



By-Product assessment report

BP038

Sovapec

Report code	BP038	Date of issue	March 2026
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1. Application details		
Applicant		Sovapec
Applicant country		Morocco
2. Certification Body details		
Name of Certification Body (CB)		NSF (Global Trust Certification Ltd)
Contact information for CB		Fisheries@nsf.org
Assessor name		Matthew Jew
CB internal peer reviewer name		Léa Lebechnech
Internal peer review evaluation		Agree with evaluation
Number of Assessment days		0.5
Comments on the assessment		This byproduct assessment covers six species sourced under one flag state, Morocco, with all six species/stocks being categorized as medium risk, therefore Step 3 is not required. The species/stocks are approved source with caution.
3. Approval validity		Valid from 03/2026Valid until 03/2027
4. Assessment cycle		Re-Approval

5. By-product assessment outcomes

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Areas	MarinTrust approval status
Atlantic chub mackerel (<i>Scomber colias</i>)	Morocco	FAO 34	Approved source with caution
European anchovy (<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>)	Morocco	FAO 34	Approved source with caution
European pilchard (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)	Morocco	FAO 34	Approved source with caution
Flat sardinella (<i>Sardinella maderensis</i>)	Morocco	FAO 34	Approved source with caution
Horse mackerel (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>)	Morocco	FAO 34	Approved source with caution
Round sardinella (<i>Sardinella aurita</i>)	Morocco	FAO 34	Approved source with caution

Guidance for on-site auditor

For the audit, the auditor will check how the facility manages by-products deemed medium risk. Any by-products downrated from high to medium risk will require additional due diligence checks.

It is important that facilities check all raw materials from and verify their suppliers especially if there is a perceived risk of sourcing from known or suspected IUU fishing activity. This requires checking supplier records or procedures in place to understand how the supplier can ensure there is no IUU in the raw material they provide. For raw materials risk rated medium, additional or more frequent checks may be required until the facility is certain that the raw materials are not from IUU fishing activity.

The audit requirements are covered in clause 2.11.3 of the MarinTrust Global Standard for Responsible Supply of Marine Ingredients (the MarinTrust Standard) and associated interpretation guidance.

Approved by-products

- No further checks are required beyond those included in the MarinTrust Standard.

Additional checks of Approved Source with Caution by-products

- Review supplier records or procedures in place.

Additional checks of by-products Approved Source with Caution via Step 3 assessment

- In addition to checks for medium risk Approved Source with Caution by-products, by-products that have had risk downgraded from high to medium at Step 3 (use **Appendix 1** to identify these by-product species), confirm that the relevant traceability information continues to be collected for this by-product. During the audit, a traceability check on any by-products downgraded from high to medium risk shall be included as part of the required traceability checks (Section 4).

Guidance for the applicant/certificate holder

The applicant/certificate holder is responsible for ensuring the relevant actions are taken to comply with the MarinTrust Standard.

The certificate holder is responsible for communicating any changes to the by-products sourced by submitting a scope extension request through the MarinTrust online Application Portal.

Appendix 1 – assessment outcomes

Step 2 Assessment Outcomes

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendices	Step 2 risk status	Step 3 required?
Atlantic chub mackerel (<i>Scomber colias</i>)	Morocco	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
European anchovy (<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>)	Morocco	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
European pilchard (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)	Morocco	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
Flat sardinella (<i>Sardinella maderensis</i>)	Morocco	Vulnerable	Not listed	Medium risk	No
Horse mackerel (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>)	Morocco	Vulnerable	Not listed	Medium risk	No
Round sardinella (<i>Sardinella aurita</i>)	Morocco	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No

Step 3 Assessment Outcomes

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Area	Stock name	Category C Assessment Outcome	Traceability information	Step 3 Risk Outcome
Comments on Step 3 Assessment: No species require step 3 in the By-Product Assessment Process						

Appendix 2 – detailed assessment outcomes

(step 2 and step 3 if applicable)

Step 2 outcomes

Flag state	Risk rating	Flag score	Port score	General score	Flag State is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs	'Carded' under EU Carding system	Flag state party to PSMA	Flag state mandatory vessel tracking for commercial seagoing fleet	WGI Governance rank
Morocco	Medium	2.29	1.78	2.17	1	1	1	1	49.06%

Step 3 outcomes

Category C assessment

Species name		N/A	
Fishing area and stock			
C1	Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements		
	C1.1	Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	N/A
	C1.2	The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	N/A
Clause outcome:			N/A
C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible. N/A C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible. N/A			
References			

Traceability information

Information provided for Step 3 Path 1 or Path 2

Species name		N/A		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☐ No ☐ <i>If yes for Path 2, complete the next section</i>			
Path 2 outcome <i>Countries may be different for Coastal State and Port State.</i>	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
				Choose an item.
				Choose an item.

Guidance for Applicants/Certificate holders on improved traceability

When by-product origin cannot be made more granular than major FAO Areas, or when the source fishery is taking place in the High Seas (i.e. outside of EEZs of all relevant nations), an assessor must evaluate the Coastal and Port scores for each nation that straddles that FAO Area. This may lead to higher risk outcomes for an applicant. To mitigate that risk, better practice involves securing KDEs from the source fishery of the by-products, thereby meeting Path 1 instead of Path 2.

What does better practices look like?

Comprehensive data collection and sharing: Collect detailed information using Key Data Elements (KDEs) including vessel identification and authorisation, species, catch areas, fishing method and dates. These are defined in the MarinTrust Standard clauses 2.11.2.2 and 3.2.5.

Supply chain transparency: Maintain detailed records at each step of the supply chain, from capture to final sale, to ensure traceability.

Interoperable systems and technologies to support the collection and transfer of this information.