



Thailand's Achievement in Combating the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU Fishing)

Track II Network of ASEAN Defense and Security Institutions: NADI Annual Meeting
Chiang Mai, Thailand
25 February – 3 March 2019

By
Taworn Thunjai
Director of Fishing Control and Surveillance Division
Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

Thailand's Achievement in Combating the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU Fishing)

- **Overview**
- **Situation Before 2015 and Action Taken from 2015-present**
 - Legal framework
 - Fleet Management
 - Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)
 - Traceability
- **Suggestion from Thailand's experience**

Overview Thailand's combating IUU Before 2015

- Inefficient legal framework
- No control of fishing licensing
- No control of fleet size
- Lack of national-international collaboration
- Ineffective operational systems
- No core agency for MCS, Weak MCS capability, no MCS system and technology
- No clear regulations and schemes guiding controls of foreign flagged vessels and no comprehensive inspection
- Ect.

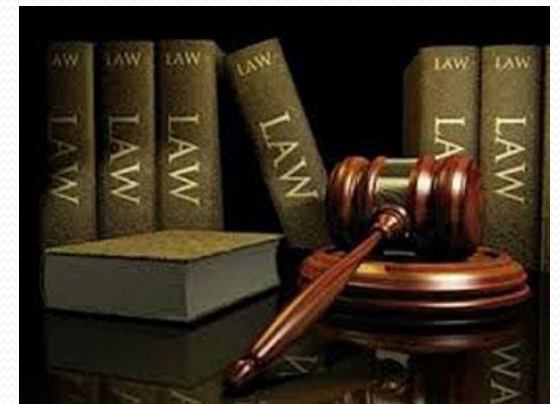
Overview Thailand's Combating IUU since 2015

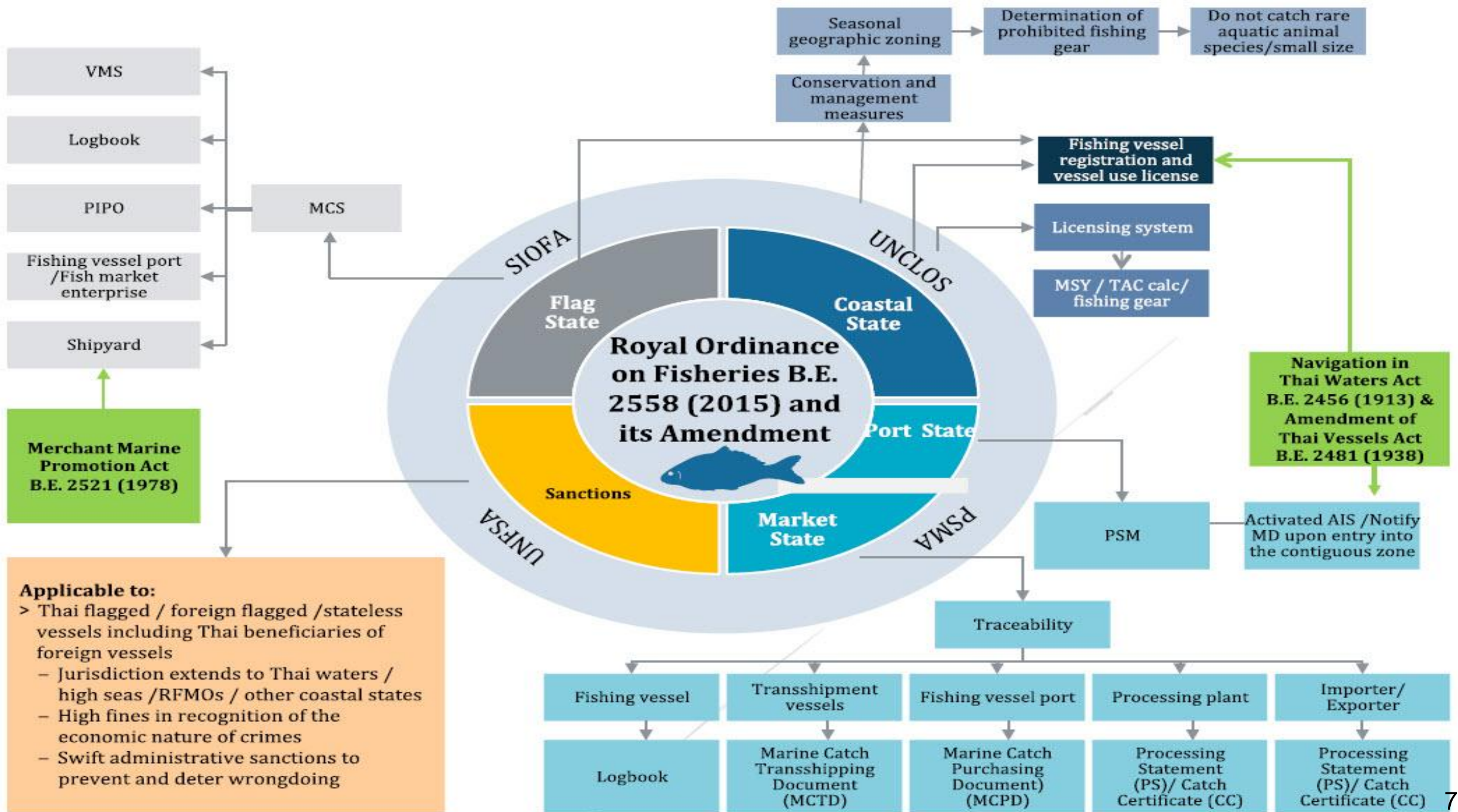
- The Royal Ordinance on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015)
- Marine Fisheries Management Plan (FMP)
- Established the National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (NPOA-IUU)
- Established Command Center for Combating Illegal Fishing (CCCIF)
- Frozen registration of new fishing vessels
- Reform of the fishing license regime
- Eliminate overcapacity of the fishing fleet and overfishing
- Established IT systems such as *e-license system, traceability system, Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), etc.*

