

# STECF-24-05 report on social data in fisheries

Joint NSAC/NWWAC Social Aspects Focus Group

17 January 2025



Why and what for

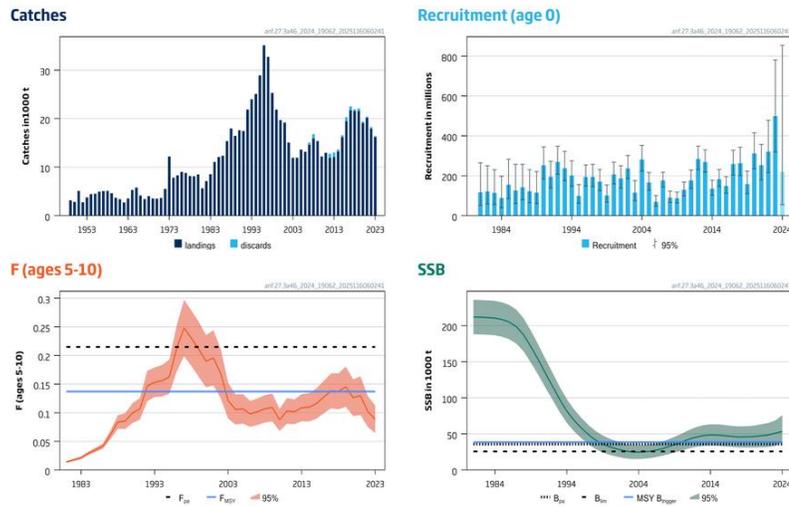


What

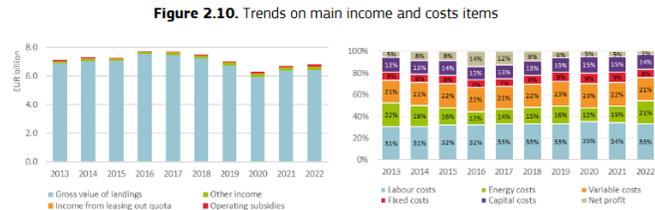




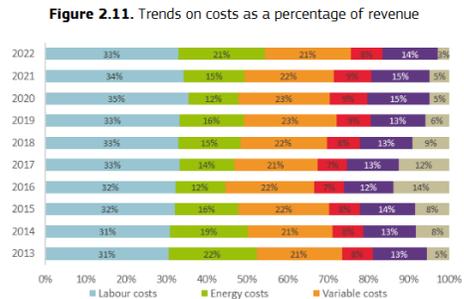
# 1. Why and what for



Standard graphs in stock assessment.  
Source: ICES

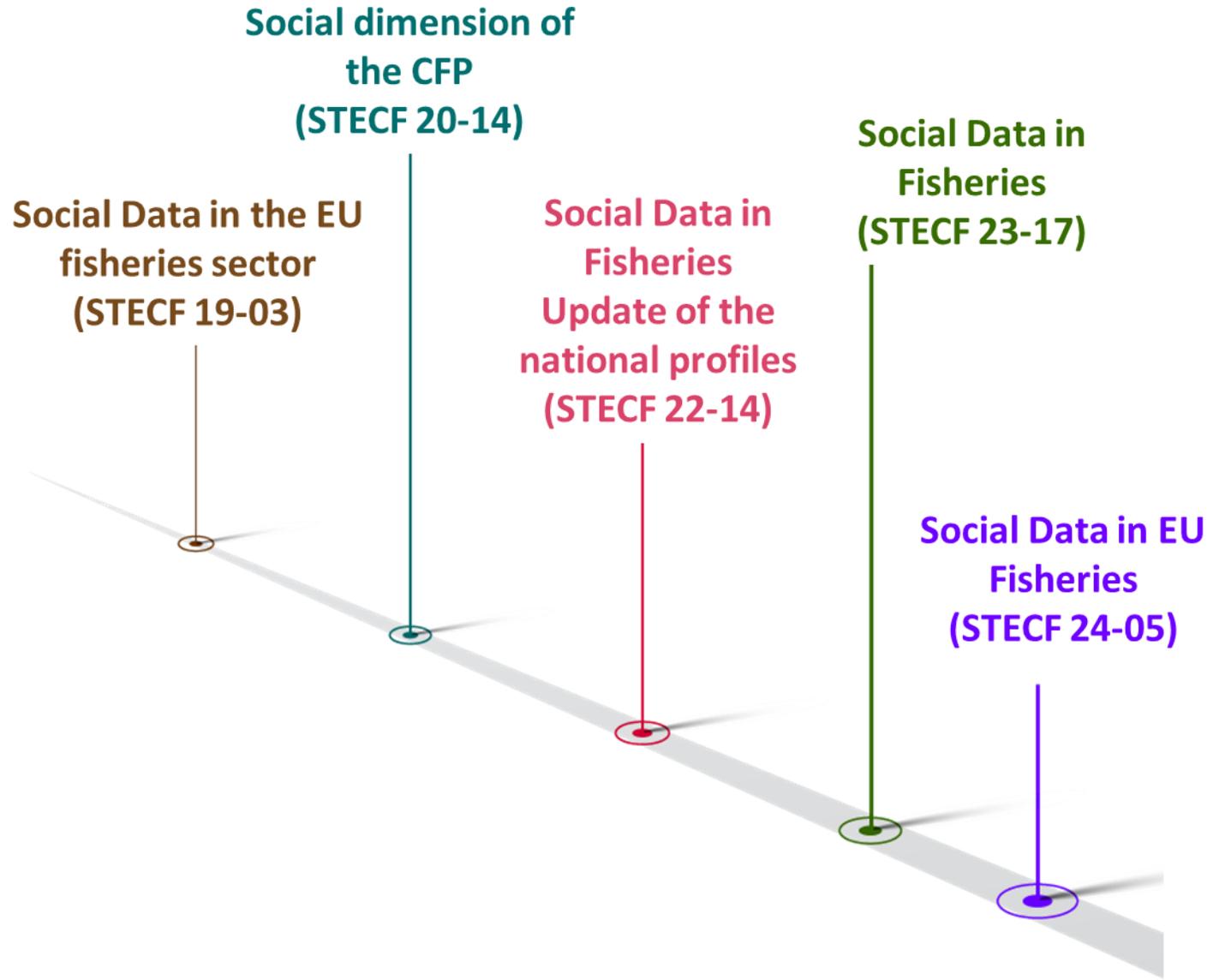


Data source: MS data submissions under the 2024 Fleet Economic data call (MARE/A3/ACS(2024)); All