



stop illegal fishing

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

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For more information, please go to www.stopillegalfishing.com

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1 Our vision and mission

Stop Illegal Fishing (SIF) is working to ensure that fish are caught, traded and processed legally, so that African nations and their people can enjoy the full benefits of their fisheries resources and blue growth.

Our objectives are to:

- Provide evidence-based advice to feed into policy reform and improved decision making to fight IUU fishing in African waters.
- Coordinate an African Voice to influence international fishery policy processes.
- Facilitate communications and education to create awareness and advocacy for compliant fisheries.
- Build, develop and assist with practical and effective cooperation tools, mechanisms, and processes to curb IUU fishing.
- Provide capacity building to support the fight against IUU fishing.
- Facilitate improved information and intelligence exchange to improve the effectiveness and timeliness of states' responses to IUU fishing; and
- Grow and support a network of professionals, experts, and champions to lead the African campaign against IUU fishing.

Through our work in these areas and through our ongoing involvement with policy development, and practical support of enforcement officers we aim to stop illegal operators in the fisheries sector. As the blue economy gains importance, protecting and sustainably managing fisheries resources is crucial for securing revenue and nutrition. SIF actively operates across sub-Saharan Africa, leading various initiatives in collaboration with partners and supporters.



2 Project overview and financial summary

In 2025 SIF had seven ongoing projects (see Table 1 and Figure 1) with a total of 11,049,121 BWP (around 828,684 USD) received in grants.

SIF has continued to focus on the Southern African region, where it has historically had the greatest impact and 82% of its grants are focused with the remainder in West Africa.

SIF grants, made to the not-for-profit, are primarily allocated to direct project costs and associated project management costs. Where agreements allow, SIF secures an overhead contribution, which is used to cover essential operational costs, including communications (website maintenance and publications), annual accounting, and secretariat expenses.

SIF engages an independent accountant to prepare its Annual Accounts for submission to the Registrar of Societies in Botswana. Additionally, the organisation’s larger projects are audited annually by auditors appointed by the respective funding partners.

