



Food and Agriculture
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COMMON OCEANS PROGRAM



PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND BIODIVERSITY
IN THE OCEAN AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION

A partnership for sustainability & biodiversity

funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Global Coordination Project



Promoting responsible management and biodiversity conservation to ensure more sustainable tuna fishing.



Improving stock management and reducing environmental impacts through better scientific advice, monitoring and enforcement.



Forming collaborative stewardship approach to sustain and restore productivity and health of Sargasso Sea ecosystem.



Develop capacity to improve cross-sectoral collaboration on biodiversity conservation in areas beyond national jurisdiction.



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Tuna project



Key points

Beneficiaries:

- Members of all tuna RFMOs and stakeholders
- support ongoing processes in tuna RFMOs; create a catalytic effect

Partnership of 25 working for sustainability

- t-RFMOs, IGOs, national government, industry and civil society

Budget (2022-2027)

- USD 14m allocated; USD 200m co-financing



Building on the successes of Tuna I (2014-2019)

- ✓ Harvest strategies
- ✓ Certified MCS course
- ✓ PSMA capacity building
- ✓ EM pilots for compliance
- ✓ Bycatch mitigation
- ✓ Non-entangling and biodegradable FADs

Improving tuna fisheries



Consensus on developing harvest strategies – a pre-agreed approach to determine catch limits **for all major commercial tuna stocks** – is making tuna fisheries more sustainable and transparent in all **6** tuna RFMOs.

Tuna stocks

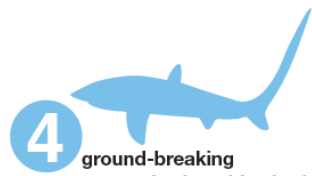


experiencing overfishing down from 13 to 5.



Turtle mortality in Western and Central Pacific Ocean

is expected to go down by



First-ever global estimate on **seabird bycatch** in tuna longline fishing in the Southern hemisphere.



1. Strengthening management

Focus on capacity building for the development of **harvest strategies**

Support the development of explicit **EAFM implementation plans** in RFMOs

Assessment of **climate change impacts** on tuna fisheries

Stronger collaboration through **joint tuna RFMO technical Working Groups** on topics of global relevance

Fishery Improvement Plans (FIPs) in Pacific SIDS, creating market incentives for sustainable fisheries



2. Strengthening MCS capacity

MCS certification-based training courses for fisheries officers

Compliance support missions and **PSMA training** in the Atlantic Ocean

Support for the **Tuna Compliance Network**

Online reporting and data management system for automatic data interoperability across t-RFMOs

Standards and protocols for electronic monitoring (using cameras) and electronic reporting

Guidelines / toolkit for the implementation of electronic monitoring



3. Reducing environmental impacts

Improved monitoring of sharks and rays

Alternatives to gillnets demonstrated

Biodegradable tested and promoted

New technologies for reducing bycatch interactions developed

Best practice mitigation techniques disseminated to fishers

Marine waste from fishing gear identified and quantified in the Indian Ocean

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Industry's role in the Tuna Project

Major co-financing partner – through the International Seafood Sustainability Association (ISSA)

Reducing marine pollution – testing and designing biodegradable FADs

Best practices in bycatch mitigation – testing and designing methods

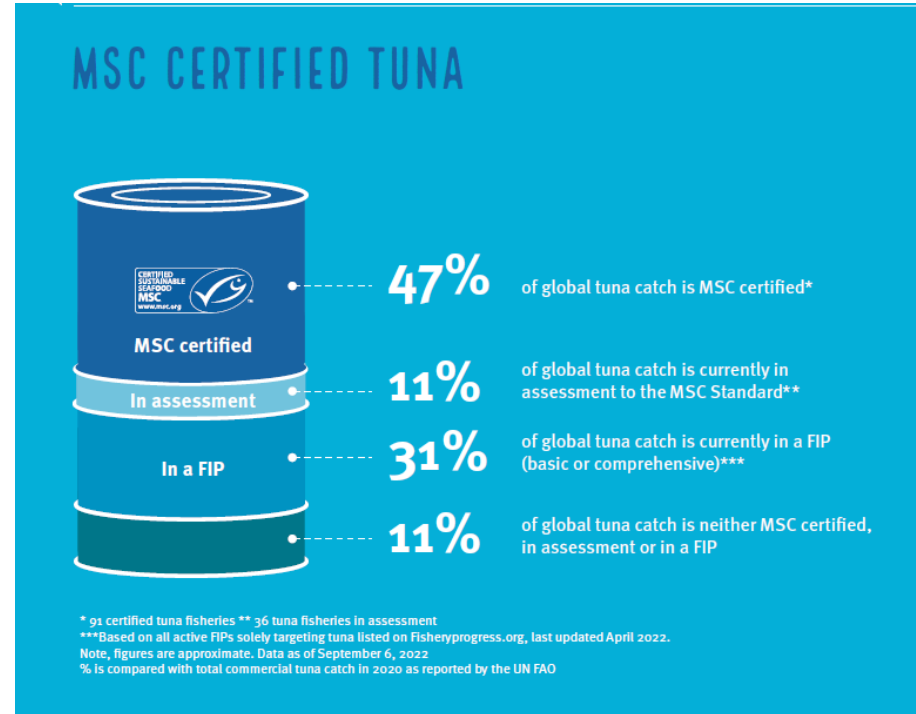
Developing and adopting new technology – electronic monitoring and acoustic buoys

“Proposing solutions and championing causes / approaches”



Partnerships for sustainability

Fishery Improvement Projects
International Seafood Sustainability
Foundation (ISSF)
Global Dialogue on Seafood
Traceability (GDST)
Global Tuna Alliance (GTA)
Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative
(GSSI)
Seafood Business for Ocean
Stewardship (SeaBOS)





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Western & Central Pacific
Fisheries Commission



FFA
PACIFIC ISLANDS
FORUM FISHERIES
AGENCY



INFOPESCA



INTERNATIONAL
WHALING COMMISSION



IPNLF
FOR ONE-BY-ONE FISHERS



THE PEW
CHARITABLE TRUSTS



THE OCEAN
FOUNDATION



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



The Nature
Conservancy



Pacific Community
Communauté
du Pacifique



The Common Oceans Tuna project brings together a global partnership dedicated to sustainable tuna fisheries aiming to advance responsible tuna fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). Funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and led by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), it works in collaboration with five regional tuna fisheries management organizations, including the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) as executing agency, intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, and civil society.

Thank you !!

