

# Fishery Progress Six-Month Update for the Thai Tonggol Purse Seine Fishery Improvement Project



# Prepared by

# by Key Traceability Ltd. November 2021



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# Summary of Actions

## Annual review – November 2021

This report is a summary of the steps made by the Thai tonggol purse seine fishery improvement project (FIP) from May 2020 to date (November 2021). This document will provide a summary of activities since the last annual update and updates on individual actions listed in the workplan.

The FIP was re-launched in May 2020 following a review conducted by Key Traceability Ltd. of the current FIP action plan and progress made between the launching of the FIP in 2018. The Gulf of Thailand (GoT) Thai tonggol FIP involves partners from the Thailand Department of Fisheries (DoF), the Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA) and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC). These four organisations signed a Joint Declaration of Intent on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2018¹ declaring their support for finalising the Longtail Tuna FIP Action Plan and committing their respective organisations to implement activities for which they agree to take responsibility as part of the multistakeholder consultation process.

The objective of this FIP is to achieve a standard necessary for MSC fisheries certification by the end of 2024, specifically:

- Stock status and fishery management: The tonggol fishery will be conducted in a manner that does not lead to over-fishing or depletion of the exploited populations. The management of the entire stock will include a harvest strategy which is responsive to the state of the stock. It will also have well-defined harvest control rules that ensure that the exploitation rate is reduced as the point of recruitment impairment (PRI) is approached and keep the stock fluctuating around a target level consistent with Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY).
- Ecosystem management: Fishing operations will allow for the maintenance of the structure, productivity, function, and diversity of the ecosystem (including habitat and associated dependent and ecologically related species) on which the fishery depends.
- Governance systems: To strengthen governance systems for the tonggol fishery, ensuring its
  effective management which respects local, national, and international laws and standards
  and incorporates institutional and operational frameworks that require use of the resource to
  be responsible and sustainable.

The participant group is comprised of the Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA), the Thailand Department of Fisheries (DoF), the Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and the FIP coordinators, Key Traceability. There has been no change to the stakeholders involved in the fishery since the last update.

A new workplan was due to be submitted along with this annual report to update the tasks added in April 2020 and any additional work that had been identified through a fishery site visit. Due to Covid-19 is has not been possible to travel back to the fishery in 2021 to review the need for further action

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://fisheryprogress.org/system/files/documents\_additional/3.%20Joint%20Declaration\_Gulf%20of%20Th\_ailand%20Longtail%20Tuna%20FIP.pdf



plan development. Once travel is possible again, Key Traceability will provide an updated plan onto the Fishery Progress page.

The next part of the report will address the work completed towards completion of individual workplan actions.



Milestone No.	Original milestone details and tasks (2018)	Amended tasks under de-constructed original workplan (2020)	Update
Outcome: Re	gional mechanism for southeast Asia	n region established	
Milestone 1	Use existing SEAFDEC platforms	-	Due to COVID-19 the SEAFDEC Council meeting was held remotely,
PI 3.1.1	to initiate regional mechanism to deliver stock assessments and regional fisheries management		which meant a reduced agenda. The subject of a sub-regional agreement for management of neritic stocks was therefore not raised.
			November 2020 outcome: No progress.
			<b>May 2021 outcome:</b> No progress. No further in-person SEAFDEC meetings have been held in the last six months.
			The "Resolution and Plan of Action for ASEAN Region Towards 2030" was adopted at the end of 2020. However, the objectives relevant to this FIP action with respect to regional management have not significantly changed since the 2020 plan adopted in 2011. Perhaps most relevant objectives are: "Further develop regional initiatives to promote a responsible fisheries management mechanism, taking into account the specific social, economic, cultural, ecological, and institutional contexts and diversity of the ASEAN and ASEAN fisheries in the spirit of the realisation of the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community"; "Implement effective management of fisheries that integrates habitat with fishery resources management" "Strengthen cooperation among ASEAN Member States (AMS) and with international and regional organisations in combating IUU fishing and management of fishing capacity to balance available resources".