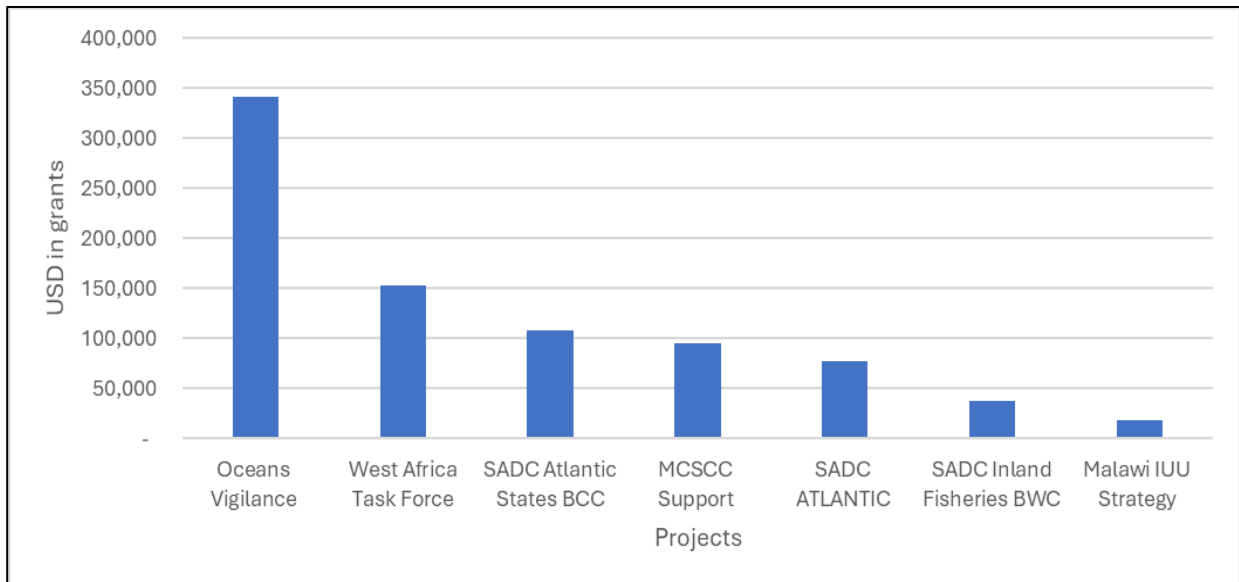


Figure 1: Grants to SIF in 2025

Table 1: Summary of grants to SIF in 2025

Projects	Comment	USD estimate (based on exchange BWP to USD)
Oceans Vigilance	This 3-year project started in 2023 to develop the policy change needed and practical capacity for a SADC Regional Register of Fishing Vessels enabling a harmonised approach to minimum standards for transparency of fishing vessels in the SADC, funded by Oceans 5.	341,492
West Africa Task Force (WATF)	This is SIF’s longest-term project, working with the Fisheries Commission for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and supporting the six countries of West Africa, funded by Norad via TMT.	152,228
SADC Atlantic States – BCC countries	This new two year project started in 2025 to support Angola, Namibia and South Africa – all countries of the Benguela Current Commission – to engage in the SADC MCSCC and to build capacity to assess risk of fishing vessels and to conduct inspections. This project is funded by the German GIZ.	107,768
SADC MCSCC	SIF continued to provide support in intelligence, policy and communications to the SADC MCS Coordination Centre (MCSCC) with funding from Germany via WWF.	94,649
SADC Atlantic	This was the final year of the project to support the countries of Angola, Namibia and South Africa to engage more in the SADC MCSCC and to implement port State measures (PSMs). This project is funded by the U.S Embassy in Botswana.	76,960
SADC Inland Fisheries BWC	This grant with WWF Mozambique was to support the training and support to SADC inland countries to use BWCs in their inland MCS work. It included a workshop and provision of cameras and materials to support the use of BWCs.	37,098
Malawi IUU Strategy	As part of our ongoing partnership with FishFORCE housed at the Nelson Mandela University Fisheries Law Enforcement Academy, South Africa in 2025 we worked to support Malawi in preparing a workshop and strategy for dealing with the plague of monofilament nets with funding from Norad via FishFORCE.	18,488

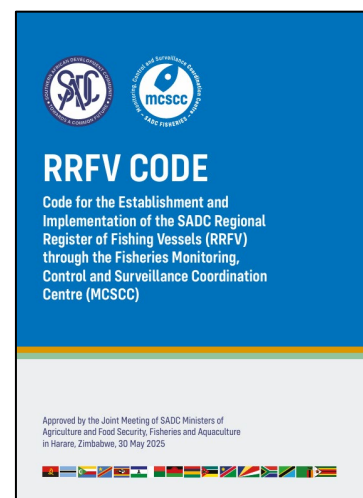
3 Core activities – Southern Africa

SIF has supported Southern African countries in fisheries monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) and fisheries development for over two decades and continues to do so today. We work directly with countries on various projects and initiatives and also through IGOs, including the SADC and its MCS Coordination Centre (MCSCC), the SWIOFC and the BCC.

3.1 The SADC MCSCC

During 2025 the focus has been on operationalisation of the SADC MCSCC processes in particular the Board of Directors (BoD) and the Operational Task Force (OTF). SIF and other partners have been actively collaborating to get the ball rolling to achieve the objectives of the MCSCC. Highlights in 2025 have included:

On 4-6 March 2025, at the MCSCC BoD second meeting they endorsed key governance and financial instruments for the Centre including the **Code for the Establishment and Implementation of the Regional Register of Fishing Vessels (RRFV Code)**. SIF had worked with the MCSCC to develop this Code building on earlier consultations and recommendations. This Code sets a framework for establishing the SADC RRFV, a tool central to combatting IUU fishing and ensuring the Centre’s long-term sustainability. Partners, including Stop Illegal Fishing, expressed continued commitment, “The SADC is showing leadership for the whole continent. SIF remains fully committed to providing ongoing support and operational initiatives to ensure the success of this effort”, said Per Erik Bergh, SIF Coordinator.



The RRFV Code was approved by the **Joint Meeting of SADC Ministers of Agriculture and Food Security, Fisheries and Aquaculture on 30 May 2025**.

On 13–14 October 2025, Mozambique hosted the third meeting of the MCSCC OTF in Maputo. Representatives from SADC State Parties discussed strengthening regional cooperation, with a focus on enhancing the engagement of inland and small-scale fisheries. The meeting reviewed preliminary results of the sustainability and resource mobilisation plan, including cost estimates and funding options. A key option is the SADC RRFV, which will generate revenue from authorised vessels. The OTF also endorsed a regional risk assessment methodology for fishing vessels, tested with support from SIF in coastal States, to establish common operational standards for MCS. The meeting consolidated cooperation through the MCSCC communication platform and agreed to increase online engagement and visibility. The meeting Chairperson, Itai Hilary Tendaupenyu, representing Zimbabwe, emphasised “*The OTF is not just about plans, it is about action together, for a safer and more prosperous SADC region.*”

The outcomes and recommendations of this meeting were conveyed to the subsequent BoD meeting held in Maputo on **16-17 October 2025**. The Board also reviewed progress on construction of the MCSCC facilities, and preliminary results of the sustainability study and resource mobilisation plan.

