

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Global Supply Chains Marine Commodities**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 4754 |
| GEF ID | 5271 |
| Title | Global Sustainable Supply Chains for Marine Commodities |
| Country(ies) | New York - GEF, Indonesia, Philippines, Costa Rica, Ecuador, New York - GEF |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Water and Oceans |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| Overexploitation of marine fisheries is a major global issue and a key driver of changes in the marine environment. Excessive fishing is caused by a variety of inter-acting factors, including the growing global demand for seafood. This project contributes to address key aspects of the market forces that drive overfishing. The project will add to the transformation of the seafood market by mainstreaming sustainability in the value chain of important commodities from developing countries, improving emerging tools such as corporate sustainable purchase policies, sustainable marine commodities platforms, and fisheries improvement projects (FIP), developing national capacities, and generating learning to be shared worldwide. The project will allocate GEF resources strategically to (1) engage major seafood buyers in the main world markets (EU, Japan, US) into responsible sourcing, providing tools to prepare and implement sustainable seafood sourcing policies, (2) adapt the concept of green commodities platforms (currently used in agriculture) to the seafood value chain, implement public-private sustainable marine commodities platforms in Costa Rica, Ecuador, Indonesia and Philippines to generate experience that could be used in other countries, (3) support the stakeholders of these platforms to develop practical experience with fisheries improvement projects and upgrade existing tools for FIP implementation and monitoring, and (4) upgrade existing information platforms to facilitate access to reliable material to value chain stakeholders in support of sound decision making, and to consolidate project learning and best practices to be disseminate.  The project target fisheries include tuna, mahi mahi (dorado) and other pelagic fish in the Eastern Pacific Ocean; tuna in the Western Pacific Ocean; Small Pelagic in Ecuador; Filipino octopus; and blue swimming crab fisheries in Indonesia and The Philippines. The project is an inter-regional intervention. Market engagement and knowledge management are global components. The sustainable marine commodities platforms and FIPs will be implemented, using a participatory approach, in Costa Rica, Ecuador, Indonesia and Philippines. |

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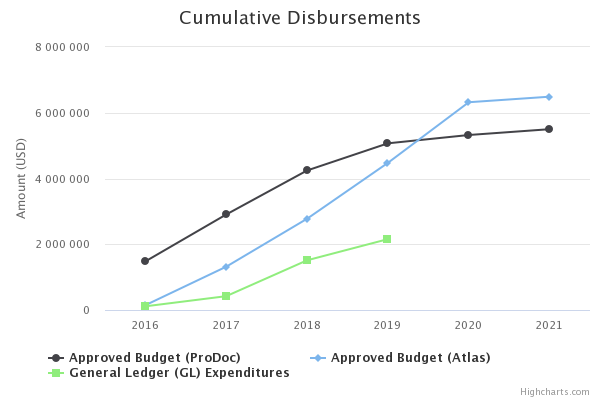
# Overall Ratings

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| --- | --- |
| Overall DO Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | Low |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **To mainstream sustainability into seafood supply chains through market and policy mechanisms and partnerships with the overarching goal of rebuilding and protecting fish stocks and livelihoods** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Landings from fisheries either certified sustainable or making regular, verifiable improvements. | 2017: 14.9 million tonnes | n/a | >15.4 million tonnes | During this period, zero (0) Marine Stewardship (MSC) landings were certified as direct intervention of the project.  It is important to consider that based on reports from MSC certification, it is estimated that up to date there are 9.75 million tons MSC certified landings, which represents over 12% of the world’s marine wild-caught certified seafood. Thus, current MSC indicator has been surplus, initially the target was proposed (by SFP) based on the analysis conducted to the potential fisheries that could enter certification after project intervention (i.e. tuna in Ecuador, tuna in Indonesia) in a 4-year time frame, thus target was proposed based on trends of 2015, though the global MSC landings in the world were higher than the current trend. Project coordination is currently preparing and will propose a new target for the project that considers how close are current targeted fisheries to achieve certification in a 3-year time frame and the fact that since project inception workshop, participant countries decided to update current targeted fisheries (i.e. Ecuador included and requested project emphasis on small pelagic, Indonesia requested to eliminate Snapper from project intervention). The proposal strategy will be discussed and approved by project members. Then, revised version will be shared with the Technical Advisory Group for discussion and a final version will be submitted to the project Steering Committee. The final version will be proposed to GEF for consideration.  The latter proposal will take into consideration several additional factors that have raised since project design, for instance, there is no multi-species MSC certification, thus the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic Fishery Improvement Project will not contribute directly to this outcome in the proposed 3-year time frame for project intervention. Nonetheless, through SFP, conversation have started with MSC to use our project as pilot for multi-species. Targeted fisheries were updated considering current participants prioritization (and optimization use of project funds) in terms of fisheries commodities, per instance in the case of Ecuador, tuna industry have done significant progress in their efforts to achieve certification (i.e. the tuna national action plan is being reviewed before officialization), thus current administration requested to concentrate efforts on the small pelagic fishery that had limited government intervention in the past. Nevertheless, the proposed fisheries since project design still will be monitored by our project. Thus, we are adding a new fishery to increase project impact. Currently, project is documenting and updating the proposed changes in fisheries since first Steering Committee, which will be submitted to UNDP/GEF for approval before Mid-term review.  Another factor to consider while updating project target is the fact that based on new reports, on average a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) in developing countries spends approximate 50 months on the first 3 FIP stages of development, which is far more than GMC project length . Interesting, based on the supporting FIPs guidelines prepared by the Conservation Alliance for Seafood Solution (CASS), a fishery entering a FIP should achieve objective in a time frame no longer than 5 years, however, up-to-day no comprehensive FIP lead by NGOs in developing countries have reached this goal. To minimize the latter delay during FIP development, SFP is hiring consultants (FIP facilitators) to assist the FIP initiatives. FIP facilitators will works towards fostering private sector investment in the FIP. Furthermore, during platform meetings, FIP participants will have the opportunity to discuss in the plenaries how to expedite the FIP development stage. In addition, at the global level, project is working in a memorandum of agreement with Marine Stewardship Council to provide trainings at participant countries in how to improve FIP initiatives against MSC certification.  To validate current MSC certified landings reported by MSC website, please visit this link  https://www.msc.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/about-the-msc/msc-annual-report-2016-17-english.pdf?sfvrsn=737f5fab\_18  37f5fab\_18 | 15.9 million Mt of landings from capture fisheries that are either certified sustainable or making regular verifiable improvements toward certification as of December 2018. The global indicator target has been met.    This indicator is a global indicator, and its baseline and end of project target levels refer to the quantity of wild caught landings that originate from some of the world’s most significant fisheries (in terms of volume) as identified and monitored by the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP) Target 75 initiative (see https://www.sustainablefish.org/Programs/Target-75).    For wild caught seafood to meet T75 criteria, the fishery providing the catch must be certified sustainable from the Marine Stewardship Council, Fair Trade USA, IFFO RS, ASMI RFM or Iceland Responsible Fisheries or be in a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) that is making regular verifiable improvements toward sustainable certification.    During this reporting period the GMC project has provided direct support to approximately 270,440 metric tonnes (Mt) of wild caught seafood that originates from fisheries that are making regular, verifiable improvement toward full sustainable certification (See Annex 72). The GMC project aims to contribute at least 500,000 Mt to this global target by the end of the project, and therefore has currently achieved 54% of its goal.    It is important to note that the GMC project updated its indicator framework in February 2019 with approval from the Project Steering Committee (See Annexes 73 and 74). The Project updated all 16 indicator baseline measurements (See Annex 75) to reflect the status of each indicator as of November 2017, which was the month the project held its inception workshop providing the first opportunity for national authorities from the four countries to interact and plan project activities in coordination. This baseline update is warranted due to the amount of time that passed between ProDoc design (2015) and the initiation of project implementation (November 2017).    In the period between ProDoc design and full project implementation, several indicators experienced changes that cannot be attributed to the project. In addition, the GMC project made a series of detailed revisions to 11 of the 16 project indicators to better align indicator focus and targets according to slight adjustments made in project design and implementation aspects (adaptive management).    With support from the GMC Project, SFP is currently developing a Tableau reporting system to automatically quantify total landings and production per seafood sector meeting T75 standards. Once this Tableau reporting system is completed in late 2019, SFP expects to generate an updated T75 report that will be published with the latest landings figures. Until this global T75 sector update report is published, the GMC Project will be utilizing the annual T75 landings estimations calculated by SFP staff and presented in December of each year. In December 2018, an update was presented in an SFP Powerpoint presentation (See Annex 1). |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Increased global market demand for sustainable certified marine commodities and associated reduction of IUU fisheries** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 1a. Number of fisheries for the targeted commodities (tuna, large pelagics, blue swimming crab) that are sourced by SFP partners and their suppliers and that are either in a FIP or MSC certified. | Tuna: 36 (20 FIP, 16 MSC)  LPF: 20 (13 FIP, 7 MSC)  Crab: 9 (All FIP) and  Octopus: 0 | na | Year 2. >10% increase  Year 4. >20% increase | During this period, there is an increase of 29.63% (from 27 to 35; summarized as Tuna [8 MSC and 13 FIP], LPF [5 MSC and 3 FIP] and BSC [6 FIP]) in the numbers of fisheries for the targeted commodities (tuna, large pelagics, blue swimming crab) that are sourced by SFP partners and their suppliers and that are either in a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) or Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certified . This outcome is global and project coordination is currently working in a mechanism to link the role and contributions played by the project to this increase. As of today, SFP has a non-disclosure agreement with their partner companies signed before this project started full implementation) to do not reveal their names and where do they source from, however, project coordination will propose a mechanism to better demonstrate project contributions to this outcome.  Going forward, the project coordination is preparing a proposal to update current indicator (1a). The indicator update will be discussed internally, submitted to TAG for comments and suggestions and final version will be presented to the Project Steering Committee for approval. The latter update will then be submitted to the GEF for consideration, because the small pelagics and octopus fisheries which are intervened in this project should be considered as objective fisheries and are not currently included in the indicator.  For further information about fisheries names, see annex 27. | 35% increase of fisheries for the targeted commodities (tuna, large pelagics, blue swimming crab and octopus) that are sourced by SFP partners and their suppliers and that are either in a FIP or MSC certified.    At baseline, there were 65 certified or FIP fisheries sourced by SFP partners in the year of 2017 (baseline), which has now increased to 88 sourced in 2018. The 88 fisheries sourced by SFP partners in 2018 were:    Tuna 63 (37 FIP, 26 MSC)  LPF 15 (10 FIP, 5 MSC)  BSC 8 (8 FIP)  Octopus (0 FIP, 0 MSC)    This outcome is global, and the end-of-project target has now been met. The GMC project has carried out several actions in the current reporting period that have contributed to the progress reflected in this indicator. The most notable activity that contributes to this indicator is the operation of the SFP Supply Chain Roundtables (SRs), and the invitation of new members to these spaces. A supply chain roundtable is essentially a forum for processors, importers, and others that buy directly from a specific seafood sector to work together in a pre-competitive environment to achieve improvements in fisheries or aquaculture and to receive updates and information regarding which FIPs or certified fisheries suppliers should seek to purchase from.    To date, the GMC project has engaged 27 new seafood suppliers in the SFP SRs that pertain to GMC target fisheries (Global mahi/mahi SR, Global Fresh and Frozen Tuna SR, Latin America Reduction Fisheries SR, and the Global Octopus SR). Meeting minutes and participants lists from the SR meetings are presented as evidence.    Global mahi-mahi SR  In early 2019, the global mahi-mahi SR split from the former Eastern Pacific Ocean Large Pelagic SR, and several companies have now confirmed their participation or joined meetings for the first time. At the beginning of the project, participants in the former EPO SR included:  • Alfa Gamma  • Beacon Fisheries  • Beaver Street Fisheries  • Chefs Trading  • Incredible Fish  • Marpesca  • Sea Delight  • The Fishin' Company    As of Year 2, new SR participants include:  1. D&E Import LLC  2. Fortune International  3. Inland Seafood Corporation  4. Stavis Seafoods  5. Wild Fish Direct  See annexes 3, 4, 5 and 6.    Global Fresh and Frozen Tuna SR  The following participants joined the Global Fresh and Frozen Tuna SR during Year 1 of the project:  1. Global Sea Foods (Pvt) Ltd, a seafood processing company based in Sri Lanka,  2. Japanese Consumers’ Co-operative Union  3. True Worlds Group, one of the largest wholesale distributors of fresh and frozen seafood and specialty grocery items in North America  4. New England Seafood International  5. The Tuna Store    During Year 2, efforts to engage new Global Fresh and Frozen Tuna SR participants through invitations to the SR meeting held during the 2019 Seafood Expo North America, resulted in 12 target participants attending the meeting. The following participants joined this SR:  1. Royal Hawaiian Seafoods (March 2019)  2. Quirch Foods, LLC (March 2019)  3. Luen Thai Fishing Venture (March 2019)  4. Organic Oceans (May 2019)  See annex 7.    Latin America Reduction Fisheries SR  The Latin America Reduction Fisheries SR has had four participating companies since before the GMC project started. Those four companies are:  1. Cargill Aqua Nutrition Chile (EWOS)  2. Los Fiordos  3. Skretting Chile  4. Vitapro    SFP has held a meeting and phone calls with Alimentsa (Biomar Ecuador), who has showed interest in becoming part of the SR but has not yet attended a meeting.  See Annex 8.    Global Octopus SR  The following 11 companies became participants of the Global Octopus SR during Year 1 of the project.  1. Arista Industries  2. Discefa/Ditusa  3. Fortune International (Formally Fortune Fish & Gourmet)  4. Mitsui Foods/D&E/Mar/Galicia  5. Netuno USA  6. Panapesca USA  7. Pescados de Playa  8. Pesfasa  9. Santa Monica Seafood  10. SeaDelight  11. Viveros Merimar    During Year 2, The following companies became SR participants:  12. FonCasal (May 2019)  13. Union Martin (May 2019)  See Annex 9. |
| 1b. Number of international seafood buyers (‘buyers’ = SFP partners plus suppliers to SFP partners) with sustainable seafood purchasing policies | 0 | na | Year 3. >9  Year 4. >15 | During this period, there is an increase of 29.63% (from 27 to 35; summarized as Tuna [8 MSC and 13 FIP], LPF [5 MSC and 3 FIP] and BSC [6 FIP]) in the numbers of fisheries for the targeted commodities (tuna, large pelagics, blue swimming crab) that are sourced by SFP partners and their suppliers and that are either in a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) or Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certified . This outcome is global and project coordination is currently working in a mechanism to link the role and contributions played by the project to this increase. As of today, SFP has a non-disclosure agreement with their partner companies signed before this project started full implementation) to do not reveal their names and where do they source from, however, project coordination will propose a mechanism to better demonstrate project contributions to this outcome.  Going forward, the project coordination is preparing a proposal to update current indicator (1b). The indicator update will be discussed internally, submitted to TAG for comments and suggestions and final version will be presented to the Project Steering Committee for approval. The latter update will then be submitted to the GEF for consideration, because the small pelagics and octopus fisheries which are intervened in this project should be considered as objective fisheries and are not currently included in the indicator.  For further information about fisheries names, see annex 27.  Since November 2017, there are 12 new international seafood buyers (‘buyers’ = SFP partners plus suppliers to SFP partners) with sustainable seafood purchasing policies.  a) LIDL España colaboración con SFP (2 Nov 2017)  http://www.industriaspesqueras.com/noticias/ultima\_hora/58755/sfp\_da\_la\_bienvenida\_a\_la\_filial\_lidl\_como\_nuevo\_socio\_espanol.html  b) Nueva Pescanova colaboración con SFP (27 Nov 2017)  http://europa-azul.es/nueva-pescanova-2/  Compromiso Nueva Pescanova (22 enero 2018) http://www.nuevapescanova.com/compromiso/responsabilidad-social-corporativa/nuestro-compromiso-con-el-planeta/  In addition, Pescanova joined the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI). The mission of GSSI is to ensure confidence in the supply and promotion of certified seafood as well as to promote improvement in the seafood certification schemes. http://www.nuevapescanova.com/2018/01/29/el-grupo-nueva-pescanova-impulsa-su-programa-de-pesca-sostenible/  c) Tesco seafood policy UK position statement update  https://www.tescoplc.com/little-helps-plan/reports-and-policies/seafood-policy/  d) Sainsburys expanded Tuna policy to include Fishery Aggregation Devices (FADs) free sources  https://www.about.sainsburys.co.uk/news/latest-news/2018/28-03-2018-tuna  e) Congalsa joined the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative https://www.congalsa.es/language/es/noticias/congalsa-nuevo-miembro-de-global-sustainability-seafood-iniciative-gssi/  f) US FOODS HOLDING CORP. Responsibly Sourced Seafood Policy https://www.usfoods.com/content/dam/usf/pdf/Policies/Responsibly\_Sourced\_Seafood\_Policy.pdf  g) LIDL UK - ODP  https://www.seafoodnews.com/Story/1100787/Lidl-UK-Becomes-first-UK-based-Discounter-to-Join-Ocean-Disclosure-Project  In addition, LILD UK has joined the Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP) which is an SFP initiative for their partners to reflect the participating company’s sourcing from the previous year. ODP profile: https://oceandisclosureproject.org/companies/lidl-uk  h) Walmart US joined the Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP).  http://www.intrafish.com/marketplace/1380512/walmart-joins-ocean-disclosure-project  ODP profile; https://oceandisclosureproject.org/companies/walmart  i) Giant Eagle joined the Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP). https://www.seafoodnews.com/Story/1094749/Grocery-Retailer-Giant-Eagle-Joins-Ocean-Disclosure-Project  ODP profile; https://oceandisclosureproject.org/companies/giant-eagle  j) Albion Fisheries joined the Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP). https://www.undercurrentnews.com/2018/02/01/albion-farms-is-first-canadian-firm-to-join-ocean-disclosure-project/  ODP profile; https://oceandisclosureproject.org/companies/albion  k) Tradex joined the Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP). https://www.undercurrentnews.com/2018/05/30/tradex-joins-sfp-backed-transparency-program/  ODP profile; https://oceandisclosureproject.org/companies/tradex-foods  l) North Atlantic joined the Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP). https://www.seafoodnews.com/Story/1080586/North-Atlantic-Inc-Becomes-First-US-Supplier-to-Join-SFPs-Ocean-Disclosure-Project ODP profile; https://oceandisclosureproject.org/companies/north-atlantic-inc  Currently, project coordination is working with SFP with clear indications on how to give project credits if the companies purchasing polices were influenced by project. Project communication specialist is preparing directions to SFP that will be included in all communication materials from now on.  For this period, international seafood buyers with sustainable seafood purchasing policies has not mentioned the project influence because most to this companies updated their purchasing policies before UNDP signed formal Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with SFP (March, 2018), however, SFP considering project objectives started discussions with companied to update their purchasing policies. Furthermore, at that time no clear indications were given, thus SFP advocated companied to update purchasing policies without properly record project contributions.  Going forward in project coordination and SFP efforts to increase the number of partners and suppliers with sustainable seafood purchasing policies, SFP is inviting new companies to participate in the SFP supply chain roundtable (SR) tables. SR is a forum for processors, importers, and others that buy directly from a specific seafood sector (per instance from a FIP) to work together in a pre-competitive environment to achieve improvements in fisheries. Among improvement action, SR could fund a FIP or sign a memorandum of agreement (MOA) to source from the fishery as a symbol of commitment to engage in a sustainable practice path. Companies that join a SR could see the value of committing to adopt sustainable seafood purchasing policies (i.e. the Global Fresh and Frozen Tuna Supply Chain Roundtable supports the Mahi-Mahi FIP which is included in GMC project).  To properly monitor this indicator two complementary actions will be taken: a) review SFP partners and suppliers that participates in SR and b) make direct consultations with companies about their sustainable seafood purchasing policies.  In this regard:  1) During the March 2018 Seafood Expo North America (SENA) in Boston, SFP organized the Global Fresh and Frozen Tuna Supply Chain Roundtable (SR). Due to the financial support provided by the project to SFP´s activities, SFP was able organize several meetings with companies from their SR and convinced 3 new companies to enter this SR (more information on annex 5 and annex 6). At this early stage of project implementation, SFP was not able to properly give credits to the project or donor, however, corrective actions had been taken and project (SFP and partners) agreed on properly provide credits to the project and donor in future SR meetings.  a) Global Sea Foods (Pvt) Ltd, a seafood processing company based in Sri Lanka,  b) Japanese Consumer's Co-operative Union  c) True World Foods, one of the largest wholesale distributors of fresh and frozen seafood and specialty grocery items in North America.  2) During the March 2018 Seafood Expo North America (SENA) in Boston, the Global Octopus Supply Chain Roundtable was formalized. SFP organized the SR to explore further leverage and investment in the Philippine’s Octopus FIP. Seven companies joined the Octopus SR.  Arista Industries, Discefa/Ditusa, Fortune Fish & Gourmet  Mitsui Foods Inc., Netuno USA, Panapesca USA, Santa Monica Seafood  3) In addition, a new Latin America Reduction Fisheries Supply Chain Roundtable was established since earlier 2017. Four major fish feed producers in the region are formal participants of this SR: Vitapro, Skretting, EWOS-Cargill, and Los Fiordos. Project is proposing members of the latter SR to fund the Small Pelagic FIP in Ecuador.  Further information on Annex 5 and Annex 6. | 7 major seafood buyer and retailer companies have adopted sustainable seafood purchasing policies as a result of GMC Project intervention. This represents a 47% achievement rate of the end of project target for this indicator.    In the current reporting period, the following groups adopted sustainable purchasing policies:    1. WOFCO has updated their seafood purchasing policy by introducing the Target 75 objectives as part of its purchasing commitments and requirements (August 2018) http://www.wofco-ltd.com/en/sustainability-and-the-environment/  2. Auchan Retail Spain seafood updated its purchasing policy (July 2018) http://porunconsumoresponsable-alcampo.es/wp- content/uploads/2018/07/AF\_RSC17\_web.pdf  3. Nueva Pescanova has released their CSR work on seafood sustainability (March 2019) http://www.nuevapescanova.com/compromiso/responsabilidad-social-corporativa/nuestro-compromiso-con-el-planeta/    The project supports a range of actions to encourage SFP partners to adopt sustainable purchasing policies for seafood. Some of these actions are carried out under the auspices of non-disclosure agreements that are signed between SFP and their private sector partners, and are therefore not reported with evidence, and other lobbying and technical assistance activities are carried out at public events such as SFP’s T 75 conference in February 2019 (See Annex 55) and SFPs organized side events at the Boston Seafood Expo North America event in March 2019 (See Annex 87). |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Increased pressure on RFMOs and their Contracting Parties to adopt more sustainable and science-based practices for shark and tuna conservation and management measures through engagement of international value chains** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 2. Number of buyers (‘buyers’ = SFP partners plus suppliers to SFP partners) with procurement policies for tuna that include support of more effective CMMs for tuna, sharks and LPF in IATTC and WCPFC | 0 | na | Year 2. >2 (IATTC = 1; WCPFC = 1)  Year 4. >4 (IATTC = 2; WCPFC = 2) | During this period, two procurement policies letters had been prepared, one letter was sent to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and one letter was sent to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).  A procurement policy letter is a mechanism to formally make a petition about sustainable practices. Various targeted fisheries in this project are regulated by Regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) (i.e. tuna captured in the eastern pacific and regulated by the IATTC). Considering project goals, SFP in representation of the Global Marine Commodities project signed two procurement letters that were sent to IATTC and WCPFC, both RMFOs. Furthermore, various SFP partners and suppliers (members of their supply round tables) signed the procurement policy letters as well. As a result, the latter procurement letters were signed by 33 companies, distributed as 22 participant companies of SFP Global Frozen Tuna SR and EPO Large Pelagics SR, and 11 additional SFP partners.  International project coordination is working with SFP in a mechanism to properly give credits to the donor and project, when a new procurement letter is developed. For this period, current letters had no direct mention of the project because they were prepared before UNDP signed formal PCA with SFP (March, 2018) and no clear indications were given at the time. Nevertheless, these procurement letters are a historical initiative in which SFP in representation of GMC project participated to increase pressure on RMFOs for tuna conservation . Emphasis will be make for future procurement letter, to properly give credit to the donor and project.  Furthermore, the latter letter was also sent to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and published in the trade press.  You can find the signed letter:  http://www.iotc.org/documents/global-tuna-sustainability-appeal-ngo-tuna-forum  See attachment A4 and A5 for original letters.    You can find news report on this accomplishment on:  https://www.seafoodsource.com/news/environment-sustainability/118-organizations-make-sustainability-appeal-for-global-tuna-fisheries  https://www.savingseafood.org/news/international-trade/118-organizations-make-sustainability-appeal-for-critical-improvements-in-global-tuna-fisheries/    Further detailed information is provided on SFP quarterly report (attachment A1 and A2).    In addition, project considered other advocacy actions such as the creation of the management rules for Mahi. As of today, the IATTC commission is preparing the reference point to finally draft the management rules (It is expected that Mahi Mahi management rules will be discussed during the IATTCC meeting (August 2018). GMC project will prepare a series of workshops with the private sector to discuss and advocate for the sustainable use of Mahi Mahi. | To date, four (4) procurement policy letters, or “position statements” from industry leaders on more effective CMMs for Large Pelagic Fish have been prepared and shared with national delegates participating in Regional Fishery Management Organization meetings at the Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).    Three letters have been shared with IATTC delegates and 1 with WCPFC delegates. Between the four letters, 53 SFP industry partners have signed on. In the next quarter, a second position statement letter will be shared with the WCPFC and thereby fulfill the end-of-project target for this indicator.    A procurement policy letter is a mechanism to formally petition the RFMOs to adopt stronger sustainability measures and regulations to improve the regional and national management target fishery resources. There are several GMC project fisheries that are regulated at the regional level by RFMOs (i.e. tuna captured in the eastern pacific and regulated by the IATTC, or tuna captured in the Western Pacific by the Indonesia Pole and Line fishery regulated by the WCPFC).    In August 2018, 36 SFP partner companies or participants from the Global FF Tuna and EPO Large Pelagics SRs signed the IATTC engagement letter requesting stronger CMMs for Tuna fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (See Annex 10). The letter contained a total of 131 signatories. The letter was sent to IATTC delegates in advance of the meeting on August 5, 2018. This letter was developed by the NGO Tuna Forum with support from the GMC Project and has been signed by distinct supply chain companies and was also submitted to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC).    