



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Streamlining efforts to combat **IUU fishing**

## The Global Capacity Development Portal





# Objective

The complex nature of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing requires a concerted action at national, regional and global level.

At times, implementing institutions and donors may not have access to information about the type and nature of capacity development activities carried out in a country or region by other entities.

The **Global Capacity Development Portal** is an initiative meant to provide a comprehensive picture, online, about projects assisting States and regions in improving their capacity to combat IUU fishing.

Through making available information on which projects are planned, in progress, or have been carried out, where these are happening, the funds allocated, and what thematic areas they are covering, this tool intends to facilitate the channelling of resources to where these are mostly needed. It will also help future project planning and funding, assist in streamlining and coordinating global efforts, while giving visibility to future, current and past initiatives. The portal also promotes the utilization of resource materials developed under projects reported in it.

Projects also include optional contact details, which serve to assist coordination between different entities wishing to collaborate or simply to seek additional information.

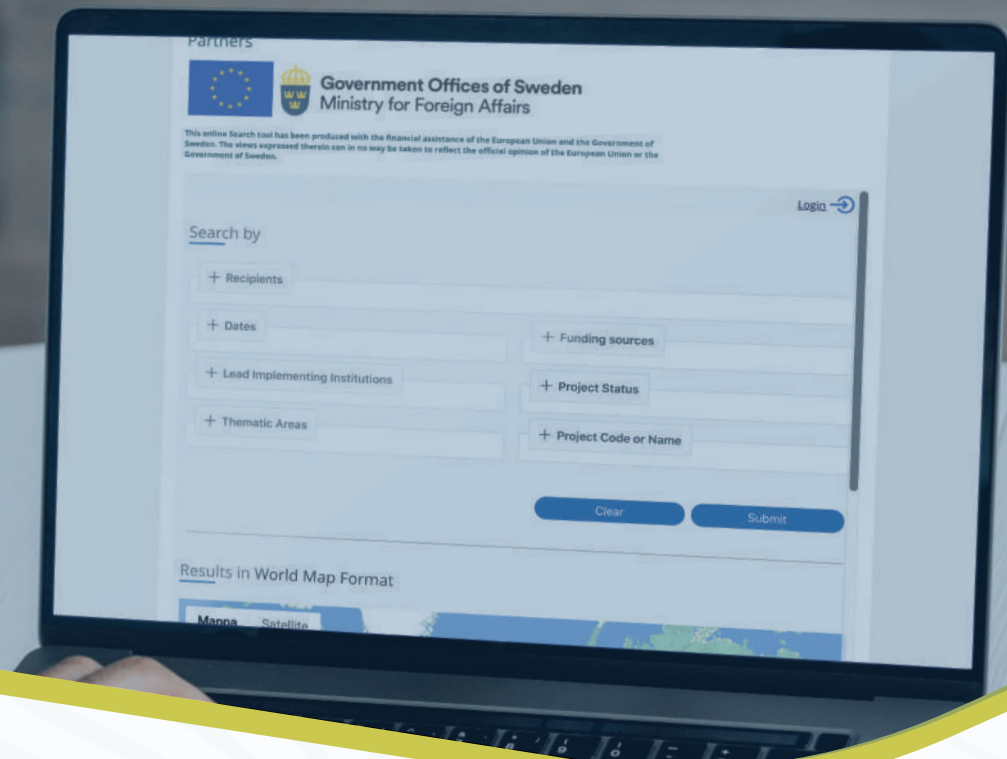


## Scope

Projects that are meant to assist a State or an entity to improve its capacity to combat IUU fishing are welcome to be inserted into the Portal.

These projects can be:

- local, national, regional, or global in nature;
- can address one or more thematic areas;
- can be implemented by any private or public entity of any form.



## How to use the Portal

Information uploaded into the Portal is publicly accessible, without the need to register or subscribe. One can visit [www.fao.org/iuu-fishing/capacity-development](http://www.fao.org/iuu-fishing/capacity-development), click on the filters of interest, and the Portal will display projects fulfilling those criteria. The resulting information can also be downloaded.

