

Policy Package for more sustainable and resilient fisheries, aquaculture and marine ecosystems

What does is entail?

- The Common Fisheries Policy Communication: Implementing the CFP and launching a fisheries and oceans pact
- The Common Market Organisation Report: Implementation of the CMO Regulation
- The Marine Action Plan: Protecting marine ecosystems
- The Energy Transition Initiative: Promoting & accelerating the energy transition





Communication on the Common Fisheries Policy and its Fisheries and Oceans Pact

Common fisheries policy: 'state of play'

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- It was reformed in 2013
- There is no need for a new reform. All tools to address the current challenges are available in the existing legislative framework

What is needed?

→ A swifter & better implementation based on cooperation between all parties





Fisheries and Oceans Pact: a vision towards the future

Objectives:

• Improve implementation in the short term

 Reinforce dialogue and mutual understanding, joining forces to prepare for future work







Fisheries and Oceans Pact: a vision towards the future



Improved governance



More transparency

Principles

Recognition of the role of fishers



Forward-looking approach: more research & innovation

Full **compliance** with the existing rules



Common fisheries policy: improving its governance

- With more **transparency** & **involvement** of all actors and with the allocation of adequate resources for the work of the regional groups
- With more transparency on the criteria used for the allocation of fishing opportunities at the national level
- With the preparation of a vademecum to feed the exchange of good practices to use fishing opportunities for:
 - \rightarrow promoting sustainable fishing practices
 - \rightarrow supporting small-scale and coastal fishers





Empowering fishing & aquaculture communities

What for?

- Increasing sector's resilience
- Improving the profession's attractiveness

How?

- Recognising the role of **fishers**
- 'Fishers of the Future' project
- Promoting local development through EMFAF
- Developing social indicators





Protection of Ecosystems

How?

- Reaching **MSY** in all sea basins to ensure fish stocks availability
- Further developing scientific advice for an ecosystem-based approach
- Implementing the marine action plan





Protection of Ecosystems

What about the landing obligation?

- Further develop and encourage **innovation** in selectivity
- Conduct an evaluation in the coming years
- Need for relevant data to assess its effectiveness





Translating principles into actions

Transversal

- MSY
- Action Plan, Energy
 Transition, Zero Pollution
- Fishers of the Future

Fishers

- Further implementation
- Energy transition
- Dialogue

Member States

- Data Collection and reporting
- Sped-up preparations of joint recommendations
- Transparency on national quotas allocation and fishing capacity
- Support innovation & good practices
- Further use of CLLD
- More transparency & resources for regional groups

Scientific Bodies

- Advice for an ecosystem based approach
- Social Indicators

Commission

- Evaluation of the landing obligation, after the provision of sufficient data by Member States
- Possibly transposition of STCW-F
- Vademecum on quota allocations
- Adapt to shifting fisheries interests beyond EU waters





Report on the Common Market Organisation (CMO)

What does the CMO report cover?

The CMO report is structured around the 5 chapters of the CMO regulation:

- professional organisations
- marketing standards
- information to consumers
- competition rules
- market intelligence



Key messages from the CMO report

- The reformed market policy effectively helps achieve the CFP objectives
- **Producer Organisations (POs)**, helped improve market conditions for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products
- The CMO plays a positive role in increasing competitiveness by providing a common legislative framework **governed by the same marketing standards**
- The CMO also sets standards in terms of **market intelligence** supporting policymaking and operators' strategies, in particular in times of crises



Main actions resulting from the report

- Check if Member States fulfill their obligations to check national Producer Organisation (conditions for recognition over time)
- Check if Member States comply with obligations regarding consumer information on Fisheries and Aquaculture Products.
- Provision of guidance to Member States on extension of rules
- Continue work on elaboration of fisheries specific sustainability criteria and on the Sustainable Food System Framework





EU action plan: Protecting and restoring marine ecosystems for sustainable and resilient fisheries

Why this action plan?

- State of seas & sustainability of fisheries
- Bring "nature back into our lives"
- Bridge fisheries and environment worlds
- Builds on existing **framework**





What is in the action plan?

- Improve gear selectivity & address bycatch of sensitive species
- Protect the seabed
- Transition & knowledge (5)
- Governance



Gear selectivity and sensitive species

Why?

Sensitive or threatened species are at risk



How?

- New, innovative techniques to boost selectivity
- Set limits for incidental bycatch
- Gradual approach
 - 2023 → harbour porpoise (Baltic & Black Seas), Iberian Atlantic & common dolphin (Bay of Biscay)
 - 2024 → angel sharks, common skate, guitarfish, Maltese skate, great white shark, sand tiger shark, smalltooth sand tiger shark, spiny butterfly ray, sturgeons, marine turtles, Balearic shearwater and Mediterranean monk seal
 - 2030 \rightarrow remaining sensitive marine species
- Improve the protection of the European eel



Protecting the seabed

Why?

How?

Essential habitats



Fish nurseries & spawning areas



carbon sink



- Mid-2023 → Set limits for extent of seabed lost or adversely affected under environmental law
- Gradually phase out mobile bottom fishing in all Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2030:
 - March 2024 → national measures/joint recommendations for all Natura 2000 sites under Habitats Directive protecting the seabed & marine species
 - March 2024 → outline for all MPAs & describe detailed measures for at least 20% of each Member State's marine waters
 - 2030 \rightarrow all MPAs, existing and new ones



Where to start?

Natura 2000 sites protecting the seabed and marine species (Habitats directive)







To accompany fishers:

- Actions in the CFP & Energy transition Communications
- EU funding available
- Further data collection, research & innovation





European Commission

Governance and process

 2023 → New Commission group → fisheries & environmental authorities + stakeholders (observers)

- 2023 → first measures for priority sensitive species
- By March 2024 → Member States roadmaps outlining measures & timeline
- By March 2024 → Member State proposals to protect seabed in Natura 2000 sites (Habitats Directive)

First half 2024 → assessment of progress →
 Biodiversity Strategy mid-term review





Communication on the Energy Transition of the EU fisheries and Aquaculture

Why this Communication on Energy Transition in the EU Fisheries and Aquaculture sector?



The recent **increased energy prices** from fossil fuels are a threat to the profitability and viability of the sector



Need to break away from the fossil fuel dependency



Need to accelerate the energy transition in the sector, towards more use of renewable and low-carbon energy use and a climate neutral sector

Increase the future resilience of the sector



How does the Communication propose to accelerate the energy transition in the sector?

A boost for the energy transition of the sector by supporting:

- the uptake of energy efficiency investments in the short to medium-term
- further developing and adopting additional renewable and low-carbon energy sources in the medium to long-term



Challenges and main barriers for the energy transition



The cooperation between stakeholder







Workforce skills



The access to funding and financing opportunities



What is in the Communication? Four main areas to accelerate the transition





Improve the governance framework and coordination/co operation between stakeholders Close the gaps in both available technology and knowledge through R&I



Improve the business environment, including in financing opportunities and awareness Develop skills and a workforce that is prepared and ready for the energy transition









- to empower the sector to **invest in the energy transition** and in the fishing vessel and aquaculture of the future.
- Preparing a modernised, more resilient and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture sector of the future
- Acting now requires collaboration between all stakeholders: Join us in the Energy Transition Partnership



Thank you



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