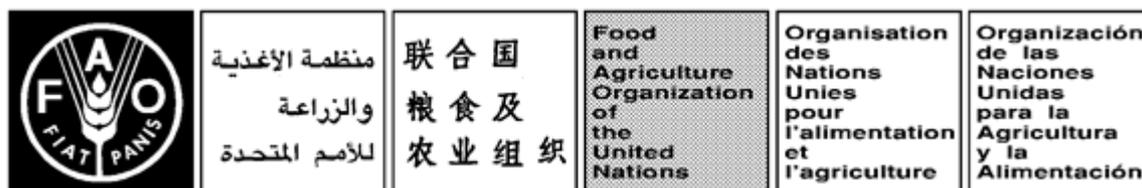


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COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS

Intersessional Aquaculture and Fishery Subject Groups Meetings

Copenhagen, Denmark 19-22 June 2017

International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Vessels (ISSCFV) by Vessel Types– Status of Revision – draft document

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BACKGROUND

The International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Vessels (ISSCFV) by vessel types was first approved at the 12th Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics Copenhagen, Denmark, 25 July-1 August, 1984. In 2001, at CWP-19 in Nouméa, New Caledonia, the topic of a revised list of ISSCFV by vessel types of raised. Following consultations and discussions during and between CWP-19 and CWP-20, the revision was finalized by CWP-21.

The revision was presented in the CWP-21 report showing the “top tier” (as per CWP-20 para. 80) of the classification:

- Trawlers
- Purse seiners
- Seiners (other)
- Dredgers
- Lift netters
- Gillnetters
- Trap setters
- Longliners
- Line vessels (other)
- Multipurpose vessels
- Other fishing vessels
- [non-fishing] support vessels

The subsequent proposed steps from CWP-21 were: the release of the new classification in the “CWP Handbook of fishery statistical standards” and a parallel revision and reprint of the FAO Fisheries Technical Paper number 267 "Definition and Classification of fishery vessel types".

The two subsequent steps have not been implemented and it was proposed at the CWP-24 session that a further revision of the ISSCFV vessel type list be further refined. This document summarizes the current state of use of the revised ISSCFV by vessel types and classifications and puts forward a case and considers future use-cases.

CONSIDERATIONS

Summary of changes in the revised classification:

The CWP-20 session report (<http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/12106/en>) included a passage on the updates to be made in the ISSCFV by vessel types update¹:

80. FAO announced the latest proposals for revisions to the fishing vessel type classification, noting this was after two rounds of discussion within CWP. The classification list included several levels of vessel categories with the top tier containing: drifters, gillnetters, etc. 81. CWP reviewed the proposed revision of the ISSCFV classification, noting that an earlier review was described in the report of CWP-19 (paragraphs 157–162). After extended discussions by CWP members, it was restated that the ISSCFV categories should be based on consideration of vessel structural characteristics, but agreed that some category terms should be revised to better reflect vessel types currently used in fisheries. Whilst FAO has had extensive consultations with fishery technologists, CWP recommended fisheries statisticians should also be consulted to develop suitable criteria and nomenclature. It was noted very few regional fishery bodies now use vessel types for statistical recording, and that most agencies now use gear types extensively, particularly in tuna fisheries. Thus, guidance was provided for improving the current proposal:

- Purse seiners: the sub-categories American seiner and European seiner should be reworded to ‘Purse Seiner: American type’, and ‘Purse Seiner: European type’. The introduction of a ‘Purse Seiner: Chinese type’ category should be considered. To that effect SEAFDEC will liaise with FAO;*
- Multipurpose vessels: ‘Polyvalent should be renamed ‘Multipurpose’; the multipurpose category should be reduced as much as possible, in order to avoid facilitating reporting against this opened category; the ‘Pelagic*

¹ The table in Annex 1 shows the 2005 ISSCFV by vessel types (2007 revisions).

trawler – purse seiner’ would be an obvious category under multipurpose vessels;

- *‘Platform for aquaculture’ and ‘Fishing vessels using pumps for fishing’ should be deleted;*
- *‘Local vessel types’ (e.g. ‘bottom otter trawler’) may be added as required at the third level as examples of vessel types under either first level or second level of standard categories. CWP recommended that after considering these inputs, the Secretariat revise the proposed revision and circulate it for comments.*

In moving to a two-level classification hierarchy a streamlining of the classification was accomplished as well as the creation of a flexible third level that could be customized to allow for specific vessel types to be accommodated, as required in the individual CWP members’ contexts. The passage relevant to this was highlighted in yellow, above. In this way, requests such as those raised by DG MARE during the intersessional CWP meeting in 2017 can be implemented by the agency to meet their local needs while freeing the classification from becoming too broad in order to meet diverse requirements.

Current State:

ISSCFV BY VESSEL TYPES (1984)			2005 ISSCFV BY VESSEL TYPES (2007 revisions)		
Vessel Type	ISSCFV Code	Standard Abbreviation	Vessel Type	ISSCFV Code	Standard Abbreviation
Trawlers	01.0.0	TO	Trawlers	01.0.0	TO
Seiners	02.0.0	SO			
			Purse seiners	02.1.0	SP
			Seiners (other)	02.3.0	SOO
Dredgers	03.0.0	DO	Dredgers	03.0.0	DO
Lift netters	04.0.0	NO	Lift netters	04.0.0	NO
Gillnetters	05.0.0	GO	Gillnetters	05.0.0	GO
Trap setters	06.0.0	WO	Trap setters	06.0.0	WO
Liners	07.0.0	LO			
			Longliners	07.2.0	LL
			Line vessels (other)	07.8.0	LOO
Multi purpose vessels	09.0.0	MO	Multi purpose vessels	09.0.0	MO
Vessels using pump for fishing	08.0.0	PO			
Fishing vessels not specified	49.0.0	FX			
			Other fishing vessels	18.0.0	OV
			[non-fishing] Support vessels		

Table 1. Correspondence table for the category-level of the ISSCFV by vessel types classification for the 1984 and the 2005 (2007 revision) versions. Matching categories are shown in green.

Other FAO vessel databases – including the Fishing Vessel Finder and the High Seas Vessel Authorization Record, both under the VRMF platform, use the revised ISSCFV by vessel types listing. The Consolidated List of Active Vessels (CLAV) for the tuna RFMOs also use this classification.

Future Considerations:

1. DG Mare has raised the following points:
 - Request that a code for “bait boat” be developed. The closest current category is LP but this does not allow for the differentiation between pole-and-line vessels that would not have live bait on board as this activity is conducted by a specific support vessel carrying live bait
 - This could be covered under the full ISSCFV by vessel types category of (99.0.0 - NON-FISHING VESSELS nei – VOX)
 - Allow for the differentiation of Purse Seiners (particularly those operating in the Mediterranean) without freezers on board from Purse Seiners operating on the high seas that are equipped with freezers.
 - For discussion in the inter-sessional meeting
 - The current category of recreational vessels does not apply to the support or auxiliary vessels which are also included at the level of fisheries legislation.
 - For discussion in the inter-sessional meeting
 - Need for a vessel category for trap setters
 - This is covered by (06.0.0 TRAP SETTERS WO) with further definition between pots and traps available under the full ISSCFV by vessel types classification
2. Starting in the 2018 data collection cycle FAO will be moving to the use of electronically-generated questionnaires. This new format will better allow for the inclusion of more reporting fields. It has been proposed that the 2005 ISSCFV by vessel types (2007 revisions) listing be used, with the top-level categories displayed and the sub-categories available in a drop-down menu.
3. The Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels (<http://www.fao.org/in-action/global-record/en/>) has 46 signatory parties and has now entered the pilot phase. The database for the Global Record has been built using the 1984 ISSCFV by vessel types listing.
4. A project is under development with FAO to aid national authorities who may have developed their own national level vessel identifiers for management of fleets. The project aims to provide guidance at the point when such data is shared

at either the regional and/or RFMOs levels, as it provides a means to harmonize vessel identification – particularly for the vast segment of vessels that are below the cut-off point for IMO numbers. This process entails an additional effort in managing multiple identifiers, their mapping and synchronizing between various systems alongside with the official IMO identifiers for qualified vessels.

In order to better organize and reduce duplications, errors and management complexities the development of guidelines in the development and use of global semantic standard for vessel registration and related services and their promotion for use in National, Regional & RFMO's systems will help in improved management, identification and sharing of information between various members. In the context of the semantic standards, guidelines could be used to help National authorities wishing to proceed with the assignment and management of the entire fishing fleet (covering industrial, large and small-scale vessels) registry. The guidelines would include the promotion of an identifier which incorporates international standards of vessels groups, type, size classes and status thus helping in improved management and identification. The ISSCFV by vessel types would be in the development of the guidelines. This use has been proposed as it allows for matching with existing databases and projects such as the Global Record, FVF, HSVAR, VRMF and CLAV

At the moment, the identified would be based on a string of features following this pattern: <Vessel type> / < Size class> / <Built country> / <Built year> / <Reg. country> / <National number> / <Op country> / <Op year>

1. IHS Markit, through collaboration with The Pew Charitable Trusts, are seeking to refine their vessel classification system for fishing vessels, to eventually make an expansion of the classifications of vessels that have assigned IMO numbers. The proposed classification contains a mix of vessel and gear types as well as target species.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

1. Feedback to request from DG MARE under first points raised for 'Future Considerations'
2. If the group feels it important, could provide feedback either informally as a group, or by individual CWP members to the IHS Markit / Pew vessel type definition process
3. Whether to consider the development of a proposal to continue considering revisions of the ISSCFV by vessel types or to simply proceed with the last two final steps proposed in the CWP-21 document: the release of the new classification in the "CWP Handbook of fishery statistical standards" and a parallel revision and reprint of the FAO Fisheries Technical Paper number 267 "Definition and Classification of fishery vessel types". Progress on the website update would facilitate these updates.
4. Consider proceeding with the circulation of a short questionnaire to CWP members to fully document:
 - the current and potential future use of the revised ISSCFV by vessel types list
 - impact of any adjustments to the ISSCFV by vessel types

- further requests for additional revisions such as those raised by DG MARE
- the current and potential future use of any other classification system

Annex 1. 2005 ISSCFV by vessel types (2007 revisions)

2005 Vessel Type	Sub-Category	ISSCFV Code	Standard Abbreviation	Local vessel types (third level) categories (included to provide example)		
				Local category name	Local category code	Local category standard abbreviation
Trawlers		01.0.0	TO			
				Wet-fish trawlers	01.0.1	TWF
				Freezer trawlers	01.0.2	TFF
				Factory trawlers	01.0.3	TFP
	Otter trawlers	01.4.0	OT			
				Outrigger trawlers	01.4.0	TU
	Pair trawlers	01.5.0	PT			
	Beam trawlers	01.6.0	BT			
Seiners (other)		02.3.0	SOO			
				Anchor seiners	02.3.1	SAS
				Scottish seiners	02.3.2	SSS
				Seine netters	02.2.0	SN
Purse seiners		02.1.0	SP			
	Purse Seiners - American type	02.1.1	SPA			
	Purse Seiners - European type	02.1.2	SPE			
				Tuna purse seiners	02.1.3	SPT
	Drum seiners	02.1.4	DS			
Dredgers		03.0.0	DO			
Gillnetters		05.0.0	GO			
	Drifters	05.1.0	DN			
	Set netters	05.2.0	SN			
Lift netters		04.0.0	NO			
Trap setters		06.0.0	WO			
	Pot vessels	06.1.0	WOP			
Longliners		07.2.0	LL			
	Bottom longliners	07.5.0	BL			
	Midwater longliners	07.6.0	ML			

				Tuna longliners	07.2.1	LLT
				Wet-fish longliners	07.7.1	WFL
				Freezer longliners	07.7.2	FLL
				Factory longliners	07.7.3	PLL
Line vessels (other)		07.8.0	LOO			
	Jigger vessels	07.5.0	JV			
	Pole and Line vessels	07.3.0	LP			
				American type pole and line vessels	07.3.2	LPA
				Japanese type pole and line vessels	07.3.1	LPJ
	Trollers	07.4.0	LT			
Multipurpose vessels		09.0.0	MO			
	Purse seine/pelagic trawlers	09.2.0	MTS			
	Multipurpose trawlers (in combination with longline, trap, gillnet, dredge)	09.4.0	PY			
	Multipurpose non trawlers (longline, gillnet, trap)	09.5.0	PL			
Other fishing vessels		18.0.0	OV			
[non-fishing] support vessels						
	Recreational fishing vessels	10.0.0	RO			
	Motherships	11.0.0	HO			
	Fish carriers	12.0.0	FO			
	Non-fishing vessels nei	99.0.0	VOX			
				Hospital ships	13.0.0	KO
				Protection and survey vessels	14.0.0	BO
				Fishery research vessels	15.0.0	ZO
				Fishery training vessels	16.0.0	CO