DANA & IVAN CERNY
FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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CONTENTS

1. INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE 3

2. MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER 6

3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 8

4. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE 9

5. OPERATIONS 2025 10

5.1 IVAN MARINE PARK 10

5.1.1 AREA MAP FOR IVAN MARINE PARK 25

5.1.2 GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF IVAN MARINE PARK 27

5.2 BUOY INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE 29

5.2.1 BUOYS FOR DIVING AND SNORKELING SITES IN THE BAYAHIBE AND SAONA AREA 29

5.3 COASTAL AND SEABED CLEANUPS 31

5.3.1 SUBPROJECT: COLLECTOR FISH 31

5.3.2 SEABED CLEANUPS 33

5.4 USE OF SCUBA TANKS 37

6. INVESTMENTS 39

6.1 TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT 39

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT 41

8. COLLABORATIONS 45

8.1 LA ROMANA-BAYAHIBE TOURISM CLUSTER 45

8.2 ECOSERVICES DOMINICANA 45

8.3 COLLABORATION WITH THE SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS CITY COUNCIL 46

9. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS 49

10. ACTION PLAN 2026 51

1. INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION (DICF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of the oceans, coral reefs, and the collective future. Its mission is to make tourism sustainable by creating a safe environment for the underwater community.

Its main project involves the construction of an underwater park. This new and unique dive site in the region will provide new shelter for marine organisms and a safe space to practice diving courses. The creation of the underwater park aims to reduce the pressure associated with dive traffic on the natural coral reefs and promote their recovery.

Other initiatives also include the maintenance of the mooring buoys around Bayahibe to avoid anchor damage to the reef, organizing cleanup events, and leveraging the team's diving skills to help the community.

MISSION

To create a future in which dive tourism becomes a driving force for marine conservation rather than a threat to it.

Through the creation of the Underwater Park and other ongoing initiatives, the Foundation works to transform dive tourism by promoting sustainable practices that actively contribute to the preservation of valuable marine ecosystems.

VISION

To promote a world where the preservation and sustainable management of oceans and reefs are a priority. At the heart of this vision is the Underwater Park project, which will significantly enhance marine conservation and dive tourism in the area. The intent is that, in the future, the Underwater Park project will be an example of environmental stewardship, offering a distinctive and captivating experience for divers while providing new refuges for marine life to flourish.

Through this innovative project and other initiatives, the Foundation seeks to inspire a movement of conscious people working together to protect and cherish marine ecosystems and ensure their sustainability.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DICF promotes the widespread conservation of the oceans, the ecosystems they comprise, and their sustainable management. Together with the collective effort, it directs its actions toward safeguarding the oceans for present and future generations.



Figure 1. Institutional values in action: environmental conservation and sustainability.

SUSTAINABILITY

DICF is dedicated to promoting sustainable practices in tourism and other social sectors. It advocates responsible and ethical dive tourism practices that minimize negative environmental impacts and maximize positive contributions to marine conservation.

COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION

DICF recognizes the importance of involving local communities in these initiatives. It believes in the power of collaboration and partnership. It seeks to collaborate with individuals, organizations, and communities to amplify the impact and work together toward a common marine conservation goal.



Figure 2. Institutional values in action: community work and awareness.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

DICF believes that education and awareness are essential to communicate the importance of marine ecosystems. Through cleanup initiatives and educational workshops, it seeks to raise awareness about the role of humans as conservation agents to reduce the impact of tourism and improper solid waste management.

OBJECTIVES

- Create a unique artificial reef underwater park in the southeast region of the country for the recreation of divers and the provision of new refuges for marine species.

- Install and maintain safe structures for the anchorage of boats around the coral reefs in the Bayahibe area.

- Promote environmental education through coastal cleanups, seabed cleanups, and educational workshops.

- Collaborate with other foundations dedicated to marine conservation and environmental education in the region.



Figure 3. Geographic area of operation of DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION in the southeast region of the Dominican Republic.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

Dear friends, colleagues, partners, and supporters,

It is with great joy and gratitude that I share with you the progress and successes we have achieved in the past year, 2025.

As many of you already know, our foundation was born from a deep love for my late husband Ivan, the Dominican Republic, the sea, and diving. With every year that passes, I feel even more strongly that this was the right path, and I believe Ivan would be proud of what we are building here together.

I am very happy to share that IVAN MARINE PARK continued to grow during 2025. Step by step, we placed new statues and new types of underwater structures, and the park is getting bigger and more beautiful every month. But what makes me happiest is not the structures themselves, it is the life that has come to them. Fish are attracted to the area in large numbers and are already adopting the structures and the park as their home. Sponges and algae are covering the surfaces, and even the first corals are starting to grow. It is wonderful to see how nature accepts what we have created and slowly turns it into a living reef.

The park is also becoming a place for people. More and more divers and freedivers visit us every month, and many of them share their photos and videos, so the park is becoming known far beyond Bayahibe. For me, this is exactly what IVAN MARINE PARK should be: a place where people can enjoy the beauty of the underwater world, and at the same time a safe home for marine life.

Of course, we continue with our other projects, which are equally important for the local community and for the protection of the environment. We take care of the buoys in the Bayahibe area, we clean the seabed of trash, fishing lines, and nets, and our fish-shaped containers keep collecting plastic bottles on the beaches. I am very proud that this year our fish also “swam” further: in cooperation with the City Council of San Pedro de Macorís, we donated our collector structures to the city, so that the idea of cleaner coasts can grow in other parts of the country too.

2025 was also an important year for our team. Our team continued to grow, and everyone improved their diving training, so today we work more professionally and more safely than ever before. I am still very proud that our team includes a colleague with a hearing impairment, who is a very valuable and important member of our big family.

This year we also acquired a new base of operations, separate from our office. It is a large piece of land where our boat can stay when it is out of the water, where we store and maintain our diving equipment, and where we prepare the buoys and the structures for the park. We have started building it step by step, and it already gives our team the space they need for all the work that does not happen at a desk.

I am also happy that our foundation is becoming known outside of the Dominican Republic. In 2025 we attended the DEMA Show for the first time, and we became business members of DAN (Divers Alert Network). These are important steps that connect us with the international diving community and help us share our mission with more people.

Looking ahead to 2026, we want to continue on this path. IVAN MARINE PARK will keep growing, with more statues and new structures, and we plan to team up with the Reef Ball Foundation and start making our own reef balls, which will give even more marine life a home and help new corals grow in the park.

Thank you all for your support, whether in the form of volunteering, visiting the park, or spreading the word about our projects. Without you, we could not have achieved what we have already achieved today. There is still much work to be done, but with your help, we believe we will continue to be able to make a positive difference and make our vision a reality.

Thank you for standing by our side, and we look forward to the next steps together with you.

Sincerely,

Dana Černá
Founder, Donor, and CEO

3. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION is composed as follows:

Fred Ager – President

Fred Ager began diving in 2001 and quickly became a professional, accumulating more than 20 years of experience in the diving industry. For almost 20 years, he managed a dive center in Bayahibe, developing skills in team and business management and gaining in-depth knowledge of the area and its regulations. Despite his current role as a real estate agent, his passion for the sea led him to join the Foundation, where he serves as president and advisor, guiding marine conservation projects with his extensive experience.

Dana Cerna – Vice President

Dana Cerna is the Vice President and founder of the Foundation. Her passion for the sea and diving, along with her love for the Dominican Republic and her late husband Ivan, motivated her to create the Foundation in 2023. She leads recycling and beach cleanup initiatives and promotes social inclusion through employment in the local community. Her work continues to make a significant difference in marine environmental protection and the sustainable development of the region.

Julie Piron – Member

Julie, originally from Belgium, is a scientist and diving instructor. With a background in geography and oceanography, she is dedicated to marine conservation and education. In 2015, together with her husband, she founded an eco-dive center in Bayahibe, where she organizes educational workshops on marine biology and ecological practices for local children. She brings to the Foundation her experience in conservation, dive tourism, and environmental sustainability, supporting the Foundation's initiatives.

David Pletinckx – Member

David, also from Belgium, began diving in 2006 and moved to the Dominican Republic in 2012 to become a PADI instructor. Together with his wife, he founded an eco-dive center in 2015, focused on marine conservation. He has worked as a volunteer on local environmental projects, including the installation of mooring buoys in Bayahibe.

4. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The current organizational structure of DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION is shown in the following illustration.

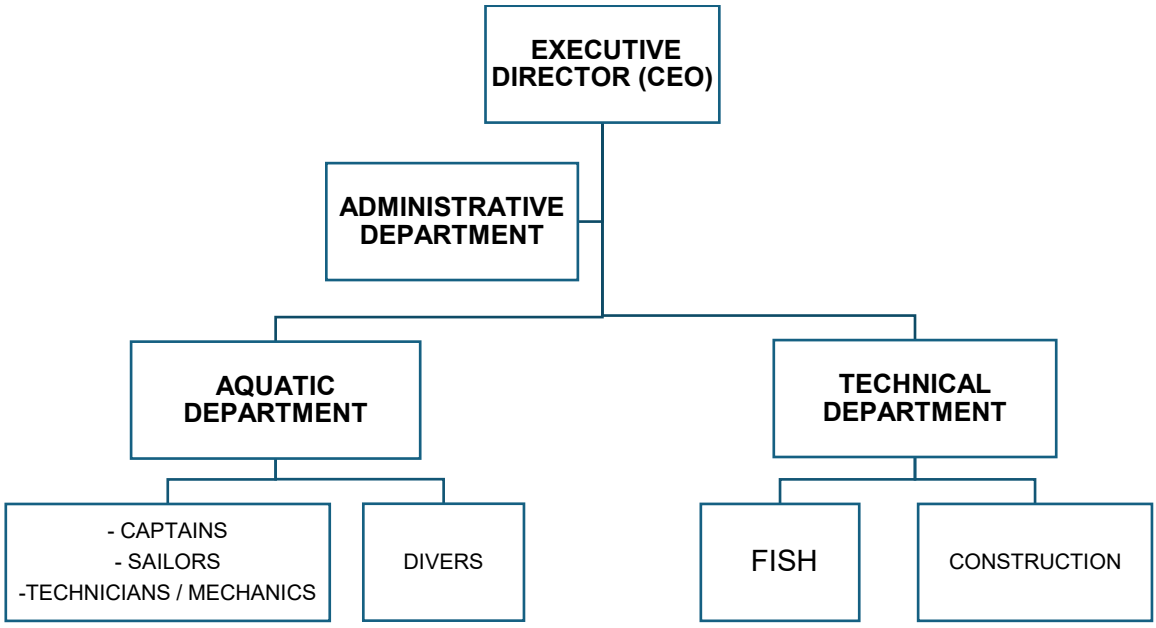


Figure 4. Organizational chart of the Foundation.

The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CEO) leads the organization, overseeing the strategic and operational areas, setting institutional guidelines, and ensuring that the established objectives and plans are met.

