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# Report

## Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia

24-26 February 2026

Bangkok, Thailand



**REPORT OF**

**REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INFORMATION  
EXCHANGE ON MONITORING, CONTROL, AND  
SURVEILLANCE (MCS) FOR COMBATING IUU  
FISHING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

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**24–26 February 2026**

**Bangkok, Thailand**

**TRAINING DEPARTMENT**

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

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## REPORT

### REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON MONITORING, CONTROL, AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS) FOR COMBATING IUU FISHING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

24–26 February 2026  
Bangkok, Thailand

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) for Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in Southeast Asia was held in a hybrid format in Bangkok, Thailand, from 24 to 26 February 2026. The Workshop was organized by SEAFDEC Training Department (TD) in collaboration with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The Workshop was attended by representatives from ASEAN Member States (AMSs) namely Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam. The Workshop was also attended by representatives from SEAFDEC Secretariat, SEAFDEC Training Department, and Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) members. In addition, representatives from Cambodia and RPOA-IUU participated via an online platform. The list of participants appears as **Annex 1**.

The Workshop served as a strategic platform for AMSs to enhance regional transparency and coordination in combating IUU fishing by facilitating the exchange of knowledge, experience, and lessons learned on MCS systems and fostering a shared regional understanding of MCS implementation. The key outputs included to updated understanding of current MCS implementation and practices among AMSs in combating IUU fishing, improved the regional capacity for MCS to combat IUU fishing, enhanced the mechanisms for sharing experiences and best practices on MCS at the regional level, and strengthened coordination and communication of MCS network to support future collaboration actions.

#### II. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

The GIZ Blue Fair Fish (BFF) Project Manager, *Mr. Tomas Cabuenos*, welcomed the participants to the Workshop, with special appreciation extended to Timor-Leste. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to SEAFDEC for taking the lead in organizing the Workshop. In his remarks, he highlighted that Southeast Asia is a global fisheries powerhouse, having produced over 20% of the world's total fish and aquaculture products in 2022. The top producers among the ASEAN Member States are Indonesia, Viet Nam, Myanmar, the Philippines, and Thailand. Moreover, he emphasized the importance of small-scale fisheries in coastal areas, which support approximately 3.4 million small-scale fishers across Southeast Asia, nothing that ensures their sustainability must remain a key priority.

He noted several ongoing challenges, including overfishing and governance issues, and stressed that IUU fishing continues to be a critical concern. Addressing IUU fishing through strengthening of MCS is seen as a major pathway to sustainable fisheries management. He concluded by expressing his hope that the Workshop would foster meaningful discussions and generate innovative solutions to effectively address and combat IUU fishing.

The SEAFDEC Secretary-General, *Ms. Sampan Panjarat*, was opened with remarks highlighting the importance of fisheries to livelihoods, food security, and economic development, as well as the challenges of overfishing and IUU fishing in Southeast Asia. The need to strengthen Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) systems and enhance information exchange was emphasized to improve regional cooperation and fisheries management. The workshop, organized by SEAFDEC, aims to support ASEAN Member States in strengthening collaboration and capacity to combat IUU fishing.

Appreciation was expressed to GIZ and partner organizations for their support. The opening remarks appear in **Annex 2**.

### **III. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP**

The IUU Fishing Countermeasure Section Head from the SEAFDEC/TD, *Ms. Yanida Suthipol* introduced the objectives of the Workshop which aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge among the ASEAN Member States (AMSs), build regional understanding of effective MCS implementation, and enhance collaborative actions. She informed the Workshop that the expected outputs include an updated comprehension of current MCS practices, improved regional capacity, and strengthened communication networks, guided by a three-day agenda comprising country presentations, discussions on regional approaches, and a field visit.

The Workshop noted the background and objectives of the workshop and adopted the agenda, which appears as **Annex 3**.

### **IV. STRENGTHENING REGIONAL FISHERIES GOVERNANCE: MEASURES TO PREVENT IUU FISHING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

The SEAFDEC Secretary-General, *Ms. Sampan Panjarat* delivered a presentation on "Strengthening Regional Fisheries Governance: Measures to Prevent IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia" in which she underscored the critical need to reinforce fisheries governance to ensure sustainable use of shared marine resources. She explained that because fisheries are common pool resources, science-based management strategies, such as stock assessments, catch quotas, zoning, and monitoring systems, are essential for maintaining sustainability. She emphasized the legal obligations under the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention, she noted that coastal states must establish robust management frameworks and cooperate internationally, particularly through global and regional bodies such as Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), ASEAN, to combat IUU fishing. To this end she detailed key regional initiatives implemented by SEAFDEC and ASEAN, including the Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR), which provides information on vessels for monitoring and inspection; the electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS), which improves traceability and prevents illegal fish from entering the market; and the ASEAN Network on Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (AN-IUU), which collectively enhance monitoring, traceability, and informational sharing. She concluded that sustained regional training and collaborative efforts are vital building technical capacity and strengthening fisheries governance in the region. These collective efforts aim to strengthen fisheries. The presentation appears as **Annex 4**.

The discussion focused on the current role and status of the AN-IUU as a regional tool for combating IUU fishing, set against the broader context of existing cooperative mechanisms. It was noted that due to the absence of binding regional measures, voluntary collaboration through parallel platforms such as the RPOA-IUU and AN-IUU—operating under the ASWGF—are essential and should inform initiatives like the Blue Fair Fish project. The Secretary-General concluded that these various mechanisms are complementary and mutually reinforcing, collectively strengthening regional fisheries governance.

### **V. COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS ON CURRENT MONITORING, CONTROL, AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS) IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **5.1 Brunei Darussalam**

The representative from Brunei Darussalam, *Mr. Pg Hj Ismail Kairuluddin Pg Hj Seruji*, presented the national framework for combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing through Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS). The framework is supported by relevant legislation,

inter-agency collaboration with maritime enforcement bodies, and the implementation of measures such as vessel licensing, zoning, and the gradual adoption of electronic tracking system.

However, the Brunei Darussalam continues to face several challenges, including limited surveillance coverage of its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), human resource constraints, and incomplete deployment of technology systems. These constraints highlight the need for strengthening legal frameworks, enhancing capacity building, data collection systems, and regional cooperation. The presentation appears as **Annex 5**.

## **5.2 Cambodia**

The representative from Cambodia, *Ms. Sen Rineth*, presented significant progress in strengthening the country's Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) framework. Cambodia has advanced scientific monitoring through catch data collection at landing sites, stock assessments of key commercial species, and ecosystem monitoring. Compliance efforts have also improved, including the implementation of Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS), manual logbooks, port inspections, SMART patrols, and both land- and sea-based surveillance activities.

The country has enhanced its legal and institutional frameworks in alignment with key international instruments, including the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, BBNJ, and UNCLOS. Inter-agency coordination among the Fisheries Administration (FiA), navy, police, and customs has strengthened, supported by community-based surveillance and joint patrol operations.

Regarding Port State Measures, Cambodia has designated its first PSMA port in Koh Kong Province, developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), established a PSMA Working Team, and launched an official communication platform for information exchange. Capacity-building support has been provided by FAO, the EU, AFMA, and OceanMind.

Key challenges remain, including limited human and technical capacity, incomplete digitalization (particularly the lack of e-logbook utilization), insufficient real-time EEZ surveillance, gaps in inter-agency information sharing, and inefficiencies in vessel registration and licensing. Cambodia emphasized the need for continued legal and institutional strengthening, sustained capacity development, improved national information systems, and enhanced regional cooperation within ASEAN to harmonize PSMA, VMS, and inspection procedures. The presentation appears as **Annex 6**.

## **5.3 Indonesia**

The representative from Indonesia, *Mr. Muharamar Razak*, provided an overview of the fisheries sector, including its contribution to gross domestic product (GDP), the number of fishing vessels, types of fishing gear, and fisheries management approaches aligned with the blue economy concept. He also outlined the post-production fishing levy system and the legal basis for fisheries surveillance and enforcement.

He further highlighted the comprehensive national Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) framework, including surveillance bases and infrastructure, implementation models, tools and electronic systems, and the four operational stages: pre-fishing, during fishing, landing, and post-landing. Despite these advancements, challenges remain, particularly in monitoring small-scale vessels (under 30 GT), as well as limitations in fleet capacity, personnel, and tracking systems. Indonesia emphasized the need for continued improvements, including fleet modernization, increased budget allocation, mandatory tracking systems for small-scale vessels, and expanded community-based surveillance.

In implementing PSMA, Indonesia has established structured procedures for port inspections and enforcement actions, effectively preventing vessels engaged in IUU fishing from accessing ports.

Indonesia also underscored the importance of regional cooperation, including enhanced information sharing, joint training initiatives, and harmonization of standard operating procedures across Southeast Asia to strengthen collective efforts in combating IUU fishing. The presentation appears as **Annex 7**.

#### **5.4 Lao PDR**

The representative from Lao PDR, *Mr. Udone Khounsavanh*, presented an overview of the current status of fisheries activities in the country. The fisheries sector in Lao PDR operates under an open-access system covering approximately 1.2 million hectares of rivers, streams, and reservoirs, with limited implementation of Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) measures.

Fishing activities are predominantly small-scale and non-commercial in nature, characterized by the absence of formal registration systems for fishers, vessels, and fishing licenses. He highlighted several challenges, including weak enforcement capacity, limited funding, and low public awareness, all of which contribute to the continued use of destructive fishing gear and practices.

In response, recent legislative developments include the revision of the Law on Aquatic Animals and Fisheries (2023) and the issuance of Prime Minister's Decree No. 644 (2024), which aim to strengthen enforcement, enhance coordination, and promote regional cooperation toward sustainable fisheries management. The presentation appears as **Annex 8**.

#### **5.5 Malaysia**

The representative from Malaysia, *Mr. Mohamad Nur Hakim bin Abdullah*, presented the implementation of Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) as part of the country's national efforts to combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. The MCS framework includes monitoring fishing effort and resource yields through data collection, research, and the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), controlling fisheries through licensing, gear regulations, fishing zones, and conservation measures, and conducting surveillance through inspections at sea and in ports.

Under the implementation of Port State Measures (PSM), Malaysia has introduced the e-PSM system to manage and monitor the entry of foreign fishing vessels and strengthen enforcement. In addition, the Fisheries Act 1985 (Amendment 2019) and relevant national policies support MCS implementation to ensure sustainable fisheries and food security.

Malaysia recommended the establishment of IUU fishing focal points within relevant departments and agencies, the development of methodologies to estimate IUU fishing losses, and the sharing of VMS data analysis with enforcement agencies to detect fishing zone encroachments. The country also emphasized the importance of inter-agency collaboration to address incursions by foreign vessels in Malaysian waters and to prevent fisheries products derived from IUU fishing from entering the country through national entry points. The presentation appears as **Annex 9**.

#### **5.6 Myanmar**

The representative from Myanmar, *Ms. Myat Khine Mar*, provided an overview of Myanmar's fisheries sector, highlighting its 2,832 km coastline and the importance of fisheries for food security, employment, and export earnings. Marine fisheries are categorized into in-shore and off-shore operations, with activities regulated under the Marine Fisheries Law (1990) and managed by the Department of Fisheries. Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) measures include vessel and port inspections, licensing, and the use of Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS), with enforcement supported by cooperation among relevant authorities. Prohibited fishing practices and strict requirements for foreign vessels were also emphasized.

Key challenges include limited data, human resource constraints, and weak regional information sharing. Myanmar has taken actions against IUU fishing, including the destruction of illegal fishing gear and vessels, and is working toward implementing the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) through participation in FAO systems. The country continues to strengthen legal frameworks, enhance MCS systems, and promote regional cooperation with ASEAN, SEAFDEC, and partners. Future plans focus on improving data systems, expanding inspections, and building capacity. Myanmar reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable fisheries management and combating IUU fishing through strengthened collaboration. The presentation appears as **Annex 10**.

## **5.7 Philippines**

The representative from the Philippines, *Mr. Clint Salvacion Dampor*, presented the country's fisheries sector, which contributes 12% to the agricultural Gross Value Added (GVA) and relies on a robust Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) framework to combat IUU fishing. The cornerstone of this strategy is the establishment of 12 Fisheries Management Areas (FMAs), which shift management from political to ecological boundaries based on fish stock distribution and oceanographic conditions. These FMAs are governed by stakeholder boards that foster decentralized, science-based decision-making. The National MCS Framework operates as a pipeline from fishing grounds to market, implemented through five stages: detection, regulation, enforcement, apprehension, and adjudication.

Monitoring utilizes the National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) and a sophisticated Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for real-time tracking across FMAs. Control involves strict management of licenses, zones, and catch documentation at ports to ensure traceability. Surveillance includes at-sea vessel inspections, while apprehension enforces legal sanctions. Despite this structured approach, challenges remain, including the logistical difficulty of patrolling a vast archipelago and bridging the gap between satellite data and local enforcement. To achieve sustainable management, the Philippines is enhancing traceability technologies and supporting municipal fishers in complying with regulatory requirements, aiming to balance ecological protection with livelihoods. The presentation appears as **Annex 11**.

## **5.8 Thailand**

The representative from Thailand, *Ms. Jitpisut Sanboonpeng*, presented Thailand's implementation of Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) to combat IUU fishing. The approach is guided by the Marine Fisheries Management Plan (FMP), which integrates scientific research, stock assessment, fleet management, and enforcement under a risk-based approach coordinated through the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC).

The key measures include advanced monitoring technologies (VMS, Electronic Reporting Systems, Electronic Monitoring, and e-logbooks), as well as regulatory controls such as licensing limits, gear and mesh size regulations, seasonal closures, and the use of electronic Port-in Port-out (e-PIPO) systems. These are complemented by risk-based inspections at ports and at sea, sanctions enforcement, and the implementation of Port State Measures (PSM), including pre-arrival risk assessments and inspections of foreign fishing vessels.

The workshop noted key challenges, particularly the integration of multiple digital data systems, the complexity of fishing operations, resource constraints, and the need to harmonize inspection procedures. She emphasized the importance of strengthening data management systems, enhancing risk-based implementation, sustaining capacity building, and promoting regional information-sharing cooperation. The presentation appears as **Annex 12**.

## **5.9 Timor-Leste**

The representative of Timor-Leste, *Mr. Tomas Gama do Rosario de Sousa*, presented the current status of Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS), noting that the country's fisheries sector is predominantly small-scale. Current MCS implementation measures include boat marking, inspection of fishing vessels and fisheries products, digitalization of inspection data, and public awareness campaigns in border municipalities, alongside ongoing efforts to strengthen coordination with relevant maritime authorities.

Although the country has ratified the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), full implementation remains in progress due to limited infrastructure and facilities, particularly the absence of fully developed fisheries port infrastructure. Key priorities identified to enhance MCS effectiveness and combat IUU fishing include strengthening capacity building, improving national and regional cooperation, and advancing information-sharing mechanisms. The presentation appears as **Annex 13**.

Timor-Leste invited other countries, particularly those facing resource or capacity limitations in conducting inspections, to share experiences and lessons learned for mutual benefit. In response, Indonesia shared that enforcement actions are preceded by careful verification of the underlying causes of any violation. Operational challenges, technical issues, or misunderstandings may arise, and improvements can often be achieved through better coordination, procedural refinement, or system adjustments. This approach has contributed to progressively strengthening Indonesia's enforcement system.

Timor-Leste further clarified that it currently operates a commercial port and has plans to further develop fisheries port infrastructure in the near future. Preparations for PSMA implementation therefore remain an important component of its long-term fisheries governance planning.

## **5.10 Viet Nam**

The representative from Viet Nam, *Mr. Tran Thanh Duong*, highlighted the nationwide MCS system implemented to combat IUU fishing, supported by legal reforms, institutional coordination, and digitalized systems. The VMS is mandatory for fishing vessels 15 meters and above, achieving 99.46% compliance by the end of 2025. Additionally, an electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability (eCDT) system is actively utilized across 164 ports and landing sites.

The primary challenge facing Viet Nam's fisheries sector is the occurrence of VMS signal loss or interruption during fishing trips, which remains the lead indicator of potential IUU activity. Enforcement is complicated by the difficulty of distinguishing between intentional interference and technical errors, such as satellite blind spots or equipment failure. This high burden of evidence often results in a lower rate of penalties at the local level compared to the total number of detected violations. Furthermore, addressing these disconnections is hindered by the limited operational capacity of fishers in maintaining equipment and the complex need for seamless coordination among multiple government authorities to verify violations before making sanctioning decisions.

Viet Nam emphasizes that for effective fisheries management, technology must be integrated with legal clarity and capacity building, while recommending that the ASEAN region promote experience sharing on VMS disconnections, establish comparable monitoring standards, enhance information exchange for transboundary fishing, and strengthen collaboration for MCS capacity building. The presentation appears as **Annex 14**.

## **VI. DISCUSSION ON COMMON ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING MONITORING, CONTROL, AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS) FOR COMBATING IUU FISHING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

The representative from GIZ facilitated the discussion session to synthesize the overall situation, challenges, and recommendations regarding the current implementation of MCS across the AMSs.

The overall situation, ASEAN has MCS frameworks, but implementation is uneven; strong policies exist, but operational effectiveness is limited due to gaps in capacity and coordination.

