



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# COFI:FM

## ADDRESSING ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING IN THE CONTEXT OF EFFECTIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

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# 01

## Revisiting the terms illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing



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- Addressing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is crucial to achieve effective fisheries management
  - The term IUU fishing is often conveniently applied only to illegality, whereas unreported and unregulated fishing may be of greater concern today
  - Understanding and providing an operational definition to each component of IUU fishing to enhance fisheries management is needed
  - Operational definitions of IUU fishing also support realistic assessment of the magnitude and impact of IUU fishing by:
    - Revealing critical areas or types of fishing
    - Prioritizing interventions
    - Identifying the main challenges to address

# 02

## Assessing the magnitude and impact of IUU fishing



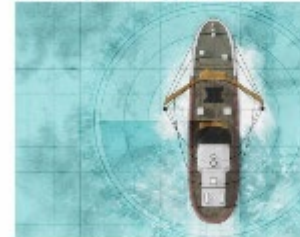
- A workshop with an expert panel was held in 2015 recognizing the value of developing standardized methods
- FAO has been working on a series of Technical Guidelines on methodologies and indicators for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing:
  - Principles and approaches
  - A practical guide to delivering an estimate
  - A catalogue of examples
  - The use of indicators of performance in fighting IUU fishing
- These Technical Guidelines are aimed at guiding regional, national or sub-national IUU fishing estimation studies



**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING**

1. Methodologies and indicators for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

1.1 Principles and approaches



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1.2 A practical guide to delivering an estimate



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1. Methodologies and indicators for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

1.3 A catalogue of examples



# 03

**Monitoring, control,  
surveillance (MCS) and  
enforcement**



- MCS is key to achieving effective fisheries management, providing reliable information and data for:
  - risk assessment
  - decision-making
  - adaptive management
- During designing or improving MCS systems:
  - identification of priority needs
  - implementation of strategies, plans operations, processes, and procedures
- Effective MCS promotes a culture of compliance
- Enforcement complements MCS
- PSMA contributes to MCS



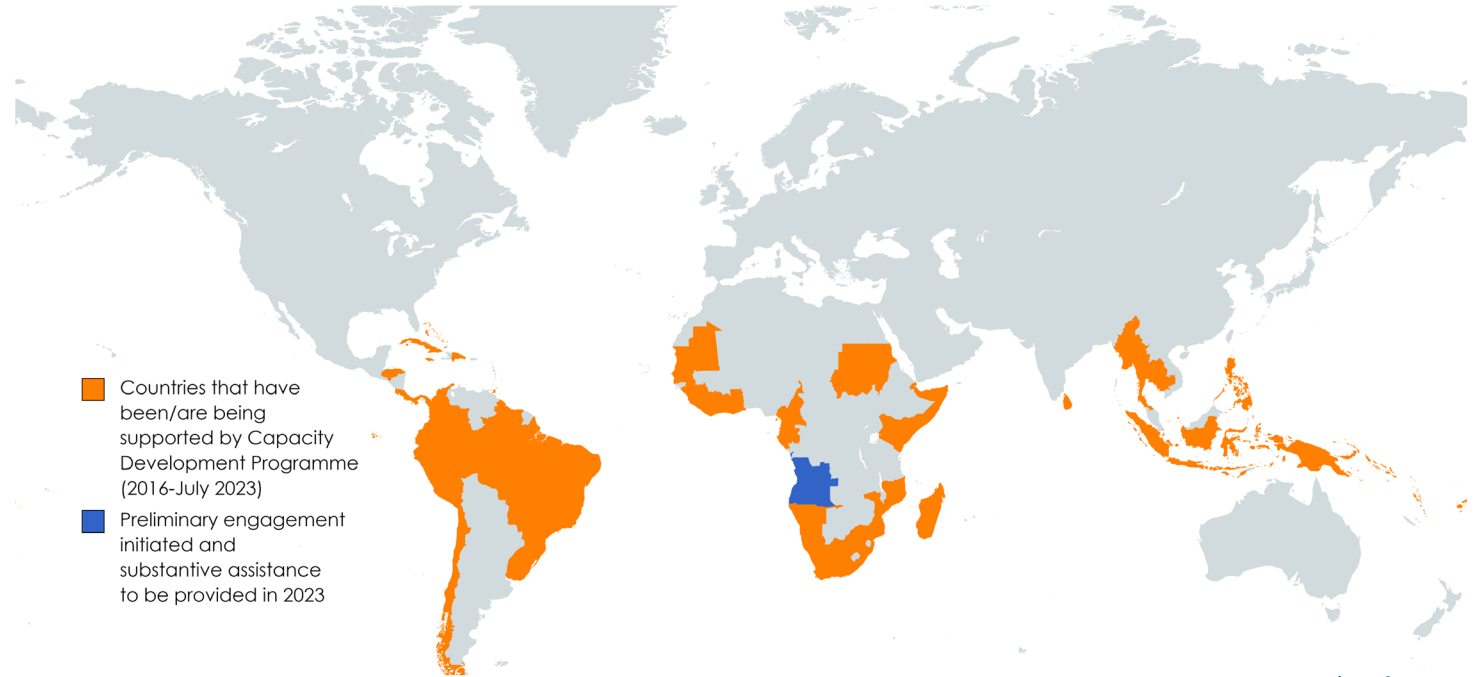


# 04

**Capacity development needs  
to combat IUU fishing**



- FAO has been supporting over 50 countries since 2017 in strengthening their capacity to more effectively combat IUU fishing
- The global capacity development Programme to support the implementation of the PSMA and complementary instruments
  - 19 projects: 28.7 million USD funded by the EU, Germany, Iceland, Norway, Rep. Korea, Spain, Sweden and USA
- Support to implement the PSMA and flag, coastal and market State responsibilities
- 35th Session of COFI urged FAO to continue supporting countries through the Programme



\*As of 14.07.2023

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# 05

**Suggested action by  
the Sub-Committee**



## The Sub-Committee is invited to:

- Discuss the **three components of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing** and their impact on achieving sustainable fisheries;
- Note the progress made on producing **guidance for Members on methodologies and indicators** for the estimation of the magnitude and impact of IUU fishing and encourage their application;
- Identify key actions to **strengthen cost-efficient, innovative and tailored monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms** for effective fisheries management, together with effective enforcement schemes to ensure compliance;
- Discuss the **challenges faced by Members in combatting IUU fishing** consistent with international standards and requirements and note capacity development needs in this regard

