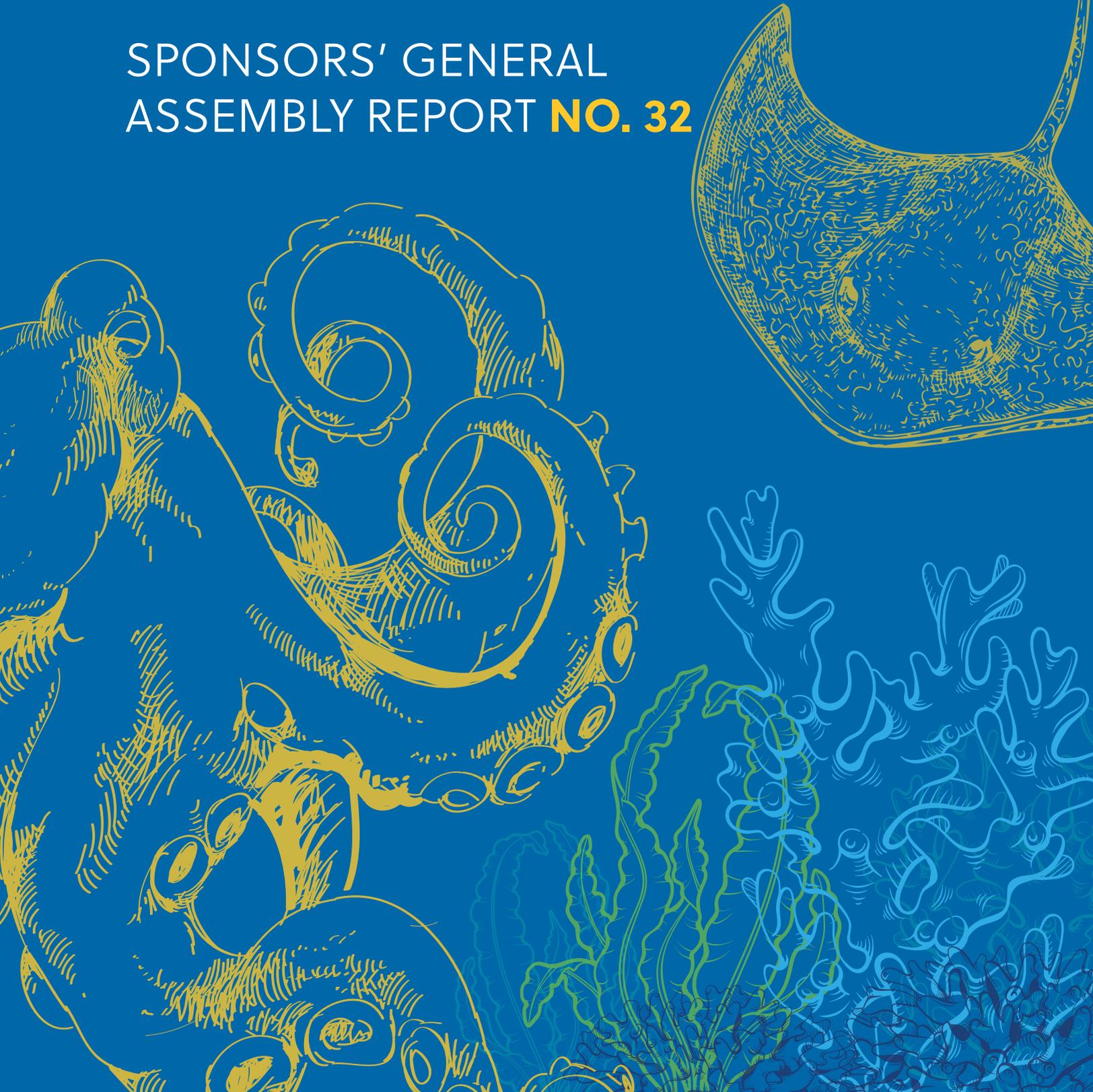




ANNUAL REPORT 2025

SPONSORS' GENERAL
ASSEMBLY REPORT **NO. 32**



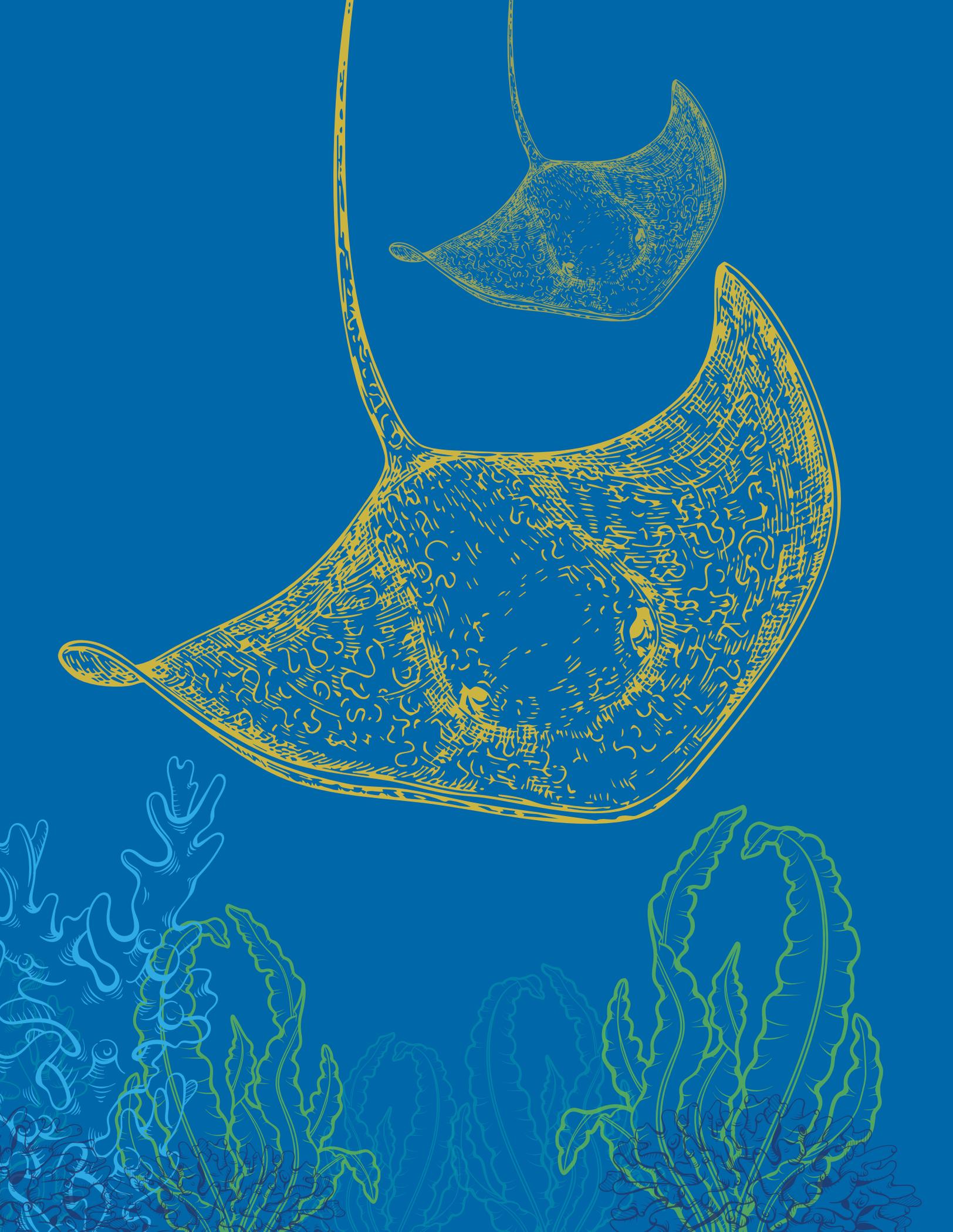


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The photographs included are part of the donated photographs archive.

Layout: David Quirós and Nadima Sayegh.

ACRONYMS

ACMC	COCOS MARINE CONSERVATION AREA	IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
BAF	Blue Action Fund	IUU	Illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing
BMMA	Bicentennial Marine Management Area	LEMMA	Coastal Marine Studies Laboratory
CARSI	Central America Regional Security Initiative	LOP	Fishing Operations Logs
CDF	Charles Darwin Foundation	MOPT	Ministry of Public Works and Transportation
CIMAR	Research Center for Marine Sciences and Limnology	MPA	Marine Protected Area
CINP	Cocos Island National Park	MPs	Microplastics
CMAR	Marine Corridor of the Eastern Tropical Pacific	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
COMBINA	Marine and Coastal Biosecurity Network of the Americas	OSCRI	Offshore Science Costa Rica
DIF	Directorate of Physical Infrastructure	PPCP	Prevention, Protection, and Control Plan
DOPA	Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture Management	PUR	Public Use Regulations
EFM	Core management elements	PWA	Protected Wildlife Areas
ETPO	Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean	SENASA	National Animal Health Service
Faico	Friends of Cocos Island Foundation	SINAC	National System of Conservation Areas
FIDs	Landing Inspection Forms	SIRBAA	Comprehensive Services for Aquatic and Environmental Biological Resources
GFW	Global Fishing Watch	SNG	National Coastguard Service
GHG	Greenhouse Gases	UCR	University of Costa Rica
GIS	Geographic Information Systems	IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
GMP	General Management Plan	UNA	National University of Costa Rica
IDESPO	Institute of Social Studies in Population	UNED	State Distance Learning University
INCOPESCA	Costa Rican Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture	UAVs	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
		EEZ	Exclusive economic zone



1

INTRODUCTION



FRIENDS OF COCOS ISLAND (Faico), A STRATEGIC PARTNER THAT REMAINS AND GROWS STRONGER OVER TIME

Faico is a non-profit organization created in Costa Rica in 1994, whose objective is to support the conservation and protection of the Cocos Marine Conservation Area (ACMC) and adjacent marine ecosystems of the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP).

With over 30 years of experience, the impact and synergies promoted by Faico represent a replicable cooperation model in environmental management, highlighting the importance of coordination and facilitation of human, technical, and financial resources.

MISSION

To promote the best practices for the management and conservation of the marine and terrestrial biodiversity of Cocos Island and the Seamounts, as well as of the migratory species of the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

VISION

Migratory species and ecosystems in Cocos Island National Park, the Bicentennial Marine Management Area, and the Eastern Tropical Pacific are thriving and will continue to do so for generations to come.

INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES - 2025

With the expansion of marine protected areas around Cocos Island in 2021 and the challenge of managing 30% of Costa Rica's marine ecosystems, the Administrative Board continues to promote key actions and pillars of institutional planning tools, defining the following work areas for 2025:



HUMAN TALENT

Committed leaders and employees continue to be one of the fundamental bases of the organization, promoting teamwork, which must also be complemented by the constant support of external links and services that help us in our professional growth.

This year, the Administrative Board, with the purpose of inviting new partners, incorporated ten members into the Sponsors' Assembly and approved an "Internal Regulation of Participation and Validity of the General Assembly of the Sponsors' Corporation."

