

# Iran (Islamic Republic of) National Report to the Scientific Committee of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2020



## Ministry of Agriculture-Jahad Iran Fisheries Organization

### INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, final scientific data for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year, <b>for all fleets other than longline</b> [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2020, final data for the 2019 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 June 2020</p>	<p><b>YES</b> <b>Submitted the 30 June 2020</b></p>
<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, provisional <b>longline data</b> for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2020, preliminary data for the 2019 calendar year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June 2020). <b>REMINDER:</b> Final longline data for the previous year is due to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 Dec of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2020, final data for the 2019 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 December 2020).</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>If no ,please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions: <i>We don't have any active industrial long-line vessel at present, but we have some of small artisanal gillnetter as a seasonal and temporal longliner to fish in coastal waters and final data for this type of vessels submitted the 30 June 2020.</i></p>	

## *Executive Summary*

Iran (Islamic Republic of) is located in an area encircled with Caspian Sea in North and Persian Gulf and Oman Sea in the south. Fishery for tuna and tuna-like species is a major component in large pelagic fisheries in Iran and one of the most important activities in the Persian Gulf & Oman Sea. There are located between the longitudes of 48° 30' north to 61° 25' east. Fishing activities with its related occupations are considered as one of the main activities of coastal communities, so that based on annual statistic for 2019 around 143 thousand individuals which are directly engaged in fishing activities. Tuna catch in Iran played an important role during previous years and not only for food security and coastal community's subsistence but also carried out an effective economic role in the country fisheries activity chain. The long Iranian coastline there are around 193 port and landing places with more than 11 thousand vessels consist of fishing boat, dhows and vessel which are engaged in fishing in the coastal and offshore waters. There are four fishing gear types which targeting large pelagic species in the IOTC area of competence, included gillnet, purse seine, long line (by traditional boats) and also some of small trolling boats in coastal fisheries. Iran has taken various actions to implement the Scientific Committee recommendations and IOTC Resolutions.

The Catch quantity of large pelagic species (including by-catch) was 275674 Mt in 2019 reported to the IOTC Secretariat. Total amount of catch mainly consist comprised of Tropical tuna with 36.2% (99965Mt), Neritic tuna 45.5% (125341Mt) and billfish species with 6.4% (17678Mt), 1.3% (3528Mt) different species of shark and around 10.6% (29162Mt) other species.

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## 1. BACKGROUND/GENERAL FISHERY INFORMATION

Aquatic production in Iran consists of two parts: aquaculture activities and marine fisheries activities. Each part of the activities appropriate to their specific requirements has social and technical considerations of its own. People involving in fishing community include large percentage of the population in coastal areas of the northern water (Caspian Sea) and Persian Gulf, Oman Sea which has always been the center of attention and sensitivity in fisheries management plan.

Total volume of national aquatic production in 2019 was 1282464Mt, which can be distributed as 720219 Mt of the total catch and production contributed to the southern water of country are located in the Persian Gulf, Oman Sea and offshore waters, about 35510 Mt of production from northern water (Caspian Sea) and 526736 Mt through inland water and aquaculture. (Figure 1.1 &1.2)

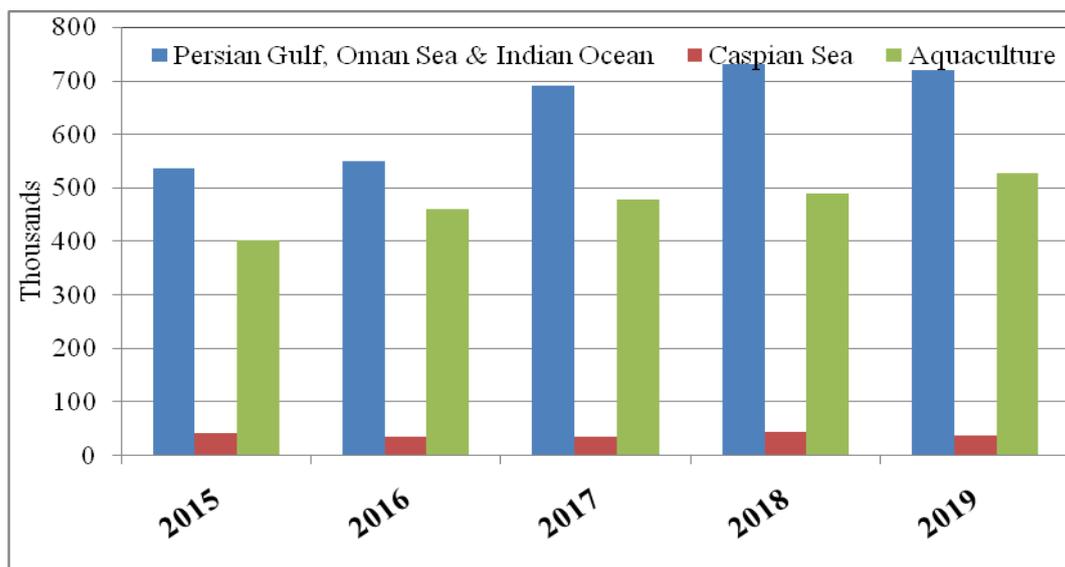


Figure 1.1: Total Catch & production in the country during 2015-2019

Large pelagic; tuna and tuna-like species are important fishery resources for food and also have valuable contribution to the Iran's economy. The main fishing grounds for large pelagic species in southern of the country are located in the coastal sectors of Persian Gulf and Oman Sea and total volume of production in the coastal and offshore waters in 2019 as mentioned above around 720Mt, which consist of large pelagic 273000 M of total catch, Small Pelagic 98 Mt, Demersal species 298000 Mt, Shrimp 10000 Mt and Myctophids

31000Mt. Figure3.shows the catches quantity of different aquatic species group in the southern waters of Iran.

