

**Regional Training Course on Enhancing Capacity for Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS)
of Domestic and International Vessels to Combat IUU fishing**

**20 August 2025
Jakarta, Indonesia**



Regional Initiative: RPOA-IUU

RPOA-IUU Secretariat

***Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices
including combating IUU fishing (RPOA-IUU)***

Overview of RPOA-IUU

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

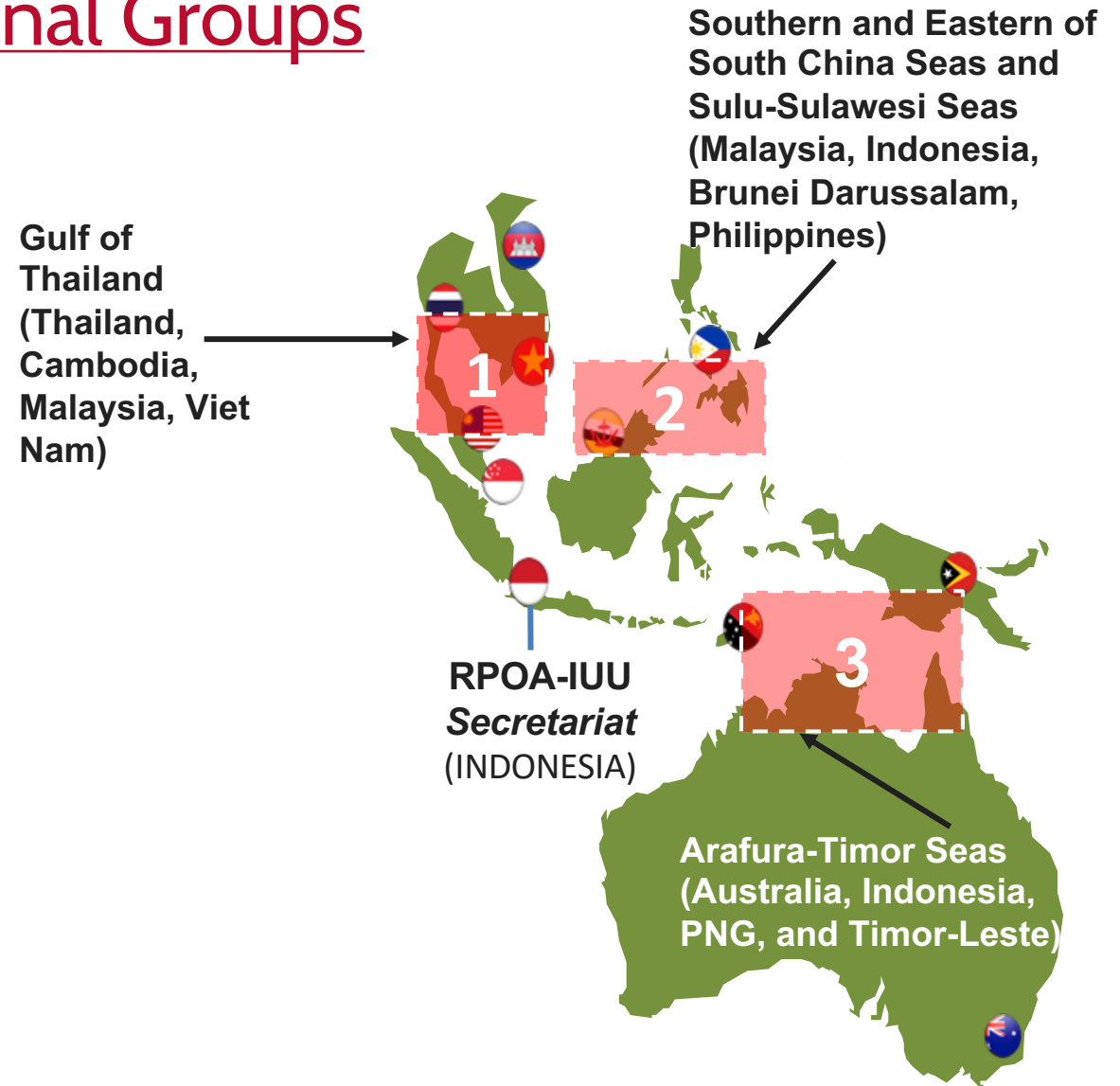
1. The RPOA-IUU is a **voluntary instrument** and takes its core principles from international agreements and instruments for promoting responsible fishing practices
2. Agreed on 4 May 2007, Bali-Indonesia, by 11 Ministers related to fisheries (**Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia,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