The new assembly members are:

1. Moisés Mug Villanueva
2. Andrea Montero Cordero
3. Vilma Obando Acuña
4. Arturo Condo Tamayo
5. Alex Cambronero Esquivel
6. María Pia Robles Victory
7. Mauricio Solano Fernández
8. Lucía Rodríguez Valverde
9. Roberto Dormond Cantú
10. Carlos de Paco Alvarado

The Board of Directors and the team for 2025 consisted of:

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD



Ana Lorena
Guevara Fernández
CHAIR



Carlos Manuel
Uribe Sáenz
SECRETARY



Mario
Carvajal Herrera
TREASURER
**REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN
JOSÉ**



Esteban
Brenes Vega
**BOARD MEMBER-AT-
LARGE I**



Jorge
Cortés Núñez
**BOARD MEMBER-AT-
LARGE II**
**EXECUTIVE BRANCH
REPRESENTATIVE**



ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM



Alejandra Villalobos Madrigal
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Carlos Hernández Hidalgo
WEB DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST



Dahiana Solano Rodríguez
ACCOUNTING AND ADMINISTRATION SPECIALIST



Debbie López Núñez
MARINE SCIENCE OFFICER



Gabriel Rodríguez Castillo
PROJECT MANAGER



Jenifer Madrigal Masis
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER



Jimena Araya Castillo
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST



Randy Chinchilla Ramos
GIS SPECIALIST



Sebastián Barquero Zúñiga
STRATEGY AND COOPERATION MANAGER





2 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On behalf of the Administrative Board, I am pleased to inform you about the most relevant actions and achievements of Faico's work during 2025.

After 30 years of history, Faico continues to pave the way to strengthen its management and further consolidate its cooperation model, which seeks to be resilient and lasting, in the face of the different challenges that arise in the process of contributing, hand in hand with our invaluable partners, to the conservation of one of the most important natural laboratories on the planet, our Cocos Island, core site of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor.

During 2025, our work focused on seven areas: first, **Financial Sustainability**, whose goal is to have the necessary economic resources to continue supporting the effective conservation efforts of ACMC and the ETPO, identifying new partners and strengthening relationships with cooperants who continue their strategic partnership with Faico such as Cuestamoras, Titin S.A. (Uribe Sáenz Family), SC Johnson de Centroamérica S.A., Fondo Azul, Costa Rica por Siempre, and Automercado.

Second, being aware that after the expansion achieved in 2021, it is necessary to update the regulations, particularly about control and surveillance actions, the framework for the job is established. **Improvements to the Legal and Regulatory Framework**. From this moment on, a process begins, aimed at strengthening the legal framework that allows the use of satellite information and other relevant elements necessary to reduce impunity for environmental crimes. Together with our partners, we promoted a proposal for the "Organic Reform to the Law of the Ministry of Environment and Energy, through the creation of the Vice-Ministry of Water and Ocean," and a draft bill aimed at prohibiting marine mining in Costa Rica.

Third, **Institutional Strengthening**, which is established as a cross-cutting work area, where the vision of the Faico Administrative Board has allowed the organization to be guided towards a results-oriented approach and to continue its actions within the framework of efficient and effective administrative and financial management, at a time when cooperation efforts focused on the environment must respond to a dynamic national and international context and where it is necessary to enhance the capabilities of our human talent and take advantage of the experience of the managers.

Fourth, **Impact Cooperation**, which focuses on the implementation of management plans and other management initiatives of ACMC and CMAR, and other instruments of strategic partners involved in marine conservation.

In 2025, we invested in a comprehensive modernization project of the power system based in Wafer Bay, including the installation of a microgrid that will integrate the existing hydroelectric generation with a complementary photovoltaic power system, thus reducing the carbon footprint. We also promoted activities with ACMC, related to climate change adaptation and mitigation plans and risk management, tourism, natural resources, among others, and for the first time, we organized a Regional Workshop led by Faico and ACMC. We were also key partners of the "Ocean Prediction Costa Rica" project where CINP is one of the pilot sites selected by Mercator Ocean International to promote this platform. Likewise, Faico continued to diversify its support, coordinating efforts with other partners, such as the Costa Rican Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture, in the analysis of data and equipment aimed at fisheries monitoring,

and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, positioning our country as a blue leader in international events and initiatives. Faico provided important support to Costa Rica in its role and leadership as co-host of the Third United Nations Ocean Conference, in the execution of high-level events, positioning Cocos Island as one of the world's leading marine protected areas.

The fifth area of work focused on **Communication and Knowledge Management**. We launched the Cocos Island Geoportal and generated tools and platforms that allowed us to publicize our management and collaborative work with ACMC and other stakeholders, through tools such as campaigns, podcasts, newsletters, and columns prepared by local and regional partners, thus promoting platforms that give voice and consolidate partnerships.

Research, as the Cornerstone of Prosperity, is the sixth work area, in which Faico, together with the academia, continues to promote efforts to generate science-based knowledge in support of biodiversity conservation actions on the island and surrounding ecosystems. Initiatives include generating geospatial data information for the island using photogrammetric and LIDAR technology, microplastics, and advancing knowledge of the deep ocean with a regional perspective.

The seventh area of work, established as a way to contribute to the dedication and effort made by ACMC officials, is the **Quality of Life of Park Rangers**, which has allowed, among other achievements, the development of a comprehensive continuous training plan, the implementation of at least 16 training courses related to prevention, protection and control,

tourism, climate change, fisheries management, gender equality, communication management, geographic information systems, and information technologies, thus contributing to the comprehensive strengthening of the staff's capabilities.

We concluded a year with great results, but also with great challenges. Faico reaffirms its commitment to continue joining efforts to conserve and protect Cocos Island National Park and, in general, the more than 160,000 square kilometers that the Island safeguards, thus contributing to the country's commitment to conserve 30% of marine territory, to support the efforts of CMAR, and to ultimately contribute to the global goals established in international agreements, of which Costa Rica is a party.

Efficient management of technical and financial resources, strengthening efforts to promote the generation of scientific information to support decision-making, and disseminating conservation actions to attract new support and consolidate existing support, along with our seven lines of work, will constitute the main tasks for the coming year. All of this will be possible thanks to the contributions we receive, and the trust placed on our organization.

Ana Lorena Guevara Fernandez
Chair

Friends of Cocos Island Foundation (Faico)





3

SECRETARIAT REPORT



On behalf of the Administrative Board, I am pleased to provide you with the Secretariat Management Report for 2025, for Session Number thirty-two of the General Sponsors Assembly of Friends of Cocos Island Foundation (Faico).

In 2025, **six formal meetings of the Administrative Board were held**. In every session, there was a quorum (at least three members of the Administrative Board must be present), and for each session, minutes were recorded, duly registered, and signed.

Carlos Manuel Uribe Sáenz

Secretary

Administrative Board



4

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Considering the strategic vision of the Board of Directors and the hard work carried out by the Administrative Team, the main results for 2025 are as follows:

4.1. FOCUS OF WORK

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF Faico AND ACMC

Fundraising is one of the fundamental actions for cooperation that the organization provides to different beneficiaries, so a "Fundraising" committee was created. This space lays the foundation for initial planning that allows the identification of challenges and opportunities that increase Faico's competitiveness and further improve its impact on Cocos Island as a strategic partner at the local and regional level.

The management of funds during the year **secured** relationships with donors who adopted Faico as a long-term partnership, with new contributions from Cuestamoras, Titin S.A. (Uribe Sáenz Family), SC Johnson de Centroamérica S.A., Fondo Azul & Costa Rica por Siempre, Automercado, and others.

Consistent with cooperation agreements reached in previous years, we received funding from Blue Nature Alliance, Blue Action Fund, the Charles Darwin Foundation, Rewild & Bezos Earth Fund, and WildAid, among others; and some of them opened the possibility for Faico to present new cooperation proposals for 2026 and 2027.

In addition, by diversifying the sources of cooperation, a total of 8 proposals were presented, one of which was approved by December 2025, allowing the exploration of new partners and investment topics that consolidate or co-finance ongoing initiatives of strategic actors.



Titin S.A.



4.2. FOCUS OF WORK

IMPROVEMENT OF THE LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Faico continued its influence through strategic coordination, in accordance with the organizational priorities of key State institutions, including, for example, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, the Ministry of Public Education, the Legislative Assembly, and others. This way, key actions in favor of marine conservation are integrated into foreign policy, environmental education, and public outreach, allowing the contribution and presentation of proposals focused on environmental regulations, institutions, spaces, and leaders with high decision-making capacity, as detailed below:

4.2.1. Contribution to the Discussion of Ocean Solutions in the Legislative Assembly

Faico prepared and presented **File No. 25,069**, in partnership with Conservation International and MarViva, a draft bill aimed at the **“Organic Reform to the Law of the Ministry of Environment and Energy, through the creation of the Vice-Ministry of Water and Ocean,”** with the support of several members of Congress. Currently, the proposal is in the State Reform Commission, awaiting technical criteria for its discussion. Faico, its partners, and with the support of two members of Congress, within the framework of this initiative, held in the Legislative Assembly the discussion called **“Towards a Vice-Ministry of Water and the Ocean: Blue Leadership for a strategic agenda.”**

Our organization also provided technical support and coordination to **File No. 24,739, a draft bill entitled “Prohibition of Marine Mining in Costa Rica,”** which is geared to-



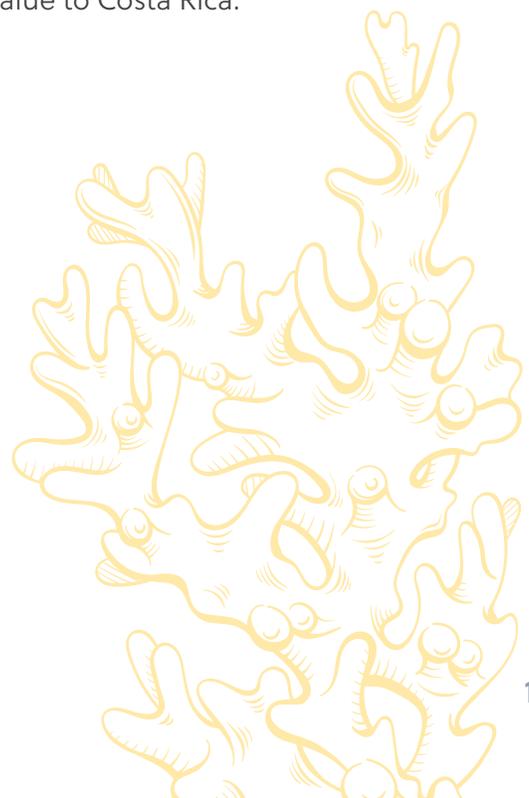
wards the protection of deep ocean ecosystems and was led by Congressman Manuel Morales. This support included the provision of specialized technical criteria and coordination with stakeholders, particularly with Costa Rica Desconocida. Currently, this draft bill is under discussion in the Environment Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

In 2025, we began the analysis to promote and develop a **legal reform aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of marine control and surveillance using satellite technology**, in partnership with WildAid. This effort was supported by inter-institutional collaboration and regional exchange of peer experiences on legal, sanctioning, and coordination capacities to address cases of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR) thanks to the invitation of Fundación Pacífico. It is expected that the political actors of the next constitutional period will be able to adopt this proposal, which will be carried forward with various institutional and civil society stakeholders, to ensure its viability, legitimacy, and proper implementation.

