

# The scale, form, and impacts of distant water fleets on national fisheries and fisherfolk: Africa and Latin America & the Caribbean



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



# Flow of the webinar



Presentation



Small Group  
Discussions



...but first  
let's look at the  
POLL RESULTS

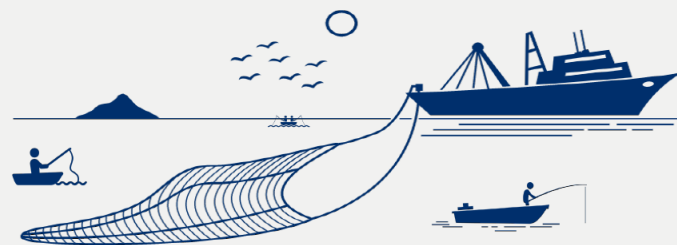


Understand the impact of  
distant water fleets  
on national fishery resources  
and fisherfolk to inform USAID  
Mission programming



DRIVERS AND IMPACTS OF  
DISTANT WATER FLEETS  
ON NATIONAL FISHERIES AND FISHERFOLK  
IN PRIORITY USAID GEOGRAPHIES:

A research agenda to support responsive action



[Research Agenda Link](#)

# Today's webinar

## DWF Research Agenda

### RQ 4 Alliances

Responding to disparities in power, information, and capacity

### RQ 2 National & Regional Enforcement

Responding to  
illegal catch



### RQ 3 Transparency in Licensing & Supply Chains

Responding to  
unsustainable or unfair  
resource allocations



### RQ 1 Characterization

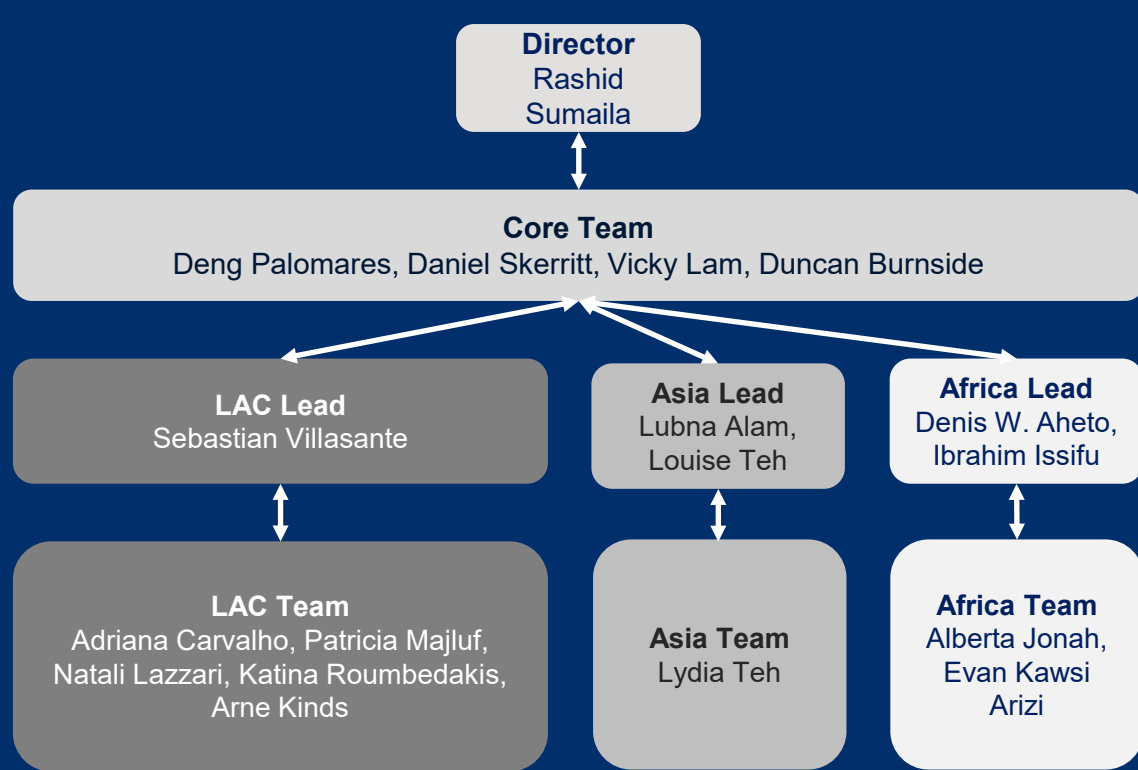
Understanding the scale, form & impacts  
of distant water fleets (DWFs)



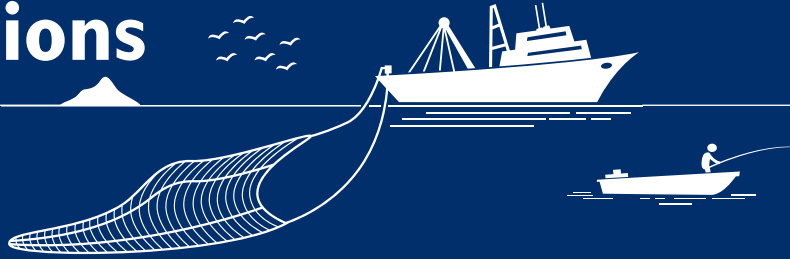
**Systematic characterization  
led by the University of  
British Columbia's Fisheries  
Economics Research Unit**

*See Annex A for prioritization of questions by  
country*

# University of British Columbia, Fisheries Economic Resource Unit and regional partners (presented by Rashid Sumaila et al.)



