



# Report of the Indonesian Observer Training Workshop

for component 3.2.1 of the

## Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the ABNJ

7-12 November 2017

BirdLife South Africa Seabird Conservation Programme Office  
Cape Town, South Africa

Prepared by BirdLife South Africa

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Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



## Workshop Report

**Project:** FAO-GEF Project *Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the ABNJ* (GCP/GLO/365/GFF)

**Reporting organisation:** BirdLife South Africa (BLSA)

**Report prepared by:** Nini van der Merwe

**Indonesian Observer Training Workshop for BirdLife component of the GEF funded  
FAO Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project (Output 3.2.1)  
7-12 November 2017, Cape Town, South Africa**

### BirdLife South Africa report

#### Aims of the workshop

The main aim of this workshop was capacity building of the national observers and researchers collecting or analyzing data from tuna longline vessels operating out of Indonesia. Furthermore, that the use of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures is enhanced and accelerated by fleets operating in critical fishing areas of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. We trained participants in how to conduct at-sea trials with specific seabird bycatch mitigation measures (sbmm's) so as to ascertain which sbmm's are best suited to the Indonesian fleet. We used a similar model with the Korean Distant Water Fleet (DWF) observers, the results of which lead to the entire Korean DWF taking up line weighting as a mitigation measure. Should similar results be achieved in Indonesia's DWF, it could encourage a similar outcome as the Korean trials.

We also wanted to ensure the following through the implementation of this workshop:

- Create sustainability beyond the Common Oceans (CO) project
- Provide training to facilitate the collection of seabird bycatch information that will aid the Research Institute for Tuna Fisheries (RITF) to submit relevant and reliable seabird-related data to relevant RFMOs
- Provide observers with the skills to collect scientific information and conduct trials of seabird bycatch mitigation measures (specifically line-weighting) within the Indonesian tuna longline fleet

#### Background – Indonesia

In November 2016 BLSA, in conjunction with the Research Institute for Marine Fisheries (RIMF-BPPL) and Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries hosted a very successful National Awareness Workshop (NAW) in Bali, Indonesia. One of the outcomes of the NAW was that the Research Institute of Tuna Fisheries (RITF) agreed to explore at-sea trials with industry. Once a vessel(s) was confirmed, BLSA would work towards implementing an Observer Training Workshop. This workshop would focus on improving observer seabird identification skills, training on the correct reporting procedures to adhere to tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) specifications and instruction on how to set up and correctly conduct at-sea trials of seabird bycatch mitigation measures to ascertain if these measures could successfully be incorporated into the Indonesian fleet. The Indonesian Observer Training Workshop (OTW) was held from 7-12 November 2017. For more information on the background of Indonesia, please see: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-br346e.pdf>

#### Participants

BLSA hosted 1 active Indonesian observer, 1 previous observer who is now a researcher and 3 participants who represent management and research at RITF.

A full list of participants is provided in **Annex 1**.

## **Summary of presentations and facilitated discussions**

The workshop agenda is provided in **Annex 2**.

The workshop was designed to build capacity within the existing Indonesian observer pool and to 'train the trainer' so that similar training can be delivered by RITF staff in Indonesia.

The presentations focussed on:

### **Bycatch:**

- Seabird biology and seabird identification: This was done through a theory presentation on identifying seabird features, which was followed by a quiz. The pelagic seabird identification excursion allowed for some in-the-field training.
- Turtle identification and best practice: A presentation on turtle identification, handling and best practice mitigation measures allowed for some valuable discussions between the attendees about previous turtle encounters.
- Participants were also taught how to handle live birds or turtles, and in the case of fatality, how to correctly collect samples for further research.

### **Mitigation Measures:**

- Seabird bycatch mitigation measures: participants were presented with information and demonstration models of current mitigation measures available. We also discussed best practice and what is currently being used in the Indonesian fishing industry.
- The harbour visit allowed observers to get on board a local tuna vessel as well as the processing factory, during which time the shore skipper explained operations and challenges relating to seabirds and the suggested mitigation measures.
- There was a lot of focus on sliding leads, as this is the mitigation measure that will be tested in Indonesia.

