initiatives that can develop within the scope of the project. These demos are:

Demo 1: Fishing for recipes. Connecting fisheries, seafood and culinary practices during the Festa Hut in Marsaxlokk.

Date: September 2020

The main aim of this demo is to look for opportunities to include marine culinary heritage and provide visibility of sustainable fish/seafood choices in the fish festival that takes places in September, during the Lampuki (Dolphin fish) season. Opportunities to place a culinary contest to involve the local community – intergenerational knowledge, wives of fishers, fishermen knowledge, and competition in restaurants, etc - and encourage them to cook in a contest format to recreate traditional fish dishes can bring back to life the culinary heritage that lies in Marsaxlokk.

Opportunities to make a call to bring old fish recipes as well as workshops to show how to prepare certain types of fish are also actions to be considered within the festival. All these aspects and details will be discussed and co-designed by different stakeholders.

Within the festival, workshops on how to prepare different types of local fish to encourage sustainable choices and innovation on traditional recipes to also attract the hospitality attention will be taking place upon approval of the stakeholders involved in this demo. Fishermen’s housewives should be invited to discuss recipes under supervision to make sure the cooking recipe is collected.

The demo is based on:

- Community engagement;
- Bringing back and visibility of marine culinary heritage;
- Innovation on traditional cuisine;
- Sustainable fish/seafood consumption.

For this demo, it is expected also to increase the participation and involvement of different stakeholders such as the Local Council of Marsaxlokk, Restaurants representatives, Festival Malta, the Fishermen cooperative, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, MCAST, the Mediterranean Culinary Academy, Fishfortomorrow and the University of Malta. As organizers of this particular event, the Parliamentary Secretariat for fisheries should be also included.

Demo 2: Digital audio guides in and around Marsaxlokk bay. Crowd sourcing stories to make visible the local heritage.

Date: Ongoing during 2020-21.

The aim of this demo is to encourage local participation and involvement of the community in telling their stories in relation to the place and their identity, in particular around the waterfront area but also opening opportunities to explore surroundings. This demo will be using an IT Tool for the participatory approach as a way to experiment technologies for participatory governance in Marine Cultural Heritage. Co-creating together, stakeholders and local community can develop some digital stories in audio guide formats that can be used by local and visitors. It can provide better connection and sense of place with the fishing and local culture and motivate visitors to know about the place and move around the area in order to reduce the already pressure the waterfront is under.



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Moreover, this demo will bring together different perspectives of looking at coastal heritage and co-create through engagement and involvement of actors related to cultural and natural heritage management. From local residents, fishermen, NGOs, heritage managers...the idea could also bring an holistic knowledge of the surroundings of Marsaxlokk to also co-create eco-walks where nature and culture go together, as well as to provide choices for locals and tourists to discover more behind the waterfront of Marsaxlokk.

Given the opportunities of using free and open technologies to capture heritage elements, *izi.TRAVEL* (*for more information, see ANNEX II*) can be used to develop tours and itineraries for different aims (attract new visitors, diversify activities, connect people and heritage or spread the tourist flow) but also can serve to: initiate a crowd sourcing process to create local content and let the locals explain their stories; preserve stories and make visible the challenging intangible heritage; and promote and make visible less known heritage elements of the place. These associated benefits can serve well the community as a way to participate, reflect and create itineraries that people can use afterwards.

For this workshop, is expected to have the involvement and collaboration and involvement of the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Marsaxlokk Heritage, Nature Trust Malta, Maltese National Commission for UNESCO, Fishermen cooperative and Gilbert as a Visual Anthropologist researcher. The second demo can be developed in many different ways. It can include stories as part of “a day with a fisher”, tell stories where natural and cultural heritage are combined around the Delimara fortress or be used to create and make online and visible items in Marsaxlokk. These developments will be developed according to the interest and attendance of the stakeholders. A meeting within the framework of PERICLES to further develop ideas around this concept is proposed in the section 4.3 *follow-up meetings*.

These two proposed demos are intended to materialize and put into practice some of the discussed ideas in order to test and see how the participation and involvement of more stakeholders and the community can contribute in preserving, promoting and exploiting marine cultural heritage. The demos also aim to provide already some tangible outputs and become a point of reference where to develop further initiatives around and/or beyond them.

The recommended groups are based on interest and topic and we also encourage other stakeholders to become part of these and other initiatives. It is now to see through this report and the development of working committees, what are the available resources,

4.2 Other initiatives and actions

Apart from the proposed demos above, there are other actions that can be taken and developed. However, different initiatives and projects require implication as well as resources. We present below an overview, indicating what would it be the effectiveness and feasibility and what it could be included within the PERICLES project term.

It is to be noted that these measures requires of coordination and stakeholders involvement with an interest in heritage. In this sense, PERICLES can support by providing human resources at the initial stage but it is up to the stakeholders to take up on the initiatives to develop them.

This report presents below a summary overview of the many different initiatives that were proposed during the stakeholders event.



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Action	Outcome	Within PERICLES	Comments
Establish a committee advisory group for festivals in terms of local and traditional food.	Having a platform to provide advice to festival directors and managers on how to introduce actions, initiatives or campaigns within festivals in Malta to promote sustainable fish and local recipes would be very effective. The impact, visibility and engagement is potentially high.	It does not have to be within the PERICLES project but it can be already created and initiated as part of the DEMO 1 in regards of the fish festival in Marsaxlokk. It could serve as a way to see how the committee works and continue beyond PERICLES.	It could be a point for discussion to make a plan and see the composition of the working group in the coming PERICLES meeting in February 2020. This measure could also serve to scale-up the educational and awareness campaigns into a series of festivals.
Policies	Fishing-tourism policies, cultural heritage policies, educational policies	In terms of policies, there is an opportunity to use the PERICLES work to somehow gather expertise and strategies to report on gaps and opportunities.	Fishing-tourism policies, cultural heritage policies, educational policies can make use of PERICLES work.
Exhibitions and talks inviting locals.	Organizing events to show and discuss around heritage with locals could serve for getting the community involved, raise awareness and appreciation. It serves to start collecting stories and photos for archives,. Ways to see who shows an interest and wants to have an active participation in other initiate other potential measures.	We encourage stakeholders to be involved in this initiative and start developing small actions that can serve as a heritage nexus and encounter to instill local pride on heritage and co-develop more initiatives. Within PERICLES, this could be as part of a workshop or a campaign for each of the demos.	
Books and educational materials	It is effective as it compiles stories and content to create a tangible outcome that helps to preserve heritage.	This initiative requires time beyond the PERICLES term and dedication to collect data and create stories, as well as supporters.	PERICLES do not foresee this measure within the project, although it is recommended and can serve well.
'Meet the locals' activities	Having initiatives that connect locals and visitors will help indeed in engaging not only	It requires from stakeholders with an interest to organize the initiative to look for	