The extent of which these objectives will lead an RFMO or RFMO-like mechanism is unclear at this stage.

http://repository.seafdec.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.12066/382/ResPoA2011.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

November 2021: On 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021, the GoTFish Project held its online inception workshop of the "Promoting the Blue Economy and Strengthening Fisheries Governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries". This workshop sought to identify project stakeholders and partners, agree a process, timelines and outputs for the country and regional levels. The workshop recognised that there are multiple transboundary species within the GoT, including tonggol tuna, and that "coherent, practical measures to ensure sustainability and conservation of GoT ecosystems and biodiversity" is needed. Stengthening the national and regional capacity for transboundary management is also a priority. Current partners to the project included Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), the University of Queensland, Australia, and IUCN.

This included a presentation from <u>Thailand</u> which included the tonggol FIP.

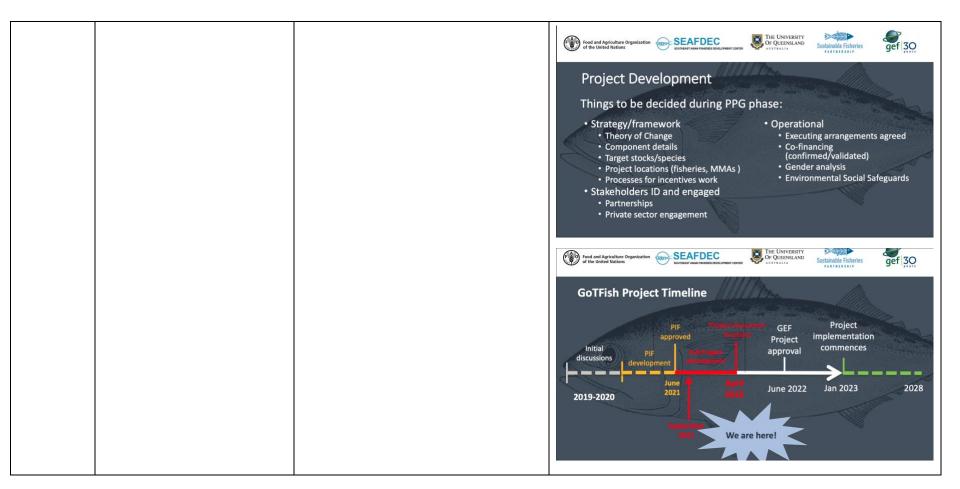
The agenda from the meeting can be seen below.



AGENDA [UTC+7:00]	
Morning Session (9 am to 12 pm)	
08.30-09.00 Log-in	
09.00-09.15 Welcome Remarks	
FAO and SEAFDEC	
09.15-09.45 Introduction to the workshop and Workshop participants	
Group Photo	
09.45-11.00 Background of the GoTFish project	
A brief background and history of the GoTFish project	
Country contributions (10 min and 5 min Q&A)	
■ Cambodia	
■ Malaysia	
■ Thailand	
<ul> <li>Viet Nam</li> </ul>	
11.00-12.00 Overview of the GoTFISH project structure	11.00-12.00
Each agency has 15 min + 5 min Q&A	
<ul> <li>FAO provides overview of the GoTFISH project structure</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>SEAFDEC presents regional expectation vision for executing component 1</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>SFP presents vision for executing component 2</li> </ul>	
12.00-13.00Lunch break	12.00-13.00
Afternoon session (1 pm to 3 pm)	
13.00-13.30 Overview of the GoTFISH project structure (cont.)	13.00-13.30
<ul> <li>FAO wrap-up morning session (10 minutes)</li> </ul>	
- UQ/IUCN/Malaysia present vision for executing component 3	
13.30-14.00 Draft PPG summary work plan	13.30-14.00
14.00-14.30 General Q&A	14.00-14.30
14.30-15.00 Conclusions and way forward	14.30-15.00
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Important elements in the opening presentation are shown below:







			PPG Plan Process - next steps  By October 2021  National consultants onboard  EAs provide regional level guidance for country level design  By December 2021  Not to facilitate national consultants, with summary reports  International consultant starts drafting main sections of the ProDoc  By January/February 2022  EA partners start to build full components based on information coming in from NcS/national consultations (Jan 22)  EA convene regional thematic meetings/consultations to finalize component design (Jan/Feb 2022), submit component draft by end Feb 2022  First draft ProDoc available (Early March 2022)  FAO budget review/preliminary screening (March 2022)  Regional validation meeting (mid-March 2022)  Revisions to ProDoc completed (end March)  In October 2021, TTIA also wrote to the Thailand Department of Fisheries to re-iterate the needs of regional cooperation in the management of neritic tunas, for example on a sub-regional mechanism of decision-making and cooperation leading to the implementation of binding harvest control rules to manage the entire stock. A copy of the TTIA letter can be found in the Appendix of this report.
Milestone 2 PI 3.1.1	Regional mechanism for Southeast Asia neritic tuna fishing nations endorsed by all participating countries	-	As this is reliant on milestone 1, this has not progressed.  November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 3 PI 3.1.1	National & local management measures developed to support regional stock assessments and management	-	As this is reliant on milestone 1, this has not progressed.  November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.



