

South Vietnam mixed species - trawl Fishery Improvement Project (FIP)

Revised Fisheries Action Plan (FAP) 2025 -2035

Table 1: Workplan Overview

Workplan Version and Date	June 1, 2025
Start date (expected)	End date (anticipated month/year)
01/07/2021	December 31, 2035
FIP Lead (organization/individual responsible for Action Plan)	Improvements recommended by (meeting/group that supported the development)
Ba Ria Vung Tau Fish Meal and Fish Oil Association	1. Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department 2. Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) 3. International Collaborating Centre for Aquaculture and Fisheries Sustainability – ICAFIS - Vietnam Fisheries Society (VINAFIS) 4. Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board 5. Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association
FIP Coordinator (organization/individual responsible for reporting on FisheryProgress)	Plan developed by (consultant or person)
Dinh Xuan Lap - Project Coordinator	1) Dinh Xuan Lap - Project Coordinator and technical support 2) Dr Pham Quoc Huy - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF)

Note: Text in red is a revision of Phase I Vung Tau FIP

Acronyms

BRVT	Ba Ria - Vung Tau
HCM	Ho Chi Minh City
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
DARD	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (provincial level)
Sub-DOF	Sub Department of Fisheries (provincial level)
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ETP	Endangered, Threatened or Protected species
ToR	Terms of References
CPUE	Catch per unit effort
VMEs	Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems
MT	Marine Trust
UoA	Unit of Assessment
DFISH	Department of Fisheries

Unit of Assessment(s)

Table 2. Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)

UoA 1	Description
Common species (common and scientific name)	Multispecies, demersal resources <i>Common species:</i> Greater lizardfish (<i>Saurida tumbil</i>); 1. Blunt-nose lizardfish (<i>Trachinocephalus myops</i>); 2. Sulphur goatfish (<i>Upeneus sulphureus</i>); 3. Bigeye scad (<i>Selar crumenophthalmus</i>); and 5. Yellowtail scad (<i>Atule mate</i>) As a multi-species fishery, the common species obviously will change by season and by time. Global warming and climate change have also changed things faster and unpredictably. The five species listed in FIP are applicable at the time of FIP application and will be updated once the trawl fishery data analysis is completed (data of continuous 12 months).
Stock	Demersal resources
Geographical area	South Area of Vietnam and waters from the coastal boundary (inshore) to the outer boundary (offshore) of Vietnam's exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Includes the five provinces: Binh Thuan - Lam Dong, Vung Tau - Ho Chi Minh city, Ben Tre - Vinh Long, Ca Mau, Kien Giang – An Giang. Fishing area is FAO 71
Fishing method or gear type	Otter trawl, Pair trawl

Fishing fleet or group of vessels, or individuals fishing operators pursuing stock	Trawl vessels operating in the fishing grounds of the South Area of Vietnam.
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Section 1 – Management/governance framework

1. Gap description:

M1 - Legislation, policy and plans: M1.7, M1.8 and M1.9

- On April 11, 2024, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Phung Duc Tien, signed Decision 1037/QD-BNN-TS on the announcement and adjustment of quota allocation for offshore fishing licenses for provinces and centrally-administered cities.
- Accordingly, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development announced and adjusted the quota allocation for offshore fishing licenses for provinces and centrally-administered cities with a total of 29,552 licenses; of which 27,132 licenses are for fishing vessels and 2,420 licenses are for fishing support vessels.
- Accordingly, i) Licenses are granted to vessels based on the quotas already allocated to each province; ii) fishing vessels operating from 6 nautical miles outward within Vietnam's EEZ are a common activity for all provinces. iii) Fishing vessels operating in offshore areas must dock at designated ports (Decision No. 1725/QD-BNN-TCTS (2022): List of designated fishing ports with sufficient systems for verifying the origin of seafood from fishing vessels) and control IUU at port.
- In the new context, localities do not need to develop individual fisheries management plans but rather follow the national plan on quotas. Strengthening IUU management measures and traceability is crucial.
- For the South Vietnam mixed species - trawl FIP, the plan will be developed and implemented based on national laws and plans, strengthening co-management of fisheries, enhancing port control measures through

linkages with ports where trawlers from the southern region unload their catch, and promoting good practices according to the Code of Conduct issued by the FIP, and promoting policy advocacy to ensure the plan achieves its set goals.

