

Public Meeting, Oostende, Belgium  
28 November 2013



Activity 2

# Fishing Places and Community

Dr Julie Urquhart & Dr Tim Acott  
School of Science, University of Greenwich



# Aim



- \* To capture the socio-cultural importance and diversity that exists in different fishing places for the purpose of understanding community and place identity for policy development.

# Why?

- \* There is a lack of understanding of the socio-cultural impacts of fishing and how this can feed into policy making.
- \* Recognition that policies that include social objectives are more likely to succeed in restoring fish stocks & a sustainable fishing sector.

*“fishing is the glue that holds  
the community together”*

- Brookfield et al 2005

# Sub-activities

- \* Community and place identity
- \* Women and social cohesion in coastal communities
- \* Fishing activity past and present
- \* Cultural heritage, tradition and new economic support

# Community and place identity



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- \* 'Sensing Fishing Places' survey
- \* Community photographic exhibitions and photo project
- \* PhD research: Sense of place, identity and tourism in fishing communities

# Sensing Fishing Places Survey

- \* Aim: to find out how fishing influences the way people feel about where they live.
- \* Fishing stakeholders (e.g. fishers, processors, fish mongers, administrators etc.)
- \* Non-fishing stakeholders (e.g. tourism providers, heritage providers etc.)
- \* Residents in fishing towns/places.

# ‘Sensing Fishing Places’ Survey

- \* Measuring sense of place dimensions
  - \* Place attachment – e.g. “I feel very strongly that I belong here”
  - \* Place identity – e.g. “This area is in my blood, it is really a part of me”
  - \* Place dependence – e.g. “This is the best place for doing things that I enjoy most”

# ‘Sensing Fishing Places’ Survey

- \* Attitudes to and perceptions of fishing, including the future of fishing
- \* Fish and seafood consumption
- \* Perceptions of fishing’s contribution to tourism
- \* Values of cultural heritage of fishing
- \* Contribution of fishing to community and social life
- \* Socio-demographic variables



# Approach

## England:

- 1 Wells next the sea
- 2 Aldeburgh
- 3 Whitstable
- 4 Hastings
- 5 Selsey
- 6 Poole
- 7 Brixham
- 8 Looe
- 9 Newlyn
- 10 Port Isaac

## France:

- 1 Guilvinec
- 2 Audierne
- 3 Paimpol
- 4 Saint Malo
- 5 Granville
- 6 Saint Vaast
- 7 Port en Bessin
- 8 Fecamp
- 9 Dieppe
- 10 Boulogne

## Belgium:

- 1 Nieuwpoort
- 2 Oostende
- 3 Zeebrugge
- 4 Heist

## Netherlands:

- 1 Breskens
- 2 Arnemuiden



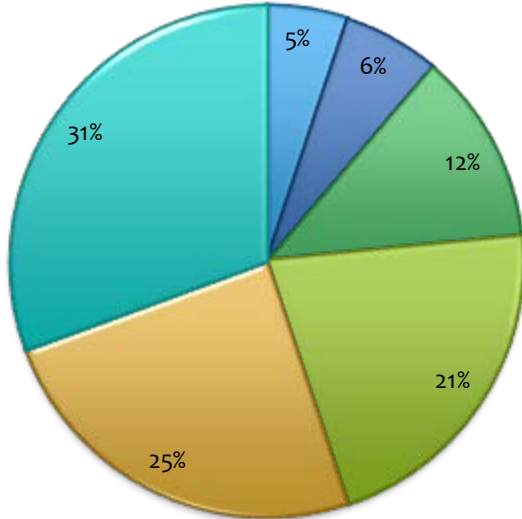
# Progress to date

	Postal (No. sent)	Postal (response to date)	Online/ Other	Total (to date)
England	2000	455	285	740
France	2000	272	13	285
Belgium	800	361	46	407
Netherlands	600	444	0	444
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>1876</b>