Outcome: Tu	tcome: Tuna management strategies applied in the Southeast Asian region				
Milestone 9 PI 1.2.1	Robust and precautionary harvest strategy for longtail tuna in the GoT developed and endorsed	1. Evaluate if there is unwanted catch in the tonggol fishery.  2. If necessary, conduct a regular review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoArelated mortality of unwanted catch of the target stock and they are implemented as appropriate.	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.		
Milestone 10 PI 1.2.1	Evaluate and review longtail tuna harvest strategies	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.		
Milestone 11 PI 1.2.2	Potential Harvest Control Rules identified for GoT longtail tuna stock	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.		
Milestone 12 PI 1.2.2	Appropriate Harvest Control Rules developed and endorsed at regional level for the SEA (Regional HCR Workshop)	1. Build regional consensus on the need for robust HCRs and discussions held at SEAFDEC regional meeting.  2. Options for harvest control rules (HCRs) and tools for managing tonggol harvest developed.  3. HCR options considered and discussed inter-sessionally and formally though RFMO	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.		



Milestone 13 PI 1.2.2	Harvest control rules for the Southeast Asia region have been adopted at national level	meeting processes. Regional entity to record reflect discussions and progress.	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 14 PI 1.2.2	Regular evaluation of effectiveness of HCRs at regional level in relation to target reference points in SEA	1. Evaluation of information currently available on stock and fleet activities, including gaps in information. The following specifically needs to be evaluated: Stock structure; stock productivity; - fleet composition; stock abundance; UoA removals.  2. If necessary, evaluation to be used by DoF to promote improvements in necessary areas at SEAFDEC Council meetings.	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Outcome: Dat	ta collection and Information system	ns strengthened (e.g., catch, fishing effort, biok	ogical data)
Milestone 18 PI 1.2.3	Share fisheries data systems and national reports at regional and international level (Fisheries Integrated Management Systems)	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.



Milestone 19	Regional level agreement on data collection of neritic tuna species	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.
PI 1.2.3			November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 20 Pl 1.2.4	Internal and external peer review of longtail stock assessment conducted through regional mechanism	1. Have independent review of most recent tonggol stock assessment against the MSC Fisheries Standard.  2. SEAFDEC to reference points (LRP and TRP) for the entire stock (based on an improved, more robust stock assessment).  3. Complete independent evaluation of the most up-to-date stock assessment for tonggol against the MSC Fisheries Standard.	The most recent stock assessment was conducted in February 2020 and used the ASPIC as the assessment model. The final version has not been published. Like other fisheries Covid-19 has affected how scientific meetings have been conducted this year.  November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: SEAFDEC/MFRDMD hosted the virtual 6th Meeting of the Scientific Working Group on Neritic Tunas Stock Assessment in the Southeast Asian Waters on 2nd December 2020. The meeting aimed to; 1. To share updated information on the revised Term of Reference of the Scientific Working Group for Stock Assessment on Neritic Tunas in the Southeast Asian Region and latest list of members; 2. To share the results on a series of regional programmes on "Assessment on Stock Status and Total Catch Available for Neritic Tunas in Southeast Asia" and 3. To discuss on future work plan of activities. The meeting involved representatives from 8 AMSs (Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam), Resource Person, SEAFDEC Secretariat, SEAFDEC Training Department as well as officers from SEAFDEC/MFRDMD. At the end of the meeting, all members were updated with information on the revised TOR, results on the latest stock and risk assessment, and genetic study on neritic tuna. Preliminary report on the "Stock and risk assessments of kawakawa (Euthynnus affinis) and longtail tuna (Thunnus tonggol) resources in the Southeast Asian waters using ASPIC" was disseminated to all SWG members for endorsement afterwards.



