



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
NINTH REGULAR SESSION**

6-14 August 2013
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

**WPEA PROJECT
PROGRESS REPORT**

WCPFC-SC9-2013/ RP-WPEA-06

VIET NAM



**WEST PACIFIC EAST ASIA
STEERING COMMITTEE**



**Progress Report to the Steering Committee of WPEA project
(July 2012 – June 2013)**

Prepared by
Department of Capture Fisheries and Resources Protection
VIETNAM

I. Introduction

The West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management project (WPEA OFM) has been carried out in Vietnam since January 2010 by the Department of Capture Fisheries and Resources Protection (DECAFIREP). The main objective of the project is to strengthen national capacities and international cooperation on priority trans-boundary concerns relating to the conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks in the West Pacific Ocean and East Asia including Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. The project include two main components: (i) legal, policy and institutional arrangements to comply with WCPFC's requirements and (ii) capacity building on tuna fishery monitoring, especially for establishing tuna data collection system and data collection from port sampling to contribute regional stock assessment.

In period of July 2012 – June 2013, the project activities have mainly focused on implementation and enhancement of national-level tuna catch data collection for regional stock assessment and national tuna fishery management. Accordingly, an activity to review data collection system at local level was conducted and this activity has provided guidelines/assistances for enumerators so that they can be familiar with their collection tasks. In addition, a workshop was also convened to estimate Vietnam's annual total tuna catch by gear and species for submission to WCPFC to fulfill its obligation as a cooperating non-member of WCPFC.

II. Monitoring, data enhancement and fisheries assessment

In November 2012, the fourth workshop on the review of port sampling and data collection was convened at Vung Tau, Vietnam from 8-10 November 2012. This workshop focused to review the status of tuna data collection at the local levels. The main objectives of the workshop were (i) to review data collection activities for longline (LL), gillnet (GN) and purse seine (PS) that have been implemented in Vietnam since 2010; (ii) to review logistic matters such as financial, manpower, compliance issues in the data collection of Vietnam and (iii) to recommend better solutions for improvements of data collection systems for LL, GN and PS in Vietnam.

During the period, enumerators and local supervisors have been hired, replacing the outgoing enumerators, to continue port sampling and other related activities for LL, GN and PS fisheries at the existing landing sites. The logbook program for LL has been implemented in the second year of the project. However, the recovery rate was not very high indicating insufficient cooperation by fishing industry in relation to their data provision.

Table1. List of enumerators and local supervisors hired for data collection.

No.	Name	Position	Coverage area
1	Nguyen Hai Binh	Local supervisor	Tam Quan, Binh Dinh
2	Le Van Bich	Enumerator	Tam Quan, Binh Dinh

3	Vo Van Thanh	Enumerator	Tam Quan, Binh Dinh
6	Le Duc Tuong	Local supervisor	Phuong 6, Phu Dong
4	Doan Thuong Huynh	Enumerator	Phuong 6, Phu Dong
5	Nguyen Hai Trieu	Enumerator	Phuong 6, Phu Dong
7	Vo Khac En	Local supervisor	Ho Ro, Khanh Hoa
8	Lu Thanh Phong	Enumerator	Ho Ro, Khanh Hoa
9	Vu Ba Duy	Enumerator	Ho Ro, Khanh Hoa

Table 2. Coverage of 2012 tuna fishery data collection in the three provinces

	Gear	Number of Trips	Unloading data		Logsheet data		Port sampling	
			Sampled	%	Sampled	%	Sampled	%
Binh Dinh	Gillnet	66	-	0%	-	0%	48	73%
	Longline	4,700	1,037	22%	822	17%	174	4%
	Purse seine	1,163	733	63%	-	0%	194	17%
Khanh Hoa	Gillnet	1,966	1,600	81%	-	0%	391	20%
	Longline	728	730	100%	82	11%	152	21%
Phu Yen	Gillnet	314	314	100%	-	0%	141	45%
	Longline	2,392	1,235	52%	1,250	52%	546	23%

