

MarinTrust Improver Programme: Milestone Report Template

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) as aligned to the MarinTrust Assessment criteria. Then during the review, update the relevant information to indicate whether the milestones have been met or not and any progress towards the milestones. This will be verified by the peer reviewers based on evidence submitted by the applicant.

FIP name	Mauritania small pelagics
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IP Milestone report

Use the below tables to provide an update on actions in the Fishery Action Plan with links to relevant evidence documents. Additional lines may be added where necessary.

Example table

MT clause (if relevant)	Action in plan	Action update	Progress against milestones	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action
M1.1	Provide the original action as outlined in the action plan.	Provide an update on this action since the last report.	Provide any additional updates or information towards completing this action if there are shorter-term milestones.	Provide any outstanding aspects to this action and explain why they are outstanding.	Provide a link to any evidence and/or summarise relevant points for actions or updates.	What is the current status of this action (i.e. complete, pending, ongoing)
M1.2						
Add rows to each table as necessary						

Note:

Colour-coding for progress against milestones: **blue = completed**; **green = on track with milestones**; **orange = ongoing but behind milestones**; **red = not started and behind milestones**; grey = no longer relevant

M – Management Framework and Surveillance, Control and Enforcement

MT clause (if relevant)	Action in plan	Action update	Progress against milestones	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action
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<p>M2.3, M2.4</p>	<p>Action 5: Control and surveillance</p>	<p>The Coastguard Commander is now part of our Comité de Pilotage (oversight committee in Mauritania, chaired by the Ministry), which has been officialised. It met in October 2021 and March 2022 (alongside FIP meetings) and is due to meet again at the next meeting in December 2022.</p> <p>We have had no reports from IMROP this year about problems with access to FIP factories for sampling.</p> <p>There has been a recent crackdown by the authorities on compliance with the requirements aimed at maximising the proportion of catch entering human consumption instead of fishmeal supply chains. The lettre circulaire from the Ministry from 28 December 2021 notes that only vessels which conform to sanitary requirements for fish on board will be permitted to fish, while the landing of fish which is unfit for human consumption will be considered a severe contravention, exposing vessel captains and owners to sanctions and</p>	<p><i>For explanation of colour-coding, see above</i></p> <p>5.1.1-5.1.3 – Ensure access for samplers at factories</p> <p>5.2.1 – Invite GCM to FIP meetings</p> <p>5.2.2 – Work with GCM to ensure that measures in PAP-PP are enforceable</p>	<p><i>Explanation of actions which are behind their milestones (orange), or which have not been started (red) or which are now considered unnecessary (grey).</i></p> <p>5.2.2: This Action is behind scheduled milestones because the PAP-PP (management plan) process is behind schedule – see explanation under Action 2 below.</p>	<p><i>See complete list at the end</i></p> <p>Note de Service Comité de Pilotage</p> <p>Lettre Circulaire MPEM, 28 Dec. 2021</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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		a 30 day licence suspension, or licence suspension for the rest of the season for repeat offenders.				
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A – Category A: Data Collection, Stock Assessment, Harvest Strategy and Stock Status

MT clause (if relevant)	Action in plan	Action update	Progress against milestones	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action
A3.1, A3.3 (sardine)	Action 1: Improved data collection	<p>Since the last update, the 'miniproject' to support IMROP sampling during covid has been completed. Support has been continued on the same basis (i.e. the same financial arrangement and sampling protocols) by the FIP thanks to financial contributions from international FIP participants.</p> <p>The FIP has supported IMROP in making an application for funding from MSC (OSF) and MAVA which would support this activity (and others) for the next three years but the</p>	<p>1.1.1 – Paper logbook data entry</p> <p>1.1.2, 1.1.3 – Transition to e-logbooks</p> <p>1.2.1, 1.2.2 – Factory sampling</p> <p>1.2.3 – Factory self-sampling</p> <p>1.2.4 – CECAF sampling rates</p> <p>1.3.1-3 – acoustic surveys</p>	<p>1.1.1: This has reportedly nearly been completed (according to IMROP), but in July there was a problem with the server which has meant that work has stopped for the moment. Reportedly this is in the process of being fixed.</p> <p>1.2.3: We have not made progress with this action because it requires face-to-face discussion with the factories which has not been easy in the last few</p>	<p>Rapport échantillonnage usines mai-dec 2021 (factory sampling May-Dec 2021, funded by the FIP)</p> <p>FIP newsletter July-Sept. 2022 (CECAF sampling rates and summary of sampling June-Sept. 2022)</p> <p>OSF MAVA funding application</p>	Ongoing