The stock assessment report referred in the above paragraph is provided as "supporting evidence" as an update of which stock assessment needs to be reviewed for the FIP. The table below shows the results of the stock and risk assessments (2018) and the suggested optimum total allowable catch (TAC). The column of note for this fishery is labelled "LOT (P) (SEAFDEC, 2021²). Please note that despite TACs being suggested, these are not enforced and merely guidance for member countries. The document and other meeting documents from the 53<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council can be found here: http://www.seafdec.org/document/.

	KAW(P)	KAW(I)	LOT (P)	LOT(I)
Stock status (2018)	TB/TBmsy=1.12	TB/TBmsy=0.82	TB/TBmsy=1.52	TB/TBmsy=1.24
(color in the Kobe plot)	F/Fmsy=0.88	F/Fmsy=1.39	F/Fmsy=0.53	F/Fmsy=0.67
MSY (1,000 tons)	201	56	167	40
Current catch level (1,000 tons)	205	62	124	33
(average in 2016-2018)				
Optimum catch levels (*) (tons)	164	25	167	40
(need update every few years)				
Reduction (-) or increase (+)	-20%	-40%	+35%	+20%
from the current to the optimum				
catch levels				

November 2021 outcome: No progress.

### Outcome: Primary and secondary species subject to a management strategy

Milestone	Partial strategy to manage
24	kawakawa catches agreed and
PI 2.2.2	Partial strategy to manage kawakawa catches agreed and adopted at regional RFMO/regional mechanism level

Through the P2 analysis mentioned below in Milestone 26, no primary species have been identified in the fishery. kawakawa, the only 'main' species identified in the analysis does not have any management tools and measures in place, intended to achieve stock management objectives reflected in either limit or target references points, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The second stock and risk assessments of kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*) and longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) resources in the southeast Asian waters using ASPIC. Marine Fishery Resources Development and Management Department (MFRDMD). Fifty-third Meeting of the Council. Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center. SEAFDEC Secretariat. 27-28 April and May 2021 (virtual meeting).



			shall therefore be considered as 'secondary' as per the definition provided in SA3.1 of the MSC Fisheries Standard v2.01.  As a sub-regional mechanism or RFMO has not yet been formed, there is no specific management measures or strategy in place to manage the GoT kawakawa stock.  November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 25 PI 2.2.2	Compatible measures for primary / secondary species implemented at national (Thai) level	-	As above. Without regional stock management, this task cannot be completed.  November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 26 PI 2.1.3 PI 2.2.3	Comprehensive time series data on TUNA-PS fisheries catches, for all primary and secondary species	<ol> <li>Conduct MSC P2 analysis on non-target species composition in the tonggol fishery from catch data.</li> <li>Conduct a feasibility survey of third-party onboard catch and species interactions verification methods for that may be used in the fishery.</li> <li>Deliberation and choice independent catch/activity verification to be made at FIP meeting following consultation.</li> </ol>	A P2 analysis was conducted by Key Traceability on the catch data provided by DoF. Catch data was provided for vessels targeting tonggol in the GoT. Any analysis was conducted to allocate potential MSC component categories.  This has been published under Milestone 26 on the FisheryProgress page.  November 2020 outcome: Task 1 of the amended tasks from April 2020 has been completed. Discussions have begun with respect to task 2 from the amended tasks but nothing has been finalised and so will not be discussed further.  May 2021 outcome: No further progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.



Milestone 27 PI 2.1.3 PI 2.2.3	A proper logbook system established to assess all primary and secondary species		Examples of logbooks have been provided from FIP vessels by DoF. This provides evidence that retained non-target species (all secondary - see P2 analysis under milestone 26 "1. Conduct MSC P2 analysis on non-target species composition in the tonggol fishery from catch data") information is routinely established at the national level. This closes out milestone 27.  November 2020 outcome: Milestone closed.  May 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.  November 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.
Outcome: ET	P species status reviewed	1	
Milestone 32 PI 2.3.1 PI 2.3.3	Regular landing site inspections of TUNA-PS vessels conducted	-	A statement was received from the Department of Fisheries confirming that no ETP species have been landed by FIP vessels. The statement has been uploaded to Fishery Progress, along with the English translation to provide evidence that this milestone can be closed.  November 2020 outcome: Milestone closed.  May 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.  November 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.
Milestone 33 PI 2.3.1 PI 2.3.3	Catch reports as part of the TUNA-PS fishing vessel logbook system collected and compiled	-	Catch reports are further compiled by DoF as part of the catch data collection system. The information comes from vessel logbooks and inputted into an electronic database at DoF. The information includes the vessels name, port, vessel registration number, vessel size, gear, catch by species and total catch from reported from the logbook. This closes out milestone 33. As evidence the 2019 catch file from DoF has been presented with English translations included as proof that this information is collected.