# England Dataset (n=716)

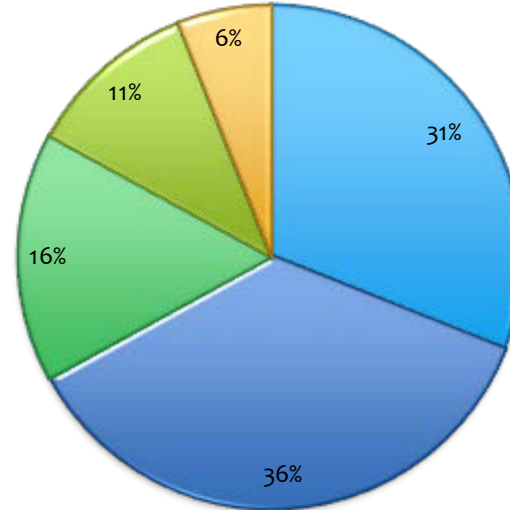
## Age Range

18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 66+



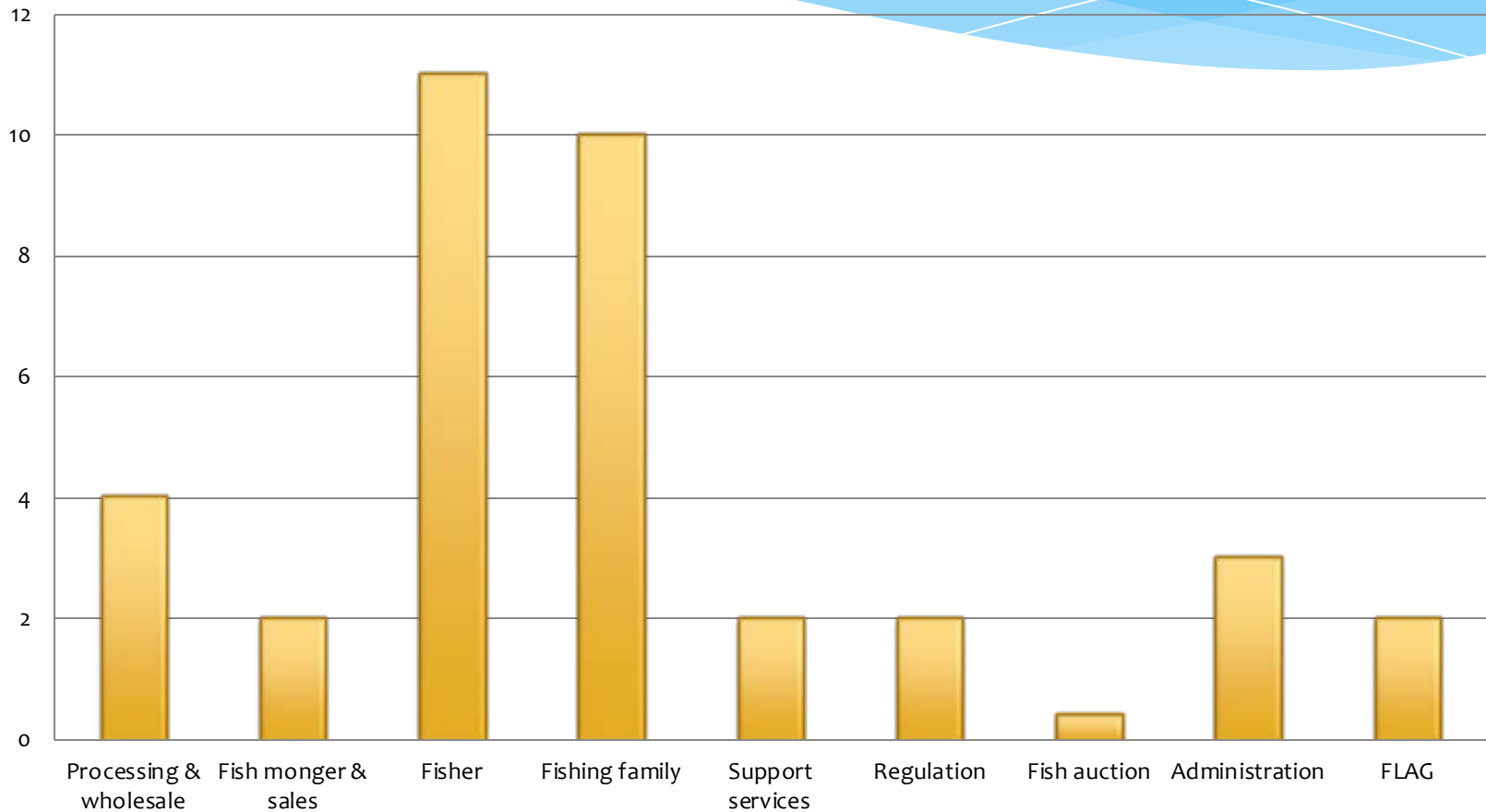
## Length of Residence

Always Over 20 years 10-20 years 5-9 years Less than 5 years



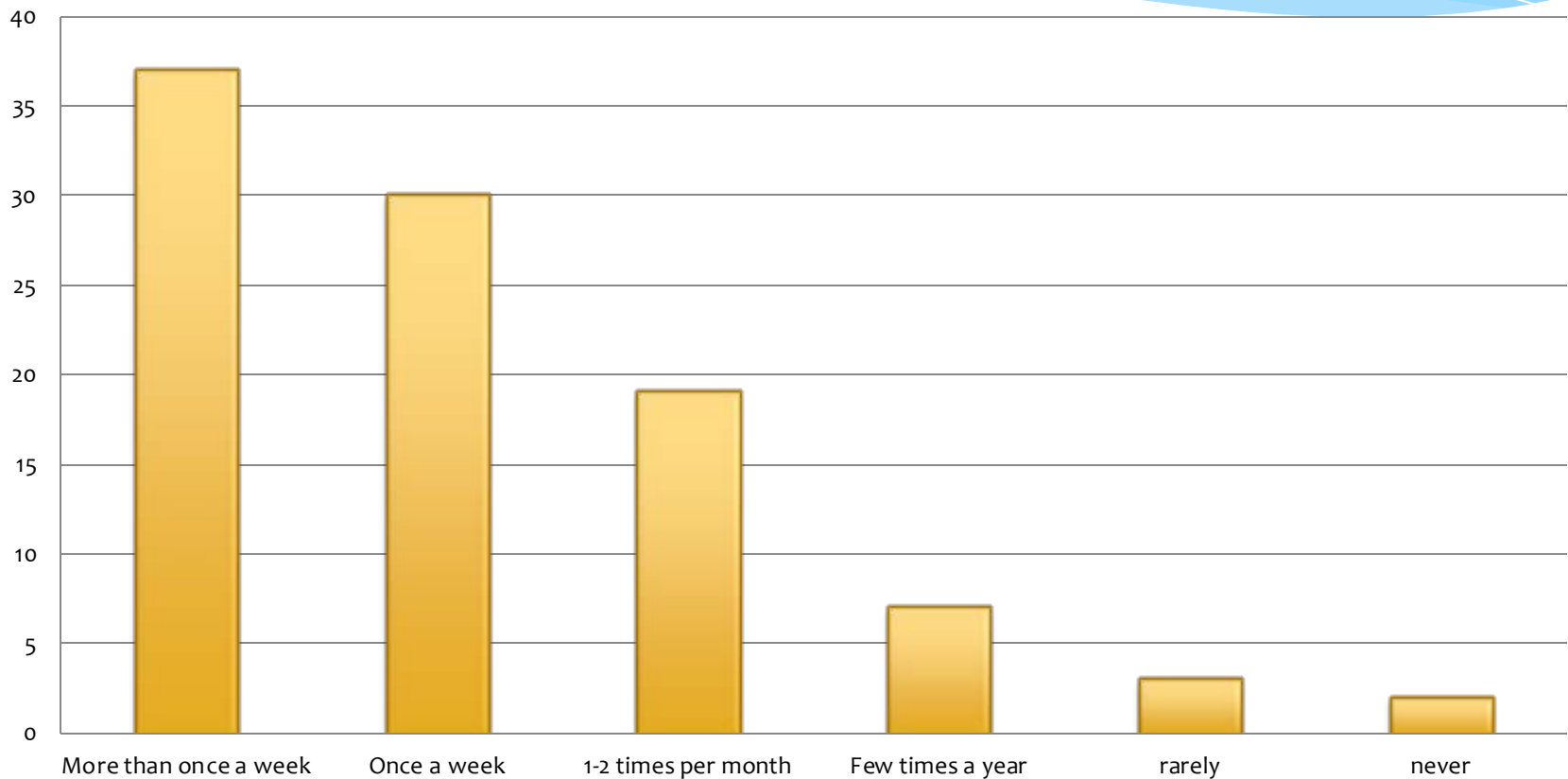
# 24% of respondents indicated they are directly involved with fishing

**% of respondents directly involved with fishing**



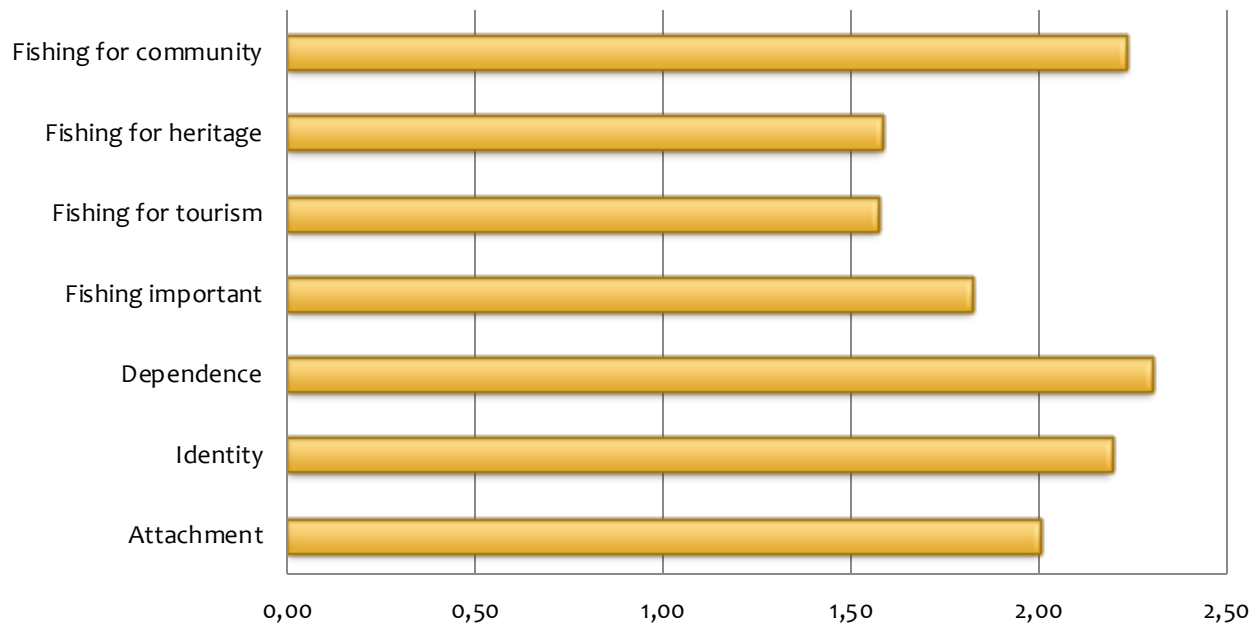
97% indicated that they eat fish or seafood. 86% said they would be willing to try a different species of fish or seafood that they had not tried before.

