

FUNDING PRIORITIES 2025



The Galápagos Life Fund (GLF), established in 2023, aims to secure permanent resources for the protection of marine ecosystems in the Galápagos Marine Reserve (GMR) and the Hermandad Marine Reserve (HMR), while also strengthening the role of local communities in conservation.

This year, we supported projects that safeguard biodiversity, empower local communities, and promote the sustainable management of these two marine protected areas.

\$12.4
MILLION

Here we share a summary of the resources allocated under each funding priority, reflecting GLF's commitment to both conservation and community.



Government
Project



Galápagos Community
Projects



Hermandad Marine Reserve
Transition Plan



Government Project:

Strengthening the Cooperative Control and Surveillance System to Safeguard the Hermandad Marine Reserve and the Galápagos Marine Reserve

One of GLF's priorities is to close strategic funding gaps and complement government budgets.

In December 2024, GLF approved a landmark project of \$ 18 million (\$ 6 million for its first year), bringing together three key institutions:

- Galápagos National Park Directorate (GNPD)
- Ecuadorian Navy
- Undersecretariat of Fisheries Resources (SRP)

The project aims to strengthen the inter-institutional control and surveillance system to safeguard the GMR and HMR, which together protect more than 200,000 km² of unique marine ecosystems.

This initiative sets a precedent for inter-institutional collaboration in Galápagos. Its implementation not only reinforces compliance with national and international laws, but also ensures the sustainability of the marine resources on which local communities depend.

Expected Results:



Integration of New Technologies and Strengthening of Control Systems



Coordinated, effective, inter-institutional patrolling



Institutional strengthening



Increased protection of migratory species and their habitats

Funding 2025: **\$6**
MILLION



Galápagos Community Projects

In December 2024, GLF launched its first call for community projects, focused on two priorities: environmental education and sustainable fisheries.

The response was overwhelming: **114 proposals** were submitted by citizens, cooperatives, and local organizations from the four inhabited islands. Following a transparent technical evaluation process, 18 grants were approved:

- **10 small grants** (up to \$100,000)
- **6 medium grants** (up to \$250,000)
- **2 large grants** (over \$250,000)

Of these, 12 supported environmental education and community engagement, while 6 focused on sustainable fisheries and cooperative strengthening.

This call marks a milestone: for the first time, local communities gained direct access to funding and became leading actors in marine conservation projects in Galápagos.

Through this process, GLF not only provides funding but also builds capacity and empowers communities to lead the conservation of their seas.

Expected Results:



Children, youth, and adolescents engage with the marine environment



Strengthening of collection centers and fair marketing for fishing families



Inclusive participation, with women and youth involved in the projects



Projects that benefit all four inhabited islands

Funding 2025: **\$3.8 MILLION**



Hermandad Marine Reserve Transition Plan

This plan is a government commitment designed to support the mainland artisanal fishing sector in adapting to the new regulatory framework of the Hermandad Marine Reserve (HMR), created in 2022.

GLF is financing this plan with the aim of:

- Improving fishing capacity of artisanal fleets
- Strengthening the technical and safety skills of the fishing sector
- Ensuring compliance with the HMR regulatory framework

Key Actions:

- 250 women and 250 fishers benefiting from training programs
- Gradual installation of satellite monitoring devices (VMS) on 2,000 vessels
- Community workshops on the use of new technologies to reinforce regulatory compliance

Through this plan, GLF seeks to help the continental fishing sector adapt to the regulatory transition, while safeguarding the economic sustainability of families and contributing to the conservation of marine biodiversity.

Expected Results:



Artisanal fishing fleet equipped with satellite monitoring systems



Fishers and their families trained in diverse areas



Technology to enhance monitoring and navigation safety



Compliance with regulations to ensure the conservation of the HMR

Funding 2025: **\$2.6**
MILLION



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