

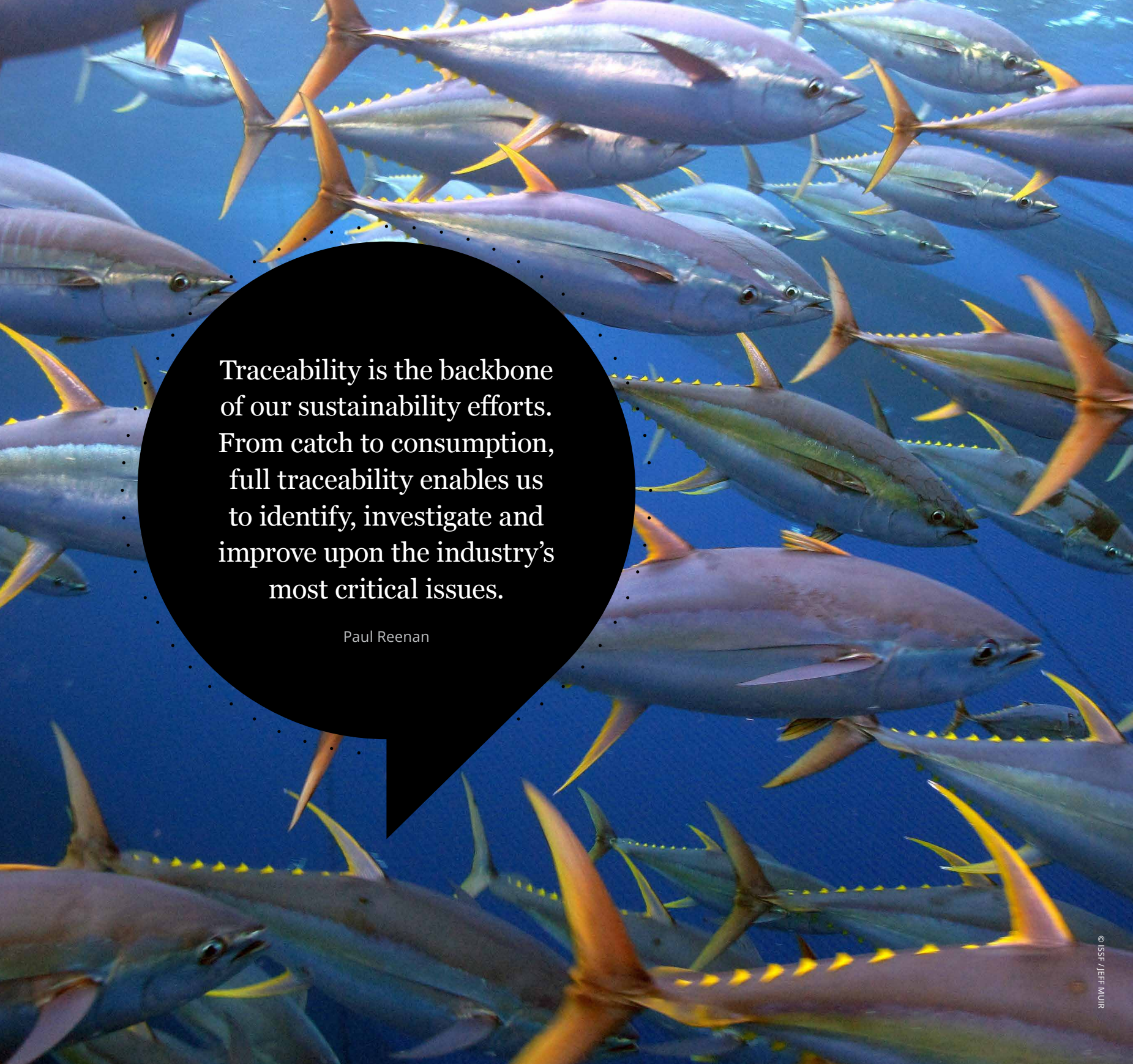


DO IT
FOR YOUR
PLANET

WWF & THAI UNION EUROPE

PARTNERSHIP PROGRESS REPORT 2018





Traceability is the backbone of our sustainability efforts. From catch to consumption, full traceability enables us to identify, investigate and improve upon the industry's most critical issues.

Paul Reenan

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FOREWORD



Mike Barrett,
Executive
Director of Global
Programmes,
WWF-UK

Now more than ever before it is vital for a seafood business to be taking the lead in protecting and restoring our oceans. From unsustainable fishing, to pollution and climate change, our seas are facing huge threats. Urgent action and leadership is needed.

At WWF, we know we cannot tackle these threats alone: we need to work with the biggest companies to transform their industries from within. Forward-looking global businesses like Thai Union share our mission to protect nature because they depend on healthy oceans and healthy fish stocks – and they have the power to influence other companies around them and throughout their supply chain.

The third year of the partnership between WWF and TUE has seen progress accelerating. We can reflect proudly on significant milestones achieved during 2017, including the launch of tuna fishery improvement projects (FIPs) in the Indian and Eastern Atlantic Oceans, with more FIPs in development. Together these FIPs now cover the majority of TUE's tuna supply chain, meaning tangible measures are being put in place on the journey towards meeting the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard.

Meanwhile, we're very pleased to report that a number of other products in TUE's range achieved MSC certification this year. For example, in the UK the MSC logo now appears on the packaging of all mackerel and wild caught salmon produced by TUE, as well as on a selected range of tuna.

TUE's continued financial support for WWF's East Africa sustainable fisheries programme has helped towards building a more sustainable tuna fishery in the region. Improved data and reporting on artisanal tuna landings by local communities has allowed national governments and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) to set more appropriate - and more sustainable - catch quotas.

We're working to show that change is possible; and that by working together we're helping to build a future where people and planet can thrive.



Paul Reenan,
Regional President,
Thai Union Europe

This year represented an important milestone for Thai Union Europe (TUE) as our parent company, Thai Union PCL, marked its 40th anniversary. The entire Thai Union family –including prominent European brands such as John West, Petit Navire, King Oscar, Parmentier, Rügen Fisch and Mareblu – appreciated the opportunity to participate in a global celebration in honour of this occasion.

As I reflect upon our history, I am incredibly proud Thai Union has emerged as a leading agent of positive change in the seafood industry. These efforts have not gone unnoticed. For example, Thai Union was named on the Dow Jones Sustainability Emerging Markets Index for the fourth straight year in 2017. We also appeared once again on the FTSE4Good Emerging Index.

While it is great to be recognised, we also see that we are on a journey and there are always ways to improve further. This means continuing to position sustainability at the heart of our business with SeaChange®, a strategic approach designed to transform the way the industry operates. We consider SeaChange® a journey covering every aspect of our business: from how we look after the oceans to how we manage our waste; from the responsibility we take for our workers to building brighter futures for our communities.

Traceability is the backbone of our sustainability efforts. From catch to consumption, full traceability enables us to identify, investigate and improve upon the industry's most critical issues.

In line with SeaChange®, Thai Union Europe's partnership with WWF is helping us make progress on our tuna commitment to source 100% of our branded tuna from fisheries that are Marine Stewardship Council certified or engaged in fishery improvement projects (FIPs). This entails a commitment to invest US\$90 million in initiatives to increase the supply of sustainable tuna, including 11 new FIPs. And, as a result of our collaboration with WWF, Thai Union has witnessed numerous positive developments in our European business and supply chains.

Furthermore, Thai Union continues to value this collaboration with WWF highly. Industry and NGOs, as well as governments and other stakeholders, must come together to meet the protein needs of the global population in a way that is sustainable and protects our oceans now and for future generations; confirms workers are safe, legally employed and empowered; and ensures that vessels are legal and operate responsibly.

This partnership, now entering its fourth year, serves as an excellent example of what can be achieved when important actors come together and work to ensure our seas are sustainable now and for future generations.

THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WWF AND TUE

WWF'S SEAFOOD CHARTER¹

Seafood is big business. But for the seafood industry and the hundreds of millions of people around the world whose lives and livelihoods depend on fishing, declining marine life is a very real threat. Around 60% of fisheries are already being fished to their sustainable limits while a further 30% are overexploited.² Poor management, destructive practices, illegal activity and climate change are taking a heavy toll.

Responsible fishing and aquaculture are not just better for our oceans, they're better for the seafood industry too. WWF works across seafood supply chains, from fishers and farmers to supermarkets and restaurants, helping companies increase transparency and source sustainably by supporting fisheries and farms as they strive for the standards set by the MSC and the ASC.

Go to YouTube and watch our short film '[Turning the Tide for Seafood](#)' to find out more about WWF's work to change the seafood industry.

WWF and TUE have been working together since 2014, which marked the start of an ambitious programme of work. Through this partnership the company has committed to a journey that will ensure that the seafood it sells in Europe is sourced from the most sustainable sources.

This annual report marks the end of the third year of the partnership. It outlines the significant steps forward and actions TUE and WWF have taken over the last three years to improve sustainability within TUE's supply chains.

Our objective is to ensure that all TUE products are sourced from fisheries that meet the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) or Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) standards, or are on the way to doing so through credible Fishery or Aquaculture Improvement Projects (FIPs or AIPs). This complex and ambitious goal will take time to achieve, so while the first phase of the partnership is running from 2014 to 2018, we anticipate that the partnership will extend for a further four years until 2022.

In 2017, the partnership was expanded to cover the additional brands acquired by TUE in recent years, including Rugen Fisch, Mer Alliance and King Oscar.



SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION

© SHARK EXPLORERS / ATLANTIC EDGE FILMS



MARINE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (MSC) CERTIFICATION

The MSC is an international non-profit organisation established to tackle the problem of unsustainable fishing and safeguard seafood supplies for the future. The MSC works to transform the seafood market by recognising and rewarding sustainable fishing practices and influencing the choices people make when buying seafood.

The MSC sets standards for sustainable fishing and supply chain traceability. These standards provide a benchmark that drive global seafood markets to become more sustainable.

The MSC Fisheries Standard³ assesses whether a fishery is well managed and sustainable. It includes three core principles that every fishery must meet:

1. Sustainable fish stocks
2. Minimising environmental impact
3. Effective management

To become MSC certified, fisheries must demonstrate compliance with the standard through a rigorous third-party assessment process. Annual audits aim to ensure that fisheries continue to operate sustainably and deliver improvements where needed.



AQUACULTURE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (ASC) CERTIFICATION

The ASC is an independent not-for-profit organisation with global influence that strives to transform aquaculture towards environmental sustainability and social responsibility using efficient market mechanisms that create value across the chain.

The ASC programme⁴ promotes industry best practice to minimise the environmental and social footprint of commercial aquaculture. Through its consumer label the ASC promotes certified responsibly-farmed products in the marketplace.

To become ASC certified the farms must comply with third-party audits that assess technical and social aspects, farm administration and operations.

The ASC works with aquaculture producers, seafood processors, retail and food service companies, scientists, conservation groups and consumers to:

1. Recognise and reward responsible aquaculture through the ASC certification programme and seafood label
2. Promote best environmental and social choices when buying seafood
3. Contribute to transforming seafood markets towards sustainability

The ASC label is a guarantee that items have been sourced from a responsible farm which minimises its environmental and social impacts, and can be traced along the supply chain from farm to the final sale.

WHY WWF WORKS WITH BUSINESS

Corporate partnerships are a fundamental part of WWF's strategy to build a future where people and nature thrive. We work with companies to develop better ways of doing business that help protect the natural habitats and landscapes they depend on.

We focus our efforts on the commodities and sectors that have the biggest impact on the planet, and we encourage companies to take a risk-based approach to managing, protecting and restoring natural assets. We also help companies engage their staff, customers and other stakeholders in global conservation issues.

Our approach is collaborative and constructive but also challenging, and we maintain a tight focus on the conservation benefits our partnerships are designed to deliver. We bring people together, working across sectors with investors, consumer groups and policymakers to drive the systemic changes we need to achieve a greener economy.

ABOUT THAI UNION EUROPE

Thai Union Group PCL (Thai Union) is the parent company of Thai Union Europe (TUE), owner of several prominent European seafood brands. These brands include John West, Petit Navire, Parmentier and Mareblu. Thai Union also owns King Oscar in Norway and holds a majority share of Rügen Fisch AG in Germany.

In Africa and Europe, Thai Union companies employ more than 6,000 people across production sites in France, Ghana, Norway, Poland, Portugal and the Seychelles; as well as commercial entities in Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and the UK.

Thai Union is committed to innovation and globally responsible behaviour, and in 2015 the company introduced its sustainability strategy, SeaChange® (see overleaf).

Thai Union is proud to be a member of the United Nations Global Compact and a founding member of the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF). The company's ongoing work on sustainability issues was recognised by its inclusion in the Dow Jones Sustainability Emerging Markets Index (DJSI) in 2014, and it has been named to the DJSI the last four consecutive years. Thai Union has also been included in the FTSE4Good Emerging Index.

2015

THAI UNION INTRODUCED
ITS SUSTAINABILITY
STRATEGY, SEACHANGE®

ABOUT SEACHANGE®

Sustainable development is essential to the future of Thai Union's business and the company's growth, it is fundamental to being a responsible corporate citizen, and it is the route through which Thai Union will achieve its vision of being the world's most trusted seafood leader.

As a global seafood leader, Thai Union believes it has a responsibility to set the standard for social, environmental and economic performance across its operations and supply chains. Thai Union answered the calls of its stakeholders with SeaChange®⁵, the company's sustainability strategy based on measurable commitments to delivering real, lasting changes in the way it operates. SeaChange® aims to drive a positive transformation throughout the global seafood industry.

Thai Union thinks of SeaChange® as a journey that covers every aspect of the seafood business: from how it looks after the oceans to how it manages its waste; from the responsibility it takes for its workers to its efforts to build brighter futures for the communities around its key sites.

The backbone of Thai Union's sustainability strategy is the ability to fully trace its seafood – from catch to consumption. With full traceability in place, Thai Union will be able to identify, investigate and improve performance on key issues such as labour and responsible sourcing.

While this work is designed to have a positive impact on the seafood industry, the milestones achieved under the programmes will also support the UN Sustainable Development Goals and will embody Thai Union's commitment to the UN Global Compact.

To learn more about SeaChange®, please visit seachangesustainability.org



TUE'S SEAFOOD CHARTER COMMITMENTS

The commitments made by TUE in signing the Seafood Charter are outlined below, followed by a summary of the key actions that the company has taken during the partnership's third year to meet them.^{6,7} All of the work has been independently verified by a third-party assessor (see page 42).

THIS CHARTER JOINTLY COMMITS TUE AND WWF TO:

- Apply best practice and scientific knowledge to improve the sustainability of TUE's seafood supply chain and create demonstrable improvements through the delivery of projects.
- Contribute to a future in which responsible fisheries and aquaculture operations thrive in healthy ecosystems, benefiting people, businesses and species that depend on them.
- Help safeguard valuable marine and aquatic ecosystems, contributing to the long-term viability of seafood supply that global food security depends on.

THIS CHARTER COMMITS TUE TO:

- Ensure full traceability of all its seafood products.
- Be actively involved in the global fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and able to demonstrate best practice is put in place that ensures no IUU products enter its supply chain.
- Develop a sustainable procurement plan and engage in improvement projects for TUE seafood to meet MSC and ASC standards for potential certification.⁸
- Create and participate in projects that will improve fisheries so they can demonstrate that they have reduced their impact on the environment.
- Promote awareness and transparency about sustainable fishing and make sustainability information, projects and policies easily accessible to customers and stakeholders.
- Engage with authorities and promote advocacy initiatives aimed at improving international or regional fisheries management and regulations that will secure healthy marine ecosystems through responsible fishing and aquaculture practices.
- Ensure all new seafood product ranges come from sustainable sources or sources that are in a credible, stepwise improvement process.

