

**MINUTES 14<sup>th</sup> MEETING**  
**IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**  
**OF THE**  
**MAHÉ PLATEAU TRAP AND LINE FISHERY CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Seychelles Trading Company (STC) Conference Room, Victoria, Mahé

Friday 27 May 2022

10:00 A.M.

**Introduction**

The 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Implementation Committee for the Co-Management Plan (ICCP) of the Mahé Plateau demersal trap and line fishery was held at the Seychelles Trading Company (STC) Conference Room, Victoria, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2022.

**Opening to the meeting**

Mr. Roy Clarisse, Principal Secretary (PS), Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy (MFBE) opened the meeting, welcomed the participants and asked for introductions from attendees.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

The meeting proceeded with the chairperson, Mr Roy Clarisse, PS, Department of Fisheries, MFBE. The agenda as presented in **Appendix 1** with other raised matters was approved. The list of documents circulated in advance of the meeting is in **Appendix 2**. Physical participants were required to adhere to the prevalent Covid-19 sanitary measures and distancing guidelines. Special arrangements had been made for take-away lunches only and no coffee breaks, as a result.

The meeting had an attendance of 12 ICCP members and five other stakeholder observers. Participants were at liberty to use whichever of the three national languages they preferred. The list of participants is presented in **Appendix 3**.

**Developments since the last meeting**

Ms Elisa Socrates, Assistant-Manager, Resource Management (SFA) informed the meeting of the developments since the last meeting of 4 March based on working paper ICCP14-WD-2.

*Fisheries Liaison Officer*

Since his recruitment in November 2021, Mr. Frank Volcere had been routinely visiting landing sites, markets and tourism establishments on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. To date he had visited 18 tourism establishments on Mahe, 10 on Praslin and seven (7) on La Digue. Mr. Volcere also held nine (9) meetings with fisher associations providing them with information on the Co-management Plan. The number of these meetings were constrained by the prevalent COVID19 situation. Generally, their attendance was poor, and fishers said that they had not heard about the communication before. These meetings are summarised in **Appendix 4**.

### *Communication*

In accordance with the recommendations at the last ICCP meeting, the SFA Fisheries Management Group had seen it crucial to continue awareness and publicity related to the Mahe Plateau trap and line fishery Co-management Plan and its fisheries measures. It has set up an SFA communication taskforce/group with members from different SFA Departments to ensure that by the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2022, public education and awareness of the Plan is at a satisfactory level to start full enforcement of the Plan's measures and penalties. The Task Force identified and reviewed some weaknesses of the previous communication strategy, proposed and vetted some new ideas and prepared its strategic Action Plan (see **Appendix 5**). Ms Estelle Barreau, Fisheries Analyst, SFA Resource Management presented the strategic Action Plan as well as possible measurement mechanisms (such as stickers, measuring boards and stencils) to assist fishers know whether their fish was undersize.

### *Legislation*

The first draft Act and Regulations had been received from the Consultant (Ms. Judith Swan) the week before the meeting. SFA and the MFBE would proceed to internally review the documents before proceeding with stakeholder consultation.

### *MCS*

The MCS department would be presenting an update on the MCS action plan later during the meeting under Agenda item 4.

### *Fisher Associations and CEPS*

The SWIOFish3 Project had budgeted funds for capacity building of associations and establishment of a federation of fisher associations. Included in this activity, financial and project management assistance was to be initiated through the Citizen Engagement Platform Society (CEPS).

Three meetings had taken place discussing the preparation of a programme for the creation of a federation of fisher associations, clarifications on the purpose of the federation, recognising that all registered fisher associations would be provided the opportunity to decide on whether they wished to be part of the federation.

A questionnaire on the status of fisher associations had been devised by the fisheries consultant assisting the Co-management plan, Mr. Aubrey Harris. Together with the Liaison Officer, Mr. Frank Volcere, and assisted by a representative from CEPS, they had been contacting fisher organisations to collect information to aid towards the fishers' empowerment. The matter would be covered in Agenda item 7.

### *Opening of fish markets*

The Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) had been coordinating with the Fisher Association, the MNA and the DA of Glacis to put in place facilities to improve the working conditions of the fishers. The new fish market which had started in December 2021 and was launched on 6 May, was a request from the Fishers Association through the MNA and will provide a more hygienic means for the 30 fishers that land and sell their catches in Glacis, in a more organised manner. The project is funded under the EU-Seychelles Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement.

### *The Socio-economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) of the trap and line fishery co-management plan*

The SEIA (Socio-economic Impact Assessment) of the trap and line fishery co-management plan is funded under the SWIOFish3 Project and after contracting an individual consultant, Mr. Greg Burke, the assignment commenced in February 2022. The specific objectives of the study are to:

- (i) Determine both direct and indirect impacts of the new measures under the management plan.
- (ii) Develop a sensitivity analysis featuring pessimistic, realistic, and optimistic scenarios that could serve as a basis to examine future changes in measures.
- (iii) Evaluate stakeholder perceptions that may affect compliance with the measures.
- (iv) Determine mitigation strategies to reduce the adverse effects of the measures.

The SFA had received two deliverables from Mr. Burke: the inception report which was accepted by the Steering Committee; and the technical report which may take longer before acceptance as the Steering Committee required more detailed information on the methodology and approach proposed.

#### *Other follow up by the Secretariat*

The Secretariat sent an email to all members seeking their willingness to be part of the Subcommittee on stock assessment, and later followed this up with individual phone contact.

Following a proposal by an association, the ICCP agreed that all ICCP member representatives of associations and NGOs be required to provide their registration papers, constitution, and member details. The Secretariat contacted the fisher associations and NGOs who are members of the ICCP. Not much response had been received, with only part of the requested documents submitted by some associations.

The Seychelles Fishers and Boat Owners Association (SFBOA) had been contacted and had provided the name of their nominated representative and alternate. The SFBOA representative attended the 14<sup>th</sup> ICCP meeting so that there were no outstanding concerns on its membership.

Several suggestions and comments were provided by ICCP members following the Secretariat briefing on the developments that had taken place since the 13<sup>th</sup> ICCP. For example, attention was drawn towards the possibility of ICCP members and other interested stakeholders assisting the communication action by having the proposed Co-management Plan messages on their private vehicles, or on their private property, should they so wish. It was again stressed that messages should be towards all and not just targeted towards fishers as if they were the only offenders. Measurement stickers on fishing boats were thought insufficiently durable. Preference was for stencilling the minimum size or screwing a wooden/plastic board of exactly 32cm (with raised edges on the two short sides) in an appropriate location on the boat.

#### **MCS - Monitoring and voluntary compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021**

Mr Ronny Malvina, Assistant Manager of Enforcement at SFA, presented the enforcement activities from January to April 2022 shown in **Appendix 6**. This was in response to a request of the 13<sup>th</sup> ICCP for a preliminary assessment of the level of voluntary compliance or otherwise. He also presented an updated MCS Action Plan for 2022 with a start of full enforcement on 1 October 2022, as agreed and requested at ICCP13 (**Appendix 7**)

He explained that this represented around 20% of the activities undertaken by the Enforcement Unit as compared to most of its activities which is on regional surveillance missions, preauthorization compliance inspections, port call reconciliations, exports, audits, and point of export examinations.

