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# Rebuilding EU fisheries

## - *MSY and the economic dimension*

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# The CFP - basics

- The CFP shall ensure exploitation of living aquatic resources that provides **sustainable economic, environmental and social** conditions
- Council Regulation (EC) No. 2371/2002 enables the Commission to take steps to rebuild fish stocks.
- Long term (multi-annual) management plans are used to rebuild EU fisheries
  - › towards MSY
  - › in some cases, a recovery phase is initiated to bring them within safe biological limits (precautionary approach)
- Targets - fishing mortality rates, maximum limits on the inter-annual variation in quotas
- Tools - technical measures, controls, effort management
- European Fisheries Fund - financial instrument to help support the restructuring of the sector impacted by fisheries rebuilding.



# Plans



- North Sea cod (2004)
- Northern Hake
- Southern Hake and nephrops
- Sole, Bay of Biscay
- Sole, Western Channel
- Sole and plaice, North Sea
- Eel
- Baltic cod
  
- 41% of pelagic stocks (41% of catches) and 29% of demersal stocks (44% of catches) are now under LT plans
  
- Six are in the pipeline for 2009/10 - herring, horse mackerel, salmon, anchovy
  
- A number of important international plans are also agreed - shared stocks with Norway, ICCAT bluefin tuna

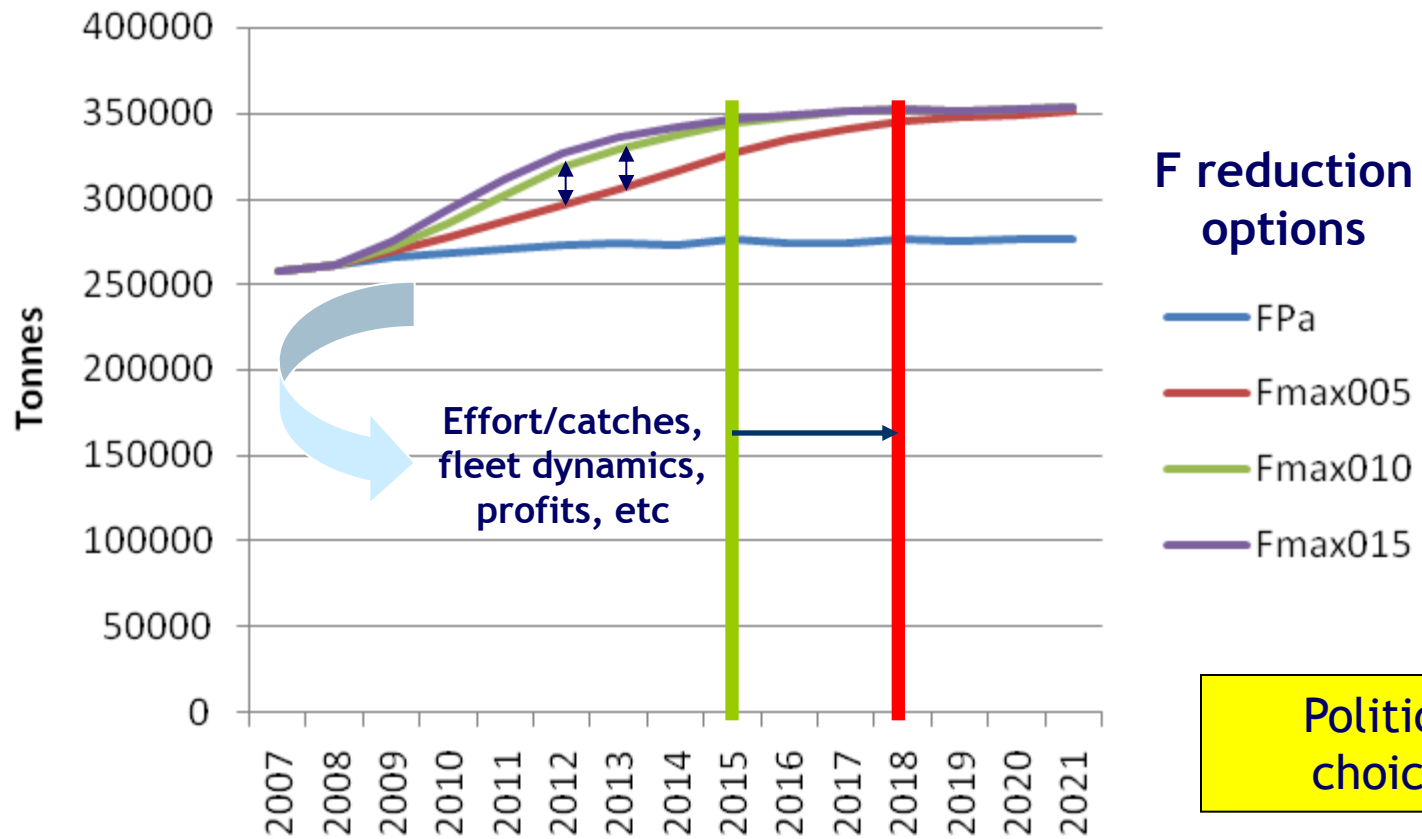


# Impact Assessment

1. Identify fishery problem and objective
2. Assess baseline situation (catches, fleet, markets, employments, etc.)
3. Assess indicators (biological and socio-economic) over time for each policy option
4. Compare each option - relative difference is important not necessarily absolute values!
5. Consultation with stakeholders
6. Implementable and controllable
7. Recommend best path to reach final objective



