

ADVANCING SEAFOOD TRACEABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE EU AND BEYOND

Importance of robust data collection & management schemes in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing

→ To download the full report, please click here:

<http://www.iuuwatch.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/CDS-Study-WEB.pdf>

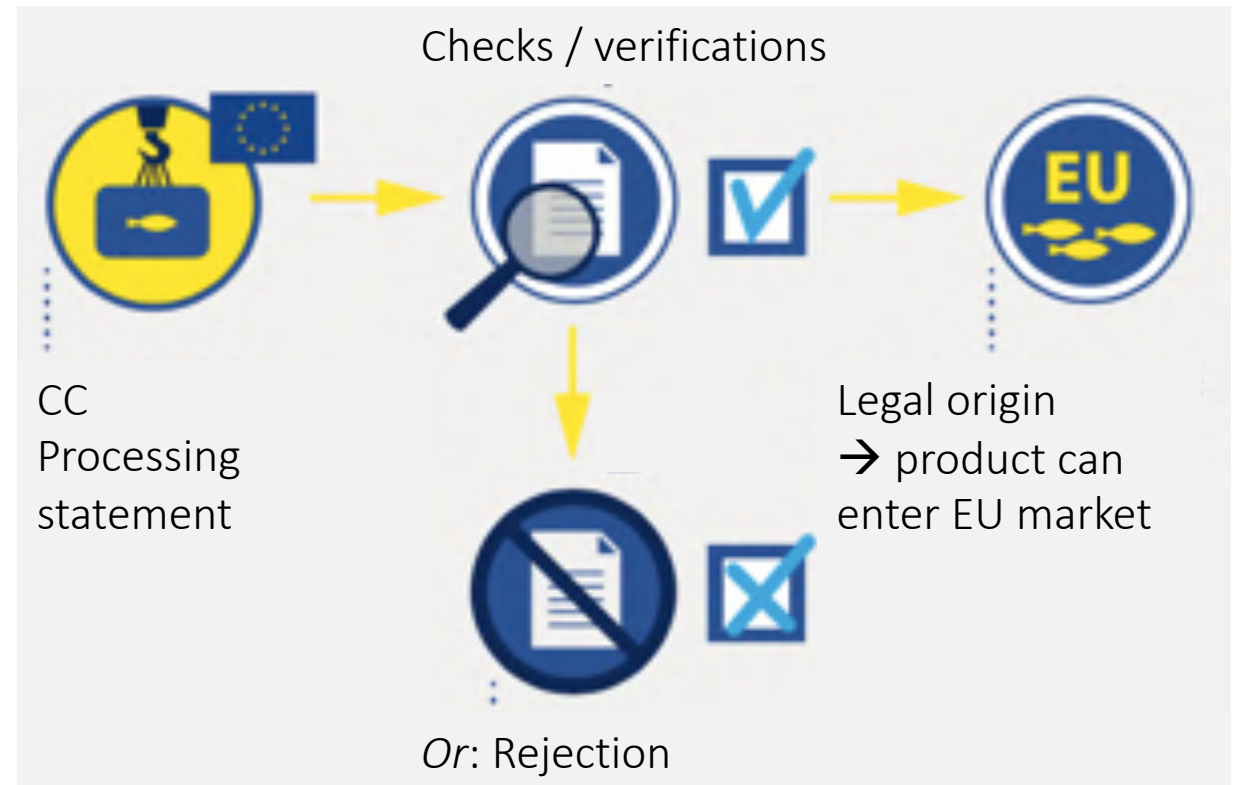
Save the Date: EVENT at Seafood Expo Brussels (Atomium) on 23 April 2020 will take place on this report and how industry & government efforts can complement each other

Import control schemes

Example: EU's Catch Certification Scheme



Fish caught in West Africa is landed in Las Palmas © EJF



Report

Overview I

1. Analysis of import controls of 3 major seafood markets:
 - EU, US and Japan
 - Combined: almost 2/3 of global value of fish product imports
2. Recommendations on Catch Documentation Scheme best practice
 - Key data elements (KDEs)
3. Comparison of KDEs in EU, US & Japan to best practice
 - Alignment: EU and US
4. NGO recommendation

