



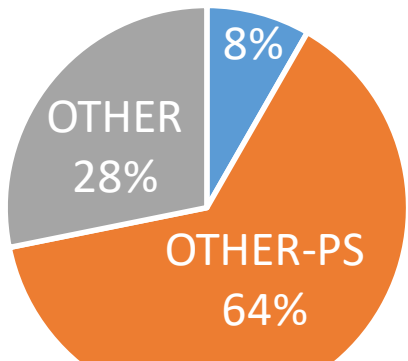
OPAGAC GLOBAL FISHERY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

ISSF FIP HARMONIZATION MEETING, SAN DIEGO, CA, MAY 8-9, 2019

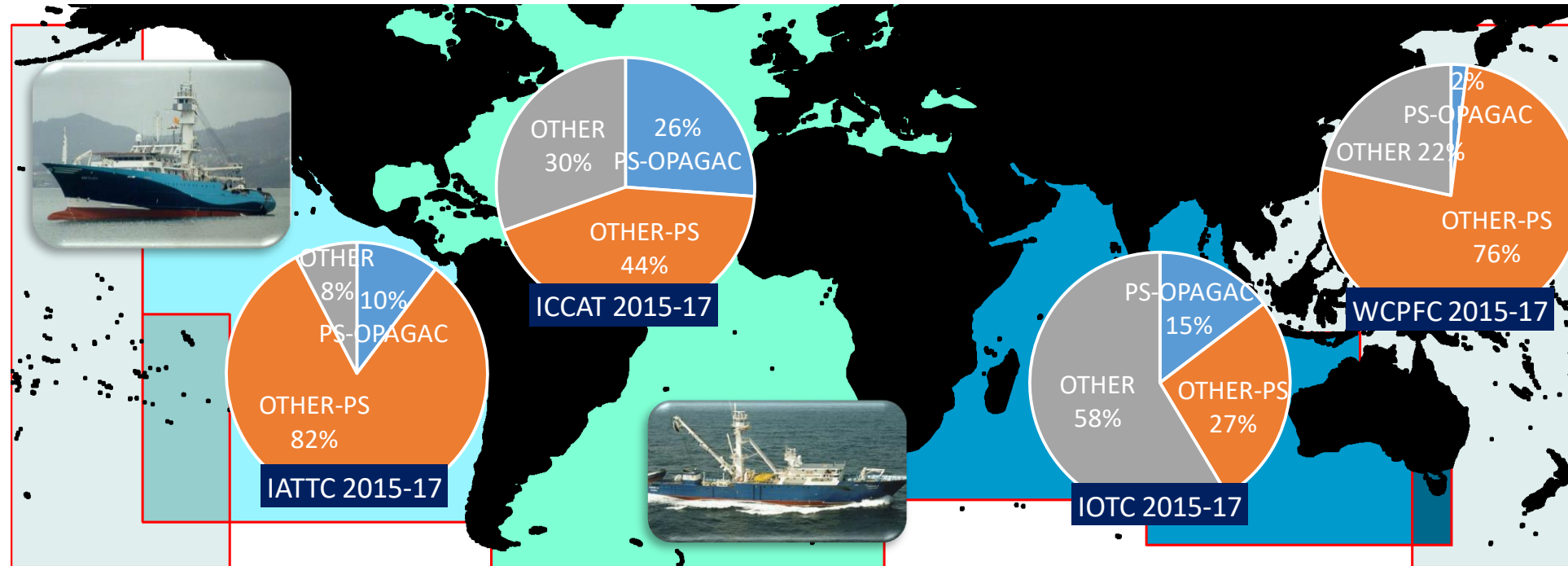


ABOUT OPAGAC

- OPAGAC: 9 Fishing Groups (some integrated), 48 Seiners
- ≈380,000 t Tropical Tunas (8% del total) in the three oceans



