



Trade, subsidies, IUU and the role of fish Management systems:

Vanuatu Experience

Background

- Fisheries sector comprised oceanic and coastal resources which are exploited at subsistence, artisanal and industrial levels
- **Subsistence** fisheries activities are conducted on coastal and nearshore areas targeting deep bottom fish, pelagic reef and lagoon fish, and include reef gleaning of invertebrates.
- **Artisanal fishing** targets deep-water snappers and groupers and nearshore pelagic which are sold at local markets.
- **Industrial fisheries** is based on tuna fisheries in Vanuatu EEZ and beyond with catch landed in foreign ports.
- **Aquaculture** – farming of fish in freshwater, brackish water and saltwater for food, income and stock enhancement

Subsistence fisheries

- inshore reefs and nearshore areas
- gillnetting, line, spearfishing, traps, gleaning, various traditional fishing practices
- variety of species
- mainly for food security
- slowly evolving into sub-artisanal



Artisanal fisheries

- Commercial activity targets specific species snappers, groupers and nearshore pelagic
- Commercial invertebrates eg. sea cucumbers
- Use motorized boats, modern gears and preservation methods
- Catch is processed and value added for sale at local market
- Source for livelihood support
- Food security for those who can afford to buy fish

Industrial tuna fisheries

- Industry fishery - based offshore target tuna and tuna like species
- Local vessel/medium to larger –access in territorial waters and EEZ
- Locally based foreign vessels –access to fish EEZ area
- **Foreign fishing vessel** – access to fish in EEZ
- **Vanuatu flag fishing vessel** – granted access to fish in other areas outside Vanuatu EEZ

Foreign fishing vessel

- Over 150 vessels accessing Vanuatu EEZ in past
- 2015 quota of 75 vessel enforced based on new tuna plan
- License fees USD 20,000 - 30,000 as of 2015
- Target resource – albacore tuna
- 100% of catch offloaded offshore (Fiji)
- Loss of other economic benefit

Onshore development

- Palekula Fishing Based 1950s to 1985
- I small scale fresh and loining factory operational since 2009, cease operation 2015
- Bigger loining factory –joint Vanuatu Gove and Chine CNFC build in 2009, still un operational, no landing wharf
- New landing wharf is being negotiated
- High cost of operation
- New license fee to attract boats to offload locally

Fisheries Subsidies

- Duty free on boat and fishing gears
- Duty free on fuel (fuel subsidies)
- Fleet size use to be 150 plus at USD 20,000, now reduced to 75 vessels, fees increased to USD 60,000
- Marketing support and infrastructure
- Boat construction subsidies
- Bilateral access agreement

Fisheries management

- Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014
- Fisheries Regulation Order No. 28 of 2009
- National Fisheries Policy – in progress 2015
- Aquaculture development
- MCS and Inspection plan
- Coconut crab plan
- Fleet management plan
- Vanuatu national marine aquarium trade plan
- National action plan on sharks
- Sea turtle plan
- Seabird plan
- VMS system operation
- Observer programme
- Seafood industry regulation

EU IUU

- In 2012, Vanuatu was issued with a Yellow Card by EU for failing to put in place effective control measures for the management of its Vanuatu flag fleet.
- In 2014,; EU lifted the yellow card after Vanuatu had convince the EU in putting in place measures that would address and meet the requirement of the EU.The following measures/policies have been put in place:
 - New Fisheries Act No. 10 of 2014;
 - Review of the Vanuatu fleet management contract
 - Vanuatu Fleet Management Plan;
 - Revised Tuna Fishery Management Plan;
 - Vanuatu National MCS and Inspection Plan;
 - Cost benefit analysis of the Vanuatu fleet; and
 - Restructure of the Vanuatu Fisheries Department Organizational Structure to include an International Fisheries Unit (IFU)

Aquaculture development

- A developing sector started on trial basis in 2004
- 1 x private tilapia and burramandi farm
- 1 x private prawn farmer
- Small scale farmers
- Giant clam production for aquarium trade
- Progress yet to be seen in sea cucumber and inverts
- Prawn and tilapia and focused species
- Strict quarantine control
- Need for good hatchery facility
- staff capacity building

challenges

- Inadequate resources to monitor vessels
- Staff capacity and lack of skill issue
- Surveillance cost too expensive
- Coastal monitoring more complex
- High cost of doing business
- Lack of fishing port for Sino-van project
- El Niño-La Niña affect movement of fish away from Vanuatu waters
- Compliance to EU IUU demand
- Staffing issues
- EU demand on fisheries redlines in EPA

Ways forward

- Complete finalize management plans
- Fully enforce EU IUU compliance
- Effective monitor vessels in VMS 24/7
- Strengthen MCS in collaboration
- Strengthen CA and certification of vessel
- Secure landing based and operationalize Sino-Van project.
- Expand/nationalize observer –move to e-reporting
- Assess catch management systems for albacore, and ecore Days from PNA?



Thankyou