

Indonesia



UK seafood industry imports from Indonesia 2018*

	Value, £	Weight, tonnes
Tuna	18,360,967	5362
Prepared and Preserved Shrimps and Prawns	13,552,289	2150
Other Fish	1,078,428	312
Warm Water Shrimps and Prawns	2,857,357	282
Crabs	3,914,624	258
Catfish	264,276	202
Mackerel	750,804	181
Ornamental	1,712,105	127
Squid	645,150	120
Aquatic Invertebrates	371,239	39
Other Shellfish	224,062	32
Mixed	178,379	20
Sardines	20,507	18
Octopus	26,541	7
Offal	11,176	3

*Source: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

Introduction

This report is part of a series of country risk profiles that are designed to provide an understanding of the social risks associated with source countries that play a key role in the UK's seafood industry. Each report covers risks related to the production and processing of wild catch and aquaculture seafood products.

This report covers issues such as forced and child labour, working conditions, and impacts of the industry on local communities, and the mitigation efforts and regulatory frameworks put in place to address these issues.

This country risk profile has been compiled by Verisk Maplecroft on behalf of Seafish. Information on issues has been collated from publicly available sources, varying from international rankings and ratings, research by academics and other organisations, through to media articles. It has been prepared for general information only. You should not rely solely on its contents; always verify information from your own suppliers in your own supply chain. References for all information sources are provided.

Overview

Indonesia is today the third largest producer of fish in the world. Income from the fishing industry accounts for approximately 3% of the total GDP of the country.¹ More notably, Indonesia is the world's largest tuna fishing nation; this has been accelerated in the past five years due to measures by the government – including the bombing of foreign vessels fishing illegally in Indonesian territory – which have helped double fishing stocks.² Major seafood exports from Indonesia to the UK are tuna and shrimp.

Social Risks

Reports indicate high risks of workplace exploitation, conditions of modern slavery and child labour across Indonesian fish and seafood value chains. The Global Slavery Index, which assesses the top 20 fishing countries for risks of modern slavery, classifies Indonesia as 'Medium Risk'.³ The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reports "systematic and highly organized deceptive recruitment and exploitation of fishers and seafarers from multiple source countries in South East Asia". Exploitative practices include excessive hours and physical abuse, including the alleged murder of workers.⁴

The US Department of State's 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report places the country in Tier 2, also indicating moderate risks.⁵ Indonesia is regarded as a major source country for trafficked workers in the fishing industry in neighbouring countries and is less of a destination nation. Indonesian fishermen are trapped on vessels operated by Japanese, Taiwanese and South African operators.⁶ However, men, women and children are also subjected to conditions of forced labour in Indonesia's own fishing and fish processing industries.⁷

The shrimp farming industry is dispersed and dominated by smallholders, raising risks associated with informal employment practices and the use of child labour. The US Department of Labor lists the Indonesian fishing and seafood processing industries as engaging in the worse forms of child labour. Children can be trafficked and used in dangerous tasks, exposed to unhealthy work environments, and forced to work long hours.⁸

Government efforts to identify and prevent labour rights abuses in the fishing industry are limited by corruption and uncoordinated state agencies, several of which have poorly defined and overlapping responsibilities.⁹ Seafood certification schemes have tended to focus on environmental issues, but initiatives such as the Framework for Social Responsibility in the Seafood Sector, established in 2015, are bringing together the major seafood certifications to develop common standards for assessing labour rights issues in the sector.¹⁰

Seafood and fish processing plants are more centralised, but NGOs have highlighted poor working practices at shrimp processing and tuna canning factories. These include low, but legal wages, unpaid work to meet production targets, exposure to dangerous chemicals, poor sanitation provision, lack of drinking water, restricted union access, and abusive supervision. The workforce is predominately female and informal employment arrangements allow employers to fire and rehire workers at their convenience.¹¹

Regulations and risk mitigation

Indonesia is making great efforts to eradicate illegal fishing. Joko Widodo, the current president of Indonesia has been working closely with Susi Pudjiastuti, the country's fisheries minister, to establish some policies tackling illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing. This includes banning fish transfers at sea, blowing up illegal fishing vessels, prohibiting the use of trawl and seine nets, and imposing a moratorium on permits for foreign boats.¹²

Despite effective measures, it still remains difficult to go after the ultimate owners and operators of vessels engaged in IUU. This is because owners are known to register their vessel under the name or term "a chauffeur or pedicab driver". In order to tackle this, Indonesia approved the International Declaration on Transnational Organised Crime in the Global Fishing Industry. This partnership with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC), allows the country to extradite the owners.

The Indonesian government has also been revising its fisheries law to include a provision on punishing corporate and beneficial owners. Ocean campaigners and activists are confident that this will be a key to tackling IUU.¹³

International conventions and rankings

The following tables indicate which international labour conventions Indonesia has ratified. The ratification of these conventions is a good indicator of a source country's commitment to enforcing internationally accepted best practices in the seafood industry when combined with thorough national legislation and well-resourced enforcement mechanisms.

