



The Role of Policy and Industry in the fight against IUU Fishing

‘Advancing seafood traceability and transparency in the EU’

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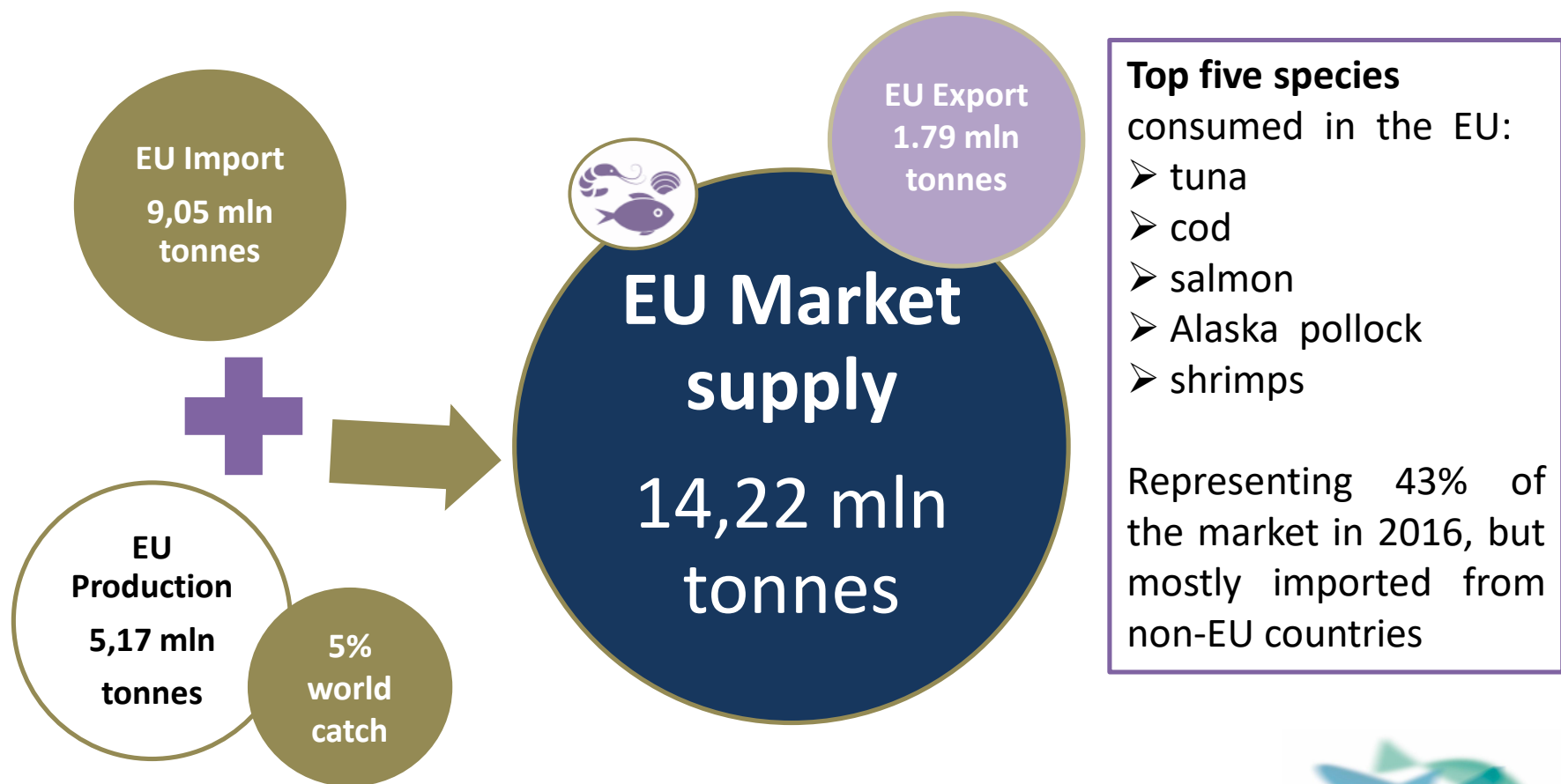
Europêche

8 January 2020



Setting the scene

- The EU is the world's largest market for fisheries and aquaculture products, absorbing 24 % of total global imports in 2016, and is **dependent on imports for over 60 %** of its consumption of such products



Illegal fishing (IUU)

IUU fishing identified as a significant issue for seafood markets worldwide. Estimates from 2009 showed:

- 10-20 million tonnes of fish caught illegally every year (**≈15% world's catch**)
- Value of **US\$10-23 billion**
- In the EU represented 9% (500,000 tons) and 10% of the value of the imports (€1.1 billion) (2008 estimates)
 - No new estimates available globally nor for the EU
 - Time to update EU & global estimates to assess the performance of the IUU policy?