**% of respondents who eat fish/seafood**



# Place & Attitude Variables

Mean scores for aggregated variables



Responses range from 1-5 with 1 = strongly agree, 2 = agree, 3 = no opinion, 4 = disagree, 5 = strongly disagree

# Profiling – initial observations

- \* Higher place attachments for respondents:
  - \* living in Cornwall, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk
  - \* aged 46-55 or 65+
  - \* no educational qualifications, GCSE or equivalent or further education qualification
  - \* who are retired
  - \* who have always lived here

# Outputs from survey

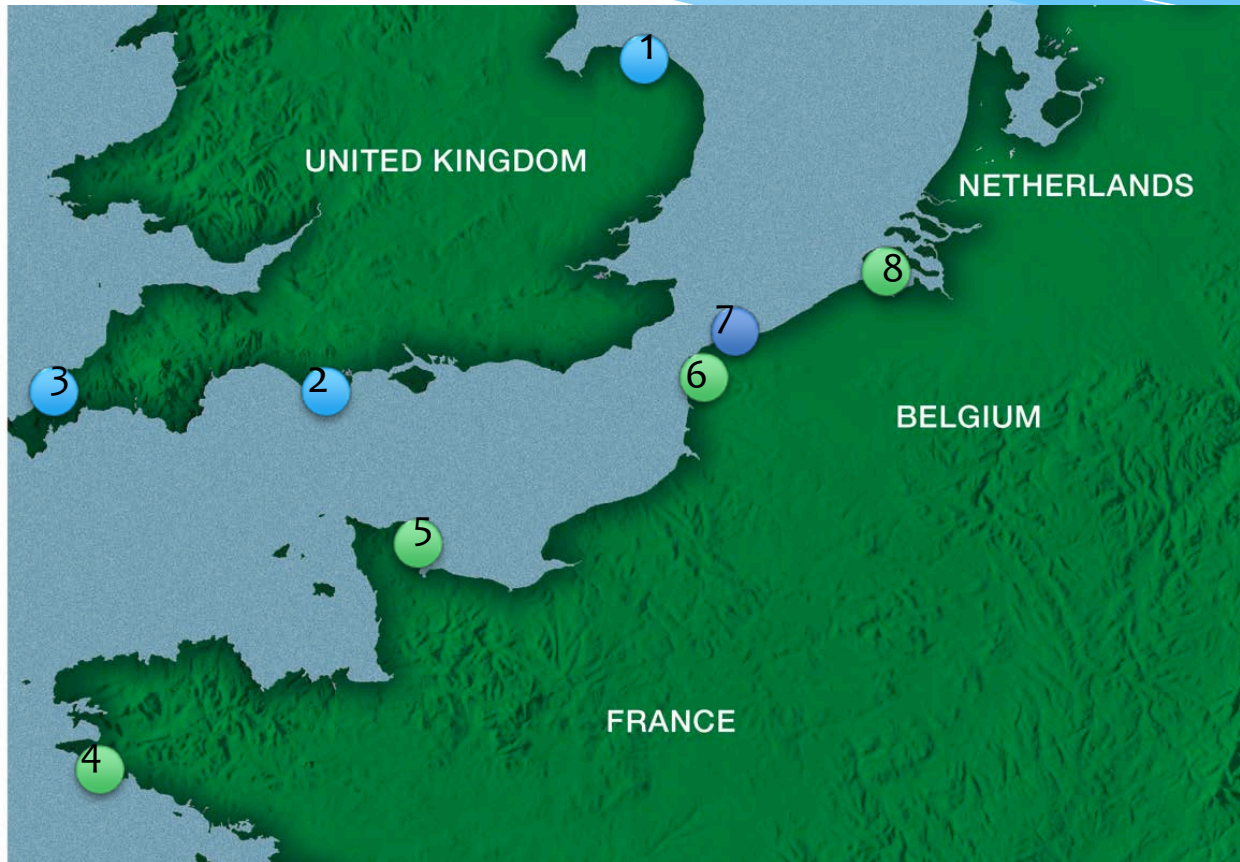
- \* Comparing sense of place across the study area
- \* Understanding the perceptions of different stakeholders
- \* Typology of fishing places with respect to cultural value of fishing



# 'People, Place and Fish' Photo Project

- \* To use photographic exhibitions to explore through photographic media the contribution of marine fishing to the socio-cultural life of fishing places.
  - \* Community-elicited photographs
  - \* Researcher-elicited photographs
  - \* Professional 'photo journalism' photographs

# Photo journalism



- 1 North Norfolk
- 2 Poole
- 3 Port Isaac
- 4 Le Guilvinec
- 5 Saint Vaast
- 6 Boulogne-sur-mer
- 7 Oostdunkirke
- 8 Oostende
- 9 Breskens

































# Community elicited photography

## PHOTO PROJECT

May-October 2013



### People, Place and Fish Marine Fishing and You



The University of Greenwich is running an exciting photo project called **People, Place and Fish**, that wants to capture, through local photographs, how people view the fishy places where they live, work or play. Through the lens of those living in these communities, we want to create a snapshot of what it is like living in places with marine fishing at the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Whatever your age, background or level of ability we would like you to take part.

We are looking for photographs that capture the essence of what it is like to live and work in coastal towns and villages with an active fishing fleet. We are interested in the way photographs depict the importance of marine fishing to you, rather than an aesthetically beautiful image. You

are invited to accompany each picture with a few lines of text that explain the reason for taking the picture or describe how it illustrates the importance of fishing to you.

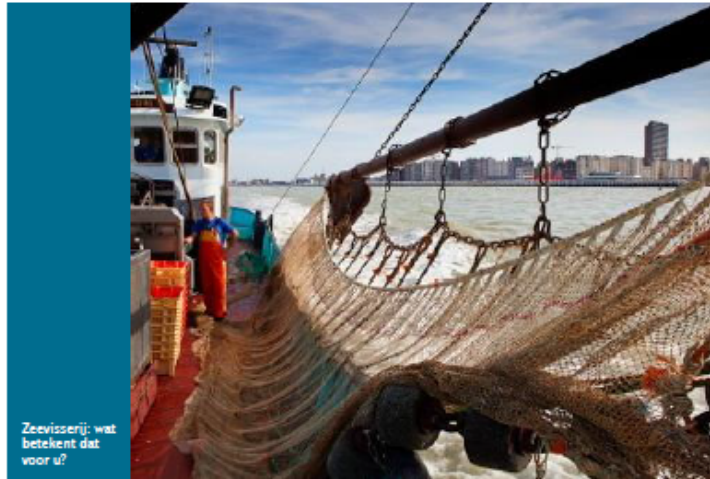
We are interested in photographs that:

- Show how marine fishing influences the character of fishing places
- Show how marine fishing might be important to you personally

Selected photographs will form part of a web-based archive depicting the character of fishing places in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and some will be chosen to be displayed in public exhibitions in Looe, Wells-next-the-sea and Whitstable over the summer 2013.

## FOTOPROJECT

mei-oktober 2013



Zeevisserij: wat betekent dat voor u?

Foto: Vince Brown 2012

### Mensen, visserij en de zee De zeevisserij en u



Aan de universiteit van Greenwich loopt momenteel een spannend fotoproject genaamd **Mensen, visserij en de zee**. De bedoeling van dit project is door middel van foto's vast te leggen welk beeld mensen hebben van de visserijplaats waar ze wonen, werken of spelen. Via de camera's van bewoners willen we laten zien hoe het is om te wonen in een zeevisserijplaats aan het begin van de 21<sup>e</sup> eeuw. We willen graag dat u deelneemt ongeacht uw leeftijd, achtergrond of vaardigheden op visserijgebied.

We zoeken foto's die de essentie vastleggen van het wonen en werken in kuststeden en -dorpen met een actieve vissersvloot. Het gaat ons niet zozeer om mooie plaatjes, maar om de manier waarop de foto's uitbeelden wat de zeevisserij

voor u betekent. We vragen u bij elke foto waarom u deze gemaakt heeft en/of waarom dit beeld het belang van de visserij voor u illustreert.

We zijn geïnteresseerd in foto's die:

- laten zien hoe zeevisserij het karakter van vissersplaatsen beïnvloedt
- laten zien hoe zeevisserij voor u persoonlijk van belang zou kunnen zijn

De geselecteerde foto's worden opgenomen in een digitaal archief waarin het karakter van vissersplaatsen in de 21<sup>e</sup> eeuw wordt afgebeeld. Een aantal foto's zullen worden getoond op een openbare tentoonstelling in Oostende in november 2013.