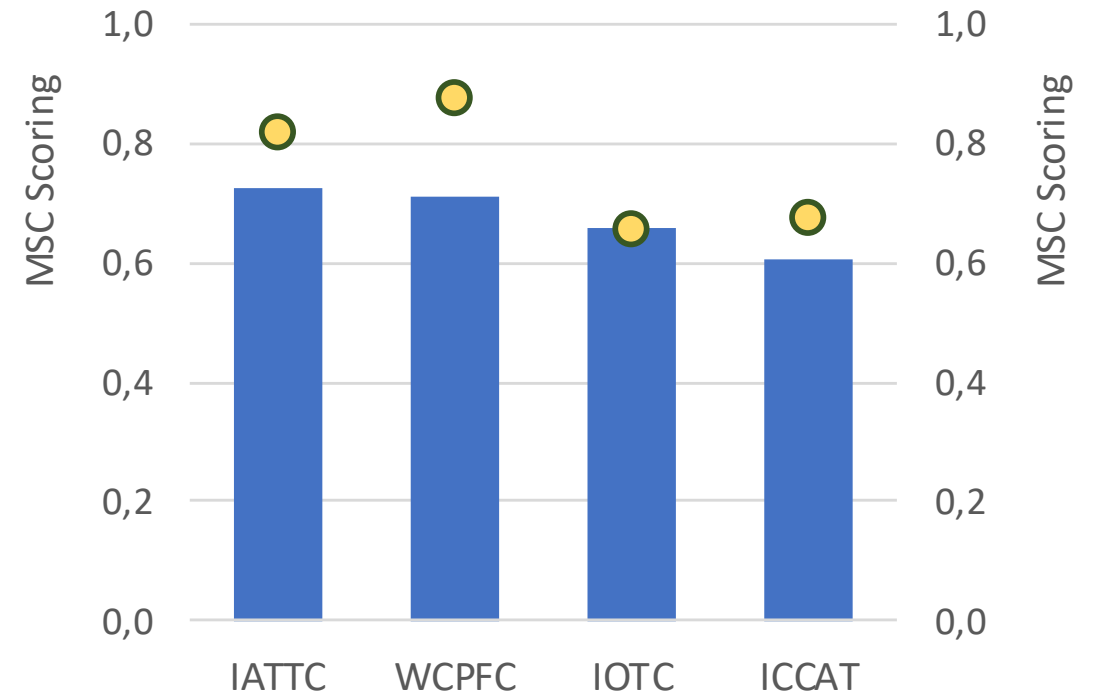
WORLDWIDE 2015-17



FIP PERFORMANCE

- Independent evaluation from MSC Accredited Consultant:
- FIP Progresses at (IOTC) or above expectations (IATTC, WCPFC, ICCAT)
- Progress behind the target in a very limited amount of the Actions of the FIP

Y2:OPAGAC FIP PERFORMANCE



MOVING THE OPAGAC FIP AGENDA



Advocacy RFMO CPC

One-on-one meetings
Position Papers
Consultative
Committees (LDAC) &
other arrangements



Harmonization of FIP Actions

Work with sister FIPs:
SIOTI (IOTC)
TUNACONS (IATTC)
ATA (IATTC-WCPFC)
Eastern Atlantic (ICCAT)



Making changes in the field

P2 of MSC and social
conditions
Code of Good Practices
APR AENOR Certification
and Chain of Custody



Contribution to Scientific Process

Capacity building
Technical Papers
Participation to
Scientific Meetings
(RFMO, EU Projects)

OPAGAC FIP MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIONS ONGOING: P1 & P3

- Principles 1 & 3: Sustainability and management of Target stocks and
 - Support the MSE process towards the adoption of HCR (ABNJ meetings)
 - Facilitated **release of all FAD Buoy tracks and echo-sounder data for the preparation of fishery dependent and independent Indices of Abundance** for the purse seine fishery on FADs
 - Documents presented to scientific meetings of the IOTC and the ICCAT
 - Contribution to scientific meetings towards the presentation of technical papers and reports:
 - Evaluation of data quality purse seine, longline and other fleets (IOTC/ICCAT)
 - Support to alternative stock assessments (IOTCYFT)
 - Participation in Capacity Building processes and initiatives (observer training ICCAT)
 - Promote better MCS mechanisms: e-monitoring research and assistance to implementation and regional observer schemes
 - Evaluation of existing regulations and **alternative management measures**
 - Papers presented on **Fishery Closures** as an alternative to catch limits or quotas

OPAGAC FIP MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIONS ONGOING: P2

- Principle 2: Reducing the ecosystem impacts of the OPAGAC fishery
 - Evaluation of impacts
 - Estimation of bycatch levels for the OPAGAC fleet in all oceans (ongoing)
 - Bycatch: Paper presented at the IOTC on contribution of PS fisheries to overall levels of bycatch; work ongoing for other oceans
 - Habitat: FAD-Watch Project Seychelles, technical paper (IOTC WPEB) and white paper (2nd Joint FAD Meeting)
 - Participation to research on mitigation of impacts (BIOFAD Projects, ISSF bycatch mitigation initiatives, Hopper Project, etc.)
 - Modification of the OPAGAC Code of Good Practices on the basis of the above (living document)
 - Training, monitoring and verification of implementation of the code in the field (AZTI)

THE WAY AHEAD

P1

- Maintain participation to MSE processes and adoption of HCR for tropical tunas
- Preparation of abundance indices for tropical tuna stocks from buoy PS data
- Support to alternative stock assessments (in collaboration with other FIPs)
- Research on alternative management measures (Fishery Closures)

P2

- Complete bycatch estimation
- Research on mitigation
- Biodegradable FADs & expansion of FAD-Watch
- Best standards for FAD data reporting
- Update Code of Good Practices, as required

P3

- Keep working with flag states to improve compliance
- Promote the implementation of measures to improve information verification and management:
 - Regional observer schemes and EMS
 - Alternative management measures with a higher chance of successful implementation in ICCAT and IOTC

Joint-FIP Work and ISSF Assistance is welcome in any of these areas

THANKS FOR
YOUR
ATTENTION

