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**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION
PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS**

WCPFC-SC17-AR/CCM-38

VIETNAM

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL
PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION (WCPFC)**

PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

TUNA FISHERIES IN 2020

VIET NAM's ANNUAL FISHERY REPORT

**DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**



Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the Commission by 30 April, 2021	Yes
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

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SUMMARIES

Since 2020, the statistics of fishing vessels and tuna catches were conducted in 12 provinces with 03 additional provinces: Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue and Tien Giang.

In 2020, the total number of fishing vessels of the three main fisheries targeting tuna species is 7,439 fishing vessels and a decrease of 3.2% compared to 2019, of which was 2,921 long-liner/handliner, 1,821 gillnetters and 2,697 purse seiners. The number of fishing vessels decreased because the gillnet fishing vessels of Quang Ngai switched to other types of fisheries. Current fishing effort of Vietnamese tuna fleets is still below the maximum sustainable yield. It is noted that all tuna fisheries vessels are now operating in Vietnamese EEZ.

Total tuna catches in Vietnamese EEZ in 2020 was 102,326 MT for three gear types which is still below the maximum sustainable yield of more than 200,000 MT. Of those, skipjack tuna contributed 81,009 MT (79%), 17,587 MT of yellowfin tuna (17%) and 3,730 MT of bigeye tuna (4%). It decreased 6% in comparison to those of 2019.

In general, Viet Nam is attempting to improve its tuna fisheries management system such as establishing and implementing tuna data collection and to enhance effectiveness of fisheries conservation and management measures. The fisheries regulations have been revising towards harmonizing with the common regional and international regulations e.g. WCPFC, UN, FAO.

INTRODUCTION

The marine capture fisheries play an important role in the Vietnamese economy. They provide food security, employments, income, poverty elimination and national economic growth. In the overall development of the country, the fisheries sector in general and tuna fisheries in particular have thus become an important industry.

The potential of the tuna fisheries has been recognized in the general development of fisheries sector. The oceanic tuna fisheries (for catching Skipjack, Yellowfin tuna, and Bigeye tuna) are recognized as the main sector in national key programs in the past three decades. Three fisheries are using for catching oceanic tuna: longline/handline (LL/HL), purse seine (PS) and gillnet (GN). These fisheries are used by local fishermen of 12 coastal provinces: Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan, Ba Ria-Vung Tau and Tien Giang.

The tuna vessels are small scale and only operated in the Vietnamese waters. Their catches are preserved with the ice onboard, unloaded at the local home ports and sold to the local middlemen.

ANNUAL TUNA FISHERIES INFORMATION

A. FLEET STRUCTURE

Longline/handline fisheries (LL/HL) is the main fishing method used for catching yellowfin and bigeye tuna. They are highly developed in the central provinces (i.e. Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa and Binh Dinh). The number of tuna LL/HL vessels by 2020 was 2,921 vessels (*Table 1*) decreased 327 vessels compared to 2019. All of them are licensed to operate in the Vietnamese waters only.

In 2020, Total number of GN vessels registered was 1,821 vessels. It decreased 335 vessels compared to 2019 (

Table 2). However, it was noted that there may be mixing between coastal gillnetters targeting on small pelagic fishes and neritic tuna with offshore gillnetters targeting on skipjack in registration system. Therefore, some of the coastal gillnetters may be counted as the offshore gillnetters.

The number of tuna PS vessels by 2020 was 2,697 vessels (*Table 3*), increased 413 vessels compared to 2019. The increase in the number of PS vessels is due to the addition of 3 provinces Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Tien Giang.

In general, the number of vessels in 2020 decreased compared to 2019 because some fishing vessels exploiting tuna fish switch to other fisheries to accompany with the new policy of reducing fishing effort.

Table 1: Number of tuna longline/handline in Viet Nam by years and capacity 2011-2020

Size class (HP)	YEAR									
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
50 - 89	156	173	9	0	1	0	0	3	87	174
90 - 149	142	518	169	22	8	9	5	5	244	1007
150 - 249	531	742	399	201	85	89	73	70	45	8
250 - 399	240	270	647	687	418	407	391	395	323	115
> 400	33	69	505	735	1111	1184	1455	1804	2549	1617

Total	1102	1772	1729	1645	1623	1689	1924	2277	3248	2921
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Table 2: Number of gillnetters in Viet Nam by years and capacity 2011-2020

Size class (HP)	YEAR									
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
50 - 89	627	605	212	133	125	94	81	56	317	541
90 - 149	261	200	307	60	60	53	48	47	301	463
150 - 249	184	174	175	86	93	85	67	56	71	32
250 - 399	216	204	132	199	281	273	271	197	297	144
> 400	24	21	72	261	414	498	594	662	1170	641
Total	1312	1204	898	979	973	1003	1061	1018	2156	1821

Table 3: Number of purse seine (daily purse seine) in Viet Nam by years and capacity 2011-2020

Size class (HP)	YEAR									
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
50 - 89	134	136	131	79	64	59	64	78	81	353
90 - 149	184	194	118	90	73	58	66	81	185	569
150 - 249	44	56	114	154	138	127	120	147	186	69
250 - 399	233	206	242	513	456	404	350	423	483	373
> 400	20	0	409	750	730	811	893	1043	1349	1333
Total	595	592	1014	1586	1461	1459	1493	1772	2284	2697

B. ANNUAL TUNA CATCHES IN THE VIET NAM'S EEZ

The total tuna catches are reported by combination of tuna unloaded by LL/HL, PS, GN at local ports of 12 coastal provinces namely Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan and Ba Ria - Vung Tau, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Tien Giang in 2020. The total tuna catches by 2020 was 102,326 MT (decreased 6% in comparison to 2019). It is noted that these catches unloaded by Vietnamese vessels which operated only in the Vietnamese waters.