# Photography Exhibitions



- 1 Wells next the sea
- 2 Whitstable
- 3 Looe
- 4 Le Guilvinec
- 5 Saint Vaast
- 6 Oostende

# Landscapes of Fishing Exhibition

Looe, 16-20 June 2013



# Exhibition themes

- \* Themes drawn from cultural ecosystem services elements:
  - \* Cultural identity
  - \* Heritage values
  - \* Spiritual and religious values
  - \* Inspiration
  - \* Aesthetic values
  - \* Social relations
  - \* Recreation and tourism
  - \* Education and knowledge

# PhD research: Sense of place, tourism and inshore fishing in the English Channel and southern North Sea

Michaela Kennard

- \* Aim: To explore the socio-cultural values and inter-relationships of inshore fishing, community identity and tourism using Sense of Place and a Cultural Ecosystems Services Approach.

# Case studies



- 1 Wells-next-the-sea
- 2 Isle of Wight
- 3 Beer
- 4 Looe
- 5 Le Guilvinec
- 6 Oostdunkirke



# Approach

- \* **Photo-elicitation interviews with community members (n=66):** Researcher-photographs were used to focus the interview on 6 'cultural services' (from MEA 2005).
  - \* Cultural identity
  - \* Heritage values
  - \* Spiritual services
  - \* Inspiration
  - \* Aesthetic appreciation
  - \* Recreation & tourism
- \* **Tourism survey (n=451):** Intercept surveys of visitors. Question types:
  - \* Visit information (e.g. where staying, how long for etc.)
  - \* Visitor loyalty (e.g. would they re-visit?)
  - \* Activities
  - \* Attachment to place
  - \* Role of fishing
  - \* Fish/seafood consumption
  - \* Demographics

# Activity 2: women's contribution to social cohesion



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## \* OBJECTIVES:

- \* Investigate women's roles in European fisheries and their contribution to social cohesion
- \* Fill in the gap in knowledge
- \* Contribute to policy making
- \* Promote women's participation in fishing production and development/ regeneration of fishing communities in the EU



# Research Sites

- \* **The Netherlands**

- \* Breskens
- \* Arnhemuiden
- \* Urk

- \* **Belgium**

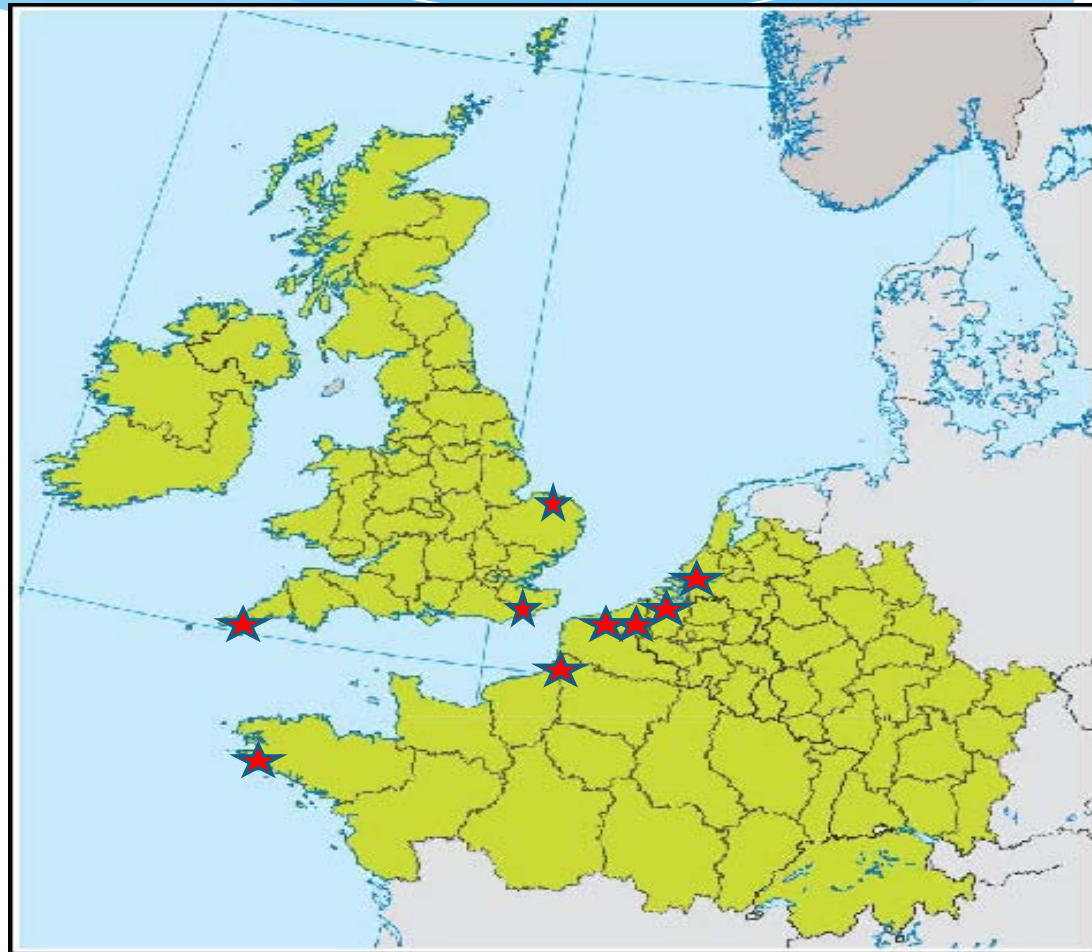
- \* Oostduinkerke-Oostend
- \* Nieuwpoort

- \* **France:**

- \* Brittany

- \* **England :**

- \* Norfolk
- \* Cornwall



# Research Activities: Interviews & Observations

- \* **100 interviews have been conducted (August 2012-November 2013)**
  - \* England, 30
  - \* Belgium, 15
  - \* Netherland, 30
  - \* France, 25
- \* **Interviewees were mostly women, but also included a small number of men**
- \* **Interviewees selected from various sectors of the fisheries including, eg.** fishers/gatherers, wives/partners, traders (retail but also whole sale), processors in small workshops and in large fishing plants, managers and administrators in companies, officials in FLAGs and in Fishermen's Missions, union representatives, members of women's formal organisations and informal networks and so on.

# Preliminary Findings

- \* **Traditional roles continue and its significance**
- \* **Changes and implications**
  - \* Reorganisation of gendered roles in workplace and home
  - \* Women's organisation and networking
  - \* Participation of foreign workers
  - \* Technology and women
  - \* Women, history and cultural heritage
- \* **Challenges and opportunities**



# Changes: women's network and solidarity at grassroots

Fishwives Choir England



Women's Think Thank Holland



# Implications?

- \* More independence for women
- \* Re-negotiation / re-division of roles between men and women in domestic and public spaces
- \* Automation and re-division of labour between men and women in production
- \* Migration of capital and labour (global v local)
- \* Women's network, solidarity, sustainability
- \* Role of technology in social network
- \* Image of fisheries: Homogeneity and *heterogeneity*
- \* ....
- \* .....



# Conclusion?





# the past and present



## Common Fisheries Policy Reform:

- 1) Large-scale fleets: focus on capacity adjustment/economic efficiency
- 2) Small-scale and coastal fleets: focus on social objectives, communities

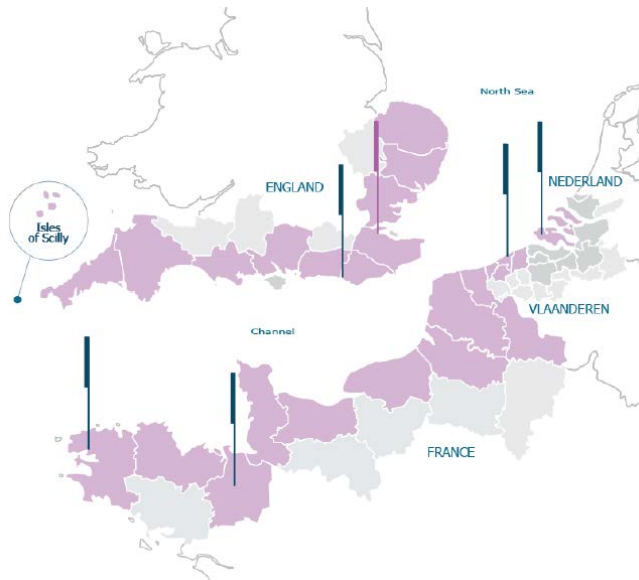
Policy option: different spatial management regimes based on the 12 nautical mile limit

- \* Need to document importance of inshore/small-scale/coastal fisheries past and present
  - What is its importance today?
  - What was its importance in the past?
  - Can this be a potential for the future?