WHY WWF IS WORKING WITH TUE

WWF's partnership with TUE focuses on reducing the environmental impacts of fishing and securing the future of seafood supplies. Improving the sustainability of TUE's supply chains will mean better-managed fisheries, more transparency and a reduction in impacts on the wider ecosystem. By working together to advocate for better management and against illegal fishing, our partnership is also influencing and driving positive change in the wider seafood sector.

In addition to the supply chain work, TUE provided funding to WWF's sustainable fisheries programme in east Africa, which supports the livelihoods of coastal communities through improved regional fisheries governance and better management of artisanal fisheries.

YEAR 3 SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SEAFOOD CHARTER COMMITMENTS

While the first year of the partnership focused on ensuring that TUE was operating in line with good industry practices and standards, the second and third years have been about implementing changes and advising on actions to improve the sustainability of TUE's supply chains.

We report our progress annually: this review outlines the advances that TUE has made during the third year of the partnership.

This table summarises the activities that have been taking place under the WWF-TUE Seafood Charter in the third year of the partnership, and the results that have been achieved. Some are repeated on an annual basis, while others are part of larger projects that will last throughout the partnership.

We present more detail about our activities in the following pages.



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A. SUPPLY CHAIN

✓ Completed ↻ Ongoing

SEAFOOD CHARTER COMMITMENT	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply best practice and scientific knowledge to improve the sustainability of TUE supply chains and create demonstrable improvements through the delivery of projects. 	<p>An analysis of TUE's 2016 supply chain was completed, as was a species assessment and action plan report.</p> <p>The assessment included verification of the supply vessels' flag states and confirmed that purse seine vessels are listed on the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) Pro-Active Vessel Register (PVR).</p>	<p>✓ ANNUALLY</p>
	<p>Analysis of vessels supplying TUE: 100% of purse seine vessels are listed on the ISSF PVR.</p> <p>TUE continued to engage with pole and line suppliers to use the ISSF PVR. In 2017, 24 pole and line supply vessels were registered on the ISSF PVR system.</p>	<p>✓ ANNUALLY</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a sustainable procurement plan and engage in improvement projects for TUE seafood to meet MSC and ASC standards for potential certification. 	<p>TUE passed the annual audit of the ISSF with 100% compliance. Results are published online.</p>	<p>✓ ANNUALLY</p>
	<p>Indian Ocean Purse Seine Tuna FIP – This FIP was launched in April 2017 and is now in the implementation phase. It covers the priority species of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna (see page 24 for details).</p>	<p>↻</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and participate in projects that will improve fisheries so they can demonstrate that they have reduced their impact on the environment. 	<p>Eastern Atlantic Purse Seine Tuna FIP – The MoU was signed in June 2017, and it was later launched in December 2017 following the signing of the FIP participant agreement and the approval of the action plan. It will cover the priority species of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna (see page 25 for details).</p>	<p>↻</p>
	<p>Senegal Pole and Line Tuna FIP – WWF and TUE worked together in the second half of 2017 to develop a pole and line FIP for the Senegal pole and line tuna fishery. FIP participants met in Dakar, Senegal, on the 30th of November 2017 to sign an MOU. This FIP covers the priority species of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna. (see page 26 for details).</p>	<p>↻</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all new seafood product ranges come from sustainable sources or sources that are engaged in a credible step-wise improvement process. 	<p>Brazil Pole and Line Skipjack Tuna FIP – An MoU was signed between WWF-UK, TUE, Leal Santos and Actemsa in September 2017. This FIP is still in the development phase, but a formal launch is planned for 2018. This FIP will cover the priority species of skipjack tuna (see page 27 for details).</p>	<p>↻</p>
	<p>OPAGAC Global Tuna FIP – This FIP is in its second year of implementation (see page 27 for details).</p>	<p>↻</p>
	<p>Prioritisation of improvement work: there will be an increased focus on the implementation of these FIPs in the fourth year of the partnership.</p>	<p>✓ ANNUALLY</p>

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES (CONT)

As part of TUE's commitment to transparency, WWF visited the factory site and port facility in Tema, Ghana, in June 2017.	✓
TUE promoted the use of non-entangling fish aggregation devices (FADs) in discussions with its suppliers, in line with the ISSF guidelines. In addition, improvements in the way that FADs are designed and managed are within the scope of the purse seine FIPs and have specific actions assigned against them.	✓

B. TRACEABILITY AND LEGALITY

SEAFOOD CHARTER COMMITMENT	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	
• Ensure full traceability of all TUE seafood products.	TUE has 100% MSC Chain of Custody (CoC) certification in all of its factories.	✓
• TUE to be involved in the global fight against IUU fishing and be able to demonstrate that best practice is put in place that ensures no IUU products enter its supply chain.	TUE continued its IUU and traceability assessments under its third-party supplier risk assessment (SRA) and supplier vessel assessment (SVA) programme. In September 2017, two SVAs were carried out in Ghana.	✓
	TUE actively participated in multi-stakeholder meetings convened by WWF on the 'Global Dialogue for Seafood Traceability'.	✓

C. ADVOCATING FOR IMPROVEMENT

SEAFOOD CHARTER COMMITMENT	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	
• Engage with authorities and advocate to everybody to ensure improvements in international or regional fisheries management and regulations that will secure healthy marine ecosystems through responsible fishing and aquaculture practices.	TUE was among the 20 seafood industry signatories that were approached in September 2017 to sign a letter to delegates of the International Commission for the Conservation of Tuna (ICCAT). The meeting was scheduled for November 2017. The letter was convened by WWF calling for new resolutions to improve skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna conservation measures.	↻
	During industry meetings, TUE advocated for sustainable management of tuna. TUE also attended resolution meetings of regional fishery management organisations (RFMOs) including ICCAT and IOTC.	↻

D. TRANSPARENCY AND ENGAGEMENT

SEAFOOD CHARTER COMMITMENT	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	
• Promote awareness and transparency about sustainable fishing and make sustainability information, projects and policies easily accessible to customers and stakeholders.	TUE's traceability system was tested by a third party during the MSC CoC audits for its factories. This system allows for the catch to be traced to its source. The brands of TUE operate what is known as the 'can tracker'. This aims to demonstrate to consumers that the catch information is available for each can.	✓
	John West continued roll-out of the 'John West Academy' to provide training on seafood sustainability to employees.	↻
	WWF and TUE engaged with key stakeholders throughout the year to provide updates on the aims and progress of the partnership through activity such as retailer updates.	↻

E. CONTRIBUTING TO WIDER CONSERVATION

SEAFOOD CHARTER COMMITMENT	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	
• Contribute to a future in which responsible fisheries and aquaculture operations thrive in healthy ecosystems, benefiting people, businesses and species that depend on them.	TUE provided direct funding to WWF's East Africa Regional Sustainable Fisheries programme. This works to ensure that seafood – including Indian Ocean tuna – is a sustainable food source for both the coastal population of Africa and international trade markets, thereby helping to ensure food security and more sustainable livelihoods for millions of people.	↻
• Help safeguard valuable marine and aquatic ecosystems, contributing to the long-term viability of seafood supply that global food security depends on.		

YEAR 3 PROGRESS UNDER THE SEAFOOD CHARTER

As the summary above shows, there has been progress across all areas of the partnership. The following pages detail the actions that have been taken towards specifically achieving the Seafood Charter commitments.

WWF supply chain analysis

A detailed analysis of TUE's seafood supply chains is the backbone of our partnership. WWF conducts an assessment annually to identify improvement actions and ensure resources are focused on priority supply chains. The process works as follows:

- i) Supply chain data is submitted by TUE.
- ii) WWF assesses the level of sustainability of each supply chain, using the CAM.*
- iii) Results are discussed with TUE.
- iv) Supply chains are prioritised to inform improvement work.
- v) An action plan is developed for each supply chain, based on the results of the analysis.
- vi) An internal report is produced to summarise the results of the analysis for partnership use.
- vii) The process is repeated annually to rationalise the plans for the coming year.

