

NEAFC Present and Future.

Jacques Verborgh
President of NEAFC



What is NEAFC

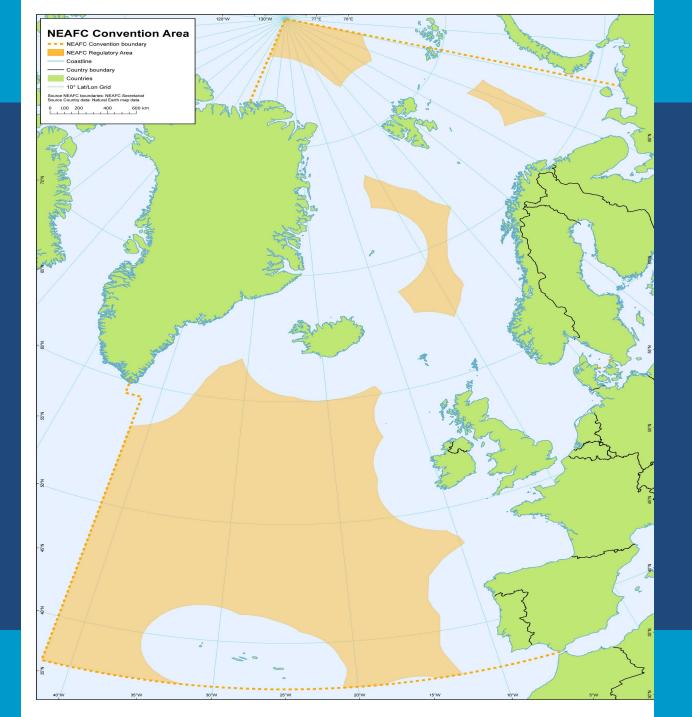


"The objective of NEAFC is to ensure the long-term conservation and optimum utilisation of the fishery resources in its Convention Area, providing sustainable economic, environmental and social benefits"

NEAFC



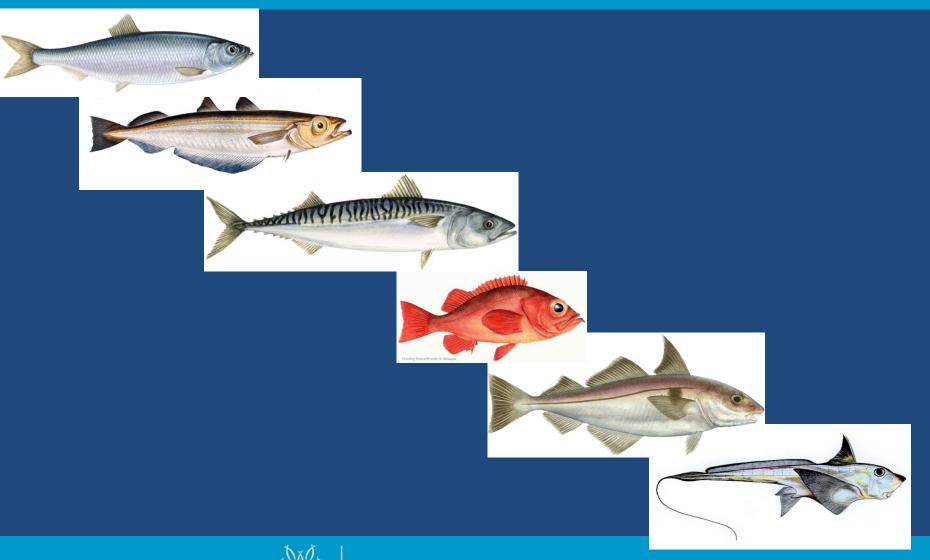
Where is NEAFC?