## 2.3 Fishing activity past and present

### Objectives

Provide a longer term perspective on **the current and historical importance of inshore fisheries** to coastal communities in the GIFS area in terms of **volume of landings, economic value and direct employment** and their relative importance in the sector as a whole

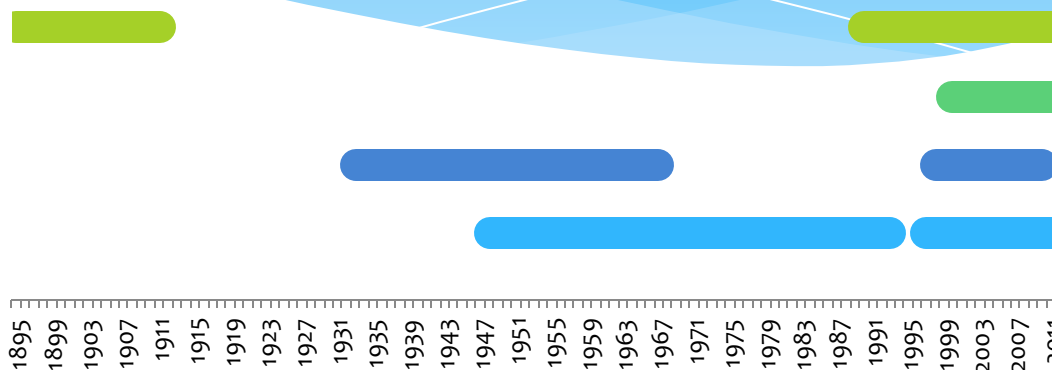


**Inshore Fisheries:**  
the territorial sea (12 nautical miles)  
fishing trips of 24 hours (48 hours)

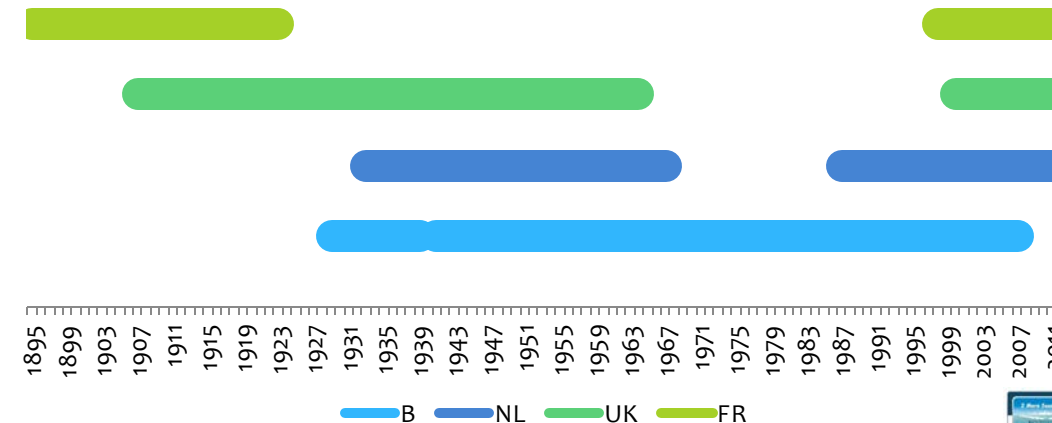
# Metadata-inventory

*When/where/what data available to support GIFS working hypothesis*

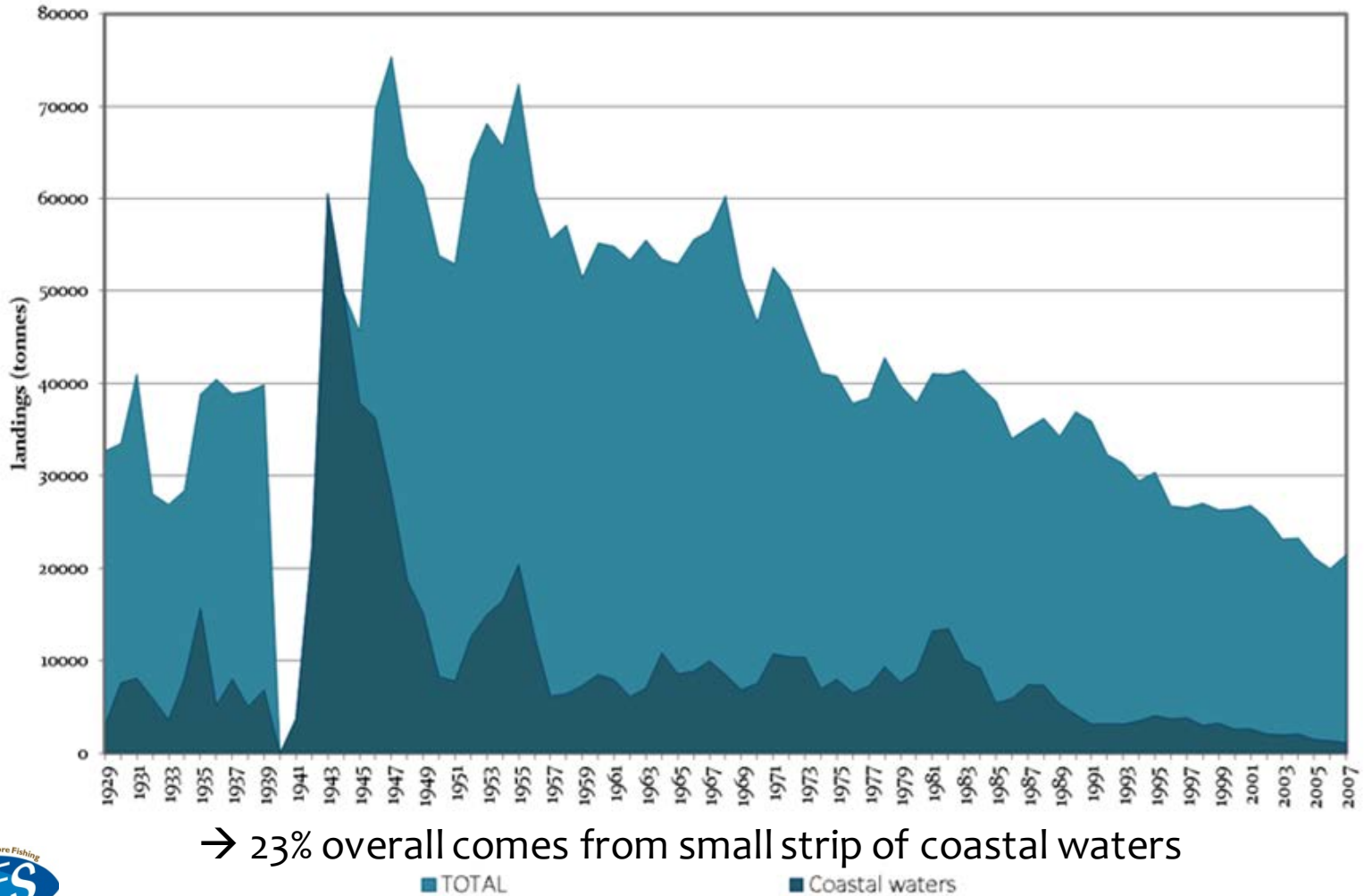
Overview of available historical data on inshore fisheries landings & value of landings



