

Ocean Wise Seafood – Partner Resources:

Addressing Human Right Violations within the Seafood Supply Chain

The Ocean Wise seafood program evaluates the ecological sustainability of wild-caught and farmed seafood commonly found in the Canadian marketplace. Ocean Wise defines sustainable seafood as originating from sources, whether wild-caught or farmed, that can maintain or increase production in the long-term without jeopardizing the structure or function of the surrounding ecosystems.

In light of recent news regarding human right violations within the seafood supply chain, Ocean Wise seafood is providing our partners with resources and tools to better understand the current state of human rights violations within the seafood industry, how these violations occur, and how to increase transparency within your own seafood supply chain to ensure you are not contributing to this important issue.

How we can help:

Ocean Wise seafood is a key player in the *Conservation Alliance for Sustainable Seafood Solutions*. The Alliance is a collaboration of over 40 member and collaborator organizations that work collectively to tackle sustainable seafood issues across every level of the supply chain. A complete list of participating member organizations can be found [here](#). Although Ocean Wise recommendations do not currently incorporate human right impacts into our sustainability criteria, we partner with key organizations that provide resources such as articles, glossaries, investment strategies and toolkits for businesses to learn about and implement better policies to reduce human rights violations within their own seafood supply chains. Below is a list of contributing organizations and corresponding resources to help get you started:

[FishWise](#) provides market-based tools for the seafood industry to support sustainability through environmentally and socially responsible business practices. Their aim is to address the issues within the complexity of the seafood supply chain through shared information.

[Advancing Traceability in the Seafood Industry](#) This paper outlines the importance of being able to track a seafood item back through the supply chain for social, economic and environmental benefit.

[Social Responsibility in the Global Seafood Industry](#) This paper is a tool to help address and improve human and labor rights issues within the seafood industry as well as provide businesses with information on the drivers of human rights and labor abuses. By analyzing supply chains, businesses are able to address these issues through increased transparency and engagement with their stakeholders.

[The Links between IUU Fishing, Human Rights and Traceability](#) This document explores the links between IUU (Illegal Unreported and Unregulated) fishing and traceability encouraging businesses to build a sustainability program which focusses on full-chain electronic traceability.

[Sustainable Fisheries Partnership](#) works with Fisheries Improvement Projects (FIPs) which are plans created to assist fisheries (and AIP's for aquaculture) in improving their management practices with the goal of one day becoming a recognized sustainably managed fishery.

[Sustainable Seafood and Responsible Investment](#) This document outlines the elements needed to build a responsible and sustainable seafood policy/investment strategy to positively contribute to the future of fisheries management.

[Guidelines Document](#) This brief document focusses on addressing labour abuses within the Seafood Supply Chain and what businesses can do to address it.

[Future of Fish](#) works with numerous industry players to create tools to increase traceability within the seafood supply chain. This organization has produced numerous research reports, toolkits and snapshot traceability tools which are an easy way to learn more about the importance of achieving traceability.

[Follow the Fish](#) This brief document highlighting five core business functions of end-to-end traceability as a way to break down the supply chain to make it more manageable.

[Seafood Industry Traceability Toolkit](#) This toolkit provides resources to assist seafood companies with developing their own traceability standards. This toolkit includes a seafood traceability glossary and tools to understand the costs associated with adopting traceability technology for a business.

[Making Sense of Wild Seafood Supply Chains](#) This document provides a comprehensive breakdown of a wild seafood supply chain, who the actors involved are and the complexity behind these relationships to further understand how and where labour violations can occur.

[Getting There from Here](#) This report highlights market incentives for businesses to value traceability within the seafood supply chain.

[Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch Program](#) has collaborated with [Liberty Asia](#) and [Sustainable Fisheries Partnership](#) to develop the Seafood Slavery Risk Tool.

[Seafood Slavery Risk Tool](#) This tool utilizes publically available information to rate the likelihood that forced labour, human trafficking, or hazardous child labor is occurring on fishing boats within a specific fishery. Each of the highlighted fisheries has a ranking as well as a profile demonstrating why that fishery has received that level of risk.

We strongly recommend your organization looks into the social components of your seafood sourcing.

- Ask your suppliers for transparency and proof of human rights practices in their supply chain
- Include socially responsible seafood in your sourcing policy
- Make your seafood policy transparent to your customers
- Educate your staff, vendors and customers

For more information please do not hesitate to contact your Ocean Wise Seafood team member.