



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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Towards the Quantification Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in the Pacific Islands Region

Submitted by: MRAG Asia Pacific



**Experts' Workshop on Illegal, Unreported
and Unregulated Fishing
Singapore
27 April 2018**

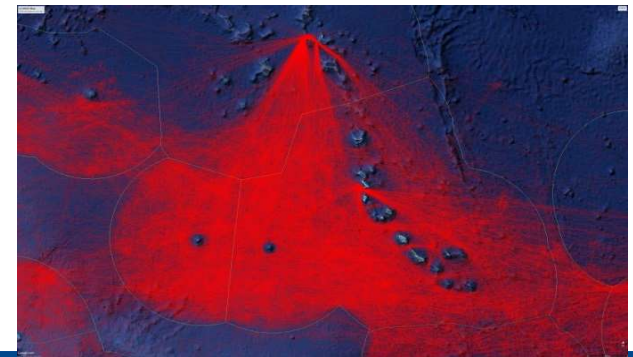


Towards the Quantification IUU Fishing in the Pacific Islands Region

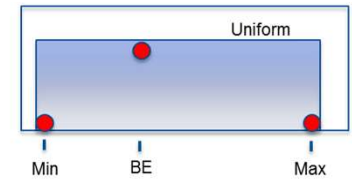
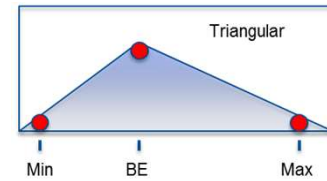
APEC Workshop,
27th April, 2018

Background

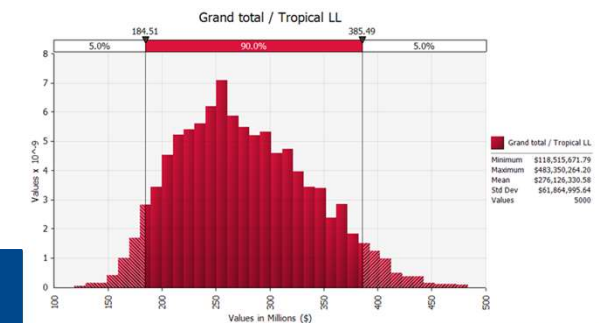
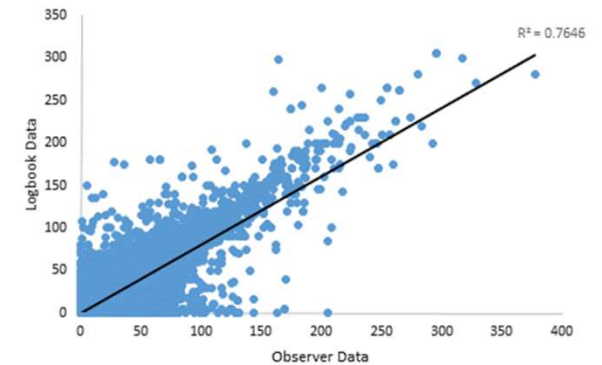
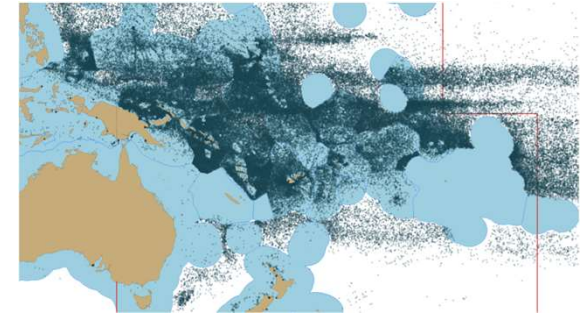
- Study undertaken in 2015-2016
- First attempt at quantifying IUU in Western Pacific tuna fisheries specifically
- Objective to estimate volume, species composition and value of IUU fishing activity in tuna fisheries within the FFA region



How did we do it?

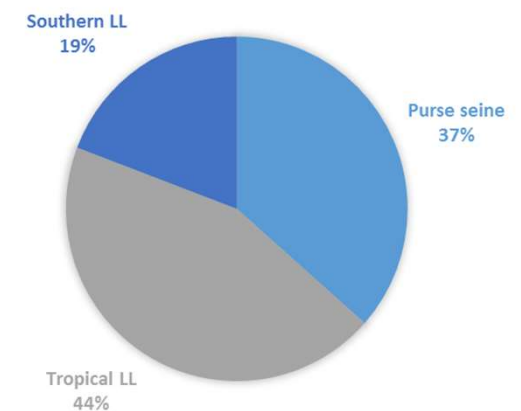
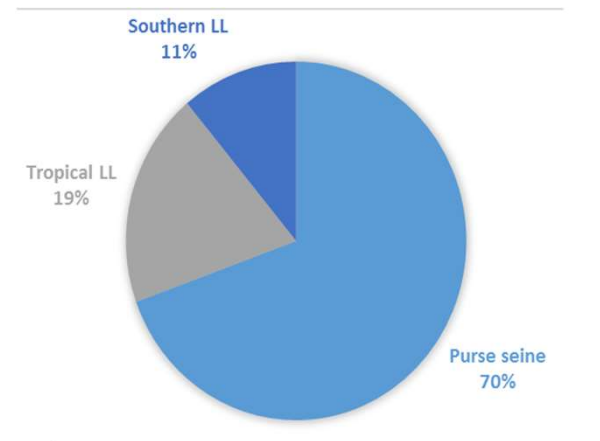


