Landing Obligation 2019:
What have we learned, what are the next steps?

A Science - Policy conference for the closing of H2020 DiscardLess project

Handling unwanted catches onboard

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31/01/2019
Challenges

- Lack of space onboard for handling and stowage
- Lack of onboard labour / additional labour required
- No/little economic incentives for fishermen and vessel owners
- Investment needed
- Shorter fishing trips due to lack of stowage space
- Infrastructure at harbour to handle unwanted catches lacking
- Sometimes no market for unwanted catches
- Reporting as well as Monitoring, Control and Surveillance a specific challenge.
Challenges

The MCRS catches have to be recorded and stowed separately from the catches intended for human consumption (EU 2015/812).

Vessels greater than 12 meters length overall also have to place their catches in boxes, compartments or containers separately for each stock (EC 1224/2009)
Solutions

Optimum handling of all catches, placing everting into boxes by species and sizes – and clearly separating in the hold between catches intended for human and non-human consumption e.g. by having a separation panel and/or differently coloured boxes.

+Allows for using all catches for high value products, as unwanted catches can for example be used for pet-food, pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, high value feed etc.

-Does however require lot of work and space.
Solutions

Bulk storage of unwanted catches – to be classified at harbour.

+Saves time and space. Handling can be made to fit requirements of intended production stream.

-Is only allowed at the moment for below 12 meter vessels.
Solutions

Making (basic)silage or thickened silage out of unwanted catches

+Simple solution requiring minimum effort and relatively little space.

-MCS can be an issue (examples though where this has been allowed given conditions on reporting e.g. CCTV).
-Relatively low value
Solutions

Making FPC or FPH out of unwanted catches

+ More value

- Considerable investment needed and more effort from the crew
Solutions

Making fishmeal and fish oil out of unwanted catches

+High value

-Major investment, needs significant space and extra labour
Discard Mitigation strategies Toolbox

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation action under grant agreement no. 633680
Discard Mitigation strategies Toolbox

- 12 m coastal vessel
- 20 m seiner
- 29 m bottom trawler
- 36 m BoB bottom trawler
- 50 m bottom trawler
- 80 m factory trawler
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DiscardLess
Strategies for the gradual elimination of discards in European fisheries

DiscardLess calculator

- 5. Process
  - Discard Batches
  - Processed

- 4. Processing
  - Discard Batches
  - Processed

- 3. Improve the handling
  - Discard Batches
  - Processed

- 2. Discarder
  - Discard Batches
  - Processed

- 1. Discarder
  - Discard Batches
  - Processed

Note: Non-compliance with the discard quota will lead to a fine.

Handling unwanted catch onboard

The chemical composition of the bycatch:

- Fish, 31%
- Birds, 28%
- Molluscs, 17%
- Crustaceans, 14%
- Other, 10%

Total fish: 1,931 EUR
Total non-fish: -968,000 EUR