

# Status and Trends of Developing Countries' Fisheries

---

Yimin Ye

Chief, Marine and Inland Fisheries Branch

Food and Agriculture Organization

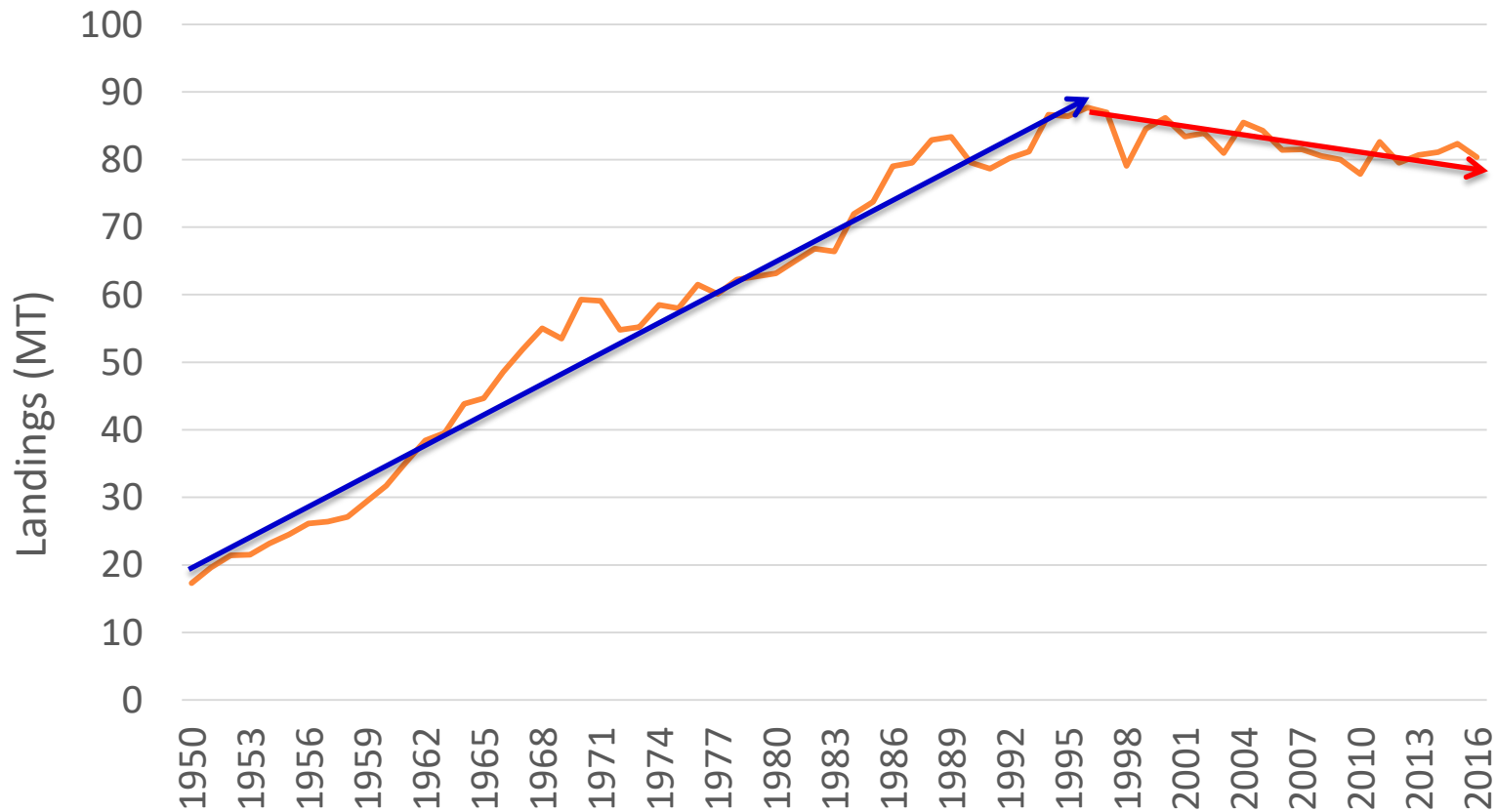
The United Nations

# Outline

---

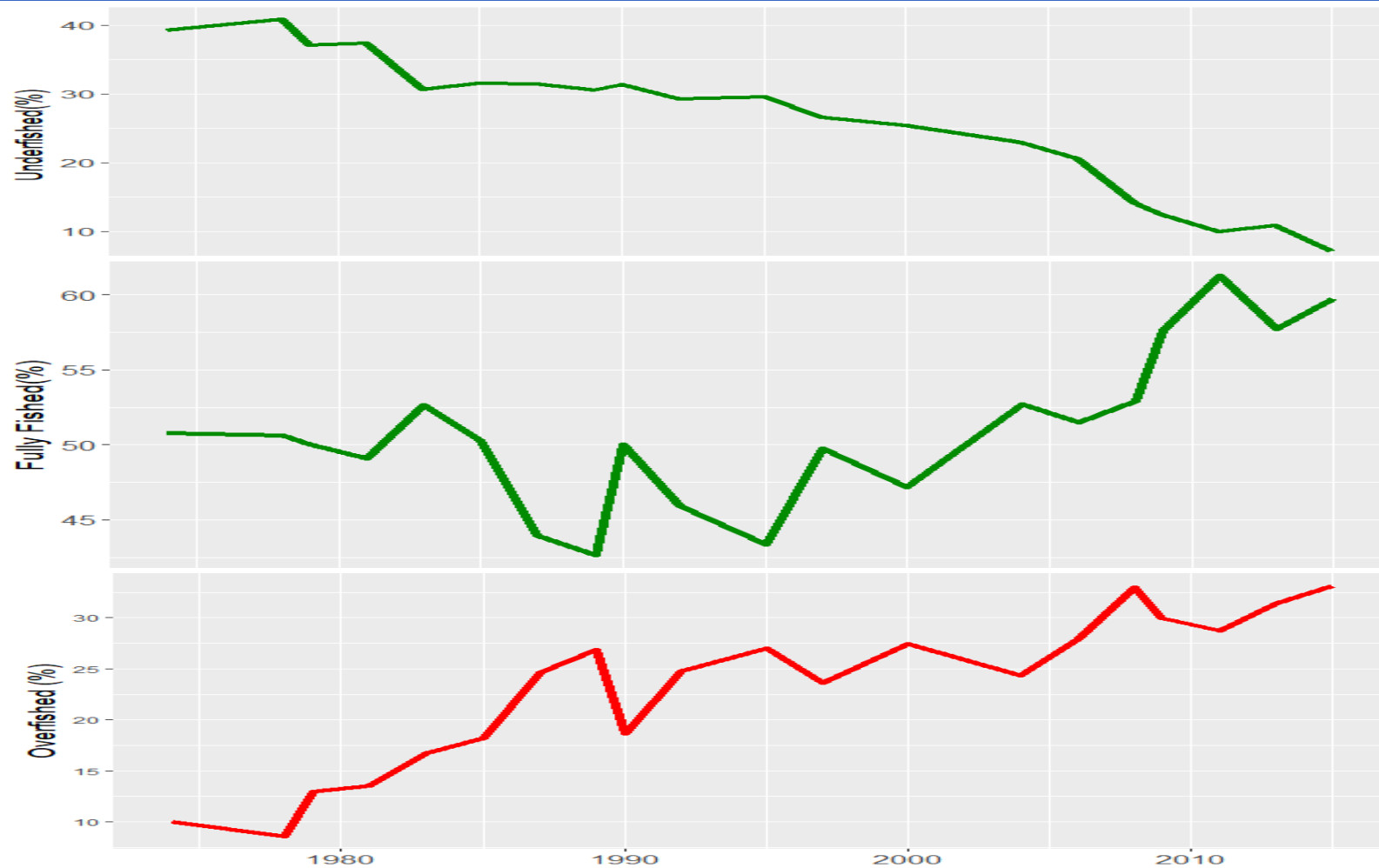
- Status and trends of global fish landings and resources
- The globalized nature of fishery production, trade and management
- Different patterns of fishing fleet capacity development between different countries
- Distribution of deep sea fishing fleets by region and country
- Issues face developing nations
- How to achieve global sustainable management of world fisheries

# Landings of Global Marine Fisheries



- Increasing linearly up to 1995
- Slightly decreasing since then

# The Status of World Fishery Resources and Its Ecological and Socio-economic Implications (FAO 2018)



## Consequences of overfishing

(Ye et al. 2013)