IUU Consequences

Environmental

- Damages to marine biodiversity, protected species and habitats
- Undermines efforts for better governance and sustainable fisheries
- Jeopardizes efforts to rebuild fish stocks
- Distorts the scientific assessment of the stocks

Economic

- Loss of market shares – unfair competition
- Decrease of market prices due to the sale of cheap IUU products
- Financial loss for public authorities via licenses and taxes
- Harms the image of the fishing industry – need for private certification

Social

- Job losses for legal fishermen facing competition from IUU operators
- IUU inextricably associated with very poor level of social standards
- Developing countries particularly vulnerable to IUU fishing, with limited capacity for control and surveillance of their waters
- Threatens the livelihoods of small-scale fishers: food security and poverty alleviation

EU response to IUU fishing

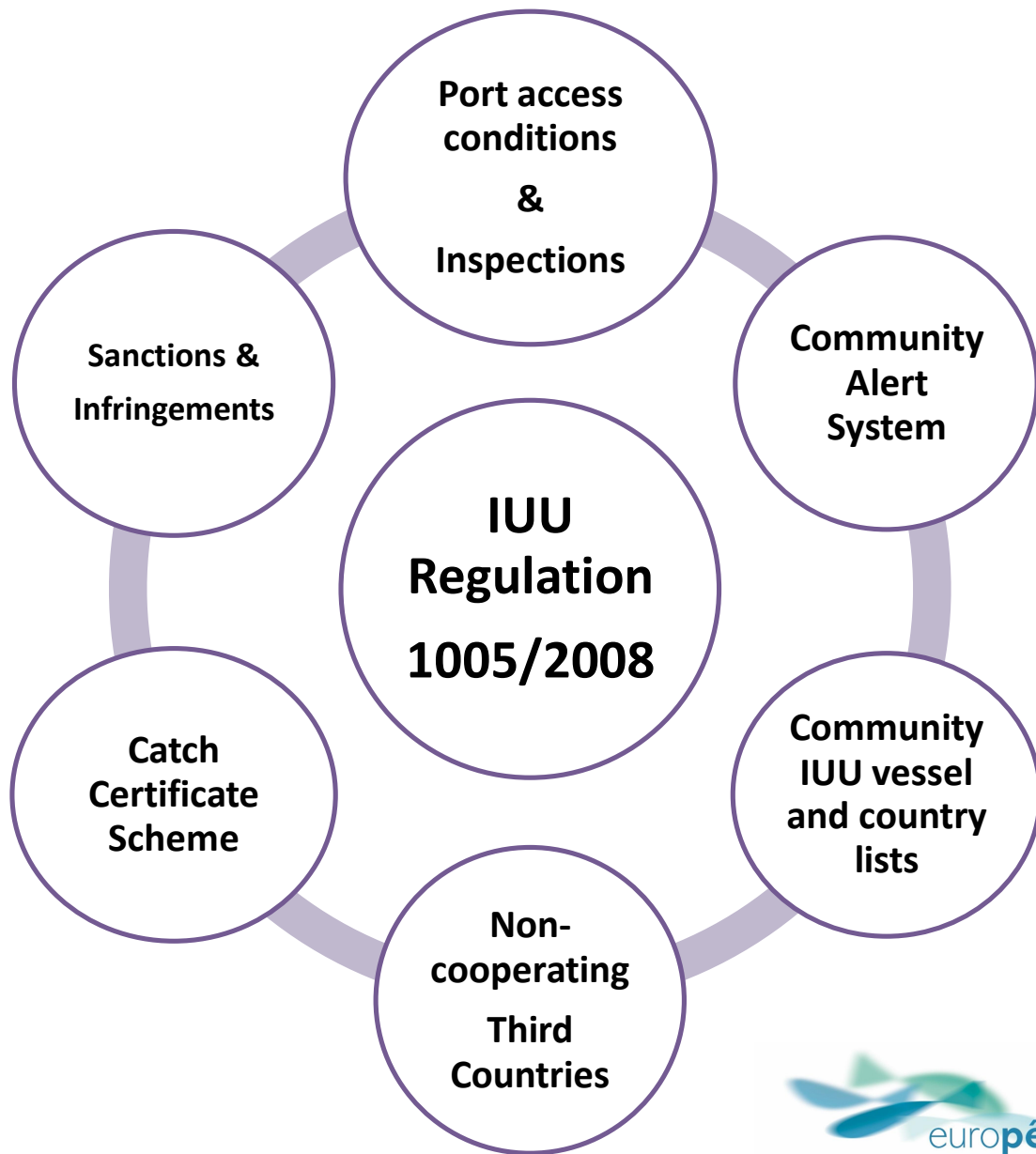
IUU Regulation 1005/2008

Entered into force in January 2010

Complemented by:

- ✓ “Control Regulation” (2009) (under revision)
- ✓ “Regulation on the sustainable management of external fishing fleets” (2017)

More than **30 countries** improved their systems to fight IUU & over **200,000 catch certificates** are processed annually in the Union



EU response to IUU fishing

Spain best practice example

The **OPAGAC/AGAC** fleet developed in 2016 a certification scheme for Responsibly-Caught Tuna = **APR** (UNE Regulation 196005)

AENOR, one of the certifiers of that standard, also developed a **Chain of Custody** regulation by which, canners can label their tuna cans if it is sourced with tuna certified APR

SP, 1st to launch **blockchain technology for seafood products**. **Fresh hake** sold by Carrefour including a **QR code** on the label to be scanned by smartphones for the consumer to know which vessel caught it, coordinates fishing area, fishing gear used, exact location of landing, how prepared and when delivered to Carrefour.



Carrefour Spain claims world first with fresh hake blockchain line

Consumers can dial up information on hake's journey from ocean to supermarkets.

2 May 2019 19:28 GMT UPDATED 2 May 2019 23:58 GMT
By InnraFish Media

How to tackle IUU fishing



Next steps

IUU Regulation – ANNEX II Catch Certificate

'ANNEX II – European Union Catch Certificate and Re-Export Certificate

<u>(i) EUROPEAN COMMUNITY UNION CATCH CERTIFICATE</u>						
Document number			Validating Authority			
1. Name		Address			Tel. Fax	
2. Fishing Vessel Name		Flag - Home Port & Registration Number		Call Sign	IMO/Lloyd's Number <i>or other unique vessel identification (if issued)</i>	
Fishing licence No. – Valid to		Inmarsat No. Telefax No. Telephone No. E-mail address (if issued)				
3. Description of Product		Type of processing authorised on board		4. References of applicable conservation and management measures		
Species	Product code	Catch area(s) and dates (*2)	Estimated live weight (net fish weight in kg)	Estimated live weight to be landed (net fish weight in kg)	Verified Weight Landed (net weight in kg)	Type(s) of fishing gear
5. Name of master of fishing vessel - Signature - Seal:						
6. Declaration of Transhipment at Sea Name of Master of Fishing vessel			Signature and Date	Transhipment Date/Area/Position	Estimated weight (kg)	
Master of Receiving Vessel	Signature	Vessel Name	Call Sign	IMO/Lloyds Number <i>or other unique vessel identification (if issued)</i>		

Footnote: same conditions as established in the Control Regulation

Next steps

Control & IUU Regulation

Opposite to EU vessels, IMO/
Unique Vessel Identifiers
(UVI) numbers are **not**
mandatory for non-EU vessels
to supply their catches into
the EU market under the
catch certification scheme
established by the IUU
Regulation

Step up efforts to better
coordinate & harmonise
import controls via the CATCH
system + interoperability of IT
systems between MSs and 3rd
countries


The **IMO Number** is widely
recognised as the best available
UVI for the global fishing fleet,
it should be strengthened &
promoted under the catch
certification scheme, RFMOs
and private certifications

Type(s) of fishing gear” as a data
field on the catch certificate
Catch area(s) and dates” according
to FAO area divisions and indicate
whether caught in high seas, RFMO
regulatory area or within an EEZ

Promote the establishment of an
international register of fishing
vessels



IMO
number



Gear &
catch
areas



Inter-
national
register

Next steps



Aquaculture

Fisheries

Marketplace

Processor

Finance

Prices

US Customs flag Vanuatu tuna longliner for alleged forced labor

All products from the vessel are to be withheld at US ports.

by IntraFish Media

February 11th, 2019 12:06 GMT Updated February 11th, 2019 13:26 GMT

- Alignment of IUU policy with **labour policy** - ILO Convention 188 on Work in Fishing (yellow card – Thailand/Taiwan)
- Use IUU “muscle” to combat labour abuse (often linked)
- Requires the acknowledgement of a different legal background (C188 transposed in the EU through Directive (EU) 2017/159)
- Not many foreign vessels calling at EU ports...

