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**Experimental Evaluation of Mullet (*Mugil platanus*) Fishery  
in the Bahía de Samborombón, Argentina, a data deficient  
artisanal fishery**

**In collaboration with the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)**

OIA announces that it has commenced an experimental evaluation of the artisanal mullet fishery, in the Samborombon Bay, in Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. This is part of a pilot project being conducted under the auspices of the MSC Programme for Small Scale and Data Deficient fisheries.

The fishery will be assessed for compliance with the MSC standards for a well managed and sustainable fishery to the stage of a first draft of an assessment report. Where there is a lack of information to judge the fishery, the evaluation will use a newly developed method based on a precautionary risk assessment approach to assess the degree of sustainability.

The study will determine the strengths and weaknesses of the new system which has a strong ecological component and relies on the observation and experience of the artisanal fishermen involved and other stakeholders with an interest and/or participation in the fishery. The MSC will use this report with four others from fisheries being considered throughout the world in order to evaluate the new approach and recommend on a future guidance for small scale and data deficient fisheries, as a component of the MSC assessment process.

The Province of Buenos Aires is responsible for the management of the fishery, and is cooperating with OIA, which is also consulting with the various fishery interests.

Contact by fishermen and stakeholders in regard to the evaluation can be made through OIA Pesca (0054 –11- 4508-8300/4793-4340, [pesca@oia.com.ar](mailto:pesca@oia.com.ar)). The Team Leader for the evaluation is Dr. R. Peter Pottinger.

OIA will circulate stakeholders and fishery associations in regard to the provision of information and review and comment on reports produced to the final report stage. **If any stakeholder who has not been contacted at this stage and they wish to be involved, they are invited to contact OIA Pesca immediately.**

Dr. R. Peter Pottinger

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