- Loss of food production (17 mt/yr)
- Loss of economic rent (\$32 b/yr)
- Cascading social effects (employment, livelihoods, inefficient resource use, etc)
- Impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem function

# The Imperative Fisheries Reform – Rebuilding Overfished Stocks

## The Sustainable Development Goals (2030 Agenda)

- Target 14.4: by 2020, ending overfishing and restoring fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics
  
- Indicator 14.4.1: Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels

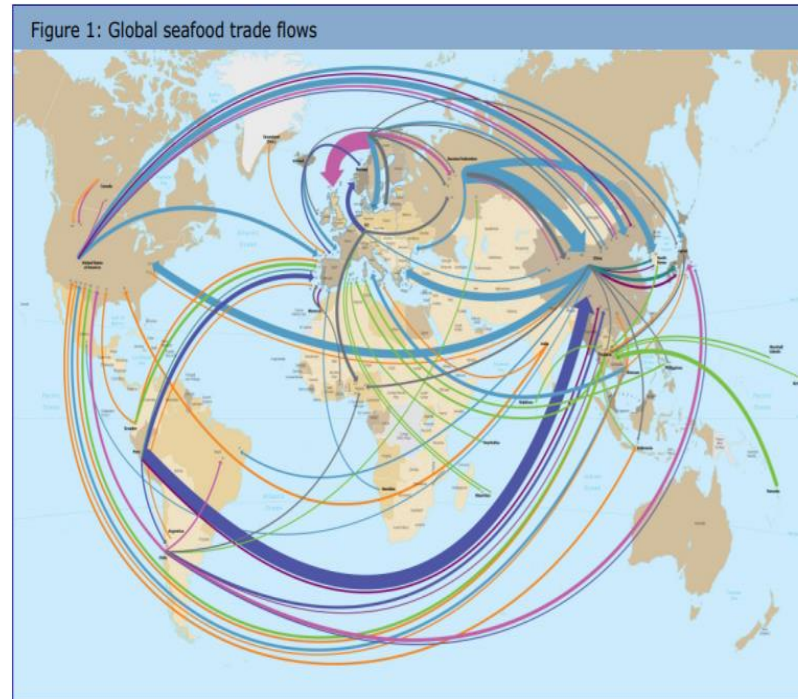
Resource sustainability is unarguably fundamental to all other objectives of sustainable fisheries in the long run

# A Global Issue in Need of a Global Solution – Global Partnership

Connected through  
natural ecosystems



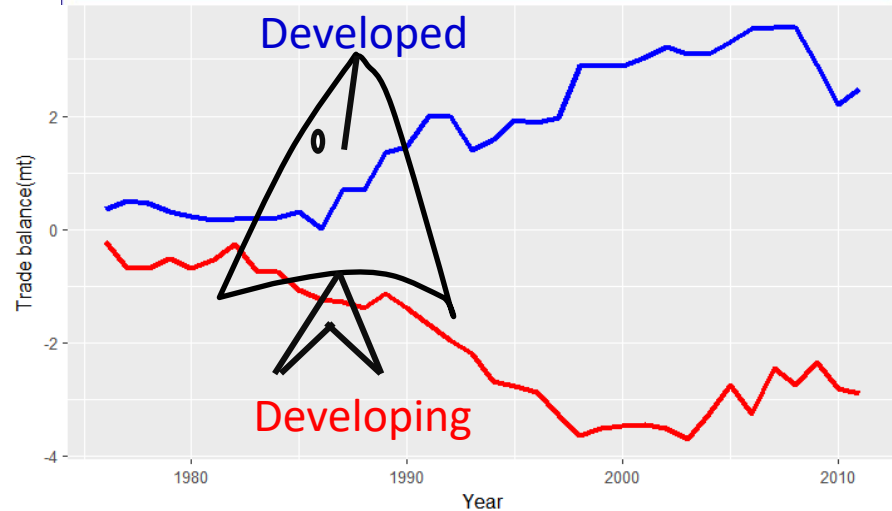
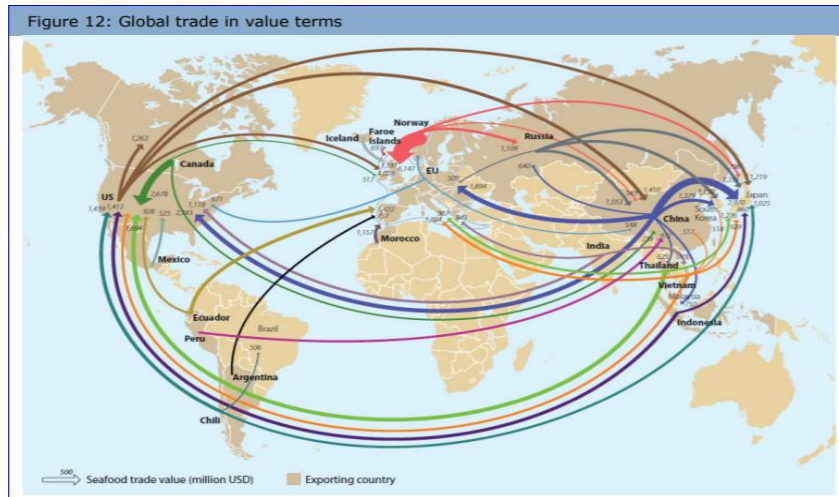
Connected through  
international trade  
(Rabobank 2015)



Connected through  
distant water fishing  
network  
(Cabral et al 2018)



# Impacts of International Trade on Fisheries

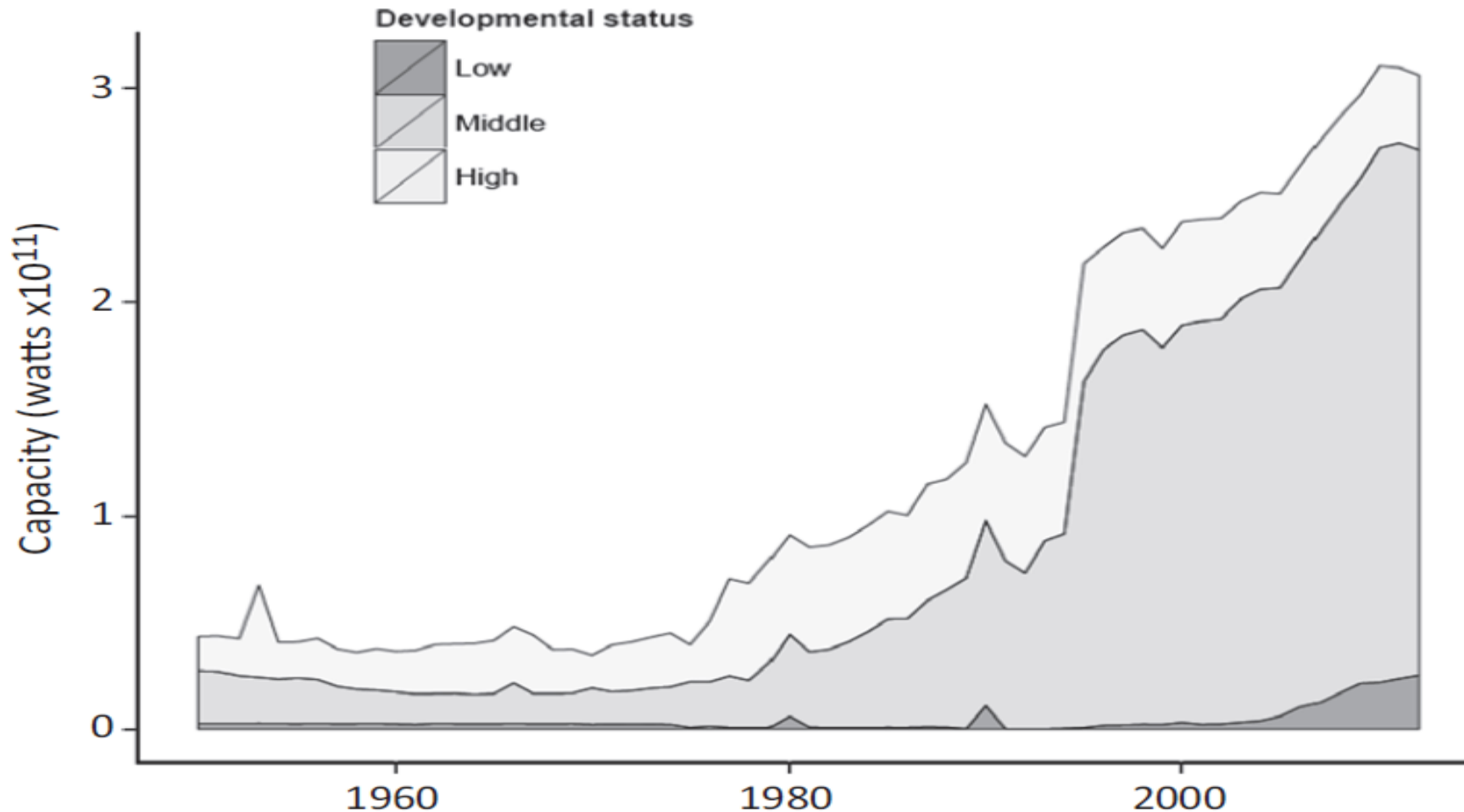


Ye & Gutierrez 2017

- International trade has many social and economic advantages for both import and export countries
- International trade may also increase fishing pressure on fish resources
- Without proper management, such increasing pressure may lead to more overfishing