M2 - Institutions and stakeholders engagement: M2.5

- Fisheries co-management is the oldest form of governance arrangement for coordination management between the government organisation and key stakeholders. This kind of arrangement has been piloted for about 20 years with financial and technical support from government, international and national NGOs. The implementation of fisheries co-management so far is not really effective. There are not any committees in place to facilitate coordination across stakeholders and jurisdictions. Experts of Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and World Fisheries Center (World Fish) states that an incomplete legal framework, the funding for the programs is not from the fishing grounds that the fishing community operates, limited awareness and capacity of fishermen and officials of authorities (from central to local level) on fishery co-management, not having enough qualified personnel to do the job are reasons of the failure.
- Based on the results of fisheries co-management models implemented in the FSPS "Fisheries Sector Programme Support" program, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has issued two documents: i) Decision No. 67/QĐ-TCTS-KTĐVNĐ dated June 7, 2010, on the promulgation of guidelines for fisheries co-management in Vietnam; ii) Fisheries Law 2017 - Article 10 on fisheries co-management.
- Lessons learned in implementing fisheries co-management in Ben Tre clam fishery and FIP Tuna are good lessons for FIP Vung Tau to research and apply in a flexible and effective way, although they are not multispecies/ multigear fisheries.
- The Vung Tau FIP Phase 1 was implemented from February 2022 to December 2024. However, many coordination measures and mechanisms in management have not been implemented. Therefore, fishing vessels that do not landing fish in Vung Tau or vessels from other provinces landing in Vung Tau lack an effective management mechanism. Therefore, during the period 2025-2035, the revised FIP will implement and expand measures to enhance coordination in management.

- Stakeholders include fishers from five provinces who fish in the main fishing grounds for trawling in Southern Vietnam, which are concentrated primarily in the Southeast and Southwest regions (Gulf of Thailand), especially the Ca Mau - Kien Giang fishing grounds. Coastal and offshore areas from Ninh Thuan to Ca Mau are also areas where this type of fishing is most active.
(<https://ctujsvn.ctu.edu.vn/index.php/ctujsvn/article/view/3092>). According to Vietnam's Fisheries Law (2017), the sea area from 6 nautical miles outward to Vietnam's EEZ is a common fishing zone for fishing vessels from various provinces.
- Detailed information on fishing grounds:
 - Southeast region: Includes fishing grounds around Con Dao Island and Ba Ria - Vung Tau, which have high fish stocks.
 - Southwest region (Kien Giang - Ca Mau sea): Considered a key fishing ground, with catch yields exceeding sustainable levels.
- The management of trawl fishing will become more effective when strengthening multi-stakeholder and inter-provincial coordination in management, including measures such as: i) monitoring activities at sea through a VMS system; ii) monitoring at ports through the fishing port system in the provinces via a shared information system; iii) managing the system through the supply chain of fishmeal mills; iv) effective participation of fishing vessels in the FIP.

M3 - Monitoring, control and surveillance: M3.3 and M3.4

- Vietnamese fishery officially received a "yellow card" from the European Commission (EC) on October 23, 2017, for IUU (illegal, unreported, and unregulated) fishing. This warning has been in effect due to issues related to fishing management, traceability, and fishing violations.
- Although the Fisheries Department has issued legal documents since 2009 to promote the implementation of IUU practices, their enforcement has been ineffective, Surveillance activities have not been implemented much and need to be coordinated more effectively in the future with the trawling sector. One of the limitations in implementing IUU regulations is: i) low awareness among fishermen; ii) ineffective monitoring of fishing

activities at sea; iii) limited and insufficient surveillance activities; iv) the need to apply new and effective technologies for monitoring from fishing vessels to ports and to management agencies.

- During the 2021-2024 period, FIP Vung Tau implemented monitoring, control activities; however, this process was not truly effective due to a lack of cooperation among the ports. From 2025 to 2035, closer coordination among all parties will be implemented in co-management. In addition, monitoring, supervision, and information gathering by FIP members through their raw material supply chains will be strengthened. Simultaneously, awareness-raising measures will be implemented to ensure more regular and comprehensive compliance and information provision from fishing vessels;
- In 2020, the authorities of BRVT detected 102 violating fishing vessels, in which there are 28 cases of illegal fishing (fishing without a license, fishing in the wrong area, not equipped with tracking devices, not recording, not reporting)
- Only 40% of trawl fishing vessels (598 out of 1476 vessels) in BRVT are reported to hand-over their fishing logbooks to nominated authorities from the beginning of 2021 to June 2021.
- Inspectors of the European Commission, through inspections of Vietnam's yellow card lifting process, concluded in their report that the coordination between the departments, ministries, branches and People's Committees of 28 coastal provinces and cities is not tight enough in exchanging information, detecting, preventing, investigating and promptly handling violations. The annual Sub-DOF of BRVT report said that they have a lack of resources to fully control the fisheries and effectively enforce applicable law and regulations.

2. Actions

Action 1.1. Expand the FIP to 5 provinces (NEW ACTION)

Action Number and Name	1.1 Expand the FIP to 5 provinces
Action Goal	Expand and strengthen coordinated measures in the management of trawling in the south waters of Vietnam
Action Description	Activities focus on expanding the members of fishmeal industries in the Southern region to be included in the expanded FIP. This will involve establishing a coordination and information sharing mechanism within the South Vietnam mixed species - trawl FIP, including the five provinces with trawling vessels operating in the south waters of Vietnam (including the fisheries sub-fishery department and fishing ports where trawling vessels land fish). Tasks need to be done to complete this action are: 1.1.1 Promote the involvement of additional fishmeal and fish oil processing plants in the 5 provinces to participate in the FIP (2026-2027) 1.1.2 Develop a coordination mechanism and promote the signing of agreements between the FIP and the provinces implementing the FIP (HCM - 2025, other provinces 2026 and 2027).
Expected Completion Date	31/12/2027

Priority	High
Estimated Cost	10.000 USD
Responsible Parties	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishry Department in South Vietnam - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	M2 – Institutions and stakeholder engagement

Action 1.2: A management plan for the trawl fishery

Action Number and Name	1.2 A management plan for the trawl fishery
Action Goal	Develop a Fisheries Management Plan for south water of Vietnam that aligns with the national plan and strengthens effective management measures through a co-management mechanism for fisheries.
Action Description	The co-management approach in developing the FMP (for trawl fisheries) is expected to bring all relevant stakeholders together and to make the decision process more participatory. The data analysis (results of Actions 2.1-2.6) will help in the development of fishery-specific objectives, as a part of the FMP. The end goal of the South Vietnam mixed species – trawl FIP is a trawl Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Such a FMP shall be developed under

	co-management approach by a fishery co-management team. The co-management team consists of experts from lead-agencies and key stakeholders. Tasks need to be done to complete this action are: 1.2.1 Review about fishery management in general and management of trawl fisheries; (<i>Activities completed in the period 2022-2024</i>) 1.2.2. Meeting with related stakeholder in fishery management for consultation (<i>Activities completed for the Vung Tau Ba Ria in the period 2022-2024</i>) 1.2.3 FIP Vung Tau trawl FMP outline is developed and adopted by stakeholders in fishery co-magement: (i) Form a trawl fishery co-management team; (ii) Develop an outline of a FMP; (iii) Develop a workplan on developing a FMP that links with all of the other actions. (<i>Activities completed for Vung Tau Ba Ria in the period 2022-2024</i>) 1.2.4 Form a trawl fishery co-management team for the south Vietnam 1.2.5 Develop and agree on an outline FMP for the South waters of Vietnam 1.2.6 Develop a workplan for the co-management team to guide the development of the FMP
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	1.2.7 Conduct workshops with co-management team on the FMP. 1.2.8 Conduct workshops with stakeholders on the FMP development and agreement 1.2.9 Get agreement of the FMP by all relevant stakeholders 1.2.10 Get formal endorsement of the FMP by the authorities in Southern Vietnam.
Expected Completion Date	31/12/2035
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	30.000 USD
Responsible Parties (List of participants)	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishry Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	M1- Legislation, policy and plans

Action 1.3: Strengthening the effective implementation of IUU (Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated) fishing. (NEW ACTION)

