

# Combating IUU – status, lessons learned from other regions, future needs and expectations



Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism



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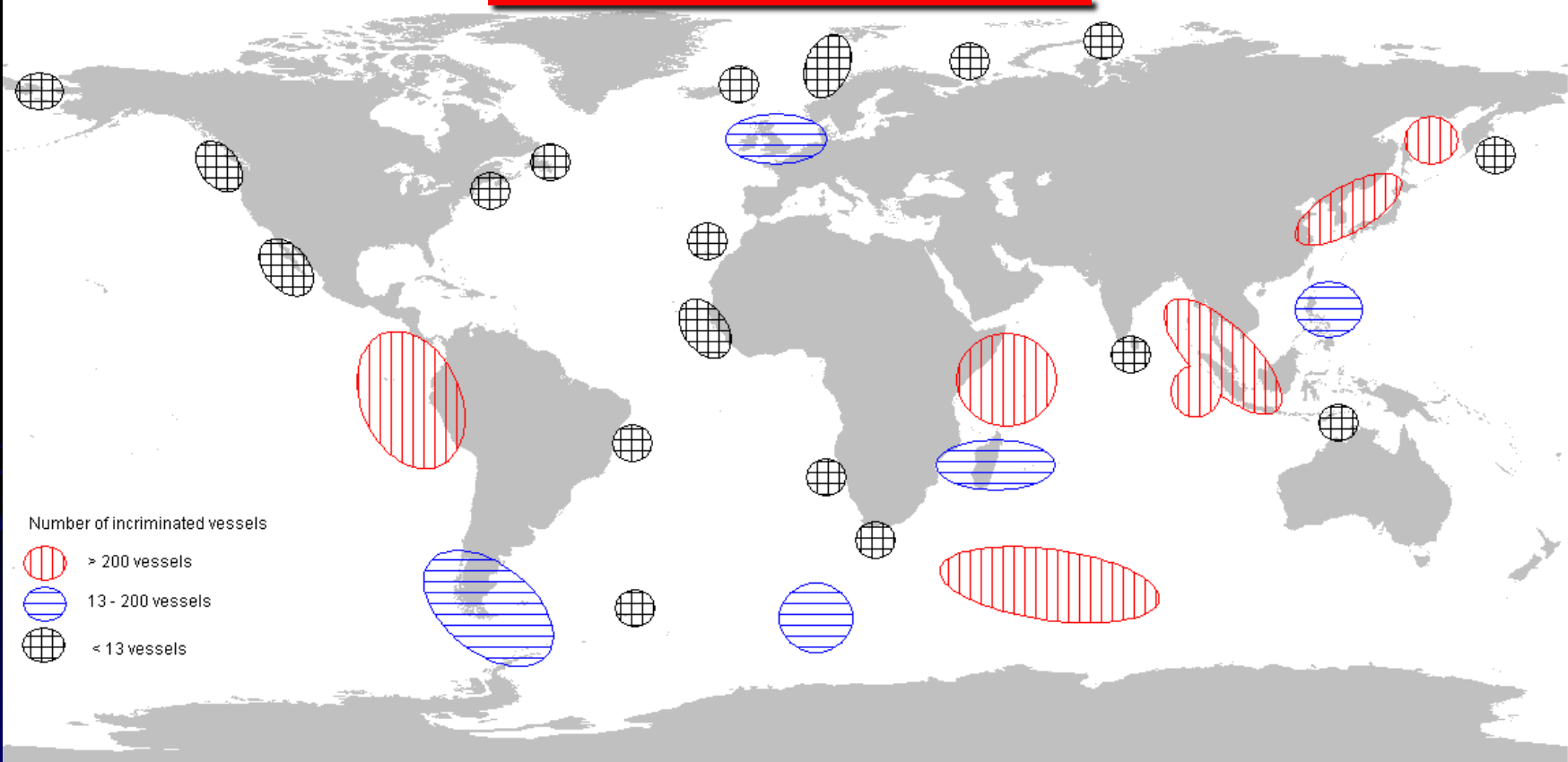
# IUU: A convenient description

..... for any activities undermining fisheries conservation and management arrangements and measures nationally, regionally and globally

. . . . . all forms of law violations in fisheries at any level (domestic, regional, and international) can therefore qualify as IUU fishing

