

Panama yellowfin tuna and dolphinfish longline FIP Progress Update

April 2026 -- CURRENT YEAR ACTIVITIES APPEAR IN BLUE THROUGHOUT THE TABLE

Results/ FIP Stage	Indicator of Success	Specific Details	Date Achieved	Entity in charge	Source
FIP is launched (Stage 1)	Sustainability evaluation is publicly available	Mahi-Mahi Gap Analysis	July 2013	CeDePesca	Gap analysis mahi-mahi
		Yellowfin tuna Analysis	September 2013	CeDePesca	Gap analysis tuna (Spanish)
		Pre-assessment MSC	April 2023	CeDePesca	Pre-Assessment Report
		Sustainability report for mahi	January 2012	SFP	Mahi-mahi – Eastern Pacific
	Sustainability report for yellowfin tuna			Yellowfin tuna Eastern Pacific	
	Improvement recommendations publicly available	Recommendations are available through the FIP Public Report	March 2013 - present	CeDePesca	Current improvement recommendations
, FIP is formed (Stage 2)	Suppliers are organized	CeDePesca continued to strengthen relationships with the industry, especially with Grupo Panalang Union Inc. artisanal fishers associations, and other stakeholders	2011 and 2012	Grupo Panalang Union; CeDePesca	
		Framework Collaboration Agreement signed between Grupo Panalang Union Inc. and CeDePesca	December 2011, and renewed each year	Grupo Panalang Union; CeDePesca	MoU
		Workshop held to disseminate other FIPs and certification process and to present the preliminary results of the gap analysis and work plan	February 2013	CeDePesca; Grupo Panalang Union	Media coverage - ANPanama Pictures
		Memorandum of Understanding signed between Bay Hill Seafood and CeDePesca	February 2016	Bay Hill Seafood CeDePesca	MoU - Confidential Media coverage - Undercurrent News
		Bay Hill Seafood informs of its decision to suspend its participation from the FIP as of December 1 st . FIP partners are grateful for its participation in the project.	December 2016	Bay Hill Seafood Grupo Panalang Union CeDePesca	

	Workplan with annual improvement milestones publicly available	Detailed work plan is available	September 2013	CeDePesca	Detailed work plan
		Updated work plan is available	October 2015	CeDePesca	Workplan Oct 2015-Oct 2016
		Memorandum of Understanding signed between FIP Partners and CeDePesca	July 2023	FIP Partners, CeDePesca	MoU - Confidential
FIP is encouraging improvements (Stage 3)	FIP is achieving its milestones	First national workshop about fisheries research gaps. This is a first step towards a research plan for this fishery.	April 2013	ARAP; UP; UMIP; STRI; PROMARINA; Panalang Union; CeDePesca	Conclusions available on request
		Longline fisheries commission formed.	September 2013	ARAP; UMIP; CONAPAS; MARPESCA; PESCA FINA; FUNAPESCA; STRI; independent fisheries researchers; Panalang Union; ARAP	Initial documents developed
		Training to skippers in data collection by the fishing logbook in some ports like Juan Díaz, Mensabe and Pedregal	January, February and April 2014	CeDePesca	Picture
		Skippers started to provide filled logbooks	July 2014	CeDePesca	
		One more captain was trained in collecting catch-effort data in Mensabe Port.	August 2014	CeDePesca	Picture 1
		Meetings with fishers, merchants and shipbuilders in Pedregal Port and Remedios Port to gain participation on the improvements	June 2015	CeDePesca	
		Fisheries Advisory Council meets in Chiriquí and has agreed to implement the fishing logbook and to take samples at the processing plant as of December 2015.	August 2015	ARAP; MINSA; AMP; UNACHI; fishers and merchants; CeDePesca	
		ARAP and CeDePesca signed a Framework Collaboration Agreement that formalizes their relationship and ARAP's intention of working	February 2016	CeDePesca ARAP	ARAP Press release Media coverage - La Estrella de Panamá

