

# Panel 3: Weighing the Alternatives - Matching Technologies to Objectives and Capacities

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# Position Statement

**Transparency is crucial for good stewardship of our global ocean - to fight illegal fishing, to protect fish stocks and livelihoods, and to increase the safety and well-being of fishers.**

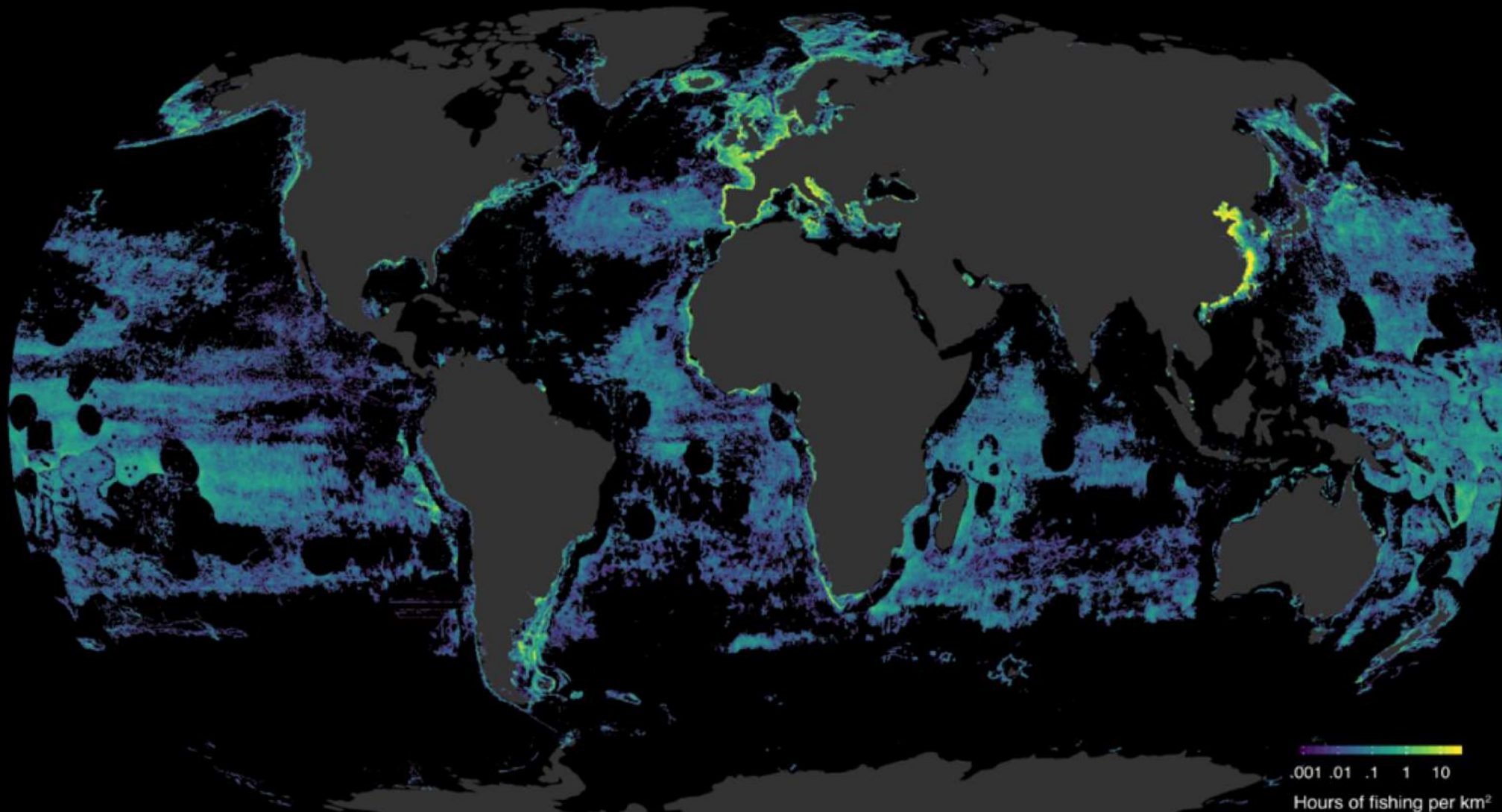


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*Imagine* - if countries publicly share their fishing vessel monitoring data then we can create a more complete and connected picture of global fishing activity.

Global Fishing Activity, 2016



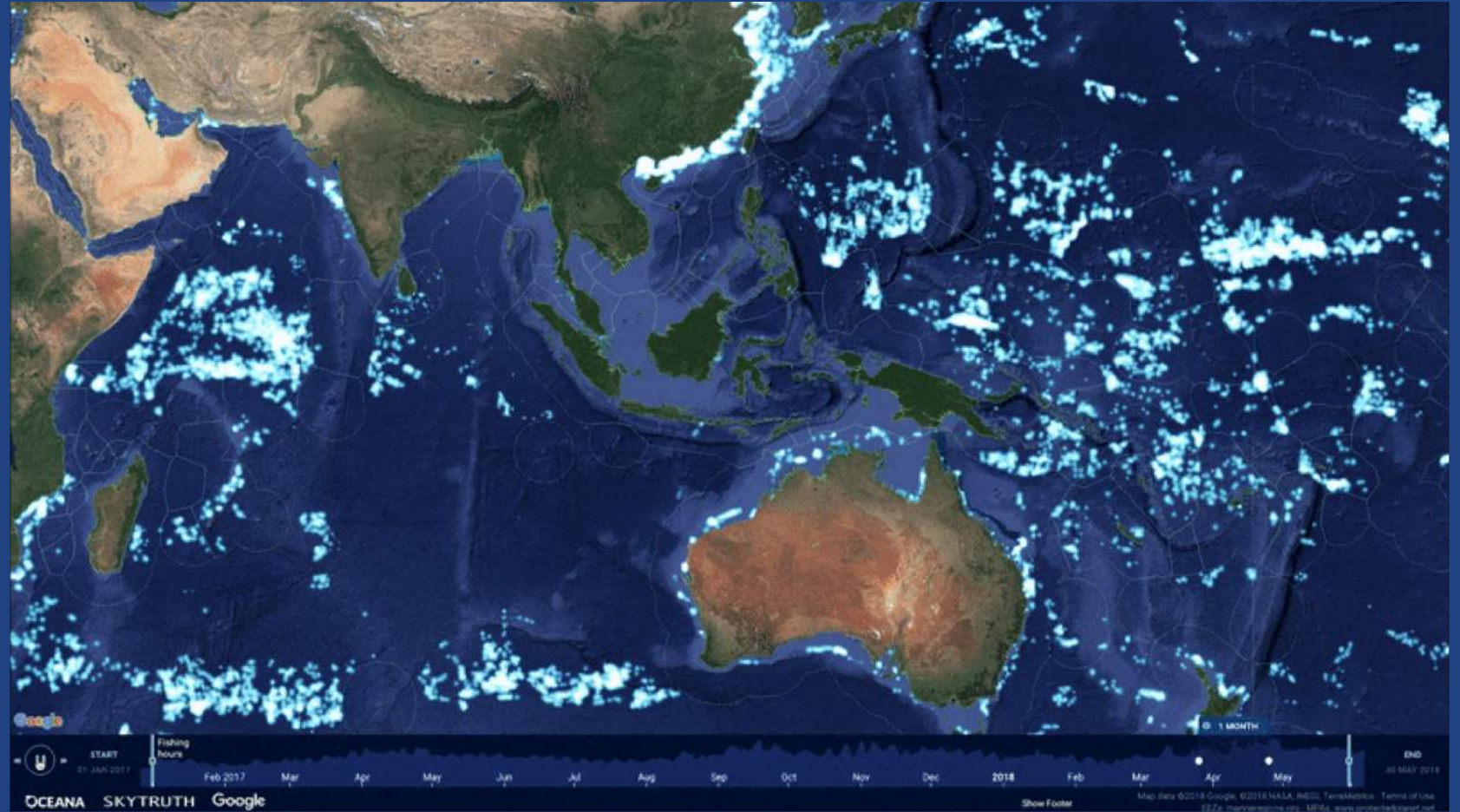
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# Theory of Change

- Law-abiding fishers are tracked easily and openly, demonstrating their compliance.
- Rogue operators stand out due to their patchy track record or suspicious behaviour.
- Compliant fishers can be rewarded through faster, more efficient port entry and landings. Unauthorised vessels, and those that have a history of non-compliance, can be prioritised for inspection or even denied port entry.



By embracing transparency, nations have a more cost effective way of monitoring vessels that puts the burden on fishers to demonstrate compliance rather than on the country to prove illegality.



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# Evidence of Change

- *“The commercial fishing industry is losing the battle over the social license to operate. To maintain the social license to operate, I believe fishing industries worldwide need to step forward and accept levels of transparency in fishing activities that were unimaginable a decade ago.”*

Ray Hilborn, fisheries professor, University of Washington, Seattle

- Unprecedented leadership in making fishing vessel data public
- Clear momentum in sharing wider data for science and ocean research



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# In summary

- Priority objectives of fisheries MCS - to **drive compliance**.
- Approaches and technologies for addressing MCS challenges - the concept of **transparency as a baseline for targeted enforcement**. This in turn provides the “biggest bang for buck”.
- Create a pathway forward for capacity development at a national and/or regional level. Every country can benefit from transparency, especially the more resource challenged. Every country’s enforcement plan must be tailored to need and available resource.



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# Learning Objectives

- Identify general priority objectives of fisheries Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS).
- Identify some technologies that provide the “biggest bang for the buck” in meeting identified objectives cost effectively.
- Explore and identify alternative approaches and technologies to traditional methods for addressing MCS challenges that present a cost effective improvement on existing methods and practices.
- Envision and ascertain a pathway forward for capacity development at a national and/or regional level targeted at keeping pace with technology development and implementation.

