

A trade perspective to the Draft Belize OETS report



Ocean Economy and Trade Strategies (OETS)

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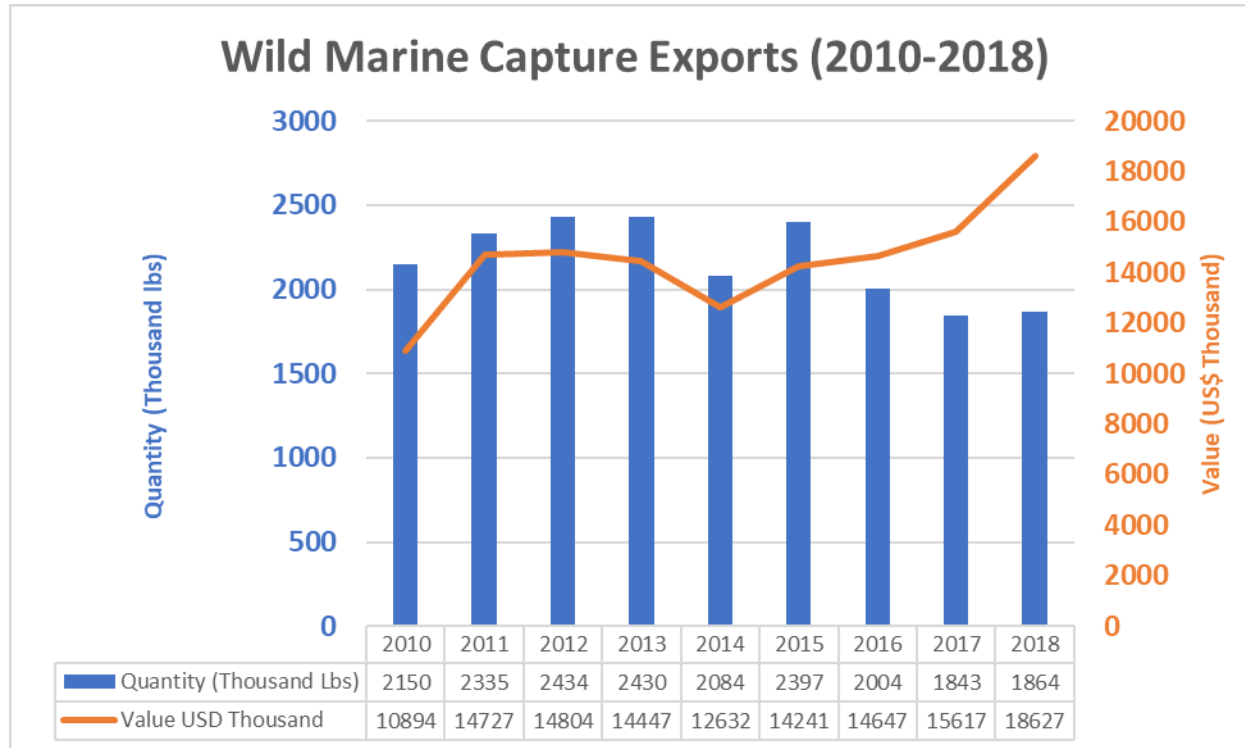
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Setting the course

1. Export trends in main species covered
 - Wild Marine capture
 - Fin fish
 - Lobster & Conch
2. Opportunities in Trade Agreements
3. The Belize Trade policy (2019-2030) and the OETS report and Plan of Action response
 - Fin fish species
 - Seafood processing