The key national and regional challenges are summarized as follows:

Categories	Key challenges
National Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited surveillance coverage and patrol assets</li> <li>• Human resource and budget constraints</li> <li>• Weak inter-agency coordination</li> <li>• Incomplete legal enforcement</li> <li>• Low local compliance</li> <li>• Gaps in vessel registration and traceability</li> <li>• Partial adoption of VMS, AIS, and e-logbooks</li> <li>• Enforcement and sanction challenges</li> <li>• Prevalence of small-scale fisheries</li> </ul>
Regional Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited real-time data sharing</li> <li>• Inconsistent standards across countries</li> <li>• Transboundary IUU fishing</li> <li>• Uneven capacity among member states</li> <li>• Occasional cooperation</li> </ul>

The comparative challenges by country

1. Advanced countries such as Thailand, Indonesia, and Viet Nam need technology integration, analytics, and enforcement support.
2. Mid-level countries including Malaysia and the Philippines require improved coordination, traceability, system upgrades, and capacity building.
3. Emerging countries such as Cambodia, Myanmar, and Brunei face legal and coordination gaps and need technical assistance.
4. Small-scale countries including Lao PDR and Timor-Leste have low capacity and require foundational MCS support.
5. All ASEAN Member States have data-sharing gaps and need a regional platform and enhanced coordination.

**The national and regional recommendations are summarized as follows:**

### 1. National-Level Actions

- Strengthen MCS capacity by implementing targeted capacity-building initiatives and allocating adequate resources to develop both human and institutional capacity for Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS).
- Enhance surveillance systems to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and coverage of national fisheries monitoring through upgraded technologies and operational protocols.
- Accelerate digitalization by deploying digital tools such as Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS), Automatic Identification Systems (AIS), and electronic logbooks for real-time monitoring and data management.
- Reinforce legal and institutional frameworks by reviewing, updating, and enforcing fisheries laws and regulations to ensure compliance, accountability, and effective enforcement.
- Improve traceability by strengthening vessel registration, licensing, and catch documentation processes to enhance supply chain transparency.

- Strengthen inter-agency coordination through the establishment of institutional mechanisms that ensure coherent policy implementation and data sharing among relevant authorities.
- Promote inclusive stakeholder engagement by involving small-scale fisheries and other relevant stakeholders through participatory, community-based approaches.
- Ensure sustainable financing by allocating predictable and long-term resources to support the effective implementation of MCS systems.

## 2. Regional-Level Actions

- Develop an ASEAN MCS platform by establishing a regional information-sharing system to facilitate timely, secure, and interoperable data exchange among ASEAN Member States.
- Designate regional focal points by creating a network of ASEAN representatives or interoperable systems to coordinate cross-border MCS activities while addressing data-sharing and confidentiality concerns.
- Harmonize standards and procedures by aligning MCS standards, SOPs, and operational practices across ASEAN to enable consistent enforcement and cooperation.
- Strengthen joint patrols and cross-border cooperation by conducting coordinated operations to address transnational fisheries crimes effectively.
- Implement regional capacity-building programs by delivering training and knowledge-sharing initiatives to enhance technical and institutional capabilities among ASEAN Member States.
- Promote technology sharing and innovation by facilitating the adoption of innovative solutions and best practices to improve MCS effectiveness.
- Strengthen regional governance and trust by building mutual confidence, transparency, and collaborative frameworks among ASEAN Member States.
- Support international and regional instruments by aligning regional actions with agreements such as the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) and other relevant standards.

The presentation appears as **Annex 15**.

## VII. REGIONAL APPROACHES TO ENHANCE MCS FOR COMBATING IUU FISHING AND PRIORITIZE NINE PRIORITY AREAS FOR FUTURE ACTION TO COMBAT IUU FISHING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

The representative from SEAFDEC/TD, *Mr. Natthawat Chutiponglapat*, presented regional approaches to enhance MCS for combating IUU fishing, aligned with the Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security Towards 2030. The framework focuses on strengthening coordination, building capacity, and promoting sustainable management. From 2016 to 2025, SEAFDEC conducted 46 regional activities, training a total of 1,473 fisheries officers. Key regional instruments highlighted include the Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR), which serves as a vital tool for harmonizing information sharing across AMSs, and the electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS), which serves as a prototype for tracking and tracing fish and fishery products.

To guide future actions, nine priority areas were outlined, including vessel monitoring (covering small-scale fleets), comprehensive MCS strengthening, regional cooperation on IUU fishing information, addressing foreign vessel encroachment, enhancing product traceability, estimating resource losses, strengthening prosecution evidence, monitoring transshipment, and reforming the legal framework. The presentation appears as **Annex 16**.

The Workshop noted that the AMSs can adopt or modify SEAFDEC's regional tools, particularly the eACDS, to meet the minimum traceability requirements of their trading partners. It also acknowledged SEAFDEC's continuous commitment to advancing regional MCS cooperation.

## VIII. REGIONAL COOPERATION TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MCS TO COMBAT IUU FISHING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

### 8.1 AN-IUU

The representative from DOF of Thailand, *Ms. Jitpisut Sanboonpeng*, in her capacity as the Secretariat of AN-IUU presented the ASEAN Network for Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing (AN-IUU) Interactive Platform, a regional digital platform established in 2019 during Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship to enhance cooperation among ASEAN Member States. Thailand hosts the Network Centre, which serves as a secure hub for information sharing, maritime activity monitoring, and identification of high-risk vessels. The platform provides real-time alerts on refused port entry, access to RFMO IUU vessel lists, and a watchlist of suspect activity. AMS may upload evidentiary materials such as photographs and documents to the Incident page, with options to designate access as public or restricted, thereby promoting transparency, collaboration, and collective enforcement toward an IUU-Free ASEAN.

The platform was emphasized that each AMS maintains a designated focal point for platform coordination. It was also noted that while the regional page currently does not include a feature for crew member information, such data can be documented within individual incident pages. The presentation appears as **Annex 17**.

### 8.2 RPOA-IUU

The representative from the RPOA-IUU Secretariat, *Mr. Yudhistira Rizky Abdillah*, provided an overview of the RPOA-IUU, a voluntary regional initiative established in 2007 by 11 member nations to enhance fisheries management and combat IUU fishing in the region. It operates through specialized sub-regional MCS groups, such as those covering the Gulf of Thailand and the Arafura-Timor Seas, to facilitate localized cooperation. Under this framework, participating countries have made significant progress in implementing international standards, with eight nations ratifying the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) and nine developing their own National Plans of Action (NPOA-IUU). Furthermore, the organization utilizes an enhanced Vessel Watch List and a Knowledge Management Platform to provide valuable intelligence for regional enforcement and monitoring.

Recent efforts by the RPOA-IUU focus on formalizing a comprehensive data-sharing mechanism and fostering bilateral communication to resolve maritime disputes. Key priorities include strengthening fisheries intelligence, enhancing investigative capacity, improving data-sharing arrangements, promoting decent working conditions, and reinforcing regional coordination. The presentation appears as **Annex 18**.

### 8.3 GIZ (BlueFairFish Project)

The Project Manager of GIZ-PHL, *Mr. Tomas Cabuenos, Jr.*, presented the GIZ BlueFairFish Project. He highlighted the ongoing support of GIZ in strengthening regional cooperation on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) and in combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the ASEAN region. The initiative focuses on enhancing regional information sharing through digital platforms, improving traceability systems, and strengthening institutional coordination among AMS.

The Workshop noted that the project supports the development and operationalization of systems for vessel information exchange, risk-based monitoring, and measures to prevent IUU-listed vessels from accessing ASEAN ports and supply chains. Capacity-building activities, technical assistance, and policy alignment were emphasized as key components to ensure effective implementation at both national and regional levels. While progress has been made, challenges remain in terms of system integration, digital readiness, and sustained institutional strengthening. The presentation appears as **Annex 19**.

## **IX. GROUP DISCUSSION ON COORDINATION ON MCS TO COMBAT IUU FISHING IN THE REGION AND REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING NEED ON MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS)**

- **Coordination on MCS to combat IUU fishing in the region**

The group discussions focused on practical ways to boost regional cooperation against Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing by streamlining Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) efforts. A major talking point was the standardization of "Hot Pursuit" protocols and the legal weight of digital evidence, such as VMS and AIS data. While countries like Viet Nam and Myanmar already accept digital logs as primary evidence, others are still working to align their legal systems to make electronic data admissible in court. To bridge this gap, the sessions highlighted the need for an ASEAN Digital Evidence Manual and unified Rules of Engagement (ROE) to handle transboundary incidents without causing diplomatic tension. The group discussion also tackled the issue of "silent" or "dark" vessels, ships that deliberately turn off their tracking systems to evade detection. Proposed solutions included using machine learning to predict suspicious movements and setting strict timelines, like Thailand's six-hour rule, to trigger enforcement actions. Additionally, the talks emphasized the value of bilateral joint patrols and bringing small-scale fisheries into regional monitoring networks.

GROUP 1: To combat IUU fishing, ASEAN proposes standardizing "Hot Pursuit" under UNCLOS Article 111, utilizing satellite surveillance and the AN-IUU platform for seamless data handovers. Integrating machine learning for predictive VMS/AIS analysis allows MCS centers to identify suspicious patterns near borders, transitioning from reactive to preventive enforcement. Regional capacity building focuses on three pillars: Monitoring (AI data analysis), Control (vessel marking), and Surveillance (forensic evidence). This strategy aligns legal frameworks with technical advancements to protect regional waters effectively.

GROUP 2: To combat IUU fishing, ASEAN is harmonizing digital evidence admissibility by developing a regional manual and training the judiciary. Group 2 emphasized standardized Rules of Engagement for joint patrols in transboundary hotspots. Capacity building focuses on three pillars: Monitoring (digitizing data via e-logbooks), Control (aligning port inspections with PSMA standards), and Surveillance (enhancing tactical training like VBSS and OSINT). These coordinated efforts aim to strengthen legal frameworks and operational capabilities for effective prosecution.

GROUP 3: is operationalizing "silent vessel" detection by standardizing ASEAN protocols, such as Malaysia's inactive permit policy and Thailand's notification rule. To manage small-scale fisheries, they are strengthening bilateral patrols and establishing communication hotlines, alongside harmonizing disparate transshipment regulations. Capacity building is structured around three pillars: Monitoring focuses on sharing stock location data and implementing regional VMS systems; Control emphasizes understanding neighboring fisheries laws; and Surveillance prioritizes using AIS for detection and creating a common operating picture for regional hotspots.

CAMBODIA: Regional capacity building focuses on strengthening the MCS framework. Monitoring entails training on stock assessment techniques like TropFishR and length-based indicators for sustainability. Control involves ensuring compliance with international regulations such as PSMA and UNCLOS. Finally, Surveillance prioritizes operationalizing VMS technology and implementing practical PSMA measures for enforcement.

- **Regional Capacity Building Need on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS)**

The capacity building was organized into three pillars including Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance. Monitoring focuses on stock assessments, Control covers port state measures and licensing, and Surveillance emphasizes the use of drones, Joint Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) training, and Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT), ensuring a proactive and technology-driven approach to

maritime security across ASEAN. The Workshop formulated recommendations under each of these three pillars as follows

### ***Monitoring***

- Provide digital evidence management training for fisheries officers on the collection, handling, and analysis of digital evidence to support investigations and enforcement.
- Build capacity for the use and management of e-logbooks, electronic catch documentation, and other digital reporting tools.
- Provide training on stock assessment methodologies, including standardized approaches such as Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) analysis, length-based stock assessment using TropFishR (Tropical Fisheries Analysis), length-based indicators (LBIs), and length-based spawning analysis.
- Develop technical skills for creating, managing, and analyzing integrated fisheries databases that combine biological, operational, and compliance data.
- Equip staff with methods and tools to estimate IUU fishing losses and quantify the economic and ecological impact of illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.
- Provide training on the collection, interpretation, and operational use of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), Automatic Identification System (AIS), and GPS data for monitoring, enforcement, and prosecution support.
- Strengthen AIS operations through training to enable personnel to effectively monitor, detect, and track the movement and activities of fishing vessels.
- Enhance data collection and management skills, including AI-assisted data collection, biological sampling, and accurate logbook reporting.
- Provide training on radio communication monitoring to detect, monitor, and manage fisheries-related communications for compliance and safety purposes.

### ***Control***

- Provide training on international fisheries instruments to strengthen the capacity of fisheries officers and relevant stakeholders to understand and implement international agreements, including the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, PSMA, UNCLOS, RFMO rules, Compliance Agreements, and other relevant fisheries instruments.
- Conduct fisher awareness programs through information and awareness seminars on existing fishery laws, rules, and regulations to ensure compliance and promote responsible fishing practices.
- Provide port inspection training for port authorities and fisheries inspectors on procedures aligned with PSMA standards.
- Conduct practical training on boarding and vessel inspection in port and at sea to ensure safe and effective inspection procedures during maritime operations.
- Strengthen observer programs to enhance professionalism and technical capacity through improved curriculum, training on biological data collection, compliance detection, and integration of digital tools such as VMS and electronic logbooks.
- Build capacity for fishing vessel and gear marking to improve traceability and support enforcement and monitoring activities.

### ***Surveillance***

- Provide specialized training on Advanced Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) analytics to enable real-time monitoring of maritime fisheries activities.
- Build capacity for inland fisheries patrol operations through knowledge exchange and experience sharing among ASEAN Member States (AMS).

- Provide the training for officers in using Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) to detect and investigate fisheries violations.
- Develop skills to operate rapid alert systems and communication protocols for timely responses to IUU fishing incidents.
- Provide training on high seas boarding, inspection, and enforcement in high seas or RFMO areas.
- Enhance operational capacity for coordinated Joint Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) missions in national and international waters.
- Build skills in applying modern fisheries surveillance technologies, including radar, sensors, and drones, for effective monitoring.
- Develop skills in drone operation and aerial surveillance to monitor fishing activities, detect IUU fishing, and support enforcement actions.

## **X. VISITING AND OBSERVATION ON MCS IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND**

The participants visited the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand on 26 February 2026. *Mr. Aekkarat Wongkeaw*, FMC Chief, presented its roles and implementation. Established in 2015 under the Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558, the FMC operates 24 hours daily with three missions consist of monitoring domestic and overseas vessels, monitoring foreign vessels under PSM, and enforcing legal actions. The VMS is mandatory for commercial fishing vessels  $\geq 30$  GT, covering over 4,000 vessels. VMS transmits hourly position and speed data, with alerts via the Fishery Next Application when vessels approach prohibited areas or foreign waters. For high-risk overseas fleets, Thailand mandates Electronic Monitoring (CCTV and sensors) and Electronic Reporting Systems (ERS).

*Ms. Jitpisut Sanboonpeng* from the Port State Measure Unit explained Thailand's electronic PSM (ePSM) system, established after ratifying the PSMA in 2016. Operating across 28 designated ports, foreign vessels must submit advance requests (AREP) at least 24 hours in advance for neighboring fleets (coastal) and no less than 72 hours for international fleets (high seas) Risk assessments are conducted using the PSMART platform, which analyzes AIS data to support port entry decisions and inspections. The study visit concluded with a tour of the FMC operations room, where participants observed the live tracking systems of the monitoring officers.

## **XI. CLOSING OF THE WORKSHOP**

The Closing Session was delivered by representative from GIZ, *Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsanga*, expressed appreciation to all participants for their active engagement and valuable contributions. Gratitude was extended to ASEAN Member States, resource persons from AN-IUU, RPOA-IUU, and SEAFDEC staff for sharing their knowledge and expertise. Participants were encouraged to apply the insights gained during the Workshop in their respective countries to strengthen policies and actions against IUU fishing. The Workshop was officially declared closed, with best wishes for a safe journey home.

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## OPENING REMARKS

*By Ms. Sampan Panjarat*  
Secretary-General and Chief of the Training Department

At the  
Regional Workshops on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS)  
for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia  
Bangkok, Thailand, 24–26 February 2026

Distinguished delegates from GIZ, *Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsanga*;  
Representatives of the ASEAN Member States;  
Resource persons from FAO/RAP, AN–IUU, RPOA–IUU, Nha Trang University (NTU)  
SEAFDEC staff, ladies and gentlemen;  
Good morning.

It is my great honor to welcome you to the “Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia.”

Global trade in food products is important for livelihoods, food security, and national economies. Fish and fishery products are among the most traded food commodities, especially for developing countries, where this sector provides jobs, income, and export revenue. In recent years, global demand for fish has continued to grow, making fish supply chains more complex and more connected across countries.

However, fisheries are facing serious challenges. Overfishing, declining fish stocks, and weak management systems threaten both marine resources and the people who depend on them. One major problem is Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated, or IUU, fishing. These activities harm fish stocks, create unfair competition, and make it difficult for authorities to control fishing activities. This issue is particularly serious in Southeast Asia, where MCS systems are still limited.

Strengthening MCS is therefore essential to address IUU fishing and support sustainable fisheries. In this process, effective information exchange plays a key role. Sharing accurate and timely information helps detect illegal fishing, supports cooperation between countries, and improves monitoring efforts. Strengthening information exchange on MCS is an important step toward protecting marine resources for the future.

To support these efforts, the SEAFDEC Training Department is organizing the “Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia”. The Workshop provides a platform for countries to share timely and accurate information, improve coordination, and work together to detect and prevent illegal fishing activities. Through regional cooperation and capacity building, the workshop aims to strengthen collective action among AMSs and enhance efforts to combat IUU fishing in Southeast Asia.

On this occasion, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to GIZ for its support of the workshop under the project “Strengthening Regional Capacity to Combat IUU Fishing and Promote Safe, Fair and Sustainable Fisheries in Southeast Asia.” I would also like to express my gratitude to our resource persons from FAO/RAP, AN–IUU, RPOA–IUU, and NTU for their valuable cooperation and support.

Ladies and gentlemen, with this, I am pleased to declare the Workshop officially open, and I hope that it will be a fruitful and productive experience for all participants. Thank you very much.

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## PROVISIONAL PROSPECTUS

Global trade in food commodities plays an essential role in supporting livelihoods, enhancing food security, and strengthening national economies. Among these commodities, fish and fishery products are some of the most widely traded, especially for developing countries that rely heavily on this sector for employment, income, and exports. In 2022, global trade in fishery products reached 70 million tons, which accounted for 38 percent of total fisheries and aquaculture production, with an estimated value of USD 195 billion (FAO, 2024). This trend reflects the rising global demand for aquatic products and the growing complexity of international fish supply chains.

However, fisheries play a crucial role in both local and global economies, yet their sustainability is increasingly threatened by overfishing, resource depletion, and governance challenges. Among these pressures, Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing remains one of the most persistent and critical issues, undermining fisheries management, depleting fish stocks, and damaging marine ecosystems. Operating outside legal frameworks, IUU activities distort markets, disadvantage lawful fishers, and often evade detection due to limited transparency and traceability in supply chains. The problem is particularly acute in Southeast Asia, where insufficient management and weak Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) exacerbate the pressure on fishery resources. Addressing IUU fishing requires urgent and transparent action, including stricter regulation of fishing vessels, mitigation of overcapacity, and the implementation of effective rights-based management systems.

One of the key strategies for addressing IUU fishing is strengthening MCS to ensure effective enforcement and sustainable fisheries management. Within this framework, the exchange of timely and accurate information is crucial, as it enhances the detection of illegal activities, supports cross-border coordination, and improves the overall efficiency of monitoring efforts. Strengthening Information Exchange on MCS helps close governance gaps, facilitates collective action, and is essential for safeguarding marine resources in the long term.

Recognizing the importance of regional collaboration, the SEAFDEC Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD) in collaboration with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) implement the project “Strengthening Regional Capacity to Combat IUU Fishing and Promote Safe, Fair and Sustainable Fisheries in Southeast Asia” start 2024 to 2026, main aim to enhances national and regional responses through digital innovation, targets capacity building in MCS systems, and fosters transparency and enhances regional cooperation and networks in ASEAN Member States (AMSs).

Therefore, to enhance regional cooperation and strengthen the effectiveness of MCS in combating IUU fishing, the “Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on MCS for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia” will be organized as a part of project. The Workshop provide a dedicated platform for sharing timely and accurate information, improving coordination among participating countries, and facilitating joint efforts to detect and deter illegal fishing activities. By fostering collaboration and building

technical capacity in the region, the initiative reinforces cooperative action among AMSs and advances more effective measures against IUU fishing in the region.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and lessons learned on the implementation of MCS systems among AMSs.
2. Building regional understanding for the MCS of combating IUU fishing
3. Enhance regional collaboration in combating IUU fishing among AMSs.

## EXPECTED OUTPUTS

1. Updated understanding of current MCS implementation and practices relevant to combating IUU fishing among AMSs.
2. Regional capacity for MCS of Combating IUU Fishing is improved
3. Enhanced mechanisms for sharing experiences and best practices on MCS at the regional level.
4. Strengthened coordination and communication of MCS network to support future collaborative actions.

## DATE AND VENUE

The Workshop will be held from 24 to 26 February 2026, in Best Western Nada Don Mueang Airport Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.

## PARTICIPANTS

- Representatives from AMSs (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam) who are practitioner level and responsible for MCS activities to combat IUU fishing

## AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

### 24 February 2026 (Tuesday)

Time	Activities
08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-10:00	<p><b>Agenda 1:</b> Welcome and Opening Remark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by GIZ</li> <li>• Opening remarks by SEAFDEC</li> </ul> <p><b>Agenda 2:</b> Introduction and objectives of the Workshop/ adoption of the agenda</p> <p><b>Agenda 3:</b> Strengthening regional fisheries governance: measures to prevent IUU fishing in Southeast Asia (by Secretary-General of SEAFDEC)</p>
10:00-10:30	<i>Refreshment and group photo</i>
10:30-12:00	<p><b>Agenda 4:</b> Country presentations on current MCS implementation consist of current MCS implementation and enforcement measures, country strategies to combat IUU fishing, laws and regulations to support the implementation of MCS activities, key challenges, gaps, and needs for MCS implementation by participating countries (30 minutes per country)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brunei Darussalam</li> <li>• Cambodia</li> <li>• Indonesia</li> <li>• Lao PDR</li> </ul>
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch</i>

Time	Activities
13:00-16:00	<b>Agenda 4:</b> Country presentations on current MCS implementation (continue) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Malaysia</li> <li>• Myanmar</li> <li>• Philippines</li> <li>• Thailand</li> <li>• Timor-Leste</li> <li>• Viet Nam</li> </ul>
16:00-17:00	<b>Agenda 5:</b> Discussion on common issues, challenges, suggested recommendations on current MCS implementation in Southeast Asia <i>Facilitation by GIZ</i>
18:00-20:00	<i>Reception Dinner</i>

### 25 February 2026 (Wednesday)

Time	Activities
09:00-09:30	<b>Agenda 6:</b> Regional approaches to enhance MCS for combating IUU fishing and prioritize nine priority areas for future action to combat IUU fishing in Southeast Asia (by SEAFDEC/TD)
09:30-12:00	<b>Agenda 7:</b> Regional cooperation to support implementation of MCS to combat IUU fishing in Southeast Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AN-IUU</li> <li>• GIZ (BlueFairFish Project)</li> <li>• RPOA-IUU</li> </ul> Discussion on area of cooperation (facilitation by GIZ and SEAFDEC/TD)
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00-16:00	<b>Agenda 8:</b> Group discussion on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination on MCS to combat IUU fishing in the region</li> <li>• Regional capacity building need on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Monitoring</li> <li>○ Control</li> <li>○ Surveillance</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Brief of visiting and observation on Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC), Department of Fisheries, Thailand

### 26 February 2026 (Thursday)

Time	Activities
09:00-16:00	Visiting and observation on Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC), Department of Fisheries, Thailand

Strengthening Regional Fisheries Governance: Measures to Prevent IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia

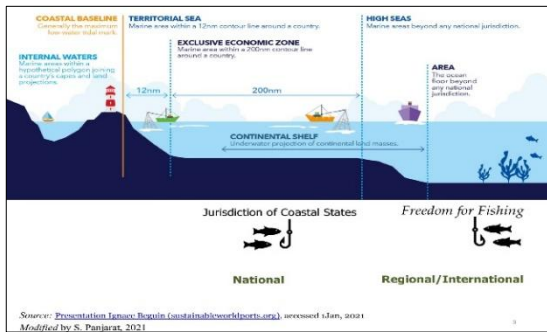
SAMPAN PANJARAT  
SEAFDEC Secretary General

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24–26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

### Fisheries Resources

- Renewable
- Mobile
- Blind/half-blind
- Common Property
- Common pool resources

the exploitation of a user reduce the share to the other users



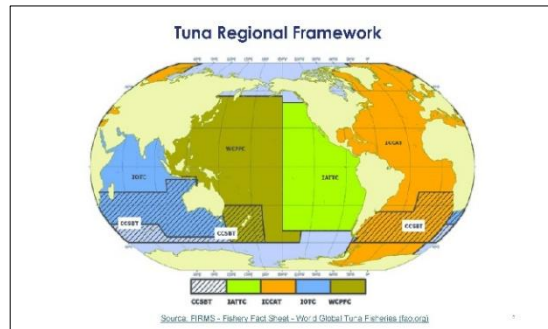
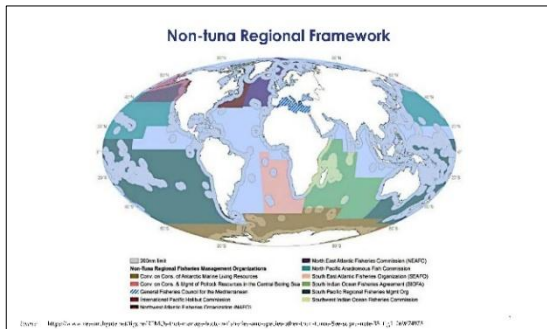
### 1982 Law of the Sea Convention

Areas in National Jurisdiction

- Establish Law and Regulation; Conservation and Management Measures
- Use the available scientific data to determine the Optimum Utilization; MSY, TAC or other reference points
- Shall cooperate with other States in conservation of the fish stocks that are transboundary species

High Sea

- Rights of fishing (with conditions)
- Duties to conserve resources
- Shall cooperate w/ other in conservation and management of resources (establishment of RFMOs)



### 14 CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Target By 2020

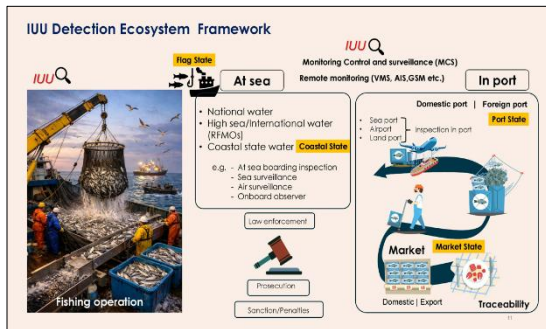
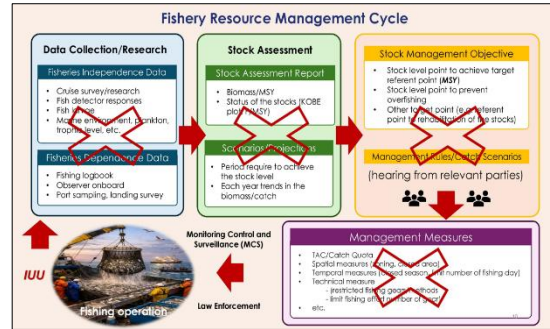
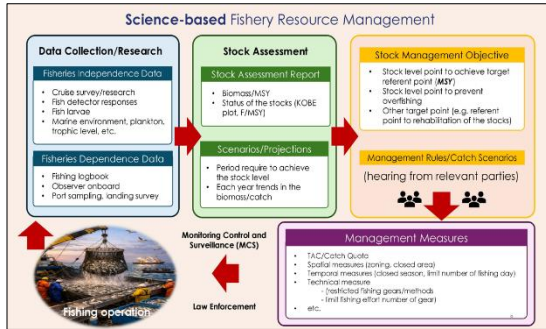
- 14.4 effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, IUU fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce MSY as determined by their biological characteristics...
- 14.4 prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies...

### Fisheries Resources

- Renewable
- Mobile
- Blind/half-blind
- Common Property
- Common pool resources

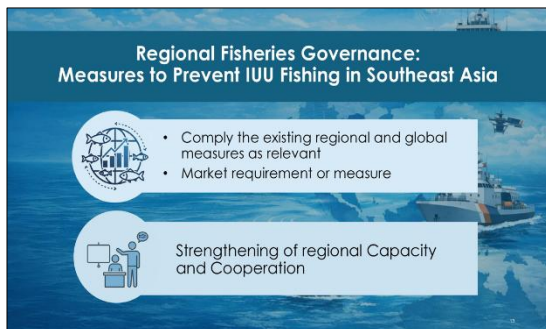
the exploitation of a user reduce the share to the other users

To ensure the sustainable use of the fisheries resources  
The implementation of science-based management is required



### Levels of Frameworks and Cooperation in Fisheries Management and in Combating IUU

Level	Framework/Cooperation	Member Countries
Global framework	UN Fish Stock Agreement (12 parties)	(9) Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam
	FAO PMA (35 parties)	(7) Indonesia, Cambodia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
	FAO Compliance Agreement (47 parties)	(2) Myanmar, Philippines
	WTO Fisheries Subsidies (112 parties)	(8) Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam
FAO POA-IBW (voluntary signatories)		
Regional Framework and Regional Cooperation	Legal binding by conservation and management measures of Regional organizations in their of Competent - RFMOs; e.g. IOTC (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand), WCPFC, SIOFA, CCSBT	- Regional conservation organization: e.g. CCAW/UR
	Regional cooperation with non-legal binding and no area of competent; e.g. - RPOA-IUU: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, The Philippines, Singapore, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Viet Nam and Australia	- ASEAN Network on Combating IUU Fishing (AN-IUU)
National Framework	e.g. - NPOA-IUU - FMP - National Plan of Inspection	



### SEAFDEC Roles in Southeast Asia Toward 2030

**Vision:**  
Sustainable Management and Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture to contribute **food security, poverty alleviation** and **livelihood** of the people in Southeast Asia region

**Mission:**  
"To promote and facilitate concerted actions among the Member Countries to ensure the sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture in Southeast Asia"



### Measures to Prevent IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia

**Strengthening of Regional Capacity and Cooperation**

Regional Tools:	Regional Platform:	Regional Training:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Fishing Vessels Records (RFVR)</li> <li>electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ASEAN-CDS)</li> </ul>	ASEAN Network on Combating IUU Fishing (AN-IUU)	PSM, MCS, explore technology or an innovative tool for combating IUU fishing

**Regional Tools: Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR)**

- Online system jointly developed by ASEAN Member States (AMSs) under the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership (ASSP)
- Provides **essential vessel information** to support fishing vessel inspections
- Serves as an effective tool to **reduce IUU fishing vessels**
- Enables authorities to **verify vessel data and monitor compliance**
- Supports **corrective actions against non-compliant fishing vessels**
- Contributes to the **elimination of IUU fishing in Southeast Asia**



**Regional Tools: electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS)**

- **ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (ACDS)**, a regional initiative to enhance the traceability of capture fisheries adopted in 2017.
- Primary goal is to prevent fish and fishery products obtained IUU fishing activities from entering the supply chain.
- To further strengthen traceability efforts in Southeast Asia, SEAFDEC developed the **electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS)**
- Key benefits of the eACDS include:
  - ✓ Enhanced Data Validity and Efficiency
  - ✓ Improved Monitoring and Control
  - ✓ Facilitated Trade



**Regional Platform**

**AN-IUU**  
(ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing)  
Advancing Partnership for IUU-FREE ASEAN

- AN-IUU established in 2019
- **Core role** is to enhance the effectiveness of AMS in tackling IUU fishing.
- **Thailand as Host of ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing (AN-IUU)**
- Development of the **AN-IUU Interactive Platform**
- Facilitates **timely information exchange** on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)
- Supports **vessel monitoring** to prevent IUU fishing activities in Southeast Asia
- Promotes **sharing of good practices and operational experiences** among ASEAN Member States
- Enhances **coordination among MCS agencies**
- Strengthens **regional collaboration and collective action** to combat IUU fishing.



**Regional Training :**

- Regional capacity-building initiatives conducted to strengthen efforts against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in Southeast Asia
- Implemented through collaboration among **ASEAN, SEAFDEC**, and international partners such as **FAO**
- Enhance knowledge and technical skills on **Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)**
- Training on **Port State Measures (PSM)** implementation and inspection procedures
- Capacity development in **Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)** and fisheries data management
- Strengthening **regional information sharing and inter-agency coordination**
- Promoting **compliance with international fisheries regulations and standards**
- Sharing **best practices and operational experiences** among ASEAN Member States
- Supporting **harmonized regional approaches** to prevent and deter IUU fishing
- Contributing to **sustainable fisheries management and marine resource conservation**

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia



**THANK YOU**

Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

# Brunei Darussalam

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24 – 26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

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24 – 26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

Current Situation  
Issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS in your country

### Introduction

Brunei has integrated MCS as a core component of its fisheries management framework under the NPOA-IUU, aligned with the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) against IUU fishing. Key elements include:

- Licensing and registration of fishing vessels and gear, including small-scale fishers;
- MCS operations** through coordinated patrols by the Marine Police, Royal Brunei Navy, and aerial surveillance;
- Enforcement of fishing zones and gear restrictions;
- Steps toward electronic tracking and catch documentation systems (like AIS and e-catch systems) to strengthen traceability;
- Joint enforcement and cooperation among agencies — Customs, Ports, Police, and Fisheries — to improve surveillance reach.

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Current Situation  
Issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS in your country

### 1. Limited Surveillance Coverage and Assets

- Brunei's naval and enforcement assets (patrol boats, aircraft, technology) are adequate only for moderate coverage of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), with offshore waters remaining vulnerable to encroachments by foreign vessels.
- The ability to monitor high-seas operations or distant relative waters is limited, as small number of Brunei's flagged fleet operate beyond territorial waters, and advanced surveillance infrastructure is still developing.

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Current Situation  
Issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS in your country

### 2. Human and Technical Capacity Constraints

- Formal capacity building and specialized training remain key gaps as effective MCS requires specialized skills in data collection, interpretation, enforcement coordination and legal follow-through.
- There are insufficient observer personnel, especially for domestic fishing vessels.

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Current Situation  
Issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS in your country

### 3. Regional Coordination and Data Sharing

- At the regional level, coordination with neighbors depends on voluntary information sharing and diplomatic frameworks, which may not always be timely or comprehensive.
- Sharing detailed maritime domain awareness data can be sensitive — especially if it relates to defense or national security — which may limit openness.

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Current Situation  
Issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS in your country

### 4. Insufficient Technology Adoption

- Although there are efforts to adopt AIS tracking and electronic catch documentation systems nationally, full implementation and integration with enforcement operations are still in progress.
- Advanced technologies (satellite remote sensing, automated detection systems, electronic monitoring) are not yet deployed widely due to cost, training needs, and infrastructure gaps.

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Current Situation  
Issues and challenges in the implementation of PSMA in your country

Brunei Darussalam is not yet a signatory to the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), but would always aligns with PSMA procedures and protocols where necessary, particularly in efforts to combat IUU fishing.

At present, there have been no requests from foreign fishing vessels to land or transship their catch at Brunei's fishing ports.

Key requirements for PSMA implementation:

- Fishing authorizations (vessel, gear, species)
- Regime of visit (inspection, boarding)
- Board observation (catch on board and observation)
- Vessel's log (vessel tracking)
- Compliance with fisheries regulations (border and entry)
- Administrative and catch record requirements (vessel and catch)
- Other sector-specific regulations (fisheries, marine, and other)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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Low and regulations to support the implementation of MCS activities

The Fisheries Act, Chapter 61 is the principal legislative instrument governing fisheries in Brunei and provides the backbone for MCS activities in the sector.

#### Key provisions relevant to MCS

- Administration and powers — establishes the Director of Fisheries and authorized officers to enforce the Fisheries Act.
- Licensing and regulation — sets requirements for registrations of fishing vessels and licensing of fishing gears, marine culture systems, and other fisheries activities, which include effort control and monitoring.
- Conservation and management measures — allows the regulation of fishing methods, designation of fishing zones and prohibited areas — tools central to controlling fishing effort and capacity.
- Inspection, boarding and search powers — authorized officers, naval officers and police can stop, board, search and examine fishing vessels and related gear or documentation to enforce compliance with fisheries laws.
- Offences and penalties — the Fisheries Act defines offences (e.g., unlicensed fishing, use of prohibited gears, encroachment into a restricted fishing zone not permitted under the fishing licence) and enables enforcement action that supports deterrence and compliance which is the core elements of 'Control' and 'Surveillance'.

#### Fisheries (Subsidiary) Regulations

Under the Fisheries Act, several regulations help operationalize MCS-related controls:

- Fisheries Regulations — specify restrictions on fishing methods, licensing requirements (e.g. who must be licensed, conditions), reporting and documentation duties, and enforcement processes of fishing landing sites and on vessels.
- Other sector-specific regulations under the Act (e.g. for fish culture farms, fish landing complexes, processing establishments) help manage and monitor activities relevant to surveillance and resource sustainability.

#### Brunei Darussalam Fishery Limits Act (Cap. 120)

The Fishery Limits Act defines Brunei's jurisdictional boundaries for fishing activities — essentially the legal basis for where MCS can be conducted.

Defines territorial/Exclusive Fishing Jurisdiction up to 200 nautical miles (EEZ) from the baselines, where Brunei has rights to conserve and manage fishery resources

- Controls over foreign fishing vessels — foreign fishing vessels must comply with Brunei's licensing and conditions to fish within limits, and those that do not can be subject to enforcement action.

The Department of Fisheries works with other agencies such as:

- Marine Police
- Royal Brunei Navy
- Police Brunei Darussalam
- National Customs & Excise Department

These inter-agency arrangements are grounded in law and policy to support ports, aerial surveillance, and joint operations aimed at monitoring, law enforcement, and resource protection.

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Suggested recommendation and support needed of national and regional level

A. National-Level Recommendations		
Focus Area	Recommended Actions	Support Needed
Legal & Regulatory Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and amend Fisheries Act and subsidiary regulations</li> <li>Strengthen penalties and recognise electronic evidence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal drafting expertise</li> <li>Technical assistance from FAO/SEAFDEC, etc</li> <li>Alignment with international instruments (UNCLOS, PSMA, etc)</li> </ul>
Surveillance & Enforcement Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase sea and aerial patrols in EEZ</li> <li>Apply risk-based surveillance approaches</li> <li>Enhance satellite-based monitoring tools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased national budget allocation</li> <li>Access to satellite and surveillance technologies</li> <li>Technical partnerships</li> </ul>
Human Resource Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular training for MCS officers on inspection, boarding and evidence handling</li> <li>Develop certified MCS inspectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAO / SEAFDEC / etc training programmes</li> <li>Exchange programmes with regional enforcement agencies</li> </ul>
Technology & Data Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrate AIS with enforcement operations</li> <li>Implement electronic catch documentation</li> <li>Develop digital vessel and licensing databases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICT infrastructure investment</li> <li>System development and cybersecurity support</li> <li>Technical training</li> </ul>
Stakeholder Engagement & Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness programmes for fishers on MCS laws</li> <li>Promote co-management and compliance culture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach funding</li> <li>Educational materials and community engagement support</li> </ul>

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Suggested recommendation and support needed of national and regional level

B. Regional-Level Recommendations		
Focus Area	Recommended Actions	Support Needed
Regional Cooperation on IUU Fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active participation in ASEAN and RPOA-IUU initiatives</li> <li>Conduct joint patrols and coordinated enforcement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional coordination mechanisms</li> <li>Political and diplomatic support</li> </ul>
Information Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively updating data on suspect vessels in the existing platform</li> <li>Link national MCS systems with regional databases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data-sharing agreements</li> <li>Access to regional information exchange platforms</li> </ul>
Regional Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in regional MCS training and exercises</li> <li>Conduct joint inspection simulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAO / SEAFDEC / ASEAN funding</li> <li>Regional training centres</li> </ul>
Financial & Technical Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access finance-funded on regional projects</li> <li>Pilot advanced monitoring technologies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International finance support</li> <li>Regional project coordination</li> </ul>

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24 – 26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES**

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**Information Exchange in MCS**  
**Combating IUU fishing in Cambodia**

Mr. Kao Monirith Director of Marine FIA Inspectorate  
Ms. Sen Rineth Vice-Chief of Legislation office

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24–26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

### Contents

- 1 MCS** Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation
- 2 PSM** Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation
- 3 Law & regulations** To support the implementation of MCS
- 4 Suggested recommendation & support** needed at national and regional level

### 1 MCS-Monitoring

**Scientific Monitoring**

- Catch monitoring at the landing sites
- stock assessments for key species (*Rastrelliger spp.*, *Partunus pelagicus*, *Encrasicholina heteroloba*).
- Monitor forage fish, predator-prey dynamics, and climate-driven ecosystem shifts.

**Compliance Monitoring**

- VMS, manual logbooks, port inspection, SMART Patrol
- Land based monitoring and at sea monitoring

### 1 MCS-Control

WIO's Agreement on Fisheries Subsidy in 2024

Biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) in September 2023

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea in January 2026

- The Joint Statement between FIA of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Marine and Fisheries Quality Assurance Agency, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia was signed in October 2025.
- FIA signed MOU with The Institute of Standards of Cambodia (ISC) of Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation in October 2025.

### 1 MCS-Control

The law on fisheries 2025

Marine fishing gears guidebook

The National Strategy Plan for Fisheries (SPT 2025-2035)

FIMS data

### 1 MCS-Control

MCS Tools	Be.2023	2023	2024	2025	Total
Vessel Registration	1439	1196	1156	35	3826
Fishing vessel license	104	778	751		1633
VMS	125	800	590		1515

- 4 Marine Fisheries Management Areas (MFMA)
- Aquaculture
- Community Fisheries (CFI)
- Conservation areas
- Zonation of shallow water trawl

### 1 MCS-Surveillance

- Human and artificial intelligence
- Inter-agency enforcement involving FIA, Navy, Police, and Customs
- Community-based surveillance through Community Fisheries
- Patrol and Joint patrol NGOs (MCC), PDAFF, and local authorities

### 1 MCS Challenges:

- Limit implementing and dissemination of the Law on Fisheries 2025
- Limited human and technical capacity
- Lack of real time surveillance of the EEZ;
- Institutional arrangement for fishing; vessels registrations not yet streamlined with issuing of fishing license;
- Gaps in inter-agency coordination and information sharing

2 PSM

- Designated the first PSMA port of Oknha Ly Yong Phat in Koh Kong province.
- Completed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for PSMA operations.
- Established PSMA Working Team
- Developed an official email address (psma\_cambodia@maff.gov.kh) and national PSMA webpage to facilitate information sharing on PSMA initiative.
- Received several trainings and fieldworks supported by EU, AFMA, & FAO
- Ongoing online training session and in-person training on PSMA with Oceanmind supported by the Government of Cannada

2 PSM Challenges

- Continue enforcing registration for all fishing vessels
- Use of Digital Technologies: such as E-logbook, not utilized yet
- Capacity building on Port inspection, Boarding procedures, and inspection report

3 Law & regulations

Law on Fisheries

- Promulgated on 28 June 2025
- 15 Chapters
- 104 Articles
- 2 Annexes

Sub-legislations under the law

- 5 Sub-decrees
- 27 Proclamations
- 2 inter-ministries proclamation

3 Law & regulations support MCS implementation

- ❑ 2 Sub-Decree -
- ❑ 11 Proclamations
- ❑ 2 Proclamations on
  - the Zonation of Fisheries Area for Trawling in the Coastal Area
  - the Identification of Fishing Gears, Concerning monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS).

No	Chapter	Section	Article	Type	Title	Remarks
1	Chapter 7	Part 1	Article 40	Sub-decree	Measures for the management and conservation of marine fisheries	Drafted
2	Chapter 13	Article 95		Sub-decree	Transitional penalties for fisheries offenses under the Fisheries Law	Drafted and submitted to Minister Council
3	Chapter 7	Part 1	Article 33	Proclamation	Technical characteristics of fishing gear types for small, medium and large-scale fishing in marine fisheries management areas	Drafted
4	Chapter 7	Part 1	Article 36	Proclamation	Forms and procedures for granting licenses for medium-scale and large-scale fishing or fishing-related activities in marine fisheries management areas	Drafted
5	Chapter 7	Part 1	Article 37	Proclamation	Defining the location of inshore fishing areas that allow fishing with trawl, mechanized push net, Chhroing O, Keing Chheam, Krom, Lada, by using mechanized power	Only drafted a fishing area for inshore mechanized pushnet
6	Chapter 7	Part 2	Article 42	Proclamation	Procedures for applying to report fishing vessels or vessels engaging in fishing-related activities	Drafted with the support by IAD
7	Chapter 7	Part 2	Article 43	Proclamation	Procedures for inspecting and evaluating the technical specifications of fishing gear and related equipment for fishing	Drafted
8	Chapter 7	Part 3	Article 49	Proclamation	Defining the technical specifications fishing gear and identification marks of fishing gear	Drafted
9	Chapter 7	Part 3	Article 53	Proclamation	Procedures for performing the functions of observers and operators	Drafted with the support by IAD
10	Chapter 7	Part 3	Article 54	Proclamation	Defining the vessel monitoring system (VMS) technical conditions and measure for the operation of vessel monitoring systems	Drafted
11	Chapter 7	Part 4	Article 62	Ministerial Proclamation	Designation of fishing port	Not yet drafted
12	Chapter 7	Part 4	Article 62	Proclamation	Forms and procedures for the use of fishing ports or landing site for fish and fishery products by fishing vessels or vessels engage in fishing activities of medium or large-scale fishing	Drafted
13	Chapter 7	Part 4	Article 63	Proclamation	Procedures, requirements and forms for declaration of transshipment of fish and fishery products	Not yet drafted

Suggested recommendation and support needed at national and regional level

**National Level:**

1. Legal and Institutional Framework Strengthening
2. Capacity Development: Continuous training for FIA's officer on MCS, fisheries instruments, inspections, risk analysis, and boarding procedures.
3. Systematic sharing of information and intelligence among national agencies associated with other aspects of MCS, including the inspection of vessels in port.

Suggested recommendation and support needed at national and regional level

**Regional Level**

1. Active participation in ASEAN regional meetings and specialized technical workshops to harmonize PSMA, VMS, and port inspection procedures.
2. Systematic cooperation among port, flag and coastal States, RFMOs and other organizations, and the sharing of information and intelligence.
3. Capacity building on international fisheries instruments, RFMOs, MCS, PSMA, fisheries inspections.

Fisheries Administration

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<https://www.maff.gov.kh/leTang-Kh>

### Implementation of MCS-PSMA for Detering IUU Fishing

Presented by:

1. Muharamar Razak (Fisheries Inspector – Directorate General of Marine and Fisheries Resources Surveillance)
2. Diky Suganda (Policy Analyst - Directorate General of Capture Fisheries)

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### FISHERIES OVERVIEW

- 1) Indonesia is the largest archipelagic state, bordering 10 neighboring countries
- 2) Waters under the national jurisdiction:
  - ✓ Internal waters & archipelagic waters = 3,110,000 km<sup>2</sup>
  - ✓ Territorial waters = 290,000 km<sup>2</sup>
  - ✓ EEZ = 3,000,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- 3) Indonesia has > 17,000 islands with Coastal length – 108,000 km, coastline of 81,000 km. About 62% of Indonesia's territory is sea and waters
- 4) Comprises into 11 Fisheries Management Areas (WPPNRI)
- 5) Indonesia has a high cultural value towards fisheries
- 6) Many people in Indonesia earn their living as fishermen and work in the fisheries sector

### GDP (GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCTS) AT CURRENT PRICES BY INDUSTRY (BILLION RUPIAH)

YEAR	GDP (Billion Rupiah)
2020	431,468,90
2021	469,594,40
2022	505,060,80
2023	555,041,20
2024	554,677,20
2025	610,748,4

Source: Data Central Bureau of Statistics

### NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS

Year	Number of Fishing Vessels
2020	1,426,871
2021	1,292,783
2022	1,229,025
2023	1,157,734
2024	1,171,356

Category	Number of Fishing Vessels
>=5GT	14,831
PTM	218,95
6-10 GT	72,826
21-30 GT	33,488
11-20 GT	32,351
51-100 GT	4,087
100-200 GT	2,194
301-500 GT	1,638
200-300 GT	62
300-500 GT	3

Source: <https://portal.bkpa.go.id/>

### FISHING GEAR

Hook and Line Fishing Gear is the Most Widely Used in Indonesia

Used in Almost All Fishing Management Areas in Indonesia

The Second Most Widely Used Fishing Gear is The Trawl Gear, Followed by The Lift Net, Gillnet, Seine Net, Trap, Trawl and Others

Similar to Trawl in Indonesia Called JHC (Shrimp Trawl) and JHS (Fish Trawl), But More Selective Fishing Gear (JHC: WPPNRI 733 (Indura Sea), JHS: WPPNRI 311 (Andaman Sea, Malacca Strait) and WPPNRI 711 (Natuna Sea))

Source: Business Licensing Services for the Fish Capture and Transportation Subsector

### Fisheries Management

Indonesia's waterways provide business prospects in several fields, including industry, tourism, logistics, and marine living and non-living resources. To rehabilitate and restore of marine and coastal ecosystems, to increase fishery and maritime contribution to Indonesia's GDP, and to create decent jobs Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries implement the **blue economy approach** to promote sustainable fisheries resource management in Indonesia through 5 programs that are:

- Expanding Marine Coasts and Area up to 30% of Indonesian Water
- Quota Based Fisheries
- Development of Sustainable Aquaculture
- Protecting and Maintaining Coastal Areas and Small Island
- Cleaning up Marine Plastics Waste through the Fishermen's Participation

- Increasing the protection of important habitats for fish spawning, and
- Maintaining the ocean ability for absorbing CO2 and producing O2
- Maintaining the sustainability of fish resources, increasing regional economic growth, and
- Increasing the fisherman's welfare
- Reducing pressure on over the fish resource stocks, and
- Applying the protein needs of the society and commodity-based export markets
- Reducing negative impacts of human activities
- Preserving and maintaining the coastal ecosystems and small island quality
- Through the fisherman's participation program to keep the ocean clean so that the marine ecosystem becomes healthy

### POST-PRODUCTION FISHING LEVY

Implementation of Levy Collection of Fishery Resources in post-production for capital-license vessels

Starting to be implemented as of January 01, 2023 in accordance with the mandate of PP No. 65 of 2023 concerning Types & Tariffs on Types of Levy Applicable in MSMAI

**Objective:**

1. A form of government trust in businesses
2. Extraordinary incentives for ease of doing business because Levy is only collected after production
3. More accountable, fair and controlled governance
4. More complete and accurate data collection and more intensive surveillance
5. Improvement of overall fisheries governance (improved management of fishing ports, etc.)

**FROM**

**Pre-production billing:**

- Levy is paid before going to sea, at the time of license processing (SIP1)
- Levy is paid for the next year
- Regardless of the volume of production obtained, the Levy paid remains the same

**TO**

**Post-production billing:**

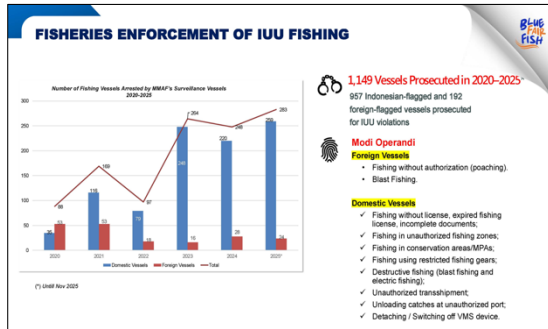
- SIP1 is not subject to Levy / free of charge
- Levy is charged on each volume of fish caught on each fishing trip after the vessel conducts fishing operations.

**Formula:**  
 $Tariff \text{ index} \times \text{value of fish production (production volume} \times \text{reference price of fish)}$   
 $\text{Range Gross Tonnage Tariff} \times \text{vessel productivity} \times \text{Fish Benchmark Price} \times \text{Gross Tonnage of vessel}$

### LEGAL BASIS FOR FISHERIES SURVEILLANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

1. Law No. 31 of 2004 (as amended by Law No. 45 of 2009)  
Fundamental fisheries law establishing sector framework and rights.
2. Law No. 6 of 2023  
Establishes conversion of Government Regulation in View of Law No. 2 of 2022 Law Criminal IDSD law.
3. Government Regulation No. 28 of 2025  
Implements risk-based business licensing with focus licensing toward risk profiles.
4. Government Regulation No. 27 of 2021  
Regulates implementation of marine affairs and fisheries across agencies.
5. Government Regulation No. 11 of 2023  
Defines measured fishing standards and related procedures.
6. Ministerial Regulation No. 47 of 2020  
Defines duties and procedures for fisheries supervision and enforcement.
7. Ministerial Regulation No. 8 of 2025  
Establishes management rules for supervisory vessels used in enforcement.
8. Ministerial Regulation No. 23 of 2021  
Sets operational standards and monitoring system requirements for fishing vessels.
9. Ministerial Regulation No. 31 of 2021 (amended by No. 26 of 2022)  
Specifies administrative sanctions in the marine sector and subsequent amendment details.
10. Ministerial Regulation No. 33 of 2022  
Covers log books for catch/through-vessel, vessel inspection, testing, marking, and crew management.
11. Ministerial Regulation No. 28 of 2023  
Provides implementing rules for Government Regulation No. 11 of 2023 on measured fishing.





### Di Balik Gelombang Pasang: Perjuangan Tanpa Henti Demi Laut Indonesia yang Lebih Sehat

#### Issue and Challenges

- Indonesia's vast maritime territory**  
6.4+ million km<sup>2</sup> makes comprehensive surveillance logistically complex and resource-intensive.
- Fleet & Personnel Gaps**  
Limited fleet and personnel compared to the number of vessels operating and the vast area to be monitored
- Complex Criminal Modes**  
IUU operations increasingly link to money laundering, human trafficking, and cross-border networks—requiring multi-domain responses.

### Recommendations — Modernize, Integrate, Empower.

- 1. Smart Community-Based Surveillance**  
Train and equip coastal communities (GEMAS/COMMAS/CCAs) with geotagged reporting apps and incentives for timely alerts and evidence collection. Legal protection and financial rewards for local fishing groups (POKWASMAS) who report IUU fishing.
- 2. Fleet & Technology Upgrade**  
Expand and modernize patrol fleets, deploy drones, AI analytics, and Big Data for predictive surveillance and faster interdiction.
- 3. Budget Reform**  
Advocate for a "Pay-as-You-Go" model for fleet and technology. This ensures investments are paid only when they are needed.
- 4. IUU Fishing Eradication Task Force**  
Cross-agency coordination is critical in a top-down approach to eradicate IUU fishing. Strengthen Law Enforcement Systems (LES) and integrate them with the existing coordination between the enforcement agencies.
- 5 Cross-Border Collaboration**  
Strengthen data of arrested suspects of illegal activity with neighboring countries (Southeast Asian Country).

### PORT STATE MEASURES AGREEMENT

This Agreement blocks vessels involved in IUU fishing from using ports or landing catch, reducing incentives for illegal activity and keeping IUU products out of domestic and international markets.

It also supports long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine resources and ecosystems.

Currently, 84 countries are party to this Agreement.

Entry into force on June 5, 2016

### PSM: OPERATIONAL PURPOSE

- PSMA applies Port State Measures to prevent IUU fishing
- Deny port entry/use and related services to vessels involved in IUU
- Strengthen inspection, verification, and follow-up actions
- Enable cooperation and information exchange with Flag States / FAO / relevant bodies
- Outcome focus: protect fisheries resources and market integrity

### INDONESIA PSMA: LEGAL BASIS

- Law Number 17 of 1985  
• Application of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- Law Number 45 of 2009/Law Number 11 of 2020  
• Law No. 11 of 2020 concerning Job Creation (Jo. No. 2 of 2022 Jo. No. 4 of 2023 concerning the Determination of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law No. 2 of 2022 concerning Job Creation (Determining Law)
- Law Number 21 of 2020  
• Constitutional Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.
- Presidential Regulation Number 43 of 2016  
• Confirmation Agreement On Port State Measures To Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing (Peraturan Presiden tentang Konfirmasi, Negosiasi, dan Pelaksanaan Kerja Sama Internasional dalam Menegakkan Penangkapan Ikan yang Tidak Dilaporkan, dan Tidak Diatur).
- Regulation of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Number 39/PERMEN/KP/2019  
• Implementation of Port State Provisions to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.
- Decree of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Number 40 of 2020  
• Ports where Port State Measures are implemented.

### 9 DESIGNATED PORTS FOR PSM

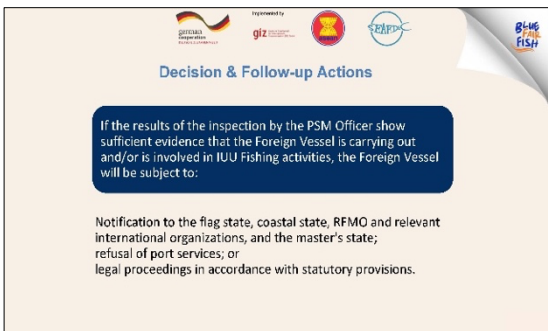
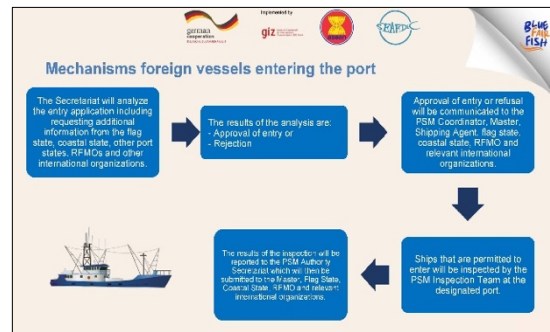
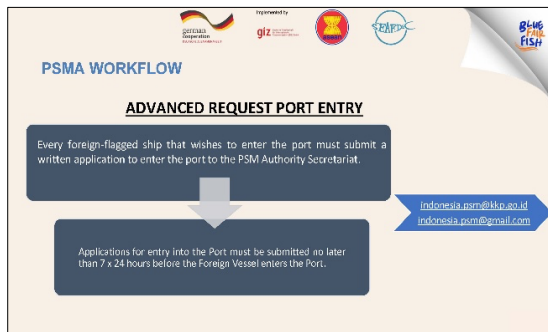
Global Information Exchange System Agreement for Port State Measures

Port name	City/Location/Region	Country	Status
Blorong Fishing Port	Blorong	Indonesia	Active
Bangka Fishing Port	Bangka	Indonesia	Active
Harau Fisheries Fishing Port	Harau	Indonesia	Active
Port of Belawan	Belawan	Indonesia	Active
Port of Bitung	Bitung	Indonesia	Active
Port of Makassar	Makassar	Indonesia	Active
Port of Kotabaru	Kotabaru	Indonesia	Active
Port of Pangkalpinang	Pangkalpinang	Indonesia	Active
Port of Sabang/Meulaboh	Sabang	Indonesia	Active

### JOINT PORT INSPECTIONS (FOREIGN-FLAGGED VESSELS)

in coordination with relevant agencies. Each agency follows its own SOP:

- MMAF:** Verifies vessels entering ports have not engaged in IUU fishing or related activities
- Customs:** Supervises cargo flows; inspects goods and documents for customs compliance
- Immigration:** Checks crew/passenger travel documents and visas; ensures immigration compliance
- Quarantine:** Prevents entry of quarantine pests/diseases and other epidemic risks; protects environmental health
- Port Health:** Issues health clearance (yellow flag), confirming no disease on board



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Current Situation to Implement Fisheries Activities in Lao PDR

By: Udone Khounsavanh, Nokham Chomvichit  
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Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Lao PDR

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24 – 26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

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### Current Situation of Fisheries

- Capture fisheries in Lao PDR are based on water resources ecosystems mainly consisting of rivers, streams irrigation reservoirs, diversion weirs, small water bodies, flood plains, wetland and other;
- Area of water resources for capture fisheries is more than 1.2 million ha.
- Fisheries in Lao are open access
- Small Scale Fishing gear for catch fish, such as: cash nets, gill net, hook line, lift net and other;
- Fisherman Catch fish for a living, Household consumption and Sell fish to the local market
- Traditional processing fish products (dry fish, smoke fish, fermented fish and ....)
- Not Commercial fishing and export products

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### Water resources ecosystems and fisheries

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### Issues and challenges

- Fishing in Lao PDR 'Open access' there is no fishing license and fisherman registration and boat license
- The dissemination of the Fisheries law is not yet widespread, budget for publicizing the law is limited
- Fisheries law not yet access to people and community Some where uses illegal equipment such as: poison, explosives, weapons, electrical devices, lights, and artificial sounds to hunt or capture aquatic animals and over fishing
- Development (building, houses, hotel, restaurant, plant
- Hydropower, mining, sand gravel, Agriculture ( use chemical)
- urbanization, Industry and Deforestation
- Lack of budget for data collection

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### Policy for implementation

- The state encourages and promotes aquatic animal and fishery activities by establishing policies, laws, mobilizing personnel, providing budgets, vehicles, equipment, technical techniques, and modern technology for such activities.
- In line with national policy guidelines, constitution, laws, strategies and socio-economic development plans;
- Regard conservation and breeding as the main tasks, prioritize the management of aquatic animals and the participation of the entire community;

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### Policy for implementation

- Determine principles, regulations and measures on the management and monitoring of aquatic animals and fisheries to make such work efficient and effective, aiming to ensure the management, protection, development and use of aquatic animals and fisheries to be of high quality, safe, produced as goods and ensure food security in a green and sustainable direction, able to link with the region and the international community to contribute to the socio-economic development of the nation.

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### Law and Regulation support to fisheries activities

- Law on Aquatic Animals and Fisheries (Amended) No. 41/NA, dated July 17, 2023;
- Decree on the movement, import, export, transit of animals, aquatic animals, animal products and aquatic animals No. 644/LP, dated November 25, 2024;
- Prime Minister's Decree on the Approval and Promulgation of the National Policy on the Promotion of Livestock and Aquatic Animals of the Lao PDR, No. 196/PM, dated July 6, 2022;
- Agreement of minister on Fish Conservation zone No 766/KS, dated August 22, 2025;

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### Recommendation and support national level

- With the strong and determined engagement of the Government of Lao PDR in efforts to combat IUU fishing and promote sustainable fisheries development
- Enhance Advertisement, dissemination and enforce the fisheries law and regulation relate with fisheries activities
- Establish a coordination point with relevant parties to report on the implementation of fisheries activities relate with laws and regulations.
- Lesson learn, exchange knowledge and experience from ASEAN member state and other country

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia  
24-26 February 2026, Bangkok Thailand

**MALAYSIA**

Mr. Zainudin bin Abd Wahab  
Mr. Mohamad Nur Hakim bin Abdulah

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing  
In Southeast Asia, 24-26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia  
24-26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

**Introduction**

**Malaysia**

Malaysia is a country in Southeast Asia.  
A federal constitutional monarchy, it consists of 13 states and three federal territories, separated by the South China Sea into two regions: Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia.  
Peninsular Malaysia shares land and maritime borders with Thailand, as well as maritime borders with Singapore, Vietnam, and Indonesia; East Malaysia shares land borders with Brunei and Indonesia, and a maritime border with the Philippines and Vietnam.

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**Implementation of MCS**

**Monitoring**  
The continuous requirement for the measurement of fishing effort, experience and resource yields.  
The collection, measurement and analysis of fishing activity including, but not limited to, catch, species composition, fishing effort, by-catch, discards, areas of operations, etc.

**Control**  
The regulatory conditions under which the exploitation of the resource may be conducted.  
The specification of the terms and conditions under which resources can be harvested that normally related to national fisheries legislation and other arrangements.

**Surveillance**  
The degree and types of observations required to ensure compliance with the regulatory controls imposed on fishing activities.  
The identification of the terms and conditions under which resources can be harvested that normally stated in national fisheries legislation and other arrangements.

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**Implementation of FSM**

**Vessel Inspection by Agencies**

**Type of Activities by Foreign Fishing Vessel**

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**Law and Regulation to support MCS**

**2020-2025 Amendment Progress**

1. Curtailing P.U. Fishing
2. Penalties to fishing activities
3. Guarantee the sustainability of higher resources
4. Supporting interventions to the people & making local facility

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**Law and Regulation to support MCS**

**NATIONAL AGROFOOD POLICY 2021-2030 (NAP 2.0)**

**RELAN STRATEGIK RABATAN PERKHIDMATAN MALAYSIA 2021-2030**

**DAFTAR KETERAMINAN NEGARA 2030**

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**Law and Regulation to support MCS**

**PELAN TINDAKAN KEBAHASAAN**

**MALAYSIA'S NATIONAL PLAN OF CONTROL & INSPECTION 2022 - 2026**

**Prosedur Operasi Standard (SOP)**

**Standard Operating Procedure on Implementation of the Port State Measures (SOP of the PSM)**

National Document : Various Agency, Communication, Coordination and Collaboration

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**Recommendation and support needed**

- Official requirement of the Department/Agency's IUU focal point
- Exchange methodology to estimate to estimate fisheries resource issues caused by IUU fishing activities
- Sharing of VMS data analysis with enforcement agencies for the detection of fishing zone encroachments
- Collaborating in the enforcement activities against foreign vessels in Malaysian fisheries waters
- Prevent the entry of fish products originating from IUU fishing activities through national entry points

Current Implementation on Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance of Combating IUU Fishing in Myanmar

Min Min Soe, Deputy Director  
Myat Khine Mar, Deputy Director

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24–26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

### Content

- Overview of Myanmar Fisheries
- National Fisheries Management Framework
- Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS
- Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation of PSM
- Law and regulations to support the implementation of MCS activities
- Challenges and Future Plans
- Conclusion

### Overview of Myanmar Fisheries

- Myanmar has a coastline of about 2,832 km along the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea.
- The fisheries sector plays a vital role in food security, employment, and export earnings.
- Marine fisheries are mainly conducted by small-scale and offshore vessels.
- Foreign fishing vessels are not entered to operate in Myanmar waters without permission.

### Types of Marine Fisheries in Myanmar

**A. In-shore Fisheries**

- 10 nautical mile from shore
- Not more 50 HP engine & 40 feet length of the boat.

**B. Off-shore Fisheries**

- Outer area of inshore to end of EEZ
- More than 50 HP engine & 40 feet length
- Bottom trawl, Purse seine, Surrounding net, Drift net, Squid net, Trap & Long line.

### National Fisheries Management Framework

- Department of Fisheries (DoF) is the main authority for fisheries management.
- Key laws: Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law (1990) and its amendments.
- Fishing activities are regulated through licensing, data collection, and enforcement.
- Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) carried out by central and regional offices.

### Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS in Myanmar

### MCS Network in Myanmar

Concerned Departments/Organizations as follows -

- Myanmar Maritime Police Force
- Myanmar Port Authority
- Custom Department
- Department of Immigration
- Department of Trade
- Department of General Administration
- Department of Marine Administration

### Monitoring and Inspection Measures

- Regular inspections of vessels at sea and at landing sites.
- Port inspections focus on catch documentation, logbooks, and fishing gear checks.
- MCS relies on cooperation between DoF, Navy, and enforcement agencies.
- Aim: Prevent IUU fishing and ensure compliance with national laws.

### MCS Measure for local vessel

All vessel owner (Fishing or carrier)

- shall have the vessel registration issued by Department of Marine Administration (DMA).
- shall have the licence
- shall appoint on board his vessel only those fishermen who are registered in the Department.
- shall operate in the permitted fishing ground fishing day
- shall comply with the regulations and directives prescribed by the Department.
- shall install the vessel monitoring system-VMS



### MCS Measure for foreign vessel

For all fishing vessel, the company -

- shall apply prior permission of DoF to enter Myanmar Marine waters.
- shall use the vessel route which is permitted by DoF in prior permission.
- shall operate in the permitted fishing ground.
- shall be inspected in designated check points and shall land in designated landing site in Myanmar.
- shall install the vessel monitoring system-VMS



### Prohibition of fishing gear

➢ Under "Law Relating To The Fishing Rights Of Foreign Fishing Vessels", "Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law" and related regulations, fishing gear that is destructive to the environment and the fisheries resources are banned.

- These gears includes pair trawl fishing, electric fishing, fishing using poisons, chemicals, explosives, Purse seine net less than 3.5 inch mesh size, for trawl net cod-end mesh size less than 2 inches.



### Issues & Challenges

- Weakness of multilateral cooperation for information sharing to address the IUU fishing
- Insufficient scientific data collection and research for marine capture fisheries to improve MCS for sustainable fisheries management
- Insufficient HRD for effective reporting and research for development of MCS.



### MCS for IUU Fishing Activities in 2025



54 Tiger Raff Net were burned at the sea

### MCS for IUU Fishing Activities in 2026



- Illegal trawlers that have caused significant damage to the marine ecosystem will be burned and destroyed in 2026.
- Currently, a total of (51) trawlers were burned and destroyed

The list of Illegal Fishing Vessel		
No.	Location	Vessels
1	Kaungtraung	24
2	Myaik	1
3	Boatpyin	26
Total		51

### Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation of PSMA in Myanmar



### Port State Measures (PSMA) Implementation


- Myanmar participates FAO GIES (Global Information Exchange System) for the implementation of FAO Port State Measure Agreement (2009).
- Designated ports currently handle domestic vessel landings only.
- Foreign fishing vessels are not allowed to enter Myanmar ports without permission.
- Ongoing efforts to build capacity for PSMA compliance and regional cooperation.

### Constraints

- ❖ More commitments on International and regional agreement for each department /organization

Needs of -

- ❖ Human resource and capacity development
- ❖ Legal frame work
- ❖ Action plan
- ❖ Coordination among the concerned agencies
- ❖ Procedures for permission



### Law and regulations to support the implementation of MCS activities



### National Fisheries and Port Laws

- Marine Fisheries Law (1990): licensing, fishing zones, enforcement.
- Freshwater Fisheries Law (1991): inland fisheries management.
- Port entry and inspections follow national administrative procedures.
- DoF reviews and updates these laws to meet international standards.

### Suggested recommendation and support needed at national and regional level

### Regional Cooperation Efforts

- Myanmar engages in ASEAN and SEAFDEC regional fisheries programs.
- Workshops and training promote exchange of experiences and information.
- Cooperation with Thailand focuses on IUU prevention and traceability.
- Myanmar supports regional data sharing on vessel monitoring and port controls.

### Suggested Recommendation

- To improve cooperation among relevant agency such as NGOs, local and international Organization.
- To develop the efficient MCS system is essential for effective controlling of fishing capacity and IUU fishing.
- Need training and capacity building for the use and application of regulatory measures to support MCS.

### Challenges and Future Plans

- Human and technical capacity remain limited for observers and port inspections.
- Strengthening data collection, verification, and e-reporting systems.
- Capacity building ongoing with ASEAN and international partners.
- Plans to develop a national observer framework and expand PSMA inspections.

### Conclusion

- Myanmar is committed to sustainable fisheries management and combating IUU fishing.
- Regional cooperation is key to transparency and compliance.
- Myanmar looks forward to continued ASEAN collaboration with the encouragement of GIZ and best practice sharing especially with SEAFDEC and technical assist from FAO.



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Bangkok, Thailand  
24–26 February 2026

Annex 10

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for  
Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia

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**Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Implementation in the Philippines**

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Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24–26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

**Fisheries Profile**

**OVERVIEW & ECONOMY**  
Number of Fisherfolk as of 2023: 2,299,127 (Total) / 4,560 (Commercial)

**GROSS VALUE ADDED (GVA)**  
Philp 2.29 Trillion  
Agriculture Crops: 12.0%  
Livestock Industry: 12.0%  
Fisheries & Aquaculture: 12.0%

**FISHING FLEET & VESSELS**  
Total Fishing vessels of December 2023: 4,560 (Commercial) / 407,215 (Municipal)

**FISHERFOLK STATISTICS**  
Average monthly family income of Fisherfolk: PHP 15,617.50 (~12% of GDP Fishing Contribute (2023))

**TOP COMMERCIAL FISH SPECIES**  
1. Skipjack Tuna (179,000)  
2. Yellowfin Tuna (118,000)  
3. Tilapia (107,000)  
4. Round scad (93,000)  
5. Sardines (92,000)

**Fisheries Management Areas**

**Establishment & Goal:**  
To address over-fishing and habitat destruction, the FMA approach moved management from an strictly political boundary to an ecological one (stock distribution, oceanography).

**Structure & Participation:**  
Each FMA is governed by a management board comprising stakeholders, including fishers, traders, and local government, focusing on science-based data for decision-making.

**Sub-sectors Managed:**  
Covers municipal (within 15 km of the coast) and commercial fisheries (beyond 15 km) to curb illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

**NATIONAL MCS FRAMEWORK**

NATIONAL MCS SYSTEM – PHILIPPINES

FISHING GROUND: MONITORING (Detection), CONTROL (Regulation), SURVEILLANCE (Verification), ENFORCEMENT (Apprehension), ADJUDICATION (Sanctions)

LANDING AREA

MARKET

**Monitoring**

NSAP: National Stock Assessment Program

VMS: Vessel Monitoring System

FISHERIES OBSERVERS PROGRAM

FISHERY MANAGEMENT AREA 05

Gathering data to support better management of across 12 fishery management areas

**Monitoring**

Philippine IUU Fishing Index and Threat Assessment Tool (I-FIT)

Illegal Fishing Volume, Value, and Activities

IUU Fishing Index and Threat (I-FIT) Assessment Tool

**Control**

ENSURING COMPLIANCE IN FISHERIES

REGULATIONS & PERMITS: Fishing Licenses, Catch Limits, Seasons & Zones

AT SEA – VESSEL INSPECTIONS: Gear & Catch Monitoring

PORT CONTROL: Catch Documentation, Unloading & Reporting, Inspection & Verification

COMPLIANCE CHECKS: Record Keeping, Legal Fishing Practices, Allowed Species, Catch Limits, Fishing Zones

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS: Violations, Fines • Penalties, Vessel Sanctions

MONITORING & SUPERVISION: VMS • Surveillance • Inspections

DATA & REPORTING: BPAR, Compliance Database

MARKET CONTROL: Traceability • Legal Supply Chain

SUSTAINABLE & LEGAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

**CURRENT PSM IMPLEMENTATION IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Four (4) designated PSM ports: Nasarwan Fish Port Complex, Subic Bay Fish Port Complex, Davao City Fish Port Complex, General Santos City Fish Port Complex

147,060 MT (Total from 2019 to 2023)

TOP FLAGS: 51, 28, 11

TOP VESSEL TYPES: 120, 39, 11, 11

TOP MONTHS FOR ARRIVALS: 12, 2, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12

PSM Implementation Status: Fishport Complex, General Santos City



### LAW AND REGULATIONS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MCS ACTIVITIES

**RISK PHASES AT SEASIDE ASSESSMENTS AFTER 2015**

**LEGAL FRAMEWORK SUPPORTING MCS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

- INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS
  - UNCLOS
  - FAO Convention
  - WTO
- NATIONAL LEGISLATION
  - RA 8550 - Fisheries Code
  - RA 10651 - Fisheries Modernization Act
  - RA 10652 - Fisheries Resources Management Act
- IMPLEMENTING RULES & REGULATIONS
  - Department Order
  - Administrative Order
  - Administrative Circular
- ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS
  - Administrative Order
  - Administrative Circular

### Recommendations

**National Level Priority Actions (Next 3 Years)**

- Expand VMS coverage and compliance enforcement
- Integrate MCS databases into a unified platform
- Institutionalize digital case management
- Strengthen Port State inspection capacity
- Standardize national enforcement SOPs
- Enhance analytics-driven patrol deployment

### RECOMMENDATIONS

**REGIONAL SUPPORT NEEDED**

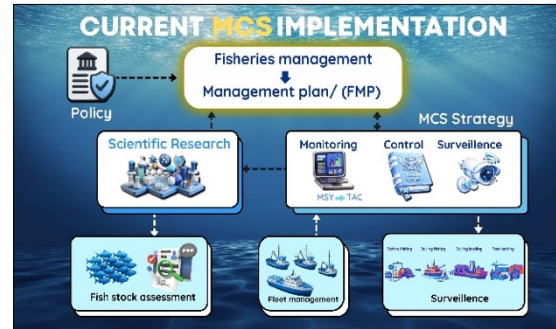
- Regional IUU Vessel Risk Database
- Harmonized Boarding & Inspection Checklist
- Joint Maritime Enforcement Exercises
- Regional Digital Traceability Interoperability
- Capacity-Building on Licensing & Traceability

### END OF PRESENTATION.

*"The Philippines recognizes that IUU fishing is transboundary in nature. No single country can effectively combat IUU fishing alone. Regional transparency, data sharing, and operational coordination are no longer optional — they are strategic necessities."*

### CONTACT US

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**MARINE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN : FMP**

Thailand's Marine Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) serves as the policy and strategic framework guiding the implementation of MCS.

- Implementation of MCS measures under the FMP
- Application across fishing activities and related operations
- Risk-based inspection and enforcement approach
- Information sharing and operational coordination among competent authorities, supported by FMC

**MONITORING DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS**

- Fisheries resources status**
  - Collection of catch data by species and fishing area
  - Monitoring of stock status and reference points, including MSY
  - Analysis of species composition and size structure
  - Assessment of trends in key commercial species
- Fishing activity and effort**
  - Monitoring of fishing effort, including fishing days and gear types
  - Tracking of fishing locations and operational patterns
  - Analysis of fishing behaviour to identify irregular or high-risk activities
  - Cross-checking reported fishing activities with other information sources
- Environmental conditions**
  - Collection of environmental data relevant to fisheries management
  - Monitoring of habitat conditions and ecosystem indicators
  - Analysis of environmental variability affecting fishing patterns
  - Integration of environmental information into sustainable fisheries planning

Technology: VMS, ERS, EM, e-logbook, Fishing Info

**CONTROL REGULATORY AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

Fishing Effort Management	Regulatory Measures on Fishing Operations	Catch Control Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control on fishing capacity</li> <li>Limitation of fishing licenses and vessel registration</li> <li>Control of fishing days and operational periods</li> <li>Regulation on type, size, and amount of fishing gear</li> <li>Measures to prevent overcapacity in specific fisheries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mesh size limitation</li> <li>Seasonal area closure</li> <li>Ban of destructive gears</li> <li>Fishing zone demarcation</li> <li>Marine protected areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control on catch</li> <li>Catch limits and management thresholds for selected fisheries</li> <li>Monitoring and control of catch composition and size</li> <li>Measures to prevent illegal landing and misreporting</li> </ul>

Technology: e-PIPO, Risk-based assessment

**SURVEILLANCE COMPLIANCE VERIFICATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

- Verification of compliance with fisheries laws and management measures
- Risk-based inspection and monitoring at port and at sea
- Detection, deterrence, and enforcement actions and sanctions under national law
- Information sharing and coordination on IUU and suspected vessels through integrated platforms

Technology: VMS, EM, PSMART, Onboard observer, e-PIPO, AN-IUU Interactive Platform

**CHALLENGES IN MCS IMPLEMENTATION**

- Integration and consistency of fisheries-related data across multiple systems
- Complexity of fishing operations, including distant-water activities
- Capacity and resource constraints for monitoring and enforcement
- Ensuring effective compliance across the fisheries value chain

**CURRENT PSM IMPLEMENTATION**

**Law & Regulation**

- Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA)
- Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E.2558 (2015)
- Royal Ordinance on Fisheries(No.2) B.E.2560 (2017) - section 94-95

Before port entry	Vessel inspection at port	Offloading control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AREP and required document</li> <li>Designated Ports</li> <li>AIS Analysis (Pre-arrival risk assessment)</li> <li>Issues Notification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspects vessels following risk assessments</li> <li>Checks original documents, equipment and catches on board</li> <li>Checks external identification</li> <li>Issues Port Inspection Report (PIR)</li> <li>Reports PIR to Flag States via PPS, CIES</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Checks hatches</li> <li>Record weight, species and fishing vessel information</li> <li>Monitor sizing at the Processing plant</li> <li>Issues Imported Aquatic Animal Movement Document (IAMD)</li> </ul>

## CHALLENGES IN PSM IMPLEMENTATION

1. Verification of documentation and catch information from foreign vessels
2. Timely information exchange with flag States and regional partners
3. Managing port inspection workload with risk-based prioritization
4. Harmonizing procedures across ports and agencies

## LEGAL FRAMEWORK SUPPORTING MCS

National fisheries law and subsidiary regulations

- Legal authority for licensing, inspection and enforcement
- Implementation of international instruments, including UNCLOS, PSMA and relevant international obligations
- Clear mandate and coordination mechanisms among competent authorities

## WAY FORWARD AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

- Strengthening data integration and analytical capacity at national level
- Enhancing risk-based MCS and PSM implementation
- Continuous capacity building and institutional coordination
- Enhancing regional cooperation through information-sharing

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24 – 26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

## THANK YOU

“FISHERIES CONNECT FOR SUSTAINABILITY”

ขอบคุณครับ/ค่ะ

**Mr. Tomas G. R. de Sousa**

**National Directorate of Fisheries Inspection**  
**Directorate General of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Management**  
**Secretary Estate of Fisheries**  
**Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry**  
**Tuesday, 24 February 2026**

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24–26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

**Timor-Leste Fisheries**

- a. 99.5% categorized as small-scale fisheries
- b. Wood / canoe boats & outboard engines as majority
- c. Length of vessel less than 12 meters
- d. Fishers: 6,244
- e. Fisher groups: 1,063
- f. Fishing centers: 160
- g. Fishing gears: gillnet, hook and line, spear and gun and FAD's
- h. Landing Species are: Sardine, Short Bodied Mackerel, Hatter, Tuna, Garfish, Trevally, Groupers, Rock Cod, Spanish Mackerel, Flying Fish, Snapper and Long Tom.

**Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation of MCS:**

- ❖ Boat Marking for all fishing boats
- ❖ Inspection for fisheries products and fishing boats
- ❖ Digitalize the data obtained from fishing vessel and fisheries product inspection
- ❖ Conducting Public Information Campaign for 3 near-border municipalities such as Atauro, Oecusse and Covalima.

- ❖ Using open sources to identify the presence of foreign fishing vessels (Global Fishing Watch, Skylight, etc)
- ❖ Send officials to work in the National Maritime Authority
- ❖ Continue the capacity building for the officials

**Current Situation, issues and challenges in the implementation of PSM:**

In April 2023, Timor-Leste ratified the PSMA, therefore we are still not implementing yet.  
Timor-Leste still lack of facilities such as fishing port.

**Law and regulations to support the implementation of MCS activities:**

- ❖ Government Decree Law no.6/2004, 21 April on General Basis of Legal Regime for the Management and Regulation of Fisheries and Aquaculture
- ❖ Government Decree Law No. 21/2008 of 25 June on the Implementation of Satellite System for Monitoring Fishing Vessels
- ❖ Government Decree no.5/2004 of 28 June, General Regulation on Fishing
- ❖ Government Decree no.2/2005 of 6 July, Tariffs for Fishing License
- ❖ Diploma Ministerial no.01/03/GM/II/ 2005 on Fishing zones

- ❖ Diploma Ministerial no.02/04/GM/II/ 2005 on Main Fisheries
- ❖ Diploma Ministerial no.03/05/GM/II/ 2005 on By-Catch Tolerated Percentages
- ❖ Diploma Ministerial no.04/115/GM/IV/ 2005 on List of Aquatic Protected Species
- ❖ Diploma Ministerial no.05/116/GM/IV/ 2005 on Minimum Sizes and Weights of Species to Capture
- ❖ Diploma Ministerial no.06/42/GM/II/ 2005 on Fines for Fishing Offences
- ❖ PSMA Instrument
- ❖ Penal Code
- ❖ Constitution of RDTL
- ❖ Customary law

**National Cooperation**

- National Maritime Authority
- National Directorate of Maritime Transportation
- Maritime Police Unit
- Navy
- Quarantine and Biosecurity Unit
- Land and Maritime Boundary Office
- Customs Authority
- Port Authority
- Local Authority

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**Regional and International Cooperation**

- RPOA-IUU Regional Plan of Action for Combating the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, consists of 11 countries
- MCS Sub-Regional Arrangements and Timor Seas, consists of 4 countries
- AN-III ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing
- Member of PSMA



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**Suggested recommendation and support needed at national and regional level:**

1. Continue the commitment of information sharing and transparency
2. Seeking support from the international / regional organizations for capacity building
3. Continue learning from other countries, lessons learnt

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**Thank You  
Obrigado**



### Viet Nam Fisheries in 2025: SETTING NEW RECORDS

- 1 Record-Breaking Achievements**
  - Export value: Reached **USD 11,3 billion** (Up 12.2% compared to 2024 – the highest level in the history of the sector)
  - Total production: Reached **995 million tons** (Up 3.0%, exceeding the annual target by 2%)
- 2 Value addition:**
  - Efficiently leveraging preferential tariffs from 16 Free Trade Agreements (including EVFTA, CPTPP, RCEP, etc.)
- 3 Structural Transformation: "Less Capture – More Aquaculture"**
  - Aquaculture production reached **6.11 million tons** (up 5.1%) – serving as the main pillar, accounting for nearly 61% of total fisheries production.
- 4 Capture fisheries: Maintained at 3.83 million tons**
  - Following a roadmap to reduce fishing effort in order to protect marine resources and biodiversity.
- 5 Momentum from Strategic Markets**
  - China & Hong Kong: Strong breakthrough with 74% growth, becoming the largest export market.
  - United States: Sustained impressive recovery with 14.8% growth.
- 6 Breakthroughs in Governance and Technology**
  - Fleet digitalization: 100% of fishing vessels of 15 meters and above have installed Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS).
  - Transparency and data integrity: 100% of fishing vessels registered in the national VMS database, officially eliminating "three not" violations.

A new milestone for Viet Nam's fisheries sector in 2025!

### Strengthening MCS Implementation: Addressing VMS Disconnection and Enforcement Challenges (Experience sharing from Viet Nam)

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24–26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

### Objectives

- To share Viet Nam's practical experience in addressing VMS disconnection.
- To highlight challenges in handling and sanctioning related violations.
- To identify lessons learned that may be relevant for ASEAN Member States.
- To encourage regional discussion and cooperation on MCS implementation.

### Background: MCS in Viet Nam

Vietnam's fisheries sector is undergoing a strategic transformation, driven by a urgent need to combat IUU fishing and ensure sustainable fisheries. This effort is supported by the highest level of political commitment, concentrated on breakthroughs in fleet management, surveillance, and traceability.

### VMS Implementation Progress

- Viet Nam has implemented a nationwide MCS system as a core measure to combat IUU fishing.
- VMS is a mandatory requirement for fishing vessels of 15 meters length and above.
- MCS implementation is supported by legal reforms, institutional coordination, and digitalized monitoring systems.

### MCS Implementation progress & key statistics

- Mandatory VMS for all fishing vessels >15 meters
- 27,782 vessels (99.46%) operating VMS in compliance (end 2025)
- Centralized VMS monitoring supports enforcement actions
- Fishing Ports and Catch Landing Control
  - 86 fishing ports officially announced and operational
  - eCDT implemented at 164 ports and landing sites
  - Catch landing declaration and verification are implemented in accordance with Circular No. 81/2023/TT-BNNPT

### Key challenges: VMS disconnection

- A limited number of vessels experience VMS signal loss or interruption during fishing trips remains the primary indicator of potential IUU activity.
- Difficulties in enforcement: Distinguishing between technical errors (satellite blind spots) and intentional interference is difficult, leading to delays in penalties. Therefore, the rate of penalties at the local/provincial level remains lower than the number of detected violations due to the burden of evidence.

### Main Causes of VMS disconnection

- Technical issues related to onboard VMS equipment
- Satellite signal limitations in distant fishing areas
- Operational capacity of fishers in equipment use and maintenance
- Practical difficulty in distinguishing technical failure from intentional disconnection

### VMS Disconnection: Scope and Trends

- VMS disconnection cases account for a small proportion of monitored vessels
- Year-on-year reduction of over 80% in VMS disconnection cases
- Most cases are temporary or technical in nature
- A limited number of cases show recurrent or intentional patterns

### Handling Measures for VMS Disconnection Cases

- Short-term or first-time disconnection:  
→ Warning, technical support, corrective actions
- Repeated disconnection cases:  
→ Enhanced monitoring, administrative handling
- Suspected intentional interference:  
→ Investigation, evidence collection, sanctions under Decree No. 38/2024/ND-CP
- Serious violations:  
→ License suspension; criminal handling in accordance with national law.

### Enforcement and Sanctioning

- VMS Disconnection Sanctions
  - Continuous VMS operation is mandatory for vessels ≥15m.
  - VMS disconnection or interference is subject to administrative sanctions.
  - Sanctions include fines, license suspension and corrective measures; certain violations may be subject to criminal prosecution, including imprisonment.
  - Enforcement is based on verification and evidence assessment

**1. REGULATORY BASIS (THE DISCONNECTION)**

FISHERIES LAW 2017  
Updated legal framework for aquatic resources

DECREE 38/2024/ND-CP  
Updated enforcement of the penalties & criminal monitoring

### Legal & Institutional Coordination

- Integrated Management
  - Local management by coastal provinces
  - Port-based monitoring and inspection
  - VMS-based surveillance at sea
  - Offshore patrol by Fisheries Surveillance and coast guard forces
  - Seamless inter-agency cooperation

**2 INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT (SEAMLESS COOPERATION)**

21 COASTAL PROVINCES  
Local ports & inspection

PORT AUTHORITIES  
Vessel monitoring & control

FISHERIES SURVEILLANCE  
Offshore VMS Monitoring

VIET NAM FISHERIES RESOURCES SURVEILLANCE (VRS)  
Offshore patrol & fisheries enforcement

### Handling Challenges

- VMS disconnection cases are subject to verification before any sanctioning decision
- Legal procedures require sufficient and reliable evidence to determine violations
- Verification focuses on distinguishing technical failures from intentional interference
- Administrative handling involves coordination among multiple competent authorities
- Some cases remain under verification until adequate evidence is established

**Handling VMS-Related Violations**  
Verification → Evidence → Coordination → Decision

### Lessons Learned from Viet Nam

**KEY LESSONS FROM IMPLEMENTATION**

- TECHNOLOGY ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT  
For effective MCS, technology must be integrated with other elements.
- LEGAL CLARITY IS ESSENTIAL  
To support enforcement actions and define clear regulations.
- PREVENTIVE MEASURES & EARLY INTERVENTION  
Are more effective than reactive measures.
- CAPACITY BUILDING IS IMPORTANT  
For both authorities and fishers to ensure compliance

### Areas for Further Improvement

**Ongoing Efforts and Needs**

- Improving reliability and standards of VMS equipment
- Clarifying legal treatment of VMS disconnection cases
- Enhancing data integration between VMS and other MCS tools
- Strengthening cooperation and experience sharing at the regional level

### Suggested Recommendations and Support Needed

**Regional (ASEAN) Level**

- Promote experience sharing and good practices on handling VMS disconnection cases.
- Work toward more comparable VMS monitoring standards across ASEAN.
- Enhance information exchange and cooperation for offshore and transboundary fishing activities.
- Strengthen collaboration with regional and international partners in MCS capacity building.

**Towards More Effective, Consistent, and Cooperative MCS Implementation in the Region**

EFFECTIVE  
CONSISTENT  
COOPERATIVE



### ASEAN MCS IMPLEMENTATION COMMON ISSUES & CHALLENGES

- Regional Workshop on MCS for Combating IUU Fishing
- Bangkok, Thailand | February 2026
- Based on inputs from ASEAN Member States
- Focus: Strengthening, Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)

PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

COMBATING ILLEGAL FISHING IN THE ASEAN

### ASEAN MCS IMPLEMENTATION COMMON ISSUES & CHALLENGES (OVERALL SITUATION)

- MCS frameworks are established across ASEAN
- Implementation remains uneven and fragmented
- Strong policies but limited operational effectiveness
- Key gap: Policy design vs implementation capacity

PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

COMBATING ILLEGAL FISHING IN THE ASEAN

### 1.1 NATIONAL CHALLENGES: CAPACITY & RESOURCES

- Limited surveillance coverage (EEZ gaps)
- Insufficient patrol assets and monitoring systems
- Human resource constraints (inspectors, analysts)
- Budget limitations for operations and technology

- Limited patrol vessels & fuel
- Large EEZ, low patrol frequency

PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

COMBATING ILLEGAL FISHING IN THE ASEAN

### 1.2 NATIONAL CHALLENGES: GOVERNANCE & COMPLIANCE

- Weak inter-agency coordination
- Incomplete legal enforcement
- Low compliance at local level
- Gaps in vessel registration and traceability

PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

COMBATING ILLEGAL FISHING IN THE ASEAN

### 1.3 NATIONAL CHALLENGES: TECHNOLOGY & ENFORCEMENT

- Partial adoption of VMS, AIS, e-logbooks
- Weak system integration
- Challenges in enforcement and sanctions
- High prevalence of small-scale fisheries

- Incomplete VMS / AIS coverage
- Systems not integrated

PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

COMBATING ILLEGAL FISHING IN THE ASEAN

### 2.1 REGIONAL CHALLENGES

- Limited real-time data sharing
- Inconsistent MCS standards across countries
- Transboundary nature of IUU fishing
- Uneven capacity among ASEAN Member States
- Cooperation remains ad hoc

PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

COMBATING ILLEGAL FISHING IN THE ASEAN

### 2.2 REGIONAL GAPS OVERVIEW

CAPACITY	GOVERNANCE	RESOURCES
TECHNOLOGY	DATA SHARING	REGIONAL COOPERATION

### 3. COMPARATIVE MATRIX (SUMMARY)

Country Group	Key Challenges	Needs	Priority Support
Advanced (TH, ID, VN)	Tech integration, enforcement	Advanced analytics	Digital integration
Mid-level (MY, PH)	Coordination, traceability	System upgrade	Capacity building
Emerging (CA, MM, BU)	Legal, coordination gaps	Institutional strengthening	Technical assistance
Small-scale (LAO, TL)	No systems, low capacity	Basic MCS systems	Foundational support
All AMS	Data sharing gaps	Regional platform	ASEAN coordination

PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

- ### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS: NATIONAL LEVEL
- Strengthen human and institutional capacity for MCS
  - Enhance surveillance systems
  - Accelerate digitalization (VMS, AIS, e-logbooks)
  - Strengthen legal enforcement and compliance systems
  - Improve traceability (registration, licensing, catch documentation)
  - Enhance inter-agency coordination mechanisms
  - Engage small-scale fisheries through community-based approaches
  - Increase sustainable financing for MCS
- PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT

- ### 5. RECOMMENDATIONS: REGIONAL LEVEL
- Develop ASEAN-wide MCS information sharing platform
    - Focal point / one-system for ASEAN -> concern on data-sharing
  - Harmonize MCS standards, SOPs, and procedures
  - Strengthen joint patrols and cross-border cooperation
  - Establish regional capacity building programmes
  - Promote technology sharing and innovation
  - Strengthen regional governance and trust
  - Support implementation of international instruments (e.g. PSMA)
- PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT



**Regional Approaches to Enhance MCS for Combating IUU Fishing and Prioritize Nine Priority Areas for Future Action to Combat IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia**

By  
**SEAFDEC Training Department**

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24–26 February 2026, Bangkok, Thailand

**What is SEAFDEC**

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) is an autonomous inter-governmental body established as a regional treaty organization established on 28 December 1967.

**Vision**  
*'Sustainable management and development of fisheries and aquaculture to contribute to food security, poverty alleviation, and livelihood of people in the Southeast Asian region'*

**Members**  
SEAFDEC currently comprises 11 Member Countries, namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

More information: [www.seafdec.org](http://www.seafdec.org)



**The Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2030**

**SEAFDEC policy framework and priority actions to combat IUU Fishing**

**RES 8.**  
Strengthen cooperation among AMSs and with international and regional organizations in combating IUU fishing and management of fishing capacity to balance available resources

**POA 28.**  
Strengthen the implementation of measures and activities to combat IUU fishing by ensuring compliance with national laws and regulations, and with the provisions of relevant international instruments; encourage the development and implementation of national plans of action to combat IUU fishing; promote inter-agency coordination for effective implementation of laws and regulations; and enhance awareness and understanding of applicable international and regional instruments and agreements through information dissemination campaigns

**Key Aspects of Programs and Activities by SEAFDEC for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia**

**3 Key Aspects of Programs and Activities by SEAFDEC for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia**

- 1. Strengthening Coordination and Cooperation among AMSs and Other Agencies**
- 2. Increase Capacity and Awareness on MCS to Combat IUU Fishing**
- 3. Support Implementation of Effective MCS Measures**

**1. Strengthening Coordination and Cooperation among AMSs and Other Agencies**

Establishment of technical collaborative platforms for information sharing among AMSs

**Regional Fishing Vessels Record (RFVR)**

**Status of the Development of RFVR Database**

- Basic information required for supporting the fishing vessel inspection to reduce IUU fishing vessels
- Enhancing transparency and traceability in supporting inspection in relation to PSM activities
- Information in the RFVR database is available for the vessel 24 meters in length and over
- There were 28 Key Data Elements (KDEs)
- The AMSs can update information in RFVR Database by themselves since 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021
- Expansion information in the RFVR database to less than 24 meters in length

**28 KDEs IN THE RFVR DATABASE**

Name of Vessel	Vessel Registration Number	Owner Name
Type of Fishing Method/Gear	Fishing License Number	Expiration Date of Fishing Licenses
Port of Registry	Gross Tonnage	Length
Breadth	Depth	Engine Power
Shipyard/ Ship Builder	Date of Launching/ Year of Built	International Radio Call Sign
Engine Brand	Serial Number of Engine	Hull Material
Date of Registration	Area of Fishing Operation	Nationality of Vessel
Previous Name	Previous Flag	Name of Captain
Nationality of Captain	Number of Crew	Nationality of Crew
IMO Number		



### 1. Strengthening Coordination and Cooperation among AMSs and Other Agencies (cont.)

Providing regional instruments for developing a common approach to combating IUU fishing in the region such as

- ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of IUU Fish and Fishery Product into the Supply Chain
- Regional Guidelines in Traceability System for Aquaculture Products in the ASEAN Region
- ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme for Marine Capture Fisheries



### 1. Strengthening Coordination and Cooperation among AMSs and Other Agencies (cont.)

Coordination and cooperation with national/regional/international agencies as partners



### 2. Increase Capacity and Awareness on MCS to Combat IUU Fishing

A series of capacity-building programs for AMSs to enhance their ability on MCS to combat IUU fishing (2016-2025)

- 2016: The Regional Training on Port State Measures Implementation in Southeast Asia
- 2016: Workshop on Regional Cooperation for Implementation of Port State Measures to Improve Fisheries Management and Reduce IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia
- 2019: Online Regional Training Course on Implementation of Port State Measures for Inspection
- 2021: The Regional Training on Port State Measures Implementation for Inspectors in Southeast Asia

### 2. Increase Capacity and Awareness on MCS to Combat IUU Fishing

- 2022: Regional Training Course on Port State Measures (PSM) Inspection in Focus of Shipping Container for Fish and Fisheries Product
- 2022: The Regional Workshop on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia
- 2023: The Workshop on the Project End of Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Enhancing National Capacities to Eliminate IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia
- 2023: Regional Training Course on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (UNCLOS 1982) in Fisheries Perspective
- 2024: Training and workshop on MCS, PSM, and relevant activities to combat IUU fishing

### 2. Increase Capacity and Awareness on MCS to Combat IUU Fishing (cont.)

Promotion of the implementation of sustainable fisheries resources by assisting the countries in defining the harvest reference points

- Training courses on stock assessment, and other related works undertaken through Scientific Working Group on neritic tunas.
- Training Course with appropriate model e.g. R-program, Data collection for stock assessment, fish population dynamic for poor data model etc.



### 3. Support Implementation of Effective MCS Measures

Development and promotion of electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS) application as prototype for traceability of fish and fishery products



### What is eACDS ?

- A prototype software for enhancing a traceability of fish and fishery products from fishing to plate
- Implementing eACDS required good governance in fisheries management: port control, catch reporting, recording movement of fish in the supply chain, export-import, etc.



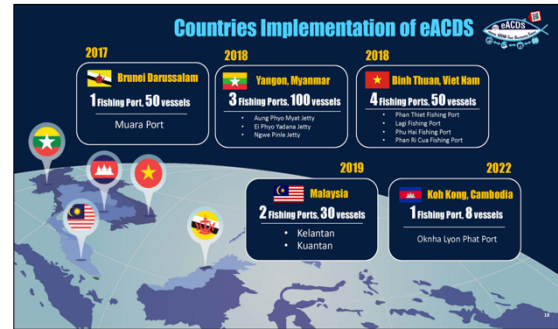
### eACDS Applications

#### eACDS on Web-based Application

- Vessel Owner/Fishing Master**
  - Request Port-out and Port-In
- Processor**
  - Request Statement of Catch
  - Request Catch Certificate Document
- Officer**
  - Approve Port-out / Port-In and Verify Weight
  - Issue Catch Declaration (CD)
  - Issue Movement Document (MD)
  - Issue Statement of Catch (SC)
  - Issue Catch Certificate Document (CC)
  - View Reports and Manage KDEs

#### eACDS on Mobile Application

- eACDS-Catch Report App**
  - Fishing Master/ Vessel Owner
- eACDS-Market App**
  - Seller and Buyer



### Achievement of eACDS Implementation

- Training and demonstration on the practical eACDS application for trainers to the effective implementation of eACDS and transfer their knowledge and understanding to relevant stakeholders.
- Participating countries trial on the use of eACDS application and successfully installed the application on its server.
- Viet Nam developed its electronic catch documentation and traceability (eCDT) based on the eACDS demonstration.



