

FISHERS of the FUTURE

Brussels, Belgium, 19 March 2024

Matea Lovrić, Director of the Adria Fishing Cooperative



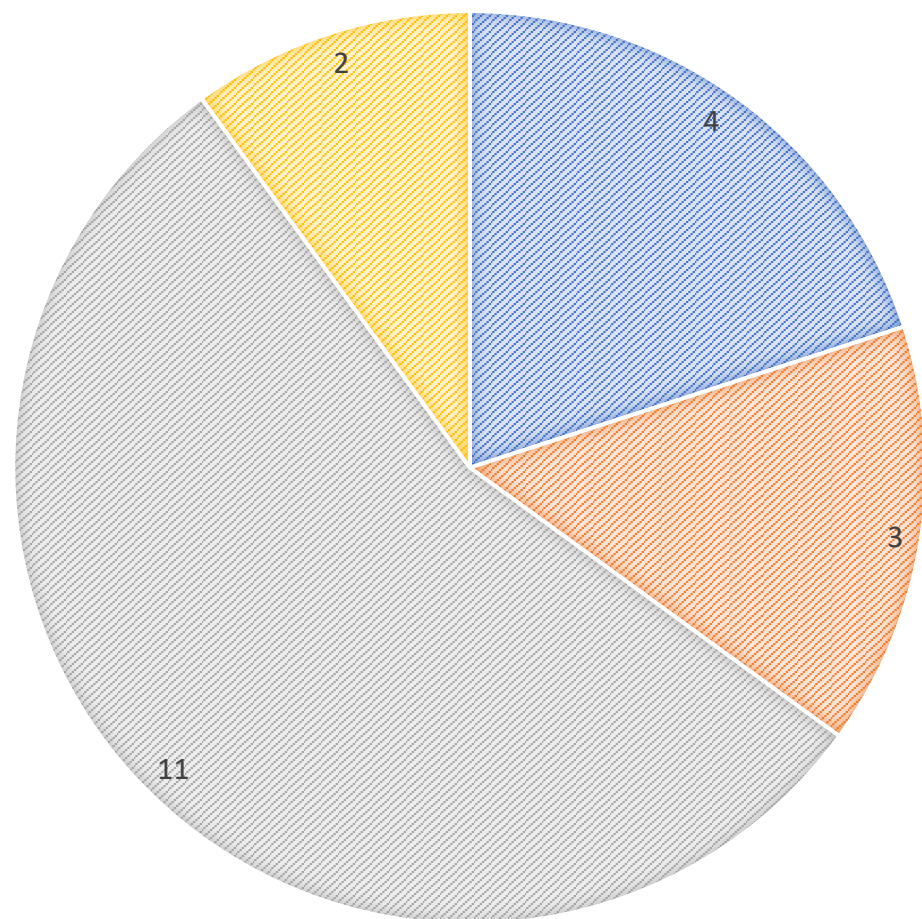
FISHERS of the FUTURE

Tribunj, Croatia

- Approx. 80 crew members in total
- 21 fishing boats
- 85% under 20 meters
- 40+ years old on average
- Wooden-made

AGE OF VESSELS

■ 1940.-1960. ■ 1961.-1980. ■ 1981.-2000. ■ 2001.-2020





Today's fishers in Tribunj

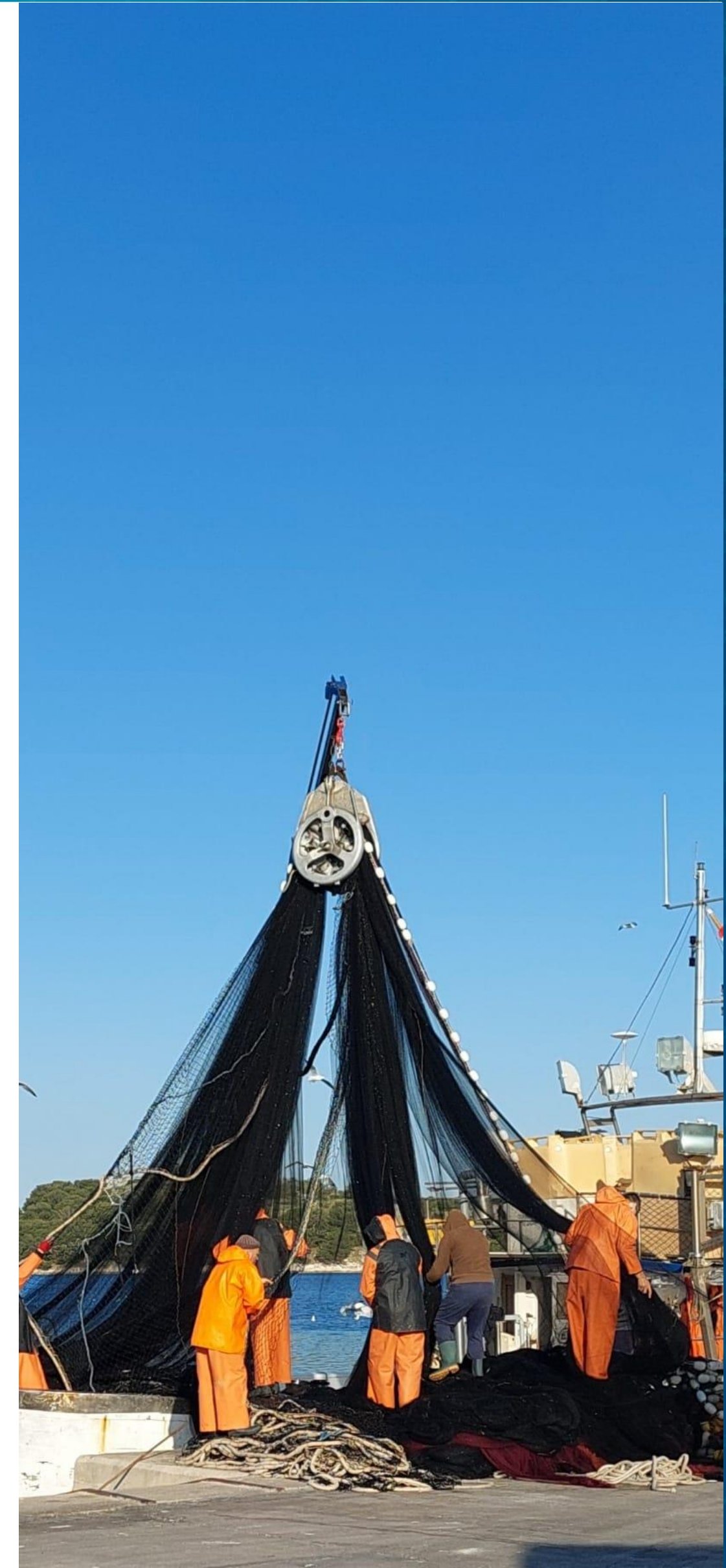
- Fishers believe that their role in society is not sufficiently appreciated.
- Fishers are often characterised as "destroyers of the environment" in the media.
- However, they have been actively participating in the collection of marine waste since 2014.
- Women now work less on boats and more in providing support in the administrative tasks, sales and processing plants.
- Fishers have no formal education; they are trained by boat owners.





Current challenges

- Limited access to funding to renew the fishing fleet and invest in vessels.
- Informal education and training of fishers.
- Prices of fish on the market have remained unchanged for the last 10 years.
- Work schedules are largely dependent on weather conditions and mandatory freeways.
- Fishers are forced to find alternative sources of income.
- Uncontrolled nautical tourism and leisure fishing.
- Increasing waste in the sea that destroys fishers' tools.



Opportunities for the future

- Raise awareness of fishers' important role in society; their work, sacrifice and effort in providing fish to the market.
- Encourage younger generations to engage in fishing. Educate them and depict a more positive image of the profession.
- Adapt regulations so that they address the reality of fishers and are enforceable.
- Invest in the renewal of the fishing fleet and sustainable fishing.
- Involve fishers in the management of protected areas.