The Administrative Department is responsible for financial, accounting, administrative, and human resources management, providing the structural support needed for the Foundation to operate efficiently.

The Aquatic Department is made up of captains, sailors, marine technicians and mechanics, and divers. It is the main operational component of the organization, accounting for more than 80% of the workforce that carries out the institutional projects, including maritime operations, maintenance of marine infrastructure, and environmental intervention days.

The Technical Department acts as a cross-cutting operational support unit, assisting the Aquatic Department and other areas as required. It is also responsible for maintaining the waste collection structures (“fish”) and for manufacturing the cement and aggregate structures used in projects such as IVAN MARINE PARK.

5. OPERATIONS 2025

5.1 IVAN MARINE PARK



Figure 5. Statue of Mr. Ivan Černy.

In 2025, DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION continued its flagship project, now officially known as IVAN MARINE PARK, reaffirming its commitment to marine conservation and the sustainable development of recreational diving in the southeast of the country. Building on the progress made during the previous period, the park entered a new stage of consolidation, marked by the progressive installation of underwater structures designed to improve the marine habitat and expand the shelter available to a variety of species.

During the year, the structures were placed gradually and in stages, so as not to cause abrupt changes to the marine ecosystem that has been forming naturally. Initially, the area where IVAN MARINE PARK is being developed consisted almost entirely of sandy bottom; however, over time there has been a significant increase in the number of marine species that have settled there permanently. This evolution led to adjustments to the initial installation plan, seeking an appropriate balance between creating attractive spaces for divers and freedivers and preserving the marine environment. This preventive approach has contributed significantly to reducing environmental impact and minimizing the risks associated with diving.

In addition, the underwater park continued to play a key role as a training area for beginner divers, providing a controlled and safe environment in which to refine their technical skills, particularly buoyancy control, before diving on natural reefs.

Although the park has not yet been fully developed, from the middle of the year, and unexpectedly, a community of freedivers began visiting the area more frequently, turning IVAN MARINE PARK into a new point of reference for diving and freediving. Toward the end of the year, photos and videos shared on social media sparked the interest of a wider audience in getting to know the project. In this context, IVAN MARINE PARK was added to Google Maps, which over time will help increase its visibility, connect with more people, and attract new visitors.

The photographs below show the different aspects of IVAN MARINE PARK, illustrating the balance described above between its development as an artificial reef underwater park, its role as a training space for divers and freedivers, and the preservation of the marine life that develops naturally in the area.

The images have been arranged to reflect this sequence.



Figure 6. View of the developed area of IVAN MARINE PARK, showing a significant portion of the area worked on.

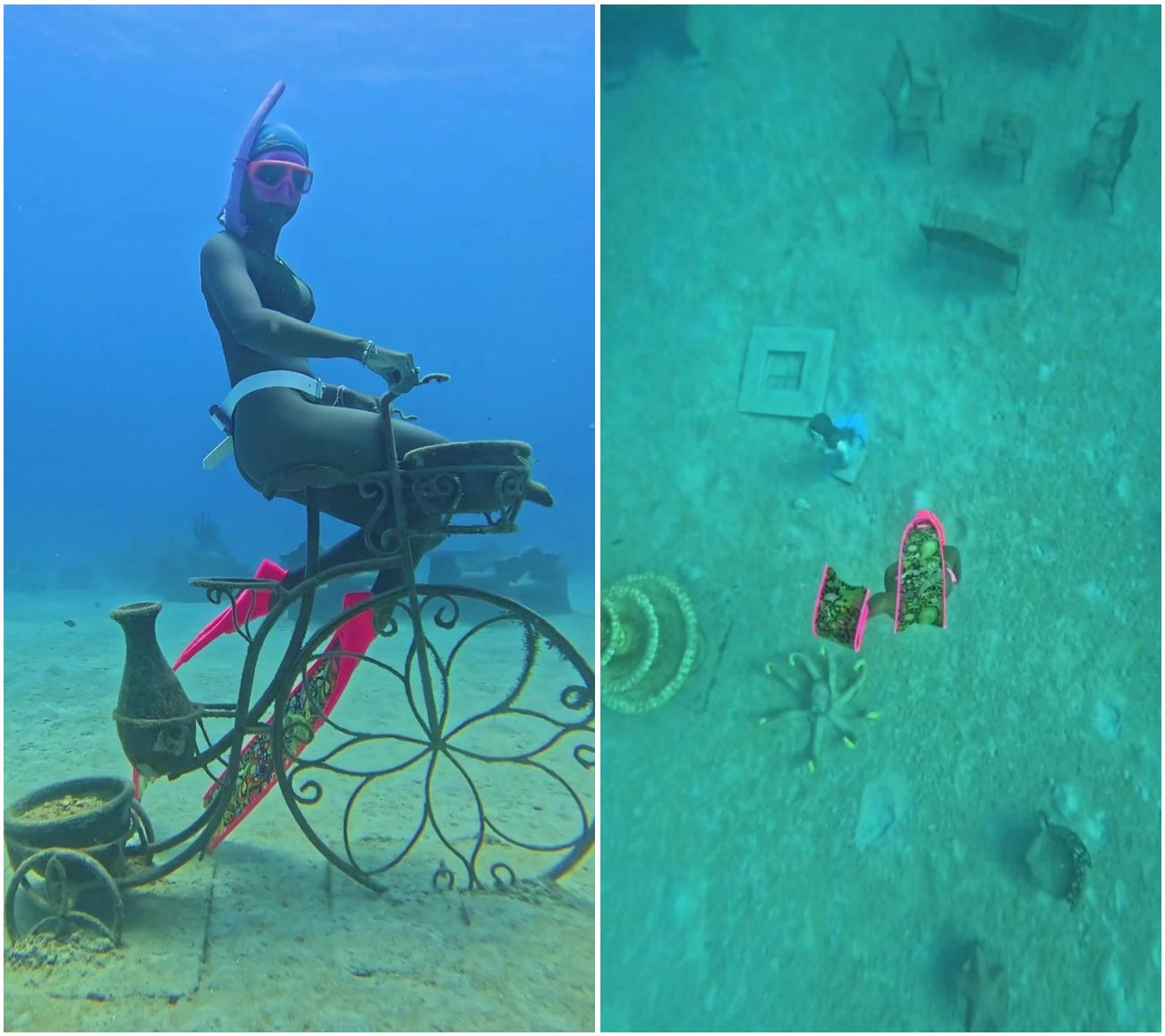


Figure 7. Freediver interacting with the underwater structures of IVAN MARINE PARK as part of a recreational experience.



Figure 8. Freediver interacting with underwater structures of IVAN MARINE PARK during a recreational activity.



Figure 9. Freediver touring the underwater structures of IVAN MARINE PARK as part of a recreational experience.



Figure 10. Freedivers exploring an area of IVAN MARINE PARK featuring underwater structures.



Figure 11. Diver with a ukulele, a gift from a freediver who regularly visits IVAN MARINE PARK.



Figure 12. Underwater structures depicting marine fauna installed at IVAN MARINE PARK.



Figure 13. Blue whale–shaped underwater structure, part of the set of marine animal structures installed at IVAN MARINE PARK.



Figure 14. Installation of a seahorse-shaped underwater structure at IVAN MARINE PARK.

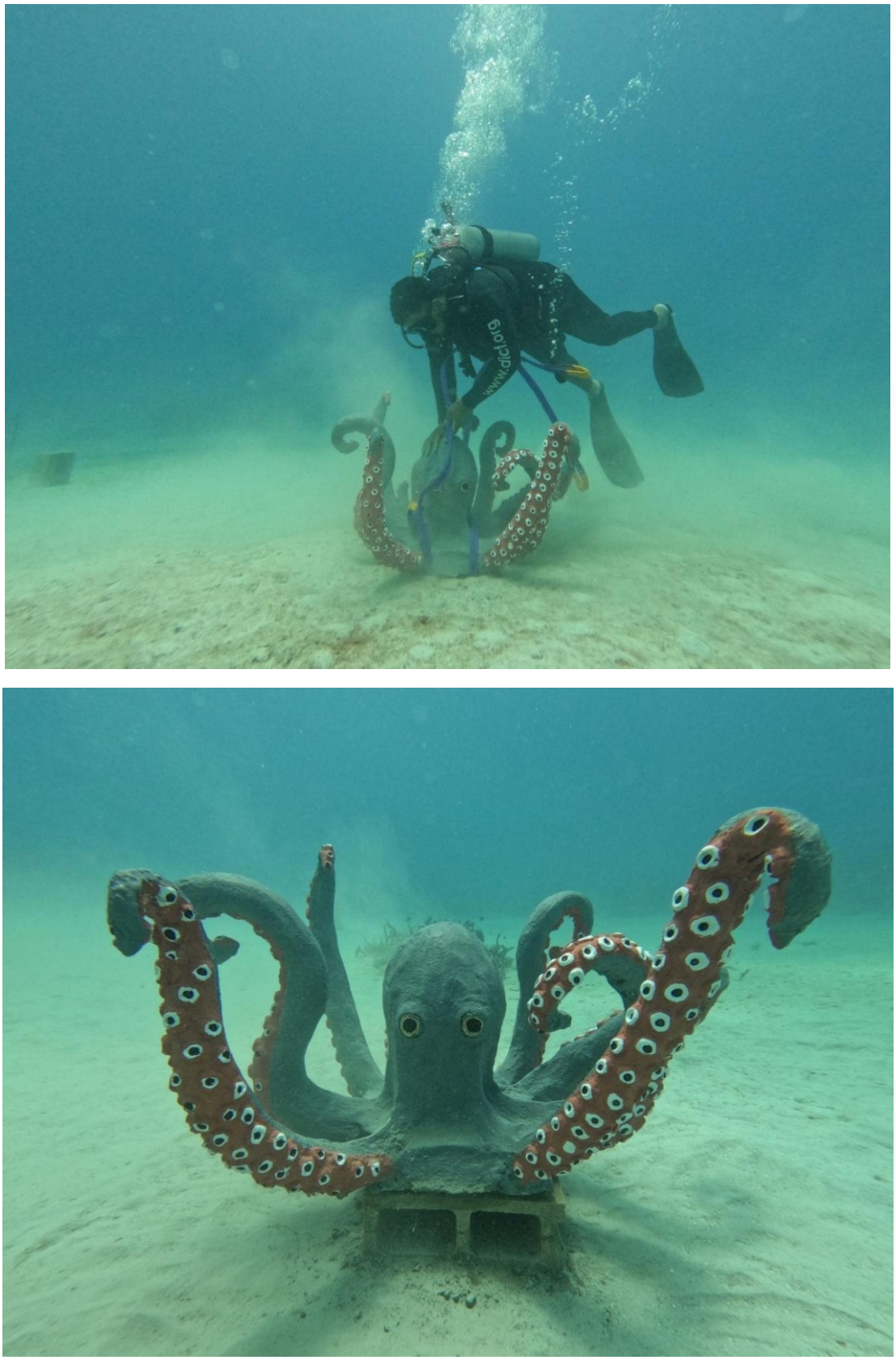


Figure 15. Installation of a seahorse-shaped underwater structure at IVAN MARINE PARK.

