



European Commission

# Actions for sustainable and resilient fisheries, aquaculture and marine ecosystems

21 February 2023  
#EUGreenDeal

## Main objectives



Continue rebuilding fish stocks to sustainable levels → long-term fish availability and prosperity for fishers and communities.



Reduce environmental and climate impacts of fisheries and aquaculture activities → protecting 30% of the EU's seas, with 10% being strictly protected by 2030 as defined by the EU Biodiversity Strategy.



Increase the sector's energy efficiency to become more resilient, less dependent on fossil fuels and climate-neutral by 2050.

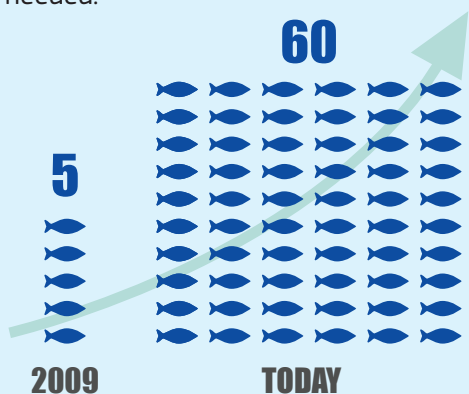


Make the fishing profession more attractive.

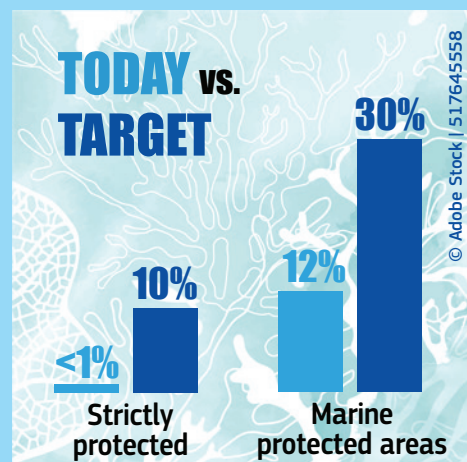
## Why do we need to act?

### Fish stocks harvested sustainably in the EU

Thanks to the common fisheries policy, more fish stocks are harvested sustainably, but more effort is needed.



### EU seas



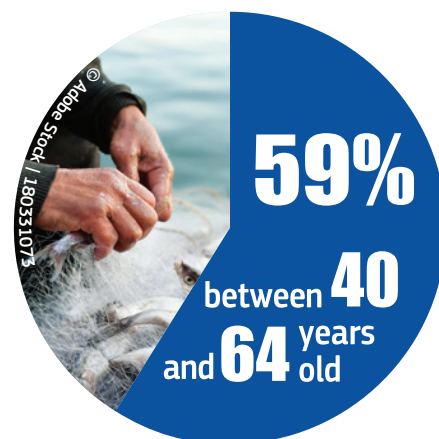
Some areas of the EU seas are protected but this is not enough to address widespread biodiversity loss.

The fisheries sector is highly dependent on fossil fuels and vulnerable to fluctuations in fuel prices.

For every **€0.10** increase in fuel prices, ↑  
the annual gross profits in the entire EU fisheries sector drops by over  
**€185 m** ↓

The sector emitted **5.2 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>** in 2019, which is still too much.

### EU fishing fleet workers



Workers on EU fishing fleets are ageing and it is necessary to make the profession attractive to younger generations.

## Key measures

- **'Fisheries and Oceans Pact'** to fully implement the common fisheries policy and **work on a common vision for the future together** with national authorities, fishers, producer organisations, regional advisory Councils, and scientists.
- Reach the **maximum sustainable yield** (MSY) objective in all sea basins.
- **More transparency** on the criteria used for allocation of fishing opportunities (quotas) at national level.
- Start EU-wide participatory foresight project on **'Fishers of the Future'**.
- Phase out mobile bottom fishing in all Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2030 to **reduce impact on seabed**.
- Use **innovative solutions to fish more selectively** and mitigate impact of incidental catches on sensitive species.
- **Build bridges between fisheries and environmental authorities** through a joint group.
- Set up an **Energy Transition Partnership** to address the sector's energy transition challenges with all stakeholders.
- Provide guidance to the sector on **available financing tools for the take-up of new energy technologies**.

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