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UPDATES FROM THE WATER

OCTOBER 2021

VIETNAM YELLOWFIN TUNA

Gear Type: Handline

Volume: 16,500 MT

FIP Stage: 5 (Improvements on the Water)

Progress Rating: B (Good Progress)

Start Date: April 2014

Yellowfin tuna is Vietnam's most valuable marine export making it a critical source of jobs and income with over 1800 vessels and 9000 fishers engaged in the fishery. The Vietnam yellowfin tuna handline FIP is focused on reducing bycatch, improving stock management, and increasing traceability through engagement with fishers, government officials, and the private sector.

In March 2021, the government of Vietnam officially endorsed the creation of a Tuna Public Private Partnership (Tuna PPP) and invited WWF to co-chair this important initiative. The Tuna PPP will provide a key platform for direct industry-to-government dialogue on several important tuna management measures, including the development of reference points and harvest strategy. Collectively, these will ensure that tuna catches do not exceed sustainable levels. The PPP will also be an important vehicle for implementing digital traceability and addressing related anti-IUU measures.

In the past six months, the FIP stakeholders piloted a Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability-compliant app (VINASTA) with Vietnam's tuna processing sector, that digitizes the Vietnam Yellowfin FIP trace code using standardized data formats and key data elements (KDEs). VINASTA has been tested in five processing facilities to date and has proven capable of collecting and transferring relevant KDEs to downstream supply chains. This represents an important milestone towards implementing full digital traceability of FIP eligible products for the Vietnam Yellowfin Tuna FIP. Relatedly, the FIP continues to expand the piloting of an electronic logbook (e-logbook) on the water, with 40 fishers engaged in training and 10 vessels testing the e-logbook at sea. Critically, the Directorate of Fisheries (D-FISH) has publicly voiced support in principle for e-logbook development under the FIP.

Priority activities expected to occur over the next several months include the Inception meeting and formal work planning of the Tuna PPP; further expansion of both the e-logbook and the GDST programs; and technical studies (e.g., risk assessment, compliance review) in cooperation with key government departments. In addition, the FIP stakeholders intend to review the FIP action plan with an external consultant to ensure all identified activities remain relevant and to reprioritize critical activities as the FIP nears its projected end date of January 2023.

Sign up to become a FIP Participant today by visiting:

<https://seafoodsustainability.org/fisheries/fishery-improvement-projects-signup>

Help conserve marine ecosystems, protect livelihoods, and increase the number of sustainable fisheries and the overall supply of sustainable seafood.

Being a WWF FIP Participant provides a pre-competitive space for companies to engage with fisheries in their supply chains and leverage power across multiple companies to drive fishery improvements forward. By signing on to support a FIP, you are joining forces with other leaders in the industry that seek to help conserve marine ecosystems and advance the livelihoods for millions of people who depend on them.

WWF recognizes FIP participants on the industry website, [SeafoodSustainability.org](https://seafoodsustainability.org). WWF also works with FIP participants to communicate the benefits of FIPs among key buyers, sustainable business leaders, employees, environmental activists, and other key constituencies.

Together we can protect oceans and the food and livelihoods they can sustainably provide.

For more information, please visit seafoodsustainability.org