



Combating IUU Fishing Efforts in the Philippines



Philippine Fisheries Sector

FISHERIES PRODUCTION

4.26 Million

Metric Tons

ECONOMIC VALUE

~USD 5.5 Billion
equivalent

Fisheries Production Value

FISHERFOLK LIVELIHOOD

~2 Million

Registered Fisherfolk (FishR)

FISHERIES EXPORTS

USD 1.14 Billion

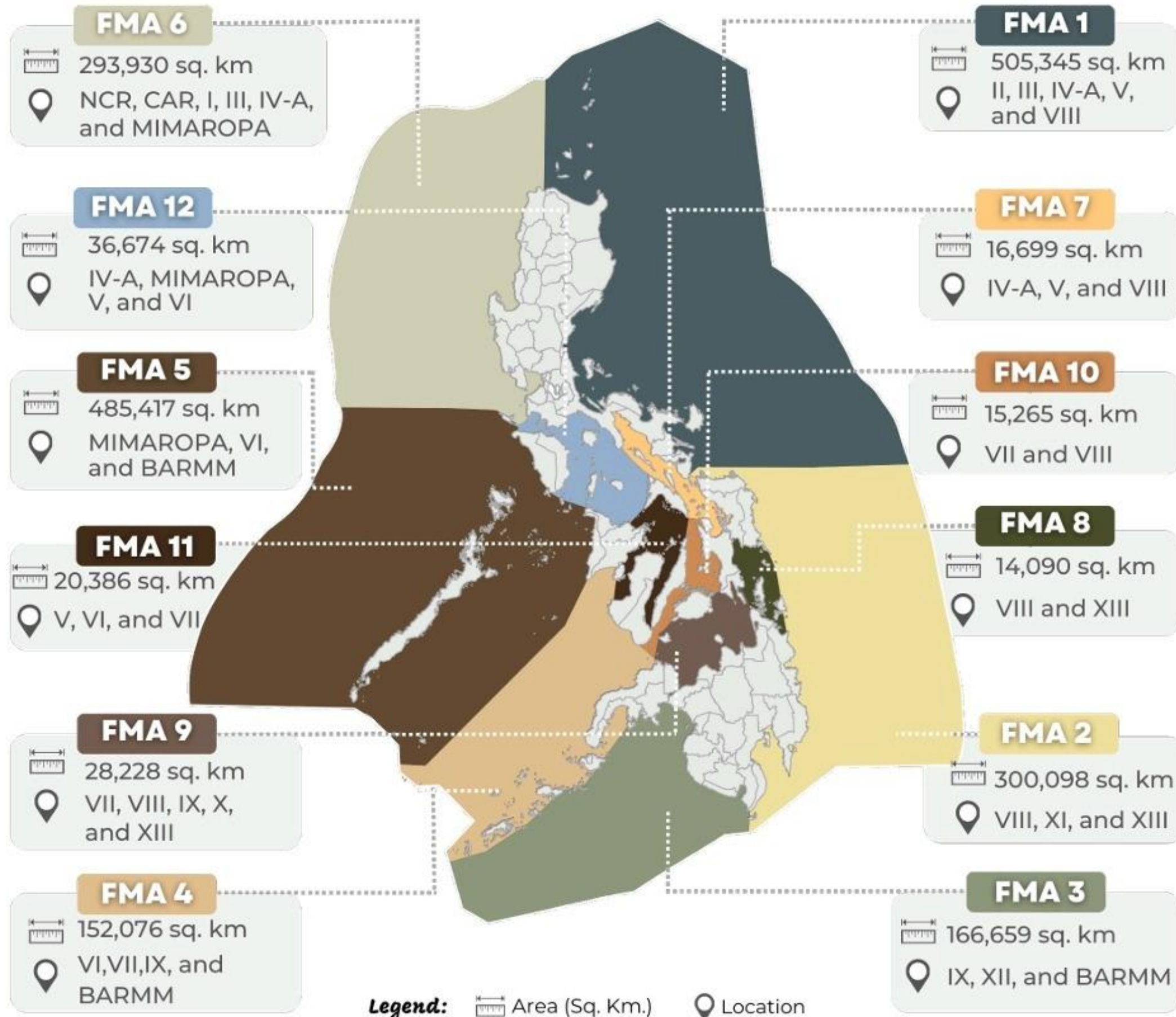
Fisheries Exports



PHILIPPINE MARINE RESOURCES

- 36,289 km Coastline
- 7,641 Islands
- 2.26 Million km² EEZ

Fisheries Management Areas



Establishment & Goal:

