

# ***China's Growing Tuna Fishing Fleet in the Pacific Ocean: A Samoan Fisheries Perspective***

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China and The Pacific: the view from Oceania  
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# Presentation Objectives

- 1. Focus on the South Pacific Longline/Albacore Tuna Fisheries.**
- 2. Highlight the current status of stocks and of fishery in the South Pacific region: *focus on Samoa and China***
- 3. Highlight the influence of China on this fishery and how it impacts Samoa and the region.**



# South Pacific Albacore

■ Longline  
■ Troll



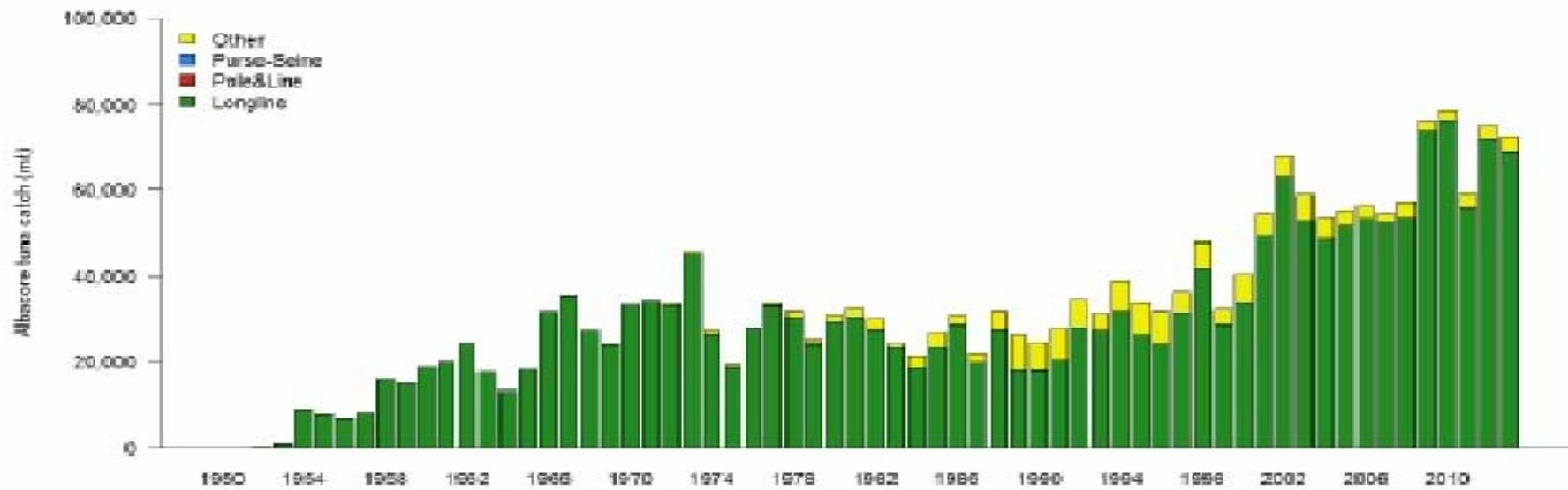
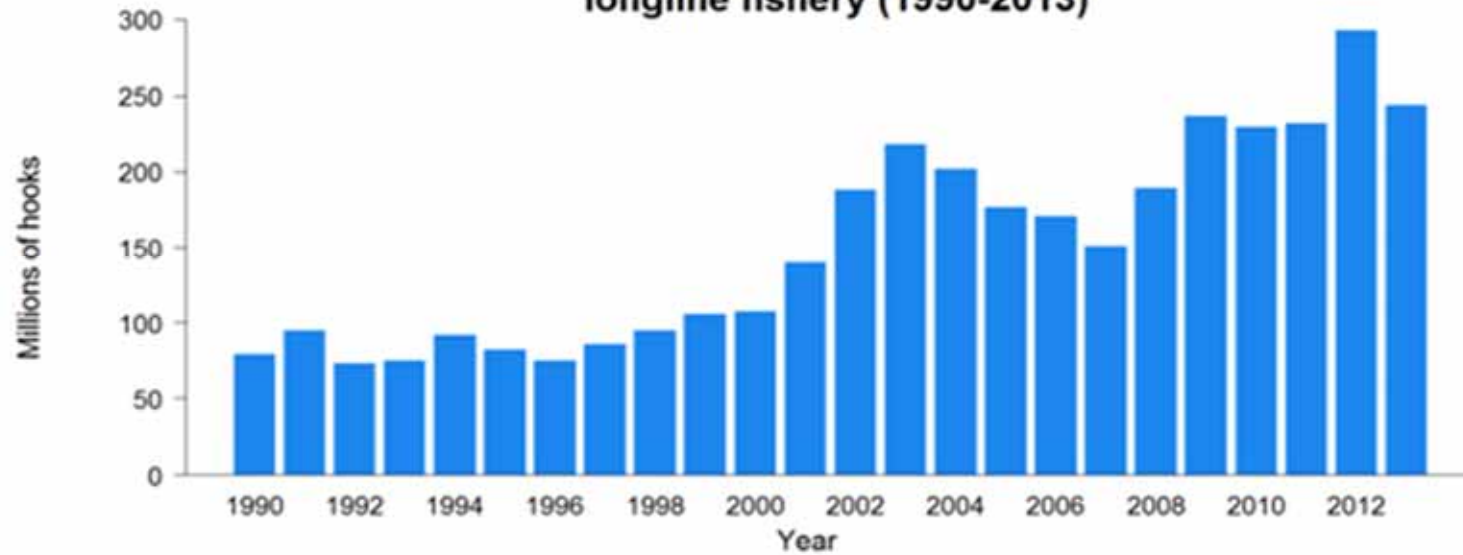