Milestone 34 PI 2.3.1 PI 2.3.3	Use of on-board observers to verify claims of no ETP species being caught.	1. Human observer programmes, electronic monitoring etc. Using the third-party consultant analysis.  2. Apply for funding/capacity building to acquire and install equipment if electronic monitoring (EM).  3. Apply for technical support from other ASEAN Member States, if necessary.  4. If necessary, complete bycatch and ETP species Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA).  5. If necessary, develop and implement ETP management plan for fishery	November 2020 outcome: Milestone closed.  May 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.  November 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.  November 2020 outcome: No specific progress, although discussions have been held with the FIP group and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in August 2020.  May 2021 outcome: No further progress.  November 2021 outcome: The Department of Fisheries (DOF) have been investigating for the requirements EM systems on their high seas vessels as the first step to installing EM on tonggol purse seine vessels. This document evaluates the specifications of the system, number of cameras, electronic reporting system, amongst many other parameters. DOF is now checking the EM equipment and system on how to collect and analyse the data, as well as considering making the commitment on EM monitoring/analysing going forward after the pilot run. See Appendix for examples of images from the checklist. It is not possible to show the complete checklist due to sensitive information for which is contained.
Outcome: Eco	osystem and biodiversity assessment	ts made	
Milestone 35 PI 2.5.1	Training for DoF/MFRD on ecosystem assessment and modelling conducted and capacity to analyse ecosystem impacts enhanced.	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.



Milestone	Ecosystem assessment and	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.
36	modelling capacity integrated		May 2021 outcome: No progress.
PI 2.5.1	into the neritic tuna stock assessment		November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 37	Regional ecosystem management strategies for SEA developed and	-	<b>November 2020 outcome:</b> As there is no regional management in place, it has not been able to progress this task.
PI 2.5.2	endorsed at national level		May 2021 outcome: No progress.
			November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 39	Research on stomach content of longtail tuna and associated	-	Tonggol stomach content study of Trat and Ranong Provinces, a study conducted by DoF – to aid information regarding the trophic position
PI 2.5.3	neritic tuna species conducted		of tonggol in the Gulf of Thailand ecosystem (PI 2.5.3) – this completes Milestone 39. Evidence of the study was uploaded to FisheryProgress in April 2020.
			<b>November 2020 outcome:</b> The single task assigned in the original workplan is complete. It is not clear however if more tasks will be added with the revised workplan which will be published in 2021, so the overall action remains open.
			May 2021 outcome: Nothing further at this time.
			November 2021 outcome: No new tasks devised at this time.
Outcome: Leg	gal framework implemented		
Milestone	Fisheries Ordinance revised and	1. At the regional level, establish a	A procedural flowchart for the settlement under the Royal Ordinance
40	enacted to establish transparent	transparent mechanism for resolution of	on Fisheries B.E. 2015 and the National Council for Peace and Order's
PI 3.1.1	mechanism for resolution of administrative and legal disputes	administrative and legal disputes which is considered to be effective in dealing with most issues.	Order No.22/2560 has been provided by DoF to demonstrate the transparent mechanism for the resolution of administrative and legal disputes raised at the fishery level. This provides evidence of an



Milestone 41 PI 3.1.1	Document the efficiency and functioning of national legal system and framework for national and provincial cooperation.	-	effective established mechanism has been implemented. A case study has also been provided.  November 2020 outcome: Milestone closed.  May 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.  November 2021 outcome: Milestone remains closed.  November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Outcome: Ro	les and responsibilities in consultation	ons defined	
Milestone 42 PI 3.1.2	Established committees to prove their effectiveness in addressing all relevant fisheries management issues, including regional measures	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 43 PI 3.1.2	Consultation to ensure participation and effective engagement of all interested and affected individuals and organisations	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Outcome: Fisheries specific management objectives applied			