# WHERE DOES IUU FISHING OCCUR?

**EVERYWHERE !**



# WHY DOES IUU FISHING OCCUR?



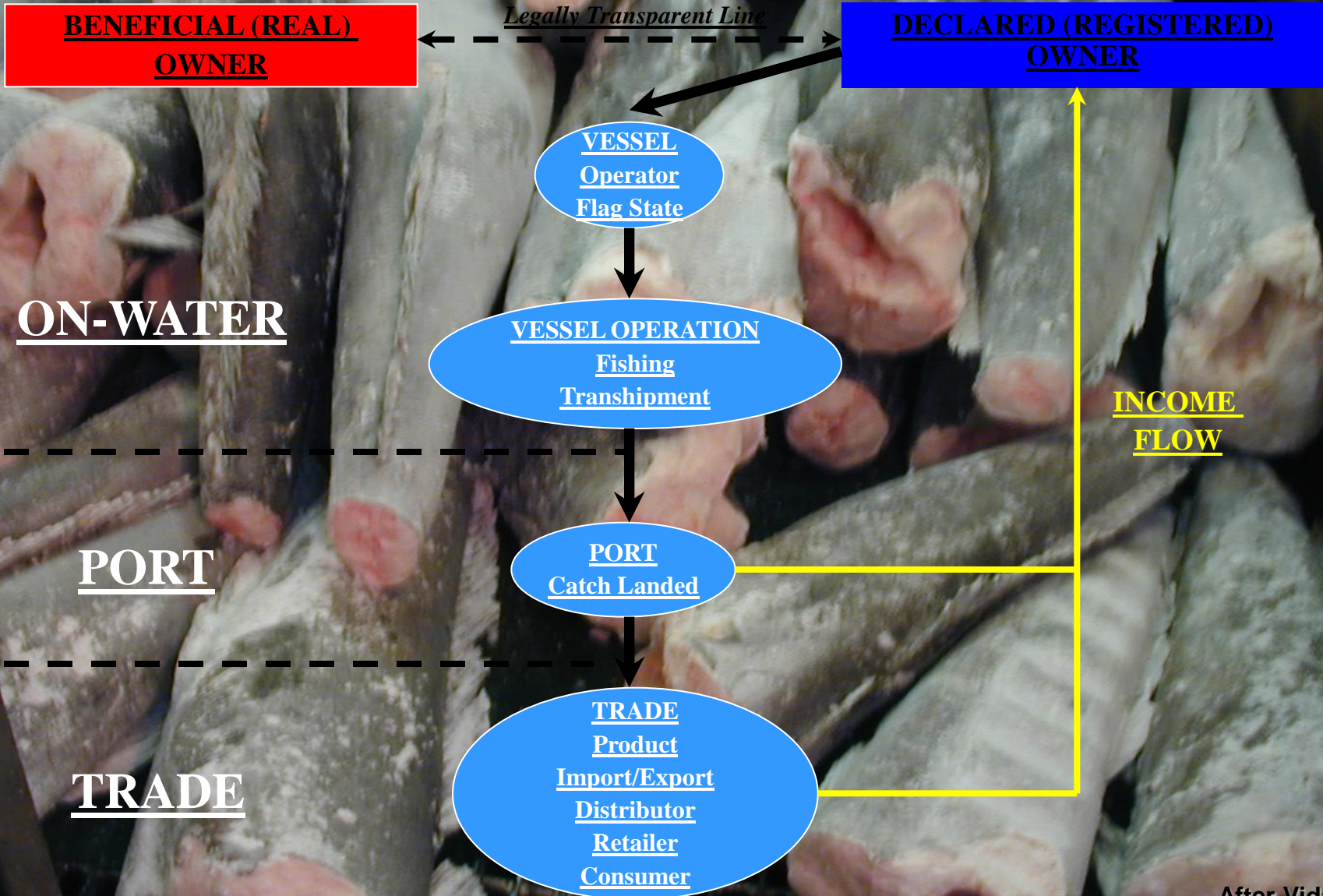
**Profits Outweigh Risks of Detection/Sanction**

**Opportunity**

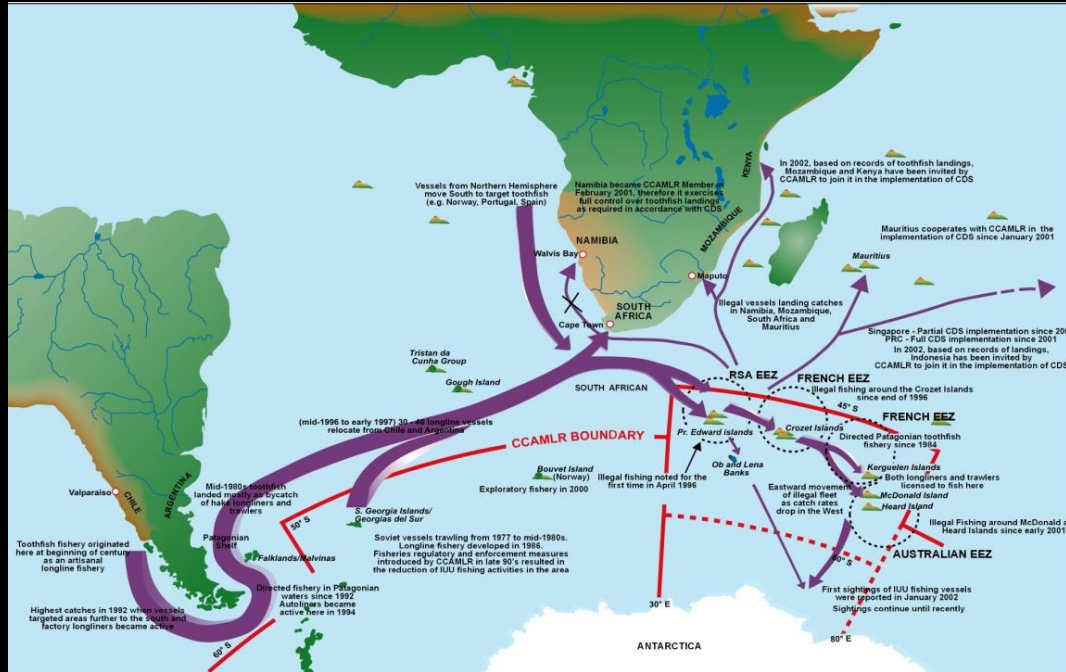
**Necessity?**



# WHAT ARE WE UP AGAINST?



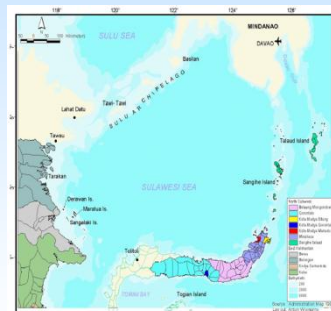
# WHAT HAS IUU FISHING MEANT IN THE SOUTHERN OCEAN?



**AN UNHELPFUL DISTRACTION!!**

# LESSONS LEARNED IN INDOCHINA

- IUU Fishing in the Region is a major problem which affects all regional countries
- Major food security issue for many of the Regional countries
- If unchecked, IUU fishing can lead to other maritime security issues
- Combating IUU fishing requires bilateral, sub-regional and regional cooperation.

