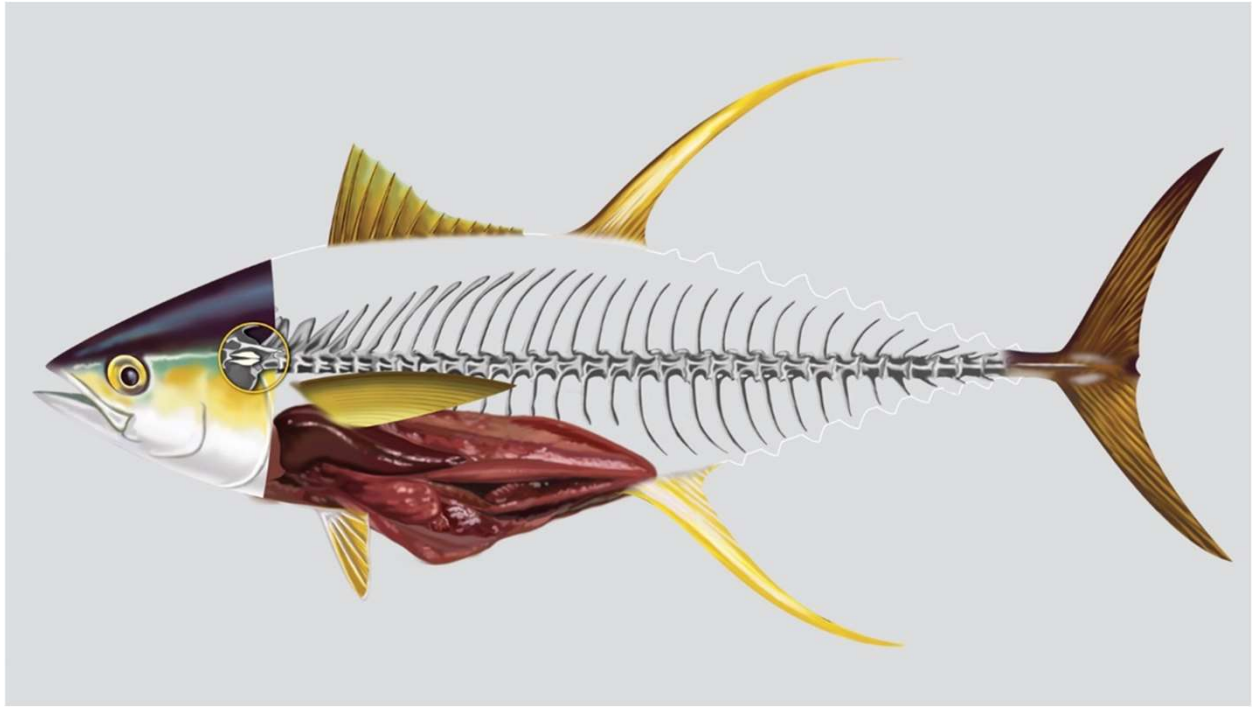
Pacific Marine Specimen Bank Steering Committee



Electronic meeting
1st August 2024

Oceanic Fisheries Programme, SPC
Nouméa, New Caledonia

1. Agenda

Agenda

1. PRELIMINARIES

1.1 Review and adoption of agenda

2. PMSB PROGRESS REPORT

2.1 PMSB Activities (WCPFC-SC20-2024/RP-P35b-01)
2.2 Observer-based sampling
2.3 Port sampling
2.4 Training
2.5 OnShore and *Ollo* apps
2.6 PMSB access and outputs
2.7 Some 2023-2024 highlights

