



# IUU Risk Intelligence

Putting Compliance First

## GLOBAL EVALUATION OF FISHERIES MONITORING CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE IN 84 COUNTRIES

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### NAMIBIA - COUNTRY REPORT

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IUU RISK INTELLIGENCE

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## SUMMARY

*This evaluation of Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance report for Namibia is one of 84 such country evaluations that covers nations landing 92% of world's fish catch. Using a wide range of interviews and in-country consultations with both military and civilian agencies, the report exemplifies the best attempt by the author(s) at evaluation of MCS compliance using 12 questions derived from international fisheries laws. The twelve questions are divided into two evaluation fields, (MCS Infrastructure and Inspections). Complete details of the methods and results of this global evaluation would be published shortly through IUU Risk Intelligence website.*

*Over a five-year period, this global assessment has been subjected to several cross-checks from both regional and global MCS experts' familiar with compliance aspects in the country concerned. Uncertainty in assigning each score is depicted explicitly through score range. However, the author(s) are aware that gaps may remain for some aspects. The lead author remains open at any time to comments, and revisions will be made upon submission of evidence where necessary. Throughout the report, extreme precaution has been taken to maintain confidentiality of individuals who were willing to share information but expressed an inclination to remain anonymous out of concern for their job security, and information from such sources was cited as 'anonymous' throughout the report.*

### **Suggested citation:**

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## NAMIBIA – COUNTRY REPORT



**FAO landings (2013):** 482,844 tonnes

**Fisheries Contribution to the GDP (2014):** 4.2%

**Law of the Sea (Ratification/accession):** 18<sup>th</sup> April 1983

**Coastline:** 1572 km

**RFMO Membership:** CCAMLR, SEAFO

**Patrolling agencies:** Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources; Namibian Navy

Rank	Priority for maritime security tasks
1.	Organised Crime
2.	Human Trafficking
3.	Illegal Fishing

## SECTION 1: MCS INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Does the country have adequate surveillance infrastructure (maritime patrol aircraft, inshore and offshore patrol vessels) to effectively patrol fisheries resources within its EEZ?

Score: 7.5

Score Range: 7-8

Yes, Namibia has adequate surveillance infrastructure to monitor fishing fleets operating within its EEZ (Oelofsen 1999; Tesch 2011; Jane 2011). However, aerial patrols have declined over the years due to reliance on just one fixed wing aircraft, which has faced many mechanical problems. According to IISS (2013) fisheries surveillance is undertaken deploying 8 patrol vessels (two coastal patrol vessels “*Nataniel Maxuilili*” and “*Anna Kakurukaze Mungunda*”; 1 offshore patrol vessel “*Elephant*”; 1 coastal patrol craft “*Oryx*”; and 3 patrol boats (1 *Brendan Simbwaye*; 2 *Marlim*).

2. Does the country have adequate trained officers to conduct MCS operations?

Score: 7

Score Range: 7-8

Yes, to a significant extent. Existing manpower is adequate as there is a very nominal artisanal fishery and majority of the industrial catches are landed in two ports, which are well manned. There are 120 marine fisheries inspectors and 155 observers, of which more than 80 are yet to be trained (Anon, *pers. comm.*, 2012).

NFDS (2011) suggests that there are 98 inspectors for fisheries control. Refer OECD (2012); MFMR (2009) documents for more details.

3. Does the country have adequate management plans to monitor their fishing vessels on the high seas?

Score: 7

Score Range: 5-7

Namibia is a signatory to FAO Compliance Agreement, which necessitates responsibility for vessels flying its flag on the high seas. Namibian Government action against *Antillas Reefer* and *Paloma V* are examples of its ability to prosecute Namibian flagged vessels engaged in IUU activities beyond its EEZ (fishing licenses of “*Paloma V*” and the “*Antillas Reefer*” have been revoked and “*Paloma V*” has been deregistered from Namibia fishing fleet register) (Bergh 2008).

