

# Suriname corvina and acoupa weakfish - driftnet and trawl

## Overview

### FIP Description

FIP partners **Sea Delight**, **Deep Sea Atlantic** and **CeDePesca** have committed to the sustainability of the Suriname corvina and acoupa weakfish driftnet and trawling fisheries, and look forward to bringing about the necessary improvements in collaboration with other fishery stakeholders.

Corvina (kandratiki, *Cynoscion virescens*) and acoupa weakfish (bang bang, *Cynoscion acoupa*) are between the most important commercial species of fish in Suriname and are fished by different fleets, including the artisanal driftnet fleet and the industrial trawling fleet.

In Suriname, the corvina and acoupa weakfish driftnet and trawling fisheries occur entirely within the waters of Suriname's Exclusive Economic Zone. The driftnet fishery is conducted by open and closed Guyana boats using gillnets that are not anchored to the bottom but float with the tide. On the other hand, the trawling fishery is conducted by Florida type trawling boats using otter trawl nets.

There has been no formal identification of stocks for *Cynoscion virescens* and *Cynoscion acoupa* along their geographical distribution; however, it is expected that the stock's biomass moves across fishing grounds in the Brazil-Guianas shelf. This would mean that the stocks are most probably shared between Suriname, Guyana, French Guiana, Venezuela (most probably along the Venezuelan Guayana region) and Brazil (most probably along the Brazilian Goiania region). In 2019, a stock assessment (Willems, in press) was conducted for these species using data collected in Guyana and Suriname and a method appropriate for data-deficient situations. The results indicate that both species are overexploited. However, by improving management measures and fishery practices to keep fishing effort at appropriate levels in Suriname and by strengthening collaboration between countries in the region, the stocks could be rebuilt to their optimal level.

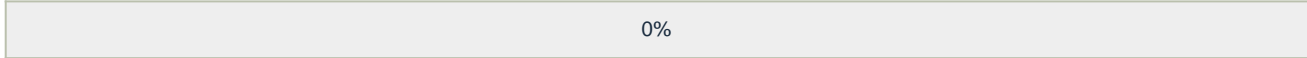
This FIP aims to solve those sustainability obstacles that were identified through an MSC Pre-Assessment conducted in July 2020, and FIP partners are keen to join efforts with other stakeholders in the supply chain to attain a certifiable status for the fisheries.

## How is this FIP Doing?

### Current Status:



**Actions Progress** This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.



**Actions Overview** This shows the proportion of actions that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	40%	0%	60%

**Red Indicator Progress** This shows the proportion of actions specifically addressing red indicators that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started. This helps users understand the progress the FIP is making on the biggest challenges in the fishery.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	40%	0%	60%

### FIP Objective(s)

The main objective of Suriname corvina and acoupa weakfish driftnet and trawling FIP is to achieve the fishery's certifiable status against the Marine Stewardship Council standard in a timeframe of five years.

The specific objectives of this FIP are:

1. Ensure that data is collected in quantity and quality sufficient to perform LB-SPR stock assessments, in the short term as of October 2021; and that it is sufficient to feed more sophisticated stock assessments as envisioned by WECAFC, in the medium-term as of October 2022.
2. Ensure that LB-SPR stock assessments are conducted in an annual basis as of October 2022.
3. Achieve the adoption of Management Plans for each fishery by June 2024. The management plans shall set up a harvest strategy that includes explicit short and long-term objectives, harvest control rules, monitoring mechanisms, management strategy evaluation mechanisms and robust consultation processes.
4. Ensure that data is collected in quantity and quality sufficient to conduct regular risk analyses for both fisheries by October 2023. The analyses shall be conducted every two years and will estimate the risk that the fisheries pose to other components of the ecosystem (primary species, secondary species, ETP species and habitats).
5. Promote bottom-up processes to issue ecosystem-related management recommendations by October 2023, and adopt voluntary measures by October 2024, if deemed necessary.

**FIP Type**

Comprehensive

**FIP Stage**

Stage 2: FIP Launch

**Start and Projected End Dates**

October, 2020 -

October, 2025

**Species****Common Name**

Corvina

**Scientific Name**

Cynoscion virescens

**Common Name**

Acoupa weakfish

**Scientific Name**

Cynoscion acoupa

**Gear Type**

[Driftnet](#)

[Otter Trawl](#)

**Location****FAO Major Fishing Area**

[Area 31 \(Atlantic, Western Central\)](#)

**Exclusive Economic Zones****Country**

Suriname

**Geographic Scope**

Paramaribo

**Estimated Total FIP Landings**

8000 metric tons

**FIP Leads****Organization Name**

CeDePesca

**Organization Type**

NGO

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