Action Number and Name	1.3 Strengthening the effective implementation of IUU (Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated) fishing.
Action Goal	Implementing combined measures to strengthen the enforcement of IUU regulations and move towards eliminating IUU violations by fishing vessels.
Action Description	Data from the Vung Tau FIP report for the period 2022-2024 and reports from the Vietnamese fisheries sector show that there are still fishing vessels violating IUU regulations, and capacity building for fishermen in these practices faces many difficulties due to i) low awareness among fishermen; and ii) difficulties in transitioning to other occupations. Tasks to be implemented include a combination of measures: 1.3.1 Provide public posters on fisheries rules and regulations 1.3.2 Hold regular coordinating focus group meetings with local authorities and businesses in the area to facilitate occupational transition for fishermen. 1.3.3 Hold regular coordinating focus group meetings with local authorities to strengthen management measures at ports. 1.3.4 Hold regular coordinating focus group meetings with relevant parties to enhance maritime surveillance, especially surveillance activities.

	1.3.5 Implement traceability measures throughout the supply chain through members of the FIP. 1.3.6 Apply technology and smart devices in managing and preventing IUU violations.
Expected Completion Date	31/12/2035
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	100.000 USD
Responsible Parties (List of participants)	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishery Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	M3 – Monitoring, control and surveillance

Action 1.4: A mechanism for fisheries information sharing with DARD, Sub-DOF and fishing ports in the south

Action Number and Name	1.4: Mechanism for fisheries information sharing with DARD, Sub-DOF and fishing ports in South Vietnam
Action Goal	Build and establish a mechanism for sharing fisheries information in implementing FIP

Action Description	Coordination between authorities, relevant fishery institutes, NGOs and business are inadequate. The co-management approach in developing the FMP (for trawl fisheries) is expected to bring all relevant stakeholders together and to make the decision process more participatory. The data analysis will help in the development of fishery-specific objectives, as a part of the FMP. Tasks include building an information sharing mechanism between management agencies, fishing port management boards, FIP participating enterprises and the fisheries sector in implementing practices on fishing vessel management. 1.4.1 Map existing fisheries information owners and sources of data among stakeholders and assess the current mechanisms for sharing data and information (<i>Activities completed for Vung Tau Ba Ria in the period 2022-2024</i>) 1.4.1.2 Workshop for researchers to have an overview about collecting multispecies fishery data and sharing among stakeholders 1.4.2. Develop agreements/MOU between FIP Vung Tau and key stakeholders about trawl fishery data sharing/collecting mechanism (Combine with 1.1.2) 1.4.4 Meetings to develop shared agreement for data sharing 1.4.5 Develop and share agreements/MOUs about data sharing. 1.4.6 Promote updating and sharing of information through the fishery portals (eCDT and VNfishbase).
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Expected Completion Date	31/12/2030
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	20.000 USD
Responsible Parties (List of participants)	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishry Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	M2 – Institutions and stakeholder engagement

Section 2 – Fishery risk ratings: Catch, ETPs, habitats and ecosystem

1. Gap description:

Section 2a: Catch

Part A – Total aggregate catch:

- There are no reference points that have been set up yet.
- Data is not recorded at species level. Only 40% of trawl fishing vessels have implemented recording in fishery logbooks.
- Only biomass data at species level is reported.

- Data of total landings from fisheries, CPUE, species composition and catch composition are not available at species level.
- Regulations regarding fishing seasons in Vietnam are primarily stipulated in the Fisheries Law 2017 and Decree 26/2019/ND-CP (amended by Decree 37/2024/ND-CP).
- Regulations on prohibited fishing zones in Vietnam are primarily stipulated in the Fisheries Law 2017, detailed in Decree 26/2019/ND-CP (amended by Decree 37/2024/ND-CP), and specifically listed in Circular 19/2018/TT-BNNPTNT (amended and supplemented by Circular 01/2022/TT-BNNPTNT).
- The fishery has not yet set specific management objectives that link national legal regulations with the fisheries sector's goals in implementing the MarinTrust standard.