Following this on 24 October 2025, the **Host Agreement for the SADC Regional Fisheries MCSCC** was signed in Maputo by Dr Stanley Ndara and H.E. Roberto Albino, Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries of Mozambique. This marks a major milestone in establishing a permanent seat for the MCSCC and advancing a new era of fisheries governance in Southern Africa.



In addition to intelligence reporting, SIF has assumed responsibility for updating and maintaining the **official SADC MCSCC website**, ensuring that information on the Centre’s activities, successes, and regional developments is accessible and regularly communicated to Member States, partners, and the wider public. These combined efforts have strengthened transparency, improved coordination, and showcased the growing impact of the MCSCC in advancing regional fisheries governance.

SIF also supports the Centre’s long term sustainability by contributing to the **Sustainability Plan and Resource Mobilisation Strategy**, including proposals for fees associated with the RRFV. Drafts of these instruments were prepared in 2025 for consideration by the **OTF** and the BoD, with work continuing to refine them. This work is helping to secure the financial and institutional foundations of the MCSCC.

SIF is now involved in the second phase of the SWIO Fisheries – Improving Governance, Livelihoods and Ecosystems project, contracted under World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and running from 1 April 2025 to 31 December 2028 with a budget of EUR 360,195. SIF and TMT continue to provide Member States with timely intelligence through the regional Basecamp platform. Using vessel monitoring technology, fishing vessel movements across SADC waters are tracked, providing insights into fleet activities that have supported countries in deterring and apprehending IUU fishing vessels in both the Indian Ocean and Atlantic regions.

3.2 Monitoring, intelligence and analysis of IUU fishing

SIF’s projects have delivered tangible results in strengthening SADC countries’ actions against IUU fishing. Building on the regional cooperation model pioneered by FISH-i Africa, SIF has supported Member States to acquire tools to act against foreign fishing operators both nationally and through the MCSCC, enabling MCS officers to become drivers of regional collaboration. Through intelligence sharing and coordinated investigations, countries have uncovered, investigated, and prosecuted IUU incidents. A notable case was the illegal transshipment by *NOVA ZEELANDIA* in 2023; by April 2025, the vessel had changed flag, name and ownership, becoming *ALMAJD* under

Saint Kitts and Nevis. Evidence suggests that it shifted operations away from the SADC region, with regional sensitisation and increased risks for its former owner likely serving as deterrents.

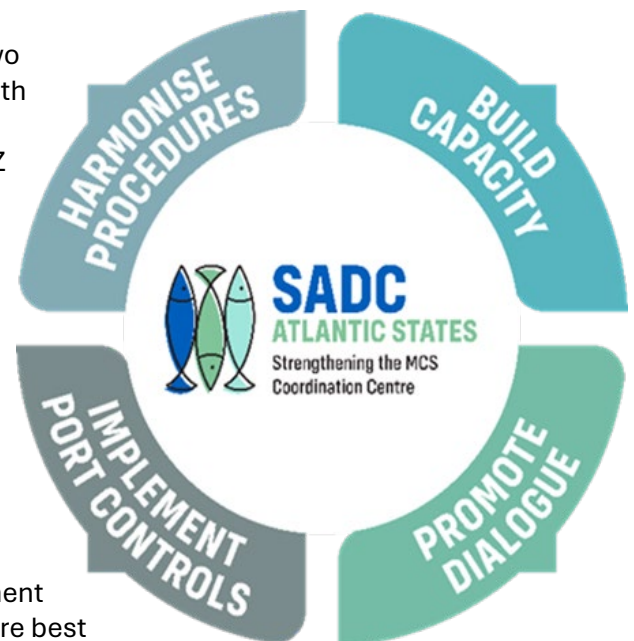
Another example came in September 2025, when Angola shared information via Basecamp on *YANMING 6838-06*, which had requested authorisation to fish in Côte d’Ivoire. Angola confirmed a pending fine of 10,500 million Kwanzas (11,500 USD) for a serious violation in March 2019, unpaid since 2024. As a result, Côte d’Ivoire denied licensing until the fine was settled, prompting the company to pay the outstanding amount. This case demonstrated how regional cooperation directly improved compliance.