The same to the number of fishing vessels, the total tuna catches by 2020 decreased compared to 2019. The catch of tuna in the 3 provinces (Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Tien Giang) were small, mainly small tuna (skipjack and other small tuna).

The catch of tuna in 2020 decreased due to a number of reasons as follows: covid 19 pandemic, lack of crew members; storms and bad weather conditions;...

Table 4: Summaries of total tuna catches (MT) caught in Viet Nam's EEZ for three fisheries in 2020

Gear	Total tuna catch in 2020				2020/2019 (%)	Năm 2019
	Bigeye	Yellowfin	Skipjack	Total		
Gillnet	199	637	27,892	28,728	-12%	32,804
Purse seine	853	2,832	53,107	56,792	-6%	60,303
Longline/Handline	2,678	14,118	10	16,806	4%	16,207
Total	3,730	17,587	81,009	102,326	-6%	109,314

Proportion (%)	4%	17%	79%			
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Table 5: Total tuna catches (MT) in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna longline/handline fishery by species from 2010 - 2020.

Year	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Albacore	%	Total tuna
2010	9,513	74%	2,441	19%	4	0%	11,958
2011	9,031	70%	2,923	23%	13	0%	11,967
2012	12,456	74%	3,761	22%	13	0%	16,230
2013	13,917	71%	2,260	12%	251	1%	16,428
2014	11,603	71%	2,350	12%	0	1%	13,953
2015	17,859	71%	2,026	12%	0	1%	19,885
2016	16,423	71%	1,115	12%	0	1%	17,538
2017	15,677	88%	1,004	6%	N/A	N/A	16,681
2018	16,500	95%	902	5%	0	0	17,402
2019	14,653	90%	1,554	10%	0	0	16,207
2020	14,118	84%	2,678	16%	0	0	16,806*

*According to the Quang Tri report, 10 tons of skipjack tuna is caught by tuna longline/handline fishery

Table 6: Total tuna catches (MT) in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna gillnet fishery by species from 2010 - 2020.

Year	Estimated Tuna Catch						Total tuna
	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	
2010	11,866	88%	942	7%	646	5%	13,454
2011	11,866	88%	942	7%	646	5%	13,454
2012	20,988	94%	1,024	5%	363	2%	22,375
2013	36,496	92%	2,823	7%	400	1%	39,720
2014	32,789	98%	173	1%	641	2%	33,603
2015	29,730	93%	1,762	6%	472	1%	31,964
2016	44,997	95%	771	2%	1,671	4%	47,439
2017	40,281	98%	560	1%	411	1%	41,252
2018	34,229	97,5%	521	1,5%	276	1%	35,026
2019	31,977	97%	599	2%	228	1%	32,804
2020	27,892	97%	637	2%	199	1%	28,728

Table 7: Total tuna catches (MT) in Vietnam's EEZ estimated for tuna purse seine fishery by species from 2010 - 2020.

Year	Skipjack	%	Yellowfin	%	Bigeye	%	Total tuna
2010	12,190	75%	3,738	23%	325	2%	16,253
2011	12,926	75%	3,964	23%	345	2%	17,234
2012	22,638	84%	3,336	12%	965	4%	26,939

2013	18,895	84%	2,784	12%	805	4%	22,484
2014	27,485	83%	4,229	13%	1,572	5%	33,286
2015	31,279	80%	5,947	15%	1,676	4%	38,902
2016	48,564	84%	6,617	11%	2,918	5%	58,099
2017	46,014	84%	6,170	11%	2,508	5%	54,692
2018	57,299	84%	7,683	11%	3,123	5%	68,105
2019	55,380	92%	4,247	7%	676	1%	60,303
2020	53,107	93%	2,832	5%	853	2%	56,792

C. COASTAL STATE REPORTING

There are currently no foreign fishing vessels licensed to operate in the Vietnamese waters, and also no Vietnamese vessels are operating in the WCPFC waters and other countries.

D. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Socio-economic factors

In 2020, the exported value of Viet Nam's tuna products was approximately 649 million USD, decreased 9,8 percent compared to 2019 (Table 8). This may be impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic broke out over the world.

Table 8. Exported value of Viet Nam's tuna products from 2014-2020 (mil USD)

Product code	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Tuna HS code 16 (1)	232	208	226	270	323	415	338
Canned tuna (HS code 16)	177	150	153	179	198		214
Other processed tuna (HS code 16)	55	58	73	91	125		124
Tuna HS code 03 (2)	252	246	284	323	330	304	311
Live /fresh/frozen/dried tuna (HS code 03) (ex. tuna HS code 0304)	59	43	43	50	51		32
Tuna HS code 0304 (ex. surimi)	193	203	241	273	279		279
Total tuna (1 + 2)	484	454	510	593	653	719	649

2. Tuna markets

In 2020, Viet Nam's tuna products were exported to various foreign markets. Of those, there were some main markets including US, EU, ASEAN, Japan, China, etc. The U.S., EU, ASEAN, were still the main markets for Vietnamese tuna products, accounting for a large amount of total tuna export value (Table 9).

Table 9. Export markets of tuna products from Viet Nam in 2020

Market	Export value in 2020 (mil USD)	Changes compared with 2019
US	280	-11,4
EU	135	-3,6
ASEAN	40	-25,9
Other market	194	+13,4
Total	649	-9,8