regional **TUNA ȚAGGING** 



#### INDIAN OCEAN





The IOTTP tag recovery program overviews, outcomes, and recommendations

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## IOTTP tag recovery program schedule



# The IOTTP tag recovery program

- 1. Develop a publicity campaign
- 2. Develop tag recovery and training materials
- 3. Establish a tag recovery network in the Indian Ocean
- 4. Identify and prioritize tag recovery platforms
- 5. Develop recovery systems and quality control methods
- 6. Optimize tag recovery process
- 7. Provide training in recovery data collection and sampling
- 8. Develop a tag recovery data-base

# Publicity

- Giant banners, posters, leaflets, T-shirts, hats, cups
  - Designed by a communication company
  - Translated into 18 different languages
  - Adapted to country and recovery platform
- TV and radio adverts in multiple languages
- Documentary (1 hour)
- Exhibition materials
- Quarterly newsletter
- Lotteries
  - National (US\$ 1000, US\$ 500, US\$250)
  - International (US\$ 2500, US\$ 100, US\$500)



# **Recovery and training materials**

- Standard recovery forms
  - developed by a communication company
  - Standard recovery forms (FR/EN)
  - Simplified recovery forms (FR/EN)
  - Recovery form/leaflet (multiple languages)
- Callipers + Tape measures
- Tag recovery manual
- Training DVD
- Standard PPT presentations

TAG RECOVERY FORM				
TAG NUMBER	Fish Length         Measurment reliability         Good         Bad			
SPECIES Yello Bigey Skipja Other				
Weight	kg Measuring tool Measuring board String			
Reliability Weig Estim	Tana Frozen			
Fishing Vessel	Well / Reefer Hatch			
Date Found Date Returned Date Unloaded Date Caught	Where found       Fishing boat       Fish market         Fishing boat       Fish market         Reefer       Cold store         Cannery       Other			
Position of cate	h       Accuracy       Or describe fishing area         GPS			
Fishing method       Purse seine       Gill net       Pole n Line       Other         Longline       Hand line       Troll line       Image: Compare the second se				
Country of recovery     Reward     Not given     Given				
Finder Name	Signature			
Address				
Comments	Form filled by			

# Identify and prioritize tag recovery platforms

- 1) A high turnover of fish caught, unloaded, processed and/or transshipped;
- 2) Good possibilities of estimating reporting rate through the implementation of tag seeding activities;
- 3) Good fisheries statistics;
- 4) Easy access
- 5) Good potential to collect high quality data
- 6) Time the tagged fish will be available to the fishery

## ID & prioritize tag recovery platforms (cont.)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Priority: Purse-seine fisheries

- 1. FV crew, stevedores, cold-stores, canneries in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, and Kenya
- 2. Other countries processing IO fish (mainly Spain)

2<sup>nd</sup> Priority: Small-scale / artisanal fisheries (pole & line, gillnet, handline, other)

- 1. Coastal and island states of the West IO (11 countries)
- 2. Coastal and island states of Central and East IO (4 countries)
- 3. Coastal countries of the North IO (3 countries)

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Priority: Longline fisheries

- 1. FV crew, stevedores, cold-stores, canneries in Mauritius, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Thailand.
- 2. Research centers, agents and fleet representatives

## **Recovery systems and quality control**

#### Stevedores

#### 1st Phase (2005 – <50 recoveries/month)

1 TRO (>% info collected by stevedores)

Low level or total lack of associated data to recoveries

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase (2006 – 500 to 1000 recoveries/month)

Fish to bePreferentialFish origin badbrought to TROreward system(seeding)

Increase of tag recoveries and fish size

### 3rd Phase (2007- up to 1500 recoveries/month)

Tag recovery team (6 people) Preferential reward system

Collection of unloading and transhipment information



## Figure 3 – Tag seeding reporting rates from 2004 to 2007



Figure 4- Proportion of quarterly recoveries with the two recovery platforms in the Seychelles







Figure 6- Seychelles stevedore's quarterly recoveries associated to good length / weight reliability

## **Recovery systems and quality control**

• FV crew









Figure 13- Proportion of length measurements collected "At sea" from 2006 to 2008



Figure 12- 'At sea' quarterly recoveries associated to good length / weight reliability



Figure 14- At sea' quarterly recoveries associated to good length / weight reliability per species

