

## FISHERIES IN THAILAND

Thailand is pleased to host the 6<sup>th</sup> GFETW. As one of the top fish producing nations in the world, it has demonstrated a remarkable growth over the last three decades. In 2015, total production was about 2.4 million tonnes, of which 54 percent came from marine capture fisheries. However, fisheries resources and the marine environment have been seriously degraded through overfishing, as well as by IUU fishing.

The Thai Government has adopted new legal and policy frameworks governing the fisheries sector, ratified the UN fish Stocks Agreement and the Port State Measures Agreement, and adopted a National Plan of Action to combat IUU Fishing. Thai authorities have upgraded its MCS activities through its National Plan of Control and Inspection and the Fisheries Monitoring Operation Center equipped with VMS technology. Thailand is also working toward ensuring traceability of its fisheries productions through an updated catch certification scheme and strengthened traceability documentation requirements and an electronic traceability database system



## VENUE

The Workshop will take place at the Centara Grand, at Central Plaza Ladprao, in Bangkok.

## REGISTRATION FOR THE 6<sup>TH</sup> GFETW

More information on registrations for the 6th Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop can be found at [www.gfetw.org](http://www.gfetw.org).

The website will be frequently updated

The International MCS Network and the Department of Fisheries of the Government of Thailand are actively encouraging participants from developing and developed nations to attend the 6th GFETW.

MCS practitioners for developing countries may qualify for sponsorship. There is a limited number of grants, based on funds availability.



## THE SIXTH GLOBAL FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP

18-22 February 2019  
Bangkok, Thailand



**‘CLOSING THE NET:**  
Global cooperation between flag, coastal, port and market States for effective enforcement of international and domestic law’

[www.gfetw.org](http://www.gfetw.org)





## COMBATING IUU FISHING

The International Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) Network is an informal collective of about 60 countries, the European Union and two Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (CCAMLR and CCSBT) that facilitates bilateral and multilateral cooperation in order to prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

The pervasive trend of IUU fishing carries negative consequences for food security, livelihoods and cultures of legitimate fishers and coastal communities. In addition to acute impacts on economic stability in many developing countries, IUU fishing also undermines labor standards and distorts markets for legally harvested fish. The annual economic damage from IUU fishing globally has been estimated to range between USD 10 - 23.5 billion.

The Network assists to strengthen the capacity of member countries' MCS systems, promotes actively building a climate of trust and mutual respect between MCS professionals and fisheries enforcement authorities from all interested countries.

### THEME AND WORKSHOP TOPICS

The theme for the 6th GFETW is '**CLOSING THE NET: Global cooperation between flag, coastal, port and market States for effective enforcement of international and domestic law**'.

All States have a role to play in deterring IUU fishing, whether they are flag States, market States, coastal States, port States or States whose nationals are involved in fishing activities. However, efforts by one State can only be rendered effective through international cooperation, at global, regional or sub-regional levels.

The 6th GFETW will focus on the following topics:

- Initiatives that foster global and regional cooperation among flag States, coastal States, port States, and market States
- Information exchange at the global and regional levels
- Successfully introduced cost-effective MCS tools
- New MCS technologies and methodologies
- RFMOs and control of compliance at the international level
- Implementation of the PSMA
- The role of MCS practitioners and fisheries inspectors in relation to crimes associated with fishing
- The role of social media and other public sources of information for fisheries enforcement
- Data analysis and risk assessment

The Workshop will also cover:

- Initiatives for capacity building and training
- Case studies

The Sixth Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop (6th GFETW) will be hosted by the Department of Fisheries of the Government of Thailand. Monitoring, Control & Surveillance (MCS) practitioners from around the world will convene in Bangkok, from 18-22 February 2019.

The GFETW is a biennial or triennial conference organized by the International MCS Network to improve and enhance capacity and communications of MCS practitioners around the world. Sustainable fisheries can only be achieved when fishing is pursued in compliance with the applicable rules, and therefore all fishing activities in the world's oceans and seas should be subject to adequate levels of monitoring, surveillance, inspection and enforcement.

The GFETW offers MCS practitioners a unique opportunity to discuss and resolve issues relating to their work. In this way, the GFETW fosters trust between MCS practitioners and facilitates international cooperation between national fisheries enforcement authorities, which is essential for promoting compliance and thus sustainability of fish stocks.

The 6th GFETW is convened back-to-back with the Seafood and Fisheries Emerging Technologies (SAFET) Conference, organized by WWF from 13-16 February 2019 in the same venue as the GFETW.



The GFETW will host the **3rd IUU Fishing Contest Award**