



**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**



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# **The Overall Progress and Challenges in the Implementation of the PSMA and Complementary International Instruments**

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# The General Progress of Ratifications of PSMA and its Progressive Implementation by Parties

## The highest rate of adherence

**82 Parties to the PSMA  
(As of April 2025)**



As of 21 April 2025 (MoP 5), the PSMA has **82** Parties, displaying the highest rate of adherence of all international fisheries and ocean instruments.

## The wide range of Implementing activities

**GCDP (Global Capacity Development Programme)**



Parties have been engaging in a wide range of activities to implement the PSMA, with the technical assistance provided by FAO through the facilitation GCDP.

## Enhanced information exchange

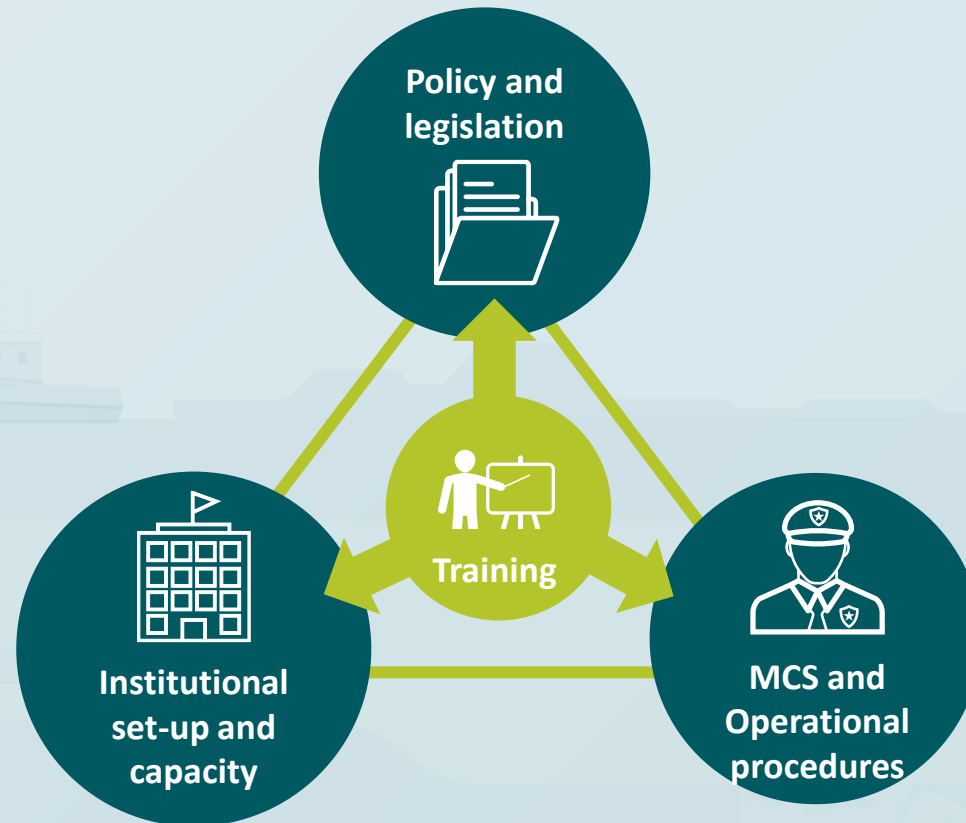
**GIES (Global Information Exchange System)**



Information exchange is the backbone of the PSMA supporting the essential work of Parties and RFMOs in combatting IUU fishing.

