

## 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 then be verified by the peer reviewers based on evidence submitted by the applicant.

**This report should include an update on all actions outlined in the Fishery Action Plan, even if no demonstrable progress has been made since the last report.**

FIP name	Indian oil sardine (Goa and Maharashtra) 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.

Action as per plan	Action number	Actions taken	Date	Evidence (see searate Zipfile - SixMonthEvidence2025)
1. In month 1, seek updates from Goa and Maharashtra fisheries agencies to ascertain progress on plan development. Focus on how they will take the advice from CMFRI and create a Fishery Management Plan - how they plan on consulting stakeholders and how they plan to put the plan into law/regulation/policy commitment.	A2.2, A3.2, A3.3, A4.1	Met with Joint Commissioner of Fisheries (Marine) for Maharashtra State (name) Met with Commissioner for Fisheries for Goa to discuss their intended actions following the provision of scientific advice for management by CFRI (currently proposed for delivery by October	week of 23 June 2025	<b>Annex 1.1 to 1.7</b>
2. In Month 4, meet with Goa and Maharashtra fisheries agencies to discuss how the plans will incorporate key requirements such as reference points and harvest control rules.	A2.2, A3.2, A3.3, A4.1			<b>Annex 1.8 &amp; 1.9</b>
1. Discuss with CMFRI their proposed timetable for INdian mackerel stock assessments and seek a commitment to a minimum 3 year cycle	B1			<b>Annex 2.1 to 2.6</b>
2. Seek discussions with CMFRI about their level of knowledge (volumes, species, areas) about the lesser sardines	B1	Informal discussion held on 23 June with two researchers (NAMES) from CMFRI	23-Jun-25	<b>Annex 2.1 to 2.6</b>
3. Have a discussion with CMFRI about the possibility of doing stock assessments of groups of species together. This may require a workshop	B1	Informal discussion held on 23 June with two researchers (NAMES) from CMFRI	23-Jun-25	<b>Annex 2.1 to 2.6</b>
4. If CMFRI agrees then seek their commitment to aggregate yield assessments (NOTE - this will also require some agreement from Marin Trust).	B1	Email sent to Marin Trust on Friday 27/6/25	27-Jun-25	<b>Annex 6</b>
5. Incorporate both an agreed stock assessment cycle and appropriate reference points into the management plans.	B1			<b>Annex 1.8 &amp; 1.9</b>
1. Discuss with a research provider the placement of researchers on vessels for the 2025 catch season to document catch composition (fish and ETP species). Pending discussion we may have to revise timeframe.	Da	Meeting held with Ratnagiri College of Fisheries during week of 23 June 2025 Also discussed some of the associated issues with previous College of Fisheries researcher Dr Shirdhanker	25-Jun-25	<b>Annex 3.1 to 3.4</b>
2. Commission agreed study and seek assurances with researchers have the right species identification training.	Da			<b>Annex 3.4</b>
1. In Month 1 write a letter to India's Department of Fisheries to seek an update on their plans for the establishment of a new national fisheries law and the adoption/update of the previously drafted 2020 National Fisheries Policy.	M1.5.3			<b>Annex 8.1</b>

Action as per plan	Action number	Actions taken	Date	Evidence (see searate Zipfile - SixMonthEvidence2025)
2. By Month 3 seek information from the States of Goa and Maharashtra on the way that the decision making process on fisheries in each State takes place.	M1.5.3	Met with Joint Commissioner of Fisheries (Marine) for Maharashtra State (name) Met with Commissioner for Fisheries for Goa to discuss how fisheries initiatives are progressed in their states	week of 23 June 2025	<b>Annex 1.8 &amp; 1.9</b>
1. In Month 1 write to Maharashtra Department of Fisheries seeking further details on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance with a specific focus on the small pelagic purse seine fishery, including seeking information on how they analyse the data collected and make use of it in refining MCS.	M2.1.3			<b>Annex 1.1 to 1.7 &amp; Annex 7.1,7.2</b>
2. By Month 4, have prepared a study brief that sets out what information is required to better describe the 'appropriate to the intensity, geography, management control measures and compliance behaviour of the fishery'. This brief will also set out what actions will be taken to source the information and the proposed timetable in greater detail.	M2.1.3	Meetings held with state agencies, Fisheries Survey of India and the National Institute of Oceanography to discuss potential sources of data for documenting the location of fishing activities. The pathway forward is not yet clear as there is some diversity of opinions as to who collects data from AIS/VMS/VTs systems and what information may be publicly available.	week of 23 June 2025	<b>Annex 4.1 to 4.5</b>
1. In Month 1 write to Maharashtra Department of Fisheries seeking further details on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance with a specific focus on the small pelagic purse seine fishery, including seeking information on how they analyse the data collected and make use of it in refining MCS.	2.3.1			<b>Annex 1.1 to 1.7 &amp; Annex 7.1,7.2</b>

