



## The Kilwa District Octopus Fishery Comprehensive Electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability (eCDT) Strategy



Octopus Fishers in Kilwa District (Credit: Aqua-Farms Organization)

April 2023



# Achievements and Challenges of Seafood Traceability in Tanzania

Transition from Paper-based to electronic Catch Documentation & Traceability

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# Outline

Introduction

Objective

Conclusion &  
Recommendation

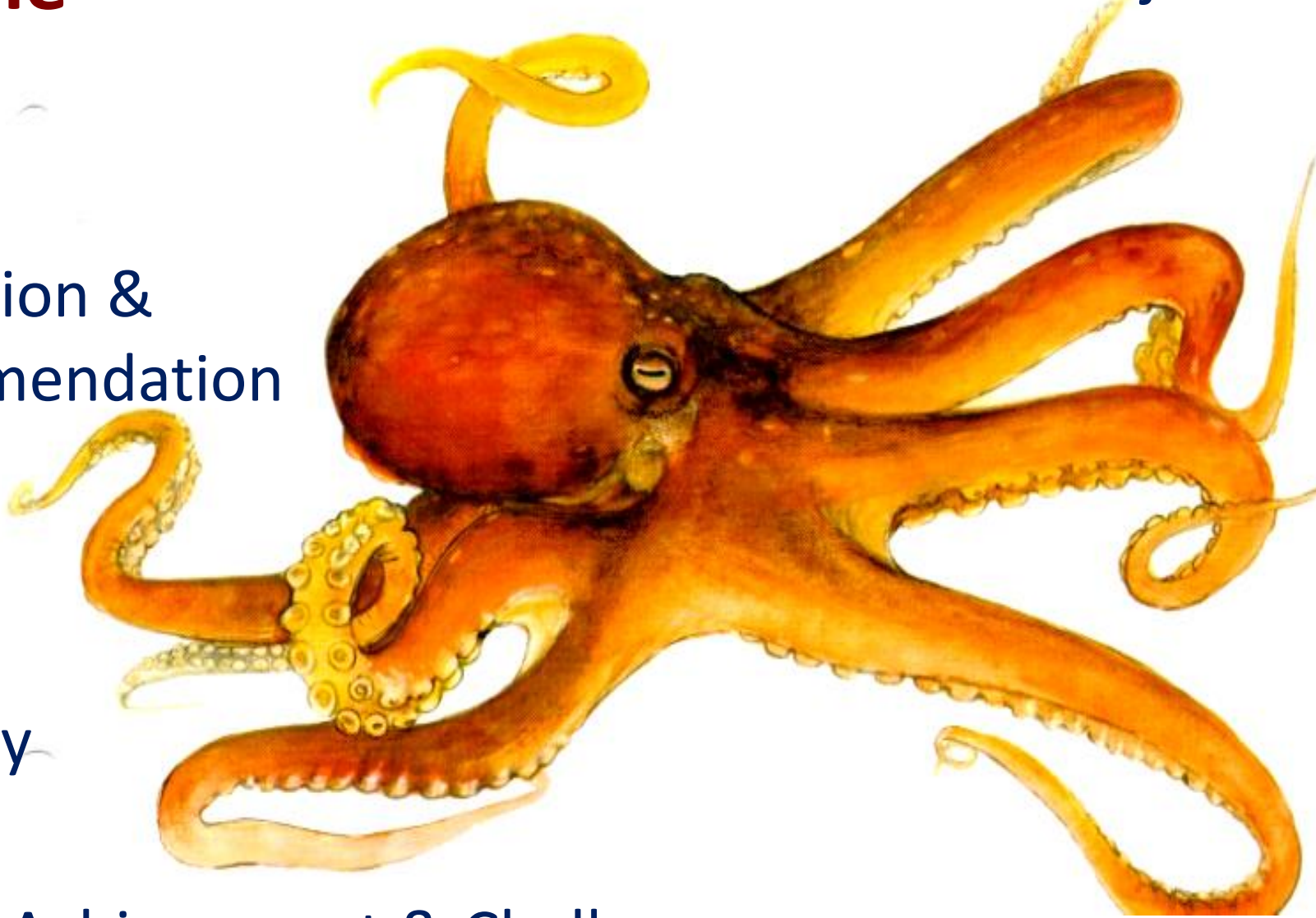
Fisheries  
Sector

International  
trade

eCDT  
Strategy

Quality and  
Safety

