

## Summary report for the Ghana site visit – pole & line and purse seine FIPs August 2023

### Introduction

This report is a summary of site visit activities conducted between 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023 in Tema, Ghana. Representatives from Thai Union and Key Traceability travelled to Ghana to visit the Ghanaian FIP participants. The main purpose of the visit was to gather information and data necessary for the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) assessment process. This report has been produced to summarise the information gathered during the trip, the meetings conducted and the next steps for the FIP to achieve MSC certification.

### Panofi / GTA

The meeting with the Ghana Tuna Association (GTA), Thai Union and the FIP coordinator was held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at the Panofi offices in Tema. Attendees at the meeting can be found in Table 1. The meeting was conducted to facilitate data collection to contribute positively when the fishery enters the MSC assessment process.

Items on the agenda were as follows:

- Collection of proof the bigeye quota has been adhered to from 2018-current.
- Gathering of photographs and descriptions of current FAD designs in use.
- Collection of ISSF PVR audit reports for the Ghanaian fleet.
- Collection of FAD tracking data - number of active buoys from 2018 per vessel, the number of FADs removed and the location.
- Further information regarding the bait fishery, gathering volumes used via logbook entries of the vessels.

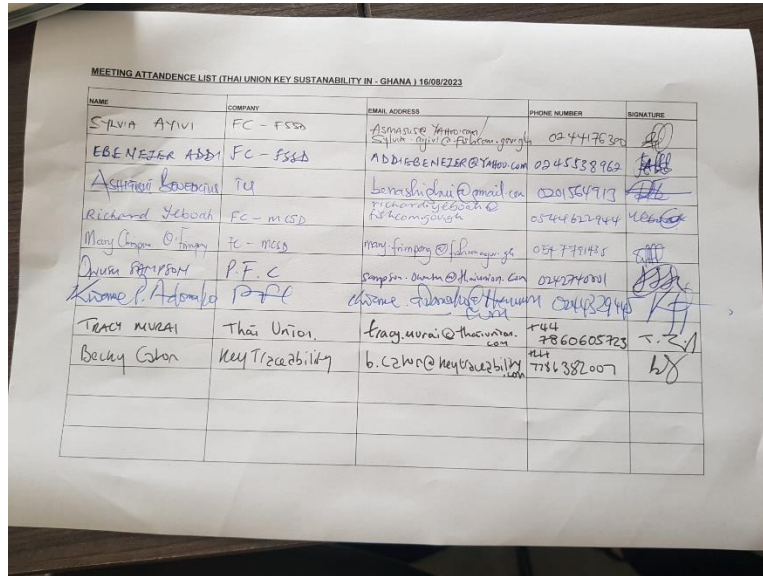
*Table 1: Panofi / GTA meeting attendance*

<b>Date: 15/08/2023</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Company:</b>
Frank Aihoon	Panofi Co. Ltd, Ghana Tuna Association
Benedictus Ashigbui	Thai Union consultant
Kwame Adomako	PFC
Michael Essumaw	Panofi Co. Ltd
Tracy Murai	Thai Union
Becky Caton	Key Traceability
Jinny Gayeon	Panofi Co. Ltd
David Kuwormy	Panofi Co. Ltd

GTA confirmed the ability to provide the requested information for the Ghana fleet and a timeline for the submission of data was decided.

### Ghana Fisheries Commission

A meeting was held with the MCS Division of the Ghana Fisheries Commission, Thai Union and the FIP coordinator on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at the PFC offices in Tema (Figure 1).



NAME	COMPANY	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	SIGNATURE
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EBENEZER ABBU	FC - FSSA	ABDI EBENEZER@fishcom.gov.gh	0245538962	[Signature]
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BELLY COHEN	Key Traceability	b.cohen@keytraceability.com	7756382007	[Signature]

Figure 1: Ghana Fisheries Commission meeting attendance

The meeting was conducted to facilitate data collection to aid the fishery in entering the MSC assessment process. Items on the agenda that were discussed are as follows:

- Request for observer reports and FAD data for each vessel from 2018-2022.
- Monitoring Control and Surveillance Division annual reports from 2018-2022 detailing the fisheries observer program, enforcement patrols, closed season, port operations and total tuna catches.
- Gathering comprehensive annual catch and effort data from the fleet.
- Compiling evidence of formal reporting and decision-making processes of the Ghana Fisheries Commission.
- Updates on the opening of the new MCS Centre in Tema, Ghana.



Figure 2: Ghana Fisheries Commission meeting attendees

**Final points**

The site visit provided opportunities for both engagement and data collection otherwise not possible remotely. The FIP coordinator is grateful for the continued engagement and effort of the FIP stakeholders. Summaries of the required information were provided to GTA and GFC upon conclusion of the meetings to progress on the tasks discussed during the site visit.