



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

THE Global Record

of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated
Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels



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UN/CEFACT Mini Conference:

**Sustainable fishery management and combatting
illegal fisheries through information management
(FLUX)**

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Introduction





What is IUU fishing?

- Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
- Undermines national and regional efforts to manage fisheries sustainably and conserve marine biodiversity
- Threatens the livelihood of fishers and other fishery-sector stakeholders
- Found in all types and dimensions of fisheries
- Environmental crime – requires strong political will and concerted action





How are we fighting IUU fishing?

- Policy, legal and governance frameworks and operational enforcement mechanisms
- FAO (under IPOA-IUU):
 - Port State Measures Agreement
 - Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance
 - Global Record
 - Market Measures
- Level of IUU fishing





What is the Global Record?

- International tool to fight IUU fishing
- ‘One-stop shop’ of vessel and vessel-related information
- Public dissemination of certified, relevant and up-to-date information from official sources
- Fishing vessels and vessels supporting fisheries
- More than a list of authorized vessels





Who are the target users?

- Port inspectors
- Flag, port, coastal and market
State authorities
- Others:
 - RFBs
 - NGOs
 - General public





Why do we need information exchange?

- Close the global information gap on the activities of the fleet and enhance transparency
- Support fisheries management
- Strengthen Monitoring, Control & Surveillance
- Increase traceability of fleet and fish products
- Support international policy





Why do we need standards?

- Various entities, not always exactly the same info
- Clear description and definition of terms
- Efficient and practical implementation
- Interoperability of systems
- Re-utilization of cross-domain concepts





History





COFI 31 (2014) - Strategy

- Objectives:
 - Clarify role and highlight benefits and synergies
 - Define approach being taken to move forward
 - Raise concerns and mitigate risks
- Extension of IMO Numbering Scheme to fishing vessels > 100 GT
- Business Requirements Specification for FLUX
- 5-year programme proposal





COFI 31 (2014) - Prototype

- Objectives:
 - Present a tangible proposal of functionality
 - Highlight potential uses and benefits
 - Open discussion on continued development
- Comprises sample data from a few select providers
- Cost-effective solution built on the VRMF





COFI 31 (2014) - Conclusions

- Reiterated support for the Global Record
- Commended the work on the strategy and prototype
- Welcomed coordination with existing systems and cost-effective approach
- Appreciated collaboration with IMO and agreed on the use of the IMO number as the UVI for Phase 1
- Noted RFMO provisions to make IMO number compulsory
- Agreed on State responsibility for data provision
- Appreciated assistance to developing States
- Some Members recognized need for advisory body



Current Process





How we work

- Objectives:
 - Encourage and increase participation and commitment of FAO Members
 - Establish a sense of ownership among partners
- Collaborative approach:
 - Working Group to guide the implementation of the policy and managements aspects of the strategy
 - 3 Core Groups to discuss technical matters





Global Record Working Group (GRWG)

- Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group (GRWG) objectives:
 - Provide guidance on legal and technical aspects
 - Secure applicability and utility at global level
 - Understand working modalities and systems in place
 - Identify areas for technical assistance
 - Find solution for long-term sustainability
- First meeting held February 2015 (GRWG1)
- Second meeting held March 2016 (GRWG2)





Global Record Core Groups (GRCGs)

- Specialized Core Working Groups:
 - Data Requirements (DR)
 - Data Exchange (DE)
 - Third Party Data (TP)
- Virtual workspaces for collaboration and initial discussion
- First meeting held Sept/Oct 2015 (GRCG1)
- Ongoing ad-hoc process





COFI 32 (July 2016)

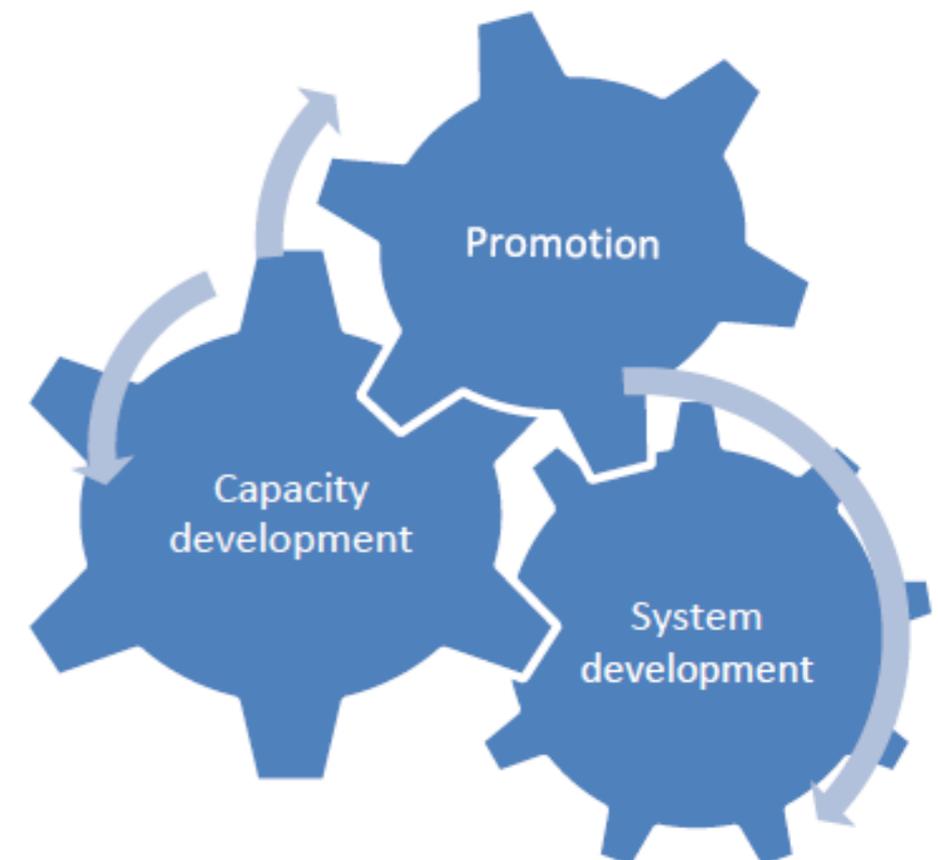
- Strong support for the Global Record and its continued development
- Important role in combatting IUU fishing and supporting the implementation of international instruments
- Commended the progress made and urged broader participation
- Collaboration with existing vessel record initiatives
- Cost-benefit analysis and agreement on a stable financing programme





Where we stand

- Direction:
 - Information in the public domain
 - Voluntary initiative
 - Collaboration
- Programme:
 - Multi-donor project for 2015-2016
 - Focus on system development





Where FLUX fits in

- Data requirements and definitions – in line with FLUX
- Data exchange:
 - Pre-defined standards for data and data exchange
 - International standards where available
 - UN/CEFACT XML preferred
 - Use of FLUX transportation layer
 - Current need for a range of options
- Opportunity for global harmonization





Next Steps





Moving forward

- Recommendations:
 - GRCGs → GRWG2 → COFI 32
 - GRCGs work ongoing
 - GRWG3 (early 2017)
- Pilot project
- Technical guidelines





Pilot Project

- Global initiative limited to key partners:
 - Regional representation
 - Developed and developing States
 - Targeted support
- Modification of prototype according to agreed data requirements and extension to include data submission
- User feedback and review
- From pilot project to the first version





Challenges & Risks

- Lack of commitment and participation:
 - Collaborative exercise to increase sense of ownership
 - Standardization to reduce the burden of integration
 - Multiple options with varying degrees of complexity
 - Pilot project phase to demonstrate utility
 - Support for Members who wish to participate but do not have the means yet
- Funding:
 - Options for long-term financing being considered





How can you get involved?

- Participate in the GRWG
- Participate in the GRCGs
- Participate in the FLUX Community
- Join the pilot project
- Become a donor
- Spread the word



Thank you!

Questions?



Contacts are welcome

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