

Foresight study on Fishers of the Future

Closing event
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© Francesco Paesanti. Fisher from Goro, Italy.



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Content

- ✓ Consortium
- ✓ Study objectives and scope
- ✓ What is foresight?
- ✓ Study overview
- ✓ Four future scenarios and fisher profiles



Consortium

Fishers of the Future Foresight Study



Additional fisheries expertise brought by Trinomics & Dr Cecile Brugere

Network of country experts covering 22 EU coastal Member States and outermost regions

Study Objectives and Scope

Objectives

To use 'foresight' to project fishers in the future and explore the changes that the profession, role, and identity of fishers might face up to 2050 by:

- Setting the scene (who are today's fishers and the environment they operate in).
- Identifying patterns and insights into what may happen over the next decades.
- Exploring different scenarios of the future of fishers using foresight methods.
- Identifying possible fishers' profiles (who they will be).



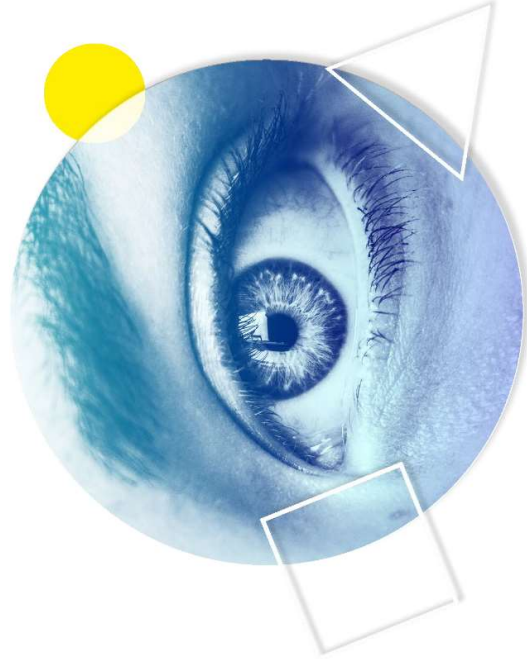
Scope

- ✓ Commercial marine fisheries.
- ✓ Fishers working on board or owning an EU vessels operating in EU waters.
- ✓ 22 coastal EU Member States and overseas territories.



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What is Foresight?



Foresight is the discipline of **exploring and anticipating** future possible developments to shape the preferable future. To do so, it taps into **collective intelligence** in a structured and systemic way. It is not about predicting the future; it explores **different possibilities**, alongside the opportunities and challenges they might present. Ultimately, it helps policymakers to **act in the present and impact the future.**

Source: European Commission's Competence Centre on Foresight



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Study Overview

Phase 1

SETTING THE SCENE

- Definition of a 'fisher'
- 11 profiles of today's fishers
- Consultations with over 200 fishers and stakeholders
- Analysis of trends and policies impacting on fishers' future





'Fishers of the Future' kick-off event



Phase 2

EXPLORING FUTURE WORLDS AROUND FISHERS

- Selection of megatrends and drivers of change
- Identification of challenges for 2050
- Fisheries stakeholder and expert survey
- Strategic foresight workshops with stakeholders



Phase 3

EXPLORING WHO THE FUTURE FISHERS ARE

- 8 profiles of fishers for 2050
- Consultations with over 120 fishers and stakeholders

Closing event



Four Future Scenarios

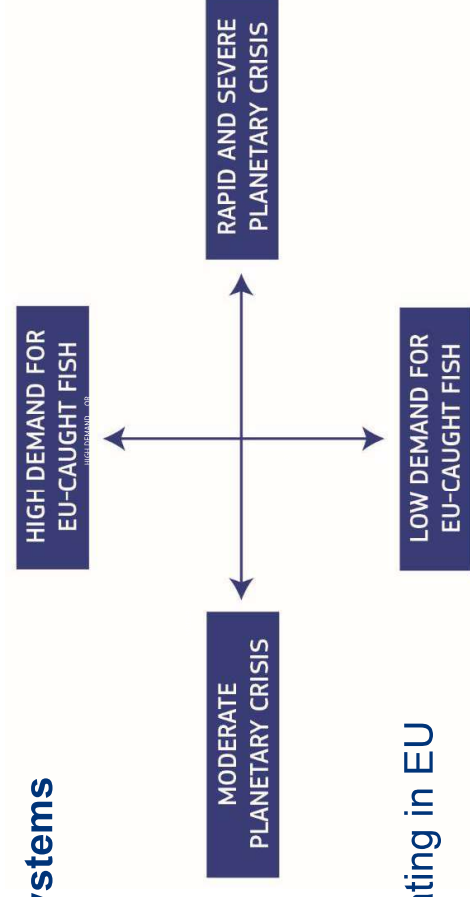
Created by combining **two axes**:

- **Climate & Biodiversity Changes in Marine Ecosystems (East-West)**

Impacts of climate change and biodiversity changes in marine ecosystems.

