SEA SHEPHERD CASE STUDY: OPERATION ALBACORE

Case Study Summary

This Case Study connects with our Lesson Plans: Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing 1-3. It focuses on our campaign Operation Albacore supporting the government of Gabon to patrol their waters for illegal fishing activity.

This Case Study takes 20 minutes to complete.
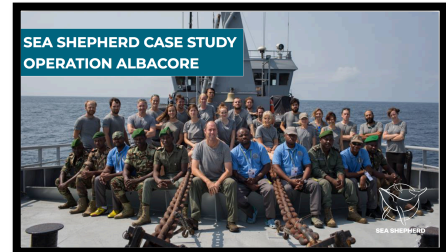
Subjects relevant to

English, Geography, History, Math, Science and Social Science.

Learning objectives

➢ Understand the extent of IUU fishing activity.
➢ Determine the impacts it is having on marine species.
➢ Understand the causes of overfishing.

Preparation

• This case study has been designed to supplement our main lessons. It can be stopped at any time should you wish to include your own discussion/questions or incorporate the lesson activities.
• Depending on whether students are working in a classroom or remotely, you can choose to discuss questions in the class or use the online learning app.
• This digital lesson has an interactive option called student devices. If you choose this option ask the students to bring their mobile phones or tablets to the lesson.
• Should you choose the interactive option, it will run a quiz during the lesson. Recommendation: only use this interactive option in classes of up to 30 students.
• Students can sign up on their mobile device to the www.LessonUp.app. They will be asked for a PIN code (this will appear automatically on slide 3 and will also show at the bottom of the screen). Students who sign up under a false name may be removed by the teacher.
• Students who do not have a mobile device can join the quiz with another student.
• If student devices is turned ON, you can opt to turn the sound and the share screen ON or OFF. Further on you can choose if you want to 'show ranking after each quiz' question. Doing so will create a competitive element, but it can be distracting. Recommendation: turn the 'show ranking after each quiz' OFF.
• The abovementioned options will also show if you click on the PIN code at the bottom of the screen.

Lesson plan

Slide 1 Introduction

This lesson is provided by Sea Shepherd. Sea Shepherd was founded in 1977 and is a marine conservation organisation working to protect the oceans and marine wildlife. Sea Shepherd works globally on a range of issues impacting the oceans, running numerous direct action campaigns each year. IUU is one area Sea Shepherd is working on to help stop illegal fishing.
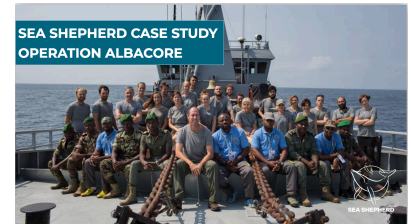
Slide 2 Lesson action icons

During the lesson we will use these icons to identify the learning actions.
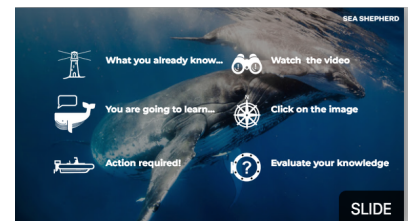
Slide 3 Introducing Operation Albacore

In 2016 Sea Shepherd started working with the government of Gabon to patrol their waters.

This allowed the Gabonese Navy (Marine Nationale) and Fisheries Observers from the Fisheries Enforcement Agency (ANPA) to conduct monitoring and boarding of both legal and illegal fishing vessels.
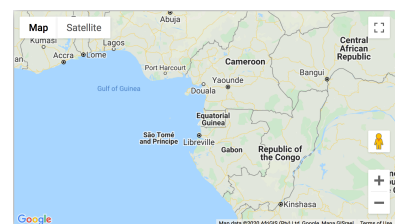
These patrols have resulted in a number of illegal vessels being detained and legal fishing operations being caught conducting illegal fishing activity.

Note: ANPA is now called DGPA – Department for Fisheries and Agriculture.

Operation Albacore commenced in 2015. Working with the government of Gabon.

Slide 4 Gabon

The map shows the location of Gabon.

Slide 5 Introducing Operation Albacore

Show the video (3.11 mins), which explains the campaign and plan to patrol Gabon's waters.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyEssjp_1Ow&list=PLx1pnhQVtbbBnH1BBXzQtknEROG73UNO9&index=7&t=3s

YOUTUBE 3:12

Slide 6 Africa's hidden Eden

The issue of IUU is a huge area to tackle and one where Sea Shepherd can help fill the void, especially where governments do not have the resources to cover areas where others will not go to patrol.

Show the video (2.07 min), which explains about Africa's wildlife and the need for patrols.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0A7Du2ze2Ls&list=PLx1pnhQVtbbBnH1BBXzQtknEROG73UNO9&index=14

OPERATION ALBACORE 2
DEFENDING AFRICA'S HID... YOUTUBE 2:08

Slide 7 Documenting illegal vessels

During Operation Albacore Sea Shepherd has been able to document the illegal activities of vessels that had licenses to catch certain species, but were caught with others including sharks. Sea Shepherd has also documented numerous marine species who were caught as by-catch, including sharks, whale sharks, turtles and whales.

Documenting IUU and by-catch. SLIDE

Slide 8 By-catch

By catch is a huge issue and is often under reported by legal fishing operations. During Sea Shepherd patrols in Gabon vessels have been found to have underreported their by-catch by 3 to 4 times what they have recorded in their logs, which means they could be recording only one in four fish caught as by-catch.

By-catch was found to be under reported by 3 to 4 times reported by-catch. SLIDE

By-catch isn't just marine life it can also be sea birds that are caught up in longlines.

Slide 9 By-catch
Show the video (2.36min), which explains purse seine fishing and by-catch.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsmA0gX2qNk&list=PLx1pnhQVtbbBnH1BBXzQtknEROG73UNO9&index=13

Slide 10 Marine Protected Areas
Operation Albacore has also found illegal operators raiding Gabon's marine protected area.

Show the video (1.15 min), which shows the boarding and inspection of an illegal vessel in the marine reserve.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0LFeMYJpNs&list=PLx1pnhQVtbbBnH1BBXzQtknEROG73UNO9&index=20

Slide 11 Marine life
Sea Shepherd crews spend long days on patrol monitoring and searching for illegal activity, the work can be hard and confronting, watching the destruction left behind by these illegal vessels. But they also have the privilege of seeing marine life at their best, being visited regularly by whales and dolphins while on patrol. A reminder of why we fight to save the oceans and marine life.
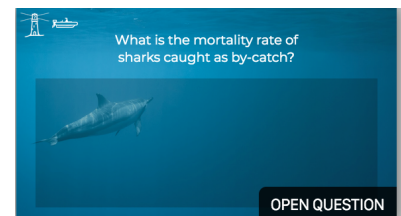
Show the video (2.03min) as the Bob Barker is visited by a massive pod of dolphins.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKcqExPNy7c&list=PLx1pnhQVtbbBnH1BBXzQtknEROG73UNO9&index=5

Slide 12 Question
Ask students to complete their answers to the following question using the www.LessonUp.app or discuss in classroom.

"What is the mortality rate of sharks caught as by-catch?"

Slide 13 Question

Ask students to complete their answers to the following question using the www.LessonUp.app or discuss in classroom.
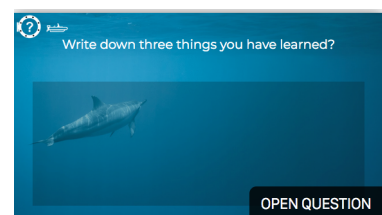
"How much is by-catch under reported by?"

Slide 14 What did you learn?

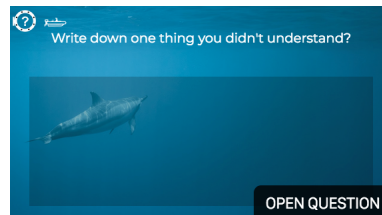Ask students to answer the following question using www.LessonUp.app or discuss in the classroom.

"Write down three things you have learned?"

Slide 15 What don't you understand?

Ask students to answer the following question using www.LessonUp.app or discuss in the classroom.

"Write down one thing you didn't understand?"

Slide 16 Close

YOUR FEEDBACK

We value your feedback and would be pleased to hear your thoughts about this lesson and activities. Any comments, suggestions or requests for further information can be sent to education@seashepherdglobal.org.