The general impression obtained by the team involved was that the requirements of the Co-management plan were clear for the fishers. The team had been clearing doubts whenever questioned on the subject. The Enforcement Unit had not yet recorded any direct breach of the provisions of the Co-Management Plan regulations. It had also not received any reports on the matter either. Monitoring and patrols had not dealt with or seen any infringements.

Training of Enforcement Officers in identification and measurement of regulated species would be taking place on Friday 27th May 2022. This had been delayed because of other priority activities. Procurement of equipment would proceed shortly after the training. The Enforcement team had full operational awareness, and the Action Plan has been integrated into its daily activities. Trap markings had been sourced and was undergoing procurement.

Ms Karyss August, Assistant Manager for License and Permits presented the arrangements being made to have fish traps with identifiable markings.

There was a general disappointment with the MCS report on enforcement activities over the period January to April 2022. Several ICCP members pointed out that this did not address the request made at the previous ICCP which sought not only that the MCS Unit should quantify its level of monitoring but also to make an assessment of the level of compliance or otherwise. Very little effort had been placed monitoring artisanal class 1-4 vessels. Members were incredulous to hear MCS patrols had not seen any infringements of 2021 fisheries regulations. The MCS unit also seemed not to be aware of an email sent by an ICCP member representative to the SFA two days preceding the 14<sup>th</sup> ICCP, with photographic evidence (date and location specified) of catches of undersized bourzwa. NGOs were posting images of undersized fish on their websites, and similar photos were being posted widely on social media. Bag limits for recreational fishers were not being monitored in the enforcement plan. Discussion arose as to the exact evidentiary requirements that the MCS unit required to proceed with such reports. The ICCP had not been seeking to have full enforcement of the regulations but rather soft enforcement where the persons breaking the regulations would be informed, educated or warned but without taking legal action, but that the numbers and location of such activity should have been reported to the meeting. The point was made that the MCS unit should at least know which areas and at what times most infringements took place so that they could use this information<sup>1</sup> for full enforcement starting in October 2022.

Other ICCP proposals and comments were that fishmongers should also be monitored, the times of some patrols should be before 0800hrs, that patrollers were scared of fishers, that there seemed insufficient MCS persons to cover the landing sites, that processors were feeling the brunt of criticism from their fish providers when they refused undersized fish while there was an absence adequate warnings to fishers from SFA, that this was a “no” compliance rather than a “soft” compliance situation.

SFA MCS unit countered that its staff are professional and not scared of fishers, that lots of warnings are being given, that it has training, audit and evidentiary requirements to keep to.

*The ICCP requested that SFA:*

- *provides a satisfactory compliance report to the next ICCP meeting addressing what it had requested;*
- *provides a separate hotline number and an email address for formal complaints specially to deal with Co-management Plan regulation infringements;*
- *provides clear guidance on the information and evidence required and how the complaint gets addressed with action at the next ICCP meeting [with assistance of the Legal Officers]*

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<sup>1</sup> Such approach is captured under the gazetted Co-management plan within its supporting **MCS Protocol**.

The Chair also reminded SFA that in September 2021, the 11<sup>th</sup> ICCP had *recommended that SFA seek to be part of an MOU<sup>2</sup> with Eden Island to facilitate adherence to the Fisheries (Mahé Plateau Trap and Line Fishery) Regulations 2021.*

### **Stock assessment of the fish stocks of the Mahé Plateau.**

The ICCP was updated on the stock assessment process based on working document ICCP14/WD/4 previously circulated. The ICCP had set up a Sub-committee that would involve some of its members in examining the stock assessment process and its results in detail. It was now required to seek a chairman and at least three members for the Subcommittee.

Following nominations and discussions, the ICCP appointed Mr Darell Green as the Chairperson of the Subcommittee. The other members were:

- Belombre Fishers Association – Rodney Nicole
- External member with skills in stock assessment - Jan Robinson
- FishTech – Jean Claude Hoareau
- Recreational Fishers representative – Feisal Suleiman
- Seychelles Sportsfishers Club – Damien Berlouis
- SFA Fisheries Management (Ameer Ebrahim)
- SFA Research (Rodney Govinden / Stephanie Hollanda)
- SFA Statistics (Emilie Augustin)

The SFA ICCP Secretariat would facilitate and coordinate meetings as well as provide ancillary support to the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee was open to invite any person it deemed fit on an ad-hoc basis in relation to its work to attend to a meeting of the Sub-Committee. *The ICCP Chairperson tasked the Subcommittee Chairperson and the Secretariat to decide on a date for its first meeting.*

### **Peer-to-peer visit to examine fisheries management in a relevant country**

The SWIOFish3 Coordinator, Dr Jan Robinson, explained the reasoning behind a peer-to-peer visit by ICCP members. Since the establishment of the ICCP, it had been the intent of the SWIOFISH3 project to support a regional or international peer-to-peer country visit to broaden the experience of ICCP members in implementing co-management plans. Covid19 travel restrictions over the last two years prevented this. As travel conditions are normalising, such a country visit has again become possible.

The purpose of the peer-to-peer visit is to allow members of the ICCP to experience the fisheries management system of a country in which co-management had been successfully operating for several years and in which fisher associations and other stakeholders are integrally involved.

Since the last ICCP meeting, SWIOFish3 had started examining countries or country situations where such operational fisheries management takes place and from where lessons could be learnt of relevance to the ICCP in its implementation of the Mahe Plateau trap and line Co-management Plan. The following criteria were used in selecting the most appropriate country/ies to visit.

- English or French-speaking countries
- Small-scale, mechanised fisheries
- Have undergone management reform to become profitable fisheries

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<sup>2</sup> An MOU had been signed by SMSA, Seychelles Port Authority (SPA) and Eden Island with responsibilities of collaboration and cooperation to ensure that the relevant regulations are adhered to.

- Are limited-access fisheries

The following countries' fisheries had been examined:

- Caribbean-Bahamas:
- Iceland:
- Malta:
- Mauritania:
- United Kingdom – Shetland Island

Dr Robinson briefly covered the nature of each of these countries' fisheries, the details of which are attached in **Appendix 8**. In the discussion that followed various views on possible countries were expressed. Sports and recreational fisher representatives tended to prefer Bahamas though they recognised the heavy costs involved would mean few participants could be supported. The possibilities of some countries in the region was raised, such as octopus in Rodrigues, but in general it was thought that it needed to be a country or fishery where better principles of fisheries management could be seen, and which had shown good improvement over time. An option of visiting two countries contrasting a well-managed fishery with a poorly managed regional fishery did not get general approval. Overall, the consensus was towards the Shetland Islands, and that if funds were available another well-managed European fishery. On the selection of the participants for this visit it was agreed that it should be based on attendance of ICCP meetings as shown in **Appendix 9**. Higher weighting of priority should go to Primary Stakeholder ICCP members in relation to Secondary Stakeholder members. Government agencies should consider funding their own ICCP representatives. An appeal was made to have some women representatives in the selection. The selection process must transparent.

*SWIOFish3 was tasked to proceed with its consideration of aspects such as costs, logistics and travel, good in-country contacts and arrangements, and present the proposed final country/ies and list of participants at the next ICCP meeting.*

In view of the urgency of the process given that Shetlands could only be visited in summer to early autumn, *the ICCP decided that its next meeting would be in early July.*

### **Status of fisher associations and their empowerment.**

Mr Aubrey Harris, Fisheries Consultant, presented some preliminary analysis of information that he and the Fisheries Liaison Officer, Mr Frank Volcere had been collecting from 14 fisher associations in **Appendix 10**.

