

**Summary: Fishing Experiments and data collected in the frame of the CAPPES research project**

*The local pelagic longline fishery targeting swordfish started in the Seychelles in 1995 and became well established. However a sharp decline in fishing activities was recorded from 2001 onwards. This decline was due to various constraints that were raised by stakeholders during a workshop held in February 2004. A research programme CAPPES (CAPturalabilité des grands PELagiques exploités à la palangre dérivante dans la Zone Economique Exclusive des Seychelles) was set up to seek solution for the various problems. The short-term objective of the programme was to diversify this fishery and improve targeting and efficiency of the fishing gear. Between December 2004 and April 2006, 10 experimental longline trips were conducted. A total of about 70 sets corresponding to a fishing effort of 35,000 hooks were made. Data on gear configuration, capture and environment parameters collected during the project have been compiled in a database and awaiting verification after which reports and publications will be produced.*