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# Madagascar National Report to the Scientific Committee of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2022

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## Executive Summary

In Madagascar, industrial tuna fishing is carried out by longliners of less than 24 meters (between 14 and 17 meters) which operate on the east coast. In the year 2021, the number of national longliners has remained at five (05) as in the last four years. Since 2010, the techniques and methods remain the same. In general, the vessels deploy between 800 and 1300 hooks per trip and they make a relatively short trip of 4 to 7 days in order to keep the catches fresh by arriving at the ports of landing which is that of Toamasina. The program of collecting fishing logs and sampling at the port of landing, implemented since 2014, allows us to have data on the size distribution of the species caught.

Longline catches from 2017 to 2021 vary between 127 tons and 197 tons. This variation is slightly proportional to the variation in fishing effort (expressed as the number of hooks deployed). Influenced by the decrease in the number of active vessels since 2018, the average annual catch of the longliners is 164 t. It is made up of 57% of tuna, and the remaining 57% of tuna and tuna-like species. It is made up of 57% of tunas, 19% of swordfish, 12% of sharks and 13% of other species. The tuna catch is mainly composed of bigeye tuna, albacore and yellowfin tuna.

With regard to the monitoring of landings of pelagic fish from small-scale and artisanal fisheries in the north, east and west of Madagascar, 34 landing sites are currently covered for the year 2021. The fishing gears used are mainly gillnets, lines and longlines.