Knowledge Networks

towards an economic viable, healthy and sustainable seafood sector

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Dutch fisheries sector faced several problems

Challenges:

- Technical development of fishing gear
- Better economic performance of fisheries
- Cutting costs (saving energy)
- Less impact seabed and unwanted bycatches
- Multi purpose use of vessels
- Fishprices, value adding, market information
- Being a foodproducing sector and responsibility
- .....and so on.....

Fisheries sector is not really different from other sectors

Entrepreneurs have to be aware that they should:

- Permanently monitor what is happening in society and in the market (entrepreneurship)
- Innovate, because of it is a continuing story
- Create a system of R&D just like other businesses
- Have to cooperate because the sector is rather small
- Take responsibility for production of food (stock management)
- ...And so on.....

2008 2011 2012 2014 - 2020

The Dutch Approach

2008 | **2011** | 2012 | 2014 - 2020

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Fisheries Knowledge Networks and the role of LEI and IMARES:

- ***Defining*** research needs
- ***Facilitating*** communication and cooperation
- ***Carry out*** research projects and experiments

All in close collaboration with fishermen, fish farmers, scientists and other experts

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One third of all Dutch fishermen are related to one or more Knowledge Networks

• Pulse	Flatfish/Shrimp
• Twinrig	Nephrops/Plaice
• Outrig	Flatfish
• Small-scale	Seabass
• Gillnet	Sole
• Flyshoot	Mullet/Gurnard
• Inshore	Crab/Eel
• Aquaculture	Oyster/Fish

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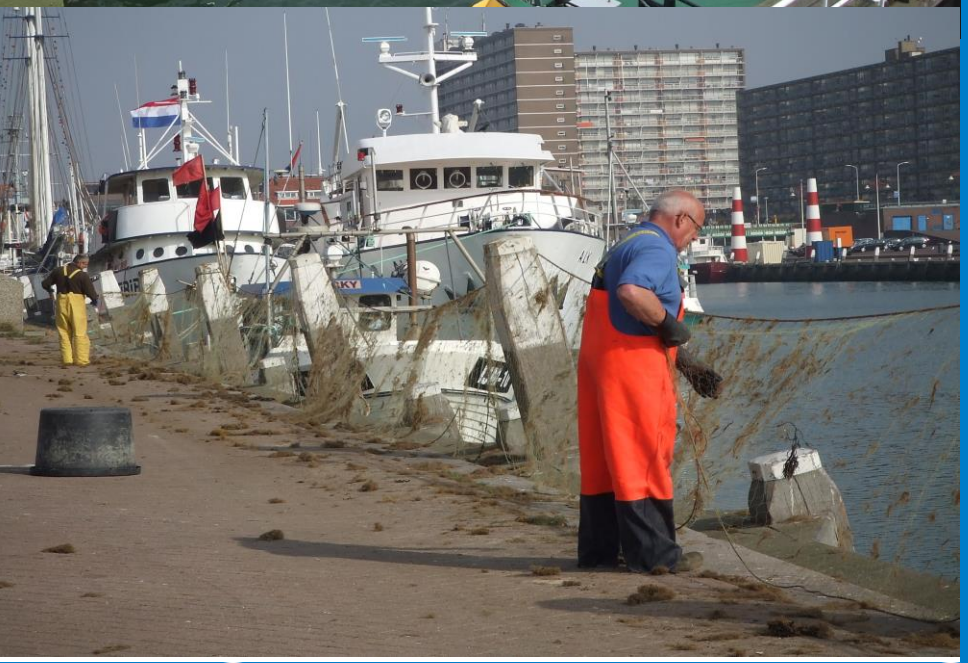
Examples of results

Development of Aquaculture and more open minded attitude:

- New breading methods for oysters
- Sustainable harvesting and efficiency
- Market research and knowledge about consumers and needs
- Cooperation in research
- Rising profitability



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Examples of results

Development of small scale, coastal fisheries:

- Documentation species
- Certification by MSC
- Local for local production and market opportunities
- Exclusion of unwanted bycatch
- Traceability by CCTV (Closed-circuit television)

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Examples of results

Development of Flatfish fishery:

- New economic viable fishing techniques
- Reduction of discards and bycatch (30-50%)
- Fuel savings (up to 60%)
- Selfsampling of catches
- Cooperation in research
- Rising profitability

Results 2008-2012

- Change of mindset: from fisherman to maritime entrepreneur
- Implementation of technical innovations
- Better economic performance, innovators > better results
- New ideas are born as a result of good experiences

Results 2008-2012

Just in flatfish:

- Savings of more than 20.000 tons of fuel a year
- Better quality of fish and fishprices (up to 5%)
- Implementation of technical innovations
- Better economic performance, innovators > better results
- New ideas are born as a result of good experiences

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Conclusions

- Knowledge exchange between fishermen, scientists and others has proven to be very successful
- Many European fisheries (communities) face similar challenges
- Projects such as Fisheries Knowledge Networks are crucial in accelerating innovation processes and entrepreneurship

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Ambitions

Collaboration with international partners to organise Fisheries Knowledge Networks on a European scale

Networks to exchange information, research and knowledge

As a tool to improve the overall performance and competitiveness of fisheries within the EU

International Knowledge Networks in the near future!

Thank you very much for your attention

Questions?

2008 2011 2012 2014 - 2020