* The CAM is a centralised system and database of assessments that is used in many of WWF's seafood partnerships globally. It is run by independent consultants based in Germany.

ACTIONS

1. SUPPLY CHAIN ASSESSMENT

- In 2017, WWF completed the annual species assessment, which involved TUE sharing all of its European direct raw material purchases data from 2016. The data included information on the vessels, species, catch methods, Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and ICES areas and other elements. WWF used its Common Assessment Methodology (CAM) and central database to complete the supply chain assessment.
- During the species assessment process, WWF analysed the vessel flag states and status of vessels and found that:
 - a. International Maritime Organisation (IMO) numbers are present on required vessels.
 - b. 100% of purse seine vessels that supplied TUE were on the ISSF PVR in 2016.
 - c. Their flag states are considered to be 'of integrity'.
 - d. The landing and processing sites for the majority of tuna entering TUE's supply chain are Tema (Ghana) and Victoria (Seychelles).

100%
PURSE SEINE
VESSELS ON
ISSF PVR

- As of January 2018, TUE was sourcing from a total of 106 pole and line vessels. There are 24 pole and line vessels supplying TUE that are registered on the ISSF PVR system. TUE will continue to promote the use of the PVR system with the remaining pole and line supply vessels. The ISSF PVR aims to increase the transparency of suppliers' activities and allows tuna vessels to identify themselves as participants in meaningful sustainability efforts.
- Using the results of the supply chain assessment, WWF and TUE completed a prioritisation exercise to rank each individual supply chain and provide a rationale for the establishment and implementation of projects and activities, identifying the most important areas for improvement.
- WWF visited port facilities with TUE representatives and viewed vessels at the dock in Tema (Ghana).
- As required by its participation with the ISSF, TUE takes part in an annual independent audit of ISSF conservation measures.⁹ The most recent audit was completed by MRAG Americas in March 2017, covering activities in 2016. The audit assesses the compliance of a company with more than 20 conservation measures, e.g. no shark-finning in the supply chain and skipper training. TUE scored 'OK' – the highest level of conformity – against all conservation measures set by ISSF. The audit reports of all participating ISSF companies are published on the [ISSF website](#).

2. UPDATE

- Skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna species were again the highest priority for the partnership, owing to the high volume within TUE's supply chain and the current poor management of tuna fisheries across the world. The 2017 assessment of the 2016 supply chain data illustrated the global sourcing area that TUE used. The majority of catches came from purse seine fisheries in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans.
- The number of MSC certified products available across the TUE brand portfolio has increased significantly following the inclusion of additional brands within the scope of the partnership. In 2017, the portfolio included 912 MSC certified products, up from 452 products in 2016.
- The volume of seafood sourced from MSC certified fisheries increased from 5% to 21% of the total wild-caught TUE supply chain from 2015 to 2016. This percentage includes TUE's direct purchases of raw material in 2016 and the small volume of seafood products that enter TUE's supply chain as consumer-ready or finished goods (FG) from MSC certified fisheries. This was due to the increased supply of MSC certified Atlantic herring, Atlantic mackerel and salmon coming from new brand supply chains, such as Meralliance, Rugenfish and King Oscar. The volume of tuna sourced from certified fisheries was below 1% of the total TUE supply volume in 2016. This volume is similar to that recorded in 2015. The implementation of FIPs covering TUE tuna supply chains will over time increase the percentage of MSC certified tuna.

5% → 21%
**INCREASE IN THE
 VOLUME OF SEAFOOD
 SOURCED FROM MSC
 CERTIFIED FISHERIES
 FROM 2015 TO 2016**

3. PROJECTS

- TUE implemented two FIPs in 2017: the **Indian Ocean Purse Seine Tuna FIP** and the **Eastern Atlantic Purse Seine Tuna FIP**. Both projects cover the species of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna.
- Two more FIPs – the **Brazilian Pole and Line Skipjack Tuna FIP** and the **Senegal Pole and Line Tuna FIP** – have been developed and are set to be implemented in 2018.
- The process for establishing and launching an inclusive, multi-stakeholder FIP in accordance with WWF guidelines takes many months of research, meetings and coordination. TUE is committed to working in line with these guidelines.^{10,11,12}
- As a supportive and active member of ISSF, TUE has continued its efforts to source from ISSF PVR registered vessels. TUE has also advocated for all tuna vessels to have skippers who have attended the ISSF training programme on how to reduce the number of endangered, threatened or protected (ETP) species caught.
- TUE is promoting efforts to reduce the number of FADs deployed by supply vessels. In addition, its suppliers have committed to actions to

improve the management of FADs in the fishery improvement projects. As a member of ISSF, TUE is advocating for the use of non-entangling FAD designs, to protect sharks and other non-target species.

- Engagement with supply vessels has become a critical area of work for TUE, as from 2016 it has not owned any of the vessels providing tuna to its supply chain.
- Thai Union has been exploring alternative uses for by-products from the supply chain to reduce waste and maximise value at a global level, engaging with businesses involved in fish oil refining as well as marine biotech. This project is in the initial stages of development.

COMMITTED TO THE CONSERVATION OF TUNA

Over the first three years of our partnership, the approach of organisations to deliver positive change in the sustainability of tuna fisheries has evolved. The partnership has facilitated an approach that is based on working collaboratively, takes a regional or ocean-level perspective, considers environmental factors beyond the supply chain and is based on transparency. These are factors that we believe are critical in creating lasting change and true transformation.

WWF's strategy is to transform fisheries by transitioning them towards meeting the MSC standard. WWF is working globally on tuna as one of its priority fish species and has been instrumental in establishing the formal approach to implementing stepwise improvements in fisheries, commonly known as a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP). WWF has many ongoing initiatives that aim to improve tuna fisheries and the livelihoods of the people who depend on them.

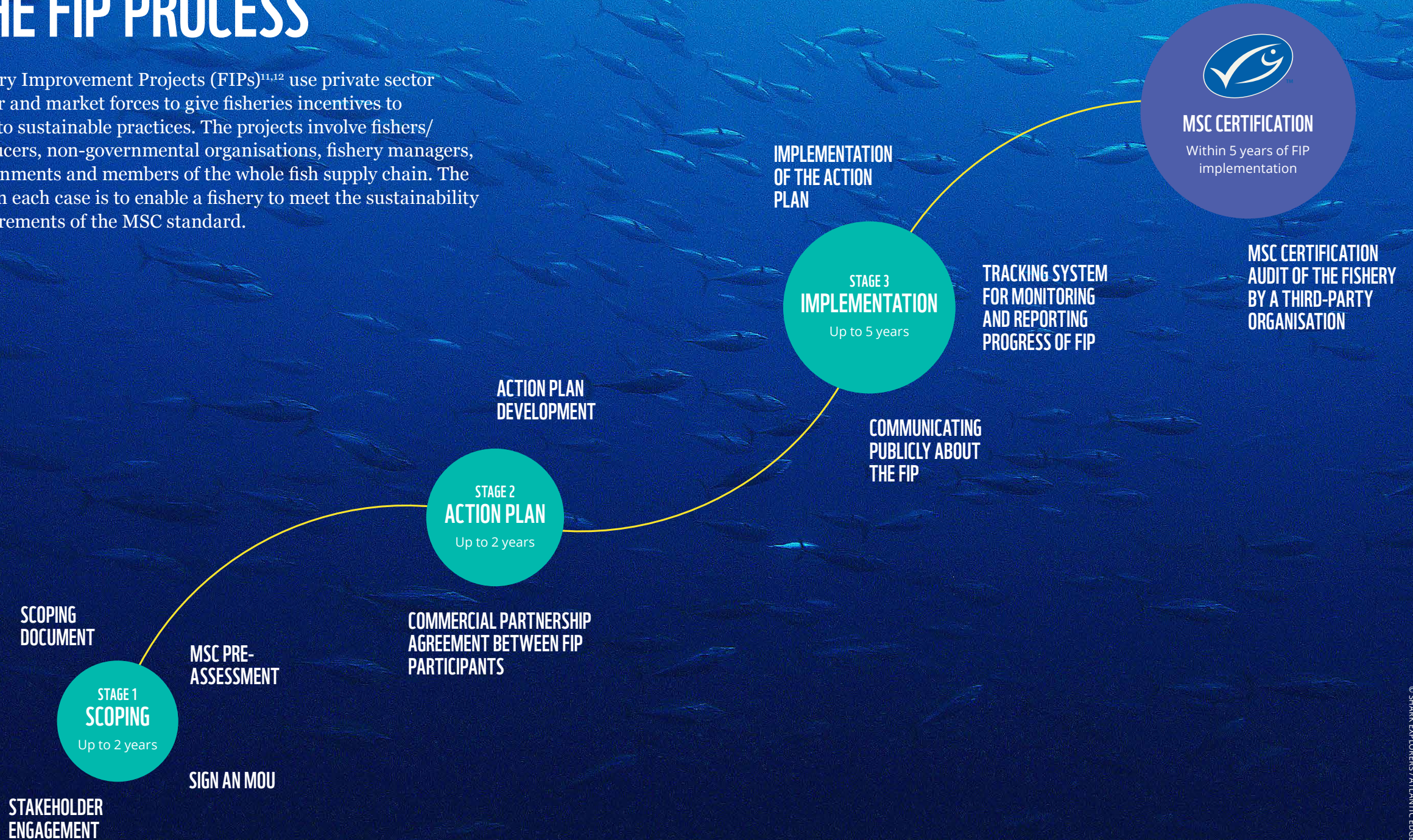
Thai Union's commitment to source sustainable tuna is made through its SeaChange® strategy and covers the global operation. The strategy puts great emphasis on achieving this milestone by making it a priority for its tuna supply chains to meet the MSC standard or be in a FIP geared towards meeting it. Efforts have been concentrated to ensure that the supply is sustainably caught by fully registered vessels and is fully traceable from catch to consumption, and that healthy stock levels are maintained.

