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**THE VIETNAM MIXED SPECIES TRAWL FISHERY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN  
BA RIA VUNG TAU PROVINCE**

**THE ADDITIONAL REPORT ON  
The mixed trawl fishery Data collections in Ba Ria  
Vung Tau province, Vietnam**



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## ACRONYMS

<b>Acronyms</b>	<b>Explanations</b>
BRVT	Ba Ria Vung Tau province
CC	Catch Certificate
DARD	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
DFISH	Directorate of Fisheries
ETPs	Endangered, Threaten and Protected species
FIP	Fisheries Improvement Project
IUU	Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
PPC	Provincial People Committee
SC	Statement of Catches
Sub-DFISH	Provincial Department of Fisheries
VNFishbase	The Vietnam National Fisheries Database

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## I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

### 1. Title of project: Vietnam Mixed Trawl Fishery Improvement Project

Fisheries in Vietnam in general and particularly in BRVT bears multi-species and multi-fishing gear characteristics. Official statistics indicated that BRVT province contributed nearly 6% to the total number of fishing vessels in the country, in which trawlers are dominant, comprising approximately 30% in total number of fishing units and total catch estimated at 260-450 thousand tons per year in the period 2015-2019. The main issues faced in fisheries in general are the overfishing of fisheries resources in coastal waters; Trawlers contribute to the overfishing problem in coastal and inshore waters due to there being too many vessels and the take of excessive numbers of juvenile fish. In addition, there are issues of poor selectivity, trawl impacts on the seabed and the take of some threatened species (ETPs). Implementing management measures is hampered by insufficient information on catch composition, size of species caught.

Regarding catch volume, the precise scale of the BRVT bottom trawl fishery is unclear and there is discrepancy between the landing proportion categorization applied by relevant fishery state agents and the General Statistics Office of Vietnam. Catch composition information on the species caught by the BRVT trawl fishery is also varied and many species can only be identified to genus or family level.

Information about the current status of the fishery resources, ETPs, habitats and the ecosystem is not available; data collection is insufficient to comprehensively support the government's intentions with regards to the implementation of fisheries management in Vietnam; and stakeholders from the private sector have no access to fishery data and information.

Hence, high priorities for the implementation phase of FIP Vung Tau have been identified, including the need to implement a multi-species stock assessment methodology, stock assessment for other species of trawl fisheries in BRVT, fishery related data collection frameworks, assessments of ETP species and critical habitats. Outcomes will be communicated and discussed with authorities at provincial level so that recommendations can be incorporated in the provincial fishery management plan.

This FIP is published on both the MarinTrust website (<https://www.marin-trust.com/vung-tau-trawl-fip-vietnam-part-multispecies-pilot>) and FisheryProgress (<https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/vietnam-mixed-species-trawl>).

## **2. Desk reviews period: April - May 2022**

### **3. The mixed trawl fishery additional data collection in Ba Ria Vung Tau province, Vietnam**

Fish Matter is tasked with Developing a guidance for multi-species stock assessment applicable for trawl fisheries in Ba Ria - Vung Tau province. However, the fishery gap assessment report for trawl fishery in Ba Ria - Vung Tau, conducted in 2021 (attached), only 40% of trawl fishing vessels have implemented recording in fishery logbooks, catch data (including total landings from fisheries, CPUE, species composition and catch composition) is not sufficiently recorded. These lead to the consequence that reference points and harvest strategies linked to Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) can not be set up.

In the other hand, there is not any reviews to know whether requested data as defined in existing fishery logbook is sufficient to enable the developing process of 'The Guidance for multi-species stock assessment applicable for trawl fisheries' and MarinTrust Multispecies fishery assessment guidance - Section 2a (Catch) and 2b (Endangered, threatened and protected species).

This study aims to provide a desk review report about availability of trawl fishery data in Ba Ria Vung Tau province for further steps on this FIP project.