The second Vietnam Tuna Fisheries Annual Catch Estimate workshop (VTFACE-2) was held in Nha Trang, 1-5 April 2013. The main objective of the workshop was to produce 2012 annual total tuna catch estimates of Vietnam by GEAR and SPECIES. Potential issues to be addressed during the process of catch estimation at this workshop included (i) whether reliable estimates for non-WPEA provinces could be produced, (ii) the problems with separating the Handline data from the Longline data and (iii) whether the historical estimates (i.e. pre-2000) could be produced. Main outputs of the workshop were compiled as annexed in **Appendix 1** to this report and also included in the WCPFC Annual Report-Part 1.

WPEA-1 has been focusing on collection of tuna catch data from three key tuna provinces, Binh Dinh, Khanh Hoa and Phu Yen, where the majority of oceanic tunas are produced by longline, gillnet and purse seine. However, the workshop invited six more provinces where tuna fisheries are relatively popular compared with the other provinces: Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Binh Thuan, Ninh Thuan, Quang Ngai, Quang Nam and Da Nang. The workshop recommended that the six provinces need to provide more accurate background information and data to estimate total annual catches of oceanic tunas in the region. According to the recommendation, WPEA started to support a training session to establish a data collection system in the six provinces and the training was conducted in late June 2013. Training focused on local Sub-DECAFIREP staff that were going to involve directly in the data collection tasks. All administrative arrangements with Sub-DECAFIREP to implement data collection in the six provinces will be finalized in July 2013.

In term of capacity building, the NTC/Data Manager was assigned to attend the First TUFMAN Training Workshop (TTW1) held at SPC headquarters, Noumea from the 3–7 December 2012. The purpose of the workshop was to train the participants to be familiar with the use of TUFMAN database. The train focused on making all participants to be familiar with a more comprehensive understanding in TUFMAN and confidence in managing their national tuna database on a day-to-day basis.

III. Policy, institutional strengthening and fishery management

At a later stage of this project, most project activities related with legal and policy component have been accomplished. There was only one outstanding consultancy task remained related with defining positive and negative progresses on legal, policy and institutional arrangements in Vietnam. A workshop was

convened to review a consultancy report which investigated the work of the Vietnamese Government in managing tuna fisheries at a local level and in the light of WCPFC's requirements on the other hand.

IV. Summary of status of project activities (July 2012 – June 2013)

Activity title	Duration	Objectives of the activity	Budget (US \$)	Status
Activity VNM Y3-01 (item 1): Review Workshop of port sampling	8-10 November 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review data collection activities for LL, GN and PS that have been implemented in Vietnam since 2010 up to now; To review logistic matters such as financial, manpower, compliance issues in the data collection of Vietnam; To recommend better solutions for improvements of data collection systems for LL, GN and PS in Vietnam 	9,520	Completed
Activity VNM Y3-02: Continuation of port sampling and logbook	Jan 2013- Dec 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue conducting data collection systems for tuna longline fishery; To expand tuna fisheries data collection systems with gillnet and purse seine fisheries; To establish a tuna data collection programs with standardization of WCPFC/SPC and can be inherited in Vietnam once the project finished; To provide tuna fisheries data for regional and national stock assessment purposes in order for management and decision-making process. 	55,600	Ongoing
Activity VNM Y4-01 (item 3): Tuna data collection methodology analysis	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a comparison of the FAO method of catch estimation with current direct estimates of WCPFC and drawing on data available from the three core provinces (i.e. Binh Dinh, Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa), and; Assess and find out a methodology for achieving cost-effective and sustainable data collection leading to catch estimates for the provinces in the future. 	1,000	Completed
Activity VNM- Y4-02 (item 1): Handline summary report	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To fully document the development of the handline fishery, and; To build a catch history from the data available collected by WPEA project 	1,000	Completed
Activity VNM- Y3-03 Participation in SC8 meeting in conjunction with WPEA project steering committee meeting in Pusan	August 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To learn about scientific issues on the works of WCPFC To attend PSC meeting under WPEA project To review the progresses of WPEA project 	N/A	Completed
Activity VNM Y3-04: Continue to support national tuna coordinator	2012-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement WPEA project in Vietnam and produce outputs as planned in the Annual Work Plan for 2012. To coordinate historical tuna fisheries data for review of trend of Vietnamese tuna fisheries. To assist a proper and in-time implementation of WPEA OFM Project in Vietnam and to produce outputs as planned in the Annual Work Plan for 2012 	16,800	Ongoing
Activity VNM Y3-05: Convene a workshop to review PLI-related reports	2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To update, refine and finalize the policy and legal arrangements related with Vietnam's tuna fisheries in light of WCPFC requirements; To review, refine and finalize national tuna management plan, national level tuna association 	11,725	Completed

