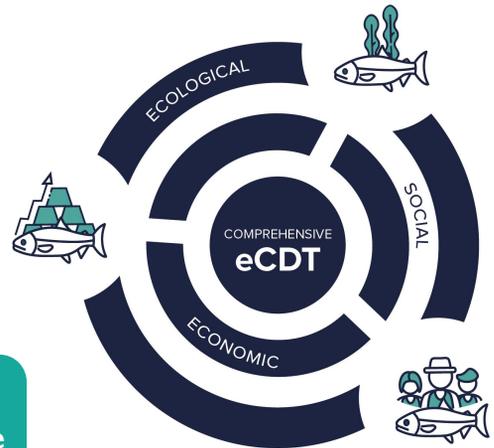


# Comprehensive Electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability Principles

To create more transparency in seafood supply chains, governments are starting to look to electronic traceability programs. 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)**. When captured and shared electronically, data from the harvest and movement of products facilitate a quicker exchange of information. Additionally, data can be used more broadly and verified thoroughly by governments and within supply chains.

Data from eCDT programs can support:

- **Ecological** goals, such as strengthening fisheries management
- **Social responsibility** goals, such as improving the welfare of seafood workers or reducing the risk of human rights injustices
- **Economic** goals, such as making export compliance and overall operations more cost-efficient



**A seafood traceability program is considered 'comprehensive' when it uses data to take advantage of these three potential benefits.**

Guidance to create comprehensive traceability programs was needed to support governments, which drove the creation of the Comprehensive eCDT Principles. These Principles are core ideas to keep in mind while designing or improving an electronic traceability program to reap ecological, social, and economic benefits.



**Use data to inform decision-making**



**Create a program that is electronic, interoperable, and data secure**



**Be inclusive and collaborative with stakeholders**



**Build a lasting and scalable program**



**Maximize ecological, social, and economic benefits**



**Address data and verification needs across fisheries and supply chains**

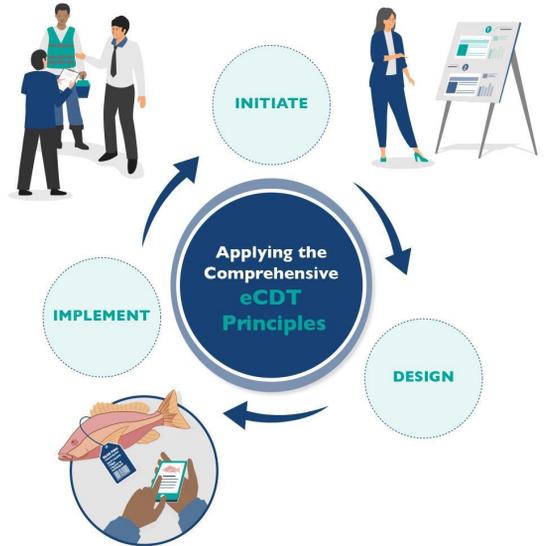
*The principles are not presented in any priority order, nor are they intended to be sequential.*

# Pathway to the Principles

Accompanying these Principles is a "Pathway to the Principles," which details the potential steps that support putting the Principles into practice. Each step also connects users to guidance and resources to support their traceability work.

These steps, which are tied back to one of the six principles, fall beneath three phases to building a comprehensive eCDT program: Initiate, Design, Implement.

**6 Principles  
~40 Possible Steps  
Over 100 Resources**



The Seafood Alliance for Legality and Traceability (SALT) appreciates the support of the Consultative Committee, made up of 35 stakeholders from 18 countries, in developing the Principles and Pathway. SALT is a five-year public-private partnership between USAID and the Packard, Moore, and Walton Family Foundations and is implemented by FishWise, a non-profit sustainable seafood consultancy.

**If you are interested in applying the Principles to your traceability work, SALT may be able to help.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE, GET IN TOUCH WITH SALT BY VISITING:**

**[SALTtraceability.org](https://SALTtraceability.org)**