# **Reward scheme**

#### Cash rewards

- Conventional tags: US 10
- OTC tags: US 50
- Archival tags: US 300

#### Non-monetary rewards

- Phone-cards
- Mobile recharges
- T-shirt (multiple colours to cover for cultural differences)
- Caps, Cups

#### Monetary and non-monetary incentives for RO

- T-shirts special editions, beach towels, cups, laptop briefcases
- Up to 20% of the value of cash rewards

# **Preferential reward scheme**

Preferential reward	Crew	Stevedores	Canneries
Tag + complete high-quality information	Cash rewards T-shirts Phone cards (2x US \$5)	Cash rewards Phone cards (2x US \$5) T-shirts	Phone cards (2x US \$5) T-shirts
Tag + incomplete or low-quality information	Phone cards (US5)	Phone cards (US5)	Phone cards (US5)
Tag only	Hats	Hats	Hats

## Tag recovery validation and storing

- Tags recoveries reported and revised daily
  - Completeness, quality, validity
- Entered to DB as soon as validated (physical form and tag stored on dossiers).
- Feedback on tag recovery quality provided to ROs and awards allocated
- Tag recoveries entered in DB revised on monthly/quarterly
  - Biological data (length / weight)
  - Data reliability (crossing with tag seeding information, recovery rate, fish origin information)
- Feedback to ROs on tag recovery system performance
- Tag recovery system adapted if needed to increase reporting rates and quality of tag recovery associated data.

TAG NUMBER EE454 07 search ee454	Recovered after capture				
Go to tag					
Length 67.00 cm C length unknown	🗾 Vessel name 🚽				
Measure type FL  Measurement reliability Good	☐ Xixili       ✓ Side ( - Well ( - unk - Sic				
Measuring tool Caliper					
Weight 4.60 kg O unk Weight reliability Weighter	*				
Species Y T					
Where found Fishing boat 💌 SEX:	I				
Process when found Transfer					
	Record: I 🖬 1 of 1 🕨 🕨 👫 N				
Fishing method Purseseine  Recovered while Recovered after	Date found 11/21/2006 O unk				
fishing capture	Date returned 11/21/2006				
	Date unloadedF 🛛 🖉 unk				
Finder name Michel Banane	Reefer Hatches				
	Date unloaddedR C unk				
Finder's address Au Cap					
Country of recovery Seychelles	SCR 🗾 Data collected by 💽				
ReceiptNo: 00737 Date Paid #########	Form filled by Julien Million				
ReceiptNo2: Date Paid2	Checked by: BH				
Comments					

## **RECOVERIES:** per gear



83.5% recovered on purse seiner

- 13.4% BB
- 1.19% LL

Probably large under reporting of the longline and artisanal fleets

## **Recoveries: where?**

- Tag recovered from 30 countries
- 25.7% of the purse seine recoveries recovered At sea (while fishing)
- 63.3% of the purse seine recoveries recovered in Seychelles



# Locations where the recoveries took place (2008)

Process involved when the recovery took place (2008)

	% per location
At sea	26.0
Fish. boat in port	63.5
Cannery	7.9
Reefer	2.1
Cold store	0.2
Fish market	0.1
Other	0.0
unk	0.1

	% per process
Fishing	26.8
Unload	30.1
Transfer	35.1
Sorting	5.3
Ranking	0.7
Butcher	0.6
Other	0.8
unk	0.6

## Lessons learned / Recommendations

- More effort to be placed in developing a recovery strategy previous to the implementation of a tagging program (feasibility and financing studies)
- Increase financial and human resources dedicated to PTR activities (ideal level to be estimated on a program basis)
- Use tag seeding information to verify recovery platforms data reliability and adapt tag recovery/reward schemes accordingly
- Favour the use of preferential reward systems to valorise high quality data recoveries (also allows to reduce program costs)
- Implement an incentive systems to motivate non contractual recovery officers.

## Lessons learned / Recommendations

- Closely monitor Tag recovery platforms to rectify quickly any downgrading as things can get wrong very easily.
- Implicate to the extend possible FV officers and crews in the tag recoveries activities (provide them with adequate materials).
- Include Observers (specially the ones deployed in LL or LL reefers) involved into tag recoveries activities. Provide them with an incentive (e.g. % of the value of the recovery reward) to avoid conflicts with the crew.
- Don't underestimate the human and cultural components and the power of socialisation.