#### 4. Project Activities & Required information

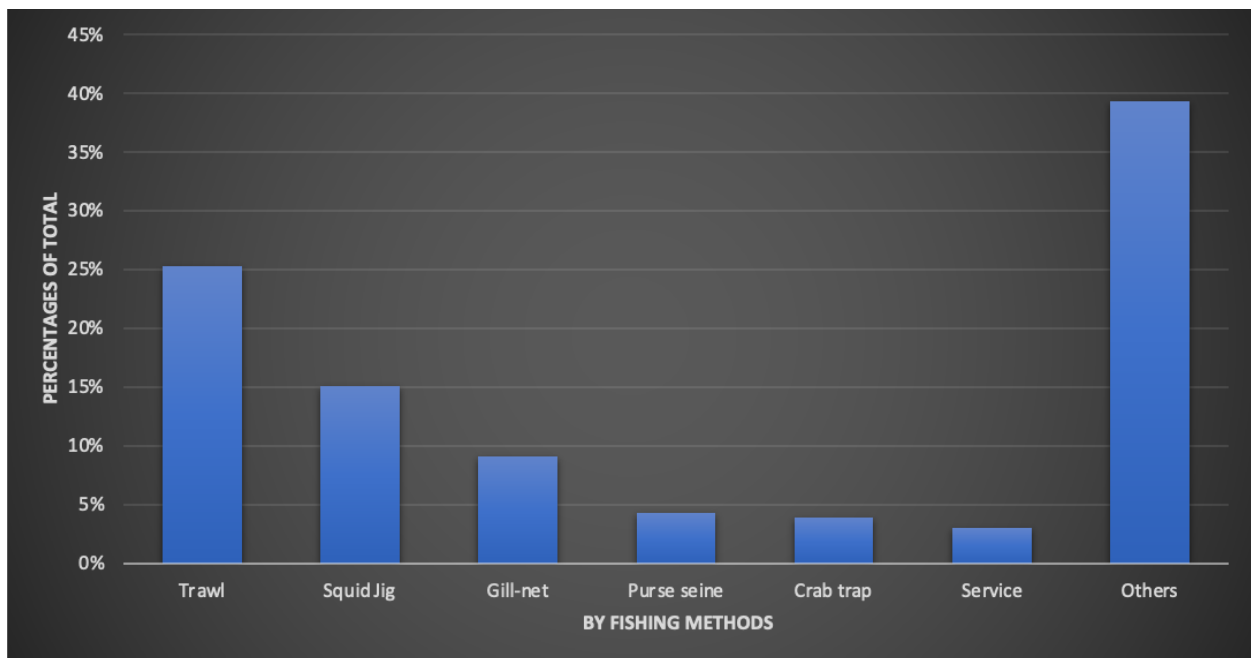
Required Information	Sources of information		
	From fishmeal producers	From Fishery Department	From Landing Port
Are the pair trawlers counted as one vessel or two?		X	
Do they fish on the seabed or midwater?		X	
Number of trawl fishing vessels that the six (06) fishmeal producers in Ba Ria - Vung Tau (covered by the FIP Vung Tau) source their raw fish from with details by length, gear type (single/pair) and horsepower engines	X		X
Do all (trash fish) catch go to fishmeal producers in BRVT or also go somewhere else?	X		X
Provide 2020 & 2021 data on catch and landings of at least one BRVT landing port. As much as possible including CPUE, biomass, species composition, catch composition, length frequency and mean length of fish and invertebrates.		X	X
Description of how landing ports and the provincial fishery department enter data from fishery logbooks into a database and with whom that data can be shared.		X	X
Description of the kind of record buyers/middlemen must have and have to provide to the authorities.		X	X
What data is in the existing logbooks (copies/photos/scans)?		X	X
Description of observer data from independent fisheries surveys and how they are used.		X	

## II. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR VUNG TAU TRAWL FISHERIES

### 2.1. *Overviews of Vung Tau fisheries*

Updated to 31st December, 2021, Ba Ria Vung Tau province had a total of 5,738 vessels. In which, the offshore fishing vessels were 2,831 vessels which have a total length (LOA – Length of Overall) are more than 15 meters, which accounted for 49.4%. The number of vessels which operate on the near-shore areas (which have the LOA range between 12 to 15 meters) were 724 vessels, which accounted for 12.6%. The remaining are the small-scale vessels which only operate in the coastal areas. These coastal vessels were 2,183 vessels which have the LOA less than 12 meters, accounted for 38% of the total vessels in Ba Ria Vung Tau province (Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022)

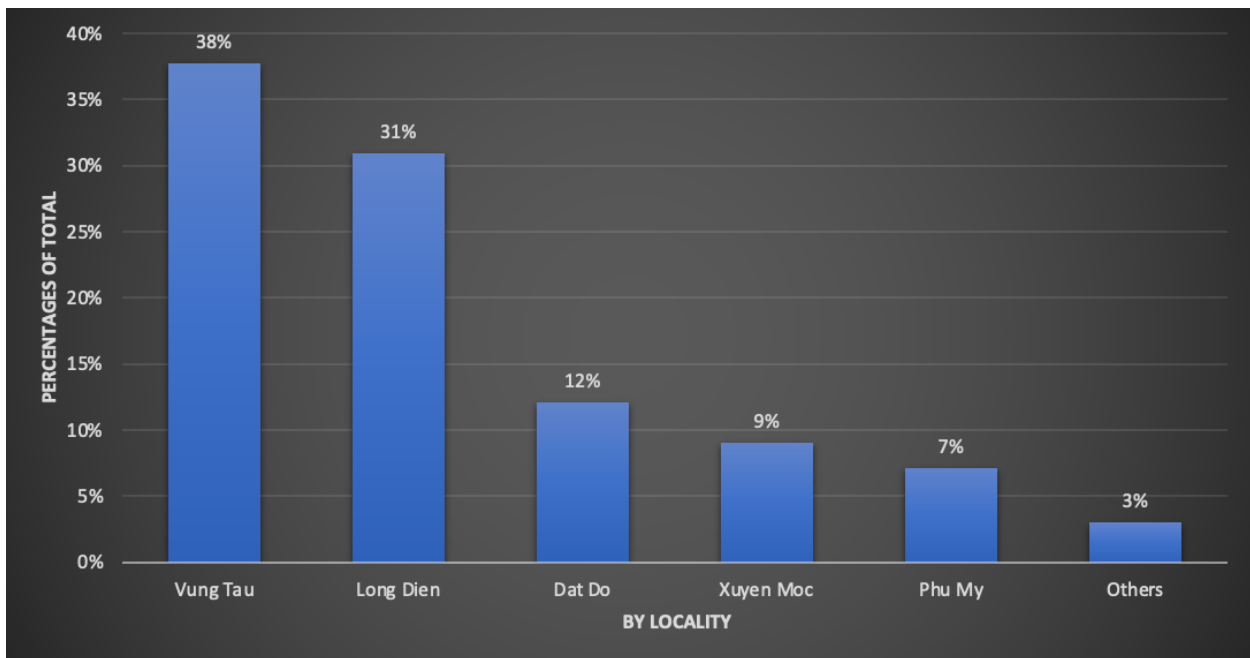
By the fishing methods, the majority is trawl fishery with 1,452 vessels, accounting for 25.3%. The squid jig with 864 vessels, accounted for 15.1%. The purse seine fisheries also had significant contributions with 247 vessels, accounting for 4.3%. The remaining fishing methods such as crab traps, fisheries services and other small-scale fishing methods accounted for 39% of the total vessels (Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022). The structure of Vung Tau fisheries by fishing methods can be illustrated as the figure below:



(Source: Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022)

**Figure 1. The structure of Vung Tau fisheries by fishing methods**

By locality, the majority of fishing vessels in Ba Ria Vung Tau province are located in Vung Tau city with 2,165 vessels, which accounted for 38% total vessels of the whole province. The Long Dien district has 1,176 vessels, accounting for 31%. The rest are distributed in Dat Do district, Xuyen Moc town and Phu My district which accounted for 12%, 9% and 7% respectively. The small remaining 3% is distributed in some other localities such as Con Dao island or Chau Duc district (Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022). The percentages of fishing vessels by localities are illustrated by the Figure below:



(Source: Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022)

**Figure 2. The structure of Vung Tau fisheries by locality**

In terms of total Length of Overall (LOA), vessels with LOA of more than 15 meters accounted for 49.4%. The coastal vessels which have the LOA less than 12 meters, accounted for 38%. The remaining is the LOA range between 12 to 15 meters, which accounted for 12,6% (Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022). The distribution of vessels by LOA and by locality is illustrated by the table below:



**Table 1. The distributions of fishing vessels in Vung Tau by LOA and by locality**

No.	Local	Total	LOA < 12m	LOA 12 – < 15m	LOA > 15m
01	Vung Tau city	2,165	1,203	146	815
02	Long Dien	1,776	269	260	1,246
03	Dat Do	694	12	94	588
04	Xuyen Moc	519	145	199	175
05	Phu My	411	396	14	1
06	Ba Ria City	136	124	8	4
07	Con Dao island	36	34	2	-
08	Chau Duc	3	-	1	2
<b>Tổng cộng</b>		<b>5,738</b>	<b>2,183</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>2,831</b>

(Source: Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022)

## 2.2. Additional information for Vung Tau trawl fisheries

In order to have more inputs for further steps on developing a guidance for multi-species stock assessment applicable for trawl fisheries in Ba Ria - Vung Tau province. However, the fishery gap assessment report for trawl fishery in Ba Ria - Vung Tau, conducted in 2021 (attached), only 40% of trawl fishing vessels have implemented recording in fishery logbooks, catch data (including total landings from fisheries, CPUE, species composition and catch composition) is not sufficiently recorded. Thus, additional information for Ba Ria Vung Tau trawl fisheries are needed to be investigated and provided including:

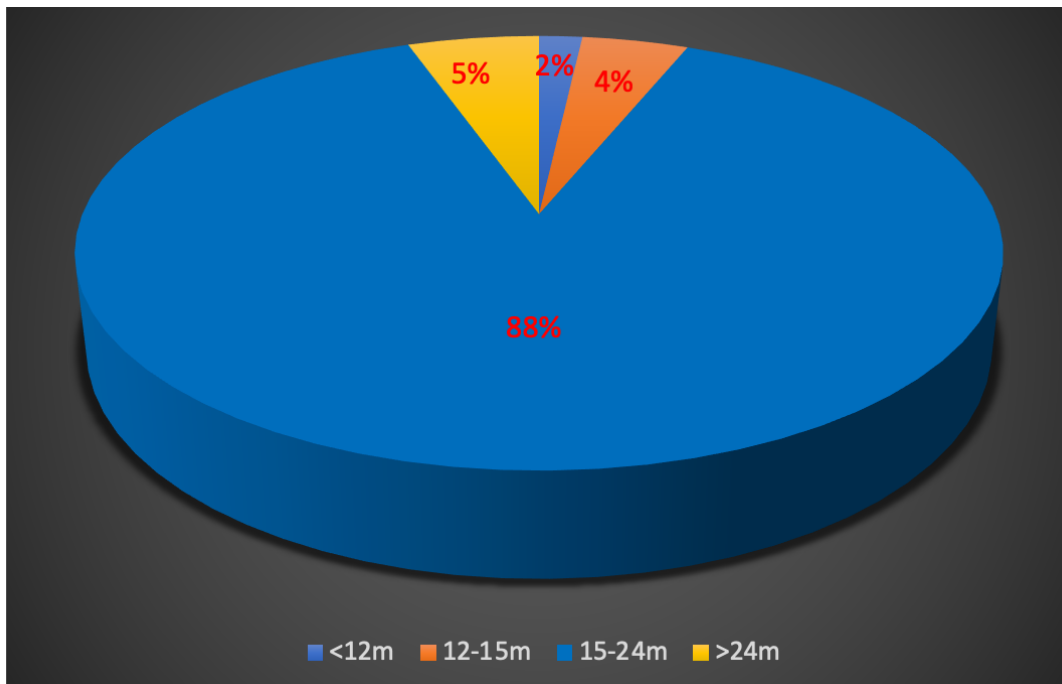
### 2.2.1. Describe the Vung Tau trawl fisheries