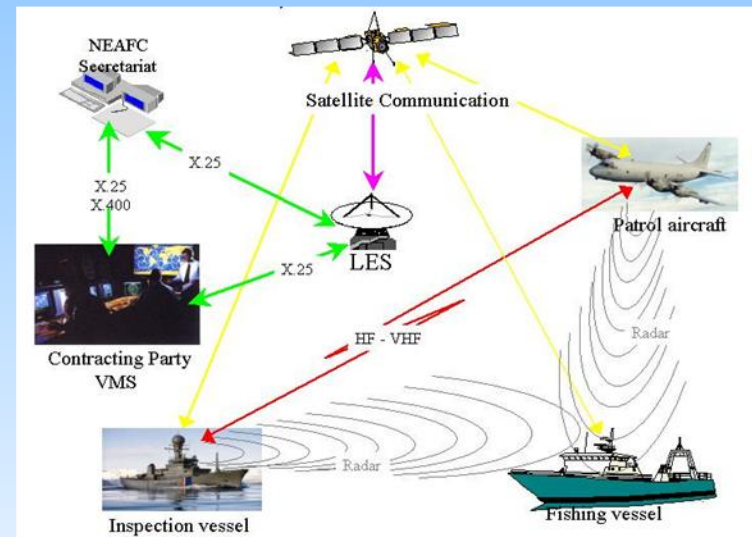


- Three distinct, but interrelated types of IUU Fishing in the Region
  - IUU Fishing by domestic vessels exclusively within national jurisdiction
    - Often major international or regional issue as effective national monitoring, control and surveillance can deal with the problem
  - IUU by foreign fishing vessels
    - Major problem- Often financed by international criminal syndicates
  - IUU fishing by domestic vessels in national waters, financed by foreign interests.
    - Can also be a major problem

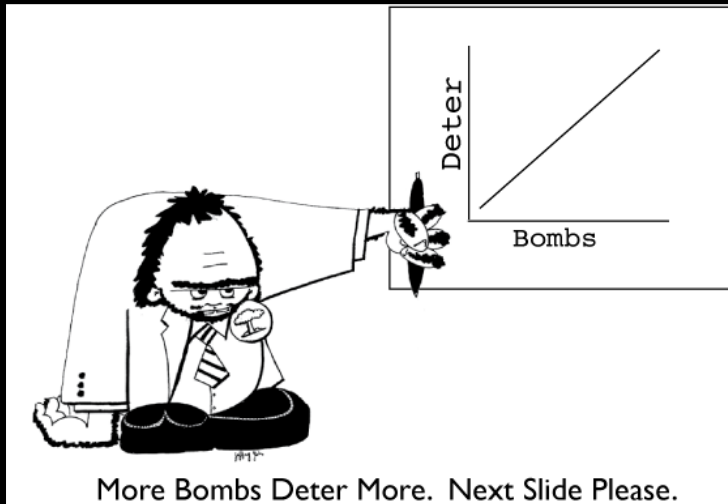


# EFFECTIVE MCS MEASURES

- Use of vessel monitoring system (VMS)
- Observer programmes
- Boarding and inspection at sea
- Inspection in ports
- Application of legal sanctions of sufficient severity



# DETERRENCE OR ENCOURAGEMENT - OR BOTH?



**. MANAGEMENT MEASURES PENALISE FISHERS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE**

**GOOD MCS - COST-EFFECTIVE ASSET DEPLOYMENT & TARGETED/SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE ENFORCEMENT**

**GOOD DETECTION/INTERDICTION CAPABILITIES**

**OFFENDER WARNING, FINING (THROUGH INFRINGEMENT NOTICES) AND PROSECUTION BASED ON OFFENCE SEVERITY**

**STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN MANAGEMENT MEASURE DEVELOPMENT**

**STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN COMPLIANCE PLANNING**

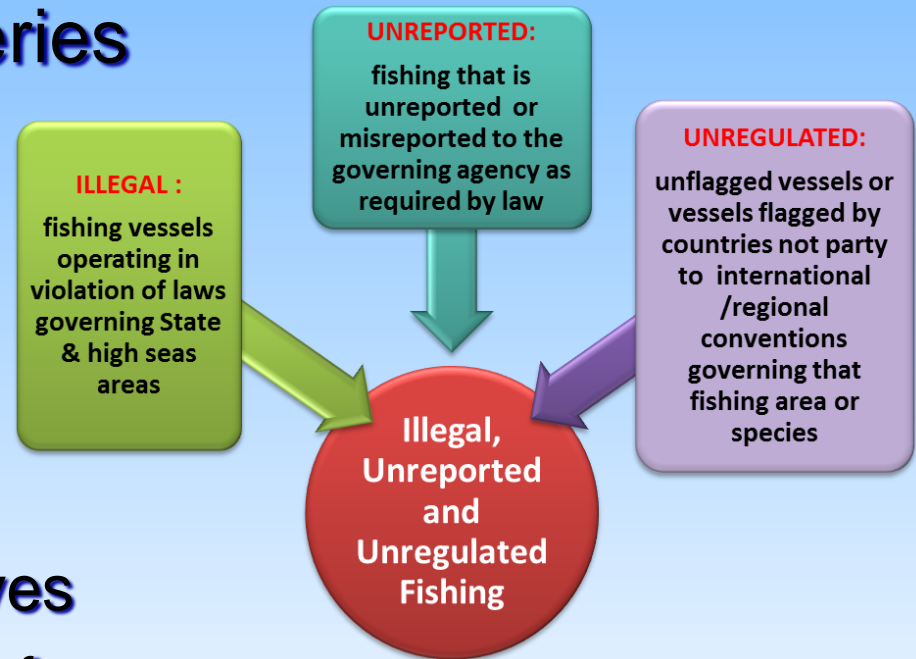
**VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE PROMOTED AS 'ENFORCEMENT MULTIPLIER'**