Milestone	Regional neritic tuna fisheries	-	As the regional management is not in place yet, it has not been
44	policies and management		possible to develop meaningful national management for the stock.
PI 3.2.1	recommendations translated into		November 2020 outcome: No progress.
113.2.1	national/local policies, including		
	short- and long-term objectives in		May 2021 outcome: No progress.
	line with MSC Principles 1 & 2		November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone	Thailand's neritic tuna	-	April 2020: The Thai Fisheries Management Plan (2020 – 2024) has
45	management plan		been drafted and demonstrates short- and long- term objectives in
PI 3.2.1	developed/updated with		line with MSC Principles 1 and 2, but as it has not yet been
	measurable performance		implemented, the milestone cannot be closed.
	indicators consistent with MSC.		November 2020 outcome: No progress since April 2020.
			May 2021 outcome: The Thai Office of National Economics and Social
			Development Council has approved the FMP, but it is currently waiting
			for it to be approved by the Cabinet. Until then, it is not able to be
			published, so no progress for this milestone at present.
			November 2021 outcome: In October 2021, TTIA also wrote to the
			Thailand Department of Fisheries to re-iterate the need to finalise the
			. A copy of the letter can be found in the Appendix of this report.
Milestone	Neritic tuna management plan	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.
46	reviewed, and its implementation		May 2021 outcome: No progress.
PI 3.2.1	regularly evaluated (external		
	reviewer option).		The Department of Fisheries in Thailand have provided Key
			Traceability with the review of its implementation of the Thai Fisheries
			Management Plan (2015 – 2019). This is provided in the specific task
			on Fishery Progress. The review contains the assessment of progress
			of the 2015 – 2019 FMP, including detailed assessment including
			whether targets have been reached with respect to objectives within
			the plan. Objectives included reducing fishing capacity and effort,



			improving data collection and information, minimalising IUU fishing through effective MCS and strengthening management capacity.  It should be noted that the "neritic tuna management plan" does not exist but the FMP includes "all marine capture fisheries taken by both artisanal and commercial vessel in Thai waters as well as marine capture fisheries conducted by Thai vessels in the territorial waters and EEZs of other States and the high seas". All highly migratory tuna and tuna-like species are specifically refers to in the FMP.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Outcome: Do	cision making processes established	and documented	
Milestone 47 PI 3.2.2	Subcommittee on longtail tuna management with clearly defined roles and responsibilities endorsed or established	1. At national level, provide evidence of where the roles and responsibilities of management organisations are explicitly defined in management e.g., Committee of Thai tonggol	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 48 PI 3.2.2	Evidence that National Fisheries Policy Committee consultation and decision-making processes respond to all issues	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 49 PI 3.2.3	Evidence that National Fishery Policy Committee consultation and decision-making processes adopting precautionary approach	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.  November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone 50 PI 3.2.3	Evidence that National Fishery Policy Committee consultation and decision-making processes	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.  May 2021 outcome: No progress.



	avoid legal disputes or legal challenges		November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Outcome: Ef	fective application of compliance syst	ems	
Milestone 51 PI 3.2.3	Risk assessment conducted to demonstrate compliance in key areas as well as effectiveness of compliance tools	-	As stated in the April 2020 update, a document on the MCS capacity systems in place in the fishery was provided by DoF - the document describes what is required for MCS in Thailand. It further provides a case study for non-compliance (the vessel, the infringement and penalty).
			<b>November 2020 outcome:</b> No progress on the risk assessment, however. This task remains outstanding.
			May 2021 outcome: No progress.
			November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Milestone	Reports prepared and publicly	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.
52	available showing violations detected		May 2021 outcome: No progress.
PI 3.2.3	detected		November 2021 outcome: No progress.
Outcome: Pe	rformance of the fisheries manageme	ent system evaluated	
Milestone	Mechanisms for evaluation of the	1. Conduct gap analysis of current national	November 2020 outcome: No progress.
53	fishery specific management system established	review process of the fishery-specific management system.	May 2021 outcome: No progress.
PI 3.2.4		2. If necessary, hold stakeholder consultations to address national review short comings.  3. Conduct external review.	November 2021 outcome: No progress.