		<p>outcome of this application is not yet known. Otherwise the FIP will continue to support sampling on the same basis, assuming the participants agree to continuing their contributions (we have had no signal that they won't).</p> <p>In 2020 and 2021, Mauritania complied with CECAF minimum sampling rates (1 sample per 1000 t landings), which the CECAF working group noted with 'satisfaction', although they note that additional length-frequency data would be useful.</p>		<p>years. Given the improved success of IMROP sampling in factories it may not be necessary. It is on the agenda for our plenary meeting in December.</p> <p>1.3: The research vessel Al Awam is being replaced thanks to Japanese Cooperation, while IMROP participation in regional acoustic surveys is supported by the FAO Nansen project; so FIP actions here are not needed.</p>	<p>Invoices for 'miniproject':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - logbook data analysis - field sampling team Jan-June 2022 - paper logbook entry <p><i>Note:</i> The CECAF working group report for 2021 has been provided to the FIP but on a confidential basis since it is not yet published, so cannot be provided as evidence here.</p>	
	Action 2: Management plan	<p>The draft management plan was due to be available in March 2022, but the timetable has slipped. According to the project team, the draft plan is currently undergoing internal review with the Ministry, before formal review by the</p>	<p>2.1.1, 2.1.2 – Submission at start of plan process</p> <p>2.1.3, 2.1.4 – comments on draft</p>	<p>2.1.3-4: The draft management plan is not yet available. We are working to ensure that we will be able to participate in the consultation process (next round) in some form, but the</p>	<p>Global Roundtable submission to PAP-PP team</p> <p>FIP coordinator note to PAP-PP team on management plan</p>	Ongoing

		Comité Consultatif des Plans d'Aménagement (management plan consultative committee) – where it is hoped the FIP will be able to participate in review and comment, either directly or via participants (to be confirmed).		process from here is not yet completely clear.	requirements for MSC FIP newsletter Dec. 2021-Jan. 2022, covering the kick-off workshop for the PAP-PP and associated consultations	
	Action 4: Regional collaboration	The FIP continues to have the same links with Morocco, i.e. i) via the national coordinator Dr Braham who is also chair of the FAO CECAF regional small pelagic working group (most recent meeting August 2022, in person for the first time since covid); and ii) via the international coordinator Jo Gascoigne who is also consultant to the Moroccan Ministry for MSC certification of the sardine fishery and coordinator of the Morocco anchovy FIP. (The Morocco MSC process has been significantly delayed this year	<p>4.1.1 – Working with Morocco FIP</p> <p>4.1.2 – Working with INRH to support science in Mauritania</p> <p>4.1.3 – Support Moroccan participation in FIP</p> <p>4.2.1 – Support engagement with Senegal</p> <p>4.2.2 – Support engagement</p>	<p>4.1.2: We considered supporting a stagiaire from INRH to work with IMROP, but since the CECAF working group coordinates sampling rates and protocols and there is already extensive INRH-IMROP collaboration, it did not seem necessary and was proving administratively difficult.</p> <p>4.2.1: This has proved very difficult, because the Senegal FIP (our main link) has had issues with most</p>	<p>Shared Sardinella information booklet from FAO</p> <p>Proposal document from PartnerAfrica outlining work with Global Roundtable in support of FIP</p> <p>Letter to FIP participants asking for their support for the social audit</p> <p>Invitation to annual meeting, October 2021</p>	Ongoing

	<p>but is proceeding.) The FAO Shared Sardinella project is also continuing as described in our previous report.</p> <p>The IFFO/SFP Marine Ingredients Global Roundtable continues to focus on West Africa, and is currently supporting the FIP to conduct social audits in Mauritania, as well as in Senegal (ongoing at time of writing, by social auditing company Partner Africa). The results of these audits when available will be used to add social actions to our workplan.</p> <p>The FIP annual meeting in October 2021 included an invited presentation by INRH (Morocco); the FIP meeting in March 2022 included an invited presentation by the Shared Sardinella project coordinator.</p>	<p>with regional organisations</p>	<p>of the vessels not operational, while data collection from the artisanal fishery in Senegal collapsed for several years due to financial / contractual issues between CRODT (scientists) and Ministry.</p> <p>4.2.2: Likewise, we have not succeeded so far in building sustainable links with regional organisations, who have no decision-making powers. This activity is much easier for official regional projects, such as those run by FAO (Shared Sardinella, Nansen).</p>	<p>FIP newsletter Oct-Nov 2021 (including summary of meeting)</p> <p>March 2022 meeting agenda</p> <p>FIP newsletter March-April 2022 (including summary of meeting)</p> <p>Invoice for meeting costs (IMROP to FIP)</p> <p>Symposium agenda May 2022</p> <p>FIP newsletter May-June 2022 (including summary of symposium)</p>	
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		IMROP hosted a regional symposium on small pelagic fisheries, 24-26 May 2022, which included participants from across the region. The FIP was invited to participate.				
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B – Category B Stock Status

MT clause (if relevant)	Action in plan	Action update	Progress against milestones	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action
B (flat sardinella, horse mackerel)	Action 1	Please see updates above for these Actions. Note: It was recently reported that flat sardinella is now not permitted to be included in fishmeal production; however for the moment we lack any written confirmation of this. Nothing has changed in the FIP workplan.				
	Action 2					
	Action 4					

C – Category C Stock Status

MT clause (if relevant)	Action in plan	Action update	Progress against milestones	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of action
C1.1, C1.2 (mullet, round sardinella)	Action 1	Please see updates above for these Actions. Note: These species are not permitted to be landed to fishmeal.				
	Action 2					

C1.2 (round sardinella)	Action 4	
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D – Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3

No Actions related to this component of the MarinTrust standard – see updated assessment of the fishery from April 2021.

F – Impacts on ETP Species, Impacts on Habitats and Ecosystem Impacts

MT clause (if relevant)	Action in plan	Action update	Progress against milestones	Outstanding actions and rationale	Evidence	Status of actions
F3.1	Action 2	Please see update above for Action 2.				
	Action 3: Ecosystem-based management	In 2021, 5 observer trips were conducted on board coastal small pelagic vessels (out of 9 trips in total across all fleets). For the moment, only a summary of the information is available in the form of a presentation, showing that the catch from the three trips in the cool season were ~100% sardine, while the catch from the two in the hot season were dominated by mackerel (<i>Scomber colias</i>). For 2022, there have reportedly been four observer trips so far, three from	3.1.1-3.1.4 – Ecosystem modelling 3.2.1-4 – ETP species	3.1: There has been no progress on the ecosystem modelling since the last report. 3.2: The observer information we have does not suggest any interactions of the fishery with ETP species, but data remain insufficient to be confident	Presentation on observer deployments 2021-22 MSC OSF / MAVA application MMPA letter March 2022 meeting agenda	Ongoing
F1.1, F1.2	Action 6: Bycatch		6.1.1 – Observer	6.1.1: We have not had any indication from		