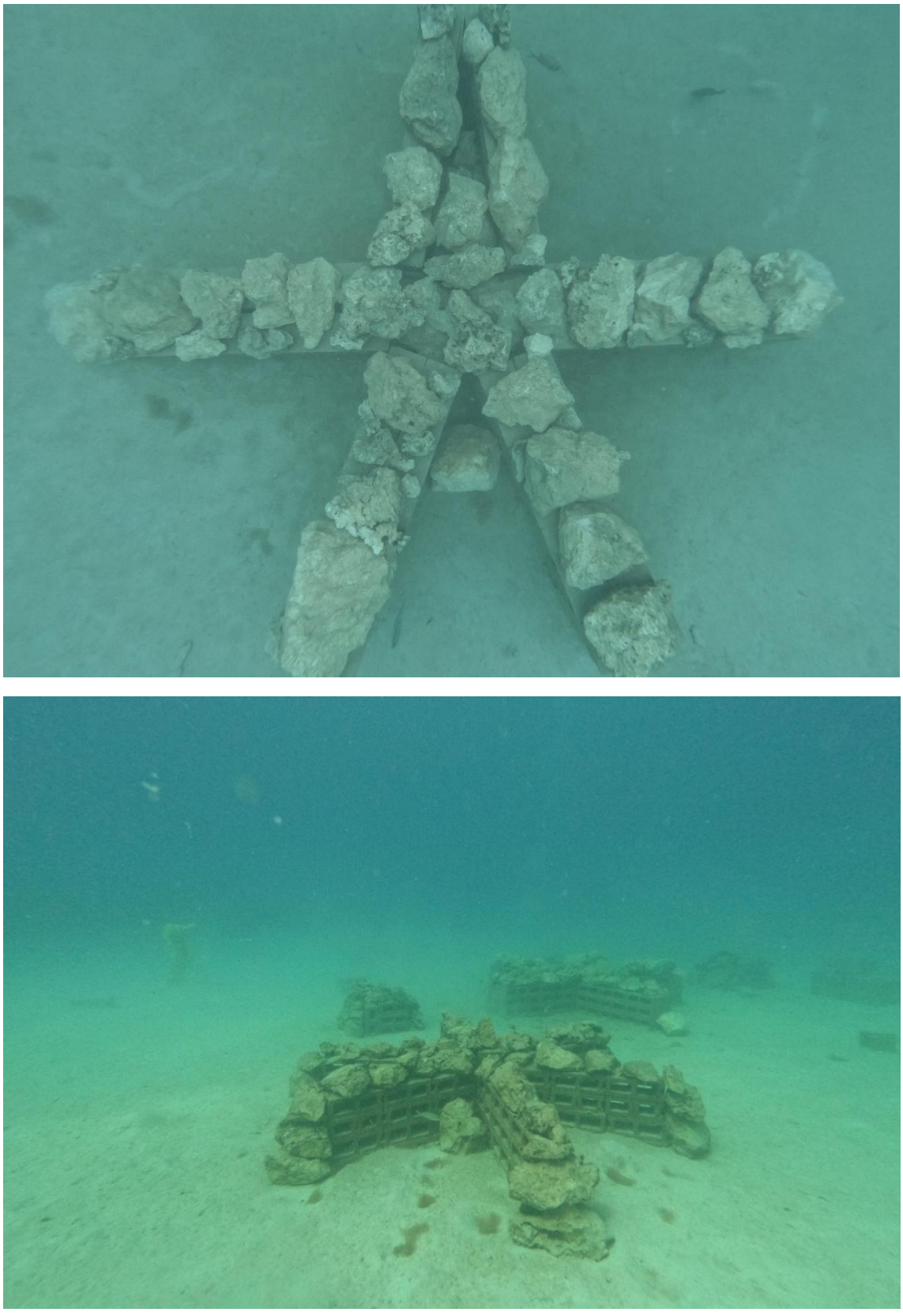


Figure 16. Star-shaped underwater structure built from concrete blocks and coral stone.

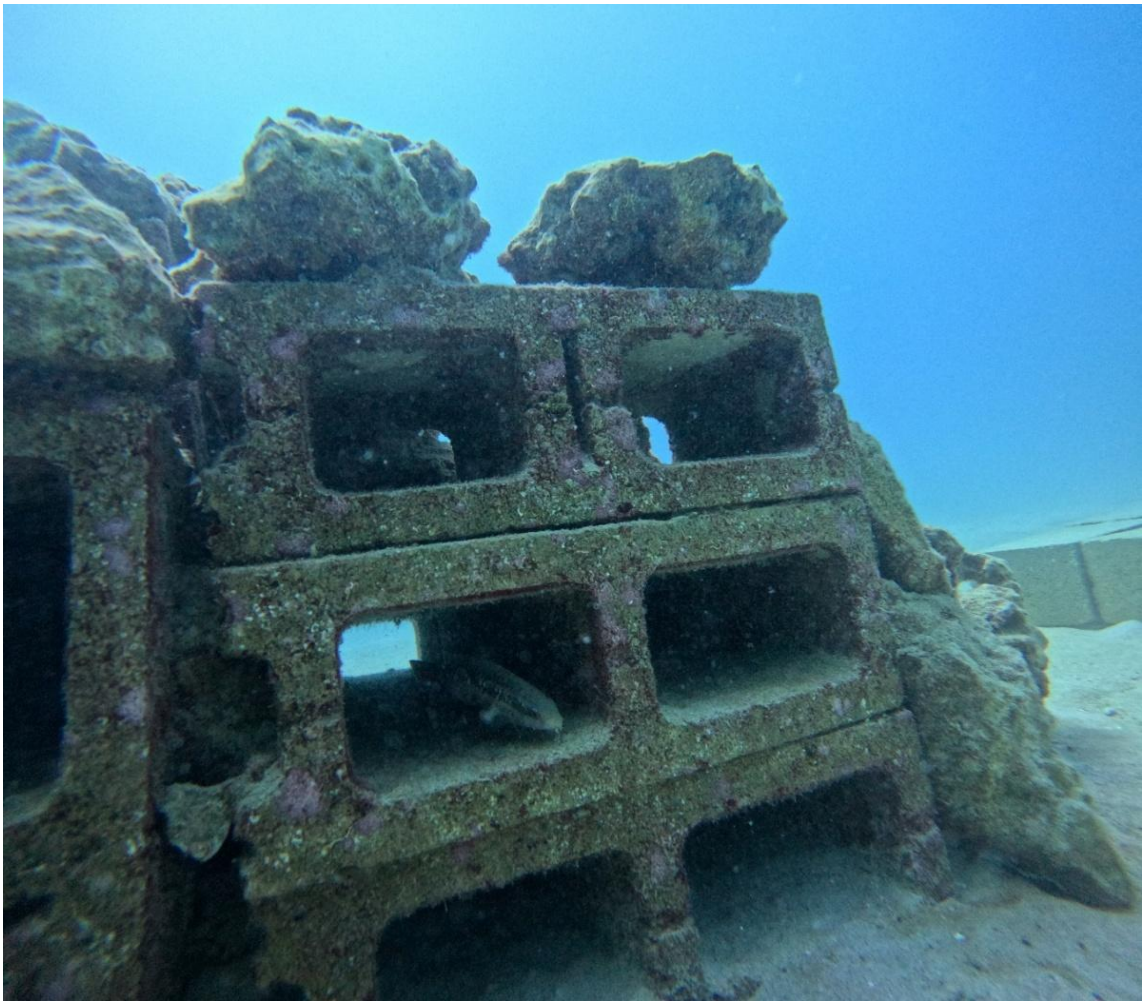


Figure 17. Detail of the star-shaped underwater structure, showing fish using the blocks as shelter.

This section presents photographic records showing how the park's artificial structures are becoming part of the marine environment and are being used by different species and forms of marine life. The images offer a complementary view of the project, focused on ecological interaction and the natural use of the structures by marine fauna.



Figure 18. Presence of marine fauna on artificial structures, showing different occupation patterns: (a) peacock flounder *(Bothus lunatus)* on a turtle-shaped structure; (b) long-spined sea urchin *(Diadema antillarum)* sheltering under one of the tables.



Figure 19. Some species are solitary, while others move in groups, as seen in: (a) sand diver *(Synodus intermedius);* (b) school of fish.



Figure 20. Some species use the less exposed spaces of the park, such as the banded coral shrimp *(Stenopus hispidus).*



Figure 21. Fish moving between the metal structures of the “El Restaurante” section of IVAN MARINE PARK.