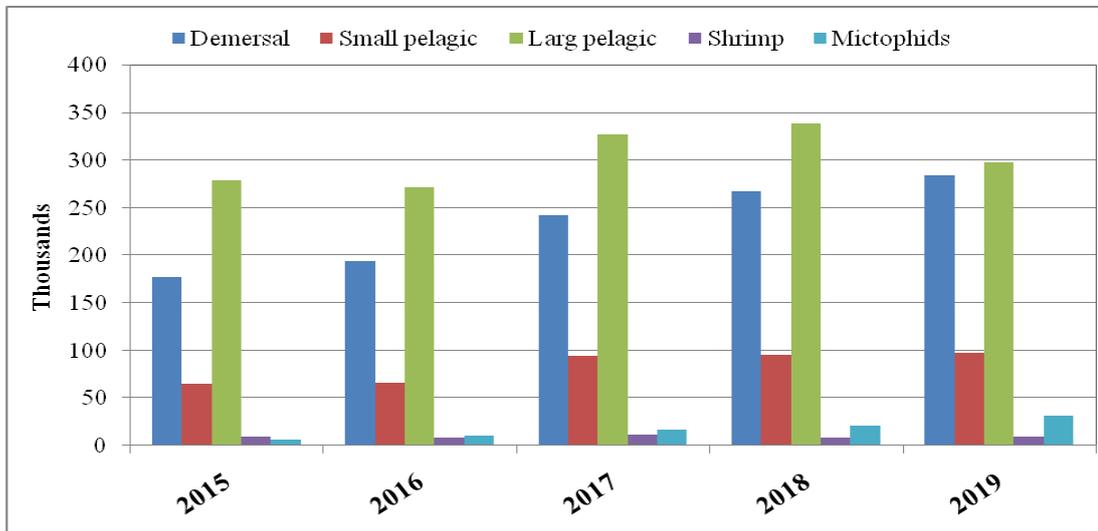


Figure1.2: The catches quantity of different aquatic species group in the southern waters of Iran

## 2. FLEET STRUCTURE

Iran industrial and semi-industrial fishing fleets owned by private enterprises carry out almost all fisheries in the coastal and offshore waters. Iran fisheries and exploitation of aquatic animals in the southern water is carried out by a fishing fleet around 10430 vessels of which about 6175 fishing crafts are engaged in large pelagic species and around 1233 are active in the Oman Sea and offshore waters, of which five active Purse seiners more than 1000GT, 283 gillnet Dhows of more than 100 GT, 171 gillnet Dhows of 51< GT< 100, 649 gillnet Dhows of less than 50 GT, 3319 gillnet, 1748 trolling boats of less than 3GT which have Out board engine, operate daily in coastal waters. Artisanal vessels (Dhows) with GT> 30 t around 15-30 m LOA and industrial purse- seiners with GT> 1000 t generally operate multiday fishing in the offshore and beyond EEZ in the IOTC area. In 2019 around 607gillnet with different class are active as a longliner and this figure is not included in total vessels number, because they are active seasonal and temporal during a year. The table 2.1 shows number of crafts operating in the IOTC area, by gear type and size during 2015-2019.

GEAR GROUP	Capacity GT	NO. of active crafts by gear type and size				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Purse seine	1000 - 2000	5	5	5	5	5
Coastal artisanal longline *	< 3	0	300	324	324	400
	21 to 50	0	80	165	165	184
	101 up	0	14	14	14	20
Gillnet	< 3	3630	3319	2758	3168	3319
	3 - 20	266	258	239	226	258
	21 - 50	364	391	318	271	391
	51 - 100	181	171	316	297	171
	101 - up	293	283	326	377	283
Trolling	< 3	2019	2190	1820	1645	1748
Total all gear fishing Craft		6762	6620	5784	5992	6175

Table 2.1: Number of active vessels which are operating in the IOTC area of competence, by gear type and size

\*We don't have any specific active industrial longline vessel, but numbers of artisanal longline were encouraged extensionally to move to long line seasonal and temporal during a year. This number are not included in total crafts number.

### 3. CATCH AND EFFORT (BY SPECIES AND GEAR)

Also around 94% of tuna and tuna like species catch comes from gillnet gear, while around 1% of catch belong to purse seiners and 2% comes from trolling vessels and 3% comes from small artisanal gillnetter as a seasonal and temporal longliner where they are fish in coastal waters.

Table 3.1 and figure3.1 shows the total yearly catch by gear type and species reported for the all fleet. The Catch quantity of large pelagic in Iran was 275674Mt in 2019 and around 242984 Mt belongs to tuna and tuna-like species in the coastal and offshore waters. Figure 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 showing the amount of catch for different fishing methods by species during five years. In 2019 annual catch for purse seine, gillnet, coastal artisanal longline and trolling was estimated 4046 Mt, 258534Mt, 8441 Mt and 4653 Mt respectively. Gillnet with 94% of Catch is the dominant fishing gear followed by Traditional longline3%, Purse seiners 1%, and around 2% comes from Trolling vessels. Table 3.2 shows the fishing effort for tuna and tuna like species by different vessel categories for the all fleet consist of purse seine, gillnetter and trolling during recent years.

In 2019, fishing effort for large pelagic species around 976 Thousand days was carried out by all fishing craft, of which only 755 days was operated by purse seine, 685 thousand days by Gillnet, 32 thousand days by seasonal and temporal longline and 259 thousand days done by trolling fisheries. Figure3.5 show that the highest gillnet fishing pressure occurs within the Islamic Republic of Iran's coastal water.

