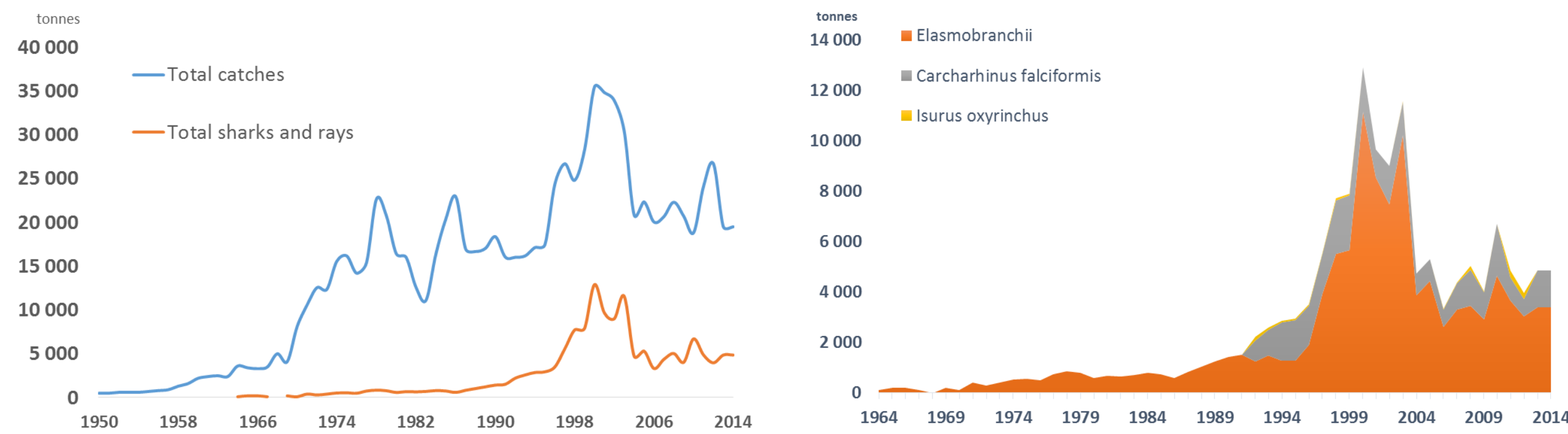




COSTA RICA



CAPTURE FISHERIES PRODUCTION



Source: FAO Fishstat dataset 'Global capture production 1950–2014'

FISH TRADE AND COMMODITIES

Commodity (average 2008–2013)	Export		Import	
	Tonnes	USD'000	Tonnes	USD'000
Shark fins, dried, whether or not salted, etc.	9	510		
Shark fins, frozen	41	186		
Shark fins, salted and in brine but not dried or smoked	2	15		
Sharks nei, fresh or chilled	0	1	2	5
Sharks nei, frozen	2 068	2 683	2 228	1 985
Sharks, dried, whether or not salted, but not smoked	6	267	1	25
Sharks, rays, skates, fresh or chilled, nei	14	21	4	3
Grand Total	2 140	3 684	2 234	2 019
Total all marine fisheries commodities	26 331	137 213	32 143	70 363

Source: FAO Fishstat dataset 'Global commodities production and trade 1976–2013'

FISHERIES AND TRADE

FISHING AREAS	TYPE OF FISHERIES	TARGET	COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE	Species	
				<i>C. longimanus</i>	<i>Sphyrna spp.</i>
National waters	Semi-industrial	Target	Domestic market		
International waters		By-catch			
	Small-scale	Ecotourism	Export		

MANAGEMENT MEASURES

SPECIES PROHIBITIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited the capture and commercialization of Oceanic whitetip shark. Prohibited targeting and retention of Oceanic whitetip shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>) by fisheries regulated by IATTC. Individuals caught to be released alive, to the extent of possibility.
SPATIAL RESTRICTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to data available at MPA Global database (www.mpaglobal.org), Costa Rica has designated 26 marine protected areas, covering approximately 5 614 km² of marine areas (or about 1% of the total area of the EEZ). The National Park of Isla del Coco is one of the largest areas under protection (1 948 km²), covering offshore areas of interest for the conservation of Oceanic sharks.
TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary and permanent closures in parts of the Gulf of Nicoya.
PRODUCT FORM RESTRICTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibited finning of sharks. Required landing and transport of sharks with fins attached to the body (No 8436 of 2005). Regulation OSPESCA OSP-05-11 of 2011 forbids the finning of sharks, which have to be landed with the fins attached to the body. IATTC requires members to fully utilize shark catches and to prohibit finning by applying a 5 percent fin-to-body weight ratio for sharks on board vessels.
PARTICIPATORY RESTRICTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to fishing is restricted by licenses or authorizations.
FISHING CAPACITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing reduction of the semi-industrial shrimp trawling fleet (no further details provided).
OTHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree No. 35502-MAG-MINAE establishes the norm for the implementation of Marine Areas of Responsible Fishing (MARF), aimed at supporting the sustainable use of marine resources through co-management. Decree No. 38681-MAG-MINAE (5 November 2014), for the "Ordenamiento para el aprovechamiento de atún y especies afines en la Zona Económica Exclusiva del océano Pacífico costarricense", aimed at sustainable use of tuna and associated fisheries resources.



IMPLEMENTING THE APPENDIX II LISTINGS

Progress made

- At regional level, INCOPECA contributed to the elaboration and implementation of a standard methodology for controls and data collection at landing sites;
- Improvement of a traceability system for shark and shark products, including: i) collaboration for the implementation of specific commodity codes for the shark species under Appendix II; ii) collaboration with the CITES Secretariat for revision and improvement of the methods for the traceability of the Costa Rica fisheries;
- Organization of a workshop, coordination and technical contribution in making the NDF certificate.

Current limitations

- Coordination between competent authorities in Central American countries (fisheries, environment, trade, customs, etc.) to clarify the procedures and impacts of these listings and establish compliance;
- Detailed knowledge on trade flow of the shark products in Central America.

Needs

- Financial support for the implementation of a program for collecting landings and biological data on shark fisheries products;
- Financial support to implement genetic markers at several stages of the chain of custody;
- Shark tagging programs in coastal areas, especially for newborns and juveniles;
- Training in identification of shark species, including DNA techniques;
- Human and financial resources to establish a better cooperation in the region allowing to share information on sharks listed on CITES (e.g. legal aspects, statistics on captures and trade, registry of exports).