

Report on progress of IOTC-OFCF Project for JFY2023 activities and planned activities for JFY2024

November 2023

The IOTC-OFCF Project is conducted by the IOTC Secretariat and OFCF (Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation) Japan, and has been implemented since JFY2002. The objectives are: (1) to improve the accuracy of tuna and tuna-like fishery statistics and information provided by IOTC coastal States (2) to develop capacity in the collection, management and reporting of tuna fishery statistics by IOTC coastal States.

Summary of IOTC-OFCF Project activities in 2023

In JFY2023, the following activities are being undertaken in line with the agreement with the IOTC Secretariat and OFCF Japan in 2023 (Still in progress).

(I) Translations of the IOTC Species ID cards;

Table 1 shows the translation status of IOTC Species ID cards. In 2023, the following untranslated language was translated.

- Bengali; Tuna & Tuna like, Billfish, Shark & Rays
- Hindi; Billfish, Shark & Rays

Note that printing and distribution of ID cards translated in the past IOTC-OFCF projects may be done if the surrounding situation allows.

Table 1 Translation status of IOTC Species ID cards. Red indicates translation completed / in progress by the IOTC-OFCF Project activities.

Language	Tuna & Tuna like	Billfish	Shark & Rays	Seabirds	Turtles	Cetacean
Arabic	○	○	○	○	○	○
Bengali	○ FY2023	○ FY2023	○ FY2023			
English	○	○	○	○	○	○
French	○	○	○			○
Hindi	○	○ FY2023	○ FY2023			○
Indonesian	○	○	○	○	○	○
Malaysian	○	○ FY2023	○ FY2023			
Persian	○	○	○		○	○
Portuguese	○	○	○	○	○	○
Sinhalese	○	○ FY2022	○ FY2022			○
Swahili	○	○ FY2021	○ FY2023			○
Tamil	○	○ FY2022	○ FY2022			○
Thai	○ FY2021	○ FY2021	○ FY2023			
Urdu	○	○	○		○	○

(II) Scoping study on a Electronic Data Collection Tools (EDCTs);

(II)-1 Status in coastal states;

Based on narrative literature review, interview, questionnaire, and ongoing project (IOTC-MTF/INT/661/MUL-TF.NFITD.TFAA970097099) outcomes, the present (by Nov.2023) status of the EDCTs usage as a nationally adopted system to collect fisheries data is summarized in Table 2.

Table 2 EDCTs applications in coastal states of Indian Ocean (by Nov. 2023). No information is indicated in red, missing information (Unknown) is indicated in yellow.

Country	Name of the EDCT	Use of EDCT to coastal fisheries which potentially catch IOTC species	User	Source of information / Reference
Australia	FishOnline	No artisanal fisheries	Fishers	(1), (2)
Bangladesh	Calipseo	○	Enumerators	(3)
Comoros	OpenARTFISH	Unknown	Enumerators	(2), (4)
Eritrea	No info.	No info.	No info.	
EU (Mayotte)	No info.	No info.	No info.	
EU (Réunion)	No info.	No info.	No info.	
India	Fish Catch Survey and Analysis	○	Enumerators	(5)
Indonesia	e-Logbook Penangkapan Ikan KKP	○	Fishers	(6)
Iran	Under development	○	Under development	(2), (7)
Kenya	eCAS (Electronic Catch Assessment Surveys)	○	Enumerators	(2), (8), (9), (10)
Malaysia	eSistem Maklumat Perangkaan Perikanan	Unknown	Unknown	(11)
Maldives	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	(12)
Mauritius	Calipseo	Unknown	Unknown	(3)
Madagascar	OpenARTFISH	○	Enumerators	(2), (4), (13)
Mozambique	OpenARTFISH	○	Enumerators	(14)
Oman	Unknown	○	Enumerators	(2)
Pakistan	WWF PAK Marine	○	Fishers and Enumerators	(15)
Seychelles	System Information Halieutique	○	Enumerators	(16)
Somalia	No info.	No info.	No info.	
Sri Lanka	Unknown	○	Enumerators	(2), (17)
South Africa	No info.	No info.	No info.	
Sudan	No info.	No info.	No info.	
Tanzania	FAIMS / eCAS	○	Enumerators	(18), (19)
Thailand	E-PIPO (Port-In Port-Out) / Thai Flag	○	Fishers and Enumerators	(20)
Yemen	No info.	No info.	No info.	

Source of information / References

- (1) Department of primary industries, Australia / <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/fishonline/fishonline-commercial/fishermobile>
- (2) MRAG (2019) Final Report – Monitoring of Artisanal Fishing in the Indian Ocean
- (3) CWP-27/2022/FAO (<https://www.fao.org/3/cc0595en/cc0595en.pdf>)
- (4) CWP-IS/2021/FAO (<https://www.fao.org/3/cb7425en/cb7425en.pdf>)
- (5) IOTC-2023-WPDCS19
- (6) IOTC-OFCF Questionnaire June 2023. / <https://forms.office.com/e/KwEbhwy61k>
- (7) IOTC-2023-WPNT13-11
- (8) IOTC-2023-WPNT13-09
- (9) IOTC-2019_WPDCS15-23
- (10) Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute
- (11) Department of Fisheries, Malaysia
- (12) IOTC-2021-SC24-NR16
- (13) IOTC-2023-WPDCS19-31
- (14) The World Bank (SWIOFish1-MZ) <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/403651525888008345/pdf/Communities-livelihoods-fisheries-fisheries-governance-and-shared-growth-in-Mozambique.pdf>
- (15) WWF Pakistan / <https://www.wwfpak.org/?377266/WWF-Pakistan-introduces-digital-tools-for-fisheries-data-collection>
- (16) Seychelles Fishing Authority
- (17) IOTC-2021-WPDCS17-16_Rev1
- (18) The Nature Conservancy / <https://blog.nature.org/2021/02/10/digitized-data-conserves-africas-great-lake-fisheries/>
- (19) Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute
- (20) Department of Fisheries, Thailand

(II)-2 EDCTs in Japan

According to the revision of the fisheries act in 2020, fishers who were required to report their retained catch increased approximately one thousand times in Japan. In order to deal with the untold number of reports, a new digitized catch reporting system is under development (Fig. 1).

Majority of retained catch reports are planned to be collected through the existing landing market system. Landing markets are widespread along the coastline and already digitized in Japan. By assigning ID numbers to each fishers and connecting the landing data with fisher's ID, retained catch reports are planned to be collected on a daily basis.

Note that mobile applications to report catches and efforts are used in a few prefectures & regions. Functions such as reviewing the past catch results, receiving information from the municipality (e.g. related to fishing license), and facilitating report submission are being positively accepted by fishers as a motive to use the application.

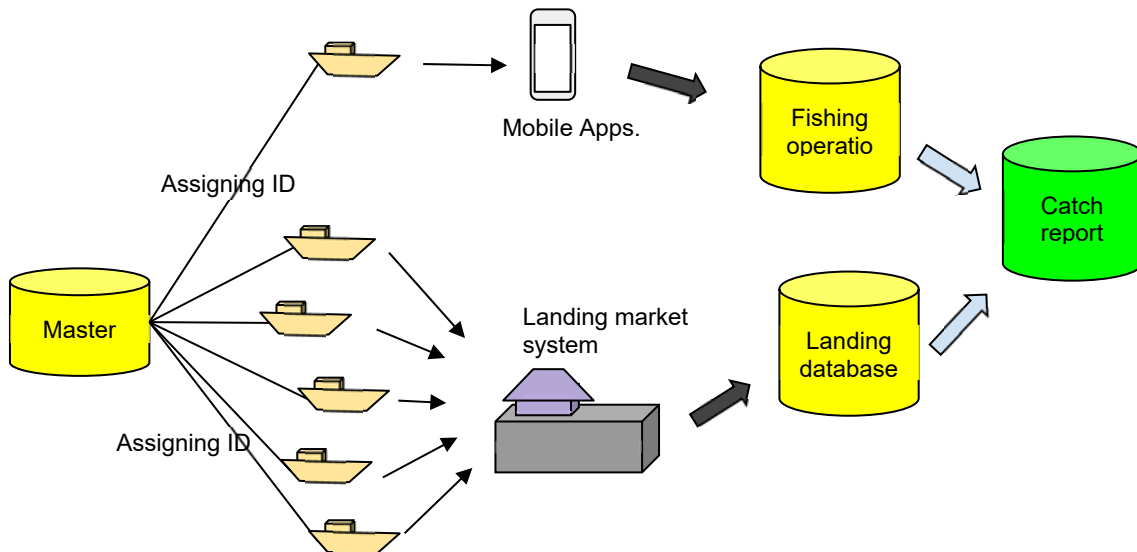


Fig. 1 Overview of the digital catch reporting system in Japan.

Planned IOTC-OFCF Project activities for 2024

The general idea on the Project activities for JFY2024 is basically the same as the activities in JFY2023.
