

Bycatch Mitigation Initiative

Marguerite Tarzia (Bycatch Coordinator)

Marguerite.tarzia@iwc.int

<https://iwc.int/bycatch>



Photo: WWF-Pakistan



Photo: Dept. Env & Cons. WAustralia



Photo: Marguerite Tarzia

Bycatch Mitigation Initiative Approach

- Collaboration – fishing communities, experts, governments
- Multi-disciplinary & multi-taxa
- Work locally – pilot projects
- Apply & export lessons learnt to new fisheries
- Provide tools & capacity development to countries
- Build awareness on need to address bycatch & available solutions
- Focus on gillnets (particularly small scale/artisanal)



Photo: Marguerite Tarzia



Photo: IWC Entanglement Network



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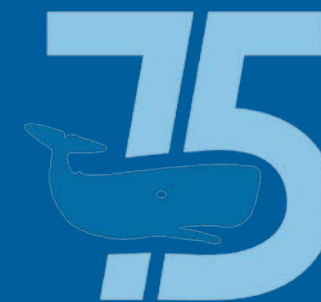
Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna II

*Assessing and addressing
cetacean bycatch in tuna
fisheries – proposed project*

Info paper: SC17-EB-IP-18



Photos: Marguerite Tarzia



Proposal

- Duration : 4-5 years
- Geographical area of activities to be implemented: Indian and Pacific Oceans
- Objective: Improved understanding and management of cetacean bycatch in tuna fisheries in ABNJ and in Exclusive Economic Zones.
- Identified potential partners: FAO, IOTC, WCPFC, SPC, SPREP
- Timeline (if capsule included): possible start date mid 2022

Photos: Marguerite Tarzia

Proposed Activities

Data collation and gap analysis – consultant

- Collation of cetacean abundance and distribution data, fishing effort/vessel classification, FAD use?
- Collaboration with existing projects
- Region-wide gap analysis



Photos: Marguerite Tarzia

Proposed Activities

Spatial bycatch risk assessment – regional scale

- Consultant/team
- Using collated information spatially identify locations/gears/ where bycatch risk is greatest



Photo: NOAA



Photo: Marguerite Tarzia



Photo: Marguerite Tarzia

Proposed Activities

Outreach, training, knowledge transfer



Photo: IWC Entanglement Network



Photo: FAO COFI



Photo: from CMS Tech 43

- Training workshops
National training workshops (mitigation, bycatch assessment, monitoring, cetacean safe handling & release) for fishers, fisheries managers
- Sharing of information to RFMOs and national governments on effective solutions trialed in BMI pilot & affiliated projects
- Best practice material (e.g. factsheets, promotion of FAO Guidelines, updated information on mitigation to the BMIS.org, FAO etc)
- Establishment of Bycatch Task Teams in 2-3 countries
Combination of government, fishers, researchers, conservation groups etc.

Proposed Activities

Outreach, training, knowledge transfer

- Round-table-meetings with IWC and WCPFC contracting governments (Environment & Fisheries Ministries) to discuss the issue and solutions
- Cetacean expert attendance at WCPFC technical meetings
- Development of recommendations on cetacean bycatch (IWC SC, CC, Commission) and CMMs (WCPFC)



Photo: Gianna Minton



Photo: IWC



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Thank you for your time

For more information please contact
Marguerite.tarzia@iwc.int

