

Seafood Alliance for Legality and Traceability (SALT) Strategy Update

After the first year of working across countries and organizations to identify the needs around seafood traceability, SALT has identified its strategy for the remaining four years of the project. Thanks to so many of you for contributing to the process and continuing to work with SALT into 2019 and beyond.

Background

The Seafood Alliance for Legality and Traceability (SALT) is a public-private partnership between [USAID](#) and the [Walton Family](#), [Packard](#), and [Moore](#) Foundations implemented by [FishWise](#), a sustainable seafood consultancy. SALT brings together the resources, relationships, and experience of leading donors to create an online learning portal capable of accelerating innovation, sharing information, and inspiring a system of best practices in seafood traceability for a broad range of organizations worldwide.

During the year of co-design, SALT hosted three regional co-design workshops (DataLabs) that featured 159 attendees. Information gathered from the DataLabs, as well as virtual feedback through webinars and an online survey, helped ensure SALT gathered diverse views from 34 countries and 132 organizations around the globe. You can review all of the reports and survey [here](#).

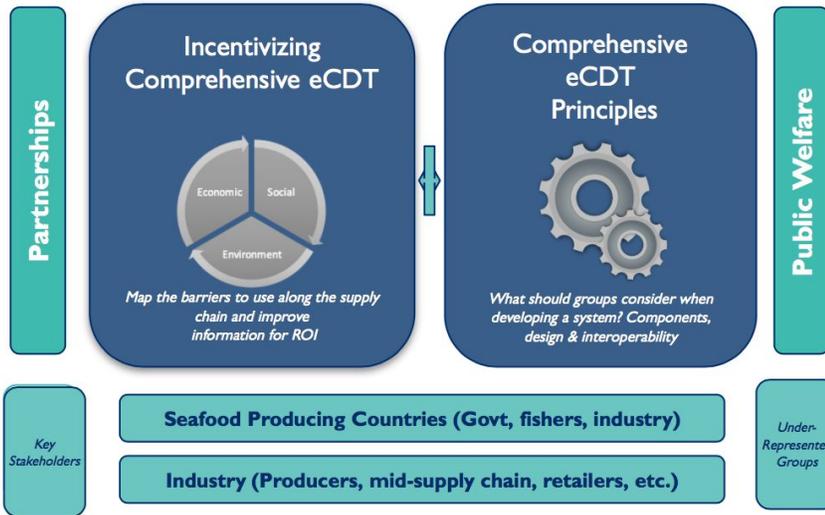
SALT Strategy 2019-2022

Based on the data received during co-design and in consultation with the Co-Design Advisory Committee, SALT narrowed its focus to two main themes and target groups. At the end of this five-year project, SALT envisions a more interconnected seafood community that shares valuable information to encourage organizations worldwide to adopt a versatile and comprehensive **electronic catch documentation and traceability** (eCDT) system that fits a country's needs. This traceability system should be comprehensive in that the data captured from seafood products also support social, environmental, and economic well-being overall. Ultimately, the data may not only help to identify and prevent mislabeled and illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) products from entering the market, but also support and strengthen effective fisheries management, and legal and equitable human welfare conditions for seafood laborers.

These two themes were featured in more than half (18) of the collaborative ideas proposed by SALT DataLab attendees:

- **How to incentivize comprehensive eCDT globally:** This includes both mapping the barriers to adopting eCDT, and understanding the full return on investment for economic, environmental, and social benefits to comprehensive eCDT. Understanding the value of this traceability system helps increase people's willingness to use it.
- **The principles of comprehensive eCDT:** When creating eCDT systems, which are not a one size fits all, what are the key things to consider regarding data collection? The information systems historically used by the seafood industry and producer countries often do not support sharing data between groups with varying interests. This lack of interoperability hinders the ability of data and technology systems to efficiently support the collective action required to combat IUU fishing, human rights and labor abuses, and strengthen fisheries management. SALT will work with our community to

SALT Key Topics: *Electronic catch documentation & traceability (eCDT)*



identify and promote principles and guidance in coordination with existing efforts working on this problem.

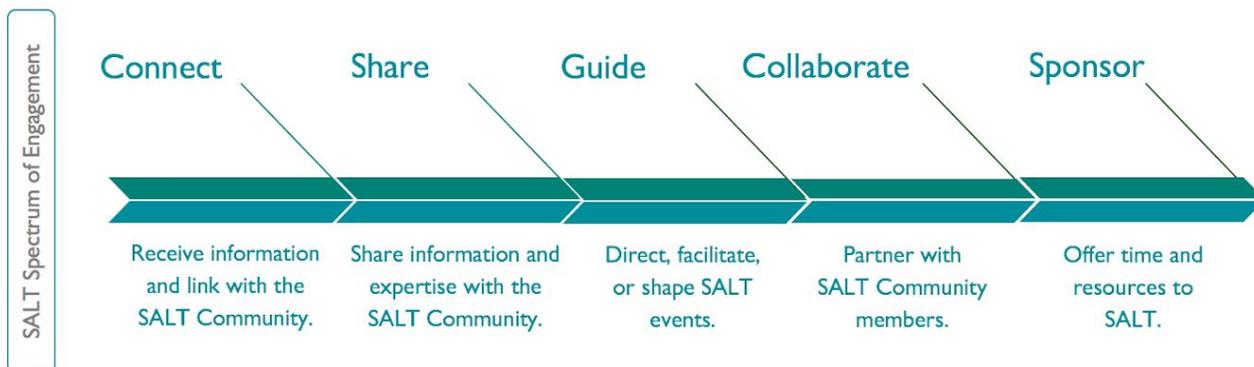
While SALT will work to engage many audiences, it will be necessary at times to focus efforts on particular audiences given the scope and funding of SALT. A primary focus will be placed on seafood-producing, or “producer” countries (including governments and fishers), as well as industry; in particular mid-supply chain companies, or producer-country fishing companies. Other important elements of SALT’s strategy include a focus on strategic

partnerships, including under-represented groups, and ensuring that public welfare is a main consideration to prevent human rights abuses in the seafood industry.

SALT Year 2 Proposed Activities (2018-2019)

SALT’s main strategic approaches will build capacity for eCDT work through collaboration and learning—especially among producer country stakeholders—by developing knowledge products and sharing relevant information. Some essential activities over the next year include:

- PartnerLab Event in Bangkok, Thailand in February 2019. Please direct any questions about this event to SALT.RSVP@fishwise.org.
- Launching the SALT website, a platform to collaborate and learn
- Development of the Seafood Traceability Seascape, a map of eCDT work around the world with information to learn more or connect for collaboration
- Compilation of existing seafood traceability tools and resources
- Data-gathering on barriers to and return on investment from comprehensive eCDT
- Sharing what we’ve learned from global meetings and visiting eCDT pilots





There are several opportunities to participate in the SALT community as noted in the Spectrum of Engagement below. If you would like to participate in SALT, please contact **SALT@fishwise.org**.