

# **Transforming Trade in the Fisheries Sector: Linkages to 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

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# About Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- Specialized UN Agency (1945)
- Mandate: raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples under their respective jurisdictions, securing improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products, and bettering the condition of rural populations, and thus contributing toward an expanding world economy.
- Neutral forum to direct global policy; development of international instruments; technical assistance; information dissemination
- HQ in Rome, Italy. 5 regional offices, 9 sub-regional offices, 142 country offices and 5 liaison offices.



# Food and agriculture in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- 17 Goals, 169 Targets, 230 Indicators
- Emphasis on means of implementation and scaling up successful local and regional efforts + promote global partnerships
- Integrate three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental



# SDG 14 and its trade related targets

- **SDG 14:** “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”
- **Trade-related targets:**
  - Target 14.4: Regulate harvesting, to end by 2020 overfishing, IUU fishing and destructive fishing practices, and to implement science-based management plans, to restore fish stocks
  - Target 14.6: Prohibit, by 2020, certain forms of fisheries subsidies, which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and refrain from introducing new such subsidies
  - Target 14.7: Increase the economic benefits to SIDS and LDCs from the sustainable use of marine resources.
  - Target 14b: Provide access of small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets



# Key Issues concerning Trade and Sustainable Use of Marine Resources

- Premise: Importance of trade activities in the fisheries sector + complex supply and value chains
- Concerns and negative impacts of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing
- Legality and Transparency along the value chains
- Proliferation of unilateral + multilateral measures and governance schemes



# Greater Traceability + Transparency along the Value Chain

- Catch Document Schemes (CDS): Ensuring legitimacy of catch/product
- Information traced through different stages of the value chain and various trade activities
- Verification and Coordination amongst countries





# Mandate and Timeline

- **UN** Fisheries Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries of General Assembly on 9 December 2013
- **COFI** at its Thirty-First Session in 2014
  - Expert Consultation in July 2015;
  - COFI-Sub Committee on Fish Trade in February 2016;
  - Technical Consultation in May 2016;
  - First Resumed Session of the Technical Consultation in July 2016;
  - Second Resumed Session of the Technical Consultation in July 2016;
  - COFI in July 2016;
  - Third Resumed Session of the Technical Consultation in April 2017;
  - FAO Conference in July 2017



# Scope and Objective

- Wild Capture caught for commercial purposes
- Objective is to provide assistance to states, regional fisheries management organisations, regional economic integration organizations and other intergovernmental organisations when developing and implementing new CDS, or harmonising or reviewing existing CDS.
- Cooperation
- Support for Developing Countries and technical assistance
- SSF





# Definitions

**Catch Documentation Scheme**, means a system with the primary purpose of helping determine throughout the supply chain whether fish originate from catches taken consistent with applicable national, regional and international conservation and management measures, established in accordance with relevant international obligations.

**Catch certificate** means an official document accompanying a consignment and validated by the competent authority, allowing accurate and verifiable information concerning fish passing through the supply chain.



# Basic Principles and Applications

1. Be in conformity with the provisions of relevant international law;
2. Not create unnecessary barriers to trade;
3. Recognize equivalence;
4. Be risk-based;
5. Be reliable, simple, clear and transparent; and
6. Be electronic, if possible.



# Cooperation and Notification

- Cooperation, multilateral engagements;
- Cooperation in the design, implementation and administration of CDS.
- Notification by validating states:
  - Existing governance frameworks and conservation and management measures
  - Competent authority's mandate and capacity
  - Necessary procedures in place to validate without delay



