



MarinTrust Improver Programme

FIP 6-month report template

Document TEM-039 - Version 1.0

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Reviewed by: Impacts Manager

Approved by: Assurance and Risk Manager

Overview

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 reviewer 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	Small Pelagic Purse Seine Fishery, Karnataka State 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.
- If evidence documents have been submitted during previous reports, this should be clearly identified.
- Each activity being reported on should be clearly linked to the relevant MarinTrust clause and FAP.

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

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	Action ref.	Action in plan	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
M1.1	Provide the original action reference and details as outlined in the action plan (FAP).		Provide an update on this action since the last report.	Provide a link to any evidence and/or summarise relevant points for actions or updates.	What is the current status of this action, select from drop down (i.e. complete, ongoing, not started or delayed)	Provide any additional information here.
M1.2						
Add rows to each table as necessary						

M – Management framework and surveillance, control and enforcement

MT clause	Action ref.	Action details	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
M2	M2(1)	Conduct gap analysis of existing enforcement tools (VMS, AIS, patrols, etc.)	The action to conduct a gap analysis of existing enforcement tools (VMS, AIS, patrols, etc.) has been successfully completed in collaboration with Department of Fisheries, Government of Karnataka. The comprehensive Gap Analysis Report on Enforcement Tools in	Annexure-M1: Gap Analysis report Annexure-M2: Request letter sent to DOF Annexure-M3: Response from DOF Annexure-M4: Details of fine/Penalties imposed to Fishing Vessels for IUU fishing	Complete	The completion of the gap analysis has reinforced that Karnataka's fisheries enforcement framework is fully functional and aligned with international best practices for combating IUU fishing. The collaborative mechanism between the Task Force and Coastal Police,

			Karnataka State Fisheries concluded that there are no significant gaps in the current enforcement system. The assessment covered vessel monitoring systems, at-sea and shore patrols, penal actions, stakeholder engagement, and regulatory frameworks. Key progress and outcomes include: Full coverage of vessel tracking: All fishing vessels are now equipped with transponders, ensuring continuous monitoring of fishing activities and enabling real-time detection of violations. Strong enforcement structure: The Task Force and Coastal Police have established effective coordination for both at-sea and landing center inspections, leading to improved surveillance and timely penal actions.	Annexure-M5 : Officer order issued on the Formation of Task force team Annexure-6: News Published in Local Media Regarding Penalization of Fishing Boats for Illegal Fishing Activity		supported by advanced vessel monitoring systems, has ensured effective oversight with no enforcement gaps identified. Continuous stakeholder training and strong compliance culture provide confidence in the long-term sustainability of this enforcement system. The documentation provided (Annexures 1–6) demonstrates both regulatory commitment and operational implementation, validating the effectiveness of the enforcement regime.
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			Effective deterrence mechanism: Uniform and transparent penalization of violators has significantly strengthened compliance with IUU fishing regulations. Capacity building and awareness: Fishermen have received regular training on legal requirements, use of monitoring tools, and sustainable fishing practices, ensuring active participation and compliance. Operational improvements already in place: Regularized patrols, effective monitoring, and stakeholder engagement mechanisms have closed all potential enforcement loopholes. Conclusion:			
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			The enforcement framework in Karnataka has been confirmed as comprehensive, robust, and transparent, with no gaps identified. This action has strengthened regulatory compliance, enhanced operational efficiency, and set a strong model of best practice for IUU fishing prevention in India.			
M2	M2(2)	Implement priority enforcement improvements based on gap analysis.	Since the gap analysis confirmed that no major gaps exist in the current enforcement framework, no new priority improvements were required. Instead, the Department of Fisheries (DoF) has reinforced existing measures by strengthening routine patrols, continuing vessel tracking oversight, and maintaining strong coordination between the Task Force and Coastal Police.	Annexure-M1: Gap Analysis report Annexure-M2: Request letter sent to DOF Annexure-M3: Response from DOF	Complete	Although no enforcement weaknesses were identified, proactive reinforcement of existing tools demonstrates the DoF's commitment to continuous improvement and vigilance against emerging risks.

