

Reflections on the External Dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy

Industry Perspective



STECF Annual Economic Report: state of play DWF

The EU-27's fishing fleet: key figures for 2018

- Active vessels: 59 000 (– 3 %)
- Direct employment: 134 945 (– 4 %)
- Employment in FTEs: 97 867 (– 5 %)
- Days at sea: 6.2 million
- Landings: 4.5 million tonnes
- Landing value: EUR 6.7 billion
- Gross value added: EUR 3.8 billion
- Gross profit: EUR 1.5 billion
- Net profit: EUR 791 million
- GVA-to-revenue ratio: 56 %
- Gross profit margin: 22 %
- Net profit margin: 12 %

Distant-water fleet

- Revenue: EUR 1.0 billion (– 7 %)
- GVA: EUR 387 million (– 21 %)
- Gross profit: EUR 161 million (– 38 %)
- Net profit: EUR 60 million (– 62 %)
- Jobs (FTEs): 7 389 (+ 1 %)

In 2018 (pre-Covid), despite relatively low fuel prices, lower fuel consumption, stable first-sale prices and progress in achieving sustainable fisheries, STECF reports a **deterioration in all socio-economic indicators for the EU fishing fleet.**

STECF Annual Economic Report: importance of DWF

- This segment represents less than 1 % of the active vessels and effort but contributes 14 % of landings by weight and 13 % by value
- The DWF was still profitable, with a GVA estimated at EUR 387 million (10 % of the EU total)
 - !! However, over the years the number of DWF vessels has decreased from 385 in 2008 to 250 in 2018
 - !! This GVA is still a drop of 21% compared to the year before (thus 2017), with dreadful **reduction of net profit by -62%** in just 1 year. Just like a **reduction of fishing days - 12.1%, value of landings - 15.4%** and other income - 58.5%
- International fishing agreements and global ocean governance have a large impact on these vessels
 - ✓ We **need to turn the tide** and provide the best conditions for economically viable and competitive fishing companies by **↑ landing quantities and average fish prices**

International Ocean Governance

- DO NOT FORGET: **DWF food providers** + benefitting and developing coastal livelihoods while upholding highest EU standards + contributing to effective int. ocean governance
- Oceans under pressure call for an **international joint response**
- Need for **effective collaboration**: Sustainable use & conservation communities
 - ✓ Increase dialogues and collaboration mechanisms between CBD and FAO
 - ✓ Enhanced stakeholder consultation
 - ✓ Stop working in institutional silos
- Management: Continue to push for **science-based fisheries management**
 - ✓ FAO target of 100% of seascapes to be sustainably managed
 - ✓ Improved control worldwide as a measure of conservation
 - ✓ Zero tolerance against IUU



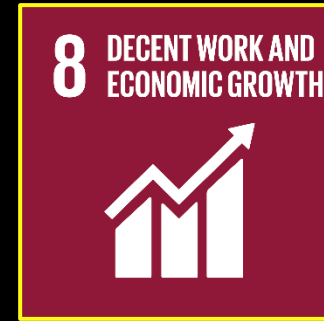
Healthy marine ecosystems



Wild-caught fish protein with low carbon footprint



Food production



Need for socio-Economic development



Health benefits of seafood

- **Level playing field:** All fishing operators must abide by international standards
- **Enhance trade measures** to ensure fish traded in the EU is sustainable
- **MPAs:** should be **science-based**, have clear and measurable objectives, periodical monitoring and allow **participation** of all relevant stakeholders from the outset
- Better use of all conservation tools, such as 'Other effective Area Based Conservation Measures' (**OECMs**) **which are underutilised** if compared to MPAs
- **Climate change:** Measures to adapt to fish distribution shifts & increase resilience & mitigate uncertainty and potential (boundary) conflicts

Regional Fisheries Management Organisations

- **No need for a new overarching body** to regulate fisheries (we have **UNCLOS**)
- EU should **expand and strengthen the work of RFMOs**
 - ✓ Promote RFMO for unregulated species and areas in the high seas, e.g. small pelagics and demersal species in West Africa or Atlantic South West FAO 41
- Support drive for a **new Inter-RFMO 'Kobe-like' process** in horizontal issues such as fight vs IUU fishing, transparency, fishing capacity, scientific research, ecosystem approach..
- **Policy coherence** of their regulatory frameworks (e.g. Catch Documentation Schemes)
- **Capacity building and cooperation**, particularly on control and scientific data sharing

Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements

- **Most transparent and sustainable fisheries agreements in the world** & mutually beneficial for both the EU and local communities
- **Revamp dormant agreements** with third countries of interest for the fishing industry and/or denounce them if in the Protocol a given SFPA has not been in force for three years or more
- Prepare for the renovation of SPFA and its Protocols as quick as possible to ensure **smooth transition to the next agreements** and avoid the non-renewal scenario (no longer foreseen under the temporary cessation provisions of the new EMFAF)
- **Assist third countries**, flag Member States and operators concerned to fulfil all the requirements and conditions set in EU law

Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements

- **Reduce and simplify administrative procedures** and resolve technical problems of operators as swiftly as possible
- **Allocate** sufficient human, technical, and financial **resources** to the implementation of SFPAs
- Ensure that most favourable conditions are not granted to non-EU long distance fleets operating in third country's EEZs
- Linking SFPAs and other fisheries agreements to regional management policies and negotiations, and obtain **coherence of SFPAs with Free Trade Agreements**

Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements

- Better take into consideration the **flag state responsibilities** under Article 94 of UNCLOS concerning social and safety at sea standards in order to avoid legal conflicts and safety concerns
- **Fully transpose the social clause** signed by EU Social Partners for Sea Fisheries aiming at ensuring decent working conditions for non-EU fishermen working on-board vessels operating through the SFPAs
- **Increase communication and consumer awareness** about the importance of SFPA
 - ✓ Debunk myths surrounding EU fishing operations in third countries

Many thanks for listening Enjoy eating fish and shellfish!

Europêche is the representative body for fishers in the EU representing thousands of vessels, both artisanal and large scale, mainly fishing for direct human consumption

Europêche's **core mission** is to promote responsible and sustainable fishing practices that not only ensures a healthy and diverse marine environment but preserves an economically and socially sustainable fishing sector able to contribute to the growing world demand for healthy seafood.

Committed to responsible fishing, nature, science
and seafood supply
now and for future generations

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