



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Public Hearing on the State of Play of the Implementation of the Landing Obligation and Allocation of Quotas by the Member States

24 April 2017



The Landing Obligation in a Nutshell

A KEY OBJECTIVE OF THE 2013 CFP

=> to gradually **eliminate discards**

- Progressively (by 1/1/2019 at the latest)
- On a case-by-case basis and taking into account the best available scientific advice

=> on the basis of temporary **discard plans**

- Adopted through regionalization
- With the compulsory consultation of the Advisory Councils





Multiannual (MAP) & Discard Plans

=> MAPs and Discard plans are the instruments to address the challenges of the Landing Obligation

- Only the Baltic MAP has been adopted so far; but Commission proposals for the North Sea and Adriatic MAPs are now being discussed
- Since October 2014, 15 discard plans have been adopted by the Commission





Monitoring of the Landing Obligation

The Commission is monitoring the implementation of the landing obligation closely and annually reports to the European Parliament and to the Council on the basis of reports submitted by:

- ✓ Member States (MS)
- ✓ the Advisory Councils
- ✓ EFCA and
- ✓ other relevant information

The first report was published last year and concerned the LO in 2015 (pelagics and cod and salmon in the Baltic)





State of Play with the 2017 Report

- To improve MS reporting, this year we requested STECF to prepare a non-binding questionnaire for MS annual reporting
- Most MS have indeed followed this questionnaire and this has improved the quality of the reporting
- EFCA and a number of Advisory Councils have also submitted reports
- STECF is currently assessing these reports. The main findings will be included in the Policy Statement to be adopted late May





LO in 2016: First Insights

- ✓ Extension of the LO to some **demersal fisheries in the North Sea and in the Atlantic**
- ✓ **Important adjustment for the industry**
- ✓ MS have made **progress in disseminating information**
- ✓ **Scientific studies** have been launched and are ongoing in all sea basins, some of them industry-led
- ✓ **Socio-economic effects** have so far been mitigated
- ✓ **No safety issues** reported





LO 2016 and beyond: Main Challenges (I)

1. Choke species

- we need to know which are the concrete choke situations to be able to identify the appropriate remedial actions
- COM is working closely with MS to this end
- Seminar will be held in autumn 2017 with industry and other stakeholders

2. Marketing

- quantities of fish below MCRS landed are very small; not attractive for the industry & mainly used for fishmeal
- Further work is needed to sort out the marketing and storage of unwanted catches





LO 2016 and beyond: Main Challenges (II)

3. Lack of Data

- MS Reporting has been more qualitative than quantitative
- discard rates and comparative data for quantitative analysis are still missing or possibly deteriorating – this affects scientific advice but also our ability to evaluate the implementation of the LO

4. Enforcement and control

- More attention should be given to enforcement and control
- EFCA is assisting MS with the control of the LO





CFP and EMFF Tools to Help Implement the LO

Main CFP tools

- TAC top-ups – have been used in the setting of fishing opportunities
- Quota management – Only a few MS have amended their national quota management system to take into account the implementation of the landing obligation
- Inter-species flexibility has not been used by many MS
- Six MS report using the inter-annual flexibility mechanism