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	<p>between them but also with the heritage in a innovative and personal way. Meeting the locals could occur in different ways, from walking around with an insider information, tapping on the local gastronomy through cooking classes and gastronomic experiences with producers, or joining traditional activities such as fishing.</p>	<p>the needs and challenges that are placed for each specific activity. PERICLES can help in demo 2 on how to develop walking tours with insiders stories, having already an engagement element that can be further develop for other activities. It can also be part of demo 1 as an activity within festivals.</p>	
Fishing-tourism	<p>This measure could have one of the most visible impacts and connections between two sectors that live together in Marsaxlokk but they rarely interact. Benefits such as unique experiences for sustainable tourism development, preservation of local identity, educational campaigns and diversification of the fishing activity are two of the many benefits that this combination could provide.</p>	<p>Within PERICLE, we acknowledge this measure as important for a step forward in connecting and innovating tourism experiences and the fisheries sector. This is a long process that requires a specific working group and several discussions, as well as a policy designed for this particular activity.</p>	<p>See annex III for more information about fishing-tourism policies in other EU countries. It would be interesting to design and develop a test for this activity based on the indications and policies that already exist as a starting point to look further at the challenges, management and adaptations that are needed for having this activity in Malta.</p>
Fishing Museum	<p>A place where to permanently showcase the traditional heritage of Marsaxlokk and fishing in Malta would be of great benefit. It could serve as an ethnographic museum, an attraction for tourist, a place to host workshops, develop further connection with the community and much more.</p>	<p>This is a project that goes beyond PERICLES and it requires from Malta stakeholders to organize and decide how to develop it and who should be in the management.</p>	<p>We acknowledge that the point of discussion was centered on the tangible heritage to restore a building to host the museum, instead of the development of the museum project itself that can be placed elsewhere within a facility with less bureaucracy constrains.</p>
Online presence	<p>Image is very important and nowadays it mostly</p>	<p>PERICLES can help within Demo 1 to</p>	<p>More attention is needed in the main</p>



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	<p>goes through internet. Capturing stories, taking good pictures and offering good videos can help in enhancing not only the image of a place but also can help in steering people to see heritage elements and the features of places such as Marsaxlokk in a different way.</p>	<p>enhance the online presence through digital tours. This is a way to contribute with content and visuals that help to bridge the digitalization of heritage in Marsaxlokk while providing a better online presence.</p>	<p>online portal regarding Malta</p>
<p>Visit Marsaxlokk</p>	<p>Creating a brand can also help to develop and distinct all these elements that are authentic, local and linked to what Marsaxlokk really represents. Branding can have a good effect in providing quality over quantity.</p>	<p>Little can do PERICLES in this case, apart from bring together stakeholders to further develop ideas and ways to look at this measure.</p>	<p>In this case, working with a local committee, together with heritage, culture and tourism experts could help in further developing the idea and look for criteria, strategies and wide of elements to include in this brand/local trademark.</p>
<p>Educational campaigns through primary and high schools</p>	<p>It was fully agreed that young generations should be more involved or exposed to campaigns around heritage, culture, identity, as they are the ones that will be using it now and in the future. More educational campaigns can be done or stresses to connect primary and high schools with their place.</p>	<p>From PERICLES, we encourage either local and national stakeholders with a interest to develop educational campaigns about heritage, culture, food, history... to start initiatives to engage young generations with their own heritage. Looking at the demos, the food festival could serve as showcase for food heritage and making local seafood look good for youngsters through participation and dissemination, while in the demo 2, schools could also use digital applications as an exercise to collect stories and connect with their heritage.</p>	<p>Education campaigns can take place in any different forms and for different specific topics.</p>



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Information points within trails: booths, panels and other infrastructure support.	For the case of Marsaxlokk, there non or a very few panels and infrastructure to provide information and educational panels to locals and visitors. There is an important shortage of visible and tangible elements that can already serve to guide and inform people about the history and elements of Marsaxlokk.	Digital information through demo 1 could already help to create content and more elements around heritage that can be also served for panels and itineraries. Information is needed for creating the booths and other infrastructures can be explores by using izi.TRAVEL.	There is no need to put booths and panels everywhere, but a working group to strategically think about and find ways to fund some information panels would definitely play in favor of this measure, which could serve well in having information at hand and while touring around.
Permanent display of photos and stories around living-heritage	Marsaxlokk of full places where some photos or other cultural elements could be display as a way to engage the community with their stories.	The development of the actual demos within PERICLES can serve as a content providers for such initiative.	I.e. big photos could be exposed in a specific place and Local Council facilities could be used to have expositions.

4.3 Follow up meetings

In order to proceed with the discussions and start elaborating on the initiatives and suggested demos, a follow-up meeting will take place next year. As suggested in the report, a more programmatic approach could help in having a hands-in workshop to transfer the knowledge and expertise into a more practice and tangible projects. The idea is to have a meeting every 4 months within the PERICLES term to follow-up on the evolution of the initiatives and

Suggested next meetings:

March 2020 – set up meetings and working groups to actual develop the PERICLES demos.

One day around Demo 1

One day around Demo 2

June 2020 – General meeting to check-in the progress of the PERICLES demos and discuss and explore further developments for other initiatives.

September 2020 – Final preparation for demo 1 and check in with the evolution of demo 2.