To address overfishing and habitat destruction, the FMA approach moved management from a strictly political boundary to an ecological one (stock distribution, oceanography)

Structure & Participation:

Each FMA is governed by a management board representing stakeholders, including fishers, traders, and local government, focusing on science-based data for decision-making.

Sub-sectors Managed:

Covers municipal (within 15 km of the coast) and commercial fisheries (beyond 15 km) to curb illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing.



NSAP
National Stock Assessment Program



VMS
Vessel Monitoring System



FISHERIES OBSERVERS PROGRAM



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

ENSURING COMPLIANCE IN FISHERIES

REGULATIONS & PERMITS

- ✓ Fishing Licenses
- ✓ Catch Limits
- ✓ Seasons & Zones

AT SEA - VESSEL INSPECTIONS



PORT CONTROL

- Catch Documentation
- Unloading & Reporting
- ★ Inspection & Verification



COMPLIANCE CHECKS

✓ Legal Fishing Practices

- ✓ Allowed Species
- ✓ Catch Limits
- ✓ Fishing Zones



Record Keeping

Logbooks, Permits, VMS



Enforcement Actions

- ✓ Violations
- ✓ Fines • Penalties
- ✓ Vessel Sanctions



MONITORING & SUPERVISION

VMS • Surveillance • Inspections



DATA & REPORTING

BFAR

✓ Compliance Database

MARKET CONTROL

Traceability ✓ Legal Supply Chain



SUSTAINABLE & LEGAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

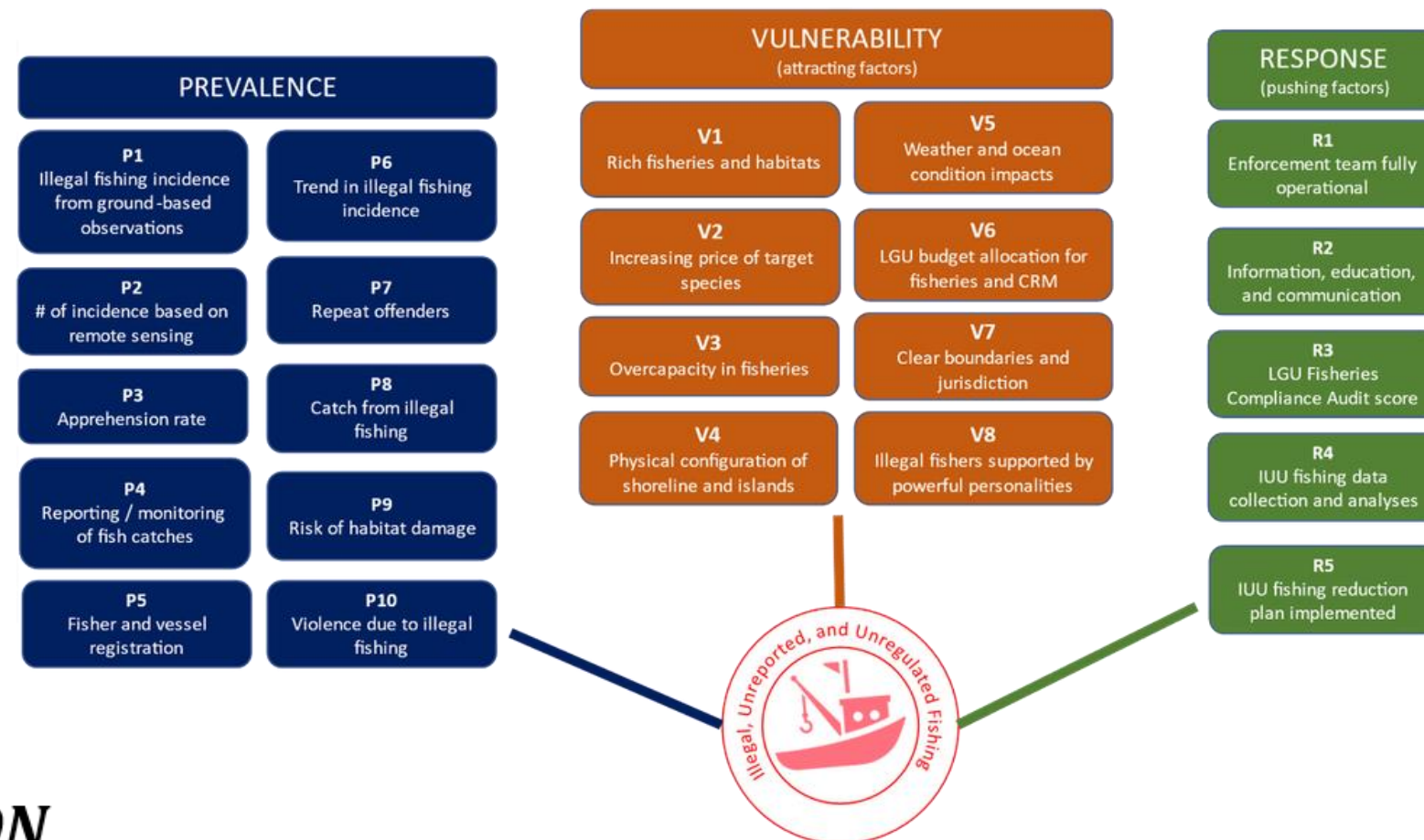
Scale of the IUUF Problem



Prevalence
How big of a threat is IUU fishing?

Vulnerability
Why is IUU fishing still occurring?

Response
What is being done?