Action as per plan	Action number	Actions taken	Date	Evidence (see searate Zipfile - SixMonthEvidence2025)
1. In Month 4 the team to identify which departments/researchers have previously studied the distribution of critical habitats and determine what mapping may be publicly available in a form that enables an analysis of the potential risk from purses seining to be undertaken	E2.1.2	Meeting held with National Institute of Oceanography on 27 June 2025 with Dr De (coral researcher). The coral maps on Global Fish Watch are adequate for our needs. He said that there are no seagrass maps but seagrasses do not occur outside the estuaries and not subject to the types of purse seining we are working with Meeting held with Global Fish Watch on 3 June 2025 and follow up emails exchanged on coral/seagrass maps and fishing location mapping	27-Jun-25	<b>Annex 4.6 and Annex 5.9</b>
2. In Month 4 the same investigation as described above for critical habitats also be undertaken for water depths in areas open for purse seining for small pelagics.	E2.1.2	Meetings held with state agencies, Fisheries Survey of India and the National Institute of Oceanography to discuss potential sources of data for documenting the location of fishing activities. The pathway forward is not yet clear as there is some diversity of opinions as to who collects data from AIS/VMS/VT systems and what information may be publicly available.	week of 23 June 2025	<b>Annex 4.7, 4.8, Annex 4.1, 4.6</b>
1. During the design of the study proposed for Da a questionnaire designed to seek information from fishermen is developed which will seek operational information on their purse seining, including deployment depths.	E2.2.1	Meetings held with fisher stakeholder groups in Ratnagiri and Goa to discuss a range of issues associated with the FIP including the need to gather data on fishing locations	week of 23 June 2025	<b>Annex 5.1 to 5.8</b>

IOS FAP Progress update – 11 February 2026

This update is provided to recalibrate the start date of the FIP and align this date with the regular review cycle. The assumed start date is December 2024 and the reporting cycle is now April and December of each year. This update responds to an Annual peer review dated August, 2025. The PR comments are in the table below. A formal update will be provided in April 2026.

References to work already undertaken and reported refer to file name **FIPextendSixMonthreportFinal** as submitted and reviewed.

MT clause	Action ref.	Action in plan	PR comment	PR status of action	FIP comments	February 2026 update
	M2.1.3	1. By Month 4, have prepared a study brief that sets out what information is required to better describe the 'appropriate to the intensity, geography, management control measures and compliance behaviour of the fishery'. This brief will also set out what actions will be taken to source the information and the proposed timetable in greater detail.	<p>On point 2, no evidence of the required 'study brief' has been provided to this Reviewer meaning that, notwithstanding commentary regarding some lack of clarity on how to proceed, the fishery is behind target on this element of the action plan.</p> <p>Note also that commentary on <a href="#">FAP</a> requires that the clarification of the MCS arrangements be brought forward (I believe to MT/IPAC).</p>	Delayed	<p>Note that questions relating to the intensity, geography, management control measures and compliance behaviour of the fishery are new and a feature of Version 3. The FAP that worked to this was not approved until April 2025. There are a number of elements to this which are covered in other actions such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intensity – this has been interpreted to mean the number of vessels and days fished.</li> <li>Geography – interpreted to be about where fishing takes place. Preliminary work undertaken in E2.2.1 Action 1.</li> </ul>	<p>Most of the work needed is already underway and a study brief is superfluous.</p> <p>Updating of licence numbers is underway</p> <p>Seeking information on days at sea underway</p> <p>A follow up meeting with fishers is being arranged. Dates as yet not agreed. May have to wait for mid year closed season as availability is weather dependent</p>

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management Controls – already known and satisfied fishery assessment.</li> <li>• Compliance behaviour – updates are regularly sought and discussions with enforcement staff will be focused on refining their data for the fishery under consideration. Action on this reported against M2.1.3 Action 1</li> </ul>	<p>Recent additions include MLS. We can prepare another list and submit in April</p> <p>In addition to action reported in the FIPextendSix MonthreportFinal we have prepared a questionnaire for MCS staff based on FAO Guidance - <a href="https://doi.org/10.4060/cd0245en">https://doi.org/10.4060/cd0245en</a> and also Marin Trust Guidance (Attachment 1)</p>
M2.3.2	M2.3.2	<p>Start Date: Early-2026</p> <p>There is an identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the FAP.</p>	<p>Actions have not yet been proposed for the identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the FAP.</p>	Not started	<p>Preliminary work has been undertaken on this. See Actions as reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings held with fishers in June 2025 E2.2.1 Action 1</li> <li>• Meetings held with agency staff on consultation arrangements (focused on proposed Fishery Management Plans)- M1.5.3 Action 2</li> </ul>	<p>Report preparation awaiting further information from fisher meetings</p> <p>A follow up meeting with fishers is being arranged.</p>

	Da	1. Commission agreed study and seek assurances with researchers have the right species identification training.	While the evidence provided in relation to Point 2 does show an academic institute being willing, in principle, to undertake or collaborate on the project, it is essentially caveated on funding being available.  There is therefore no evidence that the research has actually been commissioned such that the status of this action is considered delayed.	Delayed		We have been unable to get the required information from Dr Pawar and have moved to Plan B which is to seek catch composition from landing site monitoring from the CMFRI. Discussions have been held (Dec 2025) and costs are being negotiated. The agreement should be available once the responsible officer returns from sick leave (possibly next week (16 <sup>th</sup> Feb). a copy of this will be forwarded ASAP.
Db	Db	Start Date: Early-2026 There is an identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the current FAP.	Actions have not yet been proposed for the identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the FAP.	Not started	As set out in the FAP, action on Db depends on information received in regards to Da.	
E1.1.2	E1.1.2	Start Date: H2 2025 when 2025/26 fishing season starts There is an identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the current FAP.	Actions have not yet been proposed for the identified gap but have not yet started and so are not reviewed.	Not started	A draft proposal was received in December 2025 and required modification.	See attached  Proposal will now cover the 26/27 fishing season. Approval for the FIP extension was not available in time to develop and fund a

						proposal for the 25/26 season. A copy of the Agreement is at attachment 2
E1.3.2	E1.3.2	Start Date: Mid-2027 There is an identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the current FAP.	Actions have not yet been proposed for the identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the FAP.	Not started	This is the action that was proposed in the approved FAP:  <b>Seek information from the fisheries agencies on the reward scheme they run for getting fishermen to release ETP species. Need to get numbers per year, by fishery (especially purse seining) and by species (turtles, dolphins)</b>	The start date is as in the FAP – mid 2027.
		1. In Month 4 the same investigation as described above for critical habitats also be undertaken for water depths in areas open for purse seining for small pelagics.	On point 2, it is not clear what the 6-month action is, although the Year 1 actions are clearer. While evidence has been provided of meetings with relevant state agencies, it is stated that there is uncertainty as to next steps and there is no evidence that the fishery has completed the required investigation to identify which departments/researchers have previously studied the distribution of water depths in areas open for purse seining for small pelagics.	Delayed	There are two components as per the fishery assessment report <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where do critical habitats occur?</li> <li>2. Does fishing interact with the critical habitats.</li> </ol> <p>With regards to (1) we have had the meeting with the NIO (as reported) and have been investigating who else has spatial information. We have had discussions with Global Fishing Watch on this as well as contacting scientists that we hear about. Discussions with Global Fish Watch suggest that AIS data may not be all that useful.</p> <p>With regards to the location of fishing activities please see next column on right</p>	A meeting with fishers is being arranged. Dates as yet not agreed.
E3.2	E3.2	Start Date: Early-2027	Actions have not yet been proposed for the	Not started	This is not a critical area and much of what has been highlighted by the fishery assessment	

		There is an identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the current FAP.	identified gap which has not yet been addressed within the FAP.		requires information that will be sought in other Actions. Once the way ahead becomes clear we will set forward a proposed action (or more)	
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### Appendix 1 Marin Trust guidance on M2.1.3

Provide evidence of the level and type of MCS activity. MCS activity can consist of at sea, at port or other remote monitoring mechanisms. MCS should be used to assess compliance behaviour and establish future management measures needed based on historical compliance behaviour and risk, including:

- Inspection of landed catches, catch composition and catch documentation from fishers and catches purchased by buyers.
- At sea observation through boarding vessels
- At sea observation through compliance checks of catches versus landed catches for vessels under review
- At sea information provided by scientific observers
- Fisher whistle blowing on suspected illegal fishing
- Electronic/remote monitoring mechanisms – VMS/AIS/satellite observation
- At sea reporting by fishers
- Targets for % coverage of the various MCS activities