In preparation for the regular meeting of the IATTC in August 2018, an advocacy letter was developed by SFP and signed by four of the companies of the Eastern Pacific Supply Chain Roundtable (See Annex 11). The letter requests the US delegates to the IATTC (all signatories are US companies) to provide support for several projects proposed by the Scientific Committee, the working group on bycatch, and the IATTC staff recommendations. The specific projects for which support was requested to US delegates were specifically focused on bycatch species as sharks, mahi mahi, and swordfish and their implementation will form the basis of improved CMMs for Large Pelagic Fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.    At the WCPFC, SFP arranged for three of its partner companies (Anova, Sea Delight, and NorPac) to attend the WCPFC meeting in December 2018 with an SFP delegation. One company took this opportunity to request that the Commission Members improve management advice on North Pacific swordfish and mahi mahi throughout the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. This statement was entered into the permanent record as an intervention by an observer (See Annex 12).    In addition, with partial support of the GMC, SFP facilitated the creation of a mahi-mahi industry partner group called COREMAHI in January in a two-day workshop (see workshop minutes in Annex 13 in Spanish). At the workshop, fisheries stakeholders from Ecuador, Peru and Costa Rica a. identified common challenges faced by the fishery that require their joint attention; b. developed and signed a foundational letter that establishes the Regional Committee of Producers and Processors of Mahi-mahi (COREMAHI); c. Selected COREMAHI board members; d. Developed and agreed upon the content of a position statement that was subsequently shared with their national delegates to leverage policy change at the IATTC.    COREMAHI delegates from GMC countries (Ecuador and Costa Rica), as well as Peruvian delegates, also reached out to their IATTC commissioners to express their position statement and to request government alignment with their sustainability needs at the IATTC Scientific Advisory Committee meeting, held in May 2019, in La Jolla, California. Measures requested in the COREMAHI position statement included: Increase knowledge of mahi stock status; incorporate data and environmental variables in mahi stock assessments; and analyze impacts of FADs on regional mahi stocks (See Annex 14, in Spanish).    To bolster the impact of the COREMAHI position statement, 9 of the largest mahi mahi importers from the United States submitted their own position statement to US delegates affirming their support for the requests made in the COREMAHI position statement (See Annex 15). COREMAHI will continue to convene in periodic meetings with support from the GMC project over the course of this year and plans to develop another position statement for the IATTC and will explore additional ways of using their leverage as the principal producers of Latin American mahi to drive changes for the sustainable management of the fishery at regional and national levels.    In addition, the GMC project supports the creation of the Global Fresh and Frozen Tuna bi-monthly Newsletter, which provides updates to SFP partner buyers and retailers regarding the advances at the RFMO level and provides information on the development of position statement “asks” as new information and data become available (See Annexes 16-21). |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Increased synergy and involvement of national and international players (i.e., retailers, traders, processors, fishermen and fisheries authorities) in sustainable seafood value chains** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 3a Number of Sustainable Marine Commodities Platforms | 1 | na | Year 2: >3  Year 3: 5 | During this period, 1 Sustainable Marine Commodities Platform has been created.  This project works on marine resources conservation by the creation of national platforms. Platforms are dialogue spaces (open forums) to engage all sectors (private sector, civil society, government, NGOs) in a specific fishery or sector (i.e. Small Pelagic-Ecuador, Long-line large pelagic-Costa Rica, etc.) with the main goal to discuss, define, and promote ocean governance that favors the sector while preserving marine resources. In other words, the platform could be used as a co-management mechanism and as an active participatory and decision-making process for the conservation of fishery resources. During this period, international project coordinator started conversations with national authorities for platform designs.  Costa Rica: The Sustainable Fisheries National Platform of Large Pelagic was launched in May 2017 in San José, Costa Rica. It is led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), alongside the Costa Rican Institute of Fishing and Aquaculture (INCOPESCA) and the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE), driven by participants, and enabled by UNDP Costa Rica. A variety of stakeholders of the value chain participate in the platform: private sector (producers/fishermen; sport-fishing; exporters); government authorities; NGOs and academia; domestic and international retailers and restaurants, among others. A Platform Steering Committee integrated by MAG, MINAE, INCOPESCA, Health Animal National Service (SENASA), the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica (COMEX), Fishing Sector and Exporters is guiding the development of the Platform. The government has fully assumed the leadership of the Platform and the private sector is empowered as key actors in the dialogue.  This is the world´s first Fisheries Platform fully operational. A code of conduct has been agreed among stakeholders to conduct a democratic dialogue to address the root cause analysis and establish the route towards a sustainable long-line industry for large pelagic, such as tuna, swordfish and mahi-mahi.  For supporting information, please go to http://www.pelagicoscr.org/recursos and in the resource tab, you will find platform working groups and meetings that took place. Moreover, in the resource tab you will find documents such as root-cause analysis of the fishery, minutes from meetings and videos prepared by the national platform.  Further detailed information is provided in attachment A3 (Costa Rica technical report-till April 2018).  Ecuador: During this period, international project coordinator had several meetings with public (Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries), private (Ecuadorian National Fisheries Chamber, reduction plants and balanced plants), NGOs (Conservation International) and academia (San Francisco de Quito University) stakeholders to set the scene for the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic Platform. Furthermore, platform will incorporate the work of the Small Pelagic Fishery Improvement Project members as a working group of the platform. Several meetings had taken place in preparation of the FIP project.  Please, see following information to understand the work from the platform. http://www.ec.undp.org/content/ecuador/es/home/presscenter/articles/2018/05/11/ministerio-de-acuacultura-y-pesca-y-pnud-promueven-conservaci-n-de-la-pesquer-a-de-pel-gicos-peque-os-.html  A total of 19 companies among fishermen, shipowners and producers of balanced feed have expressed their willingness to participate in the FIP and platform http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=7&id=95865&l=e&special=&ndb=1%20target=  http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=22&id=96521&l=e&special=0&ndb=0  In addition, other on-going national action plans were considered in the project, per instance the mahi mahi National action plan and the tuna national plan. The Mahi Mahi national plan is currently being evaluated and will be updated. The latter initiative is led by the actors associated to the project, however, GMC project is working towards assist this NAP by creating a training workshop with fisheries authorities of Peru in order to establish better management efforts for this shared stock. In the past limited actions had been taken to sit in the same room, both government scientific staffs to discuss about project management efforts. Furthermore, in terms of the tuna national action plan, a draft version is being reviewed and GMC project plans to assist the NAP, by creating a monitoring and evaluation committee that will monitor the progress and actions of current large pelagic NAPs using the UNDP-GCP methodology. The goal is to activate a mechanism for M&E in current NAPs efforts in Ecuador.  Philippines: During this period, project coordination invited representatives from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) to project global inception in Manta (November, 2017). From here, UNDP country officer in Philippines has assisted national authorities to set the scene for the national platform. The Inception meeting and the 1st Project Board Meeting was held February 26, 2018. Blue Swimming Crab (BSC) platform will use the existing BSC Technical Working Group as core members of the platform. Key private stakeholders are the Philippine Association of Crabs Processors (PACPI) and the NFI-CC. PACPI is an industry organization which congregates most processors and exporters. Going forward, the first BSC working group meeting will take place from July 25- 27, 2018, Here, it is expected to discuss how to harmonize project platform design and incorporate it into the BSC national action plan.  Indonesia: During this period, project coordination invited a representative from BAPPENAS- Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Nasional (National Development Planning Agency Republic of Indonesia) to project global inception in Manta (November, 2017). key stakeholder is the Indonesia Blue Swimming Crab Processors Association (APRI), which congregates processors. From here, project coordination and national authorities have started discussions to use the established FIPs and working groups as members of the platform. Going forward, the national inception workshop meeting will take place in August 1, 2018. | To date, the GMC Project has facilitated the official launch of three (3) Sustainable Marine Commodity Platforms, and in this reporting period, two (2) platforms were officially launched. The project has therefore met is Year 2 target for this indicator.    Costa Rica  The Sustainable Fisheries National Platform for the Large Pelagic Fishery was launched in May 2017 in San José, Costa Rica. It is led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) and the Costa Rican Institute of Fishing and Aquaculture (INCOPESCA) driven by participants, and enabled by UNDP Costa Rica. A Platform Steering Committee guided the development of the National Action Plan and is composed by the leading institutions together with the Ministry of Foreign Trade (COMEX), the National Animal Health Service, the national longline fishing sector and the National Chamber of Seafood and Aquaculture Product Exporters (CANEPP) (See Annex 94).    The large pelagic platform has produced its 10-year national action plan, which has been finalized and presented in plenary in November 2018.    For supporting information on the activities and actions facilitated by the GMC project as part of the Costa Rica Large Pelagics Platform, including meeting minutes, the root cause analysis, videos and testimonials from project stakeholders, please visit http://www.pelagicoscr.org/recursos      Ecuador  The Sustainable Marine Commodity Platform for the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic Fishery was launched on November 26, 2018 in Guayaquil, Ecuador. The platform will be led by a steering committee with representation from the Ministry of Production, Investment, Foreign Commerce and Fisheries, the Ministry of Environment, representatives from fishery research institutions, as well as fishing fleet owners, canning and processing plant company representatives, and will be facilitated by UNDP. 74 individuals (50 men and 24 women) participated in the launch event (See Annex 22 in Spanish). Since the launch event, the GMC project has finalized the Root Cause Analysis consultancy (see Annexes 23 and 24, in Spanish), which will serve to inform the technical working group discussions that will commence under the framework of the small pelagic platform in the coming trimester. With financial support from the GMC Project, the Small Pelagic Platform has officially launched its website where all key documentation, studies, photos, beneficiary testimonials, blogs and information relevant to the platform will be stored (http://pesqueriassostenibles.produccion.gob.ec/)    The National Platform Coordinator left the project in March 2019, hindering the speed of implementation of actions within the platform. However, a new Platform Coordinator will be hired in July 2019, and the national component’s Partnership Advisor has already been hired. The GMC Project expects the speed of the implementation to pick up significantly in July 2019 once the new coordinator is hired and begins activities.  In May and June 2019, the IPCU provided in-kind contribution to the Ecuador national component in organizing a field visit with prominent chefs, restaurant owners and key seafood supply chain actors from Ecuador to Manta to meet with government authorities to learn about the role of the fisheries regulating agencies, and to meet artisanal fishery cooperatives that adhere to the legal fisheries management framework and can be considered as “responsible fishing cooperatives.” The purpose of the event was to generate direct linkages between seafood buyers and responsible producers and to raise the general public’s awareness about the importance of consuming seafood that is sourced responsibly (See Annex 25, in Spanish).    The Ecuador Large Pelagic platform has not yet been launched, however its scope, purpose, and some key stakeholders to participate have been identified. The Large Pelagic Platform will provide a shared decision-making space for public and private sector stakeholders to discuss the tuna, mahi mahi and shark National Action Plans which will be created/updated with support from the GMC Project.    Philippines  In this reporting period, under BFAR direction, the GMC-PHI has established two Technical Working Groups for the Blue Swimming Crab and Octopus fisheries and has facilitated individual meetings with each TWG as well as Joint TWG meetings. The most recent Joint TWG meeting was held on March 12, 2019 (See Annex 26).    Each technical working group performs the functions of a “Sustainable Marine Commodity Platform” and aim to develop best-practice models that can be replicated at both the national and international levels for improving the sustainable management of the two target fisheries. The creation of the two Technical Working Groups (TWGs) was made official in the BFAR Fisheries Office Orders (See Annexes 27 and 28) and includes different players involved throughout the value chain, i.e., BFAR Regional National and Field Offices, fisherfolk, NGOs and CSOs, private sector, and academia, and others. Eventually, the initial membership will be expanded in both breadth and scope to include other National Government Agencies (NGAs) that have the potential to contribute to mainstreaming sustainability in the supply chain, as well as other industry partners. To date, a series of BSC and Octopus TWG meetings and planning sessions have been held. Given the presence of existing national government policies, plans, and initiatives, these activities have focused on strengthening inclusiveness on the crafting and/or update of respective five (5) year strategic plans, as well as the sustainable fisheries action/management plans for both commodities.    Indonesia  The Indonesia fisheries multi-stakeholder platform held an initial project inception workshop or “soft launch” event for the platform in August, 2018 attended by all relevant ministries, NGOs, industries, academics, and fishers associations (See Annex 29). Since then, IND-GMC has contracted a consultant to facilitate the platform and technical working groups. A series of focus group discussion have been conducted to gather information and inputs from stakeholders. Started in August 2018, a series of roundtable meetings have been conducted with national fisheries authorities, NGOs, and industry associations to determine state of sustainability initiatives in the two targeted fisheries (See Annex 84). Three regional meetings have been conducted in central, west and east Indonesia to determine challenges and opportunities in the fisheries sector specific to the three regions. In Nov 2018, in coordination with Indonesia Chamber of Commerce, the project gathered industry input regarding the sustainability of fisheries, where the two project-supported fisheries associations participated in a discussion attended by Ministry of National Development Planning and academia (See Annex 85). The industry roundtable meeting reviewed existing fisheries policy and identified priorities for policy action to support the sustainability of targeted fisheries (See Annex 86).    In May 2019, the project published its “Framework of multi stakeholder platform for sustainable fisheries” as a guiding document describing the functioning of the platform, decision making structure and integration within existing fisheries management structures in the country which utilize the existing SDG coordination platform as a basis for developing the fisheries platform (See Annex 30). The Root Cause Analysis focused on the limiting factors impeding sustainability in Indonesia capture fisheries and is undergoing final revisions and will be presented to the TWGs in the coming quarter. |
| 3b. Number of Sustainable Fisheries Action Plans under implementation | 5 | na | Year 3: >6  Year 4: 9 | During this period, 1 Sustainable Fisheries Action Plan (SFAP) is under development.  Costa Rica: National Fishery Platform of Large Pelagic has set up four working groups to define the main actions to develop a responsible and sustainable fishery: 1. precision fishing and sustainable production; 2. Effective Public and Private management; 3. Developing responsible markets and consumption of seafood; 4. Multi-species Fishery Improvement Project (FIP). The ultimate goal is to develop and implement a National Action Plan and a FIP, which is backed by the majority of stakeholders. The SFAP is developed in 70%. It is currently under the review of the Platform Steering Committee.  In addition, the Latin-American`s first multi-species long-line FIP has been set up under a unique public-private model of governance led by the National Platform. Costa Rica NP is actively participating in the Latin American FIP Community of Practice bringing the experience of this model and sharing lessons learnt.  Fishery progress website: https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/costa-rica-large-pelagics-longline  The fact that the stakeholder and national governments are regularly meeting in the platform, means that there is an active participatory and decision-making process for the conservation of large pelagic resources in Costa Rica. Please see Video 3 and Brochure 1.  Ecuador: Besides the proposed Small Pelagic national action plan, currently, Ecuadorian national government has 2 national action plans (NAP) under implementation: Mahi-Mahi and Sharks. As indicated above, GMC project in Ecuador will consolidate a M&E committee for the large pelagic NAPs to properly monitor actions and progress by these initiatives. The value added by the project is the contribution to improve M&E for these initiatives and the recollection of lessons learned which will be distributed to the project and presented worldwide. Just like Ecuador, in Indonesia they a tuna national action plan, which project considers is another co-management mechanism, the goal is to consolidated lessons learned from all initiatives.  Shark: http://tiburon.acuaculturaypesca.gob.ec/tiburon-ecuador/plan-de-accion-nacional-para-la-conservacion-y-manejo-de-los-tiburones-en-el-ecuador-pat-ec-237.html  Mahi-Mahi: http://www.acuaculturaypesca.gob.ec/plan-nacional-para-la-conservacion-y-el-manejo-del-recurso-dorado-en-ecuador-pan-dorado  In addition, Ecuador is in development phase of the Tuna NAP.  Tuna:  http://www.wwf.org.ec/?293850/Inicia-diseo-del-Plan-de-Accin-Nacional-para-la-pesquera-industrial-del-Atn-del-Ecuador  Al the previously mentioned NAPs are included in the project. Mahi Mahi NAP supports the ongoing FIP. SFP and project coordination is currently maintaining conversations with the IATTC in how to collaborate in the preparation of the draft regional management rules for mahi mahi. The latter collaboration will strengthen the work of Mahi Mahi NAP and FIP in order to fulfill MSC standards certification.  Philippines: Currently, the Philippine Blue Swimming Crab Management Plan (BSCMP) is under implementation. As indicated above, GMC project will work on harmonize current BSC NAP in the use of UNDP-GCP methodology. The future work from the platform will support the implementation of the BSCMP. The goal is to develop a M&E committee that oversees the BSC NAP progress and consolidate lessons learned that will be shared with the octopus working group while creating the octopus NAP.  Indonesia: The Indonesia National Tuna Management Plan (INTMP) is currently under implementation. As indicated above, GMC project will work on harmonize current tuna NAP in the use of UNDP-GCP methodology. Furthermore, we are planning to use the pole and line tuna and BSC as role models for fisheries management in their efforts towards sustainability. The future work from the platform will support the implementation of the INTMP. | To date there are 6 Sustainable Fishery Action Plans under implementation, and 1 new action plan in this reporting period (Costa Rica Large Pelagic Action Plan). The project has therefore met its target for Year 3 ahead of schedule.    Costa Rica    The large pelagic platform has produced its 10-year national action plan, which has been finalized and presented to government in plenary in November 2018 (See Annex 31 and http://www.pelagicoscr.org/es/la-plataforma/plan-de-accion).    The National Action Plan for Large Pelagic Fisheries is the result of a government-led multi-stakeholder platform to develop collective plans for sustainable seafood. The Plan aims to increase the supply of seafood from sustainable sources, while at the same time ensuring the social and economic welfare of the people linked to the fishing activity. The plan proposes 18 objectives divided intro three strategies: 1) Precision fisheries; 2) Strengthening Public-Private Governance; 3) Develop and Consolidate responsible seafood markets and consumption.    An Inter-Ministerial and Platform Steering Committees agreed to formalize the National Action Plan (See Annex 95).    Ecuador  While the project has laid the groundwork for the future development of the small pelagic fishery NAP by establishing the platform and carrying out the Root Cause Analysis, further progress toward the development of the draft NAP has been put on hold until the hiring of the project’s new platform coordinator is executed in July. The next step will be to publish the terms of reference for a consultancy to facilitate the Small Pelagic Platform and create the Small Pelagic National Action Plan.    The former Ecuador Platform Coordinator advanced discussions with the national authorities and Shark Fin exporters to strengthen the Shark NAP by including shark bycatch limits to prevent illegal capture in November 2018. The project offered to provide the Large Pelagic Platform as a dialogue space for stakeholders to discuss these NAP updates. The new platform coordinator will provide additional follow up.  The former Ecuador platform coordinator carried met with WWF and the UNDP Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI) to devise a cooperative inter-institutional proposal for updating the Mahi Mahi NAP and the project will continue to explore collaboration strategies in the third quarter of 2019. Lastly, the draft NAP for Tuna in Ecuador is currently under development by the TUNACONS FIP and will be socialized within the GMC Large Pelagic platform space. The project will then fund the monitoring committee to oversee the implementation of the tuna NAP.    Philippines  The consultancy for the BSC Root Cause Analysis and National Management Plan (NMP) revision and update has commenced. The pre-inception technical meeting with the hired national consultant was carried out on May 30, and the inception report consequently presented to and approved by the BSC TWG on June 19 (See Annex 32).    Regarding the Octopus commodity, there remains a significant gap in available data as well as FIP initiatives that would serve as the foundational basis for the National Management Plan. Thus, the GMC-PHI and SFP coordinated the formation of the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI) to lead the upcoming Octopus FIP, and harness industry support for the collection of required data to better understand the necessary recommendations, management measures and actions that should be included in the NMP. More information about the project’s support to the nascent Philippines Octopus FIP is detailed under the next Indicator.    Indonesia  The GMC-IND project has facilitated three meetings to evaluate the status and gaps in the existing national action plan for the BSC fishery (See Annexes 33 and 34) and two meetings for the Tuna fishery (See Annexes 35 and 36). With the BSC fishery, GMC-IND is focusing on complementing the gaps or identified shortcomings in the existing BSC NMP by supporting the established BSC FIP run by the Indonesia Blue Swimming Crab Processors Association (APRI) to implement catch data collection both for target and not target species, data analysis aimed to determine measures to reduce impact of the fishery using risk based framework, supporting development of harvest strategy with specific fishery objective, and developing co-management. For the Tuna and Neritic Tuna fishery, the project is carrying out an exhaustive process to evaluate the 2015-2019 NMP, produce lessons learned from the implementation of this management plan, and ultimately design an updated 5-year plan for 2020-2024. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 4**  **Increased sustainability scores of marine commodities purchased from project fisheries** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 4a. Number of FIPs uploaded to FisheryProgress.org, have progressed by at least one grade, or have maintained an ‘A’ grade. | 6 | na | Year 3: >8  Year 4: >10 | During this period, no Fishery Improvement project (FIP) obtained A rating as a direct contribution of the project. The latter because we are in our first year of project implementation, however through coordination and joint efforts, project will assist FIPs that undergoes assessment. It is important to consider that the current grade provided to the BSC FIP is the result of the sector effort (through various years) for achieving improvement, GMC project plans to support sector efforts and in the timeframe proposed for the project, assist the initiative to obtain a grade improvement and work towards certification.  Progress on this indicator relies on the achievements made by the Fishery Improvement Project. The strategy varies by country when considering how to assist FIPs intervened by the project. During this period, SFP has updated Fishsource profiles for the targeted fisheries. Fishsource profiles summarizes publicly available scientific and technical information about the status of fisheries, seafood stocks and production industries into an easily interpretable form. Updating Fishsource profiles are a direct contribution of this project. Any reflected improvement in a FIP must be approved by Fisheryprogress, which takes into consideration the updates from Fishsource profiles.  Costa Rica: large pelagic FIP will be a new FIP and will be directly assisted by the project. The pre-evaluation against MSC standard will be completed by the end of September 2018 and we expect that sector will sign a MOA for FIP actions.  Ecuador: Mahi-Mahi and TUNACONS FIPs associated to the project are currently making significant progress, thus a direct contribution of the project will be to find SFP partners and suppliers that are keen to invest in the FIP. Up to date, Mahi Mahi and Purse Seine Tuna (TUNACONS) FIPs are rated A. Please visit links:  a) https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/ecuador-mahi-mahi-longline  b) https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/eastern-pacific-ocean-tropical-tuna-purse-seine-tunacons  Philippines: project will assist current Blue Swimming Crab FIP with a) searching for market leverage and b) through the coordinated work to consolidate improvements. In addition, project aims to create an Octopus FIP (in this regard, SFP with support of project funds will explore further leverage and investment in the Philippine’s Octopus FIP, conversations had started since SFP organized Global Octopus SR meeting in Boston-march 2018, see report A1 and A2).  Indonesia: current Tuna and Blue Swimming crab FIPs will be intervened in the project by identifying market leverage and through in field implementation. Up to date, the Indonesian blue swimming crab - gillnet/trap FIP is rated A. Please visit https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/indonesian-blue-swimming-crab-gillnettrap-apri | There are currently six (6) FIPs that are uploaded and reporting to FisheryProgress.org, three (3) of which currently maintain an A rating.    Costa Rica  Costa Rica Yellowfin Tuna, Mahi and Swordfish FIP (Not yet uploaded)    After significant progress in 2018 and with support of the IPCU, the Costa Rica FIP MSC pre-assessment was completed by an independent Certification Body (see Annex 37). SFP contracted an international expert that assisted in the development of the FIP workplan (see Annex 38) and the FIP carried out a variety of consultation workshops to finalize the workplan April 2019. Last year, through the alliance established in the ProDoc between IPCU and MSC, training was provided to the FIP, platform and government representatives from Costa Rica on the MSC certification requirements, steps and processes (See Annex 39). In addition, the Fishing Sector, UNDP Costa Rica and the Foreign Trade Promotion Agency of Costa Rica (PROCOMER) presented the FIP to interested seafood buyers and retailers at the Boston Seafood Expo, North America in April, 2019.  Buyers who source from the FIP are committed to contribute in different ways for the implementation of the FIP one the FIP is officially launched.    The FIP is part of the National Action Plan. UNDP Costa Rica submitted all documentation to FisheryProgress.org for upload (pre-assessment, scoping document, workplan and more). The FIP profile will be officially launched on this website in July 2019. Some activities have already commenced such as voluntary best practices implemented by the Fishing Sector and biological landing monitoring by the Fishing Agency.    Ecuador  Ecuador Small Pelagic FIP (Not yet uploaded)    Several relevant agreements have been reached among FIP members during this reporting period, including: 1) development and assignment of the FIP representatives and final governance structure solidified in a signed Memorandum of Understanding (See Annex 40); 2) Funding mechanism and budget whereby all FIP participants will fund project implementation (See Annex 41); 3) Mechanism of accepting new participants in the FIP; and 4) Project implementation: hydro acoustic survey carried out to inform stock analysis (See Annex 42).    In addition, in close coordination with Cámara Nacional de Pesquería of Ecuador (producers and processors association) and Instituto Nacional de Pesca (public research institution), SFP identified and contracted a stock assessment expert to lead the Scientific Working Group. As part of the work, a first field visit was carried out by the expert to INP offices in Guayaquil between 28th January and 7th February 2019. The consultant has now produced the first two of three technical reports from his work supporting the design and analysis of the small pelagic fishery stock assessment (See annexes 57 and 58).    