

*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".*

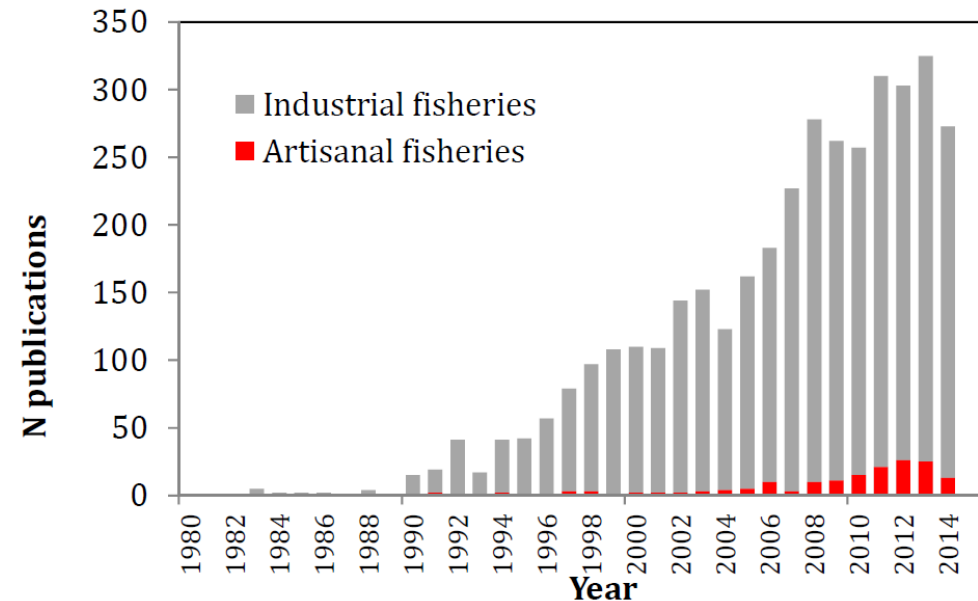
*"I will never start registering discard until I get a fine"*

# 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 for Small Scale Fishermen -or large.

Avoid seeing boats nailed to fishing harbors due to choke species