



Marine
Management
Organisation

Privacy Notice

Date Published: 20 April 2026

The Marine Management Organisation is the controller for the personal data we collect. Our [personal information charter](#) explains more about what you can expect when we process your personal data, your rights, and how to contact us or make a complaint.

MMO COMBAT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING – SRI LANKA (CIUUF) - PRIVACY NOTICE

This privacy notice tells you what to expect us to do with your personal information when MMO collects it in relation to the Enhancing Monitoring and Fleet Management to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in Sri Lanka.

What is the Enhancing Monitoring and Fleet Management Combat against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in Sri Lanka?

Sri Lanka is highly dependent on its marine resources, with coastal communities vulnerable to the impacts of IUUF. Fish and shellfish exports form a substantial part of its blue economy, and Sri Lanka is a notable supplier to both the UK and EU markets. The UK seeks to prevent illegal fish from entering its supply chains either directly or indirectly via other markets such as the EU.

In February 2025, the EU's DG MARE conducted an IUU mission in Sri Lanka to assess compliance with the EU Catch Certification Scheme. The mission identified significant deficiencies across vessel licensing, monitoring, fleet management, traceability, and enforcement. Key concerns included "systemic uncertainty" in vessel authorisation, inconsistencies in national vessel lists, expired high-seas authorisations, and unclear definitions of fishing trips. These

failures create a risk of Sri Lanka receiving a “yellow card”, with the possibility of escalation to a “red card”, which would prohibit exports to the EU — an outcome Sri Lanka previously experienced between 2014 and 2016.

The issues highlighted by DG MARE echo UK findings in BIOT waters under the Blue Belt Programme, where vessel monitoring shortcomings are also apparent. Work is underway to establish a VMS data-sharing agreement to support Sri Lanka’s monitoring and enforcement actions against IUUF activity.

Previous assessments under the Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP) identified gaps in Sri Lanka’s ability to analyse and integrate maritime domain awareness (MDA) data. In response, the UK (via MMO) will deliver training and a live tabletop exercise, strengthening Sri Lanka’s Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) capacity through the use of tools like Skylight and GFW for risk profiling, dark vessel detection, and operational decision-making. DFAR has also requested UK support in fisheries inspection and enforcement training.

The FCDO has identified MDA and Counter-IUUF capabilities as areas where the UK is world-leading, offering opportunities to contribute meaningfully to regional maritime governance and to complement the efforts of likeminded partners such as France, which established the Regional Centre for Maritime Studies in Sri Lanka in 2024.

Purpose for processing – why we are collecting your personal data

MMO collects and processes your personal data only where necessary to help achieve the delivery of the programme outputs such as when organising workshops, requesting information and providing CIUUF updates.

Details of individuals will be collected in order to contact them about future work plans, provide access to training systems and for keeping in touch on progress. Gender, age range and disability information will be collected (not attributed to individuals) to provide equality and inclusivity metrics for the programme. Personal data will be required to link individuals to their responses where surveys are conducted.

Data relating to vessel and fishing activity such as information from vessel registries, RFMO lists, Earth observation data and AIS are used in analysis to assist partner country governments in providing information around the scale, extent and distribution of human activities in their maritime zones.

What personal data is collected

The personal data will include, but is not limited to:

- Name
- Email address
- Organisation
- Telephone number
- Occupation
- Age range
- Disability (for equality & diversity metrics)
- Gender (for equality & diversity metrics)
- Country of residence/Nationality
- Photograph/Video

Examples of activities where the MMO may collect and process personal data under CIUFF include but are not restricted to:

- Personal data collected from satellite imagery, should the imagery lead to the identification of a vessel in individual ownership.
- Individuals' personal details to arrange access to stakeholder, capacity building and training events.
- Personal details connected with the completion of surveys conducted for research.
- Publicly available vessel identification and ownership records and registries
- Public vessel tracking data

How your personal data has been obtained

MMO may obtain this personal data:

- Directly from you, including via the completion of surveys conducted for research.
- From satellite imagery, from either the MMO's commercial provider under contract or free to use providers and portals.
- From publicly available vessel identification and ownership records and registries, including those published by individual countries, Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), trade organisations and individual States.
- From public vessel tracking data, which is accessed through systems provided by the UK's Joint Maritime Security Centre (JMSC), such as Automatic Information System (AIS).

Why we are able to process your personal data

The lawful basis for processing your data as a Delivery Partner is that it is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest, which is laid down by law, or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller. The task is a joint responsibility between the Delivery Partners (Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture (CEFAS) and Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)) to support Defra in delivering CIUUF.

The condition for processing your special category personal data (in this instance health data in regards to disability), is reasons of substantial public interest in relation to equality of opportunity, treatment or to enable reasonable adjustments.

Who we share your personal data with

To ensure the effective delivery, functioning and governance of CIUUF, MMO may share your data with our partners only when deemed necessary to support the programme. Currently this includes the other UK Delivery Partners (CEFAS and JNCC) and Defra.

MMO respects your personal privacy when responding to access to information requests. We only share information when necessary to meet the statutory requirements of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

How long we are keeping your personal data

The CIUUF is currently scheduled to run from 11 August 2025 to 31st March 2026, but we will regularly review the retention of your personal data and will keep it no longer than required. Information will be retained for the duration of the programme and for one year after the programme conclusion.

Please refer to our [Personal Information Charter](#) and the section 'How long we will keep data' for information on any potential exceptions.

Use of automated decision-making or profiling

The personal data you provide is not used for:

- automated decision making (making a decision by automated means without any human involvement)
- profiling (automated processing of personal data to evaluate certain things about an individual)

Transfer of your personal data outside of the United Kingdom

Where necessary, we may transfer personal information outside the UK to another country or Crown Dependency that is deemed adequate for data protection purposes. This means that the country or Crown Dependency has equivalent levels of data protection to that of the UK.

[Adequacy | ICO](#)

MMO may also in some circumstances transfer data to other countries without an adequacy agreement, having first taken all precautions to ensure that it was safe to do so, complying with the terms of the UK GDPR by making sure [appropriate safeguards](#) are in place.

Where necessary, our data processors may share personal information outside of the UK. When doing so, they comply with the UK GDPR, making sure [appropriate safeguards](#) are in place.

Your rights

Based on the lawful processing above, your individual rights are:

Public Task

- The right to be informed when we are processing your information
- The right to access and request a copy of the information we hold about you
- The right to correct inaccurate or complete incomplete personal data we hold about you
- The right to request that we restrict how widely we process your personal data
- The right to object to the processing of your personal data
- Rights in relation to automated decision making and profiling

Read our [Personal Information Charter](#) to find out about your rights under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018).

How to contact us or make a complaint

Read our [Personal Information Charter](#) to find our contact details, or how to make a complaint about our use of your personal data.