

## 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

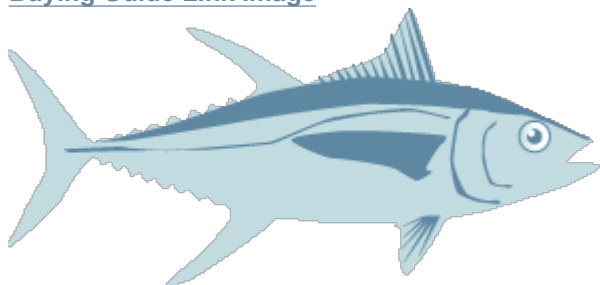
##### Common Name

Yellowfin Tuna

##### Scientific Name

Thunnus albacares

**Buying Guide Link Image**



Yellowfin Tuna

Buying Guide

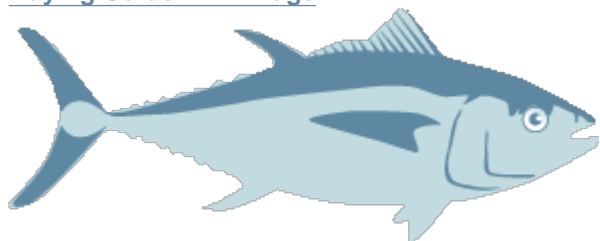
**Common Name**

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

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