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Fish Stats: Data Collection Mechanisms in Fisheries Sector

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Fish Stats

Data Collection Mechanisms in Fisheries Sector



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Fisheries Data Collection officially began in
1959

Primary objective was to collect skipjack tuna
catch from pole and line fishing vessels

1959



- Fishermen reported data to island offices or
- Island office sends a clerk to the fish landing area to collect information
- Island Councils collate these information and report on a monthly basis via fax or through post or through transport vessels

Data collection expanded to include skipjack tuna, large skipjack tuna and yellowfin tuna. Trolling information was also recorded



1966

Five categories of fish: skipjack, yellowfin, small skipjack, kawakawa and frigate tuna was included



1970

Mechanisation started, and data collection differentiated between mechanised fishing vessels and sailing vessels

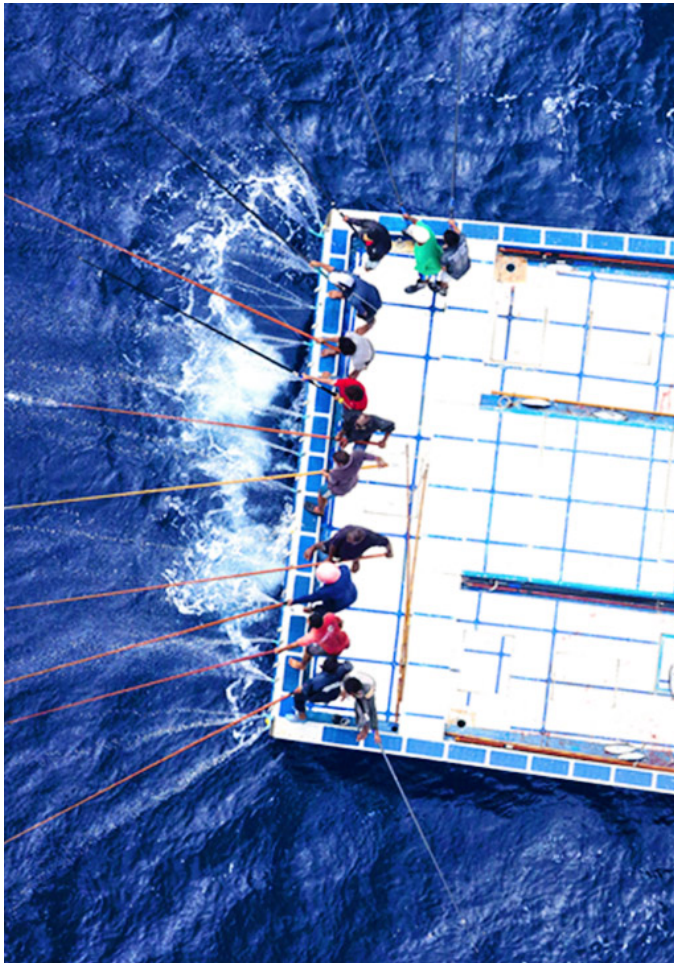


1974

Catches of dogtooth tuna was included in the categories



1984



- Fishery started to expand with the mechanisation, development of Fish Aggregating Devices and opening up of fish canning factory in Naifaru.
- Data collection mechanism remained the same as the governance mechanism did not change.

Information of handline caught large yellowfin was added to data collection categories

1992



- The handline sector started to grow rapidly and the data collection mechanism had to incorporate the development. However, since handline fishing trips were multiday trips, these possessed huge issues for the data collection mechanism



Deterioration of data accuracy

- Huge concerns of under reporting and over reporting in data collection mechanisms.
- Complaints from island councils and fishermen
- Changes in fishery
- Changes in governance structure



What can be done?

- Lack of responsible unit
- Poor vessel registration data
- Lack of coordination within the governance structure
- Increase in data requirements by FAO and other international agencies.