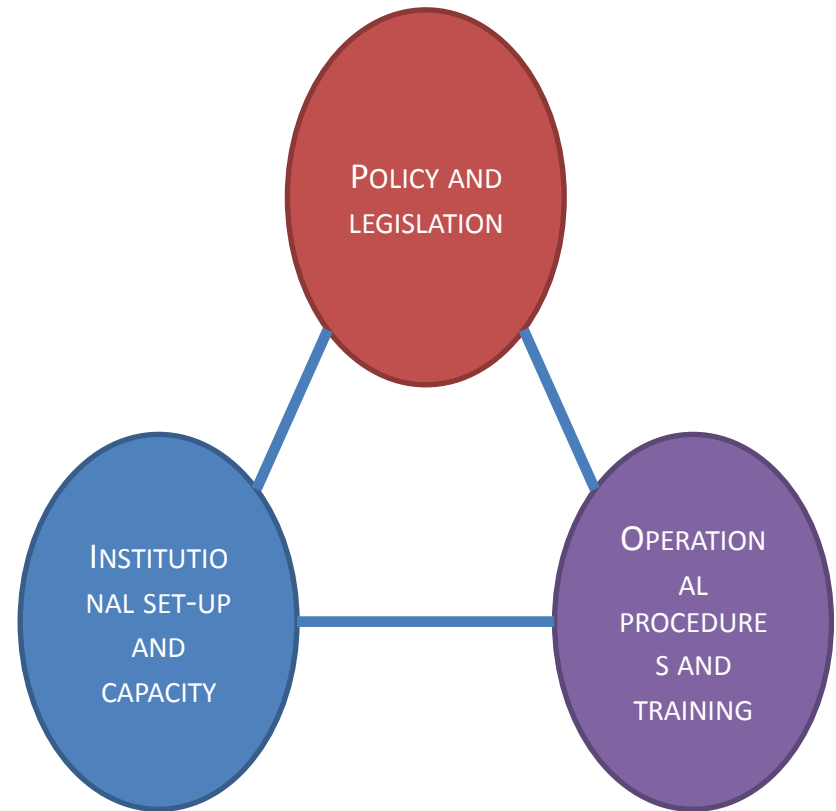
# Recommended Functions and Standards

6.3 In the CDS validation process, different roles of relevant states to authorise, monitor, and control fishing operations and verify catch, landing, and trade should **be fully recognized**, consistent with relevant national and international law, multilateral measures, instruments and obligations. **Validation of the catch documentation information should be done by a competent authority.** According to the specific circumstances of the fisheries, **all relevant states could take part in the verification of information in the catch documentation.** Importing states may request verification by the competent authorities validating the catch documentation.



# Moving Forward: Holistic Approach

Development of implementation strategies, supported by sound policy, legal and institutional frameworks, as well as operational mechanisms sustained by sufficient human and financial resources



# Special requirements of developing states

- Supporting LDS, SIDs efforts to implement the Guidelines;
- Assistance to developing states: **Development of CDS, legal and regulatory framework, institutional organization, infrastructure, enhancing human and institutional capacity, and greater participation in regional and international fora;**
- Implementation of the FAO Port State Measures Agreement and related international instruments

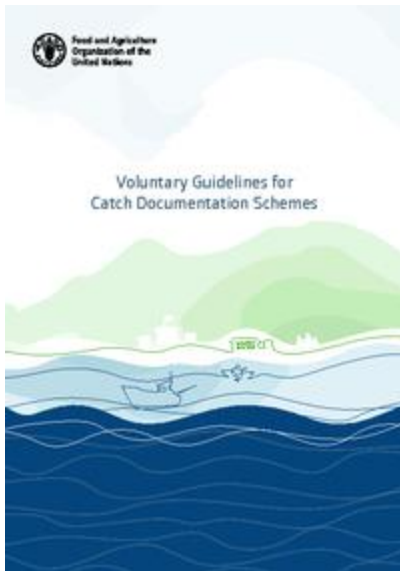




# Next steps and linking back to SDGs Framework

- **Transfer knowledge and capacity building** through context-driven Technical assistance
- **Complementary** to ongoing FAO Programmes and other efforts to promote SDG 14
- **Fostering cooperation and coordination** amongst public and private stakeholders in various oceans governance initiatives: combat IUU fishing and enhance traceability and transparency along the supply chain





# Thank you!

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[FAO and the Sustainable Development Goals](#)

Download the full electronic copy of the Guidelines:  
<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i8076e.pdf>