He traced the background to the exercise which had been requested at the 13<sup>th</sup> ICCP and looked at their structure, membership, governance, projects and affiliations, successes failures and aspirations.

Fisher associations have been set up over the last 20 years but more so in recent years. All but one was registered though their registration papers and constitution were mostly not readily available. Most have bank accounts: about half of which amounted to >SCR 30,000. Income was mostly from sponsorship, EU support, miscellaneous projects and membership. SFA provides direct support to two fisher associations (SFBOA, PFA) in the form of office space/rental and secretarial assistants. Mostly, AGMs had last been held before March 2020. Only two (Anse Boileau, Roche Caiman) had recently held theirs. Locations for AGMs were not really considered a constraint. Only two associations had current internet or Facebook sites (Anse Boileau, SSFC) – **see appendix 11: slides 3 and 4.**

Fisher associations had had many notable achievements (e.g., marketing, labelling, fish reserves, payment to fishers during Covid, advocacy, infrastructure projects) in periods when they were

operationally functional (see **Appendix 11: slide 5a and 5b**). These achievements illustrate the important roles that fisher associations can play if they are appropriately empowered.

Overall, it could be seen that Covid19 had had a profound impact on the structure and operation of fisher associations over the last two years. Many have lost funding, members and momentum and required assistance to get back into operation. The most successful ones had been those with sponsors, projects and affiliations. Project management/managers were seen as critical – in periods without such support, fisher associations floundered. CEPS may be able to provide such support to some associations collectively, while other associations may have their own options. Throughout the survey, the need for a fund dedicated to supporting fisher association projects was raised. Pointed remarks were made that existing funds are directed towards Environmental programmes, and their applications for funding from such programmes were rarely successful. Many associations voiced frustration and difficulty in getting SFA to address their concerns. They suggested that there should be a senior focal point in SFA with the ability to bring their concerns to the highest levels of SFA management.

Following the presentation, SFBOA informed the meeting that several fisher associations were affiliate members of its association. It sought to provide a presentation on its association at the next ICCP meeting. Other ICCP members noted that there was mismanagement in some associations causing members to leave and form other associations. Also, that it was important to keep politics out of fisher associations if they were to be successful. Because of a shortage of time, further discussion was postponed to the next meeting.

*The ICCP agreed that SFBOA makes a presentation at the next meeting when the empowerment of fisher associations will be further discussed.*

## **Other matters**

### *Post-release survival of demersal fish subjected to size limits*

Mr. Rodney Govinden, Research Manager, SFA presented some research that SFA will soon be doing in support of the minimum size regulation to see how demersal fish survive release after capture (**Appendix 12**). He set out the background and rationale for the research project, its aims and objectives and the methodology that would be used. Controlled experiments would be carried out of survival of 6 species of fish (bourzwa, zob gris, vara, bordmar, vyey makonde, vyey plat) following catch and release from handlining. Research findings would be available to the ICCP and stakeholders in June 2023. Following the presentation, the SSFC informed that its members currently vent and release fish, and that the main need was for venting needles and training. PFA's experience was that bourzwa rarely suffered from barotrauma, and that the research and venting would be more useful for zob and the other species.

### *Developments in Baie St Anne Bay*

The PFA raised that the marina development in Baie Ste Anne announced recently had not consulted with fisher associations and fishers. Fishers had been trying to protect a fish reserve in this area and the development will destroy the habitat. Support came from other fisher association participants with a proposal that a petition could be drawn up that would receive their support. A discussion ensued with the SSFC strongly supporting the need for such a marina development in Baie Ste Anne. *The Chair informed that any such development would be after a proper environmental impact assessment had been undertaken where all stakeholders would be consulted, and these aspects would be considered. He would take it up within the MFBE.*

### *Illegal Unreported and Unregulated fishing*

The view was expressed that an increasing amount of IUU fishing appeared to be taking place on the

Mahe Plateau and that sterner measures should be taken with captured IUU vessel including sinking them. The Chair noted this was indeed a concern making it more difficult to manage overcapacity on the Mahe Plateau if these vessels are sold locally and enter the fishery. He informed the meeting that the AGs office is currently working on legal modifications for SFA to have broader authority in the disposal of the IUU vessel, including the option raised.

#### *Update of fisher registration*

The PFA had requested a list of registered fishers for Praslin from the SFA. There were over 180 fishers registered on Praslin many of whom were not fishers and 20 were deceased. Many registered and active fishers were not on the list, including the Chairperson of the PFA. The importance of a correct, current, and transparent list of registered fishers as basic information for proper fisheries management was brought to the meeting's attention. Part of the problem related to where the registration took place, Mahe or Praslin, and how that could be more conveniently arranged. SFA explained some of the difficulties that had been encountered and informed that with new IT and software, the matter was being addressed.

*The Chair advised that the ICCP and fisher associations were modalities through which SFA could improve the list of registered fishers. It should also be part of the role of the Liaison Officer who had informed that the Hotels also wished to know who registered fishers were so that their purchases would be legal when regulations came into effect. The ICCP asked SFA to take up the registration of fishers from Praslin with the offers of assistance provided. Also, in keeping with FITI, SFA should have a list of registered fishers available on its website, or published regularly.*

The management utility, or uselessness, of having a minimum size regulation for bourzwa set at 32cm FL when its actual length at 50% maturity is known to be around 45cm was raised by the SSFC. Several ICCP members, who had been engaged more fully during the decision-process, drew attention to its co-management context, the concessions necessarily made by scientists/primary fisher stakeholders, the feasibility, socio-economic impact, sustainability, equitability and politic of suddenly introducing 45cm as a minimum size and enforcing it in the existing trap and line artisanal fishery situation. Nevertheless, as a proper co-management plan should and would do, this would be brought up annually and based on the totality of actual evidence and feasibility, revised.

*The Chair thanked all members of the ICCP for their participation and contribution. He noted that it had been a long meeting that had covered many areas and proposed that the next ICCP meeting start at 0900hrs. He tasked the Secretariat to also seek the input of members whether the meeting should continue to be held on Fridays (a more difficult day for Praslin and La Digue members) or some other weekday that was more convenient to all members.*

#### **Date and Place of the next meeting**

In consideration of the proposed peer-to-peer exchange preparations, the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting will be brought forward to the first week of July 2022, at a location to be decided by the Secretariat.



