

Piracy, Fishing and Human Trafficking:

A 21st Century Problem?

Prof Erika J Techera

Dean of Law

Oceans Institute

University of
Western Australia

Overview



- The Problem
- Persistence of Piracy
- Fishing Issues
- Slavery at sea
- Legal responses
- Way forward

POOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Weak Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

OVER-FISHING

IUU FISHING

DECLINING CATCHES

Fishing vessels fish further away
and spend longer periods at sea

Increased
pressure to
reduce costs

Ineffective
and fewer
inspections

Labour
shortage


HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AND FORCED LABOUR

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY

Focus on:
Trafficking in Persons
Smuggling of Migrants
Illicit Drugs Trafficking

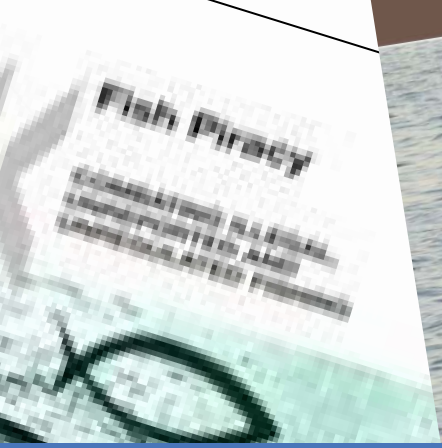
PIRATES AND SLAVES

How Overfishing in Thailand Fuels Human Trafficking and the Plundering of Our Oceans



TRAFFICKING

An Update
Summary of
Human Rights
Abuses in
Seafood Industry



Caught at sea

Forced labour and trafficking in fisheries



SLAVERY AT SEA

The Continued Plight of Trafficked Migrants In Thailand's Fishing Industry

Policy Brief
ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Making Sure Fish Piracy Doesn't Pay

International Maritime Bureau


Global piracy report January-June 2013



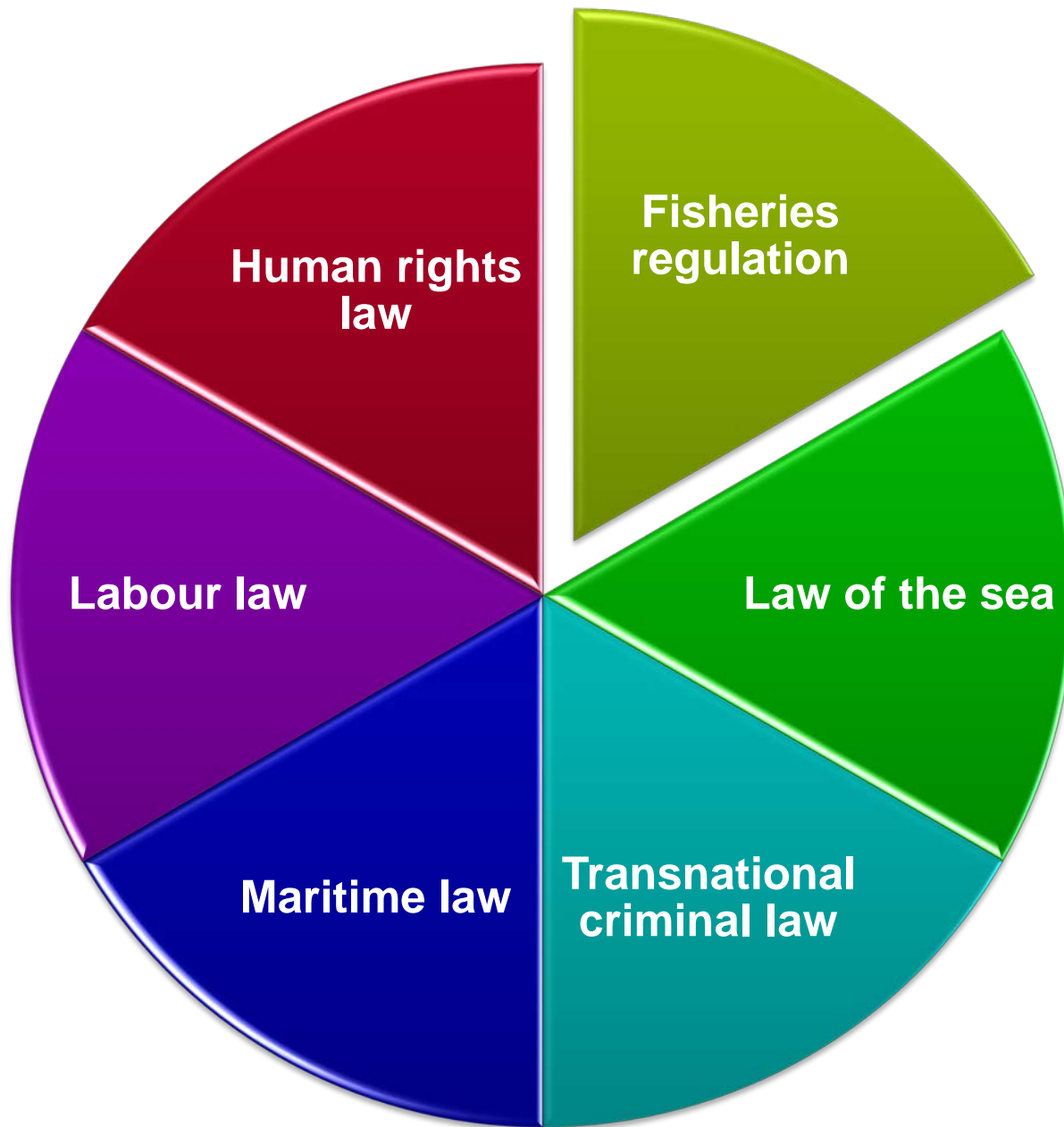
Slavery was abolished
150 years ago...



