



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



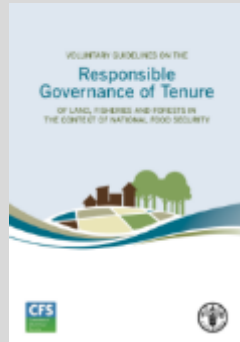
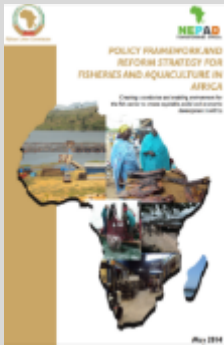
Fisheries
Transparency
Initiative

How international multi-stakeholder initiatives contribute to sustainable trade of fish and fish products: the case of FiTI

FAO Instruments supporting the Sustainability of Trade in Fish and Fishery Products
October 3rd 2018, Geneva

The need for transparency in fisheries

International efforts (Examples):



European Union



Lack of transparency (Examples):

- **Undermines quality and credibility of public decision-making**
- **Diminishes effective oversight and accountability**
- **Marginalises certain fisheries sub-sectors or actors**
- **Increases uncertainty for investors and consumers**

About the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)

The FiTI provides governments, large-scale and small-scale fishers, and civil society with a comprehensive and credible way to achieve and maintain high levels of transparency on the management of the marine fisheries sector and the activities of fishers and fishing companies.



Global, voluntary initiative

Country-centered initiative

Part of global good governance agenda (e.g. EITI, CoST)

Based on a multi-stakeholder approach.
Not representing a single interest group

Supports implementation of SDG 14 and SDG 17



Heart of the initiative: The FiTI Standard



?

CONTENT:

What information on marine fisheries must be provided in the public domain?

?

PROCESS:

How can transparency be achieved so that it is perceived as credible?

?

GOVERNANCE:

How can the integrity of the initiative be safeguarded?

FiTI Standard: Information in the public domain to manage marine fisheries sustainably



FiTI Transparency requirements (FiTI Standard, section B.1):

1. Public registry of national fisheries laws, regulations and official policy documents
2. Summary of laws and decrees on fisheries tenure arrangements
3. Publication of all foreign fishing access agreements
4. Publication of existing national reports on the state of fish stocks
5. Public online registry of authorised large-scale vessels, as well as information on their payments and recorded catches
6. Information on the small-scale sector, including the numbers of fishers, their catches and financial transfers to the state
7. Information on the post-harvest sector and fish trade
8. Information on law enforcement efforts, including a description of efforts to ensure compliance by fishers and a record of offences in the sector
9. Information on labour standards in the fisheries sector
10. Information on government transfers and fisheries subsidies
11. Information on official development assistance regarding public sector projects related to fisheries and marine conservation
12. Information on the country's status regarding beneficial ownership transparency

Transparency and Participation: two complementary pillars of the FiTI

Transparency

- FiTI implementing countries must publish **annual FiTI reports** according to the Requirements of the FiTI Standard
- Countries are **not** expected to have complete data for every Requirement from the beginning
- Countries must demonstrate **progressive improvement** over time
- For each Requirement, the Report must indicate whether the information is:

➔ *available?*

➔ *In the public domain?*

➔ *accessible?*

➔ *complete?*

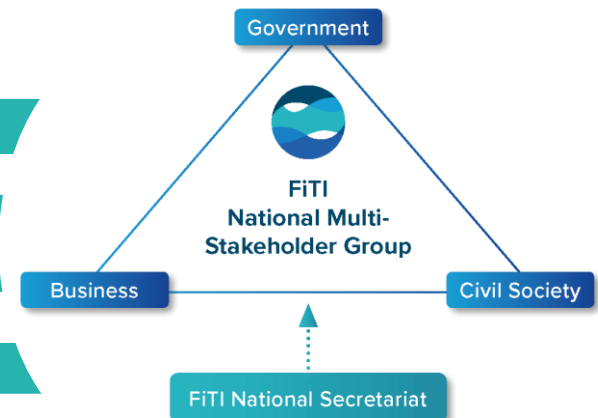
Approves the FiTI Reports

Makes recommendations to improve the published information

Contributes to public debates

Participation

- FiTI implementing countries must set up a **National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)** composed of representatives from **relevant stakeholder groups**
- All groups are **equally** represented
- MSG **jointly** coordinates the FiTI process



Scope of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)



The FiTI ...