Figure 1: Catch of south pacific albacore by gear (all the south pacific, souther of the equator, including archipelagic waters). 'Others catches are primarily from troll gears in recent years. Source: SPC, 2014

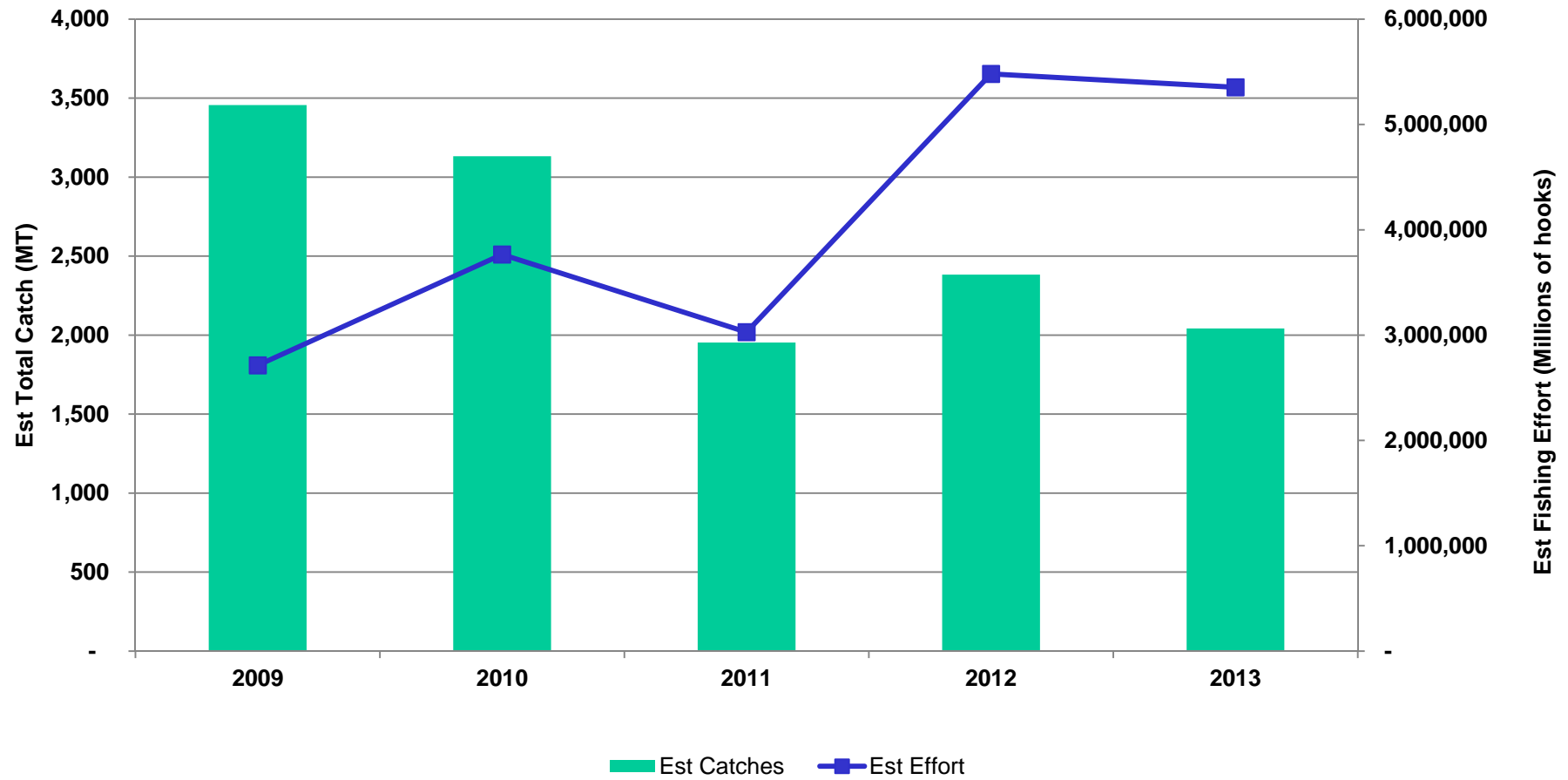
### Millions of hooks in the southern (10S) longline fishery (1990-2013)