Overview Thailand's Combating IUU since 2015

- Set up a Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC)
- Set up Port In – Port Out (PIPO) Control Centers
- Implement Port State Measures (PSM)
- Have Stricter rules and requirements for the issuance of overseas fishing license
- the Cabinet approved *a budget of 810 million baht* (about 22.5 million USD)
- Etc.

Legal framework





Legal requirement



Vessel permit

Navigation in Thai Waters Act



Vessel registration

Royal Ordinance on Thai Vessels



Fishing Licence

Royal Ordinance on Fisheries



DOF

DOF



MD

> DOF needs to certify renewal of permit

> Issuance of permit

> Renewal of vessel permit

> Too many fishing vessels / vessel notified as IUU (section 46 RO on Fisheries)

> Moratorium on vessel registration

> DOF needs to certify request for alteration/transfer of ownership/destruction

> MD to amend vessel registration

Joint inspection
by DOF and MD

> Fishing licence issue

> Vessel must have valid permit and registration

> Fishing licence revoked or no new licence requested

> Vessel registration revocation

Resources and Fleet Management



SITUATION BEFORE 2015



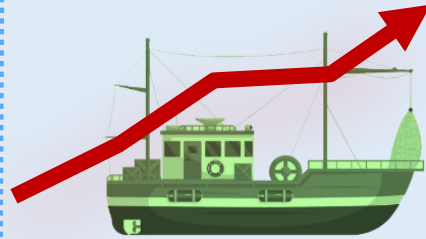
1 Inefficient legal framework

- Fisheries Act of 1947, unregulated fishing effort
- Thai Vessels Act of 1938, uncontrolled fishing vessel registrations



2 No control of fishing licensing

- No catch limit
- No limitation on fishing gear



3 No control of fleet size

- Open system : unsustainable growth
- Unknown Fleet figures
- No UVI



4 Poor national-international collaboration

- Poor MD-DOF collaboration
- No international cooperation



5 Ineffective operational systems

- Paper-based operation
- Lack of data verification
- Delay in data processing
- Inefficient operation

1. Inefficient legal framework

Before 2015

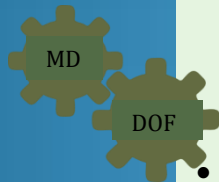
Situation



- Fisheries Act of 1947, unregulated fishing effort
- Thai Vessels Act of 1938, uncontrolled fishing vessel registrations

2015-2018

Action taken



- Promulgated RO on Fisheries B.E. 2558 (2015):
 - Limiting allowable catch and fishing days
 - Fishing licensing criteria
- Promulgated RO on Thai Vessels B.E. 2561 (2018):
 - Controlling vessel registrations : Moratorium
 - Regulating criteria for revocation of registrations
 - Joint MD-DOF workflows
- Promulgate regulations to control sunk or damaged (grey) vessels in port and shipyard

2018

Result

- A comprehensive legal framework to enable control of fishing effort and fleet
- Efficient operation and collaboration among DOF and MD
- Amendments for Moratorium registration of fishing, support and carrier vessels

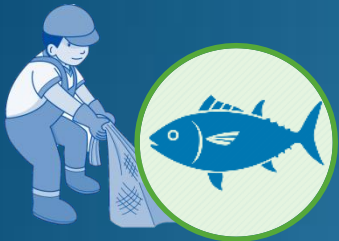
Future plan



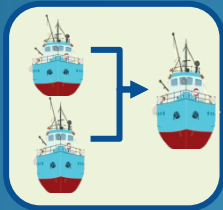
2. No control of fishing licensing

Before 2015

Situation



- No catch limit
- No limitation on fishing gear



2015-2018

Action taken

- Controlled fishing effort:
 - Limiting catch below MSY level
 - License combination programme
- Controlled size and number of fishing gears:
 - Controlling efficiency of fishing gears
 - Reducing number of vessels with high efficient fishing gears

2018

Result

Reduced fishing effort



Gulf of Thailand

- Pelagic fish **37%**
- Demersal fish **38%**
- Anchovy **52%**



Andaman Sea

- Pelagic fish **30%**
- Demersal fish **30%**
- Anchovy **62%**



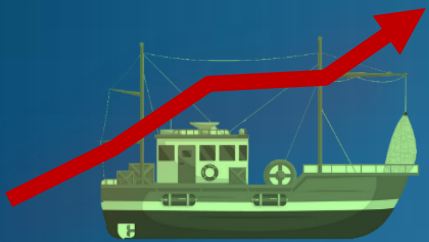
Future plan

- Improving application of TAC (2020-2021)
- Improving MSY assessment method (By 2023)
- Introducing area-based management and seasonal fishing license (2019-2020)
- Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP) (By 2023)

