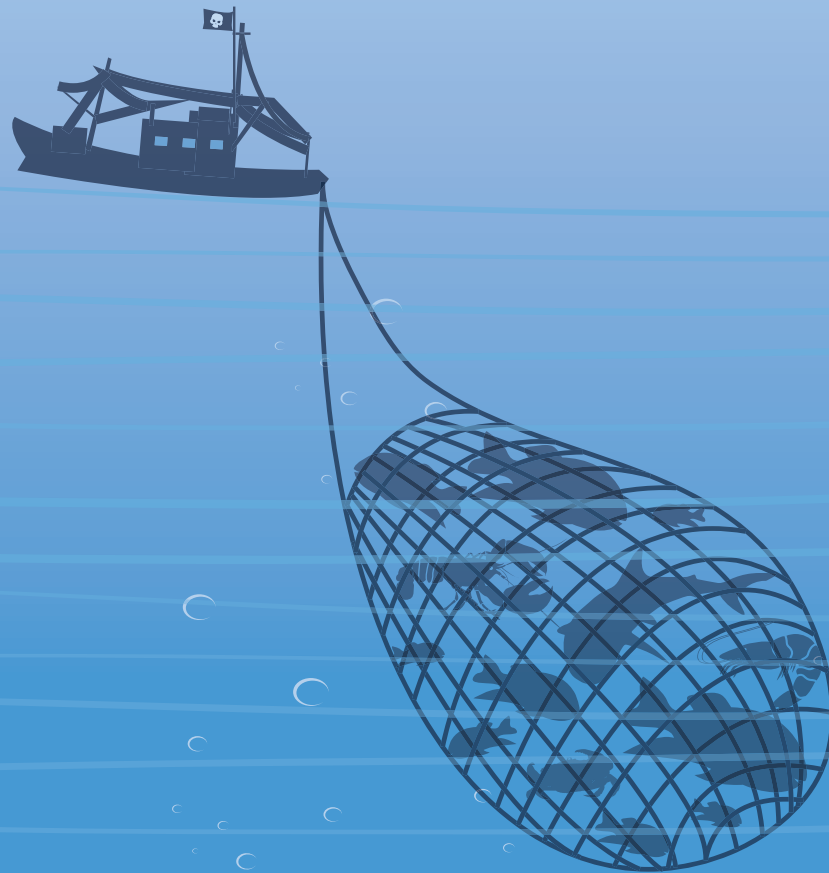




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Regional Consultation on the Development of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing





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United Nations



Regional Consultation on the Development of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing



**Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation
91, Saint Mary's Road, Abhiramapuram
Chennai 600 018, Tamil Nadu, India
2019**

Preparation of this Document

This document 'Regional Consultation on the Development of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing' was prepared by the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO). The designations employed and the presentation of material in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of BOBP-IGO concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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Participants at the Regional Consultation held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 14-15 October 2019

Regional Consultation on the Development of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

14 - 15 October 2019, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Report

1.0 The first Regional Consultation on 'Development of a Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (RC-IUU)' by the member-countries of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP), viz., Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka, was held in Chennai, India from 14 - 15 October 2019. The RC-IUU was jointly organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nations and the BOBP. The Consultation addressed the FAO Strategic Objective 2: making agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable and BOBP's Goal: enabling environment for sustainable fisheries governance is in place in the region under its Strategic Plan of Action 2014-18. In addition, the RC-IUU consolidated the regional effort towards meeting the objectives of Sustainable Development Goal 14.4: by 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated 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 maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.

2.0 Within these broad objectives, the specific objectives of the RC-IUU were to: (i) sensitize stakeholders on the issues associated with IUU fishing and need for urgent action; (ii) evaluate the scope and challenges in addressing IUU fishing at the national and regional levels; (iii) prepare an information, need and policy matrix for drafting of RPOA-IUU; and (iv) enlist the support of all stakeholders for timely completion and implementation of RPOA-IUU. The Regional Consultation was attended by twenty-three participants from the member-countries representing the Ministry/Department of Fisheries; Ministry/ Department of Environment; Coast Guard/Navy; and community-based organisations (CBOs)/non-governmental organisations (NGOs) apart from experts, FAO and BOBP. The Prospectus and the Agenda of the RC-IUU is placed as **Annex 1** and the List of Participants is placed as **Annex 2**.

3.0 The RC-IUU was inaugurated with the lighting of the traditional lamp. Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, BOBP welcomed the participants. He said that in 2008 BOBP organized the first Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (RW-MCS) for Small-scale Fisheries in Chittagong, Bangladesh to improve the MCS regime in the member-countries. One of the significant outcomes of the RW-MCS was the adoption of the Chittagong Resolution (**Annex 3**), which called for a holistic integration of fisheries MCS measures in national fisheries management and the capacity building required to do so. Pursuant to which, BOBP member-countries developed their National Plan of Action on MCS. Highlighting the importance of a Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to curb IUU fishing, Dr Yadava said that the RC-IUU is a critical step in this direction and will strengthen the implementation of the MCS regime in the member-countries.

4.0 Dr Simon Nicol, Senior Fishery Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in his welcome address said that FAO has been assisting the countries in developing their NPOA, and at the regional level the RPOA on IUU fishing. He said



Chennai Regional Consultation in progress



Md Sharif Uddin



N B M Ranathunga



Hawwa Raufath Nizar



Rajdeep Mukherjee



Chennai Regional Consultation in progress

that by curbing IUU fishing, countries would be ensuring good income for their fishers and in the process also maximizing income through international trade. Dr Nicol said that fisheries are 'fish', 'communities' and the 'economics' surrounding it. He further said that FAO defines IUU through 'Flag State Responsibilities', 'Coastal State Responsibilities and 'Port State Responsibilities' and curbing IUU fishing is a high priority for FAO. The need for an RPOA-IUU is to formalize the coming together of countries in the region and to cooperate in a manner that reduces IUU fishing to the extent possible. Referring to MCS, Dr Nicol said that good MCS will help in reducing costs through joint operations (patrolling, etc.), joint trainings for capacity building, and joint enforcement measures to curb IUU fishing. In conclusion, he requested the participants to prepare the modalities for developing the RPOA-IUU and set timelines for its finalization.

5.0 Mr Rajdeep Mukherjee, Policy Analyst, BOBP made a presentation on 'State of Marine Fisheries in the BOBP Region'. Highlighting the growing economic importance of marine capture fisheries in terms of income generation and export earning, he said that the BOBP region is an ecologically well-integrated region. The region is experiencing increasing fishing effort, which on one hand is leading to increase in production but on the other hand the stocks are showing signs of stress. However, given the ecological integrity and without a regional effort, a single country in the region will find it difficult to ensure sustainable exploitation of its fisheries. **Annex 4** contains Mr Mukherjee's presentation.

6.0 In the next presentation on "Definition and Scope of IUU Fishing in International and Regional Fisheries Instruments and Extent and Impact of IUU Fishing in the BOBP Region", Dr Yadava said that IUU fishing not only destroys the stock but also economy of law-abiding fishers. He explained the definition and scope of IUU fishing in the context of different international instruments including the FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU fishing (IPOA-IUU) and FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA). He then summarized the findings of past studies on the extent of IUU fishing in the BOBP region and said that IUU fishing in the region took many forms such as fishing without license, use of prohibited gear, capture of protected species and cross-border fishing without authorization, etc. At the Indian Ocean level, IUU fishing robbed about 0.7 to 1.5 million tonnes of fish valued at USD 627 – 1378 million. Concluding the presentation, Dr Yadava said that IUU fishing also threatens the livelihoods of small-scale and artisanal fishers as well as food security in the region. Dr Yadava's presentation is placed in **Annex 5**.

7.0 Dr Sharif Uddin, Principle Scientific Officer, Marine Fisheries Survey Management Unit, Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh described the measures taken by the Government of Bangladesh to curb IUU fishing. Elaborating the measures, Dr Sharif Uddin said that the NPOA-IUU was under preparation in cooperation with the FAO; surveys for stock assessment were being undertaken and several MCS measures have been initiated to curb IUU fishing, including installation of Vessel Traffic Monitoring System (VTMS) in 133 industrial trawlers and 100 more such installations are in the pipeline. Further, the Government also proposes to install 10,000 Automatic Identification System (AIS) in artisanal fishing vessels. In terms of policy, the Marine Fisheries Ordinance of 1983 was amended in 2010 to establish traceability and catch certification in line with the 2008 European Union Regulation on IUU Fishing. Further, a new act "Marine Fisheries Act 2018" and "National Marine Fisheries Policy 2018" were being examined, which

would strengthen the efforts of Bangladesh in curbing IUU fishing and a World Bank Project on “Sustainable Marine and Coastal Fisheries” under implementation proposes to set up 16 additional marine check posts. **Annex 6** contains Dr Sharif Uddin’s presentation.

8.0 Mr Rajdeep Mukherjee made a presentation on ‘Addressing IUU Fishing – Position of India’, which detailed the outputs of the India National Workshop for Preparation of the National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, which was held from 23 – 24 April 2018 in Chennai, India. He said that the major output of the Workshop was identification of gaps that required to be addressed to curb IUU fishing and in this regard enactment of a law for controlling fishing in the Indian EEZ and by Indian flagged vessels fishing in the high seas, catch reporting, vessel monitoring in real time, harbour-based control measures, etc. were required. Mr Mukherjee informed that the coastal States in the country have taken measures such as registration and licensing, issuing of biometric card, installation of AIS, etc. to improve MCS. In some cases, where fishing vessels from India were caught fishing in the EEZ of other countries, they were penalized. Highlighting the need for traceability, Mr Mukherjee said that such development would further promote the acceptance of Indian seafood in the international market. In conclusion, Mr Mukherjee informed the recent developments in progressing the draft Bill to control fishing by Indian flagged fishing vessels in Indian EEZ and beyond and setting up of a committee to determine the optimum fleet size. Mr Mukherjee’s presentation is placed in **Annex 7**.

9.0 Ms Hawwa Raufath Nizar, Research Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources & Agriculture, Government of Maldives made a presentation on ‘National Measures to Curb IUU Fishing in Maldives’. She said that during 1990-2013, Maldives lost an estimated USD 5.16-37.19 million due to IUU fishing. “The Government is committed to curb IUU fishing. The new Fisheries Act of Maldives, enacted on 16th September 2019, is aimed at harmonising international agreements and conventions with national policies. The Act provides for the development of a register of fishermen and boat owners and vessel information would be developed along with the process for collection and sharing of data on fishing activities, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort, etc. In addition, there would be measures to ensure that subsidy is not provided to IUU fishing vessels. The new Act also delineates the responsibilities of concerned government officials, norms for ranger and observer services and provisions for penalty in case of unlawful activity. Other recent developments in the Maldives include signing of PSMA and development of a NPOA-IUU”, said Ms Nizar. Concluding her presentation, Ms Nizar informed that Maldives is also piloting electronic logbooks and e-observer systems to further strengthen MCS and the new Law also requires development of management plan for all commercial fisheries that are in the pipeline and to cover all commercial fishing fleet under the VMS. Ms Nizar’s presentation is given in **Annex 8**.