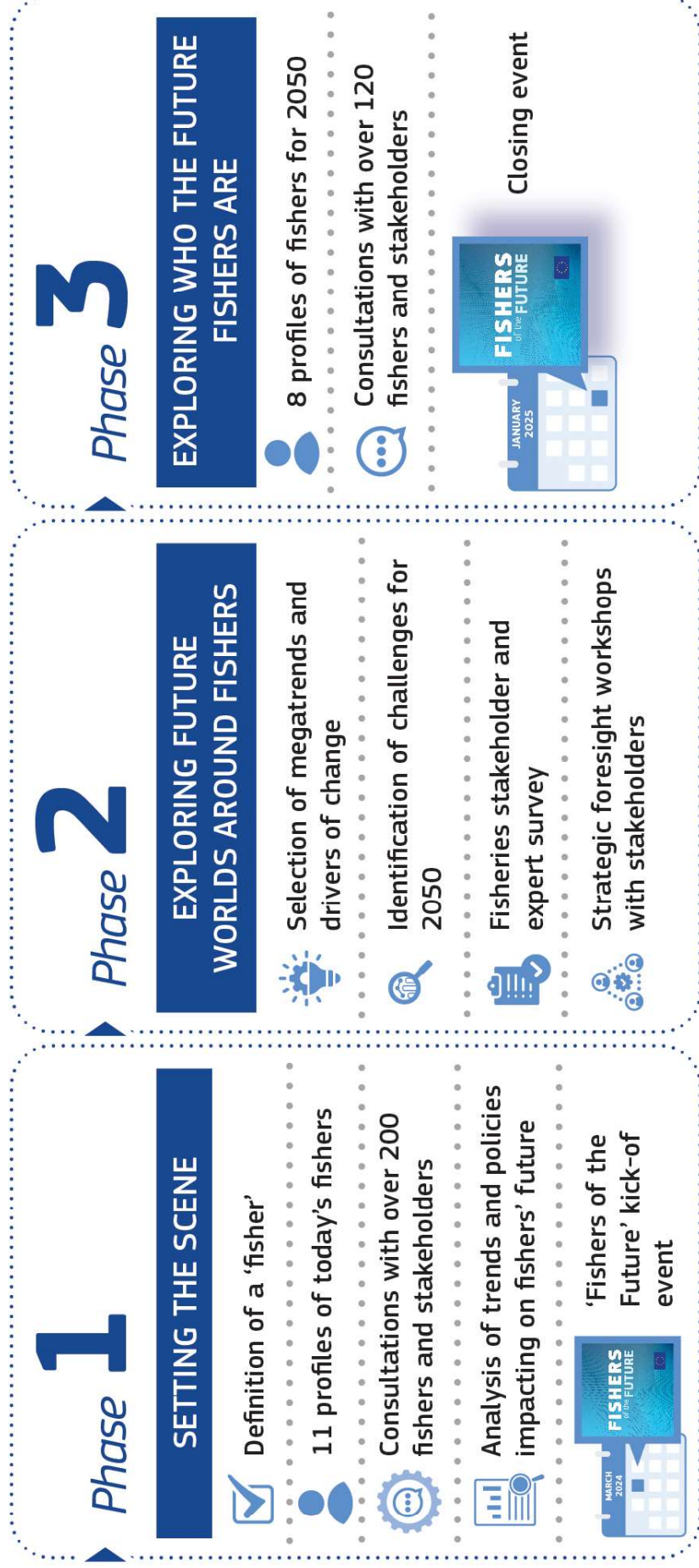
- **Consumer & Market Dynamics (North-South)**

Overall demand for fish caught by EU vessels operating in EU waters compared with available supply.