February 2021 – set up a general meeting to discuss and evaluate the measures and plan on the next steps.

5. Reflection on workshop and results

- i) The value of the meeting. People would be willing to have a next meeting.
- ii) More local stakeholders needed
- iii) Intangible heritage remains less important.
- iv) PERICLES is arriving at the perfect timing. Ministry of culture is currently revising the policy for cultural heritage, and the results of this project could inform the ongoing conversation of the revised strategy.



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ANNEXES:

ANNEX I: List of participants of the PERICLES stakeholders meeting and contributors of the report

NAME	ORGANISATION	JOB POSITION
Owen Bonnici	Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government	Minister for Justice, Culture and Local Government
Steven Grech	Local Council of Marsaxlokk	Mayor
Alicia Said	IFREMER, AMURE and University of Brest	Post-Doctoral Fellow
Kurt Mifsud	Mediterranean Culinary Academy	Founder
Stephen la Rosa	Mediterranean Culinary Academy	Chief Culinary Officer
Christian Spiteri	Fishfortomorrow	Treasurer
Antonella Vasallo	The International Ocean Institute	Managing Director
James Gabarretta	Nature Trust Malta	Site Manager for the Il Ballut Natura 2000 Wetland
Annabelle Stivala	Festival Malta	Director
Marthese Degrabiele	Boat tour operator Marsaxlokk	Ticket officer
Paul Piscopo	Ghaqda kooperattiva tas-sajd	Fisherman
Malcom Borg	MCAST – Centre for Agribusiness, Aquatics and Animal Science	Head of Department
Joseph Gravina	Marsaxlokk Heritage	President
Andrea Camilleri	Torri Malta	Founder
Scott Schembri	Torri Malta	Co-founder
Caroline Agius	Festival Malta	Representative



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Kurt Farrugia	Superintendence of Cultural Heritage	Head Planning & Consultation & Underwater Archaeology
George Cassar	Institute for Tourism, Travel & Culture (University of Malta)	Associate Professor
Gilbert Calleja	Department of Arts – University of Malta	Visual anthropologist
Mariella Bose	Maltese National Commission for UNESCO	Member
Machiel Lamers	Wageningen University and Research	Associate Professor
Jordi Vegas	Wageningen University and Research	Junior Researcher

ANNEX II: Izi.TRAVEL- relevant links

General

<https://izi.travel/en>

izi.TRAVEL in Malta

<https://izi.travel/en/search/malta>

[What is izi.TRAVEL?](#)

[How to use izi.TRAVEL?](#)

[Why izi.TRAVEL?](#)

[Towards a smartcity](#)

ANNEX III: Policy document regarding fishing-tourism in Spain (2019) – Analysis and full text

Analysis of the royal decree for fishing-tourism 2019 (Spain)



The new royal decree for fishing-tourism establishes a general frame of measures and security elements that unify the criteria that harbor masters have to follow in order to concede permits for fishing-tourism around the Spanish territory. This new regulation allows fishing boats from other Spanish regions without an existent framework (except Catalonia, Valencia and Balearic Islands) to develop this activity. The royal decree is in fact, a compilation of security elements, together with a complex processing from merchant shipping that obliges an important investment of new type of lifejackets and lifeboats that are demanded. According to the judgment of the fishery sector, these measures are far from providing extra security and are becoming a comparative grievance with other nautical activities. The minimum cost to adapt this new regulation for a fishing boat between 8 and 12 meters, aiming to take 4 tourists per trip, can ascend to 3.150 Euros (lifeboat, lifejackets and first aid kit), without considering the annual reviews, the gangway or the adaptation of the boat (habitability measures).



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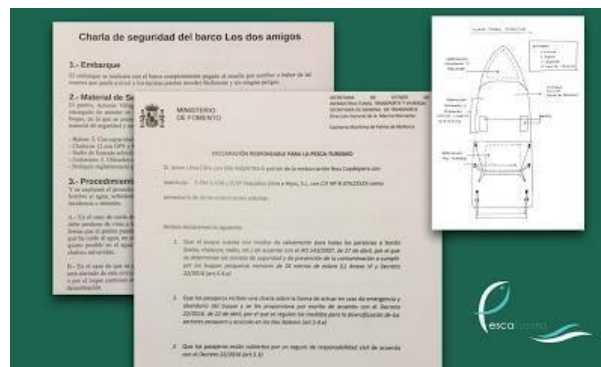


The decree, which has been created to encourage and provide a frame for fishing-tourism in regions such as Andalucia, Murcia, Galicia and Canary Islands (the latter has already approved a law and now is waiting for a decree to develop it), might have an opposite effect instead of the diversification of the fishing activity that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries or European Union policies aim. The fisherman is placed in a difficult scenario where it is challenging to make profitable the required investment. This challenge, according to some consulted experts in the topic, could “force” fishermen to have exclusive dedication to fishing-tourism which escapes from the diversification goal of the activity. For this reason, aid and funds from the public administration the Local Action Groups (LAG) are key in order to make possible the combination of both activities (fishing and fishing-tourism).

The royal decree for fishing-tourism forgets to regulate everything related to **Marine Tourism**, which remains in a legal gap from the merchant shipping side, given that fishing tourism has already been captured in some regional regulations that have legalized it with different denominations such as fishing-tourism, marine or fishing demonstrations.

The royal decree establishes a general frame of measured that unify the criteria that harbor masters have to follow in order to concede authorizations in all the Spanish territory, but it has the risk that the final decision will depend in the end on the interpretation or willingness of harbor master from each area. It could be due to an administrative silence, that the authorization is denied, or because there is a wide interpretation when it comes to decide if the fishing boat has all the habitability and security requirements.

These are the main aspects of the royal decree for fishing-tourism, of the last changes that have been introduced to the last draft as well as the criteria that harbor masters have been following in those regions with an existent regulation, while waiting for the merchant shipping to provide a report about the interpretation that has to be done about the different aspects of the decree.



