

Acronyms and abbreviations

access agreement	Distant water fishing vessels are members of fisheries associations that negotiate access to the waters of coastal states for fishing. Often these follow Head Agreements between the governments of the negotiating countries.
ACP	Africa Caribbean Pacific country, a category under the Cotonou Agreement.
ADB	Asian Development Bank
agent	Locally based businesses that provide contractual and other services for distant water fleets. Usually includes obtaining fishing licences; can include handling trans-shipping, buying the catch and procurement. Can be legally responsible for fleet while it is in the country.
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
automatic location communicator	A device approved by the FFA, which transmits data about the location and fishing activities of the vessel on which it is placed (as part of the VMS).
bunkering	Supplying fuel from one vessel to another.
Competent Authority	Designation for a government department accredited to monitor food safety and quality in line with EU requirements, such that the products of that country may be exported to the European Union.
Cotonou Agreement	Successor to the Lomé Agreement. It gives certain ACP countries tariff-free access to EU markets.
CPUE	Catch per unit of effort. A productivity measure for fisheries. When CPUE declines, this often means fish stocks have declined.
CSPOD-II	Canada–South Pacific Ocean Development Program, funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).
DWFN	Distant water fishing nation. The term distant water fishing <i>nation</i> is not a good one because a nation is a subjective construct usually based on feelings of ethnic belonging and historical ties to particular territories. States are the administrative political and economic units associated with nations. So, strictly speaking, the term should be distant water fishing <i>states</i> . This study, however, uses the term DWFN because it will be more familiar to readers than DWFS.
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone (200 nautical miles out from the coastline)
EPIRB	Electronic Position Indicating Radio Beacon (safety equipment for vessels in case they need to be rescued)

EU	European Union
FAD	Fish aggregating device, also called <i>payao</i> (Filipino)
FFA	Forum Fisheries Agency
FFC	Forum Fisheries Committee (governing body of the FFA)
FIAS	Foreign Investment Advisory Service
FOB	Free on board
FOC	Flag of Convenience. When a country allows a fishing vessel owned by a company in another country to be registered in the first country for reasons of mutual convenience. It becomes a problem if the flag state is unwilling or unable to undertake flag-state responsibilities, such as righting any wrongs done by the vessel under International Maritime Law.
FSM Arrangement	Reciprocal access agreement for PNA Group countries, with priority accorded to local and locally based fleets, signed in the Federated States of Micronesia.
GDP	Gross domestic product
GEF	Global Environment Facility, a funding scheme under the UN Development Program.
GRT	Gross registered tonnage, a measure of volume, being the total cubic content of the permanently enclosed spaces of a vessel, with some allowances or deductions for exempt spaces such as living quarters (1 gross registered tonne = 100 cubic feet = 2.83 cubic metres)
gt	gross tonnes
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point, a system for assuring safety and hygiene in food production.
Head Agreement	Agreements between governments of distant water states and coastal states for fisheries access. Access agreements often come under Head Agreements.
<i>katsuobushi</i>	Smoke-dried and cured skipjack used extensively as a stock base and flavouring in Japanese cuisine.
Lomé Agreement	Trade agreement between the European Union and certain former European colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP) for tariff-free access to EU markets. Superseded by the Cotonou Agreement.
longline	The predominant style of fishing for large sashimi tuna. A longline is set out behind the vessel with short lines hanging off it dangling hooks under the surface of the water. Large tuna (and sometimes other species) snap at and become caught on the hooks to be pulled aboard when the longline is reeled in.
MCS	Monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities for fisheries management.

MHLC	Multilateral High Level Conference. The series of meetings preceding the Preparatory Conferences (Prep Cons) that developed the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention and Commission.
MIDA	Marshall Islands Development Authority
MIMRA	Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority
monofilament line	A technological development that allowed greater efficiency and accuracy in longline fishing.
MSY	Maximum sustainable yield
Multilateral Treaty	At the time of writing, still the only distant water fishing access agreement negotiated multilaterally with the Pacific island countries (FFA members) by the United States in 1988 (renewed for another 10 years in 2003).
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OFCE	Overseas Fisheries Cooperation Foundation, a Japanese quasi-government organisation that conducts fisheries development assistance.
Palau Arrangement	An arrangement within the PNA group to limit the total number of purse-seine vessels allowed to fish in the EEZs of their countries to 205. There is a set number for domestic and locally based foreign vessels. This system is likely to be superseded by the VDS.
PDF	Project Development Fund. A proportion of the funds from the US Multilateral Treaty that are set aside by the FFA for member countries to apply for special projects. Often the projects are related to fisheries.
pelagic	Belonging to the open ocean, rather than in shallow waters near the coast.
PITIC	Pacific Islands Trade and Investment Commission
pole-and-line	One of the main types of industrial tuna fishing, widely practised, especially by the Japanese fleet, to fish for skipjack until the 1980s, when the more efficient purse-seining method gained ascendancy. At the time of writing, the Solomon Islands had one of the few remaining pole-and-line fleets, along with Japan. Long flexible rods with fixed lines and barbless L-shaped hooks are dipped into schools of tuna feeding on the surface; the tuna bite at the hook, are swung up and over the shoulders of the fishers where they slip off the hook and land on the deck.
PNA	Parties to the Nauru Agreement. The group of countries in whose EEZs the majority of purse-seine fishing is done. They formed a group soon after the establishment of the FFA to expedite purse-

	seine-related issues: Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.
PNG	Papua New Guinea
Prep Con	The Preparatory Conferences that developed the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention preceding the establishment of the WCPFC.
purse-seine	The predominant style of fishing for skipjack since the 1980s. Dense schools of fish near the surface are encircled by the net, which is then pulled closed at the bottom, creating a bowl or purse shape in which the fish are trapped before being hauled on board.
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
STCW	Standards for the training and certification of watchkeepers
TAC	Total allowable catch
trans-shipment	Moving a load of fish from one vessel to another, usually from a fishing vessel to a carrier vessel that will take it to the market destination.
tuna coffin	Chilled sashimi tuna are packed in individual large cardboard boxes called tuna ‘coffins’ for airfreight.
ultra-low temperature (ULT)	Ultra-low temperature technology freezes tuna to about -60°C , which means the flesh does not oxidise and turn brown, which means it can still be sold as <i>sashimi</i> (tuna frozen at higher temperatures cannot easily be sold as fresh fish).
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
VDS	Vessel days scheme. The proposed measure for limiting effort in the region to replace the Palau Arrangement 205-vessel cap. PNA countries will be allocated a number of vessel days that they can then allocate as they see fit. They can choose to auction them to the highest bidders or allocate them preferentially to domestic companies. The Palau Arrangement allocated vessels to fishing states; the VDS allocates effort units to coastal states.
VMS	Vessel monitoring system, used by Pacific island states to monitor the position and activities of fishing vessels to manage their fisheries, maintained by the FFA.
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. The fisheries management organisation for the Pacific region, operating under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention.
WCPO	Western and Central Pacific Ocean