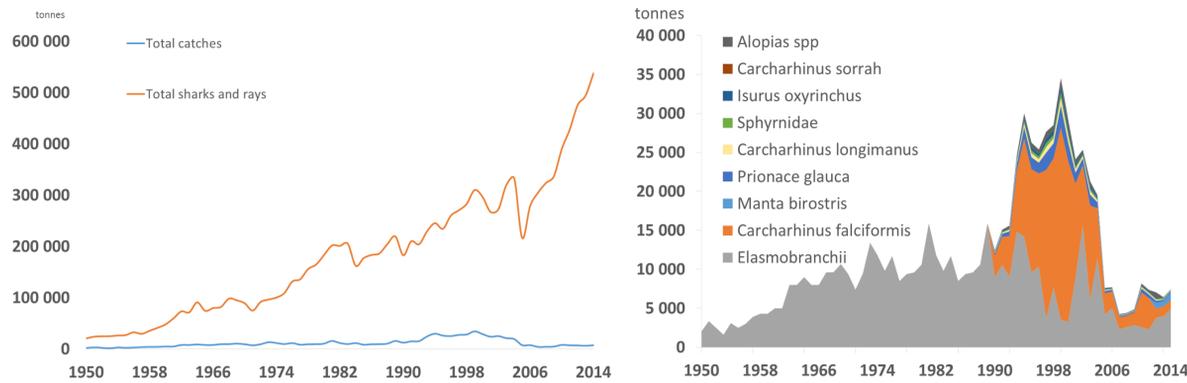




# SRI LANKA



## TOTAL 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.	61	1 389	7	24
Sharks nei, fresh or chilled	1	2	7	6
Sharks nei, frozen	1	3	25	20
<b>Total shark commodities</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>1 394</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Total all marine fisheries commodities</b>	<b>20 665</b>	<b>197 905</b>	<b>90 441</b>	<b>149 012</b>

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



## FISHERIES AND TRADE

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

## MANAGEMENT MEASURES

SPECIES PROHIBITIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thresher shark species belong to family <i>Alopiidae</i> not to be retained and to be released unharmed, to the extent practicable, when caught (Prohibition of catching Thresher Shark Regulation 2012).</li> </ul>
PRODUCT FORM RESTRICTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required landing of fins attached to body.</li> <li>Prohibited finning in fisheries regulated by IOTC. Required to apply a 5% fin-to-body weight ratio for sharks on board vessels up to the first point of landing (Landing of Fish (species of shark and skates) Regulation, 2001).</li> </ul>
PARTICIPATORY RESTRICTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only fishers in possession of a valid licence issued under the Fishing Operations Regulations of 1996 (published in Gazette Extraordinary No. 948/25 of 7 November, 1996) may land fish belonging to the species of sharks or skates, moreover those vessels have to be registered under the Department of Fisheries &amp; Aquatic Resources (DFAR).</li> </ul>
OTHER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The management of fisheries includes community participation (Fisheries &amp; Aquatic Resources amended Act No.35 of 2013).</li> <li>DFAR is in the process of amending the Regulation on high seas fisheries, provisioning fishing vessels to have by-catch mitigation devices such as line cutters. Currently it is stated as a requirement in the high seas fishing operation licence.</li> </ul>

## IMPLEMENTING THE APPENDIX II LISTINGS

### Progress made

- Regulation has been drafted and submitted to consolidate the prohibition of fishing vulnerable shark species (including Oceanic whitetip shark) caught by high seas fishing vessels and the introduction of an export permit system for all shark species.

### Current limitations

- Difficulty in the identification of the shark species from their fins;
- Lack of funding for research and management of sharks and rays;
- Lack of knowledge of behavior, biology, migratory patterns etc. of shark resources.

### Needs

- Provide researchers with the opportunities through national, regional and international training, of building their research capabilities on shark fisheries;
- Increase the awareness of fishers on the importance of conservation and management of sharks.