- Broke 'IUU problem' down into discrete, quantifiable units
- Estimated extent of 11 main IUU activities across 3 main fishing sectors:
 - purse seine (PS)
 - tropical longline (TLL)
 - southern longline (SLL)
- Aggregated estimates of individual IUU activities into overall regional values



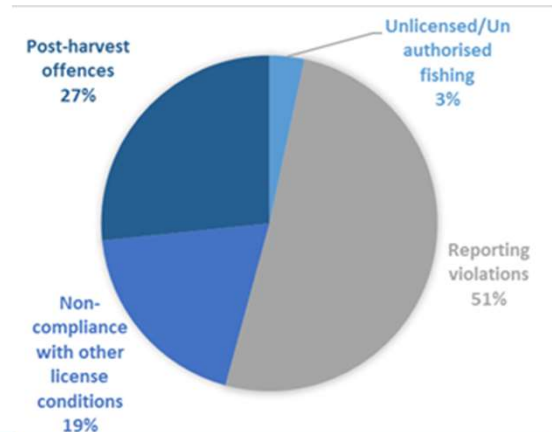
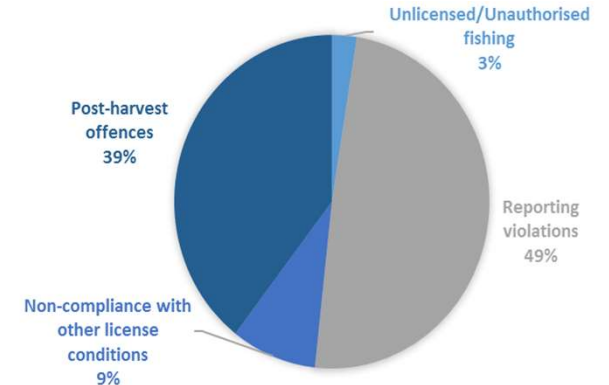
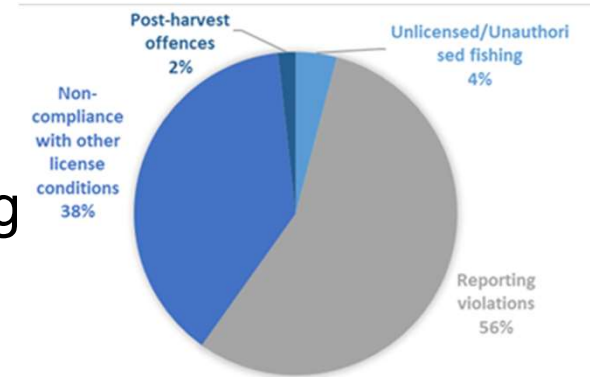
What did we find?

- Total ex-vessel value of product harvested or transhipped involving IUU activity was **US\$616m (\$518m - \$741m)**
- Estimated **volume** of IUU product highest in the **PS sector (70%)**
- Estimated **value** of IUU product highest in **TLL sector (44%)**



What did we find?

- In PS sector, IUU dominated by under-reporting and FAD fishing during closure
- In LL sectors, IUU dominated by under-reporting and illegal transshipping
- Overall, of 4 main risk categories by IUU value:
 - Reporting violations – 51%
 - Post-harvest risks – 27%
 - Non-compliance w. license cond. – 19%
 - Unlicensed fishing – 4%



Main messages

- Estimates of IUU are dominated by the **licensed** fleet – 95%
 - significant implications for MCS targeting
- Unlicensed fishing an issue at the margins - <5%
- Ex-vessel value is not a good indicator of *actual loss* to coastal States
 - Total IUU ex-vessel value \$616m
 - Upper estimate of actual loss ~\$153m (based on estimated rent from IUU product)
- ‘IUU’ is not straightforward – how its defined can have a big influence over estimates

Key benefits

- Provided first ever data-based picture of relative contribution of each IUU activity to overall IUU problem
 - allows for prioritisation/planning of MCS activity – different IUU activities need different MCS solutions
- Developed basic model of IUU in Western Pacific tuna fisheries which can be refined and improved as new information becomes available
 - Track changing nature of IUU over time
 - Assess effectiveness of MCS investments

Rethinking IUU – some thoughts...

- IUU is not all unlicensed ‘pirate’ fleets – the problem is often closer to home...
- Not all MCS solutions need to be ‘space-age’ – sometimes MCS 101 is all that’s required
- Not all solutions need to be ‘new’ – often the most cost effective improvements are better using the assets/infrastructure we already have

Acknowledgements

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FFA



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