

The Landings Obligation Challenges and Solutions for Small Scale Fishers



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Challenges:

- Small scale – the forgotten Fleet
- **LO remains not fit for purpose**
- The majority of support for and measures to reduce discards have been introduced in large-scale fisheries
- The selectivity ‘Elephant in the Room’ is the trawling sector
- SSCF restricted to local areas by size, weather and quotas
- At Sea:
 - Still confusion over requirements – keep, discard, over quota / undersize
 - Little effective monitoring and enforcement
 - Separate storage requirement – danger of cross contamination
 - Carriage of ice & boxes
 - Additional workload
 - Safety and stability
 - Record keeping
 - TIME
 - None of the above have gone away in all the years the LO has been extant



Need of data to negotiate
"Without data on discards, it is difficult to convince decisions-makers about the impossibility to implement and apply LO"

Challenges:

- On Land:

- Monitoring and enforcement
- Boxes
- Ice
- Transport
- Landing places
- Reception facilities
- TIME

- Compliance?:

- Only moves discards from sea to shore
- Increased carbon footprint
- Fresh fish to landfill?
- Lack of discard data
- Lack of timely EMFF support for anything
- Just a few fish can make the difference for SSCF. Criminality or Bankruptcy?



"Better not to start register discards because, as soon they do it, they don't have the possibility to back out".

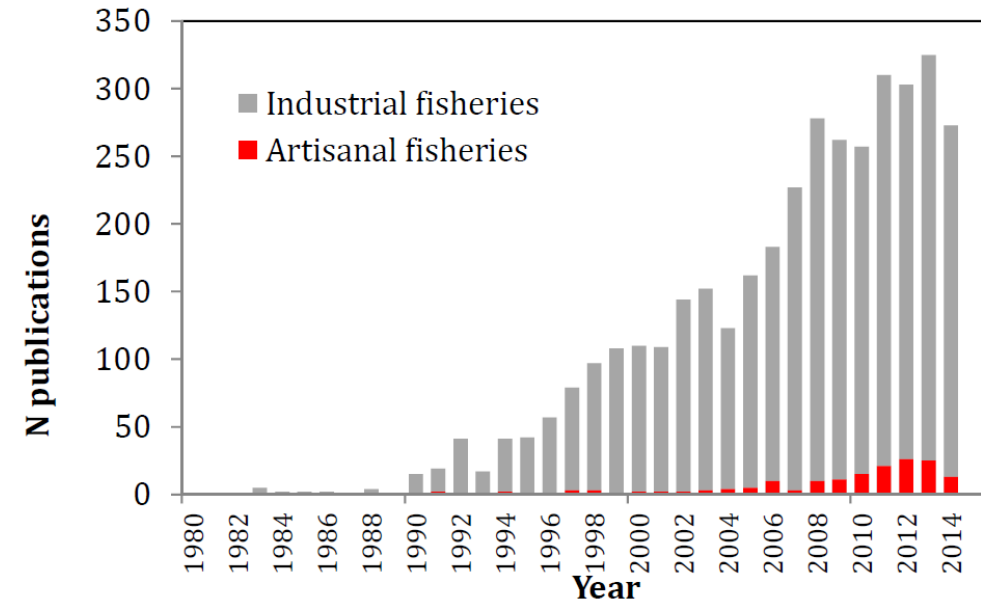
"I will never start registering discard until I get a fine"

Consequence of oversight: Discarding and SSCF

- Implementing the landing obligation illustrates the consequence of SSCF oversight
- 3,924 scientific papers have been published on discards, of which 3,760 are related to industrial fisheries and only 164 papers focused on SSCF
- Just because there is less discarding in SSCF **does not** mean that SSCF are impacted less by the landing obligation
- Due to many issues SSCF are likely to be impacted more



Figure 2. Global number of publications related to discards for industrial and artisanal fisheries (1950-2014)



Solutions?



- A Regulation that is not [able to be] enforced is of no use to anyone
- One size doesn't fit all – Broad brush simply will not work
- Face up to the reality of impacts
- A differentiated approach within the CFP –
 - link to Article 17
- Cost effective technology
- Regulatory clarity from member states please [SSCF are the 'low hanging fruit' in enforcement terms]
- Big challenge – Big solutions – a co-management partnership approach – IT's NOT WORKING.

Avoid seeing boats nailed to fishing harbors due to choke species