



# MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

## FISHERIES QUARTERLY REPORT

THIRD QUARTER 2023

July - September, 2023



### MARINE EXPORTS

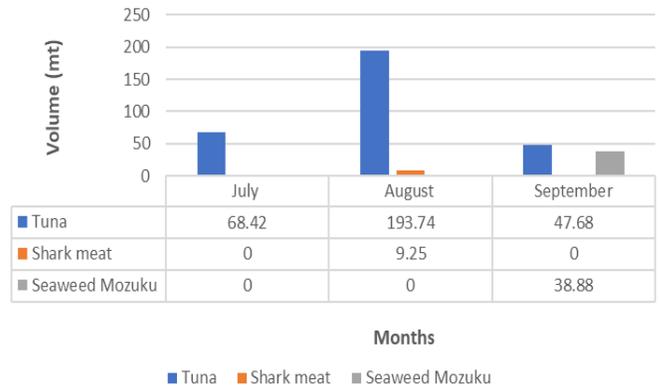
The total quantity of marine products exported this quarter was 357.98mt, where, 9.255 mt of shark meat, 38.88mt of seaweed (mozuku) and 309.845mt of tuna. Snapper fishery hasn't been exported yet, but sold locally. Exporting of tuna continues to dominate the overall exports in this quarter with a total of 86.5%, 2.8% of shark meat and 0.1% of seaweed (mozuku). The exports for this quarter shows an increase trend through out July to August and decrease in September.

The total quantity of fish products exported this quarter (not including aquarium) shows a slightly decrease of 12.8% from the amount exported in the previous quarter (Q2, 2023), and there was an increase of 47.7% compared to that of the same quarter last year (Q3, 2022).

The total FOB value of fish exports recorded in this quarter was approximately valued at TOP 1.7 millions which is a 29.4% decreased from the value of marine products exported in the previous quarter and increased of 37.6% compared to that of the same quarter last year.

*Source: Fisheries exports database*

#### Marine Export Performance for Q3, 2023



\*FOB = Free On Board, describes a price which includes goods plus the services at the time of offloading from the vessel at first landing. This is a static value designated to each export product. The value is an historical estimate and may not represent the true present value.

### TUNA FISHERY

The total quantity of tuna exported this quarter was 309.845mt which is a decrease of 28.8% from the amount of tuna exported in the previous quarter and there was an increase of 41% compared to that of the same quarter last year. The total value for tuna exported in this quarter was valued at about 1.6 millions which is less than the export values in the previous quarter and greater than that of same quarter last year. Tuna exported this quarter shows an increased trend from July to August and then decrease in September.

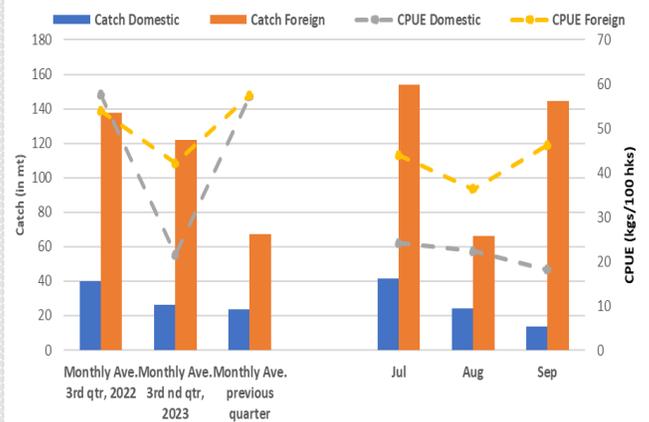
The total tuna unloaded this quarter was 495.5 metric tons which were caught from 43 trips where 7 foreign and 36 domestic trips. Foreign fleets continue to dominate in this fishery with total catch landing of 400.3mt. The catch effort for foreign fleets shows a decreasing trend from July to August then increase in September and the domestic vessel's catch for this quarter was only 94.26mt where the trend of its catch effort shows a slightly decreasing over the quarter from July to September due to weather conditions and climate change.

The average overall performance of the Tuna Fishery for this quarter reveals a higher average catch of foreign vessels than the previous quarter and lower than that of the same quarter in the previous year (Q2, 2022). However, the overall average catch for domestic fleets in this quarter is higher than previous quarter but lower than that of the same quarter last year. As for the average catch and effort for both foreign and domestic fleets, this quarter has lower CPUE compared to both of the previous quarter and the same period last year (Q3, 2022).