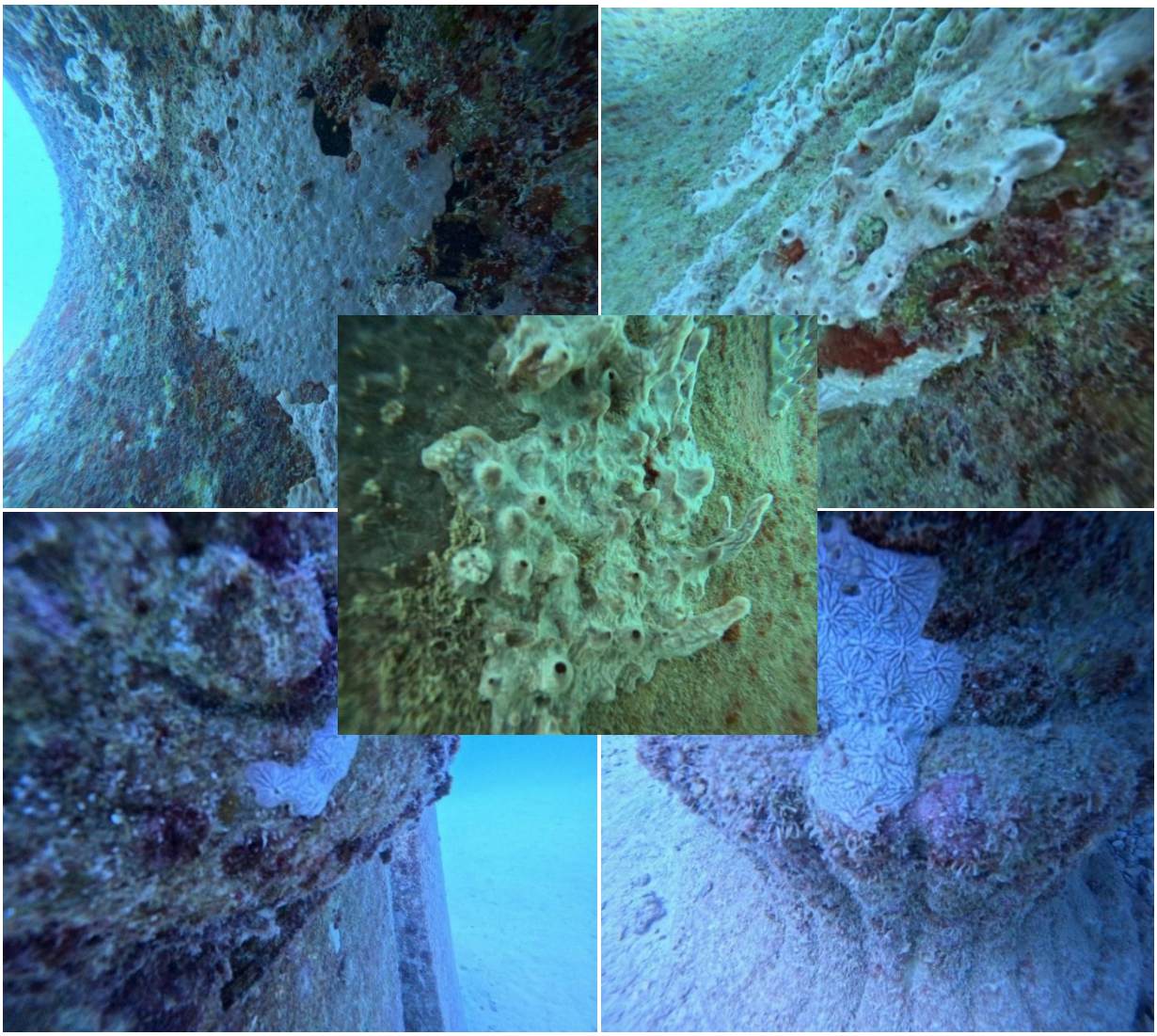


Figure 22. Colonization by marine sponges on the underside of the concrete tables and concrete pipe installed in 2024.

Various forms of sponges have appeared and grown over time on the underside of the concrete tables, which were among the first structures sunk in 2024. The same colonization process can be seen on the concrete pipe installed during that period, demonstrating the capacity of artificial structures to become naturally integrated into the marine environment.



Figure 23. The concrete pipe when it was installed in 2024.

5.1.1 AREA MAP FOR IVAN MARINE PARK

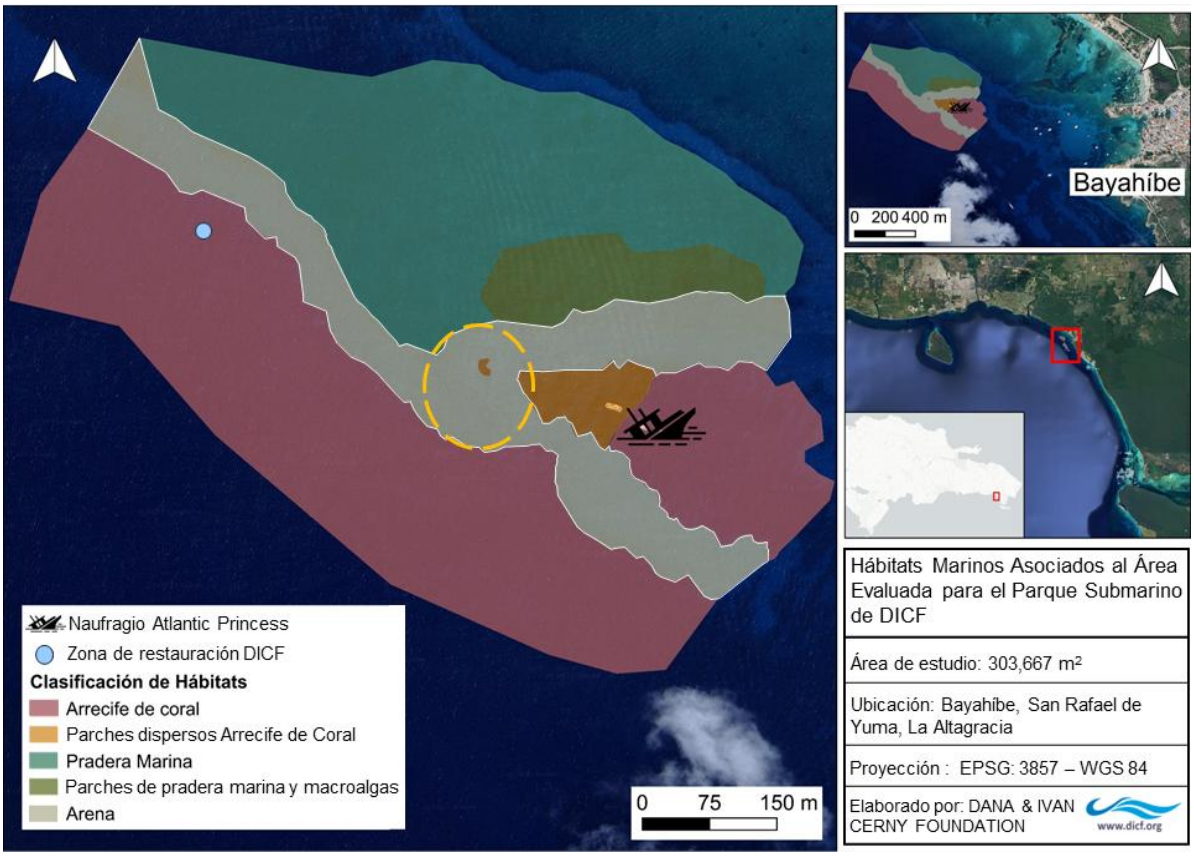


Figure 24. Map of the study area for IVAN MARINE PARK.

The cream-bordered area shows the zone where the installation of the structures that will make up IVAN MARINE PARK is planned. The yellow circle in the center indicates the core area where the first structures are planned to be placed.

5.1.2 GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF IVAN MARINE PARK

IVAN MARINE PARK is located in the marine area adjacent to the municipal district of Bayahibe, La Altagracia province, in the southeast region of the Dominican Republic, an area of high ecological importance associated with reef ecosystems and significant marine diversity.

The park lies offshore, opposite the Bayahibe coast, in an area with environmental conditions favorable to the biological colonization of artificial structures. Its location allows interaction with nearby natural reefs, helping to expand shelter areas and strengthen the ecological connectivity of the marine environment.

Operational access is mainly from the Bayahibe coast, which facilitates the installation, monitoring, maintenance, and management of the underwater structures, as well as research, environmental education, and sustainable recreational diving activities.

In 2025, IVAN MARINE PARK was precisely georeferenced on Google Maps, allowing it to be publicly identified and looked up directly by divers, tour operators, researchers, and the interested public. This progress contributes to the spatial traceability of the project, reinforces institutional transparency, and facilitates the planning and management of the activities carried out in the marine park.

The geographic location of the park is registered under the reference point **949W+W9G, Bayahibe**, ensuring its correct identification in geographic information systems (GIS) and digital navigation platforms.



Figure 25. Location of IVAN MARINE PARK in the marine area adjacent to the municipal district of Bayahibe.

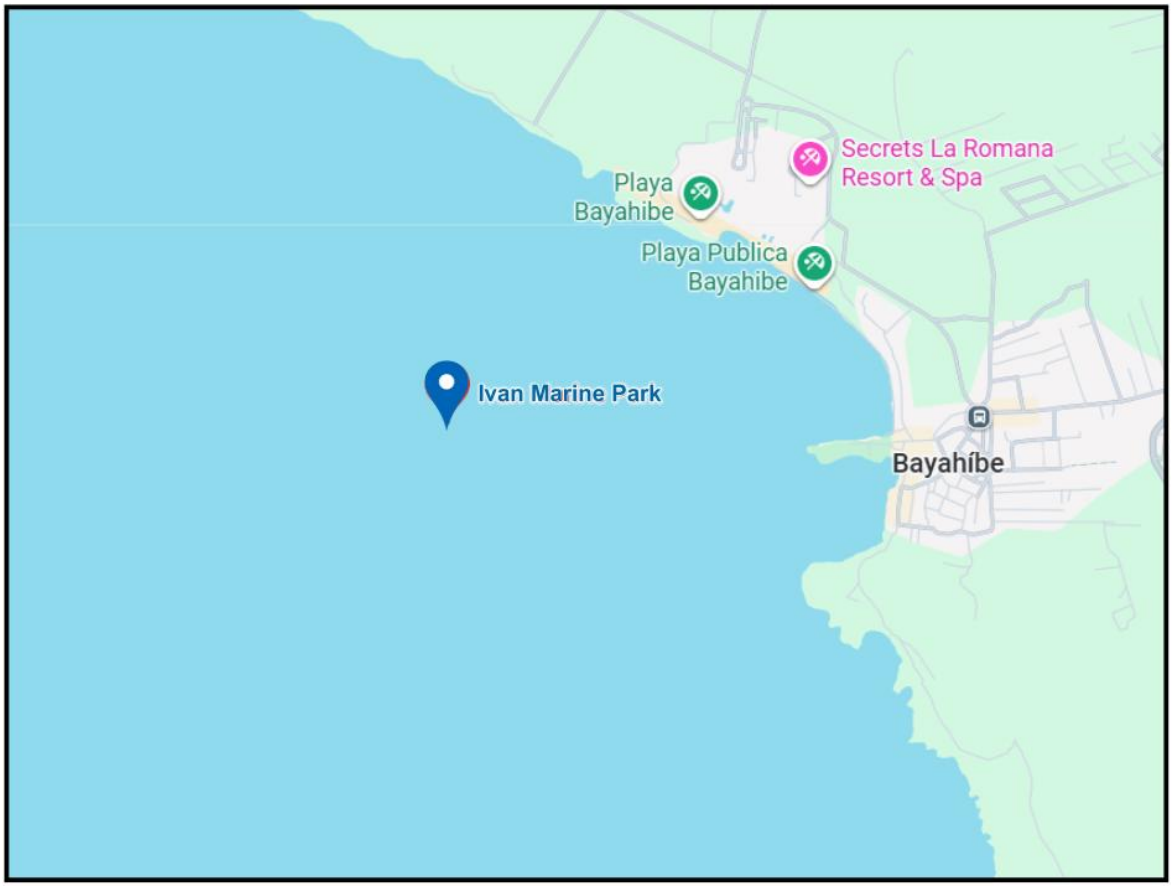


Figure 26. Georeferencing of IVAN MARINE PARK on Google Maps, publicly visible since 2025 (reference point 949W+W9G, Bayahibe).

5.2 BUOY INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

5.2.1 BUOYS FOR DIVING AND SNORKELING SITES IN THE BAYAHIBE AND SAONA AREA

In September 2023, a complete overhaul of the dive-site marker buoy system in the Bayahibe–Dominicus area began, with the aim of improving maritime safety by providing secure moorings for boats and establishing clearly identifiable reference points for sea users.