FIP is encouraging improvements (Stage 3) CONTINUED		towards sustainability of all Panamanian fisheries.			
	FIP partners are engaging regulators	First national workshop about fisheries research gaps. This is a first step towards a research plan for this fishery.	April 2013	ARAP; UP; UMIP; STRI; PROMARINA; Panalang Union; CeDePesca	Conclusions available on request
		Longline fisheries commission formed.	September 2013	ARAP; UMIP; CONAPAS; MARPESCA; PESCA FINA; FUNAPESCA; STRI; independent fisheries researchers; Panalang Union; ARAP	Initial documents developed
		Longline commission stalled because of political conflicts	April 2014	ARAP; UMIP; CONAPAS; MARPESCA; PESCA FINA; FUNAPESCA; STRI; independent fisheries researchers; Panalang Union; ARAP	
		Two biologists were trained for the Onboard Observers Program	May 2014	University of Panama (CRUV); CeDePesca	
		With support of this FIP, a Panama delegation (including a representative of ARAP) participated at the first International Scientific Workshop organized by IATTC in Manta, Ecuador. CeDePesca made a presentation of FIP results.	October 2014	CeDePesca; Grupo Panalang Union; ARAP	Presentation Media coverage - CeDePesca
		Three more captains were trained in collecting catch and effort data at Pedregal Port.	January 2015	CeDePesca	
		Two more captains were trained in collecting catch and effort data in Juan Diaz Port.	September 2015	CeDePesca	
		Regular meetings with ARAP and other industry representatives to encourage the adoption of a management plan.	January-July 2015	CeDePesca	

FIP is encouraging improvements (Stage 3) CONTINUED	FIP partners are engaging regulators CONTINUED	Fisheries Advisory Council meets in Chiriquí and has agreed to implement the fishing logbook and to take samples at the processing plant as of December 2015.	August 2015	ARAP; MINSA; AMP; UNACHI; fishers and merchants; CeDePesca	
		With support of this FIP, ARAP and CeDePesca participated in the second IATTC's workshop on mahi, held in Lima, Peru. During the meeting, the Peruvian delegation showed their first stock assessment for mahi.	October 2015	CeDePesca; Grupo Panalang Union; ARAP	IATTC's second technical meeting webpage
		ARAP and Panalang took charge of updating of the database related to the fishing logbook.	October 2015	ARAP; Grupo Panalang Union	
		CeDePesca worked on a draft containing revised management measures applicable to the longline fisheries, together with representatives from the fishing sector. The draft has been presented to ARAP for further consideration.	January 2016	CeDePesca; Grupo Panalang Union; other fishery stakeholders	Confidential
		ARAP and CeDePesca signed a Framework Collaboration Agreement that formalizes their relationship and ARAP's intention of working towards sustainability of all Panamanian fisheries.	February 2016	CeDePesca ARAP	ARAP Press release Media coverage - La Estrella de Panamá
		ARAP has convened meetings to discuss a draft Executive Decree for the mahi and yellowfin tuna longline fishery. Fishery stakeholders have been asked to participate, and the draft proposal includes suggestions made by the FIP.	April 2016	ARAP Panalang CeDePesca Other fishery stakeholders	
		The IATTC's third technical meeting is being organized by IATTC, CeDePesca and ARAP	April 2016	IATTC ARAP CeDePesca FIP Partners	
		The 3 rd IATTC's meeting on mahi mahi took place in Panama City from October 25 th to 27 th with	October 2016	CeDePesca ARAP IATTC	IATTC's 3rd technical meeting webpage

FIP is encouraging improvements (Stage 3) CONTINUED	FIP partners are engaging regulators	financial support from this FIP.			PanamaOn - Media Report (in Spanish)
	CONTINUED	ARAP, IATTC and CeDePesca have been coordinating a mahi mahi otolith collection program in Panama	December 2016	ARAP IATTC CeDePesca	
		The program for the extraction and conservation of otoliths of the mahi mahi coordinated by ARAP, IATTC and CeDePesca started in processing plants. FIP partner Panalang is participating from the program.	July 2017	ARAP IATTC Panalang Union CeDePesca	
		Executive Decree No. 126 of 2017 was published in the Official Gazette No. 28365-B. The decree is a step forward in the management of the Panamanian mahi-mahi and yellowfin tuna, as it issues regulations regarding the use of longlines in waters under jurisdiction of the Republic of Panama.	September 2017	ARAP	Executive Decree No. 126 of 2017
		Sanctions Agreement No. 01-ZEPM-2018, which approves the regulation of productive activities that take place in the Special Marine Protection Zone. This agreement establishes management measures, sustainable use and conservation of the mahi mahi (<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>) and yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	January 2018	Commission for the Sustainable Management of Fishing in the Special Marine Protection Zone	
		Agreement No. 02-ZEPM-2018 of March 14, 2018, modifies Agreement No. 01-ZEPM-2018 of January 26, 2018.	March 2018	Commission for the Sustainable Management of Fishing in the Special Marine Protection Zone	
		Agreement No. 001-2018 of May 3, 2018	May 2018	Governing Council of the Coiba National Park	
		FIP members are engaging regulators			

