

# IUU Risk Intelligence

Putting Compliance First

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

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### SWEDEN - COUNTRY REPORT

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IUU RISK INTELLIGENCE

*Policy Report - Volume 1 Number 1*



## SUMMARY

*This evaluation of Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance report for Sweden 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:**

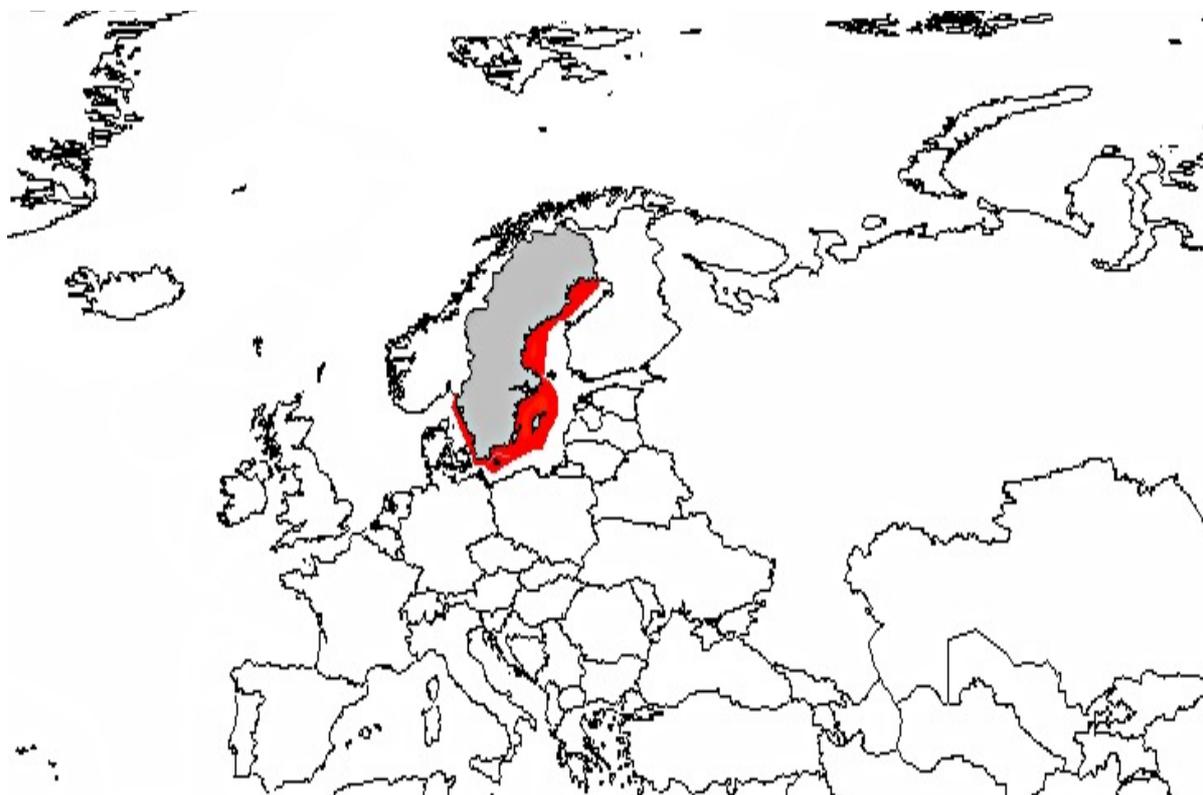
**Pramod, G.** (2019) Sweden – Country Report, 7 pages, In: Policing the Open Seas: Global Assessment of Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance in 84 countries, IUU Risk Intelligence - Policy Report No. 1, Canada, 840 pages.