3. No control of fleet size

Before 2015

Situation



- Open system : unsustainable growth
- Unknown Fleet figures
- No UVI



2015-2018

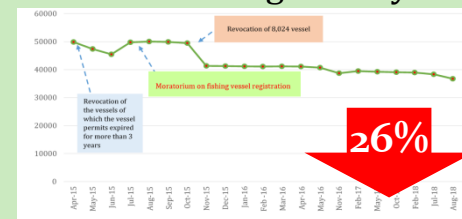
Action taken

- Controlled vessel registrations:
 - Two-year moratorium
- Verified vessel registrations:
 - Revoking inactive vessel registrations (vessel use permits were expired)
 - Comprehensive fleet surveys (5 times: 1 in 2015 and 4 in 2017)
 - Investigating vessels reported as sunk, damaged, sold abroad
 - Operation purge to clarify status of remaining grey vessels
- Increased registration controls:
 - Applying IUU fishing eligibility : Banning vessels in the IUU list and grey vessels from registration
 - Establishing stringent measures on registrations throughout the vessel life cycle (from the construction to scrapping)
 - Screening vessels by Watch List and publishing White List
 - Monitoring shipyard and port activities
 - Controlling unregistered vessels and non-compliance vessels by locking and marking with white-orange stripe
 - Marking UVI on every vessel

2018

Result

- Reduced fishing fleet by 26%



- Accurate and updated fleet data
- Registered vessels are under control with applicable law
- Expanded the monitoring of Watch List vessels from PIPO to ports and shipyards
- Over **1,100** unregistered vessels and non-compliance vessels have been locked
- More than **12,000** have been marked with UVI

Future plan

- Employing Electronic UVI and Vessel Identification Plate (2019)
- Introducing an area-based painting system (2019)
- Introducing identification system for shipyards and ports (By 2019)
- Conducting MD-DOF regular review and assessment

4. Poor national and international collaboration

Before 2015

Situation

MD

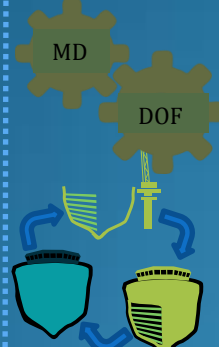
DOF



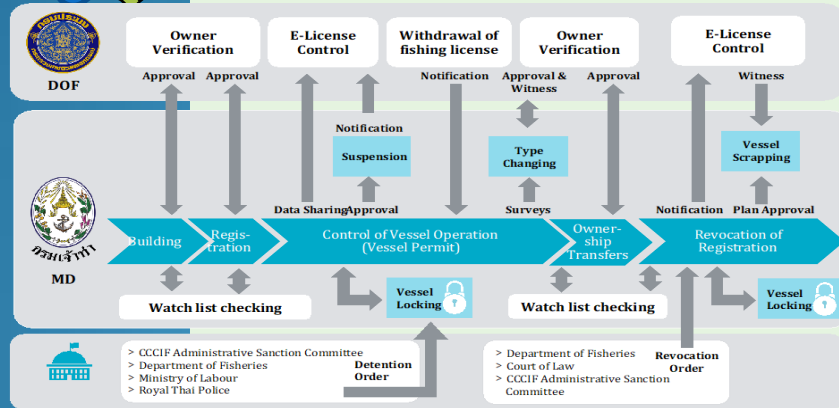
- Poor MD-DOF collaboration
- No international cooperation

2015-2018

Action taken



- Joint workflows
 - Collaboration through out life cycle of the vessel:
 - Building and registration
 - Issuance of fishing license
 - Change of vessel type
 - Scrapping, dismantling or demolition



- International cooperation
 - Collaborated with Myanmar and Cambodia
 - Initiated regional cooperation on vessel registration in MTWG 36

2018

Result

- Integrated collaboration between MD and DOF
- Reduced gaps in operations of MD and DOF significantly
- Information related to fisheries management of MD and DOF are accurate and consistent
- The status of **34** vessels sold or detained abroad are verified

Future plan

- Proposing detailed discussion in MTWG 37 @ Singapore (2019)



5. Ineffective operational systems

Before 2015

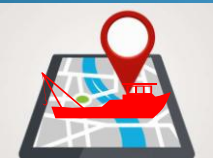
Situation



- Paper-based operation
- Lack of data verification
- Delay in data processing
- Inefficient operation

2015-2018

Action taken



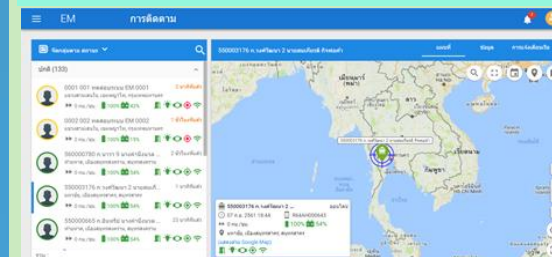
- Employed electronic system:
 - Fishing licensing (E-License)
 - MD registration database
 - Verified and updated information in registration database
 - Developed data analysis system for operation and decision making (Business Intelligence System)
 - Developed operational control system (Automated Workflow Processing)