3. WORK PLAN 2024-25

3.1 General work plan
3.2 Other initiatives

4. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

4.1 Budget
4.2 Recommendations to SC20

5. ADOPTION OF REPORT

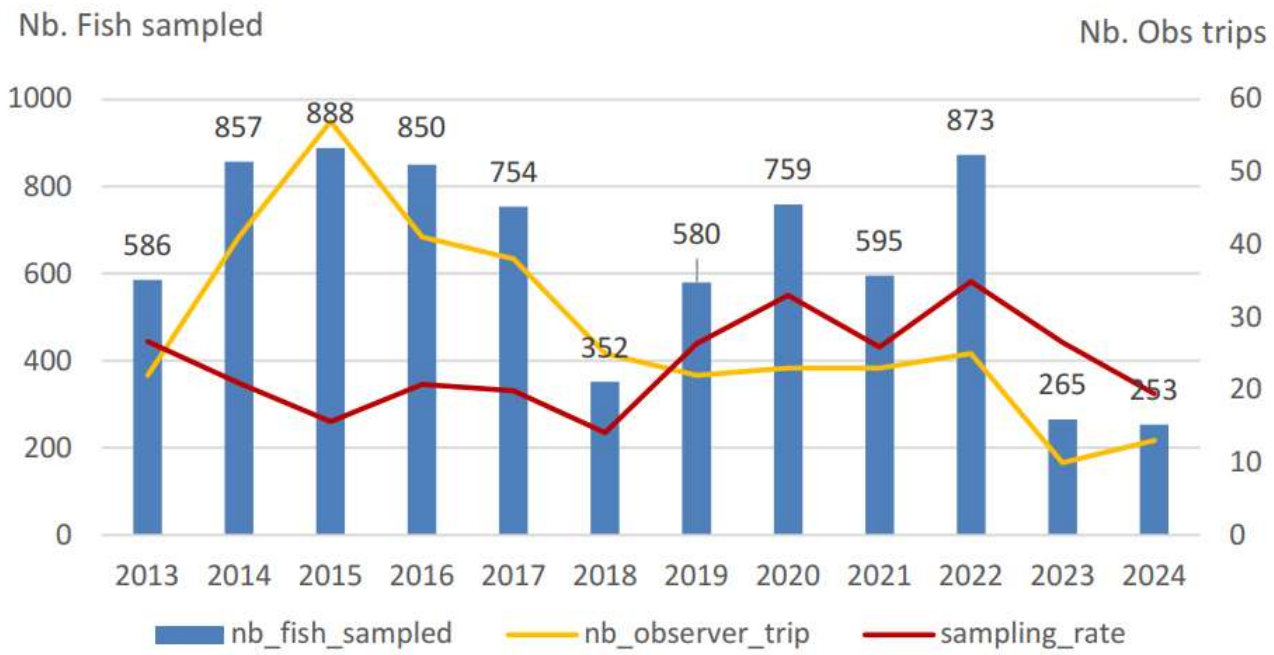
2. PMSB progress report

WCPFC-SC20-2024 / RP-P35b-01
https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/23017