This system also plays a key role in protecting local marine ecosystems by preventing boats from anchoring directly on coral reefs and other sensitive areas, and in improving maritime signaling by alerting boaters to the presence of divers in specific areas.
During 2025, a total of **77 trips** were made for preventive maintenance and inspection of the buoy system. As a result of this work, **10 incidents of broken buoys**, **14 cases of missing buoys** at the marked sites, and **24 new installations** were recorded, the latter mainly to replace the incidents detected throughout the period.

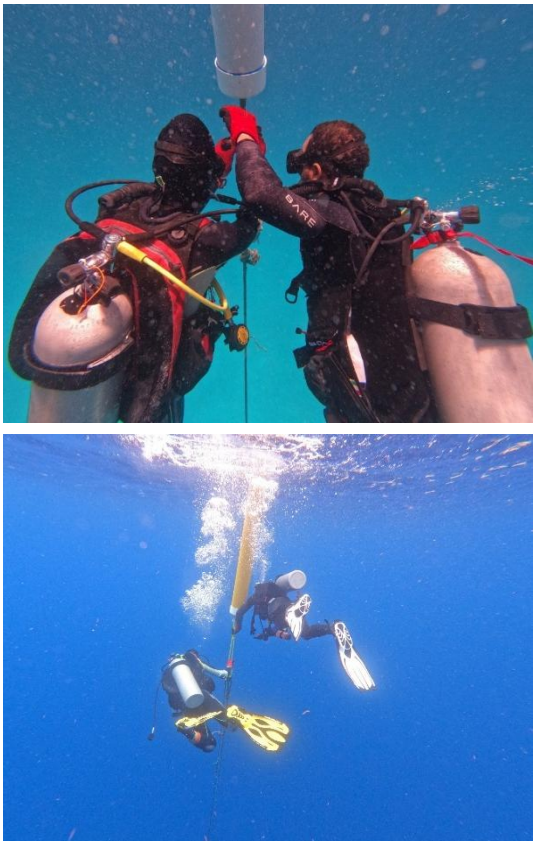


Figure 27. Foundation divers carrying out buoy maintenance.

Table 1a. Distribution of buoy maintenance trips (January–June 2025)

PROJECT	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
BUOYS	5	3	8	7	8	5	**36**

Table 1b. Distribution of buoy maintenance trips (July–December 2025)

PROJECT	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
BUOYS	7	6	5	8	6	9	**41**

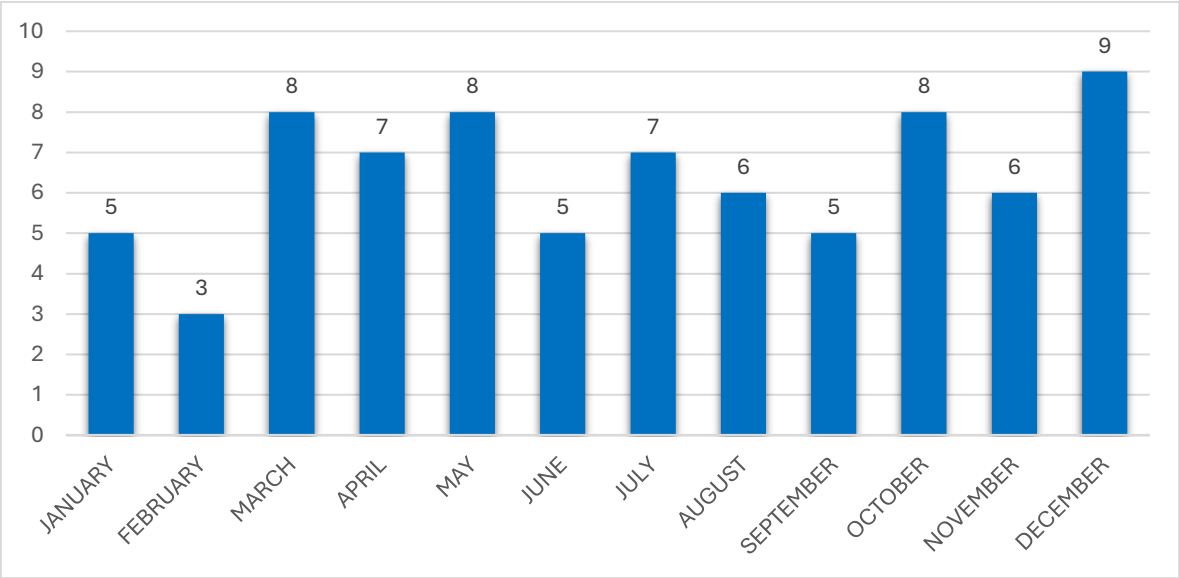


Figure 28. Monthly distribution of buoy maintenance trips – 2025.

Taken together, these maintenance, inspection, and replacement activities reflect a sustained effort to ensure the safety of maritime and diving operations in the Bayahibe–Dominicus area, while contributing to the protection of the marine environment. Systematically addressing the incidents detected and installing new buoys strengthens the functionality of the system and consolidates essential infrastructure for the responsible and safe use of the marine ecosystem.

5.3 COASTAL AND SEABED CLEANUPS

5.3.1 SUBPROJECT: COLLECTOR FISH

In 2025, the Foundation continued the Collector Fish subproject, part of the Coastal and Seabed Cleanups Project, as an educational and preventive initiative aimed at the proper disposal of solid waste in coastal areas. This subproject, launched in 2024, is based on installing fish-shaped structures that serve as collection points for plastic bottles and general solid waste in areas of heavy recreational use.



Figure 29. Collector fish structure.

The structures, designed to make it easy for beachgoers to take part, include a collection container for plastic bottles, promoting responsible practices among residents and visitors. Their presence in Bayahibe and Dominicus has helped reinforce environmental awareness messages in a visual and accessible way.

As part of the monitoring and evaluation of the subproject in 2025, the performance of the installed locations was analyzed. As a result, one location was removed, as it was the farthest from the Foundation's operations base and had a low level of use. Of the six (6) active locations, four (4) showed a steady flow and positive results in collecting plastic bottles, while two (2) remain under evaluation to decide on their possible relocation, with the aim of maximizing the operational efficiency and environmental impact of the subproject.

During the same period, the Foundation continued its collaboration with Ecoservices Dominicana, a partnership formalized in 2024, for the proper final disposal of the plastic bottles collected. This continuity has ensured responsible and consistent handling of the waste generated, in line with the principles of sustainability and environmental management promoted by the Foundation.

Ecoservices Dominicana

Figure 30. Ecoservices Dominicana, strategic partner for the management and recycling of the plastic bottles collected

In 2025, the Collector Fish structures collected a total of 39,001 plastic bottles.

Table 2. Total plastic bottles collected by location in 2025

TOTAL COLLECTED PER FISH	TOTAL BOTTLES	PERCENTAGE

Playa Pública Dominicus	16,901	43%
Playa Magallanes	9,184	24%
Playa Pública Bayahibe	6,057	16%
Cueva de Chicho #1	511	1%
Parque Nacional Cotubanamá	886	2%
La Cancha	5,422	14%
Cueva de Chicho #2	40	0%
TOTAL	**39,001**	**100%**

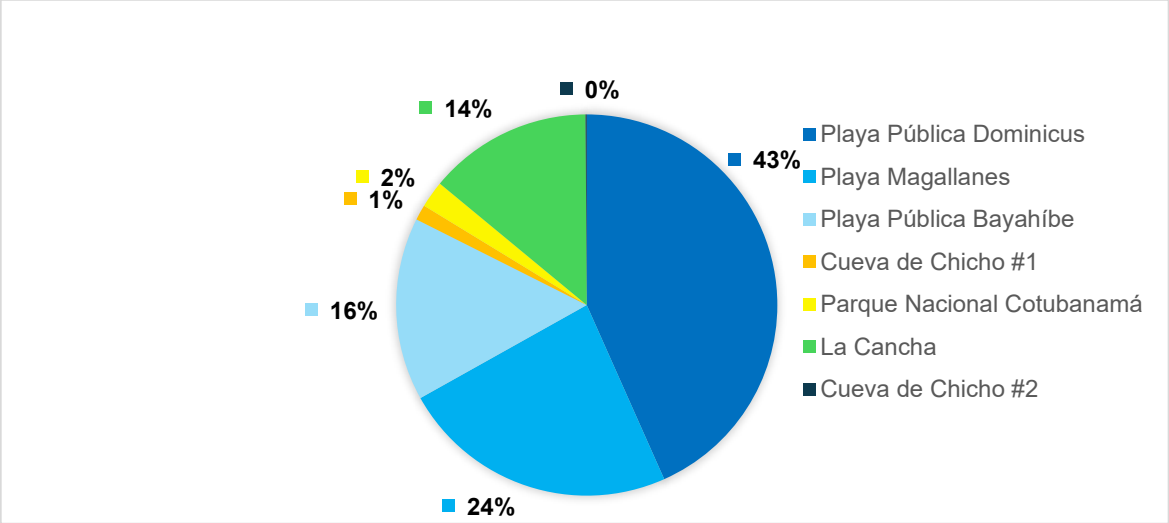


Figure 31. Percentage distribution of the total plastic bottles collected by location in 2025.

The results show that four of the locations account for the largest share of the bottles collected in 2025, while two show significantly lower levels. This information supports the ongoing evaluation to relocate or remove the lower-performing structures, with the aim of optimizing the environmental and operational impact of the subproject.

5.3.2 SEABED CLEANUPS

During 2025, the underwater cleanups carried out by DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION identified a significant concentration of marine debris at 15 locations between Bayahibe and Isla Catalina, generating key information for the strategic planning of the project. In total, **2,653.90 kg (5,838.58 lb)** of waste was removed from the seabed.



Figure 32. Diver during a marine cleanup, bringing remains of fishing net and line to the surface.

The analysis by location showed an uneven distribution of waste, with the largest share concentrated in a small number of sites. The locations with the highest volume of waste were **Isla Catalina**, with **1,189.30 kg (2,616.46 lb)**, and **Whala**, with **588.35 kg (1,294.37 lb)**, followed by **Bayahibe** (**357.60 kg / 786.72 lb**) and **El Peñón** (**172.80 kg / 380.16 lb**). Together, these areas accounted for the heaviest waste load, reflecting more intense environmental pressure associated with tourism, maritime activity, and debris accumulation patterns.

Other locations recorded moderate or low volumes, confirming spatial variability in marine pollution levels across the areas worked on. **Figure 33** shows the distribution of the total waste collected by location in 2025, clearly identifying the sites with the heaviest waste load and those with significantly lower records.

Based on these results, the Foundation will strategically focus its interventions in the next period on the locations that recorded the highest volumes of waste, with the aim of maximizing the annual positive environmental impact. This approach will optimize operational resources, increase the efficiency of dives, and strengthen data-driven environmental management, while maintaining periodic monitoring of the sites with lower waste loads.