# Fishing Capacity Development in Different Countries Groups

(Bell et al 2016)

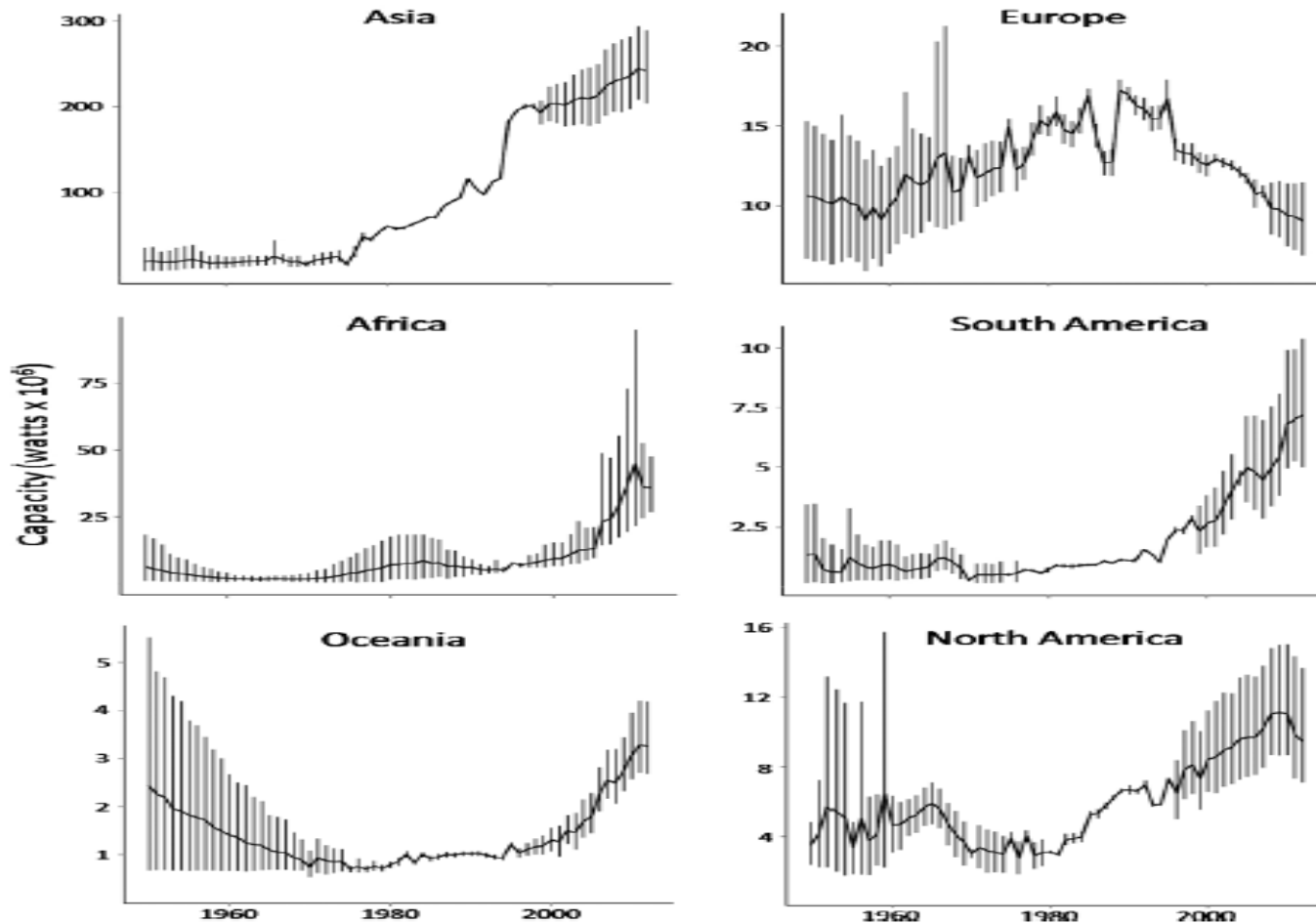


- About 50-50 share between the developed and developing nations before 1980
- Developing states have since experienced a rapid increase in capacity and contribute now +80% of the total



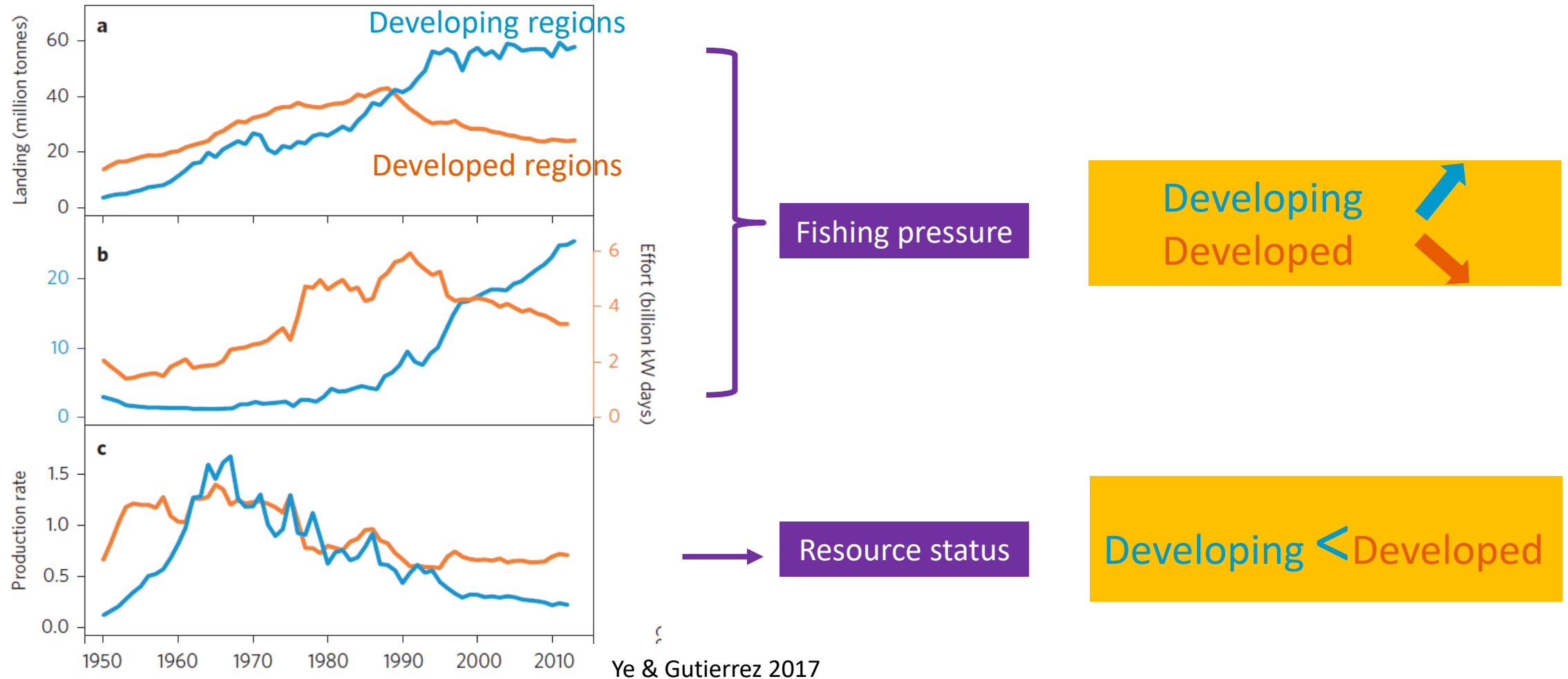
# Fishing Capacity Development Patterns in Various Contents

