

## Ghana tuna - pole & line

### Overview

#### FIP Description

**Update April 2025:** Two of the species in this FIP (yellowfin and skipjack) have entered full assessment with the MSC (<https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/ghanaian-atlantic-ocean-skipjack-...>). The FIP remains active to focus on progress for bigeye tuna.

The Ghana tuna pole & line FIP has been jointly established by key governments in the region, major tuna processors, producer organisations and their fishing vessels, with the support of WWF. This FIP is a multi-stakeholder effort, and its goal is to support improvement in the management of tuna fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean so that in the future, consumers can be assured that the pole and line tuna they purchase has been harvested sustainably. The ultimate aim is to meet the standards of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC).

Pole and line fishing is highly selective and the volume of tuna unfit to canneries is marginal. Tuna unfit for tuna canneries are sold to local markets, mostly through Tema and to some extent Abidjan.

The fleet catches mainly skipjack (2/3 of their total catch) and yellowfin tuna (currently around 1/3) as target species, in association with bigeye tuna. To catch tuna, the pole and line vessel vessels use drifting fish aggregating devices (DFADs) and small pelagic fish caught in Ghana waters as bait.

**Target species:** this FIP will consider the following three pelagic tuna species as the target species: skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) and bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*)

**Fishing methods:** This FIP will include the use of pole and line catching of individual tuna.

**Fishing area:** The fishing area is the Atlantic Ocean under the jurisdiction of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna.e.g. FAO Statistical Areas 34.

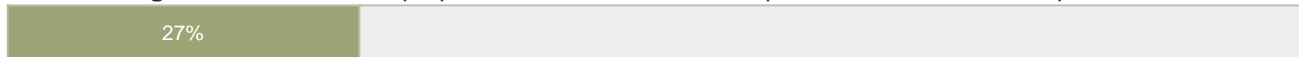
**Fishing fleet:** The fishing fleet currently numbers 17 vessels fishing for, or on behalf of, the FIP participants. The exact nature of the fleet will be clarified as the FIP partnership evolves, and will be assessed in detail during FIP action planning. However, it is recognised that the fishing fleet might change over time if the FIP partnership is enlarged or decreased.

## 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
9%	64%	27%	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
20%	80%	0%	0%

### FIP Progress Rating

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

### FIP Objective(s)

- To form a collaboration between governments, industry and fleets to bring about improvements in the fishery.
- To address the shortfalls in the stock health, ecosystem health and management of the fishery by meeting actions described by the Improvement Performance Goals (IPGs).
- To improve the fishery to a point at which it can undergo full assessment by the MSC by the end of December 2025.

### FIP Type

Comprehensive

### FIP Stage

Stage 4: Improvements in Fishing Practices or Fishery Management

## Start and Projected End Dates

November, 2018 -  
December, 2025

## Species

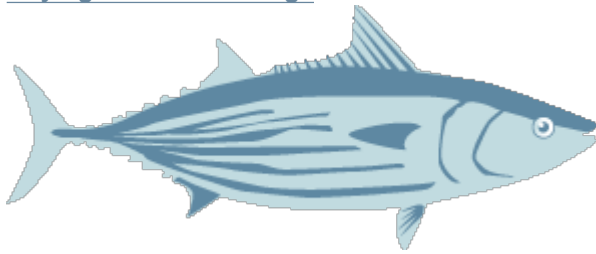
### Common Name

Skipjack Tuna

### Scientific Name

Katsuwonus pelamis

[Buying Guide](#) [Link Image](#)



[Skipjack Tuna](#)  
[Buying Guide](#)

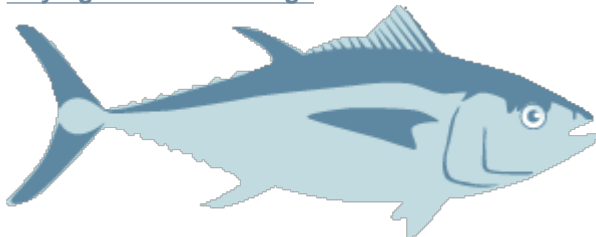
### Common Name

Bigeye Tuna

### Scientific Name

Thunnus obesus

[Buying Guide](#) [Link Image](#)



[Bigeye Tuna](#)  
[Buying Guide](#)

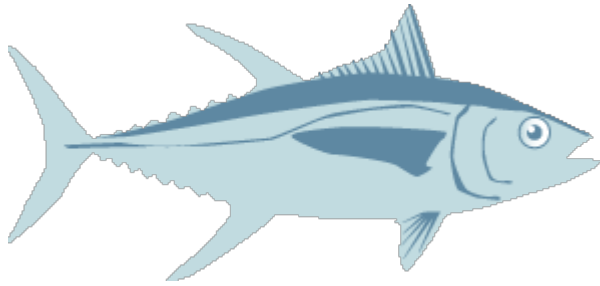
### Common Name

Yellowfin Tuna

### Scientific Name

Thunnus albacares

[Buying Guide](#) [Link Image](#)



[Yellowfin Tuna](#)

[Buying Guide](#)

## Gear Type

[Pole](#)

## Location

### FAO Major Fishing Area

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

### Exclusive Economic Zones

#### Country

Ghana

#### Geographic Scope

Entire country

#### Country

Côte d'Ivoire

#### Geographic Scope

Entire country

#### Country

Benin

#### Geographic Scope

Entire country

#### Country

Togo

#### Geographic Scope

Entire country

#### Country Flag of Vessel

Ghana

**Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)**

ICCAT

**Estimated Total FIP Landings**

13023 metric tons

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

Thai Union

**Organization Type**

Industry

**Primary Contact**

Francisco Leotte

**Email**[Francisco.Leotte@thaiunion.com](mailto:Francisco.Leotte@thaiunion.com)**Website Name**[Thai Union](#)**Organization Name**

Key Traceability

**Organization Type**

Consultant

**Primary Contact**

Becky Caton

**Email**[b.caton@keytraceability.com](mailto:b.caton@keytraceability.com)**Website Name**[Key Traceability](#)

© Fishery Progress. All Rights Reserved.

Source URL: <https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/ghana-tuna-pole-line>