



*EAPO*  
*The European Association of*  
*Fish Producers Organisations*

**Roundtable discussion**  
**Exploring the inclusion of marine recreational fisheries in the Common**  
**Fisheries Policy: Opportunities and challenges**

**23 March 2022**

*EAPO-President Esben Sverdrup-Jensen*

# EAPO: who are we?



- ▶ The European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO)
- ▶ Founded in 1980
- ▶ A European representative body for the fisheries sector
- ▶ Membership: fish producers organisations recognized by EU-member states (POs)
- ▶ Currently represents 27 POs
  - *9 EU Member States*
  - *approximately 10,000 vessels*
  - *3.5 million tonnes of landings*
  - *€ 3 billion first sale value*



# CFP – Reform? Revision? Report?



## WHAT DOES THE FISHING INDUSTRY NEED FROM THE CFP?

### Science based management in the long term

- Predictability, sustainability and profitability

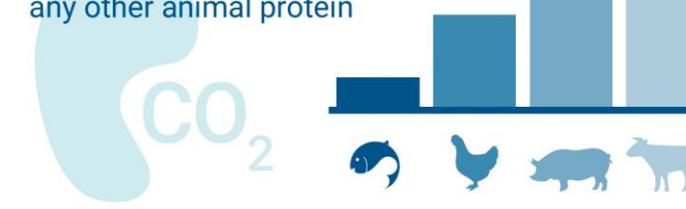
### Transparency

- Rules that can be understood and that can be followed

### Coherent legislation and management of the ocean

- CFP objectives must be on top of the legislative hierarchy

Wild-caught fish in general and in particular pelagic fish such as herring and mackerel have **the lowest CO<sub>2</sub> footprint** compared any other animal protein



# CFP – Recreational fisheries?

## Recreational fisheries

Marine recreational fishing is a growing sector that supports hundreds of thousands of jobs, in particular in rural and remote areas, and has positive benefits to physical and mental well-being. Recreational fishing can though have a significant impact on fish resources, especially where species are under conservation measures.

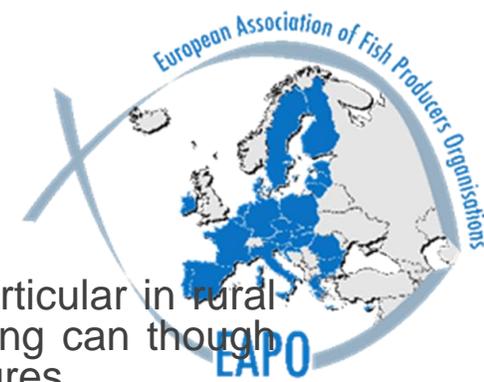
EAPO agrees that the management of these fisheries should be compatible with the objectives of the CFP and that recreational fishing should, as an important part of the catching sector, be part of the CFP.

EAPO suggests that recreational fishing be covered by and managed by common EU policy, and that common regulation be introduced for selected stocks where a significant portion of the catches is taken by recreational fishermen.

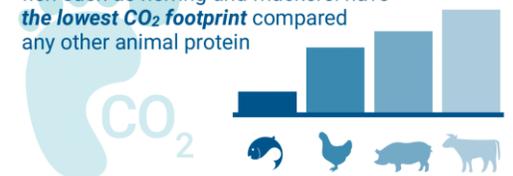
EAPO believes it important to clearly define within the CFP the different recreational fishing sectors e.g., charter boats, marine recreational angling, marine recreational net-fishers (nets, pots, traps, etc.) and other users. This will give fisheries managers and member states the ability to address control and regulation to the correct sector within marine recreational fishing.

Data on recreational catches and the economy surrounding them is limited. In order to secure trustworthy information on recreational fisheries datacollection should be uniform and at EU level as an integrated part of the Data Collection Framework (DCF). In that regard EMFAF funding should be available for activities relation to recreational fisheries.

- **Recreational fishing should be part of the CFP**
- **Recreational fishing sectors shall be clearly defined within the CFP**
- **EMFAF funding should be made available for certain aspects of recreational fishing**



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# CFP – Recreational fisheries?



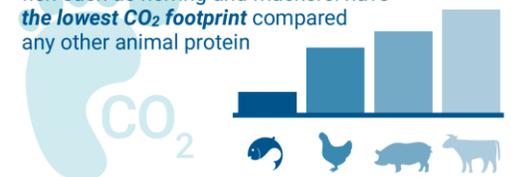
## General questions

Is the current CFP a relevant framework for fisheries management?  
YES and NO. The overall objectives are “sound”, but the detailed legislation is an unworkable and contradictory jungle, that does not allow for green transition in the fleets and for adaptation to the effects of climate change

Do we need a CFP reform?

YES - we cannot afford not to. Why settle for a “report on the CFP” when we already know what is wrong and how to fix it?  
“Time does not fix broken legislation”

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*Q&A*



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