Milestone	Regular evaluation of the fishery	-	November 2020 outcome: No progress.
54	specific management systems		May 2021 outcome: No evidence currently.
PI 3.2.4			November 2021 outcome: No progress.
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# **Appendix**

#### TTIA position statement letter to DOF



#### สิ่งที่ส่งมาด้วย 1

Gulf of Thailand Longtail Tuna Purse Seine FIP – October 2021

**Key Traceability, FIP Coordinator** Halpern House 1 Hampshire Terrace Portsmouth, England

5th October, 2021

#### **Gulf of Thailand Tonggol Tuna Fishery**

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This position statement is made by the industry participants of the Gulf of Thailand tonggol tuna purseseine Fishery Improvement Project (FIP). The FIP aims to meet the sustainability criteria for MSC certification and assist the fisheries to better meet international market requirements. This FIP has been in operation since 2018 and there are tasks that need to be completed in order to progress the fishery towards the certified status of MSC.

As you are aware the target stock is a highly migratory species (HMS), and therefore regional cooperation is required from an MSC prospective under Principles 1 and 3. Sustainable management of the resource will require shared conservation management measures to control effort, data collection and sharing of scientific data, reporting requirements, and shared monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS). Both the original and updated FIP work plan require there to be a mechanism for sub-regional cooperation and management of this stock, and indeed other neritic species such as kawakawa (*Euthunnus affinis*) which are caught as bycatch in this and other fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand (GoT).

The RFMO/sub-regional agreement further seeks to formalise cooperation, data sharing, collaborative monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) system and other areas with neighbouring countries also taking from the GoT tonggol tuna resource to ensure sustainable management of the fishery for the future.

It was planned that the Thailand Department of Fisheries raise and promote this topic at the 2020 SEAFDEC Council Meeting. To date this has not been achieved. The FIP is asking for the Department of Fisheries (DOF) to:

- Engage with other ASEAN member countries harvesting tonggol tuna from the Gulf of Thailand to advocate for the following:
  - Commitment to formal decision-making and cooperation processes with States also targeting/harvesting longtail tuna, including central data sharing and MCS activities.
  - Agreement on longtail tuna management at the stock-wide level (a harvest strategy which is responsive to the state of the stock and well-defined harvest control rules).
- Request that Cabinet finalise and issue the draft Fisheries Management Plan (2020 2024) so
  it may be implemented by the Department of Fisheries.
- Provide details of the electronic monitoring system (EMS) equipment used in other fisheries governed by the Department of Fisheries.
- Agree to the installation of one EM system on a tonggol purse seine vessel as a pilot project as an alternative to the deployment of human observers.

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Gulf of Thailand Longtail Tuna Purse Seine FIP - October 2021

Based on the results of the trial, the analysis of video footage collected in lieu of human observer coverage would need to be reviewed. The programme would need to then devise a monitoring strategy for the vessels in the FIP. For example, install EM on all vessels and sample 20% of trips.

If the above mentioned are achieved it will have positive long term-sustainability implications and improve overall health of the GoT marine ecosystem to allow for fisheries/business like our current FIP to achieve sustainability targets, particularly in line with MSC certification standards.

Yours faithfully,

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Dr. Chanintr Chalisarapong

President, Thai Tuna Industry Association



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS PROJECT ETC. PLEASE CONTACT FIP COORDINATOR:

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#### Gulf of Thailand Tonggol Tuna Fishery

คำแถลงจุดขึ้นนี้จัดทำโดยผู้เข้าร่วมอุดสาหกรรมในโครงการปรับปรุงการประมงปลาทูน่าโอคำในอ่าวไทย (FIP) FIP มี เป้าหมายเพื่อให้เป็นไปตามเกณฑ์ความชั่งขึ้นสำหรับการรับรอง MSC และช่วยให้การประมงเป็นไปตามข้อกำหนดของ ตลาดต่างประเทศได้ดียิ่งขึ้น โครงการ FIP นี้เริ่มดำเนินการมาตั้งแต้ปี 2561 และมีงานที่ต้องทำให้เสร็จเพื่อให้การประมง ก้าวหน้าไปส่สถานะได้รับการรับรองของ MSC