- Introduced an Electronic Monitoring (EM) system for locked vessels since Sep 2018

2018

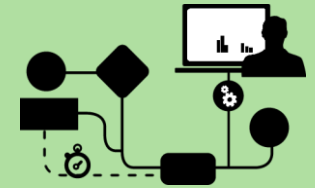
Result

- Electronic vessel registrations database
- Accurate number of vessels
 - Confirmation total number of fishing vessels, carrier and support vessels at **19,405**
- Retrieve Fleet figure instantaneous and daily-updated
- Reduce Administrative burden or human error by automated processing
- Real time and more effective control for locked vessel

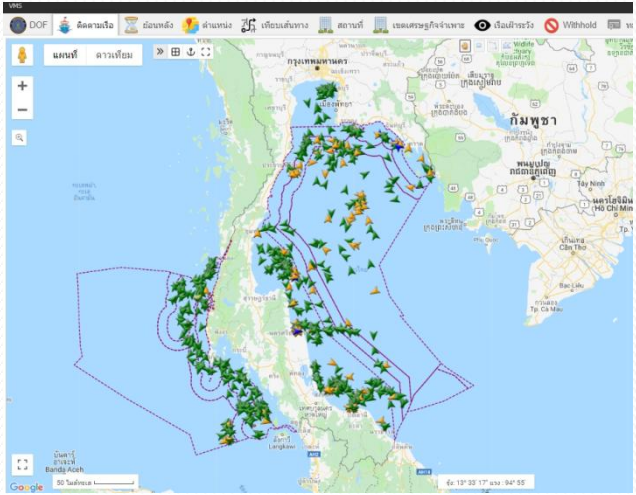


Future plan

- Linkage between MD system with DOF Administrative Sanctions database.



Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)



MCS

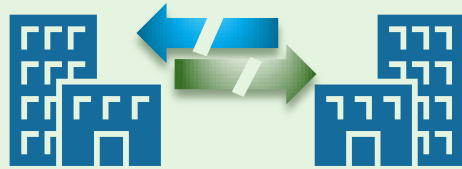
Monitoring Control Surveillance

SITUATION BEFORE 2015 OF MONITORING CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE



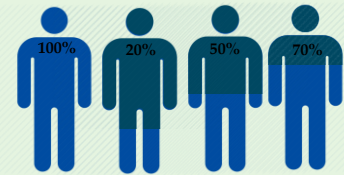
1 Lack of legal framework to allow MCS activities

- The out-of-date Fisheries Act (1947)
- Open-access system, no FMP



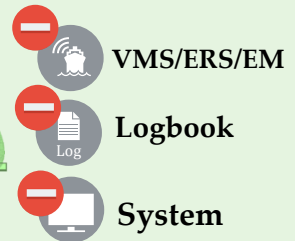
2 No core MCS agency and no coordination among existing Agency

- No national focal point
- Weak and uncoordinated MCS activities among existing agencies
- No sharing information



3 Weak MCS capability

- human resources
- Lack of investigation mindset



4 No MCS system and technology

- No MCS system
- No technology, centralized database
- No procedure e.g. SOP

MCS

Monitoring Control Surveillance

1. Lack of legal framework to allow MCS activities

Before 2015

Situation

The out-of-date Fisheries Act (1947)

OUT OF DATE

No FMP

2015-2018

Action taken

NEW

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

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** (VMS/ERS/EM, logbook, observer ,etc.);

2018

Result

A comprehensive legal framework to enable control and enforcement of MCS activities

Future plan



MCS

Monitoring Control Surveillance

2. No core MCS agency and no coordination among existing Agency

Before 2015

2015-2018

2018

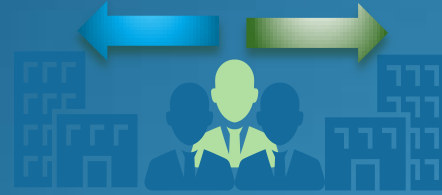


Situation

Action taken

Result

Future plan



Set up The CCCIF
3,957 officers

- 208 CCCIF officers
- 2,482 DOF officers and 425 local temporary staff employed by DOF
- 842 THAI-MECC officers (200 MP, 300 RTN, 54 DOF, 198 DMCR, 49 TCD and 41 MD)



5 new DOF's Divisions :
FFMD, OFTCD, FRMMDD, LAD, FQID



30 Port In Port Out Centers



21 Forward Inspection Points

- Core agency to operate MCS
- Closer inter-agency coordination
- Integrated system and database

- No national focal point
- Weak and uncoordinated MCS activities among existing agencies
- No sharing information

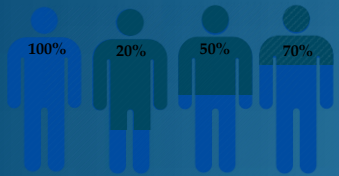
MCS

Monitoring Control Surveillance

3. Weak MCS capability

Before 2015

Situation



- Human resources
- Lack of investigation mindset

2015-2018

Action taken



- FMC building : THB 49.0 m (ca. USD 1,580,000)
- VMS system : THB 11.5 m (ca. USD 371,000)
- ERS & EM, server ,EMA, Observer: THB 9.8 m (ca. USD 316,000)
- e-PIPO, FI, and CRA : THB 14.4 m (ca. USD 464,500)
- Training : THB 4.6 m (ca. USD 148,400)

