



Country presentations

Combating IUU Fishing Efforts

Cambodia

Mr. Chhoun Kimchea	Deputy Director of Fisheries Affairs Department
Dr. Chin Leakhena	Deputy Director of Administrative Affairs and Litigation Department
Ms. Sen Rineth	Vice- Chief of Legislation office

**Workshop on Strengthening Regional Fisheries Governance and
Technology Integration to Combat IUU Fishing in the Indo-Pacific,
17 - 19 March 2026**





Presentation Outline

1. Overview of marine fisheries in Cambodia
2. Current situation of combating IUU fishing
 - ✓ Key national actions
 - ✓ Technologies used
3. Implementation challenges
4. Future priorities and regional cooperation



Overview of Marine Fisheries in Cambodia

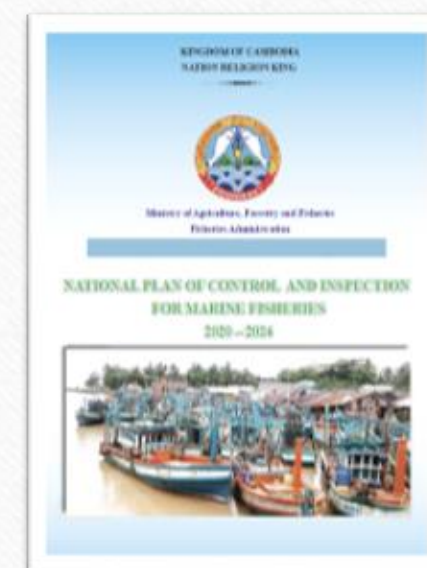
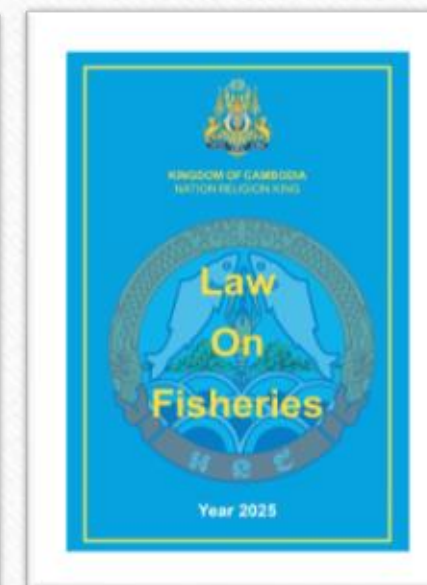
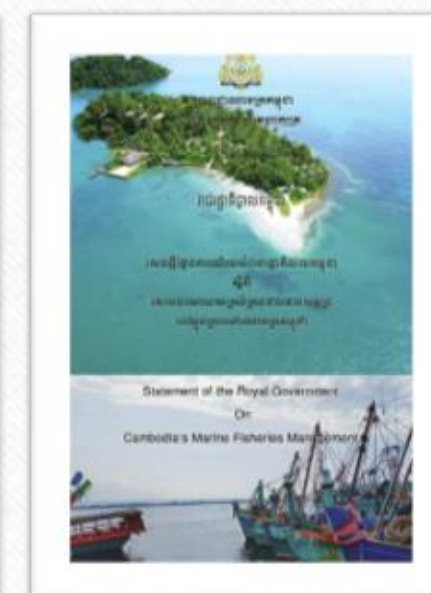
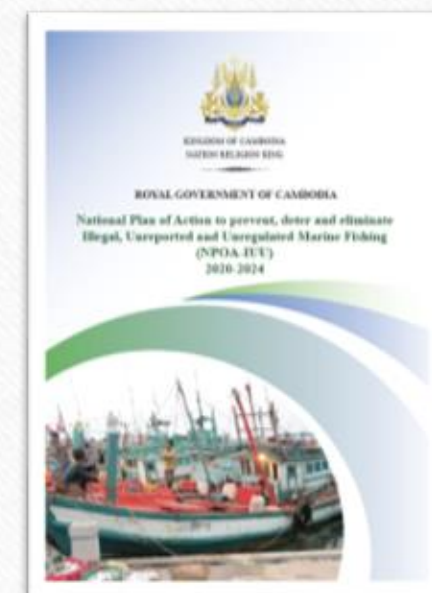
- ❖ Marine fisheries play an important role in food security and livelihoods
- ❖ Thousands of coastal fishers depend on small-scale fisheries
- ❖ Government prioritizes sustainable fisheries management
- ❖ Strengthening governance to address IUU fishing





Policy and Legal Framework

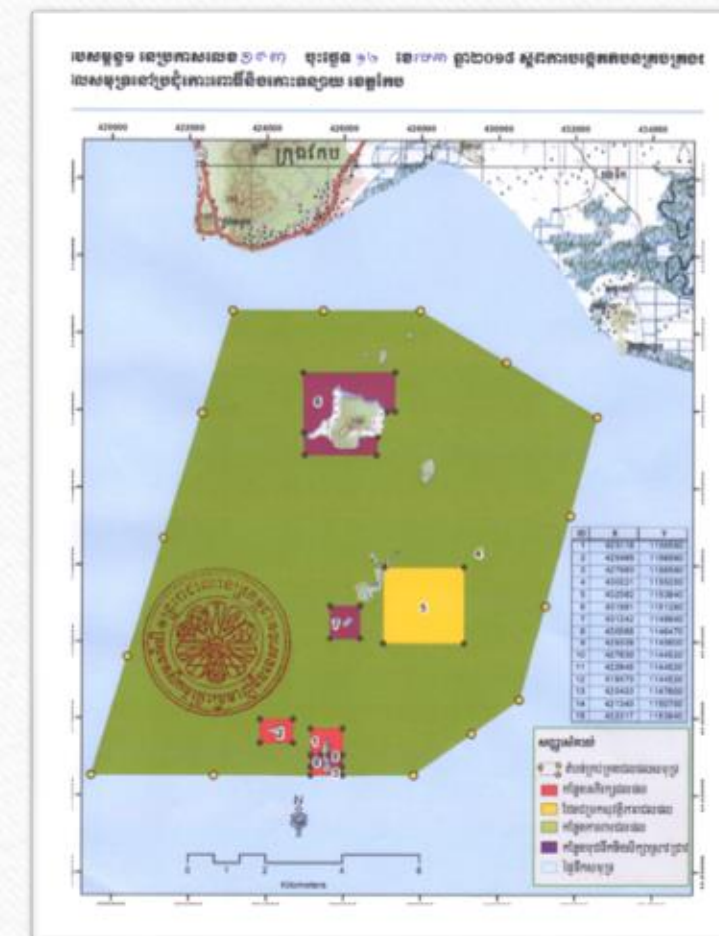
- ❖ Fisheries Law (2025) supporting sustainable fisheries management
- ❖ Sub-decrees and regulations for marine fisheries governance
- ❖ Community Fisheries (CFi) legal framework
- ❖ Ratification of International Fisheries Instruments (UNCLOS, UNFSA, PSMA, Fisheries Subsidy,)
- ❖ Alignment with international fisheries management principles
- ❖ Commitment to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing





Current Situation of Combating IUU Fishing

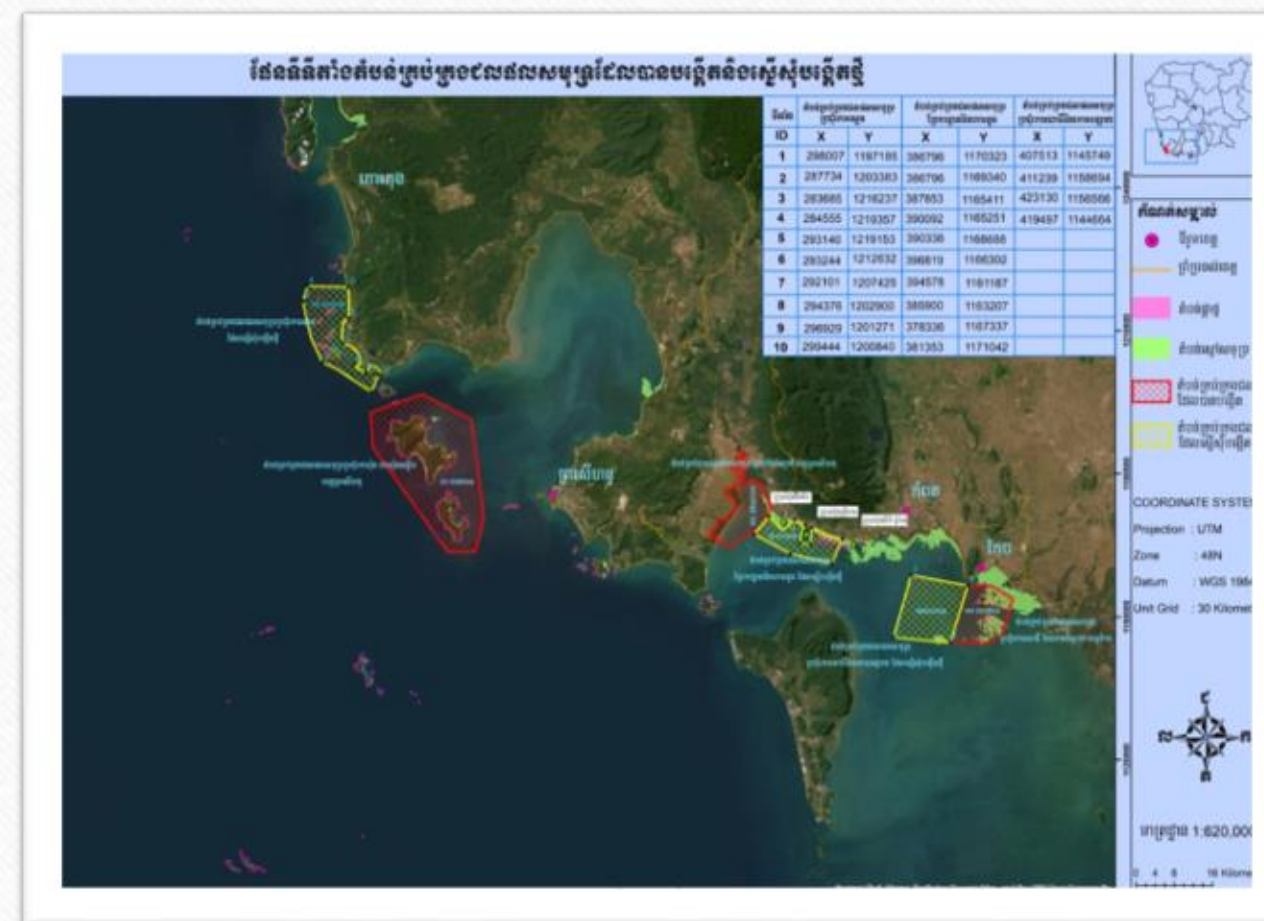
- ❖ Improved fisheries monitoring and enforcement activities
- ❖ Implementation of Marine Fisheries Management Areas (MFMA)
- ❖ Strengthening cooperation among national enforcement agencies
- ❖ Increased focus on sea and in port inspections and monitoring
- ❖ Enhanced collaboration with regional partners





Marine Fisheries Management Areas (MFMA)

- ❖ Four Marine Fisheries Management Areas established
- ❖ Management plans developed for priority fisheries (blue swimming crab, mackerel)
- ❖ Ecosystem-based fisheries management approach
- ❖ Involvement of local communities and stakeholders
- ❖ Support for sustainable fish stock management