### **Data collection and management:**

- Data collection procedures were discussed and troubleshooted with the participants present. We looked at current Indonesian data collection sheets to ascertain where there might be need to include additional data fields.
- We also discussed the correct ways in which to store and manage data.

### **Scientific study design:**

- The fundamental theory of setting up a scientific study was presented to the group.
- Attention was drawn to ensuring that there is no bias present in the design.
- Dom Rollinson presented his experience from doing at-sea trials in the Korean tuna longline fleet. They also discussed differences between Korean and Indonesian gear set-up and how this could be altered to prevent bias in the trial.

## **Survey of workshop participants**

A post-workshop questionnaire was developed to assess the usefulness of the workshop and to receive constructive feedback from participants that can be used in the development and implementation of future workshops. All 5 participants completed the questionnaire. The survey and assessment was conducted by Nini van der Merwe. A summary of the questions and responses is included below. Overall, all participants enjoyed the workshop and found it to be a useful experience that increased their understanding of seabird identification and scientific study designs. The original questions and scoring guidelines are provided in **Annex 3**.

Q1. [How useful was the information presented at the workshop?]

Out of 12 presentations (including the at-sea seabird identification training and the harbour visit), 7 were found to be **very useful**.

*Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF): A broad-scale perspective, Handling live/dead birds, collecting samples and taking photographs and RFMOs seabird bycatch mitigation measures and Best Practice* were found to be **20% useful** and **80% very useful**.

*Turtle biology, identification and bycatch best practice* and the *Harbour Visit* were found to be **40% useful** and **60% very useful**. None of the presentations were found to be **not useful**.

Q2. [How clearly did the organisers present material?] **60%** of participants thought information was presented **very clearly** while **40%** thought it was presented **clearly**.

Q3. [Did the organisers allow enough time for the facilitated discussions?] **20%** of participants thought that the amount of time allocated for discussion was **too short**, while **80%** thought the time allocated was **good**.

Q4. [Was the workshop long enough?] **100%** of participants thought it was **about right**.

Q5. [Overall, how would you rate the workshop?] **60%** of participants rated the workshop as **very good** while **40%** rated it as **good**.

Q6. [How would you rate your ability to identify seabirds BEFORE the workshop?] **100%** of participants said their ability was **poor**.

Q7. [How would you rate your ability to identify seabirds AFTER the workshop?] **60%** of participants said their ability was **good** while **40%** rated their ability as **expert**.

Q8. [Would you agree that after the workshop, you have a better understanding of EAF and why this is important to protect natural ocean resources?] **80%** of participants **agreed** that they have a better understanding of EAF and its importance after the workshop while **20%** did **somewhat agree**.

Q9. [After the workshop, are you confident in your ability to collect samples and take photographs of dead seabirds encountered when out at sea?] **100%** of participants were **confident**.

Q10. [Are you confident in your understanding of tRFMO seabird bycatch mitigation measures and best practice?] **100%** of participants were **confident**.

Q11. [Are you confident in your ability to correctly set up and run a scientific trial whilst at sea?] **100%** of participants were **confident**.

Q12. [Do you agree that this workshop has assisted you with having a better understanding of data collection and reporting procedures?] **100%** of participants **agreed**.

Q13. [Do you have any other comments, suggestions or topics you would like included in future workshops?] Note: In some cases, some of the points below were mentioned by multiple participants. BLSA comments on suggestions are made in italics.