10.0 Mr N B M Ranathunga, Director General (Technical), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development, Fisheries Sector, Government of Sri Lanka made a presentation on ‘Sri Lanka: Combatting IUU Fishing’. Emphasizing on the importance of marine fisheries sector for the national economy, Mr Ranathunga said that the sector receives high priority in governmental policy. “The country has adopted an ecosystem approach to fisheries



Chennai Regional Consultation in progress

and co-management framework for sustainable development of marine fisheries. The country is committed towards curbing of IUU fishing and is party to all concerned international and regional agreements and arrangements. The country has amended its basic fisheries law: Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 (last amended in November 2017) and Fisheries (Regulation) of Foreign Fishing Boats Act, No. 59 of 1979 as amended in January 2018 to strengthen measures against IUU fishing, including provision of penalty for violation of law for both domestic and foreign fishing vessels. The specific measures taken by the country to curb IUU fishing include setting up of a Fisheries Monitoring Centre; separate registers for fishing boats fishing in national waters and in international waters; deployment of observers on-board fishing vessels > 24 meter LOA and alternative observation mechanisms for smaller vessels and maintenance of logbook and reporting of catch data by the fishing vessels”, said Mr Ranthunga. Further, the country has also signed PSMA and formulated NPOA-IUU. A new fisheries policy has also been developed and a new fisheries Act: Fisheries and Living Marine Resources Act is currently being formulated to further strengthen the governance. Mr Ranathunga’s presentation is placed as **Annex 9**.

11.0 During the discussions on national presentations all the countries informed that they did not permit any foreign fishing vessel to fish in their waters and neither their vessels were allowed to fish in national waters of other countries. Any such activity would constitute an illegal activity.

12.0 In the next session, the participants were divided into two groups for discussing specific issues assigned to the groups. The first group was tasked to provide views on the following questions: (i) what benefits and costs are expected from the RPOA-IUU? (ii) what should be the nature of regional cooperation? (iii) is the need for regional cooperation included in their NPOA-IUU? (iv) scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism to report IUU fishing activity; (v) development of a regional vessel registry; (vi) regional framework for information, knowledge and technology sharing; and (vii) identifying cooperating agencies at the national level and coordinating agency at the regional level.

13.0 The questions posed to the second group centred around identification of requirements for building human capacity, research and development and enforcement in the areas identified during the first group discussion. Outputs of the first and second group discussions were discussed in the plenary and are placed as **Annexes 10 – 13**.

14.0 Based on the responses provided by the groups and the discussions that followed the group presentations, the following recommendation were presented at the plenary.

- a. Benefits and costs from RPOA-IUU:** An RPOA-IUU would be, at the margin, beneficial for the countries. Countries are likely to accrue some costs in terms of allocation of human resources, policy harmonization, technology upgradation, etc. However, such costs would be outweighed by better enforcement, regional relations and policy coordination. The groups also cautioned that the specific interests of the small-scale and artisanal fisheries should be considered while adopting a regional approach.
- b. Nature of Regional Cooperation:** To ensure full compliance, a binding agreement on RPOA-IUU should be considered. As a binding agreement

might take time, it was suggested that initially a non-binding instrument may be developed, which could later be progressed into a binding agreement.

- c. *Provision of regional cooperation in NPOA-IUU:*** Maldives and Sri Lanka have already developed their corresponding NPOAs, which, among other things, categorically emphasise on regional cooperation. Since the NPOA-IUU of India and Bangladesh were in the making, it was recommended that the two countries consider the scope of regional cooperation in their NPOAs. The RC-IUU also noted that there were existing cooperative mechanisms amongst the countries, including Joint Working Groups (bi-lateral) on fisheries and joint patrolling by the Coast Guards of India and Sri Lanka and India and Maldives.
- d. *Scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism to report IUU fishing activity:*** RC-IUU proposed setting up of a regional mechanism for monitoring and reporting of IUU fishing. This monitoring and reporting on IUU incidences, include joint patrolling, sharing of information, preparation and maintenance of IUU vessel list, establishment of protocols for seizure, boarding, detention, prosecution and release of fishing vessels (including crew). It was also proposed that the protocols could provide for different set of directions for vessels from neighbouring/friendly countries. It was also agreed that a Joint Working Group of all the four member-countries should be established to deal with the above issues on a regular basis.
- e. *Development of a regional vessel registry:*** It was recommended that the registered vessel record of one member-country should be shared with other member-countries in the RPOA. In this regard, first inter-ministerial and later inter-governmental coordination would be necessary. Further, such record should also be carried forward to the global record of fishing vessels.
- f. *Regional framework for information, knowledge and technology sharing:*** It was recommended to establish mechanism for exchange of information through relevant national agencies and a coordinating agency at the regional level. Such information *inter alia* would include details on fishing vessels and their real-time tracking, stocks and their catch and landing, etc. Further, it was recommended that capacity enhancement in areas such as patrolling, resource monitoring (including monitoring through satellites) and law enforcement should be undertaken.
- g. *Cooperating Agencies and Coordinating Agency:*** RC-IUU recommended that the Ministry/Department of Fisheries should be the focal point for coordinating the national effort in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment, Coast Guard, Customs, R&D organizations, etc. It was further recommended that the BOBP as an existing regional mechanism would serve as the regional coordinating body for the RPOA-IUU.
- h. *Drafting of the RPOA-IUU:*** The RC-IUU also requested the BOBP to develop the draft RPOA-IUU in consultation with the relevant organizations and validate the same through a regional workshop to be held in Chennai during November 2019.
- i. *Nomination of focal points in the member-countries:*** The following were nominated to coordinate with the BOBP for developing the RPOA-IUU:

(i) Dr Sharif Uddin, Principle Scientific Officer, Marine Fisheries Survey Management Unit, Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh; (ii) Ms Hawwa Raufath Nizar, Research Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources & Agriculture, Government of Maldives; and (iii) Mr N B M Ranathunga, Director General (Technical), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development, Fisheries Sector, Government of Sri Lanka.

15.0 In his concluding remark, Dr Simon Nicol thanked the participants for their insight and active participation. He said that the RPOA as the name suggests is a regional instrument and should be developed based on regional needs.

16.0 Dr Yugraj Yadava delivered the vote of thanks. He thanked the participants for their active participation and wished them a safe journey back home.

17.0 The Report of the RC-IUU was adopted on 15 October 2019.

* * *

Regional Consultation on the Development of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

Chennai, 14 - 15 October 2019

Prospectus

1.0 Context

Curbing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) Fishing is an important objective of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to which member-countries of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP): Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka are committed to. The SDG 14.4 holds that “By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated 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 maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics”. Although a larger part of the effort is expected to be driven by the countries individually, however, without regional cooperation and coordination the objective cannot be fully realized.

Marine capture fisheries play a pivotal role in the economy of the BOBP member-countries supporting millions of livelihoods directly, ensuring food security, contributing to exports and creating a multiplier effect through the value chain. Prevalence of IUU fishing can significantly undermine these benefits in the form of resource depletion and forgone income, among others. Further, as fisheries management is being increasingly considered in global fisheries trade, failure to tackle IUU fishing can also impact the trade prospects of the countries. The need for regional cooperation to combat IUU fishing, while being institutionalized in International voluntary and non-voluntary agreements and treaties, the felt need stems from the biological integrity of the region where resources are shared and health of fisheries in one country depends on the state of management in another country. A framework for regional cooperation is also expected to lead to better information and science to manage fisheries.

In this backdrop, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (through its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific) and the BOBP propose to develop a Regional Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (RPOA-IUU) for the member-countries of the BOBP-IGO. The activity will contribute to the FAO objective of (Strategic Objective 2) making, agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable and BOBP’s Goal: Enabling environment for sustainable fisheries governance is in place in the region under its Strategic Plan of Action 2014-18.

2.0 The Development Programme for RPOA-IUU

The development programme for RPOA-IUU will start with a two-day Regional Consultation (this event) where countries will be represented by the concerned government authorities and primary stakeholders. Based on the inputs from the Regional Consultation, the BOBP/FAO will prepare a draft RPOA-IUU. The draft RPOA-IUU will subsequently be presented to the BOBP member-countries for validation (**Figure 1**).

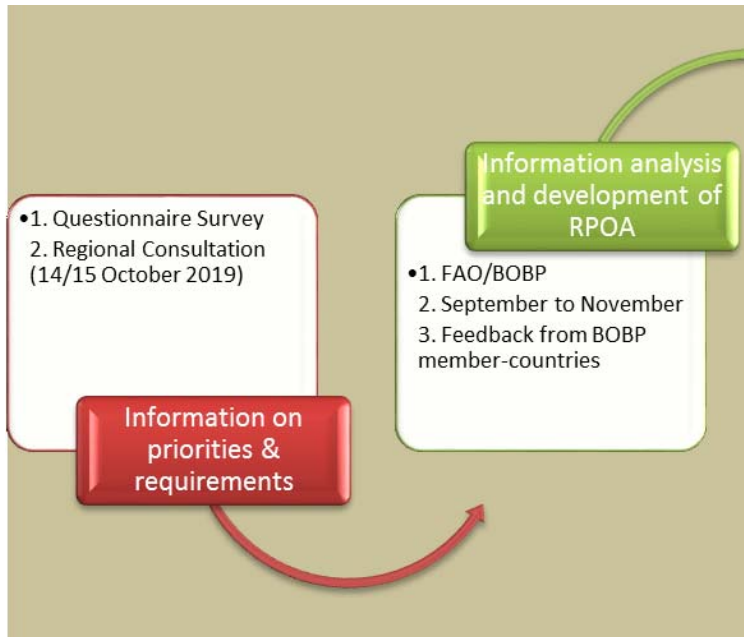


Fig. 1: Work plan for the development of RPOA-IUU

3.0 The Regional Consultation

3.1 Date & Venue: The Regional Consultation will be held from **14 – 15 October 2019** in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. Agenda of the Regional Consultation is given in **Annex 1**.

3.2 Objectives: Within the broad objective, the specific objectives of the Regional Consultation are to:

- (i) *Sensitize stakeholders on the **Issues Associated with IUU Fishing** and need for urgent action;*
- (ii) *Evaluate the **Scope and Challenges in Addressing IUU Fishing** at the National and Regional levels;*
- (iii) *Prepare an information, need and policy matrix for drafting of RPOA-IUU; and*
- (iv) *Enlist the **Support of all Stakeholders** for timely completion and implementation of RPOA-IUU.*

3.3 Participants: The Regional Consultation will be attended by about 30 participants: five (05) participants from each member country representing Ministry/ Department of Fisheries (02); Ministry/Department of Environment (01); Coast Guard/Navy (01); and community-based organisations (CBOs)/non-governmental organisation (NGO) (01) apart from experts, FAO and BOBP.

3.4 Language

The Workshop will be conducted in English.

4.0 Expected Outputs

The Regional Consultation is expected to produce the following outputs:

- (i) *Sensitization of stakeholders and their support towards the need of curbing IUU fishing;*

- (ii) *Agreed inputs and roadmap for preparation of RPOA-IUU; and*
- (iii) *Workshop Report.*

5.0 Travel & Accommodation

BOBP-IGO will bear all reasonable costs towards participation, including travel from the nearest airport to Chennai and return, accommodation in Chennai for the duration of the Workshop, Workshop meals and other reasonable expenses. Travel, lodging and boarding arrangements will be communicated to the participants upon receiving their nomination. Participants are expected to have their own insurance arrangements. BOBP-IGO will not bear any cost or responsibility towards insurance or any incident towards participation in the Regional Consultation.

