

Overseas Fisheries Development Council - Key Traceability Meeting

1st July 2025 1PM – 2PM (Taiwan Standard Time)

Taipei, Taiwan

Attendees

Name	Organisation	Attended
Mr. Wei-yang Liu	Overseas Fisheries Development Council	Y
Ms. Hui-shan Ma	Overseas Fisheries Development Council	Y
Mr. Joseph Fu	Overseas Fisheries Development Council	Y
Tom Evans	Key Traceability	Y
Daniel Yang	Key Traceability	Y
MJ Chen	Key Traceability	Y

Minutes

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Introduction	
<p>KT introduced our scope of works, including EM, social, MSC, and projects more than just tuna certification scheme. Our discussion focused on electronic monitoring (EM), including standards, flag state management, traceability, challenges, and opportunities. The ultimate goal of EM for OFDC is to increase observer coverage to fulfil RFMOs’ regulations and improve fishery data management. OFDC has not yet considered MSC as one of the motives to build up this capacity.</p>	
Taiwan Development of Electronic Monitoring System (EMS)	
<p>KT emphasised buyers’ commitment, including Thai Union’s The Transparency Pledge – to source fish with 100% observer coverage in the end of 2030.</p> <p>In the short term, OFDC plans to confirm national observer programme in the end of 2025 and obtain funds from TFA to form a data analysis steering group in next year. EM service providers to contract with OFDC.</p>	
Timeline	Progress
By the end of 2025	To set up national observer programme.
In 2026	To launch the steering group for fishery data analysis.
<p>OFDC has not yet discussed internally about introducing EM into fishery regulations. On the contrary, they emphasised that CCTV shall be all installed on Taiwanese vessels at the end of this year. One important boundary of data analysis is that EM does not aim for legal purpose unless any RFMO requires, it is only designed to collect and analysis fishery information and indirectly assist vessel companies to ease financial burden when getting certified. Intensive discussion is undergoing between EM service providers and OFDC regarding data ownership and data authentication.</p> <p>In the end of the meeting, KT emphasised that EM should be given more values, not just for commercial purposes, but also changing fishing management and techniques. KT also shared the current challenges found in EM development – technical and financial aspects, including lengthy</p>	

bycatch analysis time, cost, stability of camera system, lag time between analysis and recording, etc.

During the Q&A, OFDC asked the format and contents of data analysed. KT explained that the raw footage will undergo AI analysis first, to tag fishing events. Physical analysis will be conducted to investigate details – ETP, bycatch mitigation, bycatch interaction, etc. AI correction rate of species identification – 80%. AI now should be able to tag the events, and the reviewers can investigate the tagged events effectively to save time.

KT shared the info regarding observer coverage committed by other flag states and retailers, including Panama and Belize, who signed the Tuna Transparency Pledge recently and committed to ensure 100% observer coverage of flag state vessels by 2030. KT will share some EM information and requirement. KT suggests that the TNC Minimum Standards should be taken into consideration for OFDC.

MSC Discussion

KT introduced MSC observer coverage and ETP shark standards in version 2.01 and 3. KT further mentioned the postponement of version 3 so that fisheries can still be assessed against version 2.01 until Oct 2027.

Actions

Action Number	Action	Responsibility
1	KT to share TNC EM standards, WCPFC interim EM standards, Tuna Transparency Pledge information.	KT
2	KT to connect OFDC with TNC for future collaboration on EM.	KT