monetary values adjusted for inflation, constant prices (2022). Trends exclude Greece for time-series consistency.



Standard graphs in economic assessment.  
Source: STECF, AER

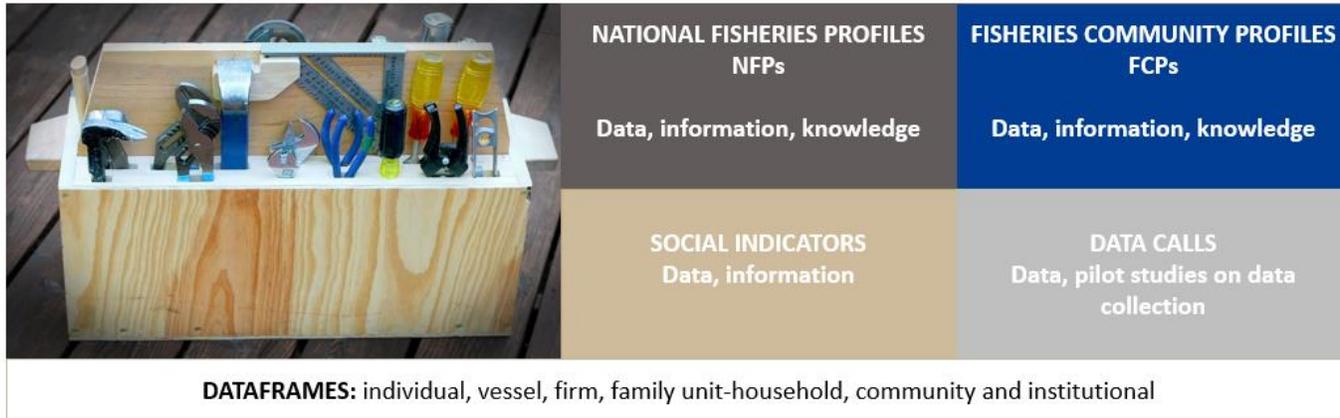




**SOCIAL DIMENSION  
IS READY TO BE  
OPERATIONAL**

# WHAT: A TOOLBOX FOR THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF THE CFP

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Toolbox picture by [Joachim Schlosser](#) under CC BY 2.0 Deed



Scientific Technical and Economic  
Committee for Fisheries (STECF) –

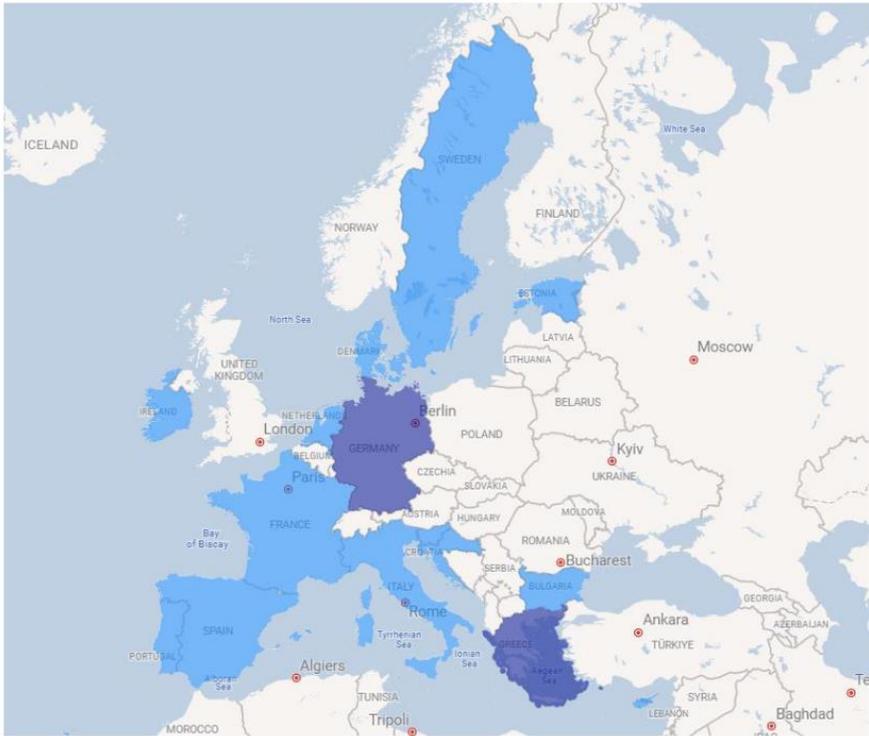
Social Data in Fisheries  
(STECF-24-05)

<https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/461821>

CFP based on sound, integrated scientific advice that  
**effectively deals with the social dimension**



# NATIONAL FISHERIES PROFILES



## Provide

- Role fisheries play in society, status and factors
- Critical features: social and institutional
- Well-being and living conditions

## Enable:

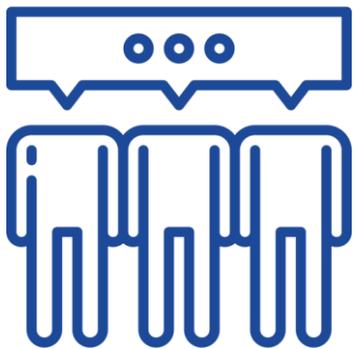
- Analysis of trends and challenges
- Comparison across Member States:
  - Assessment of expected impacts (before)
  - Measuring effects (after)
  - Analysis of effectiveness

# Quality check: are they fit for purpose?

QUESTIONS	BULGARIA	CYPRUS	ESTONIA	FRANCE	CROATIA	IRELAND	ITALY	PORTUGAL	SLOVENIA	SWEDEN
Q1. Addresses all the items of the NFP template (see sheet 2)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Q2. Provides a brief outline of fisheries role in society:	Y	Y	Y	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- structure	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- economic role	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
- social role	Y	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	P
- cultural role	Y	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Q3. Provide social data and knowledge on the social state of the fisheries	Y	P	P	Y	Y	Y	P	P	Y	Y
Q4. provide insights to contextualize social data	Y	N	P	Y	P	Y	N	P	Y	Y
Q5. provide a brief description of some salient social, institutional and legal elements	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Q6. provide a deeper socio-economic understanding of how and to what extent fisheries play a role in the Member State at different scales	Y	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Q7. enable comparison of social variables to identify imbalances in society, addressing questions of well-being and living conditions	P	N	P	Y	P	P	P	P	P	P
Q8. enable (if repeated on X year time) for analysis of trends and challenges	P	Y	P	Y	Y	Y	N	P	Y	Y
Q9. allow for comparison of fisheries sectors among Member States, for instance to measure the effects of the Common Fisheries Policy	Y	P	P	Y	P	N	P	Y	Y	P



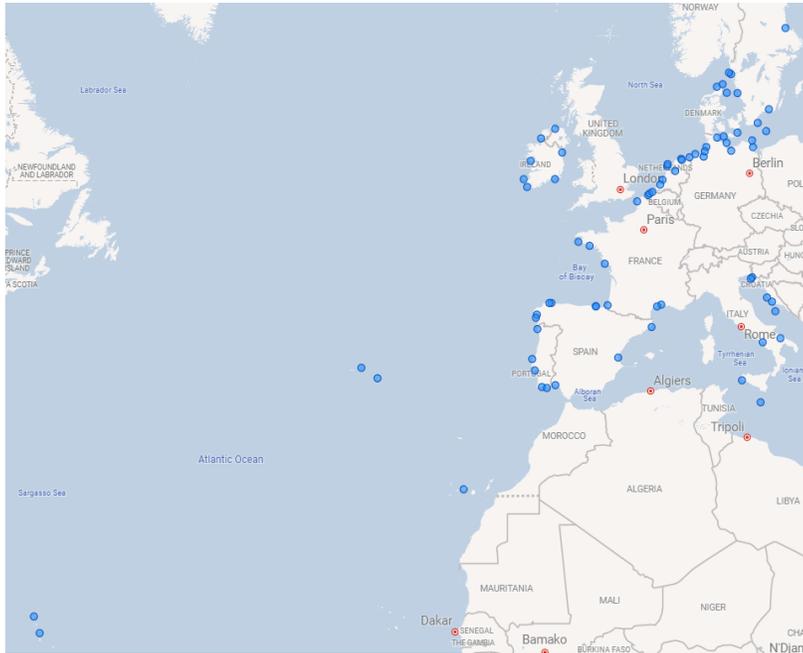
## COMMUNITY FISHERIES PROFILES



- **Place-based**, around fisheries harbours, but can pertain to wider geographical areas.
- Where fisheries generates **social & economic benefits**
- **Enables generations of fisheries**: shared norms and interlinks. Grow into/grow up as a fisher
- Likely to include fisheries-based organizations and ancillary industries in aquatic food value chains



# COMMUNITY FISHERIES PROFILES



Dominant Criteria ● Contrast ● Plurality ● Policy

On-going process: 30  
suggested to start with

## Provide

- Deeper understanding at community level
- Diversity within countries

## Enable:

- Social impact assessment
- Impact of cumulative policies (CFP, MSFD, MSP)
- Impact and response to crisis

# Template for community profiles discussed



Fieldwork (rapid assessment) as method is highly advised



- Building on the experience on developing NFPs, it would be good to have a system in place on developing community profiles. The EWG 24-05 proposes bringing the different experts writing the first FCPs together (in a working group) in order for them to collaborate where possible and discuss issues that might arise.

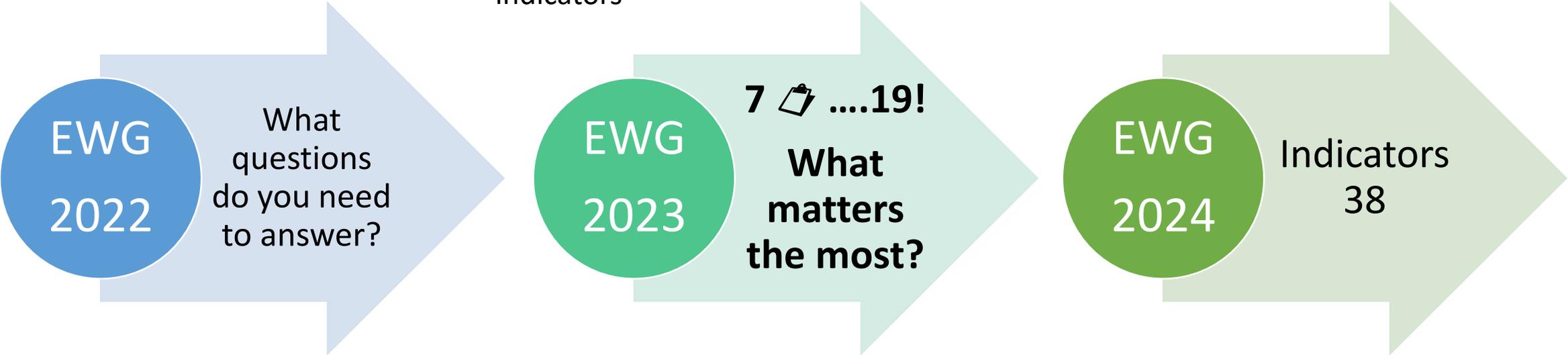
# SOCIAL INDICATORS



**Social indicators for the CFP are needed**

**DG-MARE SCOPING PAPER:**  
Policy questions (7) for social indicators

**DG-MARE CONSULTATION:**  
Member States, Advisory bodies (ACs, ICES), Social actors, NGOs.  
25 replies



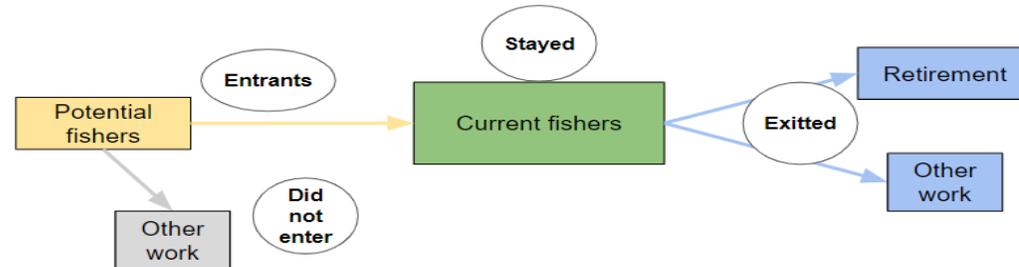
**An indicator without a goal provides an answer without a question!**



# SOCIAL INDICATORS: PRIORITIES

**Figure 4.2** Policy priorities of stakeholders consulted by the EU Commission showing the top five priority areas

Policy theme	Policy area	Social partners	Advisory Councils	Advisory Council Members	Attachés / Member States	Environmental NGOs	SSCF representatives	Scientific bodies	Priority score excluding not mentioned	Priority score where not mentioned = not prioritised
A. State of Play	a. Current socio-economic situation of fishers (working conditions, safety, type & number of contracts over a year, well-being, training & skills, social position in society, income, employment type, age, gender, etc)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
C. Dependency	a. Vulnerability of fishers (wages, contracts, social coverage, pension, predictability of business environment, financial position, work safety, etc.)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
F. Generation renewal	b. Number of fishers that have “dropped” or discontinued the family business, and reasons (safety, income, hardship, family itself doesn’t want them to continue)	4	4	4	4	4		3	3.8	3.3
B. Assessment of management measures	a. Impact of EU conservation measures on fishing communities in terms of employment, working conditions and potential for social conflict	4	4	4	4	2	4	4	3.7	3.7
F. Generation renewal	a. Attractiveness of the profession for the younger generation (working conditions and safety for men and women, training & skills, safety, income, social coverage, pension, working hours, time away from home, employment type (self-employed, full time, part time, etc.), level of professionalization, use of IT/technology, integration of environmental concerns, etc.)	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	3.7	3.7
C. Dependency	c. Impact of the employment of non-national fishers (EU and non-EU) on fishing communities	4	3		2				3	1.3





# SOCIAL INDICATORS. PRIORITIES. PILOTS

## **Current situation:**

- Working conditions: work safety. Minimum crew per vessel, mandatory safety training.
- Well-being. Time away from home, financial security.
- Fishers in trade unions

## **Generational renewal:**

- People entering the fishing industry: trained & enrolled.
- New entrances in the vessels register

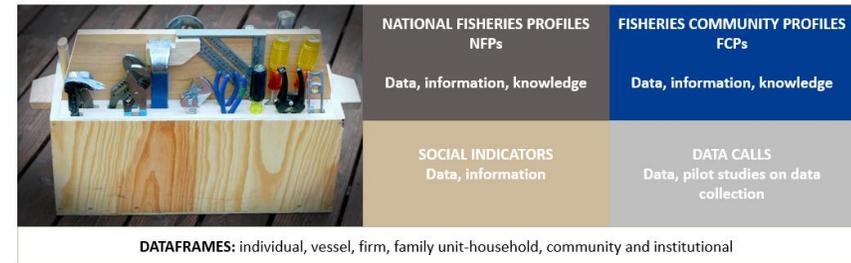
## **Dependency**

- Financial position: average net income compared to national averages.  
Owner/crew

## **Impact of policy measures**

- % sea allocated to other uses/Priority areas for fishing

# A TOOLBOX FOR THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF THE CFP



**FROM:** Social dimension matters but evidence is scarce, disperse, fluffy and cannot be used in the advisory process.

**TO:** Generate evidence to inform decision-making, identify relevant issues and provide sound scientific advice that **effectively deals with the social dimension**

# Thanks!

Based on EWG 24-05 STECF report edited by  
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