



ARTESMAR® Fishery Improvement Program for Artisanal Small-Scale Fisheries

CRITERIA OF ELIGIBILITY AND FISHERY IMPROVEMENT

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ARTESMAR® is a fishery engagement and improvement program focusing on artisanal small-scale inland and marine fisheries worldwide. High catch selectivity and low impacts on aquatic habitats are important merits of many small-scale fisheries, and ARTESMAR® aims to recognize these merits on international markets. ARTESMAR® offers a framework for fishery improvement by using market-incentivized processes and socioeconomic benefits as drivers for more sustainable business- and fishing-practices.

This document defines the criteria for interested fisheries to participate in the fishery initiative (Criteria of Eligibility) and the criteria of improvement (Criteria of Improvement) for the continuous process of improvement. All criteria are subject to an independent verification and approval process. The Unit of Approval (UoA) for the Criteria of Eligibility is the fishery defined by fishing gear, fishing ground and target species. The UoA for the Criteria of Improvement is this same fishery but furthermore specific only to the ARTESMAR-Supply-Chain-Unit defined by the Client of Approval (CA).

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Remarks and Guidance:

Dotted terms and conditions are defined in the technical annex (see Technical Annex ARTESMAR®).



Criteria of Eligibility

Applicability: Candidate Fisheries
Unit of Approval (UoA): Fishing Gear / Fishing grounds / Target Species
Approval Type: Independent Desk-based Assessment

Criteria of Improvement

Applicability: ARTESMAR®-Fisheries Approved as Eligible
Unit of Approval (UoA): Fishing Gear / Fishing grounds / Target Species / ARTESMAR-Supply-Chain-Unit
Auditing Type: Independent On-site Auditing and Approval

FISHING COMMUNITY (SOCIAL ASPECTS)

1)	Small-scale artisanal fishery	E1) The fishery is a representative for a <u>small-scale artisanal fishery</u> in its region according to the local definition of “artisanal fishery”, consisting of a fleet of relatively small fishing vessels, operating relatively close to the coast. The “artisanal fishery” maximizes the total number of fishery stakeholders per catch volume whose livelihoods depend on the fishery relative to other (industrial) fisheries capturing the same species in this region.	I1) n.a.
2)	Food security	E2) The fishery product must not be a staple food and/or a primary source of proteins for the local population and hence not interfere with the <u>food security</u> of human populations where the product originates.	I2) n.a.
3)	Child labor	E3) n.a.	I3) The contribution of children to the fishery does not impede full time education opportunities.
4)	Fishery income	E4) n.a.	I4) The fishery sustains <i>per capita</i> incomes in fishermen households above the country-specific poverty limit during the fishing season.

FISHERY IMPACT ON STOCK STATUS

5)	Extinction risk	E5) The extinction risk of <u>target species</u> is not assessed beyond the ‘near threatened (NT)’ category on the <u>IUCN red list of species</u> . The <u>bycatch species</u> and bait species are not known to be assessed beyond the ‘vulnerable (VU)’ category on the <u>IUCN red list of species</u> .	I5) In case that affected species are <i>a priori</i> uncertain (i.e. no reliable data on catch composition and used bait available), catch composition and baits are determined through the improved documentation (see I8 & I9) with higher certainty and criterion E5) is re-evaluated.
6)	Reproduction & recruitment of affected stocks (target, bycatch, bait)	E6) The fishery does not impair recruitment of any of the affected species. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If data for evaluation is available, the <u>target stocks and bycatch stocks</u> are not <u>depleted</u> with a confidence of at least 80%, i.e. the <u>stocks</u> are not below the point (B_{lim}) where reproduction and recruitment gets unsafe. If data for evaluation is limited, a <u>productivity-susceptibility-analysis (PSA)</u>¹ is conducted and the <u>combined PSA score</u> is < 3.0. In case of uncertainty on affected species (e.g. bycatch and bait), no evidence for typically caught species that would result in a PSA score of < 3.0 is available. 	I6) In case that affected species are <i>a priori</i> uncertain (i.e. no reliable data on catch composition and used bait available), catch composition and baits are determined through the improved documentation (see I8 & I9) with higher certainty and criterion E6) is re-evaluated.

¹ Hobday et al., 2011, Ecological risk assessment for the effects of fishing, Fisheries Research: 108, pp. 372-384. Available at: http://www.daff.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/2219766/biological-risk-assessment-for-the-effects-of-fishing.pdf



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<p>7) Target stocks not overfished and not subject to overfishing</p>	<p>E7) The <u>target stocks</u> are not <u>overfished</u> and <u>overfishing</u> is not occurring. If a <u>target stock</u> is <u>overfished</u> and/or <u>overfishing</u> is occurring, the fishery under assessment does not represent more than 20% of the totally landed volume of the respective target stock.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If data is available for evaluation and the fishery represents >20% of the total landing volume of the stock, the <u>target stocks</u> are not <u>overfished</u> and <u>overfishing is not occurring</u>, that is, at or above the population size at which population growth is maximal (B_{MSY}) and are fished at a mortality rate that is expected not to decrease population size below that level, both with a confidence of 80%. Population sizes of short-lived organisms for which a cohort analysis is not feasible shall not be reduced below levels at which recruitment in the subsequent year is expected to be impaired². • If data for evaluation is limited, a <u>productivity-susceptibility-analysis (PSA)</u>¹ is conducted and the <u>combined PSA score</u> is < 2.5. 	<p>I7) n.a.</p>
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DATA AVAILABILITY

<p>8) Catch documentation scheme</p>	<p>E8) n.a.</p>	<p>I8) A catch documentation scheme is in place to report on all fishing trips entering ARTESMAR supply chains. All catch data entering ARTESMAR supply chains are stored in digital format for fishery management purposes and are easily accessible.</p>
<p>9) Data, assessments, reference points</p>	<p>E9) n.a.</p>	<p>I9) <u>Target species</u>, <u>bycatch</u> and <u>fishing effort</u> of each vessel are reported. The information provides the <u>data necessary for stock assessment purposes</u>. <u>Bycatch species</u> are reported in sufficient detail to represent catch compositions in weight.</p>

² See e.g. Pierce, G. J., Guerra, A. (1994). Stock assessment methods used for cephalopod fisheries, *Fisheries Research* (21): 255 - 285



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IMPACT THROUGH GEAR SELECTIVITY

10)	Target species selectivity	E10) The fishing gear is <u>highly selective</u> for the defined <u>target species</u> : ≥90% of the total catch obtained by the gear defining the UoA consists of <u>target species</u> (more than one <u>target species</u> can be defined). There is no systematic discarding as all caught organisms are either used for food or for baiting, or released alive without harming their physical integrity.	I10) In case that selectivity is <i>a priori</i> uncertain (i.e. no reliable data on catch composition available), the species composition is determined through the improved documentation (see I8 & I9) with higher certainty and criterion E10) is re-evaluated.
11)	Habitat & Eco-system impacts	E11) The fishery does not have an <u>unacceptable impact on the physical structure of the seafloor or its associated biological communities</u> .	I11) If the fishery affects <u>species of an exceptional importance in the ecosystem</u> , the impact on their role in the ecosystem has to be evaluated.
12)	Introduced species	E12) If the species was introduced, the species has become a self-sustaining part of the ecosystem and introduction from other locations does not continue.	I12) n.a.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT

13)	IUU	E13) A legal and institutional framework is in place to avoid <u>IUU</u> ³ fishing in the country of origin.	I13) Fishing operations are reported and comply with the national laws and regulations, vessels are registered and fishermen are licensed. All fishing related to ARTESMAR complies with <u>non-IUU</u> conditions.
14)	Management objectives	E14) n.a.	I14) A mechanism is in place to regularly <u>monitor and conduct stock assessments</u> and to define <u>reference points (target and limit) or reference point proxies</u> . Harvest control rules are in place to <u>control fishing activity</u> and are adapted based on the stock assessment outcome (including e.g. fishing seasons, marine protected areas (MPAs) and size limits as appropriate).
15)	Fishery Co-management	E15) n.a.	I15) At least the following stakeholder groups are encouraged and can participate in decision making: representatives of fishermen, processing exporters and local authorities. Fishermen are formally organised to defend their interests (e.g. cooperative) with regular exchange between fishermen and their representatives.

SAFETY AT SEA

16)	Safety at sea	E16) n.a.	I16) Fishermen are trained in safety at sea ⁴ and can manage the risks associated with being at sea.
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³ Illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU), as defined by the European Commission's Council Regulation (EC) No. 1005/2008 of 29 September 2008 <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:286:0001:0032:EN:PDF> and/or by the United Nations Food and Aquaculture Organization (FAO) in the 2010 UN IPAO (International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing). <http://www.fao.org/fishery/ipao-iuu/en>



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SUPPLY CHAIN

17)	Identity of species	E17) n.a.	I17) Products are identified on species level at all supply chain levels
18)	Traceability	E18) n.a.	I18) All products are traceable to the landing site and the large marine ecosystem LME ⁵ (or any smaller eco-geographical division) in which they were caught including identification of vessels and landing date.
19)	Value chain and post-harvest losses	E19) n.a.	I19) Fishermen achieve high quality and value for the landed seafood products through proper practices and awareness on the issues of concern respective to the value of landed species (quality grade, freshness, food safety, buying specifications).
20)	Transparent pricing	E20) n.a.	I20) Pricing of <u>target species</u> at landing sites is transparent and based on information accessible to all fishermen.

⁴ Safety at sea as defined by SOLAS (International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, Chapter I-V)

⁵ LME As defined by the NOAA <http://www.lme.noaa.gov/>