The FIP has designed and launched its own website where it will be storing all relevant documents, studies, analyses, and reports produced throughout the life of the FIP as it advanced toward IFFO RS certification. The website provides recognition of the GMC Project contribution. http://smallpelagics.org/members/    Lastly, because FisheryProgress.org does not currently have an established FIP progress rating system for FIPs aiming for IFFO RS certification, the FIP is unsure whether it will upload its documentation to Fisheryprogress.org. FIP progress is however regularly evaluated by IFFO, and periodic reports published on the IFFO website: https://www.iffors.com/improver-programme-accepted-fips    Ecuador Tuna Pole and Line FIP (Not yet uploaded)    Although this FIP was technically established some years before the GMC project initiated, it has lost momentum and there are several actions that need to be taken to reactivate it. Namely, the FIP workplan needs to be updated according to either Fair Trade or MSC standards, and the Association needs to reconvene to establish organizational structures, rules and procedures.  In the next quarter, the IPCU and National Platform Coordinator will call a meeting with the UNDP implemented Coastal Fisheries Initiative (CFI) and their partners at Conservation International/Ecuador to coordinate support activities for this FIP.    During the Global T75 in Miami Florida, held February 6-7, 2019, the producer’s association Cañeros de Manta were invited to present the steps they are taking to improve the sustainability of fisheries to international seafood buyers and retailers. The Association’s president Augusto López participated in a panel presenting the prospective FIP initiative, and the Association’s newly solidified commitment to reviving the FIP (See Annex 88).    The GMC Project also invited the Cañeros de Manta Association to participate in the event that the Ecuador National Component organized in Manta called “Todos juntos para una pesca responsable” or “All together for Responsible Fishing.” At the event, the Association developed relationships with a series of chefs and restaurant owners from Quito who are actively interested in purchasing responsibly caught tuna from the Association. The project will continue to support the reactivation of this FIP and help market the association with Ecuadorian buyers and restaurants as the first and only FIP quality tuna available on Ecuadorian markets.    Ecuador mahi-mahi FIP (A rating)    This FIP has entered full MSC assessment which entails an 18-month period to demonstrate that it has successfully completed all necessary requirements to obtain MSC certification (See Annex 91).    The GMC project is supporting this FIP through its work establishing the COREMAHI regional industry interest group which is pushing for improved management measures at the regional level, and also through the facilitation of the large pelagic platform to provide a space for fishery stakeholders to make decisions regarding the updates and changes that will be made to the mahi-mahi national action plan.    Philippines:  Philippines Octopus FIP (Not yet uploaded)    In collaboration with BFAR and UNDP, SFP organized the Filipino Octopus Industry workshop (6 March 2019 in Quezón City), to introduce the concept of FIPs, global octopus trade trends and to present a potential octopus FIP to seek the support from the octopus’ national industry (See Annex 43 and 44). 13 of the largest Filipino Octopus producer and exporter companies attended, as well as key persons from BFAR (Capture Fisheries Division Head and BFAR Region IX Director, among others). Presentations included a letter of support to the FIP initiative from major suppliers participating in the Global Octopus SR (See Annex 45) and a video of a participant from the SR encouraging local industry to get involved in the octopus FIP (https://www.dropbox.com/s/imijhea3yefjs1c/Annex%2083\_DO%20Progress\_Indicator%204a\_Panapesca%20Interview.mp4?dl=0).    As a result of the meeting, GMC-PHI was successfully able to facilitate the formation of the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI). The initial FIP plan was presented to the GOSR in Boston last March 2019 at the Seafood Expo North America (See Annex 9). Finally, similar to what the GMC Project did in Ecuador, the project provided financial support to hire a consultant to develop national octopus data gathering and stock assessment protocols (See Annex 46).    Philippines Blue Swimming Crab FIP (A rating)    A consultant to support the BSC FIP was hired and began work. Efforts to support BSC FIP will focus on:  • Reviewing historical data to design new reference points tailored to BSC characteristics;  • Reviewing NSAP BSC data collection process to guarantee it is aligned with the best stock assessment methodology; and  • Developing guidelines on new approaches to stock assessment analysis  The consultant’s work will end in January 2020.    Indonesia:  Indonesia Blue Swimming Crab FIP (A Rating)    The project approach to increase the sustainability of BSC fisheries is conducted by strengthening the APRI/Indonesia BSC Industry Association’s capacity and resources to close existing gaps in the FIP workplan. The FIP workplan focuses on preparing the Madura Island fishing ground to be one of the proposed sites for MSC certification’s Unit of Assessment, and mainstreaming sustainability principles at the national management level.  For the preparation of Madura Island, the project has facilitated meetings between key industry and government partners to improve data collection, sharing and analysis to advance the FIP toward full MSC assessment. For example, in January 2019, a meeting was conducted between the East Java Fisheries Agencies which oversee fisheries management in Madura Island, representative fishers groups and miniplants in Madura Island, fishing processors in East Java, the APRI, NGOs (i.e. SFP and EDF) where, among other specific agreements, it was agreed to exchange spatial data of potential BSC spawning and nursery grounds to help further develop the restocking plan and protected area management for BSC (See Annex 33).    More recently, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, APRI, NGOs, and researchers agreed during a harvest strategy development meeting to use spawning potential ratio as a basis for the BSC harvest strategy in Fisheries Management Areas 712, where Madura Island is located (See Annex 34). In addition, in May 2019, APRI presented its preliminary findings from a gender profile for the BSC fishery that was developed by the FIP to determine strategies to improve gender equality in the BSC fishery (See Annex 62).    In addition, to prepare the Madura Island for full assessment, the project is working to mainstream sustainability efforts at the national level. For instance, the project facilitated mapping of BSC supply chain actors and socialized the importance of traceability and compliance in other supplier regions through the design of a Control Document Audit System, such as in Sorong West Papua (See Annex 79) Makassar of Sulawesi Island, and Bangka Belitung of Sumatera Island.  The lessons learned of the BSC FIP have been shared to improve fisheries planning through the Public Consultation of Technocratic document of the National Medium-Term Development Plan 2020-2024 on Marine and Fisheries Sector (See Annex 80), as well as to improve traceability in fisheries products.    Indonesia Skipjack and Yellowfin Pole and Line FIPs (Ratings not yet available)    The GMC project’s approach to increase sustainability of tuna fisheries is conducted by strengthening of AP2HI/Indonesia Pole and Line and Handline Tuna Industry Association’s capacity and resources to close gaps within the existing FIP workplan.    Through the support of the project, AP2HI continued to increase the effectiveness and traceability of baitfish, provided training to fisherfolk for bait management (See Annex 76), training for catch management (See Annex 77), socializing the implementation of the code of ethical conduct for the pole and line fisheries, and training fishers on measures to prevent bycatch of endangered, threatened, protected species (See Annex 78). In addition, in May 2019, AP2HI presented its preliminary findings from a gender profile for the Tuna Pole and Line fishery that was developed by the FIP to determine strategies to improve gender equality in the fishery. AP2HI also actively provides recommendation and input based on the lesson learnt from implementing its FIP to the development of the new National Tuna Management Plan for 2020-2024 (See Annex 81). The improvement in pole and line fisheries will target several units of assessment, including the North Sulawesi and North Maluku fishing grounds, which are part of Western Central Pacific Ocean regional management unit (See Annex 82). The improvement project is continually monitored in the annual industry gathering (See Annex 89). |
| 4b. Private investment in FIPs | US$250,000/year | n/a | >US$1,500,000/year | During this period, project has secured an agreement for $50,000 to co-fund the initial phase of the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic FIP. The initiative was agreed as GMC project investing in the pre-evaluation of the fishery against IFFO-RS standard and the associated companied to the FIP, paying for the FIP design and future FIP program. This co-finance was done by the National Fisheries Chamber (CNP) and fish feed supply chain companies (a total of 19 companies). The co-finance represents a landmark, as this is the first time in Ecuador that the local supply chain joins efforts and support this initiative. Please, see the following link for a coverage done by the Ecuadorian Ministry of Fisheries  http://www.acuaculturaypesca.gob.ec/subpesca4451-19-empresas-suman-esfuerzos-para-aplicar-proyecto-de-mejora-pesquera-para-asegurar-la-sustentabilidad-de-explotacion-de-pelagicos-pequenos.html  Further detailed information is included in SFP report (attachment A2).  For additional coverage of this agreement, please visit:  http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=7&id=95865&l=e&special=&ndb=1%20target= http://www.fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=&day=22&id=96521&l=e&special=0&ndb=0 | To date, the GMC project has secured approximately $330,000 in annual funding from the private sector for FIP implementation (Apprx. $300,000 from the Ecuador Small Pelagics FIP, and apprx. $30,000 from the Costa Rica Large Pelagics FIP).  In the Philippines, SFP and the national platform officer are exploring potential opportunities for both private sector and donor funding for the to be established Octopus FIP. Indonesia FIPs do not receive support from SFP and had already established private sector financing mechanisms prior to the initiation of project implementation.  Ecuador Small Pelagics FIP: On August 22, 2018, the participating members of the Ecuador Small Pelagic FIP signed an MOU committing the member companies to contribute funds for the implementation of the FIP workplan over the next five years (See Annex 47). The breakdown of cost commitments by FIP participating companies for Year 1 of FIP implementation is included in Annex 48.  Philippines FIPs: Following the GMC-PHI’s facilitation of the formation of the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI), in Q1 2019, both entities have worked together in scoping out potential financing avenues for the FIP. The GMC Project has helped connect PCPEAI to the following five (5) potential co-financiers for face-to-face and virtual scoping meetings:  i. The Meloy Fund (TMF), under RARE, with TMF being a for-profit organization with a grant component for technical assistance for sustainable fisheries;  ii. Blue Ventures (BV), an international non-profit for fishery sustainability with a grant component for FIP projects for Octopus in the Philippines;  iii. Fish Right, a USAID-funded project being implemented by the University of Rhode Island (URI) with a US$ 20 million grant specifically targeted for developing fishery sustainability in the Philippines;  iv. Seaport, an international consultancy network (US, Canada, Singapore) association supporting sustainable seafood sourcing from the Philippines; and  v. Stavis Seafoods, a Boston, US based buyer company interested in sourcing sustainable seafood from the Philippines.  Costa Rica Large Pelagic FIP: Buyers who source from the FIP made a commitment to contribute 1% of their total purchases from the fishery for the implementation of the FIP. This amounts to approximately $30,000 per year. However, the commitment has not yet been made public. A formal MoU is expected to be released during the 3rd Quarter of 2019. |
| 4c. Number of fisheries in certification process (have entered process, undergoing assessment, or have been certified) | Fisheries entered into certification process: 0 | na | Year 3: >2  Year 4: >3 | During this period, no targeted fishery in the project had entered MSC certification or undergoes full assessment.  Global Marine Commodities project is setting the scene before any FIP undergoes full MSC assessment. As of today, project is emphasizing on adaptatively management and co-management as strategies to assist fisheries reach full assessment of certification during project time frame.  Costa Rica: Up to date, the yellow fin tuna, swordfish, and mahi pre-assessment (PA) against MSC standards will be finalized by September 2018. Platform coordinator has actively working with evaluators as a direct contribution of the platform to this effort.  a) The offers were presented to the National Platform, and the best offer, from MRAG, was accepted. National Platform members were willing to retain ownership of the process, but preferred SFP to cover the costs of the PA with project funds instead of buyers hiring the CAB, so that no delicate confidential information would be reaching buyers.  b) On the basis of the above request, and upon the agreement of the Costa Rica National Project Director, SFP submitted a request to the Project Management Unit for a line item modification of $30,000 from Local Consultants” to “International Consultants” to cover the PA costs given no national staff has been hired. Program Management Unit confirmed feasibility of the change.  c) With all of the FIPs’ participants and stakeholders in agreement, initial coordination meetings were held with the selected CAB (MRAG) will start work as soon as possible. Information collection and sharing for work on the project is now taking place in Dropbox.  A contract was prepared and delivered to MRAG enterprise (Conformity Assessment Body), which has started the assessment. Further detailed information is the annex A2.  Ecuador: To support the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic FIP, a contract was prepared and signed with RS Standards (the only IFFO authorized consultancy firm) to develop the baseline pre-assessment against IFFO standards on which the first phase of the FIP will be based. RS Standards developed a first draft of the Pre-assessment and a first-round review was completed. Going forward, SFP has started conversation s with MSC certification to use our project as pilot for multi-species MSC.  In case of Philippines and Indonesia, future project intervention will help ongoing FIPs and new developed FIPs to set the scene before entering full assessment. | Two (2) of the fisheries that receive indirect support from the GMC project (Ecuador mahi-mahi drifting longlines fishery and Ecuador Tuna Purse Seine, TUNACONS FIP) have entered the MSC certification process and are currently undergoing their full assessments. Therefore, the project has achieved its Year 3 target ahead of schedule.    The mahi mahi FIP, which has been led and implemented by WWF and private sector partners for the last 9+ years, made the decision to enter in full MSC assessment in April 2019. The GMC Project will help the mahi mahi fishery meet requirements for adequate multi-stakeholder consultation and decision-making processes under Principle 3 of the MSC standards by including the mahi mahi sector in the Ecuador Large Pelagic platform to be launched in 2019 (https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/ecuador-mahi-mahi-coryphaena-hippurus-longline-fishery/@@view). In addition, the project is supporting the creation of the COREMAHI regional industry interest group (See indicator 2a) with the objective of finding mechanisms to establish regional or at least bi-national mahi-mahi stock management regimes.    The Eastern Pacific Ocean Tropical Tuna FIP (TUNACONS) announced that it will enter full assessment on June 26, 2019 (See Annex 90 in spanish). The full assessment will conclude in October 2020, before which the GMC Project will invite the members of the TUNACONS FIP to the Large Pelagic Platform to socialize the new National Action Plan for the Tuna Fishery which will include a range of policy priorities and management measures that will be needed for the fishery to achieve MSC certification.    Also related to this outcome, SFP has facilitated training workshops for industry stakeholders on the MSC standard in Costa Rica and Ecuador. In Ecuador, there were four training sessions, two in Guayaquil with stakeholders from the Instituto Nacional de Pesca (See Annex 49) and the small pelagics fishery (See Annex 50), and two in Manta, including staff of the undersecretary of fisheries (See Annex 51) and with stakeholders from the small pelagics, tuna pole and line and mahi mahi fisheries (See Annex 52). The workshops were held the week of February 25-March 1 and were led by the Latin America Manager for MSC in Guayaquil and Manta. The workshop focused on the conditions required to be in place for a fishery to meet MSC standards under a full assessment.    Similar MSC training sessions were conducted in Costa Rica with industry and government representatives in September 2018 (See Annex 53). |
| 4d. MSC & FishSource scores | Costa Rica CRI Mahi Mahi  (longline)  score 1:  score 2: ≥6  score 3: ≥6  score 4: ≥6  score 5: ≥6 CRI Tuna Yellowfin  (longline)  Score 1: ≥6  Score 2: ≥6  Score 3: ≥6  Score 4: 7.96  Score 5: 8.56 CRI Swordfish  (longline)  Score 1:  Score 2:  Score 3: ≥6  Score 4: ≥6  Score 5: ≥8  Ecuador ECU Mahi Mahi (longline)  score 1:  score 2: ≥6  score 3: ≥6  score 4: ≥6  score 5: ≥6 ECU Yellowfin (Pole and Line)  No profile developed at baseline ECU Skipjack (Pole and Line)  No profile developed at baseline ECU Skipjack (Purse Seine)  Score 1: ≥6  Score 2: ≥6  Score 3: ≥6  Score 4: ≥8  Score 5: ≥8 ECU Chub Mackerel  Score 1:  Score 2: ≥6  Score 3: n/a  Score 4:  Score 5: n/a ECU Frigate Tuna  No profile developed at baseline ECU Thread Herring  No profile developed at baseline  Philippines PHI BSC  (all gear profiles)  Score 1: ≥6  Score 2: ≥6  Score 3:  Score 4: n/a  Score 5:  (all gear profiles)  No profile developed at baseline  Indonesia IND BSC  (all gear profiles)  Score 1: ≥6  Score 2: ≥6  Score 3:  Score 4:  Score 5:  (Pole and Line)  Score 1: ≥8  Score 2: ≥8  Score 3: ≥6  Score 4: 10.0  Score 5: 9.52 IND Yellowfin Tuna Indian Ocean  (Pole and Line)  Score 1: ≥6  Score 2: ≥6  Score 3:  Score 4: 7.6  Score 5: 7.6 | na | Year 1: baseline FishSource scores for all fisheries  Year 3: For 50% of the target fisheries (50% = 5 fisheries) there is an improvement of at least one level (levels =  Year 4: For 80% of the target fisheries (80% = 8 fisheries) there is an improvement of at least one level (levels = | During this period, there has not been a direct project contribution to achieve an increment in MSC or Fishsource scores.  For the progress on this indicator, our partner SFP is currently updating and developing fish source profiles. Fishsource profiles compiles and summarizes publicly available scientific and technical information about the status of fisheries, seafood stocks and production industries into an easily interpretable form. A direct contribution of the project is to update the Fishsource profiles of targeted fisheries (see Annex 5 and Annex 6 for more information). The revised list of relevant gear-flag profiles (GFP) to update in Year 1 includes 14 gear-flag profiles. Since November 2017, seven GFP were already updated.  Ecuador:  • Common dolphinfish - Eastern Pacific Ocean (stock level update – SFP still needs to develop content for Ecuador and Costa Rica) https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/1036  Philippines:  • Philippines blue swimming crab (3 gear-flag profiles) https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5565  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5566  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/1598  Indonesia:  • Blue swimming crab - Java Sea (3 gear-flag profiles)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/1605  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/1606  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/1607  The revised list of relevant new gear-flag profiles in Year 1 includes 17 profiles. Since November 2017, five gear-flag profiles were developed.  Ecuador:  Frigate tuna - Eastern Pacific Ocean (1 gear-flag profile) https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5525  • Pacific chub mackerel – Ecuadorian (1 gear-flag profile) https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/557  Philippines:  • Octopuses nei – Philippines (3 gear-flag profiles)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/4557  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5719  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5720  In addition, a request for information was submitted to Ecuador fisheries research institute (Instituto Nacional de Pesca, INP) to develop the following profiles:  1. Largehead hairtail  2. Shortfin scad  3. Pacific anchoveta  4. Bluespotted cornetfish  5. Lumptail searobin  6. Red-eye round herring    Project communication specialist is working with SFP to provide logos and proper credit formats for the donor and project in the Fishsource profiles intervened by the project.  Based on current information, project has updated the Fishsource profiles for all the targeted fisheries and use this results as baseline for future FIPs. Up to date, 3 fisheries had at least one level improvement (levels =  Philippines:  • Octopus Philippines  • Blue Swimming Crab Indonesia  • Skipjack tuna Indonesia  Herein, a complete list of Fishsource scores is provided for the targeted fisheries. When an improvement is present, the score indicator is mentioned.  Ecuador:  Bigeye tuna Eastern Pacific (Ecuador)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2140  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: 7.8; 5: 8.1 (no improvement)  Skipjack (Ecuador)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2720  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: ≥; 5: ≥8 (no improvement)  MAHI MAHI (Ecuador and Costa Rica ~ no differentiation) https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/1036  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: ≥6; 5: ≥6 (no improvement)  Costa Rica:  Yellowfin (Costa Rica)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2809  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: 7.2; 5: 8.2 (improvement score 5)  Yellowfin (Costa Rica)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2809  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: 7.2; 5: 8.2 (improvement score 5)  Philippines:  Octopus (Philippines)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5720  Blue Swimming crab (Philippines)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/1598  Indonesia:  Bigeye tuna (Indonesia – Western and Central Pacific)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2220  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: 8; 5: 8.2 (no improvement)    Bigeye tuna (Indonesia – India)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2143  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: 9.2; 5: 9 (improvement score 4)  Blue Swimming Crab (Indonesia -Java sea)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/742    Skipjack (Indonesia – Indian Ocean)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2728  1: ≥8; 2: ≥8; 3: ≥6; 4: 10; 5: 9.5 (improvement score 2 to 5)  Skipjack (Indonesia - Western and Central Pacific)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2736  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: 10; 5: 10 (improvement score 4 & 5)  Yellowfine (Indonesia – Western and Central Pacific) https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2634  1: ≥6; 2: ≥6; 3: ≥6; 4: 9.5; 5: 8.8 (improvement score 4)  Yellowfine (Indonesia - Indian Ocean)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2736 | 5 of the 10 fisheries have seen at least 2 FishSource criteria improve by at least one grade (50%) since baseline.    This indicator seeks to capture the positive impact that project intends to generate for target fisheries via the establishment of national action and/or management plans as well as through its support to the associated FIPs. Due to these interventions that aim to improve the management of fisheries and the on-the-water practices of industry, the indicator assumes that FishSource scores for the targeted fisheries should increase during the life of the project. However, it is important to consider that factors external to the GMC Project can influence positively or negatively FishSource scores for fisheries, and/or certain changes in FishSource scores that were in part achieved by project interventions may not be reflected in the profile scores during the life of the project. For example, while the project may establish a national action plan for a given fishery, implementation of those action may not commence until after the life of the project, and therefore improvements in the targeted fishery may not be reflected until a later point in time. See evidence under Indicators 3a, 3b and 4a to support the actions taken by the project to improve the FishSource scores of the target fisheries.    The project also contributes to the regular updating and development of new FishSource profiles.    To date, the project has developed 12 new FishSource profiles, and is currently advancing the working drafts of an additional 5.    1. PHI Octopus nei – Traps https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/4557  2. PHI Octopus nei – Vertical lines https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5719  3. PHI Octopus nei – Harpoons https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5720  4. ECU Frigate Tuna https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2255  5. ECU Pacific Chub Mackerel https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2280  6. ECU Blue Spotted Cornetfish https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/5962  7. ECU Largehead hairtail https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2354  8. ECU Red-eye round herring https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2356  9. ECU Searobins nei https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2355  10. ECU Shortfin scad https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2350  11. ECU Thread herrings nei https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2311  12. ECU Pacific anchoveta https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/1490  The additional 5 profiles currently under development, and to be finalized in Q3 2019 are:  1. Pelagic thresher \\ Ecuador \\ Longline  2. Blue shark - South Pacific Ocean \\ ICCAT \\ Ecuador \\ Longline https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/6213  3. Bigeye tuna - Eastern Pacific\\ IATTC \\ Ecuador \\ Drifting longlines https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2140  4. Yellowfin tuna - Eastern Pacific Ocean \\ IATTC \\ Ecuador \\ Drifting longlines https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2810  5. Skipjack tuna - Eastern Pacific Ocean \\ IATTC \\ Ecuador \\ longline https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/6214    Also, in this reporting period the following profiles were updated:  1. ECU Frigate tuna – https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2255  2. ECU Pacific chub mackerel – https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/2280    The following section describes the FishSource scores of the target fisheries as of June 2019. The numbers 1-5 in the left-hand column refer to the FishSource criteria number. The second column of numbers refers to the reported score for each criterion as of June 2019. The third column of numbers in parentheses reports the increment of change since baseline.    Costa Rica:  Costa Rica Common Dolphinfish Eastern Pacific Ocean – Drifting Longlines. Improvement of scores 1, 2 and 3.    1 ≥6 (+1)  2 ≥ 6 (+1)  3 ≥ 6 (+1)  4 Not yet scored (n/a)  5 Not yet scored (n/a)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/1036    Costa Rica Yellowfin Tuna Eastern Pacific Ocean. Improvement of scores 1, 4 and 5.    1 ≥ 8 (+2)  2 ≥ 6 (0)  3 ≥ 6 (-2)  4 10 (+2.7)  5 8.6 (+0.6)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/1055    Costa Rica Bigeye Tuna, Eastern Pacific Ocean.  Improvement of score 1.    1 ≥ 8 (+2)  2 ≥ 6 (0)  3 ≥ 6 (-2)  4 8.1 (-0.1)  5 7.4 (-0.6)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/709    Costa Rica Skipjack Tuna, Eastern Pacific Ocean  No improvement.    1 ≥ 6 (0)  2 ≥ 6 (0)  3 ≥ 6 (-2)  4 ≥ 8 (-1.2)  5 ≥ 8 (0)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/1039  Ecuador:  Ecuador Common Dolphinfish Eastern Pacific Ocean – Drifting Longlines. Improvement of scores 1, 2 and 3. This is considered the same fishery as CRI Mahi-Mahi.    1 ≥ 6 (+1)  2 ≥ 6 (+1)  3 ≥ 6 (+1)  4 Not yet scored (n/a)  5 Not yet scored (n/a)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/1036    Ecuador Bigeye Tuna, Eastern Pacific Ocean – Drifting Longlines. Improvement of score 1. This is considered the same fishery as CRI Bigeye Tuna.    1 ≥ 8 (+2)  2 ≥ 6 (0)  3 ≥ 6 (-2)  4 8.1 (-0.1)  5 7.4 (-0.6)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2140    Ecuador Yellowfin Tuna, Purse Seine, Eastern Pacific Ocean.  Improvement in scores 4 and 5.    1 ≥ 8 (+1)  2 ≥ 6 (0)  3 ≥ 6 (-1)  4 10 (+0.8)  5 8.6 (+0.6)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2720      Indonesia:  Indonesia Blue Swimming Crab  Improvement in scores 1, 2 3 and 4.    1 ≥ 6 (+1)  2 ≥ 6 (+1)  3 < 6 (+1)  4 < 6 (+1)  5 < 6 (0)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/742    Indonesia Bigeye Tuna  Improvement in scores 3 and 4.  1 ≥ 6 (-2)  2 ≥ 6 (0)  3 ≥ 6 (+2)  4 9.9 (+0.9)  5 8.5 (-0.7)  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/2220  Philippines:  Philippines Blue Swimming Crab  Improvement in score 4.    1 ≥ 6 (0)  2 ≥ 6 (0)  3 < 6 (0)  4 < 6 (+1)  5 < 6 (0)  https://www.fishsource.org/stock\_page/745    PHI Octopus Traps, Vertical Lines and Harpoons  No improvement (profiles created by GMC project in Q1, 2019).    1 ≥ 6 (0)  2 Data deficient n/a  3 ≥ 6 (0)  4 Data deficient n/a  5 Data deficient n/a  https://www.fishsource.org/fishery\_page/4557 |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 5**  **Reliable and verifiable information of target marine commodities is publically available and is used by value chain stakeholders for decision making and engagement in fishery improvement projects** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 5a. Number of registered users | FishSource: 2270 (individuals)  Metrics: 1,381 (Number of companies subscribed – the number of registered individuals/employees for each company will vary by company size and their management structure) | na | FS Year 3: >15% increase  FS Year 4: >25% increase  Metrics Year 3: >10% increase  Metrics Year 4: >20% increase | During this period, the number of registered users has incremented in 214% for FishSource (7135 individuals) and an approximate 173% for Metrics (1287 users).  Both, Fishsource and Metrics are software developed by project partner SFP. Fishsource are profiles that summarizes and compiles publicly available scientific and technical information about the status of fisheries, seafood stocks and production industries into an easily interpretable form.  Metrics gives buyers the information they need to Make informed choices based on up-to-date information about sustainability when making procurement decisions on which fishery to source.  Despite, project has surpassed end of project target, we will continue monitoring the number of registered users in the following PIR to identify a potential trend and to identify the increment in users from year to year.  To properly visualize how project is contributing to the number of Fishsource and Metric registered users, in the next quarter, GMC project website will be launched and there will be direct link (promotion) of FishSource profiles that are funded by the project and an explanation of Metrics and its use. | FishSource reports an increase in 141% of registered users (5,490 total accounts as of June 2019)  Metrics reports an increase in 18% of registered users (1,636 total accounts as of June 2019).    The increase is FishSource users greatly exceeds the end-of-project target.  The increase in Metrics users has met the Year 3 target, and is on track to achieve the end-of-project target.  Fishsource.org houses profiles that condenses publicly available scientific and technical information about the status of fisheries, seafood stocks and production industries into an easily understandable summary.    Metrics provides seafood suppliers and buyers the information they need to make informed choices based on up-to-date information about sustainability of specific fisheries.    FishSource  The GMC Project has included a page on its project website about FishSource, describing the tool and providing a link in order to promote the website (http://globalmarinecommodities.org/en/fishsource/).  In order to make FishSource an accessible resource to a wider audience, GMC-SFP has integrated a Google Translate automatic translation tool for Spanish and Bahasa on the FishSource.org website. The “Google translate” bar now appears live at the top of the FishSource website where users will see the option for translating the content into other languages.  SFP IT staff also finalized the development of the templates for translating static text such as the landing page text, How FishSource Works section text, and section headings on a one-off basis. Translation of templates of static text has been finalized for Spanish and Bahasa. Translation of gears and species is planned for Q3, 2019.    Metrics  During this reporting period, SFP recruited 18 new seafood suppliers, buyers and retailers to the Metrics software platform, and provided on-boarding training to these companies' staff (See Annex 54). On-boarding has thus far been carried out for the following groups:    1. Lidl suppliers, specifically focusing on the canned seafood suppliers: in-person training was provided to one supplier and call-training to two suppliers, as well as support with data entry to two suppliers trained during the first quarter.  2. Auchan: One call-training was provided to one Auchan supplier; four suppliers were supported with data collection and reporting. Metrics reports have been presented to Auchan in order to outline the strategy to engage suppliers in improvement initiatives.  3. Two Sysco France suppliers completed registration for upcoming Metrics use (Sysco suppliers only report twice a year in July and January).  4. Congalsa’s suppliers list was updated; new suppliers are expected to be contacted in the next quarter. Two new suppliers were introduced to Metrics during an in-person meeting at the Brussels Seafood Expo.  5. Gib Maroc (Morrisons Partner): New staff for this supplier was trained on the Metrics tool.  6. Wanchese EU (Congalsa Supplier): New staff from was trained on the use of the Metrics supplier interface.  7. ALDI Nord: The new CSR Manger was introduced to the Metrics system, and access to a demo system was provided.  8. Mercadona, Spanish largest retailer: The Seafood Sustainability Manager was introduced to Metrics, and access to a demo system was provided. |
| 5b. Number of visitors (average visitors per month to the site) | FishSource: 2,019  FisheryProgress (FIP Directory): 1,155 | na | FishSource: 2,019  FisheryProgress (FIP Directory): 1,155 | During this period, there has been an approximate increment of 84% (3447) in the number of visitors (average visitors) per month to FishSource.  Consultations were done to Fishery Progress website and MSC to share current website traffic. Fishery progress has not shared information, however, project coordinator is in conversations to expand on project implications and how we contribute to Fishery Progress visitors. Project will update FIP directory indicator to Fishery progress, this because Fishery Progress website compiles all existing FIPs.  Consultations were done to MSC and no data was shared. According to MSC,  1. The MSC website underwent a complete rebuild in the last 6 months and the existing MSC website has taken on a different form and contents. We now have country-specific websites to target our audiences better.  2. Considering this point, MSC thinks any metrics in regard with MSC website, won´t reflex, as appropriated, specific contribution, given all these changes, will be covered by this bigger web modification on image and contents.  3. Further, metrics showing website traffic is internal information that MSC is not able to share.  4. Given the role of SFP in this project, it was suggested SFP website visualizations may reflex in a better way, the impact of the GEF marine commodities project.  Project coordination is discussing with SFP partner the implications on MSC response. Thus, if MSC decides not to share data, project will propose a change in project indicators that involves MSC.  Further information found in Annex 19. | FishSource: Comparing the average number of monthly visitors during the fourth quarter of 2017 (baseline) with the average number of monthly visitors for this reporting period (2nd quarter 2019), the project reports 262.80% increase in average monthly visitors. The project has greatly exceeded its end-of-project target.    FisheryProgress: Comparing the average number of monthly visitors during the fourth quarter of 2017 (baseline) with the average number of monthly visitors for this reporting period (2nd quarter 2019), the project reports an increase of 92.81% in average monthly visitors. The project has greatly exceeded its end-of-project target.  SFP provided space to the FishChoice team to present the FisheryProgress platform and recent and upcoming improvements to the web portal at the Target 75 conference in Miami, FL in February (See Annex 55). |
| 5c. Level of satisfaction (in terms of meeting user expectations) of information users for each site (exceeds expectations =3; meets expectations = 2; below expectations = 1; averaging scores for all areas) | FishSource: NA  Metrics: NA    FIP Directory: NA | na | Year 1: baseline for all sites.  Year 3: average = 2  Year 4: average = 2.5 | During this period, the level of satisfaction in terms of user’s expectations has not been measured. Communication specialist is preparing a terms of reference document to use as guidelines in how to standardize the measurement of satisfaction level. This proposal will be discussed with SFP and implemented in the following period. | The level of satisfaction of information users for each site has not yet been measured.    In close coordination with the IPCU, SFP has developed a user satisfaction survey for both FishSource and Metrics users. The survey will be sent to all registered users of FishSource and Metrics in July 2019 utilizing the SurveyMonkey online tool. The FishSource survey will include a section measuring satisfaction with the section of the FishSource profiles that displays associated FIP Ratings generated by the SFP FIP Evaluation team.    To ensure the technical soundness and quality of the FIP Rating system SFP constantly refines and tweaks system details and coordination with FishChoice, the NGO that administers FisheryProgress.org, the website where FIP Ratings are published. These methodological updates are critical to ensure accuracy of the rating system and reporting and would not be able to occur without support from the GMC Project. In the second quarter of 2019, SFP carried out a meeting with FishChoice to standardize FIP reporting processes based on FIP Ratings generated by SFP to ensure more consistency across evaluation, and to coordinate steps and roles in the FIP rating, consultation and publication process (See Annex 56). This update has been adopted by FishChoice and SFP, but may be subject to future adjustments based on observations acquired during the process of FIP Rating and managing the FisheryProgress website. |
| 5d. Quality level for the profiles for each group/sector (e.g., quality of tuna profiles), based on review by independent experts, with each sector graded A, B or C. | 0 | na | Year 1: baseline for all sites.  Year 3: average = 2  Year 4: average = 2.5 | During this period, the quality level of FishSource profiles for each group/sector based on review by independent experts, has not been measured. Project is preparing a terms of reference document to use as guidelines for the independent expert  Profiles are under that through a deep evaluation provide quality level grades. Fishsource profiles are under development or being updated by SFP (as indicated in section above). | To date, 0 scientific reports have been published by technical experts contracted by the project.    In 2019, the GMC Project expects two of its Scientific Working Groups (SWGs) to complete their work and publish their technical reports (ECU Small Pelagic and PHI Octopus). Two other SWGs will complete their work in 2020.    As per discussions with implementing partners and per agreement of the Project Steering Committee, the SWGs are tasked to provide scientific support to FIPs. Currently, three scientific working groups have begun operations. Scientific support to the Ecuador Small Pelagic FIP has advanced, and support to the Philippines Octopus and BSC FIPs has begun.    Scientific support to Ecuador Small Pelagic improvement efforts.    Expected outcomes:  a. Identify adequate stock assessments models for the main species comprising the catch (9 species, mostly small pelagics) of the reduction fisheries sector in Ecuador;  b. Identify capacity needs and provide training to staff at the Instituto Nacional de Pesca of Ecuador to ensure the research institution maintains a regular program of stock assessment for small pelagics; and  c. Develop stock assessments for the main species and population diagnoses for data poor species and lead an independent peer review process.    To date, the SWGs in Ecuador and the Philippines have generated the following results:    a. Stock assessment scientist completed first and second field visits, desk work, and released first (Annex 57) and second (Annex 58) interim reports. During the second field visit, the stock assessment scientist presented preliminary results of the stock assessments of the main species comprising the catch of main fishery stakeholders (FIP participants and INP). The final report will be submitted in Q3 2019.    Scientific support to Philippines octopus improvement efforts  The lead scientific expert was identified, scope of work was discussed with FIP implementers and government authorities, ToRs were developed for this position, and the Octopus Technical Working Group (the local platform) members were invited to suggest candidates with the needed expertise. In May 2019, a candidate was hired to start this assignment. The consultant began by contacting NSAP provincial representatives to start gathering the information required to develop the data gathering protocol.    Expected outcomes of the lead scientist work:  a. Analyzing available historical data on Philippines octopus fisheries;  b. Identifying most adequate stock assessment models and methodologies for main species; and  c. Developing a data sampling strategy to enable development of adequate stock assessments.    Currently, the lead scientific consultant for the work on Philippines octopus is identifying the most appropriate stock assessment methods for key Philippines octopus species, defining data gathering needs, developing a data gathering strategy for conducting stock assessments, and strengthening the capacity of Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) staff for octopus data sampling and use of the identified stock assessment methodologies.    Scientific support to Philippines Blue Swimming Crab improvement efforts  During the reporting period, the lead scientific consultant was hired in the Philippines.  Currently, the lead scientific consultant for the work on Philippines BSC is: reviewing historical blue swimming crab (BSC) data gathered under the National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) for regions 5, 6, and 7 to design new approaches to data analysis to propose the most appropriate reference points for this fishery; and providing training to NSAP and National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) staff on new approaches to stock assessment analysis, elaborating guidelines for their reference.    The consultant has already conducted field work in Iloilo (Region VI), with key NSAP personnel in the province to understand how NSAP is operating and gather needed data and information to conduct his assignment. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 6**  **Better knowledge management on mainstreaming sustainability into seafood value chains** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 6a Number of visitors of best practice documents | 0 | na | Year 3: >750 total  Year 4: >1500 total | During this period and due to implementation delay, no best practices documents had been developed. Nonetheless, in order to generate lessons learned, project coordinator is planning to take communication specialist and visit the Costa Rica platform to a) generate lesson learned documents, and b) a communication note of platform development that will be published in project website, IW learn website and similar.  In addition, to consolidate lessons learned, project website in IW learn site is under construction. Communication specialist will lead the development of project website.  http://gmc.iwlearn.net/cms/login  Up to date, project coordinator has created social media usernames for the global component and same usernames will be used for the whole project.  https://www.facebook.com/Global-Marine-Commodities-project-International-454996801610761/?modal=admin\_todo\_tour  https://twitter.com/GlobalMarineCo1  https://www.instagram.com/globalmarinecommoditiesproject/  Since social media usernames were created in late May and early June, there is a limited number of visitors. Communication specialist will maintain and update social media usernames.  The Costa Rica national Platform has been created and is updating their website periodically.  www.pelagicoscr.org | To date, 0 visitors have been registered to best practice documents generated by the project.    The project has yet to develop a best practice document, however the project plans to publish its first best practice document on the GMC Project website in the 3rd quarter of 2019. Progress is therefore on track with indicator targets, as the first visitors to the best practice documents are expected to be measured in Year 3 (according to the indicator).    With the recent hiring of the Communication and Knowledge Management Specialist, the project is working to finalize its knowledge management strategy to ensure that each country’s sustainable fisheries platform and the associated fishery improvement projects (FIPs) document the lessons learned and best practices generated through the implementation of the GMC Project.    During this reporting period the IPCU developed a template to assist the GMC country teams to document lessons learned and best practices following a consultative process with project stakeholders (See Annex 59).    In addition, the Latin America and Asia Regional Advisors (1 for each region) have begun producing observations and lessons learned from the on-going technical assistance that they provide the national platform coordinators in their regions. These observations are being collected in a Lessons Learned Log for Latin America (See annex 60) and Asia (See Annex 61) which are submitted to the IPCU for review on a quarterly basis. These observations and lessons learned will be transformed into a final best practice document at the end of the advisors’ one-year contracts.  The purpose of collecting and documenting lessons learned and best practices generated through the implementation of the GMC    Project is to share and use the knowledge to:  • Repeat desirable outcomes.  • Avoid undesirable outcomes.  • Share best practices for repeatability in other countries.  • Update organizational knowledge assets to improve on processes and procedures.  • Generate methodological observations that can be shared among the GMC project platform coordinators, and to a wider community of practitioners working to promote sustainable fisheries and effective fishery co-management.    Additionally, to monitor the number of visitors to the best practice documents, the project added a website tool on the library section to register the people that download those documents. http://globalmarinecommodities.org/en/library/.    Also, as part of the current project communication strategy the activities to disseminate the best practice documents include the following actions:  • One-day online regional workshop  • One national webinar per country    The project will also seek to present and disseminate the documents at relevant seafood sustainability and ocean resource governance events such as:    • IWLearn conference.  • FIP Community of Practice workshop  • Seafood Expo North America (SENA)  • Seaweb Seafood Summit    The project will begin generating and publishing lessons learned and best practice documentation by the fourth quarter of 2019, and has plans in place to release additional documentation by the end of the first quarter of 2020 and again, a more complete compendium of project implementation reflections and learnings by the fourth quarter of 2020. |
| 6b Level of utility of best practice documents (exceeds expectations =3; meets expectations = 2; below expectations = 1; averaging scores for all areas) | 0 | na | Year 3: 2 average  Year 4: 2.5 average | During this period, since no lessons learned had been created, project has not measured the level of utility of these documents.  Project coordination has incorporated its communication specialist, who will lead the development of best practices and lessons learned, and the following analysis to determine the level of utility of these documents. | The level of utility of best practice documents has not yet been measured.  The project has not yet published a best practice document. However, the project has already designed the methodology to evaluate the utility of the best practice documents.    In order to download the documents from the GMC Project website, users will be asked to provide their email address. This information will allow the project to send a survey with questions related to the utility of the document.    The surveys will be developed for each document with input from the document author. The IPCU will then facilitate the dissemination of the surveys and data collection, storage and analysis. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 39.2% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 42.53% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 2,156,095 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 150,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 5,500,000 |
| Co-financing | 34,550,000 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Apr 12, 2013 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Jan 21, 2016 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Nov 30, 2016 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Nov 6, 2017 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | May 30, 2019 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Aug 30, 2021 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Nov 30, 2021 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2019-02-19 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The Global Marine Commodities project is being implemented in Costa Rica, Ecuador, Philippines and Indonesia, and has an international project coordination unit (IPCU) comprised of staff from UNDP and facilitating partner, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP). The end-of-project date was originally slated for the first quarter of 2020. However, due to delays in ProDoc signature by country members (Costa Rica: May 2016; Ecuador: September 2017; Philippines: March 2017; Indonesia: March 2018; IPCU: September 2017) and hiring of an international project coordinator, the project was forced to delay its inception workshop until November 2017, which marks the official project implementation start date. Thus, during the inception workshop, in November 2017, GMC had its first opportunity for national authorities from the four countries to interact and plan project activities in coordination.    Since the last 2018 PIR and as reflected in the DO progress section, considering Nov. 2017 as the starting implementation point, the GMC project has effectively adjusted its work planning to achieve its targets in a timely manner. In coordination with SFP the IPCU carried out strong and adaptive planning, and an effective implementation to minimize project delay. The GMC Project activities in Costa Rica are an exception, as project implementation began in July 2016, and the platform has recently completed its activities. Nevertheless, considering the implementation difference between the Costa Rica component and the rest of project, the IPCU is continues to include the Costa Rica component (project team, public and private stakeholders) in all project activities. This continued coordination attempts to minimize any implementation difference with the rest of the team, and helps to enrich discussions on the lessons learned from project implementation. The IPCU has prepared a series of in-person and on-line meetings, has hired regional advisors to support the national platforms, and carried out a peer-to-peer learning exchange in Galicia Spain in June 2019 in order to facilitate knowledge sharing among the project team and stakeholders.    Despite the coordinated efforts and strong implementation, and due to the delays in project inception, it is necessary to request a project extension in order to ensure the project is able to achieve its expected results. During the last Project Steering Committee meeting, members approved the request for project extension (Annex 72). The International Coordination Unit has carried out a financial and technical analysis and has determined that the project has sufficient funding to support necessary activities up until June 2021. A formal extension request is expected to be submitted by the IPCU (global component) in August/September 2019, and is expected to include an extension for the national components (Ecuador, Philippines and Indonesia) up to the proposed closing date (June 2021). Due to these circumstances, the project is considered to be in its second year of implementation, and therefore plans to begin its Midterm Review (MTR) consultancy in July. The consultant recruitment process is currently underway at the time of writing this comment, and applications are being reviewed by the selection panel. We expect the MTR report to be completed by end of September, 2019.    Although not strictly required as part of the project, the IPCU has planned with its own funds to develop a project Gender Strategy and mainstreaming and monitoring plan. This strategy will ensure that the project is aligned with the new Gender Policy of the GEF, and will provide guideance to the GMC project governments, GMC team and stakeholders, to promote a gender responsive approach to reduce gender inequalities in supported fisheries governance systems. The strategy will also introduce specific actions to support gender equality and the empowerment of women along the distinct supply chains. The Gender Strategy is also considering how to include the Seal for Gender Equality that UNDP Ecuador is implementing at the national level. As the lead Country Office for the GMC Project, the Ecuador CO could share this experience with the other Country Offices associated to the project. All actions mentioned above reinforce the GMC project commitment to address important social aspects of sustainable fisheries that were not considered during project design.    If the GMC project is granted a no-cost extension up to June 2021, the proposed Terminal Evaluation is expected to be carried out in the first quarter of 2021. The IPCU strongly believes that DO and IP progress will be rated as Highly Satisfactory by this time as there is significant progress reported from the 2018 PIR to the 2019 PIR, and we expect to maintain the same trend. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| As it is well known, the project as part of the International Waters window in the GEF, includes four countries and a global component in which SFP is the implementing partner. The mentioned diverse participation implied different challenges during Prodoc preparation that started in 2013 and finished with the GEF approval for implementation in January 2016. For starting implementation, the main challenge was the ProDocs signatures, registered as follows: May 13th 2016 for Costa Rica, November 30th 2016 for Ecuador, March 22nd 2017 for the Philippines, March 26th 2018 for Indonesia and May 13th 2016 for Global Unit. The mentioned delays were attributed to the discussions and re-positioning of the project after its long PPG phase.    According to ATLAS system, the global project began in January 2016, as is stated in the Global Prodoc, and it is expected to finish in January 2020. In addition to this, the International Project Coordinator was hired in September 2017, and UNDP signed the Standard Cooperation Agreement with SFP in October 1st 2017.    As can be seen different dates of ProDoc signatures, as well as the re-positioning of the project again in countries agenda took some time, but now it can be said that with the four countries on board, project started to give results after its one and a half year of implementation. It is also important to mention that for the case of Costa Rica, in particular, the national component implementation is already finished for its early beginning, and now only the global part is being coordinated with the country (i.e. lessons learned, good practices, etc.).    For the global component the inception workshop took place from 6 to 9 November 2017, space that was used to have the first Global Steering Committee.    Regarding the MTR it is expected to start in August 2019 and finishing in October with strategic recommendations.    Finally, during the second steering committee (February 19th 2019), it was suggested and approved to proceed with a non-cost extension considering the mentioned delays, not only for the global component, but also for the countries’ components. Now, discussions are being carried out in order to agree the final deadline for closure, based not only in budgetary availability, but also in country results. During the second semester of 2019, the project international unit will prepare the request for the non-cost extension based on countries agreements. And, with this expected extension, as well as with the update of the results framework (considering the long PPG phase in which many changes had place) already approved, it is expected to complete the project final results. |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The applicable milestone during the current reporting period was the conclusion of the MTR. As mentioned before by the PCU and CO, several delays in project signatures and inception workshops represented also a delay on the start implementation of the project that included all the countries involved. This would represent that some activities needed to be carried out in a different timeline from the one approved in the Prodoc. The MTR was also postponed for a couple of months; however, it is now being developed and should be ready by October. As a consequence, project closure would also need to be moved further, thus a project extension request will be submitted to the second semester of 2019. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | International Project Coordination    The International Project Coordinator elects the (S) Satisfactory Rating for the project as it is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.    This rating is founded upon observations made by the International Project Coordinator in relation to the progress of implementation of the international component as well as observations on the national components and is in accordance with the ratings provided by the National Authorities and National Platform Coordinators/Officers in each GMC Country.    The project has disbursed to date USD $2,138,000 which is 38.87% of total budget. However, true delivery to date is higher than this, as the Funding Authorization and Certificate of Expenditures (FACE) reimbursement for the months of April-June 2019 for a value of more than $150,000 will be submitted in late July 2019. This reimbursement, once process will lift total budget disbursement above 41%. In terms of programmatic advances, as is reflected in the DO Progress section of this report, the project has met and exceeded all its mid-term indicator targets and has already surpassed end-of-project targets for indicators 1 (Landings from fisheries either certified sustainable or making regular, verifiable improvements) 1a (Number of fisheries for the targeted commodities that are sourced by SFP partners and their suppliers that are in a FIP or certified), 5a (Number of registered users on FishSource and Metrics) and 5b (Number of average monthly visitors to FishSource and FisheryProgress). The project is well on track to meet indicator targets established for Year 3, as well as its end-of-project targets. This programmatic and financial progress has been achieved despite the fact that the IPCU has been functioning without a full-time admin and finance specialist since March 2019. The absence of this key position has required that the whole IPCU team cover these processes with additional support from the Ecuador Country Office. This teamwork approach has helped the project avoid significant delays in administrative and financial tasks. The new admin and finance specialist will be joining the IPCU officially in July 2019.    In 2018, the International Project Coordination Unit implemented 72% of its annual budget (although approximately $85,000 of project implementation at the end of 2018 was disbursed officially in 2019 and would have increased 2018 delivery to 81%). The project is on track to achieve at least 85% implementation of the 2019 budget. All critical risks potentially affecting project outcomes have now been mitigated and downgraded to moderate or low-level risks. We improved the project’s application of the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) policy to ensure timely submission of FACE reports from the project’s implementing partner and quick execution of reimbursement.  The project’s Social and Environmental Screening Plan (SESP) was updated in October 2018 and again in June 2019, and the new version of the SESP indicates 6 social and environmental risks associated with the project. The Project is implementing the mitigation strategies and will again review SESP implementation in the fourth quarter of 2019. To date, the project has not received complaints regarding environmental or social impacts generated by project implementation.    As indicated in the project description section, the GMC project has national implementation modalities for the four participant countries and a combined UNDP and NGO execution modality for the international component. The international coordination unit (IPCU) consists of UNDP and Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP) staff and consultants. The IPCU is tasked with the implementation of aspects of Components 1, 3 and 4 of the Project, as well as providing general project management, monitoring and reporting support to the Project across the four countries. The national components within each of the four GMC countries are responsible for implementing Component 2 of the project.    General Implementation in 4 Countries  Starting dates varied between the national components and the international component. Costa Rica implementation started well in advance, thus implementation of project activities has now completed with the publication of the Large Pelagic fishery’s National Action Plan (still awaiting government officialization of the plan) and the imminent publication of the Large Pelagic FIP on FisheryProgress.org. Coordinators and supporting staff are now hired in each of the other three countries (Ecuador, Philippines and Indonesia), Asia and Latin America Regional Advisors have been hired and are supporting the platform coordinators, and the national platforms in each country have launched, some have completed their Root Cause Analyses, and stakeholder dialogue sessions are soon to begin.    Sustainable Marine Commodity Platforms  The platforms for the Small Pelagic fishery in Ecuador, Blue Swimming Crab fishery in the Philippines and Indonesia, Tuna in Indonesia and Octopus in Philippines are all focused on updating or generating National Management Plans for their fisheries. National Management Plans differ from Action plans in that they contain concrete fishery management measures (i.e. area or calendar closures, quotas, gear restrictions, catch reporting or observer requirements) based on fishery stock assessment and sound scientific information regarding the biology of target species. The development of management plans for these fisheries is ambitious, but will provide an important contribution to the fisheries sectors in GMC countries. National authorities in Ecuador, Philippines and Indonesia strongly support this strategy, and public/private partnerships for necessary data collection to inform management measures have been developed or are in the process of being developed in each of the three countries.    Fishery Improvement Projects  The project has also made notable progress in its support to the soon to be established Octopus FIP in the Philippines, the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic FIP and the Costa Large Pelagic FIP as described in the DO Progress Section. In the Philippines, for example, in collaboration with BFAR and UNDP, SFP organized the Filipino Octopus Industry workshop to introduce the concept of FIPs to major Octopus exporters and to present reasons why the sector should consider establishing an octopus FIP. 13 of the largest Filipino Octopus producer and exporter companies attended the meeting and decided to form the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI). The association decided to lead the process of establishing an initial FIP plan, which was later presented at the Global Octopus Supply Chain Roundtable (organized by SFP) in Boston in March 2019 at the Seafood Expo North America. Similar to what the GMC Project did for the Small Pelagic FIP in Ecuador, the project provided financial support to hire a consultant to develop national octopus data gathering and stock assessment protocols. This is the first time that an initiative of this scope in the Philippines will attempt to gather data regarding the status of the Octopus fishery in order to support the development of necessary harvest control measures.    Market Engagement  SFP has also made significant progress in catalyzing industry to lobby for important regulatory changes at the Regional Fishery Management Organization (RFMO) level. With partial support of the GMC project, SFP facilitated the creation of a mahi-mahi industry partner group called COREMAHI in January. The purpose of the COREMAHI group is to organize the principal mahi producing companies in order to educate these groups on the mechanisms and tools available in order to improve the national and regional management of mahi stocks and integrate sustainability into their fishing practices. The group is currently comprised of some of the most significant exporters of mahi from Ecuador, Peru and Costa Rica. After the founding of the group in 2018, over the course of several months, the group developed and agreed upon the content of a position statement that was subsequently shared with their national delegates to leverage policy change at the IATTC. Measures requested in the COREMAHI position statement included: Improve knowledge of mahi stock status; incorporate data and environmental variables in mahi stock assessments; and analyze impacts of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) on regional mahi stocks. To bolster the impact of the COREMAHI position statement, SFP facilitated the submission of a position statement from 9 of the largest mahi mahi importers from the United States affirming their support for the requests made in the COREMAHI position statement.    Project Steering Committee and No-Cost Extension  The Project Steering Committee convened on February 19, 2019 to approve the IPCU annual work plan and discuss several project management and coordination decisions. Despite the coordinated efforts and strong implementation, and due to the delays in project inception, it is necessary to request a project extension in order to ensure the project is able to achieve its expected results. The steering committee approved proposed revisions and adjustments to project indicators (which are now reflected in this PIR) and agreed that the IPCU should develop a proposal for a no-cost extension of the project.    As mentioned before, the project initiated much later than originally planned due to delays in procuring ProDoc signatures by each participant country (Costa Rica: May 2016; Ecuador: September 2017; Philippines: March 2017; Indonesia: March 2018; IPCU: September 2017), delays in hiring an international project coordinator and to some extent the late signature of the Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between UNDP and Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP). Due to these delays and considering that the project has now accelerated project implementation and has laid the groundwork for successful completion of project development objectives, the PSC agreed that the IPCU should prepare a proposal for a no-cost extension. Since the PSC meeting in February, the IPCU has carried out a financial and programmatic analysis to determine that a no-cost extension of 18 months up to June 2021 is technically appropriate and financially feasible to ensure a successful closure to the GMC Project. Should the extension be granted, and only if the extension is granted, the project expects to meet or exceed end-of-project targets.    Gender and Knowledge Management Strategies  As part of the adaptive management framework employed by the project, two strategies to improve project outcomes are being developed: the Gender Strategy and the Knowledge Management Strategy. Both strategies will be available in the third quarter of 2019. The Gender Strategy is currently under development by an external consultant and has already went through a first round of comments from UNDP and the IPCU. GMC is committed to facilitating dialogue among all participants and the project team is working to ensure women are provided an appropriate opportunity to influence decision-making regarding fisheries management within the construction and implementation phase of the national action plans. It is worth noting that GMC-Indonesia supported the APRI BSC Association in producing its first Gender Profile for Blue Swimming Crab, and more will come from the rest of intervened fisheries.    Although the Knowledge Management (KM) Strategy is currently under development, the IPCU in coordination with the rest of the national platforms are continuously making sure that project team documents all progress, interventions, lessons learned and best practices. IPCU created a template to extract and document Lessons Learned from the project which has been socialized by the whole project team. During the Peer-to-Peer Knowledge Exchange event organized by the IPCU in Galicia, Spain GMC project stakeholders, including platform and FIP representatives were able to learn from successful fisheries management systems in Galicia and also exchange lessons learned that have emerged from the first 1.5 years of project implementation. All FIPs in attendance presented their governance and financial arrangements and shared how they are overcoming initial challenges. Detailed information regarding the KM strategy content can be found in the Communicating Impact tab, under the knowledge management section.    Project Audit and Midterm Review  In terms of financial and technical evaluations/audits, the IPCU is currently reviewing Mid-term Review applications, and we expect the selected consultant to turn the final report by September 30, 2019. In early 2019, the IPCU went through an external audit, and received an unqualified opinion on the Combined Delivery Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2018, and an unqualified opinion on the Statement of Assets and Equipment as of December 31, 2018. In summary, the audit reported positive results in the technical and financial management of IPCU (See Annex 93).    Participation in international forums and events  During this reporting period, the GMC project participated in several international events where the project presented its model and built strategic alliances with other organizations working to advance sustainable fisheries across the globe. For example, in October 2018, the project coordinator participated in the Fish Crime Symposium in Copenhagen, Denmark where several fisheries ministries (national authorities), international cooperation agencies and NGOs discussed initiatives to reduce illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. The UNDP delegation that attended the symposium oriented all presentations around the topic of “Shadow economy and Fisheries Crime” and the GMC international coordinator spoke on a panel regarding the sustainability of seafood commodities. In addition, the GMC project coordinator and national authorities participated in the 2018 IW:Learn conference in which GMC national authorities held a lead role on several panels and sessions. Moreover, GMC project was recognized as a good example of how to build public-private partnerships towards investment in sustainability actions.    The GMC IPCU participated in the SFP T75 conference in Miami, Florida in February 2019, and invited the president of the Manta Tuna Pole and Line Association from Ecuador to present at the conference in front of an audience comprised of some of the largest seafood buyers and retailers in the United States and Europe as an opportunity to introduce markets to the Tuna Pole and Line FIP. In addition, the IPCU invited the GMC Costa Rica platform and FIP stakeholders to the Seafood Expo North America at Boston in April to officially launch the Costa Rica Large Pelagic FIP in front of an audience of seafood buyers and retailers. Finally, the GMC Project Team also attended the Good Growth Conference in Peru during which the project had the opportunity to present some of the initial takeaways from project implementation and learn about new approaches and techniques used across the world to integrate sustainability into key commodity value chains.    Project Co-financing  The project has also had initial success in raising co-financing from the private sector to support project implementation. The project is in the process of developing an MOU with the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic FIP to provide $1.5 million USD in-kind support to the GMC Project’s implementation of the Small Pelagic Platform. See Annex 92.    For the above reasons, overall project progress and implementation progress is rated as Satisfactory for the 2019 PIR. It is strongly believed that project management has been effective, strategic and adaptive to minimize any delays. Moreover, it has facilitated adequate project implementation and has enabled an appropriate engagement between national authorities, the project team (including SFP), and platform and FIP stakeholders.  ------------------  Ecuador    Note: This DO rating and notes were provided by the GMC Project Team as the new Ecuador platform coordinator begins work on July 22, 2019.    From the perspective of the Ecuadorian National Component (encompassing Outcome 2 of the project), the DO Progress section of this PIR reports significant advances in the the implementation of activities under the Ecuadorian component of the project, and evidences that the project is on track to achieve its intended development objectives. Ecuador has launched one of its two sustainable marine commodity platforms, thus contributing to the project meeting its mid-term target for Indicator 3a (number of sustainable marine commodity platforms) and the second platform will be launched before the end of this year. Both platforms will assist in the creation, update and socialization of the various National Action and Management Plans that will govern the management of the targeted fisheries (Small Pelagic, Mahi-mahi, Tuna and Shark).    In terms of budget delivery, despite some limitations, and with support of the IPCU, the national component is on track to implement at least 85% of the 2019 project budget. In terms of programmatic implementation, project is on track to finalize at least two rounds of platform meetings by the end of 2019.    In terms of challenges affecting implementation, the fisheries national authorities in Ecuador have been under constant changes (in terms of staff, and splits and recombination of ministries). However, as of today, because there are clear mechanisms of roles and responsibilities, project activities continue. In the second quarter of 2019, the Ecuador national platform coordinator resigned from the project. The project quickly mobilized to search for a new platform coordinator, and the candidate has now been identified and will start work on July 22, 2019. In addition, the platform partnership advisor has now been hired and is preparing terms of reference for the necessary consultancies to advance platform implementation.    For these reasons, the Ecuador National Component selects the (S) Satisfactory Rating for the project as it is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure.    Small and Large Pelagic Platforms  Small Pelagic Platform, the project officially launched the Platform in November 2018, and has now consolidated the necessary prerequisites according to the UNDP-GCP methodology and is ready to begin the dialogue phase for platform discussion in the third quarter of 2019. The end product of the small pelagic platform discussions will be the creation of a fisheries management plan, that will delineate concrete management measures to ensure the conservation of the fishery resources. The development of a complete management plan (as opposed to an action plan) is very ambitious; however, the initiative has gathered the necessary political support. As of today, the platform launch event, stakeholder engagement, root-cause analysis, and informative videos have been created and are ready to use for the discussions.    Regarding the Large Pelagic platform, the project team had discussions with the Ecuadorian Mahi Mahi and Tuna FIPs to offer the FIP stakeholders the opportunity to utilize the platform as a space to develop and socialize their national action plans. As of today, Mahi-mahi has a National Action Plan under implementation, and in the third quarter of 2019, the tuna national action plan will be officialized and will enter implementation.    IPCU Support  To cover the absence of the national team, the IPCU supported and completed certain activities that were planned for the 2nd quarter. For example, complementary to the platform dialogue, two core initiatives were planned. The first of the two is called “Todos Juntos por la Pesca Responsible” which aims to train actors in the artisanal fishing supply chain on traceability processes, which then are provided to the service sector (restaurants, chefs, suppliers, etc). Under this initiative, GMC-Ecuador is training selected members from the service sector on becoming agents of change to mobilize the supply chain and producers by requesting sustainable fish products.    Furthermore, with the support of these agents of change, we are creating a program “Pesca Responsable” inside the Subsecretary of Fisheries (SRP) with the main goal to provide an endorsement for those associations that fulfill traceability programs and requirements by the SRP. The second program is intended to engage chefs in co-financing the development of a traceability system. The GMC project is leading the initiative to bring international NGOs and the private sector together to fund a traceability program to use in all Ecuadorian fisheries. The traceability program will include the use of a QR code to track fish origin, the use of blockchain (technology and support by UNDP-Ecuador) and the necessary laws to ensure that most artisanal fish is landed and registered in the fisheries facilities created by the government.    Small Pelagic FIP  In other aspects, the Small Pelagic Fishery Improvement Project has significantly progressed this year and is currently implementing the first year of its 5-year work plan. The majority of the FIP members will participate in the small pelagic platform, and an internal agreement has been made to closely coordinate FIP and platform activities.    Since its conception, the Small Pelagic FIP has received full support from the IPCU. Today, we consider this FIP as an example of “Good Practice” in how the private sector is investing, trusting and creating opportunities to build public-private partnerships. In 2018, IPCU invested in the pre-assessment of the fishery against IFFO certification, and as a commitment of the FIP, participants agreed to provide 1,5 million dollars in a 5-year action plan to fund the sustainability actions required for the fishery. This investment is currently supporting actions such as the stock/biomass assessment required to create the fishery management plan. FIP members are sharing their ships and the Fisheries Research Institute (INP) is providing hydro-acoustic equipment and staff to conduct the biomass assessment. This partnership is an example of a best practice public private partnership initiated by the project, and recently, FIP-INP members were invited by fisheries representatives from El Salvador to explain the FIP governance mechanism, funding mechanism and the scientific cruises.    The coordination and transparency among the national project steering committee, project team (UNDP, IPCU) and FIP members has been key to the success of these initiatives. The biomass assessment from the INP-FIP partnership report will be delivered in the third quarter of 2019 and following that, the small pelagic platform stakeholders will start a dialogue phase to construct the Small Pelagic Fishery Management Plan. The small pelagic platform will base the creation of the management plan on the scientific research currently being conducted with support from the FIP and INP. The platform will ensure that the fisheries management committee will include gender balance at all times; and the platform will emphasize finding solutions for the mitigation of socio-economic impacts, specifically stakeholders must consider at all times how to obtain the maximum economic yield for the communities who benefit from the small pelagic fishery.    Knowledge Management  In terms of Knowledge Management, the project team as whole, is continuously working towards ensure proper documentation of all processes, best practices and lesson learned produced by the project. In late June 2019, representatives from the platform and FIPs of Ecuador participated in the peer-to-peer learning experience in Galicia, Spain. Here, we learned about good fishery management practices that are implemented in Galicia, and we also shared good practices and lessons learned generated by the project. We hope to continue such learning and sharing field visits.    Project Extension  Given the initial delays preventing a timely project inception workshop, and because project has been able to produce results during this initial period of implementation, the national component supports the IPCU in proposing a no-cost extension for the project in order to complete our planned outputs and achieve intended outcomes.  -------------------  Costa Rica      ------------------  Philippines    Note: The Philippine Rating and Comments for the PIR are consolidated between the national authority and platform coordinator to provide one unified interpretation of GMC project progress.    In line with the ProDoc, the funds allocated for national implementation fall under Outcome 2: “Enabling environments for sustainable marine commodities supply chains”. In this regard, activities are focused on supporting the formation and strengthening of the platforms for both GMC target marine commodities for the country, i.e., Blue Swimming Crab (BSC) and Octopus—providing opportunities for tapping support from global markets.    I. Formation of the Marine Commodity Platforms. The institutionalization of the multi-stakeholder commodity platforms (represented by industry, national and local government, NGOs, among other fishery related organizations) via policy and concurrent activation was achieved on the first year of project implementation, via the government’s fisheries bureau: Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Fisheries Office Orders (FOO) No. 269, s. 2018 for Octopus and FOO No. 166, s. 2018 for BSC. Thereafter, efforts were focused on strengthening said platforms and facilitating the Root Cause Analysis and National Management Plan development for both commodities.    II. Sustainable Fishery Management status: Pre-project Implementation. Prior to discussion on the justification of the given rating, it should also be understood that both commodities, in the case of the Philippines, were in vastly differing stages on the pathway to sustainable fisheries management, pre- project implementation. We note that this preliminary investigation, which will be further detailed in the RCAs produced for both commodities in the course of the project, were done through the GMC-PHI implementation.    On the side of the BSC commodity, a previous National Management Plan (NMP) for the period 2010-2015 was developed by BFAR in partnership by the country’s national business/industry group, the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI) representing ~80% of BSC exporters and producers in the country, among other BSC stakeholders. However, some gaps/mismatch in the NMP in consideration of stakeholder interest in the plan implementation were not considered/clear during the time, such as: (i) in terms of indicators for M&E used were not identified to be aligned with MSC standards, or other globally respected certifications, at the time, therefore served little utility for the PACPI to help generate support from global buyers/ buyer groups for their sustainability initiatives; (ii) the lack of an identified overall coordinator/ lead agency for the NMP implementation; and (iii) the Local Government Units (LGUs), while part of the development process, and encouraged to develop local-level policies to support sustainability, were not supported with location-specific information on trend of stock decline, that would clearly provide a perspective on how they would be impacted on a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario, and what policy recommendations would specifically help them avoid the BAU projection. The result of these, among other factors was a severe lack of stakeholder participation in the execution phase, wherein most activities under the NMP were only conducted by the BFAR, especially in terms of stock-assessment and fishery profiling. Furthermore, the PACPI had spearheaded its own initiative in creating a separate Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) Action Plan that was identical to the already charted out NMP (duplicating efforts), as well as conducting their own pre-assessment for MSC. This likewise created a rift between the business and government, in terms of coordination and cooperation.    On the side of the Octopus commodity, it is a widely undocumented commodity in terms of stock status and progress towards sustainable fishery management. The National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) of BFAR also does not cover this commodity (in contrast, the BSC commodity is covered by NSAP). A previous NMP for the commodity has likewise not been initiated by either government or industry.    In this regard, the GMC-PHI had undergone an investigation on the motivations of the different players, and the negative and positive incentives in play, that resulted in the bottlenecks. This resulted in the production of the Fishery Management Process, which charted out the motivators, as well as the different phases of the transformation of the fishery from a business-as-usual fishery management state to a sustainable fishery management state. Said framework has already been presented and considered for adoption by another marine commodity in the Philippines, i.e., Tuna. An end-to-end perspective of the transformation allowed for the identification of gaps, as well as the development of new approaches to address these bottlenecks in the new NMPs for both GMC-PHI covered marine commodities.    III. Passed Activities and Rationale. We also note that most activities charted in the previous year’s workplan, as evidenced in the attached Quarterly and Annual Performance Reports, have been conducted, save some enumerated below, with corresponding rationale:    AWP 2018 Activity 2.2.1.1 – 2.2.1.3. These activities are related to the establishment of holding pens/ lying-in cages for Blue Swimming Crab (BSC). Upon internal review, and as advised by the GEF, these activities are not covered under the Project Design component 2, which was budgeted under the national project. Moreover, it is an activity under Component 3, Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs), which is funded through the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), including for its national implementation. Upon review, these were already revised in the AWP 2019, and channeled to appropriate items in-line with the ProDoc. Further, coordination with the national SFP team was strengthened, to enable the FIPs developed by SFP to dovetail the NMPs under the project.    AWP 2019 Planned Activity 4, under Output 2.1. The invitation from the GMC-IPCU was received late for this activity, without ample time for processing Travel Authorities for BFAR representatives (at least two months advance are needed). Also, upon review, the expenditure for the activity was determined to not be a priority to spend project funds. Thus, the decision to forego said activity.    All revisions to accord with the new AWP 2019, to avoid similar problems were addressed in a Planning Workshop last December 2018. Thus, it is expected with the intensive review process and revision of work plans, no similar problems will be encountered in future project implementation. To date, as of June 2019, all activities are on track.    All notable accomplishments, including the formation of the new Octopus Business group (representing ~90% of the national Octopus exporters and producers in the Philippines), and unlocking of other funds for target commodity sustainability have been highlighted in the national project’s QPRs and APRs. We expound on some below.    IV. Unlocking new financing avenues for GMC-PHI target commodities. In line with the UNDP-CO, CPD Output Indicator alignment: 2.3.4 Value of financing generated for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems, the following financing were generated (in chronological order):    US$ 30,000.00 successfully unlocked from GMC – Indonesia (GMC-IND). Upon review of the GMC-PHI project design and a series of negotiations with the GMC-IND Project Implementation Unit (PIU), US$ 30,000.00 was clarified as earmarked for Philippines GMC roll-out. Said fund will be mobilized to supplement the communications-related activities of the project, in alignment with the overall global GMC project design. The Chart-of-Accounts (COA) for the fund was provided by GMC-IND for utilization of GMC-PHI and an initial TOR has been drafted to use part of the funds, now being finalized with the BFAR for execution by Q2 2019.    National Octopus Business Group successfully formed to tap funds from global buyer group networks supporting sustainability. Given the vast amount of funds moving at the global-level that has remained untapped by the national octopus industry, GMC-PHI has taken steps to connect them with funding sources to support sustainability. With the combined efforts of BFAR, UNDP, and SFP, the GMC-PHI was successfully able to facilitate the formation of the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI), and has likewise supported them in presenting their initial Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) framework to the Global Octopus Supply Chain Roundtable (GOSR), a network of Octopus buyers from US and Europe, in Boston last March 2019.    Boston Seafood Festival side-meetings for sustainability. It was unprecedented for the government fisheries sector to be involved in negotiations and fund mobilization at the global level, with respect to business sector’s efforts for sustainability of global fisheries. This has caused inefficient utilization of resources, due to overlaps in activities, and lack of synchronization between government and industry initiatives. In a landmark event, GMC-PHI has opened the gateway for government participation in side meetings for sustainability, particularly engaging entities such as: Seafood Watch, Fish Right project, GOSR, NFI-CC, together with the national octopus and blue swimming crab industry representatives. The result of which, opened new discussions between government and industry to collaborate in unlocking global funds to harness for sustainability, at the same time, aligning with the interests of the private sector. Some of these new partnerships are now following the framework charted out by the GMC-PHI implementation, specifically for its targeted commodities.    Unlocking fund synergy with a new collaboration with the Fish Right Program (US$ 20 million) for strategic alignment of activities, with the GMC-PHI supported marine commodity platform for BSC TWG serving as Fish Right Program partnership oversight. Fish Right is a US$ 20 million program funded by the US AID and implemented by the University of Rhode Island. Following the participation of GMC-PHI in the Fish Right Blue Swimming Crab Partnership Planning Workshop last 3 June 2019, it was discussed and agreed upon that the existing platform supported by the GMC-PHI BSC TWG marine commodity platform, would be the appropriate forum to course through the Fish Right work and financial plan to support BSC fishery sustainability, with the goal of transitioning the commodity from the Seafood Watch “red” rating to “yellow” rating. It was agreed that the GMC-PHI development of the National Management Plan (NMP) would now considering using Seafood Watch indicators as well to track progress, which the industry, represented by PACPI, strongly supported.    