Blue economy: EU Blue Economy Report

Living resources

EUMOFA

EU Fisheries Sector

Social aspects

CATCHING Sector

AQUACULTURE Sector

PROSSESING Sector

Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet

Economic Report on the EU Aquaculture Sector

Economic Report on the EU Fish Processing Industry
How we do it

DCF data

600 fleet segments
43 variables
14 fishing gear categories
8 vessel length groups

Supplementary data: EU Fleet Register, EUROSTAT, EUMOFA
Main economic trends

The long-term trend of the EU fleet performance (2008-2019) has been generally very positive.

In 2018, the EU fleet registered a net profit of EUR 800 million. This represents significant progress, considering that the EU fleet was barely breaking even in 2009 (MS data).

For 2019 preliminary data by MS indicate a net profit of EUR 1.1 billion.
Drivers for improvement in economic performance

- Higher "landings per unit of effort" (efficiency) => stemming from MSY
- Higher average prices for various species
- Lower total costs (fuel costs)
**Fuel efficiency** improved by 20% from 2008 to 2018. As a result of this trend, the Carbon footprint of the EU fleet has been reduced significantly over the period of analysis.
Good news

Conservation pays-off

Notes: GVA per vessel in thousand euro; MSY ratio = F / FMSY
Conservation is lagging

Trends in economic performance and fishing mortality compared to Fmsy (Mediterranean and Black Sea)
The less good news...

Projections for 2020 show a contraction back to 2018 levels due to the COVID-19 effects.

Despite the Covid impacts, the EU fleet overall it is projected to be profitable with net profit margin of 14% in 2020.

(CRISILIENCE)

Covid-19 impacts in the EU fleets
Results for 2020 are driven by COVID-19 pandemic

In absolute terms the COVID-19 it is projected to cause the reduction of EUR 1.1 billion in landed value and of EUR 300 million in net profits in 2020 compared to 2019.

The lock down an subsequent economic crisis caused by the COVID-19, has presented a situation of weaker demand in the EU fish market.
The less good news...

- 20% of the EU fleet segments registered net losses. Most of these fleets, depend on over-exploited stocks and/or suffer from structural problems. The majority of these fleet segments belong to the SSCF.

- Several SSCF fleets profitable but with stagnated performance or with limited improvement.

- At sea basin level, there are also remarkable differences with the Baltic and BS being the basins with the lowest performance. The economic performance mirrors the bad stock status in these sea basins.

- Employment in the EU fleet continues to decline.
Take aways

Positive:

• **Progress towards MSY** and recovery of some stocks

• **Despite the impact of COVID-19, projections show that the EU fleet ended 2020 with a reasonable level of profitability.** (resilience of the EU fleet, efforts made to achieve MSY, low fuel prices).

• Existence of a **public support tool** (EMFF)

• Good marketing (POs and PMPs)
Take aways

Positive or negative

• **Imports** (> 70% External dependency)

Negative

• **Covid-19 effects**

• **Overexploitation** of some EU stocks, particularly in the Med.

• **Poor marketing** (No POs and PMPs)
Thank you!