



CeDePesca

Centro Desarrollo y Pesca Sustentable
Centre for Development and Sustainable Fisheries

FIP Progress

**Fishery Improvement Program for
Suriname corvina and acoupa
weakfish driftnet and trawling**

29 June 2021



Fishery Improvement Program

- ▶ An **agreement between private parties** to work together to achieve a “certifiable” status for a given fishery in collaboration with public parties (the government)
- ▶ In the case of the Suriname finfish fisheries, the starting point of the FIP has been on a US importer (Sea-Delight), a Surinamese producer (Deep Sea Atlantic) with the **technical assistance of CeDePesca**
- ▶ The FIP is open to **other interested parties**

Fishery Improvement Program

Center for Development and Sustainable Fisheries (CeDePesca)



- Latin American non-profit organization.
- Since 1997 helping fisheries to achieve sustainability
- Currently, with projects in Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Chile, Suriname and Vietnam
- These projects include research, extension, policy proposals, training, interaction with the production chain and governments

Fishery Improvement Program

- ▶ Demersal finfish fishery in Suriname = **multispecies** fishery
- ▶ As starting point, the FIP focusses on corvina (kandratiki) and acoupa weakfish (bangbang) because of their commercial importance
- ▶ The FIP includes both the **trawling** and the **driftnet** fleet that targets those species



Fishery Improvement Program

- The first step was to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the fishery through a **pre-assessment** against the standard of the Marine Stewardship Council. The pre-assessment reflects the situation by the end of 2019.
- The **MSC fisheries standard** is a set of criteria and indicators that is internationally recognized and used to assess if a fishery is well-managed and sustainable
- The pre-assessment has led to a 5-year **FIP action plan**



FIP Action plan

- Detailed **5-year action plan**; started in October 2020
- **5 main actions**, each with specific tasks
- Two complementary actions
- Actions **linked to MSC Indicators** with the aim to improve the scores

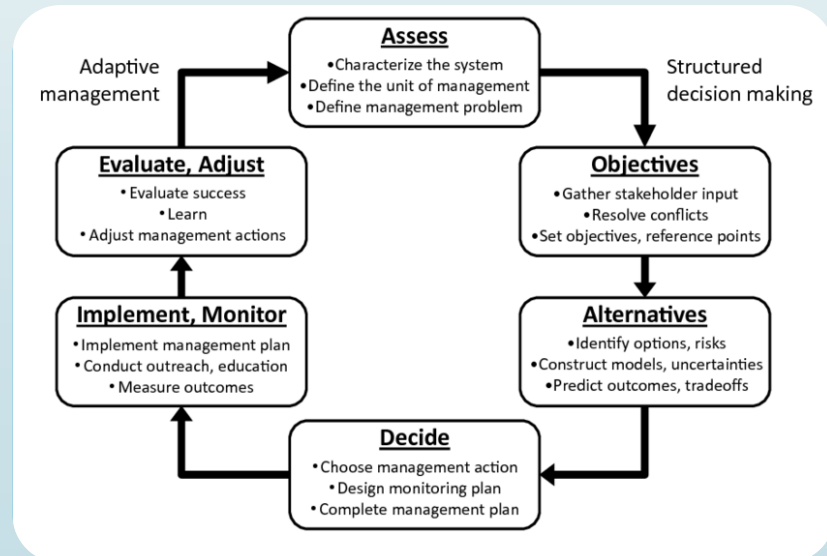


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ACTION 1

Adopt management plans for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery

GOAL: Achieve the adoption of management plans for each fishery by Year 4, including explicit short- and long-term objectives, harvest control rules, monitoring mechanisms and consultation processes.



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Suriname corvina and acoupa weakfish driftnet and trawling FIP	MSC Indicators	Minimum stakeholders involved	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
			Q01	Q02	Q03	Q04	Q05	Q06	Q07	Q08	Q09	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
Action 1. Adopt Management Plans for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery																						
Task 1.1. Participate from the consultation process to update the Fishery Management Plan (2014-2018).		FIP partners																				

- Representatives from FIP partners participated in **consultation process** for update of Suriname's Fisheries Management Plan 2021-2025
- FMP 2021-2025 **endorsed** by Minister and fishing sector representatives on 3 March 2021
- FMP 2021-2025 in line with **sub-regional management strategy** for North-Brazil Guianas Shelf, developed with support of regional partners (WECAFC, CRFM, FAO)

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Action 1. Adopt Management Plans for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery																						
Task 1.2. Determine short and long-term management objectives for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery. The objectives must be measurable and must reflect the goals of recovering the stocks within a specific timeframe and of keeping them at levels consistent with their maximum sustainable yield. An objective related to the interaction with the ecosystem must also become available.		Ministry of LVW FIP partners																				

