

## 10. Appendix 2: Conditions and Recommendations

### 10.1. Conditions

**Table 58: Condition 1 – PI 2.3.3**

PI	2.3.3 ETP species information
Score	70
Rationale	<p><b>Slb Information is adequate to measure trends and support a strategy to manage impacts on ETP species</b></p> <p>More than three years of information is needed to measure trends and support a strategy to manage impacts on ETP species. and ensure that ETP bycatch levels remain at levels consistent with those for 2014-2016.</p>
Condition	By the fourth annual surveillance audit, the client must demonstrate that information is adequate to measure trends and support a strategy to manage impacts on ETP species.
Milestones	<p>Years 1-3. Echebatar must provide evidence at the 1-3 annual surveillance audits that the amount of processed data available has been significantly improved and that protocols for data processing have been established to assure the provision of the data required in future years. Expected score = 70.</p> <p>Year 4. Echebatar must provide evidence to the fourth annual surveillance audit that the processed data available for the period 2014 – 20 is adequate to measure trends and support a strategy to manage impacts of the fishery on ETP species. Expected score = 80.</p>
Client Action Plan	<p>ISSF has urged the IOTC to adopt 100% observer coverage on the tuna purse seine fleet.</p> <p>Echebatar vessels are registered in the ISSF PVR (Pro-active Vessel Register) ISSF.</p> <p>SFA has agreed to provide the necessary support to ensure continued 100% observer coverage of Echebatar tuna purse seine vessels, as in place since January 2014. There is a MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) between the two parties.</p> <p>Echebatar is working with SFA and AZTI to improve the processing of observer data into useful data sets. The problems of the initial years are being overcome, and Echebatar will present catch data from a minimum of 50% of the all sets. Echebatar will ensure that the available data are representative of the entire UoA.</p> <p>Echebatar actively collaborates with research centres (IEO and AZTI, IOTC members and ISSF) in using the available data.</p> <p><b>Action Years 1-3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SFA &amp; AZTI observers will continue the monitoring of catch and by-catch by all Echebatar vessels. The data provided will allow a better understanding of the status and trends of retained species.</li> <li>• SFA will survey bycatch and discards in sufficient detail (species, sex, capture location, size and fate) to allow quantification of total catch, species composition and vulnerable species interacting with the fishery.</li> <li>• Echebatar will continue to record the by catch of vulnerable species bycatch and report all catches as per IOTC Resolution and bycatch reporting protocols.</li> <li>• AZTI will receive the data required according to the EU data collection framework <a href="http://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/">http://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/</a>. The data will be standardized and analysed, to monitor the compliance with the good practice code of Echebatar fleet.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Deliverable Years 1-3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated catch data tables from at a minimum of 50% of the total sets for the years 2015 – 18 at the first surveillance audit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable Year 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated catch data tables from a minimum of 50% of the total sets for the years 2015 – 2020 at the fourth surveillance audit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Lead</b>                  AZTI will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be the responsible entity to verify and certify all recorded data.</li> <li>Ensure validity, continuity and quality of the data.</li> <li>Ensure the data complies with the good practice code.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action partners</b>                  Echebatar will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide all required data.</li> <li>Participate in all meetings to monitor the implementation of defined tasks.</li> <li>Participate in all workshops.</li> <li>Document all activities.</li> </ul> <p>Seychelles Fishing Authority</p> <p><b>Stakeholders</b>                  Seychelles Fishing Authority</p>
<p>Consultation on condition</p>	<p>AZTI represents the client through an on-going programme to deliver the defined work programme. SFA is a key part of the programme. AZTI and SFA will fully collaborate with Echebatar to implement the action plan (see letters below)</p>

