

JOINT ANALYTICAL CELL



Joint Analytical Cell:

Introduction

April 2022

What Is the JAC?

The Joint Analytical Cell (JAC) is a cooperation mechanism established by Global Fishing Watch (GFW), the International MCS Network (IMCSN) and TM-Tracking (TMT) to harness their complementary skillsets, technologies and partnerships in order to more effectively tackle illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. Building on an existing collaboration, the JAC will provide the space and resources to develop new methodologies, standard operating procedures, data sources and technologies so that operations are conducted in a way that is more efficient, more coherent and ultimately scalable.

Interventions

The JAC will work in four key areas: provision of high quality fisheries intelligence; MCS capacity building; strengthening access to data and technology; and partnership development. Whilst the majority of intelligence provision and other support services will be provided to country partners, the JAC will also make key insights and analyses publicly available in order to support and evidence-based policy, regulatory and legal reform efforts by country and NGO partners. Key initial intervention areas are providing analytical support on port controls, air and sea patrols, transshipment, capacity training and evidence-basing global fisheries issues of interest.

Partnerships

The JAC is a partnership mechanism premised on the idea that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts – as such it is designed to grow, and development of new partnerships to complement the existing founding partnership will be a core part of the JAC’s mission. Partnerships will be formed with State and non-State actors. It is envisaged that non-State actors will act as data and technology providers, as well as operational partners in the delivery of training and technical MCS support. State actors will partner with the JAC in two primary ways – as receivers of intelligence and support, which will be provided primarily but not exclusively to developing coastal States, and as providers of data, operational MCS support and funding. In addition to establishing formal partnerships, the JAC will seek to cooperate more broadly, with the aspiration that it could represent a first step in what can develop into a coalition of like-minded organisations and a ‘home’ for technology, data and operational support.

By fostering collaboration and enabling partner organisations to present a united front, the JAC will serve to reduce the significant confusion that has arisen regarding the multiple technology/data offerings and organisations that are operating in the sphere of fisheries intelligence provision. By reducing perceived competition, replication and ensuring greater efficiency of funding, the JAC will enable real change to be delivered on the water, faster.

JAC Operations

As a cooperation mechanism, the JAC is not a standalone organization – while it will have a clear profile and will be cited as a source of intelligence and support, relationships with receivers will continue to be fronted by the partner organisations. The JAC will be operated by dedicated staff from partner organisations, with broader staff support as needed. It will be governed by a Steering Committee, composed of senior representatives of each of the three founding organisations. The JAC has already secured development funding and has commenced operations in 2022.

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About the Joint Analytical Cell:

The Joint Analytical Cell, or JAC, provides authorities with fisheries intelligence, data analysis and capacity building to help combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Founded by the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network, Global Fishing Watch and TM-Tracking, the initiative harnesses innovative technology and the complementary expertise of its collaborating organizations to improve the effectiveness of fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance. By fostering cooperation among State and non-State partners, the JAC seeks to build insights and capacity that will help enhance fisheries management.

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