6.0 Information & Contact

For further information, please contact:

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* * *

Agenda and Timetable

| # | Date & Time | Agenda Item | Person |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------|
| 13 October 2019: Arrival of the participants | | | |
| 14 October 2019 (Day 1) | | | |
| A. | 0900 - 1100 | Session 1: Inauguration | |
| 1. | 0900 - 0930 | Registration | — |
| 2. | 0930 - 0935 | Lighting of Traditional Lamp | Participants |
| 3. | 0935 - 0945 | Welcome Address | FAO |
| 4. | 0945 - 0950 | Welcome & Opening Remarks | BOBP |
| 5. | 0950 - 1000 | Self-Introduction | Participants |
| 6. | 1000 - 1030 | State of Marine Fisheries in the BOBP region | BOBP |
| 7. | 1030 - 1100 | Group Photograph/Refreshments | |
| B. | 1100 - 1600 | Session 2: Understanding extent of IUU Fishing in BOBP region | |
| 8. | 1100 - 1120 | Definition and scope of IUU Fishing in International and Regional Fisheries Instruments | BOBP |
| 9. | 1120 - 1140 | Extent and impact of IUU Fishing in BOBP region | BOBP |
| 10. | 1140 - 1200 | Discussion on the Presentations | Plenary |
| 11. | 1200 - 1300 | Presentation on national measures to curb IUU fishing from Bangladesh and India | Participants |
| 12. | 1300 - 1400 | Lunch | |
| 13. | 1400 - 1500 | Presentation on national measures to curb IUU fishing from Maldives and Sri Lanka | Participants |
| 14. | 1500 - 1530 | Refreshments | |
| C. | 1530 - 1700 | Session 3: Need mapping for preparation of RPOA-IUU | |
| 15. | 1530 - 1700 | Group Discussion 1: Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU [Legal & Policy, Regional cooperation and Technology Aspects] | Participants |
| 15 October 2019 (Day 2) | | | |
| C. | 0930 - 1600 | Session 3 continued | |
| 16. | 0930 - 1030 | Group Discussion 2: Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU [Human Capacity Enhancement, Research, Development, Enforcement], | Participants |
| 17. | 1030 – 1100 | Refreshments | |
| 18. | 1100 - 1200 | Presentation of Group Reports | Participants |
| 19. | 1200 - 1400 | Lunch | |
| 20. | 1400 - 1430 | Presentation on Synthesis of Group Reports – Identification of critical points of cooperation | BOBP |








| # | Date & Time | Agenda Item | Person |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 21. | 1430 – 1530 | Discussion | Plenary |
| 22. | 1530 – 1600 | Refreshments | |
| D. | 1600 - 1630 | Session 4: Closing Session | |
| 23. | 1600 -1615 | Recommendations/Way Forward | BOBP |
| 24. | 1615 - 1625 | Closing Remarks | FAO |
| 25. | 1625 -1630 | Vote of Thanks | BOBP |


**Regional Consultation on the Development of the Regional Plan of Action to
Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing**





Chennai, 14 - 15 October 2019

List of Participants

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Chittagong Resolution on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Small-scale Fisheries¹

Conscious that the marine fisheries sector is highly important for the economies of member-countries of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO);

Recognizing that the marine fisheries sector is a major contributor to the livelihoods, food and nutritional security and foreign exchange earnings of member-countries;

Realizing that a high percentage of the world's artisanal fisheries and small-scale fisheries are concentrated in South Asia, where many of the coastal stocks are almost fully exploited;

Recognizing that the marine fisheries sector largely operates in an open-access regime, and that the present condition of fisheries is largely attributable to weaknesses in the institutional and regulatory environment, a declining resource base and poor socio-economic conditions;

Realizing that monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) regimes are weak in the marine fisheries sector of member-countries;

Concerned about the social and political constraints to regulating access to marine fisheries and to optimizing the fishing fleet;

Concerned that the current fisheries management regime for coastal fisheries in the region may lead to further unsustainable levels of exploitation of fisheries resources, and thereby impact the livelihoods of small-scale fishermen;

Concerned that the supporting regulations and policy framework relevant to the needs of MCS for small-scale fisheries, remain inadequately addressed by fisheries and maritime administrations in the sector;

Recognizing the limitations in institutional capacity of fisheries and maritime administrations in the region to undertake all responsibilities associated with the mandate;

Recognizing that the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) of the FAO does not adequately address the need and requirements of MCS in marine fisheries;

Emphasizing the urgent need to address the multi-dimensional issue of MCS for small-scale fishermen in a holistic manner; and

Recognizing that the problem is not insurmountable;

We, the representatives of Fisheries and Maritime Administrations, Coast Guard and Fishermen's Associations, nominated by the Governments of Bangladesh, India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka, having participated in the BOBP -IGO Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Small-scale Fisheries held in Chittagong, People's Republic of Bangladesh, from 16 -18 January 2008, now therefore:

Adopted at the Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance, Chittagong, Bangladesh, 16 - 18 January 2008.

Resolve to address, as a matter of urgency, the issue of MCS for small-scale fisheries;

Recommend that MCS requirements be comprehensively integrated into every member- country's fisheries policy and regulatory and managerial frameworks. This would include associated commitments under the CCRF and other regional, inter-regional or global instruments and initiatives;

Emphasize the need to rationalize institutional mandates and inter-sectoral cooperation at the national level, in order to enhance implementation of MCS in small-scale fisheries;

Recommend that fisheries and maritime administrations enhance their knowledge and database on the health of the fish stocks and on commensurate efforts required to harvest resources in a sustainable manner;

Recommend the development and implementation of education, training and awareness programmes which satisfy and promote MCS requirements;

Recommend that mandatory requirements for improving implementation of MCS be supplemented by other strategies which involve the participation of fisher communities, families, the media and other stakeholders in order to promote the adoption of a wide range of MCS measures;

Recommend that member-countries, while implementing MCS, also undertake measures to enhance the economic viability of small-scale fishing enterprises, as an essential element of the marine fisheries sector;

Recommend that member-countries make full use of the available technologies, including Vessel Monitoring System wherever feasible, in support of MCS;

Recommend that member-countries employ innovative measures such as co-management. This will be an effective cost-sharing measure for MCS and enhance the participation of fishers and other stakeholders in the management of marine fisheries resources;

Recommend that member-countries undertake measures to formulate time-bound action plans for successful implementation of MCS and for strengthening the national agencies responsible for MCS;

Recommend that member-countries undertake measures directed towards regional cooperation in ensuring successful implementation of MCS; and

Strongly recommend the formation and implementation of a regional MCS programme, employing a consultative and participatory approach, building upon institutionally derived data and the operational experience of small-scale fishermen.

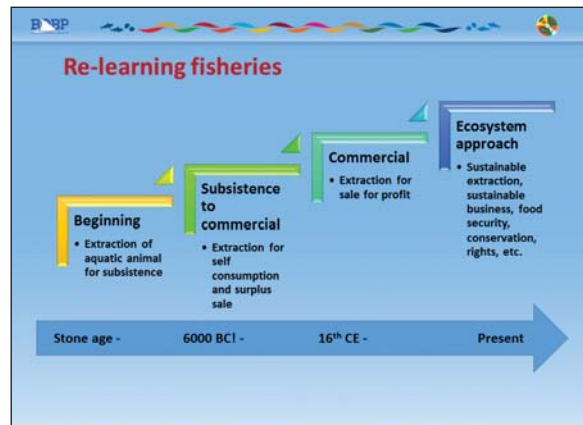
Adopted on Friday, 18th January 2008 in Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Technical presentation 1: "State of Marine Fisheries in the BOBP Region"

Rajdeep Mukherjee
Policy Analyst

State of Marine Fisheries in the BOBP Region

Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation

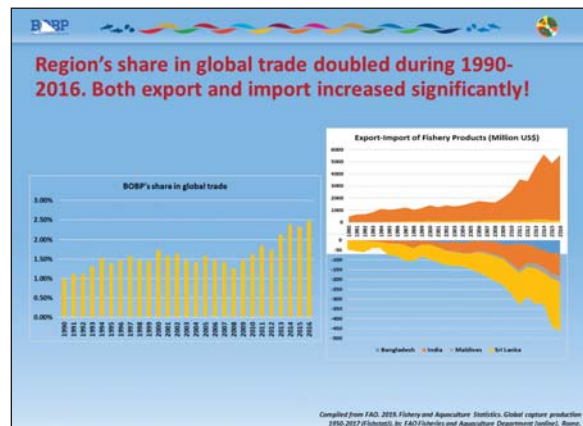
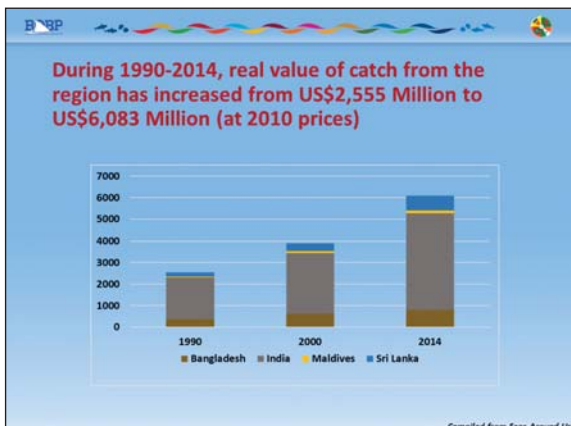


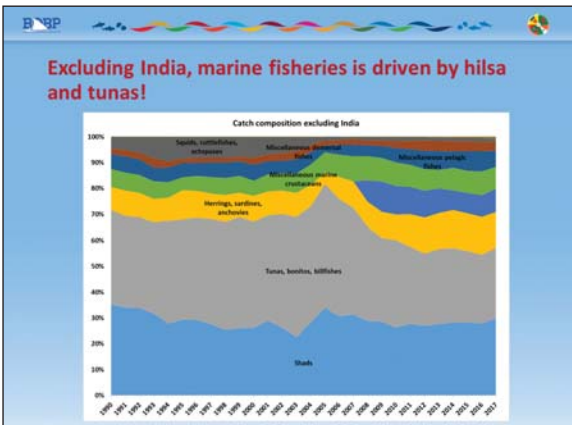
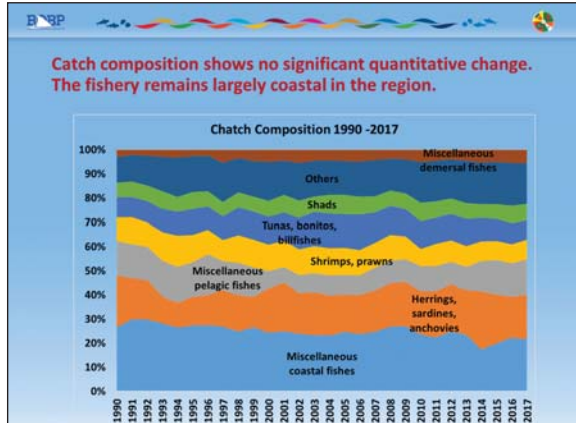
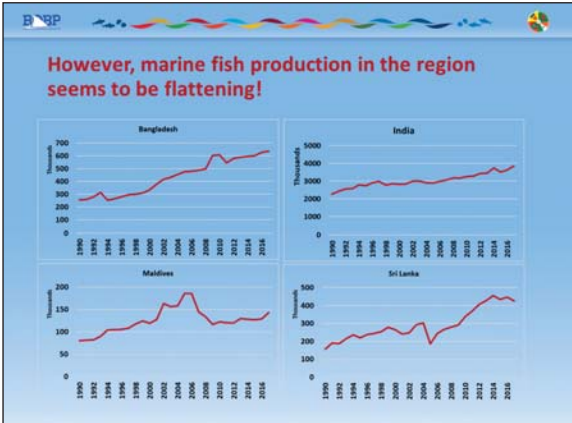
The oneness of the region

| Code | Sub-regional Fisheries Complex | Concerned countries |
|------|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Western BOB Oceanic Complex | Maldives - Sri Lanka - India |
| 2 | Gulf of Mannar Complex | Sri Lanka - India |
| 3 | Sunderbans Complex | India - Bangladesh - Myanmar |
| 4 | Middle-east BOB Complex | Bangladesh - Myanmar |
| 5 | Malacca Strait Complex | Myanmar - Thailand - Malaysia - Indonesia |
| 6 | Western Andaman Sea Complex | India - Thailand - Malaysia - Indonesia |
| 7 | Eastern BOB Oceanic Complex | India - Sri Lanka - Myanmar - Thailand - Malaysia - Indonesia |