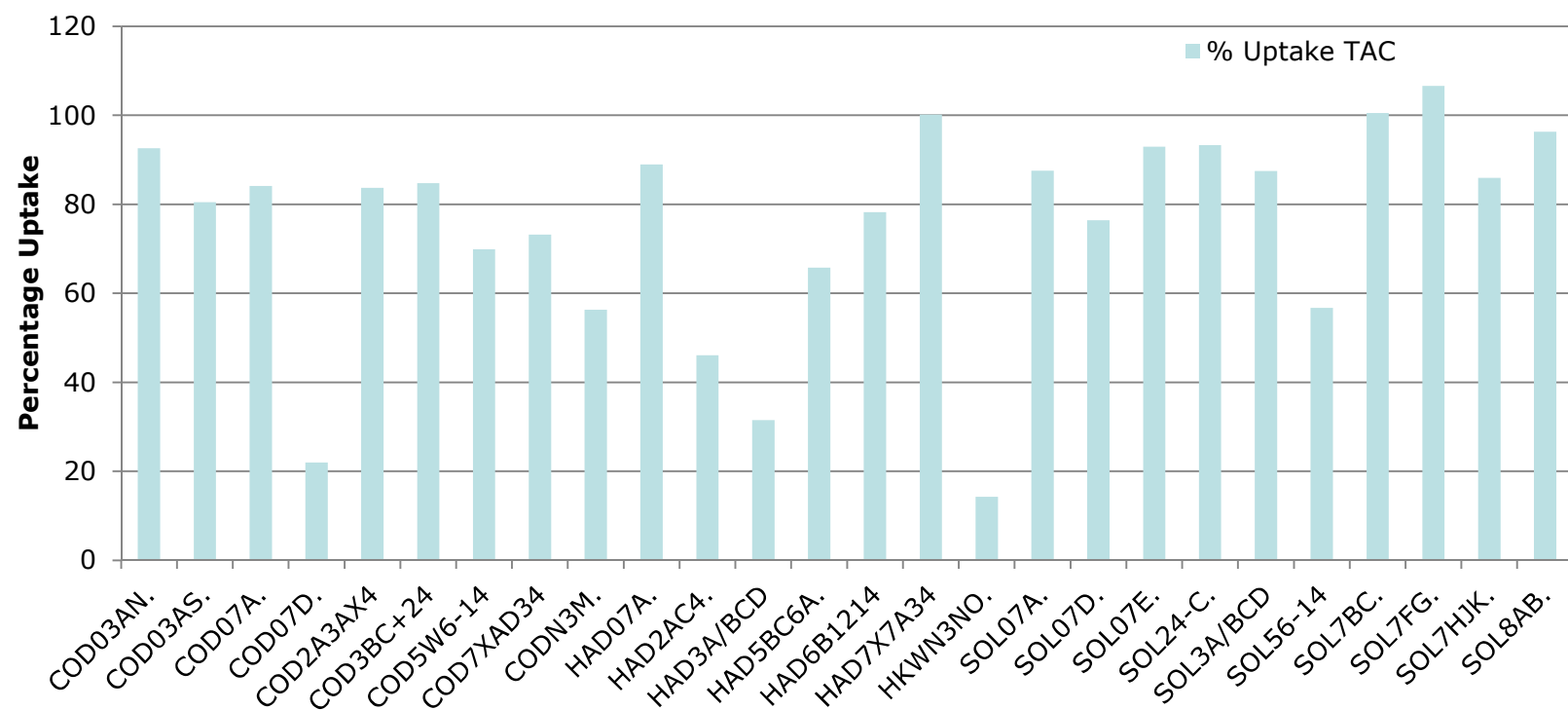
EMFF funding

- €288.161.768,43 is reserved for the implementation of the LO – overall EMFF implementation currently stands at less than 2% of the 2014-2020 period...

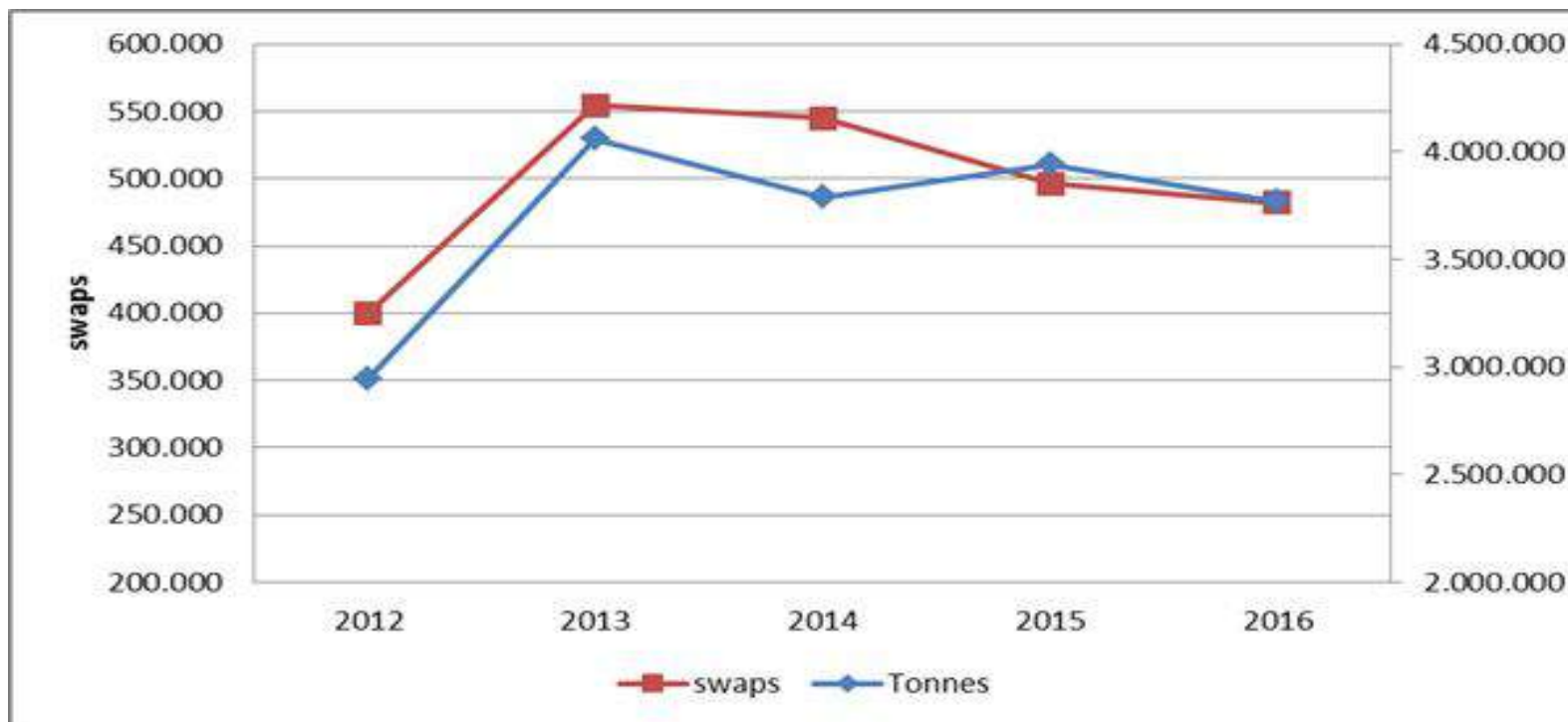
⇒ The CFP and EMFF tools are under-utilized!