Key Actions to Combat IUU Fishing

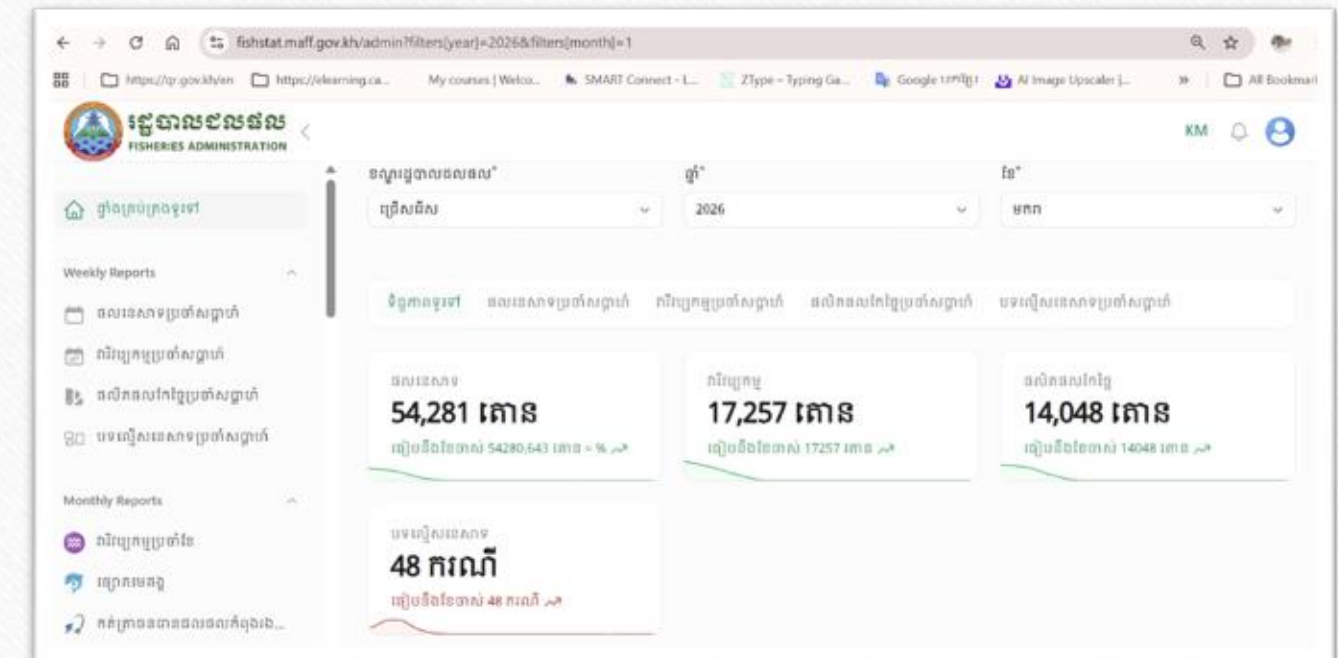
- ❖ Strengthening Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) systems
- ❖ Joint patrols with Navy, Maritime Police and local authorities
- ❖ Strengthening inspection at landing sites and fishing ports
- ❖ Promoting compliance with fisheries regulations (registration, licensing....)
- ❖ Raising awareness among fishers and communities





Technologies Used for Monitoring

- ❖ Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for tracking fishing vessels
- ❖ Use of SMART patrol tools for enforcement monitoring
- ❖ Catch logbooks and fisheries data collection systems (Fishstat)
- ❖ Electronic communication systems for reporting
- ❖ Use of digital platforms for fisheries information management





Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA)

- ❖ Designated PSMA port in Kong Kong Province
- ❖ Created an official email address (psma_cambodia@maff.gov.kh) and national PSMA webpage
- ❖ Developed national SOP for port inspection (PSMA implementation)
- ❖ Exchange information through PSMA communication channels, i.e GIES
- ❖ Capacity building supported by FAO, OceanMind-Canada and international partners
- ❖ Strengthening control of foreign fishing vessels





Regional Cooperation

- Participation in FAO, RPOA-IUU and SEAFDEC regional initiatives
- Collaboration with sub-regional countries
- Joint activities with international organizations
- Technical cooperation and training programs with AFMA, OceanMind-Canada, IMCS-JAC,
- Information sharing on IUU fishing activities



Challenges in Combating IUU Fishing

- ✓ Limited financial and technical resources
- ✓ Need for expanded monitoring technologies
- ✓ Capacity constraints in fisheries data management
- ✓ Coordination among multiple enforcement agencies
- ✓ Transboundary fishing and regional enforcement issues



Opportunities and Future Priorities

- ✓ Strengthening digital monitoring and vessel tracking systems
- ✓ Improving fisheries data and catch documentation
- ✓ Enhancing training for enforcement officers
- ✓ Expanding regional and international cooperation on IUU fishing (bilateral agreement: CM and OceanMind-Canada; AFMA, IMCS/JAC, others)
- ✓ Promoting sustainable fisheries management



Key Messages

- ✓ Strong governance is essential to combat IUU fishing
- ✓ Technology plays an important role in monitoring fisheries
- ✓ Regional cooperation is critical for effective enforcement
- ✓ Community participation strengthens fisheries management
- ✓ Cambodia remains committed to sustainable fisheries



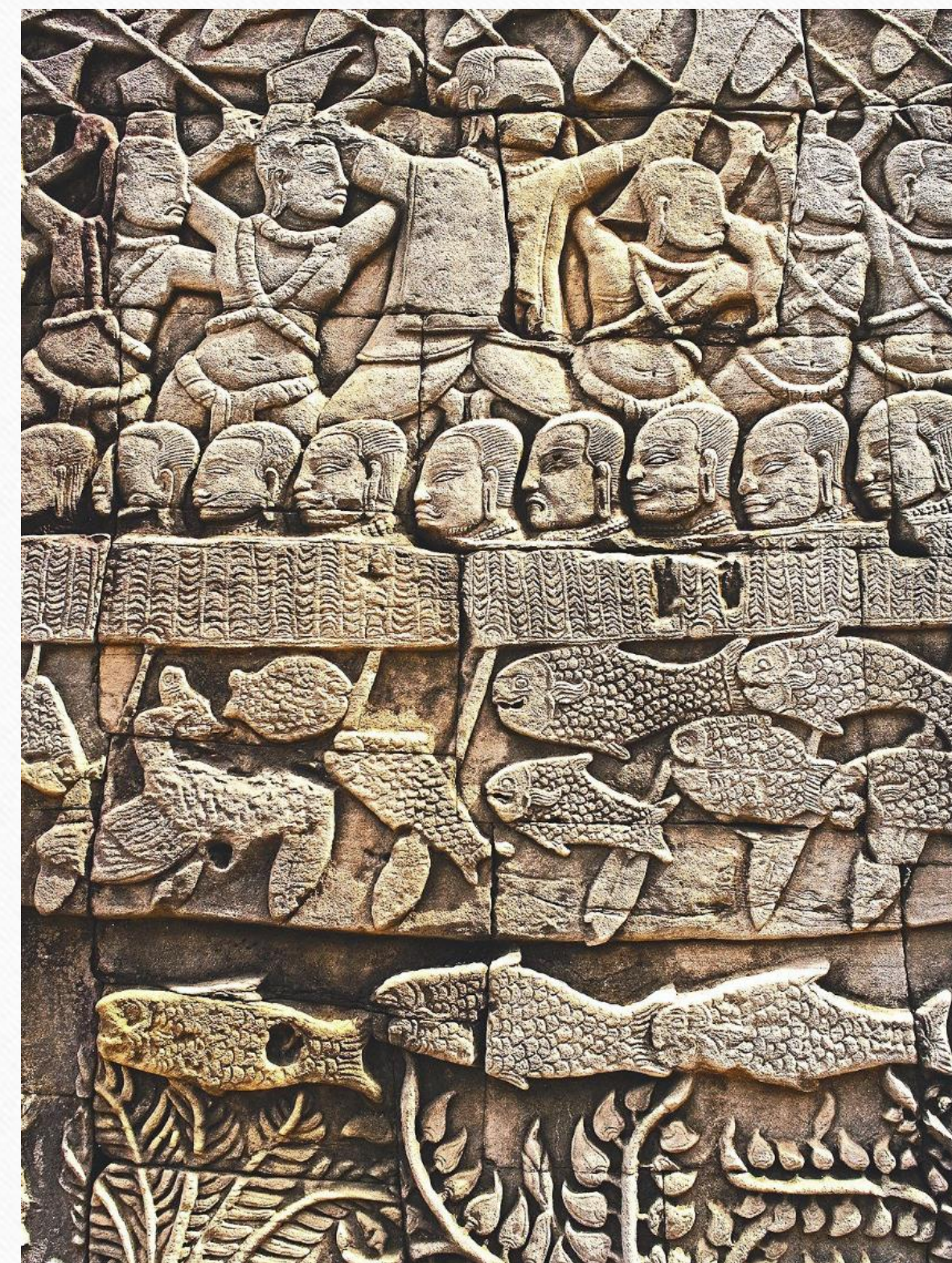
Fisheries Administration

No. 186, Norodom Boulevard, Sangkat Tonle Basac Khan
Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. P.O. Box 582

023 215 470

<https://www.facebook.com/fisheries.maff.gov.kh>

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Thank you!



Biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) in September 2025

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea in January 2026

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