**Table 59: Condition 2 - 2.4.1**

PI	2.4.1 – Habitats outcome
Score	75
Rationale	<p><b>Sib. VME habitat status. The UoA is highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of the VME habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.</b></p> <p>While there is evidence that it is unlikely that derelict FADs reduce structure and function of the VME habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm, due to the potential impact over a number of years and lack understanding of the real nature of the issue, it cannot be concluded that this is highly unlikely. More evidence is required.</p>
Condition	By the fourth annual surveillance audit, the client must demonstrate that FADs are highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of coral reefs to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.
Milestones	<p>Year 1. Echebatar must provide evidence to the first annual surveillance that a plan has been implemented to ensure that FADs are highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of coral reefs to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 2. Echebatar must provide evidence to the second annual surveillance that the plan has been fully implemented with a description of the actions undertaken. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 3. Echebatar must provide evidence to the third annual surveillance that actions continue and that results of the activities are being collected and analysed. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 4. Echebatar must provide evidence to the fourth annual surveillance to prove that FADs are highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of the coral reefs (VME) habitats with lost FADs to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. Expected score = 80.</p>
Client Action Plan	<p>Echebatar has already partially implemented a work programme to respond to this condition as part of its approach to reduce its fishery imprint on the IO ecosystem and reduce the risk of any element of the fishery causing permanent damage.</p> <p><b><u>Actions Year 1</u></b></p> <p>Echebatar will work with all stakeholders to define a plan aimed at reducing the risk of derelict FADs damaging coral reefs throughout the Indian Ocean. It is anticipated that this plan will consist a number of measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The continued development and practical implementation of biodegradable FADs.</li> <li>2. Cooperative work with relevant ENGOS in the Seychelles to test the difference in the impacts of biodegradable and traditional non-entangling FADs in selected locations.</li> <li>3. Reaching out to ENGOS in other countries to determine the potential risk to corals from derelict FADs.</li> <li>4. Monitoring the results of the current OPAGAC project in Seychelles and examining where this may be replicated in other countries.</li> <li>5. Gathering more information on lost FADs and examining how they may be tracked.</li> </ol> <p><b>Deliverables Year 1.</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the first annual audit with a report that presents the defined strategy, the resources allocated for its implementation and any results to-date.</p> <p><b>Actions Years 2 &amp; 3.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Echebatar will monitor the implementation of the strategy and make adjustments as required.</li> </ol> <p><b>Deliverables Years 2 &amp; 3.</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the second and third annual audits with a report that details progress</p>

	<p>in the implementation of the defined strategy, the resources employed and results to-date.</p> <p><b>Actions Year 4.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Echebatar will monitor the implementation of the strategy and ensure the completion of the various sub-projects that it may comprise.</li> </ol> <p><b>Deliverables Year 4.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Echebatar will provide a report on the potential damage to coral reefs from derelict FADs that indicates that the risk has been significantly lowered due to the measures that have been taken.</li> </ol> <p><b>Action Owner</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECHEBASTAR</li> <li>• AZTI</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANABAC</li> <li>• OPAGAC</li> <li>• AZTI</li> <li>• Selected ENGOs.</li> <li>• FIP - SIOTI</li> </ul> <p><b>Stakeholders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA)</li> <li>• Fishermen and boat owners' associations (FBOA)</li> <li>• Local processing industry</li> <li>• Fish market stakeholders</li> <li>• ENGOs</li> </ul>
<p>Consultation condition</p>	<p>on The overall approach will be developed, coordinated and implemented by AZTI.</p>