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# Samoa Longline Fishery

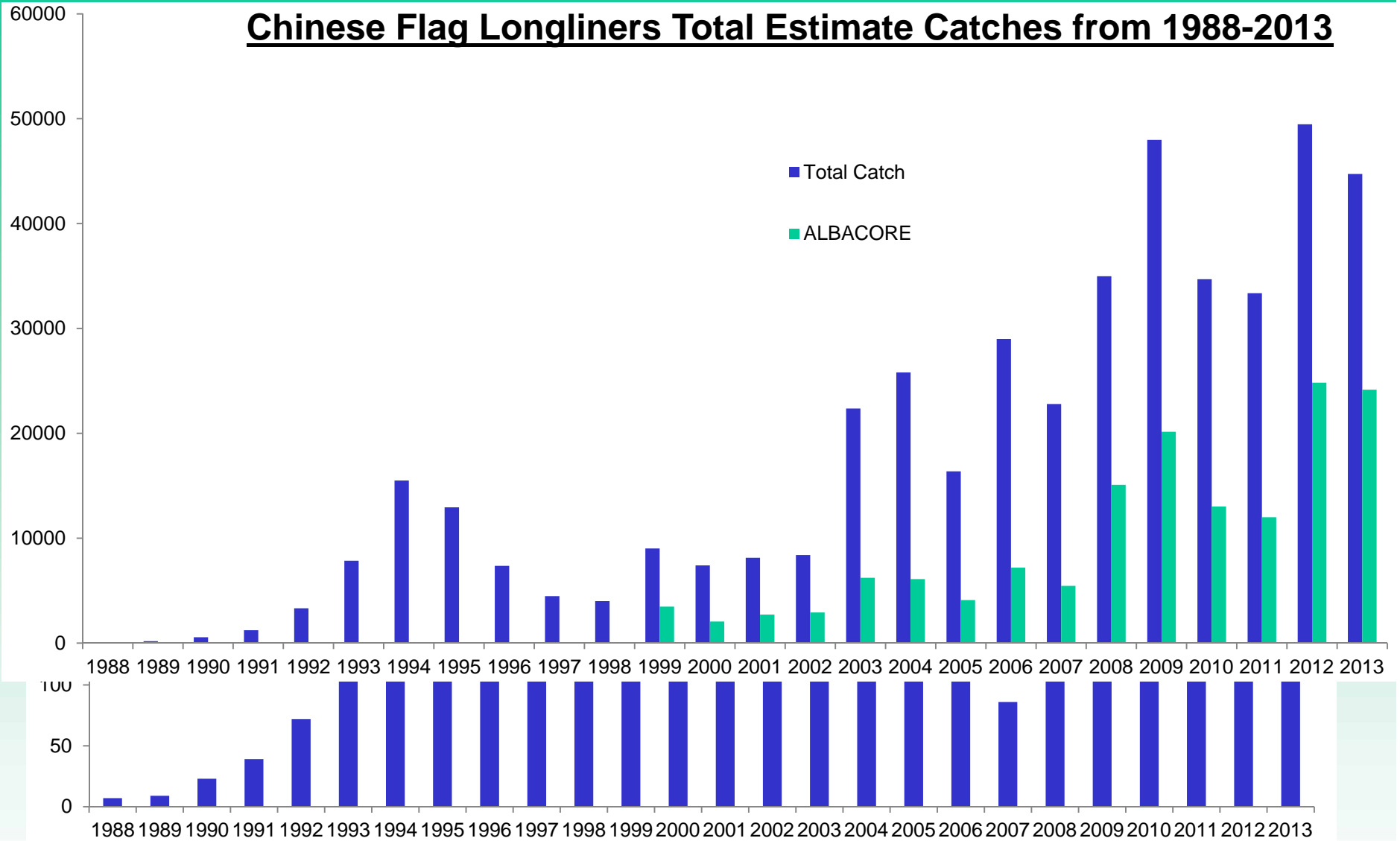


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## Chinese Flag Longliners Total Estimate Catches from 1988-2013



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# China's Influence..

- Largest fishing fleet: more than 25% of total catches..
- High percentages of catches on the High Seas and increasing.
- Flooding the markets..
- Lack of operational data.



# Samoa Fisheries Perspective

- **Management:**
  - **Sustainability of fish stocks & economic viability of the fishery:** capping of efforts and catch efforts. Need catch limits for the High Seas.
  - **Tokelau Arrangement:** Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Tokelau, Niue, New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, (Solomon Is)
  - **Illegal Unregulated Unreported Fishing:** surveillance and monitoring: however limited personnel and resources.



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- **Development:**

- **Maximum economic benefits:** thriving domestic fishery (*food security/livelihood*), revenue (*export, GDP and administrative costs*), employment (*fishermen, labour force*).
- **Genuine Partnership:** *Market investments, development of onshore facilities.*



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## • **Final Observations.**

- One of last healthy remaining fishery stocks in the World.
- Fishery worth more than a billion a year. *Some of the SIDs it is 90% of their Annual Budget: Others the main source of food security. Samoa aims for a bigger share of this wealth.*
- Most preferable fishing grounds are within SIDs zones: *with limited resources and capacities to manage this fishery.*



- International Fisheries Management measures need to be unique to the situation of SIDs and not isolate/disadvantage them.
- China is needed for the effective management and sustainable development of the fishery: responsible fisher, true partner in a sustainable fishery.



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- **Acknowledgements**

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**Thank you for your  
Attention.**



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