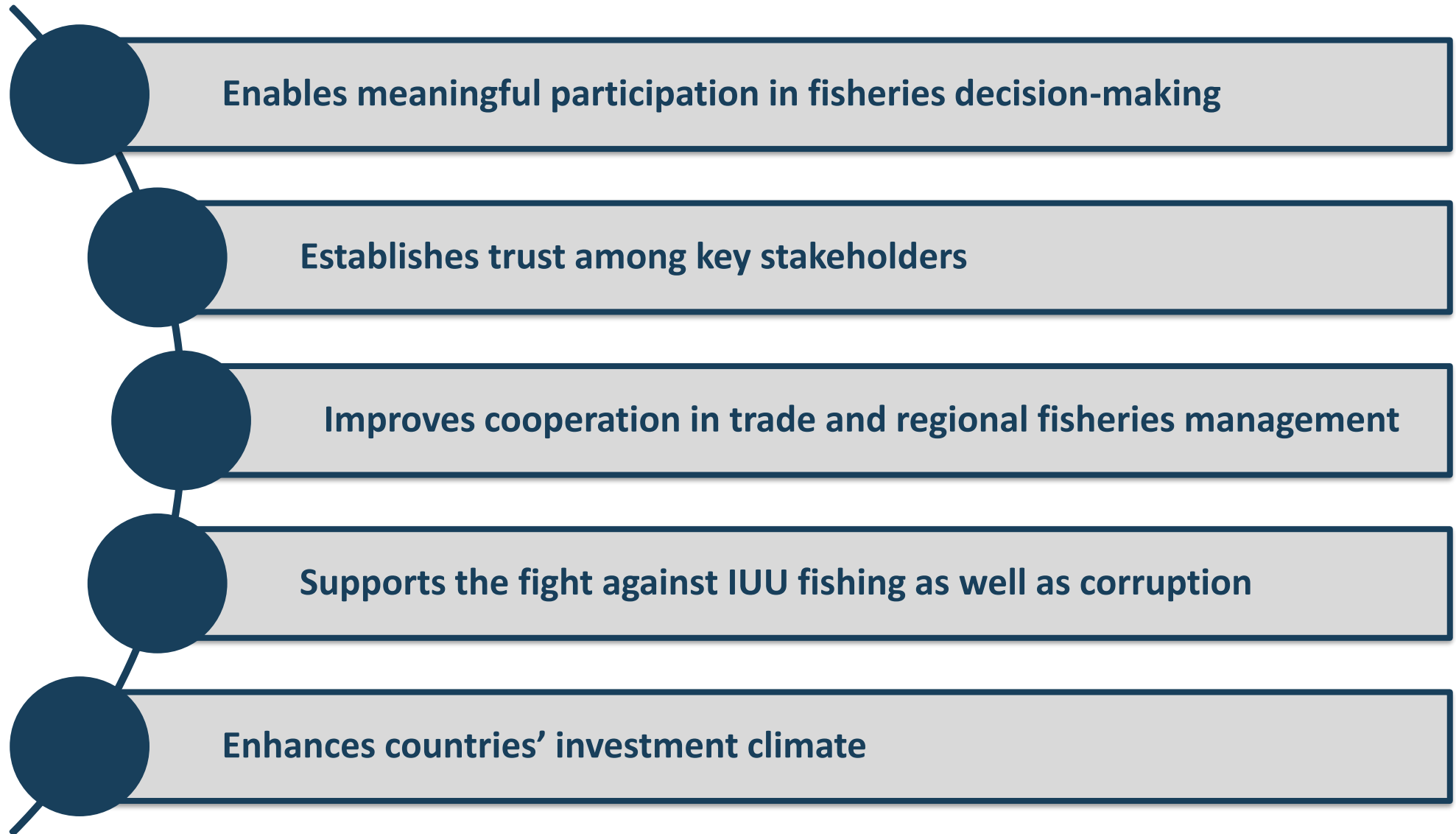
- ... focusses on marine fisheries
- ... focusses on a country's marine jurisdictional waters
- ... demands credible information in the public domain to manage fisheries sustainably
- ... supports existing initiatives
- ... includes both large-scale and small-scale fisheries