- It would be useful if a South African observer delivered a presentation. (*Reason Nyengera is a South African Observer, and he did present during the workshop*)

- A booklet of how to handle seabird bycatch in Bahasa, to give to vessel owners to leave on their boats (*BLSA is willing to discuss this further with RITF*)
- It was suggested that the contents of the presentations does not necessarily have to be translated to Bahasa, as several scientific terms are easier to remember in English
- One participant expected to have a session for training the trainers. (*The workshop objective shared with RITF clearly stated that the workshop was aimed at training observers. BLSA is happy to share training materials with RITF to assist with future training opportunities*)
- An advanced training session is required to understand more about research design and data processing (*This topic will be covered in the upcoming Data Preparation Workshop, as it falls under a different section of the project*)
- The workshop was satisfying as discussion subjects were relevant to what we need.

### **Suggestions for future workshops**

- Allocate more time for facilitated discussions
- Provide translator with presentations prior to the workshop, in order for them to familiarise themselves with the topic (*The translator was provided with most of the presentations prior to the workshop, however due to schedule restraints not all were finalised prior to the workshop*)

### **Next steps**

The following were noted from discussions:

1. The team from RITF will use the skills they learned at the workshop to host further training workshops in Indonesia.
2. BLSA will share electronic versions of the training materials with RITF to assist with this. These materials may be used internally, but not shared with third parties.
3. Nini van der Merwe will put together a “check-list” to assist RITF with explaining the study protocol with the vessel owner ahead of the trials starting in March 2018.
4. RITF will discuss the study design with the vessel owner. The final study design will be shared with BLSA who will approve the final protocol before the trial starts.
5. BLSA will start the process of acquiring the sliding leads required for the trial.
6. RITF will provide BLSA with an import letter, stating that the leads will be used for research purposes.
7. RITF and BLSA signed a memorandum of agreement prior to the onset of the trial. It states that once the trials have been completed, RITF will share the collected data with BLSA.
8. Should they require it, RITF will contact BLSA to assist them with preparing their data ahead of the Data Preparation Workshop scheduled for February 2018.
9. Mr Fahmi Zulkarnaan and Ross Wanless will meet at the IOTC Scientific Committee meeting in Seychelles in December 2017, to further discuss the at-sea trials.
10. RITF will continue to try and confirm other Indonesian vessels that are willing to participate in trials.
11. Should more vessels be confirmed, BLSA would be willing to come to Indonesia for a second follow-up National Awareness Workshop, to discuss the results.

### **Conclusions**

The workshop was very successful. It allowed observers and researchers to increase their knowledge and share some valuable experiences with the BLSA team. The workshop was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. BLSA are confident that the Indonesian delegation

are now well equipped to present their own training workshops, and also that they will successfully launch the at-sea trials.

### **Acknowledgements**

BLSA would like to acknowledge Mr Prawira Atmaja for his assistance with organising the workshop and also Mr Fahmi Zulkarnaen for his presentation on the Indonesian tuna longline fleet. Mr Dominic Rollinson presented as an invited expert and shared with the group his invaluable experience in conducting at-sea trials.

Widyawan Pradhana was invaluable in his role as translator. He assisted with translation of documents prior to the workshop as well as ongoing translations during the workshop.

Funding for the workshop (including the venue, catering, travel, accommodation and DSA for participants) was provided through the FAO Common Oceans Tuna Project (LoA4).

### **Broad project outline**

The Common Oceans ABNJ Tuna Project is the largest of four projects that constitute the Common Oceans Program. The objective of the project is to achieve responsibility, efficiency, and sustainability in tuna production and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ (Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction), through the systemic application of an ecosystem approach in tuna fisheries.

With support from BirdLife International, BirdLife South Africa (BLSA) is responsible for the implementation of Output 3.2.1 of the project. The revised objectives of Output 3.2.1 are linked to two outputs:

- **Output 3.2.1a:** *The use of best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures is enhanced and accelerated by fleets operating in critical fishing areas of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, and additional methods to monitor the uptake, use and effectiveness of these measures are tested.*
- **Output 3.2.1b:** *The capacity of national institutions to manage and conduct analyses of seabird bycatch data and the effectiveness of bycatch mitigation measures is strengthened, and assessment methods are harmonised to facilitate a joint tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organization (tRFMO) assessment of the current bycatch mitigation measures contained in the relevant Conservation and Management Measures.*

Output 3.2.1 will be achieved through four separate, but linked, elements. This report outlines the outcomes of the Indonesia Observer Training workshop held under Element 2. The main outcomes under this element are to 1) improve awareness of seabird bycatch and its mitigation; and 2) build capacity of the national observer programme, government representatives and the fishing industry to effectively implement best practice seabird bycatch mitigation based on best practice in Indonesia.

