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SIOFA Data submission summary (2023 data submitted in 2024)

SIOFA Secretariat

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Abstract	<p>This paper summarizes the CCPs' data that was submitted under the requirements of CMM 02(2023). In 2024, Eight CCPs provided data to the Secretariat for fishing activities performed in 2023.</p> <p>Most of the datasets received followed the requirements. 100% of the operations recorded in the observer data submission could be linked to the Catch&Effort operations. The quality, accuracy and completeness of the data was variable depending on the fisheries and CCPs. The pelagic fishery has issues providing full operational details and accurate species taxa.</p>

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

1. Introduction

CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) instructs CCPs to submit the catch summaries, catch and effort and observer data, pertaining to the past year fishing activities.

2. Method

The datasets that are submitted to Secretariat have been processed. The process involves several steps: dataset registration, control of completeness, accuracy and consistency, harmonization and addition to databases.

When issues have been detected during the process they have been logged in the dataset database.

The SIOFA databases have been then queried to collect the summary information relevant to the 2024 data submission. The results are available in the next section.

3. Results

3.1. Data submission summary

In May 2024, eight CCPs that were fishing in 2023 provided the relevant data to the Secretariat as summarized in table 1.

Table 1: summary of 2023 data submitted per CCP and main gear.

CCP	Fishery	Catch and Effort	Operations	Observer data	Operations	Linkage**	Coverage
AUS	Demersal Longline	X	5	X	5	100%	100%
CHN	Jigging (research)	X	8	X	8	100%	100%
CHN	Trawl (research)	X	13	X	13	100%	100%
CHN	Jigging (survey)	X	4				100%
CHN	Handline	X	2	X	2	100%	100%
CKI	Trawl	X	1299	X	1179	100%	90.7%
EU	Demersal Longline	X	310	X	310	100%	89.7%
FR-OT	Demersal Longline	X	5	X	5	100%	100%
JPN	Trawl	X	343	X	343	100%	100%
MUS	Mechanized Line/handline *	X	270				0%
SYC	Pelagic Longline *	X	91				0%
CT	Pelagic Longline *	X	5731	X (5 trips)	375	100%	6.5%
THA	Trawl	X	476	X	476	100%	100%
	handline *	X	80	X (All trips)	80	100%	100%

* There are no observers' coverage requirements on the non-bottom fishing vessels.

** The linkage percentage measures the percentage of the operations recorded in the observer data submission that are linkable to the operations reported in the Catch&Effort submission.

Note: *Coverage* is distinct of *Linkage*. An operation existing in the catch and effort database and not recorded in the observer database implies that the operation has not been observed (coverage=0). However an operation can be recorded in the observer database but not being actually observed. The table below illustrates this.

Table 2: Observer data linkage and actual observation

Catch and Effort operation ID	Observer' dataset		
	Observer Operation ID	Linkage to C&E operation?	Operation Observed?
3121	614	Yes	Yes
3122	615	Yes	No
3123	616	Yes	Yes
3124	617	Yes	Yes
3125	N/A	N/A	No
3126	618	Yes	Yes
3127	619	Yes	Yes
3128	620	Yes	Yes

Nb operations	Nb operation	Linkage	Coverage
7	6	100%	75%

3.2. Catch and effort data.

The catch and effort data submissions notes are summarized below.

A blank cell means that there was no issue.

Table 3: Catch and effort data submission summary.

CCP	Timeliness	Completeness	Accuracy	Consistency	Other notes
Australia (demersal longline)					
China (misc gears)					Latitude and Longitude mixed for 1 vessel
Cook Islands (midwater and bottom trawl)				A few trawl tows have inconsistent data (long tows >10 Km made in a couple of minutes). Some tows reported very high catch level.	All coordinates provided as decimal degree were not decimal degree. The decimal numbers are actual minutes.
European Union (demersal longline)					Several sharks have been recorded in the catch sheet, but are not recorded as ETP or incidental bycatch
France (OT) (demersal longline)					
Japan (midwater trawl)					
Mauritius (handline)					
Seychelles (pelagic longline)		End setting and hauling information not provided. Incomplete gear details.	One seabird bycatch event has been recorded, species not identified.		Several operations are located outside of SIOFA (West of 30°E) and have been ignored. Only OIL catch reported (no bycatch)

CCP	Timeliness	Completeness	Accuracy	Consistency	Other notes
Chinese Taipei (pelagic longline)		End setting and hauling information not provided.	Sharks' species identified as SKX (Sharks, rays, skates, etc. nei), Other pelagic species all merged in code PEL.		Tuna bycatch reported
Thailand (Bottom Trawl)					
Thailand (Handline)					

3.3. Observers' data.

The observer data submissions notes are summarized in the below table.

Table 4: Observer data submission summary

CCP	Timeliness	Completeness	Accuracy	Consistency	Notes
Australia (demersal longline)					
China (misc gears)					Latitude and Longitude mixed for 1 vessel
Cook Islands (midwater and bottom trawl)				A few species codes are not consistent with SIOFA species (BBF, KDE, SKI, SOP). UNK codes used 8 times, corrected to MZZ.	
European Union (demersal longline)				One seabird code referred to a lobster species (THQ), corrected to TQH	Several deep-sea sharks have been recorded in the catch sheet, and are not recorded as incidental bycatch

CCP	Timeliness	Completeness	Accuracy	Consistency	Notes
France (OT) (demersal longline)					
Japan (mi water trawl)					
Mauritius (handline)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Seychelles (pelagic longline)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Chinese Taipei (pelagic longline)		No information relevant to incidental bycatch or birds' abundance.	Sharks' species identified as SKX (Sharks, rays, skates, etc. nei), Other pelagic species all merged in code PEL.		Tuna and billfish (IOTC) bycatch reported.
Thailand (Bottom Trawl)		Birds warp strikes not monitored; Birds abundance not observed (nil report)			Sharks and Rays recorded as incidental bycatch
Thailand (Handline)		Birds' abundance not observed (nil report)			

4. Conclusion

The Secretariat received most of the data timely and accurately.

When issues have been identified they usually have been corrected. Some issues, that were not obvious to correct, needed to be reported to the data provider for sending revised data, the process was long and unachieved with one CCP.

The oilfish pelagic longline fishery is still experiencing issues for providing complete and accurate data, where operations information is partial, and species identification lacks taxonomic accuracy.