12th International Forum on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

19 - 20 March 2020
Chatham House | 10 St James’s Square | London SW1Y 4LE

Day 1: Thursday 19 March

08:30 – 09:15 | Registration and Refreshments

09:15 – 09:30 | Welcome and Opening Remarks

09:30 – 11:00 | Session 1: International cooperation to end IUU fishing

International cooperation is critical for combating IUU fishing. This opening session will discuss opportunities and challenges related to the implementation of relevant international agreements, and provide examples of how governments, businesses, non-governmental organisations and scientists worldwide are cooperating to combat IUU fishing. The session will also consider what types of new partnerships that are needed to address the issue. The discussion will centre around the following questions:

- What role does international cooperation play in combatting IUU fishing?
- What progress has been made in implementing relevant international agreements, like the Port State Measures Agreement? What are the key challenges and next steps?
- What types of international partnerships are needed to combat IUU fishing? How can international cooperation be strengthened?

Chair: Tbc | Pew Charitable Trusts

Speakers: Emily Langley | Acting Ocean Director | The Nature Conservancy

Matthew Camilleri | Head, Fishing Operations and Technology Branch | UN Food and Agricultural Organization

Kristian Teleki | Head of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative | World Resources Institute
11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 | Session 2: Gender and IUU Fishing

Women play an important role in the fisheries sector, especially in the post-harvesting, processing and marketing stages. However, their contribution is often overlooked, undervalued and unquantified. Moreover, the gender aspects of IUU fishing remain poorly understood. This session will discuss these critical themes, focusing especially on the following questions:

- What role do women play in fisheries, and how can their position be strengthened?
- How does IUU fishing impact women and gender relations?
- How does – or doesn’t – international law address the gender dimensions of IUU fishing? How can the potential gaps be filled?
- How might combatting IUU fishing affect women and gender relations? What does a gender-sensitive response to IUU fishing look like?

Chair: Stéphane Dubois | Manager, Gender and Growth Initiative | Chatham House

Speakers:
- Editrudith Lukanga | Secretary General of The African Network of Women Fish Processors and Traders and Executive Director of the Environment Management and Economic Development Organization
- Vasco Becker-Weinberg | Professor | Universidade NOVA de Lisboa
- Sarah Harper | Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of the Ocean and Fisheries | University of British Columbia
- Esther Swaffield | England Director | International Justice Mission

13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch

14:00 – 15:30 | Session 3: Subsidies and IUU Fishing

In 2015, world leaders agreed to abolish subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing and to refrain from introducing new such subsidies by 2020. To what extent has this target – enshrined in Sustainable Development Goal 14.6 – been achieved? This session will discuss opportunities and challenges for eliminating subsidies that fuel overfishing and IUU fishing. More specifically, the following questions will be addressed:

- Are all subsidies ‘bad’? What types of subsidies contribute to IUU fishing? How do we identify which subsidies that are most urgent to abolish?
- What are the prospects for reaching an agreement on fisheries subsidies at the 12th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, in June 2020? How may such an agreement contribute to ending IUU fishing?
- Who are the potential winners and losers of abolishing fisheries subsidies? What types of strategies may be effective in building support for fisheries subsidies reform?

Speakers: Alice Tipping | Lead, Fisheries Subsidies | International Institute for Sustainable Development
IUU fishing remains a pervasive problem in Southeast Asia, which accounts for approximately a quarter of global fish production and whose fisheries sector supports tens of millions of jobs. However, in recent years the threat of IUU fishing has received increased attention among policymakers in the region, and many governments are taking concrete action to eradicate the malpractice. This panel will discuss the opportunities and challenges of eliminating IUU fishing in Southeast Asia, focusing on the following questions:

- What impact does IUU fishing have on environmental sustainability, human and national security, and economic development in Southeast Asia?
- What are the main drivers of IUU fishing in the region?
- What progress, if any, has been made in terms of combatting IUU fishing in Southeast Asia?
- What is needed to eliminate, or significantly reduce, IUU fishing in the region? What is being done already and what are the next steps?

**Chair:** Champa Patel | Research Director, Asia-Pacific Programme | Chatham House

**Speakers:**
- Gina Green | Senior Associate | Tetra Tech
- Veerle Nouwens | Research Fellow | Royal United Services Institute
- Sophie Benbow | Head of Marine | Fauna & Flora International

**17:30 – 19:00 | Drinks Reception**
Day 2: Friday 19 March

09:00 – 09:30 | Welcome Refreshments

09:30 – 11:00 | Session 5: Transparency

Achieving transparency in the fishing industry, and throughout seafood supply chains, is essential to address the opaque environment in which IUU fishing and other criminal activities thrive. Moreover, recent research has shown how inadequate scrutiny and lack of transparency onshore contributes to the problem. This session will address the following questions:

- What progress have international organisations (including the FAO, IMO and RFMOs), national governments and the private sector made in improving transparency in recent years?
- How does the opacity surrounding onshore criminal activities contribute to IUU fishing?
- What are the most important measures that can be undertaken, at sea and onshore, to combat IUU fishing, and what impact might these measures have?

Chair: Huw Thomas | General Manager | Offshore shellfish

Speakers:
- Steve Trent | Executive Director and Founder | Environmental Justice Foundation
- Jacqui Dixon | Technical Advisor | Hong Kong Sustainable Seafood Coalition
- Austin Brush | Senior Analyst | C4ADS

11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 | Session 6: New Technologies and IUU Fishing

Technology can play a key role in the fight against IUU fishing. The closing session of the forum takes stock of some of the newest technologies available, including bitcoin and artificial intelligence, and analyses the extent to which these can contribute to ending IUU fishing. The session will also include a presentation of a brand-new online transparency tool, deemed to be particularly relevant to the efforts of developing countries in reducing IUU fishing. More specifically, the following questions will be addressed by the panel:

- What role does, and can, technology play in combatting IUU fishing? What are the main opportunities and challenges?
- How can artificial intelligence and bitcoin contribute to the fight against IUU fishing? Do these technologies have any drawbacks?
- Which technologies are most relevant in the developing country context?
- How may the new online tool, Spyglass, help combat IUU fishing?

Chair: Natalie Tellwright | Senior Fisheries Analyst | Oceanmind
Speakers:  

Tony Long | CEO | Global Fishing Watch  

Brett Haywood | CEO | Sea Quest Fiji  

Dyhia Belhabib | Principal Investigator, Fisheries | Canada Ecotrust