# Appendix 1

## Agenda

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

#### 1. Opening to the Meeting

*Remarks by the Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy (MFBE)/Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA)*

#### 2. Adoption of the agenda

*To be moved by the Chairperson.*

#### 3. Developments since the last meeting

*The ICCP will be briefed on the developments since the 13<sup>th</sup> ICCP meeting (4<sup>th</sup> March 2022) including continuing SFA fisher communications and other relevant matters from SFA (such as the socio-economic assessment) and from the Secretariat.*

#### 4. MCS monitoring and voluntary compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021.

*At its last meeting the ICCP was informed of inspection protocols and monitoring of fisheries activities that was being undertaken by the SFA MCS Unit. There was an endorsement by the meeting that there should be continued education and sensitisation of fishers and more emphasis on compliance directed towards pleasure and sport fishers, hotels and restaurants. Also, it requested that the MCS Unit should quantify its level of monitoring and be able to assess the level of voluntary compliance or otherwise until the coming into action of the regulations in October 2022. At this meeting the MCS unit will present the results of its monitoring and provide an assessment of the level of voluntary compliance.*

#### 5. Stock assessment of the fish stocks of the Mahé Plateau.

*The TORs of a Subcommittee to examine the 2021 Stock Assessment results were approved at the 13<sup>th</sup> ICCP but the nomination of its members remained to be finalised. The Secretariat sought nominations from ICCP members on 19 March 2022. SFA provided its technical nominations, but there is still a requirement for the nomination of a chairperson and 3 other ICCP members. The ICCP will proceed to populate this Subcommittee and schedule a date for its first meeting.*

#### 6. Peer-to-peer visit to examine fisheries management in a relevant country

*Since the establishment of the ICCP, it has been the intent of the SWIOFISH3 project to support a regional or international peer-to-peer country visit to broaden the experience of ICCP members in implementing co-management plans. Covid19 travel restrictions over the last two years prevented this. As travel conditions are normalising, the ICCP will be briefed on this initiative and invited to consider the relevant country and of its members' participation.*

#### 7. Status of fisher associations and their empowerment.

*At the last meeting it was agreed that information should be collected on the status of fisher associations so that the possibilities of their empowerment could be discussed. Results of information collected on fisher associations will be presented to the ICCP for its consideration.*

## **8. Other matters**

- *Post-release survival of demersal fish subjected to size limits*
- *Developments in Baie St Anne Bay*
- *Illegal Unreported and Unregulated fishing*
- *Update of fisher registration*

## **9. Date and place of the next meeting**

## Appendix 2

### List of Documents circulated in advance of the meeting

#### **Working documents**

ICCP14/WD/1. Agenda

ICCP14/WD/2. Developments since the last meeting

ICCP14/WD/3. MCS Monitoring and voluntary compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021

ICCP14/WD/4. Stock Assessment of the fish stocks of the Mahe Plateau

ICCP14/WD/5. Peer-to-peer visit to examine fisheries management in a relevant country

ICCP14/WD/6. Status of fisher organizations and their empowerment

#### **Information documents**

ICCP14/ID/1. List of Documents

ICCP14/ID/2 Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> ICCP meeting of 4 March 2022.

ICCP14/ID/3 Strategic public awareness Action Plan of the Mahe Plateau line and trap fishery Co-management Plan Co-management Plan.

ICCP14/ID/4 Investigating the post release survival of demersal species subjected to size limits

## Appendix 3

### List of Participants

#### Members, other Stakeholders and Secretariat

<b>Members</b>	
Rodney Nicole	Bel Ombre Fishers Association
Philippe Michaud	Department of Blue Economy, MFBE
Roy Clarisse	Department of Fisheries, MFBE
Jean-Claude Hoarau	Fish Tech
Wilna Accouche	Green Island Foundation
Ray Payet	La Digue Fishers Association
Darrel Green, Graham Green	Praslin Fishers Association
Faizal Suleman	Recreational Fisher representative
Therence Labrosse	Roche Caiman Fishers Association
Keith Andre	Seychelles Fishers & Boat Owners Ass. (SFBOA)
Ebrahim Ameer	Seychelles Fishing Authority
Damien Berlouis, Mervin Dugasse	Seychelles Sports Fishers Club (SSFC)
<b>Other Stakeholders</b>	
Paul Morin	AMSSI
Albert Napier	Apostolat de la Mer
Alvin Laurence, Chantal Ellen, Myra Gill	CEPS
Neven Cinoti	Oceana
Nancy Onginyo	Praslin FBOA
<b>Secretariat</b>	
Ronny Malvina	Assistant-Manager, Enforcement, MCS (SFA)
Karyss Auguste	Assistant-Manager, License and Permit (SFA)
Elisa Socrates	Assistant-Manager, Resource Management (SFA)
Aubrey Harris	Consultant (SFA)
Jan Robinson	Coordinator, SWIOFish1 project (MFBE)
Estelle Barreau	Fisheries analyst, Resource Management (SFA)
Joanne Lucas	Fisheries Officer, Resource Management (SFA)
Yannick Roucou	Legal Adviser (SFA)
Frank Volcere	Liaison Officer (SFA)
Rodney Govinden	Manager, Fisheries Research (SFA)
Christine Vel	Senior Legal Officer (SFA)
Emilie Augustin	Senior Statistical Officer (SFA)

**Appendix 4**  
**Meetings held with fisher associations**

<b>Name of Association</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Number of attendees</b>
Bel Ombre	4th December 2021	5 fishers
La Retraite	6th December 2021	6 fishers, Chairperson
Baie Lazare	11 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	14 fishers
Cascade	15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	1 fisher, 2 boat owners, Chairperson
Roche Caiman	18th December 2021	3 fishers
La Digue	8th January 2022	12 fishers
Anse Boileau	19th February 2022	20 fishers, Chairperson
Grand Anse and Baie Ste Anne Praslin	5th March 2022	3 fishers
Glacis	9 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	3 committee members

## Appendix 5

### Strategic public awareness action plan of the Mahe plateau line and trap fishery Co- management Plan.

Activity	Details	Status	Expected delivery
SPTC bus wrappings & billboards	<p>Quotations received for 2 large TATA buses (Mahe) + 1 medium TATA bus (Mahe) + 1 medium TATA bus (Praslin).</p> <p>Billboards at Victoria terminal and Anse Aux Pins to be displayed</p> <p>Free PA broadcast for one year</p>	<p>Pre-approval memo sent to DCEO/CEO.</p> <p>Awaiting approval</p>	<p>End of June</p>
SFA vehicle wrappings	<p>In the process of seeking approval from Management</p>	<p>Quotations being sought</p>	<p>Mid July</p>
Broadcasting of ads at STC Hypermarket	<p>30-second ads, rotated every 15 mins on LED screens at Bois de Rose complex</p>	<p>Quotations received and existing videos from Com &amp;Click provided.</p>	<p>Early June – End of October</p>
Public billboards	<p>50 billboards (4.5m x 1m) &amp; (2m x 1m) to be installed.</p>	<p>Seeking advice from SLTA on how to proceed.</p> <p>Liaising with local government for the involvement of district administrators to facilitate the process</p> <p>(Management team has a few suggested locations around Mahe, Praslin and La Digue)</p>	<p>End of July (based on timeframe of supplier)</p>

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Expected delivery</b>
Comic book		Different print houses identified: •Print house; •Imprimerie St Fidele; •Precis graph The National Library has been contacted and formalities is under way to gain the mandatory ISBN number	Mid July
Fork length measuring tools	These measuring tools will be installed on boats, as well as on all Bazars around Mahe, Praslin and La Digue	Pre-approval has been granted by Deputy CEO for purchasing and production of measuring tools to measure fork length. Different print houses identified: •Print house; •Palsenterprise; •Beyond Design; •New Design Studio	Prototypes to be presented at the ICCP on 27/5 for approval
Cat Cocos display	Cat Cocos (CREOLE) and SCAA requesting to advertise the Mahe Plateau on their platforms.	To be initiated	End of July
SBC TV shows	Exploring options of a roundtable discussion or other tv programs, such as Open Microphone	Awaiting feedback and proposed dates from SBC	End of June
TV spots	A media company will be required to produce TV adverts in the form of short role plays. The goal will be to sensitize the population of Seychelles on the benefits of the measures that will be implemented under the plan, as well as the penalties that they may face in the eventuality of not abiding to the set regulations.	TOR Developed, awaiting CEO approval	October 2022
Radio	Communication initiated with Pure FM and Quotations received	Awaiting guidance from CEO with regards to Minister press conference before locking this in	End of June