Achievement & Challenges



# Objective



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SALT SEAFOOD ALLIANCE FOR LEGALITY & TRACEABILITY

AFO

USAID WATSON FAMILY FOUNDATION

FISH WISE

The cover features the national emblem of Tanzania at the top, a photograph of a fisherwoman on a beach, and logos for SALT, AFO, USAID, Watson Family Foundation, Moore, and Fish Wise.

Experience with regard to achievements and challenges of seafood traceability in Tanzania shared at **WSC-2023**

The focus is placed on experience related to Paper-based Traceability and development of Electronic Catch Data and Traceability



Accurate  
Go to Settings

The Fisheries Sector: at a glance



Fisheries in Tanzania is essentially small scale, a sub-sector which is associated with 98% of fish landing in the country

The inshore marine waters is characterized by narrow continental shelf and lack of upwelling



Shallow water shrimp trawling of less than 10 semi industrial vessels

An average of 60 foreign vessels licensed for international market



## Tanzania: Fisheries at a glance:



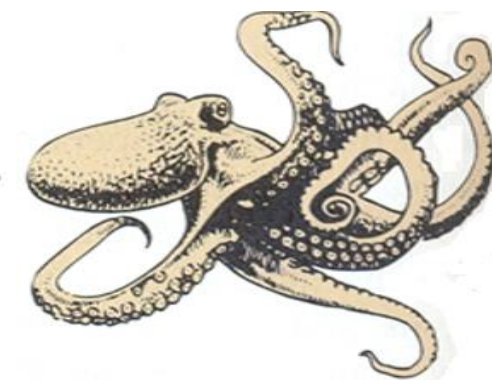
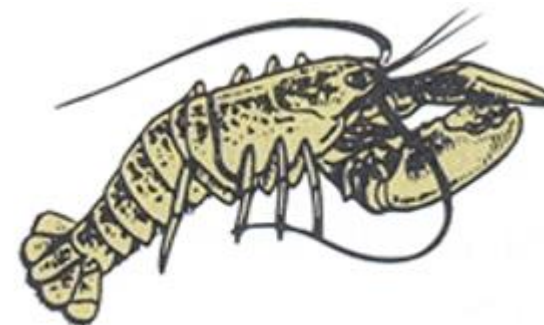
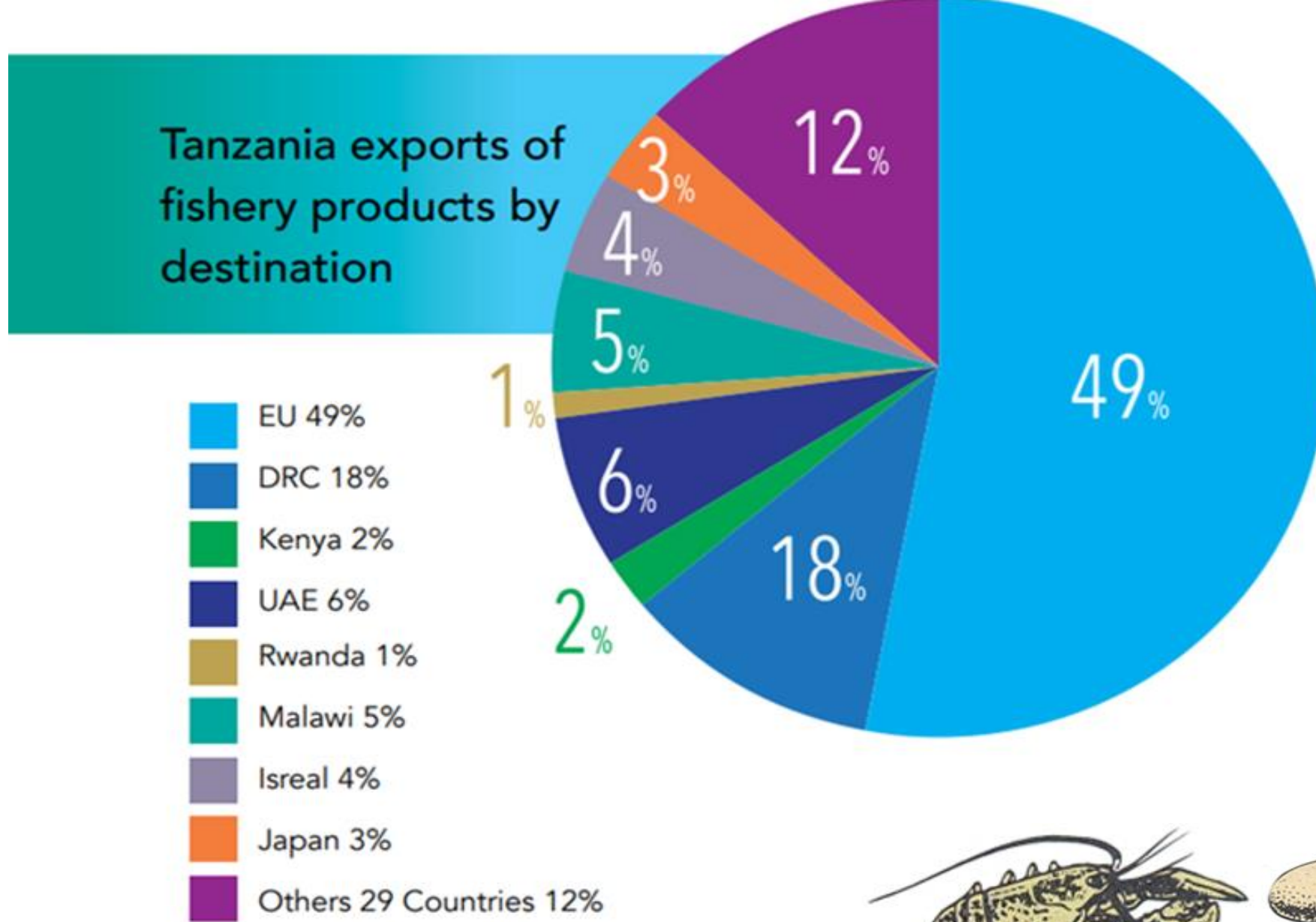
(Coverage: Mainland Tanzania)