Table 3. Total waste collected by location – 2025

Location	Total Waste (kg)	Total Waste (lb)
Bajo de la Mina	30.70	67.54
Bayahibe	357.60	786.72
Cangrejo	33.10	72.82
Faro	8.20	18.04
Guaraguao	129.85	285.67
Guasimillo	8.00	17.60
Isla Catalina	1,189.30	2,616.46
IVAN MARINE PARK	26.20	57.64
Papagayo	42.20	92.84
Park Reef	27.80	61.16
Peñón	172.80	380.16
Punta Cacón	7.20	15.84
St. Georges	12.00	26.40
Tortuga	20.60	45.32
Whala	588.35	1,294.37
TOTAL	**2,653.90**	**5,838.58**

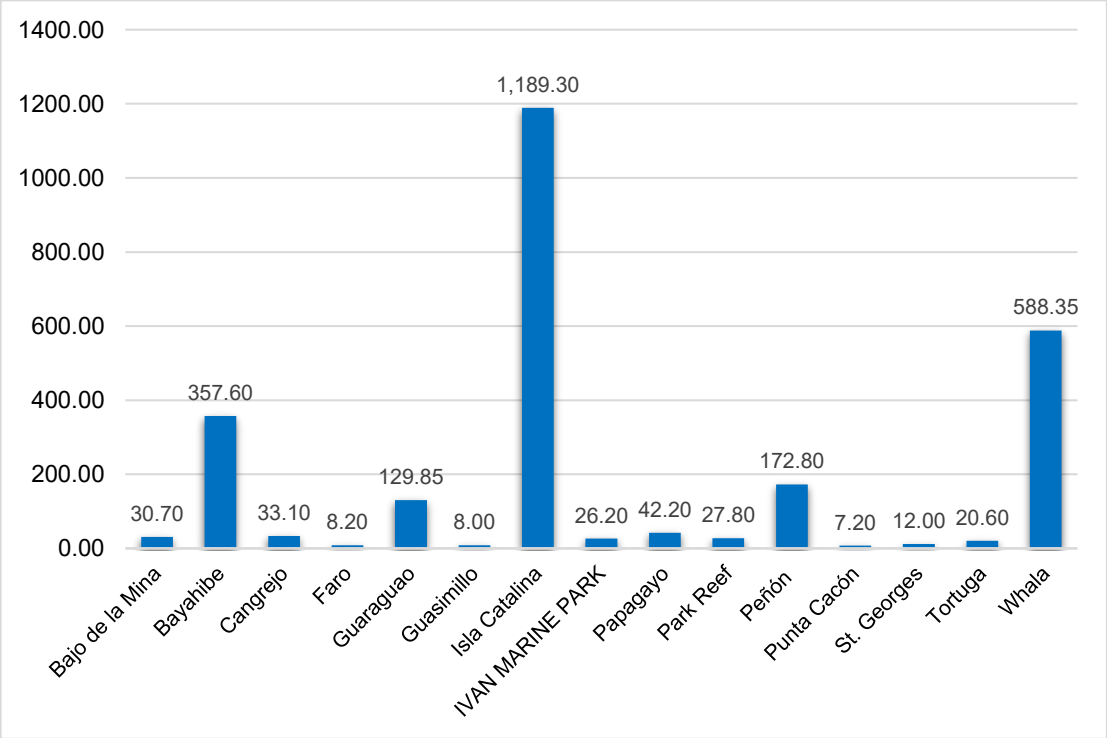


Figure 33. Distribution of the total solid waste collected (kg) by location – 2025.

Table 4. Total solid waste collected (kg) – 2024 and 2025

Period	Total Waste (kg)	Total Waste (lb)
Year 2024	1,604.45	3,529.79
Year 2025	2,653.90	5,838.58

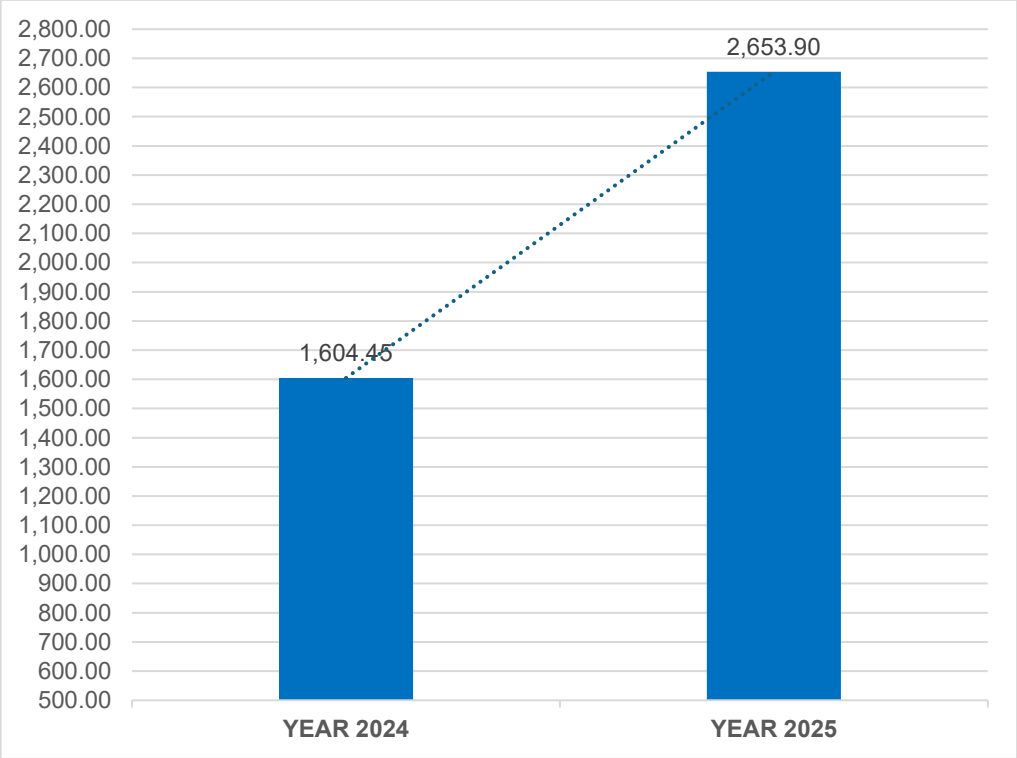


Figure 34. Comparison of the total solid waste collected (2024 vs 2025).

In comparative terms, between 2024 and 2025 the Foundation achieved a significant increase in the amount of waste removed from the marine ecosystem. In 2024, **1,604.45 kg (3,529.79 lb)** were collected, a figure that rose to **2,653.90 kg (5,838.58 lb)** in 2025, representing an **increase of approximately 65.4%**. This demonstrates the effectiveness of the strategies implemented and the growing involvement of the community in protecting the marine environment, as shown in **Figure 34.**

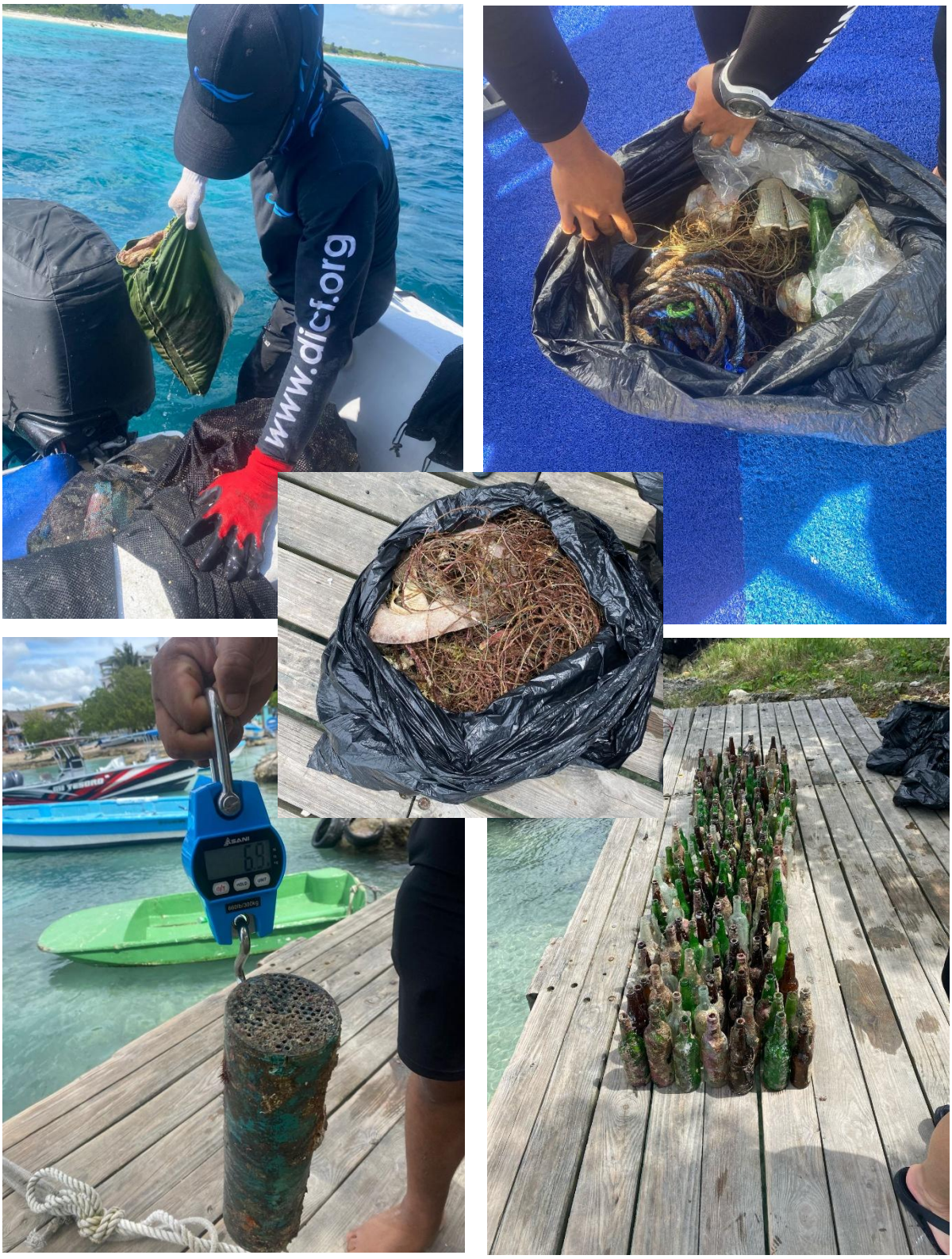


Figure 35. Examples of solid waste collected during marine cleanups.

5.4 USE OF SCUBA TANKS

During 2025, DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION carried out a significant number of underwater operations as part of its main project, **IVAN MARINE PARK**, as well as other technical work, including buoy maintenance, underwater cleanups, and both technical and recreational training activities.

In total, **2,208 scuba tanks** were used, a figure that reflects the volume of field work and the sustained logistical and operational effort of the technical team throughout the period. **Tables 5a and 5b** show the distribution of the total tanks used by project in 2025.