Faico continues to position itself as one of the leading actors in marine conservation at the

national level, which allowed it to generate a total of **eleven technical criteria and inputs**, for the analysis of at least **10 projects** for different legislative working committees related to marine governance, conservation, sustainable fishing, environmental financing, and institutional strengthening, among others.

At the end of December 2025, support was also provided to ACMC in the process of developing the **draft bill** called **“Law for the Protection of the Natural and Cultural Heritage of Cocos Island National Park,”** a work led by the Women’s Youth Parliament for Climate, within the framework of citizen participation mechanisms of the Legislative Assembly. The initiative comprehensively addresses the protection of the natural, cultural, and historical heritage of Cocos Island National Park, incorporating provisions on climate change, invasive species, biosecurity, and a gender approach to the management of marine protected areas, with the aim of closing existing regulatory gaps and strengthening the legal framework that supports the conservation of this site of exceptional value to Costa Rica.



4.2.2. Political Science at the Service of Our Marine Protected Areas

Faico led the development of the **Diagnosis of Regulatory Barriers to the Implementation and Effective Management of Marine Protected Areas in Costa Rica**, a process that made it possible to identify regulatory, institutional, and governance gaps that limit the effectiveness of Cocos Island National Park and the Bicentennial Marine Management Area through a methodological approach that combined regulatory analysis, stakeholder mapping, and Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA). This diagnosis is a basic tool and technical input to promote spaces for inter-institutional dialogue, relationships with international cooperation and articulation with new stakeholders, strengthening the positioning of the Foundation as a key technical partner in the construction of solutions for the country's ocean governance.

4.2.3. Presence and Contributions to National and International Commitments

4.2.3.1. United Nations Ocean Conference

During 2025, in coordination with several local and regional partners, Faico participated in the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) held in France, with a presence at the **"Green Zone and Blue Zone,"** spaces that convoke the diplomatic corps, the public, NGOs, companies, young people, academia, artists, and indigenous communities from all over the planet.

Faico made key technical and financial contributions to enable Costa Rica, as co-host



of the conference, to promote its **leadership at a globally significant event**, with efforts directed towards the design and coordination of the **Costa Rica Pavilion “A Dive Into the Unknown,”** the organization and generation of **technical inputs for seven parallel events**, among them “The role of the ocean: Making the 30x30 a reality in Costa Rica,” “Exploring the unknown: “Regional science for action in the deep ocean,” and “Watching the blue: cooperation in action,” among others.

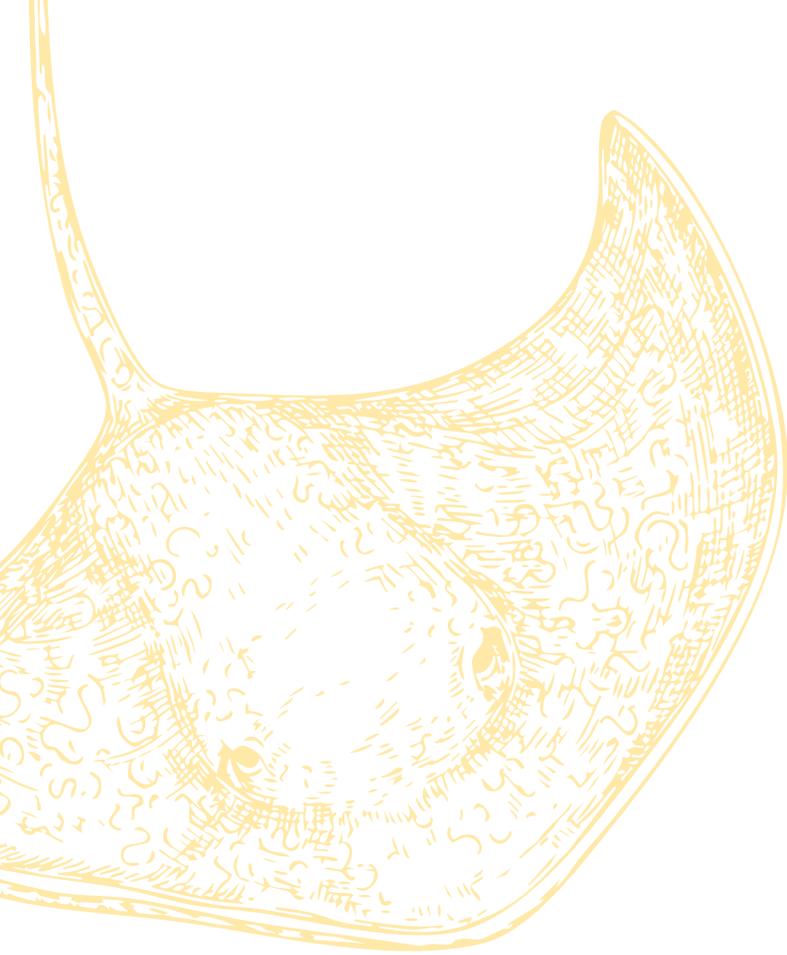
According to reports from the organizers, a total of **100,000 people** were part of this international event, a key niche to position cooperation models such as Faico, as well as exceptional marine protected areas, such as Cocos Island, and regional initiatives such as the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor.

Also, during the conference, Faico publicly signed a **“Statement” for the Ocean Accounts initiative**, and the **Executive Management** was selected by the International Scientific Council as one of the four **international ambassadors of the One Ocean Science Congress**, an event held before the conference.

4.2.3.2. Accreditation Process Initiated with IUCN

The Faico Administrative Board agreed to begin the accreditation process for Faico in 2025 to apply as a **member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**, a global forum to establish the work agenda on protected and conserved areas. It brings together leaders and experts from governments, civil society, indigenous peoples, academia, and the private sector to develop and promote solutions for nature conservation that involve effective area-based protection,





allowing for increased positioning of Faico, Cocos Island, and adjacent ecosystems in environmental forums.

4.2.3.3. Costa Rica Conserva

Faico, together with Costa Rica por Siempre, MarViva, and Conservation International, founded the Costa Rica Conserva initiative which was launched in September 2025. This initiative seeks to join forces to address the country's most urgent social and environmental challenges, such as climate change, ecosystem loss, and overexploitation of natural resources, human well-being, and others. At the end of the year, a total of 13 organizations were part of this initiative.



4.3. FOCUS OF WORK INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

As part of its accountability and transparency mechanisms, Faico develops key processes to strengthen the operational, administrative, and financial management of the organization. During 2025, the **audit of the financial situation for 2024**, with support from the international firm Moore, was carried out, and we achieved **a clean audit opinion** for management during this period.

Furthermore, in compliance with current regulations, the organization annually submits the income tax return, the declaration of transparency and beneficial ownership registration, and the work report requested by the Ministry of Justice and Peace, among others.

Internally, the organization carries out different evaluations and processes to strengthen its institutional management and human

talent, whose key actions are complemented by the strategic vision of the Administrative Board, such as, for example, **to enhance the capabilities of human talent through the development of new and improved actions focused on fundraising and cooperation**, visualizing the organization's financial sustainability challenges.

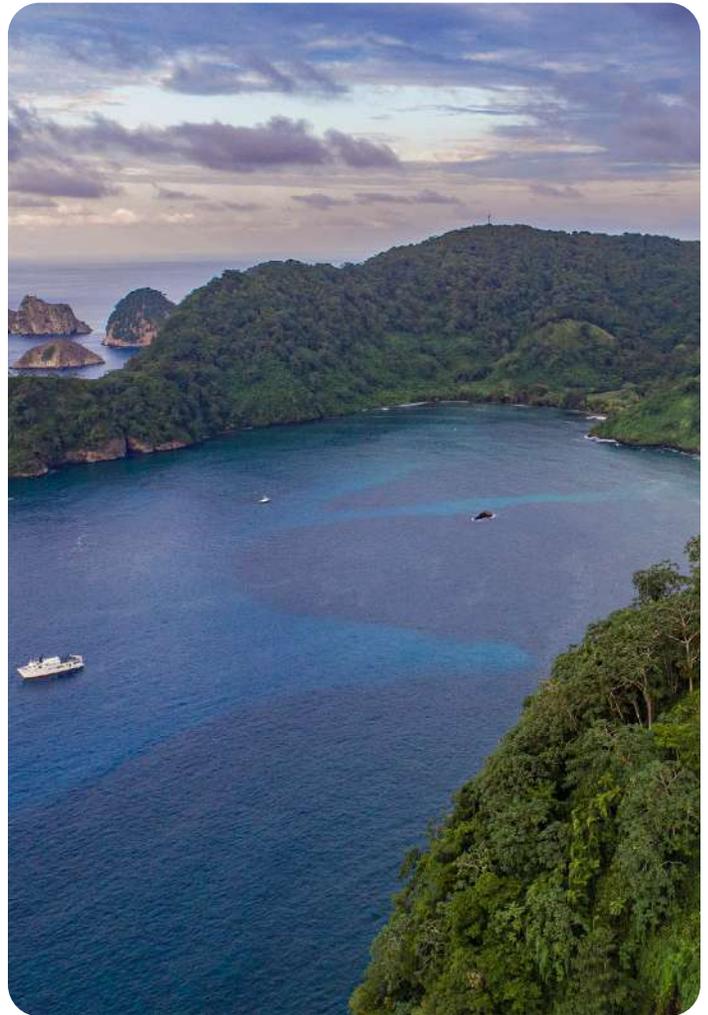
As part of the projects and topics related to human talent management, the foundation's collaborators participated in at least **40 technical and administrative training sessions**.

From an operational management perspective, the organization initiated an analysis process aimed at identifying web tools that would strengthen and optimize internal processes for managing work and institutional projects. Therefore, software was incorporated as part of the daily work tools, which allows planning, execution, monitoring, and reporting of the foundation's activities in a single space, which will contribute to improving internal control processes more efficiently and effectively.

4.4. **FOCUS OF WORK** **IMPACT COOPERATION**

Faico's work is the result of strategic and proactive coordination with all partners and collaborators; this requires cooperation agreements and work plans that establish objectives and actions that guide the organization's work.

In September 2025, it **renewed for a period of 5 years** plus the framework cooperation agreement between Faico and SINAC, including the two protected wildlife areas, Cocos Island National Park, and the Seamounts Marine Management Area.



MINISTERIO DE
AMBIENTE Y ENERGÍA

SISTEMA NACIONAL
DE ÁREAS DE
CONSERVACIÓN

ÁREA DE
CONSERVACIÓN
MARINA COCO



We also extended and strengthened new partnerships, in addition to existing ones, with organizations such as the State of the Nation Program, Costa Rica Desconocida, Stanford University, and the Marine Park Foundation, among others.



