

The International Dimension of the EU Common Fisheries Policy

Non-tuna RFMOs



- NEAFC:** North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
- SEAFO:** South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation
- GFCM:** General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
- NAFO:** Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation
- SPRFMO:** South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
- CCBSP:** Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in Central Bering Sea
- NASCO:** North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation
- SIOFA:** South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
- CCAMLR:** Convention on Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

Tuna RFMOs



- ICCAT:** International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
- IATTC:** Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
- WCPFC:** Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
- IOTC:** Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
- CCSBT:** Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna

Ocean governance

The EU, as a large maritime power and as the world's biggest market for seafood, actively promotes better international governance across the world's seas and oceans to keep them clean, safe and secure. It is a leading player in the bodies established under UNCLOS and UNFSA, notably the FAO Committee on Fisheries and RFMOs. As a follow-up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) efforts focus on the launching of an Implementing Agreement under UNCLOS for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

- United Nations and the FAO** (Food and Agriculture Organisation)
- UN Convention on the Law of the Sea** (UNCLOS)
- UN Fish Stocks Agreement** (UNFSA)
- UN Conference on Sustainable Development** (Rio+20)

RFMOs

Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) are international organisations formed by countries with fishing interests in an area. Their role is to guarantee the management, conservation and sustainable exploitation of the living marine species covered in their remit by setting catch limits, technical measures and control obligations. There are two types of RFMOs: those which only manage highly migratory fish stocks, like tuna (tuna RFMOs), and those which manage other fish stocks (non-tuna RFMOs). The EU plays an active role in 6 tuna RFMOs and 11 non-tuna RFMOs.

SFPAs

Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements allow EU fleets to fish in third countries' Exclusive Economic Zones, with a regulated and guaranteed environment. New SFPAs target surplus stocks only, and aim towards resource conservation and environmental sustainability, ensuring that EU fishing laws and principles (including human rights) are respected abroad just as at home. In exchange for access rights, the EU, firstly pays for those rights, and secondly also contributes financially to support local fishing sectors and third countries fishing governance, including IUU fight and scientific research. Besides the SFPAs, the EU has fishing agreements with northern countries which are based on mutual exchange of fishing possibilities.

Tuna: Cape Verde, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Kiribati, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles

Mixed: Greenland, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Morocco

Northern: Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway

IUU

Illegal, Unreported or Unregulated fishing is a global threat to the marine environment and honest fishermen alike. The EU is committed to fighting IUU fishing worldwide, publishing with international organisations a list of blacklisted vessels and non-cooperative countries, and penalising offenders.

Estimation of global IUU fishing:

€10^B/Year

≈ 15% of world catches

11-26^{mT}/Year