



Western and Central Pacific Ocean tuna - purse seine FIP (Thai Union)

Stakeholder Meeting

8am – 10am (UK time) 15 December 2020 via Zoom

Agenda
Introductions and Welcomes
Progress and challenges in 2020 <i>Update on the status of the FIP so far</i>
Principle 1 <i>Develop a bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack harvest strategy</i>
Principle 2 <i>Secondary Species Management Strategy</i> <i>Ecosystem impact of FADs</i> <i>Entangling FADs</i> <i>ETP Management Strategy and Information</i> <i>FAD Management</i>
Principle 3 <i>Compliance and enforcement</i>
Questions and Close



Stakeholder Meeting Attendees

Company	Name	Email Address
Key Traceability	Tom Evans	t.evans@keytraceability.com
	Iain Pollard	i.pollard@keytraceability.com
	Daniel Yang	d.yang@keytraceability.com
Thai Union	Francisco Leotte	Francisco.Leotte@thaiunion.com
	Tony Lazazzara	tony.lazazzara@thaiunion.com
	Andy Russell	andy.russell.consultant@thaiunion.com
ISSF	Hilario Murua	hmurua@iss-foundation.org
	Juan Pedro Monteagudo	jpmonteagudo@iss-foundation.org
Silla Company Ltd.	Kofi Kwak	ghkwak@sla.co.kr
	Bella Tak	bbtak@sla.co.kr
FCF Co. Ltd.	Fong Lee	fonglee@fcf.com.tw
	Howard	howard@fcf.com.tw

Stakeholder Meeting Apologies

Company	Name	Email Address
The Nature Conservancy	Craig Heberer	craig.heberer@TNC.ORG
	Ben Gilmer	ben.gilmer@TNC.ORG
Taiwan Fisheries Authority	Hsiangyin Chen	hsiangyin0910@ms1.fa.gov.tw
Da Yang Seafood Ltd.	Warren Chen	warrenchen@lspacific.com



Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

Minutes

Introductions and Welcomes

Key Traceability welcomed everyone to the stakeholder meeting and explained the purpose of the stakeholder meeting. Minutes will be taken and shared with all to approve before being made public via the FIP website.

Introductions were made and apologies from TFA and TNC not being able to attend, TFA had another appointment and TNC could not join for time zone reasons. Additional apologies were received from Da Yang.

Progress and challenges in 2020

Key Traceability ran through the preassessment, findings of the year and some of the challenges faced. As the group went through the action plan we focused on any sticking points and how to deal with them.

Question from ISSF regarding the pre-assessment on how it was harmonised with the OPAGAC FIP as they had already made large strides in improvements. The assessor would have looked at this and harmonised on PIs where applicable.

ISSF asked about the importance of fishery data being collected. Key Traceability and the group agreed and this topic will be discussed under Principle 2.

FIP finish date is being moved forward and now we are aiming to enter MSC assessment end of 2021, no objections from any participant. However, it is known we need observer data on catch and FADs from the vessels, along with completion of P2 actions.

Principle 1

Discussion surrounding the lack of harvest strategy and HCRs for tuna in the region. ISSF gave a quick update on the WCPFC meeting and feel HCRs are still a few years off.

The FIP will continue with this action and producing advocacy and engaging with the flag and coastal states but understand if we aim for the planned timeline, we will likely receive a condition on these PIs. FIP will monitor what comes out of the WCPFC meeting and report back to FIP participants. Expected in January.

Principle 2

ISSF asked how we will verify our commitments and use of FADs. FCF have launched a scope extension for FADs on another MSC certified free school fishery, looks like it will be granted MSC certification for FADs next year. This will mean they will have more data available which will be shared with the FIP then

Other options include through the ISSF PVR Level 2 audits. Tony asked if they have had any, FCF said they had but not had any Level 3 audits. They will provide any information from them,

From a MSC standpoint the only thing required is that WCPFC has a conservation measure about use of non-entangling fads. Nevertheless, as a group we believe we should go above this and work on biodegradable and non-entangling FADS.



The FIP is interested in applying tools to reduce ETP mortality in the fishery and KT mentioned the work by ISSF and Jefferson Murua as seen in January regarding Velcro grips and hoppers. ISSF to check the status to see if these are still in the pilot stage or products to buy. Either way the FIP would like to adopt them and implement.

MSC confirmed the use of the default tree and FADs should not be seen as a habitat modification.

ISSF's view is at the current state no RFMO has set FAD management at a rate of carrying capacity. So, ecosystem impacts are a key variable and based on the number of FADs. Is the FIP going to research the number of FADs used, what is the existing carrying capacity? ISSF is asking this of all FIPs to help understand the cumulative impact of FADs. The FIP was not intending to do this rather to advocate on this. Thai Union share the concern and frustration around fad numbers however, conversation has been going on for a while, still being asked for the data and some study needs to be done. As we are looking to accelerate the timeline of the FIP, this project will not have time to engage in large studies like this. It is a challenging topic and if we can aid in sharing data with SPC on items such as FAD tracking, we shall. ISSF to engage and check on these projects and let us know, then the FIP can discuss.

Is there any programme similar to a FAD watch or a FAD recovery program? TNC may be working on this but do not think so, it is focusing more on data collection. ISSF are not aware of any projects. Tunacons and Opagac were planning on carrying out a project in the EPO and IO. ISSF will reach out to them and report on the status of this.

BioFAD Project will be going ahead when possible. Fishing companies are sending vessels in which they want to participate, thanks to those that have done so already. ISSF to confirm how many vessels they need in the project. Aim to hold the first remote workshop in January.

Principle 3

Note that there is no associated action on the Compliance and enforcement PI that was assessed in the preassessment as to pass with conditions as it is implicit in the advocacy actions of Principle 1. However, as we are amending the workplan and the tasks, this shall be included and will detail the advocacy needed.

Questions and Close

Key Traceability shall work on an amended workplan to amend the action dates as per the new planned deadline of Q4 2021, including a P3 action, and updating what has already been done.

Issues with FisheryProgress reporting only showing progress of actions completed not tasks. Thai Union ask if we can move some tasks to be actions to be able to truly reflect the progress made. To be done with amended workplan update.

Closing comments from Thai Union – They expressed their thanks to Tom and KT, appreciate the effort in getting the FIP moving. Really important for the market that the FIP moves forward.

Thanks was expressed to the fishing companies for putting in the effort for attending meetings and participating in the actions.

Also, for ISSF, appreciate the closer working and all the advice provided. This meeting has been very encouraging and looking positive at getting the FIP into full assessment at the end of 2021.