Our partnership is focused on establishing and delivering projects that aim to transform the current European tuna supply chain in line with the global strategy. These projects identify specific actions to address any issues relating to stock health, environmental health and management of the fishery. As a result of working on large scale FIPs with so many participants, the understanding of the steps required to establish them has created new strategies and associations. These newly implemented FIPs cover approximately 85% of TUE's tuna supply chain. With new FIPs in the pipeline, by the end of 2018 there is potential for more than 95% of the total tuna supply chain being covered by a FIP.

95%
**BY THE END OF
 2018 THERE IS A
 POTENTIAL FOR
 MORE THAN 95%
 OF TUE TUNA BEING
 COVERED BY A FIP**

THE FIP PROCESS

Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs)^{11,12} use private sector power and market forces to give fisheries incentives to shift to sustainable practices. The projects involve fishers/producers, non-governmental organisations, fishery managers, governments and members of the whole fish supply chain. The aim in each case is to enable a fishery to meet the sustainability requirements of the MSC standard.



FIP PROGRESS IN 2017



INDIAN OCEAN PURSE SEINE TUNA FIP: WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN – SEYCHELLES AND MAURITIUS

This FIP covers approximately 60% of the total tuna volume supplied by TUE to the European market. The MoU was signed in October 2016 in the Seychelles and the FIP was officially launched in April 2017. Its 17 participants have been active in the development and approval of a detailed action plan and have agreed roles and responsibilities within the project. Governments, companies and vessel owners have demonstrated a willingness to work together to ensure the sustainability of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna stocks in this region.

This FIP is also known by the name of its company and organisations association – Sustainable Indian Ocean Tuna Initiative (SIOTI). The legal process of creating SIOTI is ongoing. The association will control the funding of the FIP and house the project management team that will drive the project forward and implement the action plan.

Information about this FIP has been published on the [WWF website](#), and also at fisheryprogress.org

SIOTI FIP SUMMARY INFORMATION

Scope **Purse-seine:** Free school, Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs), natural FADs and others.
Target species: bigeye, skipjack, yellowfin.

Proposed timeframe Detailed action plan finalised in April 2017. Partners are currently finalising roles and responsibilities and budget allocation to support the action plan. SIOTI association is in the process of being created.

Key achievements to date The FIP project participant agreement between key stakeholders has been signed. The FIP was launched in April 2017.

Participants ATUNSA, Beach Fishing, CFTO, Hartswater (Echebatar), Inpesca Fishing, Indian Ocean Ship Management Services, Interatun, Industria Armatoriale Tonniera, Isabella Fishing, OPAGAC, ANABAC/OPTUC, Princes Ltd, SAPMER, TUE, Tuna Fishing Company, Orthongel and TOG.

Links [WWF-UK website](#)
[Fishery Progress website](#)



EASTERN ATLANTIC OCEAN PURSE SEINE TUNA FIP: GHANA AND IVORY COAST

A MoU was signed in Accra, Ghana, for the Eastern Atlantic Purse Seine Tuna FIP in June 2017. Participants include TUE, the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development of Ghana, the Ministry of Animal Resources of Ivory Coast, and EU and non-EU vessels. Once the MoU was signed, this FIP was given priority status to enter the implementation phase. The pre-assessment, scoping document and action plan have been developed and reviewed by FIP participants.

A milestone was reached in November 2017 when the project participant agreement was signed. This document holds the FIP participants to account on the FIP's goals, its principal obligations, the structure of its management, its term, action plan, finances/budget, and communications.

This FIP was formally launched in December 2017 and a corresponding WWF webpage¹³ was created. The implementation phase of the project will begin in 2018 and will cover approximately 25% of the TUE tuna supply chain.

EASTERN ATLANTIC PURSE SEINE TUNA FIP SUMMARY INFORMATION

Scope **Purse seine:** Free school, Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs), natural FADs and others.
Target species: skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna.

Proposed timeframe **Q1 2017** collation of previous work in the region.
Q2 2017 drafting of MoU and circulation to participants. Meeting of participants.
Q2/Q3 2017 MoU signed with WWF.
Q3/Q4 2017 Action plan available and FIP starts implementation phase.

Key achievements to date The MoU was signed by members of the Ghanaian and Ivory Coast governments, local fishing authorities and EU producer organisations. FIP Launched in December 2017.

Participants Ghanaian Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Ivory Coast Ministry of Animal Resources, local Ghanaian fleet (Ghana Tuna Association and PANOFI), EU fleets (ANABAC, CFTO, ORTHONGEL), processors in Ghana and Ivory Coast (AIRONE, Cosmo Seafoods Co, SCODI), SAUPIQUET CONCARNEAU, INPESCA, ATUNSA CV LVA, TUE. OPAGAC will fill the role of observer in the FIP.

Links [WWF-UK website](#)



SENEGAL POLE AND LINE TUNA FIP: WEST AFRICA - SENEGAL

There has been significant progress on the scoping phase of this pole and line tuna FIP. It was initially focused on skipjack, but yellowfin and bigeye tuna have been included as target species. The pre-assessment and scoping document have been completed by external consultants. These use MSC principles to review the current status of the Senegalese pole and line tuna fishery, assessing its stock health, environmental impact and management. An action plan is in development, which will identify the critical areas of focus for the FIP and how it will be implemented.

FIP participants met in Dakar, Senegal, in November 2017 to sign an MOU.

SENEGAL TUNA FIP SUMMARY INFORMATION

Scope	Pole and line. Target species: skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna.
Proposed timeframe	Q1 2017 information gathering and initial discussions. Q2 2017 MSC pre-assessment Q3/Q4 2017 scoping document & signing of MoU Q1/Q2 2018 action plan available & implementation of FIP
Key achievements to date	Stakeholders have been approached. Stakeholder meeting held in May 2017. A meeting was held on 30 November 2017 to sign an MoU.
Participants	Senegal government, TUE, local traders for fish (SENER), local fleet (2 boats), EU pole and line fleets (8 boats, individually owned), and Princes Ltd.



