

Compilation of species-specific data on shark catch and fishing effort in Mexico, with emphasis on CITES-listed species

Summary



The compendium summarizes the shark fishery data recording obligations established by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as well as the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO), to which Mexico is a signatory. Also described are the requirements of the FAO's International Plan of Action for Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks) concerning the formulation of national action plans on sharks.

In addition, with a view to aid understanding of the legal framework for the regulations governing the management and conservation of shark species covered by a fisheries or protection regime in Mexico, an analysis is presented of the legal and management instruments available to the Mexican federal government. This is followed by a synthesis of shark catch data by region of the country, specifying—as a proxy measure of the fishing effort expended in this fishery—the number of fishing permits issued and the number of boats associated with each permit for the case of small-scale fishing or fishing with smaller boats.

Data obtained from databases on exports of products derived from CITES-listed sharks is included, and it is argued on this basis that there is a need for Mexico to develop a capacity-building strategy around the management of CITES-listed species. Finally, the report presents an analysis of knowledge about the conservation status of populations of CITES-listed sharks in Mexico.

A proposed capacity-building strategy for Mexico in relation to the management of CITES-listed shark species was developed, based on a gaps and omissions (GAP) analysis. Consideration was given to the four levels involved in the use of CITES-listed shark species: producers (permit holders), fisheries authorities (Conapesca, Inapesca), product exporters (vendors and permit holders), and authorities, both at ports of export (Profepa, API, Senasica, PGR) and national CITES authorities (DGVIS-Semarnat, Conabio, Profepa).

The strategy comprises six main components with specific actions attached to each, and its approximate cost of implementation is US\$1,185,000.



Read more at:
<http://www3.cec.org/cites/sharks/>