Global fishing effort J D Bell et al



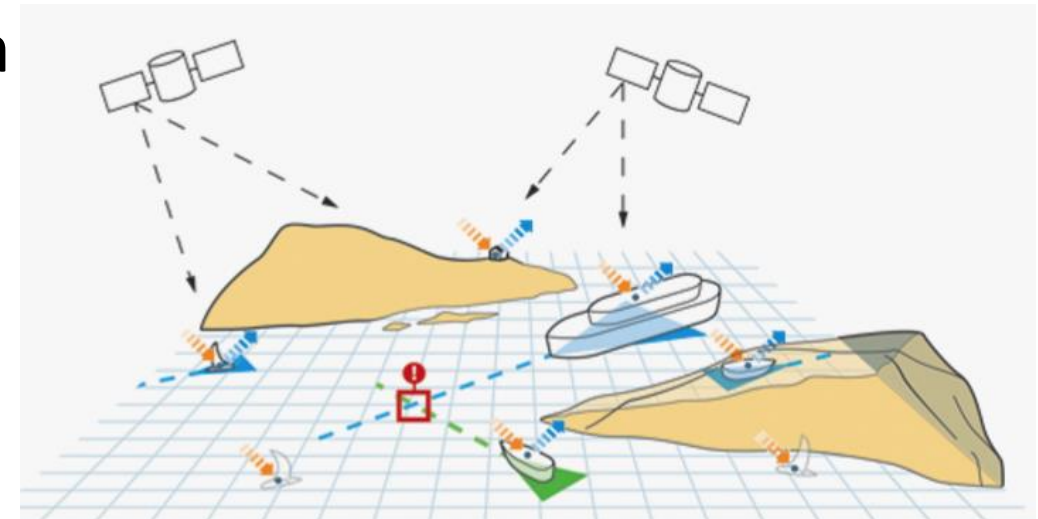
- Asia is the largest contributor
- All regions are increasing except Europe and North America

# Tackling the Discrepancy between the Developed and Developing World

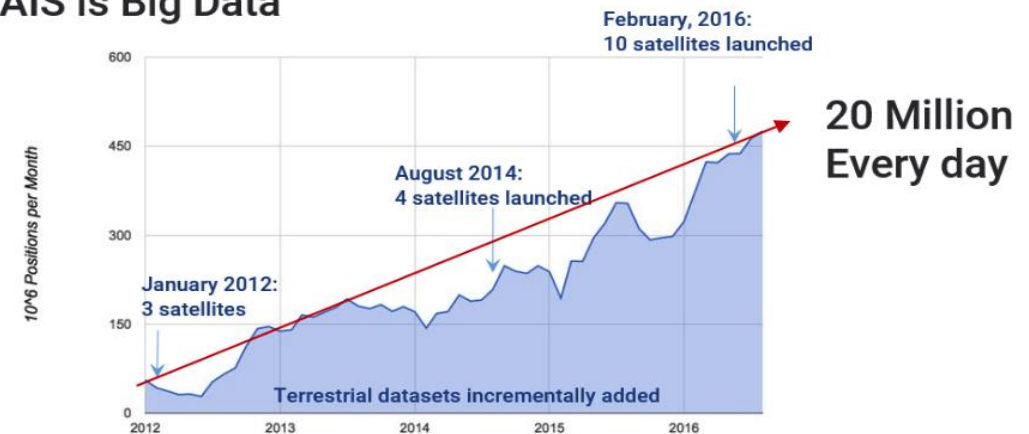


# Automatic Identification System (AIS) and Its Data

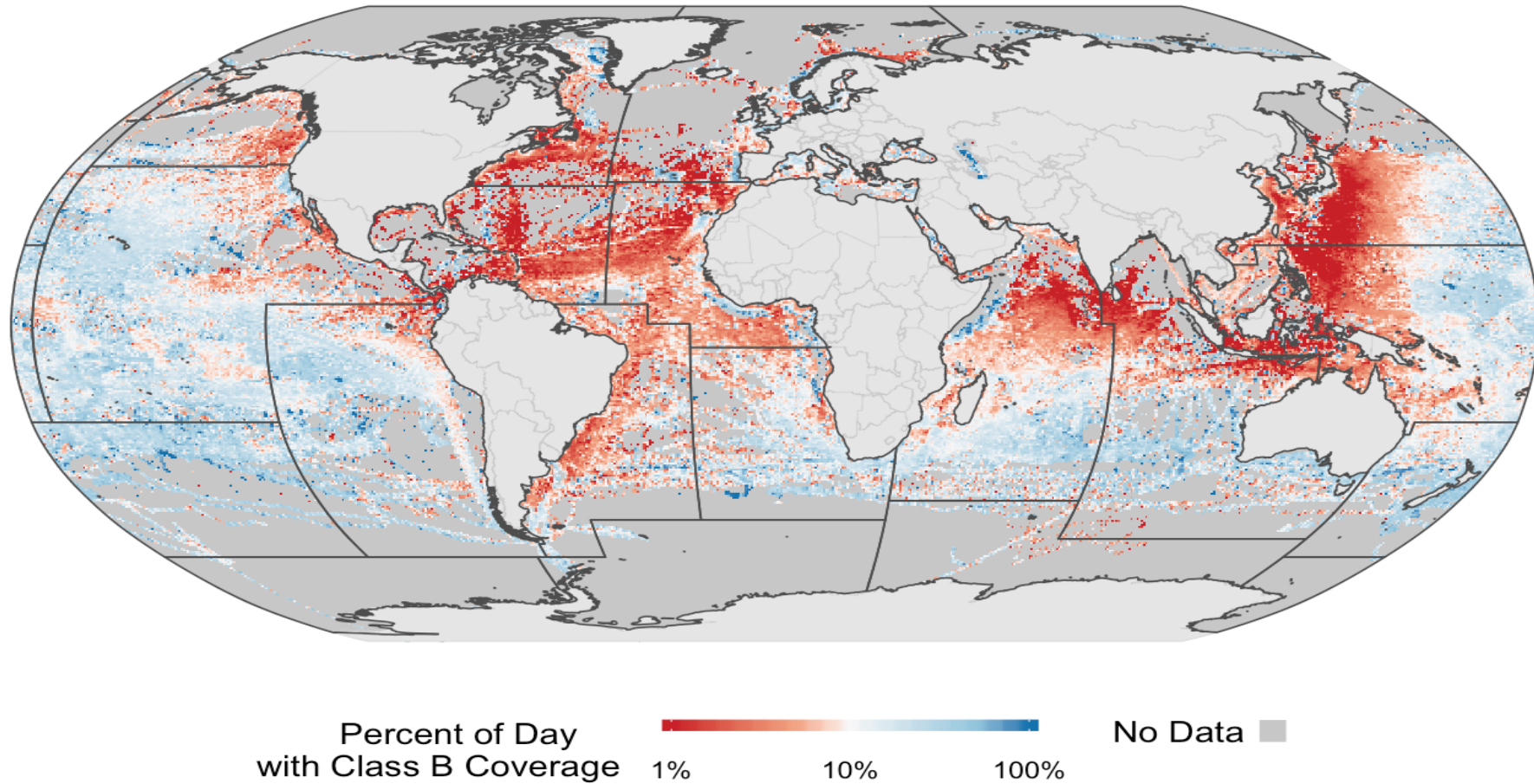
- AIS is an automatic tracking system used on ships and by vessel traffic services to prevent ship collisions
- Message includes info: ship ID, position, speed, turning angle etc every few seconds
- Mandatory: vessels > 24m (varies with regions)