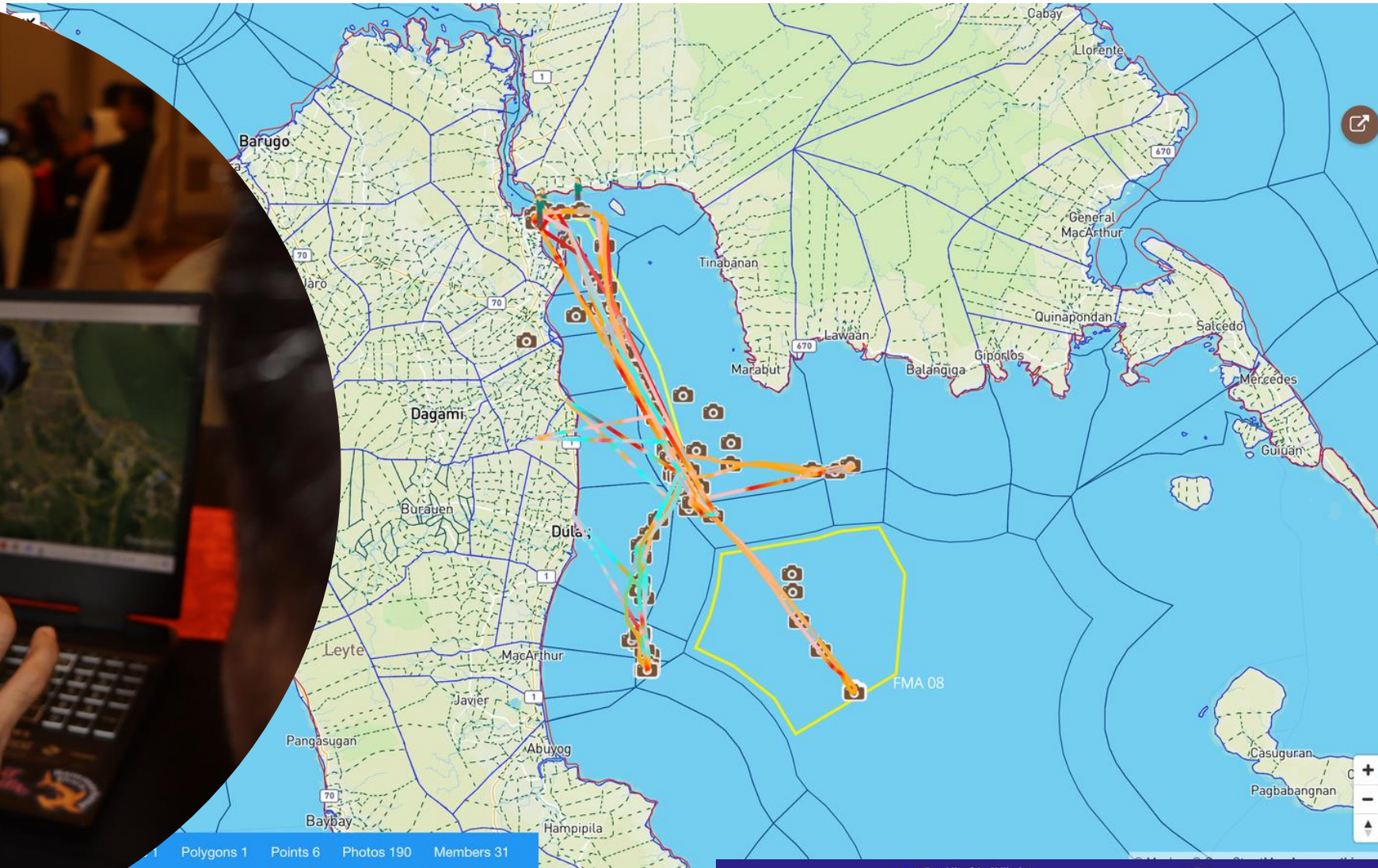