According to Iran national regulation, offshore fisheries baseline starts at 24 miles. While, defined offshore fisheries by IOTC is rather different from Iran and offshore fisheries starts from 200 miles. And this point makes some minor differences in statistical information.

GEAR GROUP	SPECIES	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Purse Seine	KAW	0	0	5	0	0
	LOT	814	50	1891	998	467
	SKJ	489	1202	2477	356	190
	YFT	3842	3465	1764	3898	3361
	BET	135	138	29	0	0
	COM	0	0	0	0	0
	SFA	0	0	0	0	0
	BLM	0	0	0	0	0
	Sharks	0	0	0	0	0
Others	29	24	39	40	28	
Total Purse Seine Catch		5308	4879	6206	5292	4046
Coasta Artisanal Longline	YFT	0	5760	8452	11974	8441
	DOL	0	0	122	0	0
		0	5760	8574	11975	8441
Gillnet	FRI	10422	10238	10251	9135	8938
	KAW	27877	33677	38311	36006	32822
	LOT	57555	54596	56658	59503	47984
	SKJ	38232	37956	50822	49608	39782
	YFT	38412	35110	45551	42071	45298
	BET	2309	2931	3577	3700	1949
	COM	20617	20759	22529	23675	21549
	GUT	6997	7501	9326	9581	10112
	SFA	9693	7552	10405	10601	7910
	BLM	5958	4148	4974	5859	6109
	Other Billfish	3829	2884	3368	4012	3577
	TOTAL Billfish	19479	14585	18747	20473	17597
	1-FAL	1567	523	586	308	419
	2-SPN	63	20	22	12	20
	3-MAK	94	33	37	19	22
	6-CCW	499	409	272	239	291
	8-RHA	2976	2447	1623	1430	1739
	Other sharks	1731	1306	904	764	934
TOTAL Sharks	6930	4737	3443	2772	3424	
Other Species	12292	13577	17819	36013	29078	
Total Gillnet Catch		267529	235668	277035	292537	258534
Trolling	FRI	233	6	14	45	20
	KAW	516	231	458	1105	428
	LOT	1278	501	1665	667	568
	YFT	345	775	354	707	944
	COM	2181	2922	1538	1519	2227
	GUT	245	158	120	448	226
	SFA	53	257	48	3	82
	Sharks	205	59	180	195	103
	Others	68	0	0	0	56
Total Trolling Catch		5122	4908	4378	4690	4653
Total all Gear Catch		277959	251215	296192	314494	275674

Table.3.1 Annual catch by gear type and species (Mt)

