



**European  
Commission**  
Maritime Affairs  
and Fisheries

# Reforming the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

Building a brighter future  
for fish and fishermen

## **Find out more**

For further information:

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



## Developing sustainable aquaculture

A better framework for aquaculture will increase production and supply of seafood in the EU, reduce dependence on imported fish and boost growth in coastal and rural areas. Member States will draft national strategic plans to remove administrative barriers and uphold environmental, social and economic standards for the farmed-fish industry. A new Aquaculture Advisory Council will be established to give advice on industry-related issues.

## Empowerment of the sector

Simplified rules and decentralised management will devolve power to the industry. Prescriptive top-down decisions will be replaced by results-based management, and industry will be able to choose how to best achieve the agreed outcomes. Producer organisations will play a greater role in collective management, monitoring and control. Better marketing of EU fisheries and aquaculture products will help to reduce waste and provide market feedback to producers.

## Better informed consumers

New marketing standards on labelling, quality and traceability will give consumers clearer information and help them support sustainable fisheries. Certain labelling information will be compulsory, for example to differentiate fisheries and aquaculture products. Other claims may be supplied on a voluntary basis.

## A modern and adapted financial instrument

EU financial assistance will be granted to support the sustainability objectives of the new CFP. It will focus on greening, innovation, coastal development, science and research. Fleet subsidies that maintain unsustainable structures will be discontinued. There will be no public money for those who do not comply with the rules: Member States may see payments interrupted or suspended, while operators may be subject to temporary or permanent bans on future subsidies, if they violate sustainability principles.

## Taking international responsibility

In international and regional organisations, the EU will step up its role of honest broker for sustainability and conservation of fish stocks and marine biodiversity. It will establish strong alliances and undertake actions with key partners to combat illegal fishing and reduce overcapacity. In bilateral fishing agreements with non-EU countries, the EU will promote sustainability, good governance and the principles of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

## EC proposal at a glance

- Take action against over-fishing and in favour of the sustainable management of fish.
- Ensure productivity of fish stocks to maximise long-term yield.
- Multi-annual plans governed by ecosystem approach.
- Simplified rules and decentralised management.
- System of transferable fishing quotas.
- Measures beneficial to small-scale fisheries.
- Ban on discards.
- New marketing standards and clearer labelling.
- Better framework for aquaculture.
- EU financial assistance to support sustainability objectives.
- Up-to-date information on state of marine resources.
- International responsibility.