Are the pair trawlers counted as one vessel or two?

Do they fish on the seabed or midwater?

Ba Ria Vung Tau trawl fisheries have a total of 1,452 vessels. In which, most of that are pair-trawl fisheries which have the LOA from 15 to 24 meters length with

1,283 vessels, accounting for 88% the total of trawling vessels in Ba Ria Vung Tau province. The number of trawl vessels which have the LOA more than 24m are 79 vessels, accounting for 5.5%. The remaining are vessels with LOA from 12 to 15m length and less than 12m length with 64 vessels and 26 vessels, accounted for 4.5% and 2%, respectively.



(Source: Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022)

**Figure 3. The structure of Vung Tau trawl fisheries by LOA**

By the Vietnam regulations, the registration & licensing systems are provided for each vessel. Decree 26/2019/ND-CP dated 08/03/2019, Circular 23/2018/TT-BNNPTNT dated 15/11/2018 regulated that all motorized fishing vessels of 6m (LOA) are subjects to be registered. DFISH is in charge of registration for fishing vessels that includes fishing vessels of army force, chartered fishing vessels, patrol vessels, research vessels and Vietnam fishing vessels operating outside Vietnam's EEZ, foreign fishing vessels operating in Vietnam waters. The provincial Sub-Department of Fisheries is in charge of conducting the registration procedures for all local fishing vessels.

Thus, all these pair-trawlers have separated vessel registration & fishing license certificates. Ba Ria Vung Tau fishery authorities (Vung Tau Sub-DFISH) recorded and counted all these pair-trawlers as separated vessels & to be managed separately. By the trawling functions, all these pair-trawlers are bottom-trawlers which

means they operate in the seabed grounds. The bigger vessel of these two vessels, called "Mother-vessel" will be used to store the catches while the smaller one is normally used to store nets.

### 2.2.2. Describe the Vung Tau trawl fisheries supply chains

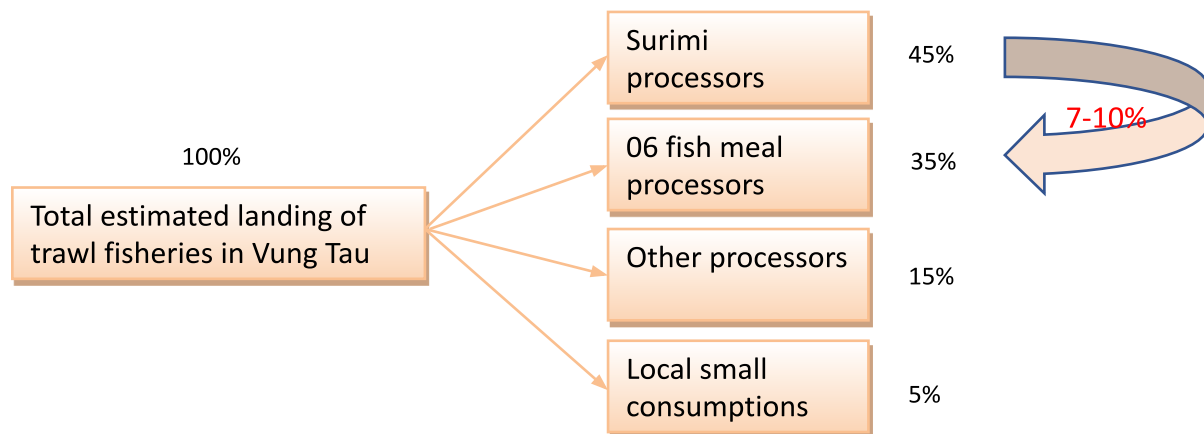
Number of trawl fishing vessels that the six (06) fishmeal producers in Ba Ria - Vung Tau (covered by the FIP Vung Tau) source their raw fish from with details by length, gear type (single/pair) and horsepower engines

Do all (trash fish) catch go to fishmeal producers in BRVT or also go somewhere else?

Description of the kind of record buyers/middlemen must have and have to provide to the authorities.

The total marine catches of Ba Ria Vung Tau province in 2021 were estimated at 353,700 tons. In which, fish products were estimated for 270 thousand tons, accounted for 76.7% of the total catches; shrimp products were over 18 thousand tons, accounted for 5.2%; crab and swimming crab were 20 thousand tons, got 5.8%; mollusk (squid and octopus) were nearly 26 thousand tons, got 7.2% and the other marine species were 17.5 thousand tons, got 5% of the total (Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022).

For the detailed information of catches compositions at Vung Tau trawl fisheries have not analyzed / not catalogized yet. However, buy the estimations on the consultations meeting with 06 fishmeal producers in Vung Tau, the flows of trawl catches can be illustrated as below:

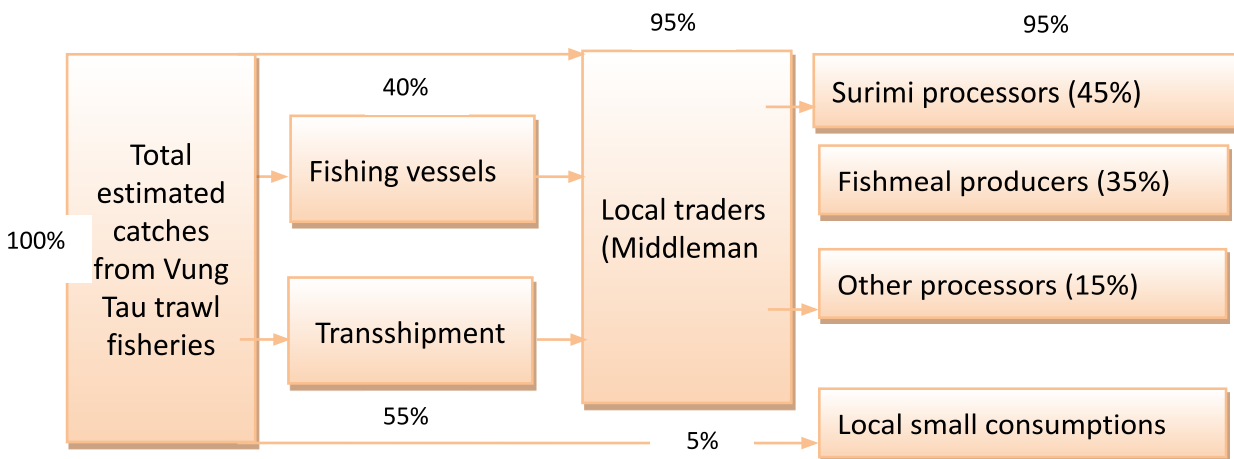


(Source: Discussions from 06 fishmeal producers)

**Figure 4. The flows of trawl fisheries' catches in Vung Tau**

From this flow chart, we can see that, the 100% of total estimated landing of trawl catches in Ba Ria Vung Tau province will be delivered to 04 groups of consumers including: (i) surimi processors with 45% of the total; (ii) fishmeal processor group with 35%; other seafood processors as crab canneries producers, mixed products with 15% and local small consumptions can be estimated for 5%. After that, surimi processors also will “re-sell” by-products to fishmeal producers with 7-10% their total raw materials from trawl catches that they had bought.

For more details of supply chains, 55% of the total trawl catches are sold out through transshipments while the smaller part is directly sold out from trawlers. However, most of that, 95%, went through middleman or local traders. Only a small part of 5% is sold directly to local small consumers. The supply chains of trawl catches in Vung Tau can be illustrated as Figure below:



(Source: Discussions from 06 fishmeal producers)

**Figure 5. The supply chains of trawl fisheries' catches in Vung Tau**

In terms of the number of trawlers that 06 fishmeal companies are sourcing from, seemingly these fishmeal producers mainly buy from middlemen and too much depends on local middlemen. Local traders while these fishmeal producers have mostly not separated the raw materials sourcing from trawlers (fishing vessels) or from transshipment vessels. Besides, some fishmeal producers also buy raw materials from other fleets such as gill-net or other bottom nets. However, the quantity from these other fisheries are not much and not accounted for significant

proportions in their sourcing. In the total of 06 fishmeal producers, only Tan Long company is sourcing the raw materials as by-products from surimi processors with 60-70% of their factory's capacity. The details are illustrated in the table below:

**Table 2. The sources of raw materials of 06 fishmeal producers**

No.	Fishmeal producers	Buy from # middleman	#Trawlers and/or transshipment vessels*	Percentage from trawl fisheries	Percentage from other fisheries	Percentage from surimi processors
1	Phuc Loc & Long Son	09	90-100	90%	10%	Not significant
2	Tan Tien	03	30-50	95%	05%	NA
3	Tan Long	01	10-15	30-40%	NA	60-70%
4	Nghe Huynh	03	20-30	95%	05%	NA
5	Dong Hai	02	30-50	95%	05%	NA

(Source: Discussions from 06 fishmeal producers)

(\*) As mentioned above, managers and/or raw material purchasing representatives from fishmeal companies have not separated the sourcing from trawlers (fishing vessels) and/or from transshipment vessels while their submitted documents are much different. These fishmeal companies seem to depend on their local traders / middleman as mentioned earlier. In order to investigate more details on this, site visits to these producers need to be conducted to see the details of catch documentations.

**Description of the kind of record buyers/middlemen must have and have to provide to the authorities.**

### **Port in / Port out procedures and documentations**

Based on the current regulations of Vietnam, every fishing vessel is required to inform the fishing port authorities **one-hour** before leaving or entering the fishing port and

go through the port-out and port-in procedures (Clause 4, Article 82, Fisheries Law 2017). The Fisheries Law 2017, Decree 26/2019/ND-CP and Circular 21/2018/TT-BNNPTNT regulate the reporting of landing volume and number of fishing vessels ported by fishing trip-basis. The implementation of those regulations requires effective cooperation amongst competent authorities to implement state management activities for the fishing industry.

Fishing port authorities are also responsible to validate / verify the origin and quantity of fish products from capture fishery. All fishing vessels wishing to unload or stay in the fishing ports are subject to comply with those regulations. Accordingly, before entering the port, the skipper has to inform port authority at least one hour prior to arrival with some key information including vessel registry number, size of the vessel and specific requirements for service (if any). The skipper has to comply with code of conducts for fishing port operation and other rules requested by the port authority. It is mandatory to announce fishing port authority before leaving the port (port out) or entering port (port in) at least one-hour.

### ***Catch verification & certification scheme & related documents***

Presently, fish/catches are either brought onshore by fishing vessel or transshipping vessels, normally catch will go through a process as unloading – sorting – (transporting directly to fish markets or seafood processing plants or storage at landing point). Ordinarily, fish buyers or seafood processors, middlemen are responsible to submit documents/forms attached with copies of vessel documents, logbooks to fishing port Authorities to get “Unloading Certificate” for raw material, then this competent authority will have responsibility to conduct the validation before granting catch certificate. For those materials that produce exported products to required markets, the port authorities will issue the Statement of Catch (SC). Based on this Statement of Catch, Sub-DFISH will certify & issue the Catch Certificate (CC)

***In summary, the catch documentations that are submitted to fishing port authorities including:***

- Port out procedures: Checking all vessel documents & licensing by fishing port authorities
- At sea fishing: Record fishing logbook by Captain
- Port in procedures: Checking vessel documents and logbook by fishing port authorities
- Landing procedures: Submit logbook before landing, cross check by port authorities and issue “Landing Statement”

- Purchasing procedures: Submit Landing Statement to fishing port authorities to issue Statement of Catch (SC)
- Processing & exporting: Submit SC to issue Catch Certificate (CC) by provincial Sub-DFISH



### ***2.2.3. The landing data of the Vung Tau trawl fisheries and its records mechanism***

Provide 2020 & 2021 data on catch and landings of at least one BRVT landing port. As much as possible including CPUE, biomass, species composition, catch composition, length frequency and mean length of fish and invertebrates.

The total marine catches of Ba Ria Vung Tau province in 2021 were estimated at 353,700 tons. In which, fish products were estimated for 270 thousand tons, accounted for 76.7% of the total catches; shrimp products were over 18 thousand tons, accounted for 5.2%; crab and swimming crab were 20 thousand tons, got 5.8%; mollusk (squid and octopus) were nearly 26 thousand tons, got 7.2% and the other marine species were 17.5 thousand tons, got 5% of the total (Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022).

For the detailed information of catches compositions at Vung Tau trawl fisheries have not analyzed / not catalogized yet in term of by categorized of fishing methods or by fleets of vessels and/or by locality.

**Description of how landing ports and the provincial fishery department enter data from fishery logbooks into a database and with whom that data can be shared.**

The landing ports and provincial fishery department (Sub-DFISH) enter data from fishery logbooks into the Vietnam national fishery database, which is called “VNFishbase”. This VNFishbase system covers all aspects of Vietnam fisheries including capture fisheries, vessel registrations, aquaculture as well as marine catches. The national fisheries database, VNFishbase, has been developed since 2010, receiving significant support from World Bank under the Coastal Resources for Sustainable Development (CRSD) project<sup>1</sup>. Despite some qualified success and clear benefits in terms of vessel registration and authorization, landing and logbook data (intended to be included in VNFishbase) is generally not entered. Data quality and consistency varies across provinces, and in some areas only preliminary fisheries data are available for analysis

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<sup>1</sup> Under CRSD, VNFishbase was integrated with a number of modules to manage information related to capture fisheries in eight provinces involved in the CRSD project (Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Ca Mau and Soc Trang). In September of 2018, DFISH expanded VNFishbase to all 28 coastal provinces in the country.

In term of input fishing logbook data into VNFishbase system, all fishing logbook data (or called as Key Data Elements – KDEs) is regularly input into VNFishbase system which has decentralized the roles and responsibilities for each kind of account from Central level to provincial level.

The roles of staff at fishing port level are input fishing data logbook as well as actual weight after verified as well as the total weight that landed on each fishing port but without species compositions and/or gear types classification. Similarly, the staff under provincial Sub-DFISH is in charge to input all data related to fishing vessels including vessel registrations and licensing data. These data are updated regularly daily and are automatically pushed into the system at central level. A screen-shot of VNFishbase for operational functions of fishing port is illustrated on the figure below:

The screenshot displays the VNFishbase web application interface. At the top, there is a header with the national emblem and the text "Hệ thống VNFISHBASE TỔNG CỤC THỦY SẢN". Below the header, there is a navigation menu with options like "TRA CỨU", "BÁO CÁO", and "QUẢN TRỊ HỆ THỐNG". The main content area is titled "Tra cứu thực trạng hoạt động cảng cá" (Query current status of fishing port activities). It includes a search form with fields for "Tên cảng" (Port name), "Ngày ghi nhận từ" (Start date), and "Đến ngày" (End date). Below the search form, there are buttons for "Tìm kiếm" (Search), "Xuất Excel" (Export to Excel), and "In kết quả" (Print results). The search results are displayed in a table with the following data:

TT	Phương tiện, hàng hóa	DVT	Số lượng
<b>I</b>			
<b>Tàu thuyền</b>			
1	< 20 CV	Lượt	
2	20 < 50 CV	Lượt	1
3	50 < 90 CV	Lượt	154
4	90 < 250 CV	Lượt	523
5	250 < 400 CV	Lượt	1751
6	> 400 CV	Lượt	3188
7	Tàu khác	Lượt	12
<b>II</b>			
<b>Sản lượng thủy sản</b>			
1	Sản lượng Cá	Tấn	10537.96
2	Sản lượng Mực	Tấn	1111.02
3	Sản lượng Tôm	Tấn	1910.82
4	Thủy sản khác	Tấn	1442.54
<b>III</b>			
<b>Hàng hóa qua cảng</b>			
1	Nước đá	Tấn	89375.51
2	Xăng dầu	Lít	7769664.96
3	Nước ngọt	Khối	804812.66
4	Hàng hóa khác	Tấn	52.69

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with contact information, including the address "Số 10 Nguyễn Công Hoan, Ba Đình, Hà Nội", phone number "+84.4.66805011", and email "ttam.bts@hn.vnn.vn". There are also social media icons for Twitter, Pinterest, Facebook, and YouTube.

(Source: VNFishbase, 2022)

**Figure 4. VNFishbase – The national fisheries database**



#### **2.2.4. The Vung Tau trawl fisheries monitoring mechanism**

Monitoring mechanisms of the marine catches have been regulated from Vietnam Fishery Laws 2003 and have been revised, updated and amended in the Vietnam National Fishery Laws No.18/2017/QH14 and its bylaw documents. In which, the fishery monitoring mechanism is normally focused on fishing logbook records, at sea surveillance and independent fishery observer data. In case of Vung Tau trawl fisheries,

##### **a) Logbook records mechanism**

###### **What data is in the existing logbooks?**

The Vietnam national fishing logbook has been developed since Vietnam Fisheries Laws 2003 & has been revised many times in order to adapt international market requirements as well as regional fishery management organizations (RFMOs). For the general purposes of national fishery management, Vietnam fishing logbook had designed to record all Key Data Elements (KDEs) related to fish species, details information of fishing boats, fishing grounds, fishing seasons, the port in & port out process, landing process, fishing-set information, procedure to certify & verify the landing catches...

All of these KDEs are collected at landing sites by fishing port authority staff & set up in the Vietnam national fishery database (well-known as namely “VNFishbase” system) which can be connected from central level to local (provincial level). Each of KDEs will be updated by Administrations roles at any time with the web-based application. Some major KDEs as listed below:

###### **❖ KDEs for fishing vessels:**

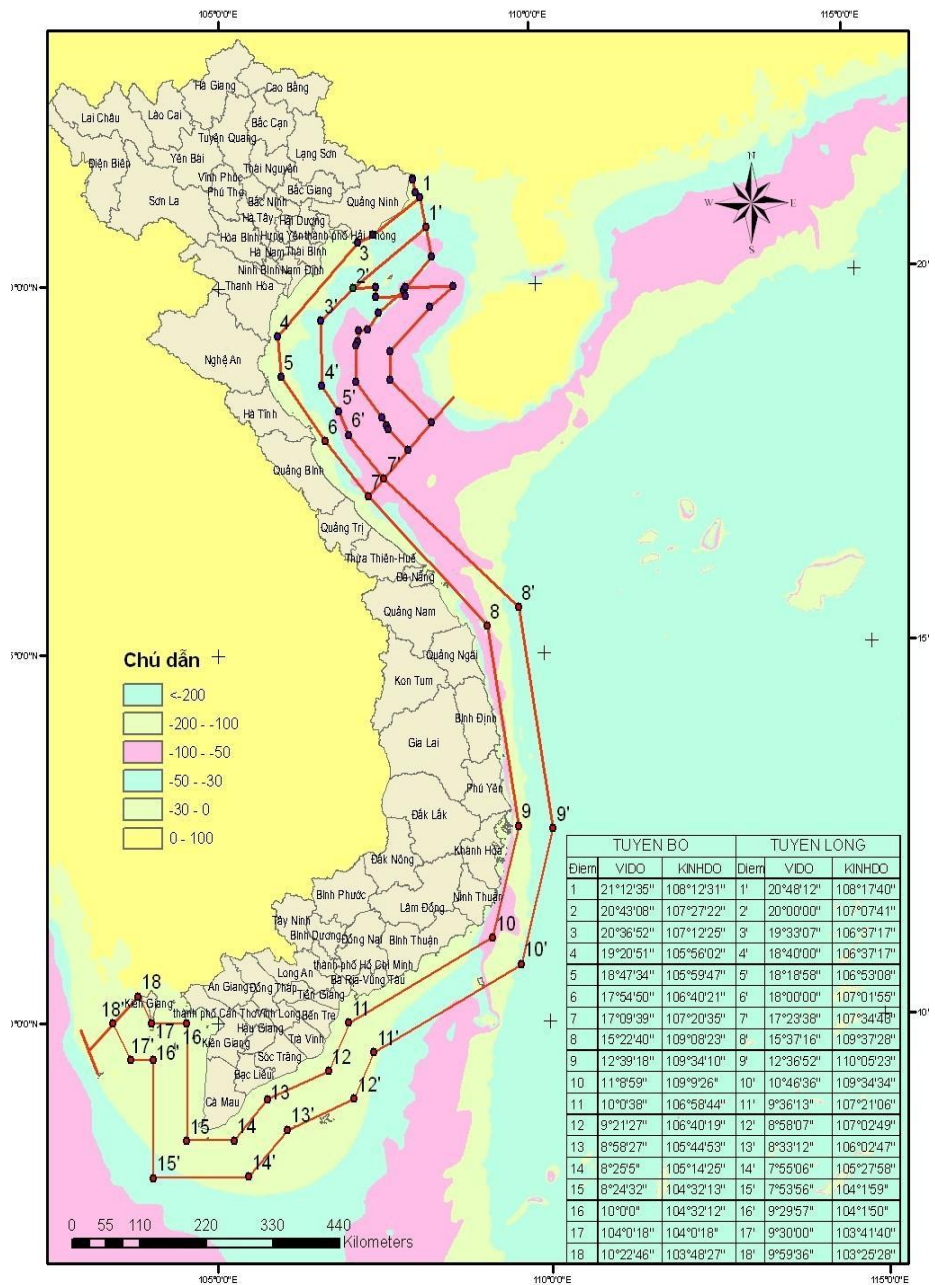
For those registered fishing vessels & inputted into the VNFishbase system, all their KDEs are recorded such as the Registration number (Unique ID), fishing methods, fishing license number, expiry date of the fishing licenses as well as alarm the expiry deadlines.

###### **❖ KDEs for fish species**

For common fish species: The local name is the most important for local fishers to check & record during the fishing trips. Besides, scientific names, commercial names (English common names), caught by fishing gears as well as 3 digits were also applied to adapt with US-SIMP requirements also designed to input into the VNFishbase system.

### ❖ *KDEs for fishing grounds*

Similarly, fishing grounds of Vietnam are also listed in the system based on the Vietnamese regulations (Decree 26ND/CP of Vietnam Government) including: coastal areas, near-shore areas and offshore areas. In order to simplify management, the fishing zones also can be divided into smaller areas such as the Gulf of Tonkin, Central areas, South-East areas, South-West areas and Offshore areas. Besides, international regulations on the fishing zones also can be applied with FAO61 and FAO71 regions.



(Source: Decree 26/2019/ND-CP)

**Figure 5. The zoning of Vietnam fishing grounds**

Based on the Circular 01/2022/TT-BNNPTNT, Clause 1, Article 3 has stated that ALL fishing vessels which have the LOA from 12 meters and above have to submit the daily fishing logbook to the fishing port authority **before landing**. The fishing logbook can be paper-based with Captain's signatures or electronic logbook with Unique ID of that vessel & the order of fishing trips are updated automatically (Clause 1, Article 3, Circular 01/2022/TT-BNNPTNT).

**Box 1: Fishing Logbook**  
Clause 1, Article 3, Circular  
01/2022/TT-BNNPTNT

“The Captain of fishing vessels which have the LOA from 12m and above have to record fishing logbook daily by Template 01, Appendix I on this Circular” and have to submit daily fishing logbook to fishing port authority before landing”

Similarly, the transshipment vessels also have to submit the transshipment logbook to fishing port authorities before landing.

***b) Observer data from independent surveys***

**Description of observer data from independent fisheries surveys and how they are used.**

Ba Ria Vung Tau province has not implemented the independent observer programs particularly for trawl fisheries. Thus, observer data is not available.

## REFERENCES

1. Ba Ria Vung Tau DARD, 2022. Report on the marine capture fisheries results of BRVT province in 2021 (In Vietnamese)
2. The Vietnam Fisheries Law No.18/2017/QH14
3. The Vietnam Circular No.01/2022/TT-BNNPTNT on Revisions of Circulars on Fishery sectors (In Vietnamese)
4. The Vietnam Circular No.13/2020/TT-BNNPTNT on Revisions of Circular No.21/2020/TT-BNNPTNT (In Vietnamese)
5. The Vietnam Circular No.21/2020/TT-BNNPTNT on Regulations on record, submit fishing logbook, publish designated ports, marine catch traceability, IUU list, verification and certification of marine catches (In Vietnamese)
6. The Vietnam Decree No.26/2019/ND-CP on detailed regulations & management measures for Fishery Laws