

November 2004

**SEVENTH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE****MAHÉ, SEYCHELLES, 8-12 NOVEMBER 2004****SUMMARY OF TAGGING OPERATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN  
PILOT AND SMALL-SCALE TUNA TAGGING PROGRAMMES***IOTC Secretariat***ABSTRACT**

*This document is a summary of the tagging operations included or associated to the IOTTP. This paper is presenting the number of fish released during these projects and the recoveries of tagged fish for each programme.*

**Pilot and small-scale tuna tagging programmes and other associated project handled**

Since July 2004, 9 tuna tagging projects were undertaken or begun in the Indian Ocean. 7 of these projects (3 pilot projects and 4 small-scales) were related to the IOTTP and 2 are independents but associated projects (table 1).

7 projects were undertaken in the Western Part of the Indian Ocean to assess growth parameters, movement, exploitation rate and interaction between the fisheries. 5 of these were funded by the DG Fish of the European Union. Moreover, 2 projects were undertaken in the Eastern part of the Indian Ocean by SEAFDEC and OFCF.

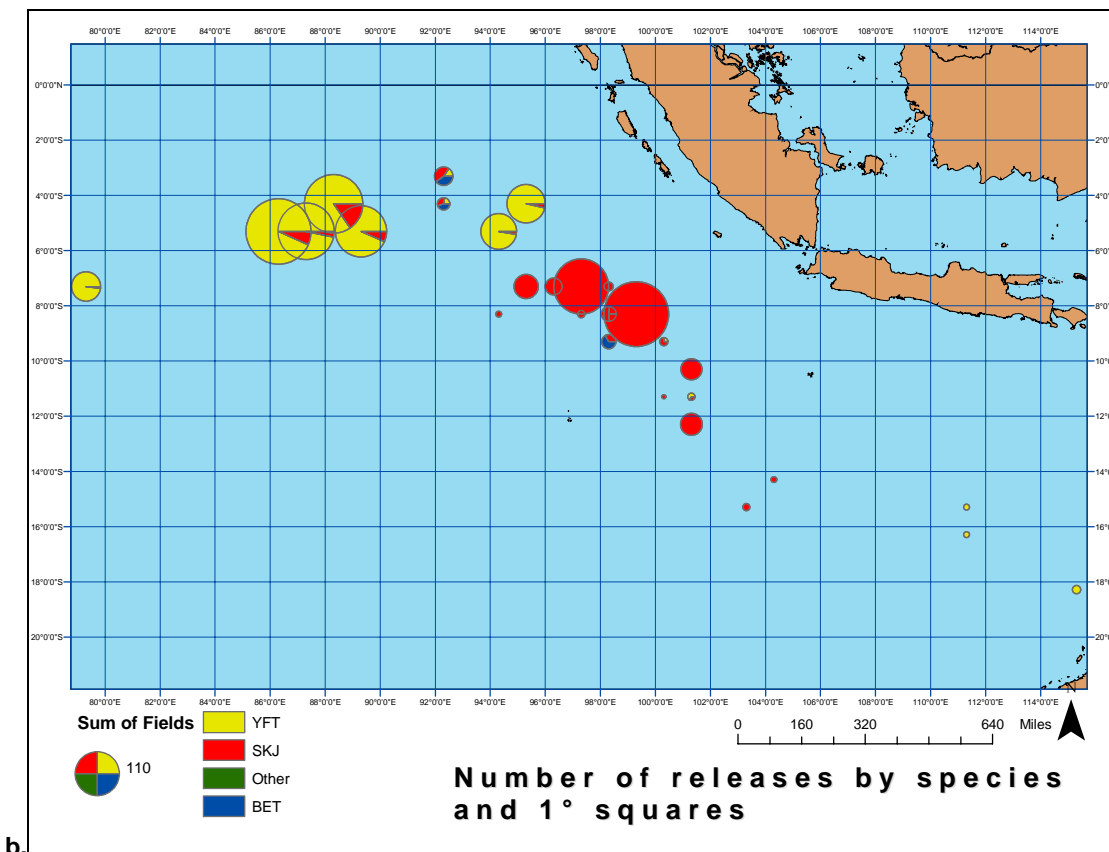
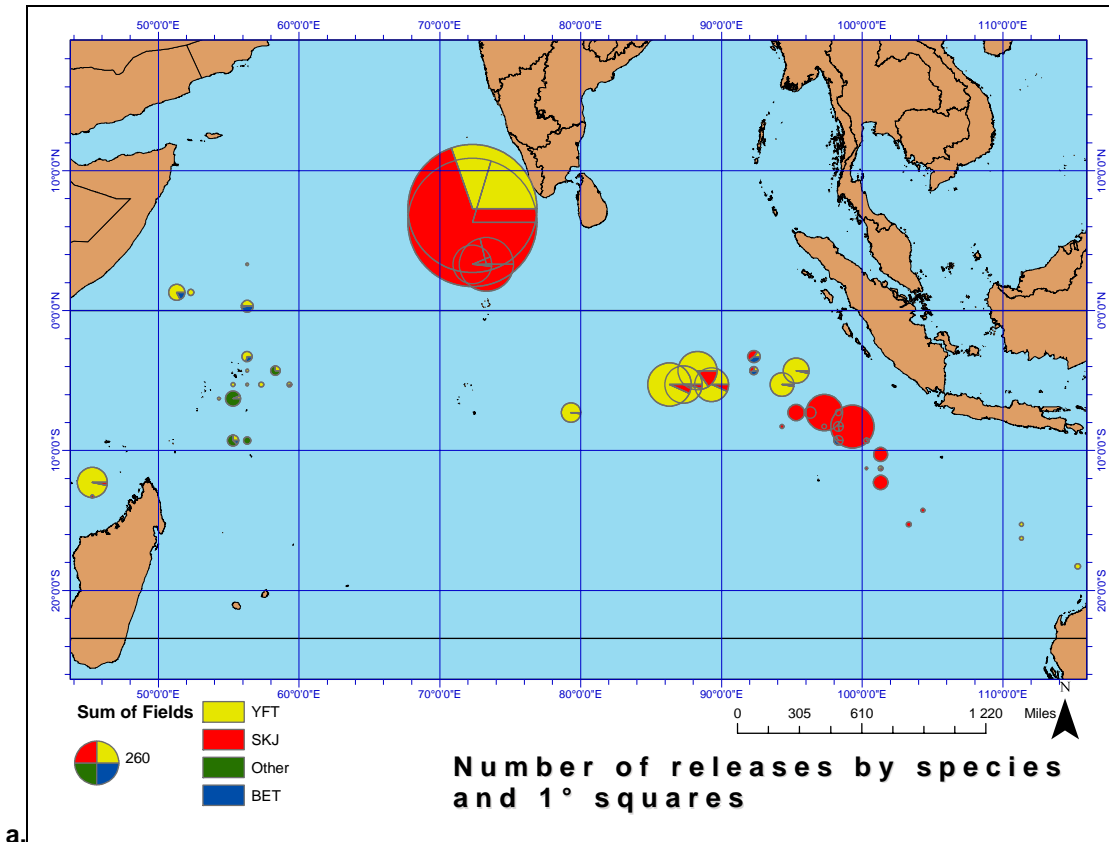
Table 1. Description of the projects related or associated to IOTTP undertaken or begun.