Overview of available historical data on inshore fisheries employment

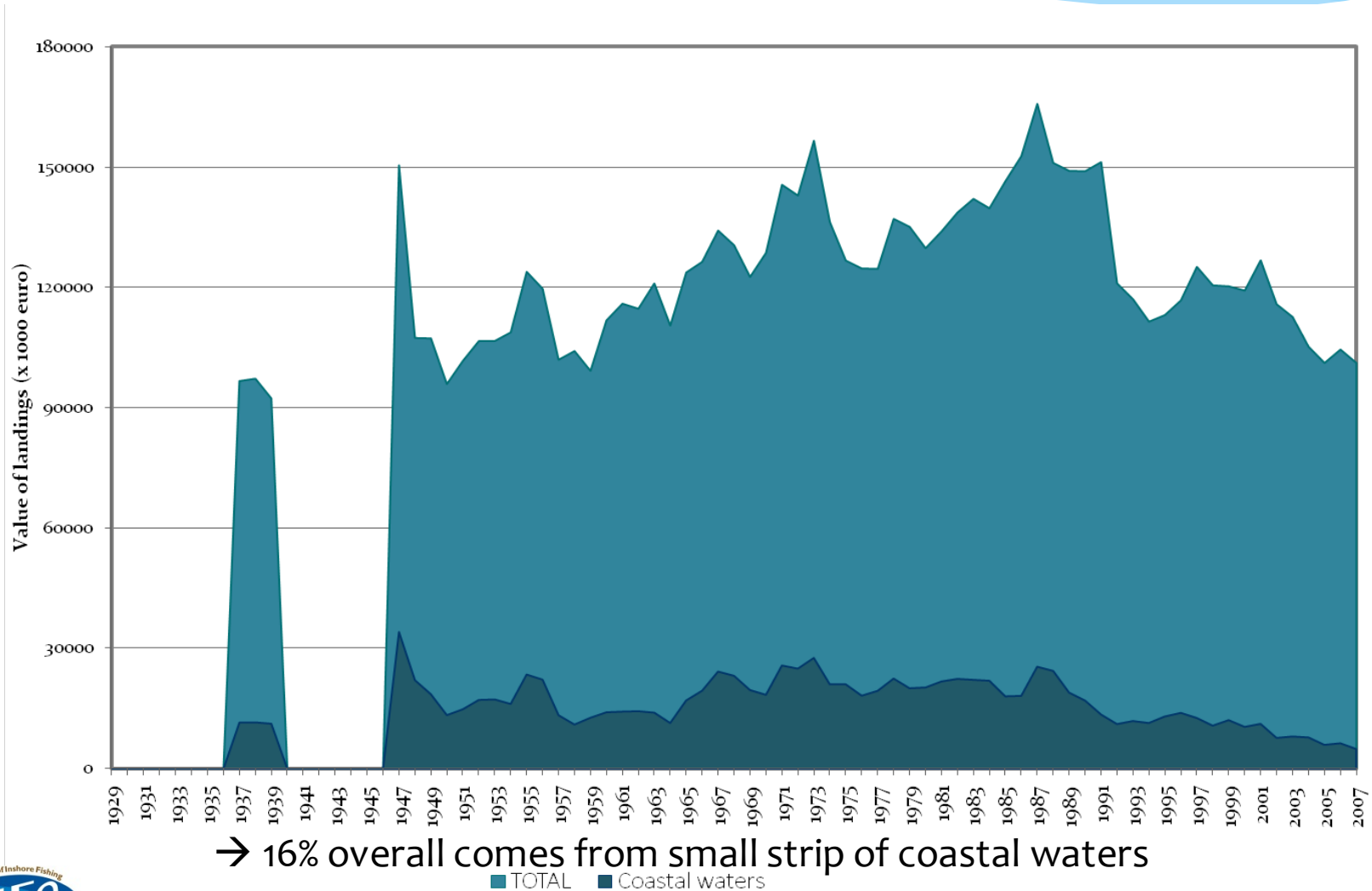


# Inshore fisheries landings



→ 23% overall comes from small strip of coastal waters

# Inshore fisheries value of landings

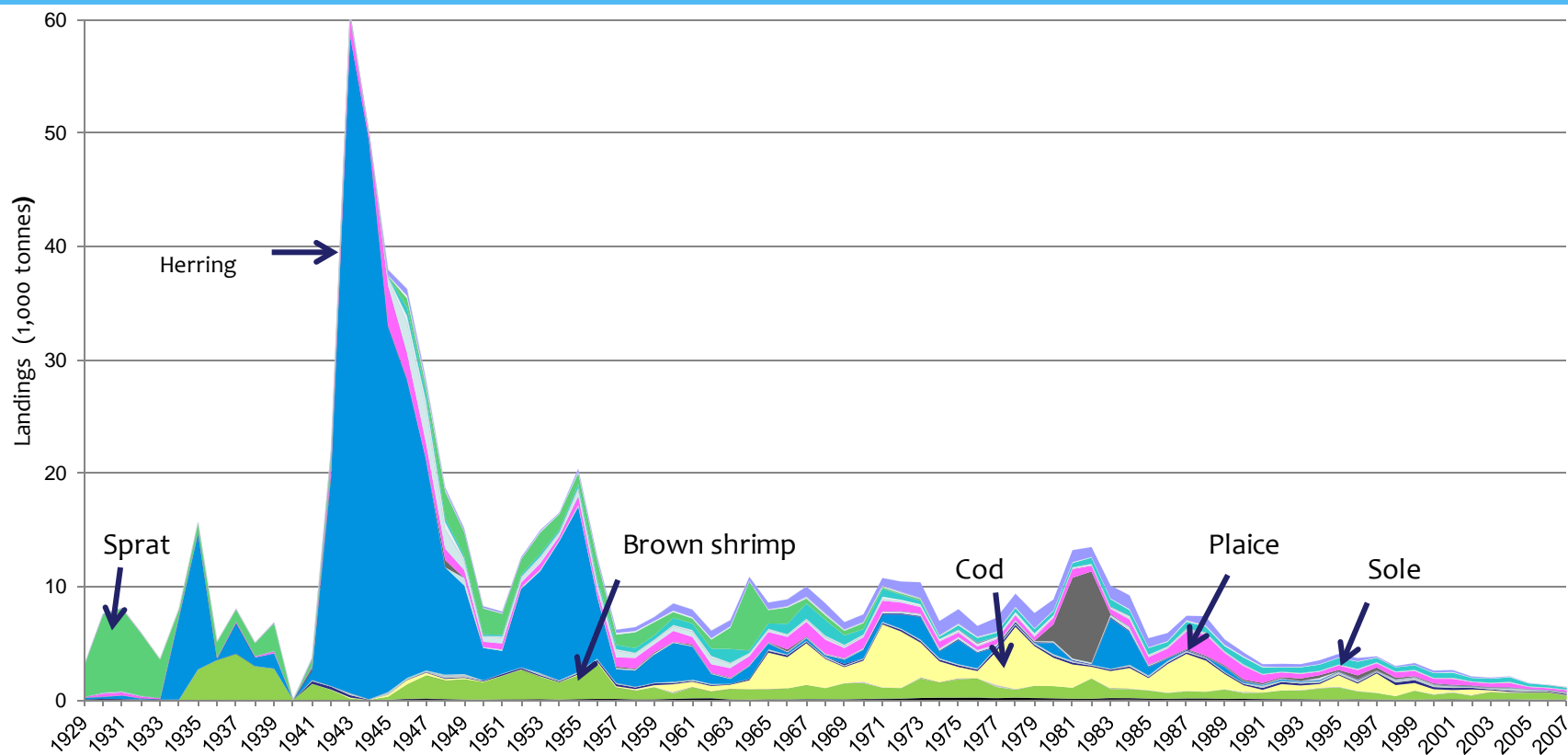


→ 16% overall comes from small strip of coastal waters

■ TOTAL ■ Coastal waters



# Belgium Inshore fisheries landings



- |                |                                    |                    |                      |                   |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| ■ Angler       | ■ Bass                             | ■ Bib              | ■ Blackspot seabream | ■ Brill           |
| ■ Brown shrimp | ■ Brown shrimp (and other species) | ■ Cephalopods      | ■ Coal fish          | ■ Cod             |
| ■ Conger eel   | ■ Cusk                             | ■ Dab              | ■ Edible crab        | ■ Flathead mullet |
| ■ Flounder     | ■ Greater weever                   | ■ Dab              | ■ Haddock            | ■ Hake            |
| ■ Halibut      | ■ Herring                          | ■ Horse mackerel   | ■ John dory          | ■ Lemon sole      |
| ■ Ling         | ■ Lobsters                         | ■ Mackerel         | ■ Megrim             | ■ Miscellaneous   |
| ■ Ocean perch  | ■ Other crustaceans                | ■ Other species    | ■ Plaice             | ■ Pollack         |
| ■ Rays         | ■ Red gumard                       | ■ Red mullet       | ■ Salmon             | ■ Sharks          |
| ■ Shells       | ■ Sole                             | ■ Spawn (fish roe) | ■ Sprat              | ■ Sturgeon        |

