



Artisanal Fisheries Definition

Let's work together !

MEDAC Focus Group on SSF - 14/10/2025



Why working on a definition of artisanal fisheries ?



An EU definition that satisfies no-one

	FR	ES	PT	ICCAT	Commission européenne
Désignation	Pêche artisanale (statut)	Pêche artisanale	Pêche locale (même définition que la pêche artisanale en pratique)	Petits navires côtiers (pour le thon rouge = 3/5 critères remplis)	Petite pêche côtière
Taille	Pas de limite	< 12 m	< 9 m	< 12 m	< 12 m
Périmètre d'action			Eaux intérieures	Eaux territoriales	
Durée des sorties			Courte période (généralement < 24h)	< 24 h	
Équipage à bord	Propriétaire à bord			4 maximum	
Techniques de pêche		Filet maillant Palangre Piège Pêche à pied	Engins artisanaux Filet maillant 10 m max Filet trémail 5 m max	Sélectives et impact réduit sur l'environnement	Pas d'engins trainants
Captures			Espèces de grande valeur		

Multiple overlapping concepts
& multiple definitions : Small
Scale, artisanal, costal,
traditional ...



No level playing field

Why now ?



Scientists have ideas and concepts !

Average Values / Scores		LSA (m)	Size of fishing vessel	Fishing gear	Cost	Port	Engine Power	Modernisation	AVS TOTAL SCORE
SPAIN		(miles)							
Category	Score range	Value (m)	Matrix Score	Matrix score	Value (m)	Matrix Score	Value (hp)	Matrix Score	
Very small scale	1 to 2								
Small scale	3 to 5	8.25	0.92	2	3.3	1	32	1	3.94
Edge Small-scale	6 to 7 (at least 3 out of 4 10% conditions)	13.03	2.73	1.64	14.23	1.73	61.7	1	6.1
Edge Large-scale	8 to 9 (less than 3 out of 4 10% conditions)	14.52	2	1.36	20.3	2	113.63	1.68	7
Large scale	10 to 10	19.38	2.09	2.97	49.17	2.43	162.09	1.82	8.9
Very large scale	11 to 12	24.97	3	3	94.6	3	279.89	2	11

Political attention

The EU Ocean Pact sees the
«Support for small scale fisheries
as a priority. »

Evaluation of the CFP

Implementation dialogue on SSF
with Commissioner Kadis on
November 24

Access to dedicated funds:
ETP, modernisation, MSP



Why together ?



- Suggesting one and only one definition is key
- SWWAC and MEDAC as a “Southern” ACs starting point
- Expertise & interest in both ACs on the matter



How ?



- Completing the state of play (Member States per Member States) : showing the issues with the current definition.
- Exchange of views on the latest science : what can be used ? What should be used ? What shouldn't ? What else do we need to be studied ?
- Joint-AC advice on the longer-term





Thank you !