The FiTI is not ...

- ... focussing on inland fisheries
- ... focussing on aquaculture
- ... a technology-driven MCS initiative
- ... a seafood traceability initiative
- ... an advocacy/naming and shaming initiative

Expected benefits of the FiTI

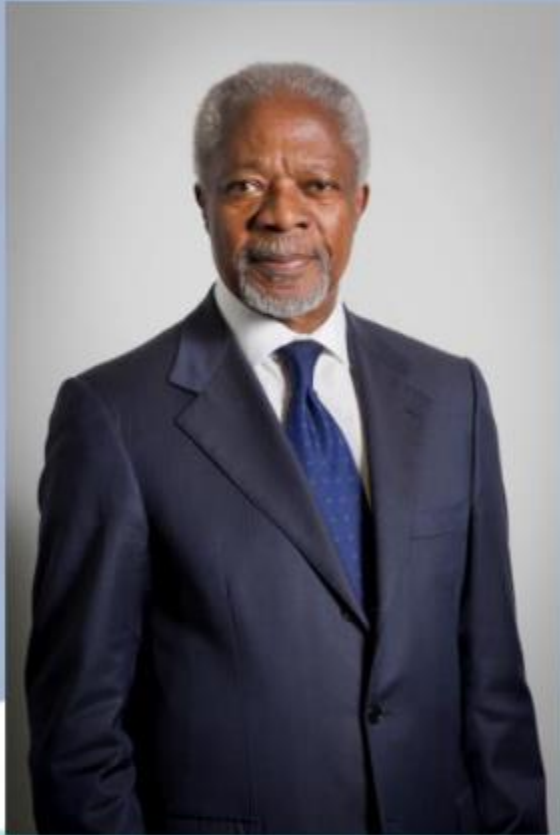


Outlook: The FiTI in the next three years



- ➔ **Obtain first FiTI Reports (starting in 2018)**
- ➔ **Engage 20+ countries in the FiTI process**
- ➔ **Establish international governance structure**
- ➔ **Transition the FiTI International Secretariat to Seychelles (April 2019)**

Thank you for your attention!



“In Africa and around the world, fisheries play a crucial role in supporting livelihoods, providing employment and driving social economic development. However, the future of the world’s fisheries is seriously threatened and this global challenge is far greater than any country can handle on its own.

The Fisheries Transparency Initiative, with transparency and participation as its cornerstones, makes an invaluable contribution to safeguard what is amongst the most vital resources on the planet.”

Kofi Annan

Chair of the Africa Progress Panel, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate



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www.fisheriestransparency.org



