

# Comprehensive eCDT Principles Glossary

- **eCDT**

- The practice of digitally collecting, sharing, and tracking verifiable information about the harvesting, processing, and transportation of seafood products is electronic catch documentation and traceability (eCDT). Data from the harvest and movement of products—when captured and shared electronically—facilitate a quicker exchange of information, and enable broader use and more through verification by governments and within supply chains.

- **Comprehensive**

- When data captured from eCDT systems is used to support ecological, social, and economic objectives. Using ecological, social, and economic data collected via electronic traceability, governments can strengthen the effectiveness of fisheries management, support legal and equitable human welfare conditions for seafood laborers, and identify and prevent illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) and mislabeled products from entering domestic and international markets.
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- **Civil Society Organization (CSO)**

- Non-State, not-for-profit, voluntary entities formed by people in the social sphere that are separate from the State and the market. CSOs represent a wide range of interests and ties. They can include community-based organizations as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In the context of the UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework, CSOs do not include business or for-profit associations.<sup>1</sup> CSOs can include trade unions or other worker-led organizations.

- **Critical tracking event (CTE)**

- A specific point along a supply chain where certain key data elements need to be captured for the purpose of enabling traceability of a product. CTEs for seafood include harvest, landing, primary processing, aggregation, packaging, shipping, receiving, and sale.<sup>2</sup>

- **Data verification**

- The capacity to cross-check product or company-level information at any point in the supply chain with data supplied by other stakeholders or vetted by third parties. Data verification is critical for proving the legitimacy of the data and for preventing what might develop as traceability fraud. Verification can include mass-balance; data entry checks; restrictions on the ability to delete or modify data at a later date; verification of data accuracy via fish tickets or landing documents; verification of legal fishing through vessel monitoring systems (VMS) or AIS operations; and certificate status for health code or chain of custody compliance.<sup>2</sup>

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- Disenfranchised groups
  - Those deprived of some right, privilege, or immunity,<sup>3</sup> including women, youth, religious and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, LGBTI individuals, and indigenous peoples.<sup>4</sup>
- Electronic traceability
  - Seafood product information relevant to traceability is recorded, stored, shared, and accessed via electronic means as opposed to using a paper based system. Elements of electronic traceability may include computerized or cloud-based databases, enterprise resource planning (ERP), Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), data standards, and barcodes or RFID systems (to name a few).<sup>2</sup>
- Gap analyses
  - A “gap” refers to the space between the present state (“where we are”) and the target state (“where we want to be”). It could also be viewed as a “needs assessment” or “need-gap analysis” in that challenges and opportunities are presented alongside priorities and timeframes to bridge the gap towards current capabilities and an ideal eCDT system.<sup>5</sup>
- Grievance Mechanism
  - A grievance is understood to be a perceived injustice evoking an individual’s or a group’s sense of entitlement, which may be based on law, contract, explicit or implicit promises, customary practice, or general notions of fairness of aggrieved communities. The term grievance mechanism is used to indicate any routinized, State-based or non-State-based, judicial or non-judicial process through which grievances concerning business-related human rights abuse can be raised and remedy can be sought.<sup>6</sup>
- Human-centered design
  - Human-centered design (HCD) is a way of thinking that places the people you’re trying to serve and other important stakeholders at the center of the design and implementation process.<sup>6</sup>

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- Human rights
  - Human rights are the rights people are entitled to simply because they are human beings, irrespective of their citizenship, nationality, race, ethnicity, language, gender, etc. This term refers to the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights which lists 30 articles defining those rights, including that “all humans are born free and equal...have a right to life, liberty and security of person...shall not be held in slavery or servitude...everyone has a right to leave any country...everyone has a right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment”<sup>8</sup>

- Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU)
  - “Illegal fishing activities are those being conducted without permission or in violation of formal laws and regulations. Unreported fishing occurs when landings are not reported to the government or fishery management authority. Unregulated fishing is the harvesting of fish and shellfish stocks for which there are no conservation or management measures in place.”<sup>2</sup>

- Interoperability
  - The ability of different information technology systems or software programs to communicate seamlessly for the purpose of exchanging and using data. For systems to be truly interoperable, they must have both semantic (common meaning) and syntactic (common format) interoperability.<sup>2</sup>

- Key data elements (KDE)
  - The different pieces of information that capture the who, what, where, and when of a seafood product as it moves through different Critical Tracking Events in the supply chain. Industry-wide agreement about what information needs to be captured continues to be a work-in-progress.<sup>2</sup>

- Labor Protections
  - “Labour protection aims to promote decent working conditions and focuses on the economic, temporal and physical aspects of the individual at work: wages, working time, and occupational safety and health”.<sup>9</sup>

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- Marginalized groups
  - Different groups of people within a given culture, context and history at risk of being subjected to multiple discrimination due to the interplay of different personal characteristics or grounds, such as sex, gender, age, ethnicity, religion or belief, health status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, education or income, or living in various geographic localities.<sup>10</sup>
- Remedy
  - Remedies, often provided by grievance mechanisms, take a range of forms designed to “counteract or make good any human rights harms that have occurred. Remedy may include apologies, restitution, rehabilitation, financial or non-financial compensation and punitive sanctions (whether criminal or administrative, such as fines), as well as the prevention of harm through, for example, injunctions or guarantees of non-repetition. Procedures for the provision of remedy should be impartial, protected from corruption and free from political or other attempts to influence the outcome.”<sup>6</sup>
- Social safeguards
  - Social safeguard policies are essential tools to prevent and mitigate undue harm to people during the development process. When identifying and designing a project, safeguards should help assess the potential social risks and impacts (positive or negative) associated with a development intervention. Safeguards should help define measures and processes to effectively manage risks and enhance positive impacts.<sup>11</sup>
- Stakeholder
  - Stakeholders are the individuals, groups, or institutions who affect or are affected by a decision or activity<sup>12</sup>
- Supply chain
  - People and businesses involved with the production, processing, brokering, and distribution of seafood from fisher to consumer. Seafood may be transformed multiple times along the supply chain as it changes hands from one member of the supply chain to another.<sup>2</sup>

For definitions of other terms related to seafood traceability, visit [Future of Fish's Glossary](#).

## Citations:

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