

COUNTRY REPORT: **THAILAND**



The Regional Workshops on Information Exchange on Monitoring
Control and Surveillance of Combating IUU Fishing
Bangkok, THAILAND , 24-26 November 2025

Overview: Combating IUU F in Thailand



IUU Fishing in Thailand (Before 2015)

Illegal

- Unauthorized
- Violates the law
- Violates RFMOs commitment


Unreported


- Unreported
- Illegal report

Unregulated

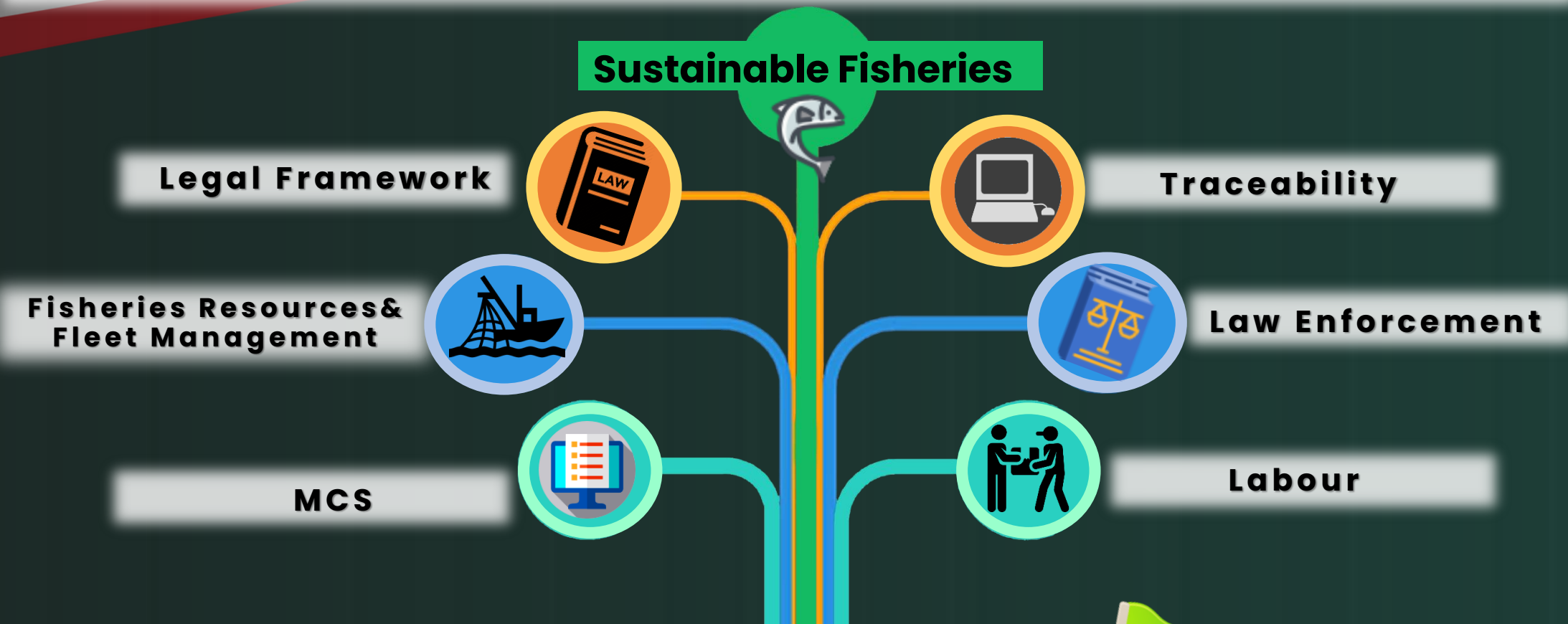
- Fishing with stateless vessels
- Fishing in unauthorized areas



 The European Union adopted a regulation on the prevention of IUU fishing (Council Regulation (EC) No. 1005/2008) on 29 September 2008.

 On April 21, 2015, the European Union issued a yellow card to Thailand.

THAILAND FISHERIES REFORM (2015 – 2019)



To lift the yellow card

8 January 2019 

Rationale for Implementation

- The EU continues to monitor periodically.
- To ensure the sustainability of fishery resources.
- To be able to export and compete commercially.
- To promote a good image/reputation.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK



BEFORE 2015

- FISHERIES ACT B.E. 2490 (1947)
- NAVIGATION IN THAI WATERS ACT

Out of date

New

LACK OF...