National capacity building has further enhanced officers’ ability to monitor fishing vessels, detect irregularities and engage with neighbouring countries. These efforts underscore how SIF’s support has strengthened both national enforcement and regional cooperation, ensuring that IUU operators face increasing risks of detection and sanction.

SIF continues to maintain a regional log of IUU fishing incidents to support the SADC MCSCC and Member States. In 2025, the log reached its sixth volume. Alongside incident tracking, SIF has continued monitoring Member States’ interactions on the MCSCC Basecamp platform. All exchanges are documented, including user contributions, the nature of activities, and follow-up actions taken. This ensures timely responses to requests from countries and facilitates effective coordination across the region.

3.3 Support to the Atlantic coast countries

In addition to the SADC-wide support we also have two specific projects to support Angola, Namibia and South Africa. The newest one is called SADC Atlantic States and it is co-funded to the total of EUR 399,996 by BMZ through the GIZ and the European Union. Running from 1 June 2025 to 31 May 2027, the project supports the SADC MCSCC by embedding harmonised MCS practices in the three Benguela Current Convention countries. These States host major fishing ports and high-value fisheries, making them central to regional efforts against IUU fishing. The project focuses on four work areas: **building capacity, promoting dialogue, implementing port controls and harmonising procedures**. It aims to consolidate national achievements in vessel risk assessment and inspections, including the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and to share best practices regionally through the MCSCC.



The first national workshop was held on 2–4 December 2025, in South Africa, hosted by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE). Thirty participants, including fisheries compliance officers from major ports, engaged in discussions on regional harmonisation of risk assessment, inspection and port State measures (PSM). Cheslyn Liebenberg, MCS Chief Director at DFFE, emphasised South Africa’s commitment stating that *“IUU fishing has devastating impacts on our fisheries... It is a priority for South Africa to protect our fisheries. This is why South Africa has been one of the first signatories of the Charter Establishing the MCSCC.”* Dr Motseki Hlatshwayo, fisheries technical advisor at the SADC Secretariat, added that *“By developing SOPs for risk assessments and inspections, South Africa, Angola and Namibia will be capacitated to make*



recommendations on how those could be aligned in all countries that committed to operationalising the MCSCC Charter.” This workshop marked a key step towards embedding harmonised MCS procedures across the Atlantic coastal States, reinforcing both national and regional capacity to combat IUU fishing.

The SADC Atlantic Project, implemented since September 2022 was completed in September 2025. This project had made a significantly impact on the capacity of Angola, Namibia and South Africa to combat IUU fishing and to engage more fully with the SADC MCSCC. By introducing risk-based procedures, the project gave tools to MCS officers to assess risks that foreign fishing vessels had been involved in illegal activities and, where risks were identified, to take actions in case those vessels would request port access or authorisations to operate in the country. Over the three years, this approach delivered tangible enforcement outcomes: 290 risk assessments were conducted, some leading to fines, delayed or denied port access, targeted inspections totalling 224, and arrests. The Project also monitored IUU fishing incidents in the region, identifying 212 foreign vessels operating in the waters of the three countries using the communication platform of the MCSCC, Basecamp, to follow cases identified. In total, 44 reports of suspicious activity were shared regionally through Basecamp.

Special thanks are extended to the U.S. Department of State and its representatives at the US Embassy in Botswana for their continued support and collaboration throughout the Project.

3.4 Oceans Vigilance support to the SADC MCSCC

The three-year project, running from May 2023 to April 2026, is funded through an Oceans 5 grant and implemented by SIF on behalf of the MCSCC and SADC Member States. It aims to reduce illegal fishing in the SADC region by strengthening regional commitments to minimum transparency standards and supporting the establishment of a comprehensive RRFV. We are now in the final year of implementation.

In 2025, two national workshops were delivered under the Oceans Vigilance project through the SADC MCSCC. Madagascar and Seychelles each hosted training on risk assessment; MCS agents from both countries benefited from these national capacity-building workshops on risk assessment and inspections. Delivered in partnership with SIF and TMT, the training provided practical tools to anticipate risks of IUU fishing and take responsive action. By inviting officers from other national agencies, Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) and Madagascar’s Fisheries Monitoring Centre (CSP) ensured that the complex dimensions of IUU fishing were understood across institutions, fostering interagency cooperation and strengthening national MCS capacity. Integrating these practices into the countries MCS operations supports their contribution to the ongoing establishment of the RRFV.

Throughout 2025, the project continued to provide support to the SADC MCSCC BoD, this extends to its second and third meetings held on 4–6 March and 17 October respectively. To advance SADC-wide policy alignment with the Global Coalition for Fisheries Transparency, SIF, through the project, had prepared policy briefs for the BoD emphasising the importance of transparency and contributing to the development of a framework for the RRFV; these efforts played a significant role in the adoption of the *Code for the Establishment and Implementation of the SADC RRFV* by SADC Ministers responsible for fisheries in May 2025.

Also, the SADC MCSCC, with the support of the Oceans Vigilance project, has launched a dialogue series with regional leaders to highlight political commitment and strengthen cooperation IUU fishing. These discussions emphasise transparency, collaboration, and the operationalisation of the MCSCC as a regional hub.

- Dialogue 1** with H.E. Jean-François Ferrari, the Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy, of Seychelles stressed that *“we can achieve sustainable fisheries management if we are absolutely transparent”*, underlining Seychelles’ leadership in promoting openness and cooperation. He highlighted that IUU fishing is one of the greatest threats to the region’s fisheries and insisted that *“we cannot do it alone – for sustainable fisheries management, we need the involvement of every fishing nation in the region.”* He pointed to the benefits of the RRFV as a tool to improve compliance and accountability.
- Dialogue 2** with Honourable Dr. Owen Chomanika, the Minister for Natural Resources and Climate Change emphasised the importance of collective responsibility in protecting fisheries resources. He noted that Malawi, though landlocked, depends heavily on inland fisheries for food security and livelihoods, and therefore has a strong stake in regional cooperation. He underscored that combating IUU fishing is not only about marine resources but also about safeguarding inland waters, stressing that regional solidarity is essential to sustain communities.
- Dialogue 3** with Dr. Paubert Tsimanaoraty Mahatante, the Minister for Fisheries and Blue Economy of Madagascar placed the RRFV high on the agenda, recognising it as a cornerstone for strengthening monitoring and surveillance across SADC. He highlighted that embedding risk assessment practices into national operations is a way for Madagascar to contribute to regional resilience. He affirmed that *“regional cooperation through the MCSCC is the only way we can effectively fight IUU fishing and protect our shared resources.”*



About Us What v

Dialogue 3: With Dr. Paubert Tsimanaoraty Mahatante - The Minister for Fisheries and Blue Economy of Madagascar

The Dialogue Series - Discussions with our leaders and champions

Antananarivo, Madagascar - April 2025



Together to promote a thriving and inclusive blue economy

These dialogues show strong political will across Member States to operationalise the MCSCC, promote transparency, and embed risk-based monitoring practices. The ministers’ voices reinforce that national efforts must be linked to regional mechanisms if SADC is to succeed in protecting its fisheries for the benefit of its people, waters, and economies.