Table 5a. Distribution of tanks used during the Foundation's operations (January–June 2025)

PROJECT	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
IMP	85	88	91	121	110	119	**614**
CLEANUPS	57	48	64	36	34	39	**278**
BUOYS	17	6	19	25	18	20	**105**
OTHER	12	30	0	0	22	0	**64**
TOTAL	**171**	**172**	**174**	**182**	**184**	**178**	**1,061**

Table 5b. Distribution of tanks used during the Foundation's operations (July–December 2025)

PROJECT	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
IMP	139	130	138	93	131	132	**763**
CLEANUPS	30	35	18	7	19	38	**147**
BUOYS	22	27	20	27	13	34	**143**
OTHER	0	0	10	38	38	8	**94**
TOTAL	**191**	**192**	**186**	**165**	**201**	**212**	**1,147**

Note: *IMP refers to IVAN MARINE PARK; BUOYS includes buoy maintenance activities; CLEANUPS covers underwater cleanups; and OTHER groups technical and recreational training activities.*

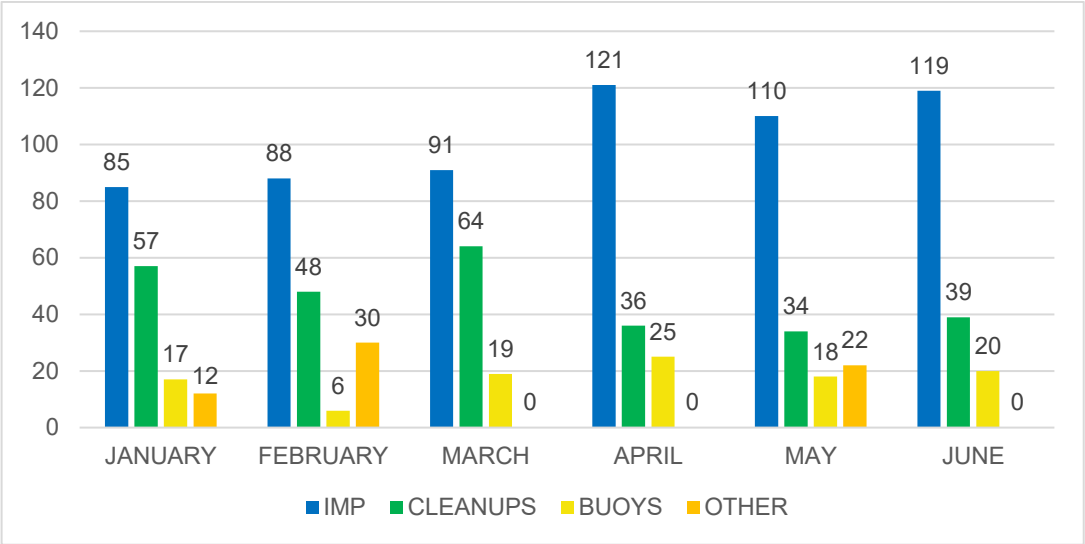


Figure 36a. Distribution of tanks used during the Foundation's operations (January–June 2025).

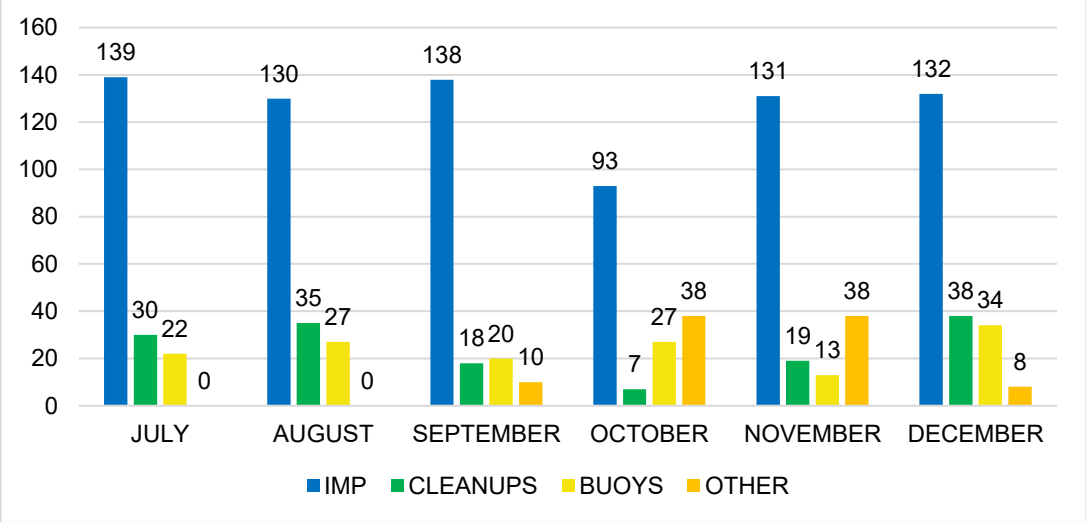


Figure 36b. Distribution of tanks used during the Foundation's operations (July–December 2025).

Note: *IMP refers to IVAN MARINE PARK; BUOYS includes buoy maintenance activities; CLEANUPS covers underwater cleanups; and OTHER groups technical and recreational training activities.*

Overall, the analysis of tank use in 2025 shows that the largest share of operational resources went to the development of the main project, IVAN MARINE PARK, which accounted for the highest monthly and annual demand for scuba tanks. This distribution reflects the Foundation's strategic priority of consolidating and maintaining its flagship project, while continuing to attend to other complementary lines of work, such as buoy maintenance, underwater cleanups, and technical and recreational training. Taken together, these results confirm operational planning consistent with institutional objectives and a sustained, efficient use of underwater resources throughout the period.

6. INVESTMENTS

6.1 TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

To strengthen the Foundation's operational capacity and ensure that field activities run efficiently, in 2025 strategic investments were made in key equipment to support the technical team's daily operations. These purchases responded to the growing logistical demands of the main project, IVAN MARINE PARK, and the progressive installation and maintenance of its underwater structures.

To this end, a truck was acquired to allow regular transport of scuba tanks, materials, tools, and other supplies needed for the work days, improving mobility between the different areas of operation. This acquisition improved the coordination of field activities and ensured a faster response to daily operational needs.

Along the same lines, a cement mixer was purchased to streamline the work of building the bases of the structures that make up IVAN MARINE PARK, speeding up the preparation of materials and improving the efficiency of construction work.

In addition, the Foundation acquired a forklift to facilitate the handling and moving of heavy loads, such as structures, construction materials, and diving equipment, improving staff safety and reducing loading and unloading times during logistical operations.

Together, these investments strengthen the Foundation's operational infrastructure, ensuring more efficient, planned, and sustainable execution of its projects and reaffirming its commitment to the continued development of the artificial reef underwater park.





Figure 37. Truck used for logistics and field operations.



Figure 38. Cement mixer and forklift acquired to strengthen the construction and logistics processes of IVAN MARINE PARK.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

During 2025, the Foundation continued to strengthen its administrative management, consolidating internal processes designed to ensure operational efficiency, regulatory compliance, and proper support for field activities. The organization remained up to date with its tax obligations and with the Social Security Treasury (TSS), as well as with the timely payment of services, suppliers, and employment obligations, reaffirming its commitment to transparency and sound institutional management.

In terms of Human Resources, the Foundation ended the year with a team of 9 employees, made up of 8 men and 1 woman, reflecting a greater operational capacity to work simultaneously on the different lines of action of the IVAN MARINE PARK project and other technical work. This multidisciplinary team forms the operational base for underwater, logistical, and administrative activities.

The technical staff have solid training in professional diving and underwater safety. In the last quarter of the year, the entire team obtained First Aid / EFR (Emergency First Response) certification, strengthening emergency response capabilities and raising operational safety standards. In addition, six employees are certified as Rescue Divers, having previously completed the Advanced Open Water level, which supports their readiness for technical dives and more complex scenarios. Within this group, one diver holds Divemaster certification, providing operational leadership and coordination during underwater activities.

In terms of individual development, the sailor Daniel obtained his Open Water Diver certification during the year, expanding his skills within the operations team. In addition, several divers hold nautical licenses for recreational boats, allowing greater flexibility in assigning duties both on the surface and underwater.

The team's overall readiness is complemented by land-based logistics capabilities, as several employees hold driver's licenses, making it easier to transport equipment and materials between the different areas of operation. This combination of technical certifications and operational skills strengthens the Foundation's ability to act efficiently, safely, and independently.

Table 6. Foundation staff by gender and inclusion criteria

Category	Women	Men	Total
Employees	1	8	9

Dominican Nationality	1	8	9
Persons with Disabilities	0	1	1

Table 7. Certifications and licenses of Foundation staff

Skill / Certification	Women	Men	Total
First Aid / EFR	1	8	9
Diver Certification	0	8	8
Open Water	0	8	8
Advanced Diver	0	6	6
Rescue Diver	0	6	6
Dive Guide / Divemaster	0	1	1
Driver's License	1	2	3
Nautical License	0	4	4

Overall, the administrative management and the strengthening of human capital in 2025 consolidate the Foundation as a solid, professional, and reliable organization, able to carry out marine conservation projects to high technical and administrative standards and to build trust among partners, collaborators, and the communities connected to its mission.

The Foundation has an operational and administrative team with clearly defined responsibilities, aimed at ensuring the efficient execution of its projects, compliance with safety protocols, and the smooth running of daily operations. The main positions and duties that make up the organization's work structure are described below.



ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Responsible for supervising and coordinating the Foundation's administrative functions. Main responsibilities include managing payments for services, payroll, and financial obligations; following up on purchasing processes; organizing and safeguarding administrative documentation; and coordinating continuously with the team to ensure operational efficiency and compliance with internal procedures.



OPERATIONS MANAGER & CAPTAIN

Responsible for the overall operation of the vessel and the safe execution of the Foundation's maritime activities. Certified as a diver up to Rescue level, which allows direct participation in and supervision of underwater operations.

Duties include planning and supervising navigation routes, ensuring compliance with maritime and diving safety protocols, and coordinating, supervising, and managing operational staff and daily operations, ensuring that institutional projects are carried out correctly and that resources are used efficiently.



DIVE BOSS (DIVER – DIVEMASTER LEVEL)

Responsible for coordinating and supervising the Foundation's diving operations. Holds Divemaster certification, which allows them to lead dives, support the planning of underwater activities, and ensure compliance with safety protocols.

Duties include supervising the dive team, checking diving equipment, providing technical support in carrying out underwater projects, and coordinating directly with the captain and the operations team to ensure that activities are carried out safely and efficiently.



SAILOR

The sailor is responsible for supporting safe and efficient maritime operations, working closely with the captain and crew. Main duties include supervising and maintaining deck equipment, assisting with docking and undocking maneuvers, inspecting safety systems, and taking part in cleaning and repair tasks.