NEAFC's Main Stocks



Main species:

- Herring
- Blue whiting
- Mackerel
- Redfish
- Haddock
- Deep-sea species



Economic and Social importance

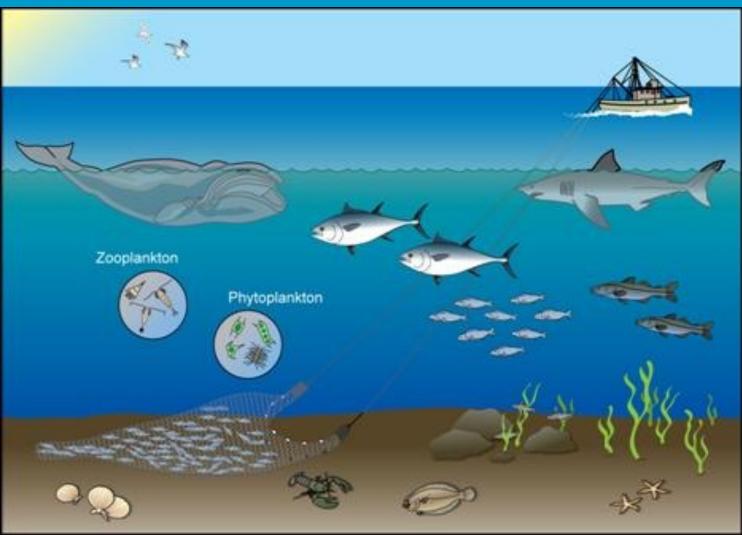


Contracting Parties:

- Denmark in respect of Faroes and Greenland
- European Union
- Iceland
- Norway
- Russian Federation



Environmental and Sustainable



 Objectives include environmental objectives.

Sustainability

 applies to all 3:
 social economic and environmental...