# Belgium Inshore fisheries:

catch per unit of effort in demersal inshore fisheries (trawling, non-shrimp)



# Inshore fishers, by age class

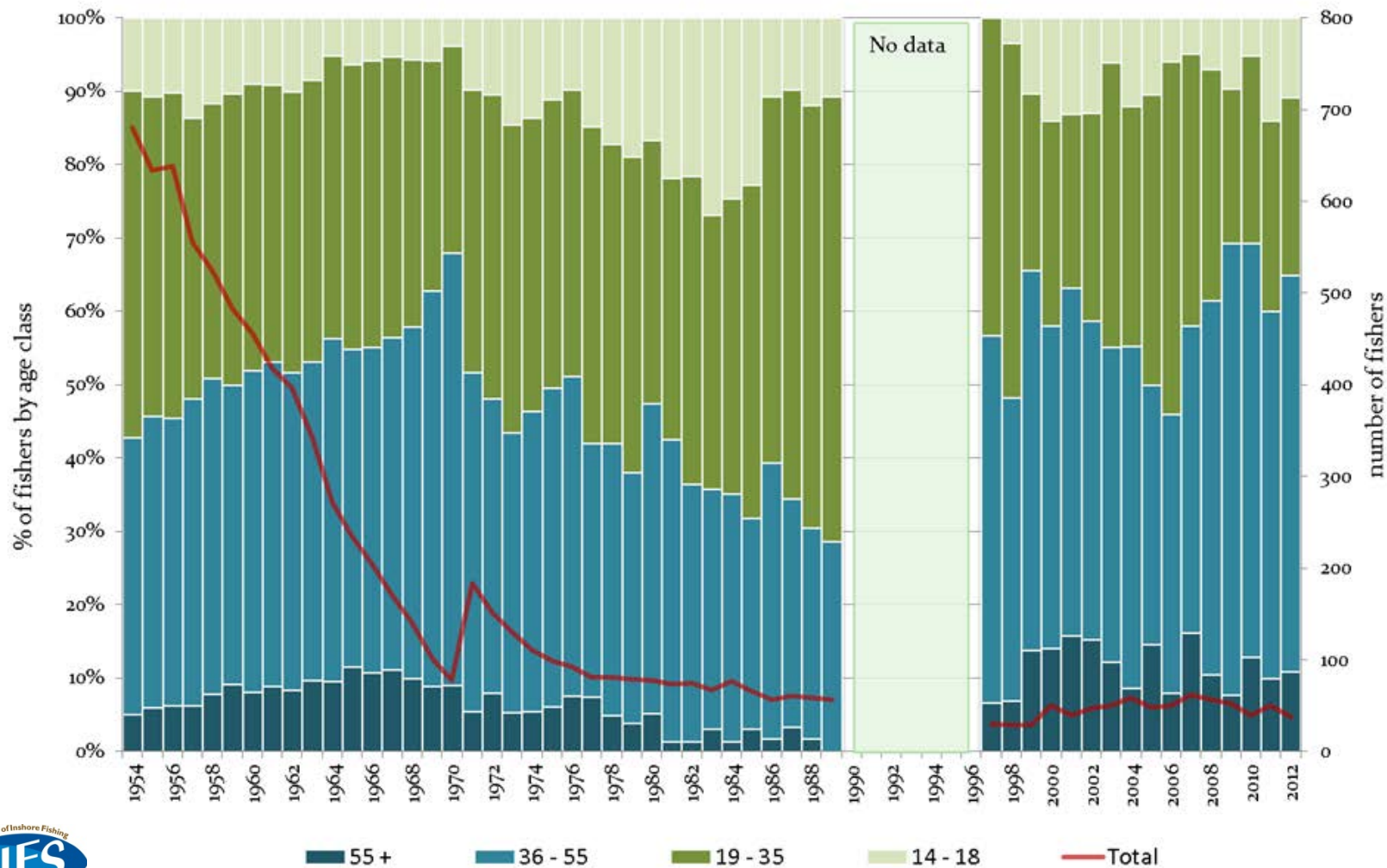


Figure: Direct employment in fisheries in Belgium: absolute number of fishers, and proportion by age class, 1954-2012.