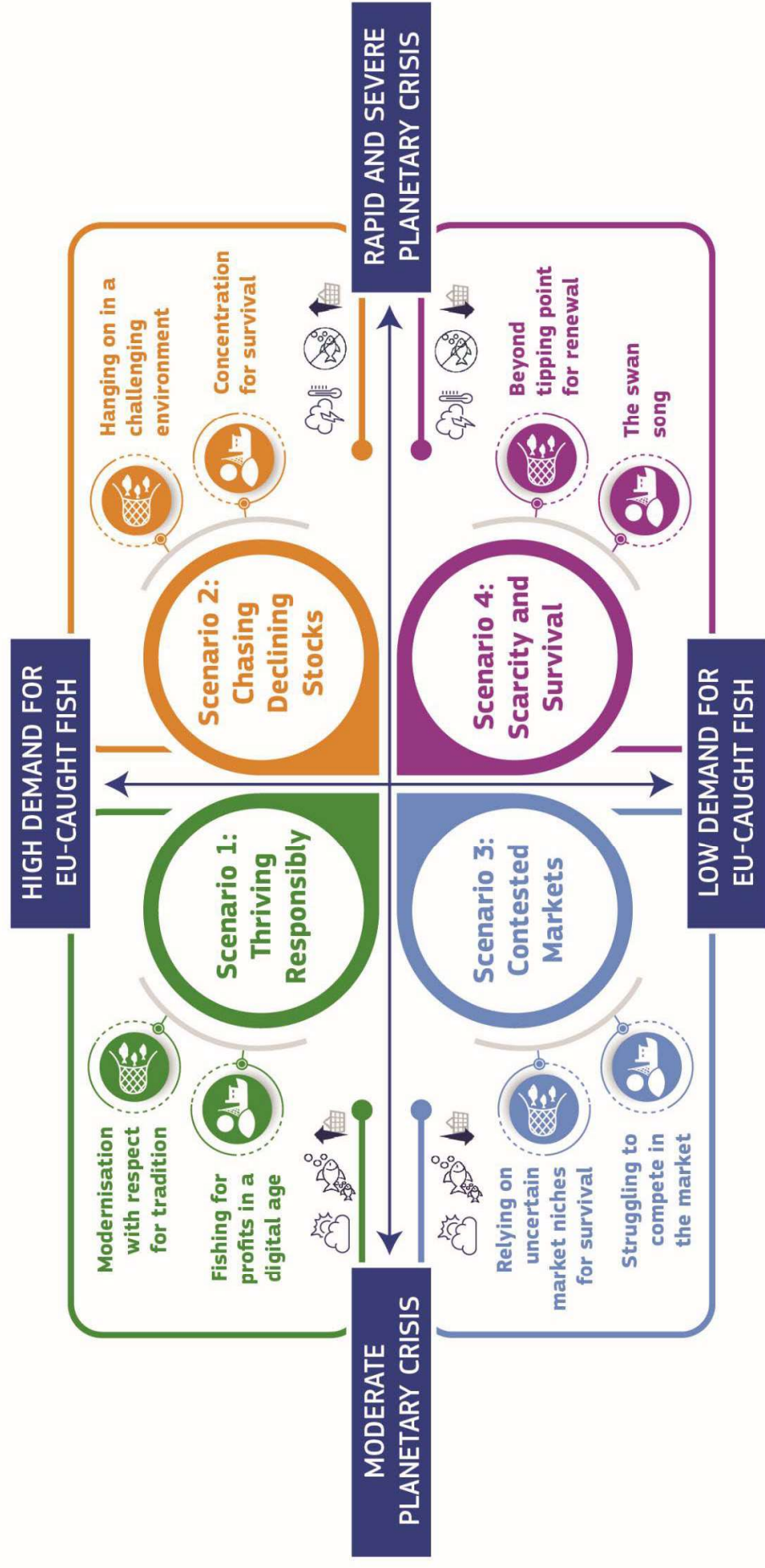


Each scenario encompasses a **complex interplay of various factors** in addition to these two main dimensions.