Projects	Type	Dates	Main goals	Gear
Evaluation des potentialités de marquage à Mayotte	Pilot project	May 2002	Assess the possibility of undertaking a pilot project around Mayotte (Comoros) to tag medium and large YFT	Handline / Troll-line / Longline
IOTC tuna tagging consultancy in Seychelles	Pilot project	October 2002 March 2003	Test the possibility of tagging in the Seychelles waters using small longliners as platforms and using several fishing techniques	Handline / Troll-line / Longline
IOTC tuna tagging consultancy in the Sultanate of Oman	Pilot project	March 2003	Test the possibility of tagging the medium size YFT in the Omanese waters.	Handline
NRIFSF	Pilot project	January – March 2004	Tag 2000 tunas (600 YFT, 1200 SKJ, 200 BET) in the EIO	Troll-line / Pole and line / Rod and Reel / Longline
SEAFDEC	Small-scale project	November – December 2003	Tag 1000 tunas using a purse-seiner in the EIO	Purse-seine
Programme de marquage à petite échelle à Mayotte	Small-scale	March – June 2004	Tag 400 medium and large size YFT around Mayotte during the fishing season using the fishermen's boats	Handline / Troll-line
Small-scale project in the Republic of Maldives	Small-scale project	August 2004	Tag 5000 tunas around Maldives north atolls to analyse interactions with the PS fleet	Pole and line
TAGFAD	Associated	October 2003	Tag with archival tags 200 tunas around drifting FADs to study the behaviour of tunas around floating objects	Troll-line
FADIO	Associated	2004 -2006	Tag with sonic and archival tags tunas around artificial drifting and anchored FADs to study the behaviour of tunas around floating objects	Troll-line