2.1. PMSB activities (2023-24)

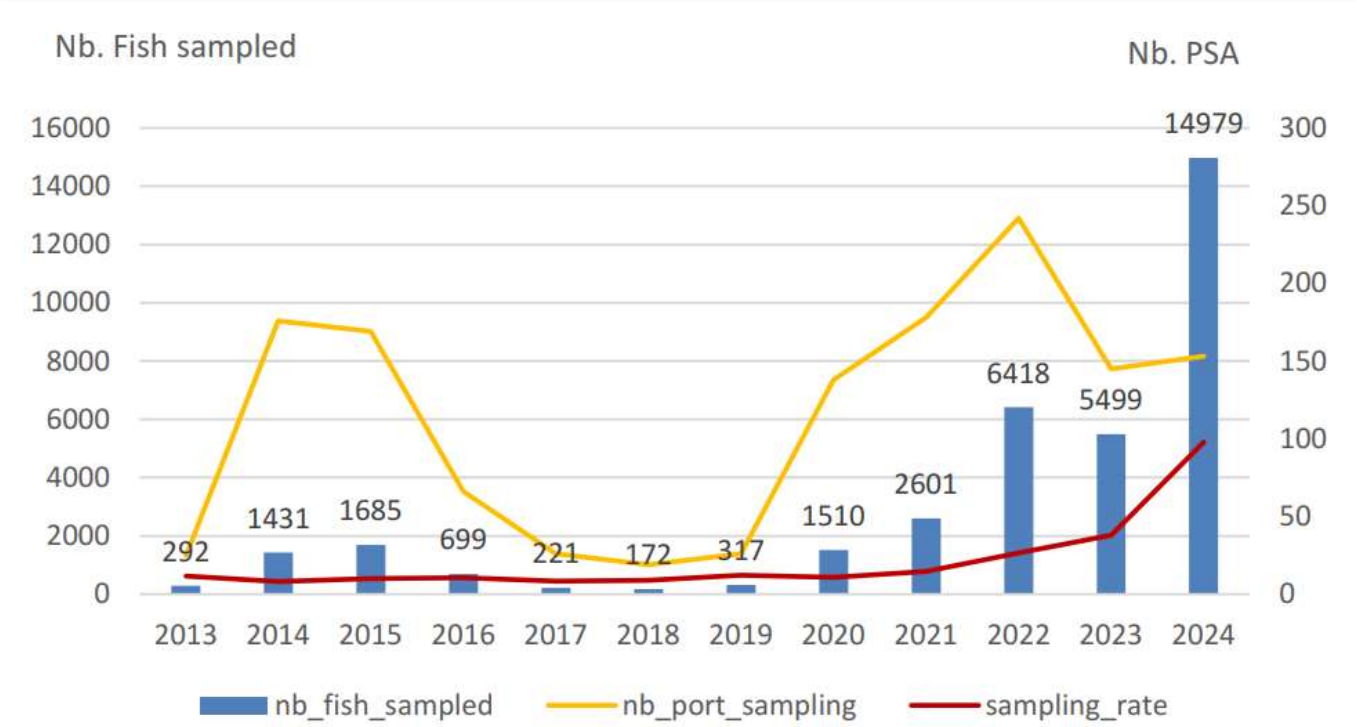
- ~48,000 biological samples collected from ~16,700 fish in 2023-24 (8% increase compared to 2022-23).
- ~273,100 biological samples (in total) in the repository, taken from ~101,000 individual animal specimens.

2.2. Observer-based sampling



- Effort in 2023 to restart bio sampling.
- In early 2024, already the same number as 2023.

2.3. Port sampling



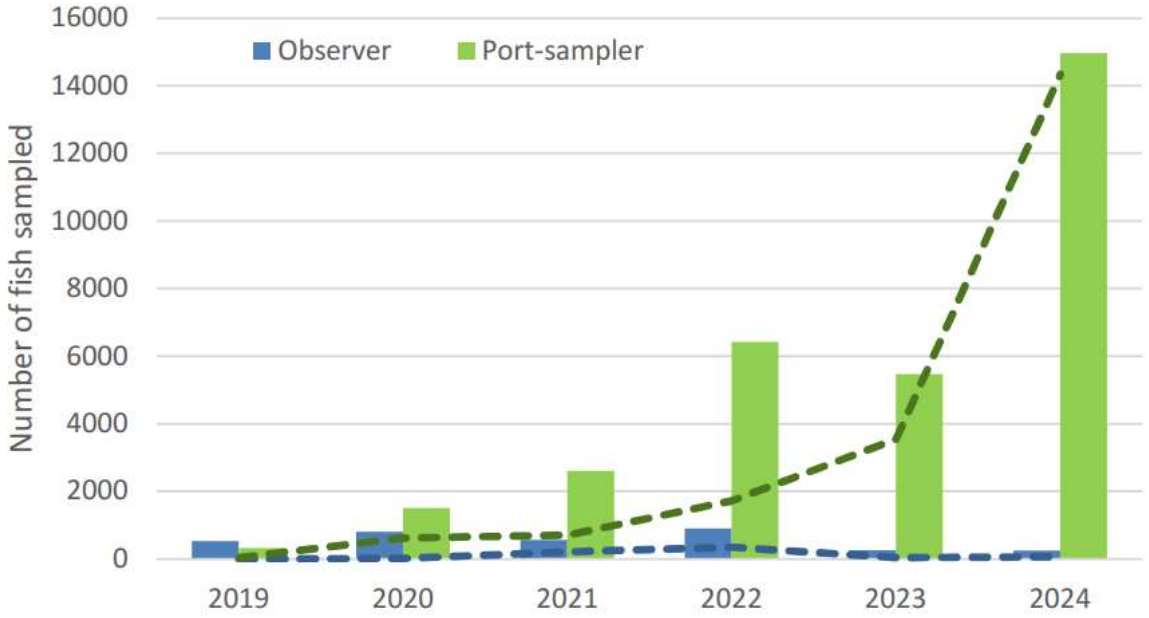
- Partnerships allowed to increase number of samples
- Implementation of CKMR project in 2024 boosted the number of samples