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Expected delivery</b>
Social activities  Social activities (continued)	<p>Survey: In the process of finalizing the survey before sharing with the public.</p> <p>Quiz: On hold, we will prioritize the survey first. Then we will assess the impact of the survey with the quiz.</p> <p>Role plays: the term of reference for the different role play promoting the Mahe Plateau Fish and Line Trap Fishery Management plan has been sent to the CEO for pre- approval before sending out the call for proposal.</p> <p>Tokens/ give aways: brainstorming about different give aways items promoting the plan e.g., umbrellas, tumbler, notebooks, fishing vest, etc.</p>		



## Appendix 6

### Enforcement activities from January 2022 to April 2022

Activity	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	Total for the period
Land Patrol	11	12	11	3	37
Maritime Patrol (Coastal + MP +long range)	1 long range	Asset unavailable	3 + 1 regional	1 regional	6
Fish outlets inspections (including markets)	16	27	24	4	71
Hotels	1	2	3	5	11
Take aways/restaurants	1	2	Nil	4	7
Finfish processing plants spot-checks	1	3	2	5	11
Semi Industrial: routine inspections on vessels + offloading	3	2	1	2	8
Artisanal class 3-4: routine inspection on vessels + offloading	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
Artisanal class 1-2: routine inspection on vessels + offloading	1	Nil	8	Nil	9

## Appendix 7

### Monitoring Control and Surveillance action plan for 2022

Measure	Activity	Responsible	2022												
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Minimum Length (Regulation 6)	Training of Enforcement Officers in Species Identification (Regulated Species only)	Ronny Malvina													
	Training of Enforcement Officers in Fork Length Measurement	Ronny Malvina													
	Procurement of Equipment for Enforcement Officers	Ronny Malvina													
	Operational Awareness (At Sea, Landing & PH Inspections)	Enforcement Staffs													
	Full Enforcement and Prosecution	Enforcement Staffs													
Bag Limits (Regulation 7)	Operational Awareness (At Sea, Landing & PH Inspections)	Enforcement Staffs													
	Full Enforcement and Prosecution	Enforcement Staffs													
Traps Registration (Regulation 8)	Agreement on Trap Markings and Numbering Scheme	SFA (MCS/FM/DCEO)													
	Procurement of Trap Markings	Ronny Malvina													
	Draft and obtain approval on registration form/license conditions	Karyss													
	Establish method of registration such as location, resources to be used	License Section													
	Draft and seek approval for advert on TV, radio, newspaper and social media	Karyss													
	Registration of Traps	License Section													
	Provide registration forms to Enforcement for prelicense check and tagging	License Section													
	Enforcement (Surveillance and Landing Control of Unregistered Traps)	Enforcement Staffs													
	Soft Enforcement/ Spawning Aggregation Sites	PCU/ Surveillance													
	Enforcement / Spawning Aggregation Sites	Surveillance													
Sale Prohibition (Regulations 12 & 13)	Soft Enforcement	Enforcement Staffs													
	Enforcement	Enforcement Staffs													
Permits for Sports Fishing, Competition Sports Fishing and Recreational Fishing (FA)	Develop License Framework for Sports, Competition Sport and Recreational Fishing (Inc. Fees)	Karyss													
	Regulation of Recreational Fishing	Legal Adviser													
	Approval of License Framework (Including Alignment with SMSA Provisions)	Legal Adviser / MCS Manager													
	Regulation of Proposed License Framework	Legal Adviser / MCS Manager													
	Permit of Sports Fishing Vessels, Recreational Vessels and Recreational Fishers	License													
	Enforcement (Surveillance)	Surveillance													
Vessel Monitoring System (Regulation 11)	Deployment Class 1-2	VMS Technician													
	Regulating of VMS (Drafting and Promulgation of Regulations)	MCS Manager/ Legal Adviser													
	Implementation of VMS Management Plan	MCS Manager / Ministry													

## Appendix 8

### **Bahamas**

Bahamas is one of 14 Caribbean countries covered by the Caribbean Region Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM). Of those countries, it has the largest EEZ (628000 km<sup>2</sup>), the largest shelf area (117000 km<sup>2</sup>) and inshore fishing area (94,000 km<sup>2</sup>). However, with 892 licensed commercial fishing vessels it is dwarfed by other Caribbean countries such as Haiti (11600), Jamaica (7600), and Trinidad and Tobago (2600). In 1995, Bahamas had 4050 active commercial fishing vessels. Its total capture fisheries production has varied over the last decade and averages out at 11900 tonnes per year of which about 7800 tonnes are of lobster. It is the 6th largest fish producer of the 14 CRFM countries by weight, worth some USD 77 million and 2nd only to Guyana by value. Fisheries employs some 40,000 people accounting for around 18% of total national employment. Its fisheries are classified as: Small coastal pelagic – trevallies, scads, flying fishes; Small offshore pelagic – bonitos, wahoo; Large offshore pelagic – tunas and billfishes; Shallow shelf and reef fin fish - snappers, grunts; Shallow shelf and reef Lobster; and Conch fishery. Like other CRFM countries, many types of fishing gear are used such as traps, hand and trolling lines, cast nets, gill nets, hoop nets, spears, spear guns, lobster hook, lobster traps, scuba diving, pelagic longline gear and beach seines. Following a 2014 fishery improvement project and a lobster fishery harvest strategy in 2016, in 2018 the Bahamas spiny lobster fishery became the first Caribbean fishery to earn certification from the Marine Stewardship Council. It is part of a regional spiny lobster fishery management plan (encompassing entire Caribbean) which is in the process of development by the Organization of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector of the Central American Isthmus (OSPESCA), with the support of CRFM and WECAFC. This was presented at the last Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission (WECAFC) meeting.

### **Iceland**

Iceland is a major producer and exporter of fish and fish products. Fisheries contributes significantly to the economy (4.8% in 2008). Government provides support to their fisheries sectors through a wide range of policies centred on goals such as maintaining employment, improving fishers' welfare, or ensuring the sustainability of the sector and the resources it relies on. It nevertheless recovers all these costs back from the sector. The main fishing gear is significantly different from Seychelles consisting of trawls and purse seines, long-lines, gillnets and Danish seines. Fishing gear used for demersal fish are longline, gill nets, Danish seine, and jigging lines. The fleet consisted of 1148 powered vessels (2018). Small-scale vessels, those below 12 meters in length, accounted for 76.6% of the total number of vessels. While small-scale fisheries make up a small percentage of the total catch, it is an important part of the cultural and political landscape. Over the past 30 years there have been host to dramatic political, technical, social, and economic changes for Icelandic small-scale fishermen, their families, and their home communities. The historical and current fisheries governance arrangements have moved towards a disproportionate impact of privatised national fisheries management system on small-scale fisheries. Fishing culture, through the logic of the Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) system, has become inextricably and irreversibly entwined with national and even global financial institutions and processes. For viable small-scale fisheries to continue to exist in Iceland, it will be through (1) stronger regional development policies that take rural communities into account, (2) modifications to the ITQ system that allow for newcomer access to fisheries, and (3) an updated governance system with more equitable power-sharing arrangement.