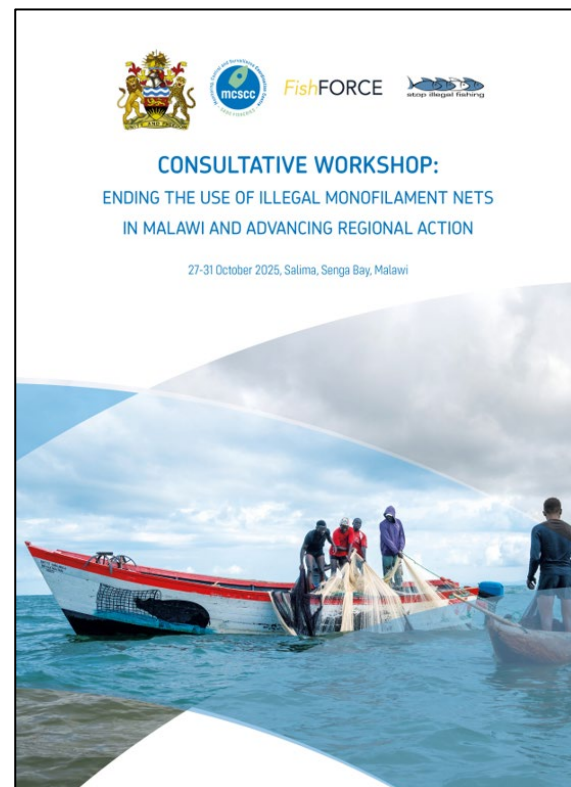
3.5 Supporting inland countries

On 17-21 February 2025, the SADC Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre (MCSCC), with support from SIF, held its first regional training dedicated to inland fisheries. Held in Lilongwe, Malawi, the workshop brought together MCS officers from six countries: DRC, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Inland fisheries, which provide at least 40% of the region’s catch and support over a million people, remain under pressure from IUU fishing and weak enforcement capacity. The officers addressed shared challenges such as illegal mono-filament nets across major transboundary waterbodies, including Lake Malawi (Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania), Lake Kariba (Zambia, Zimbabwe) and Lake Tanganyika (DRC, Tanzania, Zambia, as well as Burundi); another challenge being insufficient human and infrastructural MCS capacities in inland fisheries. The training introduced risk-based planning tools to support strategic MCS operations; and integrated inland fisheries officers into the MCSCC communication platform to strengthen cross-border cooperation. It marked an important step in ensuring that inland fisheries are prioritised within national and regional MCS strategies under the SADC Protocol on

Fisheries. As Dr. Alexander Shula Kefi, SADC Secretariat representative stated that “The MCSCC was set up to protect both marine and inland fisheries.”

On 4–5 September 2025, fisheries officers from Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe met in Maputo for training on the use of body-worn cameras (BWC), introduced by the MCSCC with support from SIF and WWF. First piloted during the COVID-19 pandemic in coastal countries, BWCs have proven effective in maintaining remote coaching and strengthening evidence collection. Their use in fisheries MCS provides verifiable, time-stamped video records of inspections and interactions, improving transparency, accountability and prosecutions. This training marked the first introduction of BWCs in inland fisheries, a sector often overlooked despite its complexity. Officers learnt best practices for handling information and each country received two devices for use in national operations. As a follow-up, participants will define national conditions for BWC use, identify suitable operations, and report back to the MCSCC. Their feedback will inform the development of standardised regional procedures, supporting the Centre’s objective to harmonise MCS practices across SADC.

On 27–28 October 2025, Malawi hosted a consultative workshop in Senga Bay, Salima, to address the growing use of monofilament nets. Though banned nationally since 2020, surveys show that 85% of gillnets in Lake Malawi are now made of monofilament, posing a major threat to fisheries that employ over 1.5 million people. The issue extends beyond Malawi, with monofilament nets widely used across the SADC region. Organised by SIF with support from FishFORCE Academy, the workshop gathered 40 participants from districts bordering Lake Malawi, as well as national authorities, customs, police, NGOs and the media. Discussions highlighted local enforcement efforts, including multi-agency Joint Monofilament Committees and Beach Village Committees, but also the challenges of limited resources, low awareness and cross-border smuggling. Customs authorities acknowledged the need for stronger cooperation with the Fisheries Department to intercept illegal imports. Participants agreed that national measures alone are insufficient, as nets are manufactured abroad and smuggled into the country. Building a regional case was seen as essential, with experiences from Malawi feeding into the agenda of the MCSCC Operational Task Force in 2026. *“We have banned monofilament nets because they are very harmful for our country, ecologically, socially, and economically. We need to act as a region,”* said Dr Maxon Ngochera, Head of Capture Fisheries Division. The workshop concluded that tackling monofilament nets will require regional cooperation, multi-agency engagement, and sustained sensitisation to protect livelihoods and fish resources.



4 Core activities – West Africa

As part of the Technical Team, SIF is committed to supporting the Fisheries Commission for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and its Member States through the West Africa Task Force (WATF). This initiative marks the third phase of the Norad-funded project which began in 2014, which will run from January 2024 to December 2026.

4.1 The West Africa Task Force

SIF's main support to the WATF this year was in respect to supporting national consultations and preparations aligned with the 2025/2026 Roadmap "*Towards an FCWC RRAFV*", focusing on scope, fees, and regional alignment. Findings from these consultations were presented to the WATF, enabling participants to make concrete recommendations on the framework of the RRAFV.

In April 2025, the FCWC and partners in the WATF held a national working group meeting in Tema, Ghana, hosted by the Fisheries Commission's MCS Division. Discussions focused on coordination between Ghana's Fisheries Monitoring Centre and the FCWC Regional MCS Centre, the role of the forthcoming Regional Record of Authorised Fishing Vessels (RRAFV), and the use of integrated vessel monitoring systems. The group reviewed Ghana's progress with SOPs for AREP analysis and port inspections, while developing additional SOPs on communication with flag States and enforcement procedures.