During 2025, Faico maintained the following projects in execution, whose implementation periods range between 1 and 5 years, as detailed in the table below:



Name of the project	Partner	Amount
Strengthening marine conservation and sustainable coastal development between the Central Pacific coast and the Cocos Marine Conservation Area (ACMC) in Costa Rica.	Blue Action Fund. Cluster: Marviva, Faico, Center for Research in Marine Sciences and Limnology (CIMAR), University of Western Brittany (UWB).	Amount executed by Faico: €646.922
Support Costa Rica in the protection and effective management of 30% of its EEZ.	Central America Regional Security Initiative (CARSI). USA Embassy.	\$250.000
Promotion of the effective implementation of marine protected areas around Cocos Island for the benefit of the Costa Rican Pacific Ocean and the Eastern Tropical Pacific.	Re:wild and Bezos Earth Fund.	\$688.863
Promotion of the effective implementation of Marine Protected Areas around Cocos Island.	Wyss Foundation – Blue Fund.	\$250,000
Improve and consolidate the management of the expanded marine protected area of ACMC, with an extension of 161,129.56 km ² of the EEZ of the Pacific Ocean of Costa Rica, a key site of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor.	Blue Nature Alliance.	\$295.053



Name of the project	Partner	Amount
Progress of deep-sea research for conservation in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Costa Rica.	Charles Darwin Foundation. Bezos Earth-Fund.	\$1.000.000
Partnership between SC Johnson de Centroamérica S.A. and Friends of Cocos Island Foundation (Faico).	SC Johnson de Centroamérica S.A.	\$155.700
		\$133.000
		\$157.000
Strengthening the actions of the Prevention, Protection, and Control Program of the Marine Protected Areas of the Cocos Marine Conservation Area.	Blue Fund, Forever Costa Rica Association, and WildAid.	\$ 350.000
Implementation of activities related to the dissemination of the Biosafety Plan.	Charles Darwin Foundation.	\$8.000
Automercado-Faico Partnership.	Automercado.	\$44.800
		\$28.495

4.4.1. **Cooperation Channeled Through the Cocos Marine Conservation Area**

4.4.1.1. **Contributions to the Strategic and Operational Planning of the ACMC**

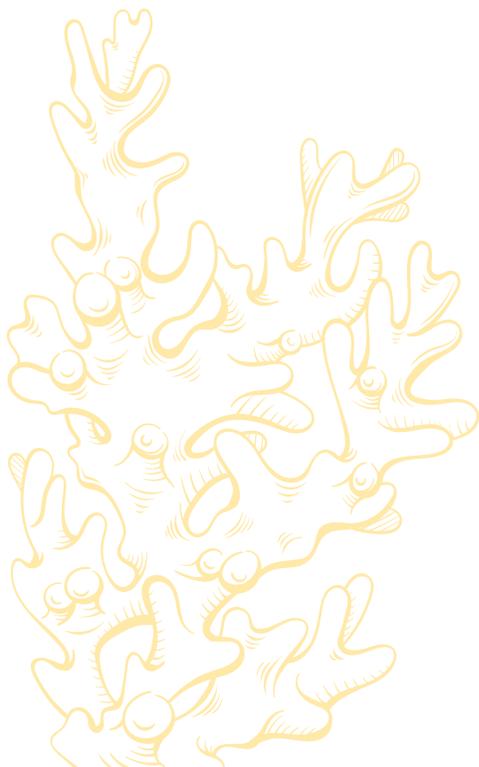
Following the publication of the General Management Plan for Cocos Island National Park 2024-2034 and some specific plans, Faico, together with ACMC Regional Office carried out, in 2025, **four strategic sessions to identify priorities for these planning tools, along with four field visits to CINP by the Foundation team** and countless meetings in response to current commitments of ongoing projects.



4.4.1.2. Human Resources Support at ACMC

In 2025, Faico continued with the support of **three outstanding professionals at ACMC**, specializing in the areas of **Communication, Geographic Information Systems and Web Development**. Among its main results and contributions was the implementation of an **ACMC Geoportal**, which integrates geospatial information, geoviewers, story maps, and a 3D model of CINP; **a Costa Rica marine zoning viewer; an interactive map of "Oceanic Costa Rica;" as well as the update of ACMC geodatabase**. Likewise, these professionals collaborate continuously on immediate requests, such as the preparation of thematic maps for incident and emergency response, birdlife, invasive species, among others.

These professionals also implemented research actions in **photogrammetric mapping and LiDAR**, **actions of ACMC Communication Plan**, **an internal platform for the control of tourism and diving in CINP**, and **training for park rangers and CINP staff** in the areas of information technology and Geographic Information Systems.



GUATEMALA

EL SALVADOR

Mapa de COSTA RICA oceánica

Corredor Marino del Pacífico Este Tropical



¡Costa Rica conserva el 30% de su territorio marino!



Fuentes:

- Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación (2022)
- Instituto Geográfico Nacional (2022)
- Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura (2022)
- Corredor Marino del Pacífico Este Tropical (2004)



www.cocosisland.org



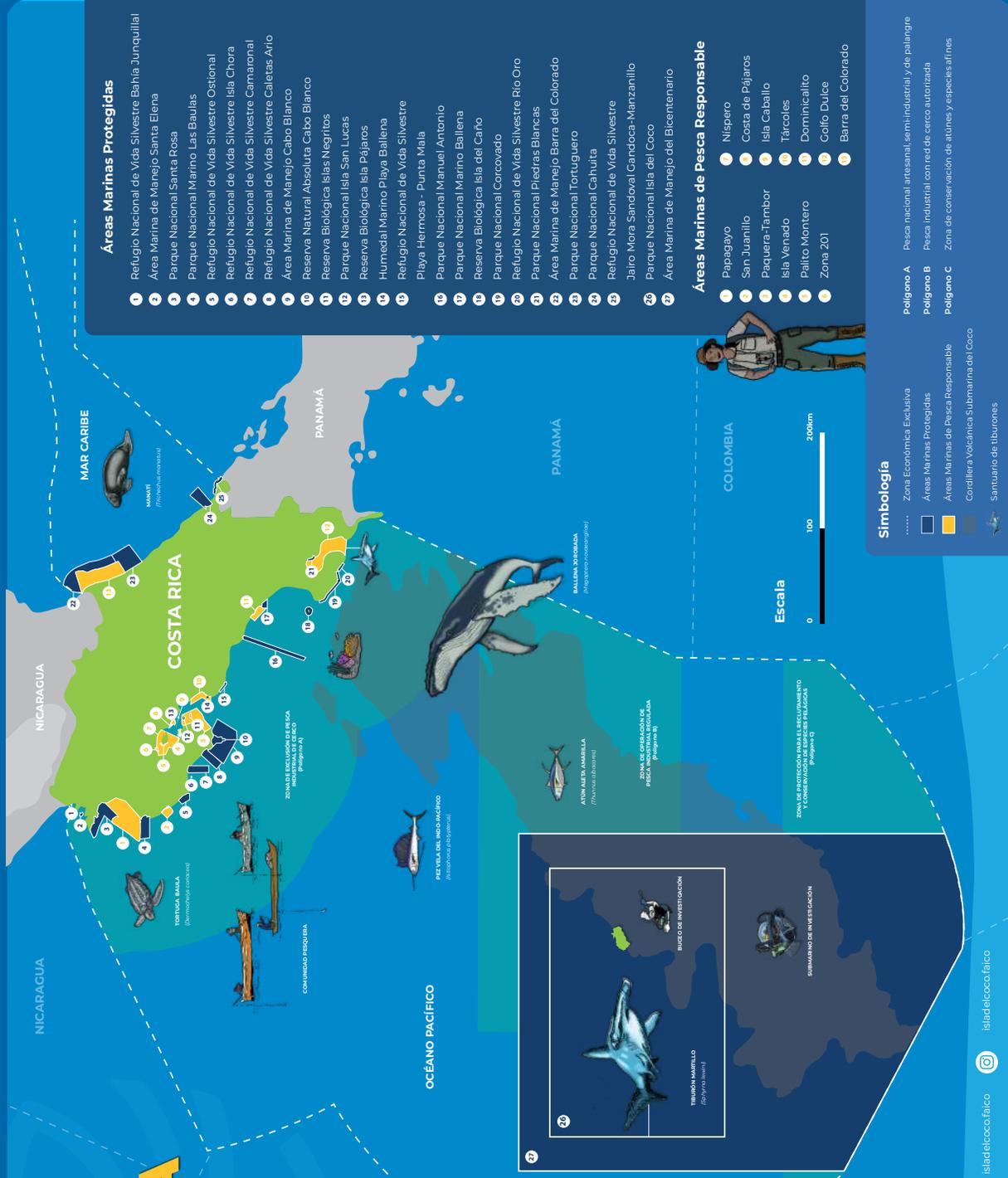
info@cocosisland.org



isladecocoofaico



isladecocoofaico



Áreas Marinas Protegidas

- 1 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Bahía Junquillal
- 2 Área Marina de Manejo Santa Elena
- 3 Parque Nacional Santa Rosa
- 4 Parque Nacional Marino Las Baulas
- 5 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Ostional
- 6 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Isla Chora
- 7 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Camaronal
- 8 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Caletas Afío
- 9 Área Marina de Manejo Cabo Blanco
- 10 Reserva Natural Absoluta Cabo Blanco
- 11 Reserva Biológica Islas Negritas
- 12 Parque Nacional Isla San Lucas
- 13 Reserva Biológica Isla Pájaros
- 14 Humedal Marino Playa Ballena
- 15 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre
- 16 Playa Hermosa - Punta Mala
- 17 Parque Nacional Manuel Antonio
- 18 Parque Nacional Marino Ballena
- 19 Reserva Biológica Isla del Caño
- 20 Parque Nacional Corcovado
- 21 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre Río Oro
- 22 Parque Nacional Piedras Blancas
- 23 Área Marina de Manejo Barra del Colorado
- 24 Parque Nacional Tortuguero
- 25 Parque Nacional Cahuita
- 26 Refugio Nacional de Vida Silvestre
- 27 Jairo Mora Sandoval Gandoca-Manzanillo
- 28 Parque Nacional Isla del Coco
- 29 Área Marina de Manejo del Bicentenario

Áreas Marinas de Pesca Responsable

- 1 Papagayo
- 2 San Juanillo
- 3 Paquera-Tambor
- 4 Isla Venado
- 5 Palito Montero
- 6 Zona 201
- 7 Nispero
- 8 Costa de Pájaros
- 9 Isla Caballo
- 10 Tárcoles
- 11 Dominicalito
- 12 Golfo Dulce
- 13 Barra del Colorado

Simbología

- Zona Económica Exclusiva
- Áreas Marinas Protegidas
- Áreas Marinas de Pesca Responsable
- Cordillera Volcánica Submarina del Coco
- Santuario de tiburones

- Polígono A Pesca nacional artesanal, semi-industrial y de palangre
- Polígono B Pesca industrial con red de cerco autorizada
- Polígono C Zona de conservación de atunes y especies afines

Escala



4.4.1.3. CINP Electrical Infrastructure Modernization Project

The remote location of CINP poses significant logistical and operational challenges for the staff responsible for the conservation of this marine and terrestrial area. Among them is **the availability and quality of the electricity supply, which constitutes a critical issue** to ensure the safety of personnel, the proper functioning of equipment and of existing infrastructure on site, among other things.

Aware of this need, **Faico, together with ACMC and SINAC Infrastructure Department, designed a comprehensive modernization project for the electrical system based in Wafer Bay**, to have a more reliable, efficient, and sustainable system over time, promoting ecological transition processes.

The project includes the rehabilitation of the electrical network, the replacement of the wiring due to its constant exposure to humidity and salinity, as well as the installation of modern electrical panels with protection against overloads and short circuits. In addition, **a microgrid was developed that will integrate existing hydroelectric generation with a complementary system of solar panels (photovoltaic energy)**, along with a comprehensive system of protection, electrical safety, monitoring, and remote control.