- The fishery started to expand and increase in demand for traceability, good governance and combating illegal unregulated and unreported fishing.
- Government was forced to make harsh decisions to continue the exports.

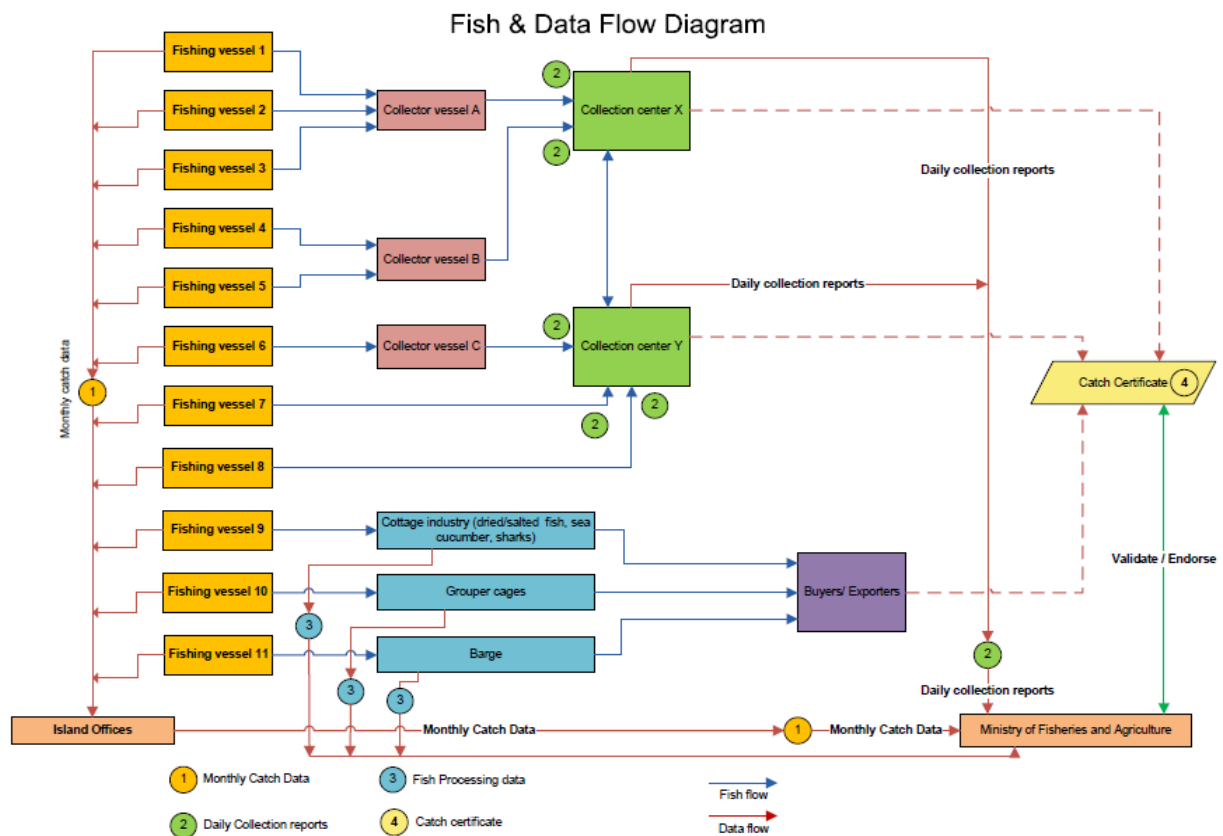
Logbooks were introduced

2010



Licensing Regulation

- Fishing vessel owner was given the sole responsibility.
- Governance issues were solved.
- Logbook was modified and distributed to all licensed fishing vessels.