Documents to request the report for fishing-tourism

1. Issuance of Harbor’s master report and application:

- The report, requested by the ship owner via electronic register, will be issued within a period of maxim 2 months. In the case that time comes due and there is an administrative silence, the application is denied. The royal decree does not enter in all the details of the application, but until now, in order to initiate the process that give origin to the inspection and then the authorization, it was needed to prepare 4 documents: A responsibility statement signed by the ship owner and the captain; an application specifying the features of the boat and the security, rescue and habitability elements that are in the boat, as well as the number of tourists that aim to bring on board; a text with the security talk that will be provided to the tourists, with the name of the fisherman that will be in charge of them all the time, especially, in case of accident; a blueprint of the boat, indicating where the tourists will be located while sailing, working, as well as the resting areas. A new document will be also added to certify that the boat is registered in the fishing fleet. Nothing indicates that the



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4 general documents to request the authorization will change, which content will be adapted for each of the harbor's master, although the final goal is the same.

- If there are any modifications in the security or habitability conditions after receiving a positive application, these will be notify in a new report to the harbor's master.
- The harbor's master will check before issuing the report that the boat is registered in the fishing fleet, since fishing-tourism can be only developed by professional fishermen.
- Once the process is finished, the ship will stay registered as having a new role where they are authorized to practice fishing-tourism.
- Besides, ship owners will have to register (electronically) to the regional fisheries departments that have their own regulation.
- Boats holding already an authorization will have 6 months since the start and validity of the new decree (15 May 2019) to request a new one.
- Harbor masters will provide some instructions to have a validity process of the authorization (it does not specify if it will be needed to renovate each year and how).



The minimum number of crew members for fishing-tourism excursions is two.

2. Requirements:

- The activity can be done during any period of the year and time. If the activity lasts more than 16 hours, the boat must provide the adequate habitability (it is considered to have beds or a place to sleep or rest).
- Boarding and landing will take place in the harbors where the boat is doing its activity. The crew will never be less than two members. It will be mandatory to indicate who will be in charge of the tourists in case of an emergency. It doesn't oblige to have an extra member just for the tourists.
- The boat can provide the fishing-tourism activities in all the national fishing areas where it has authorization.





The access has to be safe for everyone, including people with disabilities.

3. Habitability and security conditions:

- Safe accessibility means for the tourists, including people with physical disability and adapted spaces. The measure until now is a gangway, although is not mandatory for those boats that are located at the same level as the pier.
- Admission will be denied to people with special needs and requirements that can't carry out the activity within the security and safety practices.
- The safe area for tourists must have an anti-slip floor. It can be that the obligatory nature of having a one-meter banister disappears because it is not specify in the royal decree, but in the point 5 of the article 6 it says that ships with any type of exemption, even for banisters, won't be able to provide fishing-tourism activities, which means that this criteria can be also requested by the harbor's master.
- The royal decree establishes only the obligation nature to have "handlebars where tourists can be hold themselves" and in terms of habitability, it can be the case that a place where tourists can seat is demanded.
- The boat areas with potential risks for tourists will be prohibited and delimited.
- Additional first aid kit as part of the lifeboat (disappears the obligation nature to have double first aid kit as stated in the last draft).
- The royal decree doesn't foresee the obligation nature for boats to provide toilets, although it is possible that some harbor masters demand it, as part of personal criteria for habitability.



The decree regulates the type of lifejackets and rafts

4. Rescue Elements (vests and rafts):

4.1 Ships of less than 12 meters:

- An automatic inflation vest with radio beacon by tourist.
- A ship abandonment vest for every 6 people including crew members.
- All vests must correspond to the tourist's age.
- A life raft space (ISO type is sufficient) for each of the people embarked (crew and tourists) only if their incorporation is necessary. Those who fish less than 4 miles are exempt, but in point 5 of Article 6 it is



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established that no fishing vessel that has granted any exemption may be carried out, whether it be rafts ... forces them to have raft.

4.2. Ships of more than 12 meters (trawling and purse seine)

- An automatic inflation vest with radio beacon by tourist.
- A ship abandonment vest for each tourist or for every 6 people (the wording is confusing).
- A raft space per tourist without limitation of the miles to fishing area where the boat works. Until now, if sailing more than 9 miles, two raft seats were required per person.
- If it is necessary to incorporate an additional raft, it must comply with the requirements of the existing raft. These types of boats are required to have the rafts they use are of the Solas type (much more expensive than the ISO), so if you have to put an additional raft it must also be Solas.



Information to tourists has to be also provided in English.

5. Documentation, tourist information and control

- Written information must be provided to tourists, in English and Spanish, of all vessel information and the safety talk.
- The captain will communicate to the harbor's master, using electronic means, number, surname, ID and telephone number of the embarked tourists and keep a record of them in land.
- A document containing the contents of article 6 (Vests, rafts, Capacity, etc.) issued by the harbor's master should be available on the ship.
- The different regions where fishing-tourism is taking place will provide a record with the information provided by the vessels, which will be transferred to the General Secretariat of Fisheries and the Social Institute of the



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Navy at the end of the year, the number of fishing trips per boat, number of tourists embarked and income earned.

6. Insurance:

- Vessels that carry out the fishing-tourism activity must have compulsory civil liability insurance for recreational or sports boats, as provided in Royal Decree 607/1999 of April 16, unless the regional authority establishes a higher amount
- This would be the case of the Balearic Islands and Catalonia: People who carry out fishing-tourism activities will have a personal accident insurance policy for users who participate, with the following minimum capital per victim: € 30,000.00 for the case of death, 60,000.00 Euros for the case of disability and up to 6,000.00 Euros for healing, rescue and transfer expenses.



The decree for fishing-tourism establishes the number of embarked tourists.

7. Number of Tourists

Regardless of the limitations imposed by the ship's certificates, its constructive condition, the operating conditions and the safety and rescue elements, the maximum number of tourists allowed shall not exceed:

- 1st. For ships up to 8 meters in length (L), 2 tourists.
- 2nd. For ships of more than 8 meters and up to 12 meters in length (L), 4 tourists.
- 3rd. For ships of more than 12 meters and up to 20 meters in length (L), 8 tourists.
- 4th. For ships of more than 20 meters in length (L), 12 tourists.

