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**Fighting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
in the APEC Region – An OECD Perspective on
Policy and Regulatory Gaps**

Submitted by: OECD



**Workshop on APEC Best Practice in
Addressing Subsidies That Contribute to
Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
22 February 2021**

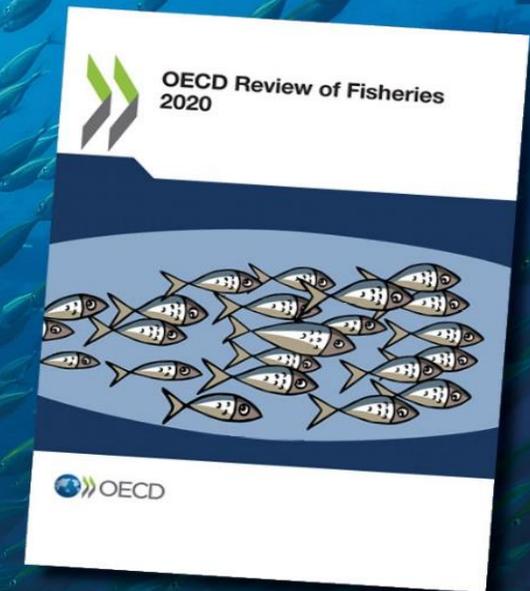
Fighting IUU fishing in the APEC region

An OECD perspective on policy and regulatory gaps

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APEC Workshop on Best Practice in Addressing Subsidies that Contribute to IUU Fishing

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The OECD IUU indicators



Vessel registration by which countries collect and publicise information on vessels operating in their exclusive economic zone (EEZ) or flying their flag



Authorisation to operate in the EEZ by which countries, as coastal states, regulate fishing and fishing-related operations in their EEZ



Authorisation to operate outside the EEZ by which countries, as flag states, regulate the operations of vessels flying their flag in ABNJs and in foreign EEZs



Port state measures by which countries monitor and control access to and activities at port



Market measures by which countries regulate how products enter the market and flow through the supply chain and economically discourage IUU fishing



International co-operation by which countries engage in regional and global information sharing and joint activities against IUU fishing

Based on a **survey** asking respondents whether they had regulation in place to deter, identify and punish IUU fishing and whether it was partially/fully implemented in 2018.

