

PRESS RELEASE

Launch of Latin America's first 'TAKING STOCK' assessment: Government transparency in the marine fisheries of Peru

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Today, **27 April 2022**, the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) launched the findings of its first [TAKING STOCK](#) assessment for the Latin American region, evaluating public access to marine fisheries management information in Peru.

Conducted in collaboration with [WWF Peru](#), the assessment examines the level of information that Peru's national authorities publish on government websites against the transparency requirements of the [FiTI Standard](#) – the only internationally recognised framework defining what fisheries management information should be published online.

Overall, this assessment shows that Peru's authorities provide substantial information on the country's marine fisheries sector and that there is a genuine interest in sharing important information with the public: information for 26 out of 35 transparency elements (74%) is publicly available on government websites, although information is of varying quality.

However, beyond simply evaluating what is and is not published on government websites, the assessment also considers the quality of published information – namely if it is freely accessible, up to date, and easy for people to find. These are all important factors to consider in terms of supporting public understanding around the current state of the sector. In this regard, transparency in Peru's marine fisheries sector can be summarised as follows:

- Out of the 26 transparency elements for which information is published by the Peruvian authorities, only 42% fully meet the requirements of the FiTI Standard. Similarly, information for only 31% of the transparency elements can be easily found by a layperson.
- Fisheries information published by Peru's national authorities is usually up to date (69%).
- For eight transparency elements, no information is published online at all, even though such information is available to national authorities. This includes important aspects, such as payments made by fishing vessels, information on labour standards, subsidies, or public access to Peru's beneficial ownership registry.

‘The launch of this assessment represents a valuable contribution to the Peruvian marine fisheries sector. It highlights the many positive areas where information is already accessible in the public domain, but also emphasises improvement opportunities to ensure that information can be easily found and stimulates national discussions on fisheries management. We would like to thank the national authorities of Peru for providing comprehensive feedback to our preliminary findings, which has been incorporated into the final assessment report.’ stated Mr Nicolás Rovegno, the FiTI International Secretariat’s Regional Coordinator for Latin America.

Mr Rovegno also noted that *‘this is the first TAKING STOCK assessment we have launched in Latin America, and our objective moving ahead is to conduct a series of these evaluations for other countries across the region, for example in Ecuador, Mexico, Chile, Panama and Costa Rica.’*

Ms Milagros Mitma, Governance Officer of WWF Peru, stated that *‘this TAKING STOCK assessment represents the first diagnosis of how transparency is being practically handled in Peru. Our country has been making various efforts in transparency and that has been reflected in these results. However, there are still aspects to improve. Therefore, it is important that the results and recommendations are taken as a baseline from which the government, together with the FiTI and interested stakeholders, can generate reforms to further continue improving transparency in the fishing sector.’*

The findings of Peru’s TAKING STOCK assessment are published in a **Summary Assessment Report** as well as an in-depth **Detailed Assessment Report**. Both reports are available for download in English and Spanish [here](#).

The assessment for Peru was funded by the [Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation](#) and conducted under the supervision and responsibility of the FiTI International Secretariat.

*For more information about the Peru’s TAKING STOCK assessment and interview requests, please contact **Mr. Nicolás Rovegno**, Regional Coordinator for Latin America | Email: nrovegno@fiti.global*

*For more information about the FiTI’s global TAKING STOCK programme, please visit <https://www.fiti.global/taking-stock> or contact **Ms. Nancy Ng Ping Cheun**, TAKING STOCK Coordinator | Email: nngpingcheun@fiti.global*

The Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) is a global multi-stakeholder initiative that strengthens transparency and collaboration in marine fisheries management.

By making fisheries management more transparent and inclusive, the FiTI promotes informed public debates on fisheries policies and supports the long-term contribution of the sector to national economies and the well-being of citizens and businesses that depend on a healthy marine environment.

www.fiti.global