In the event that the fishing-tourism activity is carried out through the use of auxiliary fishing vessels or vessels inscribed in the Fourth List (purse seine auxiliaries), which, without extractive fishing, accompany the vessels during part of the work, the maximum number of tourists allowed taking into account the same limitations as in the previous case will be:

- 1st. For ships up to 8 meters in length (L), 4 tourists.
- 2nd. For ships of more than 8 meters and up to 12 meters in length (L), 8 tourists.
- 3rd. For ships of more than 12 meters in length (L), 12 tourists.



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8. Taxation:

- The benefits obtained by fishing-tourism will be imputed to the general tax regime, which comes from the main fishing activity, to which it complements, i.e.10% VAT.
- It is not necessary to register for another activity, since the main one is still fishing.
- What is collected from VAT for fishing-tourism excursions, which being a tourist activity is 21%, must also be declared at 21%.
- The formula for declaring this income will depend on the type of company in which the fishing company is constituted. When the income statement is made, some will correspond to the Fishing activity that is taxed at 10 % VAT and other fishing tourism, which does 21%. The fact of declaring two types of VAT is very common, for example in shops where different products have different types of VAT.

9. Fish sales

- Fishing products obtained in the fishing tourism activity may be commercialized, as provided in Royal Decree 418/2015 regulating the first sale of fishery products:

“The dealerships of the fish markets or authorized establishments may make sales to final consumers, provided that it is framed in the fishing-tourism or aquaculture tourism activity, being mandatory the completion of the corresponding sales note or traceability document.”

- The sale to the participants of the fishing-tourism excursions can be up to 30 kilos or 50 euros per day and boat.

The Council of Ministers approved the royal decree of fishing-tourism on April 5.



The decree also regulates fish sales to tourists.

Royal decree of fishing-tourism (full text)

Royal Decree 239/2019, of 5 April, which establishes the conditions for developing the fishing-tourism activity.

Regulation (EU) No. 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Regulations (EC) No. 1954/2003 and (EC) No. 1224/2009 of the Council and Regulations (EC) No. 2371/2002 and (EC) No. 639/2004 of the Council and Decision 2004/585 / EC are repealed, has among its objectives to ensure that fishing and aquaculture activities contribute to long-term environmental, economic and social sustainability. One of the ways to contribute to this sustainability is the



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introduction of diversification measures. The diversification of fisheries and aquaculture in its different aspects represents new sources of income for the fishing sector. In this area, fishing or marine tourism acquires great potential and new job opportunities that arise in relation to the sea, but which also converge with other sectors, particularly fishing- tourism.

The changes introduced by Law 33/2014, of December 26, which modifies Law 3/2001, of March 26, on the State Maritime Fisheries, meant the inclusion of a new chapter VI in its title II, on fisheries and aquaculture diversification measures, which refers to the coordination and promotion of economic diversification of the fisheries and aquaculture sector and especially to the conditions of fishing-tourism. Thus, in its preamble it was indicated that, given the significant scope that they can charge and their undoubted impact on the sustainability of the resource, it is essential to reinforce and complete the regulation of activities such as fishing-tourism, so as to ensure sustainable management and consistent of living marine resources in all areas.

In this sense, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment by then prepared the Strategic Plan for fisheries and aquaculture diversification 2013-2020, (Diverpes Plan), which established the strategic lines in the main areas of diversification. In this context, tourism initiatives directly linked to fishing activity are considered as interesting diversification alternatives for coastal areas dependent on fishing.

The fishing-tourism activity is indicated in this instrument as an innovative way of diversifying the fishing activity for professional fishermen who, in addition to providing an improvement in their income, also serves to promote and enhance their work. Specifically, priority 2 of axis 1 of the Diverpes Plan establishes the development of a regulatory framework for tourism activities in the fishing environment, to which this royal decree complies.

This activity must be carried out in accordance with measures that provide adequate security to those who wish to contemplate the usual practice of fishing work and who, in general, are outside of the fishing world.

Likewise, it should be taken into account that the incorporation on board of people who are not part of the crew is not made as a passenger but as mere tourists, so that a specialty of the passenger contract is not introduced but a figure is created, that of fishing or marine tourism, under Law 3/2001, of March 16, among whose associated activities is fishing-tourism, which due to its particular conditions requires specific regulation.

The fishing-tourism activity, taking into account the significant scope and its undoubted impact on the sustainability of fishery resources, requires a regulatory development on specific measures, aimed at ensuring the implementation of this activity, as well as its control and monitoring in accordance with state and regional regulations, all within the framework of the general planning of economic activity.

This rule is dictated under Article 149.1 in its 13th rule, together with the 20th of the Constitution, which give the State exclusive competence in bases and coordination of the general planning of economic activity, as well as in merchant marine and flagging of ships, respectively.

The existence of a special control focused on these issues is based on the imperative reasons of safety of navigation and extractive control of the resource that differentiate this subsector from others related to tourism activity. This control and coordination will be carried out by the Ministries of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Development, without prejudice to the competences that may arise from the autonomous communities. In the event that, in addition to the performance of the aforementioned ministries, the autonomous community where the base port is located provides for the issuance of a qualifying title for access to the activity, said requirement shall in any case respect the provisions of Law 20/2013, of December 9, guarantee of the market unit, and, in particular, in its articles 17 and 7 on instrumentation of the principle of necessity and proportionality and simplification of charges.

It should be noted that this royal decree is preferably applied given its specialty, in a complementary way to the Order of January 26, 1988, which regulates the embarkation of ships of personnel other than the crew and the passenger, since it operates as a special norm by reason of matter with respect to the general one. In addition, the Order of January 18, 2000 approving the Ship Dispatch Regulation already contains some general rules that this royal decree complements, for identical reasons.



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Finally, it must be specified that, without prejudice to the requirements that must be met for the exercise of the fishing activity, professionals in the sector must have civil liability insurance against third parties, to face risks that may arise from the shipment of tourists, and that, only for these purposes, the provisions of Royal Decree 607/1999, of April 16, which approves the Regulation of compulsory civil liability insurance for recreational or sport boats, in the terms established in this royal decree or those that, where appropriate, may establish the autonomous communities that may not be inferior to the previous ones.

This royal decree is issued by virtue of the power conferred on the Government by the second final provision of Law 3/2001, of March 26.

This royal decree adapts to the principles of good regulation established in article 129 of Law 39/2015, of October 1, of the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations and, in particular, to the principles of necessity and efficiency, since This is the most appropriate instrument to develop the regulations stipulated in article 74 ter of Law 3/2001, of March 26, when applied in a homogeneous way throughout the national territory, which guarantees the general interest. It also adapts to the principle of proportionality, since there is no alternative less restrictive of rights or that imposes less obligations on the recipients. Regarding the principles of legal certainty, transparency and efficiency, said norm adapts to them as it is consistent with the rest of the legal system and the participation of interested parties has been sought, avoiding unnecessary or ancillary administrative burdens, cohesive to proceed at the same time with the correct normative development of this activity.

In the preparation of this royal decree, the autonomous communities and the affected sector have been consulted. As a result, at the joint proposal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Minister of Development, with the prior approval of the Minister of Territorial Policy and Public Function, in agreement with the State Council, and after deliberation of the Council of Ministers at its meeting on April 5, 2019,

I DISPOSE:

Article 1. Object.

1. The purpose of this royal decree is to regulate, as a complementary activity of the fishing sector, the basic conditions for the development of the fishing activity with respect to extractive activity and aquaculture carried out on board fishing vessels.
2. The provisions contained in this royal decree are without prejudice to compliance with regulations and authorizations and licenses required by the competent administrations.

Article 2. Definitions.

1. For the purposes set forth in this Royal Decree, fishing vessels are understood as both vessels and professional fishing vessels included in the third list of the Vessel and Shipping Companies Registry, as well as auxiliary fishing vessels, included in the fourth list of said Registry in accordance with article 4.1, sections c) and d), respectively, of Royal Decree 1027/1989, of July 28, on flagging, vessel registration and maritime registration.
2. The definitions set forth in article 2 of Law 3/2001, of March 26, on State Maritime Fisheries shall apply for the purposes of this Royal Decree.

Article 3. Legal regime of tourists and presumption of boarding.

1. Tourists participating in fishing-tourism activities shall be governed by the provisions applicable to personnel other than the crew and the passenger, and the enlistment thereof, with the specialties provided for in this royal decree. In any case, tourists embarked on board a fishing vessel may not engage in fishing activity.
2. It shall be presumed, unless proven otherwise, that persons embarked on a fishing vessel that are not part of their crew are participating in a fishing-tourism activity and, consequently, the safety requirements set forth in this Royal decree.



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3. The Captain must write down in the dispatch and endorsement role and communicate to the corresponding maritime captaincy, using electronic means, the name, surname, ID or passport and telephone number of a contact point of each of the embarked tourists. In addition, you must keep a record on them for the duration of the activity.

Article 4. Requirements for access to the exercise of fishing-tourism activity.

1. For the exercise of the fishing-tourism activity, the fishing vessel must have the previous favorable report of the Ministry of Development regarding the conditions of maritime safety, navigation, human life at sea and the prevention of the contamination, and to have the valid civil liability insurance or other equivalent financial guarantee referred to in article 7, as well as to comply with the requirements established in the corresponding legislation for the operators legally established in Spanish territory.

2. The favorable report of the Ministry of Development shall be issued at the request of the ship owner of the vessel by the harbor master corresponding to the place where the fishing vessel's base port is located and shall be made electronically when it is one of the subjects bound by it as provided in article 14.2 of Law 39/2015, of October 1, of the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations. In the case of natural persons may appear in any of the places referred to in article 16.4 of the mentioned law. The report will be favorable when the conditions of safety and habitability to develop fishing-tourism established in Article 6 are met and will be issued within a maximum period of two months to be counted from the date the application has been entered in the registry electronic of said ministry in accordance with the provisions of article 21.3. b) of Law 39/2015, of October 1. If once the favorable report is issued, any of the safety and habitability conditions will be modified, the ship owner must request a new report.

3. Before issuing its report, the Ministry of Development shall verify from the General Secretariat of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food that the vessel is registered and registered in the General Register of the Fishing Fleet.

4. The harbor's masters shall communicate the favorable reports relating to the fishing-tourism activity to the General Secretariat of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which shall be communicated to the competent fishing authority of the autonomous community where the port is located ship base. Likewise, the captains will notify the report either favorable or unfavorable to the interested party. Without prejudice to the obligation to issue said report, the expiration of the period of two months without having notified the interested party to understand it dismissed due to administrative silence, pursuant to the provisions of the sixth additional provision of Law 3/2001, of 26 March, and in article 24 of Law 39/2015, of October 1. Under article 112 of said law, against said report, which does not put an end to the administrative procedure, an appeal may be lodged in the terms and terms of article 121 of the law before the General Directorate of the Merchant Marine of the Ministry of Promotion.

5. Obtained the favorable report of the maritime captaincy and when so provided in the regulations of the autonomous community where the base port of the fishing vessel is located, it will be necessary to have an enabling title for access to the fishing-tourism activity, whose requirement will respect in any case the provisions of Law 20/2013, of December 9, on the guarantee of the market unit, and, in particular, in its article 17 on the instrumentation of the principle of necessity and proportionality.

Only obtaining the favorable report and, where appropriate, the qualifying title will allow fishing-tourism operations in all national fishing grounds where the vessel is authorized to fish. The autonomous communities shall notify the General Secretariat of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as many titles granted in the same act as the interested party. The competent fisheries administration will proceed to its registration in the General Register of the Fishing Fleet.



Article 5. Conditions of complementarity and compatibility with the fishing activity.