2.4. Training

- Training courses conducted in three countries.
- 55 people were trained in biological sampling.
- Observer training course hosted on the moodle platform, accessible online.

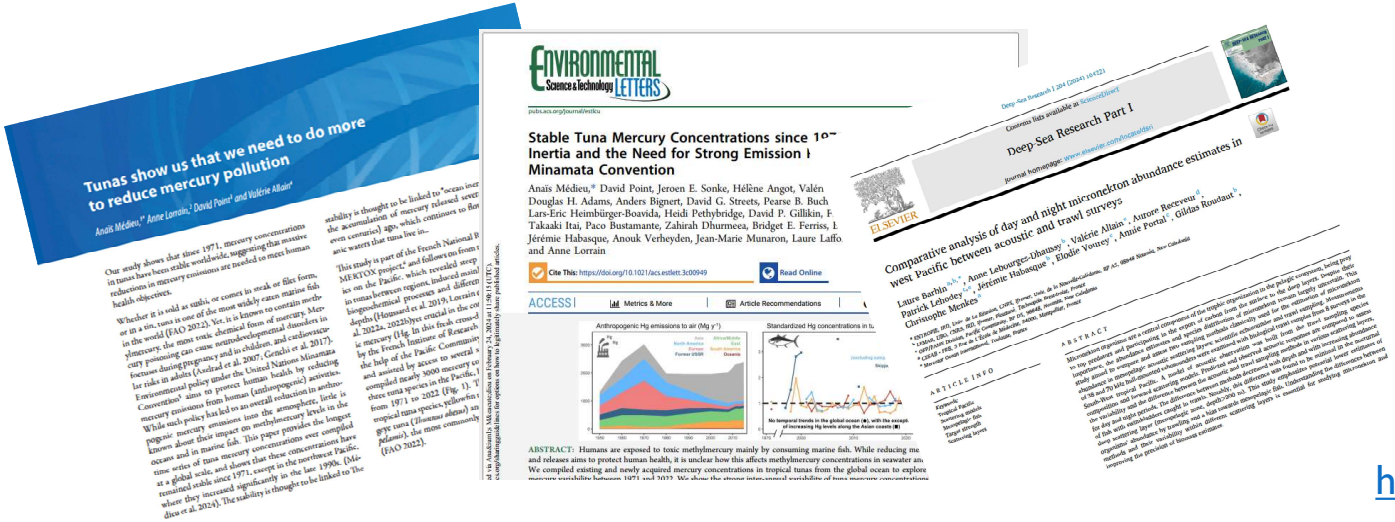
2.5. Electronic Reporting (ER)

- *OnShore and OLLO are* currently in use in 14 countries.



2.6. PMSB access and outputs

- 42 PMSB-related projects are ‘ongoing’, 34 ‘completed’.
- 9 PMSB-related articles were published in 2023-24.