**MEASURES VIEWED AS LEGITIMATE**

**'MORAL HIGH GROUND' IN MEASURE'S FAVOUR (I.E. 'BUY-IN')**

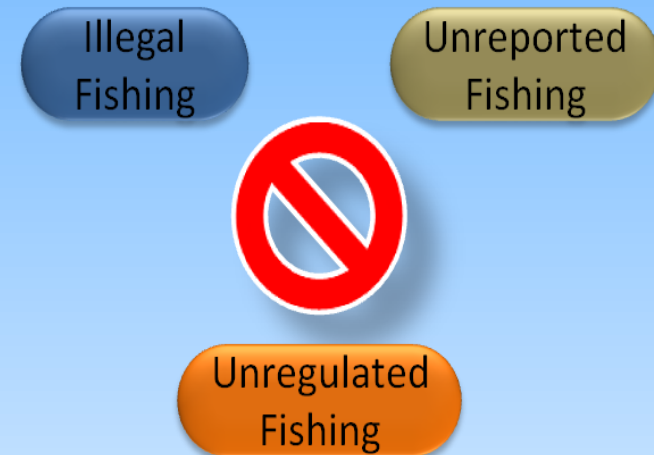
# CURRENT SITUATION IN CRFM

- IUU fishing poses a significant threat to the sustainable development, and management of fisheries resources
- Region is made up of numerous Small Island Developing States,
  - many governments with differing goals and objectives
  - trans-boundary character of living marine resources

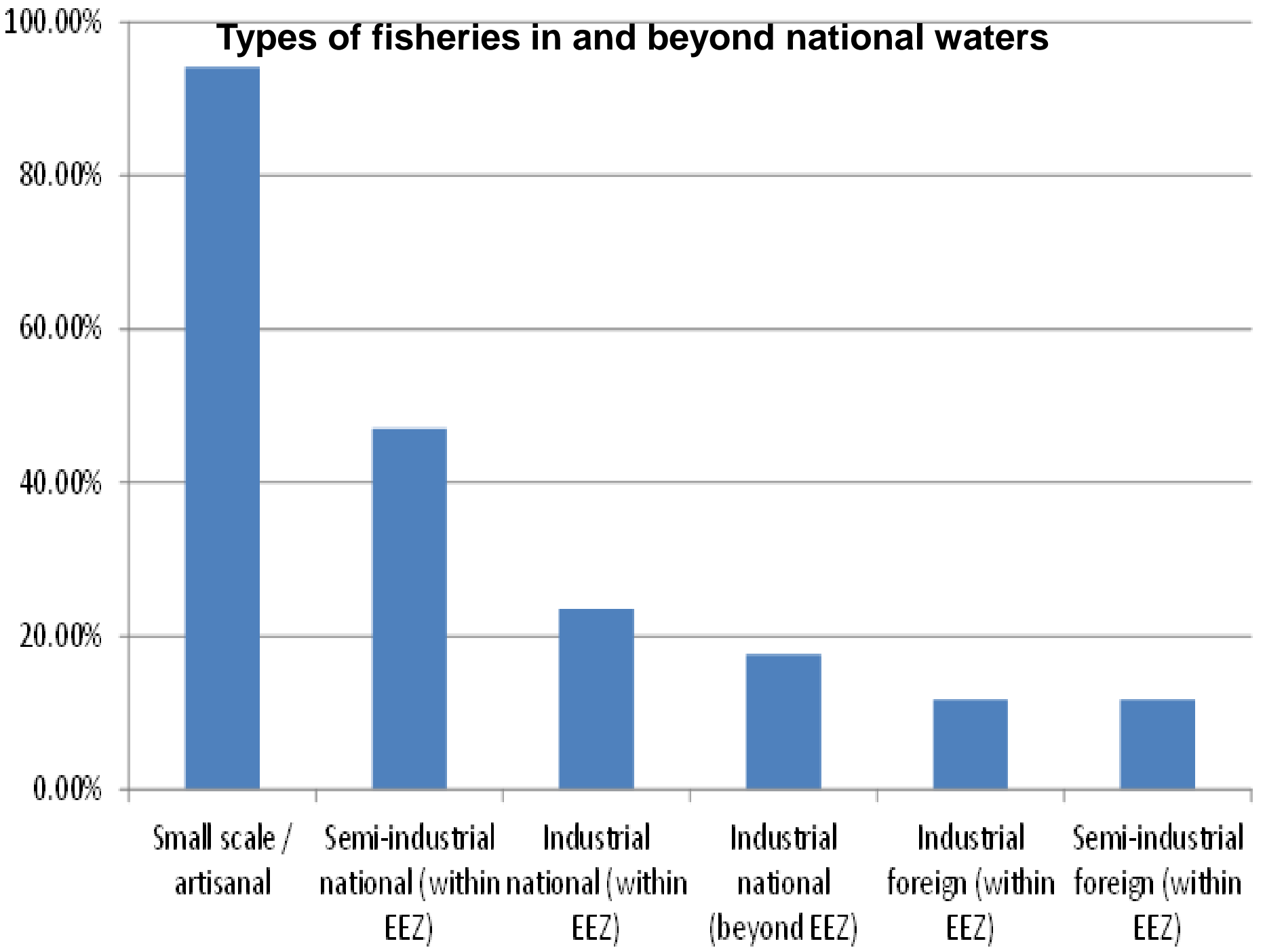


# IUU fishing is a significant threat to the livelihoods of fishers and fisher communities in the region

- fisheries resources are an important contributor to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of many countries
- contributes an estimated US\$390.5 million directly to fisherfolk on an annual basis.
- employs over 338,835 persons, directly or indirectly
  - mainly from small scale fisheries in rural communities lacking other income earning opportunities.



