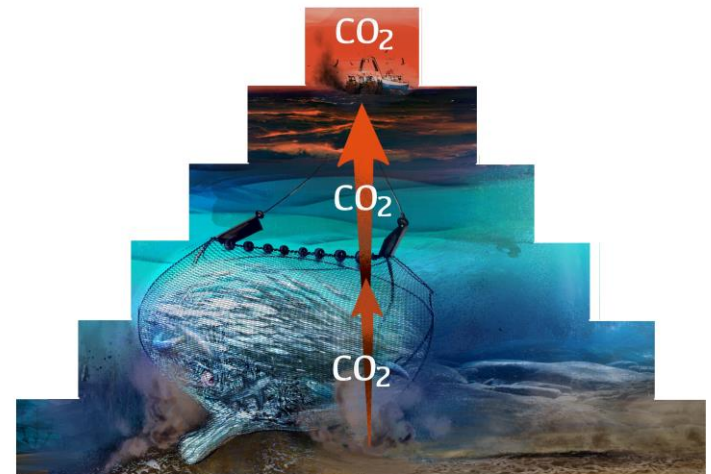



# Fisheries Management Is Carbon Management & Climate Action

Briefing  
11 May 2023  
Leinster House, Ireland

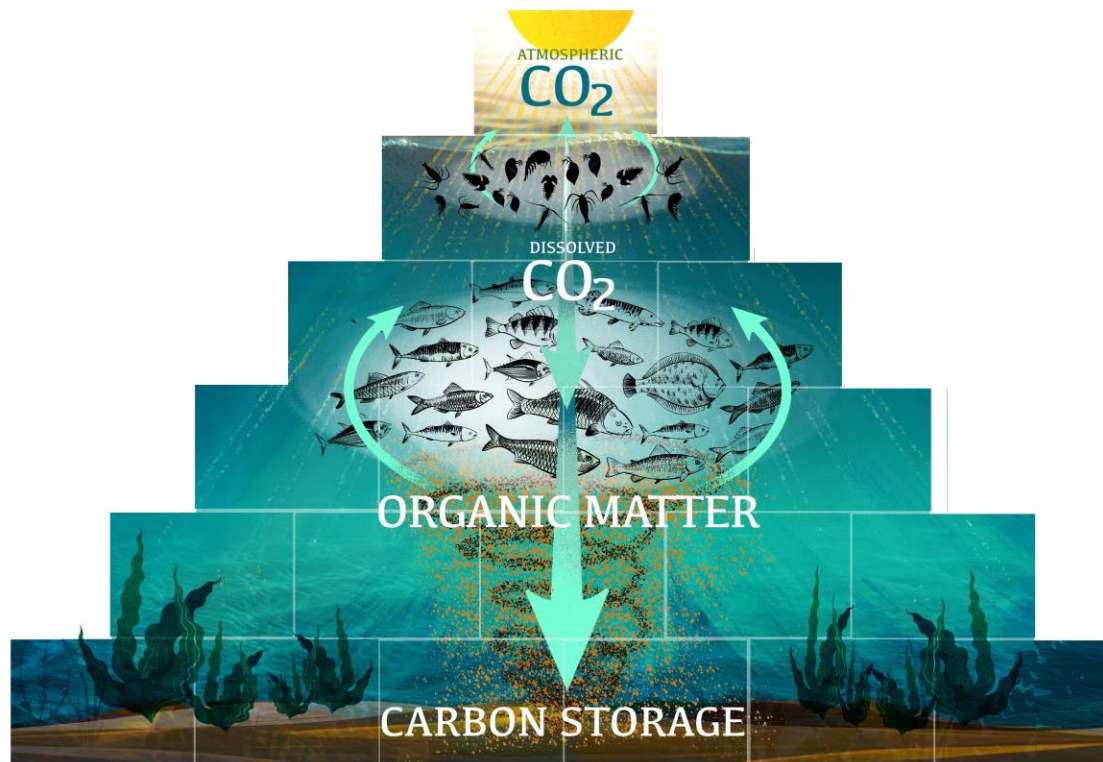
Rebecca Hubbard  
Program Director, Our Fish  
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@Bec\_Hubbard