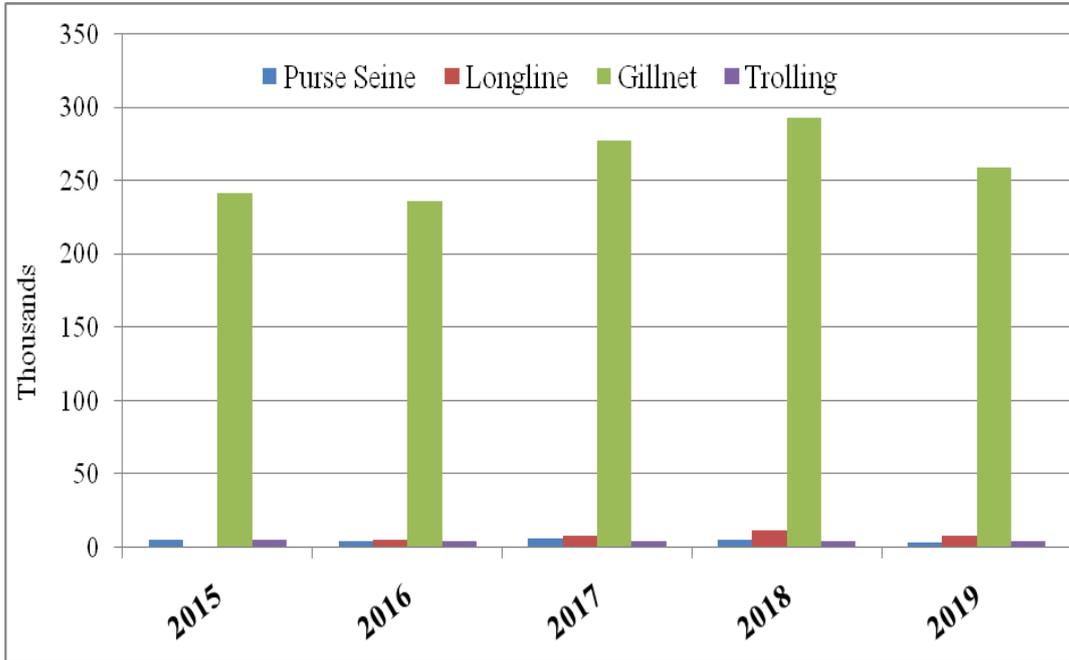


Figure 3.1- Annual Catch by Gear Type

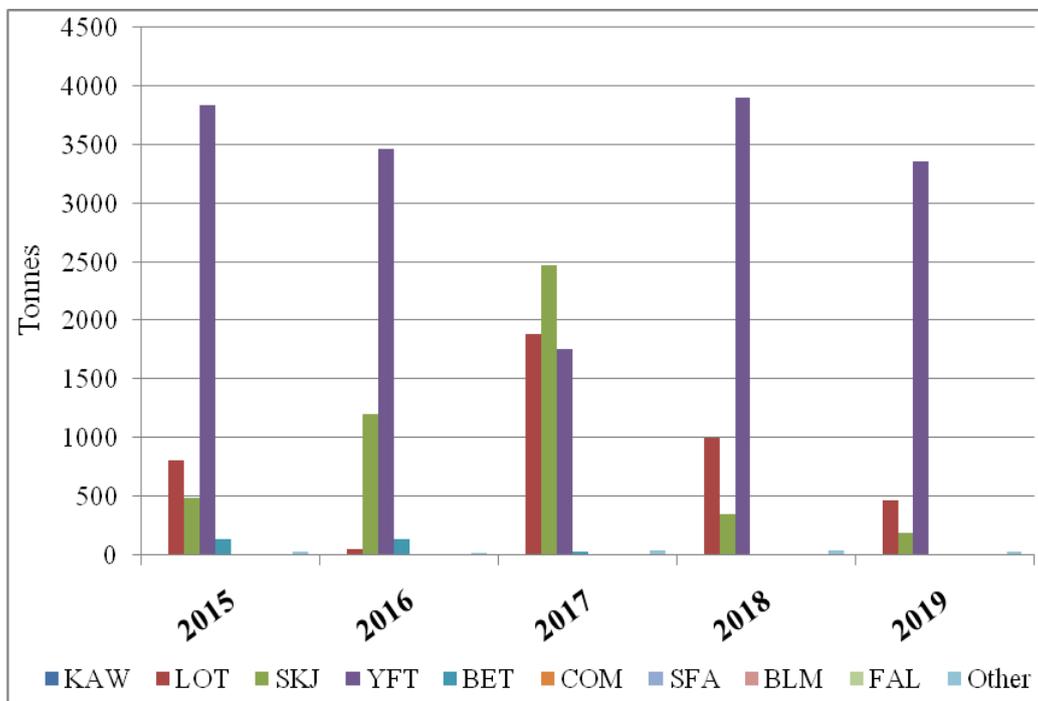


Figure 3.2 Annual Catch of Purse Seiners by Species

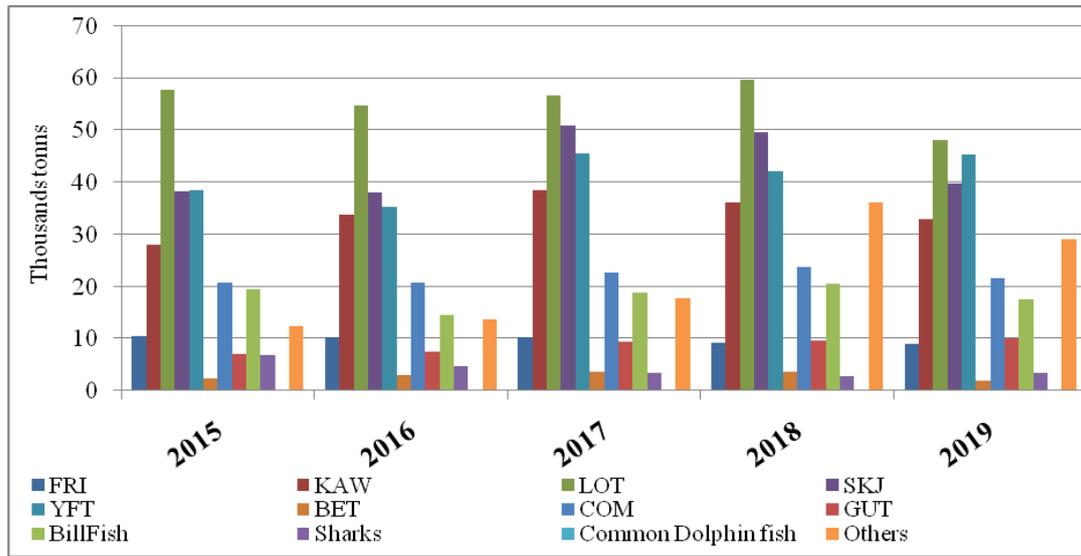


Figure3.3 Annual Catch of Gillnets by Species

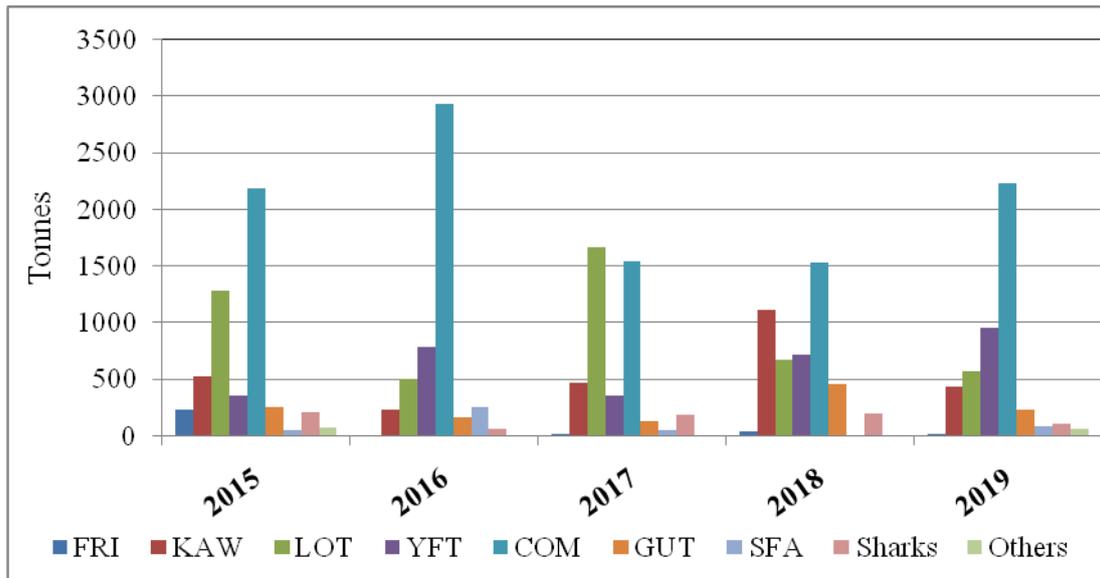


Figure3.4 Annual Catch of Trolling Method by Species

GEAR GROUP	Capacity GT	Fishing effort by different vessel categories (days)				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Purse seine	500 - 1000	0	0	0	0	0
	1000 - 2000	1005	1164	1085	715	755
Total Purse seine fishing effort		1005	1164	1085	715	755
Coastal_Artisanal_Longline *	< 3	0	18000	19440	24300	20000
	21 to 50	0	3200	6600	14025	11040
	101 up	0	560	560	1190	1200
	Mechanised	0	0	0	0	0
Total Coastal_Artisanal_Longline * fishing effort		0	21760	26600	39515	32240
Gillnet	< 3	552367	487646	438046	516149	487646
	3 - 20	44374	41682	43035	44779	41682
	21 - 50	72121	74870	58114	51045	74870
	51 - 100	33749	30337	54873	52410	30337
	101 - up	51260	50530	59746	69535	50530
Total Gillnet fishing effort		753871	685064	653815	733918	685064
Trolling	< 3	254934	229190	196440	224708	258713
Total Trolling fishing effort		254934	229190	196440	224708	258713
Total all Gear fishing effort		1009810	937178	877940	998856	976772

Table 3.2: Fishing effort by different types of vessel

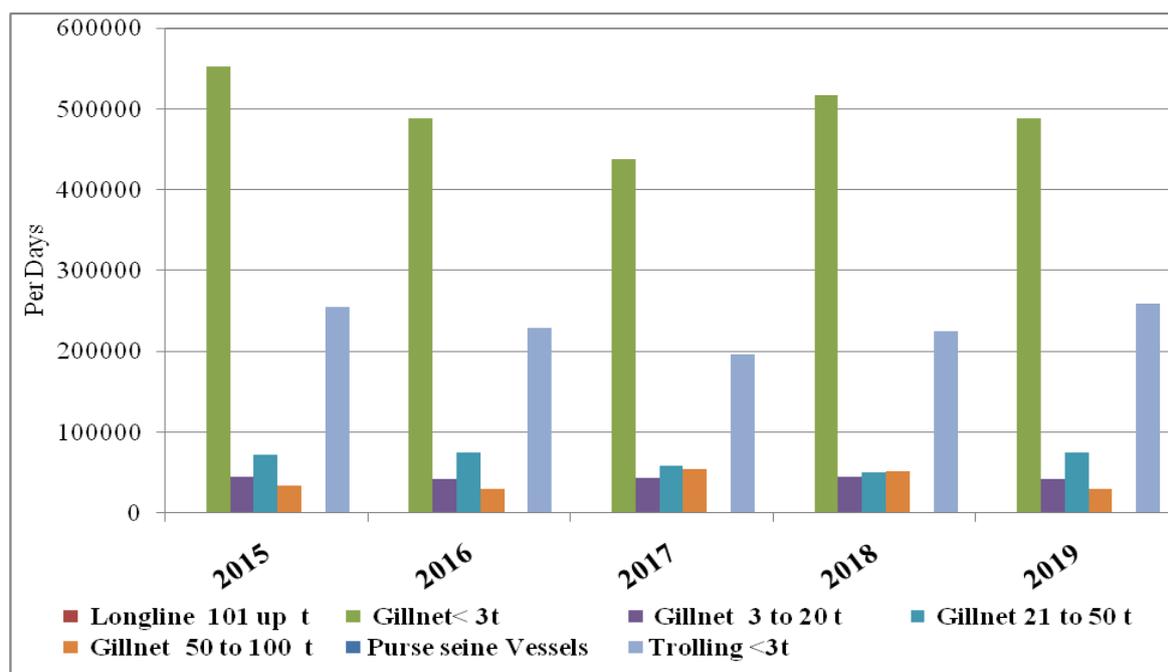


Figure 3.5 Tuna and tuna like fishing effort by all fleet in 2019 (fishing day)

#### 4. RECREATIONAL FISHERY

We don't have any recreational fishing operation in our water for tuna and tuna-like species. So any licenses are not issued for this type of fisheries.