# Types of fisheries in and beyond national waters



1. IUU fishing is a High Income Source of Undeclared Money

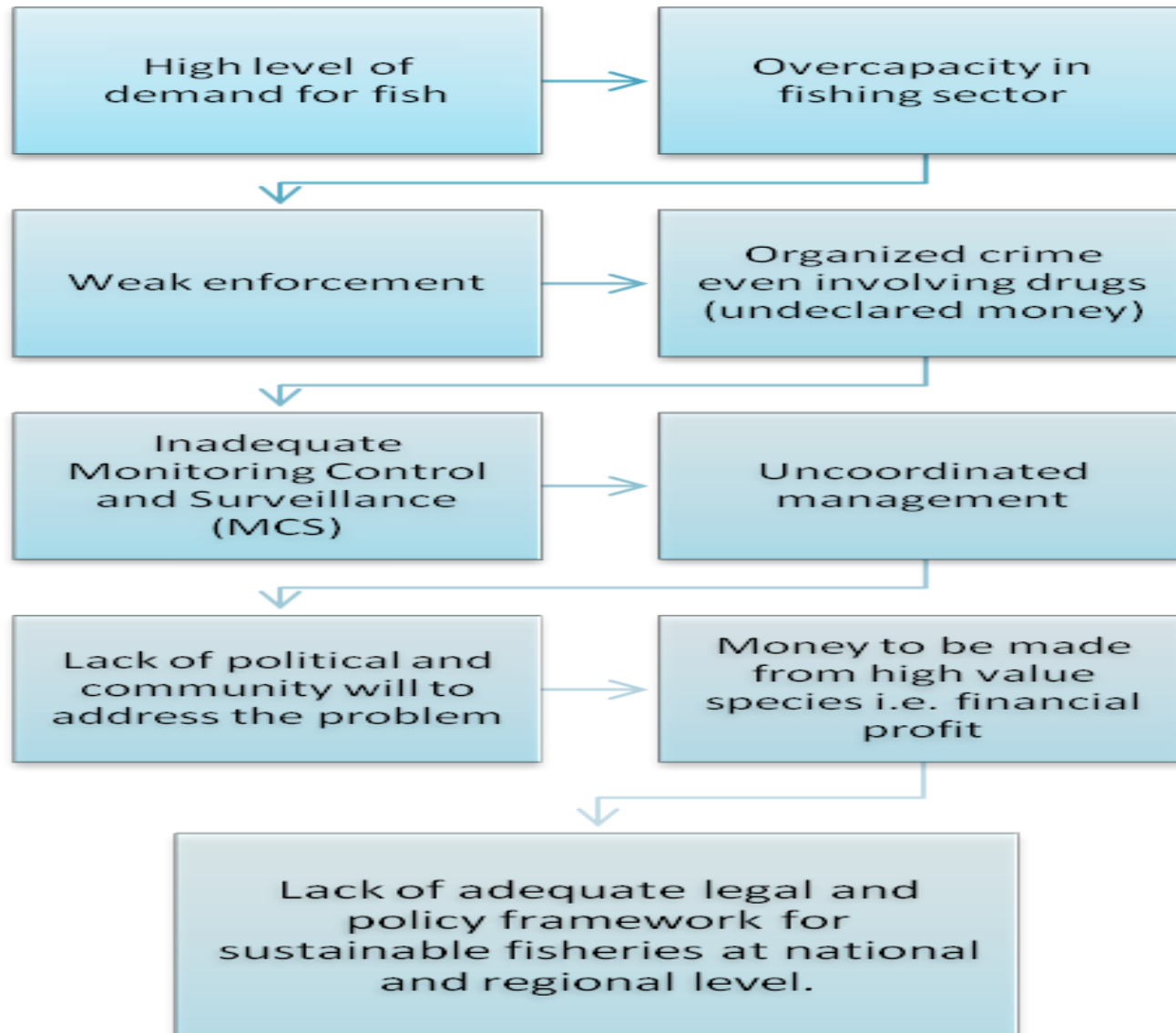
2. The fight against IUU fishing is High Risk