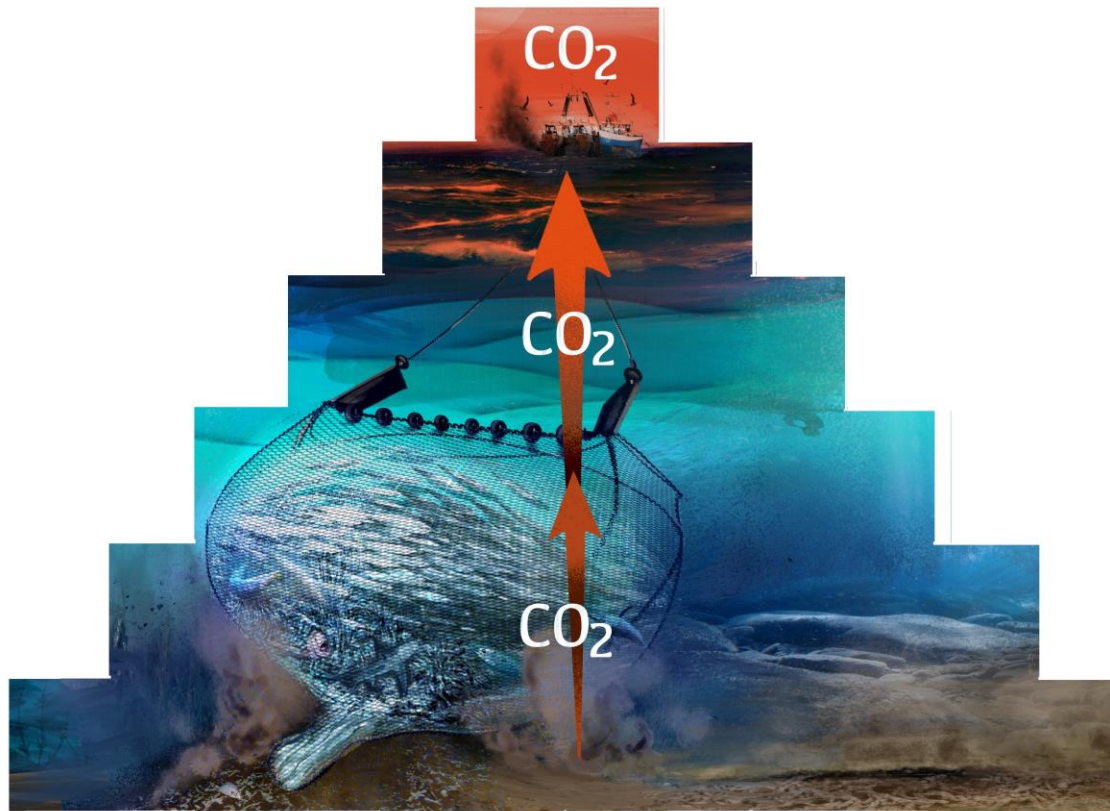
# Ocean As Life Giver

- Source of life on earth
  - Oxygen  $\pm 50\%$
  - Water and climate regulation
  - Heat absorption  $\pm 93\%$  ( $36^\circ$ )
  - Carbon storage  $\pm 30\%$
  - Food
  - Medicine
  - Wellbeing ...
- 

