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Improver Programme Milestone Report

Global Standard for the Responsible Supply of Marine Ingredients

IFFO RS Improver Programme: Milestone Report

In this document the applicant should outline the milestones that make up the Fishery Action Plan (FAP) as part of the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP). Then during each review, update the relevant year to indicate whether the milestones have been met or not. This will be verified by the peer reviewers (accredited certification body) based on evidence submitted by the applicant.

Fishery Under Verification	Ecuadorian small pelagics industrial fishery
Milestone	1 year
Date	20 th Feb 2020. Completed using information correct as of December 2019.
Verifier	Cámara Nacional de Pesquería (CNP) / RS Standards review

Improver Programme Details and Summary of the Milestone Verification Outcome				
Name:	Cámara Nacional de Pesquería (CNP)			
Address	Av. 9 de Octubre 424 y Chile. Edificio Gran Pasaje. Piso 8, Of. 802			
City/state	Guayaquil			
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Key contact	Mr. Jimmy Anastacio: janastacio86@gmail.com; j.anastacio@camaradepesqueria.ec
Verification Body Details	
Name of Verification Body:	Cámara Nacional de Pesqueria (CNP) / RS Standards review
Assessment Period:	December 2019
Scope Details	
Management authority (Country/State)	Ministerio de Producción, Comercio Exterior, Inversiones y Pesca - Gobierno del Ecuador
Main species	Pacific chub mackerel (macarela), <i>Scomber japonicus</i> Frigate tuna (botellita), <i>Auxis</i> spp. Shortfin scad (picudillo), <i>Decapterus macrosoma</i> Thread herrings (pinchagua), <i>Opisthonema</i> spp. Pacific anchoveta (chuhueco), <i>Cetengraulis mysticetus</i> Round herring (sardina redonda), <i>Etrumeus acuminatus</i> Largedhead hairtail (corbata), <i>Trichiurus lepturus</i> Pacific cornetfish (trompeta), <i>Fistularia corneta</i> Yellowstripe grunt (roncador), <i>Haemulopsis axillaris</i> Note: Not all species are used for the production of fishmeal
Date of acceptance into IFFO RS IP	October 2018
Original projected IP completion date	September 2023
Fishery location	Ecuadorian EEZ (FAO 87)
Gear type(s)	Purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Sections with Milestones	A1 (all species); A2 (all species); F1.
Milestones not completed to the Fishery Action Plan	None
Sections with Critical Milestones	None
Critical Milestones not verified	None
Recommendation	Maintain approval
Critical Milestones carried over	None



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TABLE 1 – IFFO RS FISHERY ASSESSMENT PROGRESS SUMMARY

The table below summarises the initial status of the fishery, the projected Improver Timeline, and the actual changes which have taken place as verified by previous Milestone Reports.

IFFO RS Fishery Assessment Section		Initial score	Immediate (6 months)	End of Year 1	End of Year 2	End of Year 3	End of Year 4	End of Year 5
Date		08/18	06/19	12/19	12/20	12/21	12/22	12/23
M1	Projected							
	Actual							
M2	Projected							
	Actual							
A1	Projected							
	Actual							
A2	Projected							
	Actual							
A3	Projected							
	Actual							
A4	Projected							
	Actual							
B1	Projected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Actual	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
C1	Projected							
	Actual							
D1	Projected							
	Actual							
F1	Projected							
	Actual							
F2	Projected							
	Actual							
F3	Projected							
	Actual							



Table 1 Rating key

Each section of the IFFO RS Fishery Assessment is assigned a Projected and Actual rating for each milestone date, according to the table below. Projected ratings are assigned when the FIP is accepted into the IP. Actual ratings are assigned as a result of the validation assessment conducted at each milestone date. In a FIP which is progressing according to the FAP timeline, the Projected and Actual ratings will be the same.

Colour	IFFO RS Rating
	Fully Compliant with all IFFO RS Raw Material Approval Criteria within this section. For sections in categories A-D this indicates that all criteria within that section are met for all applicable species.
	Compliant with some IFFO RS Raw Material Approval Criteria within this section. For sections in categories A-D this indicates that some criteria are not met by some applicable species.
	Non-Compliant with any IFFO RS Raw Material Approval Criteria within this section. For sections in categories A-D this indicates that no criteria are met by any applicable species.
	Critical Milestone Raised against one or more criteria within this section.

Critical Improvements

Section	Milestone date	Critical Milestone Due

Table 1 Summary

The Ecuador small pelagic FIP is progressing as planned, and has even progressed faster than anticipated in the area of stock assessment due to the completion of the first assessment for all 9 species in 2019.

TABLE 2 – FAP PROGRESS SUMMARY

The table below summarises the progress the fishery has made in implementing the improvement actions detailed in the FAP. An 'X' indicates that the Improvement Action is scheduled to be completed by that milestone date, according to the FAP at the time of acceptance into the IP.