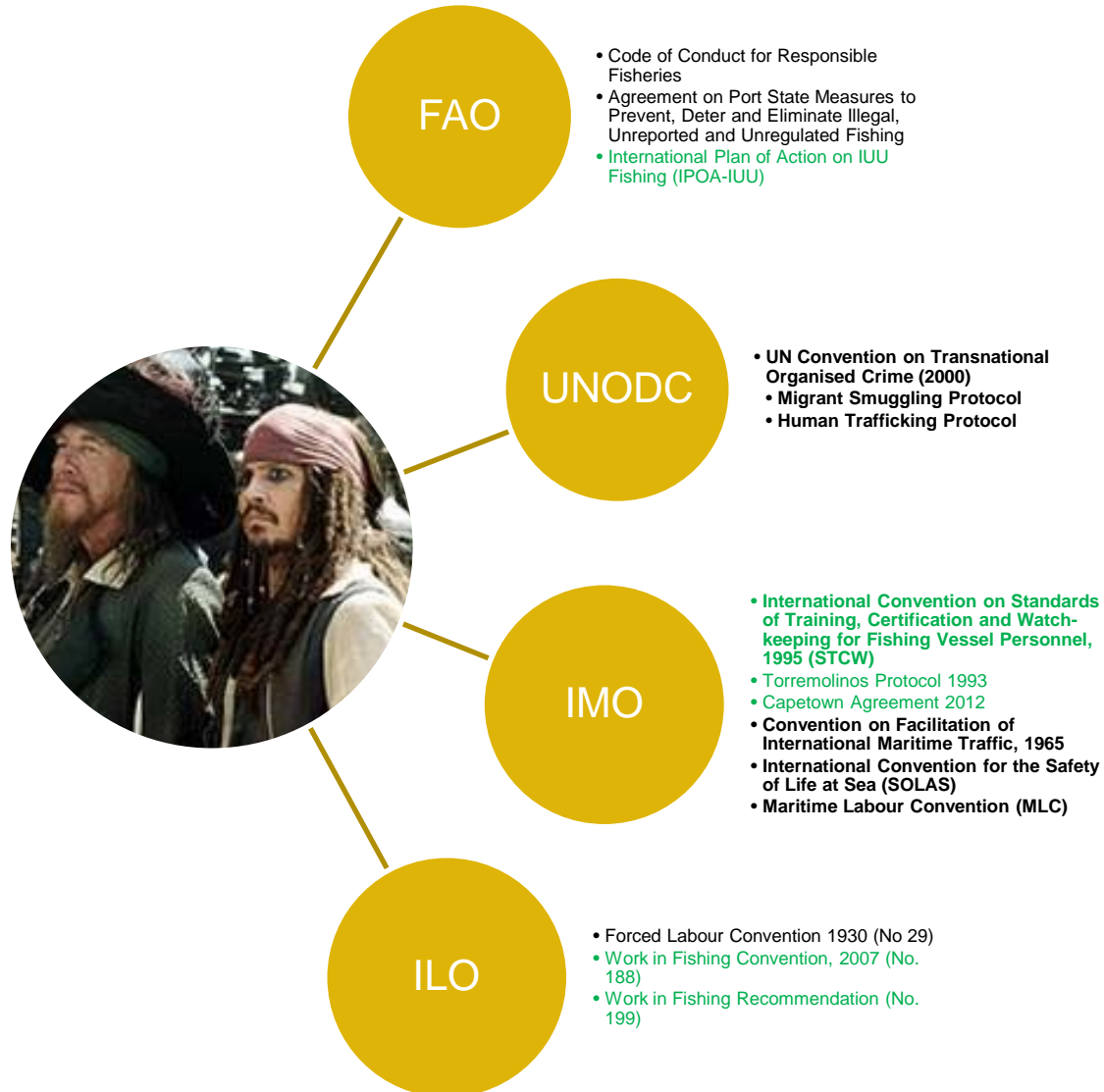
and yet there are more
people in slavery today...



than at any other time
in our history.



Legal Responses



Recommendations



- Recommendations are clear
 - Ratify existing international law
 - Strengthen the legal framework for fisheries
 - Enhance monitoring and enforcement
- Key challenge
 - Implementing law
 - Operationalising recommendations



THE ILLEGAL FISHING AND ORGANIZED CRIME NEXUS:

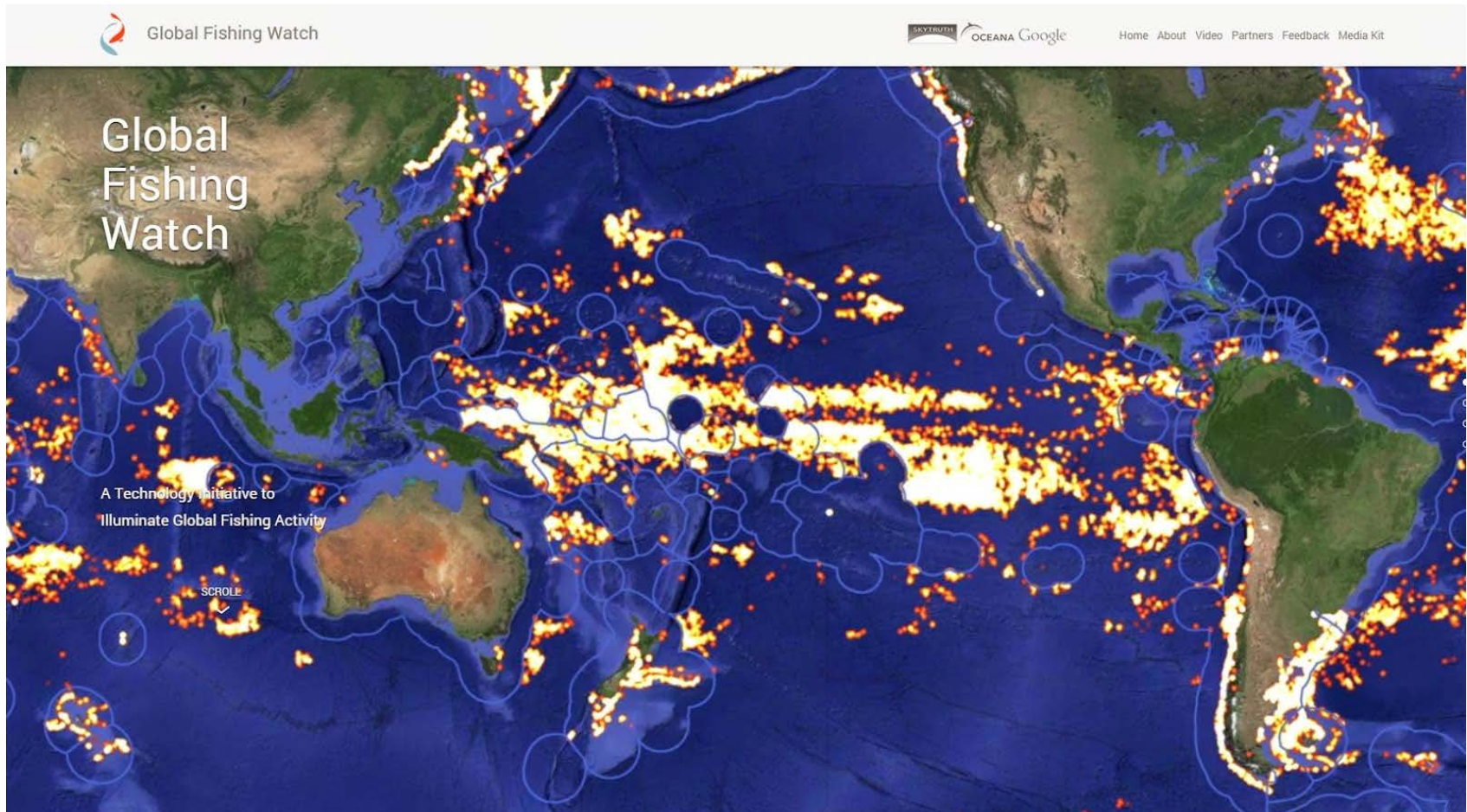
ILLEGAL FISHING AS TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME



**By reconceptualising
IUU fishing as a form of
transnational organized
crime, we greatly
enhance our ability to
tackle this global threat.**