The value of marine capture exports are increasing but volumes are decreasing

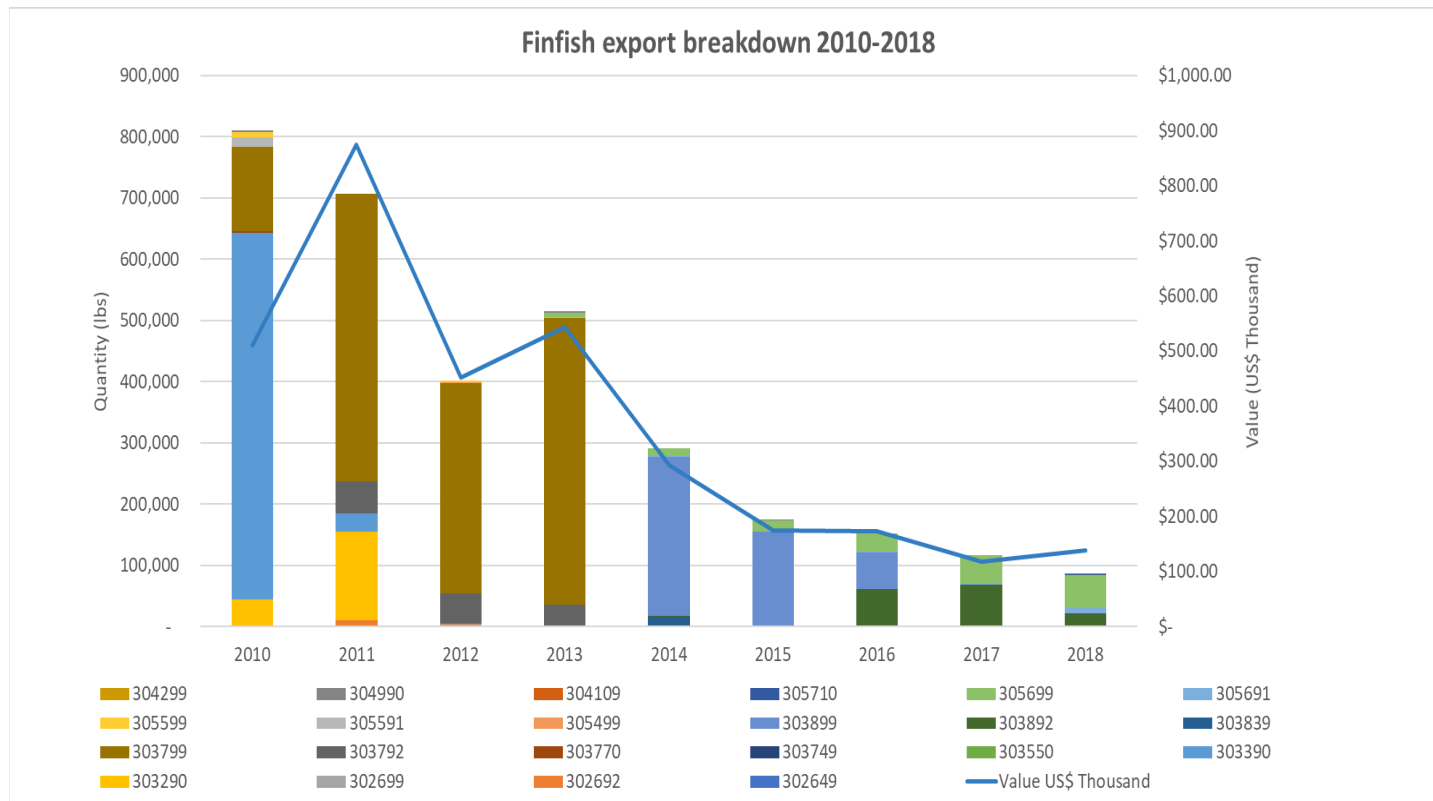


Source: SIB, 2019

Note: Values were extracted from the export breakdown provided by SIB. Quantity and values reported exclude the shrimp and aquaculture sector

