

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>European pilchard (Sardina Pilchardus)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>FAO 34 (Atlantic Eastern Central)</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>July 2016</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Deirdre Hoare</b>

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: T.C Union		
Address:		
Country: Thailand	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: :	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Sam Dignan	Initial
1. Scope of Assessment		
1. Scope of Assessment		Initial assessment 2016
2. Fishery By-Product		
2. Fishery By-Product		European pilchard (Sardina Pilchardus)
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		FAO 34
4. Fishery Method		
4. Fishery Method		Pelagic gears
5. Outcome of Assessment		
5. Outcome of Assessment		Approve byproduct

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p>There is a fishery management framework at the Thai and African levels, although this only appears to be applied specifically to the sardine stock in the assessment area to a limited extent. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment, there are significant improvements which would reduce the level of uncertainty. The assessment team recommends the approval of this by-product material against the IFFO RS standard.</p>

**4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME**

**A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE**

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>The management of the fishery used to produce the By- Product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

***Determination: An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.***

**Thailand**

The Thailand Department of Fisheries (DOF) is the primary fisheries management organization in Thailand. The DOF is responsible for the implementation of Thai fishery legislation, the undertaking of fishery and aquaculture research, fishery control and enforcement, the management of international fishery affairs, and the engagement of fishery and aquaculture stakeholders. The current Thai fisheries management objectives are set out in The Master Plan- Marine Fisheries Management in Thailand. The Master Plan applies for the ten years beginning in 2009. The Plan includes five major strategies, the third of which is Development and Promotion of Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries.

Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015) is the major legal instrument under which this authority and fishery operates. This decree prohibits IUU, destructive fishing practices and fishing that causes irreversible impacts to the fishery stock and/or aquatic ecosystem.

**FAO Area 34**

The Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches, CSRP; that includes Mauritania and Senegal) is conducting efforts to assess and manage the transboundary small pelagic stocks shared within the countries of the region, jointly with Morocco; an advisory committee was created. A Moroccan management plan for the small pelagic fishery is in place and catch limits have been defined for the Moroccan fleet. Mauritania is currently developing a management plan for the same fishery. Catch limits are defined for European and non-European fleets operating within the Mauritanian EEZ. Several technical measures are in place for each country. Bycatch limits defined for each of the Moroccan and Mauritanian fisheries. Closed areas, considering artisanal and industrial fishing sectors, are defined in each of the countries.

**International waters.**

There is no evidence of any management regime with responsibility for managing European pilchard in international waters.

**Species specific management measures**

Technical management measures include minimum mesh sizes for nets (40mm for purse-seining in Mauritania) and trawls (70mm for Morocco, 50mm for Senegal and 40mm for Mauritania), minimum landings sizes (16cm in Mauritania, 15cm in Senegal) and weights (40 units/Kg), restrictions on non-target species, limited access to some areas and restriction or prohibition of certain fishing gears (Sidi et al., 2012). There are no species specific management measures in international waters.

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**B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.*

<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

***Determination: Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.***

No research or stock assessments on European pilchard are carried out by Thai research agencies.

The Moroccan National Fisheries Research Institute (Institut National de Recherche Halieutique, INRH) conducts regular research on the status of the exploited marine resources (Gascoigne, 2014a; INRH, 2015). Stock assessments and advised catch limits have been usually performed by a FAO Working Group but the INRH has also been publishing stock status reports in recent years (2014, 2015). Last summary FAO report used data until 2013 (FAO, 2014).

The most recent INRH stock assessment included data from 1995-2014 and used the Schaefer production model (like usually performed by the FAO Working Group with Excel) with abundance indices from acoustic surveys and total catches. Another model was tested with the R software, the ASPIC model (Stock Production Model Incorporating Covariates). The results have shown contradictory trends (INRH, 2015).

In 2014 only Moroccan acoustic surveys took place in the southern region; Moroccan, Mauritanian and Russian commercial fisheries were sampled (FAO, 2014).

A Joint Scientific Committee (Comité Scientifique Cojoint RIM-UE; CSC), created with the Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) between Mauritania-European Union (EU) raises the importance of the FAO Working Group to assess the stocks with new approaches and robust diagnostics, and also bringing international expertise to support the scientific work conducted in the area (CSC, 2014). No new report of the Joint Scientific Committee is available.

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**C. STOCK STATUS**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*C. The fish used to produce the fish By- Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.*

<b>LOW</b>	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	The fish By- Product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish By- Product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.

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**Determination: *Sardina pilchardus* is considered a species of least concern by the IUCN redlist**

This species is widespread and common in the Mediterranean Sea and Eastern Central Atlantic. It is a commercial species, showing fluctuations in landings, but there have been no serious population declines in recent years. The population is considered over-exploited in at least a third of its range (in Morocco), where it is heavily targeted and landed. Catches in Morocco should not exceed 400,000 tonnes per year, and global FAO catches are approximately 900,000 tonnes. Management measures are in place for this species and it is not considered threatened at present. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) landings figures show a general declining trend between 1995 and 2005, but not at a rate that meets the IUCN thresholds for being threatened. This, and the difficulties in estimating population trends based solely on landings figures, does not appear to support a listing under criterion A. It is therefore assessed as Least Concern.

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**5. REFERENCES**

**R1** - Photo *Sardina pilchardus* by Niels Daan

<http://www.marinespecies.org/photogallery.php?album=4487&pic=2313>

**R2**- Fish Source: European pilchard - NW Africa southern

<http://www.fishsource.com/fishery/summary?fishery=European+pilchard+-+NW+Africa+southern>

**R3**- FAO country fisheries overview, Thailand: [ftp://ftp.fao.org/Fi/DOCUMENT/fcp/en/FI\\_CP\\_TH.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/Fi/DOCUMENT/fcp/en/FI_CP_TH.pdf)

**R4** - Thailand Department of Fisheries master plan:

<http://www.fisheries.go.th/planning/files/Marine%20Master%20Plan.pdf>

**R5** - Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015)

<http://www.fisheries.go.th/law/images/datanew/royalfisheries.pdf>

**R6** - Sidi, M.O.T.O., Souleimane, A.K.O., Alassane, B.S. 2012. Etude comparative de la réglementation des pêches des petits pélagiques dans la zone de la Commission Sous régionale des Pêches et le Royaume du Maroc, Projet "Pêche durable des petits pélagiques en Afrique Nord Ouest ", Institut Mauritanien de Recherches Océanographiques et des Pêches, 30pp.

[http://spscrp.org/medias/csrp/projets/pelagics/RapNat/Mau/Etude\\_comparative\\_reglementation\\_peches\\_pets\\_pelagiques\\_zone\\_csrp\\_et\\_Royaume\\_du\\_Maroc.pdf](http://spscrp.org/medias/csrp/projets/pelagics/RapNat/Mau/Etude_comparative_reglementation_peches_pets_pelagiques_zone_csrp_et_Royaume_du_Maroc.pdf)

**R7** - IUCN Redlist : <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/198580/0>

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