Logbooks were modified based on fishermen's comments and based on IOTC and other international agencies data requirements

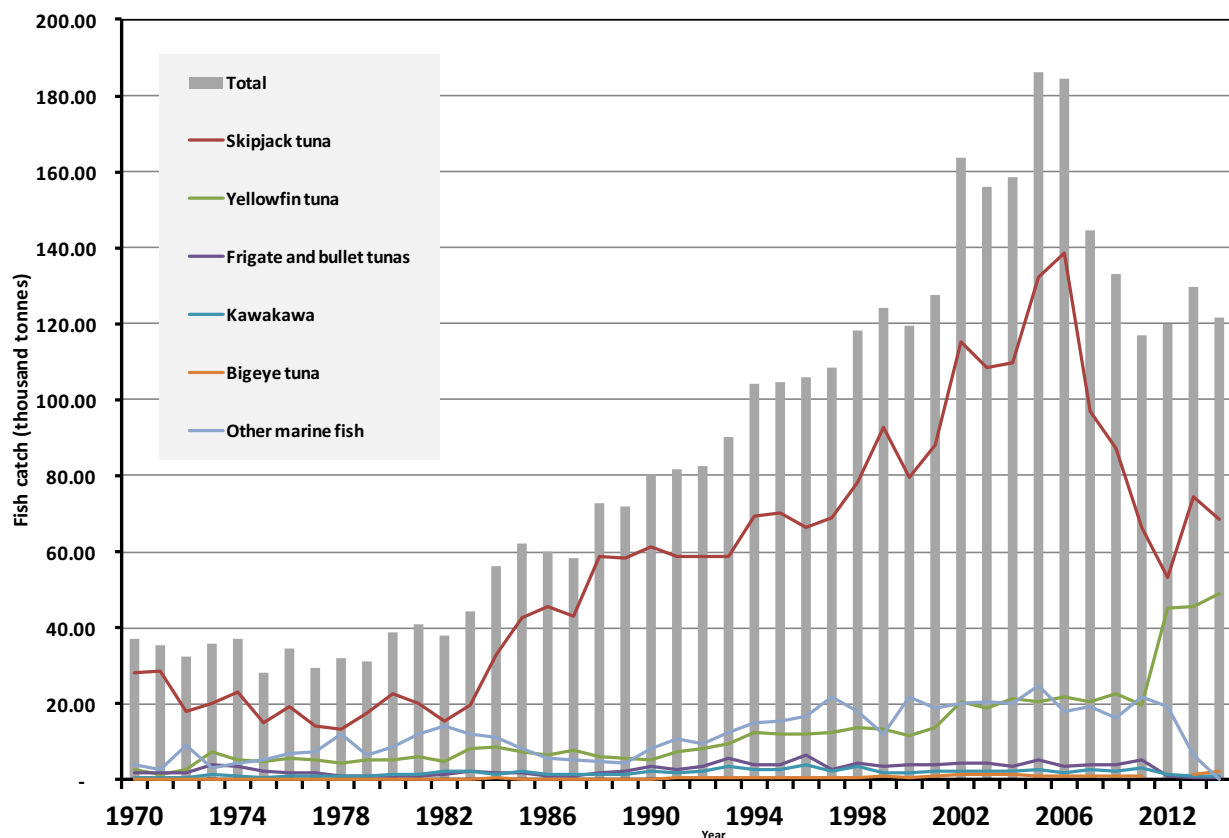
2013



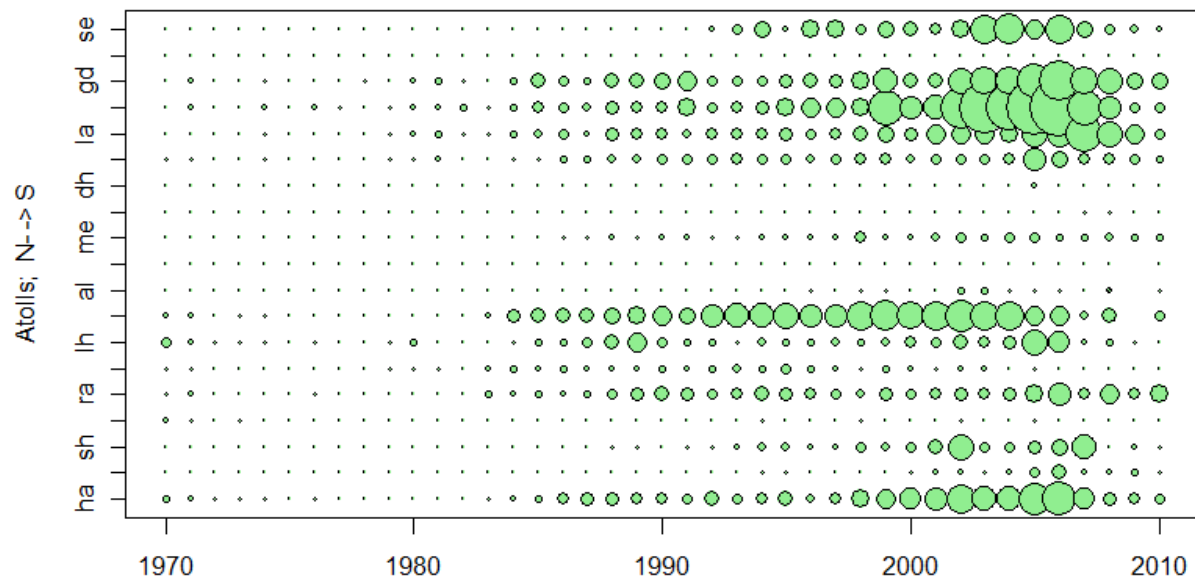
What else do we collect?

- Male' market price and landings data
