

## Supply vessels operating in the Indian Ocean May 2017



Bridge of the Spanish "Supply" vessel [Haizea Bat](#).

### Summary

Fishing capacity in the purse seine fleet operating in the Indian Ocean has greatly increased over the last decade through the increasing use of drifting fish aggregating devices (dFADs), but also through the addition of new vessels to assist purse seiners in their operations. These supply vessels not only allow purse seiners to seed even higher dFAD numbers, but they also improve the fish-searching capabilities of the fleet as they are equipped with the latest communication and detection technology. Supply vessels significantly increase already excessive pressure over the overfished yellowfin tuna stock and on juvenile bigeye tuna.

The largest tuna companies operating in the Indian Ocean have been building an industry based on a massive supply of cheap fish in which it is increasingly difficult for smaller operators to compete, resulting in over-capacity and over-investment in both the catching and processing sectors, and little regard for the marine environment or the interest of small-scale operators using selective gear.

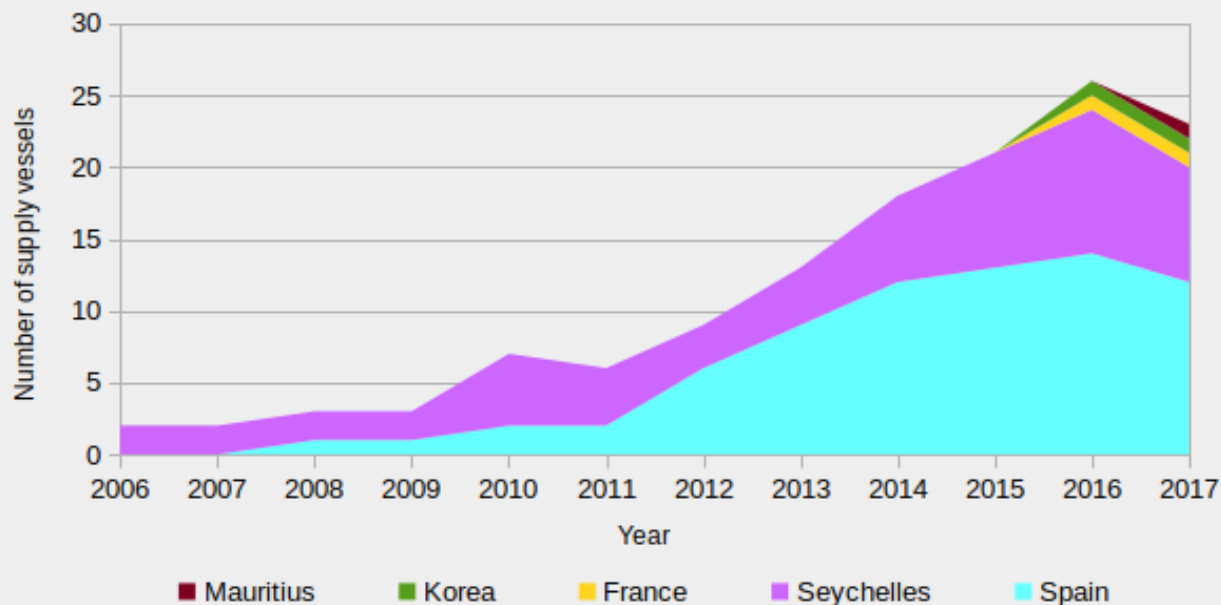
A few tuna companies have been using every loophole to increase fishing capacity and pressure on tropical tuna stocks. **The sharp increase in the number of supply vessels operating in the Indian Ocean in the last five years makes a mockery of the commitments made during the Kobe process to seriously address the issue of overcapacity in the world tuna fleet.** This is more so considering that there have been warnings about the contribution of supply vessels to fishing capacity for over 15 years or the fact that IATTC already banned their use in 1999. IOTC parties should also remember that the reference level for the fishing capacity of fleets targeting tropical tunas in *IOTC Resolution 12/11* is their fishing capacity in 2006.