Technology

- Vessel monitoring + geo fences + drones + satellite tracking

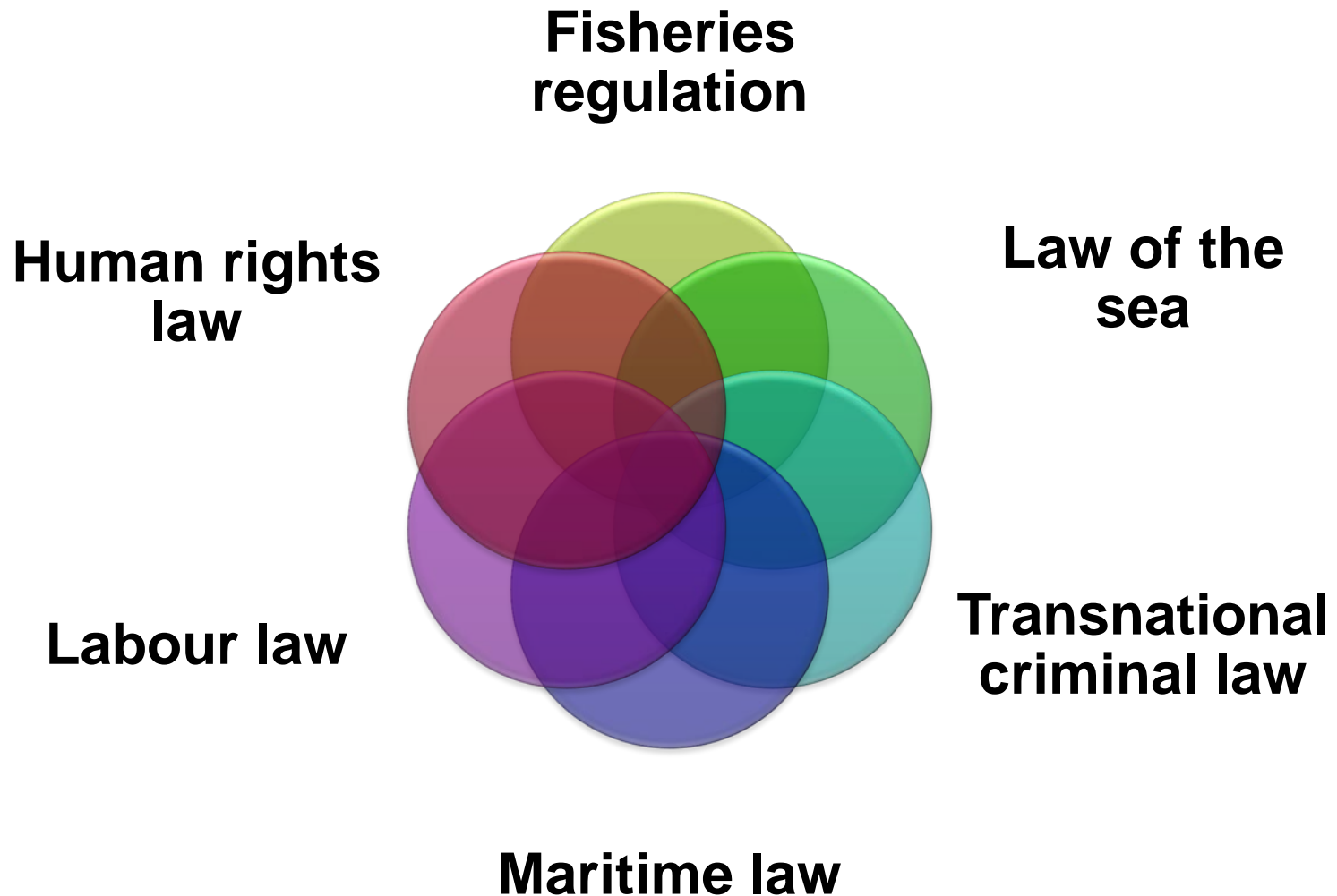


Way Forward

- Legal Governance
 - FAO expanded jurisdiction to include fisheries crime
 - IMO regulations on merchant shipping extended to fishing vessels
 - ILO treaties at the intersection of fishing and slavery ratified
 - Harmonised agenda
- Monitoring & Enforcement
 - Multi-lateral use of drone, VMS, geo-fence and tracking technology
 - Cooperative policing through bi-lateral and shiprider agreements
 - Organised crime task force



Summary



References

- Slide 1 - New Shark Fin Pictures Reveal Ocean “Strip Mining”
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/10/pictures/111028-shark-conservation-ecology-preservation-biodiversity-animals/>
- Slide 3 – EJF Slavery at Sea Report -
http://ejfoundation.org/sites/default/files/public/EJF_Slavery-at-Sea_report_2014_web-ok.pdf
- Slide 5 – <http://www.safety4sea.com/recent-anti-counter-piracy-developments-in-the-indian-ocean-and-the-gulf-of-gu/analysis-150-233>
- Slide 6 - <http://lendahelpinghand88.org/life-skills-edition-5-human-trafficking/>
- Slide 8 – Pirates of the Caribbean -
<http://resources0.news.com.au/images/2007/06/15/va1237252066853/Pirates-5527929.jpg>
- Slide 9 – Indonesia continues to fight illegal fishing -
<http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/89121/indonesia-continues-to-fight-illegal-fishing>
- Slide 11 - GIS to inform about overfishing and track fishing activity in the ocean -
<http://giscourse.com/index.php/blog-giscourse/126-gis-to-inform-about-overfishing-and-track-fishing-activity-in-the-ocean>
- Slide 12
 - Photograph of Chinese and US patrol vessels - <http://cogitasia.com/the-value-of-ship-rider-agreements-in-the-pacific/>
 - Congressman agrees US negligent to Pacific needs - <http://www.talamua.com/congressman-agrees-us-negligent-to-pacific-needs/>