

Intern Summary

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Duration of Internship with MDPI: 2017

Internship/Thesis Research Title: Baseline study of current situation of traceability and data collection system in Lombok and Maluku sites

Introduction:

MDPI program is involved in Indonesian sustainable fisheries, focusing on tuna small-scale hand line/pole and line Yellowfin and Skipjack tuna fisheries and also active for the welfare and improvement of the communities involved in small-scale fisheries in Indonesia. MPDI formed a partnership with Wageningen University creating IFITT project, "Improving Fisheries Information and Traceability in Tuna". The project is focus on improving data systems with regards of tuna fisheries in Western Pacific region and traceability in tuna process, from fishermen to the consumer. The aim of the project is to combine port sampling system already implemented by MPDI in the sites located in Maluku and Lombok with improvement of traceability in the whole tuna process.

Internship Objectives:

The aim of my internship was to create a baseline study of the current situation of traceability and data collection in the sites where MPDI is active, looking also into experience of chain and non-chain actors in the tuna process with the traceability and data collection system. Specifically there were two main objectives:

1. Document the current situation which exists within the system where the IFITT system is to be created and developed over the course of the three year project.
2. Document of the costs related to the implementation of the IFITT system on the ground.

Methods:

- Desk research

For creating documentation of information about all data and traceability workers I searched in the MDPI Google drive database, e-mailed and contacted traceability

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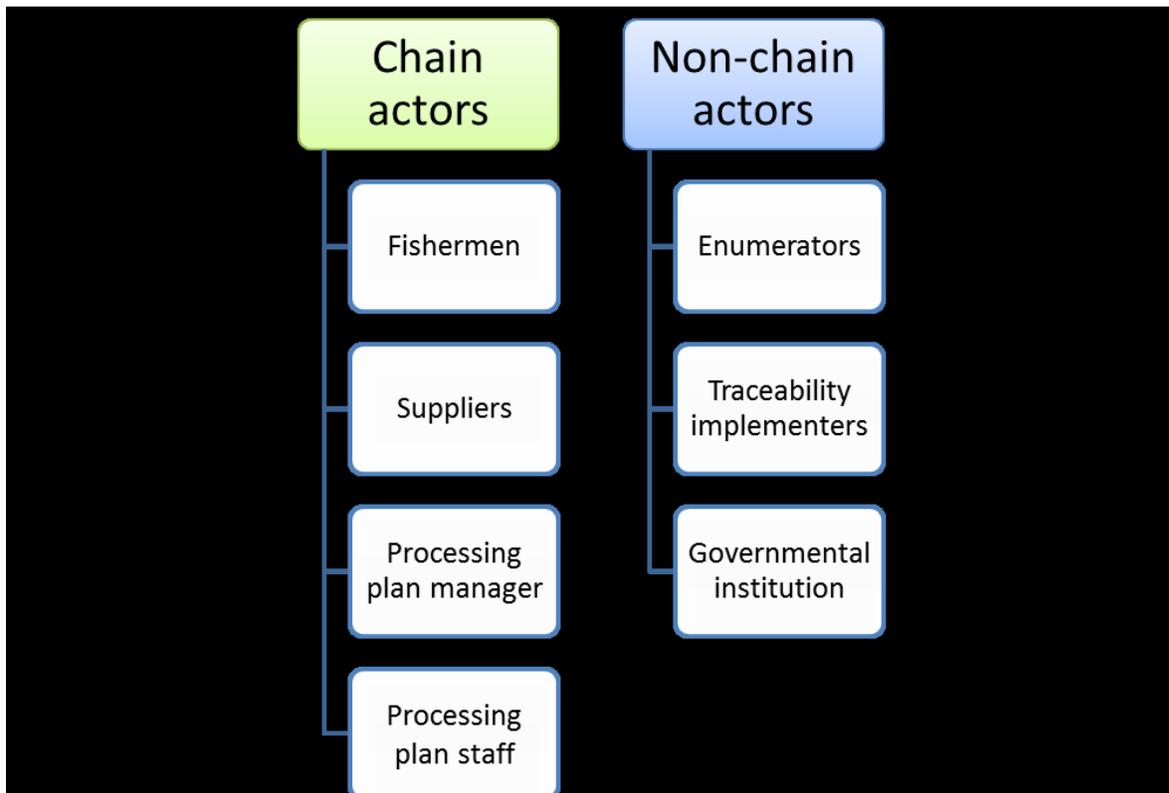
implementers for completing the information about workers in the processing plant of Ambon, Buru and Lombok.