1. The realization of the fishing-tourism activity will be compatible with the fishing activity for which the vessel is authorized, being carried out in accordance with the conditions established in the applicable regulations, in terms of times, schedules, catch limits, fishing gear, closures, authorized areas and any other condition for its exercise, including the necessary qualifications for its exercise. In any case, the fishing-tourism activity may only be carried out in waters of national fishing grounds and in accordance with the specific conditions established for the exercise of the main activity, in particular as regards its periods.
2. It must be expressly stated in the dispatch role that the vessel has been dispatched for the fishing-tourism activity, in addition to the fishing activity for which it is authorized.
3. The competent fisheries administrations may facilitate the adequate training of the fishing sector for the development of fishing-tourism activities.
4. The autonomous community may regulate the exhibition in a visible place, either on the ship or in corresponding facilities or dependencies, of a logo or other identifying method of the fishing-tourism activity.

Article 6. Safety and habitability conditions to develop fishing-tourism.

1. To carry out fishing-tourism activities, in addition to having the means that correspond to them according to their class and navigation area, the following safety and habitability conditions must be met:

a) The vessel will have safe means of access for tourists, including, where appropriate, persons with disabilities. The embarkation and disembarkation will be carried out in any case in the ports where the ship will carry out its main extractive activity.

b) Vessels shall have the salvage and safety elements in sufficient number and type for all persons embarking. In particular, for each of the tourists that the ship can embark on, there will be a life jacket for abandoning the ship, corresponding to the age of the person, except on ships of length (L) equal to or less than 12 meters in which the tourist can only wear the automatic inflation vest, as well as a place in liferaft. Likewise, they will have vests of respect for abandonment of ships at the rate of one for every six people, including crew members. While they remain on deck, tourists must wear an automatic inflation lifejacket or device, other than the ship abandonment vest, which, without obstructing their movements, is suitable for keeping them afloat in case of falling into the water. These life jackets will incorporate a personal radio beacon that operates on the 121.5 MHz frequency that will be activated automatically in the event of the person falling into the water. If the incorporation of a raft is necessary to carry out the fishing activity and this is the only raft on board, it will comply with at least recognized international technical standards, such as the ISO family. If the built-in raft were additional to another existing raft, the additional raft will meet the same requirements as the existing raft.

c) The on-board medical kit intended for the crew must be adequate to the type of navigation performed by the ship in accordance with Royal Decree 258/1999, of February 12, which establishes minimum conditions on the protection of the Health and medical assistance of sea workers. In addition, they must have a Life Raft type kit as prescribed in Royal Decree 258/1999, of February 12, to cover the health care needs that may be required by other people embarking.

d) On-board spaces will be enabled, adapted for people with disabilities, where appropriate, where tourists are free from danger and access to certain areas of the ship will be prohibited during maneuvers that involve risk. Those spaces will be adequately delimited, the floor must be non-slip to prevent falls and be provided with handles where tourists can be held. If the fishing-tourism activity lasts for more than 16 hours, the vessel must have adequate habitability for this purpose, and this will be verified by the harbor master.

In any case, tourists will be banned from access to checkpoints, service spaces, machinery spaces and certain areas of the vessel during maneuvers that involve risk. The rotating and hot elements must be properly protected and out of reach of the tourist. The management of fishing gear and auxiliary elements will be carried out taking into account at all times the presence on board of people unfamiliar with the fishing activity.



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e) The minimum security crew, which will never be less than two crew members, and the chart of obligations and instructions for emergencies will be reviewed, taking into account that at least one of the crew members must meet the needs of tourists in those cases. If the vessel does not have an obligation chart and instructions for emergencies, it must be requested and available before carrying out the fishing-tourism activity.

f) In advance of the undocking, tourists will be provided in writing with all the information about the ship, recommendations on the safety measures to be complied with and the conditions under which the activity will be carried out in accordance with Royal Decree 1216 / 1997, of July 18, which establishes the minimum occupational health and safety regulations on board fishing vessels. The information must be at least in English and Spanish; The captain will also ensure that tourists understand the content of such information.

g) The captain of the ship will be responsible for the weather conditions as well as the operational conditions of the ship being adequate for carrying out the activity, for which the meteorological forecast must be provided, provided by the State Meteorological Agency (AEMET) through the high seas newsletters and coastal newsletters, of the areas where fishing activity is intended to be carried out without risk.

h) Regardless of the limitations imposed by the ship's certificates, its constructive condition, the operating conditions and the safety and rescue elements, the maximum number of tourists allowed will be:

- 1.º For ships up to 8 meters in length (L), 2 tourists.
- 2.º For ships of more than 8 meters and up to 12 meters in length (L), 4 tourists.
- 3.º For ships of more than 12 meters and up to 20 meters in length (L), 8 tourists.
- 4.º For ships of more than 20 meters in length (L), 12 tourists.

In the event that the fishing-tourism activity is carried out through the use of auxiliary fishing vessels inscribed in the Fourth List, which, without extractive fishing, accompany the vessels during part of the work, the maximum number of tourists allowed taking into account the same limitations as in the previous case will be:

- 1.º For ships up to 8 meters in length (L), 4 tourists.
- 2.º For ships of more than 8 meters and up to 12 meters in length (L), 8 tourists.
- 3.º For ships of more than 12 meters in length (L), 12 tourists.

2. A document containing the contents of this article should be available at any time in the ship, if possible in a visible place. This document, issued by the harbor master, will lose its validity when any of the required security and habitability conditions is altered. In addition, the ship's certificate of conformity shall state that it has a favorable report from the harbor master.

3. The captain of the ship will be responsible for the security conditions in which the tourist boarding takes place. You will not admit the boarding of minors without the written authorization of parents or guardians, when they are not accompanied by them, or of people who require special assistance in conditions that are not compatible with the safe practice of the activity.

In addition, the presentation of the valid DNI or passport of the persons to be embarked will be required, in accordance with the regulations governing ship clearance.

4. Tourists, once embarked, will be subject to the rules of safety, discipline and good order under the authority of the skipper or captain of the ship.

5. No vessel that has granted any exemption related to compliance with certain technical measures in relation to the vessel, whether life rafts, immersion suits or railings, may carry out the fishing-tourism activity.

Article 7. Mandatory insurance.