3. Some EEZs not delimited, making Enforcement More Difficult

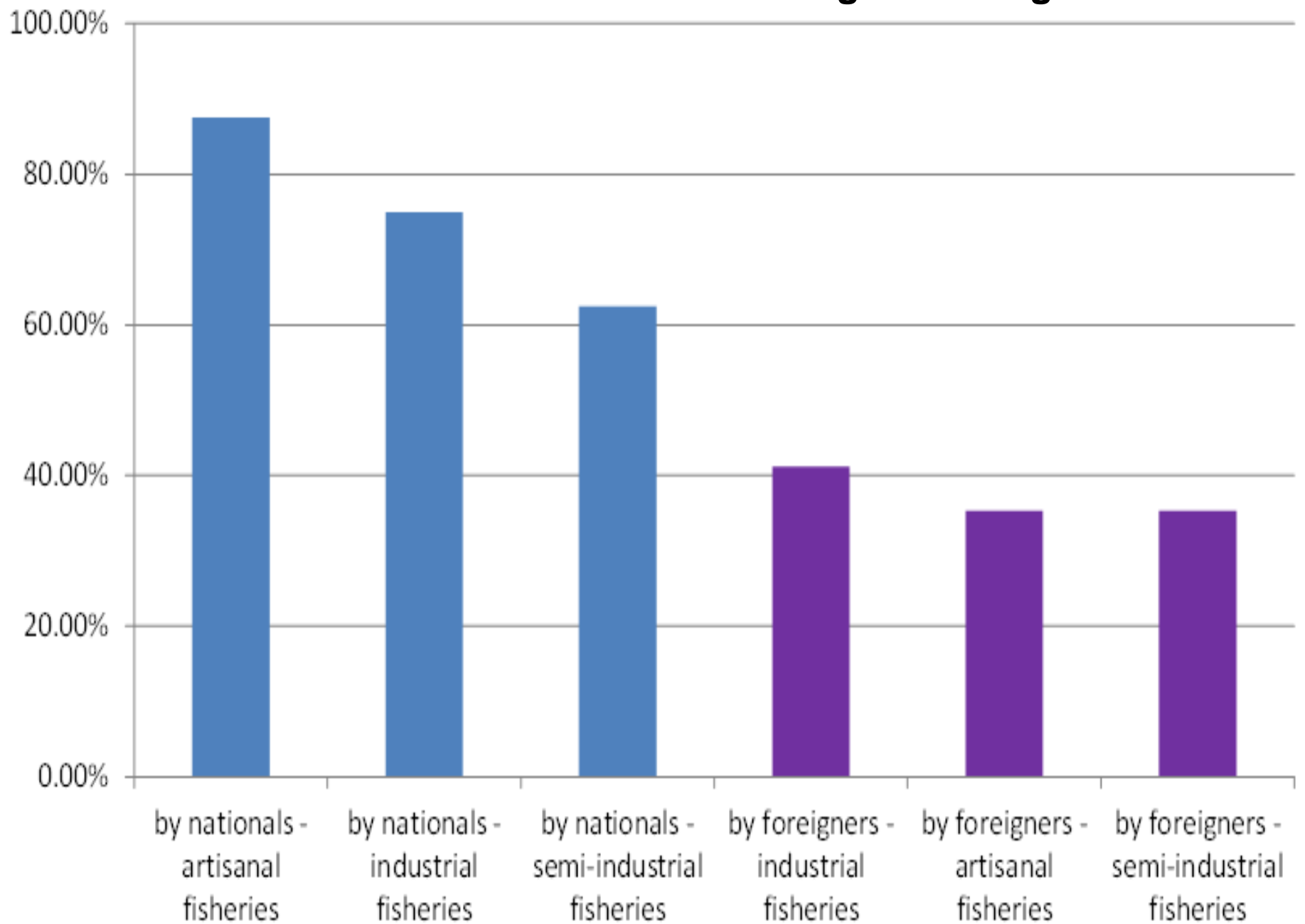
4. EEZs not contiguous: region intersperced with other Jurisdictions

5. Inadequate Capacity of Individual Countries to Monitor Fishing Zones

# Drivers of IUU in The Region



## Most common forms of IUU fishing in the Region



**Illegal fishing by nationals within national waters** takes a range of forms, the commonest of which reported by stakeholders includes:

- Fishing with an unregistered/unlicensed vessel
- Using illegal/unapproved gear
- Taking species during a closed season (e.g. spiny lobster)
- Taking undersized species (e.g. conch, spiny lobster)
- Taking of banned species (e.g. turtles)
- Fishing in a restricted /closed area (e.g. marine park, marine protected area)
- Transshipping catch at sea to avoid export duties (particularly conch and lobster)

## **IUU fishing by foreign industrial vessels in national waters**

- industrial vessels flying the flag of regional states, that enter into national waters of neighbouring States, to target high value demersal species such as conch, lobster, shrimp, sea urchin, bêche-de-mer and finfish
- industrial vessels flying the flag of DWFNs (particularly Asian, European and south American countries), targeting large pelagic species such as tunas and sharks.

## ***IUU fishing by foreign semi-industrial and small-scale vessels in national waters***

- Primarily small-scale and semi-industrial fishers from neighbouring States, entering national waters to target conch, lobster and other high value species.
  - These forms of IUU fishing have the most palpable and immediate impact on strategic national resources
  - They compete directly for the same resources as the national small scale and semi-industrial sectors (mostly near-shore resources).

## **Synoptic overview of impact for key forms of IUU fishing (risk analysis)**

Domestic IUU fishing by national fleets outweighs all other forms of IUU fishing by a factor of 4 to 10

- Main reasons for this are:
  - the higher opportunity to observe and report on such fishing,
  - its generally high adverse impacts across the board of relevant factors, especially in biological, and environmental terms, but also in longer term social and economic impacts.

Unilateral poaching by regional operators is the second most frequently identified form of IUU fishing