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## SWEDEN – COUNTRY REPORT



**FAO landings (2013):** 174,517 tonnes

**Fisheries Contribution to the GDP (2013):** Not available

**Law of the Sea (Ratification/accession):** 25<sup>th</sup> June 1996

**Coastline:** 3218 km

**RFMO Membership:** CCAMLR & RFMO membership through EU

**Patrolling agencies:** Swedish Coast Guard,  
Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management



Rank	Priority for maritime security tasks
1	Human trafficking
2	Illegal border trade
3	Illegal fishing

## SECTION 1: MCS INFRASTRUCTURE

- 1. Does the country have adequate surveillance infrastructure (patrol aircraft, sea-based patrol vessels and coastal patrols) to effectively patrol fisheries resources within its EEZ?**

Score: 7.5

Score Range: 7-8

The Swedish Board of Fisheries is responsible for control of landings at fishing ports while Swedish Coast Guard (SCG) is responsible for enforcement and monitoring at sea. SCG has 25 Coast Guard stations.

The Swedish Coast Guard has five surveillance ships (*KBV 201, KBV 286, KBV 290, KBV 304, KBV 305*), two multi-role ships (*KBV 202, KBV 002 Triton*) and one environment protection vessel (*KBV 047*) for patrolling the Baltic Sea (Anon 2010). Swedish Coast Guard has one offshore patrol vessel (*KBV-181*) for fisheries protection duties (IISS 2013). Four patrol ships *KBV 031 to KBV 034* are also involved in fisheries control duties (SCG 2015c). See Thorell (2016); OECD (2013); Jane (2012); IISS (2013); Eggert and Ellegard (2003); SCG (2015a) for more information on surveillance infrastructure.

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

Score: 7

Score Range: 7-8

Yes, Sweden has adequate manpower to monitor fish stocks in the Baltic Sea. Fisheries Control Department has more than 64 officers to monitor cod and several other commercial fisheries in the Baltic Sea. In addition, Swedish Coast Guard has 264 personnel for at sea fisheries control operations in the Baltic Sea (Anon 2010).

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

Score: 7.5

Score Range: 7-8

Sweden has limited footprint beyond north-Atlantic waters as far as fishing in maritime waters is concerned. Sweden is a signatory to the FAO Compliance Agreement. Sweden is also a member of North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), which requires its vessels to transmit VMS signals to nearest FMC while fishing in NEAFC waters.

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

Score: 7

Score Range: 7-8

According to Swedish Board of Fisheries, electronic logbooks and VMS are in place for 185 fishing vessels (all above 12 metres in length). VMS has been introduced to control fishing vessels and ensure that catches are reported from the right catchment area. In 2015, there were 185 fishing vessels above 12 meters in length and 229 vessels between 10 to 11.99 metres where VMS was not mandatory.

VMS position reports are used to monitor vessel activities in accordance with quotas assigned for specific fisheries, fishing area and zone closures. VMS is also used by the Coast Guard to co-ordinate inspections at sea and landings at ports. SCG also receives position reports from all foreign fishing vessels in the Swedish exclusive economic zone. See Pramod and Pitcher (2006) for more information.

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

Score: 1

Score Range: 1-2

Observer scheme is reported for commercial fisheries in the Baltic Sea to monitor impacts of fishing on marine mammals. See ICES website; Pramod and Pitcher (2006); Anon (2004); Anon (2007); CCB (2017); Hubbard (2017); Valentinsson et al., (2019) documents for more information on observer coverage rates.

## SECTION 2: INSPECTIONS

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

Score: 7

Score Range: 7-8

Largely effective. In 2013, Swedish Coast Guard carried out 361 inspections on commercial fishing vessels at sea. Of the 11,098 fishing inspections carried out

in 2013, 63% were in recreational sector and 37% in commercial fisheries (SCG 2014). Swedish Coast guard in co-operation with Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management also participates in the EU – Joint Development Plan (JDP) operations for fisheries control in NEAFC & EU waters. See Anon (2010) for more information.

