

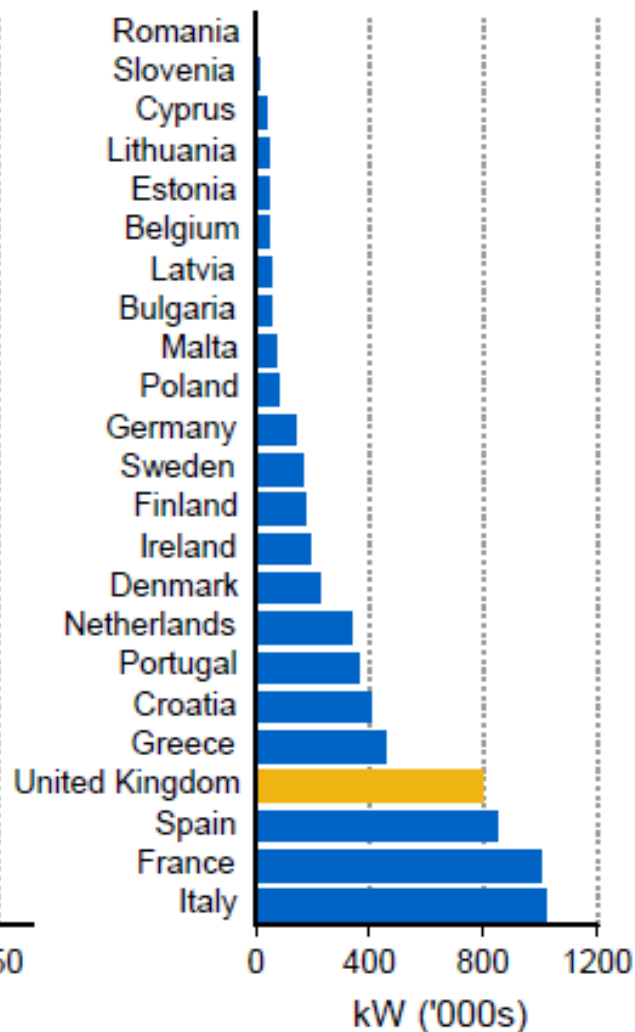
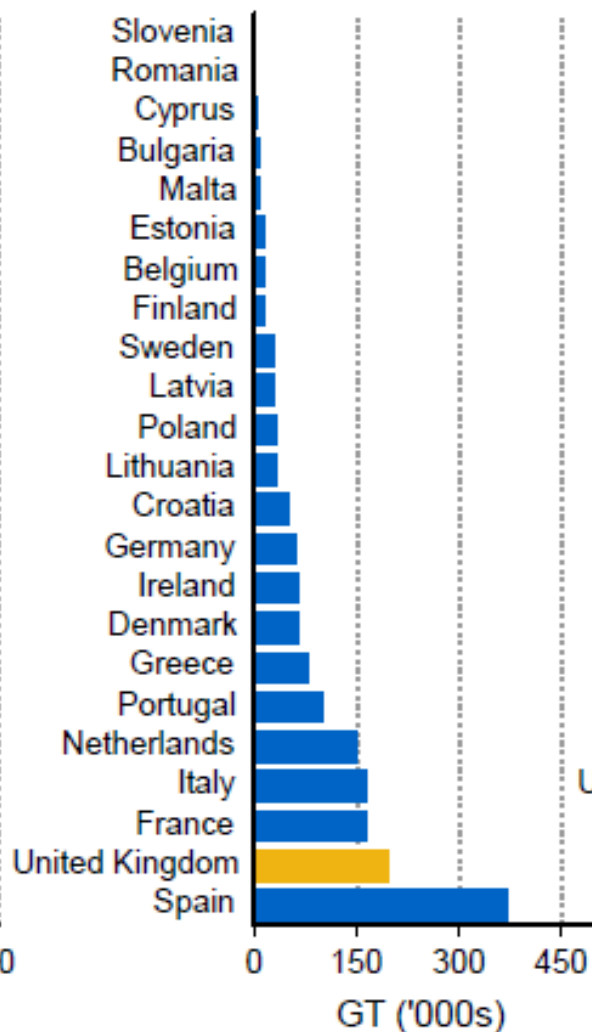
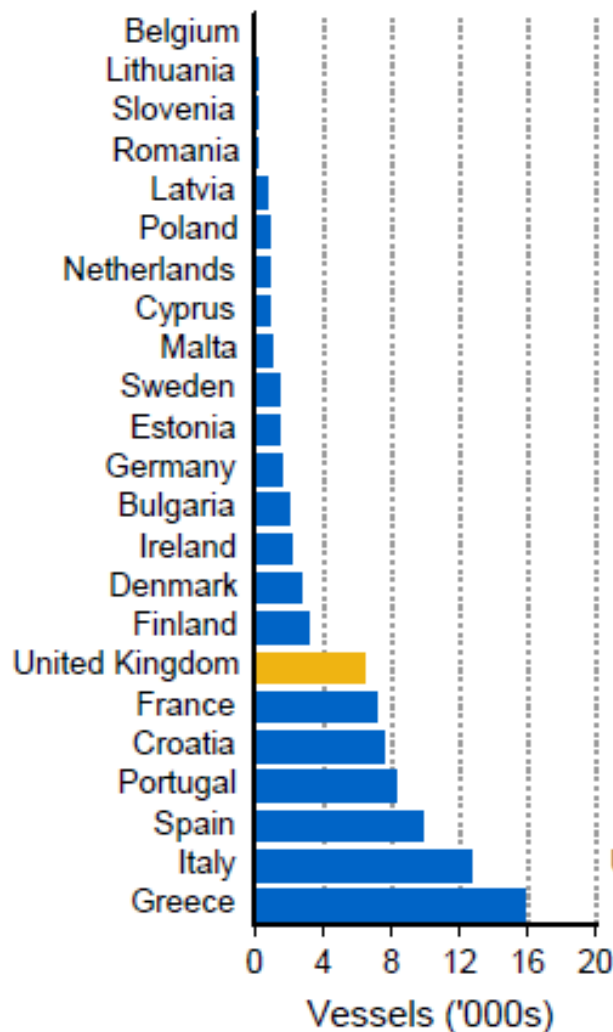
# Low Impact Fishers of Europe

**L.I.F.E.**

# Fishing in the EU

- Overall fleet = 86,283 vessels
- 74% of which are small scale coastal - 63,849
- Overall 151,000 jobs at sea
- 72,480 of which are on small scale vessels
- [4:1 jobs ashore]
- UK Comparison:
- 6399 vessels [down from 7096 in 2003]
- 5036 <10 metres [79%] – 1363 >10 metres
- <10's provide 65% of catching related employment

# The EU Fishing Fleet





# Why 'Low Impact Fishers of Europe' – 'LIFE'?

- Definition of 'small scale' difficult [ $<10$ ?!]
- EU definition not much help
- Actual 'definition' varies across EU
- 'Low Impact' together with 'small scale' more appropriate

## The Need for LIFE:

- CFP Reform process brought smaller scale fishers together [for the first time]
- Growing dissatisfaction with lack of specific representation
- Commission highlighted lack of and need for dedicated 'voice'
- European Parliament members seeking views
- Increasing need to highlight importance and champion our sector

# LIFE Criteria:

- 1) Fishermen that use low impact gear and methods in terms of both selectivity and habitat.*
- 2) That the owner is aboard the vessel when fishing.*
- 3) Fishermen committed to ensure the sustainability of their activities by respecting the rules or in the event that such rules are absent or insufficient, they apply self-imposed measures to protect the fish resources and their habitats.*
- 4) Fishermen that have high socio-economic value in support of local communities and are an important part of the cultural identity of those communities.....*



# LIFE and the CFP:

- “Preferential access and a fair standard of living – including small scale fisheries”.
- “Production of an action plan for the development, competitiveness and sustainability of small-scale coastal fishing”;
- “Article 17 of the CFP requires Member States to include environmental, social and economic criteria when allocating the resource [quota]
- DEFRA’s 2027 Vision Document states that; “Access to fisheries continues to be available to small-scale fishing vessels, even if in some cases that is not the most economically efficient way of harvesting the resource. This is because the wider economic, social and environmental benefits of small-scale fishing can outweigh the comparative inefficiency in harvesting the resource and make a significant economic and social contribution to the lives of individuals and coastal communities.....”