Profile of the countries

| Country | EEZ area (sq.km) | Marine fish catch (FAO, 2017) (tonnes) | Fishers | Fishing boats |
|------------|------------------|--|-------------|---------------|
| Bangladesh | 0.12 million | 637,476 | 516,000 | 67,917 |
| India | 2.02 million | 385,721 | 1.4 million | 257,898 |
| Maldives | 1.0 million | 143,258 | 20,000 | 729 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.5 million | 426,108 | 163,000 | 27,850 |

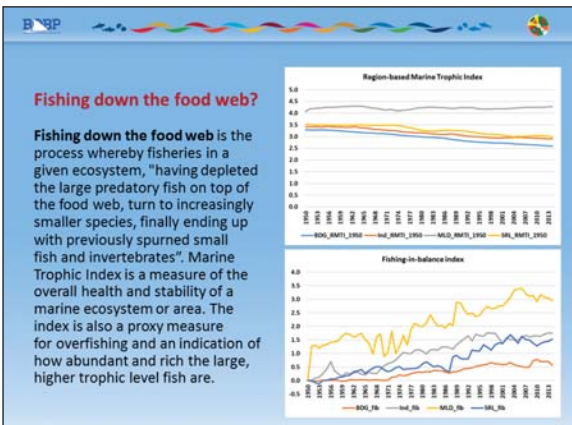




The fishing fleet in number has increased over the years except Maldives. We do not have adequate information on power, which likely has also increased.

| Countries | Non-motorized | Motorized | Total |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|
| Bangladesh (SOFIA, 2018) | 34 811 | 33 106 | 67 917 |
| India (CMFRI, 2010) | 52 982 | 146 159 | 199 141 |
| Maldives (MoFA, 2017) | | | 533 |
| Sri Lanka (SOFIA, 2018) | 19 764 | 30 903 | 50 667 |

| BOBP (2005-08) | Non-motorized | Motorized | Total |
|----------------|---------------|-----------|---------|
| Bangladesh | 22 000 | 21 106 | 43 106 |
| India | 75 626 | 66 676 | 142 302 |
| Maldives | 78 | 901 | 978 |
| Sri Lanka | 18 178 | 23 555 | 42 678 |



Summing up

- While countries differ in scale, fishing technology and targets, the interconnectedness means trend in fish stocks concerns everyone!
- The oneness of the region matters!

Thank You!

Technical presentation 2: “Definition and Scope of IUU Fishing in International and Regional Fisheries Instruments and Extent and Impact of IUU Fishing in the BOBP Region”

Yugraj Singh Yadava
Director

Definition and Scope of IUU Fishing in International and Regional Fisheries Instruments and Extent and Impact of IUU fishing in the BOBP Region

Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation

Definition and Scope of IUU Fishing in International and Regional Fisheries Instruments

Globally, the total loss from illegal and unreported fishing is about USD 23.5 billion annually, or about 26 million tonnes of catch.

How much is 26 million tonnes?
5X BOBP

Agnew DJ, Pearce J, Prasad G, Pechman T, Watson R, Beddington JR, et al. (2006) Estimating the Worldwide Extent of Illegal Fishing. *PLoS ONE* 4(2): e4570. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0004570>

IUU fishers are “free riders” who benefit from the sacrifices of legitimate fishers.

These fish pirates are not only enemies of nature, but their action is accelerating POVERTY for fishers of the future.

What is IUU fishing?

Illegal fishing

- conducted by national or foreign vessels in waters under the jurisdiction of a State, without permission or in contravention of its laws and regulations.
- conducted by vessels flying the flag of States that are parties to a relevant regional fisheries management organization but operate in contravention of the conservation and management measures adopted by that organization.
- in violation of national laws or international obligations, including those undertaken by cooperating States to a relevant regional fisheries management organization.

However...

- The **definition** is not clear whether ‘traditions’ are to be considered as a form of authorization or not
- Neither the size of a fishing vessel nor the objective of fishing (commercial vs. subsistence) is mentioned. The definition is equally applicable to all vessels engaged in any kind of fishing
- Means a fishing vessel is engaged in illegal fishing is doing so in full conscience. However, infringement of the rules and regulations due to system failure should not be considered as illegal fishing!!!

Unreported fishing...

- Fishing activities which have not been reported.
- Misreported.
- Undertaken in the area of competence of a relevant RFMO, which have not been reported or have been misreported.

Unregulated fishing...

- fishing activities in the area of application of a relevant RFMO that are conducted by vessels without nationality.
- by those flying the flag of a State not party to that organization.
- by a fishing entity, in a manner that is not consistent with measures of that organization.
- in areas or for fish stocks in relation to which there are no applicable conservation or management measures and where such fishing activities are conducted in a manner inconsistent with State responsibilities for the conservation of living marine resources under international law.

IPOA-IUU

- First voluntary international coordinate action against IUU fishing
- Based on four main areas of action:
 - **Flag State responsibilities**
 - **Coastal State measures**
 - **Port State measures, and**
 - **Internationally agreed market-related measures**

| Flag State | Coastal State | Port State |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not allow their vessels to engage in or support IUU fishing • To ensure fishing vessels are registered • Maintain records of fishing vessels • Issue authorizations to fish | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should implement measures to deter IUU fishing in their EEZ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking authorization • Inspection • Information exchange with flag state |

Using market to control IUU fishing

- The market-related measures are prescribed in IPOA-IUU and states that market-related measures are to be implemented in a fair manner and in accordance with the rules of WTO.
 - EU-IUU Regulation
 - EU regulation No 1005/2008 on "Establishing a community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing"
 - Trade barrier or IUU barrier

SDG-14 and WTO - IUU Fishing

- **Target 14.4:** By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting, and end overfishing, IUU fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics
- **Target 14.6 :** By 2020, 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, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation.
- Indicator 14.6.1 - Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
- **WTO:** 2017 Buenos Aires Ministerial Conference (MC11), ministers agreed on a work programme to conclude the negotiations by aiming to adopt, at the 2019 Ministerial Conference, an agreement on fisheries subsidies which delivers on Sustainable Development Goal 14.6.

PSMA

- **FAO 2009 Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing** (entered into force in 2016)
- 62FAO Member States and one FAO Member Organization (EU) have ratified or acceded to this Agreement (including Maldives, Myanmar, Indonesia and Sri Lanka)
- PSMA shall apply to fishing conducted in marine areas that is illegal, unreported or unregulated, as defined in Article 1(e) of the Agreement, and to fishing related activities in support of such fishing. (Article 3.3 of the PSMA)

NPOA-IUU

- Paragraph 25 IPOA-IUU: States should adopt national plans of action to further achieve the objectives of the IPOA-IUU and to review the implementation
- Give full effect to the provisions of IPOA-IUU as integral part of their fisheries management programmes, including to implement measures adopted by RFMOs to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing
- Full participation and engagement of all stakeholders, including industry, fishing communities and NGOs is encouraged to combat IUU fishing
- National efforts should be internally coordinated.

Extent and Impact of IUU Fishing in the BOBP Region

Profile of the BOBP Region

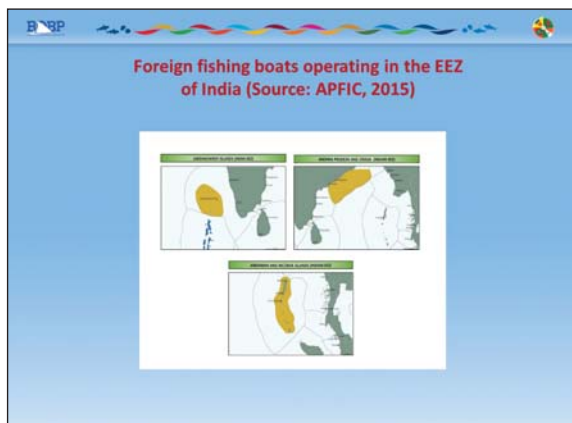
| Country | EEZ area (sq.km) | Marine fish catch (FAO, 2017) (tonnes) | Fishers | Fishing boats |
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| Maldives | 1.0 million | 143,258 | 20,000 | 729 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.5 million | 426,108 | 163,000 | 27,850 |

- ### IUU fishing in the BOBP region takes many forms...
- Fishing in the EEZ of other countries without authorisation
 - Fishing without license
 - Non-reporting and misreporting of catches
 - Use of illegal catching methods
 - Capture of protected species
 - Discard, etc.
- Occurs in most fisheries:**
- Small-scale or industrial
 - Marine or inland
 - Zones of national jurisdiction or on the high seas

- ### Causes of IUU fishing
- Overfishing and declining stocks;
 - Perverse incentives (for increasing fishing capacity, fuel subsidies);
 - Markets and economic reasons; and
 - Poor fisheries management and control (extent of IUU fishing has significant relationship with governance indicators).

- ### Extent of IUU fishing in the Indian Ocean*
- Catch from IUU fishing: 6,97,150 t - 15,30,531 t (approximately 6% of global IUU fishing).
 - Value: US\$ 627 - 1378 million.
 - Increase in IUU fishing in Eastern Indian Ocean from 24% of total catch during 1980 – 1984 to 32% during 2000 – 2003.
 - Decline in Western Indian Ocean from 31% to 18% of total catch (increasing control by coastal states, and reduction in unreported catch).
- *Agnew et al (2009): Estimate based on data on surveillance, trade, stock assessments based on fishery-independent (survey) data and expert opinion to establish point estimates

- ### Extent of illegal fishing in the Indian context*
- EEZ between India and Pakistan
 - Lakshadweep Islands
 - British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)
 - Palk Bay- Between India and Sri Lanka
 - Andaman and Nicobar Islands- Between India and Myanmar
- *APFIC (2015). Regional review of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing by foreign vessels. FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand. PAF Publication 2015/9.



Impact of IUU fishing

| Category | Parameters | Impact |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Macro-economic | Contribution of fishing to GDP | IUU fishing will reduce the contribution of EEZ or high seas fisheries to the national economy and lead to a loss of potential resource rent . |
| | Export revenues | IUU fishing, by reducing local landings, will reduce actual and potential export earnings . |
| | Expenditure on MCS | The existence of IUU fishing will put budget pressures on MCS/fisheries management . |
| Micro-economic | Household incomes | IUU fishing through conflicts with local fishing fleets and by over-exploitation of certain species may lead to reduction in household incomes. There will be possible negative impacts on income distribution. |
| Social | Employment | IUU fishing will reduce the potential employment that the fleets generate. This is likely to be a major factor only in respect of IUU fishing within EEZ. |
| | Gender issues | IUU fishing may have a negative impact on marketing opportunities for women who have an important role in fish processing and marketing. |
| Ecological | Destruction of ecosystems | Loss of value from critical coastal areas |
| | Food security | The reduction in fish availability in local markets may reduce protein availability and national food security. |
| Others | Multipplier effects | The direct and indirect multipliers linked to fishing and fishing associated activities will be reduced with the loss of potential activities through IUU fishing. |



Country presentation 1: Bangladesh

Md Sharif Uddin

Scientific Officer, Marine Fisheries Survey Management Unit, Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh

**Regional Consultation on the Development of RPOA to Combat IUU Fishing
Bangladesh Perspective**

Dr. Md. Sharif Uddin
Principal Scientific Officer
Marine Fisheries Survey
Management Unit
Agrabad, Chattogram

Department of Fisheries, Bangladesh
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