The meeting also marked the first participation of the SADC MCSCC, represented by the Chair of its Board of Directors, who shared lessons from the parallel development of the RRFV in Southern Africa. This exchange highlighted opportunities to draw on SADC's experience and to explore broader pan-African alignment and harmonisation of vessel registers. The WATF continues to refine the outlines of the RRAFV, with growing momentum towards regional cooperation and strengthened governance in West Africa, while building bridges with SADC for shared learning and continental collaboration.

On 19-21 May 2025, SIF participated in the eighteenth meeting of the WATF of the FCWC, held in Lomé, Togo. SIF contributed as a technical partner to the process of establishing the RRAFV.

On 3 October 2025, SIF participated in the technical meeting of the WATF in Tema, Ghana. The meeting reviewed activities of the Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centre (RMCS), including patrol planning, due diligence requests, and training, and assessed how these contribute to the establishment of the RRAFV.

5 SIF in the international arena

SIF continues to increase its efforts in leading the African campaign against IUU fishing. Recognising that safeguarding our oceans requires significant policy change, SIF plays a crucial role in supporting international processes to enhance the representation of African States in important fisheries discussions.

5.1 UNOC3 2025 – African leadership against IUU fishing

At the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3), held in Nice, the theme “*Accelerating action and mobilising all actors to conserve and sustainably use the ocean*” underscored the urgency of implementing Sustainable Development Goal 14. The call for collective action resonated strongly with African strategies to protect fisheries, particularly through regional cooperation in Southern and West Africa. Within the SADC and FCWC regions, sharing information and intelligence on fishing vessels has proven instrumental in identifying risks and empowering national MCS officers to act against illegal operators. FAO Assistant Director General and Director of its Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, Manuel Barrange, reminded delegates that such cooperation is central to global instruments like the Port State Measures Agreement.

African leaders reinforced this message. Madagascar’s Fisheries Minister, H.E. Paubert Mahatante, stated: “Madagascar never works alone, partnerships are key to combat IUU fishing.” Ministers from Sierra Leone and The Gambia highlighted similar commitments through the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), which is advancing measures such as a regional vessel register and harmonised access conditions.

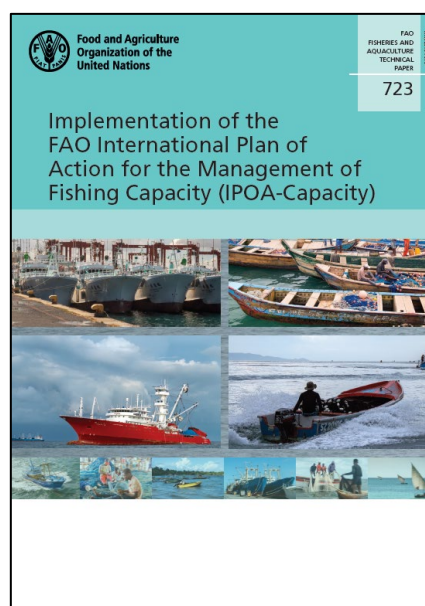
The African Union convened a side event to sound a Call for Action on accelerating pan-African collaboration towards a sustainable and equitable Blue Economy. With parallel processes underway in SADC, FCWC and SRFC, the potential for inter-regional cooperation is clear. This third UN Ocean Conference provided a global platform to showcase Africa’s progress in strengthening MCS and demonstrated that scaling up successful regional models is already underway.

5.2 Review of the FAO IPOA-Capacity

SIF was very proud to be the main authors of the FAO publication; FAO Technical Paper 723 Implementation of the FAO International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (IPOA-Capacity).

This review provides a global assessment of the status of implementation of the FAO IPOA-Capacity, highlighting examples of successes and best practices and providing recommendations for consideration at the Second Session of the FAO Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management to be held in Iceland in February 2026.

The IPOA-Capacity requires that Member States assess and monitor their fishing capacity. This involves identifying fisheries and fleets which aligns well to the SADC and FCWC work on regional registers of fishing vessels.



