Implementing Fisheries Management plan and combating IUU Fishing

Lesson Learned from Developing Countries

Ndiaga Gueye (FAO-RAF)
Senior Fisheries and Aquaculture Officer
Secretatary Of CECAF and CIFAA
Fisheries = sub-set of number of developing countries that are disproportionately dependent upon inland and capture fisheries as part of their existing food and nutritional security
FOCUS ON CECAF AREA
CECAF Area
Small pelagic species migrating between countries, e.g. *sardinellas* / Shared stocks

Coastal demersal species on the shelf: e.g. shrimp, cephalopods, wide range of fish species such as croakers, groupers, seabreams, etc

Large pelagic species, tuna stocks migrating through deeper waters / shared stocks
Key Fisheries Management Issues

- Overexploitation
- On habitats (from fishing/fishing related activity, bycatch impacts ties/externals)
- Livelihoods/dependence on fisheries/fishers/fisher communities
- Trade/big business
- Weak management/How to implement EAF?/Develop appropriate management tools
- Shared stocks
- IUU
- Poor Data in the region (not all parts!)
- Reporting issues
- Climate variability and change
- Lack of good governance
IUU Fishing in the Africa Region

Along the coast of Africa, IUU fishing takes various forms:

- surveillance avoidance,
- transshipment,
- abuses of vessel registries,
- licensing abuses,
- interactions with artisanal vessels and sister ships (I. africaprogresspanel.org
- the implementation of non-compliant fishing gear and fishing without a license
- industrial level, IUU fishing is mostly conducted by foreign vessels fishing without a license
- engaging in illegal transshipment activities in national waters and on the high seas
- not reporting the catches made/making false statements and operating in fishing zones reserved for the artisanal segment.

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Persistent Challenges to Combat IUU Fishing

There are several political, legal, institutional, educational and operational challenges to be addressed in the fight against IUU fishing, including:

- Strengthening of legal and governance frameworks at national, regional and global levels
- Enhancing the capacity of developing States to manage, monitor and control fishing activities
- Developing globally accepted standards for market access, trade and traceability
Suggested Recommendations

Enhance legislation

Work with international organizations and RFB/RFMOs to enhance fisheries legislations and ensure legislation is in line with existing international instruments to combat IUU fishing.

Implement international instruments for fisheries management and IUU

PSMA, Voluntary Guidelines on Flag State Performance, IPOA-IUU (national and regional level), MCS, 1993 Compliance Agreement.

Reinforce regional cooperation and coordination

- National and regional level, national law enforcement agencies, fisheries authorities, coast guards, customs, port authorities
- Coordinate with FCWC, COREP, COMHAFAT/ATLAFCO, SRFC, ICCAT, INTERPOL, Fish-i Africa, Stop Illegal Fishing, EU, State and non-State actors
- Establish regional arrangement for implementation of PSMA, MCS and other instruments to combat IUU fishing
- Enhance effectiveness of and strengthen RFMOs/RFBs for fisheries management, implementation of instruments and enforcement of regulations
Concluding remarks

Promote collaboration on fisheries and environmental issues, in the context of existing mandates and competencies

All parties need to see the benefit of the collaboration with respect to their role and mandate

Collaboration can be at various levels, it is important to note which level is of relevance for a given topic/issue
Concluding remarks (cont.)

Requires an investment and commitment by the countries and organizations involved

Importance of recognizing existing mechanisms and management frameworks, also when discussing new concepts
Take Home Message

Governments to sign on the Port State Measures Agreement and to consider taking immediate action to implement the treaty.
Thank You

Ndiaga Gueye
ndiaga.gueye@fao.org