## Tag releases results

Tableau 2 : Summary of the releases made by the different projects undertaken under or associated to the IOTTP.

Project	Species	Release of tagged fish	Recovery of tagged fish	Reporting rate
Mayotte Pilot	YFT	15	3	20%
	SKJ	3	0	0
	BET	1	0	0
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15,78%</b>
Seychelles	YFT	13	0	0%
	SKJ	1	0	0%
	BET	1	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
Oman	YFT	0	0	0%
	SKJ	0	0	0%
	BET	0	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
Japanese	YFT	20	0	0%
	SKJ	572	0	0%
	BET	23	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
SEAFDEC	YFT	930	1	0,1%
	SKJ	70	0	0%
	BET	0	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
Mayotte Small-scale	YFT	101	23	22,77%
	SKJ	3	0	0%
	BET	0	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22,11%</b>
Maldives	YFT	1238	120	3%
	SKJ	3746	25	2%
	na	14	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4998</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3%</b>
TAGFAD	YFT	48	1	2,08%
	SKJ	0	0	0%
	BET	18	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,15%</b>
FADIO	YFT	11	0	0%
	SKJ	1	0	0%
	BET	2	0	0%
	Other	54	0	0%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>YFT</b>	<b>2376</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>2,23%</b>
	<b>SKJ</b>	<b>4396</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>2,73%</b>
	<b>BET</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
	<b>Other</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6885</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>2,51%</b>