Measures for conservation and management

Framework on monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) measures

Framework on traceability system

Levels of sanctions were disproportionate

AFTER 2015

- ROYAL ORDINANCE ON FISHERIES (2015)
- NAVIGATION IN THAI WATERS ACT AMENDMENTS (2018)



National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (NPOA – IUU) No1 and No 2



Fisheries Management Plan (FMP)

Reform of conservation and management of Thailand's aquatic living resources

Provide effective MCS

Provide effective traceability system

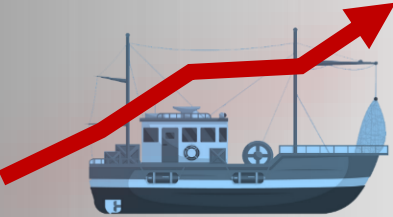
Effective and deterrent sanctions

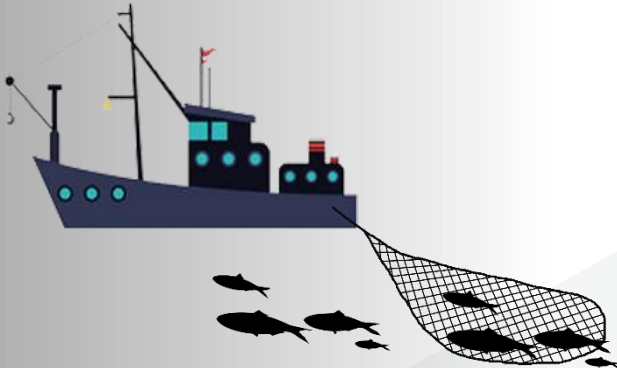
FISHERIES RESOURCE & FLEET MANAGEMENT



BEFORE 2015

Lack of control the number of fishing vessels

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- Open ship registry.
 - Lack of clear/accurate data on the number of vessels.
 - Lack of legislation for fisheries management and fleet management.
 - Lack of coordination among agencies.

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- Lack of control over fishing license.
 - Not control the number of fishing gears.

AFTER 2015

ROYAL ORDINANCE ON FISHERIES (2015)

- Criteria and procedures for issuing fishing licenses
- Criteria for controlling fish catches

NAVIGATION IN THAI WATERS ACT AMENDMENTS (2018)

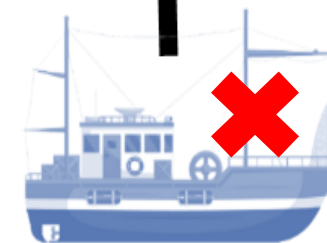
- Control vessel registration and vessel changes type.



Integration between MD and DOF.



Management of fishing of aquatic animals using the MSY.



Control/Regulation of the size and number of fishing gear.

Monitoring Control Surveillance : MCS



BEFORE 2015



The out-of-date
Fisheries Act (1947)



No FMP

AFTER 2015



Issued of the Royal Ordinance on
Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015) together with
amendments made in 2017



Monitoring activities

- Developed FMP to manage of fishery resources e.g. MSY
- Benchmarks for issuance of licenses for new fishing year



Controls on fishing activities

- **Spatial control:** MPA/zoning
- **Input control** (no. of license, fishing days, gears)
- **Technical control** (gear, mesh size)
- **Output control** (prohibited species)



Surveillance on fishing activities

- Set up surveillance system
- Introduced tool kits and technology

Monitoring Control Surveillance : MCS



BEFORE 2015



- No MCS system
- No technology, centralized database
- No procedure



- **Set up of MCS system**
 - Electronic surveillance
 - Port inspections
 - At sea inspections
- **Introduced tool kits and technology to surveillance e.g.**
 - VMS, AIS, ERS, EM, PSMART
 - E-PIPO
 - Logbook
 - Transshipment control
 - Onboard observer
 - pre-common risk assessment
 - Fishing info
- **Set up and improved**
- **Operational procedure : SOP**



Traceability

AFTER 2015



- Establishing regulations to control stakeholders involved in the supply chain.



- Developing an electronic system for traceability and information sharing between relevant agencies.



- Building cooperation with both domestic and international agencies.

Law Enforcement

AFTER 2015



- Amend laws to be comprehensive and include appropriate fine rates/penalties.
- Improve the efficiency of the legal process.
 - Establish an Administrative Committee
 - Establish a Fine Settlement Committee
 - Improve the criminal process
- Build cooperation among relevant agencies including the DOF, the Police, Attorney General), and the Courts.

Labour

AFTER 2015



- Amend labor laws to meet international standards.
- Establish measures to control, monitor, and inspect migrant workers.
- Ratify Protocol No. 29 concerning forced labor (*referring to the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930*).
- Ratify the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 188 (*referring to the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007*).

Our CHALLENGES (MCS STRATEGY TO COMBAT IUU FISHING)



THAILAND'S MCS PROGRAM

MCS CHALLENGES

1. TECHNOLOGY LIMITATIONS
2. STAKEHOLDER INTERESTS

MCS CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS

1. IUU- INVESTIGATIONS BY EXPERTS.
2. SURVEILLANCE TOOLS FOR
SMALL SCALE (10-29.99 GT)



Conclusions



- IMPROVING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS**
- ENHANCING REGIONAL COOPERATION**
- PUBLIC AWARENESS & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**
- EXPANDING USE OF SATELLITE & AI TECHNOLOGY**
- CAPACITY BUILDING & TRAINING**



**Thank you for
your attention**
ขอบคุณครับ