14-15 October 2019
The Raintree Hotel, Chennai, India

Presentation Outline

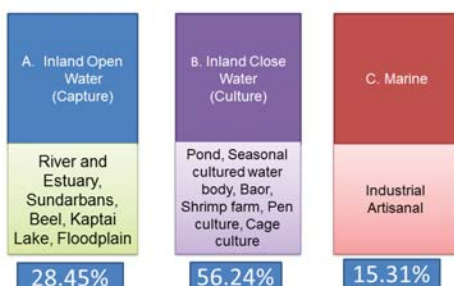
- General Information
- IUU: Perspective Bangladesh
- IUU Catch Monitoring
- Challenges
- Way Forward

General Information

Fisheries Sector Contribution

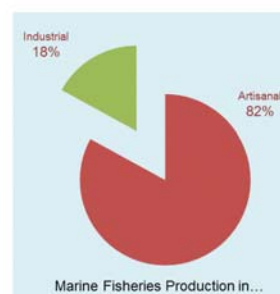
| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Annual Fish Production (2017-18) | : 4.28 million MT |
| National GDP (BER 2019) | : 3.50% |
| Agricultural GDP (BER 2019) | : 25.71% |
| Export Earning | : 1.51% |
| Animal Protein Supply | : 60% |
| Employment (full time & part time) | : 17.13 million |
| Women Employment (fish processing) | : 1.38 million |
| Average growth rate during last 5 years | : 5.61% |

Fisheries Sectors in Bangladesh



Sector-wise Marine Fish Production (2017-18)

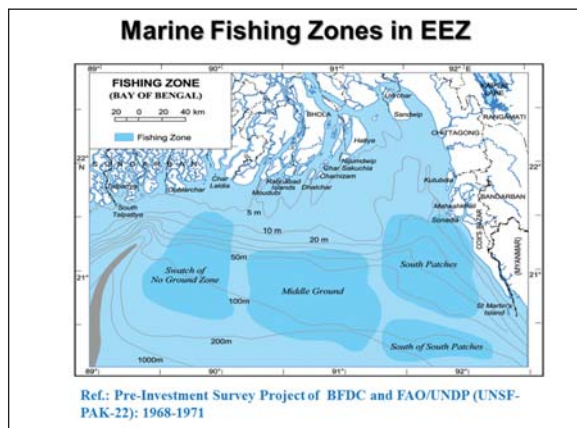
- ❖ Total Marine Production
0.65 MMT
- ❖ Artisanal Fisheries
0.53 MMT
- ❖ Industrial Trawlers
0.12 MMT



| Fisheries Sector Targets under 7FYP | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| # | Item | Baseline (2013-14) | Projection (2020-21) | Progress up to FY 2017-18 |
| 1 | Inland aquaculture (% increase) (MMT) | 1.96 | 45% | 22.8% |
| 2 | Capture fisheries (% increase) (MMT) | 0.99 | 20% | 22% |
| 3 | Hilsha (% increase) (MMT) | 0.39 | 20% | 34.2% |
| 4 | Marine fisheries (% increase) (MMT) | 0.60 | 18% | 9.9% |
| 5 | Export (US\$ million) | 615.35 | 1250.00 | 514.93 |
| 6 | Per capita fish consumption (g/day/person) | 53.00 | 60.00 | 62.58 |

| Marine Fisheries at a Glance | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Marine species | 475 |
| No of Industrial Trawlers | 255 |
| No of Artisanal Boats | Mechanized-32,896 Nonmechanized-34,810 |
| No of Fishermen (Coastal & Marine) | 0.516 Million |
| Fishing Ground | 4 (Swatch of No Ground, Middle Ground, South Patches & South of South Patches) |
| Marine Reserve | 698 sq. Km , est. in 2000 3188 sq.Km at Nijhum Dwip, est. in 2019 |

| Legitimate right on Maritime Boundary | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Total area within EEZ | : 118,813 sq.km |
| Total Coast line | : 710 km |
| ABNJ including EEZ | : 354 nm (677 km) |
| Territorial water up to 12 nautical miles from the base line | 9,060 km ² |
| Internal water up to 40 fathom from the coast line | : 24,800 km ² |



| Gears, Catch and Depth Zone | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Name | Species caught | Depth of operation |
| Trawl | Tiger and other peneled shrimps, Catfish, Jew fish, ribbon fish, mackerels, scads etc | 40-100 m |
| Gill net | Hilsha , Indian salmon, mackerels, pama croaker, grunters etc | 8-10m (fixed), up to 30m (drift nets), up to 80 m (bottom set gill net) |
| ESBN (Banned) | Mostly pre-adult stages of fresh water and marine shrimp,jew, Bombay ducks, gobies, croakers etc | 5-10 m |
| MSBN | Peneled shrimps, anchovies, Bombay ducks, clupieds, sea perch | 10-30m |
| Bottom long line | Sciaenids | 10 -30m |
| Beach seine | Small peneled shrimps, clupieds, anchovies, sciaenids | 8-10m |
| Shrimp PL nets (Banned) | PL of <i>P. monodon</i> | Up to 5m |



| Legal Framework: Policies/Plans/ Act & Regulations | |
|---|--|
| ❖ National Fisheries Policy (NFP) 1998 | |
| ❖ Hilsa Fisheries Management Action Plan (HFMAP) 2003 | |
| ❖ National Marine Fisheries Policy (NMFP) 2018 (drafted) | |
| ❖ Government Vision 2021 & 2041 | |
| ❖ 7 th Five Year Plan (2016-2020) | |
| ❖ Bangladesh Country Investment Plan 2017-2021 | |
| ❖ UN SDGs and Targets (2016-2030) | |
| ❖ The fish & fish Products (Inspection & Quality Control) Ordinance, 1983 | |

| Legal Framework.....cont. | |
|--|--|
| ❖ The Marine Fisheries Ordinance, 1983 | |
| ❖ The Marine Fisheries Rules, 1983 | |
| ❖ Marine Fisheries Act 2018 (under final approval stage) | |
| ❖ The Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance 1983 | |
| ❖ Bangladesh Labour Act 2006 | |

Legal Framework.....cont.

- ❖ Fish Protection & Conservation Act, 1950 (amended in 1995)
- ❖ The protection and Conservation of Fish Rules, 1985 (amended in 2008)
- ❖ The fish & fish Products (Inspection & Quality Control) Rule, 1997 (amended in 2008)
- ❖ **Roadmap (2014-2030) for Blue Economy**

Marine Fisheries Management

Marine fisheries resources of BD is **multi-gear and multi-species** in nature.

- **Main targeting fishes** are Hilsa, Bombay duck, Ribbon fish, Croakers, Catfish, Sardines, Snappers, Pomfret, Grouper, Thread fin breams, Mackerels etc. as major groups
- **Depth Zone Restriction:** Shrimp and fish trawlers **beyond 40m** and Artisanal fishers **within 40 m** depth zone. **Up to 10 m** Depth zone is prohibited for fishing
- **Mesh size control:** **45 mm mesh** size at cod end for shrimp trawl nets and **60 mm mesh** size at cod end for fish trawl nets
- **Licence for trawler and boats:** All trawlers and artisanal boats should have fishing license
- **Pre-sailing permission for trawlers** from the MFO

Marine Fisheries Managementcontd.

- **Limiting the Fishing Days:** Freezing trawlers for 30 days and Ice trawlers for 13 days limit per cruise
- **Banned Period :** 65 days Ban (20 May-23 July), 22 days ban for Hilsa fish conservation (**09-30 October this year**)
- **Conversion of industrial bottom trawlers** to eco-friendly mid-water
- **All types of trawlers** new sanction has been stopped to restrict overcapacity
- Established two **Marine Reserves:** 698 s.km in 2000 and 3188 s. kmn 2019
- **VMS** is introduced into 133 industrial fishing vessels
- **Marine fisheries stock assessment** by **R V Meen Shandhani**

Marine Fisheries Managementcontd.

- **Bangladesh Navy (BN)** and **Bangladesh Coast Guard (BCG)** are deployed to enforce the ban and provisions of law routinely
- **Deep Sea Fishing :** Govt. has sanctioned 10 LL and 07 PS for deep sea fishing beyond 200 m
- A new act "**Marine Fisheries Act 2018**" and "**National Marine Fisheries Policy 2018**" are in underway of approval
- A mega project "**Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project (SCMF)**" funded by WB and GoB launched to develop the coastal and marine sector in Bangladesh
- **16 Surveillance Check Post cum Joint Monitoring Cell** will be established by SCMF project
- **100 VMS** and **10,000 AIS** will be set up by SCMF Project

IUU Catch Monitoring



IUU Catch Monitoring

- ❑ The Government has amended the Marine Fisheries Ordinance, 1983 in 2010 to incorporate FAO-CCRF to control, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing to conserve marine life
- ❑ The European Union through its Council Regulation EC 1005/2008 has laid down Catch Certificate Scheme (CSS) to combat IUU Fishing. Under this Scheme any company wanting to export marine fishes to European Union countries must have IUU-Catch Certificate (CC) approved by the flag state's Competent Authority
- ❑ The Marine Fisheries Ordinance 1983 was amended in 2010 to facilitate issuing IUU-Catch Certificates by the Director, Marine Fisheries Office as Competent Authority

IUU Catch Monitoring.....contd.

- ❑ Every month five industrial fishing trawlers are being inspected to monitor IUU catches in the Bay of Bengal
- ❑ As integral part of MCS implementation, VTMS is introduced in 133 commercial fishing vessels. Now the system is upgrading for real time data generation. 100 more VMS to industrial trawlers and 10000 AIS for artisanal fishing boats
- ❑ A number of **67,669** artisanal mechanized & non-mechanized boats has been recorded into database by the project "Bangladesh Marine Capacity Building Project" implemented by DoF

IUU Catch Monitoring.....contd.

- ❑ Under The Marine Fisheries Ordinance-1983, 40 meter water depth is reserved for small-scale fisheries to minimize the conflict between industrial vessels and artisanal fishers
- ❑ One marine surveillance check post at *Potenga*, Chittagong is in operation
- ❑ DoF has identified and provided Fishers' ID cards to the all fishermen including coastal and marine fishers

FAO Technical Cooperation Project: Support to Countries to Address Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU)

Impact: Improved food and nutrition security in participating countries

Outcome: Improved management of fisheries and marine resources and reduced IUU fishing in the Asia Pacific Region

Indicators:

- a. Strategies to combat IUU (RPOA, NPOA, PSMA) in Countries and regions/sub regional level
- b. Regional partnership programme

Project Support: In-country

- ❖ 3 stakeholder consultation meetings at Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal to draft NPOA-IUU
- ❖ 21 October 2019 at Dhaka for ministry and high officials, 22 October 2019 at Chattogram for both Industrial and artisanal sectors and 24 October 2019 at Barisal for artisanal sectors
- ❖ NPOA-IUU Validation workshop in 02-06 December 2019

Project support: Regional

- ❖ A Regional Inception Workshop (held in Bangkok Dec 2018)
- ❖ A Regional Strategy development meeting (combined with 1) A Sub Regional RPOA-IUU for participating countries (Chennai, India 14-15 October 2019)
- ❖ A Regional Programme validation meeting and project closure meeting (??).

Challenges

Challenges to combat IUU

- Entry of illegal fishing boats and poaching in our EEZ
- **Licensing of mechanized fishing boats** and control of effort at sustainable level
- Weaker management and monitoring of artisanal sectors
- Intense fishing deploying detrimental/destructive fishing operation by ESBN/ MSBN/Small-meshed gill nets and illegal gears
- Lack of observer scheme
- Shortage of manpower and logistics of DoF
- Shortage of human and logistics of BN & BCG

Challenges to combat IUU.....contd.