New financing windows for GMC supported partner National Octopus Business Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) opened. Following the GMC-PHI’s successful facilitation for the formation of the new National Octopus Business Group, i.e., Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI), in Q1 2019, both entities have worked together in scoping out potential financing avenues for the initial FIP. Pursuant to start-up discussions facilitated by GMC-PHI, PCPEAI has been successfully connected to and engaged in face-to-face and virtual scoping meetings with the following five (5) potential co-financiers:  o The Meloy Fund (TMF), under RARE, with TMF being a for-profit organization with a grant component for technical assistance for sustainable fisheries;  o Blue Ventures (BV), an international non-profit for fishery sustainability with a grant component for FIP projects for Octopus in the Philippines;  o Fish Right, a project being implemented by the University of Rhode Island (URI) with a US$ 20 million grant specifically targeted for developing fishery sustainability in the Philippines.  o Seaport, an international consultancy network (US, Canada, Singapore) association supporting sustainable seafood sourcing from the Philippines; and  o Stavis Seafoods, a Boston, US based buyer company interested in sourcing sustainable seafood from the Philippines.    In line with the GMC project global framework, the GMC-PHI has likewise coordinated the national GMC team of the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), in fast tracking their FIP development for Octopus (Component 3, funded separately under the global project implementation), that will be adopted and spearheaded by the PCPEAI. Produced FIP proposal will be the official document to be endorsed by the PCPEAI to all prospective co-financing sources for consideration. Said FIP proposal is scheduled for release by SFP this Q3 2019.    Opening data sharing avenues with the PACPEI (Octopus Business Group) through the initial drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for data confidentiality and sharing. Through discussions facilitated by the GMC-PHI, the PCPEAI has offered to share 10-year industry market data disaggregated per region in support of the upcoming development of the Octopus commodity National Management Plan. Said data shall be shared by PCPEAI members with the BFAR via a MoU. Signing of agreement and ceremonial launch is slated for Q3, 2019.    Mainstreaming GMC-PHI learnings in BFAR through Tuna Industry engagement. The Tuna Industry engaged the GMC-PHI team in adopting the BSC and Octopus marine commodity models for the Tuna marine commodity. The GMC-PHI was invited to participate and present as resource persons to the Tuna Industry meeting on the Tuna National Management Plan last 18 June 2019, in General Santos City. The new Fishery Management Process for Sustainability and the BSC and Octopus experience by GMC-PHI was presented in said venue.    Increased exposure of the Octopus Business Group on readiness to receive co-financing support for corresponding FIP for sustainability facilitated. In addition to the initial exposure on the official GMC project website (link: https://globalmarinecommodities.org/en/bfar-catalyzes-formation-of-octopus-business-group-in-pursuing-fishery-sustainability/) in Q1 2019, the GMC-PHI has expanded exposure with the publication of a new feature article on the UNDP-CO official website (link: http://www.ph.undp.org/content/philippines/en/home/presscenter/articles/2019/bfar--undp-catalyzes-formation-of-octopus-business-group-in-purs.html). Said publication is expected to increase exposure and credibility of the newly established national octopus business group to attract more organizations with potential interest to co-finance the Octopus FIP.    All programmed contracts for on-the-ground activities of the unlocked US$ 30,000.00 GMC-IND funds and the National Management Plan (NMP) for Blue Swimming Crab (BSC) allocation commenced. While the contracts for GMC-PHI under UNDP processing was delayed partly due to change management in UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO), successful operationalization was achieved for both the Communications Specialist and the NMP for BSC within Q2 2019. Hired consultants will spearhead the GMC-PHI video series as materials for Information and Education Campaigns (IECs) as well as the NMP development, respectively. These will be the basis for the roll-out planning and operationalization for Q3 and Q4 2019.    GMC peer-to-peer learning exchange and immersion activity in Galicia, Spain.  As part of the approved 2019 global GMC project workplan and budget, the GMC – International Project Coordination Unit (GMC-IPCU) and SFP carried out a peer-to-peer leaning exchange and immersion activity in Galicia, Spain last 26-28 June 2019. A nine (9) member delegation composed of platform members and other fisheries sector representatives in Philippines formed said delegation (3 delegates supported by the SFP, 1 by the GMC-IPCU, and 5 by the GMC-PHI). Said activity provided a learning platform on the effective fisheries governance system implemented in Galicia, Spain with focused attention on small and large pelagics, octopus, and crab fisheries. Learnings have been documented as inputs to the improvement of the GMC-PHI national implementation, as well as guidance for its network of partners.    V. Risks. In terms of risk, there are five (5) continuing risks pre-identified upon project inception, which continue to be addressed by the national implementation. These can be referenced in the national project’s QPRs and APRs. The same countermeasures remain. No notable new risks have been identified/ expected during the lifetime of project implementation.    All above considered, including challenges and achievements, resulted in the proposed “Satisfactory” rating.  --------------------  Indonesia  Satisfactory    Overall project implementation has improved since last year’s PIR, following the recruitment of project staff and consultant both in the IPCU and at the national level. Indonesia has conducted its inception workshop in August 2018 in conjunction with a soft launching of the fisheries multi-stakeholder platform. As the project is implemented by the Ministry of National Development Planning (Bappenas), effective coordination is continually managed with the national fisheries authority to ensure contribution and alignment of the project outputs to the national fisheries management.    The project has also played an effective role in promoting participation and inclusiveness of fisheries management by facilitating inputs from industry, academia, and NGOs to the preparation of the 5-year national development plan in the fisheries and marine sector, while building a framework for the establishment of fisheries multi-stakeholder platforms. With productive guidance and support from the government implementing partner, the project was able to align the development of the platform with existing national mechanisms which will increase effectiveness and efficiency.  The project has also been able to accelerate efforts in increasing sustainability in the two targeted fisheries by working with two fisheries associations who lead active fisheries improvement projects. The work with the associations enables the project to contribute to the implementation and revision of the targeted fisheries management plans. Overall, the project has been able to implement all agreed activities in the workplan. By the end of 2018, the project had delivered approximately 95% of its approved annual budget.    In 2019 the project continually ensures effective and efficient implementation to achieve at least the same rate of delivery by end the year. The risk for the project is relatively low, ensuring adequate coordination between all other related ministries such as national fisheries authority, especially as Indonesia is just completing general election, ensuring alignment with government development priority. The IPCU has adequately executed project coordination to ensure effective collaboration and exchange of lesson learned between implementing countries which significantly help the acceleration of implementation. Thus, given the different actual commencement of project in each country implementer, a proposal for no-cost extension for the global project is highly recommended to ensure each country is able to complete its planned outputs and achieve intended outcomes. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | For Global Components (as lead CO):    For DO progress, the rating for this reporting period is Satisfactory (S), having an upgrade from the last report, and coinciding with the ratings given by the Project Coordination (International Coordinator and Country Coordinators), Other Partners (Fisheries authorities from the countries), Implementing Partner (SFP) and GEF Operational Focal Point (the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador as lead country). The reason of such rating is because the project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. This upgrade in DO rating is mainly due to sustained improvements from the management actions leaded by the International Project Unit in direct coordination with countries coordinators as well as with SFP and the different UNDP COs. Additionally, considering that it is a GEF project involving marine commodities in two continents, the dynamics needed to get agreements and adopt a coordinated management approach have been an important challenge that was faced with a very good coordination and planning among countries; and now, it can be said that a good governance is used and applied for project implementation, in which fisheries authorities with the facilitation of project team at global and national levels, with the technical support of SFP and UNDP COs, are working together with the final aim to complete the expected results of the project.    Despite the project has faced some delays, the current reporting period is a sample of how good coordination can improve results. It is important to highlight that direct coordination of the global team with national coordinators, SFP and all the stakeholders of the project through continuous calls and interaction has opened up the opportunity to achieve important progress. As reported in the DO section, among the main results obtained during the present report period are: i) 15.9 million tonnes of landings from captures fisheries that are either certified sustainable or making regular verifiable improvements toward certification; ii) 35% increase of fisheries for targeted commodities that are sourced by SFP partners and their suppliers and that are either in a FIP or MSC certified; iii) 7 major seafood buyer and retailer companies have adopted sustainable seafood purchasing policies as a result of project intervention; iv) 4 procurement policy letters or ‘position statements’ from industry leaders on more effective CMMs for Large Pelagic Fish have been prepared and shared with national delegates participating in Regional Fishery Management Organization meetings at the Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC); v) 3 sustainable marine commodity platforms has been launched; vi) 6 Sustainable Fishery Action Plans are under implementation; vii) 6 FIPs are uploaded and reporting to FisheryProgress.org, 3 of which currently maintain an A rating; viii) approximately USD330,000 has been secured by project action for annual funding from private sector for FIP implementation (USD 300,000 Small Pelagics FIP in Ecuador and USD 30,000 Large Pelagics FIP in Costa Rica); ix) 2 of the fisheries that receive indirect support from the project (Ecuador mahi-mahi drifting longlines fishery and Ecuador Tuna Purse Seine, TUNACONS FIP) have entered the MSC certification process and are currently undergoing their full assessment; x) 5 of the 10 fisheries have seen at least 2 FishSource criteria improve by at least one grade (50%) since baseline; xi) FishSource reports an increase in 141% of registered users (5,490 total accounts), Metrics reports an increase in 18% of registered users (1,636 total accounts); xii) FishSource registered 262.80% increase in average monthly visitors and FisheryProgres registered 92.81% increase in average monthly visitors; among others.    As part of the project milestones with the GEF, the Mid-term Review will start in August 2019, and it is expected to finish in October 2019 with strategic recommendations to turn the rudder towards the expected project results.    In terms of IP rating for this reporting period, it is Moderately Satisfactory (MS), increasing from the score for 2018 that was Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU). This rating is given because the project implementation for the present period is proceeding as planned with minor deviations, related mainly to external dynamics, associated countries interactions, UNDP procedures, SFP reimbursements, the lack of an Administrative/financial Assistant since March 2019 (the new person is starting activities in July 2019), and others. In addition to this, for the present reporting period, the cumulative financial delivery is of 37% with a delay referred previously to the late starting up, which means that 63% of the allocated grant must be disbursed to complete the project activities expected for the global project. Actions must be taken to increase delivery and complying with global project results.    Regarding the annual workplan implementation, at the end of 2018 the project achieved 74% of delivery, and until June 30, 2019, the delivery is 41%. Even though the project has showed an interesting momentum in terms of implementation, it has still to improve its effectiveness in terms of expenditure, considering the fact that around 63% of its assigned resources must be disbursed. Additionally, to support the project actions in terms of an effective and an efficient implementation the CO has started different actions, among them are: i) trainings for project team in procurement, HACT, administrative issues; ii) continuous technical/administrative/political/financial support by the Programme Officer/Programme Associated to accelerate implementation; iii) monthly meetings and reports each semester against the results framework to identify bottlenecks and opportunities; among others.    In terms of risks, the project for this reporting period does not present any critical risk.    Complementarily, GMC project has invested in gender mainstreaming, capacity building and gender sensitive communication materials. For example, GMC project is developing its Gender equality strategy which will set the path towards gender mainstreaming actions into project cycle in the four countries. The Strategy will focus on how to promote participation, access and control to resources, etc. Regarding capacity building, the national coordination in Ecuador has developed its first training during February 2019. Partners and UNDP personnel strengthened their capacities in gender equality international normative, gender mainstream concepts and some gender analysis tools. The GMC project has also developed some gender sensitive communication material such as videos where women have shared their experiences working in the fishery sector.  Plus, Ecuador is implementing the Gender equality Seal program, and this is helping to the project to comply with the global gender equality standards. Thus, the CO has produced its Strategy, action plan, programming and communication guidelines.    Finally, it is important to remark the involvement and interest of the Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries of Ecuador, Bureau for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of The Philippines, Ministry of National Development Planning of Indonesia and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, SFP and other important partners to complete what was planned by the project. All the mentioned institutions have designated technical focal points who participated in project activities and processes. And, for the international unit, located initially in Manta – Ecuador (as lead country), some actions were facilitated with the Ministry in charge, and now the global team has been re-located in Quito, guaranteeing the global coordination within the central ministerial facilities (as lead country). Considering the previous, from the lead CO we encourage to main stakeholders to maintain their interest and involvement to achieve the project ends and accompany de project implementation. And at the same time, we encourage to the project team to acquire an adaptive approach to face the continue activities that still need to be implemented to achieve final goals, these activities are: i) accompany the MTR process; ii) conclude the gender mainstreaming process; and, iii) complete the rest of indicators that still need to be worked. And of course, guarantee the proper request of a non-cost extension guaranteeing the complying of project results.  The CO recognizes the great work of the global team that has responded very effectively despite of initial delays (as already mentioned) and several challenges that the project faced.      For the Philippines CO: DO rating is Satisfactory.    For the period July 1 2018 – June 30 2019, the GMC Philippines have made significant strides in achieving the project objectives. The hiring of the National Coordinator to complete the National Project Management Unit has been the key in the progress of the project. Activities during the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2018 included support to the root-cause analysis, five-year strategic plan, and sustainable fisheries action plan development. On the platform development, series of TWG meetings and planning sessions have been held including field activities. Given the presence of existing national government policies, plans, and initiatives, these activities have focused on strengthening inclusiveness on the crafting and/or update of respective five (5) year strategic plans, as well as the sustainable fisheries action plans for both commodities. Initial discussions revealed that the BSC commodity already has an existing platform, with a core partner being the Philippine Association of Crab processors, Inc. (PACPI), that is positioned favorably to push forward the sustainability agenda of the project. On the other hand, for the Octopus commodity, since no pre-existing national platform has been established that can be readily activated, this was a major target for 2019.    In the 1st half of the year 2019, there was continuous gains in terms of achievement of project objectives. Evidence is the creation of the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc which will be the private sector group to be involved in the Octopus Platform. BFAR will continue to lead the TWG for Octopus but having a private sector organized group is the first step towards formalizing the institution of a platform. The development of the Blue Swimming Crab masterplan has been contracted by UNDP and the work is ongoing until the end of the year. It is positive that the targets for 2019 will be achieved as planned.      Ecuador CO:    For DO progress, the rating for this reporting period is Satisfactory (S), coinciding with the global rating. Additionally, considering that it is on of the first GEF projects within the Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries in Ecuador some challenges have been faced associated mainly to the ministry dynamics and how the project processes are internalized in the institution. But apart of the mentioned, currently the project reports a very good coordination and planning with national stakeholders.    Despite the project is going well, some delays have been associated to the lack of coordinator since March 2019, until July 2019 when a new person will start activities.    As reported in the DO section, among the main results obtained during the present report period are: i) the sustainable marine commodity platform for the Ecuadorian Small Pelagic Fishery was launched; ii) preparation of the Root Cause Analysis for small pelagics fishery; iii) for the Small Pelagics FIP it has been developed the representatives and final governance structure in a signed MoU, funding mechanism and budget, mechanism of accepting new participants, etc.; iv) in coordination with Camara Nacional de Pesqueria and Instituto Nacional de Pesca, SFP identified and contracted a stock assessment expert to lead the Scientific Working Group for designing and analysing the small pelagic fishery stock (two technical reports produced); v) creation of COREMAHI regional industry interest group which is pushing for improved management measures at regional level; vi) USD 300,000 funding from the private sector from the Small Pelagics FIP; vii) MSC training for industry stakeholders; viii) FishSource profiles for ECU Frigate Tuna, ECU Pacific Chub Mackerel, ECU Blue Spotted Cornetfish, ECU Largehead hairtail, ECU Red-eye round herring, ECU Searobins nei, ECU Shortfin scad, ECU Thread herrings nei and ECU Pacific anchoveta; ix) FishSoruce scores for Ecuador Common Dolphinfish Eastern Pacific Ocean – Drifting Longlines (mahi – mahi), Ecuador Bigeye Tuna, Eastern Pacific Ocean – Drifting Longlines (CRI Bigeye Tuna), Ecuador Yellowfin Tuna, Purse Seine, Eastern Pacific Ocean, among others.    In terms of IP rating for this reporting period, it is Moderately Satisfactory (MS), increasing from the score for 2018 that was Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU). This rating is given because the project implementation for the present period is proceeding as planned with minor deviations, related mainly to external dynamics, associated to country interactions, UNDP procedures, and others. In addition to this, for the present reporting period, the cumulative financial delivery is of 25% with a delay referred previously to the late starting up and lack of national coordinator since March 2019, which means that 75% of the allocated grant must be disbursed to complete the project activities expected for the national component. Actions must be taken to increase delivery and complying with project results.    Regarding the annual workplan implementation, at the end of 2018 the project achieved 71% of delivery, and until June 30, 2019, the delivery is 29%. Even though the project has showed an interesting momentum in terms of implementation, it has still to improve its effectiveness in terms of expenditure, considering the fact that around 75% of its assigned resources must be disbursed. Additionally, to support the project actions in terms of an effective and an efficient implementation the CO has started different actions, among them are: i) trainings for project team in procurement, administrative issues; ii) continuous technical/administrative/political/financial support by the Programme Officer/Programme Associated to accelerate implementation; iii) monthly meetings and reports each semester against the results framework to identify bottlenecks and opportunities; among others.    In terms of risks, the project for this reporting period does not present any critical risk.    Regarding gender mainstreaming, what is reported in the global component is applied for the national one.    Finally, it is important to remark the involvement and interest of the Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries of Ecuador, INP, Camara de la Pesquería, WWF, CI, CFI Project, SFP and other important partners to complete what was planned by the project. All the mentioned institutions have designated technical focal points who participated in project activities and processes. In that sense, from the lead CO we encourage to main stakeholders to maintain their interest and involvement to achieve the project ends and accompany de project implementation. And at the same time, we encourage to the project team to acquire an adaptive approach to face the continue activities that still need to be implemented to achieve final goals, these activities are: i) accompany the MTR process; ii) conclude the gender mainstreaming process; and, iii) complete the rest of indicators that still need to be worked. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | Implementation is proceeding as planned and is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Due to the complexity of the Global Marine Commodities project (multi-state, inter-regional implementation), the start of project implementation was delayed in each member country. However, project coordination (international and national components, and implementing partner) has, since initiating activities, successfully implemented the project as planned and in a timely fashion. Since the project inception workshop in November 2017 and based on the recommendations of the 2018 PIR, the GMC project has now implemented a strict and adaptive management strategy that has brought the project up to speed and on track to meet its targets. The GMC project updated its indicator framework to reflect a project baseline of Nov. 2017 and project indicators have also been updated based upon the adaptive management strategies adopted.    With regards to financial implementation, the international component (UNDP and implementing partner) implemented 72% of its 2018 annual budget, however, a significant proportion of funds spent in 2018 by the implementing partner were only registered on the books in 2019. For the 2019 period, financial and technical implementation are on track to fully achieve at least 85% of the proposed annual budget.    In terms of monitoring and evaluation (M&E), staff in Ecuador, Philippines, Indonesia (UNDP and SFP) and international project coordination unit is actively engaged in coordination meetings, thus facilitating proper project implementation.    The main internal and external challenges associated to the project are 1) coordination between four culturally diverse countries that have differing project management and reporting mechanisms; and 2) the potential environmental impacts of ENSO, however, the coordination unit is continuously monitoring ENSO and reports are included in the platform and FIP discussions, thus adaptive management measures are continuously updated and incorporated in project interventions.    The IPCU provided updates to the SGMC of the Ministry of Environment, as recommend by the last PIR. For the next period, it is proposed that for future coordination meetings, the GEF Operational Focal Point, the International Cooperation office and other agencies at the Ministry of Environment also be invited.    The project is very ambitious, but achievable. The results of this project will provide tools that will help the countries to elaborate and manage policies that aim not only at fishery improvements but also at sustainable fisheries that contribute to global environmental benefits. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | Despite the delayed project inception and the complexity of the project, which involves international (UNDP IPCU and SFP as implementing partner) and national components (UNDP national offices and relevant Ministries and Bureaus of Fisheries from Indonesia, Philippines, Ecuador and Costa Rica), the Global Marine Commodities is currently on track to meet the project goals. Despite the delayed start of the project (in Nov 2017), implementation both of the national and international components have advanced positively and project delivery has been accelerated by all institutions involved. In regards to the international component, positive advancements are registered in all project Outputs and achievements are recorded in all project components and outcomes, signaling that the project is up to speed and on track to achieve its established goals. In addition, the dynamic of coordination is fully operational between the different actors and institutions involved (National Platform Coordinators of Indonesia, Philippines and Ecuador as well as the Ministries and Bureaus of Fisheries of the three countries, UNDP IPCU and Sustainable Fisheries Partnership). Project management has been effective and adaptive, facilitating adequate project implementation and enabling an appropriate engagement by all institutions. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | Ecuador  (S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.    The project has effectively adjusted its implementation strategy and is on track to achieve end-of-project targets by closure. In the previous year since the 2018 PIR, the Ecuadorian national component developed a multi-annual work plan that runs up until project closure, thereby consolidating all the necessary work and pre-requisites in order to create the Small and Large Pelagic Platforms.  Regarding the small pelagic platform, it has successfully prepared all the pre-requisites according to the UNDP-GCP methodology, such as the platform launch event, stakeholder engagement, root-cause analysis, etc. It was originally planned to start the dialogue phase in April 2019, however, the platform coordinator resigned in March and the project immediately began the process to fill the vacancy with a qualified candidate.  The Small Pelagic Fishery Improvement Project has taken significant strides this year and is currently implementing the first year of its 5-year work plan. The majority of the FIP members will participate in the small pelagic platform, and an internal agreement has been made to coordinate all activities for the benefit of the processes.  The Small Pelagic FIP is an example of “Good Practice” in how the GMC project is acting as a catalyzer to create public-private partnerships necessary to advance sustainability in the targeted fisheries. For example, the IPCU invested in the pre-assessment of the fishery against IFFO certification, and in return members of the FIP agreed to provide 1,5 million dollars in a 5-year action plan to fund the sustainability actions required for the fishery. This investment is currently supporting actions required to generate the necessary stock/biomass assessment required to create the fishery management plan. FIP members are sharing their ships and the Fisheries Research Institute (INP) is providing hydro-acoustic equipment and staff to conduct the biomass assessment. The latter public-private partnership can be classified as “Good Practice” that can and should be replicated in other countries. The biomass assessment report will be delivered in the third quarter of 2019.  Considering that the small pelagic platform has the necessary tools to start the dialogue phase, including the biomass assessment from the FIP, for the rest of 2019 and through 2020, the national component will continue the dialogue phase discussions and construct the building blocks to develop the Small Pelagic Management Plan. We strongly believe this dialogue process will help the small pelagic fishery work on consensus building to adopt science-based fishery management measures. The GMC project recognizes that a successfully managed fishery will require 3 main components: 1) scientific research, which is being produced by INP through the FIP; 2) participatory management systems, which are being facilitated and consolidated by the platform; and 3) discussion of the socio-economic impacts (balancing producing for today and maintaining fish for tomorrow), which will be facilitated by the platform as well.  We anticipate that the Small Pelagic Fisheries Management Plan will have a cascade effect on other Ecuadorian fisheries such as the mahi mahi and tuna fisheries that will be provided space in the Large Pelagic platform.  