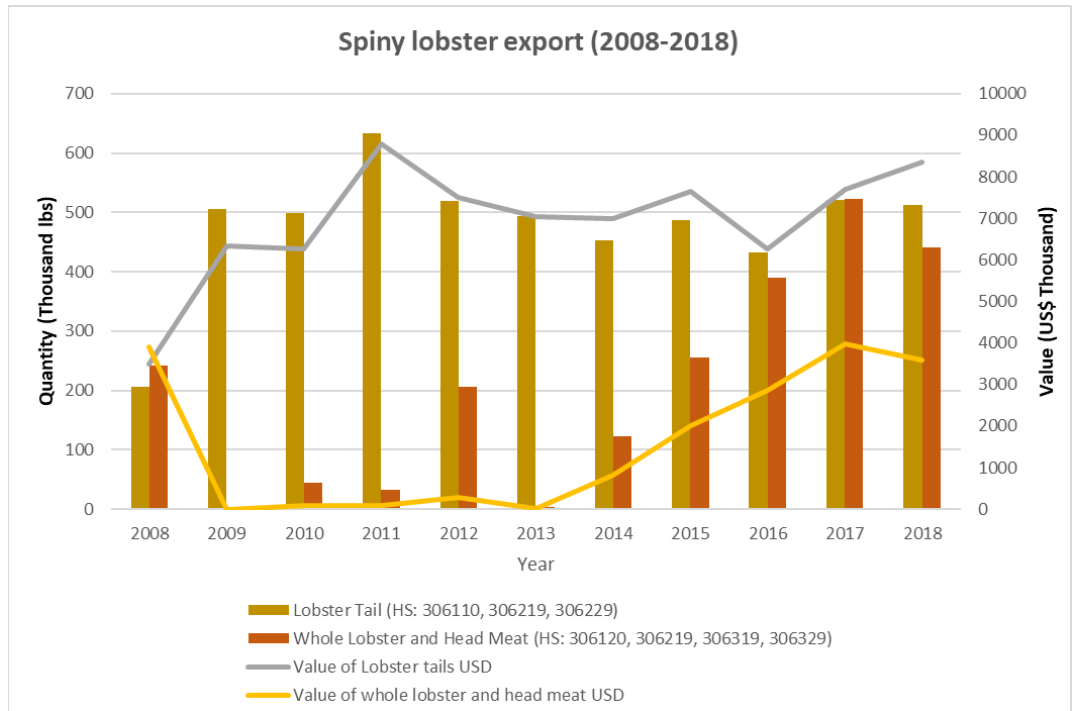
These are good news for the potential expansion of sector is we can increase supply and add value

Export of fin fish are steadily decreasing in value and volume terms due to few exporters and low prices

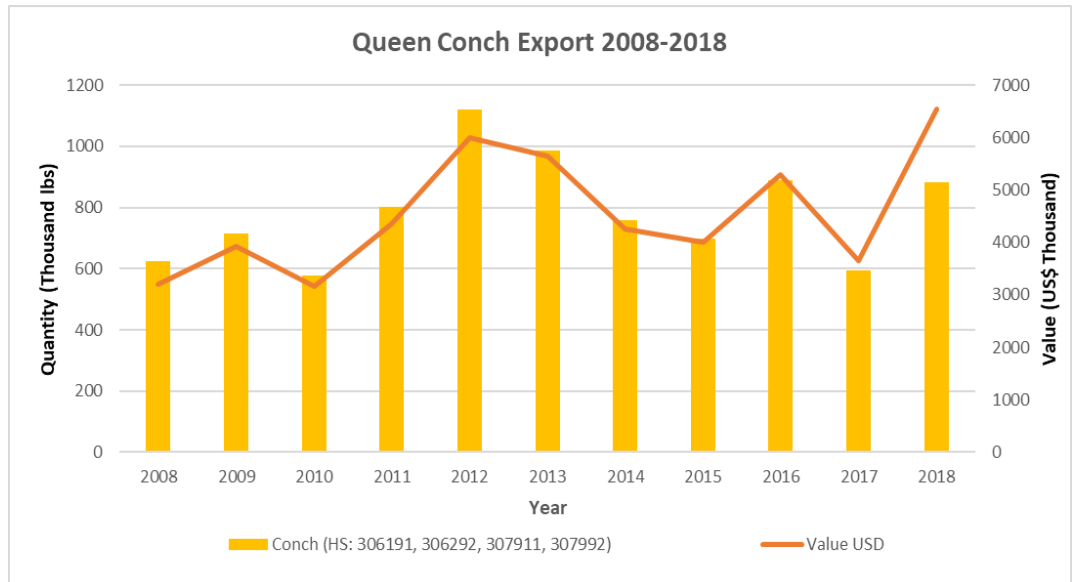


Market opportunities must be created:
domestic, tourist & regional markets

Spiny lobster & conch prices have steadily increased whereas actual production & exports have remained steady