BRAZIL POLE AND LINE SKIPJACK TUNA FIP: SOUTH AND SOUTH-EASTERN COASTAL WATERS OF BRAZIL

An MoU was signed on 28 September 2017 between WWF, TUE and a representative for both Brazilian producers: Leal Santos and Actemsa. It detailed the steps needed to start the implementation of the FIP, and roles and responsibilities for its development. The next stage will be to sign the FIP participant agreement and to conduct a review of the detailed action plan. TUE plan to launch this FIP in 2018.

BRAZIL TUNA FIP SUMMARY INFORMATION

Scope	Pole and line. Target species: skipjack tuna.
Proposed timeframe	Q3/Q4 2017 MoU with WWF Q2/Q3 2018 Action plan and implementation of FIP
Key achievements to date	Partners have been approached: local fleet (8 to 10 vessels), TUE, Leal Santos (cold storage) and WWF. MSC pre-assessment and scoping document are available. MoU was signed on 28 September 2017.
Participants	WWF-UK, WWF-Brazil, TUE, Actemsa, S.A., Industrias alimenticias Leal Santos Ltda, 8 to 10 local fishing vessels.

GLOBAL TUNA FIP: OPAGAC



Some of TUE's tuna supply originates from the global FIP led by Organización de Productores Asociados de Grandes Atuneros Congeladores (Producers Association of Large Tuna Freezers, OPAGAC) and WWF. This FIP was publicly announced in October 2016, following the development of the action plan and commencement of the implementation stage. While TUE supports the FIP, it does not have direct involvement in the implementation and completion of actions. TUE is an observer to this FIP and a representative sits on the advisory board. This FIP covers tuna fisheries on a global scale with a total of 13 potential Units of Certification. OPAGAC is also a participant in the Indian Ocean Purse Seine Tuna FIP. The OPAGAC FIP had its first year review in 2017. More information is available at fisheryprogress.org.

BRAZIL TUNA FIP SUMMARY INFORMATION

Scope	Atlantic Ocean tuna – purse seine. Indian Ocean tuna – purse seine. West and Central Pacific Ocean tuna – purse seine. Eastern Pacific Ocean tuna – purse seine.
Proposed timeframe	All FIPs: start and projected end dates October 2016 to September 2021.
Key achievements to date	Preparing for the first annual audit in November 2017. Completed the first year review.
Participants	Organización de Productores Asociados de Grandes Atuneros Congeladores (OPAGAC) and WWF.

TYPES OF TUNA IN THE TUE SUPPLY CHAIN

The tuna species found within TUE's supply chain are found within the category commonly known as tropical tuna.

YELLOWFIN TUNA

NT STATUS
Near Threatened

Aa SCIENTIFIC NAME
Thunnus albacares

Kg WEIGHT
up to 200 kg

FISH LENGTH
up to 2.5 m

SKIPJACK TUNA

Lc STATUS
Least concern

Aa SCIENTIFIC NAME
Katsuwonus pelamis

Kg WEIGHT
up to 30 kg

FISH LENGTH
up to 1 m

BIGEYE TUNA

V STATUS
Vulnerable

Aa SCIENTIFIC NAME
Thunnus obesus

Kg WEIGHT
up to 220 kg

FISH LENGTH
up to 2.5 m

ALBACORE TUNA

NT STATUS
Near threatened

Aa SCIENTIFIC NAME
Thunnus alalunga

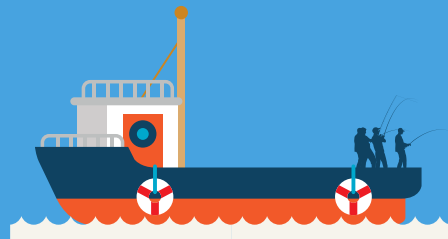
Kg WEIGHT
up to 36 kg

FISH LENGTH
up to 1.5 m

DIFFERENT WAYS OF CATCHING TUNA

PURSE SEINE

Nets are used to encircle a school of fish. The nets can be set on FADs* or placed around free-swimming schools of fish (known as FAD-free).



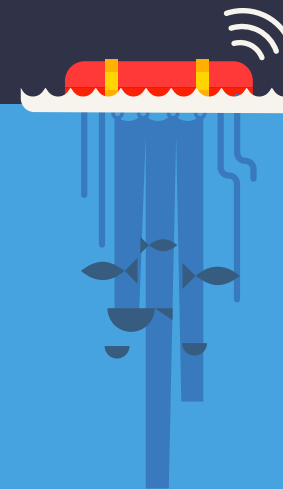
POLE AND LINE

Fish are caught individually using a pole, line and bait. Boats usually have several fishers fishing at once. Pole and line fishing can also involve FADs or be FAD-free.



HAND LINE

A single fishing line is held by hand and one or more lures or baited hooks are attached to the line.



*WHAT IS A FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE, OR FAD?

A fish aggregating device (FAD) is a floating object that attracts fish. Fishing beside or under FADs takes advantage of the fact that tuna and other fish naturally congregate around floating objects in the open ocean. FADs can be natural, such as logs or large marine creatures like whales or sharks, or manufactured. Manufactured FADs can be found either drifting in the ocean or anchored. Many manufactured FADs use old netting in their construction, which can result in the unwanted bycatch of sharks, turtles and marine mammals. Non-entangling FADs do not use netting and can therefore help to minimise the risk of this bycatch. This method of aggregating fish has been promoted by sustainable fishing bodies and has been adopted by several tuna fishing fleets.

The use of FADs has become widespread in the tuna industry because they are regarded as a highly effective way to improve catch rates and reduce operating costs, but their use has also been associated with a number of negative impacts. The FIP action plans we are developing as part of the WWF-TUE partnership will explore these impacts and how to limit them.

TRACEABILITY AND LEGALITY

Traceability is critical for assuring responsible sourcing and legality of seafood. But implementation of *full* traceability remains a challenge in many fisheries and supply chains all over the world.¹⁴

An international working group, led by TUE, is likely to be launched towards the end of 2018 to conduct a study into how blockchain technology can be used in fish traceability. Since TUE has already put in place a very robust factory traceability system (all factories are MSC CoC certified), the next step will be to capitalise on the existence of this system and ensure further innovation is brought into the sector by digitising all fish transactions from catch to the factory gate. Once the agenda for this working group is agreed and finalised it will be shared publicly.

Traceability and IUU risk assessments of the TUE supply chain were completed in year one of the partnership, and WWF is currently developing a way to engage the wider sector to improve traceability and reduce the risks of IUU. While 100% of TUE's overseas plants are MSC CoC certified, TUE has further demonstrated its commitment to ensuring full traceability by continuing a programme of third-party audits on its suppliers and factories to ensure compliance with its own sourcing policy.

2017

TUE PARTICIPATED IN THE WWF GLOBAL DIALOGUE ON SEAFOOD TRACEABILITY

ACTIONS

1. TUE continued IUU and traceability assessments under a third-party supplier risk assessment (SRA) and supplier vessel assessment (SVA) programme this year, which included all purse seine tuna vessels and a selection of pole and line vessels supplying European supply chains. As a next step this process will be scaled up to audit more supply chains.
2. TUE improved traceability and reduced the risk of IUU fish entering UK supply chains by adding several layers of control to its fish supply chain. This provides additional levels of scrutiny for every purchase of raw material.
3. In April 2017, TUE participated in the WWF Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability sessions at the Seafood Expo Global in Brussels.
4. In addition, TUE was represented in the Seafood Business for Ocean Stewardship Initiative ([SeaBOS](#)) by Dr Darian McBain (Global Director of Sustainability, Thai Union). The initiative aims to 'connect the global seafood business to science, connect wild capture fisheries to aquaculture, and connect European and North American companies to Asian companies. The ambition is to lead a global transformation towards sustainable seafood production and a healthy ocean.'

ADVOCATING FOR IMPROVEMENT

TUE is committed to working with WWF and other stakeholders to tackle the governance and political issues raised when managing migratory tuna stocks.