M2	M2(3)	Expand voluntary vessel tracking system coverage.	The enforcement framework already mandates 100% coverage of fishing vessels with transponders, ensuring real-time tracking of fleet activity. As a result, voluntary expansion was not required. Continuous monitoring and training of fishermen on transponder use have secured full compliance.	Annexure-M7: List of registered vessels with transponders installed with work report on training provided to fishermen and department officials on working principles	Complete	Karnataka is already ahead of voluntary adoption, having achieved full fleet coverage. This sets a strong model for other states in India to follow.
M2	M2(4)	Develop and publish Sanctions and Enforcement Summary Report.	The enforcement authorities have documented multiple penal actions taken against violators of IUU regulations. A sanctions and enforcement record has been compiled by the DoF, highlighting uniform application of penalties and deterrence measures. This record has been formally communicated through enforcement channels and can serve as the Sanctions and Enforcement Summary Report.	Annexure-M4: Details of fine/Penalties imposed to Fishing Vessels for IUU fishing Annexure-M6: News Published in Local Media Regarding Penalization of Fishing Boats for Illegal Fishing Activity Enforcement penalty records	Complete	The documentation of sanctions demonstrates transparency and fairness in enforcement actions. Sharing these outcomes reinforces trust among stakeholders and provides measurable evidence of compliance.

M2	M2(5)	Strengthen DoF capacity through targeted compliance training. Topics: monitoring techniques, reporting violations, sanctions application.	The DoF, supported by the Task Force and Coastal Police, has conducted regular compliance training programs for officers and fishermen. Topics covered include monitoring techniques, violation reporting, sanctions enforcement, and use of vessel tracking systems. These training initiatives have enhanced enforcement effectiveness and stakeholder cooperation.	Annexure-M7: List of registered vessels with transponders installed with work report on training provided to fishermen and department officials on working principles	Complete	Capacity-building has improved field-level operational strength and stakeholder confidence. Regular training ensures that enforcement standards remain consistent and adaptive to evolving needs.
M2	M2(6)	Establish voluntary fisher compliance program	A Voluntary Compliance Agreement has been developed (confidential document) and introduced to the fishing community as part of the Department of Fisheries' enforcement strengthening measures. Training and awareness programs on the agreement were conducted during the ETP awareness sessions by department officials. The agreement has been	Annexure-M8: Copy of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement (confidential – for internal review only) Annexure-M9: Request letter sent to Purse seine association, Purse Seine association response along with Voluntary compliance declarations submitted by vessel owners. Annexure-E3: Registrations of ETP awareness program	Complete	The successful completion of the voluntary compliance mechanism reflects strong collaboration between the Department of Fisheries, FIP, and Fishermen Associations. By securing and filing declarations through the Association, the process has achieved full coverage of vessels, ensuring compliance is in place at the grassroots level. This milestone

			circulated to all fishing vessel owners through the Purse seine Associations. The Purse Seine Association has submitted signed voluntary compliance declarations for a few vessels, and the remaining declarations have been consolidated and filed directly by the Association. This demonstrates active follow-up and participation by the Association in implementing the Voluntary Compliance Agreement.			demonstrates the fishing community's commitment to responsible practices and sets a strong foundation for sustained compliance, transparency, and trust between stakeholders and regulators.

A – Category A: Data collection, stock assessment, harvest strategy and stock status

MT clause	Action ref.	Action details	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
					Choose an item.	
					Choose an item.	
					Choose an item.	

B – Category B Species

MT clause	Action ref.	Action details	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
B1	B1(1)	Establish landing monitoring system for target species.	Enumerators recruited nationally through ICAR exams and interviews; trained at ICAR–CMFRI on taxonomy, sampling, gear operations, and digital reporting. The Stratified Random Sampling (SRS) method standardized as national protocol. Data collection piloted in Karnataka, then expanded to all major and minor landing centres. Since 2017, fully digitized using GPS-enabled tablets with real-time online data transfer to CMFRI HQ, Kochi. Currently generates official district, state, and national marine fish production statistics.	Annexure-B1: Comprehensive summary report of CMFRI (Sections 1.1–1.3) Annexure-B2: CMFRI Report Sept 2025 (Section on SRS methodology, operational rollout)	Complete	The system is institutionalized and now forms the official national fishery landing monitoring mechanism. Quarterly and annual statistics are consolidated.
B1	B1(2)	Conduct biological sampling of key target species.	Systematic sampling carried out at Mangalore and Malpe between Jan–Aug 2025 from purse seines, ring seines, and trawlers. Biological	Annexure-B1: Comprehensive summary report of CMFRI (Section 2.1–2.4)	Ongoing	Provides critical input for stock assessment and fishery management. Annual consolidated outputs are pending but

			parameters recorded: length, weight, sex ratio, maturity stages. Datasets compiled for Indian oil sardine, mackerel, scads, bullet/little tuna, and other Sardinella spp. Findings confirm spawning dynamics (e.g., Sardinella longiceps mean length 146 mm; 47.3% matured, 45.2% spent; R. kanagurta 65% spent stage). Seasonal and gear-based species composition documented. Database completed; annual summary reports under preparation.	Annexure-B2: CMFRI Report Sept 2025 (Tables 1–3; composition data)		datasets are already usable for scientific analysis.
					Choose an item.	

