## Organized Crimes and Impacts Associated with IUU Fishing

## **Drug Trafficking**

Smuggling cocaine loads in artisanal fishing vessels, often with the help of satellite-tracked buoys known as "fish aggregating devices" (FADs).

## Wildlife Trafficking

Bringing intentionally caught protected marine wildlife into port, such as shark fin, sea cucumber or fish maw.

**Human Trafficking** 

Operating with underpaid or unpaid foreign workers whose labor rights are systematically abused.

## Fraud

Underreporting catch to evade taxes, illegitimately obtaining a permit, using transshipment to launder illegally caught fish.



**Fuel Smuggling** 

is often state

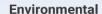
Fishers running and

selling gasoline, which

subsidized, to domestic or foreign fishing vessels at sea.

Using banned gear, surpassing catch quotas, 'high-grading', fishing in prohibited areas or targeting undersized or protected species.

Economic
Loss in tax
revenue (for
exports, licensing,
ports), undercutting
of legal prices,
likely reduction in
future catch profits.



Damage or destruction of marine habitats, fall in species numbers, fall in species' reproductive rates, plastic pollution through the discarding of nets.



Food insecurity within coastal communities, unemployment or forced turn to illegal activities for fishers and ensuing labor migration.

Sources: Field Investigations

American University and InSight Crime, 2022

