



February 2022

**Seafood Ethics Common Language Group e-alert**  
(amalgamation of news alerts issued to SECLG circulation list by email in February 2022)

[Seafood Ethics Common Language Group](#)

See also: <https://www.seafish.org/responsible-sourcing/social-responsibility-in-seafood/>

#### **Consultations**

[British Standards \(BS\) Institute consultation. BS 25700 Organizational responses on modern slavery – Guidance \(23 December 2021. Closing date for comments is 23 February 2022\)](#)

BS 25700 provides organizations with guidance for managing the risk of modern slavery, including prevention, identification, response, remediation, mitigation, and reporting modern slavery in its operations, supply chains and its wider operating environment. For further information a [webinar](#) has been arranged for 10am on Friday 28 January, where the expert panel will provide an overview of the clauses and content of the standard which is open to everyone.

[Equality fund launched to make fishing workplaces more inclusive and diverse \(17 January 2022. Closing date is 11 April 2022\)](#)

A two-year equality fund has been launched by Scottish Government to make Scottish workplaces, including those in the agriculture and fishing industries, more inclusive and diverse. £800,000 is available in its first year.

#### **Resources**

[Scientific paper. Decent work in fisheries: Current trends and key considerations for future research and policy \(February 2022\)](#)

This paper reviews recent trends in research, identifying key research gaps, and examining the potential for decent work in fishing. It shows that recent research focuses largely on severe abuses in hotspot geographies, but that whilst sustained work in 'hotspot' geographies like Southeast Asia is necessary, there is also need for a more balanced approach to understanding decent work deficits globally. This is a very good synopsis of the major trends in research and interventions around decent work in fisheries, authored by many familiar names.

[UK Women in Fisheries network \(4 February 2022\)](#)

UK Women in Fisheries recognises and supports women working in the UK fisheries sector, to highlight and support each other, and provide representation and recognition.

[New guidance on the minimum age and protection for young persons on fishing vessels \(4 February 2022\)](#)

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency has published new guidance about the minimum age for fishermen and the protection of young persons (under 18 years) working on board UK fishing vessels, under the ILO Work in fishing convention 2007 (C188).

[RRT publishes findings from independent impact assessment \(26 January 2022\)](#)

The RRT has published the findings of an independent impact assessment undertaken in late 2021. The assessment was carried out to assess the impact of the Responsible Recruitment Toolkit Sponsor Programme. The findings will help inform future focussed research directly with workers to provide bottom-up validation of the findings.

**[New Labour Supply Chain Due Diligence Checklist \(25 January 2022\)](#)**

This tool from the Responsible Recruitment Toolkit is a business-friendly practical guide to conduct due diligence in an organisation's labour supply chain. It provides practical steps to adopt responsible procuring practices when appointing new labour providers, recruiters or recruitment intermediaries, and to assess and mitigate any labour rights risks through the recruitment process.

**[Responsible Recruitment Interactive Initiative Mapping Tool \(January 2022\)](#)**

AIM-Progress and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development have launched an interactive mapping tool that gathers existing key initiatives, emerging standards, schemes, risk assessment tools and other programmes related to responsible recruitment and addressing forced labour, including RRT and Clearview.

**[ILO report. Use of digital technology in the recruitment of migrant workers \(January 2022\)](#)**

Drawing on data from 370 migrant workers from Nepal, Philippines and Sri Lanka, the report sheds a light on the potential use of digital technology to enable more transparent labour recruitment and prevent exploitative employment practices.

**[News](#)**

**[US labour abuse finding spurs Taiwan's seafood industry, government to further action \(14 February 2022\)](#)**

Taiwan will soon revoke the 'authorization for investment in operation of foreign-flagged fishing vessels' granted to the owner-operator of the Da Wang, a Taiwanese-owned (and Vanuatu-flagged) vessel which was the subject of a recent finding by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) that labour abuses took place on board.

**[ITF makes submission to Irish Government review of the Atypical Work Permit Scheme \(2 February 2022\)](#)**

The International Transport Workers' Federation has made a submission to the Government review of the Atypical Work Permit Scheme for Non-EEA fishers in Ireland. The submission reviews the six years of the Atypical Scheme, and details the changes needed to bring the Scheme in line with other permit schemes available to non-EEA workers in other sectors.

**[Issara Institute announces new grants with the Walmart Foundation and Target Foundation \(1 February 2022\)](#)**

An 18-month grant from the Walmart Foundation will help to continue Issara work to accelerate the operationalization of ethical recruitment channels that will benefit job seekers, workers, recruitment actors and employers. A three-year partnership with Target Foundation will help the expansion of community-based job seeker and worker empowerment approaches, as well as work to transform and modernize labour recruitment systems.

**[Joint NGO letter to US Secretary John Kerry reflects shared ambition to end IUU fishing \(27 January 2022\)](#)**

Twenty-five global NGOs have united to affirm their stance against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing in an official letter to Secretary John Kerry, US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate. The letter highlights the opportunity the US government has to combat these issues by ensuring full traceability and transparency in the global seafood supply chain.

**[Pescatlant accused of using forced labour, holding fishers off Spanish coast](#) (25 January 2022)**

The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) has intervened as Pescatlant Ltd has been accused of a number of serious labour abuses including forced labour, crew abandonment, unpaid wages and failure to provide compensation to a fisher who died in an accident at work. The company owns vessels in the supply chain of a major British food brand.

***This is an amalgamation of the news alerts issued in February 2022.***