IUUF DIALOGUE – HOW MIGHT THE PBP BEST BOLSTER PACIFIC ISLANDS CAPACITY TO ADDRESS IUUF? – AN RMI PERSPECTIVE



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OVERVIEW

- BACKGROUND
- IUU-FREE PACIFIC BY 2023
- SUCCESS STORY
- CHALLENGES
- SHARE RMI'S PERSPECTIVE TO STRENGTHEN CAPACITY RE ADDRESSING IUUF





BACKGROUND





IUU-FREE PACIFIC BY 2023



"As the Commission's enforcement committee, the TCC is a frontline player in ensuring anti IUU measures are implemented and adhered to; a prime entity for improving compliance."

"we need to think anew about how to deincentivise illegal fishers."

"As that attitude underpinned success then, so too can it spur on our IUU-FREE campaign today."

Communication—Profile raising to increase public understanding of IUU issues and com-

Cooperation—improved data sharing among Pacific States and other stakeholders, to more

Innovation — Development of process and technology innovations to help accelerate the decline of IUU activities.

Engagement—Assistance/advice on fishing industry improvements in countries susceptible to IUU, so their fishers are de-incentivised to engage illegal activities.

Diplomacy—Application of more political pressure to governments that tolerate IUU.









SUCCESS STORY

- 2019 OPENING OF NEW MIMRA HQ WHICH INCLUDES VMS OPS ROOM;
- OBSERVERS ON FISHING VESSELS ALONG WITH REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COOPERATION PLAYS
 VITAL ROLE IN MONITORING AND ASSISTING WITH REPORTING ALLEGED ACTIVITIES PERTAINING
 TO IUUF;
- WORLD CLASS PORT STATE MEASURES AS A PORT STATE
 - RMI LEADING TRANSSHIPMENT HUB IN THE WORLD;
 - RECOGNITION OF THE UNIQUE AND MASSIVE ROLE THAT RMI HAS AS A PORT STATE;
- GLOBAL FISHING WATCH AND MIMRA MOU SIGNED IN PALAU (2022) RE VMS DATA SHARING;
- NIUE TREATY SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT (NTSA) SIGNED IN 2016;



SUCCESS STORY

STATE OF THE ART SURVEILLANCE CENTER AT MIMRA HQ





SUCCESS STORY

EXAMPLE: PROSECUTED ORYONG NO.721

Korean fishing boat charged

A Korean-flagged longline fishing vessel was charged Friday with five counts of fishing in RMI waters without a valid license.

The vessel is said to have been fishing illegally from February 2 to February 9 within the RMI exclusive economic zone. According to the coordinates listed in the charges before the High Court, the vessel, Oryong 721, was east-northeast of Arno.

The charges were filed by MIMRA Legal Officer Laurence Edwards, II, acting his capacity as a Special Assistant Attorney General.

If found guilty, the vessel faces a fine of not less than \$100,000 up to a maximum of \$1 million for each of the five illegal fishing charges.

sel tracks of the Korean longliner Oryong No. 721 prior to its arrival into Majuro port," said MIMRA Fisheries Offi-

cer Beau Bigler. "I was using the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Trackwell to conduct this analysis.

"I noticed that there were tracks during the week prior to its arrival that looked fishing sets made inside the RMI EEZ."

After the vessel arrive, Big-"I was looking into the ves- ler checked the captain's logbook, vessel fishing logsheet and GPS. "When a vessel is in transit in the RMI EEZ, the track should appear as a

straight line on the VMS," Bigler said: "The track in question was not in a straight line (and) indicates that the vessel was carrying out fishing activities."

He was also able to check the speed of the vessel during the early February period and it showed the vessel was not moving.

Bigler noted that the Oryong 721 does not have a license to fish in RMI waters this year.



CHALLENGES

- LIMITED RESOURCES (FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL) AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL;
- CERTAIN LEGAL GAPS IN EXISTING LEGISLATIONS THAT MAY REQUIRE AMENDMENTS;
- LACK OF INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION WITHIN LINE MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES;
- OVERLAP WITH ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES;

RMI'S PERSPECTIVE TO STRENGTHEN CAPACITY RE ADDRESSING IUUF

- INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION WITHIN NATIONAL LEVEL;
- CONTINUE TO BUILD CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR FISHERIES OFFICERS AND OBSERVERS RE MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES;
- WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT CAN ASSIST WITH MCS ACTIVITIES;
- STRENGTHEN NATIONAL LAWS, REGULATIONS AND LICENSE CONDITIONS TO DETER IUUF;
- ADEQUATE RESOURCES TO CATER OPERATIONS AGAINST IUUF.



SOURCES

- MIMRA ANNUAL REPORT 2021
- RMI NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREGULATED AND UNREPORTED (IUU) FISHING 2020-2025
- MIMRA STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2023
- FOR MORE INFO, VISIT <u>WWW.RMIMIMRA.COM</u>



KOMMOL TATA!