

MEXICO



TIPC is working with CONACYT on innovation in Mayan octopus fisheries and farming to transform the livelihoods of vulnerable coastal communities in Mexico.



CONACYT
Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología



**TRANSFORMATIVE
INNOVATION
POLICY
CONSORTIUM**

TRANSFORMATIVE INNOVATION POLICY IN MEXICO

KEY PARTNERS

Mexican National Council for Science (CONACYT),
British Council Newton Fund, *Foro Consultivo
Científico y Tecnológico (FCCYT)*

Mexico is one of the biggest countries in the world and the 14th largest economy, as well as one of the 10 mega-biodiverse countries. With this, comes big challenges; Mexico has one of the highest rates of inequality in the world. Mexican ministries have recently been working to reduce this through an emphasis on higher education, research and development funding, and entrepreneurship. At the same time, Mexico is also facing increasing environmental pressures due to uncontrolled urban growth, climate change impacts and overexploitation of natural resources.

THE PROJECT

With TIPC, CONACYT is changing its approach toward regional development by working on strengthening Mayan Octopus fishing, in collaboration with the Agency of Economic Development of Yucatan (ADY), the National Institute of Entrepreneurship (INADEM) and local fisheries. Through promoting sustainable, environmentally-friendly fishing methods, including experimental techniques for Octopus farming, the set of initiatives around the Pulpo Maya fishery aims to harness the power of local communities to improve their livelihoods and protect their environment.

- The Transformative Innovation Learning History (TILH) case study shows the interest of CONACYT and local partners in studying ongoing initiatives at regional and local level in order to identify potential technology niches for sustainable transformative change.

- The set of initiatives around the transformation of the Mayan octopus fishery shows that fishery public policy in Yucatan has evolved in the last few years. It recognized the necessity of a system change to improve local community livelihoods, through an opening up of new opportunities and spaces for for deep learning and inclusion, along with discussions on the direction of innovation and development.
- At the same time, it also shows the difficulties in opening up or in creating a discussion space in local communities where challenging the dominant socio-technical regime can be a source of social conflict.



“The initiative brings the possibility of great social and environmental solutions.”

ADY Employee



“The success of these actions is based on the participation and collaboration of several Federal and State government agencies, as well as associations of companies, entrepreneurs, and fishermen. We could say that its root is on a collective learning process.”

CONACYT Executive

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