**Table 60: Condition 3 – 2.4.2**

PI	2.4.2 Habitats management strategy
Score	75
Rationale	<p><b>SlA. Management strategy in place. There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to achieve the Habitat Outcome SG80: The UoA is highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of the VME habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.</b></p> <p>The local impacts of derelict FADs on coral reefs may be significant, especially as a FAD may have a negative effects over an extended period. The measures to-date reduce the potential number of interactions. However, as yet biodegradable FADs have not been introduced into the fishery although development work continues. Until this is the case, it cannot be considered that an important element of a partial strategy are in place as the UoA has not implemented the precautionary measure (MSC FCR SA 3.14.2.2).</p>
Condition	By the third annual surveillance audit, the client must provide evidence that a partial strategy in place that is expected to result that it will be highly unlikely that derelict FADs could reduce structure and function of the coral reefs to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.
Milestones	<p>These are linked to Condition 2.</p> <p>Year 1. Echebatar must provide evidence to the first annual surveillance that a partial strategy has been defined and implemented to ensure that FADs are highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of coral reefs to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 2. Echebatar must provide evidence to the second annual surveillance that the partial strategy has been fully implemented with a description of the actions undertaken. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 3. Echebatar must provide evidence to the third annual surveillance that a partial strategy is in place. Expected score = 80.</p>
Client Action Plan	<p>Please refer to actions for Years 1, 2 &amp; 3 above.</p> <p><b><u>Actions Year 1</u></b></p> <p>Echebatar will work with all stakeholders to define a partial strategy aimed at reducing the risk of derelict FADs damaging coral reefs throughout the Indian Ocean. It is anticipated that this partial strategy will consist a number of measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The continued development and practical implementation of biodegradable FADs.</li> <li>2. Cooperative work with relevant ENGOs in the Seychelles to test the difference in the impacts of biodegradable and traditional non-entangling FADs in selected locations.</li> <li>3. Reaching out to ENGOs in other countries to determine the potential risk to corals from derelict FADs.</li> <li>4. Monitoring the results of the current OPAGAC project in Seychelles and examining where this may be replicated in other countries.</li> <li>5. Gathering more information on lost FADs and examining how they may be tracked.</li> </ol> <p><b>Deliverables Year 1.</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the first annual audit with a report that presents the defined strategy, the resources allocated for its implementation and any results to-date.</p>

	<p><b>Actions Years 2</b></p> <p>Echebatar will monitor the implementation of the strategy and make adjustments as required.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Years 2</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the second and third annual audits with a report that details progress in the implementation of the defined strategy, the resources employed and results to-date.</p> <p><b>Actions Years 3</b></p> <p>Echebatar will monitor the implementation of the strategy and ensure the completion of the various sub-projects that it may comprise.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 3</b></p> <p>Echebatar will provide a report on the potential damage to coral reefs from derelict FADs that indicates that the risk has been significantly lowered due to the strategy in place.</p>
<p>Consultation condition</p>	<p>on</p> <p>The overall approach will be developed, coordinated and implemented by AZTI.</p>

**Table 61: Condition 4 – 2.4.3**

PI	2.4.3 Habitats information
Score	75
Rationale	<p><b>SIb. Information adequacy for assessment of impacts. Information is adequate to allow for identification of the main impacts of derelict FADs on coral reefs, and there is reliable information on the spatial extent of interaction and on the timing and location of use of the fishing gear.</b></p> <p>While there is good information on the spatial extent of interaction between derelict FADs and coral reefs in the Seychelles, similar data is not available for other countries.</p> <p>A precautionary approach would suggest that the potential for impacts to occur should be further investigated. There is limited information on the spatial extent, timing and location of FAD interactions with coral reefs, and this is not adequate to understand the nature of the impacts of the gear on coral habitat.</p>
Condition	By the fourth annual surveillance audit, the client must provide evidence that information is adequate to allow for identification of the main impacts of derelict FADs on coral reefs, and there is reliable information on the spatial extent of interaction and on the timing and location of use of the fishing gear.
Milestones	<p>These are linked to Condition 2.</p> <p>Year 1. Echebatar must provide evidence to the first annual surveillance that the partial strategy includes the approach to improving the information base. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 2-3. Echebatar must provide evidence to the second and third annual surveillance that information is being collected. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 4. Echebatar must provide evidence to the third annual surveillance that the collected information has been analysed with the identification of the main impacts of derelict FADs on coral reefs, and an understanding of the spatial extent and timing of the interactions. Expected score = 80.</p>
Client Action Plan	<p>Please refer to actions for Years 1, 2-3 &amp; 4 above.</p> <p><b><u>Actions Year 1</u></b></p> <p>Echebatar will work with all stakeholders to provide evidence that the partial strategy includes the approach to improving the information base.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 1.</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the first annual audit with a report that presents that the partial strategy includes the approach to improving the information base.</p> <p><b><u>Actions Year 2-3</u></b></p> <p>Echebatar will work with all stakeholders to provide evidence to the second annual surveillance that information is being collected.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 2-3.</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the second and third annual audits with a report that presents that the information is being collected.</p> <p><b><u>Actions Year 4</u></b></p> <p>The collected information will be analysed with the identification of the main impacts of derelict FADs on coral reefs, and an understanding of the spatial extent and timing of the interactions.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 4</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present a report for the fourth annual surveillance that provides evidences</p>

		that the collected information has been analysed with the identification of the main impacts of derelict FADs on coral reefs, and an understanding of the spatial extent and timing of the interactions.
Consultation condition	on	The overall approach will be developed, coordinated and implemented by AZTI.



**Table 62: Condition 5 – 2.5.3 (Revised following objection process)**

PI	2.5.3 Ecosystem information
Score	75
Rationale	<p><b>Slb. Investigation of UoA impacts. Main impacts of the UoA on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and some have been investigated in detail.</b></p> <p><b>Sld. Information relevance. Adequate information is available on the impacts of the UoA on these components to allow some of the main consequences for the ecosystem to be inferred.</b></p> <p>The effects of FADs used in the UoA/UoC on the behaviour, migration patterns and feeding of tuna and other key predators (e.g. silky shark and oceanic whitetip shark) is a subject of concern. Dagorn et al (2012) conclude that there is no unequivocal empirical evidence that FADs per se represent an ‘ecological trap’ that inherently disrupts the ecosystem, although further research should focus on this issue.</p>
Condition	<p>Sl.a. By the fourth annual surveillance audit, the client must provide evidence that the main impacts of the FADs used in the UoA/UoC on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and some have been investigated in detail.</p> <p>Sld. By the fourth annual surveillance audit, the client must provide evidence that there is adequate information on the impacts of the UoA on these components to allow some of the main consequences for the ecosystem to be inferred.</p>
Milestones	<p>Year 1. Echebastar must provide evidence to the first annual surveillance that the options to investigate the potential impact of the FADs used in the UoA/UoC on the ecosystem have been identified and the preferred option for investigation has been implemented. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 2. Echebastar must provide evidence to the second annual surveillance that the preferred option for investigation continues to be implemented Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 3. Echebastar must provide evidence to the third annual surveillance of the preliminary results from the preferred option for investigation. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 4. Echebastar must provide evidence to the fourth annual surveillance that main impacts of the FADs used in the UoA/UoC on key ecosystem elements can be inferred, and some have been investigated in detail.</p> <p>Expected score = 80.</p>
Client Action Plan	<p><b>Actions Year 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Echebastar will review literature on: the “ecological trap” hypothesis of FADs on the behaviour, feeding and migration of key elements of the ecosystem; indications of other potential impacts of FADs on key elements of the ecosystem.</li> <li>Echebastar will define its approach to: investigating the potential impact of the UOA FADs on the behaviour, feeding and migration of key elements of the ecosystem; and providing indications of the other potential impacts of UOA FADs on key elements of the ecosystem.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverables Year 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on findings of literature review.</li> <li>Definition of the approach to be taken by Echebastar in meeting the condition.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Year 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The defined approach will be implemented.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverable Year 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A progress report will be provided to the audit team at the second annual surveillance</li> </ul>

	<p>audit.</p> <p><b>Action Year 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be continued implementation of the defined approach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverables Year 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A progress report indicating preliminary findings will be provided to the audit team at the third annual surveillance audit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Year 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A draft report will be presented to stakeholders for comment. The draft report will cover: (i) the potential impact of the UOA FADs on the behaviour, feeding and migration of key elements of the ecosystem; and (ii) any other main consequences of the UOA FADs for the ecosystem that may be inferred.</li> <li>• Comments from stakeholders will be used to modify the draft report if needed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deliverables Year 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Final Report will be presented at the fourth annual surveillance audit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Lead</b>              Echebatar</p> <p><b>Action Partners</b>              AZTI              ANABAC              OPAGAC              Minister (Seychelles)              Local stakeholders</p> <p><b>Stakeholders</b>              Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA)              Fishermen and boat owners associations (FBOA)              Local processing industry              Fish market stakeholders              NGOs</p>
<p>Consultation condition</p>	<p>on The overall approach will be developed, coordinated and implemented by AZTI.</p>

**Table 63: Condition 6 – 3.1.2**

PI	3.1.2 – Consultation, roles and responsibilities
Score	75
Rationale	<p><b>Slb, Consultation processes. The management system includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information obtained.</b></p> <p>Evidence (Welch &amp; Kerrigan (2015), Standing (2016), stakeholder interviews – SFBOA, SFA, MAF &amp; Blue Economy) indicates the limited input of local stakeholders in the Seychelles decision making process. Where local stakeholders have expressed views, it is not clear how these have been taken into account. At the site visit, It was reported that meetings between the Minister and stakeholders are not minuted.</p> <p>The lack of a mechanism to indicate if and how stakeholder information is used in the management system impacts transparency on how Seychelles fishery managers obtain and consider information and local knowledge.</p>
Condition	By the third annual surveillance audit, the management system in the Seychelles includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information obtained.
Milestones	<p>Year 1. Echebatar will provide evidence to the audit team in the first annual surveillance audit that the options to improve the consultation process in the management of the Seychelles tuna fisheries have been discussed. Expected score = 75</p> <p>Year 2. Echebatar will provide evidence to the audit team in the second annual surveillance audit that the consultation process for tuna management in the Seychelles has met regularly with stakeholders and a formal record of those meetings as made available to all stakeholders is provided to the team. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 3. Echebatar will provide evidence to the audit team in the third annual surveillance audit that the management system for tuna management in the Seychelles has demonstrated consideration of the information received from the consultation process. Expected score = 80</p>
Client action plan	<p>The Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) works in close collaboration with its parent Ministry, other Government entities, and a wide range of other stakeholders including international agencies, NGOs (e.g. WWF), fishermen and their representatives (e.g. FBOA).</p> <p>As identified in the evaluation report, it is widely recognised that, in the past, the involvement of stakeholders in the decision-making process has been less than optimal and this has led to steps being taken to strengthen the processes. Evidence of improvement is available through the approach adopted in preparing existing fishery management plans and recent participation of FBOA in IOTC meetings.</p> <p>Accordingly, the proposed client action is based on reinforcing the progress that has been made. While Echebatar does not have the authority to manage the process, they will work with SFA and other key stakeholders (especially the FBOA and other fisher representative groups) to ensure that any tuna FMP is based on a comprehensive consultation process that has considered the views expressed by all stakeholders. Further, Echebatar will propose that the reasons for not accepting any views and opinions of individual stakeholders are fully documented.</p> <p>A Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) for Indian Ocean tuna has been established in early 2017. In this framework, the Sustainable Indian Ocean Tuna Initiative (SIOTI) has been jointly established by key governments in the region, major tuna processors, producer organisations and their fishing vessels, with the support of WWF. This FIP is a multi-stakeholder effort, and it’s goal is to support improvement in the management of tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean. SFA leads this FIP. SFA recognises the importance of using best practise in developing and implementing fishery management plans and is committed to fully cooperate with Echebatar in meeting the conditions to MSC certification.</p>

**Actions Year 1**

- Echebatar will meet with SFA to promote the drafting of a fishery management plan by a dedicated Fisheries Management Committee that will comprise representatives of all key stakeholders.
- Echebatar will ensure that SFA is fully aware of the best practise for preparation of fishery management plans.
- Echebatar will hold informal meetings with other stakeholders to consider their needs from the fishery management process, with the objective of gaining a consensus on the required approach
- Echebatar will encourage the participation of the FBOA in the annual IOTC meetings, and facilitate their involvement as required.
- In parallel the Action Plan of the Indian Ocean FIP will be carried out.

**Deliverables Year 1**

Minutes of all meetings held with the Ministry, SFA and other stakeholders will provide evidence that the options for improving the stakeholder consultation process have been identified and discussed.

IOTC reports on the annual meeting that provide evidence of the participation of Seychelles stakeholders and consideration of any issues that may be raised by them.

**Actions Year 2**

It is expected that following consideration of the alternatives to improve the stakeholder consultation process, the preferred option or options will be implemented in the second year of certification. Given current understanding, it is anticipated that this will include the formation of a formal working group or committee tasked with the definition of a fishery management plan for the Seychelles tuna fishery. Echebatar will support initiatives by the Government of Seychelles and SFA to fully involve all key stakeholders in the planning process. In addition: (i) Echebatar will work with SFA to ensure that the reporting processes are planned in the context of meeting the MSC standard; and (ii) maintain dialogue with the FBOA and other key stakeholders.

Echebatar will encourage the participation of the FBOA in the annual IOTC meetings, and facilitate their involvement as required

**Deliverables Year 2**

Minutes of all meetings related to the preparation of a tuna FMP, along with copies of all relevant ad hoc reports.

Minutes of all other meetings held with the Ministry, SFA and other stakeholders where the agenda includes consideration of the stakeholder consultation process.

IOTC reports on the annual meeting showing the participation of Seychelles stakeholders in the proceedings and consideration of any issues that may be raised by them.

**Actions Year 3**

It is anticipated that a tuna FMP will have been prepared and implemented in year 3. The document will fully describe the processes and the decision making that has been used in defining the plan.

Echebatar will encourage the participation of the FBOA in the annual IOTC meetings, and facilitate their involvement as required.

**Deliverables Year 3**

Minutes of all meetings related to the preparation of a tuna FMP, along with copies of all relevant reports.

	<p>Minutes of all other meetings held with the Ministry, SFA and other stakeholders where the agenda includes consideration of the stakeholder consultation process.</p> <p>IOTC reports on the annual meeting showing the participation of Seychelles stakeholders in the proceedings and consideration of any issues that may be raised by them.</p> <p><b>Action Owner</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECHEBASTAR</li> <li>• AZTI</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECHEBASTAR</li> <li>• AZTI</li> <li>• Minister (Seychelles)</li> <li>• FIP - SIOTI</li> </ul> <p><b>Stakeholders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA)</li> <li>• Fishermen and boat owners’ associations (FBOA)</li> <li>• Local processing industry</li> <li>• Fish market stakeholders</li> <li>• NGOs</li> </ul>
<p>Consultation on condition</p>	<p>Government agencies and entities are committed to meeting the condition and have the funding and manpower available to contribute to the implementation of the client action plan. Seychelles Ministry of fisheries will follow collaborating closely with stakeholders to commit this condition.</p>

**Table 64: Condition 7 – 3.2.1**

PI	3.2.1 – Fishery-specific objectives
Score	75
Rationale	<p><b>Sla Objectives. Short and long-term objectives, which are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC’s Principles 1 and 2, are explicit within the fishery-specific management system</b></p> <p>There are no explicit short and long-term objectives for the Seychelles skipjack tuna fishery.</p> <p>The overall lack of information on private agreements means that there are no explicit short and long-term objectives for this element of the skipjack tuna fishery using purse seine.</p>
Condition	By the second annual surveillance audit, short and long-term objectives, which are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC’s Principles 1 and 2, are explicit within the fishery-specific management system.
Milestones	<p>Year 1. Echebatar will provide evidence to the audit team in the first annual surveillance audit that: (i) there has been consideration on the process of the establishment of the potential of short and long term objectives for the Seychelles skipjack tuna fishery in IOTC; and (ii) there has been consideration of possible short and long term objectives for fishing arrangements available for review by stakeholders including consideration of explicit short and long term objectives for this element of the fishery. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 2. Echebatar will provide evidence to the audit team in the second annual surveillance audit on: (i) the progress of the establishment of explicit short and long-term objectives for the Seychelles skipjack tuna fishery within the management system for the national purse fishery for skipjack tuna ; and (ii) the progress of the establishment of explicit short and long term objectives for the fishing arrangements. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 3. Echebatar will provide evidence to the audit team in the third annual surveillance audit that: (i) short and long-term objectives have been defined and are explicit within the Seychelles management system for the skipjack fishery; and (ii) short and long-term objectives for the Echebatar private fishery agreement have been defined and are explicit within those private fishery agreements. Expected score = 80.</p>
Client action plan	<p>The client will work with other key stakeholders in response to identified shortcomings of the private fishery agreements and the approach to fisheries management in the Seychelles.</p> <p><b><u>Private Fishing Agreements</u></b></p> <p>The Echebatar fishing agreements are made with coastal states that are Contracting Parties of IOTC. Accordingly, these follow the recommendations of IOTC. However, we recognise that while short and long-term objectives are explicit within IOTC policy, this is not the case for private agreements due to their nature.</p> <p>The certification report correctly identifies several issues that may impact the approach to SFPAs and private agreements, while in relation to the latter it notes that they are approved by the Spanish Government, and the fisheries administration of the coastal state and are submitted to the IOTC.</p> <p>Additionally, given the fact that the ultimate aim of the SIOTI is to meet the highest standards of sustainable fishing, such as the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard, it is assumed that this FIP will be working to fulfil this condition.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 1</b></p> <p>Echebatar will meet with other Spanish fishing companies that benefit from private agreements in the context of their representative organisations, OPAGAC and ANABAC, to consider the approach to meeting the condition.</p> <p>Echebatar will ensure that the issue is raised within the LDAC to ensure a wide consideration of the options to respond to the condition. This will be relevant, if, as anticipated, other</p>

