

**Benchmarking global fisheries discards**

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This Supplemental Information provides additional information on the methods employed to develop the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation's (FAO's) *Discards Database for Global Marine Fisheries* <sup>1</sup>. The weights of annual species-specific retained catches by flag state and FAO statistical were obtained for the period 2010-2014 from the *FAO Global Fishery and Aquaculture Database* <sup>2</sup> and *FAO Regional Capture Fisheries Database* <sup>3</sup>. Data on retained catch were obtained from the latter database for eastern central and southeast Atlantic regions. Retained catch weights by species were then allocated to 1,854 individual fisheries, where a fishery was defined based on the flag state, gear type, target species and FAO fishing area.

A literature review was conducted to compile records of discard rates. These compiled records were obtained from 156 compiled publications (the *DiscardRates* worksheet of FAO <sup>1</sup>), and provided fishery-specific discard rate estimates for 419 of the 1,854 global fisheries. The discard rate estimates were obtained from experiments, observer and logbook program data and stakeholder surveys, with a time series of 2000 to 2017. For 1,230 of the fisheries for which fishery-specific discard rates were not identified, global gear-specific discard rates were used, using the discard rate records compiled from the literature search, by employing the statistical modeling approach described in the Methods section of the article. Country-specific discard rates were applied to 206 fisheries of 12 countries (Table S1).

Table S1. Country-specific fisheries discard rates (tonnes of discards to tonnes of total catch).

Country	Discard rate	Citation
Bangladesh	0.063	4
Cambodia	0.007	5
China	0.050	6
Iceland	0.008	7
India	0.095	8
Indonesia	0.043	9
Korea, North	0.005	6
Malaysia	0.022	10
Myanmar	0.007	11
Norway	0.008	7
Philippines	0.007	12
Sri Lanka	0.095	8
Thailand	0.010	13
Vietnam	0.125	14

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