2018

Result

A robust and well-integrated Monitoring, Control and surveillance (MCS) system which allows Thailand to prevent, deter and prosecute any perpetrators involved in IUU fishing activities through closer inter-agency coordination

On going & Future plan

- PIPO centers are periodical audit by FITs
- SAT will remain as a special task force (once per month operation)

Increasing manpower
3,957 officers

Training: Investigation mindset (supported by Oceanmind)

Assessment of PIPO's operations by FITs



Compliment inspection by SATs and Air surveillance

MCS

Monitoring Control Surveillance

4. No MCS system and technology in place

Before 2015

Situation



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

2015-2018

Action taken



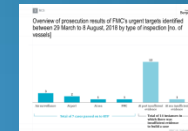
- Set up of MCS system
 - Electronic surveillance
 - Port inspections
 - At sea inspections
- Introduced tool kits and technology to surveillance e.g.
 - VMS, AIS, ERS, EM
 - E-PIPO
 - Logbook
 - Transshipment control
 - Observer
 - pre-common risk assessment
 - behavior analysis software
 - FI, MISC
- Set up and improved operational procedure : SOP



2018

Result

- A robust and well-integrated **Monitoring, Control and surveillance (MCS) system** which allows Thailand to prevent, deter and prosecute any perpetrators involved in IUU fishing activities through closer inter-agency coordination
- Cross-sectoral actions led concrete results
 - Port inspection
 - Urgent targets



- At sea inspection



On going & Future plan

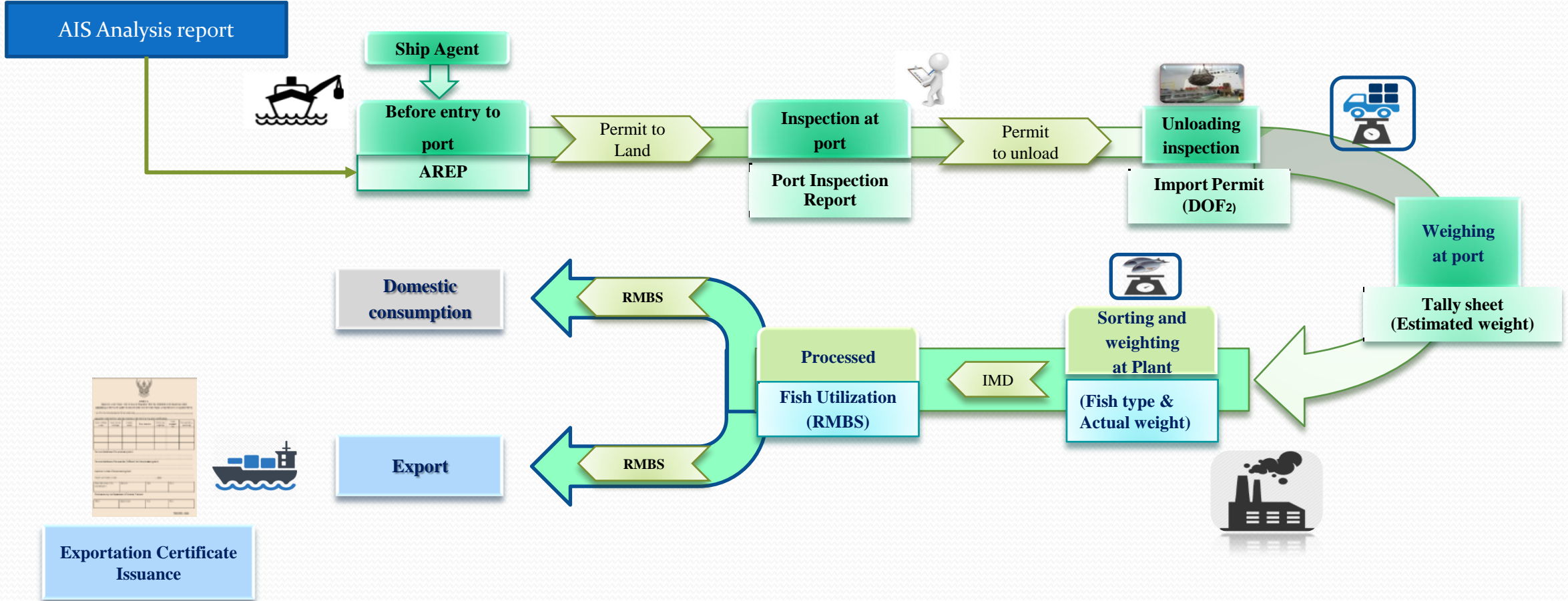
- VMS anti-tampering safeguard device



- Complete system of the CRA
- Surveillance of carrier less than 30 GT in TH water
- Surveillance of FV 10- less than 30 GT
- More proactive international role in MCS activities