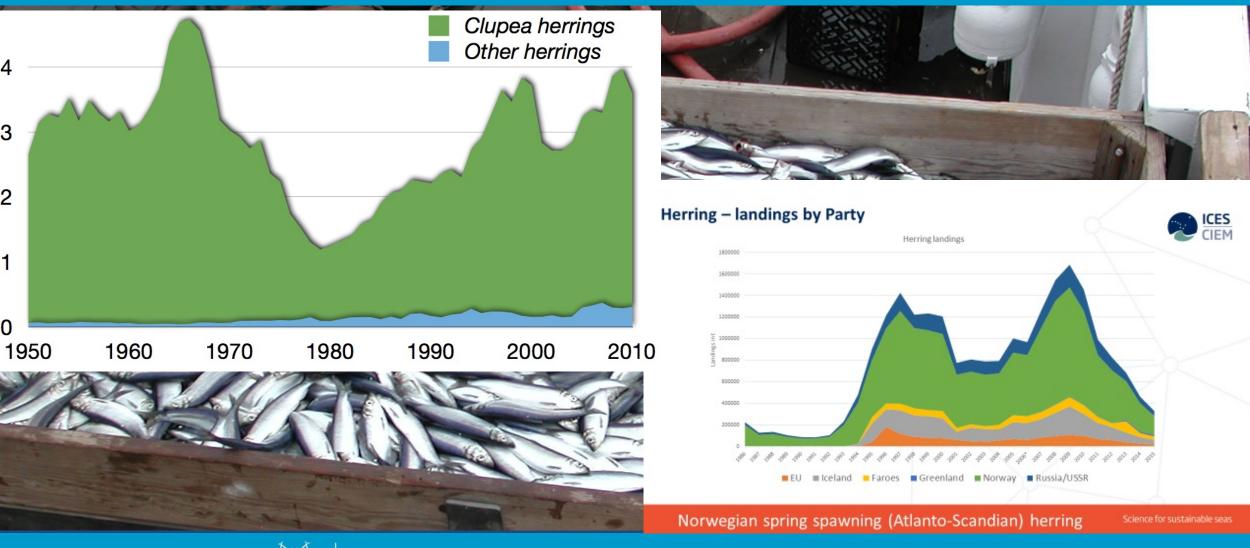


The need for management



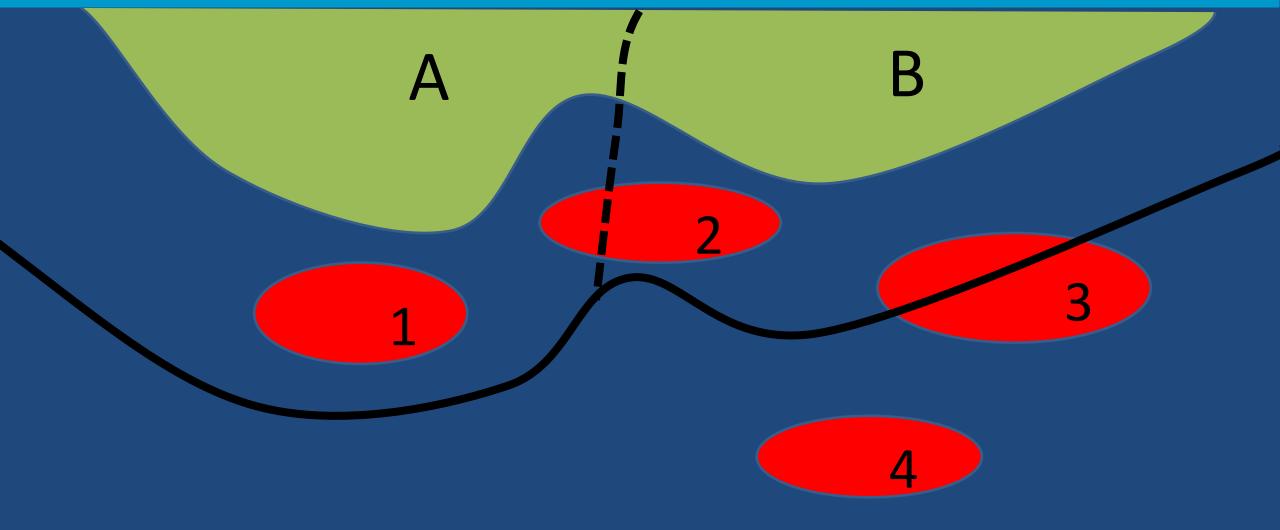


The need for management





Straddling stocks





Differing responsibilities – national and international waters

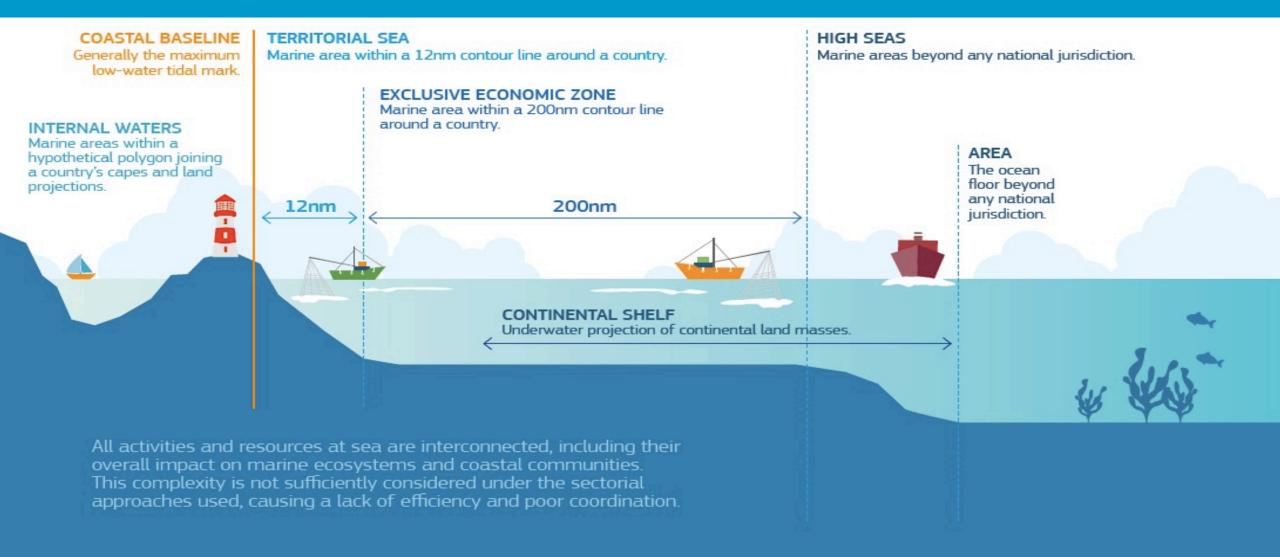


Figure: European Commission

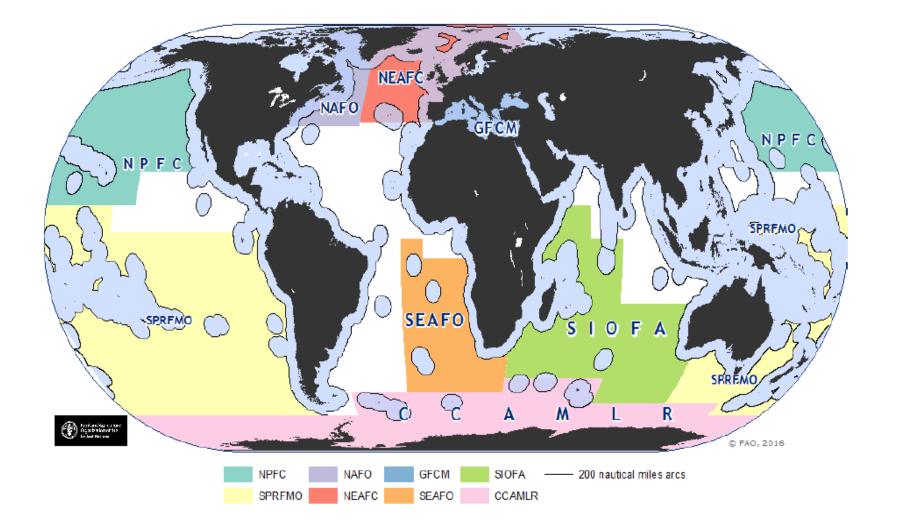




UNCLOS creates structure, but not everything is solved!



Our stocks are shared: UN Fish Stocks Agreement