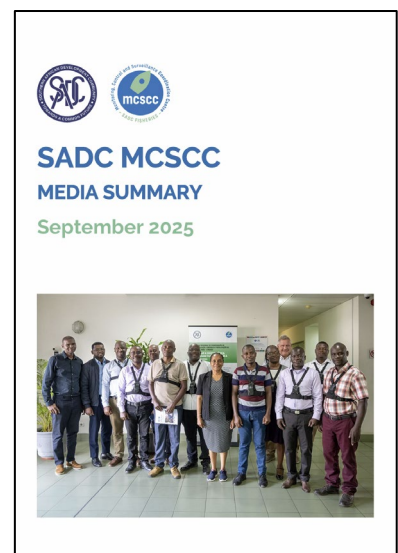
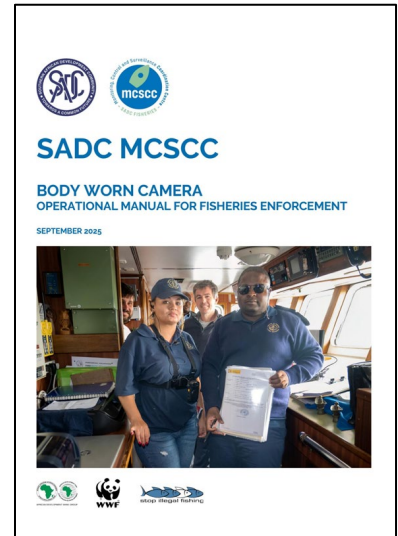
6 Awareness material

SIF was pleased to update its website in 2025 and this is our primary source of information along with regular X postings.

In addition, an *Operational Manual for Body-Worn Cameras* was developed to strengthen fisheries enforcement across the region. Applicable to both marine and inland fisheries, the manual supports capacity building, transparency, accountability, and evidence collection during inspections of vessels, landing sites, fish markets and other points along the value chain. It provides clear guidance on the safe and lawful use of BWCs, covering equipment functions, work procedures, supervisory roles, and compliance with legal requirements. The manual also sets out protocols for information management and sharing through the MCSCC, alongside practical checklists and logs to ensure consistent documentation. This initiative forms part of the MCSCC’s mandate to harmonise MCS procedures across SADC, as outlined in the Charter, and represents a step forward in establishing common operational standards for fisheries enforcement in the region.

SIF supported the MCSCC with putting together and printing of the records of the First¹ and Second² meetings of the SADC MCSCC OTF. These records provide a transparent account of the discussions, decisions, and progress made by the OTF, and form part of SIF’s and other partners ongoing support to strengthen regional fisheries governance and the operationalisation of the MCSCC.

SIF also generates and shares monthly media summaries for SADC and FCWC which bring together articles of interest related to fisheries in the relevant regions.



¹ <https://sadcmsccc.org/resources/record-of-the-first-meeting-of-the-sadc-mcsc-otf/>

² <https://sadcmsccc.org/resources/record-of-the-second-meeting-of-the-sadc-mcsc-otf/>

7 Executive Committee

Executive Committee consists of up to eight members who are elected during the Annual General Meeting. The committee is responsible for overseeing the Society's activities, managing the Secretariat, and reviewing and approving work plans, reports, and budgets. They have the authority to create, amend, or repeal the Society's by-laws and regulations, as well as to resolve any disputes or issues that may arise.

The 2025 Executive Committee:

- Chairperson: Mark Ssemakula
- Vice-Chairperson: Dedi Seraphin
- Vice-Chairperson: Hosea Mbilinyi
- Secretary: Per Erik Bergh
- Vice-Secretary: Elsa da Gloria Patria
- Treasurer: Sandy Davies
- Executive Committee Member: Steven Ambabi
- Executive Committee Member: Marcus Burgener

Endorsement of new SIF Members:

- Regina Dithapo
- Andrea Durighello
- Antonia Fleetwood Bird
- Malebogo Seofeleng

8 Acronyms

AIS	automatic identification system
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
COFI	FAO Committee on Fisheries
CSP	Madagascar's Fisheries Monitoring Centre
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
EEZ	exclusive economic zones
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCWC	Fisheries Committee of the West Central Gulf of Guinea
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IPMU	Interim Project Management Unit
IUU	illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
MCS	monitoring, control and surveillance
MCSCC	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre (SADC)
PSM	port State measures
PSMA	Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing
PSM-SIF	Port State Measures to Stop Illegal Fishing
RFMO	regional fisheries management organization
RMCCS	Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centre
RRAFV	Regional Record of Authorized Fishing Vessels
RRFV	Regional Register of Fishing Vessels
RTT	Regional Technical Team
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SFA	Seychelles Fisheries Authority
SIF	Stop Illegal Fishing
SRFC	Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission
TMT	TM-Tracking
TWF	The Waterloo Foundation
UN	United Nations
UNOC	United Nations Ocean Conference
WASOP	West Africa Sustainable Oceans Programme
WATF	West Africa Task Force
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature