

## Mauritania small pelagics - purse seine

### Overview

#### FIP Description

The Mauritanian Small Pelagic FIP was initiated by a partnership between the Mauritanian fishery authority, the Mauritanian oceanographic and fisheries research institute (IMROP), local businesses, and international fishmeal and oil buyers. The fishery consists of artisanal and coastal purse seine and pelagic trawl vessels targeting mainly sardine (with some other small pelagics according to availability and current regulations) in Mauritanian waters. The FIP aims to support the government in working towards robust management and long-term sustainability of the resource, and also in other policy aims around improving value-added and support to food security. The MarinTrust Standard was initially chosen as the benchmark for the assessment and work plan but in 2021 a MSC pre-assessment was conducted and the workplan revised so that it now addresses both standards.

In 2024 this FIP progressed to MarinTrust version 3 and has created a new workplan and timetable to reflect this new benchmarking and actions.

In March 2025 the FIP was internally reviewed to ensure that the purse seine pirogues are explicitly included, as well as the coastal purse seiners.

As well as a focus on the sustainability of the fishery, an important element of the FIP is the following:

#### Refocus the fishery on the human consumption market

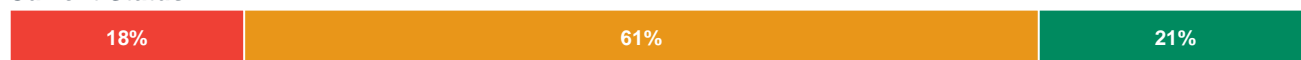
Following the national policy objective, an increasing proportion of small pelagic landings from the fishery enter human consumption supply chains, rather than FMFO supply chains. FMFO production comes increasingly from byproducts of processing for human. The FIP aims to also support the vessels and factories in improving their systems (quality, handling, sanitary processes, traceability, certifications) and making investments towards human consumption supply chains by:

- Keeping FIP participants informed about issues around quality, sanitary processes, traceability, international markets etc
- Working with MPEM to ensure that improvements to infrastructure in the port and factory areas of Nouadhibou continue to be prioritised

- Supporting factories with certifications

## 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%	41%	59%	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
0%	75%	25%	0%

### FIP Progress Rating

A - Advanced Progress
-----------------------

### FIP Objective(s)

- Improve data collection on catch, effort and biomass for purse seine fleet / small pelagics (Dec. 2023, revised to Dec. 2026)
- Support government in putting in place Small Pelagics Management Plan (PAPP) (Dec. 2022). Met but new objective added to support implementation (Dec. 2028)
- Ensure that the fishery is managed consistent with ecosystem requirements (Dec. 2023, revised to Dec. 2028)
- Support government and scientists in collaborating with Morocco and Senegal for management of shared stocks (Dec. 2025, revised to Dec. 2028)
- Support monitoring and enforcement on vessels and in factories (Dec. 2023, revised to Dec. 2027)
- Evaluate bycatch, discards and habitat interactions (Dec. 2023, revised to Dec. 2026)
- Improve stock assessments (Dec. 2023, revised to Dec. 2027)

- Refocus fishery on human consumption market (ongoing long term process, but deadline set Dec. 2026 to complete workplan)

**FIP Type**

Comprehensive

**FIP Stage**

Stage 4: Improvements in Fishing Practices or Fishery Management

**Start and Projected End Dates**

August, 2017 -  
December, 2028

**Species****Common Name**

European Sardine

**Scientific Name**

*Sardina pilchardus*

**Common Name**

Flat Sardinella

**Scientific Name**

*Sardinella maderensis*

**Common Name**

Round Sardinella

**Scientific Name**

*Sardinella aurita*

**Gear Type**

[Purse Seine](#)

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

[Area 34 \(Atlantic, Eastern Central\)](#)

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

Mauritania

**Geographic Scope**

Subject to zoning provisions

**Country Flag of Vessel**

Mauritania

**Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)****High Seas Name**

Atlantic Ocean

**Estimated Total FIP Landings**

163773 metric tons

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

IMROP

**Organization Type**

Other

**Primary Contact**

Cheikh-baye Braham

**Email**

[baye.braham@gmail.com](mailto:baye.braham@gmail.com)

**Website Name**

[IMROP](#)

**Organization Name**

Olvea

**Organization Type**

Industry

**Primary Contact**

Jo Gascoigne

**Email**

[jo.gascoigne@cantab.net](mailto:jo.gascoigne@cantab.net)

**Website Name**

[Olvea](#)

© Fishery Progress. All Rights Reserved.

**Source URL:** <https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/mauritania-small-pelagics-purse-seine>