	<p>other fleets and the last not known as yet.</p> <p>The observer information for 2020 did not signal any interactions of the coastal fleet with protected species, but the detailed bycatch information for 2021/22 is not yet available.</p> <p>A (brief) synthesis of the available information on marine mammal protection in Mauritania was compiled by IMROP and presented by the Ministry to NOAA as a response to the requirements of the MMPA. (This does not provide any new information but is included for information.)</p> <p>The MSC/MAVA funding application (see under Action 1) would support these actions (i.e. observers, ecosystem modelling, ETP species analysis) and if successful would put this part of the workplan on a much firmer footing.</p>	<p>awareness raising 6.1.2, 6.1.3 – Observer training 6.1.4 – Observer deployments</p>	<p>IMROP of problems with convincing vessels to take observers, so this may not be necessary, but we normally have a presentation about observers at our meetings (e.g. see agenda for March 2022)</p> <p>6.1.2-3: We have not conducted any observer training since the last report; at present it is not clear whether any further training is needed.</p>		
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SOCIAL CRITERION

Will be added to plan when social audits (supported by IFFO/SFP Global Roundtable) are completed.

Additional Information

None.

Amended timeline

Action 2: End date amended to September 2023 due to slippage in timetable for drafting the PAP-PP (outside the control of the FIP).

List of evidence documents

(name of document in brackets)

- Note de Service (internal Ministry memo) from 27 October 2021, formally creating the FIP Comité de Pilotage and setting out membership, role etc. (Comité_Pilotage_FIP PP 27102021)
- Lettre circulaire of 28 Dec. 2021 from Ministry to industry setting out sanitary requirements and sanctions (circulaire_frais_pelag_1078-21)
- Report on sampling in factories, May-Dec. 2021 (Rapport Echantillonnage et suivi des usines de farine Mai_decembre_2021)
- Funding application to MSC (Ocean Stewardship Fund OSF) and MAVA for funding support for data collection, observers and ecosystem modelling / management (OSF MAVA Grant – application IMROP_English_Version_Amélioré) **[Please do not distribute]**
- Submission from IFFO/SFP Global Marine Ingredients Roundtable on PAP-PP (Contribution de la Table Ronde Mondiale au plan d'aménagement du FIP_14 Mars 2022)
- Note from FIP coordinator to PAP-PP team on MSC and management plan requirements (element cle de PAP pour MSC)
- Booklet on the Shared Sardinella project from FAO (shared sardinella info)
- Proposal document from PartnerAfrica for social audits for Global Roundtable in support of FIP (29.03 Roundtable on Marine Ingredients – proposal – updated)
- Letter from FIP coordinators to FIP participants asking for their support for the social audits (lettre participants FIP sur audit social – CB)
- Invitation to FIP annual meeting, 21 October 2021 (Invitation Reunion FIP petits pelagics Nouadhibou_jeudi 21 octobre 2021)
- Agenda for FIP meeting, March 2022 (Agenda_FIP_Mars_2022_Modifié)
- Agenda for small pelagic symposium, May 2022 (AGENDA_symposium_pp_Final2)
- Summary presentation on observer deployments 2021 and 2022 (to date) (Resultats de l'observation scientifique 2021-2022)
- Letter from Ministry to NOAA (Kent Laborde), 18 March 2022 (L KENT LABORDE..bus.)

FIP newsletters:

- Oct-Nov 2021 (Bulletin_Information_FIP_Pélagique_Mauritanie_Oct_Nov 2021)
- Dec. 2021-Jan. 2022 (Bulletin_FIP_Pelagique_December2021_Janvier2022)
- March-April 2022 (Bulletin_FIP_Pelagique_Mars_Avril_2022)
- May-June 2022 (Bulletin_FIP_Pelagique_mai_juin_2022)
- July-September 2022 (Bulletin FIP juillet_september 2022)

Invoices to FIP from IMROP for activities under 'miniproject': **[Please do not distribute]**

- logbook data analysis (Etat03_Rapports)
- field sampling team Jan-June 2022 (Etat_indemnisation équipe technique de suivi de terrain)
- paper logbook entry (Etat_equipe_journal de pêche)
- FIP meeting organisation March 2022 (frais organisation atelier)