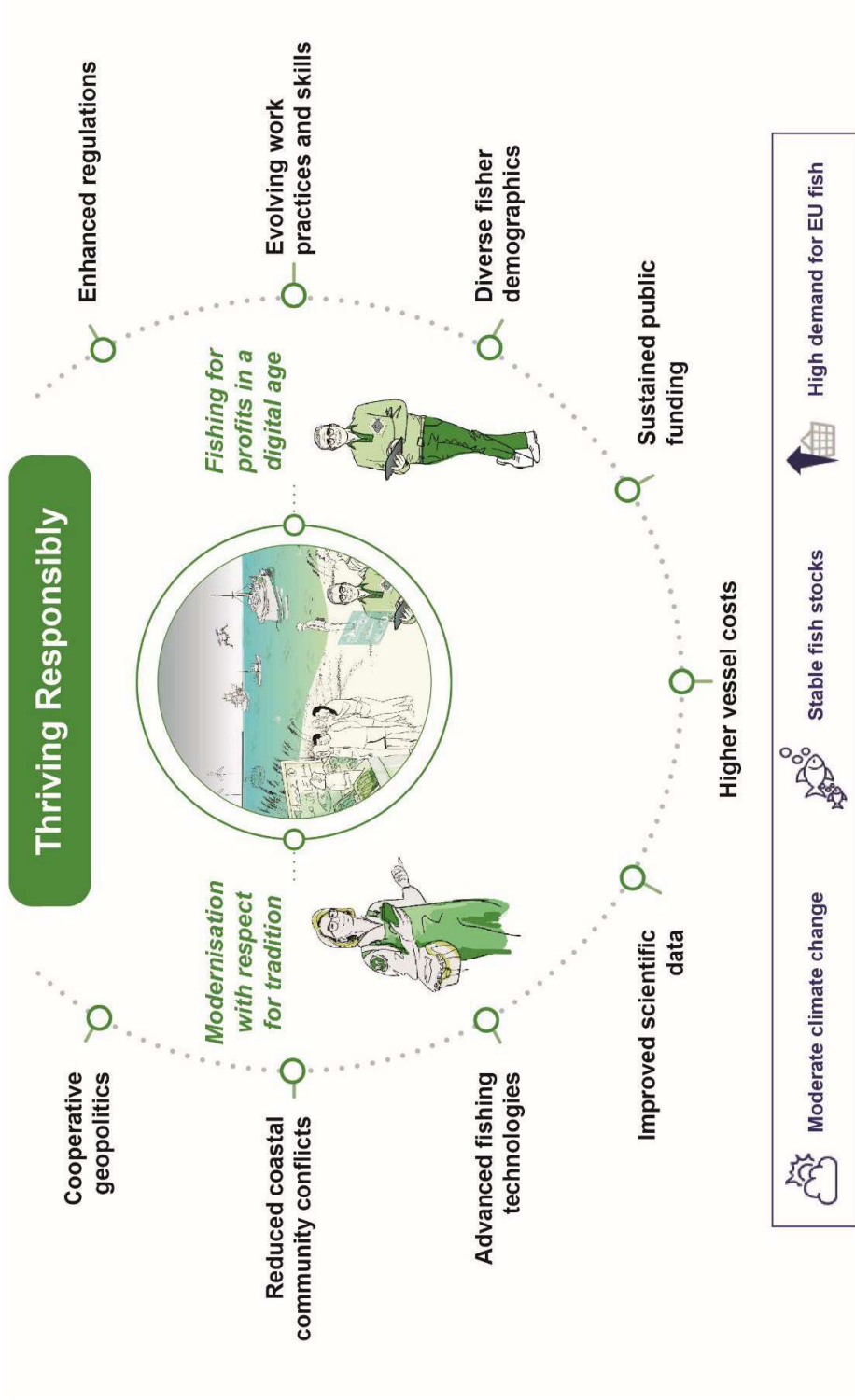
Study Overview