- All processing companies price and purchase data
- International market price data
- Cost and earnings of fishing vessels.
- Monitor customs import and export data of fishery products

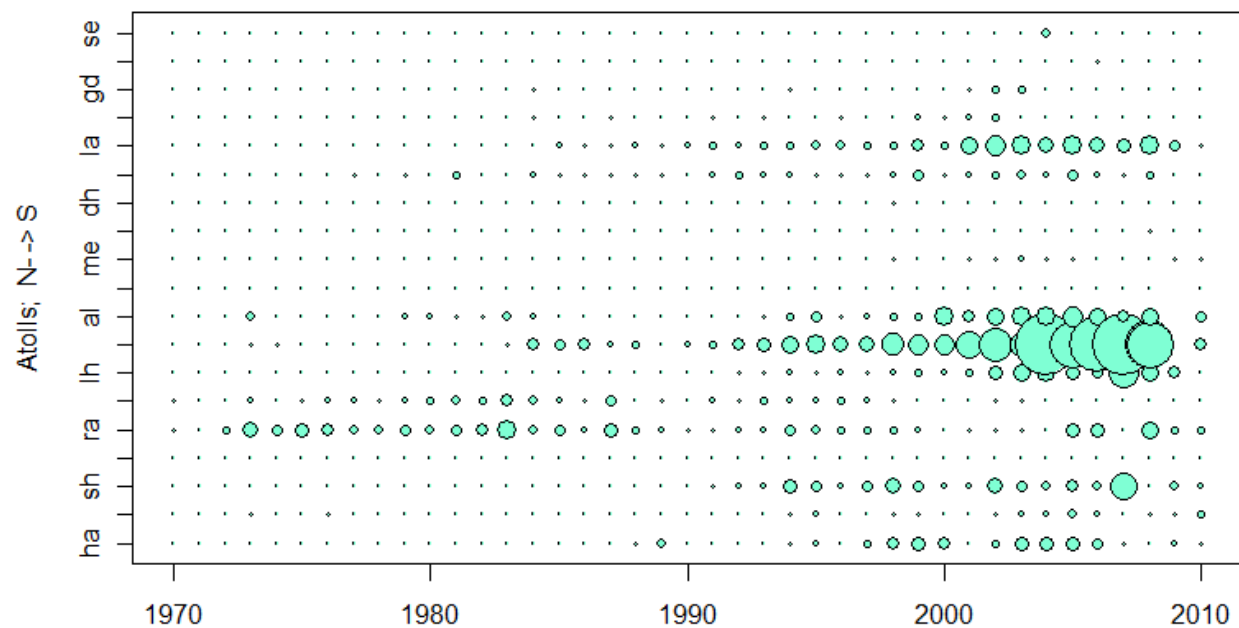
Fish catch of the Maldives from 1970 to 2013 in MT