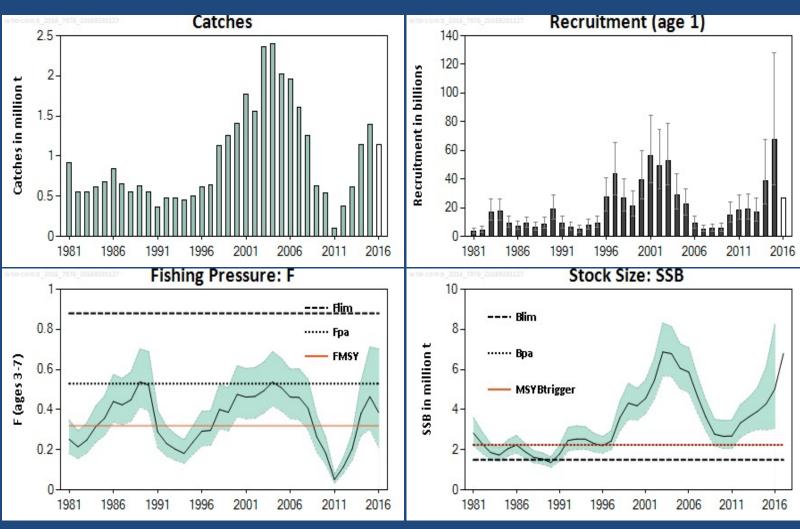


NEAFC's Fisheries Management

- Total Allowable Catches
- Allocation
- Technical measures
- Control and enforcement
- Protection of Vulnerable
 Marine Ecosystems



Science-driven decisions



Example -Blue Whiting -

Fishing mortality has increased from a historical low in 2011 to above F_{MSY} since 2014.

Spawning-stock biomass (SSB) increased since 2010 and is above MSY B_{trigger}.