For the exercise of the fishing-tourism activity, it will be mandatory to have a civil liability insurance or, where appropriate, a valid financial guarantee in force, which covers the personal damages of all tourists derived from said exercise in the amounts provided, where appropriate, by the regional authority, in compliance with the



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requirements of article 74 term of Law 3/2001, of March 26. These amounts of insurance or financial guarantee may not be lower than those provided in the Regulation of compulsory civil liability insurance for pleasure or sports boats, approved by Royal Decree 607/1999, of April 16. In the event that the regional authority does not set that minimum amount, it will be the one provided for in said standard. In the event that the fishing-tourism activity is exercised through the subscription of a civil liability insurance, the provisions of the second additional provision of Law 20/2015, of July 14, on management, supervision and solvency of the insurers and reinsurers, so that those who engage in the fishing-tourism activity sign an insurance that covers the damages they may cause. The required guarantee must be proportionate to the nature and scope of the covered risk.

Article 8. Marketing conditions of the fishery products obtained.

The conditions of commercialization of the fishery products obtained in the development of the fishing-tourism activity will be those foreseen in article 4.7 of the Royal Decree 418/2015, of May 29, which regulates the first sale of the fishery products. The regional authorities will determine the quantities and the maximum amounts of the products acquired in this modality, being prohibited the sale of bivalve, echinoderms, tunicates and live marine gastropods. In the absence of regional regulation, it will be understood that the sales authorization may reach all the catches acquired during the tide, with the exception of the prohibitions indicated above.

Article 9. Monitoring and control of the fishing-tourism activity.

1. The monitoring and control of the fishing-tourism activity corresponds to the competent fisheries administrations and to the Ministry of Development within the scope of their competencies the monitoring and control of the safety and habitability conditions to develop the fishing-tourism to which Article 6 refers. Failure to comply in these areas shall be sanctioned in accordance with Article 13.

2. The regional authorities shall keep a declarative record of vessels carrying out fishing-tourism activity and transfer to the Secretariat of Fisheries and the Social Institute of the Navy, at the end of the calendar year, an annual report in which the fishing-tourism activity will be valued on ships that have a base port in their territories and must contain at least one description of the following aspects: a) Number of fishing-tourism trips per vessel. b) Number of tourists embarked. c) Income obtained by tourism activity.

3. Without prejudice to the obligations in tourism and the submission to the current control regime; the fishing-tourism activity linked to the fishing activity will be subject to the control measures established in the matter of dispatch and, in particular, to the regulations on the embarkation of the personnel outside the crew, as well as to the one related to the requirements on maritime safety training of embarked personnel. Likewise, it will be subject to the control measures established in relation to the main activity to which it is linked.

Article 10. Obligations and responsibilities in environmental matters.

The provisions of this royal decree are established without prejudice to the obligations of protection of the marine environment established in Law 41/2010, of December 29, protection of the marine environment and other rules applicable to the protection of marine waters.

Article 11. Tax regime of fishing-tourism activities.

The benefits obtained on the occasion of the fishing-tourism activities will be attributed to the general tax regime that proceeds from the main fishing activity to which it complements.

Article 12. Social protection of working people dedicated to the fishing-tourism activity.

1. The fishing-tourism activities will be carried out in any case by professionals from the fishing sector within the Special Regime of Social Security for Sea Workers.

2. The Social Institute of the Navy, based on annual reports to referred to in article 9.2, corresponding to two consecutive years, will carry out the pertinent studies that allow evaluating the provenance of inclusion of workers dedicated to these activities in the first contribution group referred to in article 10.1.a) of the Law 47/2015, of October 21, regulator of the social protection of workers in the maritime-fisheries sector.



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To ensure the successful completion of the study referred to in the previous paragraph, both the General Secretariat of Fisheries and the autonomous communities will provide the necessary collaboration to the Social Institute of the Navy.

3. The Social Institute of the Navy reserves the powers attributed to it by Law 47/2015, of October 21, on maritime and health professional training aimed at meeting the demands and training needs of workers in the maritime-fisheries sector.

4. The Social Institute of the Navy, the General Secretariat of Fisheries and the General Directorate of Merchant Marine will issue, within the framework of their respective competencies, the appropriate instructions for the proper monitoring and control of vessels, crews and development periods of fishing-tourism activities.

Article 13. Penalty system.

Failure to comply with the provisions of this royal decree shall be sanctioned in accordance with the provisions of Title IV of the third book of the consolidated text of the Law on State Ports and Merchant Marine, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 2/2011, of 5 September, and with the provisions of Title V of Law 3/2001, of March 26, without prejudice to the provisions of the regional regulations.

First additional provision.

Administrative cooperation The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, through the General Secretariat of Fisheries, the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Social Security, through the Social Institute of the Navy, and the Ministry of Development, through the General Directorate of Merchant Marine, will cooperate in this area with the regional authorities, especially in matters of dissemination and publicity of the activity, these being the competent ones for the complementary regulation of the fishing-tourism activity that is developed by the vessels whose base port is based on their territories.

Second additional provision.

No increase in public spending. The measures included in this standard will be met with the ordinary budgetary allocations of the departments affected by this standard and may not entail an increase in allocations or remuneration or other personnel expenses.

Single transitional provision.

Reports previously issued by the maritime captains. The reports that, in compliance with the regulations on fishing-tourism of the autonomous communities, had been issued at the date of entry into force of this standard by the harbor masters as a precondition for access to the exercise of fishing-tourism activity they must be issued again in accordance with the provisions of this royal decree, within six months of its entry into force, at the request of the interested parties.

First final provision. Competence titles.

The current norm is dictated jointly by virtue of article 149.1 in its 13th and 20th rules of the Constitution, which give the State the exclusive competence in bases and coordination of the general planning of the economic activity, as well as in merchant marine and flagging of vessels, except for article 4 paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 and article 6, which are issued only by virtue of the exclusive competence of the State in merchant navy and flagging of ships provided for in article 149.1.20.^a of the Constitution.

Second final provision.

Entry into force This royal decree will enter into force on May 15, 2019.