#### 5. Ecosystem and by-catch issues

Base on Iran Fisheries Organization (IFO) current procedure, monitoring and control of fishing vessels and their catch are happening in fishing harbours and landing areas, by port based monitoring system. On this way our experts control all catch gears and devices, related standards and the vessel crews before starting sailing and in the end of each trip by focus on catch results, its composition and related by-catch.

IFO usually arranges some training workshops for the fishermen who are active in tuna and tuna like fisheries during the time when the vessels are landing in fishing harbours. Through this training system fishermen be familiar with IOTC regulations and resolution especially which were adopted related to ecosystem and By-catch issues. In addition IFO has tried to train experts for identification different species, especially sharks and turtles, where we have really need technical supports of IOTC. IFO also has distributed around 1000 translated IOTC species ID cards to Persian language and we hope they will be useful for fishermen and in-port observers. In addition, Iran has had close cooperation with IOTC secretariat through regular meetings, especially the meetings related with Observer scheme, because of interest of Iran for implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme, ROS pilot project according to Paragraph 6 of Res. 16/04 (just port observer). According to, Iran Fisheries organization regulations and Iran Environment supreme council Resolution No.380, Sharks catches completely banded and the fishermen only have permission to retain the sharks that are caught as by-catch in IOTC acceptable level (less than 5%).