Traceability




Traceability

SITUATION BEFORE 2015 OF TRACEABILITY



1 No comprehensive laws and regulations



2 No information system or electronic tracking infrastructure



3 Lack of sufficient inter-agency and international coordination



4 Insufficient control of Thai flagged vessels especially Thai flagged vessels fishing in waters of third countries



5 No clear regulations and schemes guiding controls of foreign flagged vessels, no comprehensive inspection

Traceability

Before 2015

2015-2018

2018



Situation

Action taken

Result

Future plan

1. No comprehensive laws and regulations



Established legal framework in the R.O. on Fisheries

- ✓ Registration : fishing vessel, ports, processing establishments
- ✓ Control : ports, processing establishments, importer and exporter
- ✓ Implemented traceability system in processing establishments
- ✓ Power to confiscate and seize

Acceded to PSMA

Fish from importation

- ✓ 8 stateless vessels were confiscated
- ✓ 1 IUU fishing vessel was confiscated
- ✓ 46 containers from IUU Fishing were rejected
- ✓ 1 truck was rejected

Fish from Thai flagged vessels

- ✓ 12 infringements detected in 2017 and 21 infringements detected in 2018

Review the need for revisions of the laws and regulations to ensure effectiveness in preventing and deterring illegal fishing

NEW



Traceability



Before 2015

2015-2018

2018

Situation

Action taken

Result

Future plan

2. No information system tracking or electronic infrastructure

Develop and implement of various electronic systems

- ✓ PSM
- ✓ TF
- ✓ Others IT system
e.g. Fishing Info, ERS/EM



Comprehensive traceability across supply chain and all modes of transport

- ✓ Data are systematically collected and reliable
- ✓ Data are available for verification and control
- ✓ Integrated IT-system
- ✓ Consequence agencies have access to all available data

Increase transparency and reduce human error

Increase digitisation

- ✓ DOF will upgrade automatic cross-checks of LD and logbook for Thai flagged vessels fishing outside Thai waters
 - ✓ Launch the Offloading Control and Inspection Application
 - ✓ Develop a digitalized risk assessment guiding import inspection controll
 - ✓ Develop a paperless Catch Certificate
- Upgrade Thai Flagged Catch Certification System and PPS**
to allow CA in importing countries direct access for verification of CC and PS

Traceability

Before 2015

2015-2018

2018



Situation

Action taken

Result

Future plan

3. Lack of sufficient inter-agency and international coordination

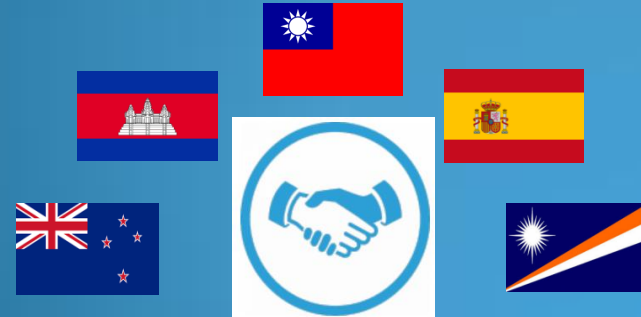


Strengthened the internal cooperation with MD and TCD

- ✓ MOU between DOF and MD
- ✓ MOA between DOF and TCD

Enhanced cooperation with third countries and international agencies

- ✓ MOUs with flag states such as Marshall Island, Cambodia, Myanmar, etc.
- ✓ Draft MOU for several countries, such as Spain, New Zealand etc.



- Ensure the reliability, effectiveness and transparency of the control and inspection system
- Ensure the correction, accuracy of information in the certified document from flag, coastal states
- Rapidity, transparency in inspection
- Data and information sharing with flag states
- Networking for data/information exchange
- Coordination across government agencies

Improve inter-agency and international cooperation

- ✓ Revise MOU and MOA with TCD and MD
- ✓ Accelerate signing of MOUs/IAs with encountered countries

Traceability



Before 2015

2015-2018

2018

Situation

Action taken

Result

Future plan

4. **Insufficient control of Thai flagged vessels especially Thai flagged vessels fishing in waters of third countries**

A comprehensive control system is implemented along the whole supply chain

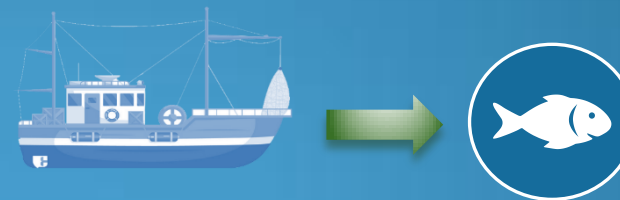
- ✓ implemented a robust and risk-based inspection process
- ✓ Audited processing establishments' traceability systems
- ✓ Audited PIPO officers

Implementation of various (electronic) systems ensuring monitoring of all Thai fishing vessels both fishing in Thai waters and outside Thai waters e.g. VMS, ERS/EM, observer on board, transshipment plan, Thai-Flagged Catch Certification System

No IUU fish entering into the supply chain in Thailand

The result of reform Thai flagged vessels fishing in waters of third countries are shown in MCS