For further information, please contact:

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**Annex 1: List of workshop participants**

(Presenters are marked with \*)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Institution</b>
Ross Wanless*	Seabird Conservation Programme Manager	BirdLife South Africa (BLSA)
Bronwyn Maree*	Seabird Bycatch Project Co-ordinator	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations
Nini van der Merwe*	International Liaison Officer	BLSA
Andrea Angel*	Albatross Task Force (ATF) Leader – South Africa	BLSA
Reason Nyengera*	ATF Instructor	BLSA
Irwan Jatmiko	RITF Researcher	Research Institute of Tuna Fisheries Indonesia (RITF)
Prawira Tampubolan	RITF Management	RITF
Fahmi Zulkarnaan*	RITF Management	RITF
Abram Barata	Observer	RITF
Anung Widodo	Management	Research Center for Fisheries Management and Conservation
Dominic Rollinson	Invited Expert	University of Cape Town – FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology PhD

Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Figure 1 shows the Indonesian delegation, an FAO staff member and some BLSA staff members after graduating from the workshop.

Figure 2 shows the Indonesian delegation, a BLSA staff member and an FAO staff member on a vessel during the harbour visit.



**Annex 2: Workshop Agenda****Day 1: Marine Ecosystems & Seabird Biology**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
10:00-10:45	Introduction to Observer Training Programme and participant introductions and expectations	<b>Nini vd Merwe</b>
10:45-11:45	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF): A broad-scale perspective	<b>Bronwyn Maree</b>
11:45-12:30	Seabird biology – Why seabird biology is different from fish biology	<b>Nini vd Merwe</b>
<i>12:30-13:30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:30-15:00	Seabird identification and Quiz	<b>Bronwyn Maree</b>
<i>15:00-15:30</i>	<i>Tea</i>	
15:30-16:30	Dead seabird identification	<b>Reason Nyengera</b>
18:30	Opening Dinner at <i>126 Cape Kitchen and Café</i>	

**Day 2: Mitigation Measures and Best Practice Recommendations**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
09:00 – 10:30	Handling live/dead seabirds, collecting samples and taking photographs	<b>Reason Nyengera</b>
<i>10:30 – 11:00</i>	<i>Tea break</i>	
11:00 – 14:00	Harbour visit and in-port training	<b>Reason Nyengera and Bronwyn Maree</b>
14:00 – 16:00	Turtle biology, identification and bycatch Best Practice	<b>Andrea Angel</b>

**Day 3: RFMOs, Scientific study design and reporting and recording procedures**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
08:30 - 10:00	Regional Fisheries Management Organisations seabird bycatch mitigation measures and Best Practice (including relevant Resolutions)	<b>Nini vd Merwe</b>
<i>10:00 - 10:30</i>	<i>Tea break</i>	
10:30 - 12:00	Scientific study design, sample sizes and approaches to undertaking experimental work during production fishing – theory	<b>Ross Wanless</b>
12:00 - 13:00	Understanding Indonesian fishing operations – followed by facilitated discussion.	<b>Fahmi Zulkarnaen</b>
13:00 - 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 - 15:30	Data recording and reporting and how observer data are supporting National Reporting to RFMOs and improving the sustainable and ecosystem-based management approaches for tuna fishing on the high seas	<b>Bronwyn Maree</b>

**Day 4: Data collection and management**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
09:00 – 09:45	Collecting and reporting data on catch rate, bycatch rate, seabird abundance, entanglement rate and bait loss rate – case study of Korean vessels	<b>Dom Rollinson</b>
09:45 – 10:45	Basic data collection - reporting procedures during at-sea trials	<b>Dom Rollinson</b>
<i>10:45 – 11:15</i>	<i>Tea break</i>	
11:15 – 11:30	Training evaluation and discussion	<b>Nini vd Merwe</b>
11:30 – 11:45	Granting certificates and closing	<b>Nini vd Merwe and Bronwyn Maree</b>
11:45-12:30	Discussion and question time – if required	

**Day 5: At-sea seabird identification training**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Guides</b>
06:15	Pick up at accommodation	<b>Ross Wanless and Taryn Morris</b>
06:45	Full-day pelagic birding excursion	

**Annex 3: Post-workshop questionnaire**

## Indonesian Observer Training Workshop 7-12 November 2017 | Cape Town, South Africa Post-workshop Feedback

Ensuring we provide quality workshops and engagement for our projects is very important to BirdLife and the FAO. We appreciate your feedback on this workshop.

**Name (Optional):**

**Occupation:**

**1. How useful was the information presented at the workshop?**

Please rank: 1 = not useful, 2 = somewhat useful, 3 = very useful

Topic	1	2	3
Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF): A broad-scale perspective (Bronwyn Maree)			
Seabird biology – Why seabird biology is different from fish biology (Nini van der Merwe)			
Seabird identification and Quiz (Bronwyn Maree)			
Dead seabird identification (Reason Nyengera)			
Handling live/dead birds, collecting samples and taking photographs (Reason Nyengera)			
Harbour visit and in-port training (Reason Nyengera and Nini van der Merwe)			
Turtle biology, identification and bycatch Best Practice (Andrea Angel)			
Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO) seabird bycatch mitigation measures and Best Practice (Nini van der Merwe)			
Scientific study design, sample sizes and approaches to undertaking experimental work during production fishing – theory (Ross Wanless)			
Data recording and reporting (Bronwyn Maree)			
Collecting and reporting data on catch rate, bycatch rate, seabird abundance, entanglement rate and bait loss rate – case study of Korean vessels (Dom Rollinson)			
Basic data collection - reporting procedures during at-sea trials. (Dom Rollinson)			

**2. How clearly did the organisers present material?**

1) Very clearly

2) Moderately clearly

3) Not at all clearly

**3. Did the organisers allow enough time for the facilitated discussions?**

1) Too short

2) Good

3) Too long

**4. Was the workshop long enough?**

- 1) Too long                                  2) About right                                  3) Too short

**5. Overall, how would you rate the workshop?**

- 1) Very good                                  2) Good                                  3) Average  
4) Poor                                  5) Very poor

**6. How would you rate your ability to identify seabirds BEFORE the workshop?**

- 1) Poor                                  2) Good                                  3) Expert

**7. How would you rate your ability to identify seabirds AFTER the workshop?**

- 1) Poor                                  2) Good                                  3) Expert

**8. Would you agree that after the workshop, you have a better understanding of EAF and why this is important to protect natural ocean resources?**

- 1) Agree                                  2) Somewhat agree                                  3) Don't agree

**9. After the workshop, are you confident in your ability to collect samples and take photographs of dead seabirds encountered when out at sea?**

- 1) Confident                                  2) Somewhat confident                                  3) Not confident

**10. Are you confident in your understanding of tRFMO seabird bycatch mitigation measures and best practice?**

- 1) Confident                                  2) Somewhat confident                                  3) Not confident

**11. Are you confident in your ability to correctly set up and run a scientific trial whilst at sea?**

- 1) Confident                                  2) Somewhat confident                                  3) Not confident

**12. Do you agree that this workshop has assisted you with having a better understanding of data collecting and reporting procedures (particularly in relation to seabird bycatch and mitigation)?**

- 1) Agree                                  2) Somewhat agree                                  3) Don't agree

**13. Do you have any other comments; suggestions or topics you would like included in future workshops?**


Thank you for your time 😊