- Potential (excluding EEZ) = 2.8 mil. tons.
- Landing (excluding EEZ) 470,000 tons/annum
- Number of primary fishers: about 202,053
- In secondary sector: 4 mil.
- Number of canoes = 58,930
- Exports: 40,000 ton (semi processed wt.)
- Export value: US\$ 213 mil.
- Imports: 22,000 tons
- Import value: US\$ 19 mil



# International Trade



Source:  
URT 2022

**From production to market-orientation:**  
increasing demand for quality and safe seafood products.



**International Seafood Trade**

Traceability System is one of the conditions to trade

Traceability for competitiveness



# Achievements



**Great achievement:** Sustaining selling of over 40,000 tons of semi-processed fishery products per annum to quality stringent international market for over 30 years

## Key success factors

- Institutional capacity of Competent Authority
- Availability of adequate resource-raw material
- Technical and financial support from the EU
- Right policies safeguarding SSFs
- Involvement of fishers through BMUs
- Price being offered by the market
- Provision of adequate Training and Extension services

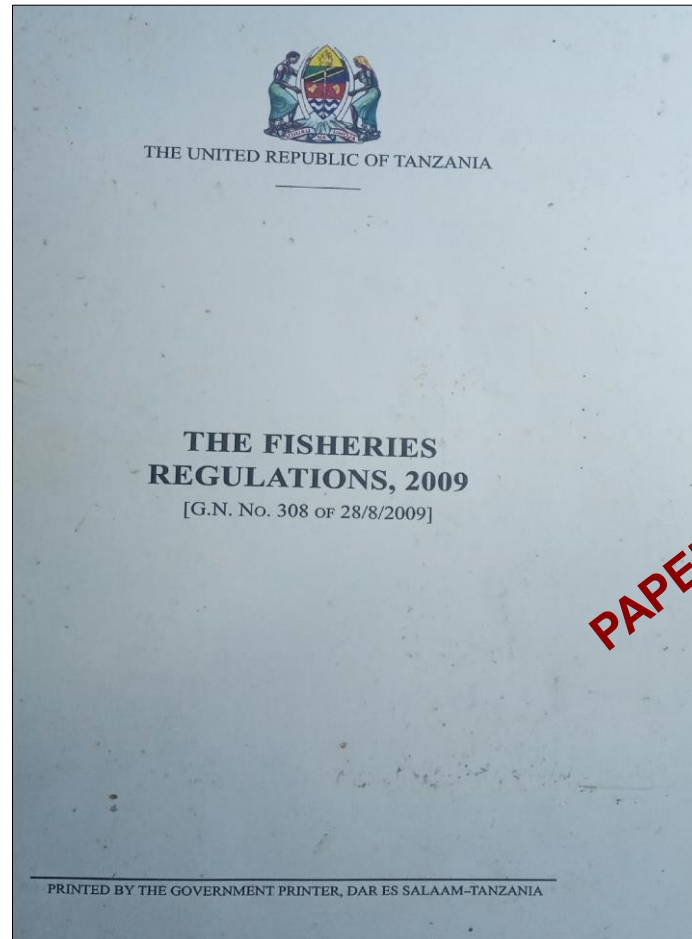




Paper-based Traceability system is legally codified, and it continues to contribute greatly in enhancing quality assurance of seafood products

## Challenges:

- Long process
- Tedious
- Takes long to analyze and intervene



*Fisheries Regulations*

G.N. No. 308 (contd.)

QA/RS/08

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
THE FISHERIES ACT 2003  
(The Fisheries (Amendment) Regulations, 2009)  
(Regulations 94(4))

District:..... Name of the fish landing station.....

Ref. Std: QA/RS/08 Fish Traceability and Quality Attestation at the Landing Site

I. Compiled History Record

Date	Fisher Boat reg. No.	Origin of fish	Quantity supplied (kg)
Total			

History Attestation

I, the purchaser/agent of the fish (species/type)..... loaded in an approved truck or vessel with registration no..... confirm that the history of the fish indicated above is correct.

Name of Purchaser/Agent:..... Signature:..... Date:.....

II. Truck/Vessel's details

- Name of Owner of the approved truck/vessel .....
- Name of Operator (driver/navigator) of the approved truck/vessel:.....
- Truck or Vessel Registration Number:.....
- Fish (Species/Type) .....
- Destination .....

III. Health Attestation

The undersigned fish inspector hereby certify that the fish has been inspected and found organoleptically wholesome and compliant with statutory requirements.

Name of Fish Inspector.....  
Signature:..... Date:.....  
Stamp:.....

IV. Verification of whole fish at the factory

Remarks (Quantity, Quality etc.) ..... Receiving person: .....  
Designation: ..... Date: ..... Time: .....  
Signature: .....

NB:

- Original to accompany the consignment to the Fish establishment
- Duplicate to be kept at the respective Fish landing station

**PAPER - BASED TRACEABILITY**

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# Transition to Electronic Catch Data and Documentation

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We used the WSC – 2019 networking opportunity in Penang to establish partnership with SALT and FISHWISE who were so generous to build our institutional capacity towards development of electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability Strategy.

### Objective

Improve biodiversity conservation and fisheries management in Tanzania by increasing transparency in seafood supply chains through traceability



## Why eCDT?

- ✓ eCDT to improve Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) system
- ✓ eCDT to improve quality and safety
- ✓ eCDT to promote market competitiveness