### 5.1. Sharks

Base on IFO regulations we have never issued any licences for catch of different species of Sharks and fishermen only landed the Sharks which are caught as a By-catch. Also base on Iranian religious believes more than 90% of Iranian people do not eat Sharks. In this case only some people who are living in south eastern part of Iran eat Sharks. Recognizing the importance of Sharks landing in whole body, all resolutions are translated and contents of them related with Sharks conservations are transferred during different level of meetings. Also we have tried to transfer these concepts to fishermen during training workshops. On this way there is close cooperation among Iran fisheries organization, Fisheries Unions, Environment organization and *NGOs*. Accordingly, we have not received any reports about total number of released/discarded of sharks, by species from national fleet in the IOTC area of competence because of on board observer lack. But IFO monitors and controls all the species during landing times in fishing harbours. According collected information the amount of Sharks species in 2018 reflected in figure 3.1. Although base on current IOTC resolutions, CPCs has not been mandated to have NPOA of Sharks, due to national regulation of countries is enough to conserve different sharks species, but in order to preparing NPOA of Sharks, Iran Fisheries Organization has used some information from different sources specially the printed guideline by FAO to prepare infrastructure of NPOA . So we expected Iran Sharks NPOA by end 2020. In order to complete it, we need cooperation of all the organization, fisheries union and cooperatives and all stockholders. Base on Statistical information total weight of sharks, by species, that retained by the national fleet in the IOTC area of competence has been recorded during 2014–2018 as table 3.1. It is obviously clear the total catch of different shark's species have had a decreasing trend. According to scientific assessment, this trend has two major visions. First, the stocks of different species of sharks showed a decreasing trend all over the world. Secondly, Iran national regulation severity, the penalties and sanctions that approve by courts and Iran fisheries organization which are really strict. So, there is no motivation for the fishermen to catch sharks, or other Haram species, because there is no market for them in Iran.

## **5.2. Seabirds**

Base on IOTC 12/06 Resolution, reduction of Seabirds by-catch only distinguished for longline fisheries as a target gear and it is not applicable for other gears. Also base on our current fleet structure, we have not had any industrial longline active vessels, so it is not applicable for Iran. For more insurance, IFO has have tried to give more awareness and explanation to fishermen about Seabirds importance and necessity of their conservation during different training workshops and meetings.

## **5.3. Marine Turtle**

The main national strategy of Iran related to marine turtles is, conservation of different species of turtles, and this strategy practically implemented, because there is no use for turtles in Iran. Although, the Environment Organization is identified as a national competent authority for protection of Sea turtles by the government, but we intent to define a joint project with them regarding to survey on sea turtles and incident entanglement of them in fishermen nets. So for increasing of public awareness of fishermen, IFO has continued related training programs by hold of workshop, distribution of some brochures and posters. On this way the capacity of NGOs were used and around 50 fishermen are trained on their vessels by cooperation of NGOs. Although environment organization have had some projects about the biology of turtles, but both organizations intent to develop a joint project related with fisheries activities.

## **5.4. Other ecologically related species (e.g. marine mammals, whale sharks)**

Base on national laws and Iran Fisheries Organization regulations, catch of Mammals or any other sensitive and endangered species, are forbidden and if any fishermen catch accidentally any Mammals, Turtles, Sharks or any other sensitive spices, they should release them safely and rapidly. In the other hand if our inspectors or fishery guard (fisheries/ Environment Guard or Police) find any endangered species on board, the owner and captain of the vessel are introduced to court and also punish by fishery infraction investigation commission which are defined and active in different cities and provinces and has the authority to stopped fish up to three months. According to IFO regulations, the offices have

never issued any licences for catch of different species of Mammals or Sharks and fishermen try to release all entangled Mammals or endangered species and only Sharks are seen as a By-catch in landing places. Also base on Iranian religious believes more than 90% of people do not eat Sharks or any mammals. On this way we have not received any reports about total number of Mammals or different species of sharks, by species which are released/discarded by the national fleet in the IOTC area of competence.

As we mentioned before, we have not received any reports in detail about incidental catch of different species of seabirds, marine turtles and marine mammals because of on board observers' lack. On this way, lack of on board acceptable accommodation space and facilities, is the main problem for implementation observer scheme. So, it is not possible to record important events by species, gears and positions (timeline) for the national fleets. In order to implementation effective observer program on ports, Iran has joint to the IOTC ROS pilot project which has developed according to IOTC 16/04 Resolution. Also we just started to establish a net through the virtual networks on Mobile phone a few months ago. So, we have received some news, Pictures or movies about safe releasing of these species, where most of them received from Iranian territorial waters. Also there are some NGOs which are active in working with local people and fishermen. They normally focused on training of these people and making improvement in public awareness.

## *6. National data collection and processing system*

### *6.1. Logbook program was implemented for Iranian artisanal gillnets and industrial purse seiners as follows:*

In recent years, Iran has started to complete the logbooks for the industrial purse seiners, and we hope to extent to other artisanal fleets in future, according to the Iranian fisheries regulations which adopted in 2018, that will cover 10% of the high seas vessels.

## **6.2. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)**

As we reported before, Iran Fisheries Organization has started the implementation of satellite base vessel monitoring system (VMS) and IFO hope the artisanal fishermen will have enough cooperation in implementation of the system. For further information, VMS has been installed on board for industrial vessels, including tuna purse seiner.