Part B – High-risk species/species groups:

- A thorough and comprehensive study about high-risk species groups has not been conducted yet.
- Productivity Susceptibility Analysis (PSA) not yet carried out.
- Lack of catch information on individual species.
- The status of high-risk species is unknown.
- No management measures have been developed.
- Management performance is not evaluated.

Part C – Reduction component

- According to research data from the SRCMF and Can Tho University: Species composition in trawling catches in the southern waters of Vietnam is showing a serious decline, particularly the decrease in economically valuable species and the increase in the proportion of trash fish. The main cause stems from excessive fishing intensity, especially the use of bottom trawling even in coastal areas.

- Changes in resource structure: Research in the waters of Kien Giang shows a significant decrease in the proportion of economically valuable marine species, while the group of unwanted fish and crabs is increasing.
- Reduction in the number of species: Species composition in bottom trawl catches has decreased over the survey periods (for example, the group of barramundi decreased from 26 species to 23 species in the survey periods of 2000-2013).
- Catching juvenile and immature fish: Trawl fishing is non-selective, resulting in a very high proportion of juvenile and immature seafood (84.6% squid, 73.4% fish), directly impacting the recovery capacity of species.

Section 2b – Endangered, threatened and protected species groups:

- A comprehensive study about the interaction/effects of the trawl fishery with/on ETP in South waters is not conducted yet.
- The Mangroves for the Future report (2015) concluded that Marine Protected Area managers in Vietnam are not empowered to enforce laws and do not have adequate funding and staff with backgrounds in marine biology.

Section 2c – Habitats:

- A comprehensive study about the nature, distribution and vulnerability of the commonly encountered habitats in South waters is not conducted yet.
- There are no scientific studies to evaluate interaction.
- No evidence to prove that a habitat management system exists.

Section 2d – Ecosystems:

- There is no information to identify the key ecosystem elements in South waters, hence main impacts of the trawl fishery on these key ecosystem elements cannot be inferred.
- There is no evidence of **ecosystem level** management measures in place.

2. Actions

Action 2.1. Trawl fishery data collection

Action Number and Name	2.1 Collection of trawl fisheries data
Action Goal	Improve the quality of data collected for the trawl fishery.
Action Description	The Report on Fisheries Information will be conducted annually in the following ways: i) by SRCMF at the request of FIP Vung Tau; ii) Data shared from the Fisheries Department and the Department of Agriculture and Environment; iii) Data collected and monitored through FIP members in the resource monitoring program. The catch composition and fish measuring will help to understand about the status of target species (indicator species group) and if high-value fish juveniles are caught. This knowledge is used as inputs to develop a realistic FMP. In addition, the ETPs data shared with the FIP by IUCN Vietnam and WWF Vietnam will be helpful to understand, assess and mitigate/improve the negative impact of trawling on ETPs, as part of the final Fishery Management Plan. Tasks: 2.1.1. Develop a trawl fishery sampling plan - Trawl fishery data collection 2.1.2. Collect data from: (i) Data collection at the fishing vessel each year for both the Southwest monsoon and Northeast monsoon;

	(ii) Data collection at the fishing ports; (iii) Data collection at the fishmeal factories (the budget for this task is paid for by the fishmeal factory itself and data is shared with FIPVT). 2.1.3 Analyse samples taken at the fishing vessels and at the landing ports to include: (i) catch composition; (ii) fish size composition; (iii) CPUE; 2.1.4 Analyse fishmeal factor data for (i) species composition that enter fishmeal production (ii) fish size composition
Expected Completion Date	31/12/2035
Priority (Based on the implementers criteria: e.g., lowest scoring issues are high priority or actions that are necessary to complete before beginning other actions are high priority)	High
Estimated Cost (An estimate of the budget needed to complete the action)	30,000 USD
Responsible Parties (List of participants)	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishry Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association

	- Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	Part A - Total aggregate catch

Action 2.2 Multi-species stock assessment for BRVT and South Water of Vietnam

Action Number and Name	2.2 Conduct multi-species stock assessment for South Water of Vietnam (aggregate stocks as well as for indicator species that cover the more vulnerable stocks)
Action Goal	Be able to set target reference points and strategies for harvest and stock rebuilding.
Action Description	Once the stocks are known, target reference points can be set up, the stock rebuilding strategy will be suggested, and so are the harvest strategy and harvest rules. These activities are closely related and therefore should be included in a component. Steps are as following: 2.2.1. Develop interim guidance for ‘Multi-species stock assessment’ <i>(Completed in 2022)</i> 2.2.2. Training on Stock Assessment for multi species <i>(One meeting held in 2022 but requires further training)</i> 2.2.3. Conduct stock assessment for trawl fisheries (for multi-species group and indicators speices) and produce a report by 2027 or 2028.