This investment will ensure the continuity of communication, control, and surveillance systems, increase autonomy and energy resilience, optimize resource use and reduce the carbon footprint. In addition to having a robust infrastructure that supports research, environmental monitoring and control of threats such as illegal fishing and ensuring that park rangers have increasingly better conditions during their average stay of 30 days according to their work roles.



It is important to mention that as part of the coordination efforts for this project, ACMC and Faico have organized joint actions and meetings with the Costa Rican Electricity Institute (ICE).

4.4.1.4. Contribution to ACMC Prevention, Protection, and Control Plan

a. Socialization Dynamics

The Prevention, Protection, and Control Plan (PPCP) of ACMC was presented to 30 key players linked to its development and execution, with the purpose of sharing its main findings and involving the participating organizations in its implementation. The objective of the plan is to reduce the incidence of threats to the focal elements of management through the design and implementation of strategies and actions aimed at strengthening biodiversity. During the activity, progress in the implementation of the Marine Protection System, developed with the support of WildAid, was also presented, and a participatory exercise was carried out in which the actors present identified their possible contributions, commitments, and coordination mechanisms, compiling a total of **93 inputs distributed across the 10 strategic pillars of the Plan.**

Additionally, a forum was held with the objective of exchanging regional experiences regarding the PPCP and Monitoring Centers, incorporating lessons learned from other initiatives in the region to enrich and strengthen the work being carried out in Costa Rica, with representatives from the Galapagos National Park, national natural parks of Colombia, and Costa Rican professionals who support the monitoring, control, and surveillance efforts of ACMC.

b. Maintenance of Vessels

Faico continued its support related to vessel maintenance, and in 2025 the main investments were directed to the vessel "Punta Negra" and "Don Vini," both essential for the development of prevention and control activities, as well as for the execution of ac-



tions related to the management of sustainable tourism, which will be in operation again at the beginning of 2026.

c. Investments Aimed at the Acquisition of Equipment

In accordance with the activities prioritized in the plan, Faico invested in the acquisition of **25 communication radios and long-range antennas for CINP**, with the aim of improving the coordination and attention to tourism and conservation activities, reducing response times to possible emergencies, optimizing the safety of personnel in the development of their daily tasks, and facilitating operations in areas where traditional means of communication are ineffective.

d. Support to SINAC-ACMC Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance Center

As part of an existing partnership with Fondo Azul, the continuation of initiatives driven by WildAid and requirements established by ACMC, Faico managed the hiring of **two specialists for the CMCV of ACMC**, with the objective of receiving tutoring, training, and technical support for the analysis of data and processes associated with the control center, thus allowing the strengthening of the institutional capacities of ACMC and implementation of key activities established in instruments such as the General Management Plan of CINP, the Marine Protection System (MPS), and the PPCP of ACMC. It also helps to highlight the challenge and need to have the necessary technical capacity to create permanent positions from SINAC, within the framework of the commitments made with the Costa Rica Blue Fund project.

e. Faico - WildAid Strategic Cooperation Model

Given that control and surveillance are fundamental issues in the management of marine



protected areas, Faico highlights the importance and results obtained from the existing working group between Faico and WildAid. This has allowed for complementary investments and ensured that efforts are not duplicated, but rather maximized, becoming a vital working model that significantly benefits ACMC.

4.4.1.5. **Contribution to the Adaptation and Mitigation Plan for Climate Change in ACMC and Risk Management.**

a. Socialization Dynamics

ACMC Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation and Risk Management Plan was presented to **47 key players** related to its execution, with the purpose of involving the participating organizations in its implementation. This tool identifies the main impacts associated with climate change in this area, including rising sea levels, ocean acidification, increased sea surface temperature, and the intensification of extreme weather events. The socialization of the plan was carried out in coordination with the General Management Plan of CINP, strengthening the integration of the **adaptation, mitigation, and risk management approaches** in ACMC planning instruments.

b. Start of Training Related to Climate Change

During 2025, the planning and hiring process began for an environmental interpreter, who will oversee designing and implementing a training program aimed at park rangers and key actors of ACMC, to be implemented in 2026.

These training sessions will be geared towards strengthening basic knowledge about climate change, as well as understanding the main



results of the plan, which includes a climate risk assessment and estimates of greenhouse gas emissions.

Additionally, the program will incorporate results of scientific research developed at ACMC, which address the assessment of the impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems, including the effects of ocean warming and the expansion of oxygen minimum zones; the analysis of the climate and fisheries vulnerability of key species; the role of Cocos Island National Park and adjacent marine areas in the protection of highly migratory species; as well as prospective assessments on the future of priority species in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor.

c. Investments Aimed at Purchasing Equipment

It is essential to have *in situ* measurements of oceanographic variables that allow establishing a baseline reference and, in turn, complementing and validating the information obtained through satellite sensors. This data is a key input for monitoring and strengthening scientific research at APMC.

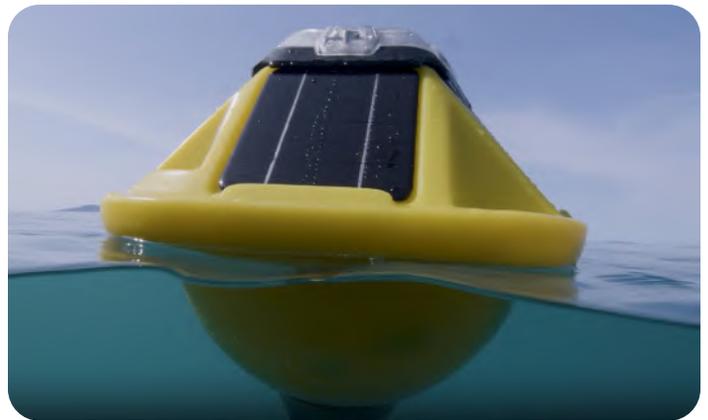
Therefore, and following recommendations from international experts, particularly from experiences developed in the Galapagos National Park, during 2025, all the necessary technical, administrative, and financial steps were taken for the **Acquisition of APMC's first own oceanographic buoy**. As a result of this process, the buoy was successfully acquired and is expected to arrive in early 2026, followed by its official donation and installation in CINP.

Additionally, as part of the implementation process, training of APMC personnel is planned in aspects related to the installation, operation, maintenance, and data capture and analysis, with the technical advice of the supplier company.

d. Ocean Prediction for Costa Rica Project (OP4CR)

Faico is a partner of the project **Ocean Prediction for Costa Rica (OP4CR)**, with its main initiative aimed at facilitating access to, and use of, oceanographic and climatic information relevant to the marine management of APMC, with **Cocos Island as one of the pilot sites selected by Mercator Ocean International**, a world-leading organization in oceanography and ocean forecasting.

Faico, in support of the leadership of APMC, MINAE, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, actively participates in the formulation of recommendations to optimize the use of the platform, as well as in training processes for



its proper use, allowing the strengthening of technical capacities for the interpretation of data and its application in the management of marine protected areas in the long term.

4.4.1.6. **Contribution to CINP Marine Tourism Impact Monitoring Plan and APMC Tourism Good Practices Guide**

a. Socialization Dynamics

The Monitoring Plan for the Impact of Marine Tourism on CINP, as well as the Guide to Good Practices for Sustainable Tourism, were shared with key stakeholders involved in its implementation. During the activity, which included the participation of **47 stakeholders**, the objectives of the Monitoring Plan, its areas of action, the construction methodology, as well as the actions, indicators, and established goals were reviewed.

In the case of the Good Practices Guide, it is noteworthy that the document incorporates specific guidelines for different aspects of the visit to CINP, such as navigation and vessel management, underwater activities, and the observation of marine fauna. In addition, **it includes best practices for visiting historical sites on the island, bird watching, and biosecurity standards applicable to both aquatic and terrestrial activities.**

b. Capacity Building

During 2025, **two virtual training sessions aimed at park rangers** of CINP were carried out. This plan constitutes a strategic tool to comprehensively evaluate the effects of tourist visitation in the protected area, generating key technical inputs for decision-making in management and conservation.

The training process focused on the transfer of knowledge and practical tools aimed at



standardizing the collection, systematization, and analysis of data associated with marine tourism. Through the understanding and application of the indicators defined in the plan, the aim was to **build staff skills to identify anthropogenic pressures, record interactions with wildlife, assess diving practices, and document violations, as well as visitor perceptions.**

c. Signage for Regional Offices and Protected Wildlife Areas

Faico collaborated again with the **Renewal of signage at ACMC Regional Offices, as well as the installation of new signage on the "Doña Dulce" trail in CINP**, contributing to better identification, orientation, and communication for staff and visitors.

d. CINP Visitor Management Platform

Faico developed, together with ACMC, a **tourist visitation and diving control system**, which successfully completed its testing phase and began its implementation process. The results obtained confirmed that the platform meets the functional and performance requirements established by the Sustainable Tourism Coordination of ACMC.

The improvements incorporated have significantly reduced the time required to process visitor information, as well as optimizing the time and accuracy in the preparation of statistical reports. **The system facilitates the automatic processing of data from multiple sources and generates real-time reports, strengthening operational decision-making.**

4.4.1.7. Contribution to ACMC Communication Plan

Faico provided support for the implementation of ACMC's communication plan, updating and developing complementary and parallel communication actions to improve the organization's coherence and capacity to inform, raise awareness, and influence more effectively on issues related to marine management and conservation, through the following actions:



a. Equipment Acquisition

To improve the technical conditions for content production, activity registration, and disclosure of actions from CINP, **equipment was purchased, such as dry boxes, photographic cameras, and others aimed at the storage of audiovisual material, and also including training for three officials in piloting unmanned vehicles (drones).**



4.4.2. Cooperation Channeled Through the Costa Rican Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture

4.4.2.1. Inter-Institutional Support Towards the Effective Management of the Bicentennial Marine Management Area

Following ACMC expansion process in 2021, Faico continues to diversify its cooperation with an inter-institutional vision according to the regulations and guidelines established by government authorities, and as part of the **framework agreement between Faico and INCOPECA**. The following actions were carried out:

a. Analysis of FID and LRP Data

Following the successful digitization process of 28,358 forms from 2017 to 2020, initiated in 2023, through which INCOPECA records information on the fishing operations of the longline fleet, Faico, at the request of this institution, collaborated in carrying out a **diagnosis of the quality of information contained in the databases of the Landing Inspection Forms (FID) and the Fishing Record Books (LRP)** which include the Set Registration Form, the Operations Form, and the Transshipment Registration Form.



INSTITUTO COSTARRICENSE
PESCA Y ACUICULTURA

GOBIERNO
DE COSTA RICA



The purpose of this diagnosis was to analyze the integrity and consistency of the **data available in FIDs and LRPs in the period 2017-2024**, to generate technical recommendations aimed at improving the procedures for collecting, processing, and validating information, thus strengthening the quality and reliability of the available data.