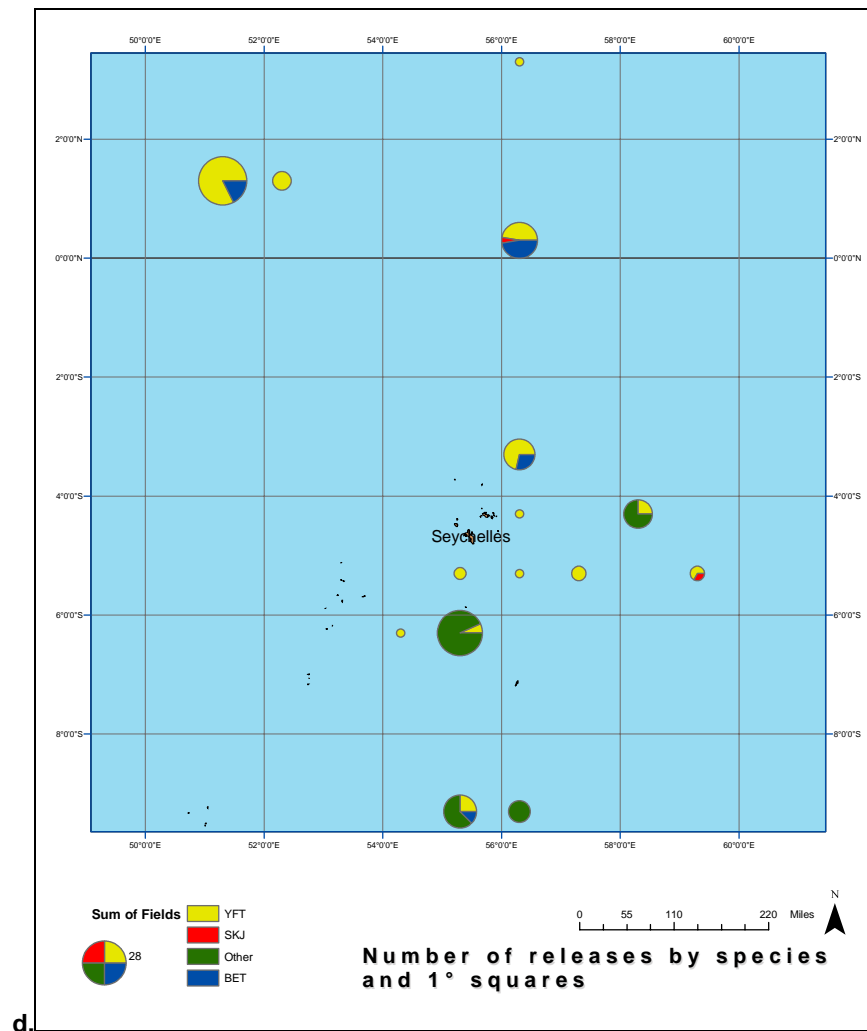
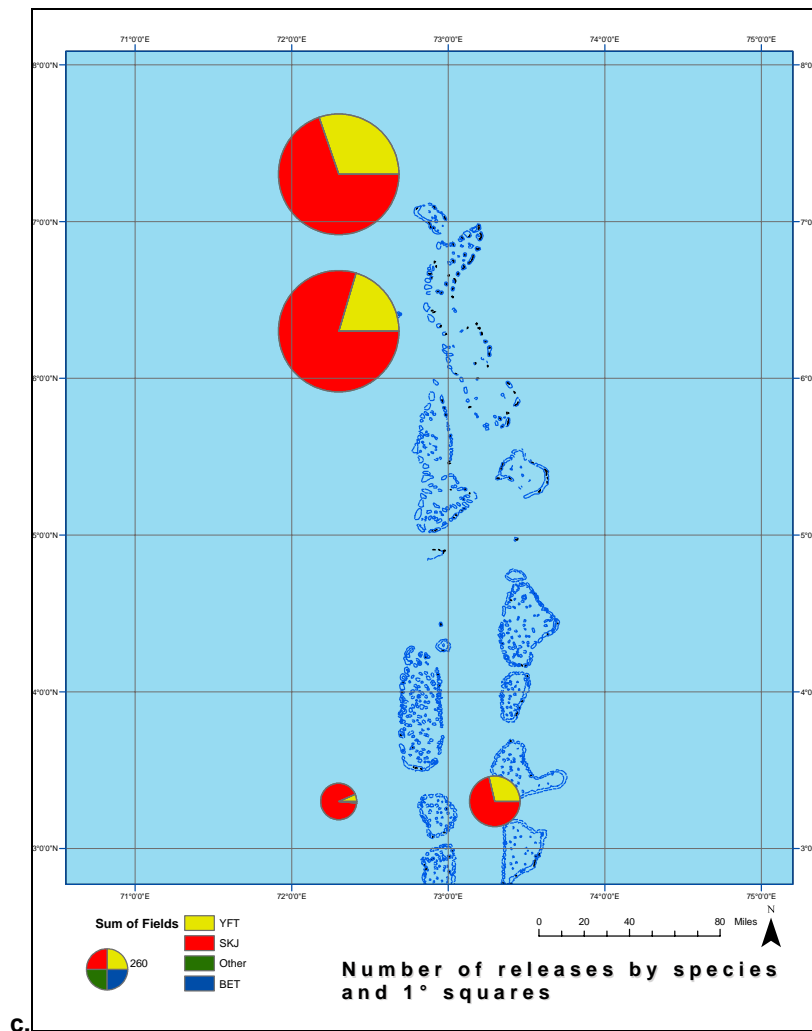


Figure 1. Number of fish released during the first pilot and small-scale tuna tagging projects in the Indian Ocean