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> activities, and Vietnam's tuna fishery profile; To introduce and plan for the development of "Implementation manual of WCPFC CMMS". 		
Activity VNM Y4-04: Training of port sampling in six provinces	April 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to train local staff to be familiar with sampling protocols and sampling forms for the WPEA tuna fisheries data collection programmes (port sampling, unloading); to guide local staff on how to implement tuna fisheries data collection 	3,284	Completed
Activity VNM Y4-05: Port sampling in six provinces (Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan and Ba Ria-Vung Tau)	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To expend to collect tuna fisheries data (port sampling and unloading data) for gillnet and purse seine fisheries in six additional provinces (Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan and Ba Ria-Vung Tau); To provide tuna fisheries data for regional and national stock assessment purposes in order for management and decision-making process 	11,500	Ongoing
Activity VNM Y4-06: Participation in the Preparatory Workshop for the Preparation of WPEA - 2 Project Document	25 – 27 June 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review the outcomes of WPEA OFM Project (WPEA – 1), the progress of WPEA-2 Project (Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas) To discuss national and regional level activities for the project, including indicators and the corresponding baselines and targets, and identify possible sources of co-financing, including in-country contributions 	8,016	Completed

V. Issues and problems

- Lack of collaboration mechanisms among responsible management agencies (port authorities vs. Sub-DECAFIREP);
- Insufficient cooperation for and compliance with data collection by relevant stakeholders
- Low coverage of port sampling due to overwhelming landing sites for tuna fisheries
- Lack of legal frameworks to implement tuna fisheries data collection

VI. Foreseen activities

- Continue implementing port sampling and logbook program in the three key provinces of tuna fisheries;
- Expanding collection of tuna data in the six additional provinces.
- Auditing collected data by convening the fifth review workshop (scheduled in November 2013).

