Trade, subsidies, IUU and the role of fish Management systems:

Vanuatu Experience
Background

- Fisheries sector comprised oceanic and coastal resources which are exploited at subsistence, artisanal and industrial levels

- **Subsistence** fisheries activities are conducted on coastal and nearshore areas targeting deep bottom fish, pelagic reef and lagoon fish, and include reef gleaning of invertebrates.

  **Artisanal fishing** targets deep-water snappers and groupers and nearshore pelagic which are sold at local markets.

- **Industrial fisheries** is based on tuna fisheries in Vanuatu EEZ and beyond with catch landed in foreign ports.

- **Aquaculture** – farming of fish in freshwater, brackish water and saltwater for food, income and stock enhancement
Subsistence fisheries

- inshore reefs and nearshore areas
- gillnetting, line, spearfishing, traps, gleaning, various traditional fishing practices
- variety of species
- mainly for food security
- slowly evolving into sub-artisanal
Artisanal fisheries

- Commercial activity targets specific species: snappers, groupers, and nearshore pelagic
- Commercial invertebrates: e.g., sea cucumbers
- Use motorized boats, modern gears, and preservation methods
- Catch is processed and value added for sale at local markets
- Source for livelihood support
- Food security for those who can afford to buy fish
Industrial tuna fisheries

- Industry fishery - based offshore target tuna and tuna like species
- Local vessel/medium to larger – access in territorial waters and EEZ
- Locally based foreign vessels – access to fish EEZ area
- Foreign fishing vessel – access to fish in EEZ
- Vanuatu flag fishing vessel – granted access to fish in other areas outside Vanuatu EEZ
Foreign fishing vessel

- Over 150 vessels accessing Vanuatu EEZ in past
- 2015 quota of 75 vessel enforced based on new tuna plan
- License fees USD 20,000 - 30,000 as of 2015
- Target resource – albacore tuna
- 100% of catch offloaded offshore (Fiji)
- Loss of other economic benefit
Onshore development

- Palekula Fishing Based 1950s to 1985
- I small scale fresh and loining factory operational since 2009, cease operation 2015
- Bigger loining factory – joint Vanuatu Gove and Chine CNFC build in 2009, still un operational, no landing wharf
- New landing wharf is being negotiated
- High cost of operation
- New license fee to attract boats to offload locally
Fisheries Subsidies

- Duty free on boat and fishing gears
- Duty free on fuel (fuel subsidies)
- Fleet size use to be 150 plus at USD 20,000, now reduced to 75 vessels, fees increased to USD 60,000
- Marketing support and infrastructure
- Boat construction subsidies
- Bilateral access agreement
Fisheries management

- Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014
- Fisheries Regulation Order No. 28 of 2009
- National Fisheries Policy – in progress 2015
- Aquaculture development
- MCS and Inspection plan
- Coconut crab plan
- Fleet management plan
- Vanuatu national marine aquarium trade plan
- National action plan on sharks
- Sea turtle plan
- Seabird plan
- VMS system operation
- Observer programme
- Seafood industry regulation
In 2012, Vanuatu was issued with a Yellow Card by EU for failing to put in place effective control measures for the management of its Vanuatu flag fleet.

In 2014, EU lifted the yellow card after Vanuatu had convince the EU in putting in place measures that would address and meet the requirement of the EU. The following measures/policies have been put in place:

- New Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014;
- Review of the Vanuatu fleet management contract
- Vanuatu Fleet Management Plan;
- Revised Tuna Fishery Management Plan;
- Vanuatu National MCS and Inspection Plan;
- Cost benefit analysis of the Vanuatu fleet; and
- Restructure of the Vanuatu Fisheries Department Organizational Structure to include an International Fisheries Unit (IFU).
Aquaculture development

- A developing sector started on trial basis in 2004
- 1 x private tilapia and burramandi farm
- 1 x private prawn farmer
- Small scale farmers
- Giant clam production for aquarium trade
- Progress yet to be seen in sea cucumber and inverts
- Prawn and tilapia and focused species
- Strict quarantine control
- Need for good hatchery facility
- Staff capacity building
challenges

- Inadequate resources to monitor vessels
- Staff capacity and lack of skill issue
- Surveillance cost to expensive
- Coastal monitoring more complex
- High cost of doing business
- Lack of fishing port for Sino-van project
- el nino-la-nina affect movement of fish away from Vanuatu waters
- Compliance to EU IUU demand
- Staffing issues
- EU demand on fisheries redlines in EPA
Ways forward

- Complete finalize management plans
- Fully enforce EU IUU compliance
- Effective monitor vessels in VMS 24/7
- Strengthen MCS in collaboration
- Strengthen CA and certification of vessel
- Secure landing based and operationalize Sino-Van project.
- Expand/nationalize observer –move to e-reporting
- Assess catch management systems for albacore, and secure Days from PNA?
Thankyou