### **Malta**

Malta's fisheries are predominantly small-scale – similar fleet and vessel sizes to Seychelles. Main fisheries are for bluefin tuna, dolphinfish, swordfish, demersal finfish and small pelagics. Mixed gear fishery with limited numbers of trawlers, longliners and small pelagic purse seine. Relatively large recreational fishery but with many gears banned and strict non-commercial operations. Given the countries small size and geography, most stocks are shared, and few are subject entirely to national management with the 25-mile zone. Under EC directives, measures include limiting fishing effort,

capacity, vessel size, gear specifications, engine power, minimum landing sizes, and fishing areas for certain modes of fishing. Catch limits or quotas are not used. Has only two management plans, one for the small pelagic (chub mackerel, sardinella) purse seine fishery and one for the bottom otter trawler fishery.

### **Mauritania**

Mauritania has a massive annual fish production of about 1.4 million tonnes taken from within its waters of which a significant part (>40%) is caught by industrial foreign fishing vessels either licenced or illegally. This is because of very productive upwelling areas within its EEZ. Several of the important fishery resources are shared with neighbour states. The most recent assessment shows that important stocks such as sardinella and octopus are overexploited. Small-scale fishing (artisanal and coastal) is also a large component that is important economically, culturally and for food security. SSF in Mauritania also includes the participation of neighbouring countries. Shore fishing, traps and nets are the gears most used by small-scale fishing. There are about 33,500 full-time fishers and their catches amounted to over 300,000 tonnes in 2020. Catches are primarily of cephalopods, demersals and crustaceans. The octopus fishery is strategic for Mauritania because of its social and economic impact (employment, inflow of foreign currency and budget revenue). Its Maritime Law of 2015 is the basis for fisheries management and provides for total allowable catches (TACs) for each main resource; a legal and institutional framework for fisheries management including fisheries management plans, a National Advisory Council for fisheries planning and development, and Territorial Advisory Committees for particular areas. Sections spell out the access rights to fisheries resources. Mauritania, like Seychelles, is a member of FITI and from its last report it is evident that it is yet to have a register of small-scale fishing vessels and a proper licencing system in place.

### **Shetland Islands**

Small, remote island chain limited natural resources but rich fishing ground and seafaring history. Fisheries underpin economy with large, modern processing sector and high value exports. The Shetland fleet comprises high tech industrial vessels for whitefish (e.g., cod) as well as smaller vessels (<10 m) for inshore vessels, particularly in the shellfish fishery. The UK employs a rights-based management (RBM) approach based on fixed quota allocations derived from the TAC. Quotas are allocated among industry-led producer organisations (PO) in different regions or fisheries, who then allocate among their vessels according to their own systems. Quotas can be traded or leased for periods, but it is not an ITQ system as quota does not confer legal ownership, which is still held by the state. Though there are some challenges to the system, it has remained for over 2 decades, fisheries are profitable and stocks generally well managed. There is also interesting contrast with how small-scale inshore fisheries are managed. The Shetland Shellfish Management Organisation is a unique management arrangement, with the organisation granted legal powers to manage. Manage these resources within 6-miles limit. Non-decision making advisory group advises decision-making board of directors that is predominately industry representatives. Management combines licensing, minimum sizes, seasonal and spatial closures, prohibited species, gear specifications, effort limits. Some shellfish fisheries MSC certified.

## Appendix 9

### Attendance of ICCP meetings by members and observers

Attendance of ICCP meetings														
	ICCP meetings													
Stakeholder member	ICCP1	ICCP2	ICCP3	ICCP4	ICCP5	ICCP6	ICCP7	ICCP8	ICCP9	ICCP10	ICCP11	ICCP12	ICCP13	Total
<i>Primary</i>														
BelOmbre Fishers Association														9
FishTech														10
FBOA														9
Hire Boat Rep														4
La Digue Fishers Association														7
Praslin Fishers Association														6
Roche Caiman Fishers Association														9
<i>Secondary</i>														
Dept of Blue Economy														12
Green Island Foundation														12
MACCE														10
Dept of Fisheries														11
Recreational Fishers Rep														7
SFA														13
Sport fishers (SSFC)														4
<b>Total member attendance</b>	9	8	9	9	9	7	8	11	12	11	11	9	9	
<i>Observers</i>														
Anse Aux Pins Fishers Association														2
Apostolat de la Mer														5
Cascade Fishers Association														1
FBOA (Praslin)														2
Glacis Fishers Association														3
La Retraite Fishers Association														1
Marine Conservation Society														1
Marine Spatial Plan														2
Seychelles Bureau of Standards														1
Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority														1
Seychelles Port Authority														1
Shark Fishers Association														1
Anse Boileau Fishers Association														1
<b>Total Observer attendance</b>	1	0	0	3	0	2	2	2	6	2	2	1	1	

## Appendix 10

### Fisher Associations that provided information

Associations	Focal points for info	Information
Association of Members of the Seychelles Seacucumber Industry	Paul Morin	
Anse Aux Pins Fishers Association	Theophane Estro	
Anse Boileau	Rondolph Valmont	
Apostolat de la Mer	Albert Napier	
Artisanal Shark Fishers Association	Claude Nicole ; Diolende Bamboche	
Baie Lazare Fishers Association	Jean-Claude Michel	
Bel Ombre Association	Rodney Nicole; Michel Commettant	
Cascade Fishers Association	Steve Payet	
Fishers and Boat owners Association	Brenda Laporte	
Glacis Fisher Association	Darney Barbe	
La Digue Fishers Association	Ray Payet	
La Retraite Fishers Association	Dimitri Maiden; Dyan Charles	
Praslin Fishers and Boat Owners Association	Richard Bossy	
Praslin Fishers Association	Darell Green; Sylvinne Sopha	
Roche Caiman Fishers Association	Terence Labrosse ; Neddy Labrosse	
Sea Cucumber Harvesters Association	Dean Pillay	
Seychelles Sports Fishing Club (SSFC)	Damien Berlouis/ Mervin Dugasse	

# Appendix 11

Slide 1

**Presentation to the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICCP**

STC Conference Centre

**Status of fisher associations and their empowerment**

Aubrey Harris and Frank Volcere  
27 May 2022



Slide 2

**Overview**

1. Background
2. Structure and governance
3. Projects successes, where to?
4. General Observations



**NOU RESOURS LANMER,  
POUR NOU LAVENIR**

Slide 3

**Association Structure and governance**

- \* Associations 5 up to 2010, 9 further to 2020
- \* All but one are registered – papers/constitution?
- \* All but 3 have bank accounts (5 >30,000; 5 < 30,000)
- \* From Sponsors, EU, projects; membership fees – recent?
- \* AGMs: 2019 (2); 2020 (9); 2021 (1) 2022 (2)
- \* Membership: <10 (1); 10-25 (4); 25-50 (4); >50 (4)
- \* Location for AGM and meetings (most no problem)
- \* Communication: Facebook; www; 5 but only 2 current