- Implementation of the relevant rules of the FAO/UN CCRF including the fishers' safety at sea
- Address adaptation to climate change paradigm
- Poverty of fishers for sustenance of livelihood
- Complete survey and formulation of management and development action plan
- Close monitoring of the impact of increased fishing efforts
- Developing a routine catch monitoring & database system

Way Forward

Way Forward to Combat IUU

- Formulating National Plan of Action (NPOA)-IUU
- Regional cooperation and Plan of Action to combat IUU
- Strengthen BN and BCG and developing a strong coordination with BN & BCG
- Capacity building of DoF manpower and strengthen logistics support
- Survey of artisanal fishing boats to update data
- Simplify the process of Licensing of mechanized and non-mechanized fishing boats

Way Forwardcontd.

- Strengthen management and monitoring of artisanal sectors as well as for industrial fishing (e-monitoring, e-reporting, e-log book etc)
- Established observer scheme
- Strengthen port/land side inspection for artisanal fishing
- Strengthen VMS scheme and established VMS Center & VMS wing at DoF
- Improving livelihood of poor fishers
- Training and motivation for stakeholders
- Signing to Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA).



Country presentation 2: Addressing IUU Fishing - Position of India

Rajdeep Mukherjee
Policy Analyst, BOBP-IGO



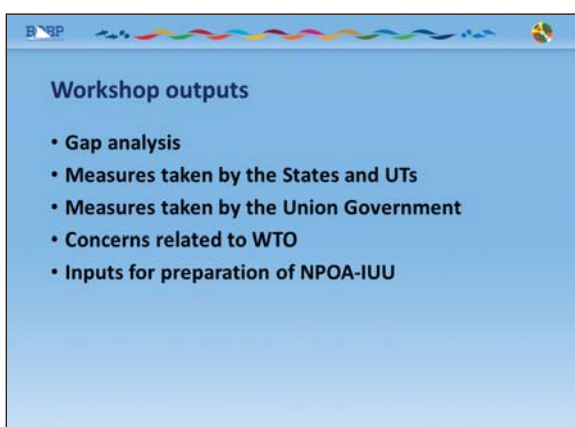
**Addressing IUU Fishing –
Position of India**

Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation



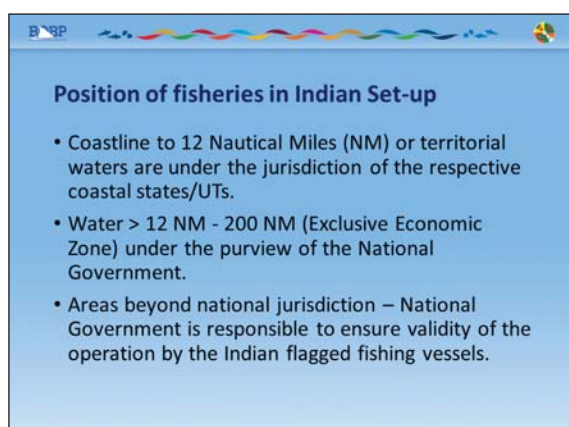
National Workshop on IUU Fishing

- National Workshop for Preparation of Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing held from 23 – 24 April 2018 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- 38 Participants took part representing National Government, Coastal States and Union Territories (UTs), R&D Organization, Indian Coast Guard and Fisher Organizations.

Workshop outputs

- Gap analysis
- Measures taken by the States and UTs
- Measures taken by the Union Government
- Concerns related to WTO
- Inputs for preparation of NPOA-IUU



Position of fisheries in Indian Set-up

- Coastline to 12 Nautical Miles (NM) or territorial waters are under the jurisdiction of the respective coastal states/UTs.
- Water > 12 NM - 200 NM (Exclusive Economic Zone) under the purview of the National Government.
- Areas beyond national jurisdiction – National Government is responsible to ensure validity of the operation by the Indian flagged fishing vessels.



Thank You!

Country presentation 3: Maldives

Hawwa Raufath Nizar

Research Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources & Agriculture, Government of Maldives



Characteristics of National Fisheries Sectors

Total Production: 301,519t
 Total Number of Fishermen: 17,589
 Total Number of Vessels: 2,589
 Total Export Revenue Generated: MVR 2,745,561,662

IUU Fishing in the Context of Maldives

- 1200 scattered coral islands
- An EEZ of nearly 1 million km²
- Land to sea ratio is approximately 1:3000
- 2004 estimates showed 20 percent of the working population was dependant on the Maldivian tuna fishery and industry
- Losses from IUU fishing (1990–2013) in the Maldives EEZ are estimated to average between USD 5.16-37.19 million

Legislature: The Fisheries Act of Maldives

- The new Fisheries Act of Maldives has been ratified on 16th September 2019. The law is designed to better harmonise with existing international agreements, conventions and obligations we are party to.
- It is structured to act as a framework law, in that, it touches upon the various multi-disciplinary aspects of the sector and serves as the legislative backbone for the sector as whole, while leaving the more detailed codification to the regulations that will follow subsequently.
- There are several regulations under the previous law, which are to be carried over under this Law shortly.

Legislature: The Fisheries Act of Maldives

Some Key Provisions to Deter and Prevent IUU Fishing:

- Provisions for monitoring vessels that request safe passage or entry into ports for non-fisheries related services
- Lays down the conditions under which licenses can be revoked or withheld, alongside fines and other penalisation
- Details out the responsibilities of enforcement officers from the Maldives Police Service, Maldives Customs Service and the Coast Guard (and MNDF)
- Includes provisions for Rangers and Observers

Legislature: The Fisheries Act of Maldives

- States that a register of fishermen, boat owners and crew must be developed including vessel information
- Collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, inter alia, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort, as well as information from national and international research programmes
- Measures against subsidising IUU fisheries

Inter-Agency Cooperation in Monitoring Fisheries Activities

| Institution / Authority / Ministry | Key Roles and Responsibilities |
|--|---|
| MINDF/ Coast Guard | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveillance of Maldives EEZ Enforcement of Fisheries Law of the Maldives |
| Maldives Customs Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of PSMA Issuing Port clearance Inspection of fish loading Customs clearance to import/export fish of fisheries products |
| Maldives Food and Drug Authority (MFD) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control health and sanitary measures of fishing vessels/ processing facilities |
| Transport Authority | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration of vessels and regulate maritime measures. |
| Ministry of Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes MPAs and ensures that the integrity their (take zones) boundaries is maintained |
| Maldives Police Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement of Fisheries law and regulations |

Combating IUU fishing by foreign fleets fishing in the national EEZ

As fishing within the Maldivian EEZ is **ONLY PERMITTED FOR MALDIVIAN VESSELS**, no legal fishing occurs by other flag states.



Port State Measures Agreement

- Maldives has ratified PSMA (March 2017)
- If foreign fishing vessels call in to request use of Maldivian ports for various purposes other than fishing, they are permitted and inspected at the port by PSMA guidelines
- Under the Fisheries Act, foreign fishing vessels seeking port entry are required to obtain a pre-entry permit in to the EEZ.



Port State Measures Agreement

- A regulation specifically on integrating the PSMA in to the fisheries legal framework has been finalised, it is currently undergoing review at the AG Office.



Surveillance Operations

- Each year, during the fishing season, joint surveillance operations are conducted with the help of neighboring countries.
- Cooperative efforts with US and Indian navies, particularly notable.

MCS – eObservers and VMS



- In the effort towards replacing the onboard observers with electronic observer systems, the procurement contract has been signed, and we are scheduled to receive and begin installation within the next 3 months under this contract. Ties into IOTC Resolution 11/04 On Regional Observer Scheme which mandates members states to monitor 5% of the total operations undertaken by vessels larger than 24m
- Similarly, the contract for VMS units to cover the entire commercial licensed fleet, has been signed. Installation is scheduled to begin in 3 months. Both initiatives are funded under the SWIOFish4 WB project (SFRDP)

NPOA IUU

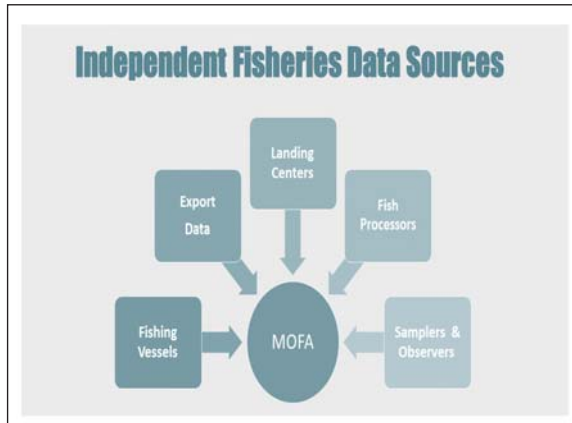
- NPOA-IUU has been formulated with the assistance of FAO. We are currently working on the implementation of the measures addressed in the plan
- This law requires the development of management plans for all commercial fisheries.
- A regulation specifically on integrating the PSMA in to the fisheries legal framework has been finalised, it is currently undergoing review at the AG Office.

Management Plans

New Fisheries Act requires the development of management plans for all commercial fisheries.

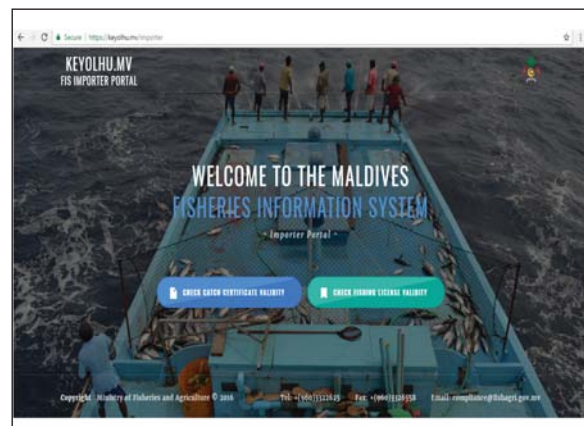
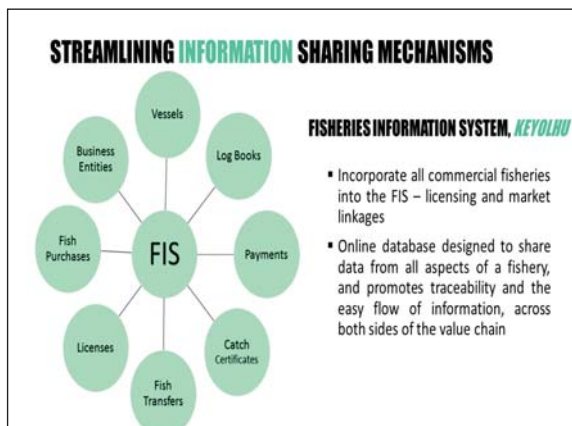
- Licensing
- Catch and other fisheries data logging
- Quota based management
- Gear restrictions
- Time-area closures
- Monitoring via VMS and eObserver System





Catch Certification

- All products of tuna and grouper exported from Maldives is required by law to be accompanied with a catch certificate.
- Discussions and negotiations are currently ongoing with stakeholders to integrate other products and species into the catch certificate system.



Country presentation 4: Sri Lanka

N B M Ranathunga

Director General (Technical), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development, Fisheries Sector, Government of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka Combating IUU Fishing

Monty Ranatunge
Director General Technical
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Irrigation and
Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development

- ❖ Sri Lankan Fisheries
- ❖ Stance on IUU fishing
- ❖ Sri Lanka Obligations
- ❖ Legal framework
- ❖ Scope of the fisheries source
- ❖ Readiness to implement
- ❖ Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
- ❖ Other Measures

Fisheries of Sri Lanka

Contribution to the National Economy

- To GDP 1.4 %
- National Fish Production (2018) 527,000 tons (Value addition USD 1300 million)
- To animal protein intake of masses 70 %
- Export earnings (2018) USD 280 million
- Employment 575,000 (3.7 % of the workforce)

Management of Fisheries

Owing to the importance of fisheries in the national economy, the government gives high priority for its management on a sustainable basis.

