Guam's population of 115,000 is composed of diverse ethnic backgrounds consuming a variety of fish and seafood products. The current value of retail fish and seafood consumption on Guam is estimated to be more than $6 million per annum. The vast majority of these fishing products are imported.

Government efforts are currently aimed at import substitution through encouraging small-scale local fishing and aquaculture efforts. Experiments will begin this year on "iba-shibi" fishing for large tunas. Both eel and shrimp culture projects are currently under way, and a fishermen's co-operative has been started in conjunction with a new centrally located public market area.

With respect to large-scale commercial fishing Guam is trying to improve its position as a transhipment point for frozen tuna entering United States markets. Fishing vessels of foreign flag may tranship tuna to U.S. buyers via the port of Guam. In this regard plans for improving dock facilities, providing improved freezer storage capacity, and possible canning construction are being considered.