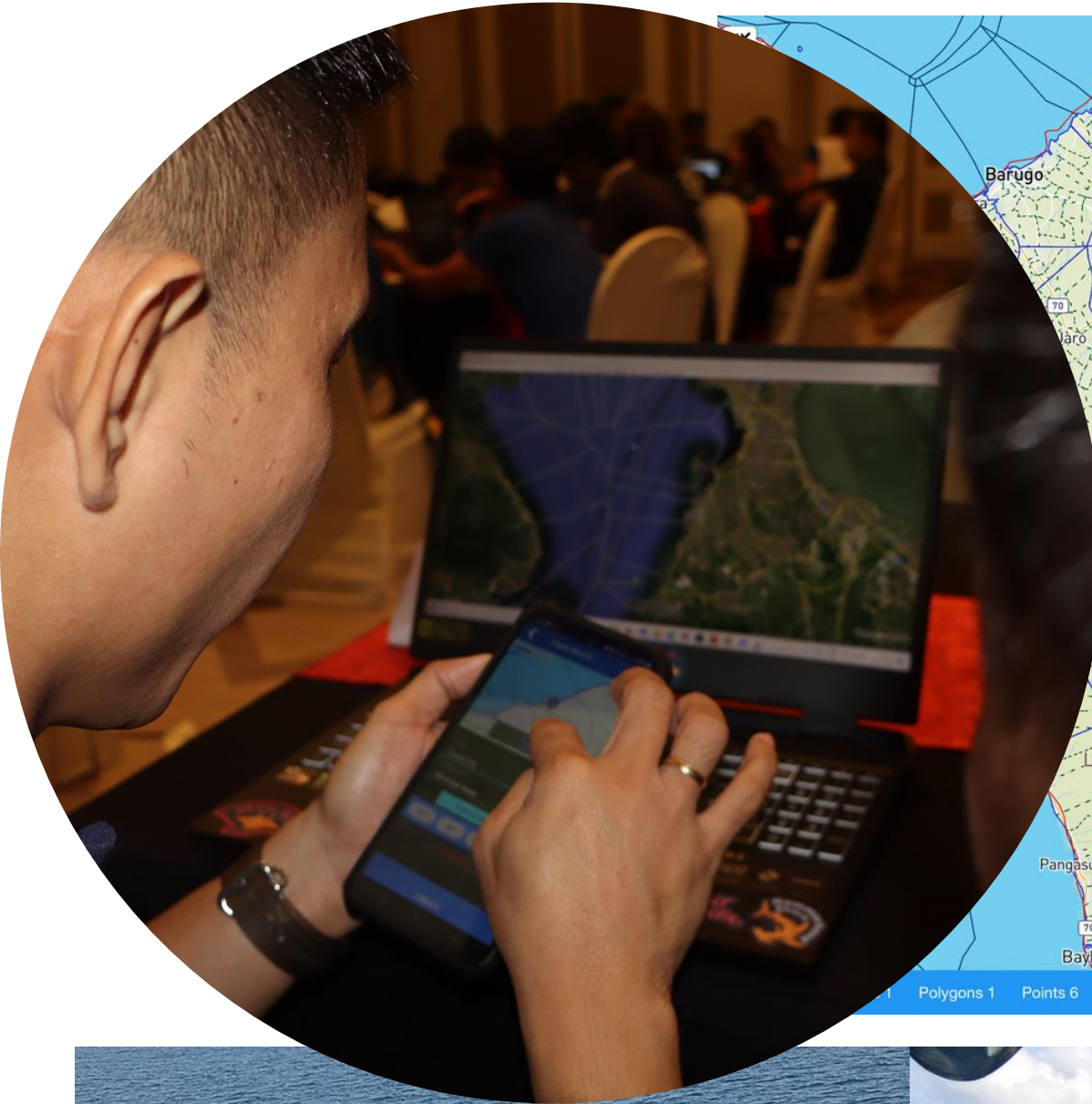
INTEGRITY