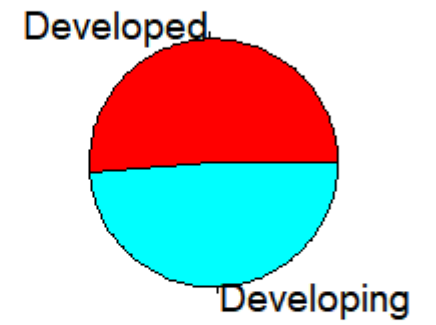
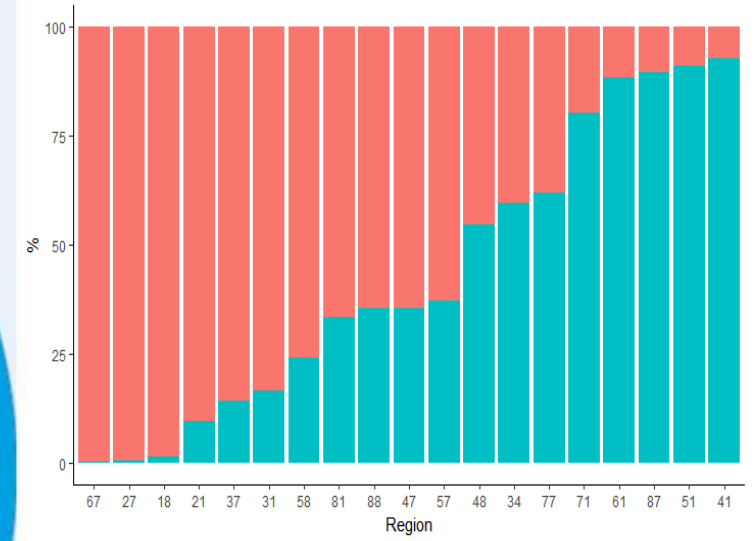
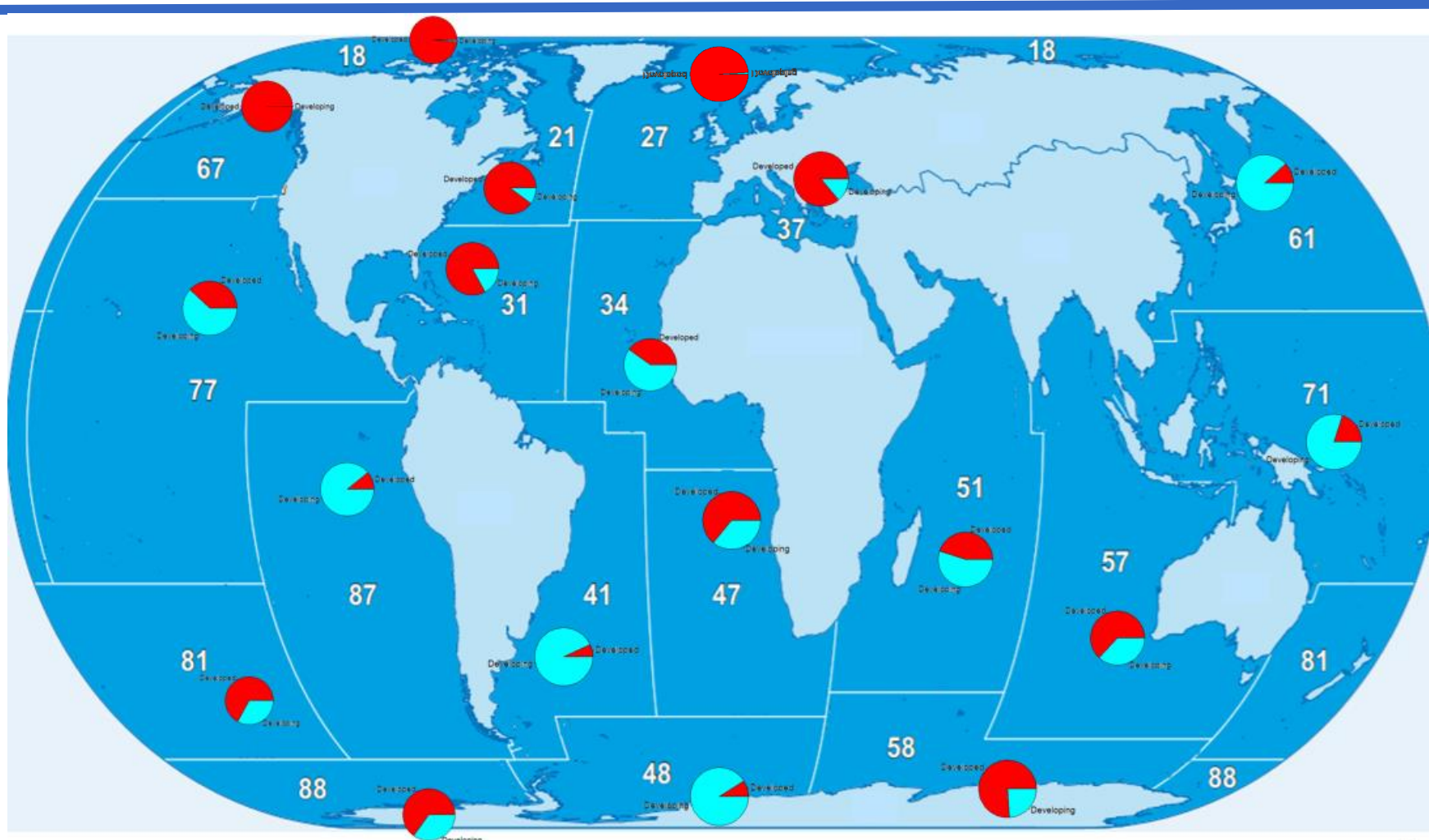
AIS is Big Data



