

October 2021

It's been a busy few months here at SFP. We've unveiled updates to three of our fisheries assessment tools – Seafood Metrics, the FIP Evaluation Tool, and the Human Rights Risk Indicator – all of which will help the seafood industry more effectively understand and support seafood sustainability and fisheries improvement efforts around the world.

We've also supported fisher associations in Latin America and Indonesia to participate more fully in national and regional fisheries management, helped create a new working group on illegal squid fishing, launched a partnership with a major seafood industry player in the Philippines, welcomed new participants to the Ocean Disclosure Project, and reached a milestone of industry leadership in one of our Supply Chain Roundtables.

Read on for more information about these developments, as well as two new online training programs about sustainable seafood, a new study about transboundary stock management, and an exciting new role for one of our team members.

As we head into the final months of the year, we are also looking forward to celebrating the 25th anniversary of SFP's founding later this year. Watch this space for more information about our upcoming celebrations.

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Seafood Metrics system expands to better support seafood industry sustainability goals

SFP's [Seafood Metrics](#) system, which has always been available to SFP's partner companies as a benefit of partnership, is now being offered for the first time publicly to non-partner companies, as a stand-alone tool. We've also launched a new program for suppliers to help them better serve their customers through access to up-to-date information on whether a certain source meets a customer's sustainability commitments.



Earlier this year, new aquaculture indicators were added to Seafood Metrics, to complement the existing farm-level certification status indicator. The new indicators offer users additional information on the sustainability of their farmed seafood sources by providing an assessment of how well that aquaculture industry is being managed at the province or state level.

[Visit seafoodmetrics.com](#)

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FIP Evaluation Tool updated to improve tracking of fisheries improvement efforts

SFP unveiled a major update to its [FIP Evaluation Tool](#) that will help ensure the accuracy, accountability, and transparency of information about fisheries that are part of a fishery improvement project (FIP). The updates include new requirements to better evaluate the link between FIP tasks or actions and FIP results, to increase transparency about whether it is the FIP's actions that are driving the improvements.



[FIP Evaluation Tool](#)

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Revamped human rights risk tool will help partners assess risks in global supply chains

SFP's revised and revamped Human Rights Risk Indicator (HRR) tool uses information from our online [FishSource.org](#) database and other publicly available indices and reports to produce rapid, high-level human rights risk assessments for fisheries focused on human trafficking, forced labor, child labor, and violations of freedom of association and collective bargaining.



Human rights risk scores for global fisheries – darker red indicates a lower score/higher risk.

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Mahi-mahi producers in Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Peru commit to improve sustainability



Fisher associations from Ecuador and Peru and processing plants from Ecuador, Peru, and Costa Rica agreed to implement the first-ever regional coordination mechanisms for improving the sustainability of the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) mahi-mahi fishery this month. [COREMAHI](#) (the Regional Committee of Mahi) developed a [Code of Conduct](#) as a first step toward addressing the lack of a regional management instrument for the fishery. SFP provided technical support and coordination in developing and approving the Code.

[COREMAHI Code of Conduct](#)

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Indonesian Blue Swimming Crab Fishers now have greater voice in national-level decisions

SFP's Indonesia team worked closely with blue swimming crab (BSC) fishers in Indonesia to support the creation of a new Indonesian [BSC Fishers Communication Forum](#) ([Forums Nelayan](#)) to provide a mechanism for BSC fishers to share information and serve as a vehicle to represent small-scale BSC fishers in national-level decision making. Just a few months after it was established, members of the forum participated for the first time as an equal stakeholder in a national fisheries policy review with the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MARA), as part of a process to review and redesign the national BSC Fishery Management Plan.



[BSC Fishers Communication Forum](#)

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Members of SFP's Global Squid SR create working group to reduce illegal fishing

Looking to use their market power to reduce and eliminate illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) squid fishing and human rights abuses in their supply chains, several members of SFP's [Global Squid Supply Chain Roundtable](#) (SSSR) joined forces to create an IUU Working Group. The group, which will receive technical support from SFP, includes more than a dozen squid producers and suppliers from the US, Australia, Canada, and Europe.



[Squid IUU Working Group](#)

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SFP and Fishta Seafood partner on sustainable sourcing in the Philippines

[Fishta Seafood, Inc.](#), a major seafood processor, distributor, and retailer in the Philippines, formalized a partnership with SFP and USAID, through its [FishRight Program](#), to develop and adopt a corporate responsible seafood sourcing (RSE) policy. The partnership activities will also include buyer and consumer education, supply chain mapping, and supplier engagement.



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Ocean Disclosure Project welcomes new participants

Two more companies began publicly disclosing their seafood sourcing through the [Ocean Disclosure Project](#) (ODP), including Singapore and Vietnam-based processor and exporter [LP Foods](#) and Rhode Island-based foodservice caterer/provider [The Town Dock](#).



[Learn more about the ODP](#)

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US Gulf of Mexico Shrimp SR now fully industry-funded



SFP's [US Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Supply Chain Roundtable](#) (SR) recently became one of the first 100-percent industry-funded SRs. SFP has facilitated fishery improvement work in this region since 2008, with the support of philanthropic funding from the Walton Family Foundation and the active encouragement of US shrimp buyers. This year, with philanthropic funding no longer available to support activities in the region, SFP requested direct funding from the 13 leading US shrimp processors and distributors who make up the SR. The majority of the participants agreed to the request, enabling them to share the burden across many companies.

[US Gulf of Mexico Supply Chain Roundtable](#)

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New online training programs on FIPs and sustainable seafood

Two new online training programs allow anyone interested in sustainable seafood to learn more without leaving home. SFP worked with WWF and several other organizations to develop an [online training program](#) to provide fishery stakeholders with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and implement fishery improvement projects (FIPs). Another [set of training modules](#), developed through USAID's FishRight program in the Philippines, offers users a general background on the sustainable seafood movement and introduces market tools to help advance sustainability.



[FIPs Training Program](#)

[FishRight Training Modules](#)

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Efforts in just one country may help an entire transboundary stock rebound

A [study](#) published this month in the journal *Marine Policy* found that, in a transboundary fishery across two nations, sustainable fishery management efforts in just one of the jurisdictions could lead to increased sustainability and revival of the entire stock, even without coordination between the two nations.



[Read the study here](#)

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SFP's Jenna Stoner appointed to GAA Standards Oversight Committee

Jenna Stoner, SFP's aquaculture program director, was [recently appointed](#) to the 12-member Standards Oversight Committee (SOC) of the [Global Aquaculture Alliance](#) (GAA). The SOC, which includes members from conservation, academia, and industry, directs the drafting of the GAA (Best Aquaculture Practices) standards by technical committees and reports its recommendations to the GAA board of directors for final approval.



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