Overview of RPOA-IUU Sub-Regional Groups

History:

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

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



RPOA-IUU MCS SUB REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS



Country participants:

1. Malaysia
2. Cambodia
3. Viet Nam
4. Thailand

The 2025 A Way Forward for the Sub Regional of the Gulf of Thailand:

1. Updating national legal frameworks to be in line with international laws and instruments
2. Updating NPOA-IUU and related strategic plans
3. Improved information on marine fish catch/stock assessments
4. Information on stock assessment of transboundary species and harmonized framework of transboundary management
5. Providing fishery intelligence as tools for combating IUU fishing
6. Improving the efficiency of maritime MCS and surveillance
7. Enhancing knowledge on MCS for Fisheries Officers
8. Estimation of losses due to IUU fishing
9. Raising awareness within and across the national line agencies and fishers
10. Cooperation and sharing information
11. Strengthening regional and bilateral dialogues
12. Encroachment by foreign fishing vessel
13. Illegal fishing practices
14. Controlling transshipment activities



Future activities and Programs:

1. Coordinated patrolling with neighboring countries
2. Strengthening surveillance and enforcement activities
3. Improving MCS technologies
4. Conducting awareness programs
5. Information exchange on the lesson-learned among member countries
6. Establishing community-based surveillance

Country participants:

1. Malaysia
2. Indonesia
3. Brunei Darussalam
4. Philippines



2025 Action Plan:

1. Continued coordinated patrols
2. Continued Public Information Campaigns
3. Continued information sharing
4. Capacity building opportunities

Country participants:

1. Papua New Guinea
2. Australia
3. Indonesia
4. Timor-Leste

RPOA-IUU CORE ELEMENTS



CORE ELEMENT

UPDATE STATUS

**Current resource and management
Situation in the region**

RPOA-IUU participating countries continue to conduct assessment and review of national fisheries legislation. Each member countries has developed their NPOA-IUU (9 out of 11 RPOA-IUU participating countries)

**Implementation of international and
regional instruments**

RPOA-IUU participating countries continue to work toward ratification and implementation regional and international instruments

**Role of regional and multilateral
organisations**

RPOA-IUU participating countries are parties/non contracting parties of regional and multilateral organizations, including RFMOs

Coastal State responsibilities

RPOA-IUU participating countries multilaterally and bilaterally collaborate in data sharing and monitoring of fishing vessel movement and activities

Flag State responsibilities

All RPOA-IUU participant countries have reviewed their vessel registration and have no vessel listed as IUU fishing vessel of the respective RFMOs. The progress is differed from country to country.

RPOA-IUU CORE ELEMENTS



CORE ELEMENT	UPDATE STATUS
Regional Market Measures	Several RPOA-IUU participating countries has implemented catch documentation scheme such as E-ACDS, Catch Certificate, e-logbook and e-monitoring. Different level of implementation in each country
Regional capacity building	Have a partnership with several Government Agencies and international organizations, such as the Australian Government, Canada Government, and International MCS Network
Strengthening MCS	As part of strengthening MCS, almost all participating countries have developed and implemented catch reporting system.
Transshipment at sea	RPOA-IUU participating countries implement strong measures of transshipment at sea. In some participating countries, transshipment is banned.
Implementation	Developing publicity material to increase public awareness on RPOA-IUU, including its progressive efforts in combating IUU fishing

Indonesia

Technology-based Integrated Surveillance System





Malaysia

Establish and Implementation SOP Listing and Delisting Fishing Vessel in Malaysia-IUU List

1



The detention of fishing vessels by enforcement agencies (DOF, Police, and MMEA) will be reported to the IUU Fishing Liaison Officer and the Fisheries Communication Centre (FISHCOM)

2



FISHCOM record the fishing vessel information case. IUU Fishing Liaison Officer notify the authority of flag state for detention case involving Foreign Fishing Vessel