	<p>segments of the EU distant water tuna fishing fleet aspire to MSC certification</p> <p>Furthermore, there are several participants involved in the FIP that will ease to meet the condition.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 1</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present a report to the auditors with a list of the meetings with details on the decisions made, as supported by signed minutes.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 2</b></p> <p>Based on the discussions and following consultation with the coastal states, LDAC, the Government of Spain and IOTC, a model of the short and long-term objectives for private agreements will be agreed amongst interested parties.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 2</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present a report that details the model for short and long-term objectives for private agreements, including the form in which they will be made public e.g. in a protocol that is separate to the private commercial agreement or as part of the private commercial agreement with the commercial points redacted.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 3</b></p> <p>From Year 3, any new private agreements will incorporate the new approach.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 3</b></p> <p>Copies of the relevant agreements.</p> <p><b><u>The Seychelles</u></b></p> <p>As noted in the certification report The Fisheries Act (2014) introduces the concept of Fishery Management Plans, which are based on stakeholder participation. SFA is committed to the preparation of an FMP for the tuna fishery. Echebatar will work with SFA and other key stakeholders to progress the planning for the drafting and subsequent implementation of an FMP that will follow international best practice with the identification and definition of short and long-term objectives.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 1</b></p> <p>Echebatar will meet on a regular basis with SFA and other key stakeholders to promote the concept of a specific fisheries management plan for tuna fisheries.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 1</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the auditors a list of the meetings completed together with signed minutes that provide evidence that the concept of a tuna FMP has been fully discussed.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 2</b></p> <p>It is anticipated that substantive work on the definition of a tuna FMP will be completed during the second year of the certification. One of the first areas to be considered will be the definition of short and long-term objectives.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 2</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present the auditors with the minutes of the meetings of the committee / working group charged with definition of an FMP to provide evidence that potential short and long-term objectives have been discussed between all key stakeholders.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 3</b></p> <p>It is anticipated that an FMP for tuna fisheries will be applied in the third year of certification. This will include defined short and long-term objectives.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 3</b></p>
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	<p>Echebatar will present the auditors with a copy of the approved FMP.</p> <p><b>Action Owner</b>                  ECHEBASTAR</p> <p><b>Action Partners</b>                  ECHEBASTAR                  SEYCHELLES MINISTRY OF FISHERIES                  AZTI                  SFA</p> <p><b>Stakeholders</b>                  IOTC                  SECRETARIA GENERAL DE PESCA DE ESPAÑA</p>
<p>Consultation condition</p>	<p>on SFA is committed to the drafting and implementation of a tuna FMP.</p>