Expected Completion Date	2033
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	60.000 USD
Responsible Parties	- Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Dinh Xuan Lap – ICAFIS, Vietnam Fishry Society
Gaps addressed by the Action	Part A - Total aggregate catch Part B – Indicator species

Action 2.3 Status and management of the reduction component of the catch

Action Number and Name	2.3. Status and management of the reduction component of the catch
Action Goal	Assess the status of trawl fishing management (the reduction component of the catch) and propose appropriate management measures.
Action Description	Analyze collected data and draw conclusions about the status of the different categories of the reduction component of the catch for: aggregate by-product fish; aggregate trash fish catch and; stock assessments /risk assessments for indicator species, Develop a monitoring program for tracking the species composition of the reduction catch, at annual intervals; Provide effective management tools/measures 2.3.1 Analyse collected data by SRCMF and draw conclusions about the status of the different categories of the reduction component of the catch for: aggregate by-product fish; aggregate trash fish catch and; stock assessments /risk assessments for indicator species

	2.3.2 Develop a monitoring program for tracking the species composition of the reduction catch, at annual intervals 2.3.3 Implement measures to improve the status of the reduction component. For example: net mouths, net bags, and lead weights. (This set of solutions was researched and proposed by SRCMF, Nha Trang University, Can Tho University, or Kien Giang University and is being tested by provinces participating in FIP.) 2.3.4 Implement fishing management policy measures (Implemented by the provincial fisheries management agency) 2.3.5 Strictly enforce existing fishing management measures: i) prohibit inshore fishing; ii) adhere to fishing seasons. (Implemented by the provincial fisheries management agency) 2.3.6. Strengthen monitoring measures using VMS (Vehicle Monitoring System). (Implemented by the provincial fisheries management agency and D-FISH)
Expected Completion Date	July 2035
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	100.000 USD
Responsible Parties	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishry Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau

	- Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	Part C – Reduction component

Action 2.4 Status and management of ETPs

Action Number and Name	2.4 Status and management of ETPs
Action Goal	Assess/research the current state of management and monitoring of ETPs, and then implement appropriate monitoring and management measures.
Action Description	Information on ETP species. There is a need for gathering information from available and ongoing studies by environmental organizations (e.g: WWF, IUCN) and institutions and landing data so that a full assessment of the impact of trawling on the ETP species in BRVT and South Water can be completed. Management and monitoring measures for ETPs have been implemented (including related legal frameworks) to propose management and monitoring measures suitable for Trawl Fisheries. 2.4.1 Develop a list of ETPs for the BRVT based on IUCN, CITES, national lists etc (Completed in 2023) 2.4.2 Analyse data collected by SRCMF - (i) observer data, (ii) interviews with fishers, (iii) landing site inspections and (iv) fish meal inspections 2.4.3 Conduct risk-based assessments of the impact of trawling on ETPS – direct impact and indirect (lost gear) 2.4.4. Update Logbook on ETP and Pilot in Trawl Vessel and pilot with some trawl fleets that participate in FIP

	2.4.3. Conduct landing site inspections of trawl vessels and check for ETP species landings and on sea Observer (Updated data on ETP species, tracking and monitoring data on ETP species have been recorded.) – Contract with SRCMF 2.4.4. Raise awareness for fishing vessel/fishermen on on ETP species. 2.4.5. Share analysis results with the trawl fishery co-management team for feedback, Prepare results for input into stakeholder consultations and input to the FMP
Expected Completion Date	2035 (Research activities are conducted by SRCMF every five years; monitoring and supervision activities are carried out annually)
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	60.000 USD
Responsible Parties	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishery Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	Section 2b - Endangered, threatened and protected species groups