3



The case of fishing vessel detain because of IUU fishing activity reported to IUU Technical Committee and IUU Steering Committee to be listed in the Malaysia-IUU list



Thailand: AN-IUU Interactive Platform



- ❖ AN - IUU Interactive Platform was **developed, established and introduced** to AMS
- ❖ The username & password to access the Platform already **provided** to Focal Points
- ❖ **Launch** the AN - IUU Interactive Platform
- ❖ **Endorsed** AN-IUU Guidelines ASEAN
- ❖ **Stand and Ready** for sharing the information among ASEAN

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

**RPOA-IUU**
Regional Plan of Action To Combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing

2025 Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Key Instruments

To foster information-sharing cooperation in promoting responsible fisheries practices, RPOA-IUU participating countries are encouraged to provide a summary of the ratification process of international instruments and the implementation process of regional instruments. The RPOA-IUU Secretariat is responsible to ensure and maintain the Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) List are relevant to current situation. For more information on our efforts, please refer to the document.

[Click here for further information](#)


2024/2025 CCAMLR Non-Contracting Party IUU Vessel List

WCPFC IUU Vessel List for 2025

CCSBT IUU Vessel List

10 entries per page

Search:

Current Name	Current Flag	Date of Notification	Action Taken
STS-50	unknown	4 July 2018	Seized by Indonesia on 2 August 2018. Source: CCAMLR NCP IUU Vessel List 2016
Neptune	unknown	13 Januari 2025 (Effective from 1 February 2025: WCPFC21 agreed to maintain the WCPFC IUU list for 2024)	2025 WCPFC IUU VESSEL LIST
Fu Lien No 1	unknown	13 Januari 2025 (Effective from 1 February 2025: WCPFC21 agreed to maintain the WCPFC IUU list for 2024)	2025 WCPFC IUU VESSEL LIST
Yu Fong 168	Unknown	13 Januari 2025 (Effective from 1 February 2025: WCPFC21 agreed to maintain the WCPFC IUU list for 2024)	2025 WCPFC IUU VESSEL LIST
Kuda Laut 03	Philippines	13 Januari 2025 (Effective from 1 February 2025: WCPFC21 agreed to maintain the WCPFC IUU list	2025 WCPFC IUU VESSEL LIST



Discussion 1: Type of data to be shared

It includes the description of data, the ownership of data, and the key data elements (KDEs)



Strategic Data

For long-term planning & high-level decision making

- Stock Assessment Data
- Economic Data
- Climate and Environmental Data
- Policy and Governance Data



Tactical Data

For medium-term planning and management decisions

- Seasonal Fishing Patterns
- Fleet Capacity Data
- Quota Management
- Market Information
- Enforcement Statistics



Operational Data

For day-to-day management and immediate decision making

- Vessel tracking data
- Catch data
- Environmental conditions
- Port Activities
- Real-time enforcement
- Market prices



Discussion 2

The protocol provisions are categorized into the scale of sharing, the media used for sharing, routing requests, the expected response time, and specific requirements or notes.

six top types of
data



1. Fisheries catch data 
2. Vessel tracking and AIS data 
3. Port and landing details 
4. Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing reports 
5. Market and trade data 
6. Environmental and ecological data 