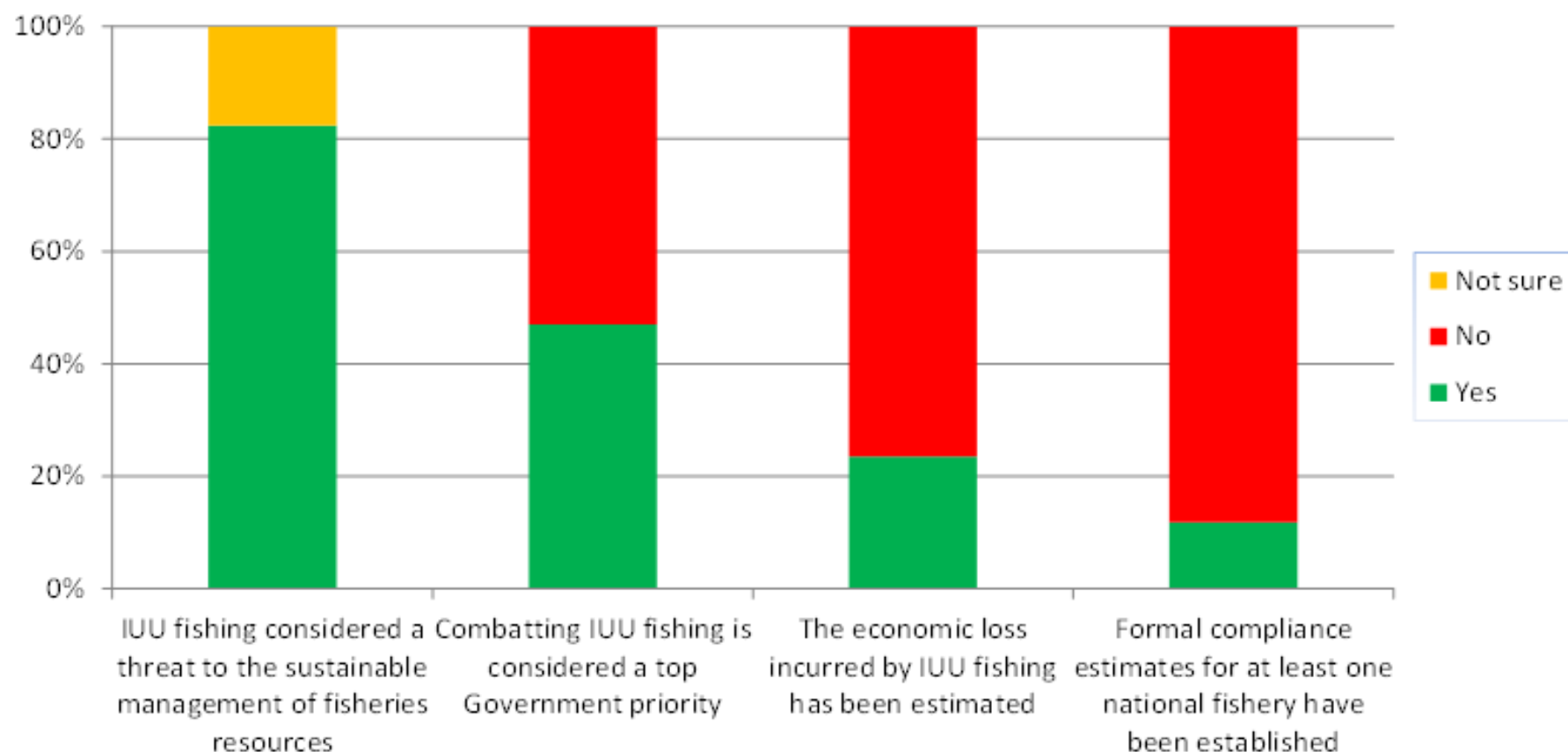
- It has potential – in specific cases – to cause serious biological, social and economic damage.

Poaching by DWFNs in the deeper EEZ ranks third.

- It is more important than reciprocal poaching only
  - impacts at the rent and social level may be more important – specifically in countries operating long-line fisheries themselves and countries seeking new tuna fishing opportunities.

Reciprocal poaching in mostly traditional fishing grounds is the form of IUU fishing with the least severe impacts.

# National assessments of the impact of IUU fishing



# Initiatives Being Developed or Implemented Against IUU

- Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy
- Castries (St Lucia) Declaration on IUU Fishing
- Fisheries Enforcement & Prosecution Manual
- FAO International Plan of Action-IUU
- FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
- The FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing
- The United Nations Convention on the Law of the SEA (UNCLOS)
- WECAFC Regional Working Group on IUU fishing



Through implementing the various national measures, enforcement of fisheries and related regulations would increase

- increasing the cost of IUU operations
- reducing related benefits, resulting in increased level of compliance to regulations.



Penalties as well as risk of being apprehended engaging in IUU fishing are insufficient

- As such does not act as deterrents, thus would need to be strengthened in order to be effective.

Members of CRFM have recognized that IUU fishing is a huge threat to sustainable fishery management, fisher livelihood, food security and economic development in the region; and thus, needs to be addressed