### Slide 4: Structure and governance of fisher associations

Associations	Registered	Accounts	Income source	Expenses	Last AGM	Members	Location	Location constraints	Communication
AMSSI	August 2010	One; < SCR 20000	Membership fees;	Association running expenses; some covered directly by Committee	Jun 2019	26 founding members	SFA canteen; conference room, Meeting room	SFA meeting room not now available	No
Anse Boileau	August 2021	One; > SCR30000	Members	None	Apr 2022	53	Anse la Mouche Landing site		Facebook (current)
Artisanal Shark Fishers	2010	Two;	Projects/Donations	Fishing equipment	Jul 2020	6	La Retraite onsite	Yes, when raining	Facebook (Dec 2020)
Bel Ombre	2012	One; < SCR 10000	Membership (SCR 100/month),not many paid up. Past: projects, sponsors, and fund raising	Not much now. Previously: activities, shed maintenance and electricity. Members supported with cash payments over Covid period	Oct 2019	29	BelOmbre Community Centre	No	Facebook (Jun 2020)
Cascade	Not yet; started August 2019	None	None	None	Mar 2022	None yet	Local Govt Office	Not yet	No
(Seychelles) FBOA	2003	Two; > SCR 30000	EU ; boatowners SCR 500/yr, fishers SCR 100/yr; none during Covid. SFA support of a Secretarial Assistant and Office.	Office supplies, stationary, Salary of Office Secretary	Dec 2020	about 50	SFA training room	No	Website (2013); Facebook (2019)
Glacis	2019	None	Membership fees	None	Nov 2020	35	Glacis Community Centre	No	No
La Digue	July 2014	One;	Membership fees; fund raising and projects	Rental of store and office; audit expenses	2020 before Covid	20	La Digue wherever convenient	Sometimes	No
La Retraite	Dec 2020	None	Not yet; reluctant to ask for fees until have more say in facilities	None	Dec 2020	52	La Retraite Fish Market	Not really but prefer Sundays	No, but will in future
(Praslin) FBOA	2019 ?	One;	Membership fees; fishing competitions; gear sales	Taxes, auditing, general admin	2020 - but another recently	20	Anglican Church hall	No	No
Praslin	2009	One; > SCR30000	SFA support of a Secretarial Assistant and Office; Membership fees	Telephone, internet, office supplies, Office Secretary salary;	Aug 2020	22	Anglican Parish Hall, Grand Anse	None	
Roche Caiman	2014	One; > SCR30000	Eden Island; Membership SCR 100 monthly (75% members pay);	Cleaner; security guard/watchman; freezer maintenance; Xmas party	Feb 2022	31	At freezer on Saturday afternoon	No	No
SCHA	2018	One; < SCR 15000	Membership fees(SCR 500/year); Donations	AGM; Xmas Party; End of season picnic	Early 2020	~60	SFA caffeteria	No	No
SSFC	May 2009	Two; > SCR 30000	Membership fees; Tournament fees; Sponsorship	Prizes; salaries	Oct 2021	25 Ord; 3 Hon;	Seychelles Yacht Club	No	Website (current); Facebook(current); Whatsapp (current)



### Slide 5a: Structure and governance of fisher associations

Projects successes failures and aspirations						
Associations	Projects	MOUs	Successes	Failures	Wish	Where to
AMSSI	No. but worked with SFA on various scientific studies	With SFA; member of FPAOI and FBOA	assisted in educating the resource users of the importance of managing the exploitation in a sustainable manner. The importance of a co-management approach in the industry. A strong executive body that has actively fought to keep the industry going	passing on information to all members in a timely manner; Not always able to create a sense of unity among members; collection of membership fees; need more Board	Better dissipation of information; Flexibility in the approach of SFA	Important that we become more professional in our functions and that the association continues to be a body to defend and protect the interest of its members; ensure that our seacucumber industry remains a leading example/model within the region and beyond.
Anse Boileau	Dredging of Channel, Coral fill distribution; Coral fill donation; adoption of Anse Boileau Old people	None	A channel; boats now load from shore	Lack of communication with SFA	None	More help to Anse Boileau Community; Spare fishing boat for member's use; a boat for overnight use
Artisanal Shark Fishers	Smartfish, SFA and Ministry of Environment (Praslin shark attack)	None	Tagging of bull and tiger shark project	Loss of expensive equipment	Plot of land to build office	Having more successful projects; gain more experience in shark fishing and monitoring
Bel Ombre	None currently. Previously: GEF/UNDP project on reduction of carbon footprint of the Bel Ombre area. With the Green Island Foundation (GIF) on a vulnerable species. Follow up project not successful. We have approached SEYCCAT with project proposal, not successful, Why? no feedback provided. There should be a fund to support fisher association	MOU with SFA to reduce the electricity consumption of the iceplant. SFA has not provided feedback to the Association	We pushed for the waterfront development as a mixed use port; amalgamated with another association; helped Roche Caiman and Glacis set up; had very active period; supported fishers during the Covid period; important social impact by bringing the district together; partnered with the Church for St Rock's day; a subcommittee for fisher ladies with activities; end of the year parties; fishing competition with Sustainability for Seychelles (S4S)	Broken promises - on development of the mooring port facilities and with SFA led to lack of credibility of members in the Association; internal conflict within the Association; Loss of face with members because of non-functioning	More delivery by the Association; sometimes a vicious circle - the more you deliver the more expectations the members place on association and its officers. Many members expect but do not contribute.	A stronger association with greater involvement of members; to be listened more by SFA and to support our interests. Association should have more control over the mooring facilities. A development plan for the area. SFA needs to know its clients and must not be seen as punitive on fishers. There is need for a clear point of contact for fisher associations within SFA with sufficient power to get things done.
Cascade	None	None	N/A	N/A		Waiting for fish market and related infrastructure
(Seychelles) FBOA	Labelling project; Project to set up a fish auction - not completed; Abalobi project (EU, IOC)	With SFA since FBOAs establishment.	Labelling project; Association established for almost 20 years; members regularly paid their fees until the covid period; major advocate on national fisheries issues; active participation in IOTC, MSP, FITI; initiated a regional fisheries Association, Federation of Fishers of the Indian Ocean (FPAOI); a forum for co-operation, representation on forums and nationally and regionally	Could have had more fund raising activities for members; should have encouraged more fishers and fisher associations to be included in FBOA.	see previous	Would have wished for the Association to be developed into a national association body or federation but realise that that is unlikely. Possible assistance for members in health distress; group member insurance scheme;
Glacis	None	None	Was well launched with strong Committee	Had to cease all its functions 2020/2021 because of Covid.	Members engage again within the association; Facilitation to enable discounts to fishers for spares, engine, fishing gear and snorkelling equipment	Will be bringing concerns to the relevant authorities; continue to advocate for facilities from relevant authorities
La Digue	in the past on construction and development of FADs (UNDP, Small Grant Projects)	None	Purchase of materials; construction and deployment of FADs	Securing appropriate person for auditing; timely handling of documents	Timely meetings (difficult to get all committee members on LaDigue on the same day)	Have secured account, have a proper office, have committee elected officers, engage in projects with proper monitoring and reporting