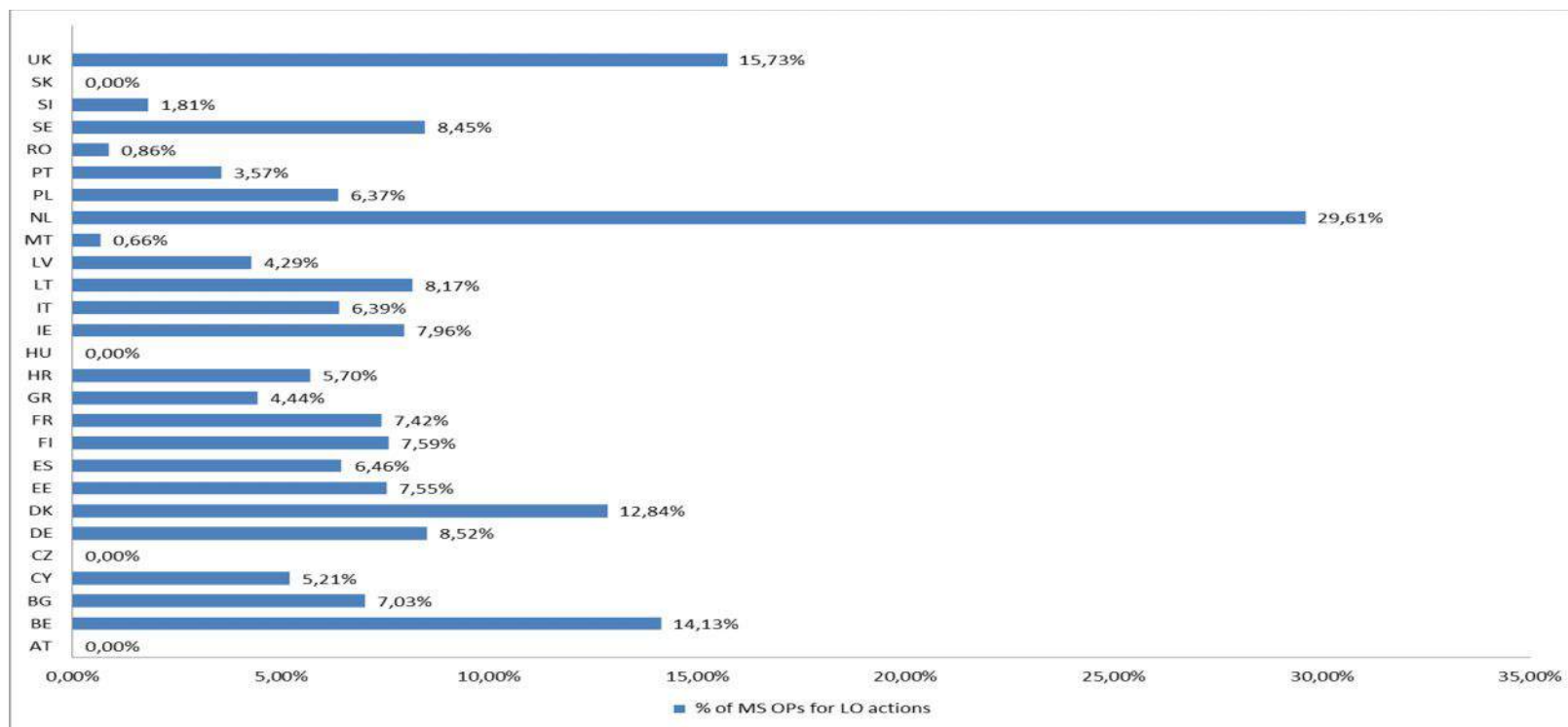
Percentage Uptake of Overall TAC for Example Species and Stocks (2016 provisional data)



Quotas Swaps 2012-2016: Decreasing Trend



Measures Related to the LO Compared to the Total EMFF Resources Available per MS





Tentative Conclusions

- ✓ The LO obligation is a *challenge* for MS and the industry
- ✓ But it is also a *key objective of the 2013 CFP* and we are committed to make it work
- ✓ The CFP and the EMFF contain several tools to help us with this
- ✓ These need to be used in a more systematic way
- ✓ Regional cooperation must be strengthened with the involvement of stakeholders and the Advisory Councils
- ✓ Commission is ready to assist, wherever possible!