By working together to advocate for higher standards, businesses and NGOs can be a catalyst for change. WWF works globally on fisheries governance and an important component of the Seafood Charter is to ensure that change impacts more than just one company's supply chain. Advocacy is a critical component of the WWF-TUE partnership as it is required to complete the actions that have been identified in the FIP action plans.

ACTIONS

1. WWF approached TUE and 19 other seafood businesses in September 2017 to sign a letter of support that would be sent to delegates at the 25th regular meeting of ICCAT in November 2017. TUE confirmed they would support this letter. This Regional Fishery Management Organisation (RFMO) convenes a meeting once a year to put forward and address new resolutions for the conservation of tuna. As part of WWF and TUE's advocacy work, we brought a number of businesses together to sign a joint letter¹⁵ showcasing the industry's recognition of the issues facing tropical tuna in the Atlantic Ocean. TUE signed the letter with 19 other global businesses to demonstrate support for new conservation resolutions.
 - Provide the best available data and allocate appropriate funding to ensure fishery scientists have quality information for use in stock assessments and related research.
 - Improve monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) measures, including an increase of observer coverage requirements for large-scale purse seine vessels (up to 100%) and longline vessels (at least 20%), and the use of electronic monitoring and reporting to support data collection.
 - Strengthen MCS tools to ensure IUU-free supply chains; improve video monitoring systems (VMS) and port inspections, to follow best practice standards and the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) requirements.
 - Adopt effective FAD management strategies that include the use of non-entangling and biodegradable FADs, and provide robust and complete data from all flagged purse seine vessels operating in the Atlantic.
2. Ahead of the ICCAT meeting in November 2017, WWF developed a business support letter and a formal statement to address the limitations of tuna management in the Atlantic Ocean. TUE signed the letter, which called on ICCAT delegates to:
 - Adopt amendments to the convention¹⁶ to enable the Commission to manage all shark fisheries, adopting the precautionary approach and ecosystem-based management.
 - Strengthen the recovery of bigeye and the long-term management plans and harvest strategies for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack across all gear types, with a focus on the ecosystem.
3. TUE and WWF have been active participants in various meetings to ensure tuna fisheries are managed sustainably. One of the most notable was the commitment made to improving ocean health at the Our Ocean conference in Malta, during which TUE stated its commitment to its SeaChange® sustainability strategy.



TRANSPARENCY AND ENGAGEMENT

The partnership includes objectives for communicating to retailers, consumers and TUE employees. If the seafood market is to be fully transformed, retailers and their customers must understand sustainability and demand it from brands and suppliers. The enthusiasm and support of TUE employees is also crucial to our success.

ACTIONS

- With support from WWF, TUE met with key retailers and stakeholders, including other NGOs, in UK and Europe to raise awareness of the partnership and the progress that has been made towards its objectives.
- WWF and TUE have produced quarterly update reports and given presentations about the progress made under the partnership for key stakeholders in the seafood and retail sectors.
- WWF supported John West to deliver training through the John West Academy in 2017. Building on the 'Basics of seafood sustainability (level one)' training from the previous year, level two focused on ensuring that key members of staff understand enough about the partnership and seafood sustainability to confidently discuss the company's progress with external stakeholders.
- TUE provides a system called the 'can tracker' to give consumers transparency about the vessel from which their produce is sourced. This service is maintained and operated in several countries across the John West, Petit Navire, Mareblu and Hawesta brands.
- TUE and WWF communicated jointly alongside the participants in the FIPs related to our partnership, publishing updates on the WWF website and providing information to industry media.

CONTRIBUTING TO CONSERVATION



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As part of our partnership, TUE supports WWF's East Africa Regional Sustainable Fisheries programme, providing funding to a project aiming to secure artisanal tuna fisheries in east Africa.

The goal of the project is to advance data collection on artisanal tuna at key landing sites to inform improved local, national and regional management measures for tuna stocks, including at the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) level. This will contribute to improved sustainability of fish stocks, and will help secure livelihoods and food security for coastal fishing communities in the region.

Throughout the last year we have made good progress towards the objectives of the project:

ACTIONS

- Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar are all piloting improved artisanal fisheries data collection (including for tuna and tuna-like species) through bespoke smartphone apps. These will feed into national databases for analysis and be used to inform sustainable fisheries management decisions at both a national and regional level (e.g. IOTC).
- Some 200 people from local communities, fisheries departments and CSOs/NGOs have been trained to collect and analyse fish catch data.
- Improved data on artisanal fish catches is being regularly collected at 113 landing sites.
- Data collected through bespoke smartphone apps is now automatically integrated with national fisheries databases in three countries (Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique). It can then be analysed and used to inform fisheries management decisions nationally and provided to the IOTC, UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIO FC) to inform regional fisheries management decisions.
- Improved artisanal fish catch data has been analysed and included in annual national fisheries statistical reports for marine fisheries in Mozambique. In Kenya, new analysed data will be included in the next annual report. In Tanzania data analysis is under way.
- Kenya and Mozambique have shared and presented improved and analysed fish catch data with the FAO, SWIO FC and the IOTC. These efforts have been formally recognised and all submitted data is used to inform fishery management decisions.
- National tuna forums in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique have increased their capacity for artisanal fisheries data collection and IOTC compliance.
- In Madagascar there has been a particular focus on value addition for 120 local artisanal fisherfolk through support to two fisher cooperatives, with equipment and technical training provided on quality control and standards through ADIPIN. The cooperatives were awarded a trade certificate by the regional authority for a range of new products including a 'tuna sausage'. An additional benefit of this project is that the majority of the fisherfolk previously focused on catching sharks, which are globally increasingly threatened, but they now focus on tuna species.
- In Mozambique scuba diving training was provided for 10 local fisherfolk along with training on how to assess the health of local marine ecosystems. This will strengthen participatory monitoring of local fishing areas.
- In Mozambique a baseline survey of fisherfolk, gears and mapping of fishing sites was completed for Mecufi and Pemba Bay.

NEXT STEPS

During the three years of our partnership, TUE has made significant improvements to its global tuna supply chain. The establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna FIP and the Eastern Atlantic Tuna FIP will drive its business towards greater sustainability and transparency. Future FIP work will enable more of its supply chain to work towards the MSC standard. In the fourth year, the partnership will focus on the successful completion of actions from year one of the FIPs. We will continue to track our progress against the principles of the Seafood Charter and we will publish the final independently verified annual report at the end of the partnership year.

The key activities and objectives for the next year of the partnership are listed below.

A. SUPPLY CHAIN

- An annual species assessment of the TUE supply chain data will be completed to continue monitoring; this will include data for 2017 and Q1&Q2 for 2018. This will continue the work on ensuring that there is an up-to-date action plan for improving the sustainability 'rating' for the supply chains. This will include establishing more improvement projects to help fisheries and farms achieve MSC and ASC standards.
- WWF will review the vessel flag States and the status of supplier's vessels on the ISSF PVR during the species assessment process, evaluating:
 - IMO numbers
 - PVR registration
 - Flag States
 - Number of supply vessels registered within the FIPs.
- FIPs:
 - Implement the action plan for the Indian Ocean Purse Seine Tuna FIP.
 - Implement the action plan for the Eastern Atlantic Ocean Purse Seine Tuna FIP.
 - Establish a FIP in Senegal, focused on tuna caught using the pole and line method.
 - Work to establish a FIP in Brazil focused on skipjack tuna caught with a pole and line, local situation permitting. The FIP participant agreement should be signed and the action plan also needs to be approved by all participants.
 - Establish a FIP in Ghana focused on tuna caught using the pole and line method.
- TUE and WWF will work through the FIPs with the participants on the actions that relate to improving the reporting of bycatch, and support sector-wide changes that improve bycatch reporting to RFMOs.
- TUE will continue to follow the ISSF conservation requirements of only sourcing from vessels that use non-entangling FADs.