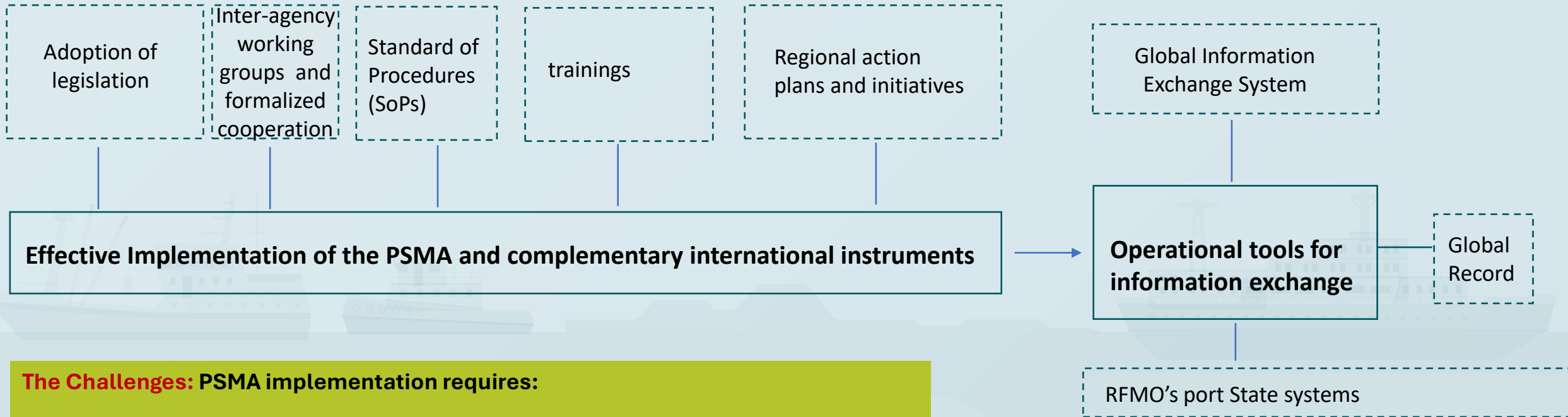
# Increasing adherence to and participation in the PSMA and facilitation of the capacity building initiatives

**Objective and approach: comprehensive, multidisciplinary and participatory**



Promoting the accession of new Parties to the PSMA and enhancing the capacity of existing Parties to implement the PSMA

# Progress: strengthened policy, legal, institutional frameworks and operational mechanisms at national and regional levels



## The Challenges: PSMA implementation requires:

- A) Substantial inter-agency coordination, and
- B) Enhanced flag State performance to complement port State actions.

A



Enhanced inter-agency coordination

B



Flag State

Flag State need to fulfill their obligations regarding their flagging, authorization, monitoring, control and surveillance of its fishing vessels.

Cooperate with port States



Port State

**Example:** IOTC e-PSM and FFA e-PSM

# Progress and challenges in implementing PSMA and complementary instruments

## Procedures for entry into ports and use of port are in place for most parties

- i) Processes for designating ports; ii) requirements for advance request for port entry;
- iii) Denying entry to port; iv) ways of applying the concept of **force majeure**

## Inspection and post-inspection

- Specifying standard operating procedures;
- training for inspectors;
- Conducting inspections and sharing of inspection report.

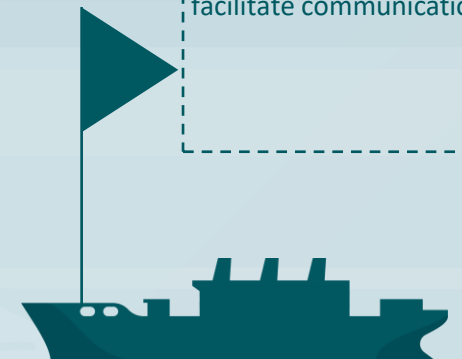
GIES and Global Record of Fishing Vessels tools are used to facilitate communication



inter-agency coordination



Port State access vessel compliance history data



Exchange with flag State

# Regional specific challenges in implementing PSMA and complementary instruments



Complexity in law adoption process for domestication of international law



Lack of *standardization* across the region against effective control of IUU fishing activities.




Lack of transparency in information sharing for conducting risk assessment and inspections



Lack of information about what flag State responsibilities are being exercised- not using the GIES

# PSMA Monitoring, Review and Assessment

## Sources of data for Monitoring, Review and Assessment



existing frameworks and tools, such as GIES, the FAO questionnaire, GRFV–, but may have its **own unique biases, gaps and update frequencies**.

### PSMA Questionnaire

Depends on self-assessment

Too long and Burdensome, and infrequencys



## Some proposals for calibrating mechanisms for Monitoring, Review and Assessment

**simple and straightforward** while still being **representative and balanced** when considered as a suite of metrics, and consider **country-specific differences**



**Proposal :** Drawing from other data sources & flag State responsibilities

**Thank You**

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*any questions?*