ตามที่ท่านทราบ สต็อกเป้าหมายเป็นสายพันธุ์ที่มีการอพยพสูง (HMS) ดังนั้นจึงจำเป็นต้องมีความร่วมมือระดับภูมิภาคจากผู้ ที่คาดหวัง MSC ภายใต้หลักการที่ 1 และ 3 การจัดการทรัพยากรอย่างยั่งยืนจะต้องมีมาตรการการจัดการการอนุรักษ์ร่วมกัน เพื่อควบคุมความพยายาม การรวบรวมข้อมูล และ การแบ่งปันข้อมูลทางวิทยาศาสตร์ ข้อกำหนดการรายงาน และการเฝ้า ติดตาม การควบคุม และการเฝ้าระวังร่วมกัน (MCS) ทั้งแผนงาน FIP เดิมและฉบับปรับปรุง จำเป็นต้องมีกลไกสำหรับความ ร่วมมือระดับอนุภูมิภาคและการจัดการสต็อกนี้ และสายพันธุ์เนริติกอื่นๆ เช่น Kawakawa (Euthunnus affinis) ที่จับได้จาก การประมงอวนล้อมนี้และการประมงอื่นๆ ในอ่าวไทย (GoT)

ข้อตกลง RFMO/อนุภูมิภาค จะทำให้ระบบความร่วมมือ การแบ่งปันข้อมูล การติดตามตรวจสอบ ควบคุม และการเฝ้าระวัง ร่วมกัน (MCS) และเรื่องอื่นๆให้เป็นไปอย่างเป็นทางการกับประเทศเพื่อนบ้านที่นำเอาทรัพยากรปลาทูน่าโอดำในอ่าวไทย มาใช้ เพื่อให้มั่นใจว่าการจัดการการประมงเป็นไปอย่างยั่งยืนในอนาคต.

มีการวางแผนว่ากรมประมงแห่งประเทศไทยจะยกและส่งเสริมหัวข้อนี้ในการประชุม SEAFDEC ประจำปี 2563 ซึ่งจนถึง ขณะนี้จังไม่ได้รับความคืบหน้า FIP จึงอยากขอให้ทางกรมประมงช่วยดำเนินการดังต่อไปนี้:

- ร่วมมือกับประเทศสมาชิกอาเซียนอื่น ๆ ที่มีการทำการประมงทูน่าโอดำในอ่าวไทยเพื่อรณรงค์เรื่องต่อไปนี้:
  - ๑ ความมุ่งมั่นในการตัดสินใจอย่างเป็นทางการและกระบวนการความร่วมมือกับประเทศต่างๆ ที่จะ กำหนดเป้าหมาย/เก็บเกี่ยวปลาทูน่าโอดำ รวมถึงการแบ่งปืนข้อมูลส่วนกลางและกิจกรรม MCS
  - ความตกลงว่าด้วยการจัดการปลาทูน่าโอคำในระดับสต็อกทั้งหมด (กลยุทธ์การเก็บเกี่ยวที่ตอบสนองต่อ สถานะของสต็อกและกฎการควบคุมการเก็บเกี่ยวที่กำหนดไว้อย่างดี)
- ขอให้คณะรัฐมนตรีสรุปและออกร่างแผนการจัดการประมง (2563 2567) เพื่อให้กรมประมงดำเนินการได้
- ให้รายละเอียดเกี่ยวกับอุปกรณ์ระบบเฝ้าติดตามอิเล็กทรอนิกส์ (EMS) ที่ใช้ในการประมงอื่นที่อยู่ภายใต้การ ควบคุมของกรมประมง
- ตกลงที่จะติดตั้งระบบ EM หนึ่งระบบบนเรืออวนล้อมโอดำเป็นโครงการนำร่องเพื่อเป็นทางเลือกนอกเหนือจาก การใช้ผู้สังเกตการณ์
  - จากผลการทดลอง การวิเคราะห์ภาพวิดีโอที่รวบรวมแทนการรายงานของผู้สังเกตการณ์จะต้องได้รับการ ตรวจสอบ โปรแกรมจะต้องมีการวางแผนกลยุทธ์การติดตามสำหรับเรือในโครงการ FIP ตัวอย่างเช่น ติดตั้ง EM บนเรือทุกลำและตรวจสอบจากตัวอย่าง 20% ของการออกรอบเดินทางประมง

หากบรรลุตามที่กล่าวมาข้างค้น จะมีผลในเชิงบวกต่อความยั่งยืนในระยะยาว และปรับปรุงภาพโดยรวมของระบบนิเวศทาง ทะเลของอ่าวไทย เพื่อให้การประมง/รูรกิจเช่น FIP ปัจจุบันของเราบรรลุเป้าหมายด้านความยั่งยืน โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่ง สอดคล้องกับมาตรฐานการรับรอง MSC

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# EM specifications for tonggol vessels.