**4. What proportion of fishing vessels is equipped with vessel monitoring system (VMS) to monitor their movements on a continuous basis?**

Score: 7.5

Score Range: 7-8

During 2013, positions of 152 fishing vessels were tracked, out of which 77 were reporting location and other fishing data (de Klerk 2014; Tambo 2014).

In 2012, up to 170 of the 200 industrial fishing vessels were equipped with ALC; 30 rock lobster and linefish vessels were exempted from this requirement.

**5. What percentage of fishing vessels (>20 m OAL) is monitored through onboard observers at sea (for major commercial fish stocks)?**

Score: 8

Score Range: 7-8

70-100% observer coverage for industrial fishing vessels operating in the Namibian EEZ. 230 fisheries observers are deployed in Namibian fisheries sector (Ndara 2015). See Adetona (2011); SIF (2008) documents for more information.

According to Adetona (2011) Fisheries observer agency has a staff of 215 and covers 91% of all sea going vessels in Namibian waters.

## SECTION 2: INSPECTIONS

**6. How often fishing vessels are inspected at sea (Identification by sight and boarding for inspections)?**

Score: 5

Score Range: 3-5

In 2017, patrols were reduced by 65% in comparison to 2016 year due to budget cuts by the Government (MFMR 2018).

In 2010-11 period, patrol vessels "*Nathaniel Maxuilili*" and "*Anna Kakurukaz Mungunda*" conducted 27 sea patrols (sailing for 321 days) conducting inspections of 109 Namibian fishing vessels and observing activities of 221 other fishing vessels (incl. cargo reefers, tankers etc.) and recording a total of 19 violations (MFMR 2011). In 2009, the two patrol vessels undertook a total of 23 surveillance trips in Namibian EEZ sighting 560 and inspecting 227 fishing vessels ("*Nataniel Maxuilili*")



- 12 trips covering 145 days inspected 344 fishing vessels through 104 inspections and “Anna Kakurukaze Mungunda” - 11 surveillance trips covering 138 days inspected 216 fishing vessels through 123 inspections (MFMR 2009). See Kahiurika (2017) for more information.

The number of patrols at sea is likely to go down due to budget cuts. Normally each patrol lasts 12-15 days and two fisheries inspectors are deployed for each assignment at sea. Government agencies receive regular reports of illegal foreign trawlers active in northern Namibian waters, but have limited means of apprehending them through conventional VMS assets as foreign vessels often switch off their AIS transponders or engage in border hopping. Offshore surveillance need improvement and regional co-operation must be enhanced to apprehend illegal vessels. 10-15% of total catch is not reported as far as IUU fishing from national fleets is concerned. High grading, under-reporting of frozen fish and discards are other areas of concern (Anon, *pers. comm.*, 2017).

#### 7. How often fishing vessels are scrutinized through aerial patrols?

Score: 5

Score Range: 5-7

Aerial patrol hours have fluctuated over the years. During the 2010-11 period, fisheries patrol aircraft (“Sea Eagle I” and “Sea Eagle II”) conducted 82 aerial patrols logging 187.8 hours (MFMR 2011). In 2009, the lone fixed wing patrol aircraft conducted 26 surveillance flights logging 86 flying hours sighting 247 fishing vessels (MFMR 2009). In 2005, a total of 151 aerial patrols were carried amounting to 878 hours of flying for fisheries surveillance purposes (Anon 2005). Namibia also acquired a new fisheries patrol aircraft in November 2007 (Anon 2008).

Aerial patrols are conducted 4-5 times each week and cover the whole EEZ. One fisheries inspector accompanies air force personnel during each mission (Ndara 2015).

#### 8. How often are fishing vessels inspected at landing centers and docks for foreign and domestic vessels (Dockside monitoring)?

Score: 7

Score Range: 5-7

Dockside inspections are one of the best in southern Africa with fisheries inspectors from Luderitz and Walvis Bay Inspectorate offices monitoring 3216 Namibian (2457 from Walvis Bay, 759 from Luderitz) and 69 foreign fishing vessels; These inspections also included inspections in harbors, mid-waters and at onshore processing plants (MFMR 2011). Approximately 200 port visits are

recorded for foreign fishing vessels each year. All fishing vessels are required to provide daily catch and effort reports via radio and notify entry and exit reports 48 hours in advance. Logbooks are also used by port inspectors to crosscheck landed catches (Ndara 2015).