# How to upload projects

To share information about a project which fulfils the criteria mentioned in the section Scope, the steps to follow are simple and easy:



A project leader in the Lead Implementing Institution registers for an account;



The account details are validated by FAO, and an account is created;



The project leader can start uploading information about projects. Projects submitted are validated by FAO, to ensure that they are relevant to the implementation of international instruments with special attention to the fight against IUU fishing, and ensure that the same project had not been previously submitted;



Supplementary information, such as the project leader contact details and links to relevant resources, can be uploaded at the initial or a later stage;



Information uploaded remains the property and responsibility of the project's Lead Implementing institution;



Through its help desk, FAO stands ready to support as required.

## Who uploads project information?

Information for each project is uploaded by the lead institution responsible for its implementation, who will retain responsibility for its validity and correctness, and will be able to update it as required. Having one key entity responsible for what is uploaded, narrows the possibility of duplication while assuring reliability and ownership.

The Lead Implementing Institution can nominate other institutions collaborating on its project as well as its project donors.



# Thematic areas / Capacity building

Building a State's capacity to effectively combat IUU fishing requires activities that can be varied in nature. The Global Capacity Development Portal allows the organisation of projects according to several themes, including in specific action areas. Thematic areas are broad and often may overlap. Each project may cover several of these areas. Classifying projects in thematic areas will assist users find projects that are more aligned with their areas of interest. These are the thematic areas currently included in the Application:

- Needs assessment
- Policy development and implementation
- Strengthening legal framework
- Fisheries management
- Monitoring, control and surveillance
- Enforcement
- Market related measures
- Coordination and/or cooperation
- Financing
- Other



## **Needs assessment**

An exercise is usually carried out at the onset of a project to identify areas a State needs to address to strengthen its capacity to combat IUU fishing. With a participatory approach involving different stakeholders at national level, this exercise covers all aspects including the legal, policy, institutional framework, as well as technical aspects, operations, and procedures.

## **Policy development and implementation**

Policy may need to be reviewed at national or regional level, including aspects supporting its implementation, such as national or regional plans of action.

## **Strengthening legal framework**

A State may receive support to review and amend its legislative framework, to adequately reflect its responsibilities as a flag, port, coastal and/or market State under relevant international instruments.

## **Fisheries management**

This area may be wide-ranging and usually includes activities targeted at supporting a State to improve its fisheries management, such as through specific conservation and management measures to prevent, deter, or eliminate IUU fishing.

## **Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS)**

A State may be assisted to improve its MCS capacity. This type of assistance may be related to the improved use of technology or information systems, the training of personnel, or the development or implementation of programmes, schemes or standard operating procedures among others.

## **Enforcement**

A State may be assisted to improve its enforcement capacity against IUU fishing. Such activities may include improving capacity to collect evidence, investigate, present cases in court, and training of the enforcement officers and judiciary.

## **Market related measures**

Assistance may also be provided to improve the capacity of a State on its market related measures to make it more difficult for fish sourced through IUU fishing to reach the market, such as through the implementation of catch documentation schemes and others.

## **Coordination or cooperation**

States may be assisted in addressing coordination at the national level, such as in the development or strengthening of an inter-agency coordination mechanism, or cooperation at the regional or international level to better combat IUU fishing.

## **Financing**

Direct financial support or the provision of systems or equipment to support a State's efforts to combat IUU fishing would fall under this thematic area.

# **Benefits**

Using this Portal gives:

- a clear mapping of what is being done, where, by who, and when;
- an opportunity to network and collaborate by reaching out to specific project contact persons;
- the possibility to access resources linked to capacity development;
- visibility to the implementing institution or donor and their work;
- an opportunity to streamline and coordinate efforts, avoiding duplication when developing projects in specific areas of work or geographical areas.

**The Global Capacity Development Portal is a publicly accessible online tool that brings together information on capacity development projects around the world aiming to support States in combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.**

**The Portal is intended to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and information, to promote synergies, complementarities and exchanges among relevant programmes, projects, and institutions, whilst avoiding overlapping and the duplication of interventions.**

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