# About us





# First Congress – 18 November 2012

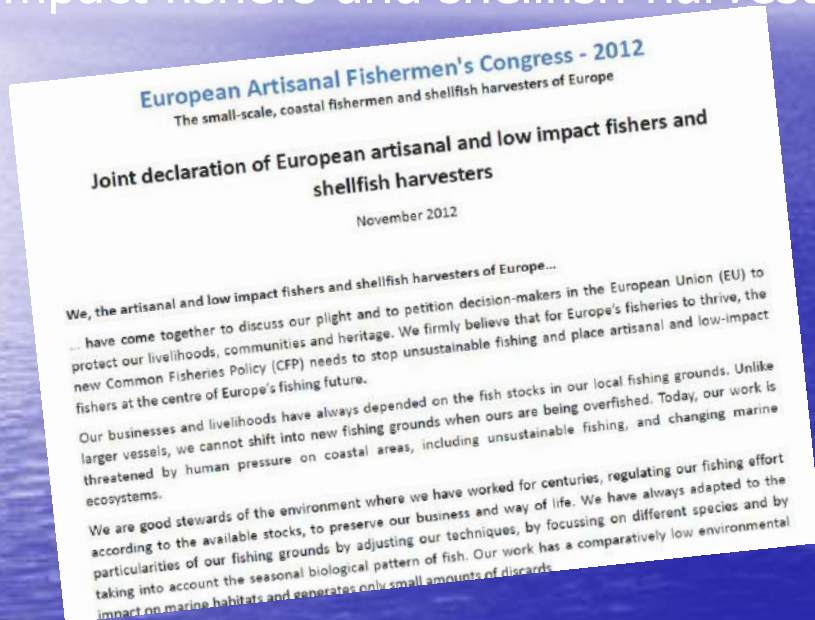
- ✓ 50 fishermen from 9 EU countries : Belgium, the Netherlands, Poland, Greece, Spain, France, the United Kingdom, Germany and Croatia.
- ✓ Sharing of experiences and challenges
- ✓ Discussions about how to improve the situation and representation of low-impact fishermen all around Europe and at EU level





# First Congress – 18 November 2012

- ✓ Adoption of the Joint declaration of European artisanal and low impact fishers and shellfish harvesters



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- ✓ Mandate given to a core-team of fishermen to establish a European platform of low-impact fishermen

# Handover of the Declaration in Brussels and Strasbourg

The Declaration was handed to the Fisheries Commissioner, The President of the Council and to a range of MEP's





# Aims of the LIFE Platform

- 1) Grant the right to fish to those who fish sustainably;
- 2) Reduce fleet overcapacity where it exists, while preserving jobs in artisanal, low impact fisheries;
- 3) End harmful subsidies and unsustainable and destructive practices;
- 4) Restore the health of our seas in Europe and the rest of the world.

# Objectives of the LIFE Platform

- 1) Create a single, strong and inclusive voice for low impact fishermen across Europe;
- 2) Enable European low impact fishermen to communicate publicly with one voice;
- 3) Underpin and encourage low impact fishing in Europe and the practical implementation of the reformed CFP according to the objectives as outlined in the Common Declaration;
- 4) Provide a specifically smaller scale, low impact viewpoint to the Commission and others with regard to European fisheries management and marine environmental issues;
- 5) Encourage and assist the creation of regional and national low impact fishermen's organisations in EU member states where they do not exist and support existing entities.