Ecosystem approach, precautionary approach and participatory approach (co-management) are used as appropriate in management.

IUU Fishing

Sri Lanka

- Perceives IUU fishing as a serious threat to the sustainability of fisheries both in national jurisdictions and high seas
- Agrees that IUU fishing has to be prevented, deterred and eliminated.
- Implements measures in conformity with the national and international law to combat IUU fishing
- Committed to co-operate with other States either directly or through IOTC (or other RFMOs) to prevent deter and eliminate IUU fishing.

Implementation of Measures – All State Responsibilities

Sri Lanka is a party to the

- United Nations Convention on the Law of Sea of 1982 (UNCLOS) – ratified on 19. 07. 1994
- IOTC Agreement – ratified on 13.06. 1994
- United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement – ratified on 24. 10. 1996
- FAO Compliance Agreement – acceded to on 29. 08. 2014
- FAO Port State Measures Agreement – ratified on 20. 01. 2011

Provisions have been made in the national legislation to give effect to the above instruments.

The National Legislation for Management of Fisheries

- Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 as amended by Acts No. 4/2000, 4/2004, 22/2006, 35/2013, 2/2015, 2/2016 and 11/2017
- Fisheries (Regulation) of Foreign Fishing Boats Act, No. 59 of 1979 as amended by Act 1/2018

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act provides for:

- Registration of local fishing boats
- Issuance of fishing operation licenses to local fishing boats in Sri Lanka waters
- Protection and conservation of fish
- Settlement of fishing disputes

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act provides for(Contd.)

- Giving effect to Sri Lanka's obligations under Regional and International Fisheries Agreements (e.g. United Nation's Fish Stocks Agreement, IOTC Agreement, etc.) (2013 amendment)
- Issuance of fishing operation licenses to local fishing boats on high seas (2013 amendment)
- Co-management (2013 amendment)
- Enhanced penalties for local fishing boats for violation of laws and regulations on high seas (2016 amendment)
- Prohibition of mechanized bottom trawling in Sri Lanka waters (2017 amendment)

Fisheries (Regulation) of Foreign Fishing Boats Act provides for Enhanced penalties for foreign fishing boats fishing in Sri Lanka waters.

- Sri Lanka does not issue licenses for foreign fishing vessels to fish in Sri Lanka waters.
- Sri Lanka issues permits only to foreign fishing vessels, which are not in the IUU fishing vessel list of IOTC, and which are fishing on high seas to land their catches in designated ports subject to Port State Measures Regulations for re-export.

"Sri Lanka waters" means

- The area declared to be the territorial sea of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 2 of the Maritime Zones Law, No 22 of 1976
- The area declared to be the contiguous zone of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 4 of the same law
- The area declared to be the exclusive economic zone of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 5 of the same law
- The area declared to be the historic waters of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 9 of the same law
- Bays, lagoons, estuaries, rivers, lakes and other public inland or internal waters

"Local fishing boat" means any fishing boat -

- Wholly owned by the Government of Sri Lanka or any public corporation established by or under any law of Sri Lanka
- Wholly owned by one or more persons who are citizens of Sri Lanka
- Wholly owned by any company, society or other association of persons, incorporated or established under the law of Sri Lanka, a majority of the voting shares of which are held by citizens of Sri Lanka.

Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

- A scheme of issuing fishing operation licenses to local fishing boats to fish in Sri Lanka waters or on high seas established.
- Separate registers of local fishing boats (1) fishing in Sri Lanka waters, and (2) on high seas established.
- A land-based fisheries monitoring centre (FMC) with a satellite-based vessel monitoring system established.
- Fish catch data collection regulations, 2014 compelling fishing vessels to provide catch data issued.
- Observers are being deployed on vessels over 24 m, and an alternative observation mechanism for smaller vessels established
- Vessels are required to maintain logbooks.

The Sri Lanka National Plan of Action to Combat IUU fishing (SLNPOA-IUU)

- Established in 2013 on the lines of the FAO International Plan of Action on IUU Fishing, and revised in 2015.
- DFAR is the implementing authority.
- The Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Coast Guard, Sri Lanka Customs and Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation cooperate in implementing.
- Subject to periodic review and revision in consultation with all stakeholders.

Flag State Measures

All fishing vessels need registration as fishing boats fishing either (1) in Sri Lanka waters or (2) on high seas;

Only Sri Lankan fishing boats and no foreign fishing boats are given registration.

All registered fishing vessels require a fishing operation license (authorization to fish) to fish in Sri Lanka waters or on high seas

Fishing operation licenses are issued only for fishing vessels, the activities of which can be monitored through VMS.



Coastal State Measures

Sri Lanka has no agreements or other arrangements with other States on fishing in Sri Lanka waters.

No fishing operation licenses are issued for foreign fishing vessels to fish in Sri Lanka waters.



Port State Measures

Foreign fishing vessels fishing on high seas are issued with permits to land fish at a designated local harbour provided

The flag State of such vessels is a member country of IOTC

Such vessels are not on the IUU vessel list of IOTC

Such vessels have no history of IUU fishing

For the first permit, agent or captain of the vessel has to give 48 hours notice to enable DFAR to make inquiries, and subsequent permits 24 hours notice

Each landing is inspected by a trained inspector.



Market State Measures

Sri Lanka is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and performs international trade in all items including fish in conformity with WTO requirements;

Sri Lanka implements the six digit harmonized commodity description and coding system developed by World Customs Organizations in international trade in fish.



Other Measures

Sri Lanka has developed and adopted a national plan for conservation of sharks and management of shark fisheries in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action on Conservation and Management of Sharks.

Sri Lanka is committed to implement the measures in the FAO Code of Conduct of Responsible Fisheries.



Other Measures (Contd.)

Sri Lanka has developed and adopted a new national fisheries policy with technical assistance from Norway which targets at among other objectives

- Sustainable management of fisheries using science-based information;
- Compliance with regional and international obligations
- Combatting IUU fishing including fish laundering.

A new Act – Fisheries and Living Marine Resources Act - is being formulated to replace the current Act as Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act.



Output from Group Discussion

Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU: Legal & Policy, Regional Cooperation and Technology Aspects

Group Report: Hilsa

A. Group Members

- Hasan Faqrul Bari, Bangladesh
- Md Sharif Uddin, Bangladesh
- Mahendra Phulwaria, India
- Shoba Joe Kizhakudan, India
- Ankur Marodia, India
- Hawwa Raufath Nizar, Maldives
- Mohamed Hilmy, Maldives

B. Discussion

1.0 What benefits and costs do you visualise from RPOA-IUU?

Benefits

- As some countries in the region are more developed in their MCS capacity, an RPOA would provide a good platform for technology transfer and sharing, as well as sharing the lessons learnt.
- Opportunity for the countries to harmonise their internal coordination and data sharing mechanisms between stakeholder agencies and ministries prior to taking part in the regional initiative.
- Will serve as an exercise in confidence building, lending to regional harmony and a mechanism through which information can be better shared.
- Shared information also means that coordinated action can be taken to gain better results. For example, Bangladesh already shares information on when Hilsa fishing is restricted (annual 22-day ban) with the Indian counterparts, so that the measure can be carried over across the border.
- Will help in curbing other transnational crimes, that occur at sea or associated with the fisheries sector.
- Help in expediting processes of maritime boundary delimitation within the region, as this would be crucial to coordination. For example, this may lend strength to the conversation on finalising the border between India and Bangladesh. Consequently, this would also mean an improvement in the maps, especially those provided to fishermen, thus reducing the chances of accidental infringement.
- Will help in improving safety at sea.
- Sustainable management of resources will be encouraged, especially shared and migratory resources.
- RPOA-IUU will increase the proportion of legitimate fishing, thus helping to create a global brand that capitalises on sustainable fisheries for the region.

Costs

- In the context of non-monetary costs, the impact of larger-scale measures need to be considered and how they affect different communities, in particular small-scale fisheries, which are often over looked in the broader context.
- Cost-benefit analysis need to be carried out to determine whether the costs incurred are worth the benefits that will be accrued.
- Both human resource development and technological improvements are direct costs that may require significant financial investment at the initial stage and subsequent recurring costs. Though the initial financial investment is considerable, however, it will continue to give benefits in the long-term.
- Cost will also be incurred on ensuring that all enforcement officers have harmonised knowledge of regional laws and regulations.

2.0 What should be the nature of regional cooperation?

- Cooperation should be ensured through a binding instrument, as cooperating on a voluntary basis will not be conducive in the long run.

3.0 Is regional coordination formulated in the NPOA IUU?

3.1 *Scope of policy harmonisation*

- National policy should be harmonised with the RPOA.
- Ecosystem and the biological characteristics are quite different within the coastal environments of each country, so harmonisation makes more sense in the high-seas context.
- However, some level of harmonisation must be achieved, especially in the case of shared resources. For example, in one country, there might be very little prosecution for an IUU activity, whereas in an adjacent country, the penalisation may be severe. This creates an incentive for vessels to cross over. The degree of deterrence should be equitable, to the possible extent.
- Joint authorisation to board a vessel for high seas should be considered.
- If the Coast Guard/Navy of one country apprehends a vessel from another country, they may warn the vessel and handover vessel to the custody of the original Flag state. And there should be a mechanism for sharing the report, so that the case can be followed right up to prosecution.
- Focus must be to address issues that are of importance to all countries.

3.2 *Regional monitoring mechanism, especially in the high seas*

- Joint patrolling can be carried out. Patrol areas and days can be decided in coordination and must not be duplicate.
- Monitoring data, including satellite data should also be shared.

4.0 Scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism for reporting

- IUU reporting centres should be established, considering the lessons learnt from the Piracy Reporting Centres and cooperation within IOTC (can explore whether this reporting centre can be merged with the Piracy Reporting Centre or Information Fusion Centre?).
- The identity of the IUU vessel must be first established, if required through diplomatic means. A decision can then be taken to apprehend, report as IUU or deal with the situation in a friendly manner.
- Often, a fishing vessel is unable to accurately judge the International Maritime boundary Line. Enforcement officers should guide them in cases of accidental infringement. Sometimes vessels also come into ports of neighbouring countries for shelter in stormy weather (e.g. Indian fishermen who took shelter during a storm in Bangladesh and were later escorted to India).
- A formal joint working group should be formed.

5.0 Development of regional vessel registry

- The registry of fishing vessels should be shared and such registry should also be brought into the global record of fishing vessels. In the process, each vessel will get a unique identification.

6.0 Regional Framework for Information Knowledge and Technology Sharing

6.1 Types of Information Needed

1. Details of the vessels (uniform reporting format).
2. Identified focal points and contact information.
3. Knowledge and information about the resource (details of catch).

6.2 Types of Information Available Nationally

1. VMS.
2. Vessel Data.
3. Information on straddling stocks.
4. Nationally available information on IUU Vessels.
5. Satellite monitoring data.

6.3 Protocols of Information sharing

- Methodology and time frame for action (e.g.: in the case of boarding).
- Designate an authority for information sharing.

7.0 Cooperating and Coordinating Agencies

- BOBP will coordinate regionally and each member State will have a sub-coordinating focal agency.
- Cooperating Agencies:
 - Ministry/Department of Fisheries.
 - Ministry of Defence (Coast Guard, Navy).
 - Port Authority/ Customs.
 - Ministry/Department Environment.
 - Ministry/Department Foreign Affairs.

* * *

Output from Group Discussion

Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU: Legal & Policy, Regional cooperation and Technology Aspects

Group Report: Tuna

A. Group Members

- Keya Khan, Bangladesh
- Ahmed Anwar, Maldives
- N B M Ranathunga, Sri Lanka
- Md Rashed Parvej, Bangladesh
- T Peter, India
- Mohamed Naeem, Maldives
- Ummu Kulsoom, Maldives
- N Venugopalan, India

B. Discussion

1.0 What benefits and costs do you visualise from RPOA-IUU?

Benefits

- Strengthening Relationship between and among the nations in the regional countries towards combating IUU.
- Increase reporting including public performance reporting.
- Use of homogenous and harmonized rules and regulations to fill up the gaps among the countries.
- Increase in fish stocks.
- Easy conflict resolutions.

Costs

- Establishment of regional forum (allocation of resources, harmonization, etc.).
- Conducting awareness and capacity building programmes.
- Organizing conferences and review meetings.
- Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS).

2.0 What should be the nature of regional cooperation?

- Binding. However, a non-binding instruments may be considered immediately with a long term objective of moving towards a binding arrangement.

3.0 Is regional coordination formulated in NPOA IUU?

| Country | Policy harmonization | Information Sharing | Regional Monitoring to High Seas |
|------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Bangladesh | NPOA Under preparation. Bangladesh also has Joint Working Group (JWG) with neighbouring countries in place for regional cooperation. | NPOA Under preparation | NPOA Under preparation |
| India | NPOA Under preparation. India also has JWG with neighbouring countries in place for regional cooperation. | NPOA Under preparation | NPOA Under preparation |
| Maldives | Yes. Maldives also has JWG with neighbouring countries in place for regional cooperation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Exchange of information on records of vessels • Acquisition, management and verification of data | |
| Sri Lanka | Yes. Sri Lanka also has JWG with neighbouring countries in place for regional cooperation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Exchange of information on records of vessels • Acquisition, management and verification of data | |

4.0 Scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism for reporting

- A regional fusion centre should be established.
- Exchange of information on records of vessels
- Acquisition, management and verification of data
- Investigation assistance and collaboration
- Technology transfer and harmonizing policies
- Formulation of Joint working Groups (JWG)
- Fishermen to fishermen collaboration

5.0 Development of regional vessel registry

- Possible. However, at national level inter-ministerial cooperation will be required.

6.0 Regional Framework for Information Knowledge and Technology Sharing

- Robust mechanism for exchange of information between responsible agencies of BoB states.
- Sharing of monitoring real-time tracking information of fishing vessels of the region among all BoB members.
- Increase joint capacity Building, patrolling and training.

7.0 Cooperating and Coordinating Agencies

- BOBP should coordinate regionally.
- Cooperating Agencies:
 - Ministry/Department of Fisheries.
 - Ministry of Defence (Coast Guard, Navy).
 - Port Authority/ Customs.
 - Ministry/Department Environment.
 - Ministry/Department Foreign Affairs.
 - Immigration.

* * *

Output from Group Discussion

Group Discussion 2: Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU [Human Capacity Enhancement, Research, Development, Enforcement)

| Areas identified for RPOA-IUU (based on GD-1) | Requirements (Example guiding question: If a regional vessel registry is to be set up, what additional requirements need to be met?) | | | National Cooperating Agencies | | | |
|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| | Human Capacity Enhancement | R&D | Enforcement | BGD | IND | MLD | SRL |
| Vessel Registry | Train officers from relevant agencies through a common training module to develop and maintain a vessel registry (FAO Vessel Classification Guide) | Coordinating body to assess on any further developments | Enforced according to national protocols and shared regionally through the IUU Information Sharing Centre | MMD | MMD | MoT/ MoFMRA | Same as Tuna Group as No Sri Lankan participant in the Group |
| Fishing License | | | Enforced according to national protocols and shared regionally through the IUU Information Sharing Centre | DoF | DoF | MoFMRA | |
| Stock Assessment | CMFRI in consultation with FAO can act as a regional training centre on FAO Stock Assessment Methods for Tropical Fish Stocks | Continuous data collection and research nationally and reported regionally | | DoF | CMFRI and FSI will conduct the research, reporting by the DoF | MMRI will conduct the research, reporting by MMRI and MoFMRA | |
| Monitoring of shared stocks | Development of joint working groups (scientific). This group should be specifically training to work on the shared stocks. | Continuous data collection and information sharing. Development of management measures in response to findings | Working group should report to the regional body (BOBP) | Department of Fisheries | CMFRI and FSI, through the Ministry | MMRI through MoFMRA | |

| Areas identified for RPOA-IUU (based on GD-1) | Requirements (Example guiding question: If a regional vessel registry is to be set up, what additional requirements need to be met?) | | | National Cooperating Agencies | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----|
| | Human Capacity Enhancement | R&D | Enforcement | BGD | IND | MLD | SRL |
| Reporting of IUU activity | Development of joint working group on IUU activities. Training of fishermen and law enforcement agencies to identify IUU fishing activities, and on reporting mechanisms | Training capsule development. User friendly mobile application Communication mechanisms | Working group should report to the regional body (BOBP) | Coast Guard and Navy through the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock | Coast Guard/ Wildlife Crime Control Bureau/ Customs/ Port Authority/ MPDEA/ Fisheries Department | Coast Guard/ Maldives Customs Service/ MoFMRA | |
| Joint Patrolling | To develop interoperability through training on communication system and information sharing mechanism | Identify patrol areas and develop protocols for patrolling to avoid duplication. Coordination and development of mutually agreeable communication codes. | Coordinated through BOBP in consultation with law enforcement agencies | Coast Guard | Coast Guard | Coast Guard | |
| Understanding and adoption of regional and international policies & agreement | Training for all cooperating agencies on regional and international policies & agreements through BOBP Sensitization on fisheries regulations across the region | Harmonisation of national legislation with international and regional agreements | Nationally enforced. Regionally coordinated | All concerned ministries and agencies | All concerned ministries and agencies | MOFMRA, AG Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs | |
| Collection of catch & landing data | Development of capacity through training of enumerators, surveyors, inspectors and on-board observers on identification and quantification Development of data processors and data processing centres uniformly across the member States | Sampling modules and designs Data analysis Uniform format for data reporting VMS data collection | Nationally enforced. Regionally coordinated | DOF, BFRI and BFDC | Fisheries Department, CMFRI, FSI and Customs (?) | MOFMRA | |

| Areas identified for RPOA-IUU (based on GD-1) | Requirements (Example guiding question: If a regional vessel registry is to be set up, what additional requirements need to be met?) | | | National Cooperating Agencies | | | |
|--|--|---|---|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----|
| | Human Capacity Enhancement | R&D | Enforcement | BGD | IND | MLD | SRL |
| Taxonomy | Different levels of capacity development: scientific, observers, surveyors, enforcers, fishers and traders. | Developing training capsules. Customizing training materials | Nationally and Regionally coordinated | DOF and BFRI | CMFRI and ZSI | MMRI and MOFMRA | |
| Fisheries investigation (infringement, crime, etc.) | Capacity for this component will be developed through the other components | This is accounted for within preceding components | Nationally enforced. Regionally coordinated | MoFL | WCCB, Forest and Fisheries Departments, | Maldives Police Service, MOFMRA | |
| Technology Sharing | Case to case basis, dependent on proficiencies of member States | Providing technologies and coordinated developing sharing platforms | Nationally and Regionally coordinated | Concerned National Agency | Concerned National Agency | Concerned National Agency | |

Acronyms used:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| BGD: | Bangladesh |
| CG: | Coast Guard (generic) |
| CMFRI : | Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, India |
| DoF: | Department of Fisheries (generic) |
| FSI : | Fishery Survey of India |
| IND: | India |
| MLD: | Maldives |
| MMD: | Marine Mercantile Department |
| MMRI : | <i>Maldives</i> Marine Research Institute |
| MoFL: | Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Government of Bangladesh |
| MoFMRA: | Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture, Government of Maldives |
| MoT: | Ministry of Transport, Maldives |
| MPEDA: | Marine Product Export Development Authority, India |
| NARA: | National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, Sri Lanka |
| NBR: | National Board of Revenue, Bangladesh |
| R&D: | Research and Development |
| SCMFP: | Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project, Bangladesh |
| SRL: | Sri Lanka |
| ToT: | Training of Trainers |

Output from Group Discussion

Group Discussion 2: Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU [Human Capacity Enhancement, Research, Development, Enforcement)

| Areas identified for RPOA-IUU (based on GD-1) | Requirements (Example guiding question: If a regional vessel registry is to be set up, what additional requirements need to be met?) | | | National Cooperating Agencies | | | |
|---|--|---|--|------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|------|
| | Human Capacity Enhancement | R&D | Enforcement | BGD | IND | MLD | SRL |
| Vessel Registry | a. ToT for officials b. ToT for Fisher Leader/ CBOs | Formulation of regional database/ Real-time Data Dissemination of data Documentation of reports Development of online database Size, type and nationality and ownership | Full scale implementation of Existing rules and regulations Introduce new rules and regulations according to requirements Joint coastguard committee | MoFL DoF SCMFP MMD NBR | DoF | MoFMRA | DFAR |
| Stock Assessment | Training for Scientist and fishers Participatory stock assessment | Stock assessment of untapped fishing resources Make available historical data | Regional multi-disciplinary forum Regional forum with representatives of scientific community, fishers and DoF | DoF, BFRI, BORI, Academicians | CMFRI | Maldives Marine research institute | NARA |
| Monitoring of shared stocks | Training of focal points Organize regional conference for policy makers, officials | Uniform format to share data. | Regional management body of relative ministries in the region | MoFL DoF | DoF | MoFMRA | MoF |
| Reporting of IUU activity | ToT for CG Officers, fishers. Awareness to the traders, exporters and processors | catch certification schemes Traceability | Regional body | MoFL DoF | DoF | MoFMRA | DFAR |
| Joint Patrolling | Training of CG personal | Development of common observer schemes | Regional mechanism for joint patrolling | CG | CG | CG | CG |
| Under-standing and adoption of regional and international policies & agreement | training and awareness for policy and decision makers | Checklist of Policies and legislation at national level | Regional body | MoFL DoF | DoF | MoFMRA | MoF |

| Areas identified for RPOA-IUU (based on GD-1) | Requirements (Example guiding question: If a regional vessel registry is to be set up, what additional requirements need to be met?) | | | National Cooperating Agencies | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------------------------|
| | Human Capacity Enhancement | R&D | Enforcement | BGD | IND | MLD | SRL |
| Collection of catch & landing data | ToT for fishers and officers | Historical data to make public | Regional body | DoF | DoF/CMFRI | MoFMRA | MoF |
| Taxonomy | ToT for taxonomist | Research on migratory species Preparation of catalogue of fish species | Regional body | DoF | CMFRI | MMRI | NARA |
| Fisheries investigation (infringement, crime, etc.) | Training of Inspector Training of scientist and technician regarding DNA Marking Training for Lawyers | Guideline for fishermen wherever required | Regional body | DoF | DoF | MoFMRA | DFAR |
| Others | list of priorities under national level | Strengthening of information sharing | Regional body | DoF | DoF | MoFMRA | Department of Statistics |

Acronyms used

| | |
|---------|---|
| BFRI: | Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute |
| BGD: | Bangladesh |
| BORI: | <i>Bangladesh</i> Oceanographic Research Institute |
| CG: | Coast Guard (generic) |
| CMFRI: | Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, India |
| DFAR: | Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Government of Sri Lanka |
| DoF: | Department of Fisheries (generic) |
| IND: | India |
| MLD: | Maldives |
| MMD: | Marine Mercantile Department |
| MMRI: | <i>Maldives</i> Marine Research Institute |
| MoFL: | Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Government of Bangladesh |
| MoFMRA: | Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture, Government of Maldives |
| NARA: | National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, Sri Lanka |
| NBR: | National Board of Revenue, Bangladesh |
| R&D: | Research and Development |
| SCMFP: | Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project, Bangladesh |
| SRL: | Sri Lanka |
| ToT: | Training of Trainers |

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