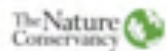
A comparative study of key data elements in import control schemes aimed at tackling illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the top three seafood markets:

the European Union, the United States and Japan

January 2020



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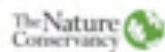
**A comparative study of key data elements
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Report

Overview II

- Evaluation of best practices across market states
- Identify significant scope to improve seafood traceability
- Risk: non-harmonised trade instruments will not prevent IUU fish from entering markets


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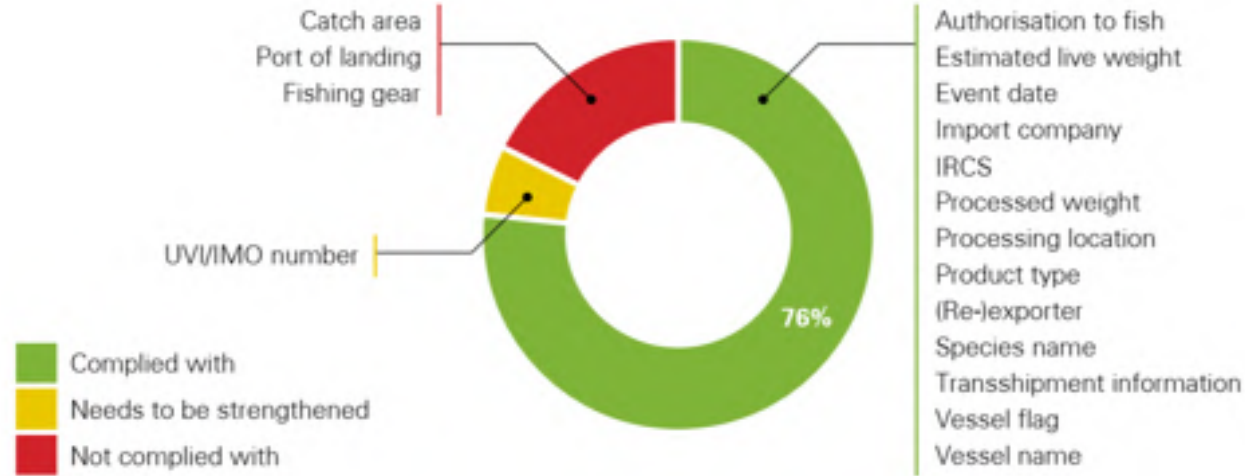
The importance of data

- Tracing seafood along the entire supply chain
 - = focus on **Key Data Elements (KDEs)**
 - *who, what, when, where and how*

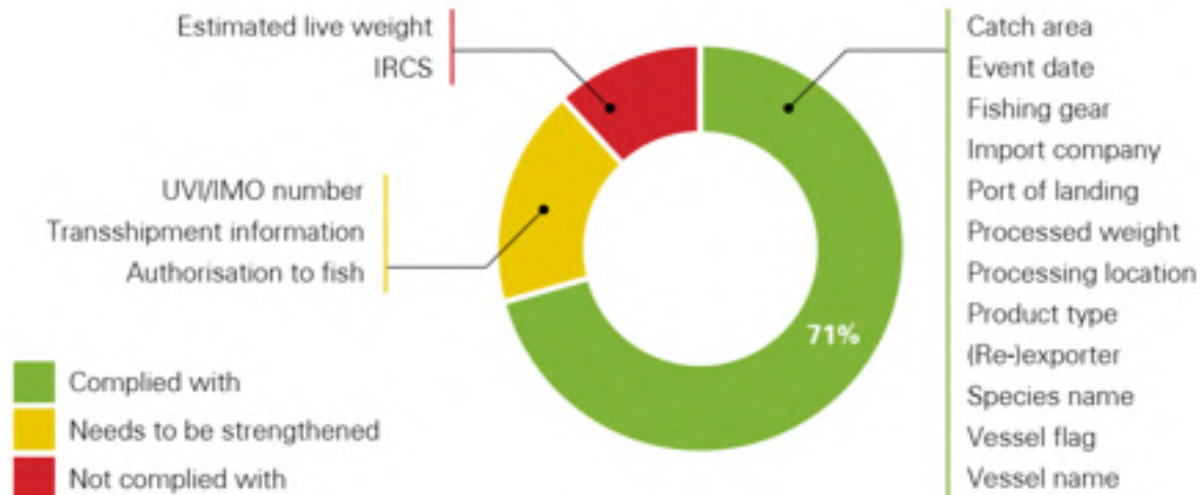
- EU and US: existing import control schemes
- Japan: currently reliant on RFMO Catch Documentation Schemes