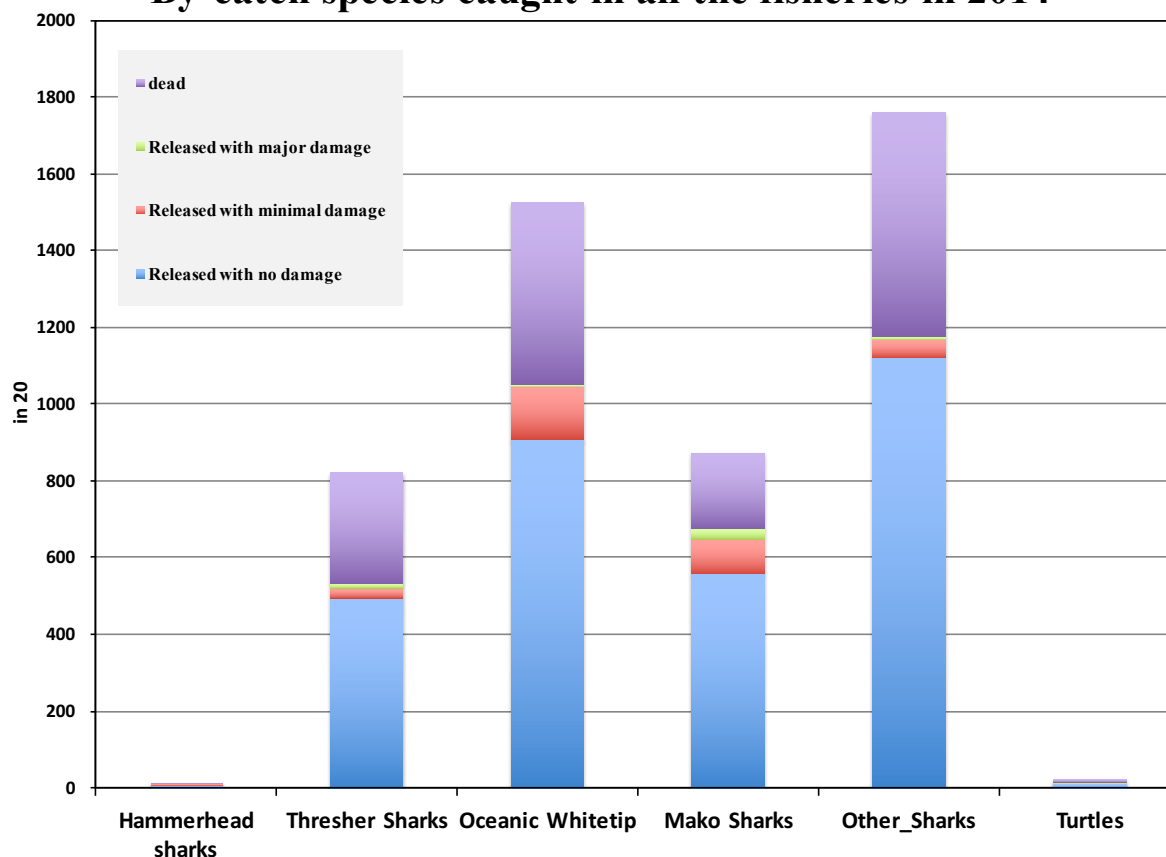
Skipjack tuna catches in the Maldives



Yellowfin tuna catches in the Maldives



By-catch species caught in