	CONTINUED	Official Gazette No. 28700-A on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 Agreement No. 001-2018 of May 3, 2018.	January 2019	Governing Council of the Coiba National Park	Agreement No. 001-2018 of May 3, 2018
FIP is delivering improvement in policies or practices (Stage 4)	Fishery practices are improving	Digitalization of exports data provided by Panalang Union Group started	March 2014	Grupo Panalang Union; CeDePesca	Data base available on request under confidentiality commitment
		Skippers started to provide filled logbooks	July 2014	CeDePesca	
		Digitalization of exports data corresponding to May, June and July.	September 2014	Grupo Panalang Union; CeDePesca	Data base available on request under confidentiality
		With support of this FIP, a Panama delegation (including a representative of ARAP) participated at the first International Scientific Workshop organized by IATTC in Manta, Ecuador. CeDePesca made a presentation of FIP results.	October 2014	CeDePesca; Grupo Panalang Union; ARAP	Presentation Media coverage - CeDePesca
		With support of this FIP, ARAP and CeDePesca participated in the second IATTC's workshop on mahi, held in Lima, Peru. During the meeting, the Peruvian delegation showed their first stock assessment for mahi.	October 2015	CeDePesca; Grupo Panalang Union; ARAP	IATTC's second technical meeting webpage
		ARAP and Panalang took charge of updating of the database related to the fishing logbook.	October 2015	ARAP; Grupo Panalang Union	
		A draft resolution to convene an Interim Committee for Longline is being discussed by ARAP and stakeholders	April 2016	ARAP Panalang CeDePesca Other fishery stakeholders	
		ARAP has convened meetings to discuss a draft Executive Decree for the mahi and yellowfin tuna longline fishery. Fishery stakeholders have been asked to participate, and the draft proposal includes suggestions made by the FIP.	April 2016	ARAP Panalang CeDePesca Other fishery stakeholders	
		The IATTC's third technical meeting is being organized. The meeting is	April - October 2016	IATTC ARAP CeDePesca	

FIP is delivering improvement in policies or practices (Stage 4) CONTINUED	Fishery practices are improving CONTINUED	being financially supported in part by this FIP.		FIP Partners	
		ARAP provided information on mahi-mahi landings in several ports in the Panamanian Pacific.	August 2016	ARAP CeDePesca	Data base available on request under confidentiality agreement
		The 3 rd IATTC's meeting on mahi mahi took place in Panama City from October 25 th to 27 th with financial support from this FIP.	October 2016	CeDePesca ARAP IATTC	IATTC's 3rd technical meeting webpage PanamaOn - Media Report (in Spanish)
	Fishery policies are improving	Executive Decree No. 126 of 2017 was published in the Official Gazette No. 28365-B. The decree is a step forward in the management of the Panamanian mahi-mahi and yellowfin tuna, as it issues regulations regarding the use of longlines in waters under jurisdiction of the Republic of Panama.	September 2017	ARAP	Executive Decree No. 126 of 2017 (in Spanish)
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		Agreement No. 001-2018 of May 3, 2018	May 2018	Governing Council of the Coiba National Park	
		Official Gazette No. 28700-A on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 Agreement No. 001-2018 of May 3, 2018.	January 2019	Governing Council of the Coiba National Park	Agreement No. 001-2018 of May 3, 2018

FIP is delivering improvement in policies or practices (Stage 4) CONTINUED	Fishery policies are improving CONTINUED	Meeting between ARAP, FIP partners and CeDePesca	September 2023	ARAP, FIP partners, CeDePesca	Minute
		Sampling Report	December 2023	CeDePesca	Report (Spanish)
		Meeting with the new ARAP authorities	December 2023	ARAP CeDePesca	Minute
		Meeting with the new ARAP authorities	January 2024	ARAP CeDePesca	Minute
		Draft paper for OSPESCA	January 2024	CeDePesca	Draft
		Letter from CeDePesca to ARAP requesting for hearing	April 2024	CeDePesca	Letter
		Proposed options for Data Reporting of Dorado	June 2024	IATTC	Reporting
		Meeting with OSPESCA	September 2024	OSPESCA, CeDePesca	Minute
		Meeting in Puerto Panama	September 2024	CeDePesca	Minute
		Meeting with OSPESCA	November 2024	OSPESCA, CeDePesca	OSPESCA presentation
		Meeting in Puerto Mensabé	January 2025	CeDePesca	Minute
				Meeting with FENAPESCA	August 2025
		Meeting with ARAP	August 2025	ARAP CeDePesca	Minute
		IATTC's annual meeting, in Panama City from September 1st to 5th	September 2025	IATTC CeDePesca	Minute
		Meeting with OSPESCA	September 2025	OSPESCA CeDePesca	Minute
		Participation in the 4th regional dolphinfish workshop organized by IATTC in Costa Rica.	March 2026	CeDePesca / IATTC	Workshop Report