MORE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD FOR EVERYONE
Join GSSI
Find out more and get in touch
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GSSI IS A GLOBAL, PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, WORKING TOWARDS MORE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD FOR EVERYONE

WHY GSSI MATTERS

We live on a finite planet, and as seafood production increases to meet rising global demand, so have concerns over the environmental, economic and social impact of production worldwide.

As the public-private partnership on seafood sustainability with 90+ stakeholders industry-wide, GSSI aligns global efforts and resources to address these concerns.

GSSI first tackled the confusion around seafood certification through its Global Benchmark Tool. GSSI is now also working with the Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI) to develop a similar benchmark for social labor standards.

Through its strategic initiatives, GSSI champions the commitment of the seafood sector to deliver the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals, including:

WHAT GSSI DOES

- GSSI provides a global, multi-stakeholder platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange to address sustainability challenges that have an environmental, economic and social impact.
- GSSI operates the Global Benchmark Tool to provide confidence in certified seafood and promote improvement in certification schemes.
- GSSI collaborates with the Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI) to develop a seafood-specific social compliance benchmark.

GSSI IS A GLOBAL, PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, WORKING TOWARDS MORE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD FOR EVERYONE
A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP: OVER 90 STAKEHOLDERS FROM 21 COUNTRIES AND 5 CONTINENTS

GSSI PROVIDES A GLOBAL, MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM FOR COLLABORATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE TO ADDRESS SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES THAT HAVE AN ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT.
GSSI’s Global Benchmark Tool provides formal recognition of seafood certification schemes that successfully complete a rigorous and transparent benchmark process, which is underpinned by the FAO Guidelines. These include the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, FAO Ecolabelling Guidelines and FAO Technical Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification.

The Tool looks at four performance areas:

A. Scheme governance
B. Operational management (including chain of custody)
C. Aquaculture certification standards
D. Fisheries certification standards

**INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

**FAO**

**THE BENCHMARK PROCESS**

1. **APPLICATION**
2. **DESKTOP REVIEW**
3. **OFFICE VISIT**
4. **BENCHMARK COMMITTEE MEETING**
5. **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**
6. **RECOGNITION DECISION BY STEERING BOARD**
7. **MONITORING OF CONTINUED ALIGNMENT**

**WHO IS INVOLVED?**

- Scheme Owner
- Steering Board
- Independent Experts
- Benchmark Committee
- Public
- GSSI Secretariat
- Steering Board Liaison

**VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION SCHEMES APPLY TO BE BENCHMARKED**

**ROBUST**

ASSESSED BY INDEPENDENT EXPERTS

**INCLUSIVE**

30-DAY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

**TRANSPARENT**

ALL REPORTS ARE PUBLISHED ONLINE

**CLARITY, CREDIBILITY AND CHOICE THROUGH A FORMAL RECOGNITION PROCESS**

**GSSI BENCHMARK TOOL**

- **186 ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS**
- **137 SUPPLEMENTARY COMPONENTS**

**THE ONE-STOP SHOP FOR CREDIBLE SEAFOOD CERTIFICATION SCHEMES**

GSSI’s Global Benchmark Tool forms the one-stop shop for credible seafood certification schemes. The Tool recognizes schemes that successfully complete a rigorous and transparent benchmark process, which is underpinned by the FAO Guidelines. These include the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, FAO Ecolabelling Guidelines and FAO Technical Guidelines for Aquaculture Certification.

The Tool looks at four performance areas:

A. Scheme governance
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C. Aquaculture certification standards
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**INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**
GSSI’S GLOBAL COLLABORATION TOWARDS MORE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD

1995
FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries adopted.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1997
FAO publishes Certification and Ecolabelling Guidelines, following the increase in seafood certification schemes.

2013
Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative launched as a public-private partnership.

2015
Launch of GSSI’S Global Benchmark Tool with FAO

2015

2016
GSSI included in the responsible sourcing commitments of

2016
GSSI recognizes

2017
GSSI recognizes

2017
GSSI gains market recognition by being included in global sourcing policies, including:

2018
GSSI celebrates 5 years

2018
GSSI recognizes

2018
GSSI starts co-developing the Social Benchmark Tool with the Consumer Goods Forum’s Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative.

Scope:
- Salmon Standard
- Finfish & Crustacean Standard

Scope:
- Salmon Standard

PROMOTING SECTOR-WIDE COLLABORATION TO DRIVE FORWARD MORE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD FOR EVERYONE.
MORE SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD FOR EVERYONE