In other aspects, the GMC project is also assisting the Fisheries Subsecretary (SRP) in the project “Todos Juntos por la Pesca Responsible” (all together for responsible fishing). The main goal of the project is to train small scale supply chain associations and producers considering traceability processes, which then are provided to the service sector (restaurants, chefs, suppliers, etc). Under this initiative, the GMC project is training select members from the service sector on becoming agents of change to mobilize the supply chain and producers by requesting sustainable fish products. In the first round of training, representative from the service sector visited the SRP and learned about traceability requirements/permits that they should consider while purchasing fish. In addition, this space was an opportunity for the small-scale associations to offer their products and understand market demands from the service sector.  In terms of implementation, despite some limitations with project staff, with the help of the IPCU, the national component is on track to implement at least 85% of 2019 project budget. In terms or programmatic implementation, project is on track to finalize all platform meetings by the end of 2019.  As a global project, IPCU team has continuously supported the activities at the national level, and there is a strong coordination among the two components. Since the project began implementing activities in earnest the project team has worked diligently to ensure documentation of all processes, best practices and lesson learned produced by the project. For example, in late June 2019, representatives from the platform and FIPs of Ecuador participated in the peer-to-peer learning experience in Galicia, Spain. Here, we learned about good fishery management practices that are implemented in Galicia, and we also shared good practices and lessons learned generated by the project. We strongly recommend continuing these activities in which our government and private sector can visit and learn from successful fisheries management structures and provide spaces to learn from other GMC participants. Finally, the Ecuadorian team (including SRP) has actively participated in the development of the Gender Strategy, which we look forward to implementing during platform meetings.  Considering the fact that the different GMC project countries began activities at different dates, and in agreement with the resolution reached at the last Project Steering Committee meeting, the Sub-secretary of Fisheries of the Ministry of Production, Commerce, Investment and Fisheries recommends the IPCU to submit a no-cost extension proposal for the global project implementation to the GEF to continue to play its role as the coordinating mechanism for all participating countries, and thus successfully achieve its end-of-project targets. We strongly believe that the GMC project in Ecuador is an example of “Good Practice” because of the coordinated actions and the success stories that are being generated.    -----------------------------  Costa Rica    -----------------------------  Philippines  The Philippine Rating Comments for the PIR are consolidated between the national authority and platform coordinator to provide one unified interpretation of GMC project progress.    In line with the ProDoc, the funds allocated for national implementation fall under Output 2: “Enabling environments for sustainable marine commodities supply chains”. In this regard, activities are focused on supporting the formation and strengthening of the platforms for both GMC target marine commodities for the country, i.e., Blue Swimming Crab (BSC) and Octopus—providing opportunities for tapping support from global markets.    I. Formation of the Marine Commodity Platforms. The institutionalization of the multi-stakeholder commodity platforms (represented by industry, national and local government, NGOs, among other fishery related organizations) via policy and concurrent activation was achieved on the first year of project implementation, via the government’s fisheries bureau: Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Fisheries Office Orders (FOO) No. 269, s. 2018 for Octopus and FOO No. 166, s. 2018 for BSC. Thereafter, efforts were focused on strengthening said platforms and facilitating the Root Cause Analysis and National Management Plan development for both commodities.    II. Sustainable Fishery Management status: Pre-project Implementation. Prior to discussion on the justification of the given rating, it should also be understood that both commodities, in the case of the Philippines, were in vastly differing stages on the pathway to sustainable fisheries management, pre- project implementation. We note that this preliminary investigation, which will be further detailed in the RCAs produced for both commodities in the course of the project, were done through the GMC-PHI implementation.    On the side of the BSC commodity, a previous National Management Plan (NMP) for the period 2010-2015 was developed by BFAR in partnership by the country’s national business/industry group, the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI) representing ~80% of BSC exporters and producers in the country, among other BSC stakeholders. However, some gaps/mismatch in the NMP in consideration of stakeholder interest in the plan implementation were not considered/clear during the time, such as: (i) in terms of indicators for M&E used were not identified to be aligned with MSC standards, or other globally respected certifications, at the time, therefore served little utility for the PACPI to help generate support from global buyers/ buyer groups for their sustainability initiatives; (ii) the lack of an identified overall coordinator/ lead agency for the NMP implementation; and (iii) the Local Government Units (LGUs), while part of the development process, and encouraged to develop local-level policies to support sustainability, were not supported with location-specific information on trend of stock decline, that would clearly provide a perspective on how they would be impacted on a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario, and what policy recommendations would specifically help them avoid the BAU projection. The result of these, among other factors was a severe lack of stakeholder participation in the execution phase, wherein most activities under the NMP were only conducted by the BFAR, especially in terms of stock-assessment and fishery profiling. Furthermore, the PACPI had spearheaded its own initiative in creating a separate Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) Action Plan that was identical to the already charted out NMP (duplicating efforts), as well as conducting their own pre-assessment for MSC. This likewise created a rift between the business and government, in terms of coordination and cooperation.    On the side of the Octopus commodity, it is a widely undocumented commodity in terms of stock status and progress towards sustainable fishery management. The National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) of BFAR also does not cover this commodity (in contrast, the BSC commodity is covered by NSAP). A previous NMP for the commodity has likewise not been initiated by either government or industry.    In this regard, the GMC-PHI had undergone an investigation on the motivations of the different players, and the negative and positive incentives in play, that resulted in the bottlenecks. This resulted in the production of the Fishery Management Process, which charted out the motivators, as well as the different phases of the transformation of the fishery from a business-as-usual fishery management state to a sustainable fishery management state. Said framework has already been presented and considered for adoption by another marine commodity in the Philippines, i.e., Tuna. An end-to-end perspective of the transformation allowed for the identification of gaps, as well as the development of new approaches to address these bottlenecks in the new NMPs for both GMC-PHI covered marine commodities.    III. Passed Activities and Rationale. We also note that most activities charted in the previous year’s workplan, as evidenced in the attached Quarterly and Annual Performance Reports, have been conducted, save some enumerated below, with corresponding rationale:    AWP 2018 Activity 2.2.1.1 – 2.2.1.3. These activities are related to the establishment of holding pens/ lying-in cages for Blue Swimming Crab (BSC). Upon internal review, and as advised by the GEF, these activities are not covered under the Project Design component 2, which was budgeted under the national project. Moreover, it is an activity under Component 3, Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs), which is funded through the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), including for its national implementation. Upon review, these were already revised in the AWP 2019, and channeled to appropriate items in-line with the ProDoc. Further, coordination with the national SFP team was strengthened, to enable the FIPs developed by SFP to dovetail the NMPs under the project.    AWP 2019 Planned Activity 4, under Output 2.1. The invitation from the GMC-IPCU was received late for this activity, without ample time for processing Travel Authorities for BFAR representatives (at least two months advance are needed). Also, upon review, the expenditure for the activity was determined to not be a priority to spend project funds. Thus, the decision to forego said activity.    All revisions to accord with the new AWP 2019, to avoid similar problems were addressed in a Planning Workshop last December 2018. Thus, it is expected with the intensive review process and revision of work plans, no similar problems will be encountered in future project implementation. To date, as of June 2019, all activities are on track.    All notable accomplishments, including the formation of the new Octopus Business group (representing ~90% of the national Octopus exporters and producers in the Philippines), and unlocking of other funds for target commodity sustainability have been highlighted in the national project’s QPRs and APRs. We expound on some below.    IV. Unlocking new financing avenues for GMC-PHI target commodities. In line with the UNDP-CO, CPD Output Indicator alignment: 2.3.4 Value of financing generated for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems, the following financing were generated (in chronological order):    US$ 30,000.00 successfully unlocked from GMC – Indonesia (GMC-IND). Upon review of the GMC-PHI project design and a series of negotiations with the GMC-IND Project Implementation Unit (PIU), US$ 30,000.00 was clarified as earmarked for Philippines GMC roll-out. Said fund will be mobilized to supplement the communications-related activities of the project, in alignment with the overall global GMC project design. The Chart-of-Accounts (COA) for the fund was provided by GMC-IND for utilization of GMC-PHI and an initial TOR has been drafted to use part of the funds, now being finalized with the BFAR for execution by Q2 2019.    National Octopus Business Group successfully formed to tap funds from global buyer group networks supporting sustainability. Given the vast amount of funds moving at the global-level that has remained untapped by the national octopus industry, GMC-PHI has taken steps to connect them with funding sources to support sustainability. With the combined efforts of BFAR, UNDP, and SFP, the GMC-PHI was successfully able to facilitate the formation of the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI), and has likewise supported them in presenting their initial Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) framework to the Global Octopus Supply Chain Roundtable (GOSR), a network of Octopus buyers from US and Europe, in Boston last March 2019.    Boston Seafood Festival side-meetings for sustainability. It was unprecedented for the government fisheries sector to be involved in negotiations and fund mobilization at the global level, with respect to business sector’s efforts for sustainability of global fisheries. This has caused inefficient utilization of resources, due to overlaps in activities, and lack of synchronization between government and industry initiatives. In a landmark event, GMC-PHI has opened the gateway for government participation in side meetings for sustainability, particularly engaging entities such as: Seafood Watch, Fish Right project, GOSR, NFI-CC, together with the national octopus and blue swimming crab industry representatives. The result of which, opened new discussions between government and industry to collaborate in unlocking global funds to harness for sustainability, at the same time, aligning with the interests of the private sector. Some of these new partnerships are now following the framework charted out by the GMC-PHI implementation, specifically for its targeted commodities.    Unlocking fund synergy with a new collaboration with the Fish Right Program (US$ 20 million) for strategic alignment of activities, with the GMC-PHI supported marine commodity platform for BSC TWG serving as Fish Right Program partnership oversight. Fish Right is a US$ 20 million program funded by the US AID and implemented by the University of Rhode Island. Following the participation of GMC-PHI in the Fish Right Blue Swimming Crab Partnership Planning Workshop last 3 June 2019, it was discussed and agreed upon that the existing platform supported by the GMC-PHI BSC TWG marine commodity platform, would be the appropriate forum to course through the Fish Right work and financial plan to support BSC fishery sustainability, with the goal of transitioning the commodity from the Seafood Watch “red” rating to “yellow” rating. It was agreed that the GMC-PHI development of the National Management Plan (NMP) would now considering using Seafood Watch indicators as well to track progress, which the industry, represented by PACPI, strongly supported.    New financing windows for GMC supported partner National Octopus Business Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) opened. Following the GMC-PHI’s successful facilitation for the formation of the new National Octopus Business Group, i.e., Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association, Inc. (PCPEAI), in Q1 2019, both entities have worked together in scoping out potential financing avenues for the initial FIP. Pursuant to start-up discussions facilitated by GMC-PHI, PCPEAI has been successfully connected to and engaged in face-to-face and virtual scoping meetings with the following five (5) potential co-financiers:    o The Meloy Fund (TMF), under RARE, with TMF being a for-profit organization with a grant component for technical assistance for sustainable fisheries;  o Blue Ventures (BV), an international non-profit for fishery sustainability with a grant component for FIP projects for Octopus in the Philippines;  o Fish Right, a project being implemented by the University of Rhode Island (URI) with a US$ 20 million grant specifically targeted for developing fishery sustainability in the Philippines.  o Seaport, an international consultancy network (US, Canada, Singapore) association supporting sustainable seafood sourcing from the Philippines; and  o Stavis Seafoods, a Boston, US based buyer company interested in sourcing sustainable seafood from the Philippines.    In line with the GMC project global framework, the GMC-PHI has likewise coordinated the national GMC team of the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), in fast tracking their FIP development for Octopus (Component 3, funded separately under the global project implementation), that will be adopted and spearheaded by the PCPEAI. Produced FIP proposal will be the official document to be endorsed by the PCPEAI to all prospective co-financing sources for consideration. Said FIP proposal is scheduled for release by SFP this Q3 2019.    Opening data sharing avenues with the PACPEI (Octopus Business Group) through the initial drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for data confidentiality and sharing. Through discussions facilitated by the GMC-PHI, the PCPEAI has offered to share 10-year industry market data disaggregated per region in support of the upcoming development of the Octopus commodity National Management Plan. Said data shall be shared by PCPEAI members with the BFAR via a MoU. Signing of agreement and ceremonial launch is slated for Q3, 2019.    Mainstreaming GMC-PHI learnings in BFAR through Tuna Industry engagement. The Tuna Industry engaged the GMC-PHI team in adopting the BSC and Octopus marine commodity models for the Tuna marine commodity. The GMC-PHI was invited to participate and present as resource persons to the Tuna Industry meeting on the Tuna National Management Plan last 18 June 2019, in General Santos City. The new Fishery Management Process for Sustainability and the BSC and Octopus experience by GMC-PHI was presented in said venue.    Increased exposure of the Octopus Business Group on readiness to receive co-financing support for corresponding FIP for sustainability facilitated. In addition to the initial exposure on the official GMC project website (link: https://globalmarinecommodities.org/en/bfar-catalyzes-formation-of-octopus-business-group-in-pursuing-fishery-sustainability/) in Q1 2019, the GMC-PHI has expanded exposure with the publication of a new feature article on the UNDP-CO official website (link: http://www.ph.undp.org/content/philippines/en/home/presscenter/articles/2019/bfar--undp-catalyzes-formation-of-octopus-business-group-in-purs.html). Said publication is expected to increase exposure and credibility of the newly established national octopus business group to attract more organizations with potential interest to co-finance the Octopus FIP.    All programmed contracts for on-the-ground activities of the unlocked US$ 30,000.00 GMC-IND funds and the National Management Plan (NMP) for Blue Swimming Crab (BSC) allocation commenced. While the contracts for GMC-PHI under UNDP processing was delayed partly due to change management in UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO), successful operationalization was achieved for both the Communications Specialist and the NMP for BSC within Q2 2019. Hired consultants will spearhead the GMC-PHI video series as materials for Information and Education Campaigns (IECs) as well as the NMP development, respectively. These will be the basis for the roll-out planning and operationalization for Q3 and Q4 2019.    GMC peer-to-peer learning exchange and immersion activity in Galicia, Spain. As part of the approved 2019 global GMC project workplan and budget, the GMC – International Project Coordination Unit (GMC-IPCU) and SFP carried out a peer-to-peer leaning exchange and immersion activity in Galicia, Spain last 26-28 June 2019. A nine (9) member delegation composed of platform members and other fisheries sector representatives in Philippines formed said delegation (3 delegates supported by the SFP, 1 by the GMC-IPCU, and 5 by the GMC-PHI). Said activity provided a learning platform on the effective fisheries governance system implemented in Galicia, Spain with focused attention on small and large pelagics, octopus, and crab fisheries. Learnings have been documented as inputs to the improvement of the GMC-PHI national implementation, as well as guidance for its network of partners.    V. Risks. In terms of risk, there are five (5) continuing risks pre-identified upon project inception, which continue to be addressed by the national implementation. These can be referenced in the national project’s QPRs and APRs. The same countermeasures remain. No notable new risks have been identified/ expected during the lifetime of project implementation.    All above considered, including challenges and achievements, resulted in the proposed “Satisfactory” rating.  -----------------------------  Indonesia  The project has been effectively adjusted to timely achieve its planned target. Thus, this project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Following signing of project document and recruitment of project coordination unit, the project has progressed the development of fisheries multi-stakeholder platform and advancing sustainability in the targeted fisheries. In developing the platform, the project carefully identified challenges and opportunities to prevent redundancy and repetition of similar initiatives by collecting inputs from all stakeholders in the fisheries sector as well as representativeness of inputs based on regional clusters. The decision to utilize the existing Indonesia Sustainable Development Goals coordination mechanism as a basis for the platform will increase effectiveness as well as aligning the project with government priorities.    On the work on targeted fisheries, the project has carefully allocated the available project resources to support two existing fisheries improvement projects to help them close the gap that hinder the fisheries to comply with all indicators for full assessment of MSC certification. Thus, instead of starting new FIPs or initiatives that might not be feasible for full assessment in the end of project closure, and importantly might have failed to provide model and best practice for replication of improvement project into other fisheries, the resources are being used to strengthen the existing improvement initiatives. Workplan for improvement on the pole and line tuna fisheries and blue swimming crab fisheries have been developed with effective consultation with industry, NGOs, and national fisheries authority.    As a global project, the project team has developed adequate adaptive strategy to ensure good coordination between national and global project. The IPCU has taken swift measures to ensure the project is on track to meet its targets, including updating the project indicator framework to reflect a project baseline of Nov. 2017 and its project indicators. The project team is currently working to ensure documentation of all processes, best practices and lesson learnt produced by the project, including preparing gender and social inclusion plan to ensure gender mainstreaming in the project.    On financial implementation, in 2018, the project team in Indonesia was able to effectively and efficiently deliver up to 95% of approved budget, which has been doubled following acceleration in the 3rd quarter. For the 2019 period, the project team has provided a workplan to ensure financial and technical implementation are on track to fully achieve at least 95% of the proposed annual budget.    As implementing partner, Bappenas strategically maintains coordination with the national fisheries authority and industry to ensure project alignment with the priority of fisheries management, with adaptive management measures are continuously updated and incorporated in project interventions, to ensure any potential risk can be properly managed.    Finally, considering the fact that each country and international GMC project implementation commenced at distinct moments in time, and in general started later than originally planned at the global level, Bappenas as a country implementing partner in Indonesia, recommends the IPCU to submit a no-cost extension proposal for the global project implementation to the GEF to continue to play its role as coordination mechanism for all participating countries, and thus successfully achieve its end-of-project targets.    For these reasons, Bappenas submits a Satisfactory (S) rating for the project: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The Global Marine Commodities is a key project under the International Waters focal area in the UNDP-GEF Unit, this project implementation is unique, in the fact that it involves countries from other regions, working towards a common goal, highlighting the interconnectedness of resources worldwide.  The project has shown great achievement of its overall objective, and also shows that each outcome is very well on track to achieve the benefits that this project aims to mainstream sustainability into seafood supply chains, working with the private sector as well as with policy mechanisms.  In Outcome, the project has achieved its end of project target, where it shows an increase of 35% of fisheries for targeted commodities that are in a FIP or MSC certified. Roundtables where processors, importers and other buyers work together to achieve improvement on a related fishery. The project has been working alongside with SFP, in permanent dialogues with several participants that are joining the discussion tables and getting involved. Major groups are adopting sustainable seafood purchasing policies.  For outcome 2: the project has supported the policy letters called “position statements” which calls RFMOs to adopt stronger sustainability measures and regulations to improve regional and national management of target fisheries. Three letters were shared with IATTC and one with WCPFC. The project is making a satisfactory advance on advocacy, having supported also the creation of a mahi-mahi industry partner group that reached to the IATTC.  With regards to outcome 3: the project has met its year 2 target of launching 3 Sustainable Marine Commodity Platform, from which 2 where officially launched this year. With regards to the Action Plans, the project is also on track, having achieve as of to date, 6 Sustainable Fishery Action Plans under implementation, meeting the target for year 3.  In outcome 4 there is significant improvement, having in the second year of implementation, 6 FIPS uploaded, from which 3 have an A rating. Co-financing resources has been secured, $330,000 between Ecuador and Costa Rica. Philippines has identified potential financiers and meetings will be held to explore funding options. With regards to the certification process, two fisheries that are receiving indirect support from the project are now undergoing their full assessment for their certification process. From the FishSource scores, 5 out of the 10 fisheries included in the project have seen an improvement in at least 2 FishSource criteria by a 50% since the baseline. Also, the project has developed 12 new Fishsource profiles and is working on 5 more.  Outcome 5 has exceeded its end of project target, achieving that seafood suppliers and buyers have in hand the information needed to make informed decisions base on up-to-date information. On the other hand, it will be important to note that the level of satisfaction from users has not been measure yet, but a satisfaction survey has been developed and will be released in July 2019.  For outcome 6, the project is preparing its first best practices document, that will be available in the project website. The project is also finalizing its knowledge management strategy to ensure all lessons learned and best practices generated through the project are disseminated to the public. This is a work in progress that is expected to have more advances in the next PIR.  Since the progress towards the Development Objective shows important results and is on track in all of the outcomes and noting that some of outcomes have achieved target before the expected timeline, a Satisfactory rating is given.  Implementing Progress  The project delivery is moderate in overall terms (i.e. at the end of reporting period is at 42.53% of planned budget for 2019 and has an overall delivery rate of 39.2%). This shows a great improvement from last year, where only 12% of project resources were implemented. The project carried out one PSC meeting in February 2019, where all actors were present, indicators were revised, and an extension was agreed with all members.  With regards to critical risks, the project with support from the lead CO, has been able to manage the risks having no critical one in this reporting period. In order to cope with the difficulties of managing a multi-country project, the project put in place adaptive measures including monthly calls, newsletters, as well as different actions from the lead CO such as : i) trainings for project team in procurement, administrative issues; ii) continuous technical/administrative/political/financial support by the Programme Officer/Programme Associated to accelerate implementation; iii) monthly meetings and reports each semester against the results framework to identify bottlenecks and opportunities; among others.  It is worth to mention the project is also looking at gender mainstreaming activities that were not included at the time of project design, and is developing a Gender Equality Strategy to promote participation, capacity building and trainings that started during this reporting period. Communication material is available, where women share their experiences working on the fisheries sector.  Since cumulative delivery is 39%, all national projects are under implementation, measures are being put in place from both IPCU and COs, and only minor deviations (such as improving delivery and delays on the MTR and project closure) will need to be reinforced, a Moderately Satisfactory rating has been provided.  Recommendation:  - Ensure that communication between all parties are consistent and timely, for a multi-country project, it is key to have a proper communication between project and national coordination, as well as to informing to the public on project progress.  - Hiring of financial/administrative assistant, as well as platform coordinator is crucial to keep up to date with project implementation.  - Keep the momentum that the project is gaining with all actors and monitor any possible risk closely. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: No |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality**GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| n/a |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| During the GMC project design, no gender marker was incorporated since it was not a pre-requisite from the GEF at the time. However, at this stage of its implementation, the project has been assigned a GEM1 marker, since through the components of the project there is an opportunity to contribute to reducing the barriers that lead to gender inequality in the value chains of the target fisheries supported.    The project was initiated as part of the GEF-5 replenishment, and at the time, no specific requirements were made by the GEF to incorporate the gender dimension into activities. Therefore, no funding was designated for any activities, actions or consultancies on the topic of gender equality. However, the project acknowledges the critical importance that women play in the target fisheries supply chains, and recognizes the imperative nature of securing equal human rights protections and opportunities for women. For these reasons, the GMC Project decided to mobilize existing funding in its budget toward the development of a Gender Strategy (including a Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan, Tools and Monitoring Mechanism).    The Gender Strategy is currently under development by an external consultant. The document has undergone a preliminary round of comments from UNDP and the IPCU, and the final version is expected to be completed in July 2019. In August, the consultant will carry out two webinars with GMC Project staff in the four countries to present the strategy findings and recommendations for the integration of gender equality focused actions and indicators into national work planning.    The Gender Strategy evaluated the strategic context at national level of the 4 project countries, and considered three main aspects in order to define the concrete recommendations and actions to be defined in the strategy:  i. A gender equality regulatory framework analysis  ii. A situational analysis of men and women in the fishery sector  iii. The institutional capacity analysis (of implementing and facilitating partners) to mainstream the gender approach.    Therefore, the implementation of the Gender Strategy will contribute to:    • Strengthening the gender mainstreaming capacity within the GMC project management and partners toward the practice and promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment within the operations/activities in each targeted country and globally.  • Ensuring compliance with the national legal frameworks and international agreements on gender equality through implementation of the GMC project components with a gender approach to contribute to reducing gender gaps in the fishery sector.  • Giving greater visibility to women's real contribution in the sector and the contribution of the GMC project to Gender equality and women's empowerment in the four target countries, to support decision making with a gender approach.    The strategy will identify concrete gaps in data and research on gender in the four GMC Project countries, since the impacts of policies and strategies on women, who work in fisheries value chains, cannot be assessed without data on their roles and contributions to the sector.    The strategy will also propose ways that the GMC project, its NGO partner SFP, and national authorities can contribute on reducing barriers during the remainder of the GMC Project, and will also include concrete recommendations for how a second phase of the project could dedicate specific resources to address gender gaps.    For example, the Gender Strategy found that the sustainable certification schemes for fisheries that the project is working with do not address gender and social issues of the value chain and rather focus only on the ecological and environmental sustainability of fishery management (Marine Stewardship Council, Aquaculture Stewardship Council, IFFO RS). The one exception is the Fair Trade USA Capture Fisheries certification system. One concrete recommendation that will likely be made in the Gender Strategy, will be for SFP to convene a Gender-focused Supply Chain Roundtable (SR) comprised of women leaders from the seafood industry, public and non-profit sectors to discuss women’s empowerment priorities in the sustainable fishing certification arena and within fishery improvement project objective and work plan setting. The purpose of this round table will be for buyers and retailers to begin pressuring actors along the supply chain as well as certifying agencies to integrate gender equality measures in their improvement projects and standards.    Ultimately, the project Gender Strategy will make recommendations for actions to the IPCU, the international facilitating partner (SFP) and the four participating countries, but further analysis, targeted planning and adoption of concrete actions to mainstream gender equality in project interventions is the responsibility of each GMC country project team in coordination with national authorities. The GMC Project has already began supporting additional fishery-specific gender analysis through its work with the Blue Swimming Crab and Tuna Pole and Line FIPs in Indonesia. Both FIPs have conducted research on the role of women in their fisheries and are working to publish Gender Profiles for their fisheries (see Annex 62). The result of this research and analysis will be that the FIPs adopt specific actions in their work plans to address the interests and needs of women in the national supply chain.    Finally, it is important to note that the GMC Project IPCU and Ecuador Platform Coordinator participated in a Gender Workshop in Manta in February 2019. The workshop was facilitated by the UNDP Ecuador Gender Specialist, and focused on building the capacities of the project team and on identifying gender mainstreaming actions that the project could consider including in its Strategy (See Annex 63). |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| Since the project is currently in the process of finalizing its Gender Strategy, Mainstreaming and Monitoring Plan, the project has yet to implement many actions oriented to advance gender equality and women's empowerment. Nevertheless, as indicated before, the GMC project started earlier in Costa Rica and thanks to the commitment of the stakeholders in the National Platform of Sustainable Large Pelagic Fisheries, several actions were taken to highlight the role of women in the supply chain. Recently, an article about the role of women in Costa Rica fisheries was released by UNDP: https://medium.com/@UNDP/in-costa-rica-women-find-new-strength-as-business-leaders-793491936b6  The article demonstrates what the GMC project is trying to achieve with its development of a Gender Strategy. For example, the GMC project wants to ensure that women participate and have a voice and vote in the fisheries management decision making process, considering all aspects such as the dialogue phase to build the national action or management plans, in the fisheries management committee (or platform monitoring committee), and in the consultation forums, there should always be women representation.    The project expects that by the time of the 2020 PIR there will be more to report in this regard. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| Yes |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| The project carried out two routine monitoring checks on the status of the implementation of its SESP in August 2018 and again in June 2019 (See draft SESP, Annex 96). To date, the project has effectively implemented 4 of the 5 management actions described in its original SESP. The fifth measure will be implemented in the second half of 2019 once the new Ecuadorian Platform Coordinator begins working with the project on July 15, 2019.    The five mitigation actions are:  1. The activities to be implemented to inform and educate major international buyer will highlight the probable initial costs to small scale fishermen from developing countries that adopt sustainable fisheries practices.    2. The seafood sourcing policy guidance toolkit for retailers, wholesale buyers and processors will incentivize buyers to have mitigation measures to compensate initial costs to fishermen and to promote triple bottom line sustainability, including requirements such as adequate working conditions for women and prevention of child labor.    3. The sustainable marine commodities platforms will incorporate as part of their processes and plans the trade-offs faced by fishermen when adopting improved fisheries practices, and triple bottom line sustainability of the value chain.    4. The FIP plans will incorporate a specific analysis of the probable social and economic costs for fishermen and the corresponding set of mitigation measures.    5. The work with the ecuadorian national ecolabel for responsible tuna will be documented and the lessons transferred to the other participating countries in the form of south - south cooperation. This will provide practical experience in addressing key aspects such as personnel safety, adequate working conditions for women and preventing child labour that could be very valuable for the blue swimming crab value chain in Indonesia and Philippines.    In the regular monitoring of SESP implementation, the project updated the list of social and environmental risks to adhere to the new SESP guidelines. During this exercise, the project identified 6 risks (3 low and 3 moderate) and developed management measures for each. The risks and management measures are described below:    Risk 1 - P1 Q8: Exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals.  The project will employ participatory decision-making methodologies designed and tested by the UNDP Green Commodities Programme (UNDP) to manage dialogue, establish meeting protocols, and dictate decision-making procedures so as to ensure fair and transparent interactions between value chain stakeholders. These methods will be adjusted to be appropriate to the context of each fishery.    Risk 2 - P2 Q2: Reproduce discrimination against women based on gender.  The project will contract a gender-mainstreaming expert to assess gender sensitivities in project implementation and identify opportunities for gender equality integration. In addition, the project will strive to achieve gender balance on established FIP committees and in all training sessions carried out by project staff.    Risk 3 - S1 Q1.4: Pose risks to endangered species.  The project will assess the unique risks that each fishery poses to threatened and endangered species, and depending upon these risks, recommendations will be incorporated into FIP plans on how to mitigate impacts.  Because project activities are oriented to improve the sustainable management of wild caught fisheries, no further action is required.    Risk 4 - S1 Q1.7: Production and/or harvesting of fish populations.  To mitigate the external risk presented by ocean acidification, temperature increase and ENSO events, the project will stress the critical importance of close coordination between the fishing sector, market chains, and international climate monitoring authorities such as NOAA and the FAO South Pacific Permanent Commission.    Risk 5 – S2 Q2.2: Outcomes of the Project sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change.  With this collaboration, project officers will be aware when any critical change occurs and can adjust fishery improvement recommendations accordingly. For example, project officers might suggest climate adaptation measures within FIPs or will recommend that environmental variability be considered in the development of government commodity action and management plans.    Risk 6 – S3 Q3.8: Support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards.  The project will explore the possibility of collaborating with the Seafood Slavery Risk Tool and will evaluate the requirements needed to develop profiles for each of the project supported fisheries. The Risk Tool is a relatively new initiative led by the Monterrey Bay Aquarium, SFP and Liberty Asia, and is intended to make human rights abuses in fisheries supply chains visible to the public, seafood buyers and retailers in order to influence decision making and drive improvements in labor protections, government regulations and practices within the private sector.    At minimum, the project will promote the Seafood Slavery Risk Tool within project platforms and FIPs, and will encourage these groups to perform the analysis for their fisheries following the Risk Tool methodology. Based on this analysis the project will also encourage the platforms and FIPs that it supports to encourage labor protections measures in the National Action Plans and FIP Work Plans developed. |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| In the first update of the project's SESP since project inception (Nov. 2017), there were no risks that escalated since the original project SESP. The project will continue regularly monitoring environmental and social risks associated with the project, and will duly update the SESP should any new risks become apparent or become more severe. |

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| **SESP:** [Environmental and Social Screening GMC.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4754/213536/1670620/1670901/Environmental%20and%20Social%20Screening%20GMC.docx)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| In the context of the project's Sustainable Marine Commodity Platforms, each national platform coordinator has developed a stakeholder engagement plan as per the Green Commodities Programme methodological recommendation. These plans have been implemented in order to identify relevant actors to invite to the platform dialogue round tables, and will continue to be updated and monitored to ensure appropriate representation of the sector in the platforms. |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| Public private partnerships for the sustainability of global fisheries: The GMC Project Approach    The global increase in demand for seafood coupled with an increase of the number of fisheries that are poorly managed or negatively affected by Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, poses a significant threat to the sustainability of fish stocks, to ocean biodiversity, and to the livelihoods of millions of fishermen and women across the world.    Marine resources play an essential role in human well-being and social and economic development worldwide. To solve these pressing issues in the seafood sector, collaborative engagement between relevant stakeholders to establish fishery management strategies (co-management) is essential. Co-management has been proven in several countries and contexts to be an effective governance mechanism to improve the sustainability of fisheries (http://www.monitoringmatters.org/articles/Gutierrez.pdf) and is at the heart of the Global Marine Commodities (GMC) Project.    GMC is an inter-regional initiative implemented by the Ministries and Bureaus of Fisheries and Planning of Costa Rica, Ecuador, Indonesia and Philippines, with technical support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), facilitated by the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP) and funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF).    The GMC Project contributes to the transformation of the seafood sector by mainstreaming sustainability in the value chain of fishery commodities from developing countries. It does this by:  1) Creating dialogue roundtables (platforms) for improved fishery governance.  2) Engaging international seafood market players to drive changes in target fisheries towards sustainability.    DIALOGUE ROUNDTABLES FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  By adapting the methodology of the UNDP-Green Commodities Programme to seafood value chains, the GMC project designs Sustainable Marine Commodity Platforms (“national platforms”) and develops national capacities for effective co-management of target fisheries.    Sri Yanti, the director of the division for Institutional and Maritime affairs at BAPPENAS, serves as the project focal point within the government of Indonesia and is overseeing the facilitation of the sustainable fisheries platform currently being set up in Indonesia through the existing UNDP-facilitated Sustainable Development Goals platform instrument (SDG 14).    “Through GMC, BAPPENAS has initiated the process of facilitating the national fisheries platform, which will bring together fisheries authorities, industry, academia, fishers, youth and women’s groups, to promote sustainable fisheries by addressing sustainability issues and motivate policy changes,” said Sri Yanti, the director of the division for Institutional and Maritime affairs at BAPPENAS (https://bit.ly/2XoOuzU).    The multi-stakeholder platforms aim to identify the limiting factors preventing fisheries from being managed sustainably and establish either a 1) National Action Plan to direct government efforts in the future toward an orderly management of fishery resources, or 2) a more comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan that includes concrete management measures (i.e. temporary closures, quotas, gear restrictions, area-based measures) based upon stock assessments and a sound scientific understanding of the target species.    “In the Philippines, the support from the GMC Project to run multi-stakeholder dialogue spaces through our existing Technical Working Group model will be of great value in the generation and update of our national management plans for the Octopus and Blue Swimming Crab fisheries,” said Rafael Ramiscal, Chief of the capture fisheries division of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in the Philippines. “A main benefit of this project is that it will institutionalize the process of consulting with all parties along the value chain regarding what measures are needed to manage the fishery. This builds ownership among the fishers in terms of the policies that will be decided upon in our fisheries management plans.”    Costa Rica has now launched its National Action Plan for sustainable fisheries of large pelagic species (http://www.greencommodities.org/content/gcp/en/home/media-centre/presenting-costa-rica-s-national-action-plan-for-large-pelagic-f.html). The plan will improve fisheries, increase the supply of sustainable seafood, and ensure the social welfare of people who depend on fishing. The National action plan is the result of twelve months of negotiations involving more than one hundred representatives of government, academia, civil society, fishermen, exporters, restaurants and retailers.    PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP  The GMC Project also supports the fishing industry in its four countries by helping establish and advance nine Fishery Improvement Projects, or FIPs. The FIP methodology, which has existed for more than a decade, is a project, typically led by the fishing industry or NGO stakeholders, that seeks to “utilize the power of the private sector to incentivize positive changes toward sustainability in the fishery and seek to make these changes endure through policy change.”(http://solutionsforseafood.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Alliance-FIP-Guidelines-3.7.15.pdf). The majority of FIPs typically orient project activities toward achieving sustainable certification from one of several independent third-party seafood eco-labelling bodies (i.e. Marine Stewardship Council [MSC], Fair Trade USA Capture Fisheries Standard, or the International Fishmeal and Fish Oil Reduction Standards [IFFO RS]).    In Ecuador, the GMC Project provided financial and technical support to the National Chamber of Fisheries (Camara Nacional de Pesca) to establish the Small Pelagic FIP, which is aiming for IFFO RS certification for an industry that has more than 300,000 tonnes of annual landings. The FIP has now been officially accepted into the IFFO RS improvers program (see http://www.smallpelagics.org/ and https://www.iffors.com/improver-programme-accepted-fips) and is beginning to implement its workplan.    With facilitation provided by the project, the FIP signed an MOU with the National Fisheries Institute (Institute Nacional de Pesca, INP) in a public private partnership to conduct hydro-acoustic surveying to measure the biomass of the small pelagic fishery stock and thereby be able to carry out a more complete stock assessment. This stock assessment will generate concrete policy recommendations for a national management plan to be developed in the small pelagic platform.    “Through the small pelagic platform, we are working on the design of an active, transparent, participatory, and legitimate governance system for this fishery,” said Carlos Cacao the president of the Small Pelagic Commission of the CNP. “This space will allow the fishery stakeholders to discuss and approve policies to overcome challenges to the sustainability of the small pelagic fishery” (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-7OoCBaEYs).    Similarly, in the Philippines, the formation of the Philippine Cephalopods Producers and Exporters Association (PCPEA) supported by GMC project, is “a testament to the joint aspiration of public and private institutions to work hand-in-hand in finding ways to help manage, protect and conserve our resources for the next generation.” Romel Sotto, Seachamp International Exporter Inc, PCPEA President (https://bit.ly/304UQpK).    GENDER EQUALITY  The GMC project recognizes the critical importance that women play in the target fisheries supply chains and acknowledges the imperative nature of securing equal human rights protections and opportunities for women across society in general. For these reasons, the GMC Project has mobilized funding in its budget for the development of a Gender Strategy.    The Gender Strategy will identify specific and actionable strategies that the project and partners can promote gender equality and women's empowerment within the operations/ activities in each targeted country and globally. The strategy will also help the project provide greater visibility to women's real contributions in the fisheries sectors in the four target countries.    “The empowerment of women is urgent to transform these historical inequalities that significantly hinder their progress, as well as their families, communities, and nations,” said Jose Troya, the Resident Representative of UNDP Costa Rica commenting on the importance of including fisherwomen and business owners in the Costa Rica Large Pelagic platform run by the project (https://bit.ly/2WKaXak).    In Indonesia, women play a significant role in the post-harvest processing of Blue Swimming Crab, with approximately 90,000 fishermen and 185,000 women working in crab cooking stations and miniplants, according to Aik Wulandari of the Indonesian Blue Swimming Crab Association (APRI). “The success of the industry’s effort to continuously improve sustainability of these fisheries through lies in the enormous contribution of our [female] partners like Adaifa” (bit.ly/2QWnkyO).    “We have to talk about women as entrepreneurs in our fisheries, but also, we have to talk about women as authorities in the sector, as scientists, that is of course part of everything, part of the fishery supply chain and the aquaculture system and this role is fundamental,” said Pilar Solís, Director of the INP in Ecuador (youtu.be/wiKJsBT9inM).    OPENING DOORS TO INTERNATIONAL MARKETS    The global sustainable seafood market is rapidly growing as consumers become increasingly aware of overfishing and poor labor practices in the sector. According to a MSC consumer survey conducted in 2016 in the world’s principal seafood market countries (US, UK, EU, Canada, Australia, Japan and China) 72% of seafood consumers agree that shoppers should only consume seafood from sustainable sources, and 54% said they are prepared to pay more for a certified sustainable seafood product (https://www.msc.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/for-business/msc-consumer-survey-2018-results.pdf).    To meet this increasing demand, eco-labelling schemes (such as the MSC and IFFO RS) provide consumer assurance that seafood products meet ecological sustainability criteria. The GMC project leverages the economic incentives of eco-labelling mechanisms to engage the private sector in committing to actively improve the sustainability of target fisheries.    “Sustainability is not just rhetoric for the pole-and-line and handline fishing industry,” said Abdul Muis, the general manager of the Indonesian Pole & Line and Handline Fisheries Association (AP2HI). “We prove it by implementing FIPs that aim towards eco-labeling certification. The Global Marine Commodities Project allows us to share our FIP experiences and lessons learned” (https://bit.ly/2YvlyHZ).    GMC implementing partner, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), leads this component of the project. SFP facilitates the development and technical assistance provided to the FIPs, promotes sustainable sourcing among major importers and retailers, and helps the project fisheries gain access to international markets.    As a result of more than two years of engagement with the large pelagic long-liner fleet in Costa Rica, the GMC Project was able to effectively catalyze the group around the shared goal of achieving MSC certification. The launch of the Large Pelagic FIP in Costa Rica represents a “significant step for the country of Costa Rica in its efforts to promote sustainable fishing, and a necessary step to help us access international markets that increasingly demand that producers comply with sustainability standards,” said Mauricio Gonzalez, executive director of the longline fishing organization of Costa Rica (http://globalmarinecommodities.org/en/costa-rica-presenta-su-primer-proyecto-de-mejora-pesquera/?fbclid=IwAR3siounrAcJo6taMDKm8Xnk4XeyQQEgd0Zyr\_5SzdmcFm6NhWUc7cgePDE).    “We have made great strides in improving the competitiveness of Costa Rican seafood by assuring that our international buyers can trace our products back to their source or origin,” said Ana Victoria Paniagua, executive director of the Costa Rican Chamber of Fishery and Aquaculture Exports. “This FIP is opening new doors for our markets.”    LESSONS LEARNED  The project is currently developing a strategy for the capture, documentation and dissemination of knowledge generated through implementation in four countries. Lessons learned and best practices from the national platforms and support to the FIPs will be shared globally with the intention to encourage replication in other countries.    “To create an enabling environment to improve fisheries management, it is key to promote dialogue spaces between the public and private sectors to share lessons learned and best practices,” said Ana María Nuñez, Programme Officer at UNDP Ecuador (https://bit.ly/2NFvv4m).    To see a summary of what the project has achieved to date in each country, see Annex 71. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| --- |
| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| While the CEO Endorsement/Approval mentions the generation of lessons learned during years three and four, the GMC project has already started working on the knowledge management activities and products. With the recent hiring of the Communication and Knowledge Management Specialist, the project is working on the design and implementation of its knowledge management strategy to ensure that each country’s sustainable fisheries platform and the associated fishery improvement projects (FIPs) will document the lessons learned and best practices generated through implementation of activities.    The knowledge management strategy will include all the actions to capture, store, disseminate and share the best practices and lessons learned that the project is generating.    Capturing lessons learned    During this reporting period the IPCU developed a template to assist the GMC country teams to document lessons learned and best practices following a consultative process with project stakeholders. It is very important that platform coordinators and the SFP team begin capturing all the learnings generated by the project (See Annex 59).    In addition, the Latin America and Asia Regional Advisors (1 for each region) have begun producing observations and lessons learned from the on-going technical assistance that they provide the national platform coordinators in their regions. These observations are being collected in a Lessons Learned Log, which are submitted to the IPCU for review on a quarterly basis (See annexes 60 and 61). These observations and lessons learned will be transformed into a final best practice document at the end of the advisors’ one-year contracts. The advisors’ contracts may be renewed for a second year based upon performance.    The purpose of collecting and documenting lessons learned and best practices generated through the implementation of the GMC Project is to share and use the knowledge to:  • Repeat desirable outcomes.  • Avoid undesirable outcomes.  • Share best practices for repeatability in other countries.  • Update organizational knowledge assets to improve on processes and procedures.  • Generate methodological observations that can be shared among the GMC project platform coordinators, and to a wider community of practitioners working to promote sustainable fisheries and effective fishery co-management    As part of the current project communication strategy, the activities to disseminate the best practice documents include the following actions:  • One-day online regional workshop  • One national webinar per country    The knowledge management strategy will also identify strategic events or spaces to present and disseminate the best practice documents, such as:  • IWLearn conferences  • FIP Community of Practice workshops  • Seafood Expo North America (SENA)  • Seaweb Seafood Summits    Learning exchange activities  The last week of June 2019, the project organized a peer-to-peer learning exchange on fisheries management where people from the government and private sector had the opportunity to learn from the effective fisheries governance system implemented in Galicia. GMC project brought together key public and private sector representatives from Ecuador, Indonesia and Philippines.  During this first learning exchange, the participants had the chance to analyze how good governance examples can be replicated in their own context. By sharing project approaches, activities and initial lessons learned between GMC countries, the project strengthens the regional approach of its actions.  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QzZc7ZvFFag  The project is planning to include in its knowledge management strategy at least one more learning exchange to see how the learnings are contributing to face the main challenges affecting the sustainability of target fisheries.    Global project website link:  http://globalmarinecommodities.org/en/home/    Ecuador National Platform website:  http://pesqueriassostenibles.produccion.gob.ec/    Costa Rica National Platform website  http://www.pelagicoscr.org/    Global Marine Commodites Project Facebook  https://www.facebook.com/globalmarinecommodities/    Global Marine Commodites Project Twitter  https://twitter.com/GlobalMarineCo1    Global Marine Commodities FLICKR  https://www.flickr.com/photos/156922408@N02/albums    Global Marine Commodities Project YOUTUBE channel  https://bit.ly/2IwxbbR    A complete list of all GMC Project media coverage, blog posts, and social media posts are provided in Annexes 64, 65 and 66. |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

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| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| No |

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| --- |
| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |

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| --- |
| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| No |

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| --- |
| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

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| --- |
| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| Yes |

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| --- |
| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [PIMS 4754 Global Marine Commodities CEO End Request 11JAN2015.doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/4754/213536/1670624/1670934/PIMS%204754%20Global%20Marine%20Commodities%20CEO%20End%20Request%2011JAN2015.doc) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| As described in the CEO endorsement, GMC project has carried out a Stakeholder Engagement Plan prior project start, and this plan has been continuously updated by project team during implementation phase. GMC uses the UNDP-GCP methodology for platform developments, and a must do step is the Platform Engagement Plan. UNDP-GCP guidance has a clear methodology to identify, map and classify stakeholders based on their interest and level of influence for the project. Furthermore, during the development of the Root-cause analysis (Annex 23), consultants are required to conduct a second Stakeholder Identification and Engagement Plan, thus, using both plans, we make sure to properly identify all potential participants that are influenced or interested in the project.    In terms of FIPs, with the work of SFP team, GMC recommends FIP developers and practitioners to draft appropriate Stakeholder Engagement Plans. This will facilitate to set up the governance arrangements in the FIP.    Engagement plans are seen as an iterative process. To complement the methodology described above, International Project Coordination Unit recommends national platform teams to use the IW: Learn guidance:  https://iwlearn.net/manuals/project-management-manual/gef-iw-project-management-topics/stakeholders-identification-engagement    GMC project effectively employs all three main levels of stakeholder engagement:  • Share information by email, we have created a project communication bulletin that summarized project progress.  • In-person coordination meetings for direct stakeholder consultation  • At the development of platform and FIPs, project team with support of platform stakeholders, updates the plan. Thus, GMC makes sure stakeholders participates during project development, establishment of implementation rules and governance mechanisms. Finally, a Code of Consensus (Code of Conduct) is created and applied during all sessions. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.