Opportunities lay on value addition, the domestic market and using low value parts



Opportunities in Trade Agreements

- **EU-CARIFORUM partnership Agreement**
 - On the EU side all custom duties on all products of Chapters 1 to 97 of HS system are eliminated with few exceptions
 - Various NTMs in place such as technical and sanitary measures (e.g. catch certification, traceability, IUU fishing carding system)
 - Great opportunity for technical cooperation (e.g. ACP-FAO fisheries programme, 2019)
 - Cooperation is fully demand driven
- **Expand potential within CARICOM**
 - Many Members are fish importers due to consumer preferences and tourist demand.
 - No barriers or low tariffs on low value products that may be shifting shift internal demand (e.g. tilapia and pangasius). Review of external tariffs for certain fish products?
- **Potential FTAs with key markets**
 - Mexico (high demand)
 - Asian countries (high demand)
 - Canada & EFTA
- **UNCTAD' GSTP - Sao Paulo Round (1998 and 2012)**
 - 43 signatory countries - 22 participants at the last round
 - A 22% reduction in 70% of HS codes among participants
 - Only one country to enter into force

GOAL 1: TO INCREASE CAPACITY OF FISHERS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE HARVEST OF THESE COMMERCIALY IMPORTANT DEEP SLOPE RED SNAPPER FISH SPECIES

Belize Trade Policy (2019-2030)	OETS proposed outcomes (integrated approach)	Some proposed actions
<p>Reduce the cost of doing business</p> <p>Enhance competitiveness</p> <p>Develop efficient production systems & capacities</p>	<p>Overall sustainable economic growth in ocean-based economic sectors thus improving livelihoods of those involved directly in the ocean economy</p>	<p>Support the acquisition of suitable fishing vessels, gear & equipment</p> <p>Support increased domestic consumption</p> <p>Facilitate financial access to fishers for obtaining DSF equipment</p> <p>Improve & standardize fish market displays & application of SPS measures in local markets</p>
<p>Improve trade performance, diversify production & export basket & enhance value addition</p> <p>Build and strengthen multilateral, regional and bilateral trade relations</p> <p>Enhance market access & entry</p>	<p>Economic resilience through diversification of fisheries and seafood production by identifying opportunities for market access</p>	<p>Export support of finfish and derived products to regional & international markets</p> <p>Include fish products in trade negotiations & expand number of preferential trade agreements</p> <p>Develop fisheries improvement programs & certification</p>
<p>Develop & enhance the growth of services trade</p>	<p>Production of high-quality marine products through value added options</p>	<p>To support the adoption of Hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) standards for fish processing/handling facilities</p> <p>To enhance linkages between fishing and tourism</p>
<p>Build a strong and effective institutional and legal framework for trade development</p> <p>Competent human capital & an entrepreneurial mindset</p>	<p>Enhanced synergies with ongoing projects, national plans, strategies, and policies of Belize</p>	<p>Update of current fisheries regulation: “Fisheries Resources Act” bill of 2019</p> <p>Develop regulations for finfish to create a safeguard for fish stocks</p> <p>Establish minimum size limits and possible TAC for finfish species</p> <p>Training & capacity building for the deep slope fishing sector</p>

GOAL 2: TO ADD VALUE TO COMMERCIALY TARGETED SPECIES TO ACCESS TO NICHE MARKETS AND TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT SMART MARKETING APPROACHES FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS

Belize Trade Policy (2019-2030)	OETS proposed outcomes (integrated approach)	Some proposed actions
<p>Reduce the cost of doing business</p> <p>Enhance competitiveness</p> <p>Develop efficient production systems & capacities</p>	<p>Overall sustainable economic growth in ocean-based economic sectors thus improving livelihoods of those involved directly in the ocean economy</p>	<p>To support increased domestic use (lobster head meat)</p> <p>Expand marketing & export of currently discarded fishery by-products</p>
<p>Improve trade performance, diversify production and export basket & enhance value addition</p> <p>Build and strengthen multilateral, regional and bilateral trade relations</p> <p>Enhance market access & entry</p>	<p>Economic resilience through diversification of fisheries and seafood production by identifying opportunities for market access.</p>	<p>Need to identify additional and niche markets for Belizean marine and seafood products</p> <p>To support & expand domestic sale (marketing of small packages and increase availability of high-quality seafood products)</p> <p>To support export-oriented seafood business establishments to increase revenue generation through use of smart marketing</p>
<p>Develop & enhance the growth of services trade</p>	<p>Production of high-quality marine products through value added options</p>	<p>Legal acquisition of seafood from BAHA & HACCP certified & licensed business establishments</p>
<p>Build a strong and effective institutional and legal framework for trade development</p> <p>Competent human capital & an entrepreneurial mindset</p>	<p>Enhanced synergies with ongoing projects, national plans, strategies, and policies of Belize</p>	<p>To support fisheries law enforcement through increased monitoring, control and surveillance</p>

Many thanks

<https://unctad.org/en/Pages/DITC/Trade-and-Environment/Oceans-Economy-Trade-Strategies.aspx>

The screenshot shows the UNCTAD website interface. At the top, there is the UNCTAD logo and the text 'UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT PROSPERITY FOR ALL'. To the right, there are social media icons for Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, LinkedIn, and Facebook, along with a search bar and a language selector set to 'EN'. Below the header is a navigation menu with categories: ABOUT, THEMES, PROJECTS, PUBLICATIONS, MEETINGS, and STATISTICS. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: Home > DITC > Trade and Environment > Oceans Economy and Trade Strategy (OETS). The title of the page is 'Evidence-based and policy coherent Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies'. The main text describes the OETS project's aim to support developing countries in realizing economic benefits from the sustainable use of marine resources. It mentions that the project will be implemented by UNCTAD and the Office of Legal Affairs/Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) in cooperation with the Commonwealth Secretariat. A central diagram titled 'Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies' illustrates the project's process, divided into two phases: 'Sector assessment/ formulation phase' and 'Validation/ implementation phase'. The 'Sector assessment/ formulation phase' includes steps: 'Preliminary data analysis of oceans economy sectors in the country', 'Production of data fact sheets' and 'Legal and institutional issues mapping', 'Selection of two sectors for further analysis', and 'First multi-stakeholder workshop'. The 'Validation/ implementation phase' includes: 'OETS report based on oceans economy pillars with policy recommendations' (covering Economic, Environmental, Social, Scientific, and Governance pillars), 'Review and validation of OETS findings and recommendations', 'Multi-stakeholder validation workshop', and 'Technical assistance and training in two priority areas per country' leading to 'Direct advice and training'. On the right side, there are three sections: 'Areas of Work in TED' with a list of topics including About TED, BioTrade, Circular Economy, Climate Change and Trade, National Green Export Reviews, Oceans Economy and Fisheries, Organic Agriculture, Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security, and Sustainable Manufacturing and Environmental Pollution; 'Oceans Economy and Fisheries' with a list including About Oceans Economy and Fisheries, Oceans Economy and Trade Strategy (OETS), Regulating Fisheries Subsidies, and UNCTAD-FAO-UN Environment, Joint Voluntary Commitment; and 'Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies' with a list including About Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies, Oceans Economy Pillars, and Oceans Economy Countries. At the bottom right, there is a 'Contacts' section.