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## Indonesian firm finishes traceability pilot project



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The firm Bali Seafood International has finished the fishery management and 'boat-to-plate' traceability pilot project it launched in January and hopes to continue the effort, the company said.

The project allowed consumers to trace 5,000 pounds of tuna from 20 artisanal Indonesian fishermen who were equipped with GPS trackers installed by the firm Pelagic Data Systems.

US Secretary of State John Kerry during briefing by Aditya Utama, director of the NGO Fishing and Living, and Sharif Cicip Sutardjo, Indonesian Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, a sustainable tuna fishing operation supported by USAID in Bali, Indonesia, October 6, 2013. Photo: U.S. Department of State

Fish were able to be traced from "boat to processor, including fishing and landing location, gear type, and date and time," Bali Seafood said in a press release.

The project — which will be used in assessing stocks — aims to increase the quality of landings.

Along the Asian nation's archipelago, up to 60% of the value of the seafood caught by some 800,000 fishermen is lost between harvest and arrival at the nation's processing infrastructure on the islands of Bali and Java, according to Jerry Knecht, founder and majority stockholder of North Atlantic, Bali Seafood's Portland, Maine-based parent company.

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The company is planning to build four cold-storage and processing plants in Santong, Indonesia in order to facilitate future growth.



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