International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions	Ratification
Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise (No. 87)	Yes
Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining (No. 98)	Yes
Forced Labour (No. 29)	Yes
Abolition of Forced Labour (No. 105)	Yes
Equal Remuneration (No. 100)	Yes
Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) (No. 111)	Yes
Minimum Age (No. 138)	Yes
Worst Forms of Child Labour (No. 182)	Yes
Hours of Work (Industry) (No.1)	No
Weekly Rest (Industry) (No.14)	No
Protection of Wages (No. 95)	No
Minimum Wage Fixing (No.131)	No
Occupational Safety and Health (No. 155)	No
Occupational Health Services (No. 161)	No
Labour Inspection (No. 81)	Yes
Private Employment Agencies (No. 181)	No
Work in Fishing Convention (No. 188)	No
Maritime Labour Convention (No. 186)	Yes

United Nations (UN) Conventions	Ratification
Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	Yes
Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	Yes
Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation and the Prostitution of Others	Yes
Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	No
Convention to Suppress the Slave Trade and Slavery	No
Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery	No

Other Conventions	Ratification
FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	Yes

Rankings in global indices

US Department of State Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report

The TIP report is released annually by the US Department of State and offers a summary of the laws and enforcement efforts of various countries with respect to human trafficking. Specifically, it ranks countries based on a '3P paradigm' of prosecuting traffickers, protecting victims and preventing crime. Scoring on these elements is then collated to give each country a ranking. The rankings range from Tier 1 which indicates governments of countries that fully comply with the Trafficking Victims Prevention Act (TVPA) minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking to Tier 3 for the governments of countries that do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so.

Rating: Tier 2

According to the US Department of State's 2019 Trafficking in Persons report, the Government of Indonesia does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking but is making significant efforts to do so.¹⁴

Global Slavery Index

The 2018 Global Slavery Index measures the extent of modern slavery country by country, and the steps governments are taking to respond to this issue, to objectively measure progress toward ending modern slavery.

There are two rankings:

1. Rankings of countries by prevalence of the population in modern slavery. Rankings range from 1 to 167 - with 1 the worst and 167 the best, in terms of the prevalence of slavery.
2. Rank of countries in terms of Government response to the issue. This is an indication of how governments are tackling modern slavery. This ranking ranges from AAA at the top to D at the bottom, with AAA denoting the most effective and comprehensive Government response.

For prevalence Indonesia's ranking is: 74/167 (where a ranking of 1 indicates highest risk).

Overall, Indonesia is considered a mid to high risk country scored on the index. According to the special report on the fishing sector, it is considered a medium risk country for modern slavery in the industry.¹⁵

In terms of Government response Indonesia ranks BB. This indicates government has introduced a response to modern slavery that includes short-term victim support services, a criminal justice framework that criminalises some forms of modern slavery, a body to coordinate the response, and protection for those vulnerable to modern slavery. There may be evidence that some government policies and practices may criminalise and/or cause victims to be deported and/or facilitate slavery.

EU Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Carding Process/Watch List

Under the IUU Regulation, non-EU countries identified as having inadequate measures in place to prevent and deter this activity may be issued with a formal warning (yellow card) to improve. If they fail to do so, they face having their fish banned from the EU market (red card) among other measures.

Indonesia is not on the EU IUU Watch List.

Endnotes

- 1 India's Stuffs, 11 June 2019, Top 10 Largest Fish Producing Countries in The World. Available at: <https://www.indiasstuffs.com/largest-fish-producing-countries/>
- 2 The Guardian, 15 January 2019, 'One fish at a time': Indonesia lands remarkable victory. Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jan/15/one-fish-at-a-time-indonesia-lands-victory-tuna-msc>
- 3 The Global Slavery Index, 2018, Fishing. Available at: <https://www.globallslaveryindex.org/2018/findings/importing-risk/fishing/>
- 4 The International Organization for Migration (IOM), August 2016, Report on Human Trafficking, Forced Labour and Fisheries Crime in the Indonesian Fishing Industry. Available at: <https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/country/docs/indonesia/Human-Trafficking-Forced-Labour-and-Fisheries-Crime-in-the-Indonesian-Fishing-Industry-IOM.pdf>
- 5 US Embassy & Consulates in Indonesia, Undated, 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report. Available at: <https://id.usembassy.gov/our-relationship/official-reports/2019-trafficking-in-persons-report/>
- 6 US Department of State, June 2019, Trafficking in Persons Report. Available at: <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/2019-Trafficking-in-Persons-Report.pdf>
- 7 US Department of State, June 2019, Trafficking in Persons report. Available at: <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/2019-Trafficking-in-Persons-Report.pdf>
- 8 US Department of Labor, 23 May 2018, Child Labor and Forced Labor Reports: Indonesia. Available at: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/indonesia>
- 9 International Organization for Migration (IOM), 2016, Report on Human Trafficking, Forced Labour and Fisheries Crime in the Indonesian Fishing Industry. Available at: <https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/country/docs/indonesia/Human-Trafficking-Forced-Labour-and-Fisheries-Crime-in-the-Indonesian-Fishing-Industry-IOM.pdf>
- 10 Certification and Ratings Collaboration, 2018, Framework for Social Responsibility in the Seafood Sector. Available at: <https://certificationandratings.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Framework-Final-Print.pdf>
- 11 Oxfam America, June 2018, supermarket responsibilities for supply chain workers' rights. Available at: https://www.oxfamamerica.org/static/media/files/Supermarket_Responsibilities_for_Supply_Chains_Rights_report.pdf
- 12 MONGABY, 6 January 2019, 'Everything's moving': Indonesia seeks global pushback on illegal fishing. Available at: <https://news.mongabay.com/2019/01/everythings-moving-indonesia-seeks-global-pushback-on-illegal-fishing/>
- 13 Eco-Business, 6 June 2018, Indonesia's new bill targets illegal fishing vessel owners. Available at: <https://www.eco-business.com/news/indonesias-new-bill-targets-illegal-fishing-vessel-owners/>
- 14 US Department of State, June 2019, 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report: Indonesia. Available at: <https://www.state.gov/reports/2019-trafficking-in-persons-report-2/indonesia/>
- 15 The Global Slavery Index, 2018, Findings – Importing Risk – Fishing. Available at: <https://www.globallslaveryindex.org/2018/data/country-data/indonesia/a>

For further information see the **Seafish ethics in Seafood** web page.
Available at: <https://www.seafish.org/article/ethics-in-seafood>