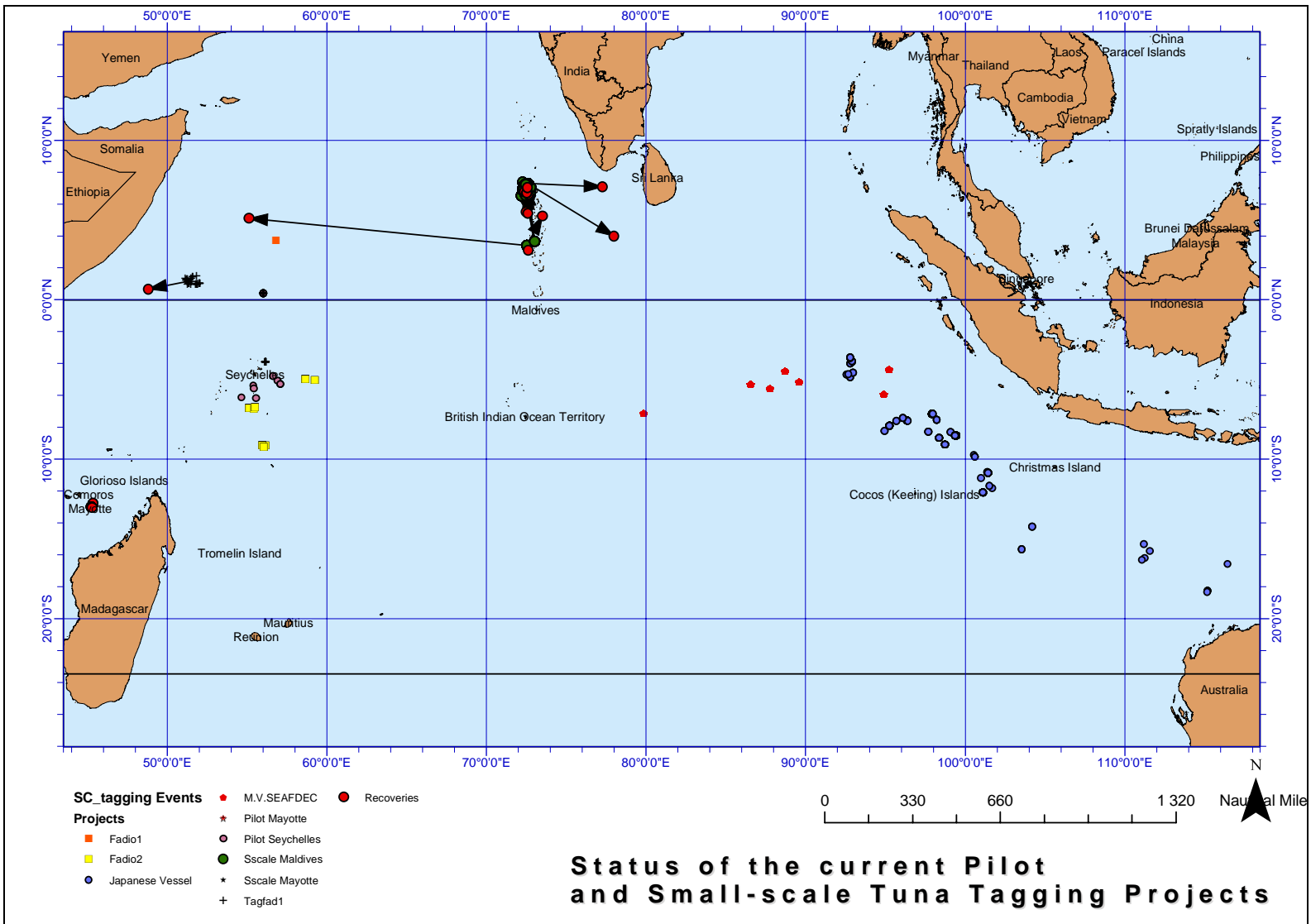


Figure 2. Position of releases and recoveries for the current tagging project

Mayotte small-scale project

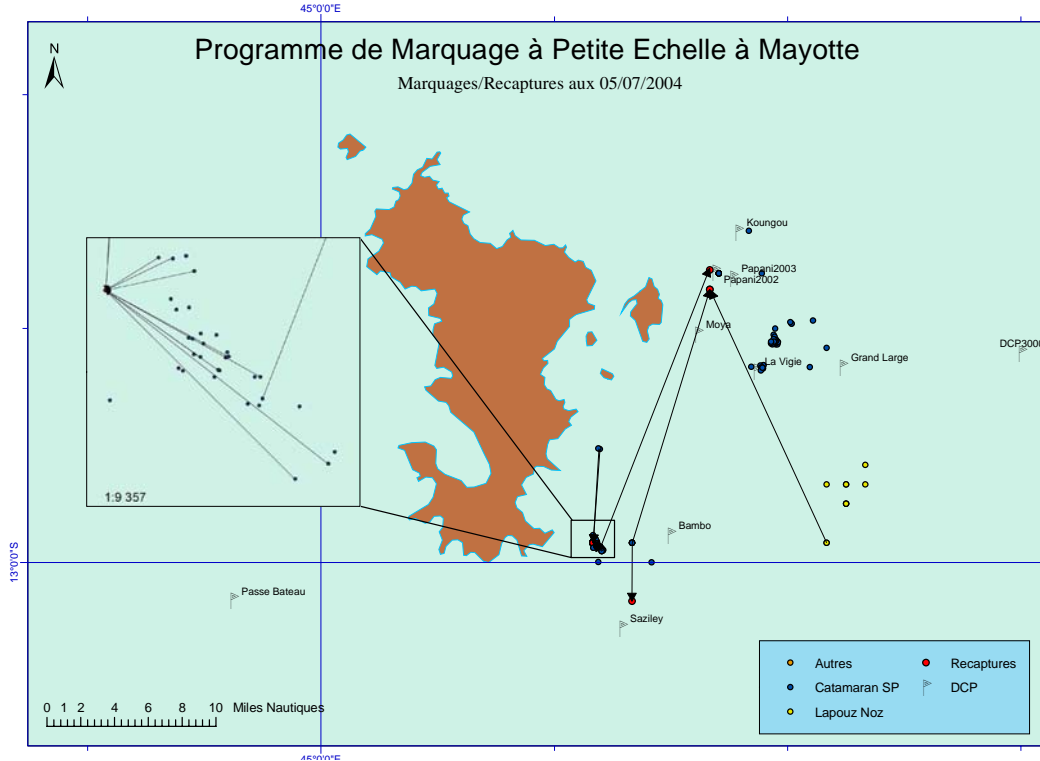
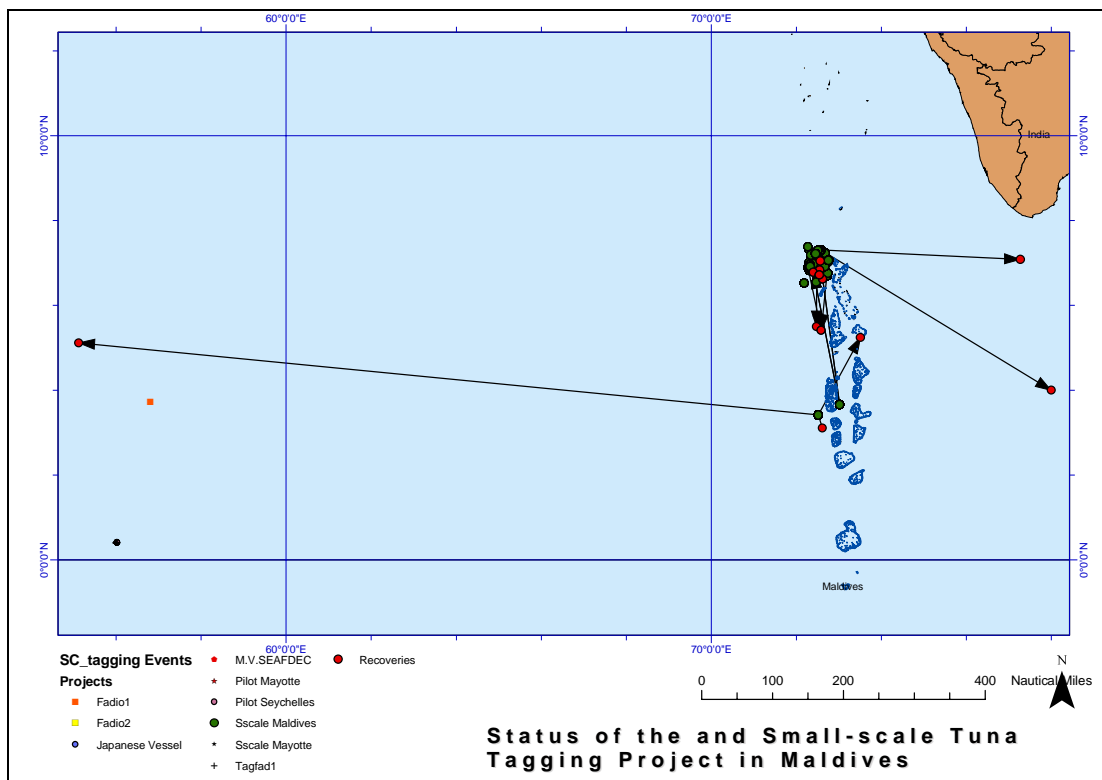


Figure 3 : Position of releases by vessels and recoveries of the pilot and small-scale tuna tagging projects in french waters of Mayotte.

Maldives Small-scale



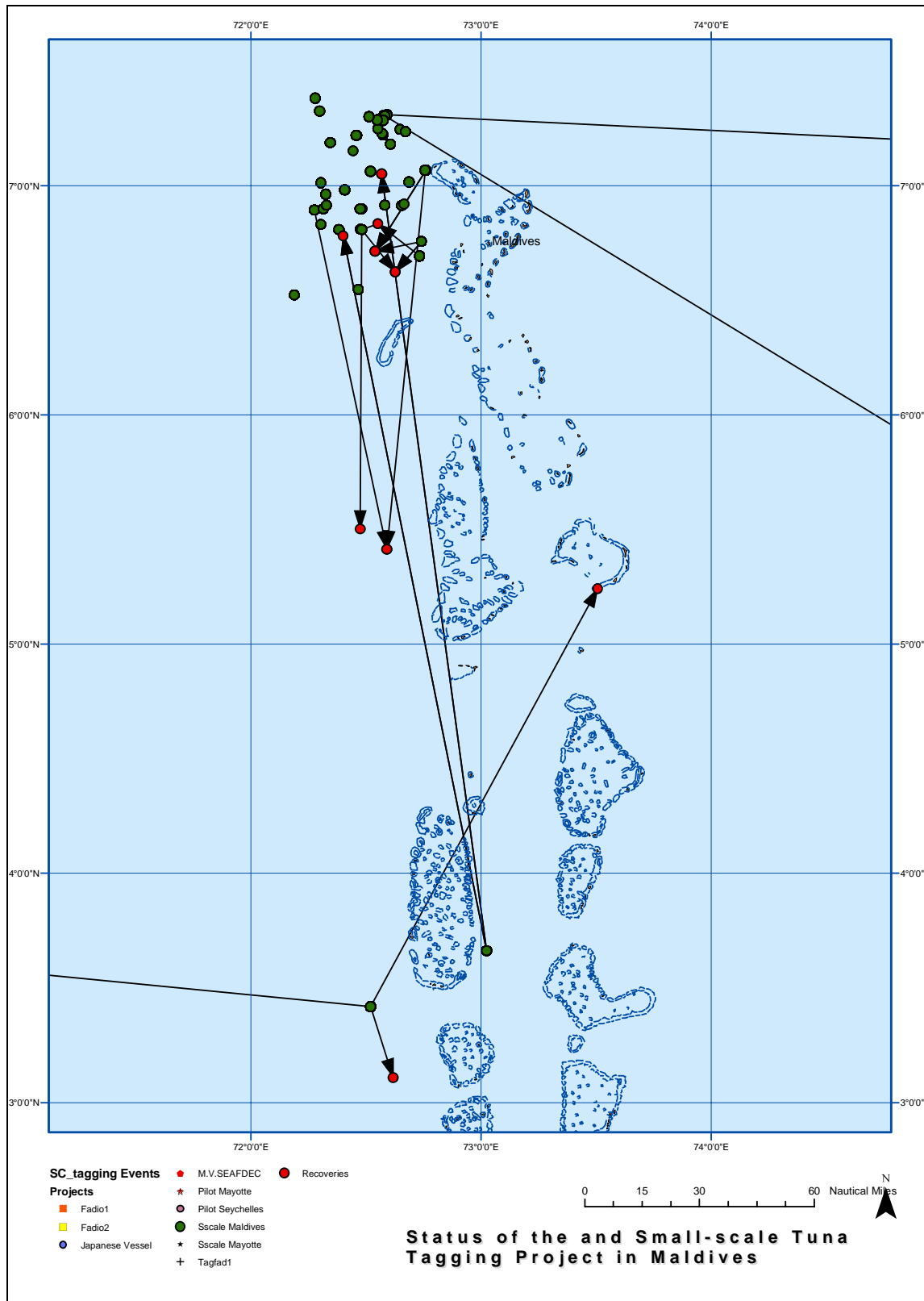


Figure 4. Position of releases and recoveries of the pilot and small-scale tuna tagging projects in Maldives