

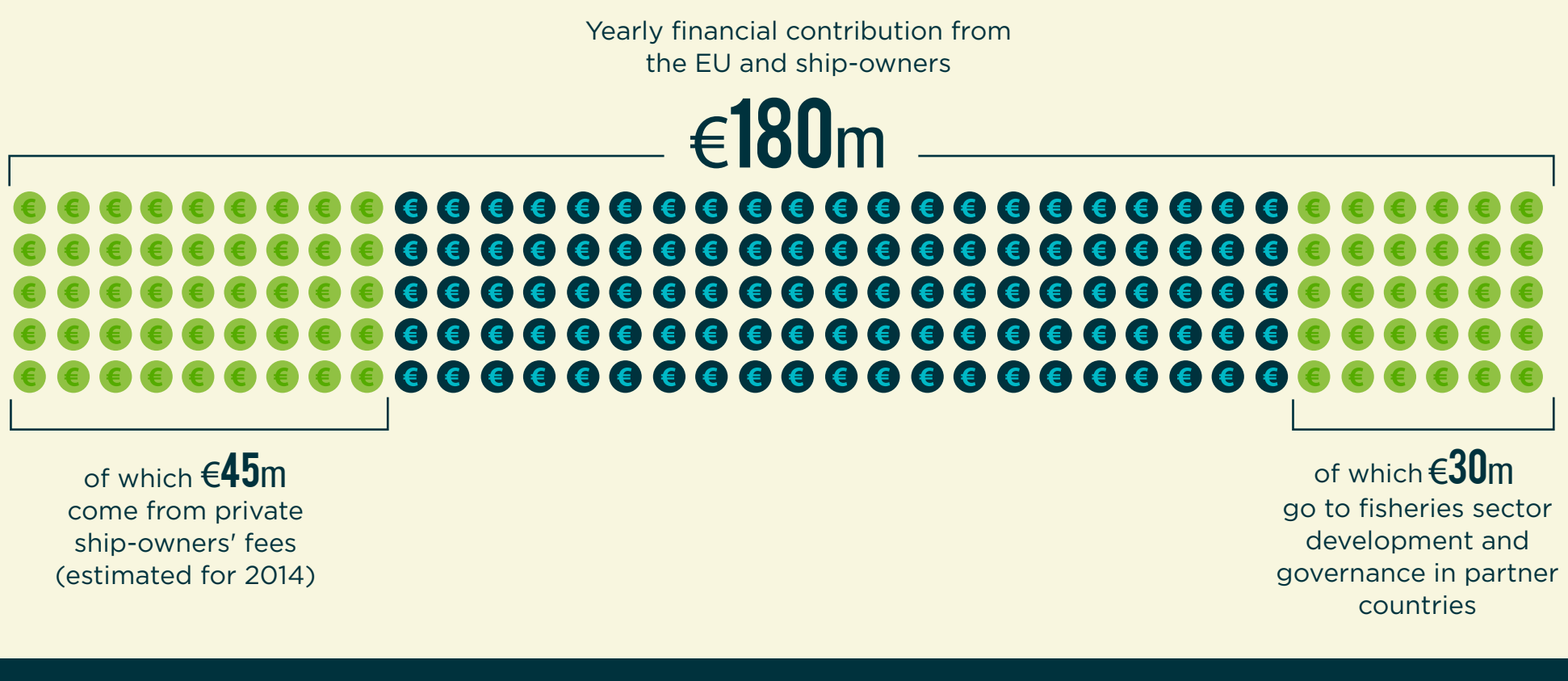
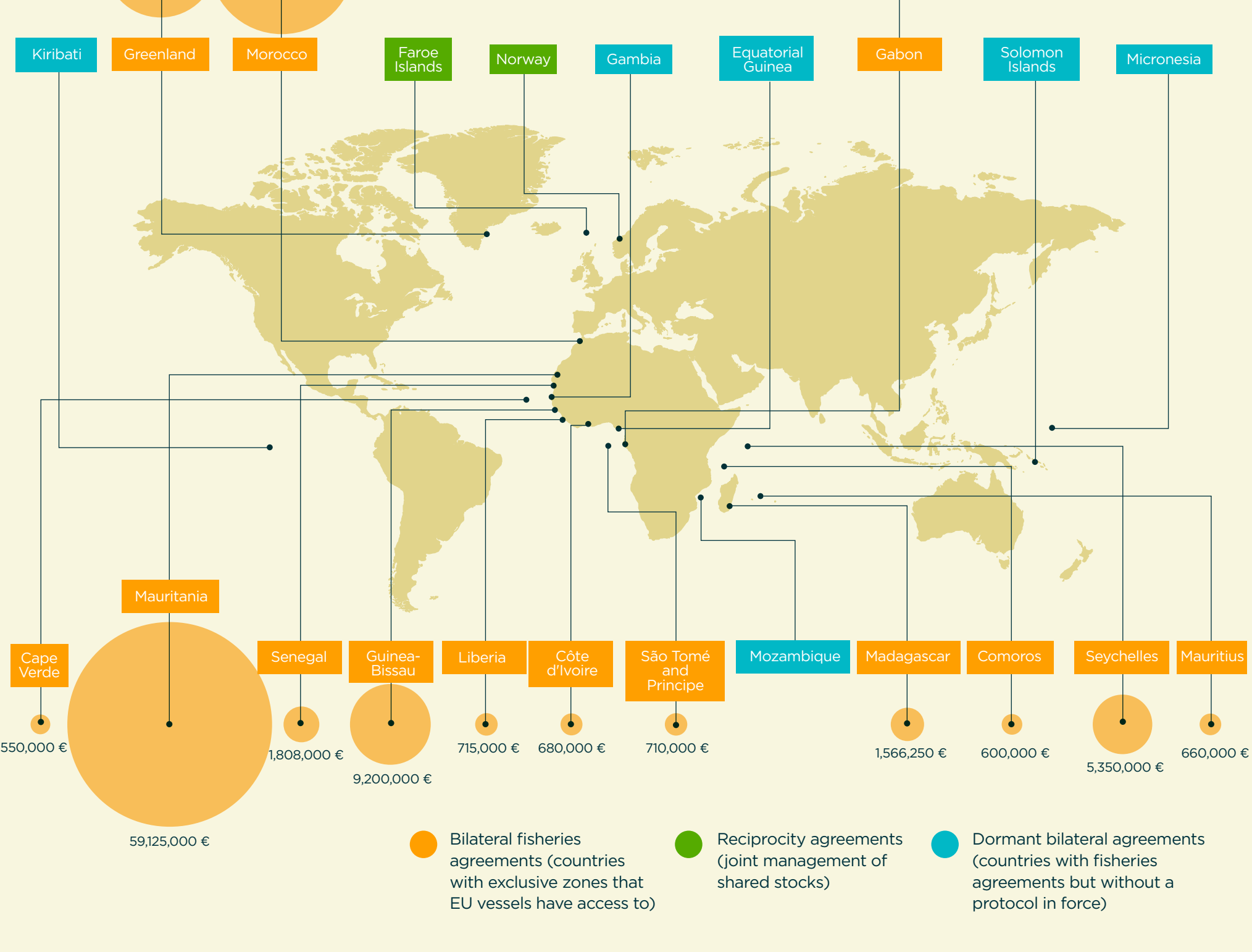


