

SEYCHELLES



2025 Annual Report

Transparency of Fisheries Management



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About this report

The 2025 Annual Report of Transparency in Fisheries Management in Seychelles is a joint publication of the FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) of Seychelles and the FiTI International Secretariat. It comprises an assessment of fisheries transparency as well as recommendations for improving transparency and stakeholder participation in Seychelles' fisheries sector.

The assessment of transparency for marine fisheries management information in Seychelles was conducted for the calendar year 2024 over a period of seven months (May – November 2025). The assessment was prepared by an independent consultant, Dr Jude Bijoux, under the supervision and responsibility of the FiTI International Secretariat.

The preliminary results of the transparency assessment were presented to Seychelles' National Multi-Stakeholder Group in November 2025, and the group was invited to comment on the initial assessment results. The report was jointly approved during a meeting in December 2025.

All information was believed to be correct as of November 2025. Nevertheless, the FiTI International Secretariat cannot accept responsibility for the consequences resulting from the use of this assessment or its contents by others.

We would like to thank all the individuals and institutions who contributed to the various stages of research and preparation of this report.

INTRODUCTION

This report marks the sixth year since the Seychelles started implementing the FiTI Standard. It has made substantial progress over this time and, in 2025, became the first country ever to reach a FiTI Compliant country status. National authorities are firmly committed to ensuring the public has access to timely and accessible information on their official websites to promote public debate on how fisheries are managed.

Published information on fisheries is continually updated, primarily through the websites of the Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) and the Ministry of Fisheries, Agriculture and Blue Economy (MFABE). The Seychelles' Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS) was launched in July 2023, but it is still a work in progress. Once fully operational, it promises to substantially improve public access to fisheries information. Progress planned for 2026 will include more detailed public data and more powerful tools for exploring this information. The SFA is also undertaking a review of its website design to improve the presentation of information.

The assessment of 12 thematic areas of fisheries management for the calendar year 2024 demonstrates that the Seychelles continues to meet expectations in the vast majority of areas. However, some information requirements were not fulfilled, including complete and detailed information on **projects in fisheries and marine conservation funded through overseas aid**.

There are also several information requirements for which national authorities have yet to collate data. One example concerns **government subsidies**, an issue that poses a challenge for national authorities. Further work is needed among national authorities to generate information on the actual value of certain subsidies and their recipients.

Another example is comprehensive data on **employment and wages in the fisheries sector**. A positive development is that the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is launching a nationwide survey of economic activities in 2027, which should provide new and vital insights into the importance of the fisheries sector to the Seychelles economy. There is an opportunity to engage fisheries stakeholders in the design of this survey, which could serve as an example for other countries on how the fisheries sector, particularly groups commonly referred to as small-scale or artisanal, can be better captured in national census data. Fisheries is often relegated to a subsector of agriculture and, as a result, remains partially hidden.

While the Seychelles has achieved high levels of transparency, another ongoing challenge, shared with many other countries, is the **delay in releasing important information**: major fisheries publications containing data for 2024 were released towards the end of 2025. A significant factor is the time it takes companies in the large-scale sector to provide information on their fishing activities, coupled with the SFA's verification of this information. Nevertheless, the quality of data in the large-scale fisheries sector is improving, driven by advances in the use of electronic logbooks, with almost 100 per cent coverage across both the industrial longline and purse-seine fisheries for the past three years.

Other notable developments for further improving transparency include progress on completing the **Tuna Fisheries Management Plan**, now awaiting Cabinet approval. The development of this plan began in 2023 and has involved extensive stakeholder participation. There have also been advances in the introduction of an **Electronic Monitoring System for the semi-industrial long line fishery**, which the fisheries sector has supported as part of its efforts to apply for certification by the Marine Stewardship Council.

While the **Seychelles has reached high levels of transparency**, there are opportunities for further progressive improvements. The National Multi-Stakeholder Group has therefore made **13 new recommendations** for consideration by Seychelles' national authorities, and emphasised certain areas where previous recommendations have not yet been addressed.

About the FiTI Standard

The FiTI Standard (current version 1.1) is the only internationally recognised framework that defines what information on marine fisheries management should be published online by national authorities, how it can be verified, and how it can be used more effectively to inform public debate.

The FiTI Standard was developed through a global multi-stakeholder process, including governments, industrial fishing companies, small-scale fishing representatives, intergovernmental organisations and civil society groups working on fisheries and marine conservation.

Its objective is to contribute to the sustainability of marine fisheries by increasing the accessibility, credibility and usability of national fisheries management information.

FiTI Standard: 12 thematic areas of marine fisheries management



1. Fisheries Laws, Regulations & Official Policy Documents



2. Fisheries Tenure Arrangements



3. Foreign Fishing Access Agreements



4. The State of the Fisheries Resources



5. Large-Scale Fisheries



6. Small-Scale Fisheries



7. Post-Harvest Sector and Fish Trade



8. Fisheries Law Enforcement



9. Labour Standards



10. Fisheries Subsidies



11. Official Development Assistance



12. Beneficial Ownership

Principle of progressive improvement

Although the FiTI Standard holds all participating countries to the same high standards, it recognises that national authorities may lack financial resources, technology, expertise or staff to fulfil the transparency requirements of the FiTI Standard. Therefore, countries are not expected to have complete data for every transparency requirement from the beginning. Instead, national authorities must disclose the information they have, and where important gaps exist, improvements over time must be demonstrated.

ANNUAL TRANSPARENCY ASSESSMENT



This assessment considers the transparency of information across the 12 thematic areas of the FiTI Standard for the **calendar year 2024**.

Within each thematic area, the assessment reviews the status of numerous information requirements to determine their compliance with the Standard.

The assessment focuses entirely on information that national authorities in Seychelles publish on government websites, as well as information published in a Fisheries Information Report by Seychelles' FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group.

Information was assessed according to the following four categories:



Information published

This applies to information published by national authorities in accordance with the FiTI Standard.



Information not available

This applies to information that is not published because national authorities have yet to collect or compile it. This may be due to authorities prioritising different objectives or a lack of technical, financial, or human resources needed to produce such information.



Information not disclosed

This applies to requirements for which national authorities hold information that has yet to be released to the public.



Information not applicable

This applies to requirements in the FiTI Standard that do not apply to the country's marine fisheries sector.



Locating fisheries information in Seychelles

Government information can be accessed through the national e-government portal, www.egov.sc, which serves as a gateway to public services and resources.

For fisheries and marine-related matters, information is available on the websites of the national authorities responsible for fisheries management, maritime safety, and port operations:

- **Ministry of Fisheries, Agriculture and Blue Economy (MFABE)**
<https://mofbe.gov.sc>
- **Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA)**
<https://www.sfa.sc>
- **Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority (SMSA)**
<https://smsa.sc>
- **Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA)**
<http://www.seyport.sc>

The primary source of online information on marine fisheries management is published on the SFA's website. This provides the majority of information reviewed for this transparency assessment. This website provides a range of information on the governance of marine fisheries, laws and policies, and an e-library. The SFA have two flagship publications:

- The **SFA's Annual Report**, which provides a review of the organisation's progress on its objectives and targets, as well as its audited financial report.
- The **SFA's Annual Statistical Report**, which provides data on a range of metrics, including the numbers of vessels operating in different sectors, catch, landing and trade information.

SFA is also establishing the **Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS)** to enhance data collection, management, and dissemination across the fisheries sector. This can be accessed from the SFA's website. The development of the FIMS is ongoing, with plans to extend its data coverage and enhance its public user interface.

Information published

This applies to information for calendar year 2024 published by Seychelles' national authorities in accordance with the FiTI Standard.



- Registry of all current laws, regulations and policy documents.



- Summary information on the rules of tenure, including rules and procedures applicable to nine sectors of commercial and non-commercial fishing.



- Signed contracts of five fisheries access agreements allowing foreign-flagged vessels access to Seychelles waters.
- Signed contracts of two fisheries access agreements allowing Seychelles-flagged vessels access to the waters of Mayotte and Mauritius.



- Up-to-date list of official government reports on the health of fish populations subject to commercial fishing, including those published by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) covering migratory species in Seychelles waters.
- Information on the schedule of planned stock assessments.



- List of licensed vessels.
- Per vessel license fee payments.
- Summary information on other charges made by large-scale vessels, including the environmental fee and excess catch charge.
- Catch, landings and transshipment data for purse seine and industrial long-line sectors, disaggregated according to the flag state of the vessel.
- Discard data for purse seine and industrial long-line sectors, disaggregated according to the flag state of the vessel.
- Fishing effort data for purse seine and industrial long-line sectors, disaggregated according to the flag state of the vessel.



- Number of vessels, arranged according to six sectors.
- Number of fishing licenses, arranged according to six sectors.
- Number of fishers according to gender and employment status.
- License fee payments.
- Quantity of catches, arranged according to six sectors.
- Information on discards.
- Most up-to-date evaluations of the economic, social, and food security contributions of small-scale fisheries, but no additional studies were completed in 2024.



- Production statistics.
- Value and quantity of fish imports, with partial information on the country of origin.
- Value and quantity of fish exports, with partial information on the country of destination.



- Law enforcement activities undertaken in 2024, including the total number of inspections and patrols.
- Budget allocations for law enforcement activities.
- Information on major offences in the fisheries sector.



- Summary information on labour laws applicable to workers in the fisheries sector, excluding those in the International Trade Zone. This information includes the authorities responsible for enforcing these rules, grievance mechanisms and national resources spent on enforcing labour laws.
- The total number of labour related offences in the fisheries sector.



- Value of fuel subsidies.



- Information regarding the status of beneficial ownership transparency.

Information not available

This applies to information for calendar year 2024 that is not published because Seychelles' national authorities have yet to collect or compile it. This may be due to authorities prioritising different objectives or a lack of technical, financial, or human resources needed to produce such information.

Based on the FiTI Principle of 'progressive improvements', countries are compliant with the FiTI Standard with respect to these requirements. However, Seychelles' National Multi-Stakeholder Group must agree on recommendations to address these information gaps, where possible.



- **Evaluations of bilateral fisheries access agreements.**

No evaluations were undertaken on any of the seven bilateral fisheries agreements. However, an external evaluation of the agreement between the Seychelles and the EU was published by the European Commission in 2025.



- **Studies on the social, economic, or food security impacts of the large-scale fisheries in the Seychelles.**

No government studies have been undertaken that cover this issue.



- **The number of people employed in commercial fisheries sectors, including the number of men and women working in specific sub-sectors.**

The National Bureau of Statistics published employment data for the agriculture sector, including the fisheries sector, in 2024, but this information is based on non-comprehensive data-collection methods, as established by previous studies published by the MFABE.

- **The number of people employed in informal fisheries sectors, including the number of men and women working in specific sub-sectors.**

The MFABE acknowledged the existence of an informal fisheries sector, as part of the 2021 FiTI reporting process. However, no official studies or reports have been produced that estimate the total number of people engaged in the Seychelles informal fisheries sectors.

- **Information on wages specifically for the post-harvest fisheries sector.**

Although the Seychelles Revenue Authority collects wage information, efforts to produce statistics specifically for the fisheries sector have not yet been undertaken.



- **National law enforcement strategy.**

Although the Seychelles authorities produced a National Plan of Action against IUU fishing in 2024, this sets out more generalised goals and approaches, without operational objectives and targets, as well as measures for protective area law enforcement. Furthermore, this plan has not yet been published as it awaits approval from the Cabinet.



- **Summary information on the labour laws applicable to fisheries workers.**
Summary information on labour laws produced by the SFA does not explain the unique labour standards that apply to workers operating in the International Trade Zone.



- **Non-fuel related subsidies.**
Information on the actual value and recipients of non-fuel related subsidies is held across government agencies and requires further work to collate. This includes ice subsidies, the government supported insurance scheme for fishers, the rebates on importation of certain vehicles and equipment as well as social security benefits for fishers.

Information not disclosed

This applies to requirements for which Seychelles' national authorities hold information for calendar year 2024 that has yet to be disclosed to the public. To remain compliant with the FiTI Standard, national authorities must disclose all available information online.



- **SFA has produced a list of *fisheries-related projects*. However, this is incomplete, and information on the purpose, value and outcomes is not provided for all projects. Some evaluation documents are also missing from the online list.**
- **Fisheries and marine conservation projects, including available evaluations.**
Furthermore, a list of *marine-conservation projects* financed through development aid is not published online. It is noted that the National Planning Department under the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, Trade and Investment, is mandated to collate information on all donor-financed projects mobilised by national authorities, but does not publish this information

Information not applicable

This applies to requirements in the FiTI Standard that did not apply for calendar year 2024 to the Seychelles' marine fisheries sector.



- **Reports on the outcome of public consultations regarding the decision to enter into fishing access agreements with other countries.**
No such public consultations took place in 2024.

Strengthening information quality

Public information on fisheries is frequently challenged for its reliability, consistency or credibility. The reliability of information can be undermined in various ways: either the accuracy of the data is contested, or there are inconsistencies across different publications. A lack of credible information can undermine public participation in fisheries decision-making or foster mistrust among stakeholders.

Ensuring that government information is the best available is included in the FiTI Standard. However, determining this is not always straightforward. Generating accurate fisheries data is notoriously difficult for public authorities, particularly when it comes to the activities of fishing vessels.

As countries improve transparency, discussions about the quality of government information tend to occur gradually, driven by improved public access to information. It is therefore not always possible to conduct a comprehensive review of the quality of information in the annual transparency assessments undertaken for the FiTI. Nevertheless, over time, the quality of government information must become a stronger aspect of the work evaluating transparency.

For this transparency assessment, several specific examples were identified in which further discussion of the information's quality appears important.



- **Catch data for the octopus fishery**

While the reliability of catch data across all sectors is often contested, a 2023 study by the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation for the Seychelles raised doubts about the accuracy of official data on the amount of octopus harvested. It was claimed that official data underestimated actual harvests by a considerable margin. This is important for managing the octopus fishery sustainably. However, different methods for gathering information were used in this research than those used by national authorities, resulting in higher estimates of harvests from recreational and informal fishers.

- **Discards**

SFA stated in its 2022 annual statistical report that discards from small-scale fisheries in the Seychelles are insignificant and, therefore, are not estimated in national statistical reporting. While this might be accurate for several sectors categorised as small-scale fisheries, it may not reflect practices in the semi-industrial longline sector. As this sector moves forward with certification under the Marine Stewardship Council, more accurate information on discards produced by businesses in this sector may become available to national fishing authorities.



- **Production data**

Statistics on the production of fisheries products are published by both the SFA and the National Bureau of Statistics. However, there are inconsistencies between the two datasets.

- **Employment data**

The National Bureau of Statistics produces aggregate data on employment in the fisheries sector in its annual statistical bulletins. However, these figures significantly under report the numbers of people engaged in the fisheries sector, including those classified as working in the informal economy.

REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP

The Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) is implemented in Seychelles through a National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG), consisting of representatives from government, business and organised civil society.

The National MSG is the main decision-making body for enhancing transparency in Seychelles' fisheries sector.

The primary responsibilities of the National MSG are:

- ✓ Enhance the credibility and data quality of national fisheries information
- ✓ Recommend fisheries transparency improvements to the government and monitor their implementations
- ✓ Promote the public understanding (and appreciation) of the country's fisheries sector
- ✓ Contribute to information-based and stakeholder-inclusive policy making and fisheries governance
- ✓ Monitor compliance of national efforts against the global FiTI Standard



Government Representatives

Ministry of Fisheries, Agriculture and Blue Economy:

Mr Philippe Michaud [Chair]

Department of Fisheries:

Mr Roy Clarisse

Department of Blue Economy:

Ms Nathanielle Morel

Seychelles Maritime Safety

Authority: *Mr Kenneth Kilindo*

Business Representatives

Association of Fish Processors & Exporters of Seychelles:

Mr Muditha Gunathilake

Aquarius Shipping: *Mr Anthony*

Savy de St Maurice

Bel Ombre Fishermen

Association: *Mr Rodney Nicole*

Glacis Fishermen Association:

Mr Faizal Suleman

Seaward Fishing Co. (Pty):

Mr. Sewlyn Edmond

Civil Society Representatives

Transparency Initiative Seychelles:

Ms Fatime Kante

Sustainability for Seychelles:

Dr Marie-Therese Purvis

Nature Seychelles:

Mr Antoine-Marie Moustache

Seychelles Maritime Academy:

Ms Bryna Moustache

Danny Faure Foundation:

Mr Alain Decomarmond

Observers

Seychelles Fisheries Authority: *Ms Betty Victor, Ms Karyss Belle, Ms Tresa Bastienne*

Information Commission: *Ms Mumtaz Hasan*

Recommendations from Seychelles' National Multi-Stakeholder Group

“Increasing transparency and participation must be feasible and introduced progressively in order to ensure the wide acceptance of this initiative.”

Principle 7 of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative

Based on the transparency assessment conducted by the FiTI International Secretariat for 2024, the Seychelles' National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) has agreed to recommendations for improving transparency and stakeholder participation. While Seychelles' government is not obliged to implement recommendations from its National MSG it must, however, respond to each recommendation, even if it rejects the proposal from the National MSG.

13

Recommendations issued by Seychelles' MSG in 2025 to further improve transparency and stakeholder participation in fisheries



Information disclosure:

1



Information clarity:

4



Information availability:

2



Stakeholder participation:

0



Information quality:

4



Beyond the FiTI Standard:

2



Information disclosure

Recommendations to improve access to information held by national authorities that has not yet been disclosed online.

2025_1

Publish information on fisheries and marine conservation projects funded through development aid over the past 5 years, with a summary of each project and copies of evaluations, if available.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: The Ministry for the Environment, Climate, Energy and Natural Resources

Expected due date: tbd.

Background: Seychelles' National MSG issued a recommendation to national authorities to release complete information on these projects already during the first annual FiTI reporting process (for calendar year 2019). This recommendation was marked as completed when SFA published a list of fisheries-related projects on its website in 2021. However, the list is now outdated and also contains only current projects.

Furthermore, this assessment (for calendar year 2024) found that information on marine conservation projects, which typically impact or involve fisheries, is not publicly disclosed by any national authority, a finding also made in the previous year's assessment, which also noted that fisheries might be included under projects that address climate adaptation and mitigation. It is assumed that information on these projects is held by the Ministry for the Environment, Climate, Energy and Natural Resources.



Information availability

Recommendations to collect or compile information that is currently unknown about the Seychelles fisheries sector.

2025_2

Collate and publish information on wages in the fisheries sector held by the Seychelles Revenue Authority.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: MFABE/SFA

Expected due date: End of 2026

Background: Seychelles' National MSG noted that the Seychelles Revenue Authority will hold the data; however, it requires efforts from national authorities to collate it specifically for those classified as working in the fisheries sector.

2025_3

Compile and publish a comprehensive list of all government financial transfers and subsidies provided to the fishing sector, and their recipients.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA

Expected due date: tbd.

Background: SFA's 2024 SFA Annual Report only contains information on fuel subsidies. It does not contain any information on ice subsidies, subsidies on the insurance scheme, rebate on importation of certain vehicles and equipment as well as social security benefits.

Furthermore, in 2023, public knowledge on the type, value and recipients of subsidies in the fisheries sector was supported by a standalone publication produced by the SFA. This largely fulfilled a recommendation issued by Seychelles National MSG in 2021 (ID: 2020_32). However, this level of information has not been maintained.

For other areas where the transparency assessment indicated information being unavailable, such as evaluations of fishing access agreements, a national report on the health of fish populations or studies on the social, economic and food security contributions of large-scale fisheries, Seychelles' National MSG already issued recommendations in previous years.



Information quality

Recommendations to improve the accuracy, consistency or reliability of published information.

2025_4

Amend catch logbooks for the semi-industrial fishing sector to include a data field on discards.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA

Expected due date: tbd.

Background: While Seychelles' National MSG agrees with SFA's statement that discards in most sectors categorised as small-scale are likely to be negligible, discards are more likely to be higher in the semi-industrial longline fishing sector. The difficulty in improving data collection is that there are no formal mechanisms for national authorities to collate this information.

2025_5

Update the summary of tenure arrangements for all fisheries and fisheries activities.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA

Expected due date:
End of 2026

Background: Seychelles' National MSG emphasized the importance that tenure arrangement information remains relevant, dynamic and complete. There were some instances of mistakes in information and lack of tenure information on some fisheries featuring in the FAQ on tenure arrangements.

2025_6

Ensure consistency of information on the number and types of fishing vessels that have been licensed to fish in Seychelles waters.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA

Expected due date: tbd.

Background: Information on the number of large-scale vessels authorised to fish in Seychelles waters is provided in three separate reports by the SFA: in its vessel list published on its website, the SFA's FIMS and the SFA's Annual Statistical Report. There are some discrepancies between these sources caused by recording licenses issued to vessels as opposed to recording the list of authorised vessels for the calendar year.

2025_7

Initiate a review of existing regulations so that obligations for reporting by fish processors are strengthened.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA/MFABE

Expected due date: tbd.

Background: Seychelles' National MSG agreed that official data on fish production and export is likely to be inaccurate. In discussions with SFA experts, it was explained that part of the problem is that existing regulations do not require fish processors to provide this information to authorities.



Information clarity

Recommendations to improve how published fisheries management information is more widely communicated, more easily understandable and usable by a non-expert audience, thereby facilitating public awareness and understanding.

2025_8

Introduce an archive for non-current laws, regulations and policy documents so that these are more clearly distinguished from existing ones.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: MFABE/SFA

Expected due date: tbd.

Background: Seychelles' National MSG emphasised the need to distinguish between current and past information without the need to remove past information from the websites.

2025_9

Prepare and post on its website a summary of fisheries laws, regulations and policy documents, which are already published on the MFABE website.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA

Expected due date: End of 2026

Background: The section on fisheries laws, regulations and policy documents on the MFABE website is seen as being comprehensive. It was felt that there was no need for SFA to duplicate the same information on its website and that the SFA should instead provide a link to the MFABE website and provide a descriptive summary of the information contained in the laws and regulations.

2025_10

Differentiate non-government reports in SFA's e-library from official reports.

Priority: Medium

Responsibility: SFA

Expected due date: End of 2026

Background: Seychelles' National MSG noted that, in their discussions regarding conflicting reports on the volume of octopus catch, it was not clear whether the study offering different data from that used by SFA was a non-government study.

2025_11

Ensure that large-scale fishing vessel registries are archived on its website for at least 3 years after the end of the calendar year they represent.

Priority: tbd

Responsibility: SFA

Expected due date: tbd

Background: Seychelles' National MSG highlighted the importance of historical trends in understanding licensing information in the large-scale fishing sector. This increases public understanding about the intensity of fishing and the relative importance of vessels from different flag states.



Stakeholder participation

Recommendations to improve public participation in Seychelles' fisheries management.

Seychelles' National MSG did not issue any new recommendations to strengthen stakeholder participation. However, the group reiterated the importance of addressing a recommendation issued in 2023 (ID: 2023_01) to enhance national stakeholders' consultation on the preparation, negotiation, or monitoring of foreign fishing access agreements, and to publish broad outlines of stakeholder inputs and concerns. So far, this recommendation has not been addressed (due date: 2027).



Beyond the FiTI Standard

Recommendations to exceed or go beyond the minimum requirements of the FiTI Standard, which would enable the FiTI implementation process further to address national priorities for Seychelles' fisheries sector.

2025_12

Draft regulations for the permitting of recreational fishing.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA/MFABE

Expected due date: tbd.

Background: Seychelles' National MSG discussed their ongoing interest in the improvement of data on the recreational fisheries sector. The group understands that the SFA is limited in its capacity to collate data on this sector, as they have no legal mandate, while recreational fishing is not subject to individual permits.

2025_13

Submit a formal request to the Financial Intelligence Unit for SFA to become one of the designated public authorities to have access to the Beneficial Ownership Database.

Priority: tbd.

Responsibility: SFA

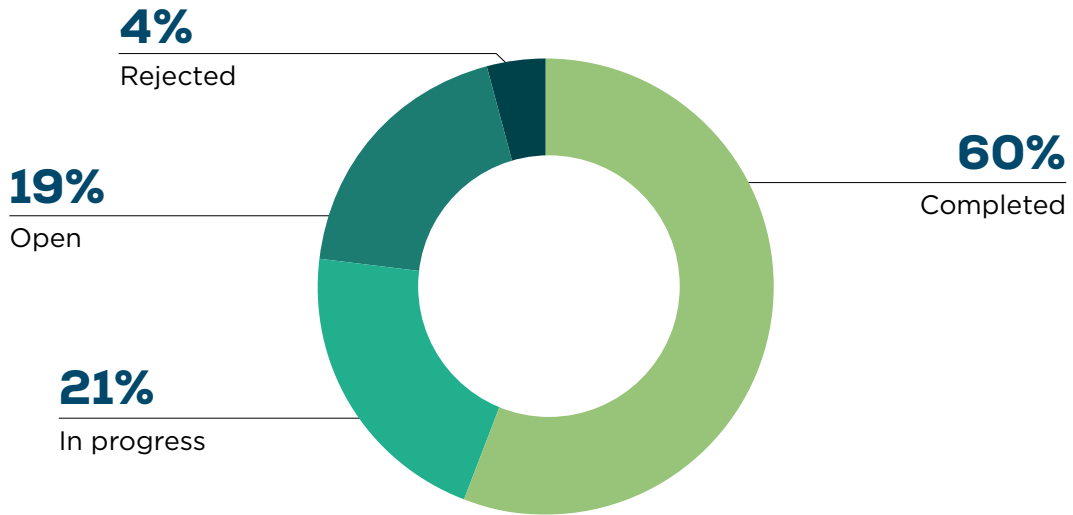
Expected due date: tbd.

Background: At the moment, SFA does not have access to the central Beneficial Ownership Database and cannot cross-check beneficial ownership information provided on licence application with those in the BO database.

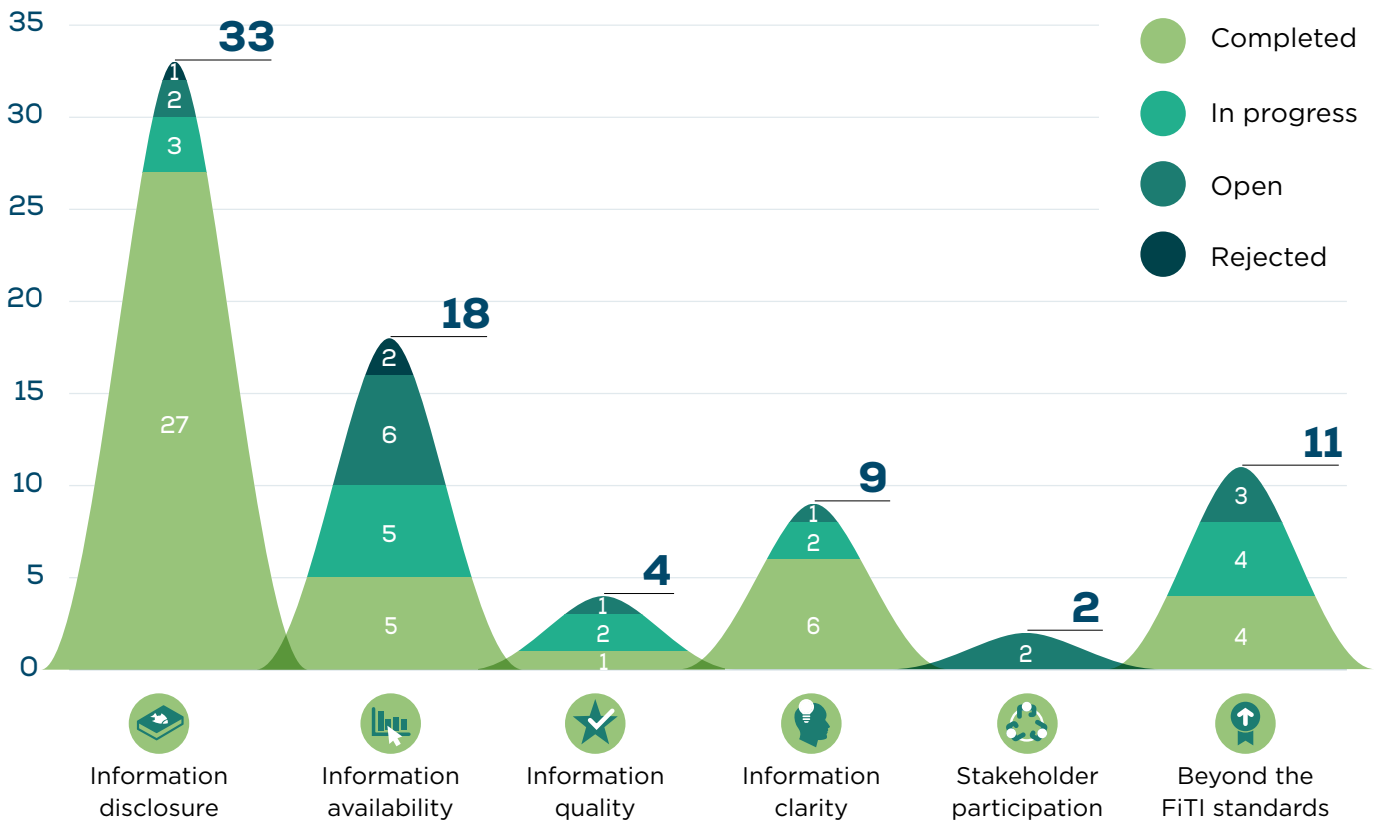
Progress in implementing past recommendations (2020 - 2024)

Since its inception in 2020, Seychelles' National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) has issued 77 recommendations to national authorities in Seychelles.

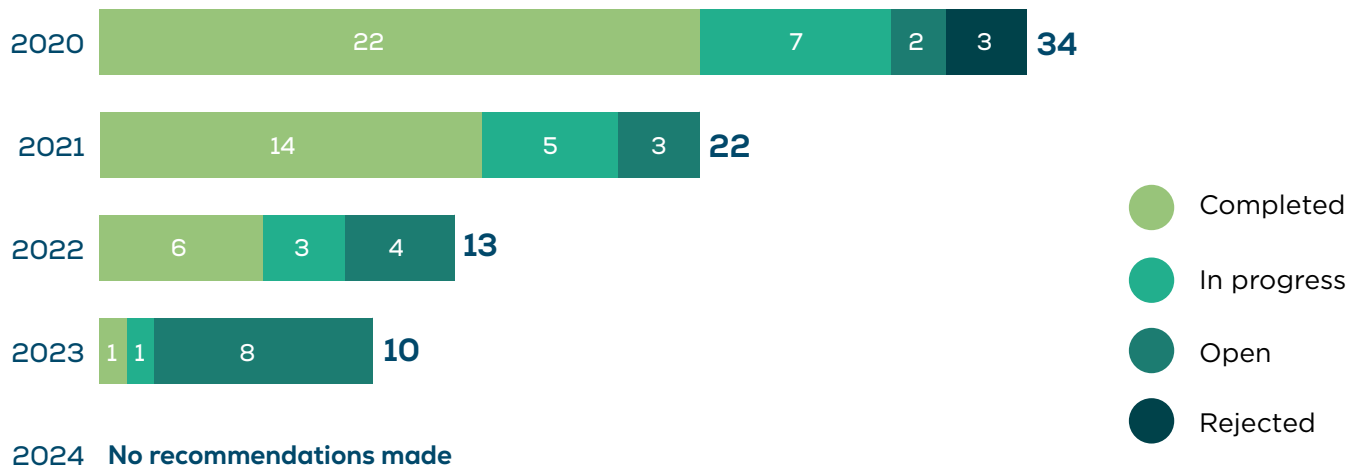
Past recommendations according to implementation status:



Past recommendations according to category:



Past recommendations by issuing year:



For more information about these recommendations as well as their detailed implementation status, please refer to the central Progressive Improvement Tracker of the FiTI International Secretariat (<https://fiti.global/progressive-improvement-tracker>).

As part of its annual responsibility, Seychelles' National MSG also reviewed previously unimplemented recommendations and emphasised the following aspects:

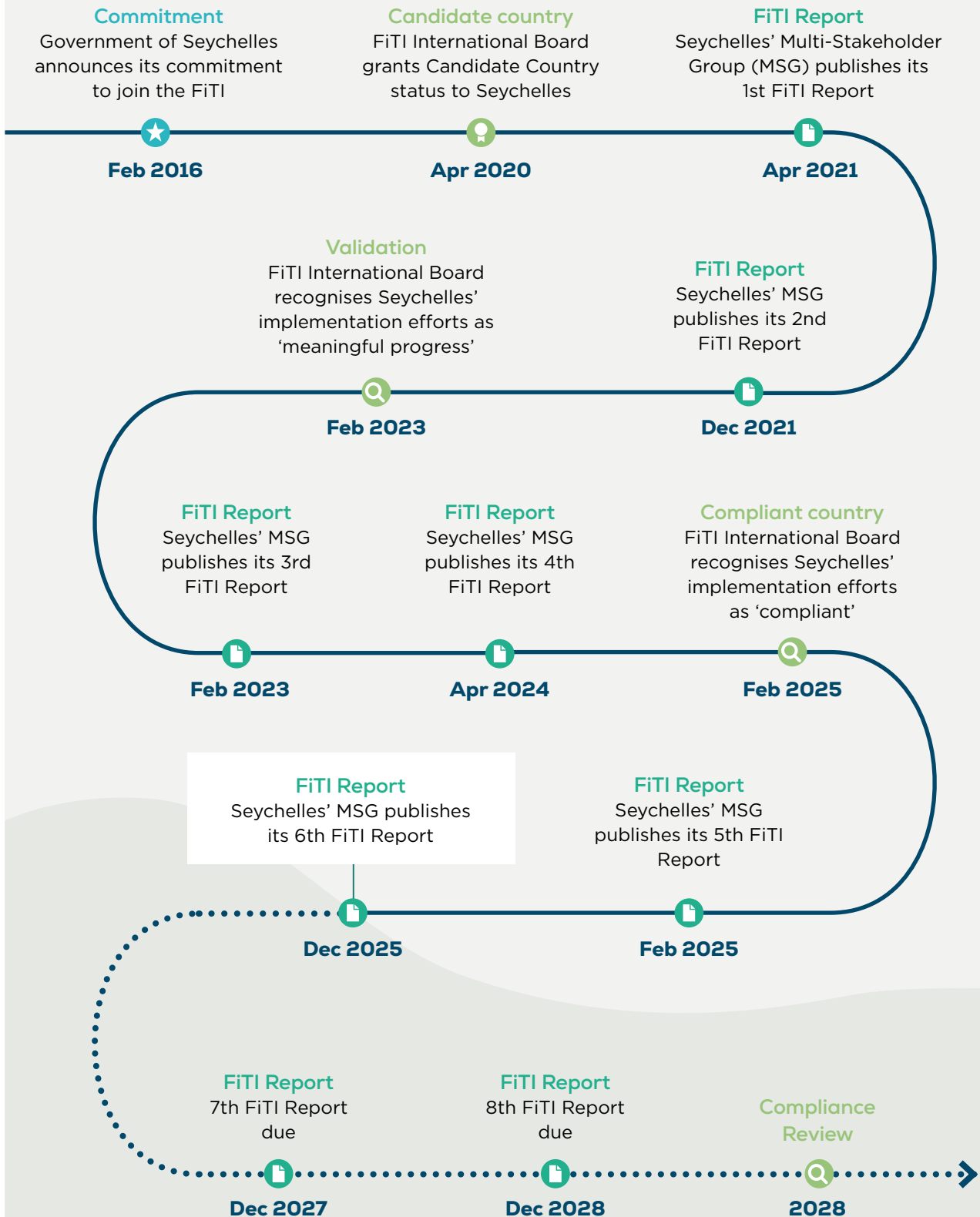
- Information on **employment in the fisheries sector** has been inconsistent over the past four years. Valuable insights have been provided in ad hoc reports published by the SFA, but there is no ongoing annual reporting. In 2021, it was agreed that more work was required to improve the employment data produced by the National Bureau of Statistics. This recommendation was reiterated in 2023 and is further reiterated by the NMSG in this report for 2024 data. The National MSG notes that the 2027 census of economic activity offers a significant opportunity to capture more detailed and reliable data on employment in the fisheries sector, including among those classified as working in the informal sector.
- Information on **law enforcement efforts** has not been fully produced. Specifically, there is a lack of public information on a national law enforcement strategy for the fisheries sector, as well as on the financial and human resources deployed by the government to ensure compliance with national fisheries legislations (including data from other government agencies, such as the Coast Guard, Customs, and the Police). A recommendation for information on national law enforcement activities, including all relevant agencies, was issued in 2020 (ID: 2020_34) and remains overdue.

Furthermore, in 2024, Seychelles National MSG recommended that the government's draft **National Plan of Action to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing** should be endorsed and approved. This recommendation is reiterated, as this document remains unpublished and awaits Cabinet approval.

- In 2022, the National MSG issued a recommendation that **summary information on national laws and labour** standards in the fisheries sector is still missing information on those employed in the International Trade Zone. This gap has yet to be fulfilled. The National MSG identified the need to meet with the Seychelles' Financial Services Authority (FSA) to request that this information be produced.



FiTI implementation in Seychelles







Sustainable fisheries need transparency!

It is commonly accepted that the equitable and sustainable management of fisheries relies on public access to information. Without reliable information, the capacity of national authorities to make decisions based on the best available data is diminished; so too is the ability of non-governmental stakeholders to exercise effective oversight, demand accountability and engage in public debates on how fisheries are managed.

The Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) was established in 2015 as a global, multi-stakeholder-driven endeavour to enhance the sustainability of marine fisheries by increasing public access to fisheries management information. At its heart is the FiTI Standard. This establishes the information on fisheries that national authorities should publish online, how it can be verified, and how it can be used more effectively to inform public debate.

The first FiTI Standard was released in April 2017, following nearly two years of extensive discussions among governments, industrial fishing companies, small-scale fishing representatives, intergovernmental organisations and civil society groups working on fisheries and marine conservation.

Since its inception, the FiTI Standard has demonstrated its effectiveness and has become the global default framework for transparency in national marine fisheries management.

December 2025



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The production of the report was funded by the FiTI International Secretariat.

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Design: Design for development (www.d4d.co.za)



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