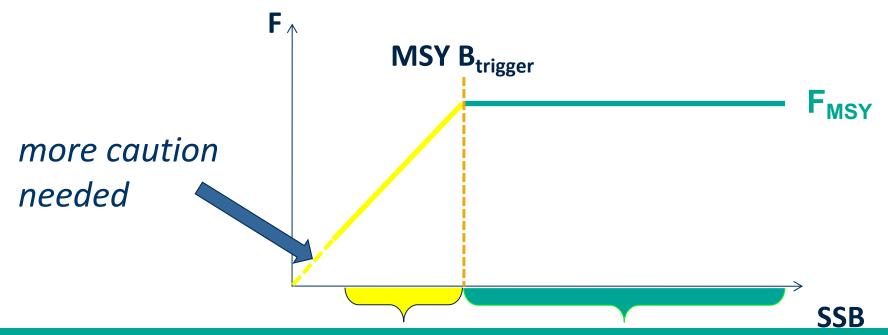
Recent recruitments are estimated above average, but with a high uncertainty.



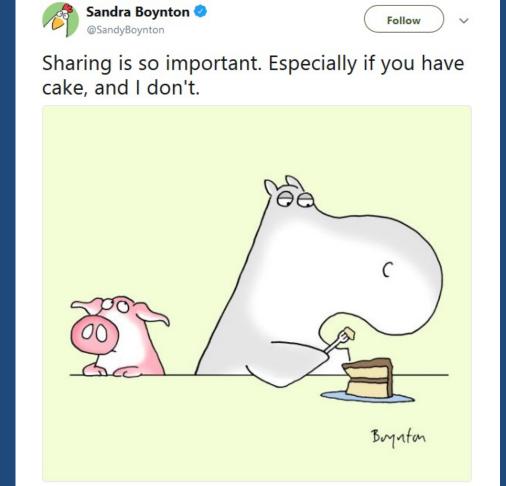
International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Maximum Sustainable Yield approach



- ✓ Maximize long term average yield
- ✓ Safeguard against low Spawning Stock Biomass
- ✓ Stay within precautionary boundaries



Negotiation and Decision Processes



- Scientific Advice
- Catch Information
- Coastal States
- Annual Meeting
- Recommendations

8:38 am - 15 May 2013



Technical measures



Examples:

- Mesh size limitations
- Seasonal closures for spawning
- Conversion factors for weighing processed fish
- Limits on the use of certain types of fishing gear (e.g. area limits, depth limits)