B. TRACEABILITY AND LEGALITY

- WWF-UK and WWF-France will work with TUE to develop a new IUU risk assessment project (this will follow the work from the project completed in 2014). This will assess the risks of IUU fish entering the TUE supply chain and identify actions to mitigate them, as well as potentially expand to include labour and social risk factors.
 - TUE and WWF will participate in conferences and dialogues that focus on eliminating IUU fishing and ensuring full traceability in supply chains. These will include the WWF Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability and the SeaBOS initiative.
- ### C. ADVOCATING FOR IMPROVEMENT
- WWF and TUE will actively engage with the RFMOs, namely IOTC and ICCAT, to advocate for improved management for tuna. Much of the advocacy work will be centred on the delivery of the year one actions of the Indian Ocean Purse Seine Tuna FIP and the Eastern Atlantic Purse Seine Tuna FIP. This advocacy work will initially be targeted at engaging with RFMOs to implement harvest control strategies and control rules for tropical tuna species. We will also advocate for improved management of FADs, including issues of ownership, tracking and reduction in the numbers deployed.
 - WWF and TUE will engage with government ministries in key source regions – such as Senegal, Ivory Coast, Ghana and the Seychelles – to improve the management of tuna fisheries and to support advocacy work targeted at RFMOs. These governments will be asked to support engagement with the RFMOs and support the strategies and actions proposed by TUE and WWF.
 - TUE will continue to promote a reduction in the number of FADs and the use of non-entangling FADs. This will support and implement the recommendations of the ISSF.

- WWF will lead on the advocacy activities through the FIPs and their other global initiatives. TUE will support these initiatives and will participate in industry-wide advocacy initiatives. Both organisations will take opportunities to participate in any other relevant industry or government-led advocacy activities that will support our improvement plans.

D. TRANSPARENCY AND ENGAGEMENT

- TUE will continue to update and make known all of its relevant sourcing policies and its codes of conduct for suppliers will be publicly available.
- TUE will continue to work to increase the number of products in its supply chain that are MSC or ASC labelled, which will drive consumer awareness of sustainability.
- As the Brazil Pole and Line Skipjack Tuna FIP and the Senegal Pole and Line Tuna FIP enter the implementation phase, WWF will publish the action plans and other details of the projects online. The annual progress of these FIPs will also be monitored and published.
- The Indian Ocean Purse Seine Tuna FIP and the Eastern Atlantic Purse Seine Tuna FIP will have their annual improvements published. All of the documents that describe the progress of the FIPs will be publicly accessible.
- WWF and TUE will continue to identify opportunities to engage with employees in both organisations to communicate about seafood sustainability and the progress that is being made by the partnership.
- WWF and TUE will continue to identify opportunities to engage with key stakeholders including retailers and NGOs to raise awareness of the partnership and the actions it has undertaken to improve sustainability. This will be continued through the provision of quarterly technical updates and direct dialogue.

E. CONTRIBUTING TO WIDER MARINE CONSERVATION

Important next steps for the East Africa Regional Sustainable Fisheries programme to the end of June 2018 include:

- Complete artisanal fisheries data collection pilots at selected sites in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique, making final improvements to the bespoke smartphone app and its synchronisation with national fisheries databases (e.g. Open Artfish Database in Mozambique).
- Increase the roll-out and scope of the pilot project in Madagascar.
- Lobby fisheries departments and national governments (including through national tuna fora) to support the roll-out of the approach to other communities/key artisanal fishery landing sites.
- Deliver final fisheries data analysis training for communities, fishery department staff and CSO/NGO staff.
- Continue data collection for at least 100 key artisanal fishery landing sites.
- Support Kenya to include newly analysed data in its annual fisheries statistics report, and Tanzania to finalise analysis of collected data for inclusion in its next annual fisheries statistics report, and help both countries to present and submit these to the IOTC, FAO and SWIO FC.
- Continue to lobby national tuna forums, the FAO, SWIO FC and IOTC to take into account key findings from the analysis of reported data on artisanal fisheries – particularly for tuna and tuna-like species – in its discussions, analysis, recommendations, guidance and management decisions (including quota allocation).
- Capture the details of the project and key lessons learned as a case study, and present, disseminate and promote it widely.
- Arrange translation of tuna species identification cards into Portuguese to improve data collection at Mozambique sites.

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BUREAU VERITAS' INDEPENDENT EVALUATION STATEMENT

To the stakeholders of Thai Union Europe

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Bureau Veritas UK Ltd has been engaged by Thai Union Europe (TUE) to provide independent assessment of the status of the WWF-UK (WWF) and TUE partnership's progress towards their commitments during the third year of the partnership (10 October 2016 – 9 October 2017). These commitments have been developed under the Seafood Charter signed by both parties in February 2015.

The objective of our work is to provide an evaluation of the reliability and accuracy of the reported progress and the supporting performance data.

SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of our work was limited to an evaluation of progress against the commitments for the period 10 October 2016 – 9 October 2017, reported in the WWF-Thai Union Europe Partnership Progress Report 2018 (the Report) on pages 15-17 in the table under the section entitled 'Year 3: Summary of progress towards Seafood Charter Commitments ("Selected Information")'.

Reported performance against commitments covers TUE's operations in the UK and EU for the brands John West, Petit Navirre, and Mareblu, King Oscar and Rügen Fisch.

Our evaluation does not extend to any other information included in the Report and applies to the Selected Information included within the scope of work described above.

ASSESSMENT STANDARD

We performed our evaluation work in accordance

with the Bureau Veritas Assurance Protocol, which is based on best practice assurance standards including AA1000AS, ISAE3000, and ISO14064-3.

The evaluation was conducted to a limited level of assurance.

LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

Excluded from the scope of our work is:

- Any activities outside the defined reporting period;
- Partnership strategy and position statements (including any expression of opinion, belief, aspiration, expectation or aim);

This evaluation engagement relies on a risk based selected sample of the Selected Information and the associated limitations that this entails. The reliability of the reported data is dependent on the accuracy and completeness of information, particularly supply chain data, provided by TUE to WWF and the accurate collation of this information by WWF. This independent statement should not be relied upon to detect all errors, omissions or misstatements that may exist.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

The preparation and presentation of the Selected Information in the Report are joint responsibility of the management of the TUE and WWF partnership.

Bureau Veritas was not involved in the drafting of the Report and is exclusively responsible for the content of this evaluation statement.

SUMMARY OF WORK PERFORMED

As part of our independent evaluation, our work included:

- Conducting interviews with key TUE and WWF personnel responsible for the management of the partnership and for monitoring progress against the commitments set out under the partnership;
- Reviewing documentary evidence provided by TUE and WWF including but not limited to action and monitoring plans, assessments and data analysis, presentations, internal and external communications, and independent reports and certificates;
- Reviewing the data collection and consolidation processes used to compile Selected Information, including assumptions made, and the data scope and reporting boundaries; and
- Assessing the disclosure and presentation of the Selected Information to ensure consistency with the reviewed supporting documentation.

BUREAU VERITAS OPINION

Based on our verification activities, no evidence has come to our attention to suggest that:

- the reported progress against the partnership's commitments during third year do not provide a fair representation of the progress under the Seafood Charter partnership for the defined period; and
- there are significant omissions which could affect stakeholders' ability to make informed judgements on the partnership's reported performance against commitments.

Such opinion is based on work undertaken and the limitations & exclusions defined in this statement.

STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE, IMPARTIALITY AND COMPETENCE

Bureau Veritas is an independent professional services company that specialises in quality, environmental, health, safety and social accountability with over 185 years history. Its assurance team has extensive experience in conducting verification over environmental, social, ethical and health and safety information, systems and processes.

Bureau Veritas operates a certified¹ Quality Management System which complies with the requirements of ISO 9001:2008, and accordingly maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Bureau Veritas has implemented a code of ethics across its business which ensures that all our staff members maintain high standards of integrity and independence. Bureau Veritas believes this assignment did not raise any conflicts of interest.



**BUREAU
VERITAS**

**Bureau Veritas UK Ltd
London, April 2018**

¹ Certificate of Registration FS 34143 issued by BSI Assurance UK Limited



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