Action 2.5 Status and management of critical habitats

Action Number and Name	2.5 Status and management of critical habitats
Action Goal	Assess the status and management of critical habitats and propose appropriate management measures for FIP Vung Tau
Action Description	Review existing studies on habitats in Vietnamese fisheries, focusing on trawls and related management practices, and implement appropriate management measures to mitigate the impact of trawls on habitats. 2.5.1 Scientific desk review about the nature, distribution and vulnerability of the commonly encountered critical habitats in BRVT, including baselines of past distribution and habitat quality (<i>Completed in 2024</i>) 2.5.2 Risk-based assessment of the impact of trawling on critical habitats including direct impact of trawling and indirect impact of garbage and lost gear (i) Develop information collecting system for at-sea garbage disposal and gear loss/retrieval, and associated ghost fishing; (ii) Introduce to related stakeholder (iii) Collect data; (iv) Analyse data; (v) Present results to stakeholders 2.5.3 Assist in implementing policy measures to delineate fishing zones (prohibited fishing zones - coral reefs, seagrass beds, spawning grounds; restricted fishing zones; establish protected areas for aquatic resources - MPAs).

	2.5.4. Assist in eliminating prohibited fishing methods that harm habitats and the ecosystem (trawling). 2.5.5. Raising community awareness about at-sea garbage disposal and gear loss/retrieval, and associated ghost fishing. 2.5.6. Assist in Implementing solutions for at-sea garbage disposal and gear loss/retrieval, and associated ghost fishing.
Expected Completion Date	2035
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	70.000 USD
Responsible Parties	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishery Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	Section 2c – Habitats

Action 2.6 Status and management of ecosystem structure and function

Action Number and Name	2.6 Status and management of ecosystem structure and function
Action Goal	Assess the status and management of of ecosystem structure and function and propose appropriate management measures for FIP Vung Tau
Action Description	Review existing studies on habitats in Vietnamese fisheries, focusing on trawls and related management practices, and implement appropriate management measures to mitigate the impact of trawls on ecosystem. 2.6.1 Scientific desk review on the changes in ecosystem structure (species composition) based on historic trawl surveys – <i>(Completed in 2024)</i> 2.6.2 Review and describe any existing ecosystem models (e.g. Ecopath with Ecosim) that could be used to model the ecosystem dynamics of the south marine ecosystem 2.6.3 Assist in establishing MPAs: Establishing marine protected areas and areas for protecting aquatic resources. (Integrate it into local programs and the Fisheries Department's programs.) 2.6.4 Assist in restricting and Planning Fishing: Restricting near-shore fishing activities and expanding offshore fishing to reduce pressure on coastal ecosystems. Planning fishing grounds, zoning functional areas, and maintaining a system of buoys to anchor vessels in designated areas. 2.6.5 Assist in implementing strict management measures regarding quotas for the number of vessels, fishing areas, and fishing seasons. 2.6.6 Assist in implementing measures to provide alternative livelihoods for fishermen on vessels prohibited from fishing.
Expected Completion Date	2035

Priority	High
Estimated Cost	50.000 USD
Responsible Parties	- Vietnam Fisheries and Surveillance Department - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Department and Fishery Department in South Vietnam - Southern Research Center for Marine Fisheries (SRCMF) - Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association - Ho Chi Minh Fishing Port Management Board - Fishing ports in the South - Fishmeal and fish oil businesses participate in FIP Vung Tau. - Dinh Xuan Lap
Gaps addressed by the Action	Section 2d – Ecosystem

Action 2.7 Manage the project of implementation of Fishery Improvement work plan (Project Management)

Action Number and Name	2.12 Project Management
Action Goal	Ensure that all actions covered by this action plan are executed and achieve its goals within the agreed timeframe and budget.
Action Description	- Develop ToRs & contracts - Organize workshops, conferences, meetings, training - Administration and payments - Coordinator and technical support

	- Staff support for M&E - Logistic Office expenses (printing, filing, delivery, telephone, travel, accomodation)
Expected Completion Date	2035
Priority	High
Estimated Cost	235,000 USD
Responsible Parties	- Ho Chi Minh Fisheries Association/ Fishmeal and Fish Oil Association
Gaps addressed by the Action	All identified gaps.