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

Score: 7

Score Range: 7-8

Precise information is not available on frequency of aerial patrols to monitor fishing activities in the Swedish EEZ. Swedish Coast Guard has three Dash 8 Q-300 surveillance aircraft (*KBV 501*, *KBV 502* and *KBV 503*) for maritime patrol duties (SCG 2015a; SCG 2011). Thorell (2016); Anon (2010); OECD (2012) documents suggest improvements in aerial surveillance.

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

Score: 7

Score Range: 7-8

Before vessels start the fishing trip, they must ensure that e-logbook (vCatch) and the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) are functioning properly. The number of fisheries control operations have decreased from 22,041 in 2006 to 11,128 in 2007, before increasing to 13,988 in 2008, with this decline largely attributed to transfer of control activities from Swedish Coast Guard to the Swedish Board of Fisheries (SCG 2008). See Q.8; OECD (2012); Hentati-Sundberg and Hjelm (2014); Anon (2010) documents for more information.

**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: 7-8

Fisheries control is achieved through monitoring of quotas and effort (fishing time), landing document controls, and checks on transportation of seafood. Cross-checks are needed to ensure that fishing days that Sweden has been awarded is not exceeded. Prior notification of two to four hours before arrival to port and landing of catches is mandatory for Swedish fishing vessels depending on the quantity and species caught. Monitoring of catches has improved in recent years (OECD 2012; Anon 2010). Total Allowable Catch

(TAC) quotas for commercial fish such as cod, salmon and others are determined through annual EU regulations. Swedish fishing vessels can catch their national quota for each species that are distributed to EU member states under council regulations.

Since 2010, number of fishing offences has come down in both commercial and recreational fisheries (SCG 2014). See Eggert and Ellegard (2003); Valentinsson, and Ulmestrand (2005); Persson (2009); Jagers et al., (2012); Sundelöf *et al.*, (2013); Hentati-Sundberg and Hjelm (2014); Natale *et al.*, (2015); Telemo (2015); CCB (2017); Arias-Schreiber *et al.*, (2019) documents 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: 7.5

Score Range: 7-8

Sweden is signatory to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement. European Commission regulations prohibit transshipments at sea, and transshipments are only allowed in designated ports of the EU member countries. Transshipments are only allowed in designated ports of Göteborg, Kungshamn, Simrishamn, Karlskrona, Saltö, Handelshamnen and Karlskrona. See Anon (2010) for more information.

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

Score: 7

Score Range: 7-8

Vessels are inspected on a regular basis according to Swedish Board of Fisheries. See Telemo (2015); SCG (2014); OECD (2012); Eggert and Ellegard (2003); Pramod and Pitcher (2006); Jagers *et al.*, (2012) reports for more information.

**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: 7

Score Range: 7-8

Fisheries Act of 1993 is the main national legislation for fisheries management in Swedish waters. The country has not reported a NPOA on IUU Fishing to fight and eliminate illegal fishing. Sweden has ratified the FAO Compliance

Agreement on 25 October 1994 and the UN Fish Stocks Agreement on 19 December 2003. See EU (2010) for more information.

See Hornborg, and Svedäng (2019); Valentinsson *et al.*, (2019); Ziegler *et al.*, (2016); Hentati-Sundberg *et al.*, (2014); Hentati-Sundberg and Hjelm (2014); Lundholm and Stöhr (2014); Natale *et al.*, (2015); Thorell (2016); OECD (2015); Jagers *et al.*, (2012); Larsson (2011); Solstrand and Gressnes (2014); Pramod and Pitcher (2006) documents for more information.

<b>Flag of Convenience</b>	<b>No</b>	Source: ITF (2015)
<b>Vessels on the RFMO - IUU vessel list</b>	<b>No</b>	

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

*Last Updated: 09 May 2019*



## 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 (<https://iuriskintelligence.com/>). (The author can be contacted at [pramod.raju@gmail.com](mailto:pramod.raju@gmail.com) to provide any feedback).

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