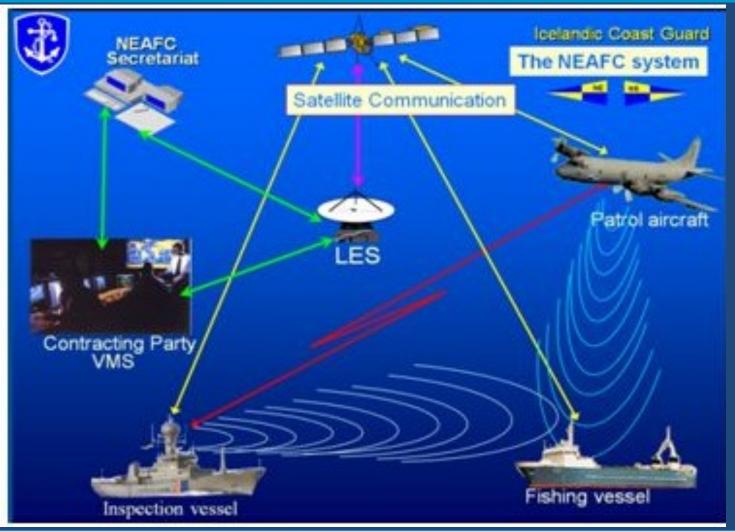


Scheme of Control and Enforcement





Data derived from NEAFC Control and Enforcement



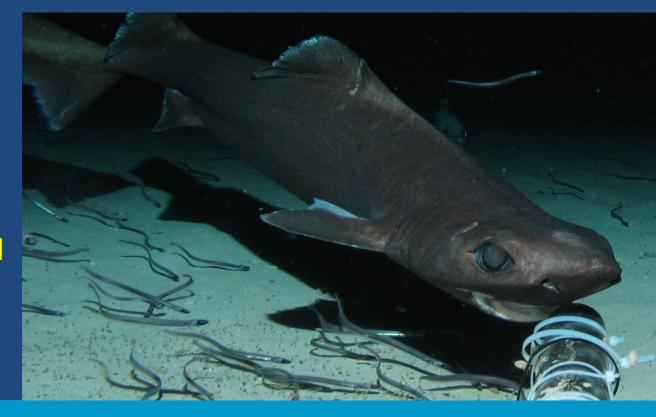
- National <u>role</u>
- At sea inspections
- Vessel Monitoring System
- Port State Control
- Control of non-Contracting Parties
- Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing lists



Conservation of living marine resources

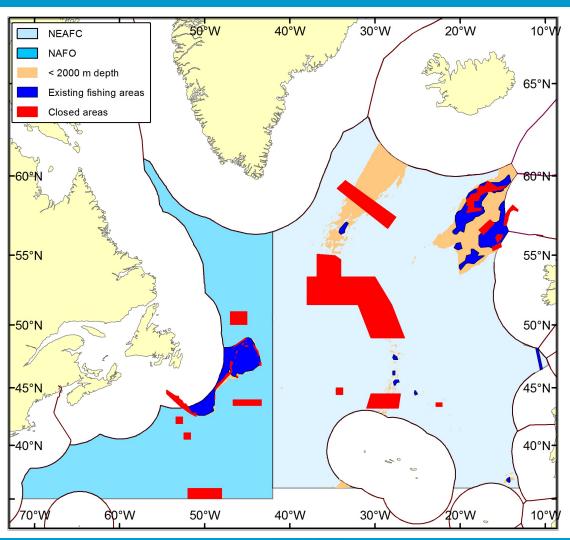


- Specific advice on deep sea species
- Adopting Recommendations to ban targeted fisheries at species at risk, e.g. sharks
- Protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) e.g. Sponges and Corals





Conservation of living marine resources



- Establish a bottom-fisheries foot print (1987-2007)
- New areas only to open after assessment via exploratory bottom fishing
- Adopting precautionary measures in areas where VMEs are likely to occur
- Encounters with VMEs result in an appropriate reaction (e.g move on/ temporary closures)



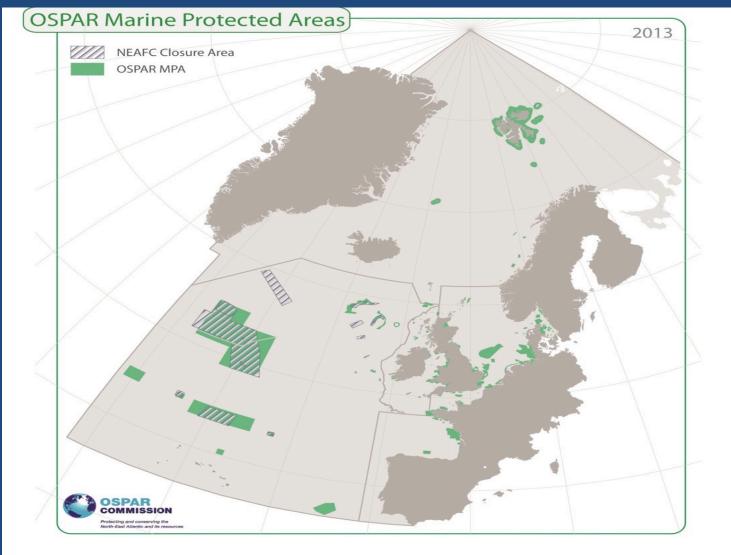
Human activities – the effects of these interact.