### Who owns and operates supply vessels?

The graph on the next page shows the evolution in the number of supply vessels between 2006 and 2017. It also shows that the impact of IOTC Resolution 16/01 has been minimal in 2017.

The table below shows that **20 out of 23 supply vessels in the IOTC record are flagged to just two IOTC parties.** Additionally, **just three companies** Albacora (through Albacora SA, Isabella Fishing Limited), Atunsa and Inpesca (Compañía Internacional de Pesca y Derivados S.A.) **operate 65% of the supply vessels** in the IOTC record (15 supply vessels).

## Evolution in supply vessel numbers in the IO



FLAG	SHIP_NAME	IOTC Ner	RCS	LOA	GT	OWNER
Spain (EU)	HAIZEA BAT	IOTC015512	EAKQ	46.3	480	ALBACORA S.A.
Spain (EU)	HAIZEA HIRU	IOTC015649	EAMG	46.3	480	ALBACORA S.A.
Spain (EU)	ORTUBE BERRIA	IOTC008744	EBXN	36	245	ALBACORA S.A.
Spain (EU)	ZAHARA DOS	IOTC014014	ECGS	35.2	193	ALBACORA S.A.
Spain (EU)	HAIZEA BOST	IOTC016566	EATY	46.3	497	ALBACORA S.A.
Spain (EU)	ARCHANDA	IOTC003590	EAXT	40	420	ATUNEROS CONG. Y TRAN. FRI. S.A.
Spain (EU)	GARBOLA	IOTC015792	EAEZ	40	424	ATUNEROS CONG. Y TRAN. FRI. S.A.
Spain (EU)	GIBELE	IOTC016190	EAJJ	40	424	ATUNEROS CONG. Y TRAN. FRI. S.A.
Spain (EU)	TXORI HIRU	IOTC016139	EBWI	39	432	COMPAÑIA INT. DE PESCA Y DERIV. S.A.
Spain (EU)	TXORI BI	IOTC015118	ECEE	37.8	392	COMPAÑIA INT. DE PESCA Y DERIV. S.A.
Spain (EU)	ALTARRI	IOTC000310	EBYT	34.2	344	PESQUERIA VASCO MONTAÑESA S.A.
Spain (EU)	AGURTZA BERRIA	IOTC014013	EBSJ	30	162	NICRA-7 S.L.
Spain (EU)	ALAKRANTXU	IOTC004976	EAON	36	314	ECHEBASTAR FLEET S.L.
Seychelles	TXORI	IOTC000813	S7JS	32.16	315	INPESCA FISHING LTD.
Seychelles	TXORI LAU	IOTC016462	S7SM	41	499	INPESCA FISHING BELIZE LIMITED
Seychelles	TXORI BAT	IOTC000913	S7TV	35.13	421	INPESCA FISHING LIMITED
Seychelles	HAIZEA SEI	IOTC016626	S7WD	46.3	497	ISABELLA FISHING LIMITED
Seychelles	HAIZEA LAU	IOTC016405	S7SY	46.3	482	ISABELLA FISHING LIMITED
Seychelles	PATUDO	IOTC000894	S7JE	44.05	393	INTERATUN LIMITED
Seychelles	MALOYA	IOTC016256	S7IU	30	366	TUNA FISHING COMPANY LTD
Mauritius	BALBAYA	IOTC015116	3 BSY	30	287	SAPMER SA
Korea_Republic of	NO.121 DONGWON	IOTC000409	6MPX	48.45	590	DONGWON INDUSTRIES CO., LTD.
France (EU)	JANVIER LOUIS RAP	IOTC000818	FSXU	38	347	SCANNAPIECO JANVIER RAPHAEL

List of supply vessels active in 2017 according to the IOTC Record of Fishing Vessels.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://iotc.org/vessels/current>, accessed 19 May 2017.