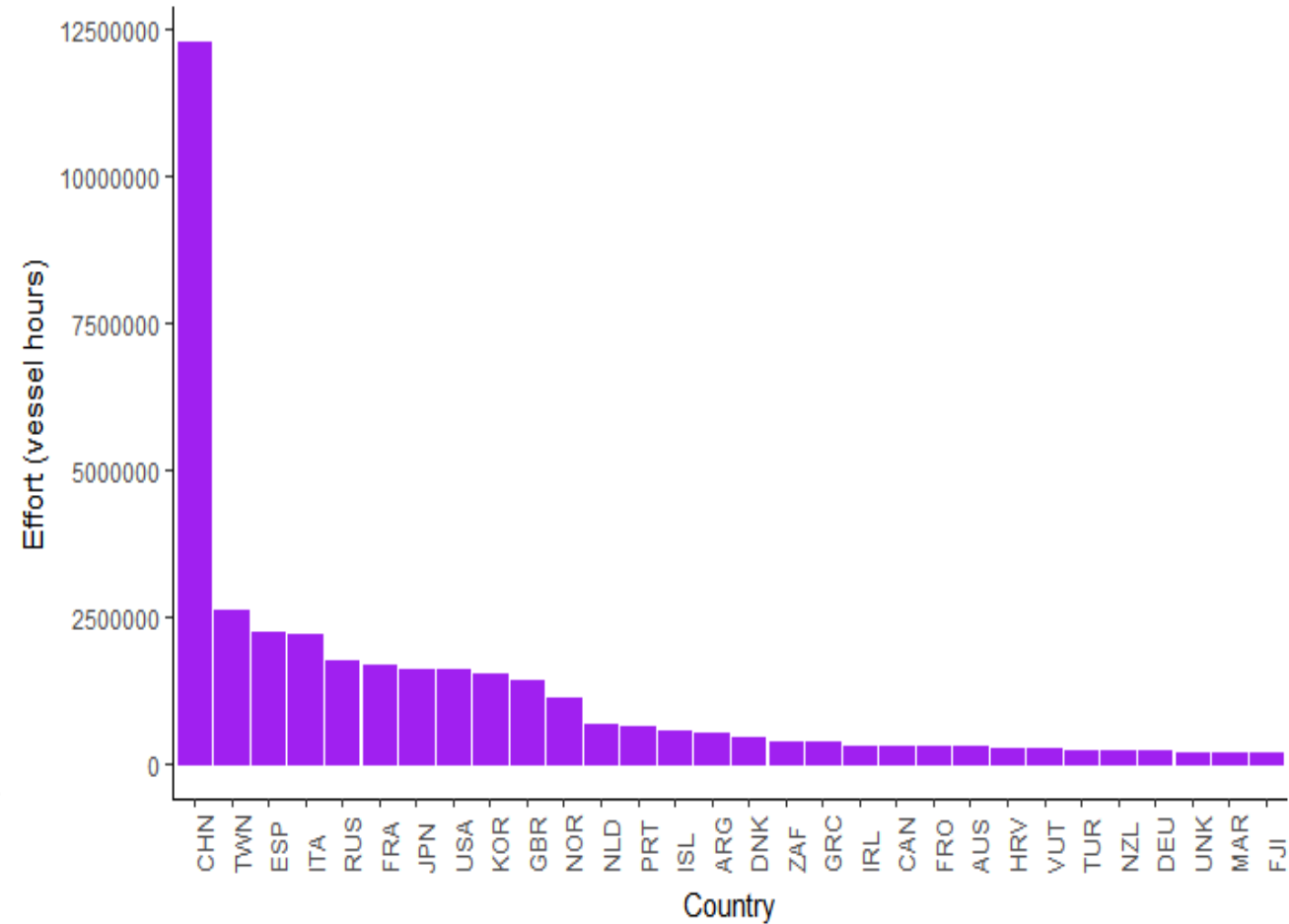
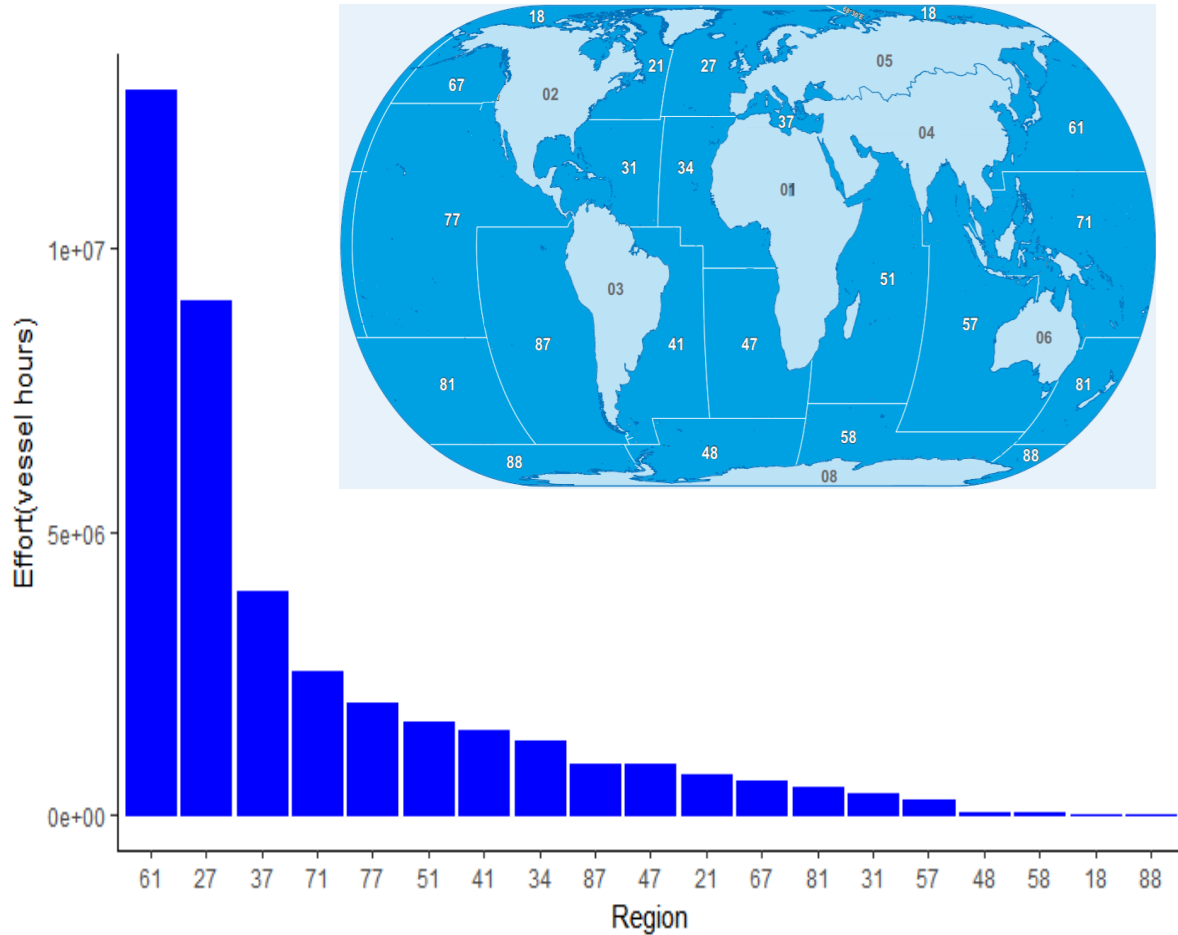
# An Overview of the Fishing Fleet with AIS Data



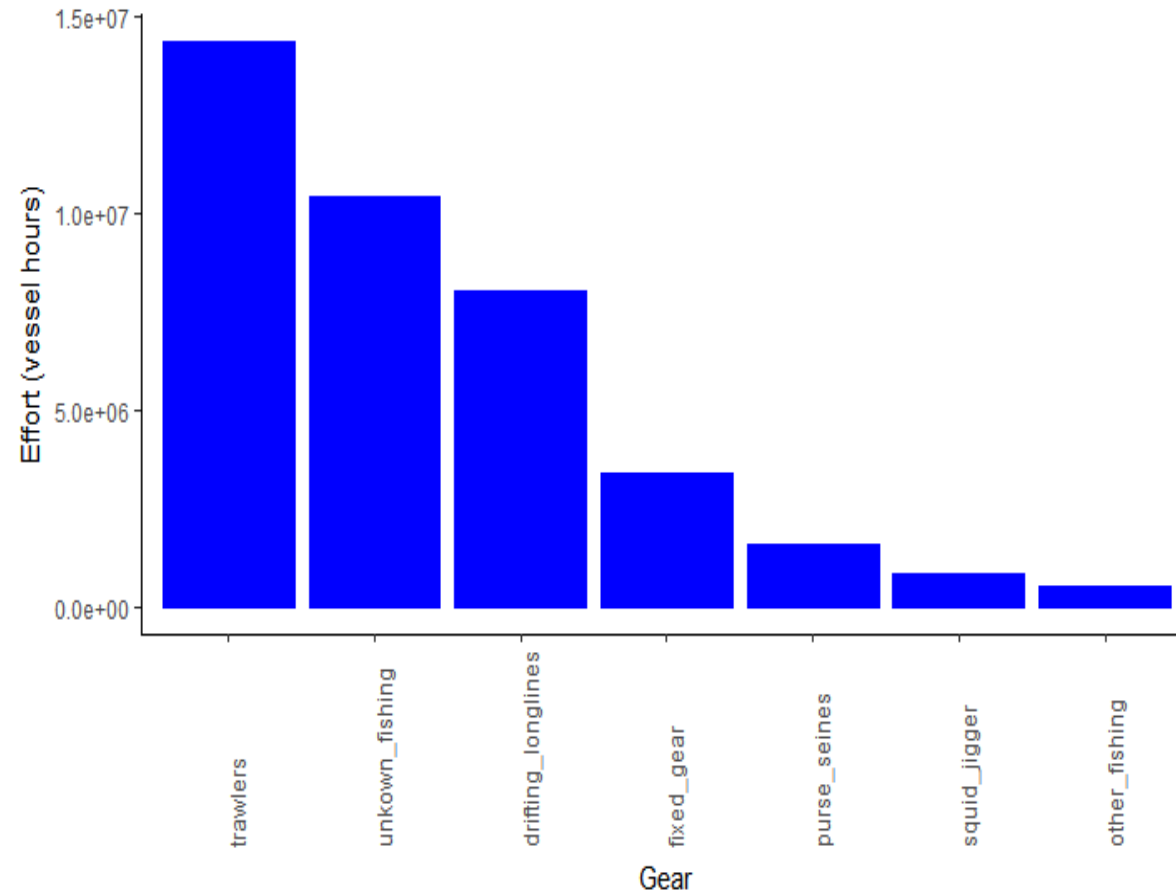
# Spatial Distribution of AIS Monitored Vessels in Different Regions



# Effort (AIS Data) Distribution by Region and Country

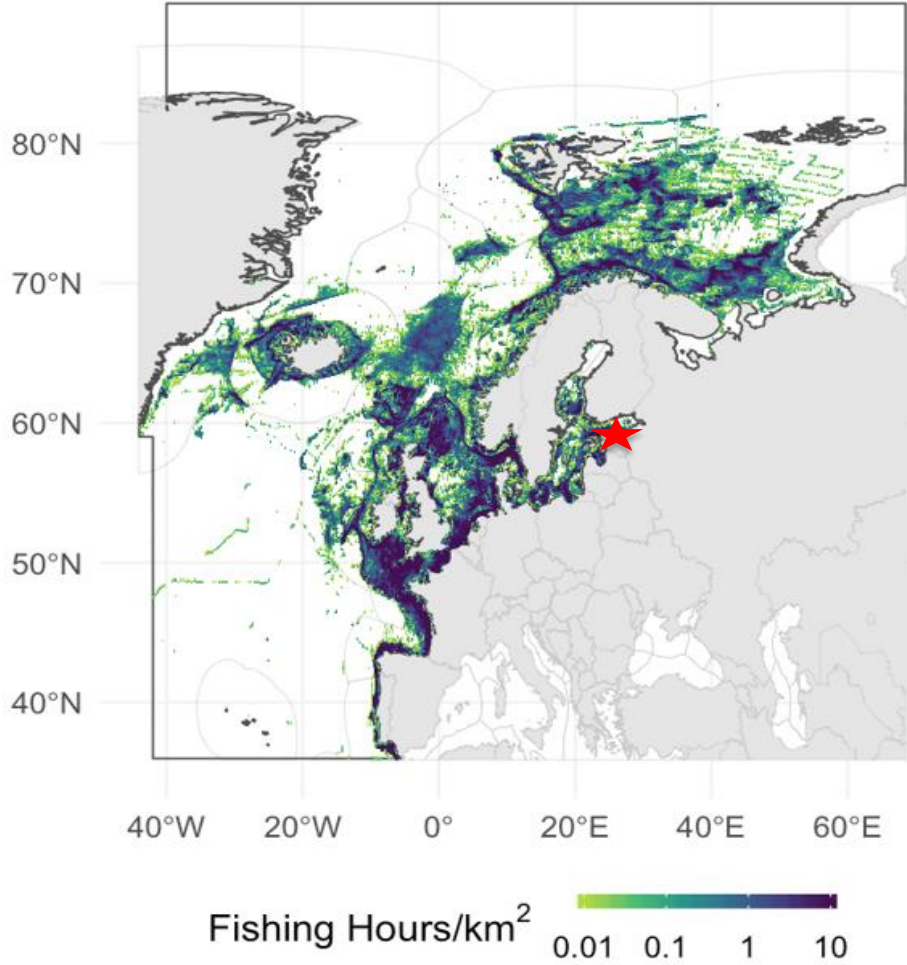


# Effort (AIS Data) Distribution by Gear Type



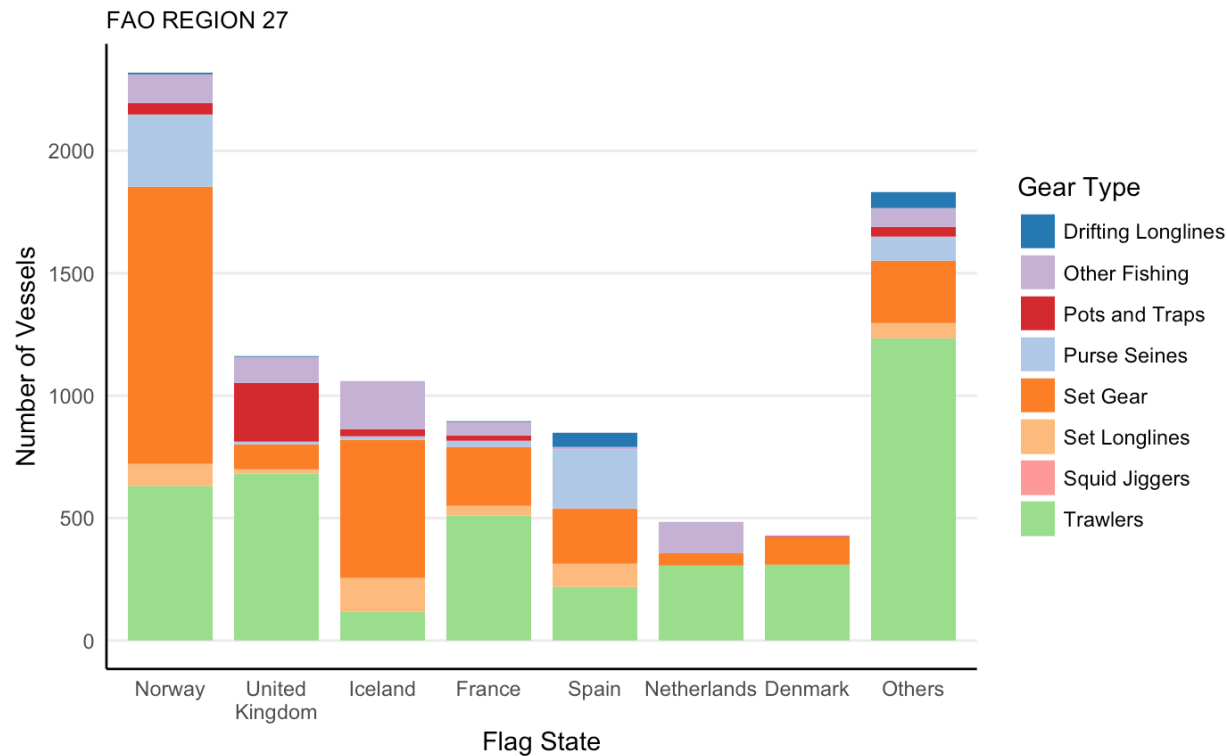
- Trawling is the largest
- A large part of effort is unknown of its gear type
- Large variation in gear type exists among regions

# Fishing Effort Distribution in Northeast Atlantic (Region 27)





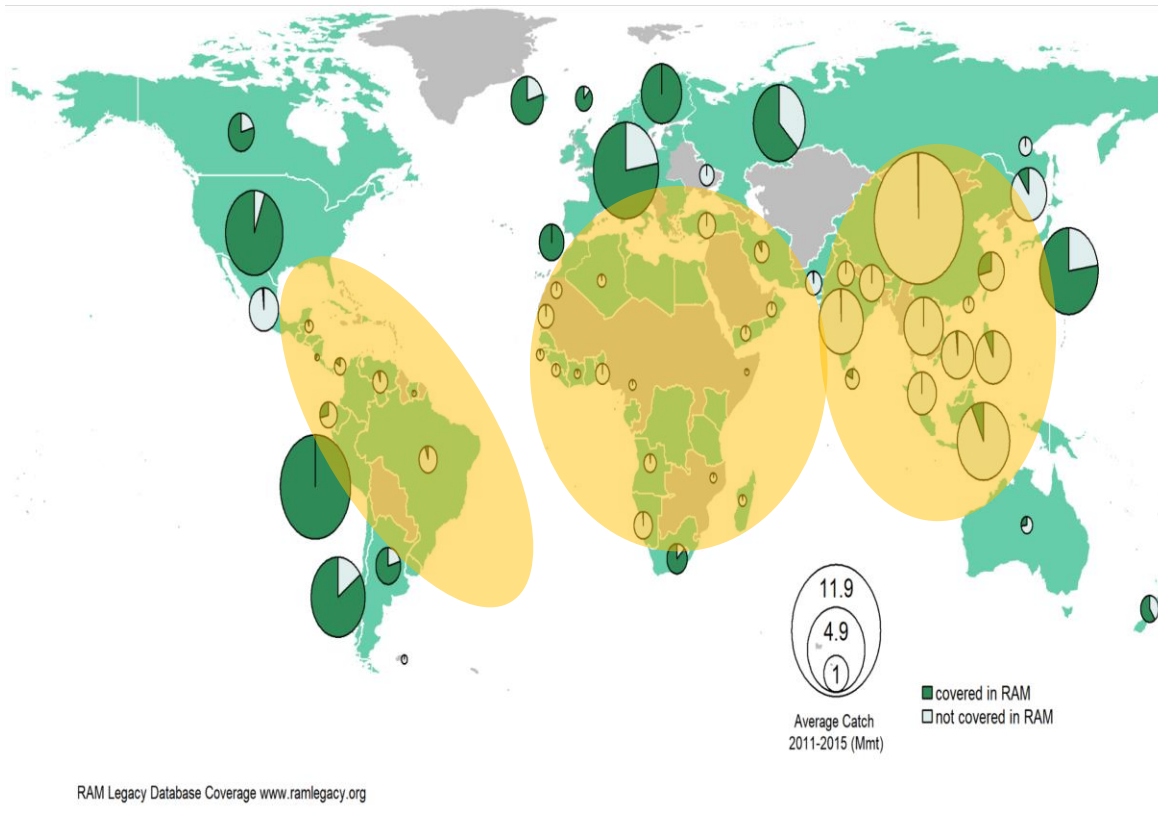
# Major Countries and Gear Types in Northeast Atlantic (Region 27)