- Fisheries
- Shipping
- Dumping and Dredging
- Offshore renewable energy
- Oil and gas exploration
- Coastal defence and other structures
- Cables and pipelines
- Artificial reefs
- Land reclamation
- Sand and gravel extraction
- Tourism
- Mariculture
- Marine litter
- Underwater noise
- Dumped munitions





NEAFC and OSPAR: Area based measures





Collective arrangement





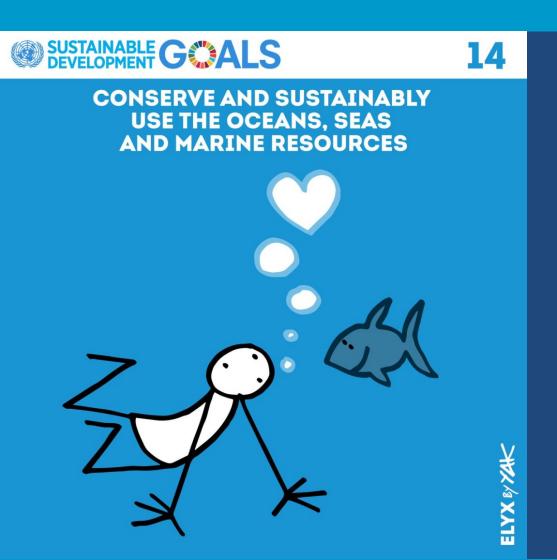
Other cooperation: Global-Regional



NEAFC



Broader International Context



UN Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goal 14