## Slide 5b: Structure and governance of fisher associations

Projects successes failures and aspirations						
Associations	Projects	MOUs	Successes	Failures	Wish	Where to
La Retraite	None	None	Advocating for and mobilising MFBE and SFA to provide the facilities. Have maintained the fish market hygienically	insufficient backing from SFA on managing the poontoon and mooring of boats.	Need for a person to liaise with the fishers and SFA. Previously person fell out with SFA. Members requesting a slip facility to put the boats ashore. Could have undertaken this privately between the Associations members but not approved.	Members with an increased role in the management of the poontoon, the freezer and in the general maintenance. A good focal point of contact within SFA. Previously worked well with SFA property manager. The association sees its role as improving the standard of living of fishers, having good landing facilities with more order and predictability, providing more value for fishers with the top market on quality of its fish, on its greetings and services, and hygiene. Have an Association for which we will be proud.
(Praslin) FBOA	None;	Previous SFBOA Affiliation	Gear shop; Ice Plant; renovation of fish market; convinced fishers to contribute to pension funds; helping implement fisheries regulations; fishing competitions; assistance to retired fishers;		Development of a proper jetty for different sized boats. A proper office and secretarial assistant.	To be a voice for fishers that is heard and makes the fishing sector move forward. Continue to maintain the unity of the Association
Praslin	Yes. Voluntary trap fishing closure of Baie St Anne Bay. Planning projects for SEYCCAT/PFA funding	Yes. GEF, SMARTFISH, SFA	Convinced fishers that resources should be used sustainably; most new regulations contributed by PFA	None		Before this new administration, was unable to convince SFA to be more proactive in promoting the values of fisher associations.
Roche Caiman	None; tried with SEYCCAT but unsuccessful	With Eden Island	Association managed to set itself up and obtained the facilities at the current location. Have recently successfully obtained audit of all its accounts. Unfortunately, the present location may not be permanent because of Eden Island need for the site	Poor transfer of documents from previous Officers to present ones	Members want the association to put order in the use of the pontoon. They want to stay at the current site. SFA should be able to help but provides authority to other vessels without contacting the Association.	Association just wants to continue operating at its current site with minimum of translocation.
SCHA	No	None	Obtained fuel concessions for the seacumber subsector; a stronger say in the management of the fishery; obtained increase of prices from processors; assisted in the creation of Clear our Seas Association; we got access to decompression chambers;	Wanted to help eradicate crown of thorns starfish with Nature Seychelles but this fell through. Have to submit projects through Conservation associations to be eligible for funds.	Help with the purchase of equipment; better life and better prices for the product we provide; through ABDAR some measure of compulsory drug treatment. It should be mandatory that divers spend and extended period with a compression chamber under medical supervision -Dr Henriette is supportive of this;	To be able to assist members with payslip and loans; want to assist young divers/fishers enter the industry; offered to give talks to the Maritime School from which most of the Seychellois divers have come to the industry; Maritime school have changed their curriculum - once was mandatory to dive now only an option of the fisheries science course.
SSFC	Demersal tagging; The Billfish Foundation (TBF) tagging; Satellite tagging; Catch and Release. SFA; TBF; WWF; Mason's Travel; Alseer Marine; Bisbees Fish Wildlife Conservation Fund; Eden Island; A1 Fishing; Ocean Fisheries; IGFA Great Marlin Race.	SFA; EKU; Heineken; PKF Capital Markets (Seychelles);	Conservation- releases of billfish as well as demersal fish. Reduced qty of fish brought to weighstation. All participants follow rules set out in tournaments. Marketing of Seychelles as a big game fishing destination. Juniors participation towards Conser <sup>26</sup> on	Securing grants from government funds allocated for special projects	Rebate on fuel; CCTV cameras on board of each boat taking part in tournaments. <b>What the members wish of the Association that it does and can provide:</b> Fairness in our tournaments, rigging techniques, big game fishing marketing destination.	

## Projects, successes, failures, aspirations

- \* Projects – 7 have had; but only 3 currently
- \* MOUs – 5 with SFA of which 2 active; Eden; Seybrew
- \* Successes: educating resources users; advocacy for fish markets; pontoons; freezers; projects (eg labelling); construction of FADs; Baie St Anne Bay reserve; tagging sharks; fishing competitions; conservation of billfish; tagging of sharks and fish; good practices; assisting members during covid; assisting fishers get a pension;
- \* Failures: sometimes not provided; timely exchange with members; communication with SFA; loss of credibility with members; should have encourage more fisher involvement; not able to access funding; poor transfer of documents between Officers;
- \* Wishes: generally related to address failures; more support and flexibility from SFA; gear and material discounts; need for someone to manage day to day;
- \* Where to: more professionalism; a stronger association; ability to manage pontoons and iceplant times; assist members with payslips; and many more

## General Observations

- \* **Covid impact – profound**
- \* **Successful ones have projects, MOUs, sponsors**
- \* **Importance of project manager; staff (CEPS?)**
- \* **Request for a fund for fisher associations**
- \* **An SFA focal point for fisher associations**

# Appendix 12

1



## Investigating the post release survival of demersal species subjected to size limits


Marisa Antha, Rodney Govinden & Andrew Souffre  
Fisheries Research Department  
SFA Presentation  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022



2

## Background and rationale



- Growing concerns on sustainability of fisheries resources
- Mahé Plateau trap and line fishery Co-management Plan
- Introduction of minimum size limits (32 cmFL)
  - Green jobfish
  - Emperor red snapper
- Effectiveness of the measure – high degree of post-release survival



3

## Background and rationale


- Demersal fish susceptible to barotrauma
  - Swim bladder inflation/rupture
  - Stomach eversion
  - Bulging eyes
  - Injuries to veins and vital organs
- Venting – deflating the bladder
- Effectiveness of venting varies between species and fish size



4

## Aim and Objectives

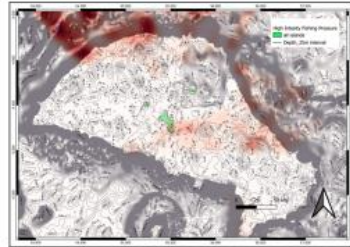
- Evaluate the survival of fish following catch and release to inform on the effectiveness of the size limits
  - Determine the short-term survival rate after release
  - Determine the relation between post-release survival and depth
  - Examine differences in post-release survival between species
  - Determine the effectiveness of venting



5

## Methodology

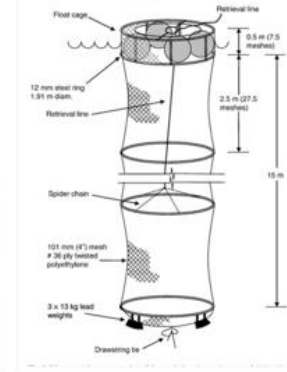
- Identify appropriate sites based on data from commercial fishers
- Hook and line fishing method
- Focus on 6 demersal species – priority Green jobfish and Emperor red snapper
- Enclosures moored near fishing site
- Pilot survey to refine methodology



6

## Methodology

- Fish caught examined for signs of injuries/barotrauma, measured and tagged
- 50% of fish – venting
- 50% of fish – no treatment (control)
- Minimize handling time
- Released into cage and monitor survival over a period of 48 to 72 hours



7

## Timeline

	2022												2023					
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
Prepare concept note	█	█																
Prepare SOP- project protocol			█	█														
Procure equipments					█	█												
Design and build apparatus						█	█	█	█									
Inhouse training on methodology													█	█				
Prepare and circulate cruise plan																		
Conduct pilot cruise																		
Data entry and analysis																		
Prepare cruise report																		
Prepare and circulate cruise plan																		
Adjustment of equipment and protocol																		
Conduct the research cruise																		
Data Entry																		
Data analysis																		
Produce first draft of report																		
Produce final report																		
Present research findings to stakeholders																		

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## Way Forward

- Concept note completed
- Finalise data collection protocols
- SWIOFish3 and SFA to finalise contract
- Project to start as soon as contract is signed