- NGO analysis recommends **17 KDEs**
 - e.g. vessel flag, catch area, IMO number, fishing authorisations, trans-shipment declarations, unloading ports, catching method, etc.

Comparison between EU / US import requirements



Against best practice,
EU and US are aligned
at **59 %**
(10 out of 17 KDEs)



Comparison of import schemes

EU, US and RFMOs

	Key data element (KDE)	European Union	United States	RFMO & CCAMLR Catch Documentation Schemes				Additional information
				ICCAT	CCSBT	CCAMLR	IOTC* (Statistical Document)	
WHO	Vessel name	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	
	Unique vessel identifier (IMO number)	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Not required	Not required	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Not required	EU: IMO number is required "if issued" by the flag State. US: requests a UVI when available. CCAMLR: the option to provide an IMO number is provided, but not mandatory.
	Vessel flag	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	
	International Radio Call Sign (IRCS)	Best practice	Not required	Not required	Best practice	Best practice	Not required	
	Information on exporter / re-exporter	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Best practice	Best practice	ICCAT: only requests company name.
	Identity of import company	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	
WHAT	Product type	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Not required	
	Species name – ASPIS 3-Alpha Code	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	
	Estimated live weight (kg)	Best practice	Not required	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Best practice	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	ICCAT: "weight" is requested without specification. CCSBT: requests the net weight. IOTC: requests the net weight.
	Processed weight (kg)	Best practice	Best practice	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required	
WHEN	Transshipment: Declaration and authorisation of transshipment at sea, IMO number and vessel master information	Best practice	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Best practice	Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved	Best practice	Not required	EU: bans all transshipment at sea US: does not request vessel master information. CCSBT: does not require IMO number in the declaration.
WHEN	Event date	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	Best practice	