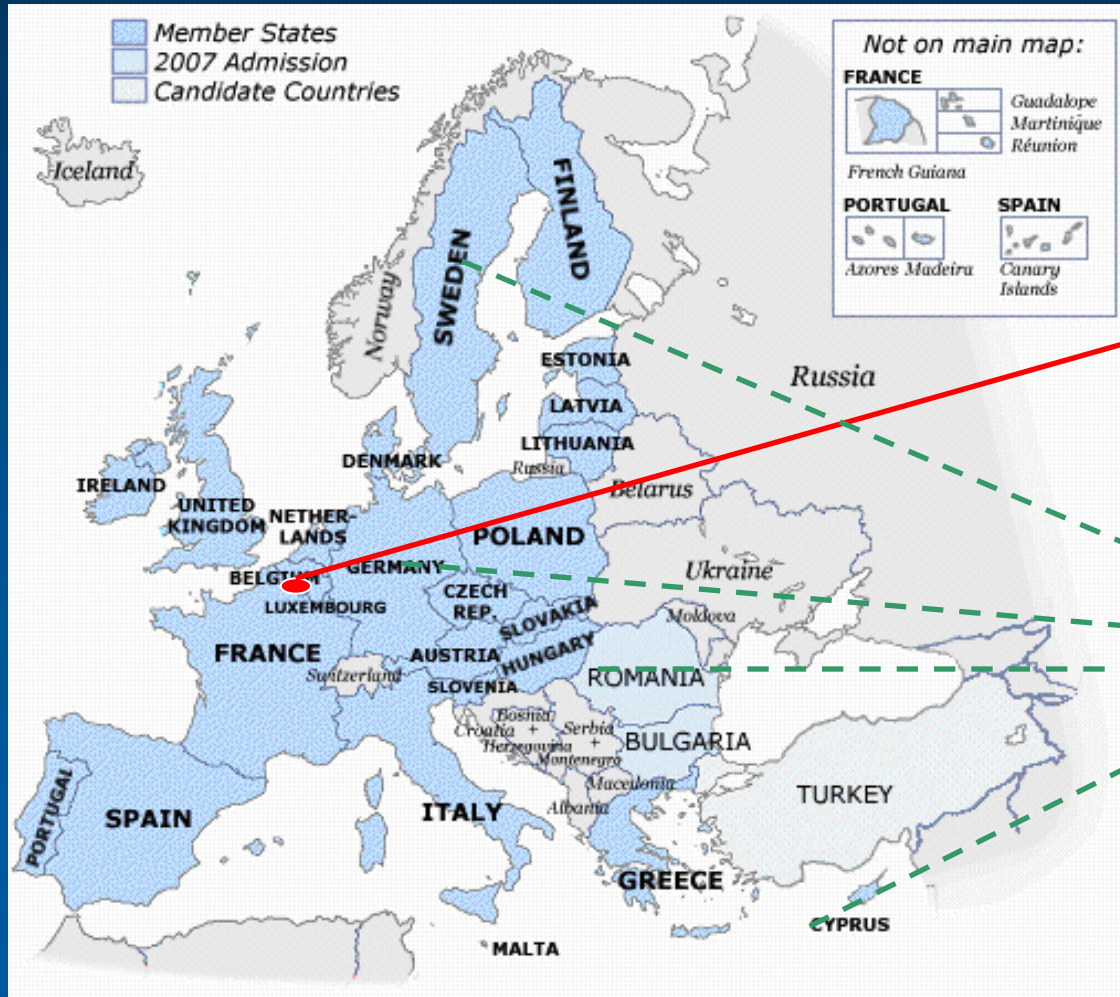
# Northern hake example





# Challenges

- In developing plans we should improve use of fully integrated bio-economic model to examine socio-economic objectives, within the constraint of MSY - e.g. MEY (max rent)
- Possible move from « Stock » to Fishery/Area plans
- MSY reduces biological risks of collapse. Should we should assess risks associated with the socio-economic dimension on an equal footing?
- Industry/RAC-initiated objectives to be tested



Commission &  
Council of  
Ministers -  
set the rules

Member  
States  
- implement



# Implementation

- Implementation is crucial - MS responsibility
- Member States have a central role in managing the fleet and the success of fisheries rebuilding
  - › Management systems in place
  - › EFF - fleet/effort adjustment programmes
- OECD study shall draw on examples in MS





# European Commission Fisheries – Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy

European Commission > Fisheries > Reform > Home

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Green paper
- ▶ Consultation
- ▶ Press & Speeches
- ▶ Events
- ▶ FAQ

» Fisheries website



How could the industry best organise itself in order to take responsibility for self-management?

> Give us your views

## Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy

The Commission has launched a wide-ranging debate on the way that EU

**Latest news**

**7/05/2009**  
 To raise awareness of the consultation, the Commission has created promotional banners which can be inserted freely on websites or in e-mails.



## CFP debate



- « It is crucial that any compromises made to cushion the immediate economic and social effects of reductions in fishing opportunities remain compatible with long term ecological sustainability »
- « Ecological sustainability is therefore a basic premise for the economic and social future of European fisheries »



## Key questions....

1. How can indicators and targets be defined to provide proper guidance for decision making and accountability?  
How should timeframes be identified for achieving targets?
2. Can MS do more in fleet management to assist in fisheries rebuilding - RBM and subsidies?
3. How can we clarify responsibilities between Brussels and MS implementation to encourage a long-term focus and a more effective achievement of objectives?  
Would it be possible to devolve decisions to national or regional authorities within Community legislation on basic principles?



[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/reform/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/reform/index_en.htm)