# Threats & Opportunities:

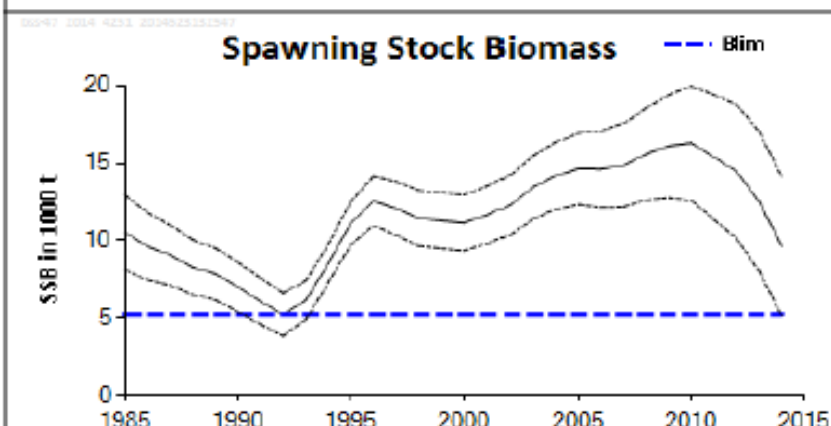
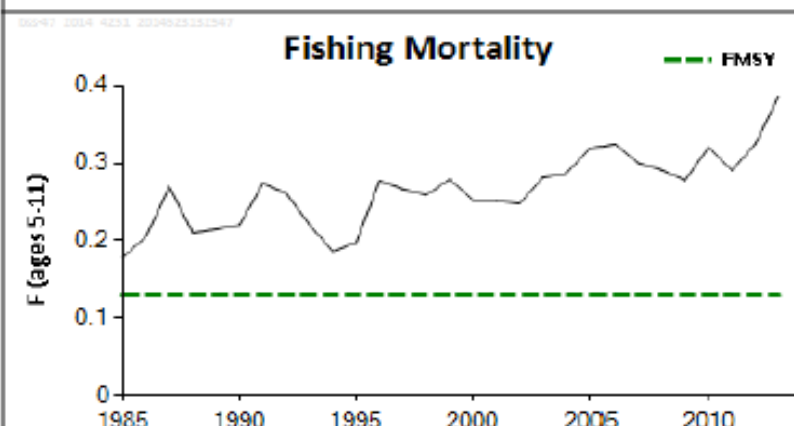
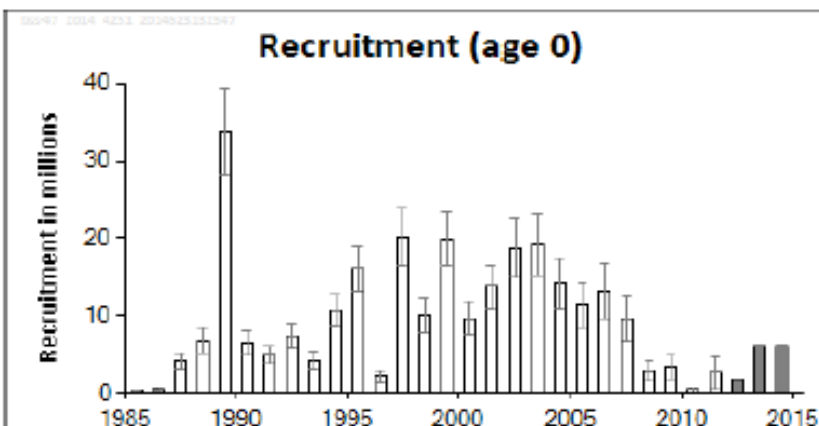
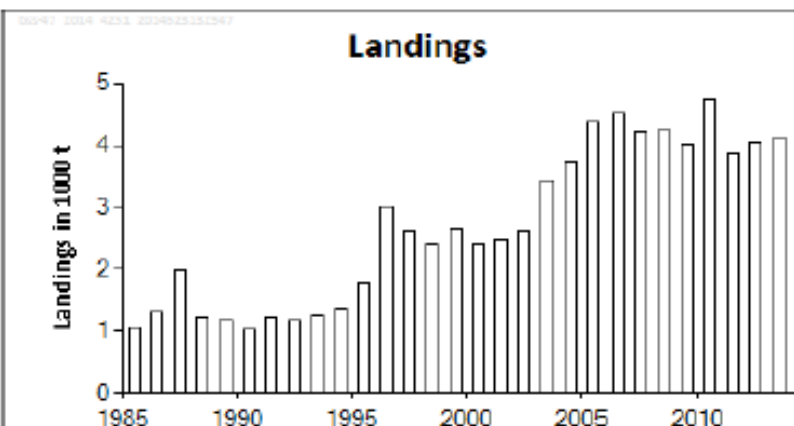
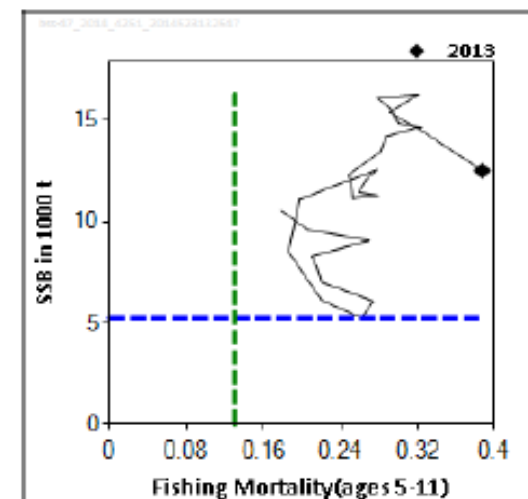
- LIFE in Brussels
- MPA's – Co-Management
- New Commissioner for Fisheries & Environment
- New EU Parliament and PECH Committee
- Brussels second only to Washington DC for lobbyists
- Discard Ban
- Driving dramatic improvements in selectivity
- Fully Documented Fisheries
- Consolidation and Privatisation
- European elements
- Regionalisation & Advisory Councils
- Bass

## Stock status

	Fishing pressure			
	2011	2012	2013	
MSY ( $F_{MSY}$ )	✗	✗	✗	Above target
Precautionary approach ( $F_{pa}, F_{lim}$ )	?	?	?	Undefined

	Stock size			
	2012	2013	2014	
MSY ( $B_{trigger}$ )	?	?	?	Undefined
Precautionary approach ( $B_{pa}, B_{lim}$ )	?	?	?	Above $B_{lim}$





And finally: 1981:-





# 2014:-





Gracias

Dziękuję

Danke

Hvala

Thank you

Merci

Dank u  
wel

Grazie

ευχαριστώ