Ensure process optimisation through internal audits



Traceability

Before 2015

2015-2018

2018



Situation

Action taken

Result

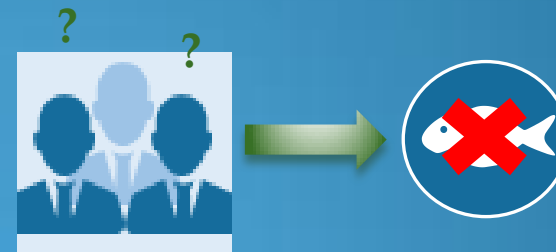
Future plan

5. No clear regulations and schemes guiding controls of foreign flagged vessels, no comprehensive inspection



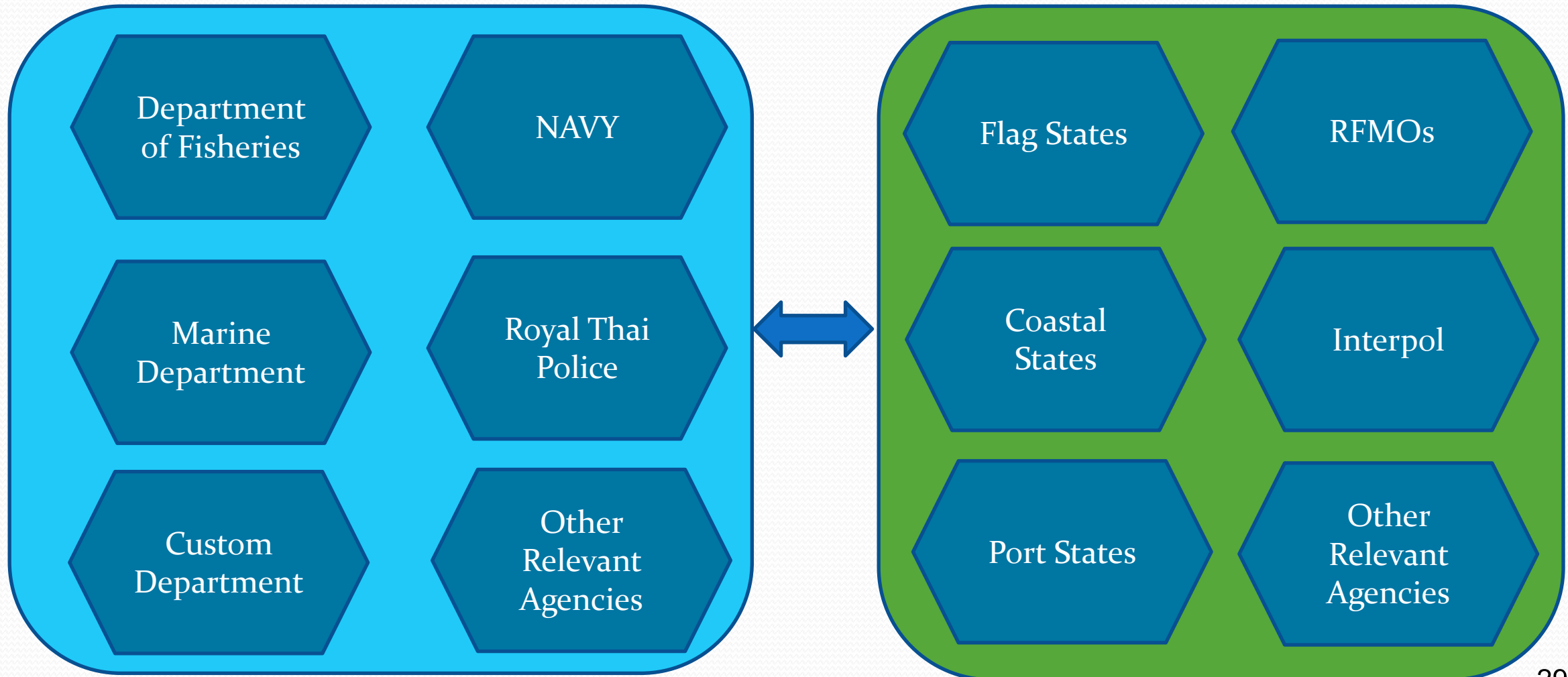
- A comprehensive control system is implemented along the whole supply chain
- ✓ implemented a robust and risk-based inspection process verifying information provided by all stakeholders before arrival, at all entry points, during transport and at the processing establishments
 - ✓ Audited processing establishments' traceability systems
 - ✓ Audited PSM inspectors

No IUU fish entering into the supply chain in Thailand
No non-cooperating countries fish (unauthorized fish) imported to the Market



Ensure process optimisation through internal audits

Cooperation



Cooperation with Neighboring Countries PSM Network



y/lo/ko

Document number		Issuing authority	
01315102017		Immigration Police, KOH KONG, CAMBODIA	
Name	Address	Tel	Fax
Mr. Rangsee Kamsal	70/2 MU1 TB, KHONGYAL AP, KHONGYAL TRAT 23110		
Vessel name	Vessel type	Registration number	
nr 6.0246	Fishing vessel	nr 6.0246	
...and processing authorized on board	Use APPENDIX 3		
Chilled			
References of applicable conservation management measure			
Name of vessel master and nationality			
nr 6.0246			
Name and address of exporter		Date and signature	Stamp
Mrs. Ly Yachalak KOH KONG, CAMBODIA		Ly Yachalak 15 OCT 2017	
Port State authority validation		Date and signature	Stamp
Pakhleng Seaport Immigration Police, KOH KONG, CAMBODIA			IMMIGRATION PAK KHLENG ARRIVED 15 OCT 2017
Transport details			
Country of exportation	Vessel name & flag	Truck nationality and reg.no.	Flight no / airway bill no.
CAMBODIA		20-534 HETCHAER TH	