Best practice
 Optional or needs to be strengthened/improved
 Not required

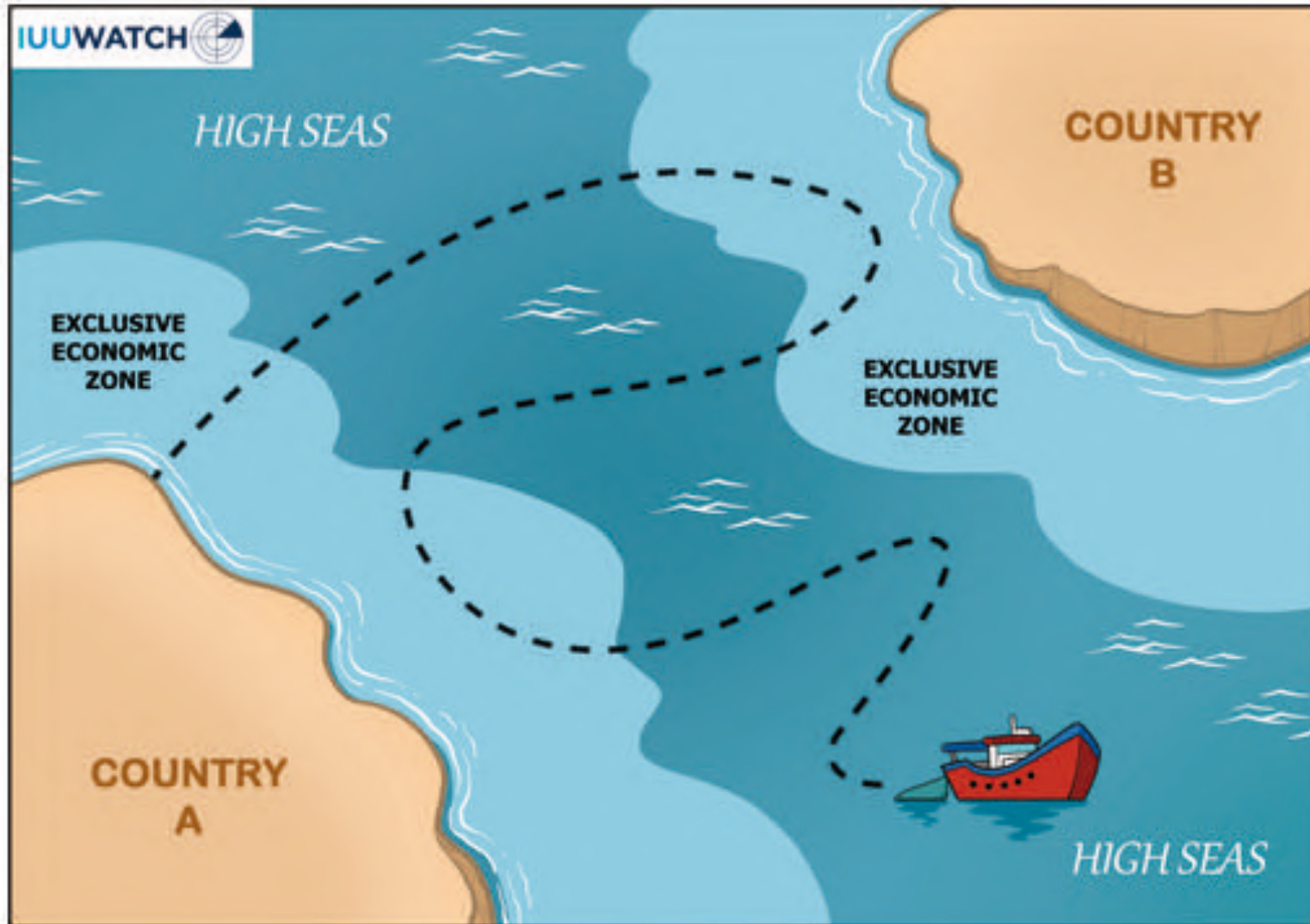
Import control schemes – the view from Third Countries

Statement by the DG Mesak Pakdeekong on Thailand’s endorsement of a universally harmonised catch documentation scheme (CDS)

“Thailand believes that the ultimate goal for all nations should be to secure an ethical, legal, and sustainable global seafood industry. This goal can only be accomplished with strong commitments and international cooperation to promote greater transparency and traceability, including through aligned CDS.”



Gaps in the EU Catch Documentation Scheme



But also missing:

- Fishing method/gear type
- IMO number
- Port of landing

Summary & recommendations I

- **Import control schemes** are essential to improve traceability to prevent IUU seafood from entering markets
- **Global alignment** of KDEs between major markets is an effective way to ensure:
 - seafood traceability and prevent IUU fish entering the market
 - **global seafood level-playing field** and for **trade facilitation**



Summary & recommendations II

- **Challenges** remain in both global and European seafood traceability
- **Control Regulation** will be **instrumental** to ensure seafood traceability in Europe and best-practice for other markets, but needs strengthening



Upcoming

– Briefing on ‘lots’

Key messages:

- **Shortcomings** in current EU traceability system
- **COM proposal** for the Control Regulation revision: **overall positive** improvements
- **Still challenges** to be addressed

– Follow-up report on catch documentation scheme alignment

Value of **global CDS alignment** to RFMOs and other multilateral fora



Thank you

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