Improvement Action	6 months	End of Year 1	End of Year 2	End of Year 3	End of Year 4	End of Year 5
	06/19	12/19	12/20	12/21	12/22	12/23
1.1 Identify all members that will participate on the "Sustainable Marine Commodities Platform" (Intersectional working group), with membership composed of the public and private sector stakeholders directly concerned by the small pelagics fishery, and established by the Article number 7 of the Ministerial Agreement N 047 of April 9th, 2010.	X					
1.2 Develop a statute or norm defining the way on which the referred "Sustainable Marine Commodities Platform" will operate.	X					
1.3 Define a calendar for yearly regular meetings, the standard agenda of items to be discussed and specify, at least, the next two meetings dates.	X					
1.4 Participate in the Sustainable Marine Commodities Platform meetings in order to discuss about harvest control rules, CMMs related to ETP interactions and ecosystem impacts and other management issues.	X					
2.1 Establish an office with equipment and a research team which will develop a research program in order to assess both the small pelagic fish stocks and the fishery impacts on ETP species and the ecosystem.	X					

Improvement Action	6 months	End of Year 1	End of Year 2	End of Year 3	End of Year 4	End of Year 5
2.2 Review and evaluate of all the historical information / data related to the Ecuadorian small-scale fishery existing at the INP, for scanning it into an electronic format, allowing its further publication on the webpage of the INP and / or CNP. To assure that all the new documentation originated, relevant to the fishery, will be uploaded to the same place, including assessments.	X					
2.3 Recollect (scanning into electronic format if needed) all the relevant legislation and normative related to the Ecuadorian small pelagics fishery and to place it all together in the web page of the CNP. To ensure all the relevant new issued legislation is uploaded as well.	X					
2.4 Design a research project in order to define and conduct stocks assessment models, which may take into consideration oceanographic particularities. This project has to determine the stock structure and its distribution and will be the basis of the management strategy.	X					
2.5. Support legislation in order to improve the legal framework of the participatory decision-making process.			X			
3.1 Implement electronic logbooks for all the industrial boats targeting small pelagics, including interaction with ETPs. Research team and the authorized department of the Secretary of Fisheries will receive data automatically from the boat. System will be connected to GPS, so position is part of the provided data.			X			
3.2 Develop a system, endorsed by the research team, to calculate withdrawals (catches per specie) from the artisan fleets operating		X				

Improvement Action	6 months	End of Year 1	End of Year 2	End of Year 3	End of Year 4	End of Year 5
on the same stocks than the industrial vessels, and to incorporate this data to the stocks assessments or biomass estimations.						
4. Establish a biological data gathering system through the observer program. Samples will include, but not limited to, size, maturity, gonads status, stomachs contents, etc. Sampling frequency and size (number of individuals analyzed) will be determined by INP. Samplers will be hired by INP.		X				
5.1.2 – 5.1.9 Establish a periodic stock assessments system (every three years): To carry out the 1st Stock Assessment (for each of 9 species)			X			
5.2.1 – 5.2.9 Establish a periodic stock assessments system (every three years): To commit, via agreement with assessors, for the 2nd Stock Assessment (for each of 9 species)						X
"2.1 Review and evaluate of all the historical information / data related to the Ecuadorian small-scale fishery existing at the INP, for scanning it into an electronic format, allowing its further publication on the webpage of the INP and / or CNP. To assure that all the new documentation originated, relevant to the fishery, will be uploaded to the same place, including assessments.						X
7.1 – 7.9 Identify and establish biological reference points (target and limit) as well as related Harvest Control Rules, based on data already available and results of the 1st Stock Assessment for this specie. If Stock Assessment recommends it, to Establish a TAC (Total Admissible Catches) (for each of 9 species)			X			
3.1 Implement electronic logbooks for all the industrial boats targeting small pelagics, including interaction with ETps. Research			X			

Improvement Action	6 months	End of Year 1	End of Year 2	End of Year 3	End of Year 4	End of Year 5
and the authorized department of the Secretary of Fisheries will receive data automatically from the boat. System will be connected to GPS, so position is part of the provided data.						
14.1 Develop yearly assessments on impact on ETP and assure, via "Sustainable Marine Commodities Platform" that CMMs are adopted when needed by Department of fisheries.				X		
15.1 Develop a specific assessment on the impact on broader ecosystem, and in case a negative impact is detected, assure, via the "Sustainable Marine Commodities Platform" that CMMs to mitigate the impact are adopted by managers				X		
16.1 Develop a specific assessment on the impact on broader ecosystem, and in case a negative impact is detected, assure, via the "Sustainable Marine Commodities Platform" that CMMs to mitigate the impact are adopted by managers				X		
18. Provide evidence from INP showing that catches are negligible.		X				
19. Provide evidence that habitat interactions are minimal.		X				

Table 2 Summary

The Ecuador small pelagic FIP is implementing improvement actions as planned in the FAP. The key exception to this is actions 5.1.2 – 5.1.9, which have been completed ahead of schedule.



Table 2 Rating key

Each major action in the FAP is assigned a progress rating for each milestone date, according to the table below. In a FIP which is progressing according to the FAP timeline, all progress ratings will be green.

Colour	FAP Progress Rating
Green	This action has been completed as planned, or earlier than planned.
Light Green	This action is not scheduled to have been completed by this milestone date, and there is no evidence that progress towards completing it has fallen behind schedule.
Red	This action is scheduled to have been completed by this milestone date, but has not yet been completed.
Blue	This action was scheduled to be completed by a previous milestone date and is still not completed. This represents a failure to complete a Critical Milestone.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following section highlights any information provided by the fishery in support of this Milestone Report which does not relate directly to any of the Milestones above, but which is relevant to the ongoing monitoring of fishery management status.

This milestone report was prepared using information provided in the CNP document "Fishery Improvement Project – Annual Progress Report". The progress report document provides extensive evidence supporting the outcomes summarised in this milestone report and should be referred to for further details.