Next steps

- Need to find other ways to stop seafood imports caught using forced labour:
 - ✓ DG EMPL + DG TAXUD
- The **Union Customs Code** sets prohibitions or restrictions on imports, exports or goods in transit when they are justified on grounds of:
 - public morality, public policy or public security,
 - the **protection of health and life of humans**, animals or plants,
 - the **protection of the environment**,
 - the protection of national treasures possessing artistic, historic or archaeological value and
 - the protection of industrial and commercial property
- Stop imports from fishing vessels blacklisted for labour abuse?

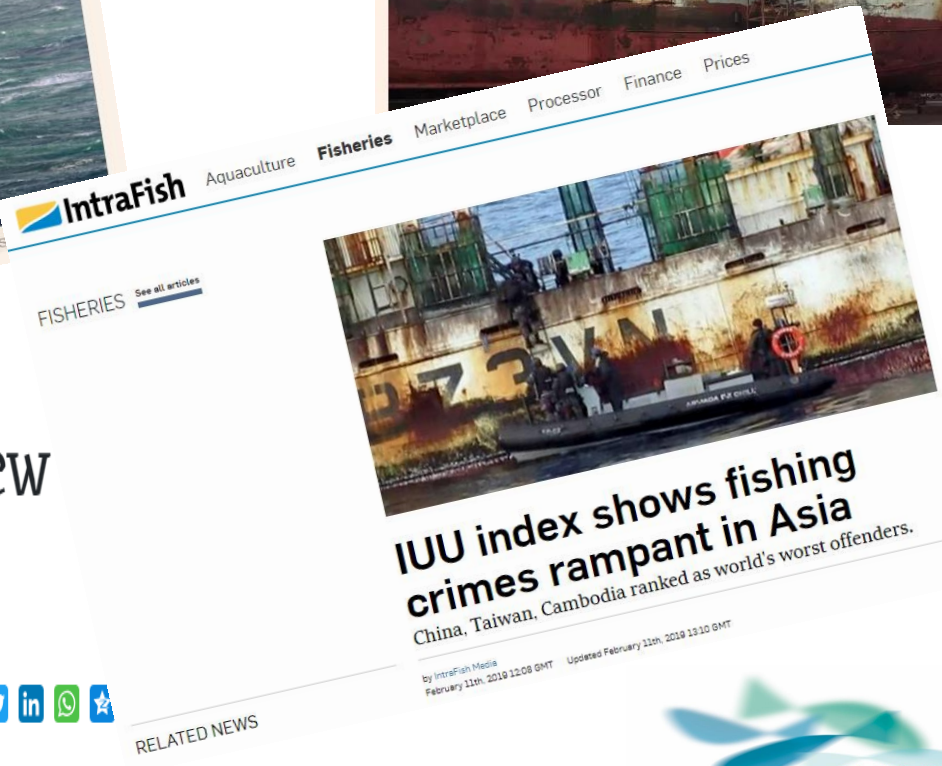
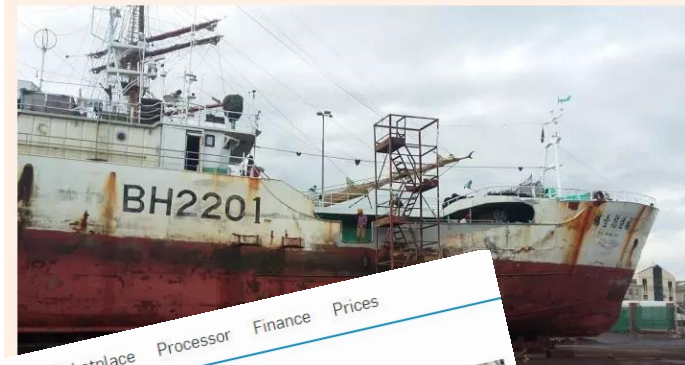
Do we want to market this fish in our countries?
Can our fishermen compete with these fleets?



Taiwan + Add to myFT

Taiwan's fishing industry faces claims of 'hell' on the high seas

Shark finning and mistreatment of migrant sailors continue, according to report



GOVERNANCE

China ranked worst country in new illegal fishing index

Fisheries expert who helped compile the index explains China's poor scores

Gilles Hosch April 16, 2019



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Many thanks for listening

Over to you

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"Our mission is to promote responsible and sustainable fishing practices that not only ensures a healthy and diverse marine environment but preserves an economically and socially sustainable fishing sector able to contribute to the growing world demand for healthy seafood." Javier Garat, President of Europêche.

Europêche is the representative body for the fishing industry in the European Union



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