**Table 65: Condition 8 - 3.2.2**

Performance Indicator	3.2.2 – Decision-making processes
Score	75
Rationale	<p><b>Std. Information on the fishery’s performance and management action is available on request, and explanations are provided for any actions or lack of action associated with findings and relevant recommendations emerging from research, monitoring, evaluation and review activity.</b></p> <p>Limited specific information is available on the fisheries conducted under private arrangements.</p>
Condition	<p>By the third annual surveillance audit:</p> <p>Std. Information on the fishery’s performance and management action relevant to the Seychelles fishery and private agreements is available on request, and explanations are provided for any actions or lack of action associated with findings and relevant recommendations emerging from research, monitoring, evaluation and review activity.</p>
Milestones	<p>Year 1. Echebastar will provide evidence to the audit team in the first annual surveillance audit that: (i) there has been consideration of the potential short and long-term objectives for the Seychelles skipjack tuna fishery; and (ii) there has been consideration of the mechanism for making information on private agreements available for review by stakeholders including consideration of explicit short and long-term objectives for this element of the fishery. Expected score = 75.</p> <p>Year 2. Echebastar will provide evidence to the audit team in the second annual surveillance audit that: (i) short and long-term objectives for the Seychelles skipjack tuna fishery have been defined and are explicit within the management system for the national purse fishery for skipjack tuna; and (ii) short and long-term objectives for the private agreements are explicit within those private agreements. Expected score = 80.</p>
Client action plan	<p>The client will work with other key stakeholders in response to identified shortcomings of the private fishery agreements and the approach to fisheries management in the Seychelles.</p> <p><b><u>Private Fishing Agreements</u></b></p> <p>The Echebastar fishing agreements are made with coastal states that are Contracting Parties of IOTC. Accordingly, these follow IOTC requirements. However, we recognise that details on private agreements have led to some concern being expressed by stakeholders.</p> <p>The certification report correctly identifies several issues that may impact the approach to SFPAs and private agreements, while in relation to the latter it notes that they are approved by the Spanish Government, and the fisheries administration of the coastal state and are submitted to the IOTC.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 1</b></p> <p>As condition 7.</p> <p>Echebastar will meet with other Spanish fishing companies that benefit from private agreements in the context of their representative organisations, OPAGAC and ANABAC, to consider the approach to meeting the condition.</p> <p>In that sense, OPAGAC and ANABAC are participants of the FIP, and as such, they will ensure to meet the highest standards of MSC.</p> <p>Echebastar will ensure that the issue is raised within the LDAC to ensure a wide consideration of the options to respond to the condition. This will be relevant, if, as anticipated, other segments of the EU distant water tuna fishing fleet aspire to MSC certification</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 1</b></p>

	<p>Echebatar will present a report to the auditors with a list of the meetings with details on the decisions made as supported by signed minutes.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 2</b></p> <p>Based on the discussions and following consultation with the coastal states, LDAC, the Government of Spain and IOTC, a model for making private agreements more transparent will be agreed amongst interested parties.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 2</b></p> <p>Echebatar will present a report that details how the parties have agreed to make private agreements more transparent including a timely response to stakeholder concerns. This will include a publicly available report on the operating private agreements.</p> <p><b>Activities Year 3</b></p> <p>From Year 3, any new private agreements will incorporate the new approach.</p> <p><b>Deliverables Year 3</b></p> <p>Copies of the relevant agreements. Details of the response to any concerns expressed by stakeholders.</p> <p><b>Action Owner</b></p> <p>ECHEBASTAR</p> <p><b>Action Partners</b></p> <p>SEYCHELLES MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AZTI SFA</p> <p><b>Stakeholders</b></p> <p>IOTC</p>
<p>Consultation on condition</p>	<p>The Seychelles Ministry of Fisheries is committed to collaborate closely with stakeholders to meet this condition. It will ensure implementation of the approach required to strengthen the participation of the local stakeholders.</p>

## 10.2. Recommendations

The audit team makes 3 recommendations.

**Table 66: Recommendations**

	PI	Recommendation
1	1.2.1	Observers estimate and report on discarded catch and reasons for discarding.
2	2.3.3	A greater percentage of observer data is available for review each year at annual surveillance audits to better assess impacts on ETP species.
3	2.4.3	Echebatar maintains a database of the number of lost FADs by area and date.