Vietnam mixed species - trawl

Overview

FIP Description

The Roundtable of Feed and Fishmeal companies has been initiated by end of 2016 by feed manufacturers and their suppliers to address the most concern of the feed sector regarding responsible sourcing of marine ingredients. In 2017, with support from Ba Ria-Vung Tau provincial People's Committee, Department of Agriculture & Rural Development and its affiliate - Sub-Department of Fisheries, Ba Ria - Vung Tau Fishmeal and Fish Oil Association has been recognised by authorities, a fishery improvement project (hereby called FIP Vung Tau) has been developed since then. In June 2020, FIP Vung Tau registered on FisheryProgress as Prospective FIP for trawl fisheries in Ba Ria - Vung Tau province, with 10 participants (4 feed companies and 6 fishmeal companies in Ba Ria - Vung Tau province). FIP Vung Tau has defined 5 'other species' as target stocks, including Greater lizardfish (Saurida tumbil); Blunt-nose lizardfish (Trachinocephalus myops); Sulphur goatfish (Upeneus sulphureus); Bigeye scad (Selar crumenophthalmus); and Yellowtail scad (Atule mate). Trawl fleets registered with Ba Ria - Vung Tau authorities and ones that land in ports in Ba Ria - Vung Tau that fishmeal producers are sourcing their incoming materials are covered by this FIP. Background studies and data collection for evaluation of PIs will be conducted in the waters under administration of Ba Ria - Vung Tau province.

Update April 16, 2025

On March 24, 2025, FIP partners convened in Ho Chi Minh City and agreed to expand the scope of the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) to include more seafood processing partners from across southern Vietnam, rather than limiting participation to Ba Ria - Vung Tau province. This broader designation aims to encourage wider industry involvement and foster a more inclusive financial contribution to support the FIP's efforts.

Over the past three years of implementation, it has become increasingly clear that the Vietnamese government plays a critical role in the development and enforcement of policies essential to the sustainability of fisheries. While the private sector remains fully committed to implementing responsible practices, it is government leadership that creates the enabling environment and ensures consistent compliance.

We strongly believe that a robust public-private partnership—anchored in internationally recognized standards such as the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and MarinTrust—can deliver long-term benefits. The private sector will gain from a supportive regulatory framework, while the government can leverage private sector resources to implement and scale sustainable practices effectively.

To this end, we plan to pilot a **trawl fishery aligned with the principles of the MSC Fisheries Standard**. This initiative is expected to contribute meaningfully to the government's long-term ecological and economic goals, with positive impacts extending beyond the trawl sector to other important fisheries.

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:

21%	36%	43%

% of Indicators Tracked Basic FIPs may focus their workplans on a subset of the indicators. This shows the proportion of total indicators the FIP is working on.

100%

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

39%

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

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
61%	0%	39%	0%

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
50%	0%	50%	0%

FIP Progress Rating

B - Good Progress

FIP Objective(s)

By 31 December 2024, the Vietnam mixed species - trawl FIP (also known as FIP Vung Tau) will achieve

following objectives:

- 1. A practical multi-species stock assessment guidance (based on possible and existing trawl fisheries data) is developed.
- 2. The data about trawl fisheries in Ba Ria Vung Tau province is collected, analysed, assessed and shared with key stakeholders.
- 3. Group of indicator species for trawl fisheries in Ba Ria Vung Tau are defined and stock assessment is done. Management measures are incorporate into the trawl fisheries management plan.
- 4. Impact of the trawl fishery on ETP species, critical habitats and ecosystem in Ba Ria Vung Tau province is known. Management measures are incorporate into the trawl fisheries management plan.
- 5. A trawl fishery co-management team with personnel from leading agencies is formed.
- 6. A comprehensive trawl fisheries management plan for Ba Ria Vung Tau is developed by the fishery comanagement team will be handled over to the Fisheries Sub-Department of Ba Ria Vung Tau province for implementation.

Update on April 16, 2025

By December 31, 2027, the FIP is ready to upgrade to a comprehensive FIP:

- A MSC Pre-Assessment by a registered MSC technical consultant or accredited auditing body is carried out
- 2. Pilot with trawlers in southern Vietnam aiming for MSC certification is implemented with focus on improving the quality of fishing data and preparing for a pre-assessment

FIP Type

Basic

FIP Stage

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

Start and Projected End Dates

July, 2021 -

December, 2027

Species

Common Name

Big-eye Scad

Scientific Name

Selar crumenophthalmus

Common Name Yellowtail Scad **Scientific Name** Atule mate **Common Name** Greater Lizardfish **Scientific Name** Saurida tumbil **Common Name** Blunt-nose Lizardfish **Scientific Name** Trachinocephalus myops **Common Name** Sulphur Goatfish **Scientific Name** Upeneus sulphureus **Gear Type** Trawl Location **FAO Major Fishing Area** Area 71 (Pacific, Western Central) **Exclusive Economic Zones** Country Viet Nam **Geographic Scope** South water of Vietnam **Country Flag of Vessel** Viet Nam **Estimated Total FIP Landings** 20000 metric tons

FIP Leads

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