# The Biological Pump & Carbon Engineers

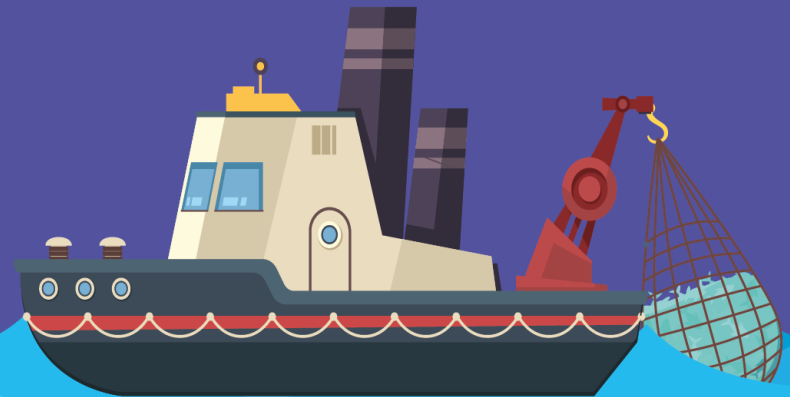


# Burning Up & Breaking Down The Biological Pump



# Overfishing Is Sapping Our Strength

- The biggest impact on ocean biodiversity
- Declining catches
- Social impacts





















# EU Fleet tax exemptions

Reference year 2019	Litres	Taxes of €0.036 per litre in €	Taxes of €0.33 per litre in €	Taxes of €0.67 per litre in €	Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>
<b>SMALL-SCALE FLEET</b>	84,804,624	3,085,428	28,283,087	57,423,237	231,194
<b>LARGE-SCALE FLEET</b>	1,956,540,055	71,229,515	652,937,220	1,325,660,417	4,953,048

# Drivers of Overfishing: Effects of Fuel Subsidies

- **Lower Operating Costs artificially** incentivise destructive and uneconomic fishing.
- **Drives Overfishing** as the fishing sector is chasing a finite resource, making fuel subsidies uniquely harmful.
- Increase **climate change** and **biodiversity loss through the destruction of ocean (fish stock depletion and increase of CO2 emissions)**.
- **Benefit Large-scale fleets disproportionately** supporting more polluting and more destructive fishing fleets, leaving small-scale low-impact fishers with depleted fishing grounds.

Subsidy category	Environmental Impact Score	Social Impact Score	Economic Impact Score	Total impact score
 <b>FUEL SUBSIDIES</b>	1	2	1	4
 <b>FISHER ASSISTANCE</b>	2	3	1	6
 <b>FISHERIES MANAGEMENT</b>	3	2	3	8
 <b>FISHERY R&amp;D</b>	2	3	3	8
 <b>PROTECTION OF AQUATIC SPECIES</b>	3	2	2	7
 <b>RURAL FISHER COMMUNITIES</b>	2	3	1	6
 <b>VESSEL TRANSACTIONS</b>	2	2	2	6
 <b>CERTIFICATION &amp; TRACEABILITY</b>	3	2	3	8
 <b>PROFESSIONAL INITIATIVES</b>	3	3	3	9
 <b>EARLY RETIREMENT</b>	3	3	2	8
 <b>TEMPORARY CESSATIONS OF ACTIVITIES</b>	3	3	2	8
 <b>SELF-GOVERNANCE</b>	3	3	3	9
 <b>ENERGY REDUCTION &amp; DECARBONISATION</b>	2	2	2	6
 <b>REGENERATIVE PRACTICES</b>	3	3	3	9
 <b>SAFETY AT SEA</b>	2	3	2	7
 <b>EDUCATION &amp; AWARENESS</b>	3	3	2	8
 <b>FOOD QUALITY &amp; HEALTH</b>	2	3	2	7
 <b>LOW-IMPACT FISHING</b>	3	2	3	8



# Article 17: Common Fisheries Policy

When allocating the fishing opportunities available to them, as referred to in Article 16, **Member States shall use transparent and objective criteria including those of an environmental, social and economic nature.** The criteria to be used may include, inter alia, the impact of fishing on the environment, the history of compliance, the contribution to the local economy and historic catch levels. Within the fishing opportunities allocated to them, Member States shall endeavour to **provide incentives to fishing vessels deploying selective fishing gear or using fishing techniques with reduced environmental impact, such as reduced energy consumption or habitat damage**

# Environmental drivers



Impacts	PASSIVE GEAR	PASSIVE GEAR	PASSIVE GEAR	ACTIVE GEAR	ACTIVE GEAR	ACTIVE GEAR
	< 12m	12–24m	> 24m	< 12m	12–24m	> 24m
Unwanted catches	<i>Very weak</i>	<i>Weak</i>	<i>Weak</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Strong</i>	<i>Strong</i>
Impact on the seafloor	<i>Weak</i>	<i>Weak</i>	<i>Weak</i>	<i>Moderate-Strong</i>	<i>Strong</i>	<i>Strong</i>
Fuel usage for the landed volumes	<i>Strong</i>	<i>Strong</i>	<i>Weak - Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Very strong</i>	<i>Weak</i>
Total jobs for the landed volumes	<i>Very strong</i>	<i>Strong</i>	<i>Strong</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Weak</i>

## Categorisation based on:

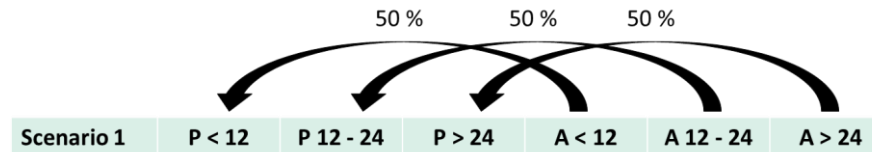
- The typology used is from the Data Collection Framework of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF)
- The fleet segments defined as groups of vessels of the same size class (Length Overall Measurement - LOA) and with a prevailing métier during the year according to European legislation

Source: Christelle Noirat, Céline Jacob, Morgan Raffray, Jean-Christophe Martin (Vertigo Lab), January 2022, "Study on Article 17 of the common fisheries policy. Methodological considerations of an allocation of fishing quotas based on social and environmental criteria", supported by the Greens-EFA group in the European Parliament

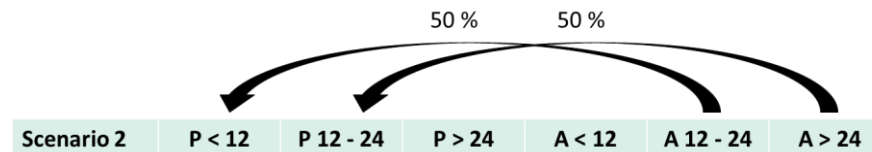
# Environmentally-driven quota reallocation scenarios



## SCENARIO 1



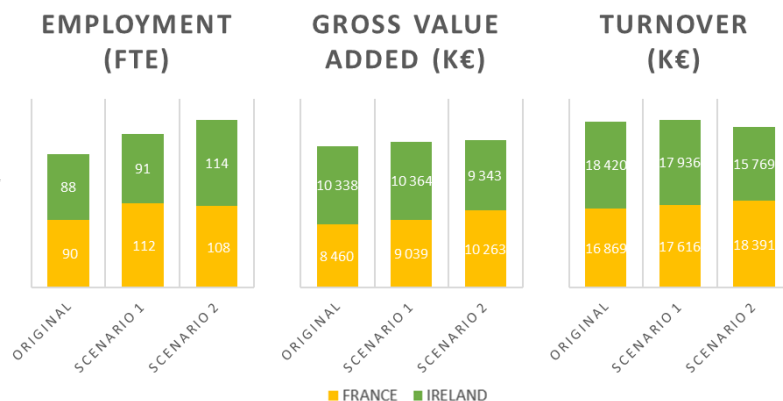
## SCENARIO 2



# Haddock Fishing



Socioeconomic  
impacts



“Made in the  
EU” impact  
multipliers

GVA Type I	Original	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
FRANCE	0.89	0.90	0.91
IRELAND	0.87	0.88	0.89

## Jobs:

- Scenario 1 generates a 9% increase and scenario 2 a 25% increase in the sector’s number of supported jobs
- **Quota reallocation to more artisanal fleets leads to job creation**

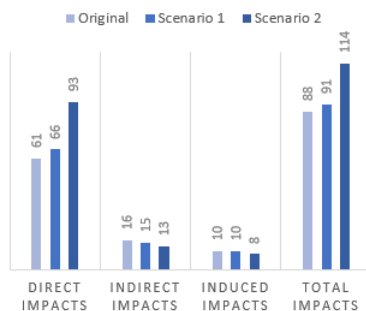
## Economics:

- Overall, revenues and GDP contribution remain stable so that **quota reallocation does not impact the sector’s economic outputs**
- Quota reallocation leads to fewer wealth leakages and therefore more wealth retention within the European Union

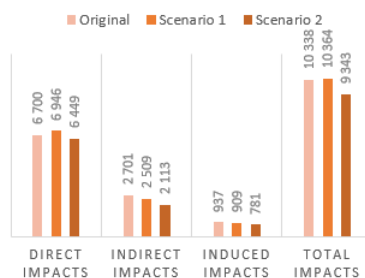
# Haddock fishing - Ireland



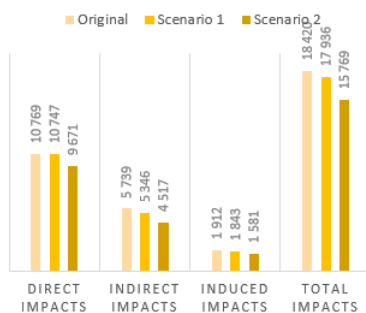
### EMPLOYMENT (FTE)



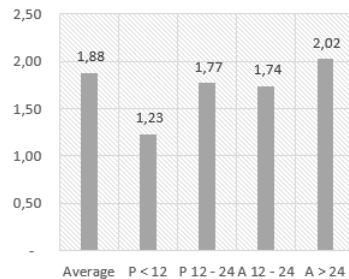
### GROSS VALUE ADDED (K€)



### TURNOVER (K€)



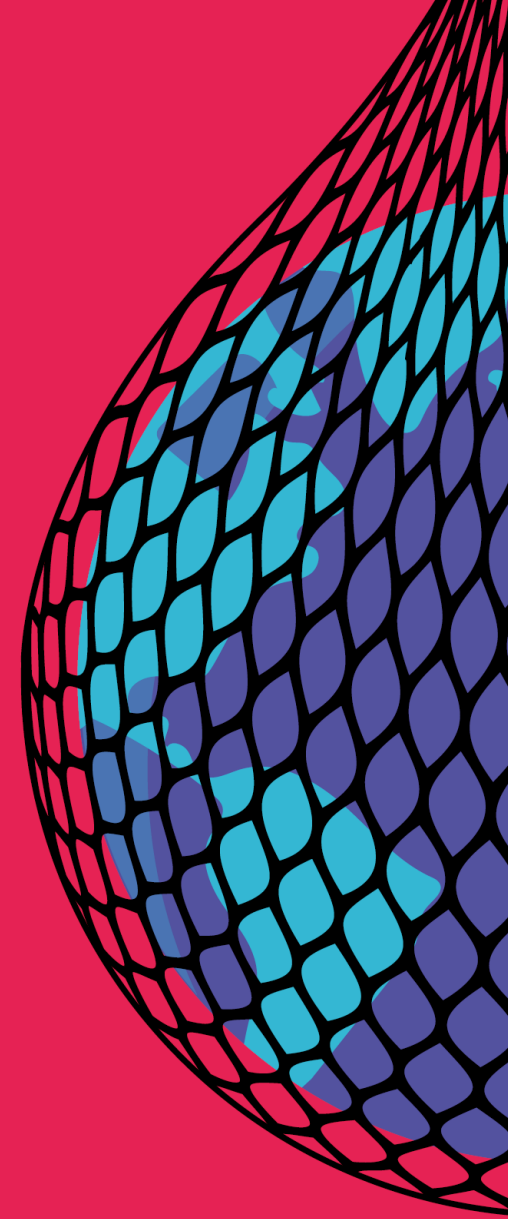
### AVERAGE PRICE OF LANDINGS (€/kg)



Haddock in Ireland		Original	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Jobs (FTE/M €)	Direct	5.70	6.17	9.58
	Type I	7.17	7.57	10.92
	Type II	8.13	8.49	11.79
Turnover	Direct	1.00	1.00	1.00
	Type I	1.53	1.50	1.47
	Type II	1.71	1.67	1.63
GVA	Direct	0.62	0.65	0.67
	Type I	0.87	0.88	0.89
	Type II	0.96	0.96	0.97

# Good Fisheries Management Is Good Carbon Management

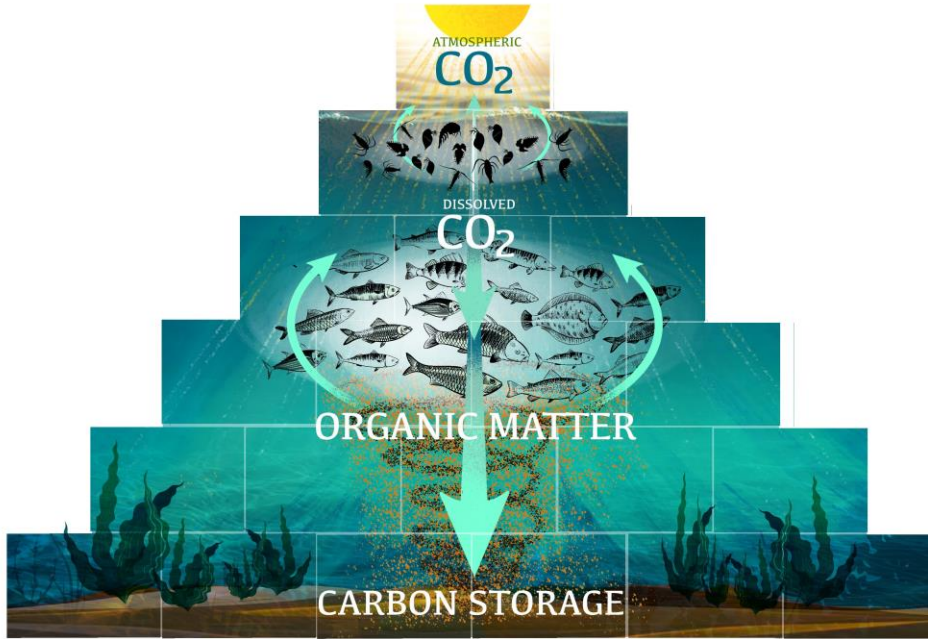
- Increase fish carbon engineers & resilience
- Protect food webs & the biological pump
- Avoid habitat disturbance & destruction
- Decrease CO2 emissions
- Increase CO2 sequestration
- Improve livelihoods and resilience of coastal communities
- Allocating quota based on environmental and social criteria creates jobs
- Economically, transitioning to lower impact gear does not impact € output
- Makes money available to deliver other social and environmental objectives



# Redesigning Fisheries Management For Life

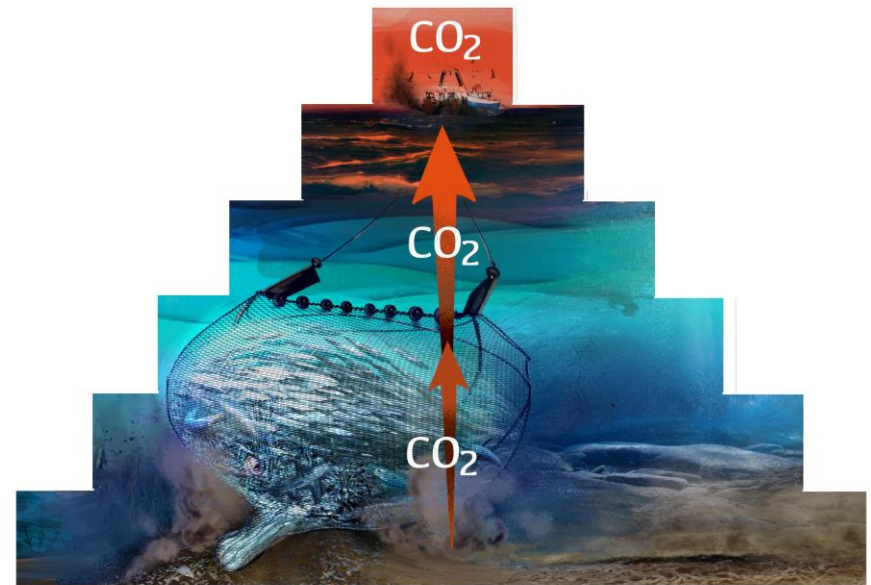
- Set fishing limits below Maximum Sustainable Yield or precautionary advice and rebuild fish populations to healthy levels
- Assess & manage the climate and ecosystem impacts of fishing to protect food webs, habitats, carbon stores and ecosystem functioning
- Allocate access to fisheries resource to incentivize transition to low impact, low carbon fishing
- Recognise fisheries management as carbon management, including in climate action plans
- Stop subsidising fuel tax





## THANK YOU

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