

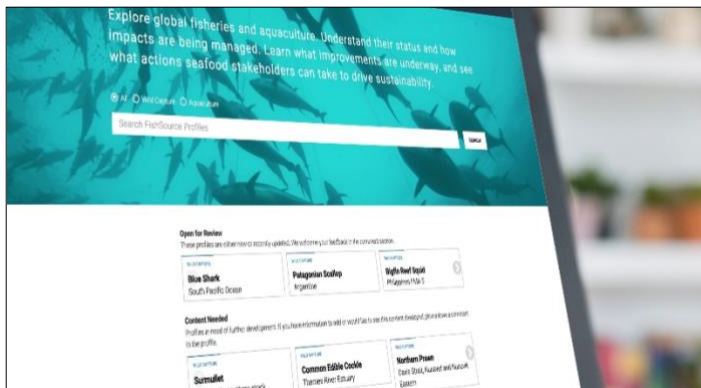
Universal Fishery IDs

Accurate data and assessments are cornerstones of well-managed fisheries, but only about 17-25% of stocks globally are assessed for stock status.

The Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Foundation (SFP) uses advanced digital technology for global fishery identifiers to improve catch reporting, helping managers identify where IUU fishing is happening and the scale of the problem. This will also help both managers and small-scale fisheries, where a lack of fisher registration is an impediment to effective management.

SFP will test the IDs in two different supply chains representing a small-scale fishery in the Philippines; and an industrial fishery in South Africa.

These pilots will allow SFP to develop a business plan on deploying the world's first public database of unique fisheries IDs to the rest of the global seafood industry and its stakeholders using existing and new technologies.



Innovative and transformational

This will be the world's first global standard and fishery identifier database. It will be hosted by the UN FAO, giving it credibility and accessibility. The seafood industry and its stakeholders will have a new and better way to share data and information about fisheries that are commercially traded. The application of these IDs can transform food identification systems for wild fisheries, reduce the potential for mislabeling, improve governments' ability to track exports and imports, and simplify seafood data collection and traceability for seafood businesses across the supply chain. The project unlocks inefficiencies in how the seafood industry operates by changing its behavior toward identifying fisheries and sharing information. SFP will also train producers, particularly small-scale fishers to enhance their understanding of end-market requirements and pricing using the Universal Fishery IDs, and help them make informed business decision.

Key achievements so far

- ⇒ Compiled a **database of stock and fishery management areas** of over **1,200 areas globally** and validated **over 1,500 unique fishery ID codes** that will soon be made publicly available.
- ⇒ Partnered with the Philippines Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) as well as Chicken of the Sea (a US importer), and Wholechain (traceability provider) to **pilot the fisheries IDs in the Philippines**.
- ⇒ Trained **over 30 women and 20 men** on the application and benefits of the IDs.
- ⇒ **Launched the fishery IDs with over 200 people** in the Philippines, including fishers and their families, facility workers, local and national government representatives, USAID representatives.
- ⇒ **Tested the fishery IDs** through its supply chain with Chicken of the Sea, Wholechain, Phil Union (a Philippines exporter), Publix (a US retailer).
- ⇒ Ongoing **second pilot project** using a South Africa yellowfin tuna and swordfish supply chain with Cape Fish (a South Africa exporter), Envisible (a US distributor), Giant Eagle (a US retailer), Wholechain. The South Africa government has also expressed interest.

Sustainability beyond OIC

SFP secured FAO's commitment to sustain the IT infrastructure for fishery IDs that hosts the GSRF and fishery ID indefinitely. SFP will maintain the standard for IDs and promote their usage. The business plan will outline expansion strategy, revenue generation, and budget for partnering with investors and funders.

SFP plans to roll out the IDs to its strong network of seafood companies, fishers/fisheries, and service providers. The fishery IDs will also be embedded in free and publicly available tools, such as SFP's FishSource.org, and Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP). As the innovation scales up throughout the seafood industry, sustainably managed fisheries in small island developing states (SIDS) and developing countries have more opportunities to market their products internationally.



**Universal Fishery IDs:
Expanding transparency, data
flow, and equity for fisheries
globally**
**Sustainable Fisheries Partnership
July 2022 – May 2024**

OIC financing \$250,000
Realized additional co-financing \$30,859
Anticipated additional co-financing \$50,859