

## MarinTrust Improver Programme: 6-month update

In this document the applicant should outline progress made towards the actions listed in the Fishery Action Plan (FAP) as part of the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP). This should be aligned with the MarinTrust Assessment criteria where possible. The progress actions should be updated in the following tables, and the relevant evidence linked to. It is important that evidence documents are publicly available. This will be checked by MarinTrust and then verified by the peer reviewers during the annual peer review process based on evidence submitted by the applicant.

**For the 6-month report, it is not required to provide an update on all actions. The FIP is required to provide updates on actions where demonstrable progress has been made since the last reporting (the last 6 months).**

FIP name	Mauritania small pelagics FIP
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### Template guidelines

To help ensure the review process can be carried out effectively and efficiently:

- Include specific citations to the evidence that substantiates it. This should include the exact page numbers and paragraph references where the evidence can be found.
- Where possible, include a hyperlink to any evidence referenced.
- Ensure that the supporting evidence documents are easily accessible and well-organised. They should be available in a format that allows for easy navigation, such as a table of contents, bookmarks, or an index.
- Use clear and concise language when referring to evidence to make it easy for readers to grasp why a particular piece of evidence supports a specific progress claim.

Note: MarinTrust will host all evidence documents on the MarinTrust FIP profiles. If there are any confidential and or draft documents that the applicant does not want made public, this should be made clear in the report.

## IP 6-month update

### Evidence list:

1. Draft report of PAP-PP review (Diop 2024)
2. Presentation to FIP meeting (January 2025) on factory sampling
3. Presentation to FIP meeting (January 2025) on landings
4. Attendance sheet, training workshop in Nouadhibou, March 2025
5. Review of approaches to limit reference points in MarinTrust approved whole fish fisheries
6. Report on data from observers in 2024
7. FIP social workplan 2025-2028

### M – Management Framework and Surveillance, Control and Enforcement

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
M1.5.2	Action 2 (support for management plan (PAP-PP) implementation)	The PAP-PP has now been reviewed (after the first two years of implementation) by Dr Mika Diop (December 2024). A draft review report is available (evidence 1), but as far as we know, the review has not yet been finalised and signed off by the Ministry.	1 – review report (draft) Diop 2024	Ongoing – back on target?	Once the review is finalised, the intention is to incorporate recommendations into the FIP action plan where relevant. A FIP meeting is tentatively planned for July, where this can be discussed with the Steering Committee.
M2.3.2 M2.3.3	Action 1 (data collection), Action 5 (factory compliance)	Data collection has been one of our main activities from the start, and continues (see evidence 2	2 – presentation to FIP meeting (January 2025) on factory sampling	Action 1 ongoing on target, Action 5 remains behind target	

		<p>and 3). In 2024, we managed 8.49 samples per 1000 t of landings (FAO minimum is 1) – a big improvement on previous years.</p> <p>Olvea hosted a training day for the factories in March 2025, covering MarinTrust factory standard version 3 and traceability, as well as human rights (evidence 4).</p>	<p>3 – presentation to FIP meeting on landings</p> <p>4 – attendance sheet for training workshop, March 2025</p>		
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**A – Category A: Data Collection, Stock Assessment, Harvest Strategy and Stock Status**

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
<b>A3.1</b>	Action 1 (data collection), Action 2 (PAP-PP), Action 7 (stock assessments)	<p>As noted in the previous annual update, there are three elements to meeting this clause: data collection, stock assessment / reference points and implementation of the PAP-PP. The status of data collection and the PAP-PP are summarised above.</p> <p>Some training in SS3 (statistical stock assessment methodology) was provided by FAO in 2024, but was not entirely satisfactory (not adapted to the data available for this fishery). The application to the Ocean Partnership Fund (collaboration IMROP / Bangor University) was submitted on March 24; if successful this includes ongoing stock</p>	5 – review of LRP approaches in MarinTrust approved fisheries	Ongoing with a lot of different elements, mainly on target	

		<p>assessment training from Bangor Department of Ocean Sciences. If not, the FIP will consider funding this anyway.</p> <p>As noted in the previous report, the reference points used by CECAF for these stocks do not include limit reference points which are suitable to be applied as intended by the MarinTrust standard version 3. We have conducted a review of the approach to LRPs in all the MarinTrust approved whole fish fisheries (evidence 5), to evaluate different possible approaches to LRPs for these types of stocks. This will be used as the basis for defining additional reference points.</p> <p>Just to repeat here the comment made in the previous annual report to MarinTrust: <i>It would be useful to have a discussion with MarinTrust about the extent to which the regulations across other jurisdictions need to be integrated with the regulations in Mauritania, in order for each stock to meet clause A3.1 in the standard, given the relative level of catch of each species in Mauritania vs other jurisdictions.</i></p>			
<p><b>A3.2</b> <b>A3.3</b></p>	<p>Action 7 (stock assessments)</p>	<p>We are working on how to define suitable limit reference points (see above)</p>	<p>5 – review of LRP approaches in MarinTrust approved fisheries</p>	<p>On target</p>	
<p><b>A4.1</b></p>	<p>Basically all of the actions</p>	<p>The same stock assessment information applies as given in the last annual update (see below for info). The next stock assessment meeting is in May 2025.</p> <p>Sardine stock C: <math>B_{2023}/B_{0.1}</math> estimated at 0.71 and <math>F/F_{0.1}</math> at 0.98 - Gap</p>			

	<p><i>Sardinella aurita</i>: <math>B_{2023}/B_{msy}</math> estimated at 0.21 and <math>F/F_{msy}</math> at 1.03 (JABBA) or 0.14 and 1.57 (SPiCT) – Gap</p> <p><i>S. maderensis</i>: <math>B_{2023}/B_{msy}</math> estimated at 0.32 and <math>F/F_{msy}</math> at 3.73 (JABBA) or 0.41 and 2.26 (SPiCT) – Gap</p> <p>Mackerel: <math>B_{2023}/B_{0.1}</math> estimated at 1.05 and <math>F/F_{0.1}</math> at 0.93 (Biodyn) or 1.09 and 0.89 (XSA) - Pass</p> <p><i>Trachurus trachurus</i>: <math>B_{2023}/B_{0.1}</math> estimated at 1.47 and <math>F/F_{0.1}</math> at 0.97 - Pass</p> <p><i>T. trecae</i>: <math>B_{2023}/B_{0.1}</math> estimated at 1.17 and <math>F/F_{0.1}</math> at 0.46 - Pass</p>			
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### B – Category B Stock Status

No actions

### C – Category C Stock Status

No actions

### D – Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3

No actions

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

MT clause	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
E1.1.2 E1.1.3	Action 1 (data collection), Action 6 (bycatch and discards)	Observer deployments continued in 2024 under the MSC grant (evidence 6). We now have a fairly good idea of the species composition of retained catch and discards, as well as size-frequency data on the target species. No interactions with ETP species were observed.	6 – report on data from observers in 2024	Ongoing – on target	For the pirogues, we plan to introduce an app (SIREN) developed in Cameroon, for reporting of interactions with ETP species directly by the fishers themselves. Cargill has kindly



					agreed to provide funding for this work.
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### Additional Information

The following section is for any information provided by the fishery in support of this 6-month update which does not relate directly to any of the information above, but which is relevant to the ongoing monitoring of fishery management status.

We have completed the work under the SFF grant to create a social workplan (in fact, we have three!) (combined final plan provided as evidence 7). Moustapha Taleb has agreed to join the FIP as the social coordinator, in charge of implementation of this workplan. He started work in March 2025.