## **6.3. Observer program**

Iran Fisheries Organization has not developed Observer programme yet, but as we mentioned before, on this way, lack of suitable accommodation space for observers is the main problem. So it is not possible to record exact events by species and gear for the national fleet, in the IOTC area of competence. In order to implement effective observer program on ports we have joint with IOTC ROS pilot project which has developed according to IOTC Resolution 16/04. So our data and information are collected by monitoring in fishing harbours and landing places and showing spatial distribution of observer coverage on map is not possible. On this way IFO has continued its port state controls by current observers and we hope by implementation of joint project with IOTC, we will start our port observer plan effectively.

## **6.4. Port sampling program**

### **6.4.1. Catch Data sampling**

Catch and effort and biological data of the coastal and offshore large pelagic fishery are collected at the 43 out of 63 fish landing sites. Consist of 10 landing sites in KHOZESTAN Province, 8 landing in BUSHEHR Province, 20 landing sites in HORMOZGAN Province and 5 landing sites SISTAN-BLUCHESTAN Province in the alongside the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea coastlines, and port samplers stay on landing sites during disembarkation time of fish and they collect the data and fill out the forms. Also Biometry of fish for collecting length/weight frequency data is done during landing time. Catch and Effort data were collected in all the above sites by stratified random sampling by the samplers, in this way, 10% of total fishing crafts for different vessel classes of fishing dhows and boats are picked out randomly and their fishing data will be registered. Landing surveys are undertaken to obtain data on catches in the artisanal fisheries.

Port sampling was carried out for small-scale fisheries. In this way, 10% of fishing vessels are randomly selected and the sample data are raised to all active fishing vessels and total catches are maintained by vessel categories, gear types and species composition, landing site and each month. In each landing site, there is one enumerator who is responsible to collect data. All of the operations are fulfilled by Iran Fisheries Organization fish statistic Software called AMAR Software. In addition Control of fishing license and Questionnaire carry out by the Head of fishery Statistical Unit in the relevant port. This kind of control will then be carried out in Province center through computer. Afterwards this will be processed in Data Center in Tehran. Cross Check by total census in one or two landing site will then be undertaken.

#### **6.4.2. Size data sampling**

There are 13 important commercial species in Iranian southern waters which their size frequency data will be compiled. The species comprised of:

1. Narrow-barred spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus Commerson*),
2. Tigertooth croaker (*Otolithes ruber*),
3. Silver pomfret (*Pampus argenteus*),
4. Black pomfret (*Parastromateus niger*),
5. Javelin grunter (*Pomadasyys kaakan*),
6. Longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*),
7. Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*).
8. Fourfinger threadfin (*Eleutheronema tetradactylum*),
9. Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacores*),
10. Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*),
11. Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*),
12. Grouper(serranidae),
13. Emperor(lethrinidae),

The length and weight frequency of species has been recorded from 2001. Sampling in southern waters carried out in 16 landing centers consist of, Choebdeh and Hendijan in Khozestan Province, Daylam, Dayer, Jofreh & Bandargah in Bushehr Province, Jask, Javad'el'aemeh, Salakh, Bostaneh , Kong & Kohestak in Hormozgan Province, Ramin, Pozm, Beris & Pasabandar in Sistan & Bluchestan Province.

There is biometry software to input the size frequency data in a data bank. Data entry interface for length frequency is available; it just needs to be connected to the AMAR Software as integrated software. For strengthened tuna size sampling, we added two more landing centers in Sistan & Bluchestan Province (Ramin & Pasabandar Ports) to compile Tuna size frequency data by gillnet fishery. Size frequency data reported to IOTC per fleet, year, gear, type of school, monthly and 5° square areas for purse seine fishery. For oceanic gillnet fishery a pilot plan is in progress and gradually all Iranian gillnetters in high seas will be equipped with logbook system and vessel position can be derived via logbooks. The species for which the size data is reported include 6 tuna species comprised of: YFT, SKJ, BET, KAW, COM & LOT at 16 landing places.

As an overview, collection of information as port sampling is one of the regular monitoring that has implemented many years ago for all fishing activities and it would be a part of ROS pilot project of IOTC for making more progress on it. On this way Iran offered its interest to join the project. On this way IFO expect beside of making a progress in our monitoring and data collection system, we select as a pilot for learning other countries for port sampling methods.

Size Data recorded in the IOTC Database						
GEAR GROUP	SPECIES	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Gillnet</b>	FRI	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	KAW	13,765	14,678	26,088	32,721	37,985
	LOT	18,116	21,889	19,449	30,985	46,811
	SKJ	19,574	23,410	30,577	24,177	18,474
	YFT	22,161	26,287	25,885	16,684	22,970
	BET	724	888	2,639	1,782	1,256
	COM	21,087	29,315	39,753	37,591	42,115
Total Gillnet Length Frequency		<b>95,427</b>	<b>116,467</b>	<b>144,391</b>	<b>143,940</b>	<b>169,611</b>
<b>Purse seine</b>	KAW	0	0	0	0	0
	LOT	1,158	125	0	0	1,097
	SKJ	416	797	1,576	2,152	278
	YFT	1,892	4,333	1,923	6,995	6,786
	BET	629	560	716	708	0
Total Purse seine Length Frequency		<b>4,095</b>	<b>5,815</b>	<b>4,215</b>	<b>9,855</b>	<b>8,161</b>
<b>Trolling/ Hand &amp; Line</b>	COM	4,416	2,511	980	335	2,059
	LOT	0	0	0	0	0
	YFT(by Coastal_LL_Method)	0	0	0	0	7,371
	YFT(by Hook & Line_Method)	0	0	0	9,813	0
Total Length Frequency		<b>103,938</b>	<b>124,793</b>	<b>149,586</b>	<b>163,943</b>	<b>187,202</b>
Mean Length Data recorded in the IOTC Database						
GEAR GROUP	SPECIES GROUP	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Gillnet</b>	FRI	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	KAW	56.2	56.1	50.7	53.0	53.3
	LOT	60.8	69.3	64.1	61.5	68.2
	SKJ	58.5	56.8	56.4	54.7	54.7
	YFT	80.8	84.3	93.4	84.0	82.5
	BET	79.0	81.5	85.8	86.2	82.8
	COM	89.0	91.5	88.8	84.8	85.7
<b>Purse seine</b>	FRI	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	KAW	72.6	48.2	0.0	0.0	78.4
	LOT	49.9	53.4	55.1	53.6	60.9
	SKJ	113.4	90.2	97.9	110.0	116.2
	YFT	75.9	74.3	78.3	79.5	0.0
<b>Trolling/ Hand &amp; Line</b>	COM	84.1	87.1	110.3	119.1	95.0
	LOT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	YFT(by Coastal_LL_Method)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	103.1
	YFT(by Hook & Line_Method)	0.0	0.0	0.0	110.5	0.0