#### Tuna Export Performance for Q3, 2023.

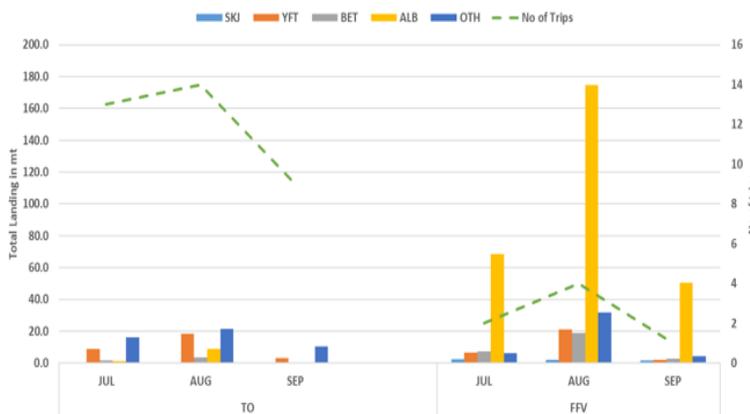


#### Tuna Fishery performance, 3rd Qrt 2023



*Source: Ministry of Fisheries Tuna exports database*

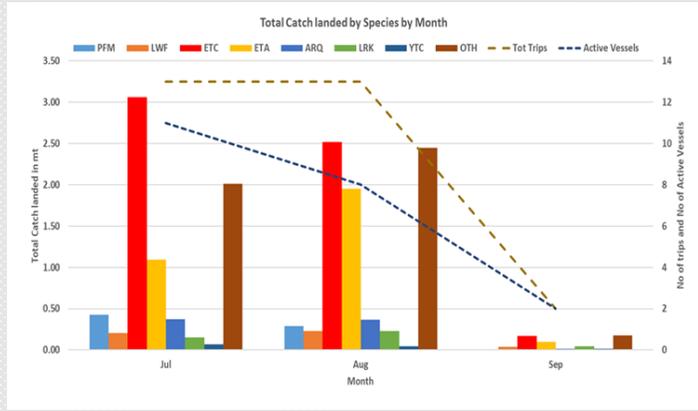
#### Monthly Unloading by species



**SNAPPER FISHERY**

A total catch of only 16.17 metric tons of snappers were unloaded in this quarter, which consists of 7.40mt in July, 8.09mt in August and 0.69mt in September. This trend shows a slightly increase from July to August due to increased active vessels and then decrease in September because there were only 2 active vessels with only 3 trips that month.

However, the overall average catches in this quarter is lower than both catches in the previous quarter as well as the 3rd quarter of year 2022. The average number of trips show an increasing trend from the previous quarter as well as the same quarter of the previous year, compared to this quarter. In addition, the total catch effort for this quarter decreases through out the quarter, from July to August and in September.

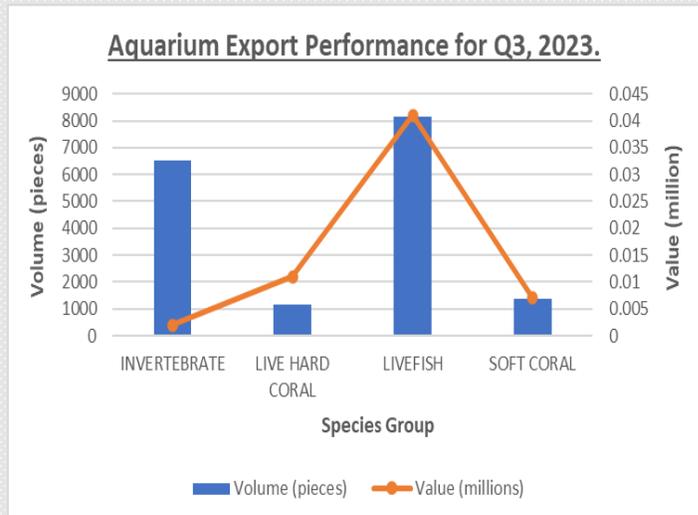


**AQUARIUM FISHERY**

The total quantity of aquarium products exported this quarter was 17,165 pieces, which is an increased of 15% compared to the total aquarium products exported in the previous quarter which was 14,517 pieces exported. Hence, in compared with the amount of aquarium products exported in the same quarter of the previous year, which was 36088 pieces, it shows a huge decreased of 110%, due to changes in climate seasons.

The exported aquarium products for this quarter was dominated by live fish exporting 8143 pieces, followed by invertebrates with 6505 pieces, then soft corals exporting 1362 pieces, and the least exported aquarium product for this quarter was live hard coral with 1155 pieces.

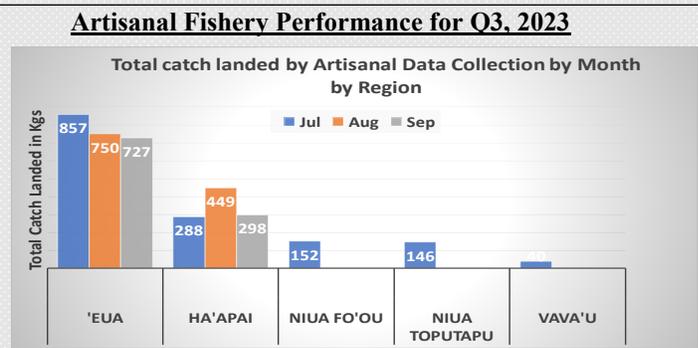
The total FOB value of the exported aquarium products in this quarter was approximately TOP 0.062 millions. The total value for previous quarter were 0.043 millions which shows an increase of 30.6%. However, in the same period of the previous year, the value of aquarium exports was 0.223 millions, showing there were more than doubling of the exported valued compared to this quarter.



**ARTISANAL FISHERY**

The total quantity of tuna artisanal fish recorded in this quarter was 3.7 metric tons which were caught and collected from 5 different sites. The highest volume of tuna-like species recorded during this quarter was at the Nafanua Wharf with 2.3 mt, then Taufaaahu Wharf with 1.03 mt, then followed the 2 Niuas and then Halaevalu Wharf with the least with 0.04 mt.

The highest catch landing this quarter was recorded in July with 1.48mt, then 1.19 mt in August and 1.02 mt in September. This trend shows that there were more trips on July compared to August and September, resulting with higher catch rates.



**DOMESTIC MARKET**

There were total of 11.8 metric tons of marine resources recorded in this quarter, which is a decrease of 25.4% from the previous quarter and increase from that of the same period last year with 84.7%. However, the amount recorded this quarter was valued at approximately TOP\$0.21 millions which shows a decrease from the previous quarter with 23.8% and it was increased from the same quarter last year with 84.83%. The average domestic price varied from time to time according to market demand for fish but usually changes in fish market price is determined by quantity of marine products available at that time in the market.

Source: Ministry of Fisheries Artisanal database.

