

What has the EU done for our fisheries?

- The EU provides support to our fisheries and aquaculture industries through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). The EU provides over €240 million of funding to the UK via the EMFF.
- The EMFF promotes environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based fisheries and aquaculture; supports the industry to implement the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP); increases employment and territorial cohesion and fosters marketing and processing.
- CFP seeks to ensure the sustainability of the EU's fishing industry by managing fish stock as a shared resource.
- By setting quotas for fishing stock along Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY), CFP can provide a long-term sustainable future for Scottish fishing communities.
- By fishing to MSY, fleets are securing their industry's future prosperity as MSY reducing fishing pressure on fish stocks, allowing them to grow whilst still providing value to the industry.
- As fish stocks recover and grow MSY also grows meaning fleets consistently catch larger/mature fish and more of them.
- The reformed CFP introduces a 'Landing Obligation' - previous iterations of CFP led to fishermen discarding fish that would otherwise be fit for human consumption in order to meet quotas.
- The new 'Landing Obligation' introduces quota flexibility, promotion of increased selectivity and funding for compliance measures and will be phased in, fishery by fishery, by 2019.
- CFP also helps the environment through the replenishment of fish stocks and measures to improve fishing equipment.
- The EU has established zones that are protected from fishing in order to preserve fragile ecosystems.
- Thanks to the EU we now have cleaner water and beaches, which helps the environment and the tourist industry.

- The EU is helping Member States look to the future with our oceans and seas. For example, Blue Growth is the EU initiative that seeks to harness the potential of Europe's oceans, seas and coasts to increase jobs, value and sustainability.
- 10% of the EU coastline is found in the UK measuring approximately 18,000km. Scotland accounts for roughly one third of this total and the top three British ports, by volume, are found in Scotland: Peterhead, Shetland and Fraserburgh.
- The UK is the third fisheries producer by volume and value in the EU and is the third largest aquaculture producer with 14% of overall production by weight. Salmon, trout and mussels are the dominant products - species that Scotland's aquaculture industry specialises in.
- The British fish processing industry generates the highest income in the EU. The North East of Scotland and - to a lesser extent - the Highlands & Islands dominate the UK fish processing industry. Approximately 50,000 people work in the British fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing industries.