Appendix 1

no	Product description		Fishing vessel (FV)				FV master	
	Species	Estimated weight (kg)	Product form	Fishing vessel name	FV registration no. & valid to	Catch area	Name	Sign
1	Shrimp spp.	20000 kg	Chilled	PPFL0246	PPFL0246	CAMBODIA	MOK CHHUNLENG	
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
Port State authority validation				Date and signature		Stamp		
						IMMIGRATION PAK KHLENG ARRIVED 15 OCT 2017		

DIRECTOR GENERAL
Department of Fisheries Malaysia
Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry Malaysia
Level 1-6, Wisma Tani, 402,
No. 30, Persiaran Perdana, Presint 4,
Federal Government Administrative Center,
62628 PUTRAJAYA,
MALAYSIA.

Tel: 603-8870 4006
Fax: 603-8889 8480
Official Portal: www.dof.gov.my
Email: ismail@dof.gov.my

PRK.ML.S.03/2017 (11)
15 August 2017

Dr. Adisorn Promthep
Director-General of Fisheries
Department of Fisheries Thailand
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Kasetkiang Chatuchak
Bangkok, 10900
THAILAND
Tel : +66 2 940-0600-15
Fax : +66 2 940 6203 , +66 2 562 0493, +66 2 562 0529

Dear *Dr. Adisorn Promthep*,

REQUEST TO DENY THE USE OF PORTS IN THAILAND BY MALYSIAN REGISTERED FISHING VESSEL

The Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOFM) presents its compliments to the Department of Fisheries Thailand (DOFT) and has the honour to refer to the aforementioned matter.

2. In furtherance to similar request we made in 2015 and in following up to 2nd Sub-Regional Technical Meeting on Effective Fisheries Management between Malaysia and Thailand that was held on 25-26 July 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand; we would like to renew our request for assistance from the DOFT under the broad cooperation to combat illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing.

3. As all Malaysian fishing vessels are not allowed to leave Malaysian Fisheries Waters without the approval from the Director General of Fisheries Malaysia, we would like to seek your kind assistance to deny the use of ports in Thailand by Malaysian fishing vessels for any reasons whatsoever except in cases of *force majeure* as referred to by United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The use of foreign ports for landing of catch, ship repair and supply of provisions by Malaysian fishing vessel is deemed unlawful under domestic laws.

PERIKAMAN PRODUKTIF MENJANA TRANSFORMASI

Myanmar

- Verify the exportation documents issues from Myanmar
- Understand the procedure for inspection at port and EU Simplified Catch Certification issuance

Cambodia

- Increasing the cooperation for Exportation Document (Certificate Fish and Fishery Product Obtaining)

Malaysia

- Cooperate on Malaysian regulation for Fishing vessel
- Information Sharing on the vessel from Malaysia request to port in Thai ports

Cooperation with Regional PSM Network



SEAFDEC

- Training on ACDS
- Cooperation and information sharing on the fishing vessel in RFVR



RPOA

- Information Sharing on the fishing vessel related to IUU fishing

Cooperation with International PSM Network

Flag States and Coastal States

- Cooperation on the Fishing vessel verification
- Transmit Port Inspection Report to Flag State

FFA

- Cooperation on the Fishing vessel verification which operated in Pacific Ocean
- MOU for information sharing (planning)

PNG

- Plan to sign MOU for information sharing on Dec 2017

Tuna partner countries

- Cooperation with tuna partner countries such as China, Indonesia, Korea, Maldives, Philippines, Taiwan, USA, Vietnam, and PNA countries (Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands) using actual weight from Thailand to fill in EU CC

PNA Countries

- Cooperation on the Fishing vessel verification which operated in Pacific Ocean (PNA EEZ)

IOTC

- Implement IOTC e-PSM since Jan 2017
- Cooperation on the Fishing vessel verification which operated in Indian Ocean

Conclusion

- Political will on combating IUU
- Efficient legal framework comply with international obligation and standards
- Marine Fisheries Management Plan
- National Plan of Action -IUU comply with International and regional plan
- Standard operation procedures
- Administrative Resources; Budget, manpower, materials
- Scientific data for management

Conclusion

- Re-organization
- Setup system; Operation system, electronic system, etc.
- Knowledge and technology
- Data sharing
- Core agency
- Cooperation and collaboration both National and International agencies

Suggestion from Thailand's experience

- Cooperate with all countries, agencies in fostering sustainable fisheries within the ASEAN framework through organization of workshops with the purpose of sharing Thailand's experiences
- Exploring possibilities of establishing the ASEAN IUU Task Force as an IUU-combating mechanism in the region
- The Prime Minister of Thailand has already announced this commitment of the Royal Thai Government at the 33rd ASEAN Summit in Singapore last November.



GOAL 14

CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION