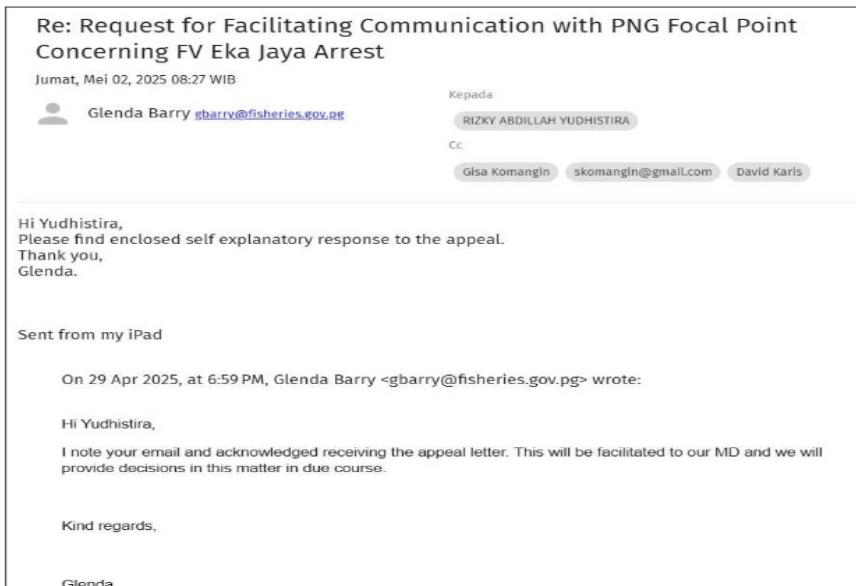


September 26, 2024 by admin



- These incidents underscore the effectiveness of international collaboration in combating IUU fishing.
- It affirms the strength of regional cooperation and inter-agency cooperation to address transnational nature of IUU fishing activities.
- This case serves as a pivotal lesson, demonstrating the necessity of cross-border cooperation and robust community engagement to combat illegal fishing comprehensively.
- The proactive sharing of intelligence and resources among RPOA-IUU member countries is crucial to deterring and eradicating transboundary illegal fishing activities.

Regional efforts: Data-sharing mechanism (case studies)



Recognizing the critical role of regional cooperation in eradicating IUU fishing, the RPOA-IUU Secretariat facilitates communication channels with Papua New Guinea's (PNG) National Fisheries Authority (NFA) and Indonesia's PSDKP to address a situation involving alleged fishing activities conducted by Indonesian flagged vessels in PNG waters, namely KMN Eka Jaya, within the territorial waters and EEZ of PNG.

This assistance included facilitating communication and exploring options for amicable resolution through an out-of-court settlement



- Papua New Guinea requests information regarding an apprehension carried out in the High Seas by the Indonesian patrol vessel ORCA-06. The vessel apprehended foreign-flagged vessel, Princess Janice 168, which is licensed to fish in PNG waters.
- RPOA-IUU facilitates communication between PNG and Indonesia about the safety and well-being of the PNG's observers.

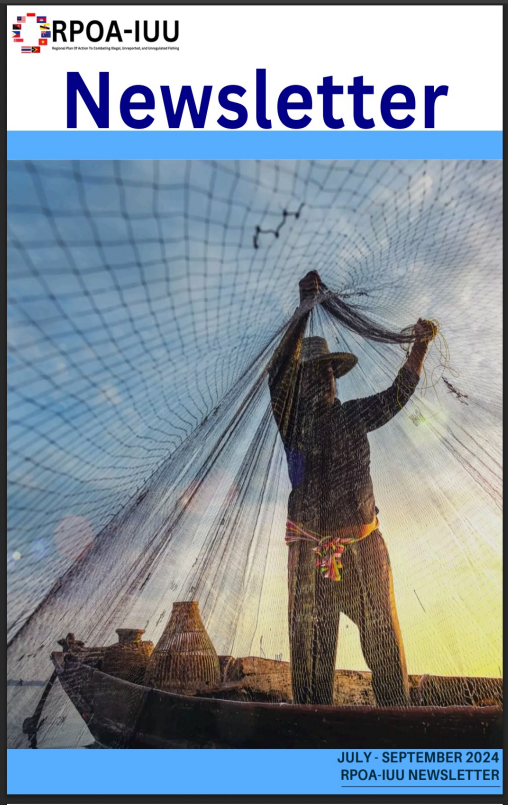
Regional efforts: Providing a tailored capacity-building



Prioritizing a tailored capacity-building programs which is designed to meet the specific needs of each country.



