

Indian Ocean tuna - purse seine (SIOTI)

Overview

FIP Description

The Sustainable Indian Ocean Tuna Initiative (SIOTI) was established in 2017 and comprises major purse seine fleets and canned tuna processors operating in the Indian Ocean. SIOTI successfully concluded the first phase of the FIP between 2017 and 2023 that resulted in all fleet partners being MSC-certified or in full assessment against the standard for skipjack tuna. The successful FIP partnership is, since 2023, now focusing its attention on fishery improvements for yellowfin and bigeye tuna, building on impactful interventions made in the first phase of the FIP while actioning others to ensure that the fishery for both species can achieve the MSC standard by 2028. The FIP has retained its original name, SIOTI, yet following an updated workplan which main objective is the verification of the YFT and BET fisheries. The implementation of the revised workplan started in 2023.

Target species: SIOTI.2 focuses on the purse seine fishery target species of yellowfin (*Thunnus albacares*) and bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*)

Fishing methods: The FIP encompasses the use of purse seine gear by large (>60 m LOA) specialist purse seine vessels. Sets by the vessels can be made on free schools of tuna or schools of tuna associated with floating objects

Fishing area: The fishery operates under the jurisdiction of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) in FAO Statistical Areas 51 and 57

Fishing fleets: The SIOTI fleet comprises 27 purse seine vessels flagged to France, Italy, Mauritius, Seychelles and Spain.

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:

36%

64%

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

18%

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

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
9%	68%	18%	5%

FIP Progress Rating

A - Advanced Progress

FIP Objective(s)

- To enhance a successful industry collaboration that is making fishery improvements and promoting a transition to sustainable purse seine tuna fishing in the Indian Ocean by June 2028
- To continue and build on actions aimed at rebuilding yellowfin and bigeye, securing ecosystem functioning and strengthening governance of the fishery by June 2028

FIP Type

Comprehensive

FIP Stage

Stage 5: Improvements on the Water

Start and Projected End Dates

April, 2017 -
June, 2028

Species

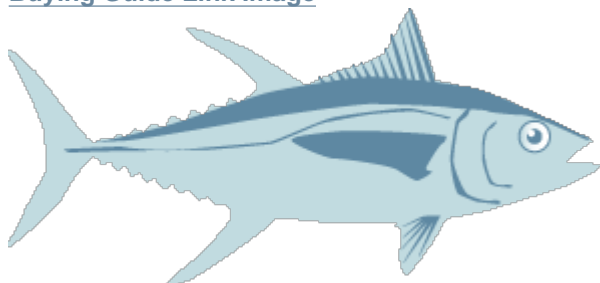
Common Name

Yellowfin Tuna

Scientific Name

Thunnus albacares

Buying Guide Link Image



Yellowfin Tuna

Buying Guide

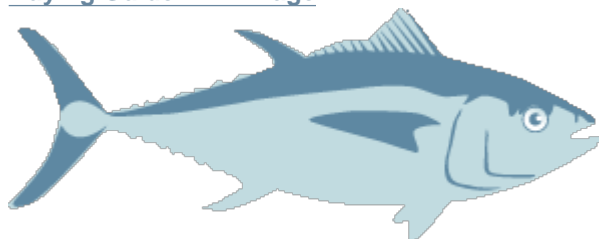
Common Name

Bigeye Tuna

Scientific Name

Thunnus obesus

Buying Guide Link Image



Bigeye Tuna

Buying Guide

Gear Type

Purse Seine

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

Area 51 (Indian Ocean, Western)

Area 57 (Indian Ocean, Eastern)

Exclusive Economic Zones

Country

Comoros (the)

Geographic Scope

Entire country

Country

Kenya

Geographic Scope

Entire country

Country

Mauritius

Geographic Scope

Entire country

Country

Madagascar

Geographic Scope

Entire country

Country

Mozambique

Geographic Scope

Entire country

Country

Seychelles

Geographic Scope

Entire country

Country

Tanzania, United Republic of

Geographic Scope

Entire country

Country

France

Geographic Scope

Overseas territories of France in the Indian Ocean

Country Flag of Vessel

Seychelles

Country Flag of Vessel

France

Country Flag of Vessel

Spain

Country Flag of Vessel

Italy

Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)

IOTC

High Seas Name

Indian Ocean

Estimated Total FIP Landings

89147 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

Kosyon Ltd

Organization Type

Consultant

Primary Contact

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