# Case: Belgium fishers, by age class

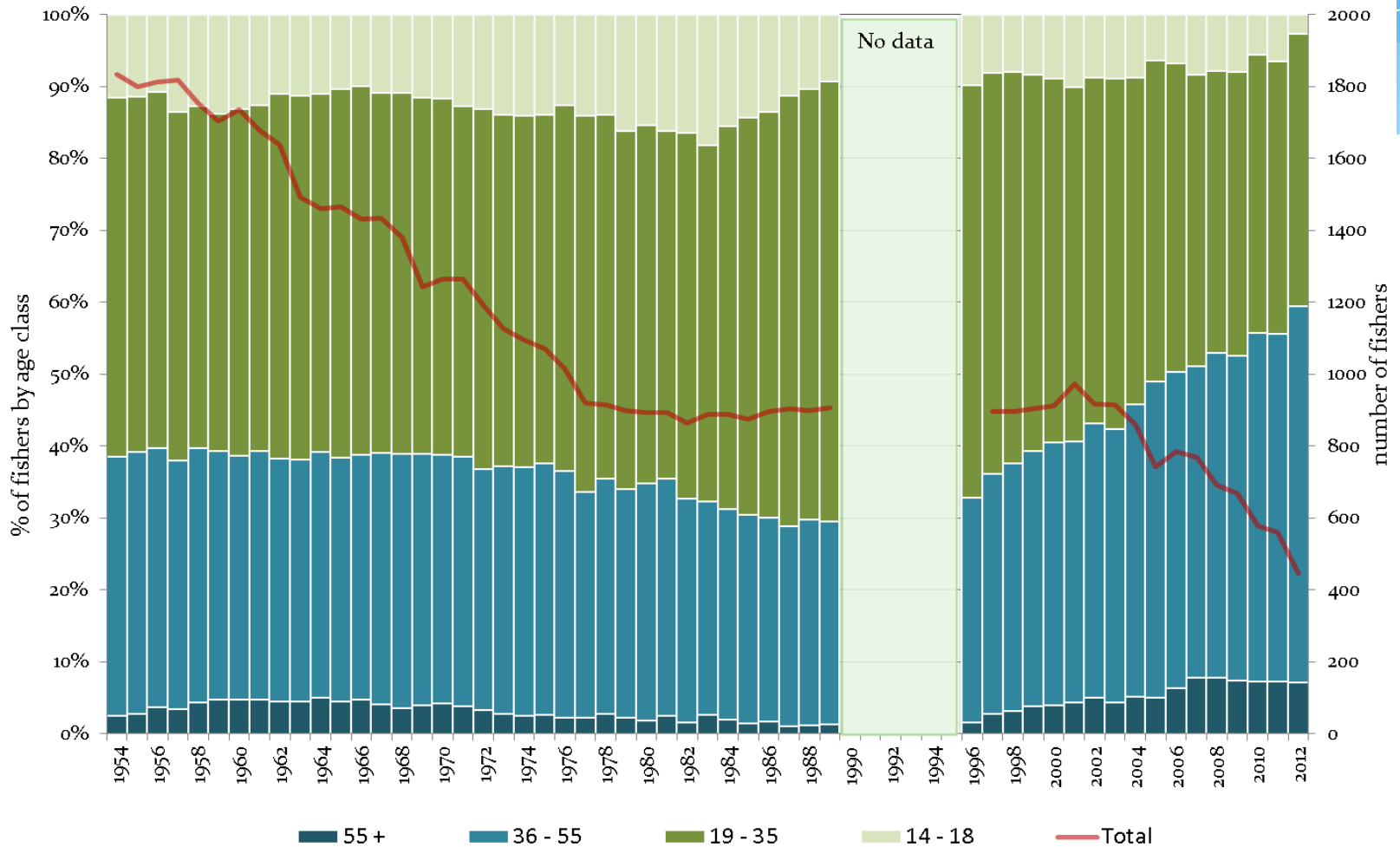


Figure: Direct employment in fisheries in Belgium: absolute number of fishers, and proportion by age class, 1954-2012.



# "Invisible catch: A century of bycatch and unreported removals in sea fisheries, Belgium"

Lescrauwaet, A.-K.; Torreele, E.; Vincx, M.; Polet, H.; Mees, J. (2013). Invisible catch: A century of bycatch and unreported removals in sea fisheries, Belgium 1929-2010. *Fish. Res.* 147: 161-174. [hdl.handle.net/10.1016/j.fishres.2013.05.007](http://hdl.handle.net/10.1016/j.fishres.2013.05.007)

Fisheries Research 147 (2013) 161–174

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**Fisheries Research**

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**Invisible catch: A century of bycatch and unreported removals in sea fisheries, Belgium 1929–2010**

Ann-Katrien Lescrauwaet<sup>a,\*</sup>, Els Torreele<sup>b</sup>, Magda Vincx<sup>c</sup>, Hans Polet<sup>b</sup>, Jan Mees<sup>a,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Flanders Marine Institute VIZ, Wismarstraat 7, 8400 Ostende, Belgium  
<sup>b</sup>Institute for Agriculture and Fisheries Research ILVO, Akerstraat 2, 8400 Ostende, Belgium  
<sup>c</sup>Ghent University, Marine Biology Research Group, Krijgslaan 281, Building 58, 9000 Gent, Belgium

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**ABSTRACT**

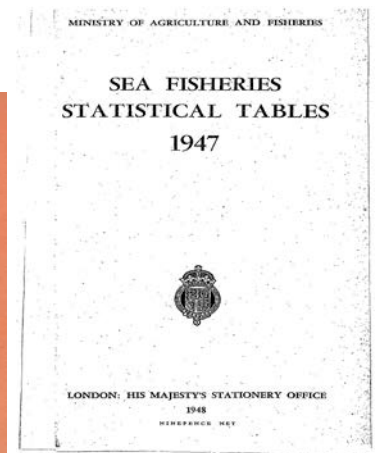
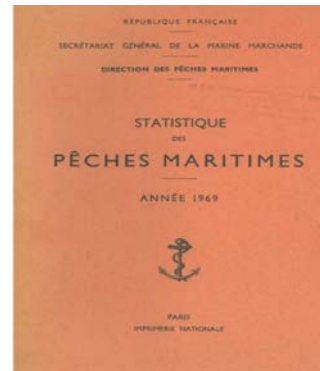
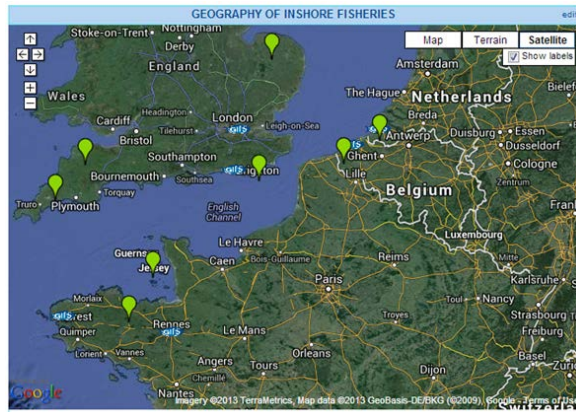
Publicly reported statistics on the production of fisheries refer to 'landings' as opposed to 'catch'. However, well-informed decisions and evaluation of the impacts of fisheries on ecosystems must be based on total removals, so including the part of the catch that is discarded at sea or not reported as landings. Total removals by Belgian fisheries from all ICES fishing areas and from the Belgian part of the North Sea (BNS) from 1929 to 2010, were reconstructed by including unreported and misreported landings of the commercial fleet, unreported landings by the recreational and artisanal/subsistence fisheries and by estimating discards for the most important fisheries. Total reconstructed removals were estimated at 5.2 million t or 42% higher than the 3.7 million t publicly reported over this period. Unreported landings and discards were estimated to represent respectively 3.5% (0.2 million t) and 20% (1.3 million t) of these total reconstructed removals. The reconstructed total removals on the BNS were estimated to be 55% higher than the 0.8 million t publicly reported over this period. Discards represent an average annual of 24% of the total removals on the BNS over the entire period. The results suggest that since the 2000s, approximately 50% of all Belgian removals from its EEZ are unreported landings and discards (ULD). The unreported landings and discards are increasingly taken by non-commercial, small-scale (<12 m) vessels that are not subject to reporting and not taken into consideration in planning, monitoring and enforcement. While the present paper provides a first attempt to reconstruct historical total removals for Belgium's sea fisheries, it also addresses the gaps in data and information that need to be resolved to improve the reliability of the estimates of unaccounted removals. The reconstructed time series provides a context for the wider debate about how to move to more sustainable fisheries, what the role of small-scale fisheries are, how to achieve the agreed policy targets in Belgian marine waters and in particular in the marine areas protected under the EU Habitat and Bird directives.

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The results suggest that since the 2000s, approximately 50% of all Belgian removals from its 'inshore waters' are unreported landings and discards.

# Mapping Inshore Fisheries in the Southern North Sea – next steps

- \* Similar data reconstructions & inventory finalized/on-going :
  - United Kingdom
  - Netherlands
  - (North of France)
- \* Integrate inshore fisheries data in the Geographic application:



# Cultural heritage, tradition and new economic support

Tiny Maenhout & Jack Dooms





# Fishing culture and regeneration



## Women's 'think tank'



# Opportunities & challenges



**The use of traditional fishing-clothes as a source of inspiration for today's fashion**

# Launch of sweater





# Follies



# Conclusion

- \* Creating a 'snapshot' of fishing places at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- \* Begin to develop new business opportunities for SMEs
- \* Seeking ways to reveal the important intangible impacts of inshore fishing in a way that can be communicated to policy makers



# Thank you!

For further information contact:

Sensing Fishing Places Survey: [j.urquhart@gre.ac.uk](mailto:j.urquhart@gre.ac.uk) or [t.g.acott@gre.ac.uk](mailto:t.g.acott@gre.ac.uk)

Community photo exhibitions/photo project: [j.urquhart@gre.ac.uk](mailto:j.urquhart@gre.ac.uk) or [t.g.acott@gre.ac.uk](mailto:t.g.acott@gre.ac.uk)

Sense of place, identity & tourism: [m.e.kennard@gre.ac.uk](mailto:m.e.kennard@gre.ac.uk)

Women in fisheries: [m.zhao@gre.ac.uk](mailto:m.zhao@gre.ac.uk) or [e.m.copetemurillo@gre.ac.uk](mailto:e.m.copetemurillo@gre.ac.uk)

Fishing past and present: [marleen.roelofs@vliz.be](mailto:marleen.roelofs@vliz.be)

Cultural heritage & economic opportunities: [tinymaenhout@telenet.be](mailto:tinymaenhout@telenet.be)

