The new Common Fisheries Policy: sustainability in depth

**What?**

- **MSY**
  Maximum Sustainable Yield is the best possible objective for renewable and profitable fisheries, harvesting the maximum amount of fish on a long term basis.

- **Regionalisation**
  Natural resources and the socioeconomic fabric vary greatly from one place to another. A balanced representation of local stakeholders knows best how to apply EU rules in their respective areas.

- **Fisheries science**
  Scientific advice is the basis for good policy making, setting fishing opportunities according to the state and productivity of fish stocks.

- **Multiannual plans**
  Contain the goals and tools for fish stock management and the roadmap to achieving the objectives in a sustainable and inclusive way.

**How?**

- **Rules**
  Because fishing is an activity that exploits common natural resources, it needs to be regulated to safeguard fair access, sustainability and profitability for all.

  - Total Allowable Catches
  - Fishing licenses
  - Boat capacity management
  - Reducing environmental impact
  - Minimum fish and mesh sizes
  - Design and use of gears
  - Closed areas or seasons

- **Discards**
  The landing obligation (to be gradually introduced from 2015 to 2019), prohibits this wasteful practice and will provide more accurate data on real catches, and will be a driver for more selectivity and better planning.

- **Targeted funding**
  For low impact, small scale local fleets: important for employment, marine stewardship and holding together the coastal communities.

- **Aquaculture**
  With wild fish no longer able to supply the world population, sustainable aquaculture is called to meet the growing demand for seafood.

- **Control**
  Good management relies on awareness, compliance and enforcement. Sufficient and reliable data must be collected, managed and supplied by Member States.

© European Union, 2015