As part of the Foundation's commitment to inclusive employment, this position is currently held by a person with a hearing impairment, in compliance with Law 5-13.



OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

Supports the Foundation's operational and logistical activities, both on land and in support of maritime operations. Duties include helping to prepare materials and equipment, assisting with loading, unloading, and organizing, helping with basic maintenance tasks, and providing general support to the operations team according to the needs of scheduled projects and activities.



DIVERS

Responsible for carrying out the Foundation's underwater operations, with a direct role in the development and execution of institutional projects, including IVAN MARINE PARK, buoy maintenance, and marine cleanups.

Their duties cover the inspection, installation, maintenance, and repair of underwater structures and equipment, strict compliance with safety protocols during dives, and recording operational results for the technical follow-up of each project.

Figure 39. DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION team

8. COLLABORATIONS

8.1 LA ROMANA-BAYAHIBE TOURISM CLUSTER

The La Romana-Bayahibe Tourism Cluster (CTRB) is a non-profit organization that aims to promote the destination and integrate the tourism sector with its communities.

To achieve these objectives, the CTRB provides guidance, leadership, and ongoing support aimed at boosting competitiveness, the inhabitants' quality of life, economic progress, and the preservation of local culture and the environment, thereby fostering the comprehensive development of the destination.

Figure 40. La Romana–Bayahibe Tourism Cluster.

DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION is a member of the La Romana-Bayahibe Tourism Cluster (CTRB), driven by a shared commitment to preserving and enhancing the rich regional culture and protecting the environment.

8.2 ECOSERVICES DOMINICANA

During 2025, DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION continued its partnership with **Ecoservices Dominicana**, strengthening a strategic collaboration focused on the proper management and final disposal of the plastic waste collected through the Collector Fish subproject. This collaboration, formalized in 2024 and actively maintained during the period under review, has ensured that the plastic bottles collected in Bayahibe and Dominicus go through proper recycling processes, preventing improper disposal and reducing the risk of this waste reaching the sea.

Figure 41. Ecoservices Dominicana.

Thanks to this partnership, in 2025 a significant volume of plastic waste was handled responsibly, strengthening a waste management model based on preventive collection, sorting, and recycling of the recovered materials, with the aim of reducing environmental impact and ensuring that they are properly returned to production processes, in line with the sustainability principles promoted by the Foundation.

The continuation of this collaboration is a key component of the institutional sustainability strategy of DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION, combining environmental education, preventive collection, and effective recycling. Both parties have expressed their interest in maintaining and strengthening this partnership in the coming periods, with the aim of extending its reach and maximizing its contribution to the conservation of marine ecosystems.

8.3 COLLABORATION WITH THE SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS CITY COUNCIL

During the period under review, the Foundation began a new institutional collaboration with the City Council of San Pedro de Macorís, aimed at strengthening environmental education and responsible waste management initiatives in urban and coastal spaces.

The first contact took place in December 2024, when the City Council formally expressed its interest in the Collector Fish subproject. As part of the inter-institutional coordination process, an initial meeting was held at the City Council's offices in February 2025. Then, in March of the same year, the mayor visited the Foundation's facilities to learn first-hand about both the subproject and the organization's work as a whole.

During this exchange, the mayor spoke highly of the environmental impact and potential of the IVAN MARINE PARK project, highlighting it as an initiative capable of contributing to the strengthening of sustainable tourism in the country.

As a result of this collaboration, the first three (3) Collector Fish structures were delivered in March 2025. Over the rest of the year, the Foundation donated a total of nine (9) structures, to be installed at strategic points in the city of San Pedro de Macorís, with the aim of promoting the proper disposal of solid waste and reinforcing environmental awareness at the community level.



Figure 42. Visit by the DICF team to the San Pedro de Macorís City Council.



Figure 43. Visit by the Mayor of San Pedro de Macorís to the DICF facilities.



Figure 44. Collector Fish structures installed in Parque Duarte, the main park in the city of San Pedro de Macorís.

ALCALDÍA
SAN PEDRO
DE MACORÍS
GESTIÓN 2024-2028

San pedro de Macorís, R.D.
17 de enero del 2026.

A: DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION.
Sus manos.

Distinguidos señores:

Reciban un cordial y respetuoso saludo en nombre del Ayuntamiento Municipal de San Pedro de Macorís.

Por medio de la presente, expresamos nuestro más sincero agradecimiento por la valiosa **contribución de nueve (9) contenedores en forma de peces**, recibidos durante el año 2025, los cuales han sido integrados a nuestro programa de reciclaje que actualmente impulsa esta alcaldía, como parte del firme compromiso de apostar por una ciudad más limpia, organizada y sostenible.

Esta importante entrega fortalece nuestras acciones en favor del medio ambiente, al tiempo que promueve la educación y la conciencia ecológica en nuestros ciudadanos, incentivando prácticas responsables para el manejo adecuado de los residuos sólidos.

Valoramos profundamente el compromiso social y ambiental que caracteriza a esa prestigiosa fundación. Su respaldo representa un paso significativo en la construcción de un municipio más consciente y comprometido con el desarrollo sostenible.

Reiteramos nuestro agradecimiento y dejamos abiertas las puertas de esta institución para continuar desarrollando iniciativas conjuntas en beneficio de toda la comunidad.

Sin otro particular, se despide con sentimientos de alta estima y consideración.

Atentamente,

Ing. Raymundo Ortiz.
Alcalde Municipal.

Raymundo ortiz

AYUNTAMIENTO SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS
ALCALDÍA

Figure 45. Letter from the San Pedro de Macorís City Council thanking DANA & IVAN CERNY FOUNDATION for the donation of collector structures.

9. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The main results achieved in 2025 across the Foundation's different areas of operation are presented below. They reflect the impact of the actions carried out in marine conservation, operational infrastructure, and environmental education.

IVAN MARINE PARK Progress

- IVAN MARINE PARK made significant progress in several areas, most notably the increase in the number of underwater structures installed.

- Divers and freedivers began actively visiting the project; as a result, photos and videos shared by visitors on social media helped extend the park's reach and visibility.

- IVAN MARINE PARK was precisely georeferenced on Google Maps, allowing it to be publicly identified and making it easy for divers, tour operators, researchers, and the interested public to look it up.

Marine Conservation and Waste Management

- A total of 2,653.90 kg (5,838.58 lb) of underwater solid waste was collected at 15 locations.

- The locations with the highest volume of waste were Isla Catalina, with 1,189.30 kg (2,616.46 lb), and Whala, with 588.35 kg (1,294.37 lb), followed by Bayahibe with 357.60 kg (786.72 lb) and El Peñón with 172.80 kg (380.16 lb).

Education and Environmental Awareness

- The Collector Fish structures collected 39,001 plastic bottles, promoting responsible waste disposal practices in coastal areas of heavy recreational use.

Installation and Maintenance of Buoys

- 77 work trips were made for preventive maintenance and inspection of the buoy system at diving and snorkeling sites.

- 24 new buoy installations were completed, mainly to replace incidents detected during inspections.

Infrastructure and Logistics

- An operations truck was acquired to allow regular transport of scuba tanks, materials, tools, and other supplies needed for the work days, improving mobility between the different areas of operation.

- A cement mixer was added to streamline the work of building the bases of the structures that make up IVAN MARINE PARK.

- A forklift was also acquired to facilitate the handling and moving of heavy loads, improving staff safety and reducing loading and unloading times during logistical operations.

Institutional Strengthening

- The team grew to a total of nine (9) local employees.

- The entire team obtained First Aid / EFR (Emergency First Response) certification, strengthening emergency response capabilities and raising operational safety standards.

- In addition, six (6) employees are certified as Rescue Divers, having previously completed the Advanced Open Water level.

- Within this group, one employee holds Divemaster certification, providing operational leadership and coordination during underwater activities.

Strategic Alliances and Community Participation

- Participation as a member of the La Romana-Bayahibe Tourism Cluster (CTRB).

- Continued institutional partnership with Ecoservices Dominicana for the proper final disposal of the plastic bottles collected.

- New institutional partnership with the San Pedro de Macorís City Council, aimed at extending the Collector Fish subproject to public spaces in the city.

10. ACTION PLAN 2026

The 2026 Action Plan focuses on consolidating and optimizing the Foundation's operational capacities, building on the lessons learned in 2025, to ensure more efficient and sustainable execution in line with institutional objectives.

The plan responds to needs identified in the field and prioritizes actions related to marine conservation, sustainable waste management, and institutional strengthening, through strategic investments in human capital, equipment, infrastructure, and environmental operations.

The proposed actions aim to ensure orderly growth, improve operational efficiency, and consolidate the Foundation's role in protecting marine ecosystems and in the sustainable development of coastal communities.

Strategic Actions

1. **Human Resources Development**

Strengthening the Team

- Hiring 2 new employees during the year for work at the base.
- External services for social media, website, and marketing (independent professionals).
- Recruiting volunteers.

Education and Training

- **Courses and certifications:** driver's licenses for two additional drivers**;** a minimum Open Water diving course for all employees**;** higher-level certification for 2 captains**;** training in forklift (VZV) and crane operation**.**
- Strengthening staff technical and safety knowledge.
- Team-building activities 4 times a year**,** combined with learning about the nature and ecosystems of the Dominican Republic**.**

2. Infrastructure and Technical Capacity Development

New offices:

Moving the headquarters to Bayahibe, closer to the operations base, with parking, larger spaces, a ground-floor location, and the possibility of including a community center and a dive equipment shop.

Operations Base

- Equipping the dive center and facilities.

Equipment Purchases

- **Reef ball molds** (base for building artificial reefs) in 3 sizes.
- **Work boat with crane** for the efficient installation of sculptures, blocks, reef balls, and structures.
- **4 containers:** for storage and sorting of materials and diving equipment.
- **Compressor and scuba tanks:** to support underwater operations.
- **Sonar for seabed mapping.**
- **Ultrasound equipment.**
- **Diver equipment and dive computers.**

3. Key Projects

IVAN MARINE PARK

- Continued construction of the marine park, with an emphasis on environmental education and nature protection.
- Installation of new marine fauna sculptures (dolphins, sharks, turtles, octopuses, and seahorses).
- Construction of the “TAÍNOS” section, a cultural and educational area with sculptures of the island's original inhabitants.
- Installation of cement blocks with coralline growth, which will serve as shelter for fish.
- Start of production and installation of reef balls (artificial reefs): purchase of molds, training, and coral planting.
- Installation of small objects (bicycles, motorcycles, and cars).

Buoy Project

- Weekly maintenance and monitoring of the buoys in the Bayahibe area.
- Extended monitoring at Isla Saona (Peñón area) – twice a month.
- Ongoing replacement of missing or damaged buoys.
- Installation at new locations.
- Freediving buoys.

Clean Sea Program

- Daily supervision of the “fish containers” for waste; repairs, sorting, and collection every



DANA & IVAN CERNY
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ANNUAL REPORT
2025