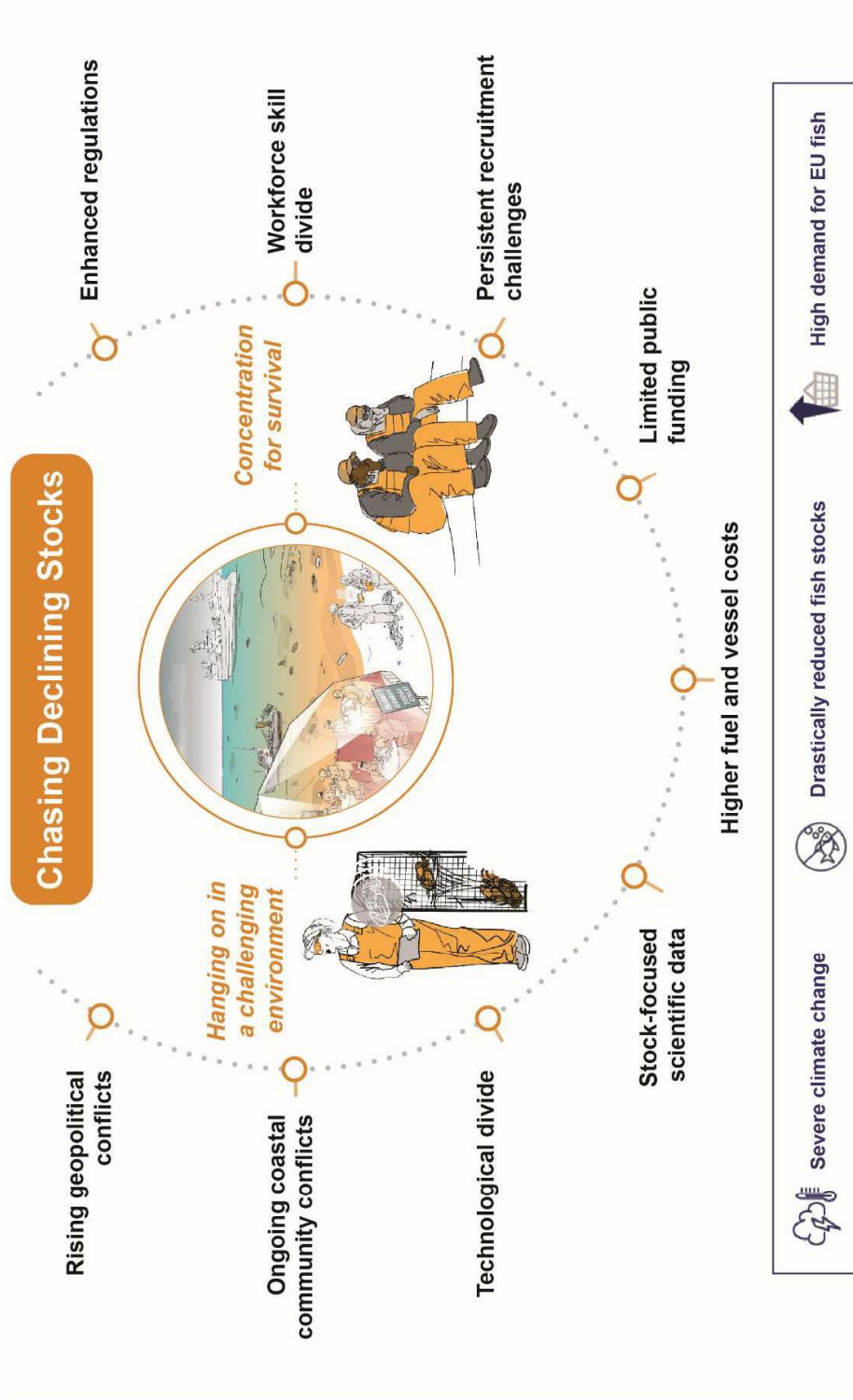
Four Future Scenarios & Eight Fisher Profiles



