

# Reducing Tuna Bycatch: ISSF in Support of the RFMO Mission

International Seafood Sustainability Foundation

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# ISSF Global Mission

To undertake science-based initiatives with all stakeholders to facilitate the long-term conservation and sustainable use of target fish stocks and to maintain the health of the marine ecosystem.



# ISSF Statement of Concern on Bycatch

“ISSF is committed to undertake actions to address the issues associated with bycatch resulting from fishing for tuna.”



# Reducing Bycatch: Good Beginning

- Measured Data
- Management Measures
- Research & Development
- Mitigation Technology & Practices



# Bycatch: Consensus on Need

- Scientists, RFMOs, NGOs, nations agree on need for R&D
  - Adequate sample designs
  - Observers
  - Global coordination



# ISSF Proposal: Global Workshop

- ISSF would host global workshop
  - Scientists from RFMOs, nations, NGOs, interested parties
  - Review current research programs including fishing gear, methods and strategies
  - Identify most promising areas
  - Set priorities for further research



# ISSF Proposal: Funding & Support

- Develop global funding strategy
  - Include nations, industry members, eNGOs
- Employ dedicated research fishing vessel
  - Gear and technology experiments
- Involve fleet of willing vessels
  - Ocean trials of most promising technology & practices



# ISSF Proposal: Encouragement to Proceed

- RFMO directors, key scientists willing to consider
- ISSF ready, willing & able
- Industry beyond ISSF interested to know more





# Bycatch Reduction: Getting There Sooner

- Excellent work from RFMO scientists
- Progress toward tuna bycatch reduction
- Get there sooner

