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**Subject:** IPNLF Newsletter | Expanding horizons: fisheries data, gender research & membership  
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Welcome to the latest edition of the International Pole & Line Foundation's newsletter; updating you on the launch of a new online system to record tuna catch and effort data, sharing initial findings from our gender research in the Maldives and introducing our newest Members.

### Maldives launch new Fisheries Information System for one-by-one tuna



In early August IPNLF and the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture for the Maldives officially launched a new [Fisheries Information System \(FIS\)](#) for one-by-one tuna fisheries. The FIS, which started development in 2012, is a unified and integrated web-enabled database and will allow the Maldives' tuna fisheries to fulfil all the latest international traceability requirements with regards to catch and vessel reporting.

The FIS was developed through generous support from IPNLF and its Members [Marks & Spencer](#), [Sainsbury's](#) and [World Wise Foods](#).

### Research diaries: the contribution of women to one-by-one tuna supply chains

In early July, Peter Wessels from the [Marine Affairs Programme](#) of [Dalhousie University](#) embarked upon a journey to the Lhaviyani Atoll in the Maldives to research the roles of women in Maldivian one-by-one tuna fisheries.

Supported by IPNLF, the Maldives Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture, and the [Waitt](#)



[Foundation](#), Peter aims to map the roles women are playing in tuna supply chains in the Maldives; and develop and test indicators that can represent the gender dimension of these fisheries for a broader programme of social and economic monitoring of tuna fisheries in the Maldives.

Peter presented his initial research at the [Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries](#) forum, particularly his new findings on the prevalence of women's cooperatives and the social benefits associated with them.

Check out [Peter's blog](#) for a full account of his experiences and findings.



Women working in a one-by-one tuna processing factory, Maldives © IPNLF

## IPNLF welcomes two new Members

IPNLF are delighted to introduce two new [Members](#), our first UK foodservice supplier [Caterers Choice](#) and North American supplier [Blue Circle Foods](#).

Family-owned [Caterers Choice](#) is one of the United Kingdom's leading importers and distributors of canned and ambient products to the UK foodservice and manufacturing markets. Working with many of the most trusted high street brands, the company is a key advocate for the Indonesian pole-and-line industry and for the sustainable sourcing of tuna.



[Blue Circle](#) is regarded as one of North America's premier suppliers of fresh and frozen seafood to leading chefs, artisan retailers and exclusive distributors. Focusing on traceability, animal welfare, food safety, and quality, the company applies an organic approach to both wild-caught and farmed seafood. It is a leading advocate for Maldives' handline-caught tuna.



We are very excited to welcome these organisations to our membership network and we look forward to our future work together. [Join our network](#) to enhance your supply of responsible tuna, boost the credibility of your company and strengthen the sustainability of the one-by-one fisheries you work with and benefit from.

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### **A changing landscape for tuna sustainability - a special Infofish feature**

[Adam Baske](#), (IPNLF Director, Policy and Outreach) wrote a fantastic feature for Infofish International magazine on what the positive outcomes from the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission meetings really mean for tuna sustainability. In case you missed it, [catch up here on our website](#).

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