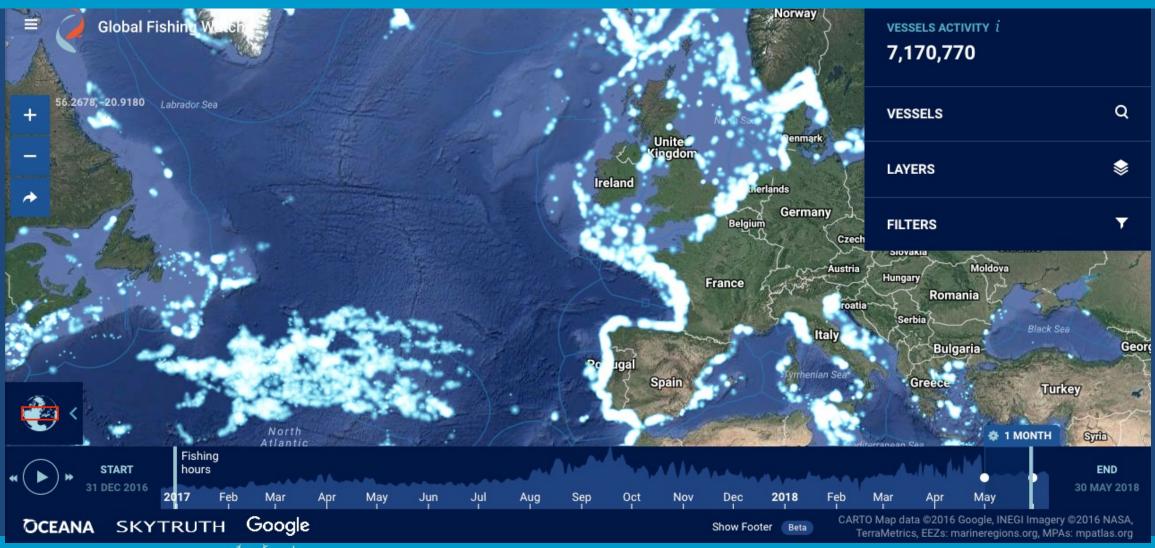


UNCLOS: implementing Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction





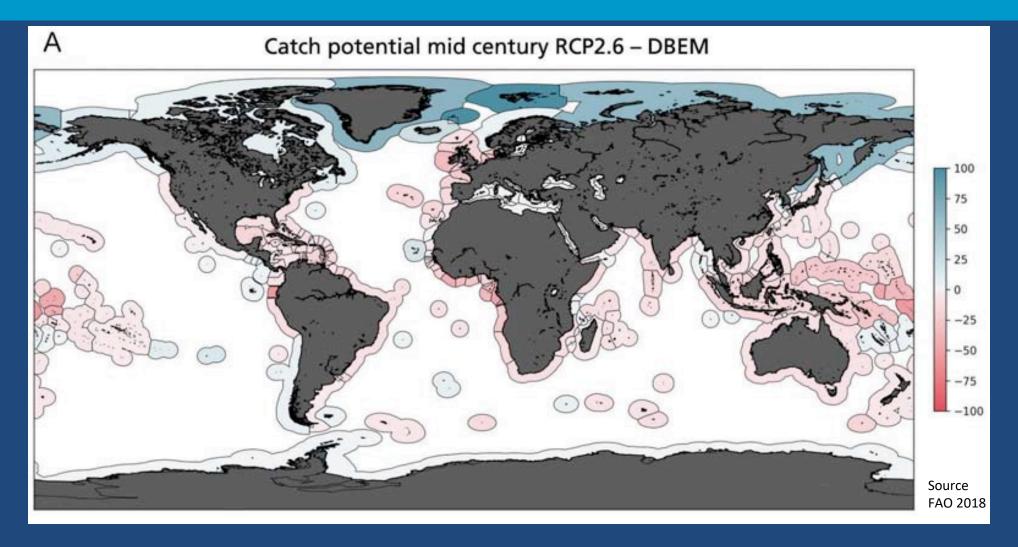
NGO interest increasing





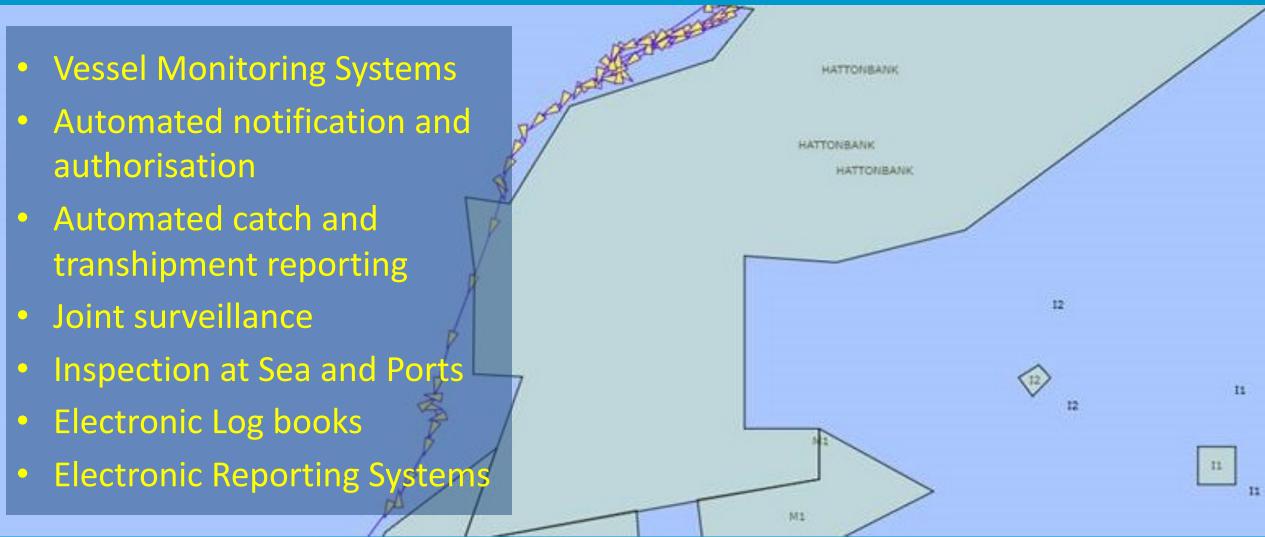


Future threats -Climate Change?





Future; Improving regional monitoring, control and surveillance.





Continuing development; Global Monitoring Control and Surveillance



- Mutual exchange of RFMO IUU lists
- Port States Measures Agreement
- FAO Global Record





Thank You

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