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



RPOA-IUU NEWSLETTER

RPOA-IUU KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM



📅 July 31, 2024 by admin



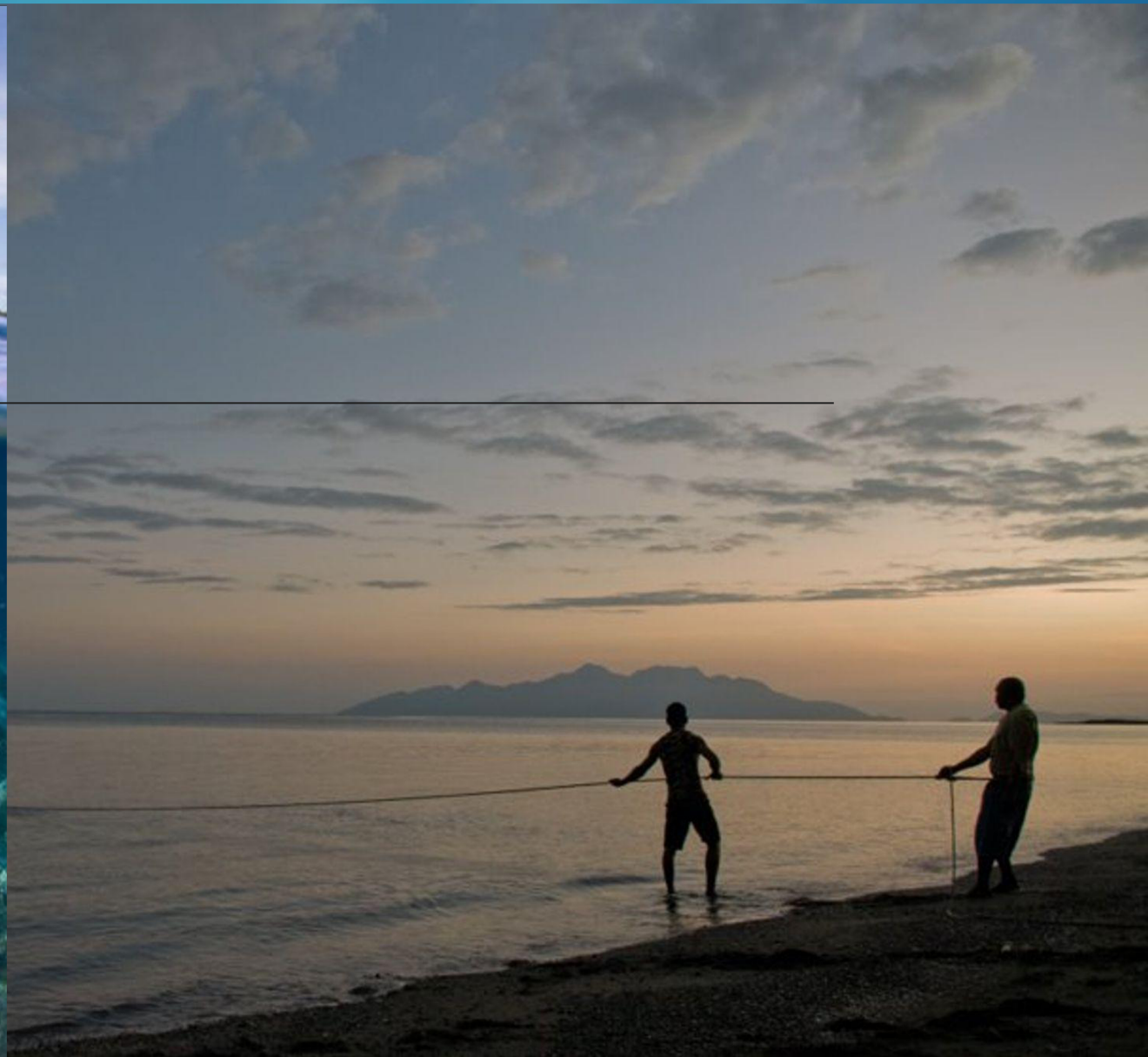


- Recent findings from the FAO-APFIC have highlighted that several countries in Southeast Asia are vulnerable to the IUU fishing incidents and been identified as potential illegal fishing hotspot
- Since its establishment of the RPOA-IUU, countries have demonstrated their progressive efforts in addressing IUU fishing by strengthened commitment through the RPOA-IUU
- However, a comprehensive study estimating the current levels of IUU fishing in RPOA-IUU countries has not developed yet.
- **To support this**, we are planning to conduct study and research on the estimation of the IUU fishing level, including the key drivers of the IUU fishing (subject to country's approval)
- The outcome of study will serve as a valuable reference for countries to take corrective action and to determine effective monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) efforts used for combating IUU fishing.



- The Stimson Centre conducted the risk assessment process to assess the specific economic, environmental, and governance risk factors that drive IUU fishing in the South China Seas and Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape (SCS SSS) and surrounding region by using the Stimson Center's Climate and Ocean Risk Vulnerability Initiative (CORVI) survey methods.
- The research area covered one of the RPOA-IUU Sub- Regional Groups, the Southern and Eastern South China Seas and Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape (SESCS and SSS), which generally includes Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Brunei Darussalam.
- The results, averaging indicator scores across governance, environmental, and economic categories, suggest **a medium-high risk level for the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape (SSS) in each category**. Governance indicators ranked **medium-high (5.09-5.63)**. Environmental and ecological risks ranged from medium to medium-high **(4.95-6.94)**. Economic risks exhibited the greatest variance, **with a high range of 4.96 to 7.55**.

RPOA-IUU UPCOMING ACTIVITIES





Background:

- While the Compliance Agreement has been in place since 1993, its implementation across Southeast Asia has progressed at varying levels. Only 2 RPOA-IUU participating countries have ratified the Agreement (Australia and the Philippines).
- RPOA-IUU Secretariat collaborates with the Australian Government, ANCORS, and IMCS in conducting the Workshop on Promoting Flag State Responsibility and the FAO Compliance Agreement Workshop 1993;

Objectives

- This activity aims to deepen regional understanding of the importance of effective Flag State responsibility, including successful national and regional efforts to promote it;



- Under the SEA-RIFF Innovation Fund of the Australian Government, we are planning to conduct a study on IUU Fishing Losses in the Gulf of Thailand. This study aims to estimate the loss of social, economic, and biodiversity posed by IUU fishing activities;
- The latest development is to design tailored-approach and methods used in this study;
- It is expected that this study could be a pilot project that can be adapted in other RPOA-IUU participating countries.

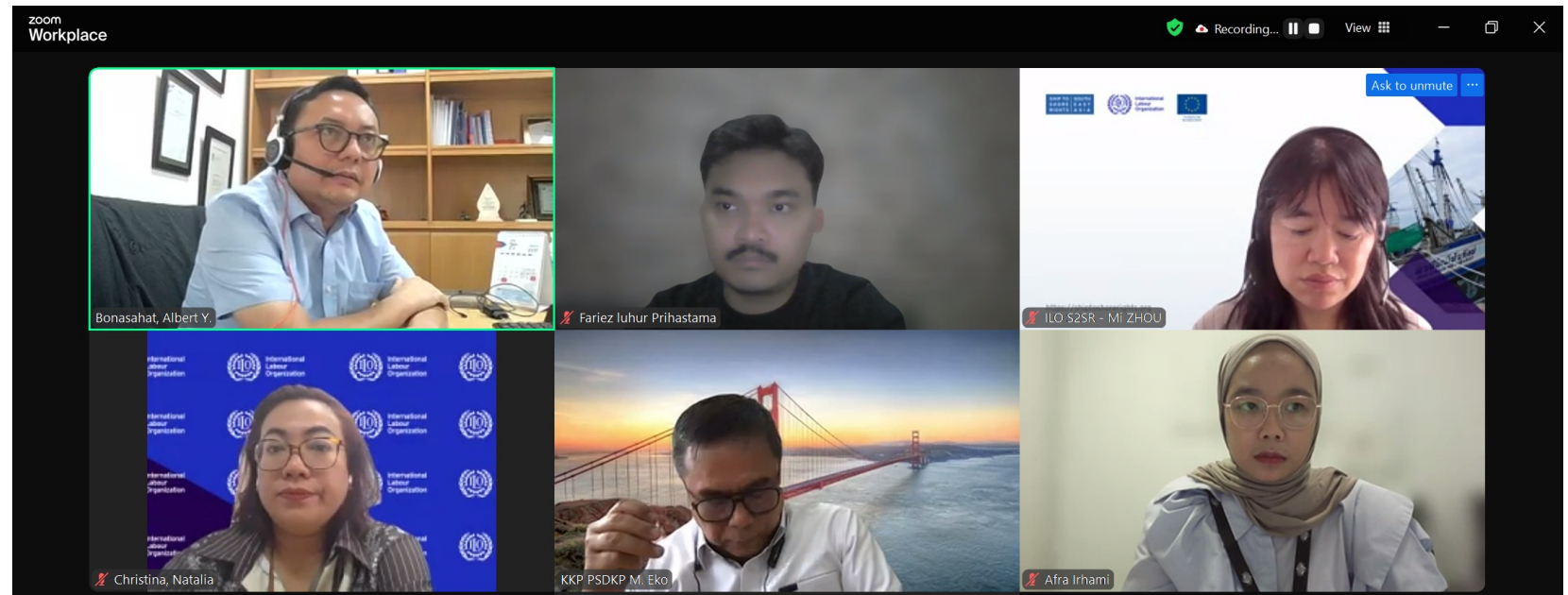


- The Regional Fisheries Intelligence Training Program aims to strengthen the monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) capabilities of RPOA-IUU participating countries.
- These activities will help contribute to the overall program goal by enhancing capacity of fisheries officers to implement MCS elements, including integrated surveillance systems and effective utilization of existing fisheries intelligence by officers in their respective countries.

Promoting the importance of decent working conditions



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



Strengthening cooperation with the RPOA-IUU partners



- In collaboration with the Australian Government, the RPOA-IUU Secretariat plans to conduct the Partners Coordination Meeting 2.0 on September 2025.
- The meeting aims to promote cooperative efforts among regional stakeholders to strengthen collaboration and synergy in combating IUU fishing across Southeast Asia

RPOA-IUU objectives	Activity Output
Strengthening capacity for engagement in international instrument	Promotion of the implementation of the FAO Compliance Agreement 1993;
Strengthening MCS, fisheries enforcement, and board inspection	Regional activities for strengthening the capacity of the RPOA-IUU in promoting responsible fishing practices including combating IUU fishing
Strengthening information systems/mechanisms	Development of data-sharing mechanism led by Working Group of Data-sharing Mechanism
Strengthening administrative, legal and policy support	Capacity building on IUU Risk Assessment Tools and Policy dialogues
Strengthening regional/international cooperation	Acquaintanceship of decent working conditions on fishing vessels and seafood industry

Outcomes from the 2024 RPOA-IUU Partners Coordination Meeting

Advancing the effective partnership models



- As a follow-up from the Partners Coordination Meeting, with support from the Australian Government, we develop the draft Partnership Mechanism Guidelines.
- The Guidelines detail the procedures, roles, and responsibilities for engaging with external partners. The purpose is to formalise support and collaboration, streamline processes, avoid duplication of efforts, and maximise the impact of regional activities.

The primary objectives of the RPOA-IUU Partnership Mechanism Guidelines are:

- **Establish a structured framework**
Establish clear processes for receiving support and engaging with external partners, ensuring transparent and effective collaboration.
- **Promote coordinated action**
Efforts to enhance alignment of supports and initiatives across the region to avoid duplication and maximize resources.
- **Build collective capacity**
Strengthen the national and regional capacities to combat IUU fishing through collective action and collaboration.
- **Foster sustainable partnership**
Ensure partnerships with RPOA-IUU are sustainable and result-oriented which aligned with RPOA-IUU's priorities.

It will be further discussed in the RPOA-IUU Consultative Meeting 2025 on 26 September 2025

Promoting women's role in fisheries surveillance



- Australia's Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and Promoting Sustainable Fisheries in Southeast Asia program (the Program) hosted Women in Fisheries Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, from 14 to 16 May 2024.
- During the workshop, it also explored the possibility for establishing women in fisheries network, with the results and findings for the purpose of the network, as follow:



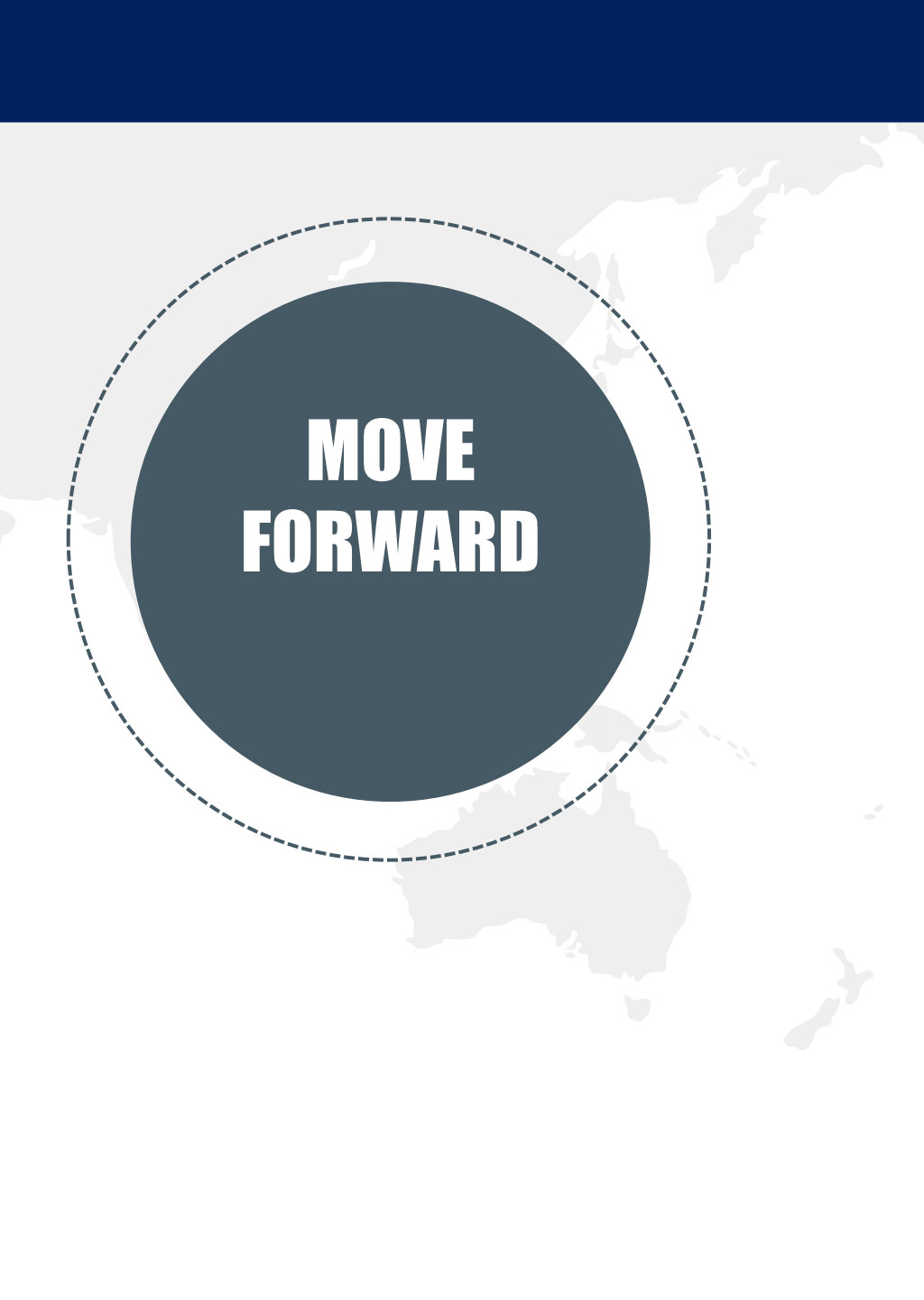
- *Influencing policy and decision-making 23%, sharing knowledge and best practices 33%, providing mentorship and support 28%, advocating for women's roles in the field 22%, and facilitating collaboration and networking 31%.*

With support from the Australian Government, we are currently progressing with the establishment of the Women in Fisheries Surveillance Network, with subject to country's approval.





- With support from the USAID-SuFia TS, the RPOA-IUU Secretariat developed the draft the Monitoring and Evaluation Tools
- In developing the draft monitoring Guideline, a number of guiding principles found in international and regional instruments, such as the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (IPOA-IUU), the Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries for Southeast Asia (RCCRF), the ASEAN- SEAFDEC Resolution and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region (2001, 2011), the Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in Southeast Asia (RPOA-IUU), and ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities Into the Supply Chain, were used as references in drafting the key aspects within the forms of IUU fishing activities that need to be taken into account and can be monitored on at the regional level.



MOVE FORWARD

- Providing countries with a tailored regional capacity-building;
- Finalizing a **clear and comprehensive data-sharing protocol** with support from the RPOA-IUU partners;
- Continuing **the development of publicity material** and formalizing the RPOA-IUU Knowledge Management Platform
- Strengthening cooperation on data-sharing mechanism

Thank You



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