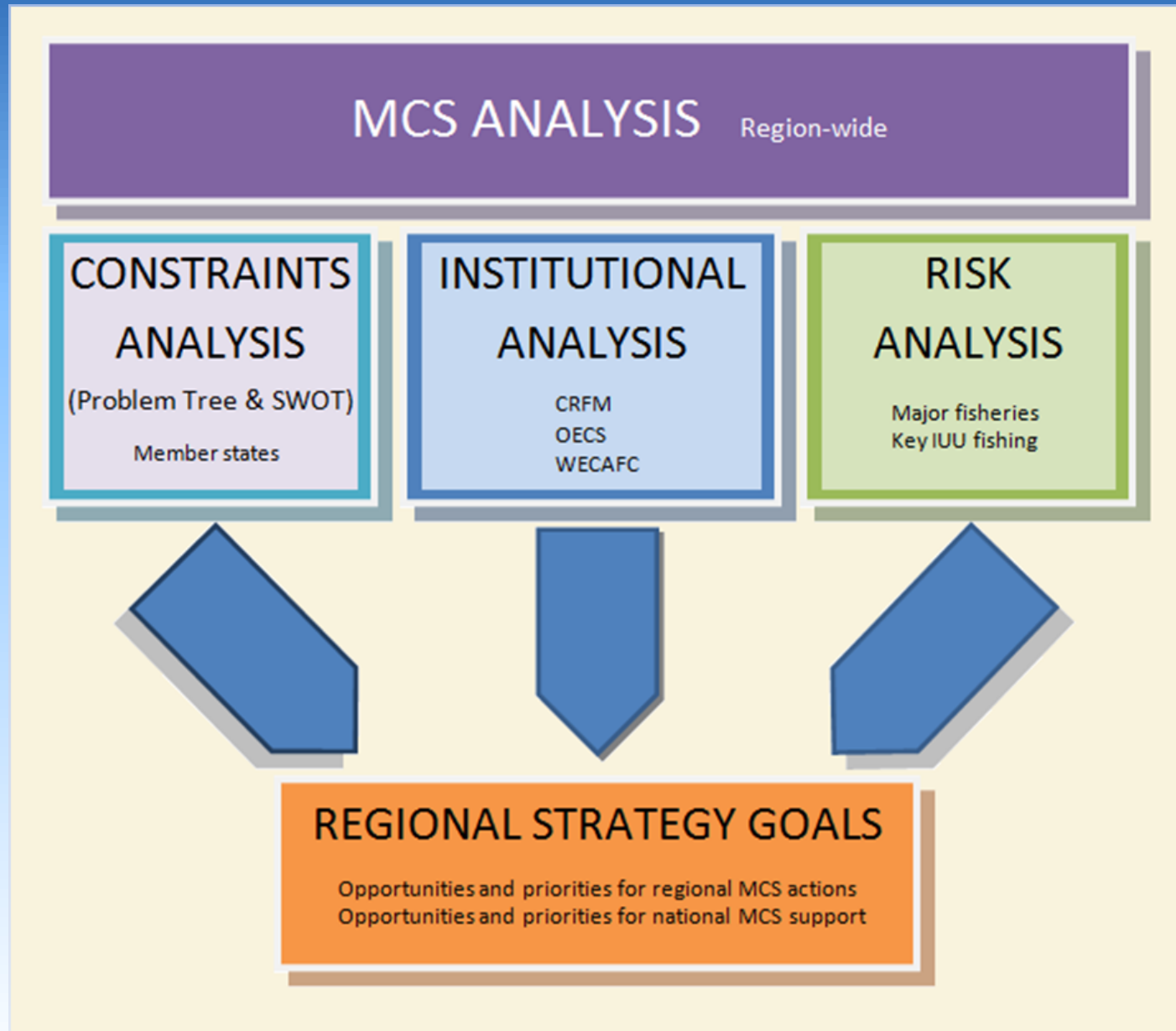




# Regional MCS Strategy



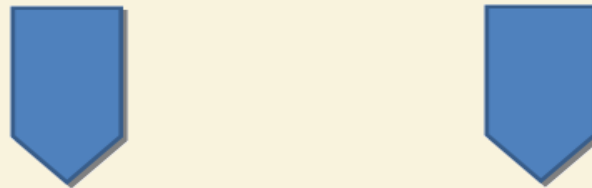
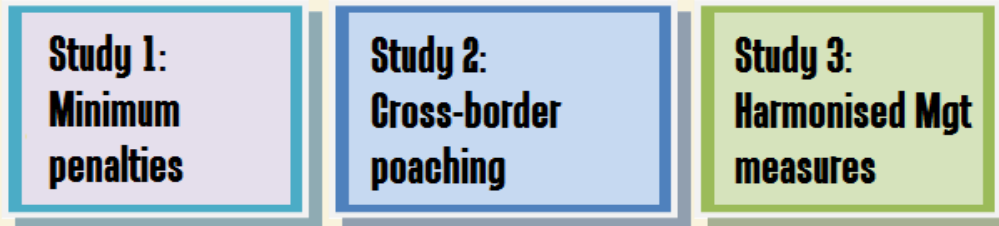
# Analytical approach to regional MCS strategy formulation



The overall **goal** of the CRFM MCS Strategy is to contribute to combating, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing throughout the Region, and beyond.

The **objective** of the MCS Strategy is to provide the CRFM with an informed approach – consisting of a strategic framework for action in the domain of MCS – through which the Secretariat CRFM is to assist the Region in developing its MCS capacity

# Approach for prioritised action



## Level 1

baseline information

## Level 2

planning

## Level 3

implementing plan

In this Strategy, the NPOA-IUU is placed as the centre-piece of all regional and national endeavours around which the planning, re-organisation, upgrading, and implementation of the new MCS drives across the Region hinges.

- The strategy confirms the strategic approach that everything must emanate from the national level, and that there are no regional substitutes for weak national will and capacity to implement target-oriented MCS frameworks.
- Fully consistent with the tenets of the Castries Declaration.

# Keys to success

- a) The CRFM should continue to guide the coordination, corporation and harmonization of approaches to aid in combating IUU fishing.
- b) Commitments to regional and international agreements be urgently fulfilled by Member States
- c) Caribbean Member States should be mindful of the Castries (St Lucia) Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing and implement guidelines stated therein at the national level.



d) Adapt and utilise the Enforcement and Prosecutions Manuals along with their various national policies and regulations

e) Member states who have not done so, develop and implement National Plans of Action for IUU fishing.

f) Develop and establish a data management and communication system, for effective MCS of fishers and vessels, with focus on monitoring IUU fishing.

g) Improve MCS through strengthening of port and coastal state measures for fishing vessels, increasing the number of fisheries enforcement patrols.



h) Support and abide by initiatives such as the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) or other means of certification, thereby blacklisting markets as well as fishers that support IUU fishing.

i) Establish awareness programs and to educate as well as promote participation and coordination of fishers to encourage fishermen to report any suspected IUU fishing activity.

j) Develop and strictly implement vessel marking/identification requirements in accordance with FAO standards and guidelines for marking and identification of fishing vessels at national, regional and international levels.



# Working group tasks

Mindful of the initiatives being developed or implemented Against IUU in the region and the drivers of IUU the Working group should discuss the IUU situation and:

- Suggest how the current measures can be enhanced/encouraged
- make proposals to support strategic interventions currently being initiated
- suggest appropriate development partners for providing support to these initiatives

*Thank you*

**Merci  
Mèsi**

**Dank je wel**

**Arigato gozaimasu**



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