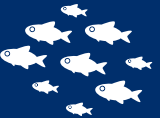
# Research Questions



**What are the  
impacts of distant  
water fleets on  
domestic fisheries  
& fisherfolk?**

## **Where there is competition:**

- What is the level and nature of competition & conflict?
- What species are affected?
- How wide spread is spatial competition?
- What are the management implications from these interactions?






# Research Methods



# Research Methods

Under each of the questions assessed we have a number of indicators that were evaluated.

	<b>High</b>	If all or a majority of the indicators evaluated scored High and none scored Low.
	<b>Medium</b>	If a majority of the indicators evaluated scored Medium with a few High and Low scores.
	<b>Low</b>	If a majority of the indicators evaluated scored Low with a few Medium scores.



# Topline Findings *[from across all geographies]*

## What is the level and nature of competition & conflict?

Both empirical data and qualitative evidences show the overall threat to domestic fisheries from DWFs in all the regions range from medium to high;

Decline in fish stocks in the region can be partially attributed to the fishing activities of DWF and have a negative impact on the livelihood nutritional and food security of coastal communities in the region (particularly in Africa);

## What species are affected?

Several species are targeted by DWF in competition with national and regional fishing fleets.

# **Topline Findings** *[from across all geographies]*

## **How wide spread is spatial competition?**

GIS mapping of SAU data indicates that there is significant areas of the EEZs studied.

## **What are the management implications from these interactions?**

A range of management recommendations are provided for each country and region in our study.



# East Africa Findings

# Western Indian Ocean Key Finding I


- Domestic fleet generates about 56% of the catch whereas DWF contributes 44% suggesting that DWF is competing stiffly with domestic fleet for fishing space and fisheries resources in East Africa.
- The fishing activities of DWF in the waters of East Africa threaten domestic fisheries who support the livelihoods and food security of the fisherfolk in the region.

# Western Indian Ocean Key Finding 2

## Somalia

- DWF contributes about 34% of catch to the total landings;
- This can potentially affect the quality of fisheries data for stock assessment, thereby producing flawed advice and policies for fisheries management.

## Madagascar

- DWF operate within 70% of the surface area of the Malagasy EEZ  high competition between DWF and domestic fleets;
- DWF may be contributing to the overexploitation of key fish stocks such as narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*), Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*) and skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*).

# Western Indian Ocean Key Finding 3

## Mozambique

- DWF operate in 30% of the Mozambican EEZ;
- Spatial interaction is therefor high.



# West Africa Findings

# West Africa Key Finding I

- Domestic fleet contributes about 70% whereas DWF provides 30% indicating that there is competition between domestic fleet and DWF for fishing space and fisheries resources in West Africa;
- The **high** competition further implies that the fishing activities of DWF in West Africa poses a serious threat to domestic fisheries which are reportedly declining given that the livelihoods and food security of the fisherfolk in the region largely depend on fisheries resources.



# West Africa Key Finding 2

## Ghana

- DWF operates within 48% of the surface area of Ghana's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ);
- Although these DWF are flagged to Ghana, evidence suggests that the beneficial owners are (**mostly**) from the People's Republic of China.
- DWF engage in IUU fishing.

# West Africa Key Finding 3

## Senegal

- DWF operates within **90% of the surface area** of the Senegalese EEZ indicating that DWF is highly competing with domestic fleet for fishing space to exploit common fisheries resources.
- However, the data reveal that DWF contributes about 4% of the total catch to marine fisheries of Senegal.
- Further analysis of the data shows relatively low levels of illegal or unreported fishing by DWFs occur within Senegal as 23% of their catch goes unreported.



# Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC) Findings

# LAC Key Finding I

## South America region

- Both, regional (domestic and regional) and DWF, have as target species three of the top five taxa caught in the EEZs of South American Regional nations, with exception of the Acoupa weakfish (*Cynoscion acoupa*) and Albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*), which are targeted only by regional and distant water fleets, respectively.
- For the above species, there is stiff competition between regional (domestic and regional) and DWF.

# LAC Key Finding 2

## Caribbean region

- Only **5%** of the total catch was taken by DWF, a fact that minimizes the competition between regional (domestic and regional) and DWF.
- DWF catch stands at 50% of the total catches of some species within the EEZs of Caribbean nations.

# LAC Key Finding 3

## Peru

- DWF activity within the EEZ is relatively low (with the DWF taking <4% of reconstructed catches between 2014-2018). Therefore, conflicts between domestic and DWF fleets remain minimal;
- Extensive conflicts in the jumbo squid fishery exist due to catch by DWF being taken on the border of the Peruvian EEZ. Experts furthermore emphasized that there is IUU activity of DWF vessels crossing into the Peruvian EEZ.

# LAC Key Finding 4

## Ecuador

- Because Ecuador does not allow bilateral fishing agreements, DWF activity within the EEZ is relatively low (with the DWF representing <2% of reconstructed catches). Therefore, conflicts between domestic and DWF fleets remain anecdotal;
- Although DWF activity within the EEZ is relatively low, there is considerable spatial overlap between domestic and DWF fleets in the EEZ of Galapagos.

# Some of the recommendations

- Improving registration and licensing of fishing vessels
- Strengthening vessel monitoring and surveillance measures in the region
- Improving fisheries data collection and analysis to support decision-making and policy formulation;
- Investing in fisheries law enforcement, and streamlining governance structures to provide clear guidance on reporting and tracking of catch



# Small Group Discussions



- Join your small group
- Welcome from the facilitator and navigating to your space in Mural
- Short overview by technical lead
- Review the tables and provide inputs
- Discussion will be led by a facilitator and captured by notetaker

# Orientation to Mural

**Please respond to our poll questions!**

# Next steps



- ❑ Sign up in the Zoom poll NOW if you would like to review the final report.
- ❑ Complete the webinar evaluation form using the link in the chat