



July 2022

### **Common Language Group e-alert**

**(news alerts issued to CLG circulation list by email in July 2022)**

<https://www.seafish.org/responsible-sourcing/seafood-issues-groups/the-common-language-group/>

### **Funding**

#### **Funding schemes for the UK seafood industry**

This page on the Seafish website has information on key national grant and funding opportunities that are available to UK seafood and marine businesses.

#### **UK SF Skills and Training Scheme (bids open in summer 2022 for eight weeks)**

The Skills and Training Scheme will provide a one-off fund of up to £10 million to improve training in the seafood industry, including the catching, processing and aquaculture sectors.

#### **BBSRC Business and Academia Prosperity Partnership funding of £11 million (Closing date for applications is 8 September 2022)**

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) is inviting applications for funding to support established research partnerships between business and academic institutions.

### **Fisheries management**

#### **ICES releases advice on fishing opportunities 2023 for Northeast Atlantic areas (30 June 2022)**

The ICES has released its advice on fishing opportunities for 2023 for Northeast Atlantic areas including the West of Scotland, the North Sea, Irish Sea and Celtic Sea. ICES recommends a 44% TAC increase for cod, as scientists confirm 'record' haddock year-classes.

#### **NAPA criticises hypocrisy of major coastal states at UN Ocean Conference (30 June 2022)**

In the wake of the UN Ocean Conference, the North Atlantic Pelagic Advocacy Group (NAPA) expresses alarm at the recent decisions of the Norwegian and Faroese governments to ignore calls for cooperation and set unilateral quotas for Northeast Atlantic mackerel.

#### **Crowded seas a serious threat to fishing industry, warns major new report (30 June 2022)**

The report, Spatial Squeeze in Fisheries, produced by ABPmer for the Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) and National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO), is the first attempt to quantify the cumulative impact on commercial fishing of the hugely increased competition for space in the marine environment.

### **Reports**

#### **Inflation continues to dampen UK seafood sales (21 July 2022)**

According to Kantar chilled fish sales in UK grocery stores continued to decline in the most recent quarter, dampened by higher overall grocery prices. Overall UK chilled fish sales dropped 8% year-on-year to £493.3 million for the quarter ending 12 June. Inflation has had a dampening effect on seafood sales in the UK, but overall, seafood prices have remained consistent since inflationary pressures have started to impact the wider grocery and protein market. See the latest Seafish market insight reports <https://www.seafish.org/insight-and-research/>

### [\*\*Seafish customs and trade news \(July 2022\)\*\*](#)

This covers the We discuss the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the cold water prawn tariff running out, criticism against the Australian FTA and the new push to remove trade barriers.

### [\*\*APPG Fisheries and Food Policy: Recording and Q&A \(14 July 2022\)\*\*](#)

The recording of the All Party Parliamentary Fisheries Group (APPG) webinar on fisheries and food policy is now online. This covered: how to better connect the seafood sector with food policy and the wider food supply chain in the UK; the role of seafood in food security; interactions between policy and consumer behaviour; and the importance of transparency in the seafood supply chain.

### [\*\*The 11 sins of seafood: Assessing a decade of food fraud reports in the global supply chain \(11 July 2022\)\*\*](#)

The study assesses food fraud trends across 80 countries and 72 seafood species to provide an analysis of the types of fraud that exist within the seafood supply chain and which are most exposed to criminality. Aquaculture is the most vulnerable area of the seafood supply chain to food fraud owing to the presence of illegal or unauthorized veterinary antimicrobials from Asia, claimed the study.

### [\*\*Making the FAO Global Record an effective tool in the fight against IUU fishing \(11 July 2022\)\*\*](#)

A new report from the EU IUU Fishing Coalition provides an overview of the performance of some of the EU's key international partners the FAO Global Record. This provides a database which can be used by stakeholders across the seafood supply chain, NGOs and civil society organisations to 'help combat IUU fishing by enhancing transparency and traceability'.

### [\*\*UN publishes State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022 report \(29 June 2022\)\*\*](#)

Globally the percentage of the world's fish stocks which are subject to overfishing has increased from around 10% of wild stocks in the 1970s to 34.2% in 2017, and 35.4% in 2019. However, the report shows that 82.5% of volume of fish landed is now sustainably fished – an increase of 3.8% between 2017 and 2019. According to the report, this positive trend reflects improvements in the sustainability of larger, higher volume fisheries. [Read the key messages](#)

### [\*\*Assessing greenhouse gas emissions from Scotland's fishing fleet \(June 2022\)\*\*](#)

ClimateXChange, Scotland's centre of expertise on climate change has published a study which assesses greenhouse gas emissions by vessel type. The emissions of interest are constrained to those associated with energy use on the vessel. Emissions associated with onshore activities, from transport and refrigeration, are considered out of the scope.

### **News and initiatives**

#### [\*\*Seafood funding must prioritise UK fishing fleet, government committee urges \(22 July 2022\)\*\*](#)

The UK Environment Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) Committee has called on UK Seafood Fund (UKSF) to prioritise the wild-catch sector when allocating money from the next round of its seafood fund. The Committee recommended the size of the fund should be increased by 50% £150 million because of the strong level of interest in the first round of infrastructure funding from ports, fish farms, and processors.

#### [\*\*Tariff introduced on Russian seafood imports \(19 July 2022\)\*\*](#)

UK government confirmed that a 35% tariff on imports of Russian and Belarusian fish is to commence on products that have not cleared customs in the two nations by 19 July. The tariffs will come on top of existing levels of 6% and 7.5%, for cod and haddock and close to 13% for pollock. The tariff will affect all seafood imports of Russian origin. Russian caught product that is substantively

processed in another country is not considered Russian origin. Seafish has produced a guidance note for seafood businesses that may be affected.

**[Launch of the new IUU Fishing Action Alliance \(1 July 2022\)](#)**

At the UN Ocean in Lisbon 2022, the UK, the USA, Canada and Iceland came together and committed to tackle IUU fishing by supporting the IUU Fishing Action Alliance Pledge.

**[Global Reporting Initiative \(GRI\) launched \(July 2022\)](#)**

The GRI is an independent, international organisation to help businesses and other organisations to take responsibility for their impacts, by providing a global common language to communicate those impacts. This new international sustainability scheme is aimed at the agriculture, aquaculture and fishing sectors.

**[Food and Drink Federation \(FDF\) Trade and Investment Strategy \(July 2022\)](#)**

This strategy champions the interests of the UK food and drink industry. The strategy sets out a series of actions on which the FDF hope that industry and government can collaborate on to deliver economic growth in communities across the country as well as provide great choice and affordability of products for UK households.

**[The UK's Global Footprint](#)**

WWF-UK is producing a series of 'deep dive' reports which take a closer look at the UK's footprint in specific sectors and the best mechanisms to reduce our impact. The forthcoming Risky Seafood Business report will provide evidence of the global environmental footprint of the UK's seafood production and consumption, and of value chains reliant on marine species.

**[MSC's new fisheries standard unanimously approved by trustees \(24 June 2022\)](#)**

After four years of input from over 1,000 stakeholders, the Marine Stewardship Council's fisheries standard review process has finally concluded.

**[Consultations](#)**

**[Defra seeks views on Highly Protected Marine Areas \(HPMAs\) in English waters \(6 July 2022. Open for 12 weeks\)](#)**

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has launched a consultation to gather views and evidence on five candidate sites for pilot HPMAs.

**[Consultation on the principles of Marine Net Gain \(10 June 2022. Closes 30 August 2022\)](#)**

Defra has opened a consultation on "marine net gain", an approach to marine development that aims to help the UK reach net zero while protecting key marine species and habitats.

**[Government seeks views on sustainable approach to offshore developments \(7 June 2022. Closes 30 August 2022\)](#)**

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has launched a consultation to gather views on a sustainable approach to marine development that will help meet the UK's ambitious target to reach net zero. The consultation seeks views on the principles of marine net gain. This will inform policy and approaches to marine net gain implementation.

***This is an amalgamation of the news alerts issued in July 2022.***