**Guyana**

FISH4ACP aims to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the Atlantic seabob fishery in Guyana, where local demand is expected to rise as a consequence of emerging oil and gas production. At the same time, FISH4ACP will ensure that economic improvements go hand in hand with environmental sustainability and social inclusiveness.

**WHAT WE focus on**

- Value chain analysis to improve Guyana’s Atlantic seabob value chain.
- Opening up new markets for small and medium enterprises, including for value-added products from bycatch and waste.
- Improving safety and workers’ rights in Guyana’s seabob sector and strengthen the role of women and youth.
- Making seabob fishing more environmentally sustainable by reducing bycatch of endangered species.
- Helping businesses access additional sources of finance and investment.

**Value Chain at a Glance**

**Atlantic seabob** *(Xiphopenaeus kroyeri)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Production Method</th>
<th>Volumes *</th>
<th>Value *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wild caught, artisanal and industrial</td>
<td>20,000 tonnes</td>
<td>USD 50 million (est.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Primary production*
Guyana is the world’s largest producer of Atlantic seabob, a commercially important shrimp captured from the Atlantic coast of the US all the way down to Brazil.

In Guayana, seabob is fished by industrial trawlers and by artisanal fishers. Most of the industrial catch is processed into frozen, peeled shrimp to supply both local and international markets, making seabob Guyana’s most important seafood export. Seabob landed by artisanal fishers and bycatch of commercial value, including white belly shrimp, are processed into dried and smoked products or sold fresh on local markets.

FISH4ACP aims to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of Atlantic seabob fisheries in Guyana, where local demand is expected to rise as a consequence of emerging oil and gas production. The Marine Steward Council certification obtained in 2019 will help to consolidate the position of the sector in existing markets and facilitate access to new ones.

FISH4ACP will work to increase the production of small-scale fishers in the sector and strengthen the role of women and youth, while seeking to improve safety and workers’ rights. At the same time, it will support efforts to reduce bycatch, in particular of endangered species, such as the electric ray.

Guyana’s annual harvest of Atlantic seabob is 20,000 tonnes worth an estimated USD 50 million.

According to a 2019 assessment, Atlantic seabob is healthy and fully exploited and a new Harvest Control Rule came into force in 2020 to better monitor the fishery.

Guyana’s seabob fishery includes 87 licensed trawlers and 305 artisanal fyke net vessels, as well as processing facilities.

The three largest processing facilities employ some 1,600 individuals, 45 percent of whom are women.

In 2019, Guyana’s industrial seabob fishery received Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification.