



## Getting started with FIPs

Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs) are one of the primary tools industrial stakeholders can use to promote real change in the world's fisheries. Looking to create a new FIP but don't know where to start? This page is for you. As we walk you through the process, click the links to download relevant documents.

To begin with, you'll need to understand how FIPs work. SFP's [Seafood Industry Guide to FIPs](#) is a great starting point. It explains what FIPs are, how they work, and what some of the first steps should be when creating one. [The guide is also available in Spanish](#). We also have a simpler description of SFP's approach to FIPs available in [this document](#).

At this point, creating and running a FIP may seem like a daunting task, but we have a number of guides and templates that can help. First, we have a step-by-step guide on [how to initiate a FIP](#). As part of that, the guide suggests you'll need a pre-FIP plan, which lays out just what you want to accomplish. [This template](#) can get you started with that.

Next, you'll want to organize the resources you'll need to make the FIP happen. [Our FIP Outlook document](#) will help you plan ahead, and we even have [an example budget](#), which might help. If you have a number of participants involved, using [this document](#) will help keep track of who is involved and what you expect of them. If you're looking to create more in-depth documents to share with potential participants, [we've got a template for that](#) which should help.

Some, but not all FIPs require creating a workplan. If you need help with that, we have two templates, which you can find an example of a public workplan [here](#) and a detailed workplan [here](#).

A big part of managing a FIP is reporting progress. [This template](#) will guide you through creating any public reports you'll need to produce. SFP also has a [rating system](#) that will help you to evaluate the progress of your FIP over time.

As to where to report progress, we're now partnering with [Fishery Progress](#), which is building a list of FIPs worldwide, each with comprehensive, detailed information. It's pretty easy to set up an account there, and browsing through existing FIP listings is a good way to see what your FIP will ultimately look like.