

# Glossary: Common fisheries policy (CFP)

Statistics Explained

The **Common fisheries policy**, abbreviated as **CFP**, is the [European Union \(EU\)](#) policy for managing the fisheries in the waters of Member States. Its objectives are:

- increasing productivity;
- stabilizing markets;
- ensuring security of supply and reasonable prices to the consumer.

Although a common fisheries policy was already provided for in the [Treaty of Rome](#) in 1957, it did not become a common policy in the full sense of the term until 1983. The CFP has the same legal basis (Articles 32-38 of the [EC Treaty](#)) as the [Common agricultural policy](#) and shares the same aims mentioned above. Like the CAP, the CFP is a shared responsibility of the European Union and its Member States.

Successive reforms have added new aims to the initial goals of the CFP:

- [sustainable](#) exploitation of resources;
- protection of the environment;
- safeguards for a high level of human health protection;
- contributing to economic and social cohesion.

Protection of fish stocks and the marine environment especially is a key issue, given the threat posed by resource depletion.

## Related concepts

- [Common agricultural policy](#)
- [Fishing area](#)
- [Fishing fleet](#)

## Statistical data

- [Fisheries - catches and landings](#)

## Source

- [Europa glossary](#)