APPENDIX 1. Vietnam Provincial Annual tuna catch estimates

LONGLINE/HANDLINE by Province -- 2012

PROVINCE	Estimated Tuna Catch (metric tonnes)									Estimated Billfish Catch (metric tonnes)									TOTAL Tuna and Billfish	
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Albacore	%	Total tuna	Blue Marlin	%	Black Marlin	%	Striped Marlin	%	Swordfish	%	Others		%
Binh Dinh	0	0%	7,603	70%	2,097	19%	23	0%	9,723	30	0%	43	0%	0	0%	20	0%	1,120	10%	10,936
Phu Yen	0	0%	3,780	70%	1,020	19%	0	0%	4,800	76	1%	76	1%	0	0%	76	1%	356	7%	5,385
Khanh Hoa	0	0%	782	51%	556	36%	0	0%	1,338	21	1%	23	2%	0	0%	25	2%	120	8%	1,527
WPEA Province TOTAL	0	0%	12,165	68%	3,673	21%	23	0%	15,861	127	1%	142	1%	0	0%	121	1%	1,596	9%	17,848
Ninh Thuan	0	0%	14	68%	4	21%	0	0%	18	0	1%	0	1%	0	0%	0	1%	2	9%	20
Binh Thuan	0	0%	0	68%	0	21%	0	0%	0	0	1%	0	1%	0	0%	0	1%	0	9%	0
Ba Ria - Vung Tau	0	0%	34	68%	10	21%	0	0%	44	0	1%	0	1%	0	0%	0	1%	4	9%	50
Quang Ngai	0	0%	245	68%	74	21%	0	0%	320	3	1%	3	1%	0	0%	2	1%	32	9%	360
Da Nang	0	0%	0	68%	0	21%	0	0%	0	0	1%	0	1%	0	0%	0	1%	0	9%	0
Quang Nam	0	0%	0	68%	0	21%	0	0%	0	0	1%	0	1%	0	0%	0	1%	0	9%	0
Others	0	0%	0	68%	0	21%	0	0%	0	0	1%	0	1%	0	0%	0	1%	0	9%	0
non-WPEA Province Total	0	0%	293	68%	88	21%	1	0%	382	3	1%	3	1%	0	0%	3	1%	38	9%	430
Vietnam Total	0	0%	12,458	68%	3,761	21%	24	0%	16,243	130	1%	146	1%	0	0%	124	1%	1,634	9%	18,278

Notes on sources of data and methodology

1	<i>Most of the LONGLINE/HANDLINE catch in 2012 should be attributed to the HANDLINE fishery. However, at this stage, it is not possible to determine what percentage of the total HL/LL combined catch should be attributed to HANDLINE.</i>
2	<i>Estimates for the WPEA Provinces determined from Landings data raised to total trips obtained from COASTGUARD data.</i>
3	<i>No HL/LL catch estimates in the following non-WPEA provinces. Quang Nam, Binh Thuan</i>
4	<i>Da Nang -- Squid falling-net catches as estimated 317 t of tuna (YFT, FGT, BLT) YFT from hook and line bit this is counted under the other gears at this stage.</i>
5	<i>One Longline vessel come from Ninh Thuan and fish mainly in the Spratley Is. No information of catches at this stage. Assume an estimate of 20 t for the year.</i>
6	<i>Quang Ngai -- Forty (40) Handline vessels catching an estimated 360 t. in 2012. These vessels could potentially offload in other Provinces.</i>
7	<i>Ba Ria - Vung Tau -- 584 vessels using Hook and line to catch tuna with an estimated 857 t. of tuna in 2012, most of which is LONGTAIL tuna. YFT/BET is only about 5% (~ 44 t.)</i>
8	<i>Phu Yen -- Assume an arbitrary estimate of 4,800 t. of YFT/BET since some landing sites were not covered by any data collection (i.e. Including Coastguard data).</i>
9	<i>Others -- Some longline catch landed in Ho Chi Minh should be accounted for in future versions.</i>

GILLNET by Province -- 2012

PROVINCE	Estimated Tuna Catch (metric tonnes)									
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Others	%	Total	Total Oceanic Tuna
Binh Dinh	15	88%	2	12%	0	0%	0	0%	17	17
Phu Yen	173	54%	12	4%	10	3%	125	39%	320	195
Khanh Hoa	9,266	66%	543	4%	259	2%	4,044	29%	14,112	10,068
WPEA Province TOTAL	9,454	65%	557	4%	269	2%	4,169	29%	14,449	10,280
Ninh Thuan	3,200	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3,200	3,200
Binh Thuan	662	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	662	662
Ba Ria - Vung Tau	2,213	75%	177	6%	0	0%	550	19%	2,940	2,390
Quang Ngai	4,000	80%	150	3%	0	0%	850	17%	5,000	4,150
Da Nang	1,404	60%	140	6%	94	4%	702	30%	2,340	1,638
Quang Nam	55	30%	0	0%	0	0%	128	70%	183	55
Others	0	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
non-WPEA Province Total	11,534	81%	467	3%	94	1%	2,230	16%	14,325	12,095
Vietnam Total	20,988	73%	1,024	4%	363	1%	6,399	22%	28,774	22,375