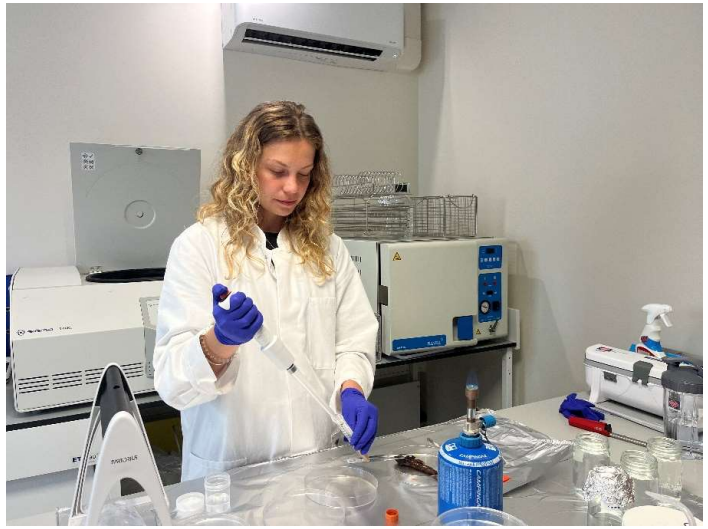


https://www.spc.int/ofp/PacificSpecimenBank

2.7. Some 2023-24 highlights

- Development of a **Quality Management System** to ensure high quality of samples and data in the context of higher level of activity of the PMSB : procedures and standards to comply with ISO9001 standard started early 2024

- **Genetics laboratory**: Hi-throughput and automated instrumentation allowing the analyses of hundreds of samples
  - Analyses of Tuna Stomach samples for prey identification
  - Quality control of DNA samples; species identification and sex identification



3. Work plan 2024-2025

3.1. General work plan

Pacific Community
Communauté du Pacifique

Actions planned for 2024-25, continuing from previous years, include:

- Completion of a document on standard operating procedures for the PMSB.
- Continue to update and improve training materials for biological sampling.
- Continue the development and enhancement of electronic recording ER apps and associated trainings.
- Continue the development of a WCPO-wide sampler network for the collection of tuna genetics samples.
- Continue the development of our Quality Management System to meet international standards of the PMSB.
- Development of the PMSB website to better highlight the use of the PMSB samples and associated outputs.
- Completion of the construction of the wet laboratory extension and renovation of the taxonomy laboratory in Nouméa.

3.1. General work plan

New actions planned for 2024-25 include:

- Transfer of BioDaSys to a web-based technology
- Quality Management System implementation based on ISO9001 standard.
- Improve the reporting of PMSB activities through PMSB website.
- Encourage the use of ER for biological sampling data collection.

3.2. Other initiatives

Nothing to report under this item

4. Administrative matters

4.1. Budget

- Annual cost of supporting the PMSB is USD 97,200 baselined in 2018, with an annual inflation adjustment agreed by the Commission.
- Proposed budget for 2024: USD 107,373
- Indicative budgets for 2025 and 2026: USD 109,520 and USD 111,711, respectively.

4.2. Recommendations to SC20:

The following recommendations arise from this report. We invite SC20 to:

- Continue to support initiatives to increase rates of observer biological sampling, noting that this contribution is essential to the ongoing success of the WCPFC's work.
- Incorporate the identified budget into the 2025 budget and the 2026-27 indicative budgets, as development of the WCPFC PMSB is intended to be ongoing and is considered essential.
- Endorse change for Project 35b to report on the 12 months of the civil year (Jan-Dec) preceding SC instead of reporting on the 12 months before SC (July-June) which would allow the provision of better quality data in the SC report.
- Endorse that the work plan in Section 4 of this report be pursued by the Scientific Services Provider, in addition to standard duties associated with maintenance and operation of the WCPFC PMSB in 2024-25.

5. Adoption of report