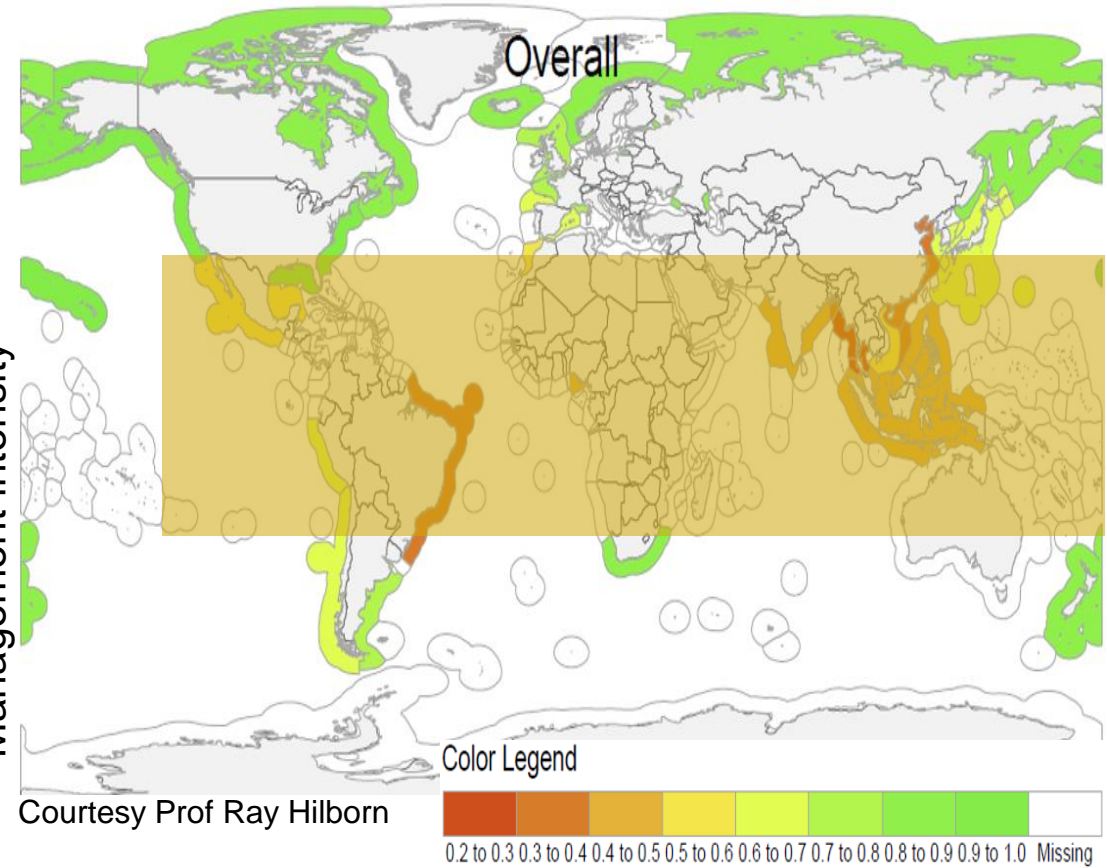
- Set gear (fixed gear) is the largest
- Followed by trawlers
- All others are minor

# Regions of Limited Capacity in Data Collection, Science and Management

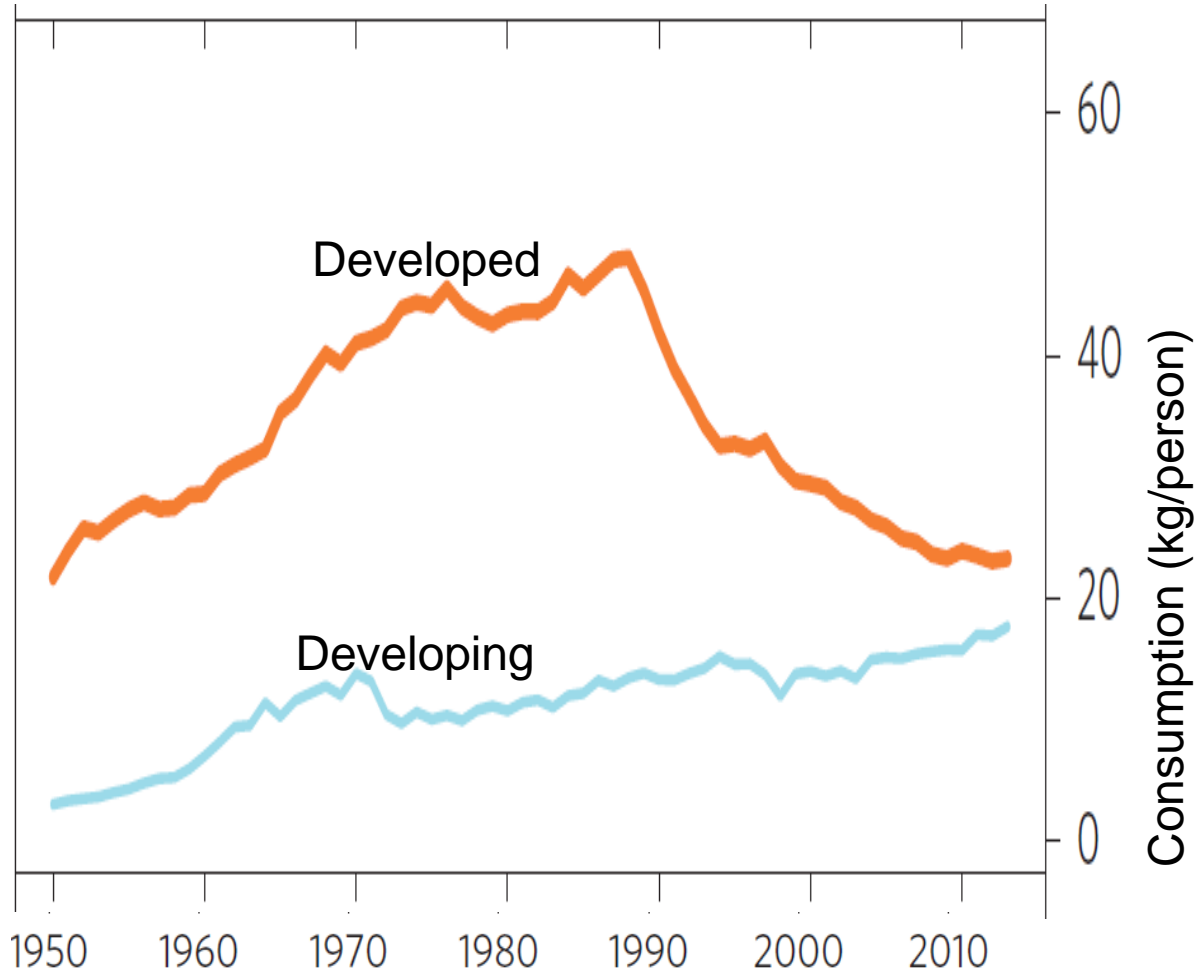
Assessed stocks



Management intensity



# Difference in Fish Consumption



- In developing economies, fish consumption has been increasing linearly over time
- In developed nations, fish consumption started declining after 1988
- Fish consumption is higher in the developed world

# Summary Points of Developing Nations' Fisheries

## Fisheries Specific Facts

- 70% landings
- >80% fishing fleet capacity
- Lower fish consumption
- Exporting fish for economic benefits
- Limited resources and infrastructure
- Lower capacity in fishery science and management

## Issues of General Nature

- High demand for food security and nutrition
- High pressure for economic development
- Social and cultural complexities involved in the vast coastal communities often hamper fisheries reform
- Fishery is often ignored in national level economic planning

# How to Achieve the Global Sustainable Management of World Fisheries?

- Form a effective global partnership to enhance institutional and governance capacities, particularly in developing countries
  - Sharing of success experience and knowledge
  - Technology transfer
  - Capacity building in science-based policy making
- Control fishing capacity at sustainable levels through policy and regulations
  - judicious use of subsidies
  - eradication of IUU fishing
- Establish a seafood trading system that rewards sustainable fisheries
  - International rules and bilateral agreements
  - Domestic policy
  - Market driven mechanisms (eg eco-labelling)
- A stronger global monitoring system
  - SDG 14.4
  - Aichi Target 6

# Thanks for Your Attention!

---