PROFESSIONALISM

INNOVATION

Monitoring, Control & Surveillance (MCS)

SURVEILLANCE & ENFORCEMENT



FishSHIELDS Fisheries Sharing Hub on Investigation, Enforcement, Litigation, and Detection System

Core Functions

FishSHIELDS is a USAID-supported digital governance platform of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) to control illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the Philippine waters. Using cloud computing and on-premises servers, the Bureau could make timely and appropriate decisions based on up-to-date information, reduce operational costs, ensure compliance with regulations and international obligations, enhance transparency and accountability, and provide access to correct information in real-time. With FishSHIELDS, the data value chain from data genesis, collection, processing, storage, analysis, and response, is significantly shortened with online transmission of data. FishSHIELDS has two mobile applications, SeaPat and AquaWatch, which interface seamlessly with data hub to give situational awareness to enforcement commanders and analysts to make decisions.

✓ Detection, Planning, and Tactical Coordination

Hub, Data Sharing, Cloud Computing, Hybrid Servers



✓ Secured Inter-agency and multi sectoral collaboration

Enroll and Download
<https://fishshieldsph.web.app>



PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

BFAR launches FishSHIELDS vs. illegal, unreported fishing in PH waters

By Stephanie Sevilla
June 5, 2024, 3:46 pm

MANILA – The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) on Wednesday launched the Fisheries Sharing Hub on Investigation, Enforcement, Litigation, and Detection System (FishSHIELDS) to combat illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing (IUUF).

FishSHIELDS equips enforcers with digital tools that will help them identify, prevent and apprehend cases of IUUF and other violations within Philippine waters.

The new fishery enforcement tool was developed in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as part of BFAR's efforts to preserve the wealth of the country's seas for food security.

In an ambush interview, BFAR spokesperson Nazario Briguera said the FishSHIELDS is an offline mobile application that may resemble a 911 hotline to ensure swift response against IUU fishing.

"Hindi siya kailangan online, offline siya, pwedeng mailabas. And then matatanggap ng isang personnel o law enforcer. And then from there magkakaroon ng (It does not need to be online, it can be sent offline. And then it will be received by a personnel or law enforcer. And from there, there will be a) coordination in the local

PHOTO: BFAR

INTEGRITY

PROFESSIONALISM

INNOVATION

MONITORING



- Data Interoperability

- Limited Analytics Manpower



- Monitoring Blind Spots



- Monitoring Blind Spots

CONTROL



- Pressure from Economic & Political Actors

SURVEILLANCE



- Uneven VMS Compliance



ENFORCEMENT



- Evidence Documentation Gaps

- Custody & Impounding Limitations



- Case Build-Up Capacity

Issues and Challenges



QUESTIONS?

“Technology enables us to see more — but governance and enforcement ensure we act on what we see.”

INTEGRITY

PROFESSIONALISM

INNOVATION



"Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing!"



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End of the Presentation