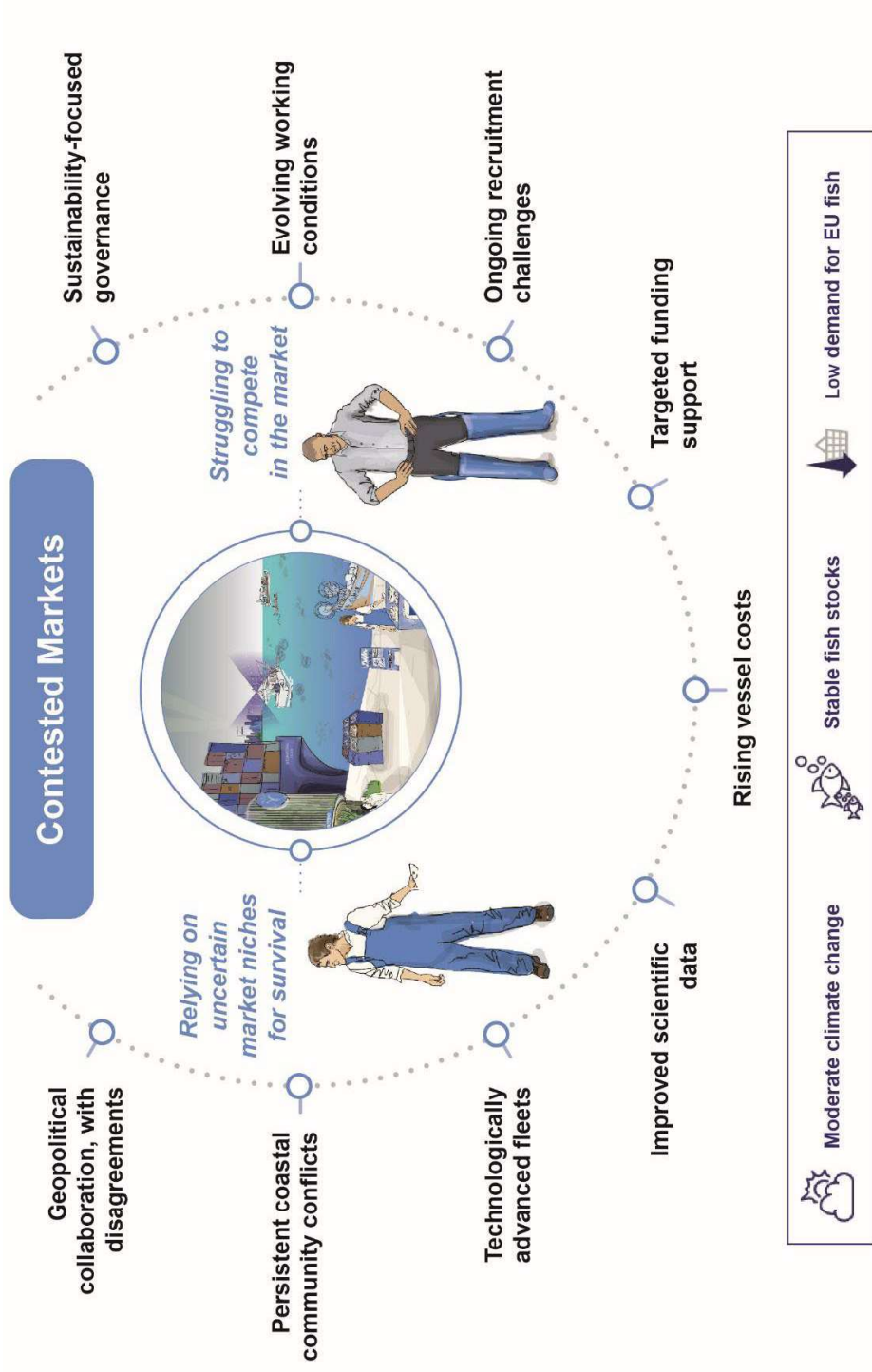
Scenario 1: Thriving Responsibly



Scenario 2: Chasing Declining Stocks



Scenario 3: Contested Markets

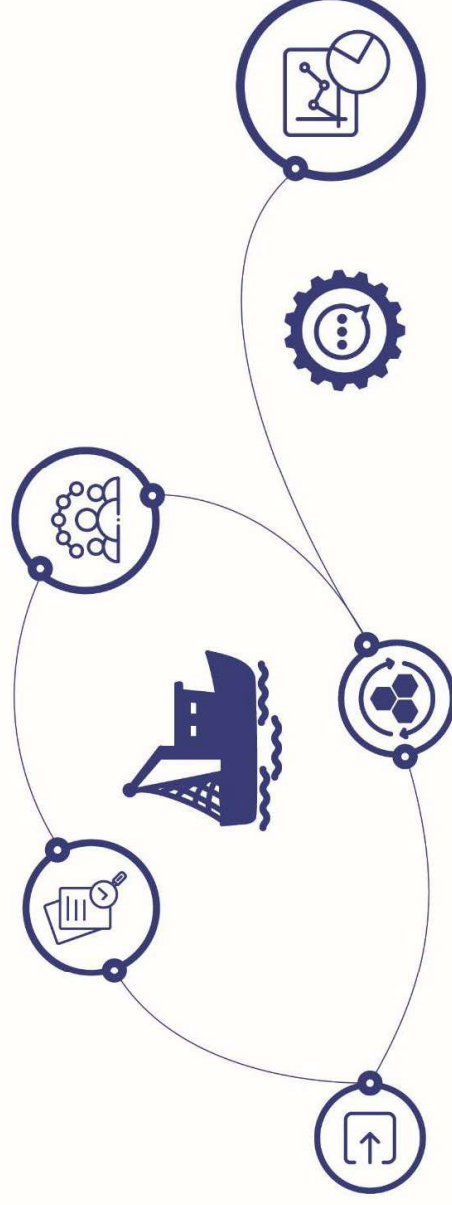


Scenario 4: Scarcity and Survival



How Can Future Scenarios & Profiles Be Used?

- Offer an opportunity to explore the possible futures for EU fisheries.
- Examine the interactions between main trends and drivers.
- Serve as tools to anticipate challenges, inform policies, and support the sector's adaptation.
- Invite further analysis by fleet segment and sea basin and provide more tailored insight into specific regional or fleet dynamics.
- Inform the debate, investment, innovation, and actions that the fishing industry will need if it is to thrive in the next 25 years.





Thank you!

