2022 United Nations Ocean Conference Side Event

Seafood Traceability – Utilizing Data and Collaboration for Triple Bottom Line Impact

June 28, 2022 (Tue) 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm / Lisbon, Portugal time (UTC+1), Virtual

Organized by: Seafood Alliance for Legality and Traceability (SALT)

Background on the event (one paragraph)

In the past five years, the SALT team has brought people together worldwide to share learnings, create opportunities, break down barriers, and build a new narrative that demonstrates the many ecological, social, and economic benefits of implementing traceability systems. One of SALT's most notable achievements was developing the [Comprehensive Traceability Principles and Pathway](#) in 2021. Since then, SALT has been focusing on applying these innovative tools with partners in strategic seafood producing regions, including Latin America and Caribbean countries, Vietnam, and Tanzania. During this session, the panels from Tanzania and the U.S. shared their experience in working with governments and local communities to apply the Traceability Principles.

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

All these key points were introduced in the context of SALT's ongoing project with small-scale octopus fisheries in Kilwa District, Tanzania.

Governments commitment to promoting and utilizing electronic traceability:
- The government of Tanzania and USAID believe traceability is an important tool to support SDG goals and prevent illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUUF) from taking place.
- Electronic traceability can allow governments to strengthen the effectiveness of fisheries management; support legal and equitable human welfare conditions for seafood laborers;

and identify and prevent illegal and mislabeled products from entering domestic and international markets.

SALT's Traceability Principles and Pathway application in a Tanzanian octopus fishery will:
- Support the involvement of all stakeholders including underrepresented groups such as women and youth through the co-design process to establish common goals and address their needs.
- Support users to navigate through a series of potential steps to initiate, design, and implement a comprehensive electronic traceability program resulting in a strategy for future implementation.

Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)

SALT's Tanzania project plans to conduct the following actions to design, initiate, and implement an electronic traceability program that addresses stakeholders' needs. Integral to a successful application of the Principles in Tanzania, SALT will seek to include underrepresented groups such as youth and women throughout the process.

- Stakeholder mapping to understand key stakeholders and their level of engagement, influence, and motivation
- Gap analysis to understand the current context and challenges that need to be addressed related to traceability in the octopus fishery
- Co-design workshop to identify common goals, needs, and approaches to form support from the local communities
- Informed by the results of the co-design workshop, the project will culminate with a strategy that outlines key next steps and considerations for the implementation of an electronic traceability program

Voluntary Commitments (one paragraph)

SALT will continue demonstrating electronic traceability's potential to maximize stakeholders' ecological, social, and economic goals and benefits by applying the Traceability Principles with its local partners. SALT will take learnings from its application work and update the Traceability Principles in its final year to create a tool that is accessible and beneficial for stakeholders in seafood producing countries who seek to achieve their triple bottom line impact.