# EU SFPAs:

## Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements

ENHANCE FISHERIES GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE EXPLOITATION, FISH SUPPLY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR

### Fisheries agreements – the partner countries to the EU



### SFPAs GUARANTEE THE RESPECT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMON FISHERIES POLICY'S KEY PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

**Sustainable**

Based on **best available science and ecosystem-based management**, protecting endangered species, banning discards and targeting surplus only.

**Beneficial**

Following **fair and bilateral negotiations** in line with both partner's requirements and contributing to **inclusive development** in partner countries.

**Coherent**

Ensuring coherence between different EU policies as regards **natural resources, sustainable development and regional employment**, which increases the overall effectiveness of EU initiatives in developing countries.

**Transparent**

Negotiations are carried out by the European Commission by consulting all main stakeholders. Information about each SFPa, their **protocols, budgets and evaluations, are publicly available** on the website of the European Commission.

### SFPAs ARE A TOOL FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENT MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES

The agreements are evaluated periodically

**Partner country officer:** "I work for my country. I want our resources to be exploited profitably, according to our priorities, and to support local development."

**EU officer:** "We are fully committed to sustainable and inclusive management of fisheries, everywhere, and SFPAs and EU policy are a leading example in cooperation and good governance."

**Fisheries inspector:** "Enforcing sustainable fisheries policies is very challenging; advanced technology, collaboration and commitment are fundamental."