As a result of this process, it was possible to identify common and recurring errors, information gaps, and patterns of inconsistency in the way users filled out the forms. These findings and inputs are key to the continuous improvement of registration systems and to strengthening the management and analysis of fisheries information at the national level.

b. Training for the Longline Fishing Sector in Cuajiniquil, Golfito, and Quepos

Based on the diagnosis described in the previous section, one of the main recommendations was the implementation of training aimed at fishermen, captains, and shipowners on the importance of recording truthful, complete, and consistent data in FIDs and LRPs. **These actions were planned for the country's main fishing communities.** These include Cuajiniquil, Playas del Coco, Quepos, Puntarenas, Golfito, and Limón.

Therefore, Faico provided logistical support to INCOPECA for these training sessions, which focused on the correct completion of the forms, as well as on highlighting the importance of the information collected for fisheries management and regulation. During the sessions, the main results of the diagnosis of the quality of the information were also presented, allowing participants to learn first-hand about the most frequent errors and the identified opportunities for improvement.



The training sessions began in the community of Cuajiniquil, followed by Golfito and Quepos. It is expected that during the next year, these activities will be extended to the remaining fishing communities, to progressively enhance the quality of the records and the participation of the longline sector in the generation of reliable information.

c. Integration and Migration of Historical and Real-Time Data from Ufind

INCOPECSA has a Satellite Monitoring Center, whose objective is to monitor the national fishing fleet and support compliance with current fishing regulations. For the operation of this center, the institution uses different satellite monitoring platforms, including CLS and Ufind, which allow the remote tracking of vessels.

Since the information generated by these platforms is displayed on independent systems, **INCOPECSA identified the need for a mechanism that would allow the integration of data for operational use.** In this context, the institution formally requested Faico's support to accompany this information integration process, as well as to address the technical requirements associated with data management and storage.

In response to this request and with technical collaboration from Global Fishing Watch (GFW) and funding from the Central America Regional Security Initiative, Faico supported the hiring of Ufind for the **incorporation of data from CLS devices within a single visualization tool.** This integration allows INCOPECSA and other entities with current agreements to access the information generated by both platforms. It was also established that the data from the **vessels oper-**



ating with the Ufind system can be viewed in real time during years 2025–2026, and access is granted to historical information corresponding to the last three years of the national fishing fleet.

d. Information Technology Equipment

As part of the data integration process described above, INCOPECSA informed Faico about the need for adequate technological infrastructure that would allow the secure reception, storage, and management of historical information transmitted and managed by the Ufind platform. Faico supported INCOPECSA **in the acquisition of new servers, cameras, and monitors,** in accordance with the technical specifications of the equipment defined by the information technology professionals of INCOPECSA.

4.4.3. Contribution to Activities with Partners with an Educational and Environmental Awareness Focus

4.4.3.1. Partnership for Marine Education and Conservation

Faico, with the support of ACMC, the Pacific Marine Park, and the Ministry of Public Education, signed a letter of understanding for the design and piloting of an **educational module in marine education**.

This letter seeks to strengthen marine and coastal education in Costa Rica, through the design and implementation of a replicable educational module that allows raising awareness among educational communities about the importance of conserving marine ecosystems, through the formation of a Partnership for Marine Education between Faico, the Marine Park with the technical supervision of ACMC, and the Department of Health and Environment of the Ministry of Public Education.

In 2025, the contract with Llatebo S.A. was formalized to design, implement, and validate a marine-coastal educational module for public and private educational centers in the Pacific region of Costa Rica. This module is replicable and contributes to the environmental education of students through contextualized workshops, pursuant to the guidelines of the Ministry of Public Education, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the conservation strategies of Faico and institutional partners.

4.4.3.2. Activities Within the National Territory

During 2025, Faico participated in activities such as Ferimar, in Quepos; beach cleanups, in the province of Puntarenas; the Ocean Festival, in La Cruz, Guanacaste; National Parks



Month and Day, in Orotina; Ocean Day, in the Marine Park; the Women Leaders Workshop, in Guanacaste; the ESRI Congress; and exhibits at IICA, among others.

These spaces allow us to raise awareness among different sectors about the importance of marine conservation, the work of Faico, its cooperation model with ACMC, and the strategic role of all its partners.

During these events, Faico provides financial cooperation and external signage, and actively coordinates a joint presence with ACMC, which Faico has equipped with its own stand and educational materials through various projects.

4.5. FOCUS OF WORK

COMMUNICATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

4.5.1. Dissemination Actions and Products

4.5.1.1. Digital Platforms and Other Dissemination Tools

Faico prepared **204** publications on our social networks, because of sustained and planned management of institutional digital channels. This content production allowed us to maintain an active and constant presence; strengthen the organization's positioning; highlight conservation actions, projects, and strategic partnerships; and promote public awareness on the importance of protecting Cocos Island and its adjacent marine ecosystems. **Information on Faico's participation in UNOC was one of the publications with the greatest acceptance and follow-up by different audiences.**



The current channels and platforms are:

-  **Website:** www.cocosisland.org
-  **Facebook:** Amigos Isla del Coco
-  **Instagram:** isladelcoco.Faico
-  **LinkedIn:** Faico Amigos Isla del Coco
-  **Youtube:** Faico Amigos Isla del Coco
-  **Spotify:** La Isla y sus Voces: Descubriendo el Parque Nacional Isla del Coco

4.5.1.2. The Cocos Island Geoportal

Faico, together with APMC, launched the Cocos Island Geoportal in January 2025, including information from CINP and the BMMA.

This publicly accessible tool allows researchers, decision-makers, and the public to view interactive 3D maps; consult and download updated scientific data on topography, biodiversity, marine ecosystems, geology, and history; as well as perform spatial analyses and generate customized reports, strengthening Faico's efforts on environmental education and scientific dissemination, together with national and international strategic partners.

The Geoportal includes a Costa Rica Marine Management Viewer, which is a strategic tool to support public management that allows for an integrated view of the use, regulation, and conservation of the marine space in both the Pacific and Caribbean of Costa Rica. This interactive viewer provides access to official and updated information layers that include the Marine Protected Areas managed by SINAC; the Marine Areas of Responsible Fishing, intended for small-scale artisanal fishing by coastal communities; the areas with limitations or restrictions for fishing activities



—particularly associated with tuna fishing in the Pacific; and the legal zoning applicable to the Exclusive Economic Zone.

4.5.1.3. Website, a News Space About the Work of Faico and Its Partners

The organization's website included at least 35 notes in English and Spanish on its institutional website, providing in-depth information on project progress, results achieved, partnerships, events and conservation actions, as well as offering updated and valuable information for donors, partners, and the public, thus enhancing institutional visibility and credibility.



This space was made possible by the broadcast of at least 12 press releases in coordination with ACMC and other strategic partners, because of coordinated institutional communication efforts.

For more information, please visit:

 <https://cocosisland.org/noticias-Faico/>

4.5.1.4. **Mareas (Tides): Newsletter**

Faico launched four editions of *Mareas*, a bimonthly digital newsletter aimed at highlighting the conservation efforts taking place in Cocos Island National Park and the region, which is distributed by email and linked to content on social media and the website, expanding the reach of the messages and strengthening Faico's relationship with its support community and strategic partners.

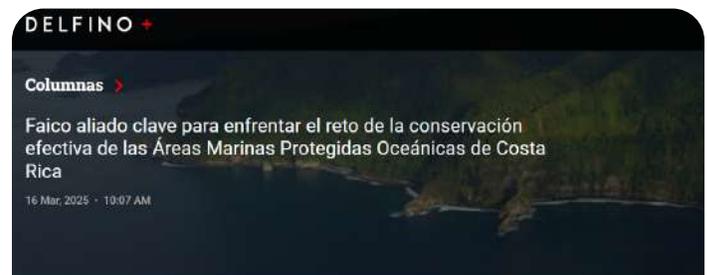
Those interested in receiving it can subscribe via the QR code:



4.5.1.5. **Mareas (Tides): A column in partnership with Delfino.cr**

Faico launched a column called *Mareas*, in partnership with the communication media **Delfino.cr**, which consists of a monthly opinion column, aimed at reinforcing the narrative on marine conservation and ocean biodiversity in Costa Rica.

During 2025, **six opinion columns** were published, written by experts such as Ana Lorena Guevara, Chair of Friends of Cocos Island; Gina Cuza Jones, Regional Director of the Cocos Marine Conservation Area; Jorge Cortés, member of the Board of Directors of Faico and retired official of the Center for Research in Marine Sciences and Limnology (CIMAR) of the University of Costa Rica; Jair Urriola, Executive Secretary of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR); Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, Chairman and Executive Director of the Global Environment Facility; and Zuleika Pinzón, Project Coordinator of the Pacific Foundation.



Por Ana Lorena Guevara Fernández
Presidenta de la Junta Administrativa de Amigos Isla del Coco.

Los espacios marinos con alguna medida oficial de protección, antes del 2021, era de tan sólo un 2.7% del área total, y es gracias a la ampliación del Parque Nacional Isla del Coco y a la creación del Área Marina de Manejo Bicentenario (AMMB), que se logra aumentar esta cifra a un 31%.

Sin duda, una enorme responsabilidad que asumió la sociedad costarricense, a través del Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación (SINAC), específicamente del Área de Conservación Marina Coco (ACMC), entidades que cuentan con limitados recursos humanos y financieros, para cumplir con su labor de conservar manera efectiva las Áreas Marinas Protegidas del país.

4.5.1.6. Activations in Auto Mercado

As a result of a strategic partnership with Auto Mercado, Faico developed an **immersive environmental education experience at seven points of sale**.

This initiative allowed **to bring the urban public closer to Cocos Island National Park through virtual tours** that recreate diving with emblematic species, the daily life of park rangers, and the main ecosystems of the protected area, complemented by interactive activities and educational spaces.

Due to the success of the experience, it was also shared at the headquarters, at an Auto Mercado supplier fair, at the Cuestamoras central offices, and at SC Johnson de Centroamérica S.A.



4.5.1.7. Communication Campaigns

Faico implemented **seven communication campaigns** aimed at positioning strategic marine conservation issues, showcasing institutional projects, and strengthening the link with its various audiences, **such as one aimed at socializing the General Management Plan for CINP and another associated with the celebration of Parks Month**, in coordination with the APMC.

4.5.1.8. *La Isla y sus Voces* (The Island and its Voices): *Descubriendo el Parque Nacional Isla del Coco* (discovering Cocos Island National Park)

In coordination with APMC, Faico launched the podcast *La Isla y sus Voces Descubrien-*



do el Parque Nacional Isla del Coco, an initiative aimed at bringing the public closer to the natural, human, and cultural wealth of this National Park through the testimonies of its protagonists.

During 2025, **10 episodes in audio and video format** were published. These are available on platforms such as Spotify, YouTube, and Apple Podcast, which made it possible to highlight the stories of park rangers, scientists, and key players linked to conservation.

The recordings of the episodes involved park ranger Kattia de Ford, representatives of the core sites of the Tropical Eastern Pacific Marine Corridor, and director Jorge Cortes, among others.



4.5.1.9. Map of marine protected areas in the Pacific Marine Park

As part of the celebration of the Ocean Month, **a mural in the Pacific Marine Park** was inaugurated as part of the joint work efforts, facilitating the understanding of the marine and

conservation context by visitors, enhancing the educational experience, and providing access to clear and relevant information.



4.5.2. Knowledge Management

4.5.2.1. Management of Biological Invasions in Island Ecosystems

Faico and ACMC are partners in a regional project led by the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) and the Smithsonian Research Institute, **focused on marine invasive species**. This project includes, as part of its activities, the placement of settlement plaques in the waters of CINP and private docks in Puntarenas, and targeted searches to identify the species present and determine whether they are native or invasive species.

As part of knowledge management efforts, CDF and Faico, with support from ACMC and the Jocoto Conservation Foundation, developed face-to-face activities, including the **Regional Workshop on Risk Analysis of Marine Bioinvasions in Marine Protected Areas of the Eastern Tropical Pacific**, conducted at the Charles Darwin Scientific Station, in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island, Galapagos, from March 26 to 28, 2025, **with 26 participants**. Subsequently, Faico and ACMC participated in an exchange of experiences with CDF experts on invasive species monitoring methods applied in different sites of the Galapagos Islands archipelago.

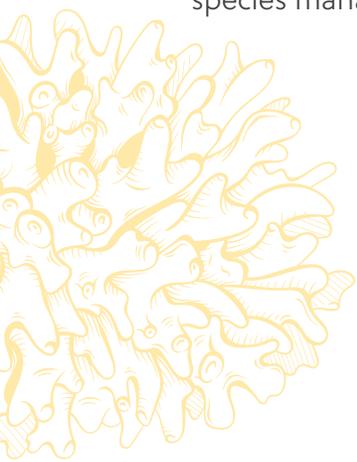
Two workshops were also held in Costa Rica in August. The first one was a **National Workshop on Biological Invasions and Biosecurity, which was attended by approximately 40 people** from various conservation areas of the country, representatives of the academia, non-governmental organizations, and other key actors. Its objective was to promote a common language on basic concepts, implications, and impacts of marine invasive species on ecosystems and human life, as well as to publicize the main actions implemented in



CINP as a replicable model in other marine protected areas. **This process had the technical advice of researchers and experts from the Jocotoco Conservation Foundation and the CDF.**

The second one was a **Regional Workshop for the standardization of biosecurity measures and the establishment of an early warning system, with the participation of 25 people, including representatives from Colombia, Panama, Ecuador, and Costa Rica,** who had previously attended the workshop held in Galapagos, which allowed for continuity of the processes and results obtained. The purpose of this workshop was to learn about the main advances and monitoring programs being developed in the marine protected areas that make up the CMAR, as well as to identify similarities and differences between countries in the management of invasive species, both at the national and regional levels. As a result, a draft regional biosafety protocol was developed, including an early warning system, which will continue to be worked on and refined during 2026.

Subsequently, representatives from the Galapagos National Park and the Agency for Regulation and Control of Biosecurity and Quarantine for Galapagos conducted an **Exchange of experiences in CINP with officials from ACMC and Faico,** to enhance national capacities in biosecurity and invasive species management.



Finally, at the end of November, Faico and ACMC participated in the **Regional Workshop for the standardization and practice of field methodologies for marine bioinvasions**, taken in Coiba National Park, Panama. This event featured the participation of **18 people**, representing the four member countries of CMAR, as well as its new technical coordinator.

4.6. FOCUS OF WORK

RESEARCH AS THE CORNERSTONE OF PROSPERITY

4.6.1. Project "Promoting Deep-Sea Research for Conservation in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Landscape"

Faico continues to support regional scientific research efforts with the project Advancing Deep-Water Research for Conservation in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape, led by the Charles Darwin Foundation.

This regional initiative involves the four countries that make up CMAR and aims **to advance knowledge of the deep ocean of Costa Rica and generate technical inputs that contribute to the design and implementation of protection and conservation measures.**

In July 2025, Costa Rica hosted the project's annual meeting, and by 2025, the project's second year, significant progress had been made in compiling and reviewing existing scientific information on Costa Rica's Ocean



depths, as well as generating new data aimed at addressing the main knowledge gaps identified.

Within the framework of this project, efforts have also been directed towards the development and dissemination of outreach activities, through two presentations at international events such as UNOC.

4.6.2. Mesoplastics

In recent years, Faico has collaborated with the Marine Coastal Studies Laboratory (LEMACO) of the National University (UNA) on various research projects related to plastic pollution, particularly microplastics. On this occasion, and considering that SINAC has the National Ecological Monitoring Program (PRONAMEC), aimed at the systematic monitoring of different ecosystems and focal management elements, support was provided to LEMACO for the development of a proposal for **Protocol for Monitoring Plastic Waste**, with emphasis on mesoplastics in marine-coastal ecosystems and seeks to become a technically viable instrument to support the management of plastic pollution from various sources, the analysis of associated variables, and the establishment of a baseline to guide future research.

4.6.3. Generation of Geospatial Information of Cocos Island Using Photogrammetric and LIDAR Technology

Continuing with the actions developed in the initial phase of this project, led by the University of Costa Rica (UCR) and with the support of Faico and ACMC, during 2025, a field tour



Protocolo para el Monitoreo de Residuos Plásticos enfocado en el Mesoplástico en Ecosistemas Marino-Costeros

Producto 3: "Propuesta de protocolo para el monitoreo de residuos plásticos enfocado al mesoplástico en ecosistemas marino-costeros"

Elaborado por:

Diego Medina de Lemos, Biólogo Marino, Consultor/Investigador

Asesoría y revisión técnica:

Karol Ulate Naranjo, Laboratorio de Estudios Marino Costeros (LEMACO), Universidad Nacional,
Andrea García Rojas, Laboratorio de Estudios Marino Costeros (LEMACO), Universidad Nacional,
Gabriel Rodríguez Castillo, Fundación Amigos Isla del Coco (FAICO), **Debbie López Núñez**,
Fundación Amigos Isla del Coco (FAICO)



was carried out for the execution of photogrammetric and LIDAR flights in strategic sectors of CINP.

These actions allowed **to generate accurate, up-to-date, and high-resolution geospatial information** (including orthophotos, digital terrain models, and three-dimensional data on forest cover, geomorphology and environmental vulnerability) that constitutes a **key technical input to strengthen planning, management, and decision-making in CINP.**

Also, as part of the technical support for the project, Faico donated two Matrice TB65 intelligent flight batteries to the School of Topographic Engineering at UCR, to strengthen the capabilities for the continuous development of photogrammetry projects and high-precision geospatial information surveying.

4.7. FOCUS OF WORK

QUALITY OF LIFE OF PARK RANGERS

Faico, together with WildAid, developed for ACMC **a consultation tool aimed at park rangers**, with the aim of gathering baseline information on their prior knowledge, skills, competencies, and training needs, and developing a **comprehensive continuing education plan with the contribution of 21 officials.**

Based on this **comprehensive training plan**, and with the support of Faico, WildAid, and other strategic partners, **16 training sessions** for ACMC officials were implemented on issues related to prevention, protection, and



UCR Universidad de Costa Rica
8 de agosto de 2025

El Parque Nacional Isla del Coco (PNIC) fue declarado Sitio Patrimonio Natural de la Humanidad por la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia ... [Ver más](#)

La UCR contribuye a dotar de cartografía actualizada a la Isla del Coco
Los científicos obtienen información geoespacial de este lugar mediante un dron.
Foto: cortesía de la Faico, el ACMC y la UCR.

¿Qué es la cartografía?
"Es el arte y ciencia de expresar gráficamente, generalmente mediante mapas, las características naturales y sociales de la Tierra".
Diccionario Sistema de Información Geográfica (GIS, por sus siglas en Inglés) de la empresa Esri
Foto: cortesía de la Faico, el ACMC y la UCR.

En el proyecto colaboran la Escuela de Ingeniería Topográfica (EIT) de la UCR, el Laboratorio Nacional de Materiales y Modelos Estructurales (LanammeUCR), la Fundación Amigos de la Isla del Coco (Faico) y el Área de Conservación Marina Coco (ACMC).
Hasta el momento, se ha sobrevolado aproximadamente un 90 % del lugar.
Foto: cortesía de la Faico, el ACMC y la UCR.

Algunos de los resultados previstos son mapas detallados y datos lidar. Tecnología con un sensor que obtiene información sobre la topografía, la cobertura boscosa, etc. de la zona.
Foto: cortesía de la Faico, el ACMC y la UCR.

Randy Chinchilla, especialista en sistemas de información geográfica de la Faico y del ACMC, indica que el proyecto generará información científica que será utilizada para planificar y ejecutar estrategias de conservación enfocadas para el Parque Nacional Isla del Coco, entre otros beneficios.

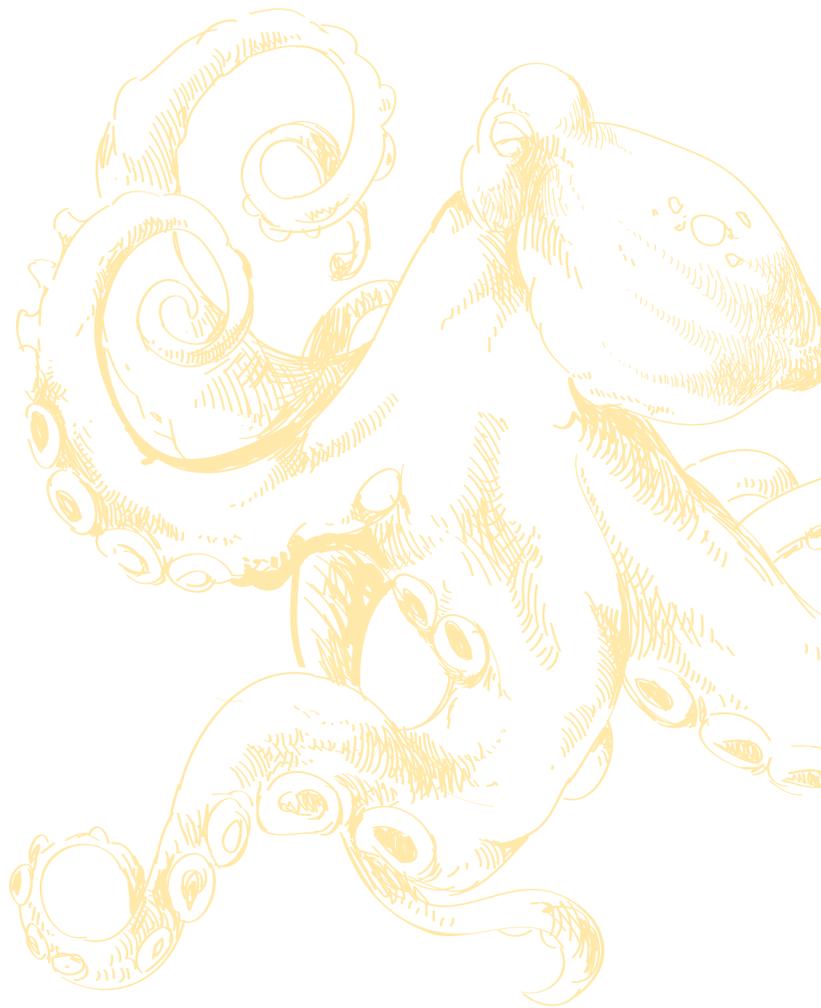


control, tourism, climate change, fisheries management, gender equality, communication management, geographic information systems, and information technologies, contributing to the comprehensive strengthening of the capacities of park rangers.

During 2025, 55 direct requests for cooperation were managed through the Regional Office of the Cocos Marine Conservation Area, amounting to \$65,000.00. These requests correspond to repairs of equipment, vessels, and infrastructure, durable goods such as: washing machines, scales, freezers, air conditioners, IT electronic equipment, as well as food for CINP, mobilization and expenses related to workshops at the local and regional level, external signs, work equipment for park rangers, maintenance of CINP website, environmental education materials, psychological tests, among others.

During 2025, ACMC **responded to two emergencies in CINP involving a researcher and a park ranger, where Faico provided timely and active support**, including the provision of supplies, monitoring of emergencies, development of support maps, and support in the communication strategy, among others.

Given the happenings along the year and considering the isolated conditions of Cocos Island, Faico, together with WildAid, initiated the necessary procedures for ACMC to have a Comprehensive Emergency Plan, incorporating a gender approach. This complements the efforts that ACMC is making to obtain the "INAMU and UNDP Gender Equality Certification and Seal," an initiative that Faico also supports by being part of the monitoring committee.





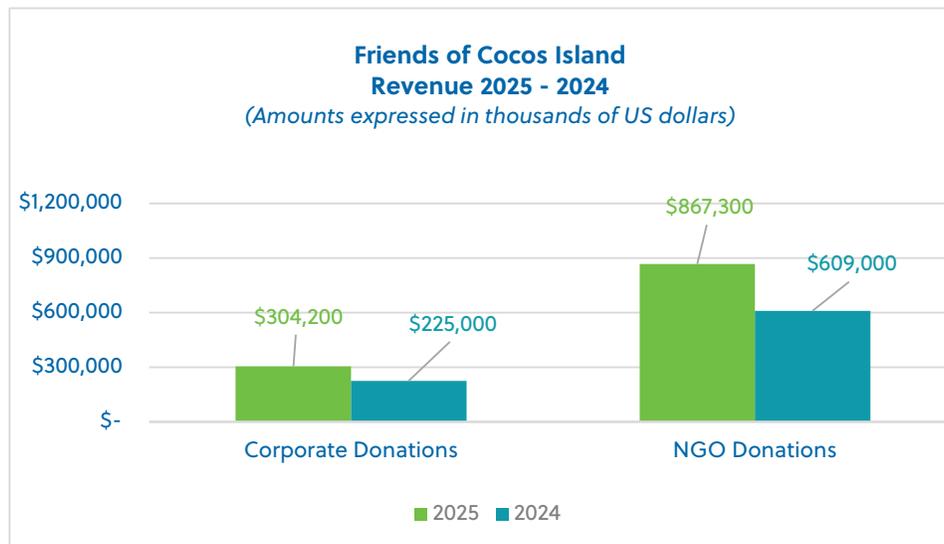
5 FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1. INCOME

In 2023, the main sources of income were voluntary donations from private companies and non-governmental organizations as part of the projects carried out.

Total revenue generated is estimated at **\$1,171,500**, which represents a 40% increase compared to the previous year.

It is important to note that the accounting registration of this income is carried out in accordance with the effective execution of the different projects and activities, including the recording and amortization of deferred liabilities, following IFRS 15 (Revenue from Contracts with Customers).



5.2. EXPENSES

In 2025, Faico's total estimated expenses reached **\$1,306,380**. This represents a 37% increase compared to the previous year, driven by greater execution of activities both for Faico and to support the ACMC for the implementation of projects and strategic partnerships.

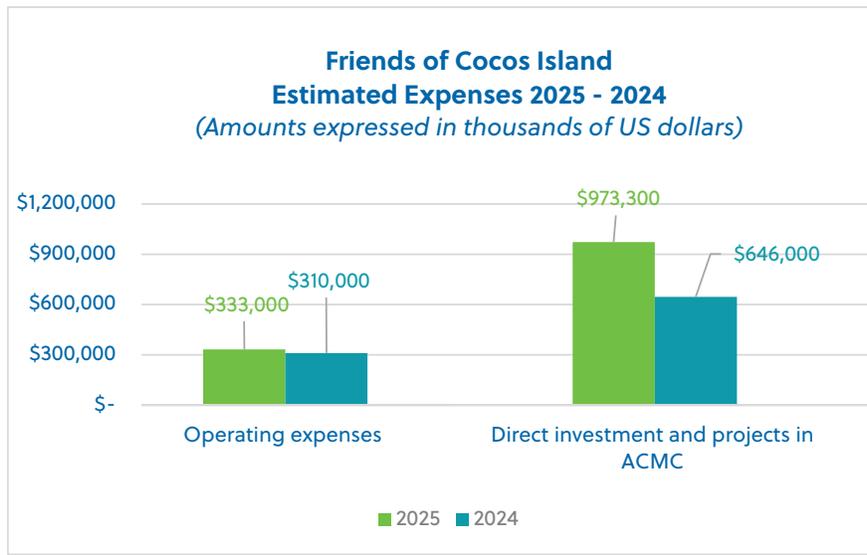
Operating expenses totaled \$333,000 in 2025, which were mainly allocated to strengthening Faico's operational management such as office rental, basic services, supplies, training,

mobilization, labor settlements, and external support for professional services.

Direct investments and projects related to ACMC totaled \$973,300, which include the implementation and execution of 13 ongoing projects, as well as contributions to the Park Ranger Quality of Life Program, and requests for cooperation from the CINP administration. In addition, investments were made for hiring, socialization, and implementation of

specific plans. Some donations were made on the previous year for investments aimed at communication to increase knowledge on Cocos Island, nationally and internationally,

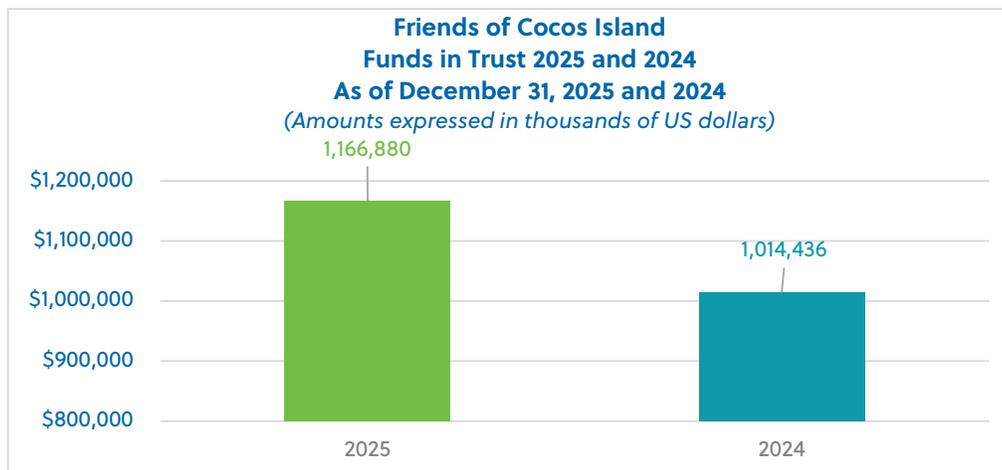
in different forums and events, and exchange of experiences with a national and regional focus, among others.

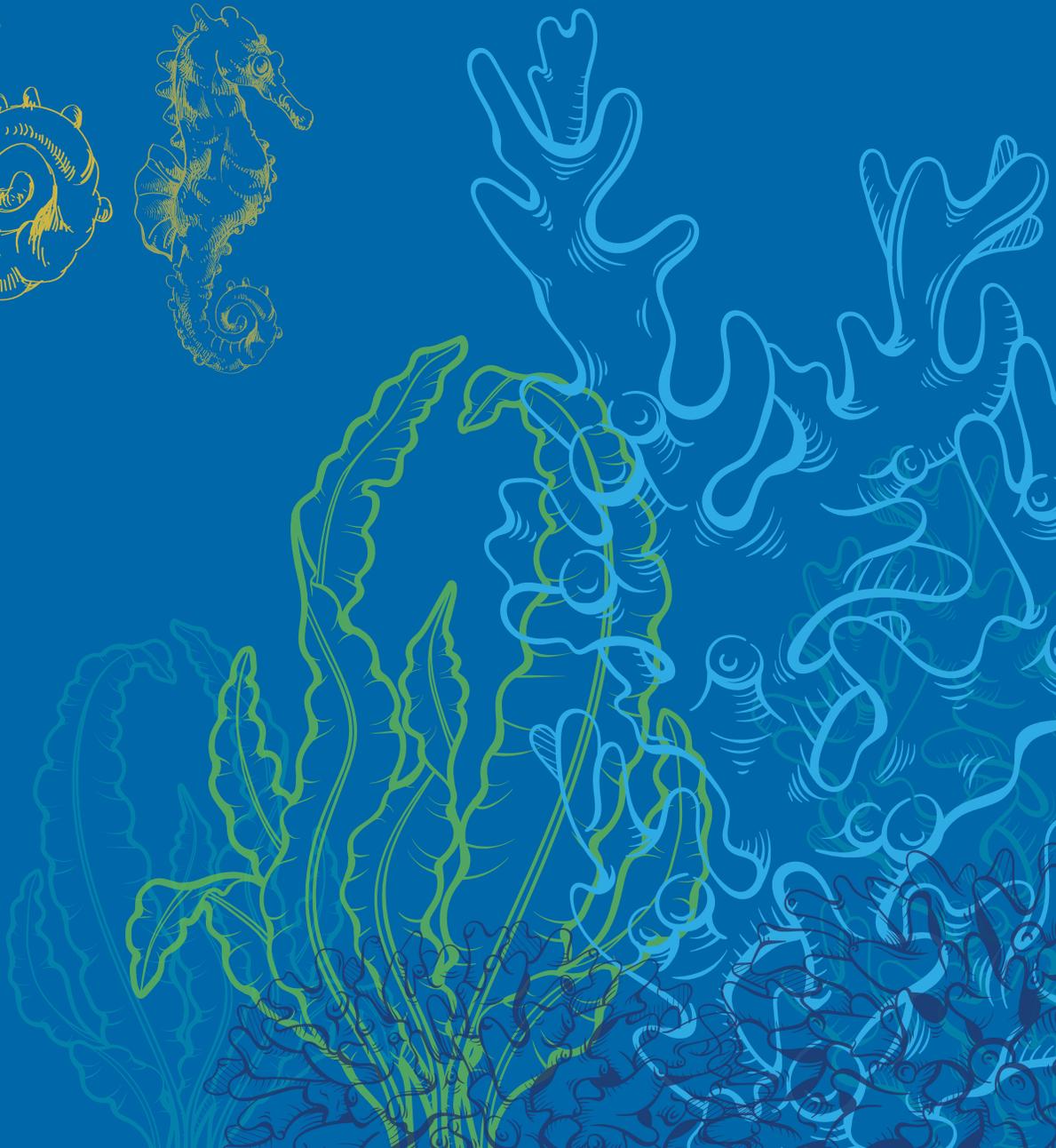


5.3. TRUST

This support fund amounts to approximately US\$1,166,880, as of 31 December 2025, including market value as of that date. Investments made by the trust are in US dollars, in the medium and long term. In 2025, a diversified

investment portfolio was kept to minimize risks and obtain adequate returns. Interest rates applied to the investments ranged between 5% and 7%, which allowed the Trust to generate satisfactory income.







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