C – Category C Species

MT clause	Action ref.	Action details	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
					Choose an item.	
					Choose an item.	
					Choose an item.	

D – Category D Species

MT clause	Action ref.	Action details	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
					Choose an item.	
					Choose an item.	
					Choose an item.	

E – Ecosystem requirements

MT clause	Action ref.	Action details	Action update / progress made	Evidence	Status of action	Additional comments
E1	E1(1)	Develop and implement Fishing Activity Recording System to record ETP interactions.	As part of the ETP Awareness Program, ETP Release Log Sheets and Training Registers were introduced and distributed to vessel owners and captains. These tools are designed to document ETP interactions, including species details, location, and handling outcomes. Vessel captains have been trained on how to record and submit these logs, ensuring systematic documentation of ETP encounters.	Annexure-E1: Work report on ETP awareness program Annexure-E2: Invitations for ETP awareness program Annexure-E3: Registrations of ETP awareness program Annexure-E4: Training Materials for ETP awareness program Annexure-E5: ETP species Poster Annexure-E6: ETP species release log sheet along with Voluntary compliance	Ongoing System developed, distributed, and training completed; recording implementation underway at vessel level (Only 3 interaction is reported till date)	The recording system empowers crews to document interactions, promotes transparency, and builds accountability in line with Wildlife Protection Act requirements. Adoption across fleets is expected to create a reliable dataset for long-term monitoring.

				declaration and train the trainer registration Annexure-E7: News article published on ETP awareness program Annexure-E8: ETP species interaction report Annexure-E9 Work report on ETP Poster release		
	E1(2)	Conduct ETP identification and safe handling training for vessel crews	Training sessions on ETP identification and safe handling were conducted during workshops in July–August 2025 across Kumta, Bhatkal, Byndur, and Udupi. Scientific experts from ICAR–CMFRI and DoF provided step-by-step guidance on SOPs for handling, documenting, and safely releasing ETP species. A total of 744 participants (vessel owners, captains, and crew leaders) were trained.	Annexure-E1: Work report on ETP awareness program Annexure-E2: Invitations for ETP awareness program Annexure-E3: Registrations of ETP awareness program Annexure-E4: Training Materials for ETP awareness program Annexure-E5: ETP species Poster Annexure-E6: ETP species release log sheet along	Complete	The large-scale training has enhanced fisher capacity, ensuring they are well-informed on ETP laws and safe handling practices. The “train-the-trainer” model for captains will further cascade this knowledge to onboard crew.

				with Voluntary compliance declaration and train the trainer registration Annexure-E7: News article published on ETP awareness program Annexure-E9 Work report on ETP Poster release		
	E1(3)	Install ETP awareness posters and hotline numbers at landing centers.	A bilingual ETP Species Identification Poster (Kannada & English) was developed and formally released during the July 2025 Regional Workshop. Posters were distributed to fisheries associations, DoF, and installed on fishing vessels and landing centers. Visual identification aids of protected species such as whale sharks, sawfish, manta rays, dolphins, and sea turtles are included. Posters also highlight relevant legal provisions and contact details for reporting.	Annexure-E1: Work report on ETP awareness program Annexure-E9: Work report on ETP Poster release	Complete	The posters provide a practical and accessible reference for fishers, supporting quick species identification and reinforcing compliance. Display at landing centers and onboard vessels ensures wide visibility and operational-level awareness.