@FisheriesTI

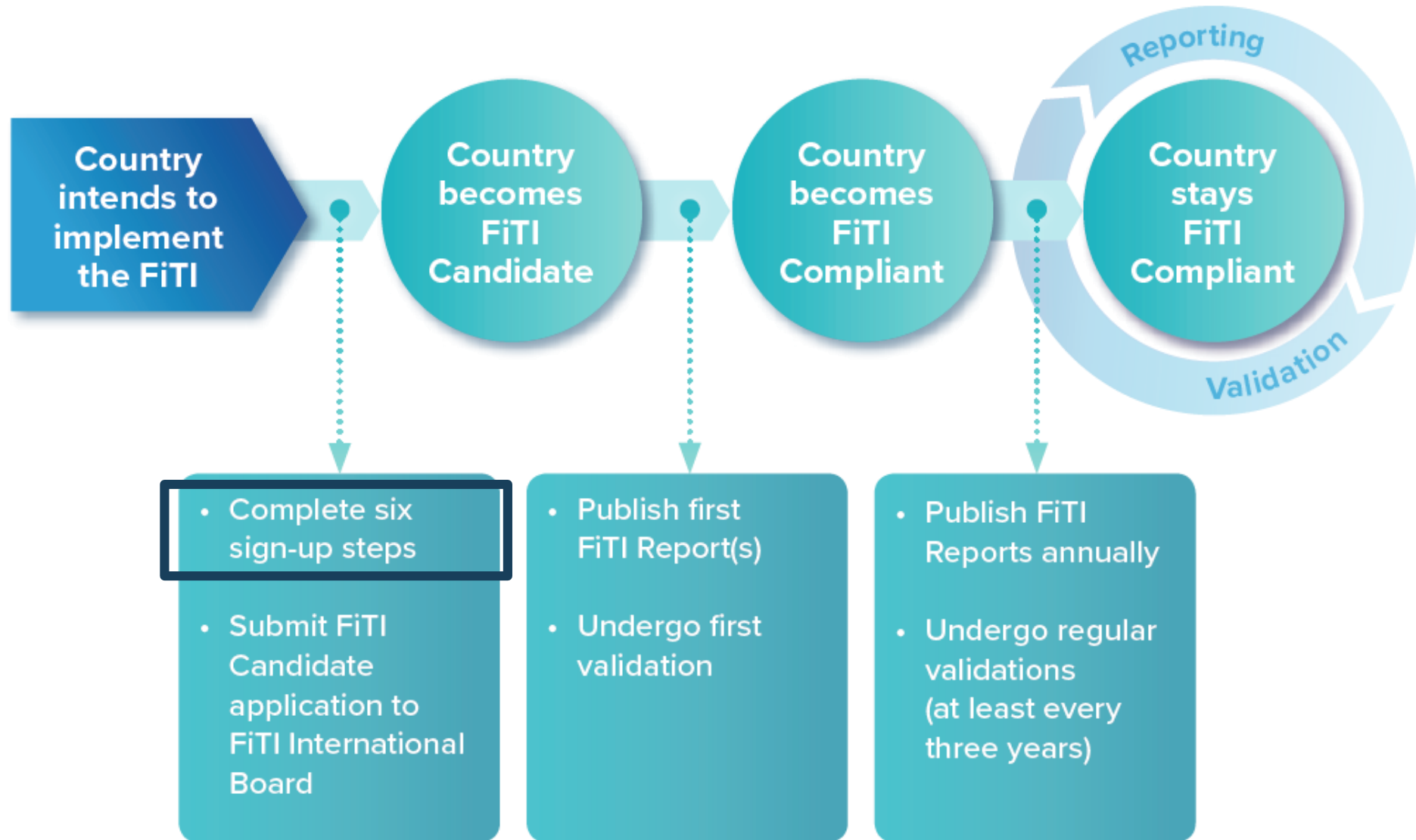


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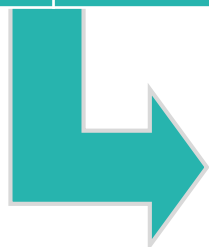
Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)

From intention to FiTI compliant



Getting started: Completing the sign-up steps (Mauritania)

Step	FiTI Standard requirement	Status Mauritania	Remarks
1	Public Commitment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2	Enabling Environment for Stakeholder Participation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3	FiTI Lead Ministry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	FiTI National Lead	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4	FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	FiTI National Secretariat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Within the Fisheries Ministry
6	Workplan		In validation process



Submission of official candidate application from government of Mauritania to FiTI International Board expected by end of 2018