Not all vessels are inspected; priority is given for vessels flagged on RFMO blacklists and vessels identified for regional and high seas violations (Anon, *pers.comm.*, 2017).

**PSMA Status:** FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (Not signed yet).

**9. Are there adequate plans to monitor catches in coastal areas through coastal patrols (beach patrols, small-scale fishing gear and catch inspections) on a regular basis?**

Score: 7

Score Range: 5-7

There is an effective coastal patrol scheme in Namibian fisheries due to absence of small-scale fisheries, and a relatively small recreational fishery that is well monitored through shore and sea-based patrols. Ministry of Fisheries has 80 onshore inspectors to ensure quota compliance at Walvis Bay and Lüderitz fishing ports (Ndara 2015). See MFMR (2011) document for more information. During the year 2010-11 inspectors from Ministry of Fisheries undertook 1213 coastal patrols (MFMR 2011). See Pramod *et al.*, (2008) document for more information.

**10. Are all the catches that are caught in this jurisdiction at sea accounted for (i.e., unreported Trans-shipments at sea)**

Score: 7

Score Range: 5-7

Namibia, is a signatory to UN Fish Stocks Agreement, ICCAT and SEAFO, and abides by all the regulations of these regional fishery management organizations. See Megapesca (2009a); Grobler (2008) for more information. Transshipments at sea is prohibited and only allowed in designated fishing ports (Ndara 2015).

**11. Are vessels required to undergo inspection of equipment and fishing gear for every fishing trip?**

Score: 5

Score Range: 5-7



To a limited extent through dockside inspections. See OECD (2012); MFMR (2009) documents for more details. During the three-year period from 2007-2009, 62 shade nets, 301 mosquito nets and 88 gillnets (*some fishing gear like gillnets need to be registered with the Ministry*) were seized by Ministry of Fisheries officials (Anon 2009).

**12. Has the country taken adequate measures to revise and implement national fisheries laws to curtail illegal fishing practices; and does it comply with national and international laws signed?**

Score: 6

Score Range: 5-7

The Marine Resources Act of 2000 is the main national legislation for fisheries management in Namibian waters. The country adopted a NPOA on IUU Fishing (January 2007) to fight and eliminate illegal fishing. Namibia has ratified the FAO Compliance Agreement on 7 August 1998, the UN Fish Stocks Agreement on 8 April 1998 and recently ratified the UN Port State Measures Agreement on 18 July 2017. Recent budget cuts for illegal fishing patrols in both onshore and offshore waters can lead to low deterrence (Kahiurika 2017; Anon 2017; MFMR 2018).

Use of patrolling assets is optimized to achieve compliance due to the absence of small-scale fisheries and all industrial landings are monitored from two ports. Although high grading, misreporting and non-compliance with quotas are reported in industrial fisheries, and illegal fishing is on the rise in recreational fisheries, overall compliance is still quite good (Anon, *pers.comm.*, 2017).

See Pramod and Pitcher (2006); NORAD (2005); Grobler (2008); Sherbourne (2010); Huggin (2011); Esau (2013); Patterson *et al.*, (2013); Ndara (2015) reports for more information.

<b>Flag of Convenience</b>	No
<b>Vessels on the RFMO - IUU vessel list</b>	No

RFMO	Year of the assessment	Compliant	Partially compliant	Not Compliant	Source
CCAMLR	2013	Yes			CCAMLR (2014)
SEAFO	2017	Yes			SEAFO (2017)

Last update: 13 March 2018



## **Note:**

Bibliography and other notes relevant to this country report including methods, results and discussion for the global evaluation of 84 countries would be released shortly through IUU Risk Intelligence website (<http://iuriskintelligence.com/>). (The author can be contacted at [prammod.raju@gmail.com](mailto:prammod.raju@gmail.com) to provide any feedback).

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