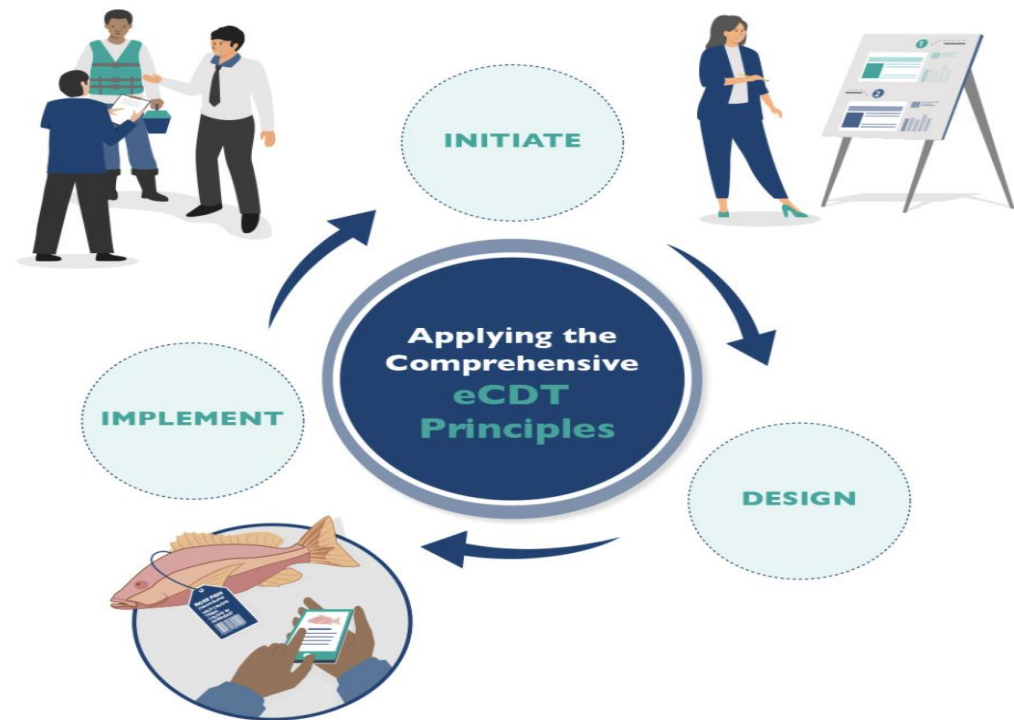


# Principles & Pathway

## Comprehensive eCDT Principles



## The Pathway to the Principles



# Co-designing electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability Strategy



- Map stakeholders involved in seafood traceability for participation in the SALT co-design & Gap analysis
- Co-design the application of the Principles & Pathway to the octopus fishery
  - Co-design event to establish common goals and design a strategy.
- Develop a Principles Strategy for design and **implementation in Tanzania**



Octopus fishery was selected  
for the demo



## To secure greater benefits: Ecological, Social and Economic



Important fishery in the coastal community with large No. of  
fishers (30% women)  
*-Mitigate social risks and develop eCDT that can respond to labor  
and social issues by identifying key labor-related data indicators  
that can be collected*

# Conclusion & Recommendation



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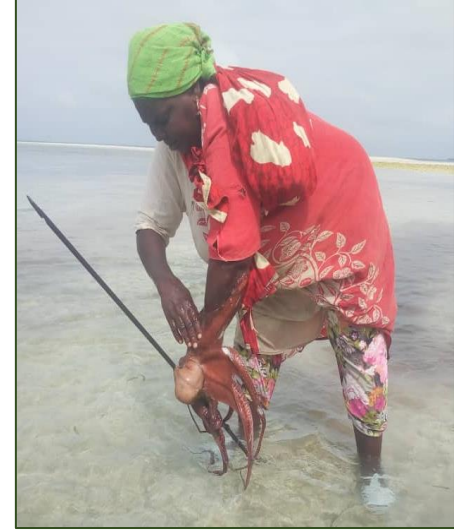


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- *For better traceability there is a need to strengthen multi-stakeholders commitment and collaboration at different parts of the octopus value chain & build environment with shared understanding.*
- *Now that we have an eCDT Strategy: The challenge ahead is to design and implement it, and develop strategies for other fisheries – Let's join hands*



## Acknowledgements

Deeply grateful to SALT/FISHWISE for capacity building, and USAID for sponsorship



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

WALTON FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

the David & Lucile  
Packard  
FOUNDATION

GORDON AND BETTY  
MOORE  
FOUNDATION

FISH  
WISE



Thank you! **ASANTE**