- FMP 2021-2025: “fishing effort should be **in line with status of stocks**”
- In absence of stock assessment: effort should **not exceed** the 2020 level
- FMP 2021-2025 will be screened against MSC standard to **evaluate whether more specific and measurable management objectives are needed** (e.g. fishery specific FMP)

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Action 1. Adopt Management Plans for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery																						
Task 1.3. If an initiative arises to modernize the Sea Fisheries Act of 1980, then ensure that it explicitly states clear long-term management objectives consistent with the sustainability of fisheries and the use of the precautionary approach.		FIP partners																				

- Suriname sea fisheries legislation was **updated in 2016-2017 with support of FAO** but remains in draft
- Currently two consultants are hired by FAO to screen the draft act, finalize it together with the Fisheries Department and **consult with stakeholders**
- **FIP partners to participate** in the consultation process with support of Cedepesca

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Action 1. Adopt Management Plans for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery																						
Task 1.6. Strengthen the existing monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms (including the sanctions system) to ensure that the fishery is able to keep fishing mortality within the required values for stock rebuilding.		Ministry of LVV FIP partners																				

- New **Fisheries Monitoring and Information System (FISMIS)** has been deployed at the Fisheries Department with support of FAO, which allows for the integration of information on vessels, owners, licenses and landings
- Powerful platform for data collection but also to support fisheries **Monitoring, Control and Surveillance**

FIP Progress June 2021

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Action 1. Adopt Management Plans for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery																						
Task 1.7. Set up a fishery follow-up committee for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery that includes representatives from each fishery. The committee should include researchers, fishers, industry representatives and government representatives.		Ministry of LVV FIP partners Fishers																				

- In October 2020, a **national Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Working Group** was established by the Minister of LVV, including representatives from government, fishing sector (industrial and small scale) and WWF
- This WG will facilitate the installation of a committee for the FIP fisheries

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Action 1. Adopt Management Plans for the driftnet fishery and the trawling fishery																						
Task 1.9. Explore/conform alliances with other fishery stakeholders, including NGOs working towards similar objectives in Suriname.		FIP partners																				

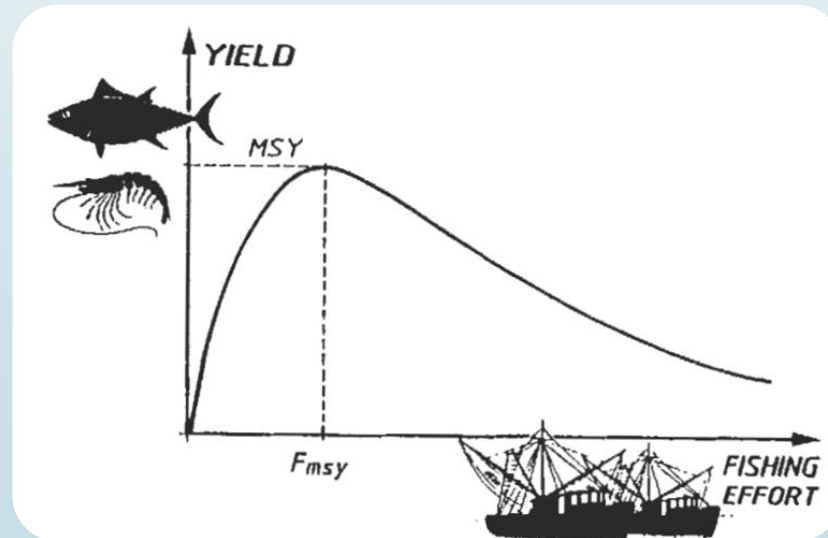
- First FIP stakeholder meeting held in March 2021
- Three additional private sector partners in Suriname have expressed **interest in joining the FIP** – discussions for their inclusion are ongoing
- Partnership with **Conservation International** Suriname

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ACTION 2

Implementing a data collection program to improve the quantity and quality of data used in stock assessments

GOAL: Ensure that data is sufficient to conduct LB-SPR stock assessments in an annual basis as of Year 2, and to feed more sophisticated stock assessments as envisioned by WECAFC as of Year 3



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Action 2. Implement a data collection program to improve the quantity and quality of data used in stock assessments																						
Task 2.1. Develop an at-port data collection program (includes the selection and training of data collectors, the design of data collection protocols, and preparing the materials and equipment needed to implement the program).		FIP partners Fishers																				

- New **Fisheries Monitoring and Information System (FISMIS)** has been deployed at the Fisheries Department with support of FAO, which allows for the integration of information on vessels, owners, licenses and landings
- FAO experts are currently supporting Suriname to **revise the data collection methodology for artisanal fisheries**

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Task 2.3. Encourage the reinstatement of the Ministry of LVV's onboard observers program for the trawling and driftnet fisheries and the adoption of protocols consistent with MSC Principle 1.		FIP partners Ministry of LVV																				

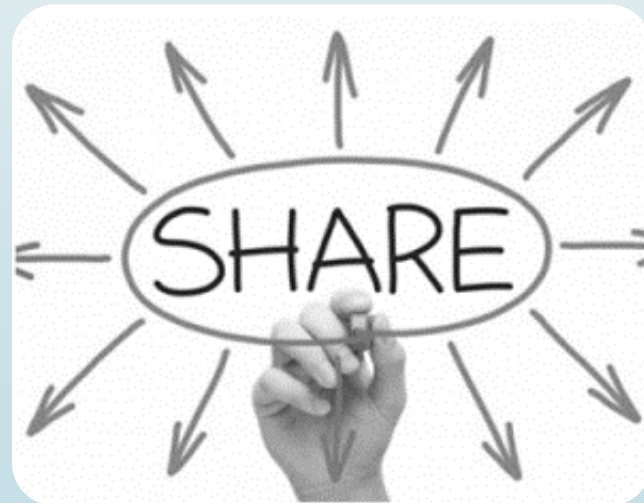
- Government onboard observer program stopped in 2016 with the retirement of observers
- The Fisheries Department has employed **two new onboard observers**. Re-activation of observer program on hold due to COVID-19 but should start in Q3

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ACTION A

Disseminating the FIP's progress among partners and other interested parties

GOAL: Ensuring that FIP partners are kept up-to-date with regards to the advance of the FIP, and that the fishing community in Suriname and abroad is aware of the FIP efforts and the achievement of its milestones



FIP Progress June 2021

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COMPLEMENTARY ACTIONS																						
Action A. Disseminating the FIP's progress among partners and other interested parties																						
Task A.1. Create a FIP profile at FisheryProgress.org.	N/A	FIP partners	■																			
Task A.2. Update the FIP profile at FisheryProgress.org, biannually.		FIP partners		■		■	■		■	■		■	■		■	■		■	■		■	■

- FIP profile online since November 2020
- Profile updated in May 2021
- **FIP rating** = “C – Some recent progress”
- Expected to change to “A – Advanced progress” with the publication of the national FMP (in English)

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- [Fisheryprogress.org](https://fisheryprogress.org)
- <https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/suriname-corvina-and-acoupa-weakfish-driftnet-and-trawl>

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) profile. At the top, the logo 'FISHERYPROGRESS.ORG' is displayed alongside the tagline 'Fishery Improvement Project Progress Tracking Database & Tools'. Navigation links include 'FIP Directory', 'Resources for FIPs', 'Resources for Buyers', 'Social Responsibility', 'About Us', and 'Contact'. A 'My Dashboard' button is visible in the top right corner. The main heading reads 'Suriname corvina and acoupa weakfish - driftnet and trawl'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Overview', 'Details', 'Improvement Progress', 'Actions Progress', and 'Social Performance'. The 'Overview' section is active, showing a 'FIP Description' that states: 'FIP partners **Sea Delight**, **Deep Sea Atlantic** and **CeDePesca** have committed to the sustainability of the Suriname corvina and acoupa weakfish driftnet and trawling fisheries, and look forward to bring'. To the right of the description are buttons for 'Follow this FIP', 'Print', 'PDF', and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. Below the description is a 'FIP at a Glance' section with a sub-section for 'ENVIRONMENTAL' indicating 'Addressing 28 of 28 indicators'.



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SELF ASSESSMENT

- ▶ FIP is making **good progress**, even in the context of COVID-19
- ▶ Favourable **government context** with willingness to improve management and involvement of regional and international organizations (e.g. FAO, WECAFC)
- ▶ FIP should strive to get support from a broad set of **stakeholders** both in artisanal and industrial fishery
 - ▶ Built **critical mass of improvement-oriented fishery actors** to change fishing practices
 - ▶ Ensure that the FIP is **well-funded** to expand its impact and conduct research-related activities



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NEXT STEPS

- In the current reporting period (May – October 2021) the FIP will continue focussing on the **year 1 activities** as presented
- As opportunities present themselves, progress towards **other FIP tasks** can be made
- A key aspect is increasing the support to the FIP by the inclusion of **more FIP partners and supporters**



FIP Progress

Thank You!

Questions??

