Ending IUU in Peruvian small-scale fisheries through traceability technology by WWF-Peru

Peru's fisheries sector is a key component of the country's economy. It is the second highest generator of foreign currency after mining. However, most of the fishing vessels are "informal" and fall under the IUU category due to lack of documentation and registration. However, the process of registration and data submission as well as the expectations of fishers is both flawed and contradictory, making it difficult for them to understand or meet the national requirements. This project is aiming to make the fisheries traceability system TrazApp interoperable with existing and developing private and government systems (to decrease barriers to formalization and improve available management data) as well as onboard electronic monitoring technologies to improve monitoring and enforcement at sea) while; training fishers in the use of an interface that analyses and shares back financial data collected to facilitate sales and increase direct market access; and testing potential new fintech applications through the TrazApp system.

The project started in July 2022 and planned to be completed by end of June 2024.

Current status and achievements	- Participation in two regional workshops in Piura, Paita and San José, Lambayeque together with the Oceano Seafood (processing plant) and artisanal fishers, to highlight the importance of traceability in international markets - Partnership with Plataforma Consulting, which has an administrative and accounting management system (ERP) designed for artisanal fishing, to start a roadmap for the adaptations of their accounting system to have interconnection with TrazApp - Coordinating with the Peruvian government authorities to ensure interoperability between TrazApp and SITRAPESCA system (Guidelines for the interoperability of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Traceability System). - Signed a memorandum between General Directorate of Captaincies and Coast Guards (DICAPI) and WWF-Peru, for the implementation of electronic vessel registered through TrazApp - Signed agreement with the Institute of the Sea of Peru (IMARPE) to be able to share fishing information from TrazApp to its server, with the aim of generating more fishing information for research purposes. - Create the APIs and/or Web Service between TrazApp and the National Fisheries Health Agency (SANIPES), to extract official data from the certification of the sanitary protocols of the vessels, refrigerated trucks and process plants. - The first group of fishers from a cooperative interested in connecting accounting systems with traceability systems has been identified and they will be the first to carry out the tests after making the necessary connections - Developed a technical report on Ending IUU in Peruvian small-scale fisheries through traceability technology.

Target outputs and outcomes by end of project	• TrazApp will be programmed to include the prices associated with transactions taking place in real time; this will allow fishers to issue legal, traceable invoices as well as providing additional price transparency and oversight for commercial decision-making.
	• TrazApp will have interoperable capacity with both fisher and processor systems as well as key government databases.
	• The interconnection between remote electronic monitoring cameras on board and electronic traceability systems will have been tested to extract, share, and send information, so that traceability in fishing shipments can be ensured.

Traceability technology is the future for all supply chains and can be the key that guarantees sustainability from a social, environmental, and economic perspective. It can help ensuring equity along the supply chain, highlighting the role of women, and increasing the benefit in the first step of extraction for fishers. This proposed project to promote the use of TrazApp is a business management tool that can be expanded to include working conditions information, facilitate access to loans, address IUU, reduce corruption, prove legality, increase value, and reduce business and health risks, while allowing to make real-time informed fisheries management decisions, even in response to climate change impacts.

WWF-Peru is looking into different options that will guarantee the long-term sustainability of the project. First, the system is built on an Open Source platform that allows it to be adapted to any other fishery or supply chain around the world, making sure it is expanded and continuously improved. Second, there should be a distributed cost structure for the operation and maintenance of the system, where those that input the data at the beginning of the supply chain should bear small portion of the cost, and those that use the data at the end of the chain should bear the majority of that cost burden. This model of cost sharing will be developed during the OIC project period.