Table.6.1. Number of Tuna and Tuna like species that their length are measured by gear types

## 7. National Research Program

### Abstract

*Katsuwonus pelamis*, *Thunnus albacares* and *Thunnus tonggol* are important tuna species which harvested in the Northern of the Oman Sea. In order to come up with the responsible fishing pattern, there was a need to identify some of characteristics and population dynamic parameters of these species. Data were collected randomly from all landing sites in the Sistan & Balouchistan Province Waters, from 2017 to 2019 . The growth parameters of yellowfin tuna ( $L_{\infty}$ ,  $K$  and  $t_0$  were computed 179.82 (cm), 0.43 (1/year) and -0.233 year). The growth parameters of skipjack tuna ( $L_{\infty}$ ,  $K$  and  $t_0$  were computed 80.71 (cm), 0.59 (1/year) and -0.210 year). The growth parameters of longtail tuna ( $L_{\infty}$ ,  $K$  and  $t_0$  were computed 139.43 (cm), 0.41 (1/year) and -0.263 year). The exploitation rate of three species were higher than 0.5 . Optimizing the mesh size of the nets , reducing fishing efforts and using longline gears are some of the alternatives in order to reduce fishing pressure on the tuna stocks in the region. The final results and its paper will be published after submission of the report to the scientific jury of the IFSRI headquarter.

**Table 8. Summery table of national program including dates**

Project title	Period	Countries involved	Budget total	Funding source	Objectives	Short description
Population dynamics of important tuna species (Skipjack, <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> , yellowfin tuna, <i>Thunnus albacares</i> , and longtail tuna, <i>Thunnus tonggol</i> ) and determination of temporal and spatial distribution using catch data on artisanal fishing vessels in the Oman Sea	2017–2020	Iran	11000 US\$	IFSRI	1-estimation of population dynamic parameters 2- determination of distribution of active vessels	

**Table 9. Scientific requirements contained in Resolutions of the Commission, adopted between 2017 and 2020**

Res. No.	Resolution	Scientific requirement	CPC progress
11/04	On a regional observer scheme	Paragraph 9	Partially adopted before (Port Observing). Related report has sent before to the secretariat.
12/04	On the conservation of marine turtles	Paragraphs 3, 4, 6–10	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Related report has sent before to the secretariat.
12/06	On reducing the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries.	Paragraphs 3–7	Not Applicable, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
12/09	On the conservation of thresher sharks (family alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence	Paragraphs 4–8	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
13/04	On the conservation of cetaceans	Paragraphs 7–9	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
13/05	On the conservation of whale sharks ( <i>Rhincodon typus</i> )	Paragraphs 7–9	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
13/06	On a scientific and management framework on the conservation of shark species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries	Paragraph 5–6	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
15/01	On the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence	Paragraphs 1–10	Catch and efforts by gears and vessel types are recorded and reported monthly.
15/02	Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)	Paragraphs 1–7	According to the Res. Iran submitted -Total catch data, -Catch by gear and effort data, - Size (Biometry) data, But, Only Iran dose not submitted, - Timelines and position of data,
17/05	On the conservation of sharks caught	Paragraphs 6, 9, 11	Training fishermen Translated current

	in association with fisheries managed by IOTC		resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Related report has sent before to the secretariat. In total in 2017 the amount of sharks that are caught during tuna fisheries is around 1.2% of total catch.
18/02	On management measures for the conservation of blue shark caught in association with IOTC fisheries	Paragraphs 2-5	
18/05	On management measures for the conservation of the Billfishes: Striped marlin, black marlin, blue marlin and Indo-Pacific sailfish	Paragraphs 7 - 11	Catch by gear and efforts submitted, but size and timeline (position) did not report.
18/07	On measures applicable in case of non-fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC	Paragraphs 1, 4	Related report has sent before to the secretariat.
19/01	On an Interim Plan for Rebuilding the Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna Stock in the IOTC Area of Competence	Paragraph 22	Iran is implementing in accordance with Resolution 19/01 Paragraph 22.
19/03	On the Conservation of Mobulid Rays Caught in Association with Fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence	Paragraph 11	In 2019 no intentional catch of Mobulid Rays in national coastal water, but according to our offshore fishermen's report a few of them has been entangle in oceanic gillnet fishery and released immediately to sea

## 9- LITERATURE CITED [Mandatory]

1-Iran Fisheries Statistics yearbooks 2017-2020

2-Data Collection System and Data Processing Method in Iran