- Field research

Besides desk research, field research was also performed. The field research consisted of collecting observational data, interviews (Figure 1) and visiting tuna processing plant of Ambon, Buru and Lombok.

The objective of the interviews was to obtain an idea of chain and non-chain actors experience with the traceability and data collection program. 13 interviews were performed in Lombok site and 23 in Ambon site (including Buru and Assilulu).

Figure 1. Categories of interviewed stakeholders divided into chain and non-chain actors.



Results:

The tables below summarise the results of the interviews in Lombok and Maluku with chain and non-chain actors.

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Table 1. Lombok interview results.

Main Objectives	Lombok Chain Actors			Lombok Non-Chain Actors	
	Fishermen	Plan Manager	Tally	Enumerators	Trace-Implementer
Understanding of Data Collection system and its objectives	😊	n/a	n/a	😊😊	😊😊
Opinion of usefulness of data collection	😊	n/a	n/a	😊😊	😊😊
Opinion about time spending for data collection	😊	n/a	n/a	😊	😊
Willingness to cooperate in data collection	😊	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Time consuming in writing traceability code	n/a	😊	😊😊	n/a	😊😊
Knowledge of Traceability system and its objectives	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊😊
Willingness to cooperate	😊	😊	😊	n/a	n/a
Opinion about usefulness of traceability	😊	😊	😊😊	😊😊	😊😊

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Table 2. Maluku interview results.

Main Objectives	Maluku Chain Actors				Maluku Non-Chain Actors	
	Fishermen	Supplier	Plan Manager	Tally	Enumerators	Trace-Implementer
Understanding of Data Collection system and its objectives	😊😊	😊	n/a	n/a	😊😊	😊😊
Opinion of usefulness of data collection	😊	😊	n/a	n/a	😊😊	😊😊
Opinion about time spending for data collection	😊	😊	n/a	n/a	😊😊	😞
Willingness to cooperate in data collection	😊	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Time consuming in writing traceability code	n/a	n/a	😞	😊 😊	n/a	😞
Knowledge of Traceability system and its objectives	😊	😊	😞	😊	😊😊	😊😊
Willingness to cooperate	n/a	n/a	😊	😊	n/a	n/a
Opinion about usefulness of traceability	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊😊

Discussion and conclusions:

From what I experienced, Indonesian tuna small scale fisheries still need better management regarding the documentation and the compliance with government. It seems that there is no clear and defined list of requirements for fishing activities and of all the other activities coming after in the chain of the tuna process. Or, if there are, fishermen and suppliers are not aware of what they should have, of the cost of the documentation and the importance of having proper documentation. Because of the lack of strictness and control, regulations and protocols for making documentation and license are not completely followed and sometimes ignored. My research shows the big gap in the compliance with government, since all the stakeholders declared to own different documentation with different costs.

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Good traceability is possible if all the activities are done under regulation and legitimacy, and stakeholders must be aware of it. Doing interviews I figured out that the more the stakeholders were aware of data collection and traceability meaning more they were willing to cooperate.

Follow-up steps for MDPI:

- More education and awareness about benefits and usefulness of data collection and traceability would bring more collaboration, and a better outcome. Therefore more workshops, trainings and education is needed especially for fishermen and suppliers in the different sites.
- A list of requirements for fishing activities and throughout the supply chain for traceability
- A good collaboration between government and chain actors would be very useful for more rigor and structure in the documentation for compliance and, regarding data collection of small scale tuna fisheries, for a better data collection resulting in a good database.