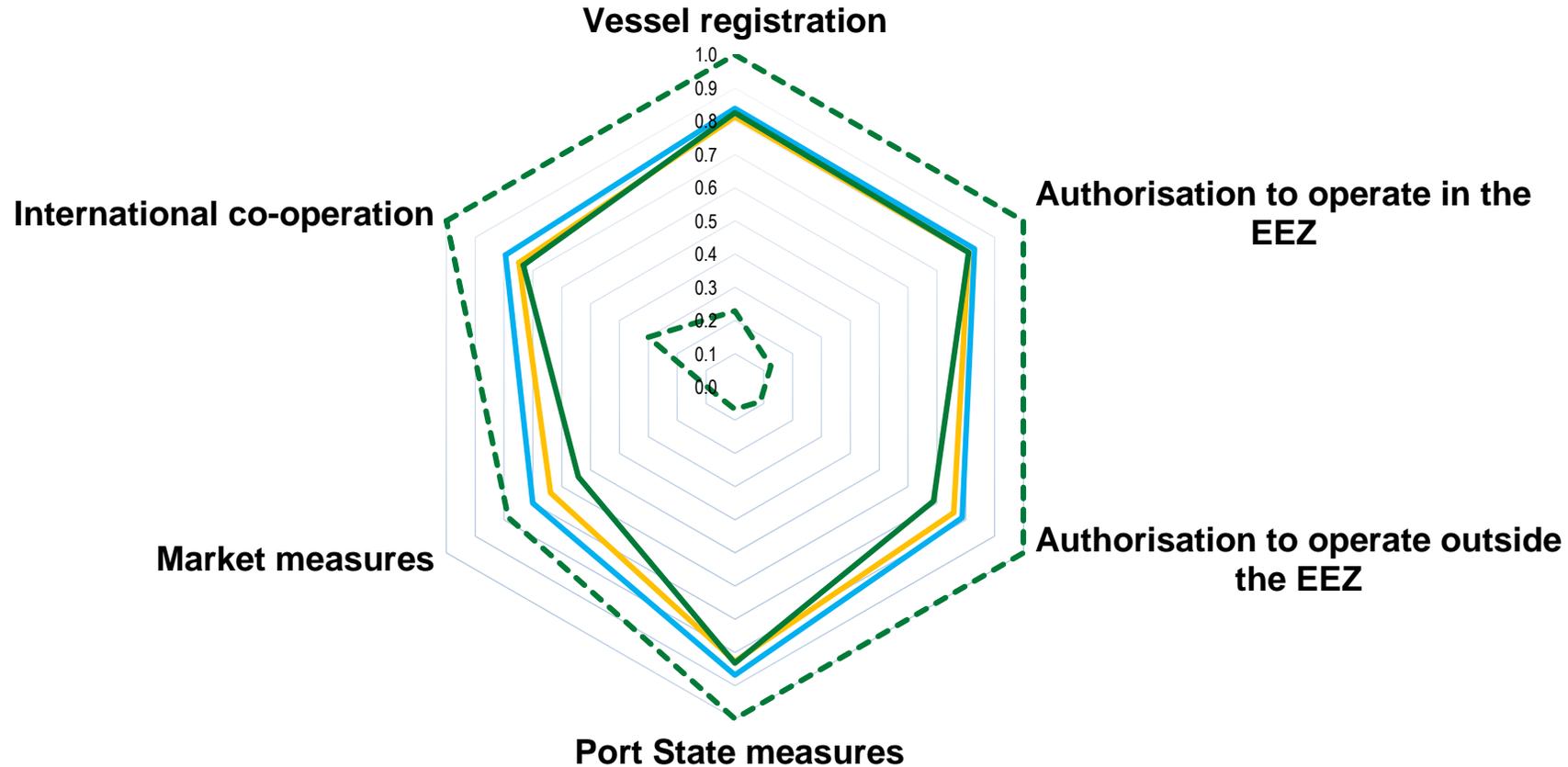


The indicators cover 33 countries and economies of which 13 APEC member economies

Australia	Netherlands
Belgium	New Zealand
Canada	Norway
Chile *	Poland
Colombia	Slovenia
Denmark	Sweden
Estonia	Turkey
France	United Kingdom
Germany	United States
Greece	Argentina
Ireland	China (People's Republic of)
Italy	Chinese Taipei
Japan	Costa Rica
Korea	Indonesia
Latvia	Thailand
Lithuania	Viet Nam
Mexico	* (pending data update)



Uptake of best policies and practices against IUU fishing, 2018



— All respondents (average)

— OECD countries (average)

— APEC respondents (average)

- - - APEC respondents min

- - - APEC respondents max



Key findings and recommendations

- 31% of APEC respondents have no legal provisions to restrict support for operators convicted of IUU fishing
- 60% of them have no legal provisions to restrict imports from countries insufficiently fighting IUU fishing

Use market measures

- 46% of APEC respondents have no legal provisions to collect information on beneficial owners of vessels
- 38% of APEC respondents do not require an IMO number to register fishing vessels

Strengthen registration

IUU vessel lists fully published by only 25% of APEC respondents

50% of APEC respondents do not publish the lists of vessels authorized to conduct fishing-related activities in ABNJ

Increase transparency

- Fishing-related activities in the high seas are not conditional on authorisation in 31% of APEC respondents
- Reporting of transshipment is not mandatory in 31% of APEC respondents

Better regulate fisheries-related activities



RFMOs and IUU fishing amid COVID-19

The COVID-19 has led to reduced MCS capacity among RFMOs to fight IUU fishing:

- Over two-thirds of RFMOs have reduced in-person/on-board observation of vessels – e.g. pacific tuna fisheries
- Disturbances to regular decision making reported by almost all RFMOs

→ Highlights structural needs for improved decision-making and resilient MCS capacity

RFMOs can better combat IUU fishing through:

- Uptake of remote monitoring technologies (e.g. satellite data)
- Efforts by member countries to agree procedures for the use and sharing of data (including mutual recognition of IUU vessel lists)
- Co-ordination in data collection processes and standards

→ In the short term, country-level policies against IUU fishing even more crucial



Find out more about our work



Read the [OECD Review of Fisheries 2020](#)

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