

# Workshop

## Understanding and communicating the socio-cultural value of inshore fishing

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# Fisheries Crisis!



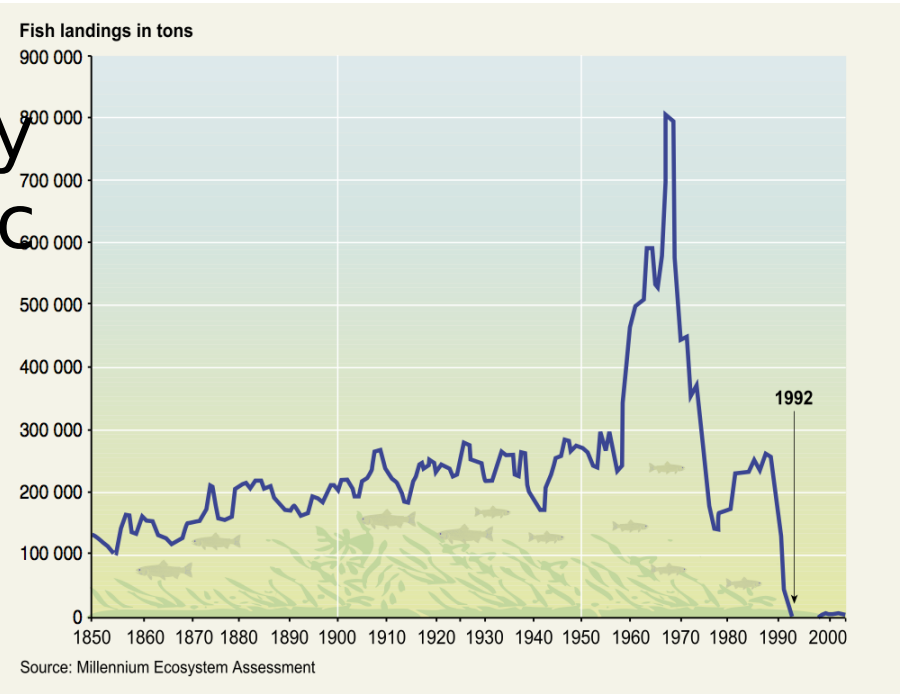
Popular  
representation


But supported by some statistics: The FAO *State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2012* reports that 87% of marine fish stocks were either fully Exploited or overexploited in 2009 (FAO 2012).

# Policy backdrop: Crisis in Fisheries

Response was driven by biological and economic concerns

**Figure 11. COLLAPSE OF ATLANTIC COD STOCKS OFF THE EAST COAST OF NEWFOUNDLAND IN 1992 (CF Box 2.4)**





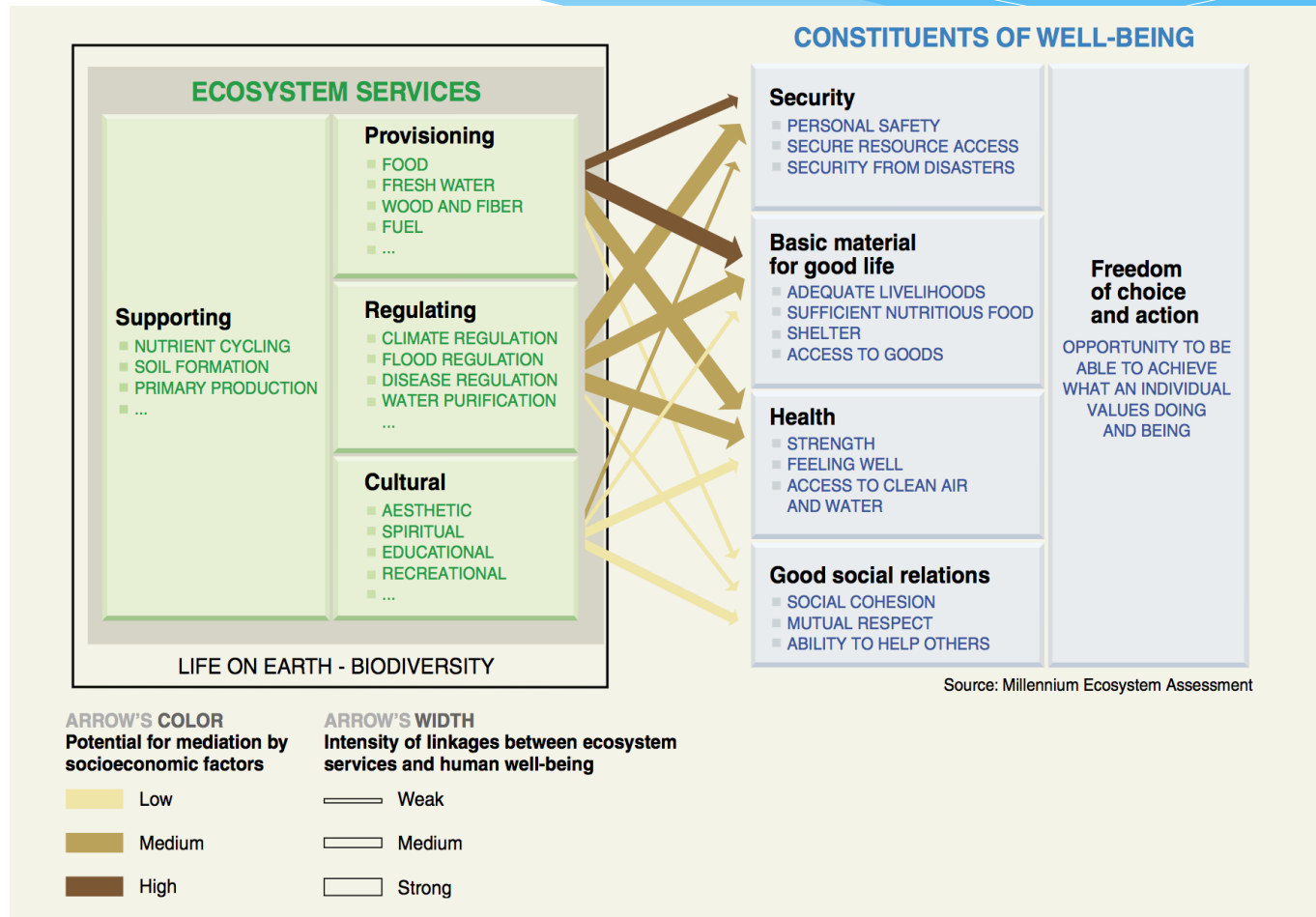
“Despite evidence of a broadening of the science base for European fisheries policy with the incorporation of an ecosystem approach and increasing use of economic modelling, the contribution of the social sciences to policy related research remains less conspicuous”

(Symes and Hoefnagel 2010)

# Fisheries and sustainability

- \* This is despite calls for fisheries management to be formulated within a paradigm for sustainability (and attention be paid to economic / environmental / social dimensions)
- \* FAO Global Code of conduct for Responsible Fisheries states: *“The Code recognises the nutritional, economic, social, environmental and cultural importance of fisheries, and the interests of all those concerned with the fishery sector”* (FAO 1995).
- \* Development of an Ecosystem Approach to fisheries

# How to understand socio-economic / cultural aspects of IF





<b>Cultural Ecosystem Services</b>	<b>Socio-cultural attributes identified by CHARM project</b>
<i>Cultural identity</i>	Fishing as 'a way of life'. Contribution of fishing to social cohesion and community identity. Fishing as 'iconic' marker of identity.
<i>Heritage values</i>	Fishing is represented through 'memories' in the <u>landscape</u> : harbours, capstan houses, net huts etc. Memory of past fishing activity influences identity.
<i>Spiritual services</i>	Fishers feel a deep connection to the sea through their daily engagement with it.
<i>Inspiration</i>	Fishing and the marine environment provide inspiration for artists, music, <u>literature</u> .
<i>Aesthetic appreciation</i>	Fishing influences place character through its material presence (contemporary and historic), e.g. boats, fishing gear, buildings, street decoration etc.
<i>Recreation &amp; tourism</i>	'Fishing culture' contributes to the appeal of places for tourism through the presence of fishing fleets, heritage and fish as cuisine. Tourist boat trips, buying fresh fish etc.

# Workshop exercise

1. Landscapes of Fishing exhibition – take about 20 minutes to walk around the exhibition and look at the pictures. Please note down any ideas or thoughts on the Post-it notes in response to the questions.
2. In small groups, please consider the following questions (40 mins):
  - Thinking about the themes in the exhibition, what are the ways that inshore fishing might be important to coastal communities?
  - Do you think it is important to understand the socio-cultural importance of inshore fisheries (if yes why, if no why?)
  - How might the social and cultural importance of inshore fishing be captured in different places
  - How might the results be communicated to a range of stakeholders?