### Priority Areas for Future Action to Combat IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia

The Regional Workshop on the Project End of Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Enhancing National Capacities to Eliminate IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia 20–21 March 2024



### 1 Vessel Monitoring

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ VMS system</li> <li>❖ Sharing VMS information between AMSs</li> <li>❖ Application of VMS for middle-scale and small-scale fishing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Develop SOP/Guideline on VMS information sharing</li> <li>❖ Explore appropriate application/system for small-scale fisheries</li> </ul>

### 2 Strengthening MCS for Commercial-scale, Small-scale Fisheries and Community-based Fisheries

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Enhancing and capacity building on MCS</li> <li>❖ Identification and risk assessments of IUU fishing vessels</li> <li>❖ Introduction of new technology for support MCS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Capacity building on MCS</li> <li>❖ Identification of IUU fishing vessels to avoid double flag</li> </ul>

### AMSS/Regional Cooperation on IUU Information

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Cooperation and sharing of information on IUU among countries via existing platform</li> <li>❖ Expand and strengthen regional/bilateral dialogues between neighbors around shared IUU issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Explore the willingness of countries to establish hotlines</li> <li>❖ Strengthening understanding of global instruments and their application in cooperation with FAO, IMO, ILO</li> <li>❖ Encouragement AMSS to update information on RFVR database</li> <li>❖ Continue to develop RFVR database smaller than 24 meters in length in focus of carrier vessels for utilization between neighboring country</li> </ul>

### Encroachment of Foreign Vessels

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Medium, and large-scale foreign vessels</li> <li>❖ Enforcement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Sharing information on best practices of action against the encroachment of foreign vessels</li> </ul>

### Strengthening Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Study and communicate the market state requirements, align to global, and additional work on how to incorporate SSF</li> <li>❖ Strengthen port landing information, catch landing sources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Capacity building on the market requirements, the use of CDS</li> <li>❖ Sharing experiences on the implementation of the national CDS</li> </ul>

### Development of National/Regional Estimation of IUU Losses

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Estimation of losses due to IUU fishing</li> <li>❖ Provide knowledge on fishery intelligence as it is an effective tool to eliminate IUU fishing</li> <li>❖ Linkage to stock assessment to assess impacts through improved information on transboundary species and harmonize framework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Formulation of ASEAN guideline on how to estimate IUU losses</li> <li>❖ Conduct a national assessment of the estimation of IUU losses through sharing the results</li> </ul>

### Strengthening Evidence and Procedures Prosecution to Improve the Deterrence Effect

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Raise awareness within and across the agencies</li> <li>❖ Improve the efficiency of the use of maritime MCS/patrols</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Sharing information on the evidence and procedures and secure effective prosecutions to improve the deterrence effect</li> </ul>

### Monitor Transshipment Activity

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Understanding carrier vessels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Strengthen port inspection at both coastal states and flag states including establishing bilateral arrangements to understand carrier vessels</li> <li>❖ To implement the certification form for transshipment developed by FAO</li> <li>❖ Regional review on carrier definition</li> </ul>

### Legal Reform

Priority Areas	Regional Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Updating and/or amending national legal frameworks</li> <li>❖ Development/Updating of NPOA-IUU</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Sharing best practices on laws and policies through the development of the comprehensive NPOA-IUU</li> </ul>

### Implementation of the 9 Priority Areas to Combat IUU Fishing (2020–2025)

6 Priority Areas That has been implementing by SEAFDEC/TO

Total: 49 Activities, 1,073 participants

- 1 Vessel Monitoring
- 2 Strengthening MCS for Commercial Scale, Small-scale Fisheries and Community-based Fisheries
- 3 AMS/Regional Cooperation on IUU Information
- 4 Strengthening Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8 Monitor Transshipment Activity
- 9 Legal Reform

**Implementation of the 9 Priority Areas to Combat IUU Fishing (2020–2025)**

**1 Vessel Monitoring**

VMS analysis to support port inspection

1 Activity    37 Participants

**Implementation of the 9 Priority Areas to Combat IUU Fishing (2020–2025)**

**2 Strengthening MCS for Commercial-scale, Small-scale Fisheries and Community-based Fisheries**

Strengthening MCS capacity, promoting MCS innovation, and responsible fishing technologies

10 Activities    261 Participants

**Implementation of the 9 Priority Areas to Combat IUU Fishing (2020–2025)**

**3 AMSS/Regional Cooperation on IUU Information**

RFVR database development and promotion, regional information-sharing workshops, and technical consultations

7 Activities    471 Participants

**Implementation of the 9 Priority Areas to Combat IUU Fishing (2020–2025)**

**5 Strengthening Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products**

Implementing and installing eACDS, including training, and implementing regional and national traceability training

24 Activities    547 Participants

**Implementation of the 9 Priority Areas to Combat IUU Fishing (2020–2025)**

**8 Monitor Transshipment Activity**

Regional policy workshop on transshipment management

1 Activity    22 Participants

**Implementation of the 9 Priority Areas to Combat IUU Fishing (2020–2025)**

**9 Legal Reform**

Capacity-building training on NPOA-IUU implementation, UNCLOS application

3 Activities    135 Participants

**Project Implementation Relevant to Combat IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia by SEAFDEC**

	<b>2024 - 2027</b>	ASEAN-JICA Capacity Building Project on IUU Fishing Countermeasures in Southeast Asia
	<b>2024 - 2028</b>	Sustainable Management of Fisheries, Marine Living Resources and their Habitats in the Bay of Bengal Region for the Benefit of Coastal States and Communities
	<b>2025 - 2029</b>	Enhancement of Regional Cooperation and Human Resource Development to eliminate IUU Fishing
	<b>2025 - 2027</b>	Strengthening Regional Capacity to Combat IUU Fishing and Promote Safe, Fair and Sustainable Fisheries in Southeast Asia
	<b>2025 - 2026</b>	Strengthening Regional Fisheries Governance and Technology Integration to Combat IUU Fishing in the Indo-Pacific

Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia  
24-26 February 2026, Bangkok, Thailand

**CONTACT US**

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Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) for Combating IUU Fishing  
25 February 2026

## THE ROLES OF RPOA-IUU IN PROMOTING COLLABORATIVE MCS MEASURES IN THE REGION

Delivered by:  
**Yudhistira Rizky Abdillah**  
VICE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR at the RPOA-IUU Secretariat

Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices Including Combating IUU Fishing (RPOA-IUU)

### OVERVIEW OF RPOA-IUU

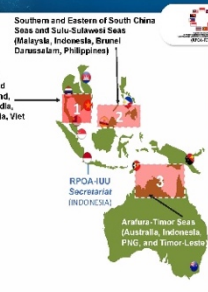
Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices Including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region (RPOA-IUU)

- The RPOA-IUU is a **voluntary instrument** and takes its core principles from international agreements and instruments for promoting responsible fishing practices
- Agreed on 4 May 2007, Bali-Indonesia, by 11 Ministers related to fisheries (**Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, The Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam**)
- The objective of the RPOA-IUU is to enhance and strengthen the overall level of fisheries management in the region and to optimize the benefit of adopting responsible fishing practices. The actions cover: conservation of fisheries and their environment; managing fishing capacity; and combating illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

### RPOA-IUU MCS SUB-REGIONAL GROUPS

**History:**  
During the MCS Workshop on March 2008, the Coordination Committee agreed to establish a regional and sub-regional MCS Networks which

- Malaysia is the chair of sub-regional for the Southern and Eastern of SCS and SSS
- Thailand is the chair of sub-regional for the Gulf of Thailand Sub Regional Group
- Australia is the chair of sub-regional for the Arafura and Timor-Seas



### CORE ELEMENTS & PROGRESS

Core Elements	Update Status
Current resource and management situation in the region	RPOA-IUU participating countries continue to conduct assessment and review of national fisheries legislation. Each member countries has developed their NPOA-IUU (9 out of 11 RPOA-IUU participating countries)
Implementation of international and regional instruments	RPOA-IUU participating countries continue to work toward ratification and implementation regional and international instruments
Role of regional and multilateral organizations	RPOA-IUU participating countries are parties/non contracting parties of regional and multilateral organizations, including RFMOs
Coastal State responsibilities	RPOA-IUU participating countries multilaterally and bilaterally collaborate in data sharing and monitoring of fishing vessel movement and activities
Flag State responsibilities	All RPOA-IUU participating countries have reviewed their vessel registration and RFMO IUU Vessel list. The progress is differed from country to country.

### CORE ELEMENTS & PROGRESS


Core Elements	Update Status
Port State Measures	8 countries have ratified PSMA, 1 country is in the planning process to become a party to the PSMA, 1 country is Established the SOP on PSM to govern the entry of foreign fishing vessel, and 1 country is Reviewing the policies and legislative amendments needed for the implementation of PSMA
Regional Market Measures	Several RPOA-IUU participating countries has implemented catch documentation scheme such as E-ACDS, Catch Certificate, e-Logbook and e-monitoring. Different level of implementation in each country
Regional capacity building	Have a partnership with several Government Agencies and international organizations, such as the Australian Government, Canada Government, and International MCS Network.
Strengthening MCS	As part of strengthening MCS, almost all participating countries have developed and implemented catch reporting system
Transshipment at sea	RPOA-IUU participating countries implement strong measures of transshipment at sea. In some participating countries, transshipment is banned
Implementation	Developing publicity material to increase public awareness on RPOA-IUU, including its progressive efforts in combating IUU fishing

### 2026 MCS KEY INSTRUMENT LIST

COUNTRY	UNCLOS	UNFSA	PSMA	NPOA-IUU	GRFV/RFRV	CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME
Australia	Ratified	Ratified	Ratified	Developed	Participate	In accordance with CDS measures for 2026, RPOA-IUU, where Australia is a member of ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme
Brunei Darussalam	Ratified	in progress	In the planning process to become a party to the PSMA	Developed	Participate	
Cambodia	signed	Ratified	Ratified	Developed	Participate	First activity on Electronic ASEAN Catch documentation scheme (e-ACDS) • Has established a National Traceability System (STELINA) • Catch Certification Subsystem • Has been implementing CDS of COCOT
Indonesia	Ratified	Ratified	Ratified	Being revised into the 2nd version	Participate	
Malaysia	Ratified	Possible accession	Established the SRP and in progress to govern the entry of foreign fishing vessel to Malaysian port	Developed and in revision for the 2nd version	Participate	e-ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme
Papua New Guinea	Ratified	Ratified	Ratified	Ratified	Participate	Catch Documentation Scheme
Philippines	Ratified	Ratified	Ratified	Developed	Participate	The Catch Documentation and Traceability System (CDS) of the country is being developed, along with its corresponding systems, the e-ACDS, CDS
Singapore	Ratified	Not ratified	Reviewing the policies and legislative amendments needed for the implementation of Port State Measures Agreement	In progress	Participate	Lead the development of the ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme

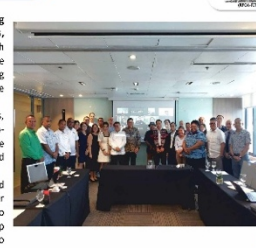
### STRENGTHENING MCS

- Facilitating bilateral communication to address alleged illegal fishing activities within RPOA-IUU jurisdictional waters. The requests includes the proposal for the out-court settlement and the negotiation for administrative sanctions.
- Updating the RPOA-IUU MCS Key Instruments Lists
- Our enhanced the RPOA-IUU Vessel Watch Lists, incorporated with information from RFMOs serves a valuable reference and tool for monitoring and enforcement.



### DEVELOPING DATA-SHARING MECHANISM

- The RPOA-IUU Data Sharing Mechanism Working Group Meeting was held in **Makati, Philippines, on 25 November 2024**, back-to-back with the 17th RPOA-IUU Coordination Committee Meeting. The meeting aimed to formalize the Data Sharing Mechanism Working Group and advance agreement on the implementation roadmap.
- Discussions focused on agreed data types, integration within the RPOA-IUU MCS Sub-Regional Group, development of a talk-to-made protocol, and harmonization of data collection and reporting.
- As a result, the proposed roadmap outline and timeline were presented and taken by member countries for internal consultation. It was also agreed to convene a follow-up Working Group Meeting, followed by a Consultative Meeting, to further discuss and refine the documents.



### CASE STUDY 1: FV RUN ZENG 03 & 05 EFFECTIVE INFORMATION EXCHANGE

**Intelligence Report from Australia**

**RZ 03 and 05 approached by MMAF Indonesia**

**Effective Information Sharing**

**IUU Alert on RZ 03 & 05 from Indonesia to RPOA-IUU Participating Countries**

**PNG Confirmation on RZ 05**

**RZ 05 was seized by the NFA PNG**

### CASE STUDY 2: BILATERAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE

**INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON RELEASE OF INDOONESIAN FV EKA JAYA AND FACILITATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS**

**INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON RELEASE OF PNG NFA'S OBSERVER ONBOARD FV P1-168 ARRESTED BY MMAF INDONESIA**

- Through RPOA-IUU Secretariat facilitation, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea successfully resolved the KMN Eka Jaya case via constructive dialogue, leading to a negotiated reduction of penalties and reinforcing effective regional cooperation, due process, and adherence to fisheries law.
- Through RPOA-IUU Secretariat facilitation, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea successfully resolved fast-track release of a PNG Fisheries Observer onboard FV P1-168 apprehended by the MMAF Indonesia

### 2025 CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAM

**MCS Training Course  
Nha Trang, Vietnam**

- Supported by the Australian Government, the course is designed to build capacity in utilizing the elements of the MCS toolbox to identify and respond to Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- The course curriculum covers essential elements of responsible fisheries management, alongside a strong emphasis on health and safety, social and GESI (Gender Equality and Social Inclusion) in MCS operation, inspection, and investigation. Recognizing the human element within the fishing sector, the curriculum also addresses critical labour and welfare issues.

**Workshop on Promoting Flag State Responsibility and the FAO Compliance Agreement 1993, Uluwatu**

- Supported by Australia's Combating IUU Fishing Program with technical expertise from ANCORS, University of Wollongong. The Workshop is designed to strengthen understanding of flag State responsibility and the FAO Compliance Agreement 1993 in combating IUU fishing.
- Key outcomes included recommendations to encourage FAO support for ratification processes, develop clear policy guidance on the benefits of the Agreement, and engage donors to sustain future activities.

### PROMOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF DECENT WORKING CONDITION

- In collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the RPOA-IUU Secretariat plans to convene regional workshop in 2026, with a focus on exploring the linkage between labour issue and IUU fishing.
- The expected output from this activity is to obtain broader knowledge regarding emerging issues on IUU fishing and fisheries-related activities, such as decent working conditions on fishing vessels and the fishing industry.

### DEVELOPING PUBLICITY MATERIAL

**Quarterly Newsletter**

**Knowledge Management Platform (KMP)  
kmp.rpoaiuu.org**

### WAY FORWARD

- Building regional capability by improving fisheries intelligence
- Finalizing a clear and comprehensive data-sharing protocol with support from the RPOA-IUU partners
- Advancing the importance of implementing decent working conditions on fishing vessels and fishing industry with support from the ILO
- Enhancing regional capacity by strengthening investigative and analytical skills to combat fisheries crime through the Regional Workshop on Crimes in the Fisheries Sector
- Continuing the development of publicity material and formalizing the RPOA-IUU Knowledge Management Platform

**THANK YOU**

"The most effective weapon against crime [IUU Fishing] is cooperation"  
J. Edgar Hoover- First FBI Director

Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices Including Combating IUU Fishing (RPOA-IUU)

RPOA-IUU Secretariat  
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Republic of Indonesia  
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### PROJECT'S SCOPE

**Focus on IUU**  
Marine biodiversity, secure fish stocks and safeguard livelihoods

**Intervention Levels**

- ASEAN: ASWG on Fisheries, ANIUU
- Transboundary: Indonesia, Philippines
- Local communities: Indonesia, Philippines

**Technical cooperation:**

- ✓ Focus on Capacity Building
- ✓ Technical studies, methodology call inputs
- ✓ Facilitation of networks
- ✓ Advisory for policy making processes (e.g. guidelines, action plans)



### PROJECT KEY DATA

**DONOR**  
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

**POLITICAL PARTNER**  
ASEAN Secretariat (TATD)

**IMPLEMENTED IN**  
ASEAN, focus countries: Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines

**BUDGET**  
Up to 4 Million EUR

**DURATION**  
3 Years (Mar. 2025-Feb. 2028)

**IMPLEMENTED BY**  
German International Development Cooperation (GIZ)

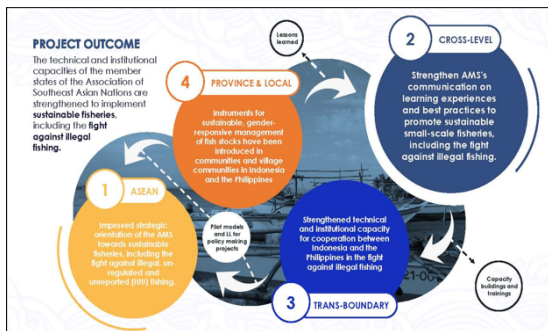
### SUPPORT TO ASEAN POLICY FRAMEWORK

- ASEAN Blue Economy Framework
- Strategic Plan of Actions on ASEAN Cooperation on Fisheries (SPA Fisheries)
  - Strategic Thrust 6: Strengthen ASEAN joint approaches on international and regional issues
  - Strategic Thrust 5: Assist resource constrained small producers and SMEs to improve productivity, technology and product quality, to meet (global) market standards and increase competitiveness
- Cooperation framework on ASEAN network for combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing
- Joint ASEAN-SEAFDEC Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Combating (IUU) Fishing and Enhancing the Competitiveness of ASEAN Fish and Fishery Products

### OPPORTUNITIES

- ASEAN interactive IUU platform on VMS established, Thailand
- AN – IUU Guidelines on sharing, access and use of IUU fishing related information
- **Valuable experiences** in: improving framework conditions for combating IUU fishing (Thailand, Viet Nam, Philippines)
- **FAO Voluntary guidelines** for securing SSF initiative, Indonesia
- **IGU Fisheries Compliance Audit** (FISHCA), Fishing Inroads and Threat Assessment Tool-FIT, for the Philippines
- **Community-based coastal management** initiatives
- **Community-based patrolling** system (Bantay Dagat-FT, Paktawes-nd)
- **Strong women participation**, **cooperational data collection** (trawlers, LGU)
- **Digital applications** for MCS available (public and private sector engagement, aCDS)

**PROVEN APPROACHES – READY FOR ROLL OUT**

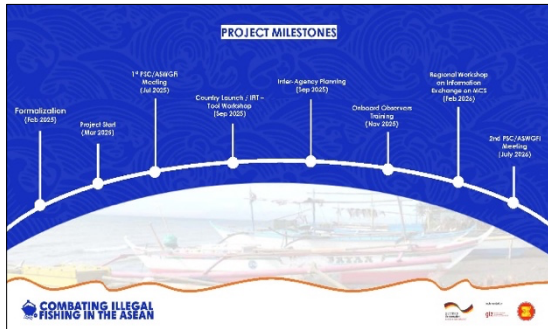


### PROJECT INTERVENTION LOGIC

Improves the capacity of the AMS for cross-border cooperation in the sustainable management of fisheries resources in Southeast Asia, including the fight against illegal fishing.

The technical and institutional capacities of the member states of the ASEAN are strengthened to implement sustainable fisheries, including the fight against illegal fishing in Southeast Asia.

- 1. The interactive platform of the ASEAN Network on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing is used by 3 ASEAN Member States. (06/2022).
- 2. 3 recommendations to promote legal, sustainable fisheries, including the fight against illegal fishing, with reference to international requirements, are presented by ASEAN member states in the ASEAN Sector Working Group on Fisheries.
- 3. 2 Fisheries management regions have piloted models with selected municipalities for feeding digital, locally collected monitoring data on coastal fisheries into their management systems.
- 4. 300 people in 6 village communities in the Philippines and Indonesia are involved in sustainable fisheries production chains.





[www.seafdec.or.th](http://www.seafdec.or.th)