Notes on sources of data and methodology

1	<i>Estimates for the WPEA Provinces determined from Landings data raised to total trips obtained from COASTGUARD data.</i>
2	<i>Da Nang . 2,340 t. from 64 GN vessels in 2012. Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT:BET 60%:6%:4% of 2,340 t.</i>
3	<i>Quang Nam . Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT:BET 30%:0%:0% of 183 t.</i>
4	<i>Quang Ngai . Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT+BET 80%:3% of 5,000 t. An estimated 70-80% of the vessels could be landing their catch in other provinces.</i>
5	<i>Ninh Thuan . Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT+BET 80%:0% of 4,000 t. Need to review the potential YFT and BET catches. Estimates for other oceanic tuna species forthcoming.</i>
6	<i>Binh Thuan . 22 vessels with 4 t./trip. SKJ account for 60% so an estimate of 662 t. per year. Estimates for other oceanic tuna species forthcoming.</i>
7	<i>Ba Ria - Vung Tau . Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT+BET 75%:6% of 2951 t.</i>
8	<i>Others . We may have estimates from the other provinces not listed here (e.g. HCM, Hue, etc.)</i>

PURSE SEINE by Province -- 2012

PROVINCE	Estimated Tuna Catch (metric tonnes)									
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Others	%	Total	Total oceanic tuna
Binh Dinh	6,615	69%	891	9%	456	5%	1,693	18%	9,655	7,962
Phu Yen	226	87%	30	11%	5	2%	0	0%	261	261
Khanh Hoa	13	65%	1	5%	1	5%	5	25%	20	15
WPEA Province TOTAL	6,854	69%	922	9%	462	5%	1,698	17%	9,936	8,238
PROVINCE	Estimated Tuna Catch (metric tonnes)									
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Others	%	Total	Total oceanic tuna
Ninh Thuan	0	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
Binh Thuan	2,600	65%	200	5%	200	5%	1,000	25%	4,000	3,000
Ba Ria - Vung Tau	5,787	45%	772	6%	0	0%	6,300	49%	12,859	6,559
Quang Ngai	3,500	70%	500	10%	0	0%	1,000	20%	5,000	4,000
Da Nang	2,379	55%	822	19%	303	7%	822	19%	4,326	3,504
Quang Nam	1,518	93%	120	7%	0	0%	0	0%	1,638	1,638
Others	0	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0
non-WPEA Province Total	15,784	57%	2,414	9%	503	2%	9,122	33%	27,823	18,701
Vietnam Total	22,638	60%	3,336	9%	965	3%	10,820	29%	37,759	26,939

Notes on sources of data and methodology

1	<i>Estimates for the WPEA Provinces determined from Landings data raised to total trips obtained from COASTGUARD data.</i>
2	<i>Da Nang. All tuna species 4326 t. in 2012. Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT:BET 55%:19%:7% of 4326 t.</i>
3	<i>Quang Nam. Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT+BET 38%:3% of 3994 t. There was an estimated 1,558 t. reported from PS 'light' vessels but these are not expected to catch any oceanic tuna species.</i>
4	<i>Quang Ngai. Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT 70%:10% of 5000 t. An estimated 70-80% of the vessels could be landing their catch in other provinces.</i>
5	<i>Ninh Thuan. Most PS vessels fish anchovy but few catch tuna. 37 PS vessels. In the future, need to consider how much tuna might be taken by "day" PS vessels.</i>
6	<i>Binh Thuan. 40 PS vessels that fish SKJ, with 20 t. per trip/month, operates 7 months per year. Assumed that species composition of Khanh Hoa SKJ:YFT:BET 65%:5%:5% of 4,000 t.</i>
7	<i>Ba Ria - Vung Tau. Assumed that species composition of SKJ:YFT+BET 45%:6% of 12,859 t.</i>
8	<i>Others. We may have estimates from the other provinces not listed here (e.g. HCM, Hue, etc.)</i>