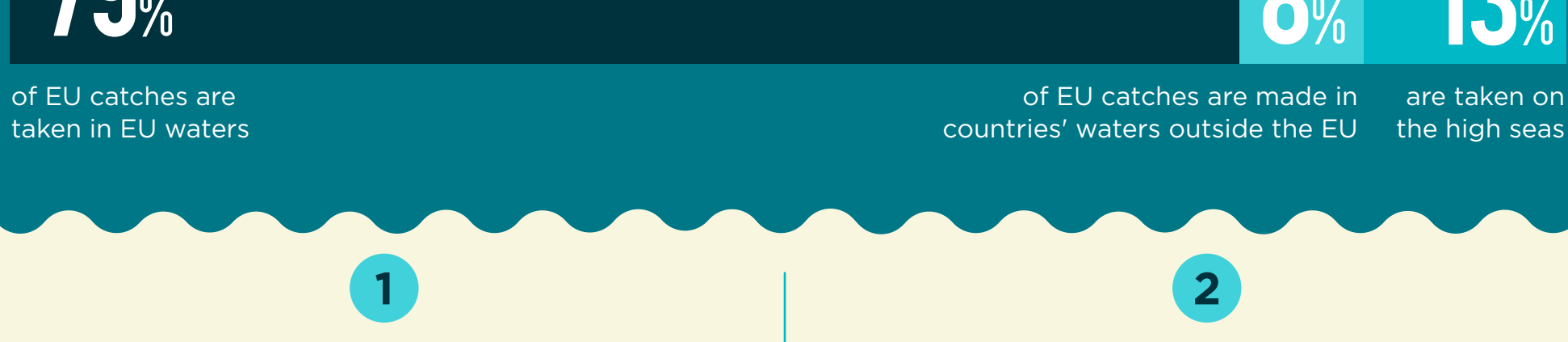
**Partner country fisherman:** "We depend on fish, so we don't want industrial vessels to fish in the same grounds. We need this to be clearly organised."

**NGO:** "So many people depend on fish ... for food security, jobs and development. I want to support local people and properly manage these resources: fairly and sustainably, for the benefit of all."

**Local seafood processor:** "This is a very important source of jobs. I don't want fish to be processed elsewhere. I want more opportunities here."

### EU SFPAs: MULTIPLE ACTORS, MULTIPLE BENEFITS

### SFPAs give access to the surplus fish resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone of partner countries



#### 1 SFPAs are closely linked to the EU external policies and are coherent with the EU action towards the rest of the world:

- Transparency:** SFPAs constitute a benchmark of transparent management of international fishing policies. Transparency and accountability are equally important concepts in the negotiation. To ensure full transparency, the SFPAs concluded by the EU are made public and scrutinised by public institutions and civil society.
- Policy compliance to international commitments:** The European Commission plays an active role at international level, both in a multilateral context and bilaterally. The external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy is consistent with other EU policies, such as trade, development, environment and general political relations with third countries. By doing so, it also contributes to food safety and the implementation of human rights.

#### 2 The new economic aspects of SFPAs build on top of commercial relationships towards close partnerships:

- Sustainable partnership between the EU and its partner countries:** In 2004, the European Council paved the way to a new generation of agreements. SFPAs have since been negotiated with partner countries, contributing to their social and economic development, in particular of their fishing and fish processing sectors.
- Joint resources management at regional level:** Based on joint scientific committees or Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) recommendations, SFPAs ensure continuous monitoring of the state of stocks and enhance the role of Regional Fisheries bodies. Therefore, fleet access is negotiated to ensure that stocks are exploited in a sustainable manner, taking into account the precautionary and the MSY (Maximum Sustainable Yield) approaches and favouring access priority of domestic fleets.

#### Learn more:

**DG MARE website and SM**  
[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/international/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/international/index_en.htm)  
 @EU\_MARE  
 facebook: Inseparable

#### Other external references:

**UNCLOS:** [http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention\\_agreements/convention\\_overview\\_convention.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_convention.htm)  
**UN Food and Agriculture Organisation FAO:** <http://www.fao.org/fisheries/en/>  
**DG International Cooperation and Development:** [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/home\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/home_en)  
**DG Health and Food Safety:** [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health\\_food-safety/](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/)

**European External Action Service EEAS:** [http://eeas.europa.eu/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/index_en.htm)  
**European Fisheries Control Agency EFCA:** <http://efca.europa.eu/>  
**Video on EU fisheries support:** <https://europa.eu/eyd2015/en/european-union/posts/vi-deo-eu-helps-developing-countries-ensure-sustainable-fisheries-and-food>