all the fisheries in 2014



At a Glance

Exports

Top five export markets for 2014

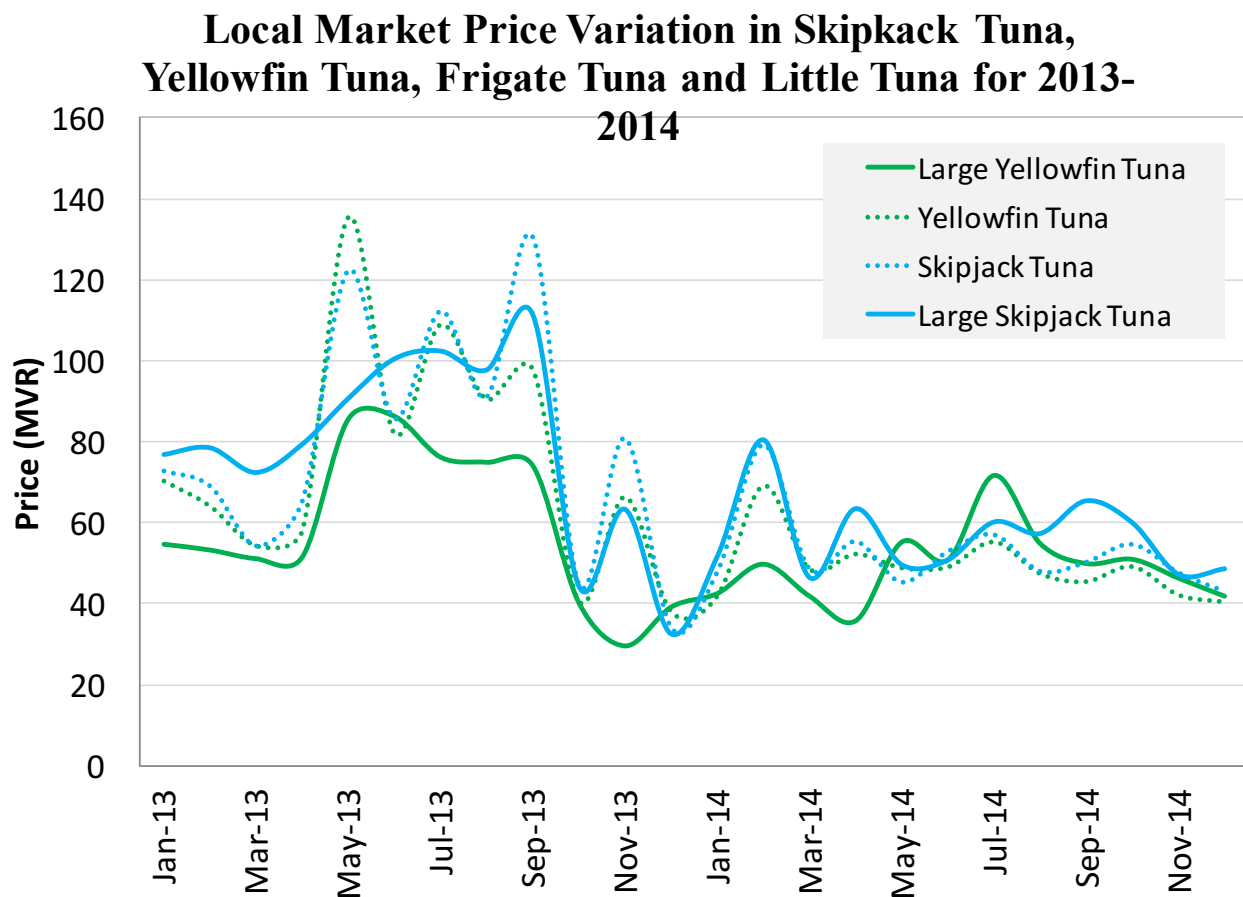
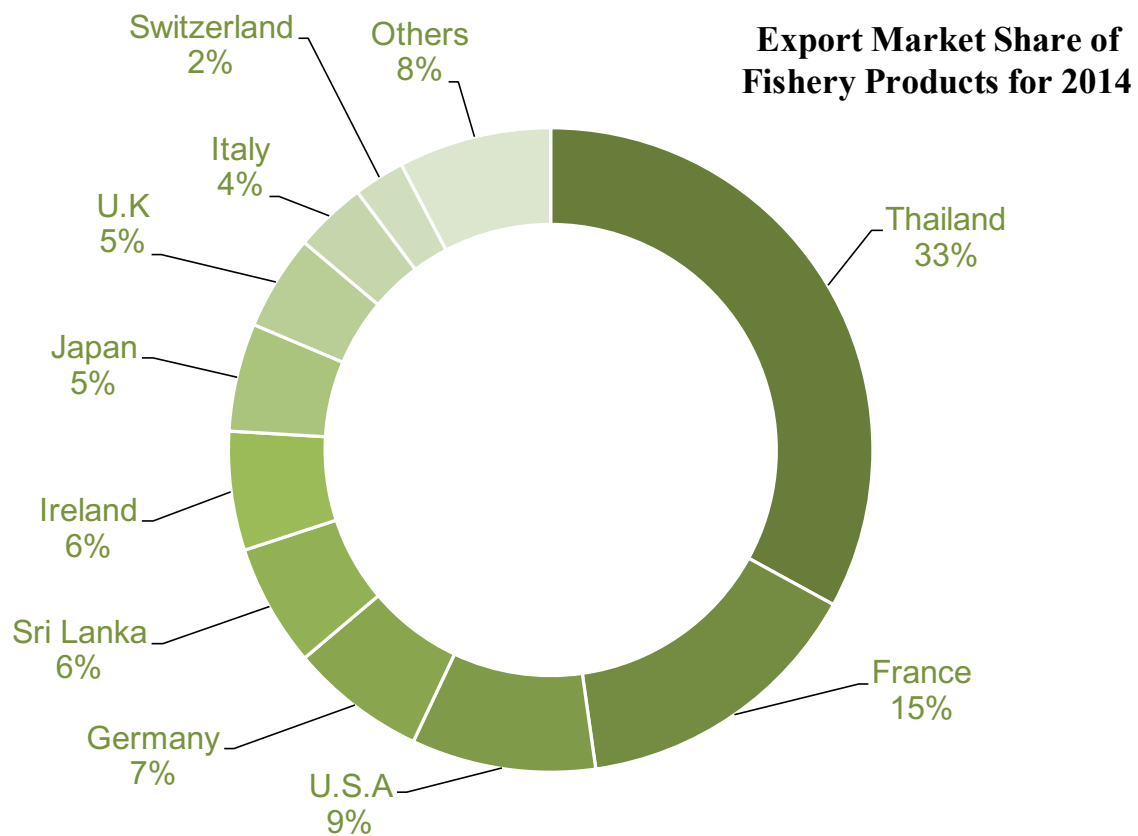
Country	Value (MVR)
Thailand	717.7 million
France	322.2 million
United States	201.3 million
Germany	148.6 million
Sri Lanka	133.6 million

Top five exported species for 2014

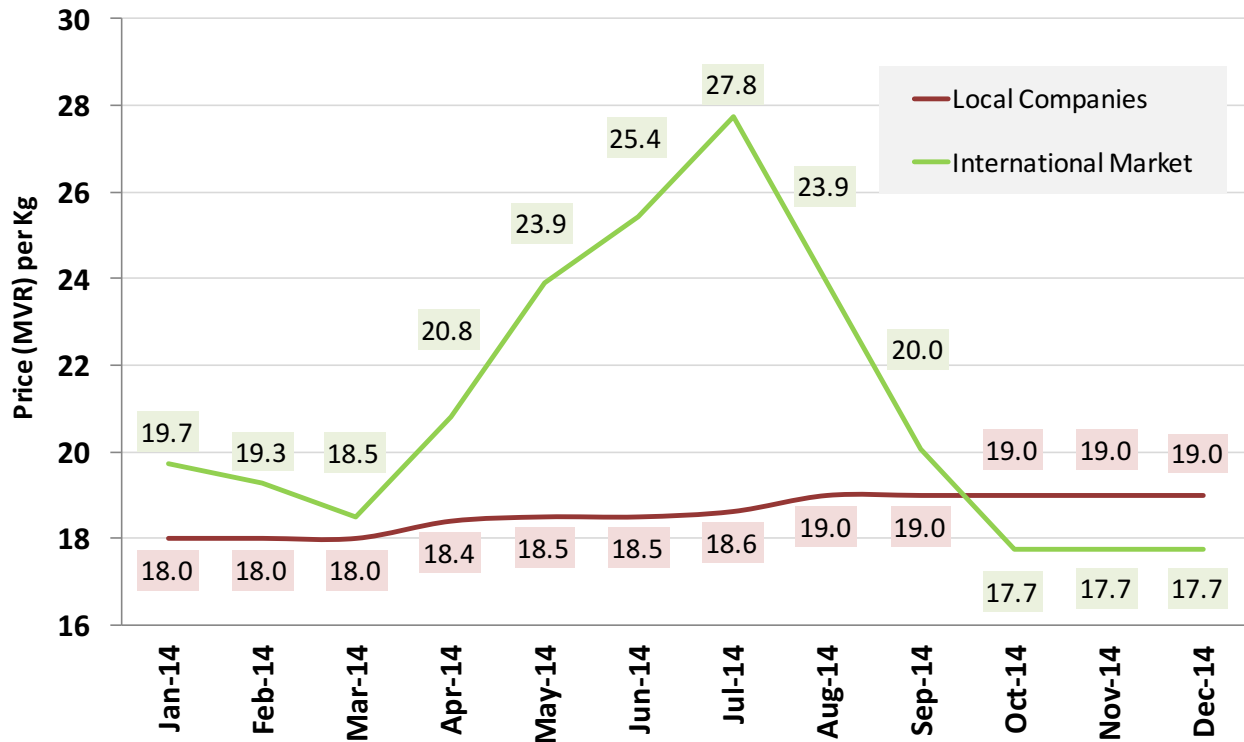
Species	Value (MVR)
<u>Yellowfin</u> Tuna	1161.4 million
Skipjack Tuna	823.9 million
<u>Bigeye</u> Tuna	72.0 million
Groupers	65.0 million
Marlin	11.7 million

Top five exported products for 2014

Products	Value (MVR)
Frozen Skipjack Or Stripe-Bellied Bonito	488.9 million
Fresh Or Chilled <u>Yellowfin</u> Tunas	453.1 million
<u>Yellowfin</u> Tuna Loins (Fresh Or <u>Chiled</u>)	253.0 million
Skipjack (Prepared, Preserved)	240.7 million
<u>Yellowfin</u> Tuna (Frozen)	234.5 million



Comparison of Price of Skipjack Tuna between Local and International Market for 2014



Sustainable fishing

- Products from tuna pole and line fishing is certified by Marine Stewardship Council as a sustainable fishery
- it adheres to environmental friendly and sustainable practices including efficient data collection and traceability of its products.



Issues

- Reef fishery data
 - Lack of responsible unit
 - Domestic Use instead of export
- Recreational / Sports fishing data
- Lack of technology in data collection
- Transport difficulties
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of transformation of data to information

Whats been done to address these issues?

- Under JICA assistance, MOFA is creating an eco-label for tourist resorts
- Under USAID assistance, a mobile app is been developed for reef data collection.
- Producing awareness materials for fishermen to complete logbooks and importance



Thank you



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