

January 2018

SafeFish Update

Dear SafeFish Stakeholder,

Please find below an update of SafeFish activities for you to share with your members. Please remember to visit our website: <u>www.safefish.com.au</u> or contact us for further information.

Annual Report

The newest SafeFish annual report detailing outcomes of the project from July 2016 to June 2017 will be available on the SafeFish website, and distributed to relevant SafeFish stakeholders by the end of January.

Research Project Updates:

Fighting Food Waste and Fraud Cooperative Research Centre (CRC)

The bid for the Fighting Food Waste and Fraud CRC submitted by SARDI was successful in making it to the final round. A full business case has now been submitted for consideration. The CRC Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Minister as to which applications are suitable for funding in March 2018 and the funding for successful applications will commence on 1st July 2018. SafeFish assisted in submitting a proposal from a seafood consortium to build value for the seafood industry and protect markets through investigation of novel packaging and novel ways to maximize value from seafood whilst reducing food loss, seafood authenticity tools, and seafood fraud.

Harmonised Australian Retailer Producer Scheme (HARPS)

SafeFish are currently developing a proposal to investigate the business case for a harmonized certification scheme for seafood. SafeFish will be liaising closely with the Australian Food and Grocery Council (AFGC) and Food Innovation Australia Limited (FIAL) when developing the HARPS proposal above to draw on their experience in the area.

Food Authenticity Project

A Seafood Authenticity review that aims to identify the available provenance and authenticity tools available in Australia is currently underway. The report will provide examples of where such tools are used within the seafood sector (including why that particularly tool was chosen, if it was successful and any measure of success), along with estimations of the development and on-going management costs where possible. The review is due to be completed by May 2018.





CODEX Activities:

SafeFish have been monitoring and providing input into the following Codex standards and Codes of Practice for seafood:

- Methylmercury in fish;
- Control guidance document for Histamines in fish;
- New standard under development for ciguatoxins;
- Alignment of Food Additives in seafood products;
- Use of Non Dioxin-like PCBs;
- Lead in fish;
- Changes to the risk management of gentian (crystal violet) in food
- And an update on the new standard for fish oils.

If you would like to provide input around any of the issues above, or you would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact the secretariat.

SafeFish Partners Meeting:

The next Partnership meeting will be held in April 2018. The final date and destination will be distributed at a later date. The partner meetings are open to observers: interested parties are invited to contact the SafeFish secretariat to register their interest in attending.