E2	E2(1)	Compile and review seafloor data for Karnataka purse seine fishing grounds.	CMFRI operational data (2025) compiled for purse seine depths (14–38 m). Bathymetric mapping reviewed, showing Karnataka shelf depth ranges from ~30 m nearshore to >200 m offshore. Seafloor habitat notes (rocky patches, untrawlable zones) considered. Vertical-overlap assessment confirms no contact between purse-seine nets and seabed.	Annexure-E2-1: Technical Report on Seafloor Review (2025); Annexure-B2: CMFRI Report Sept 2025 (operational depth tables, habitat notes)	Complete	Evidence robust. Purse-seine operations are pelagic; risk of benthic contact negligible. Caveat for very shallow shoals (<15 m) noted, but fishers avoid such sets.
E3	E3(1)	Review ecosystem interactions and trophic structure.	Biological sampling of small pelagic species (oil sardine, mackerel, scads, tuna) completed Jan–Aug 2025. Data recorded on length, sex ratio, maturity, and spawning status. Gear-based and seasonal species composition analyzed. Confirms purse seines target pelagic shoaling species central to the mid-trophic ecosystem.	Annexure-B2: CMFRI Report Sept 2025 (Tables 1–3; species composition, maturity stages)	Ongoing	Database ready for stock assessment and trophic analysis. Annual synthesis reports pending. Supports ecosystem-based management by linking pelagic fisheries to trophic roles.

Additional information

The following section is for any information provided by the FIP 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 management status.

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Index for evidence documents

MT clause	Action in plan	Evidence document	Link
M2(1)	Conduct gap analysis of existing enforcement tools (VMS, AIS, patrols, etc.)	Annexure-M1: Gap Analysis report Annexure-M2: Request letter sent to DOF Annexure-M3: Response from DOF Annexure-M4: Details of fine/Penalties imposed to Fishing Vessels for IUU fishing Annexure-M5 : Officer order issued on the Formation of Task force team Annexure-6: News Published in Local Media Regarding Penalization of Fishing Boats for Illegal Fishing Activity	
M2(2)	Implement priority enforcement improvements based on gap analysis.	Annexure-M1: Gap Analysis report Annexure-M2: Request letter sent to DOF Annexure-M3: Response from DOF	
M2(3)	Expand voluntary vessel tracking system coverage.	Annexure-M7: List of registered vessels with transponders installed with work report on training provided to fishermen and department officials on working principles	
M2(4)	Develop and publish Sanctions and	Annexure-M4: Details of fine/Penalties imposed to Fishing Vessels for IUU fishing	

	Enforcement Summary Report.	Annexure-M6: News Published in Local Media Regarding Penalization of Fishing Boats for Illegal Fishing Activity Enforcement penalty records	
M2(5)	Strengthen DoF capacity through targeted compliance training. Topics: monitoring techniques, reporting violations, sanctions application.	Annexure-M7: List of registered vessels with transponders installed with work report on training provided to fishermen and department officials on working principles	
M2(6)	Establish voluntary fisher compliance program	Annexure-M8: Copy of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement (confidential – for internal review only) Annexure-M9: Request letter sent to Purse seine association, Purse Seine association response along with Voluntary compliance declarations submitted by vessel owners. Annexure-E3: Registrations of ETP awareness program	
B1(1)	Establish landing monitoring system for target species.	Annexure-B1: Comprehensive summary report of CMFRI (Sections 1.1–1.3) Annexure-B2: CMFRI Report Sept 2025 (Section on SRS methodology, operational rollout)	
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		Annexure-E8: ETP species interaction report Annexure-E9 Work report on ETP Poster release	
E1(2)	Conduct ETP identification and safe handling training for vessel crews	Annexure-E1: Work report on ETP awareness program Annexure-E2: Invitations for ETP awareness program Annexure-E3: Registrations of ETP awareness program Annexure-E4: Training Materials for ETP awareness program Annexure-E5: ETP species Poster Annexure-E6: ETP species release log sheet along with Voluntary compliance declaration and train the trainer registration Annexure-E7: News article published on ETP awareness program Annexure-E9 Work report on ETP Poster release	
E1(3)	Install ETP awareness posters and hotline numbers at landing centers.	Annexure-E1: Work report on ETP awareness program Annexure-E9: Work report on ETP Poster release	
E2(1)	Compile and review seafloor data for Karnataka purse seine fishing grounds.	Annexure-E2-1: Technical Report on Seafloor Review (2025); Annexure-B2: CMFRI Report Sept 2025 (operational depth tables, habitat notes)	
E3(1)	Review ecosystem interactions and trophic structure.	Annexure-B2: CMFRI Report Sept 2025 (Tables 1–3; species composition, maturity stages)	

AMENDMENT LOG

DATE	ISSUE	AMENDMENT	AUTHORISED BY