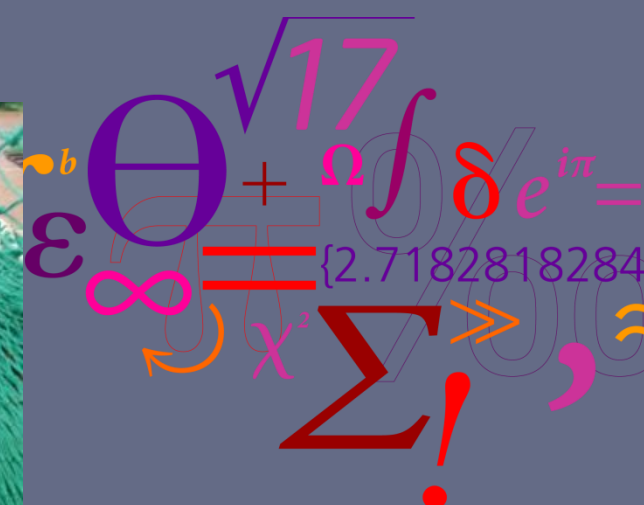




Paths to enhance the development and the uptake of industry-led technical solutions to improved selectivity

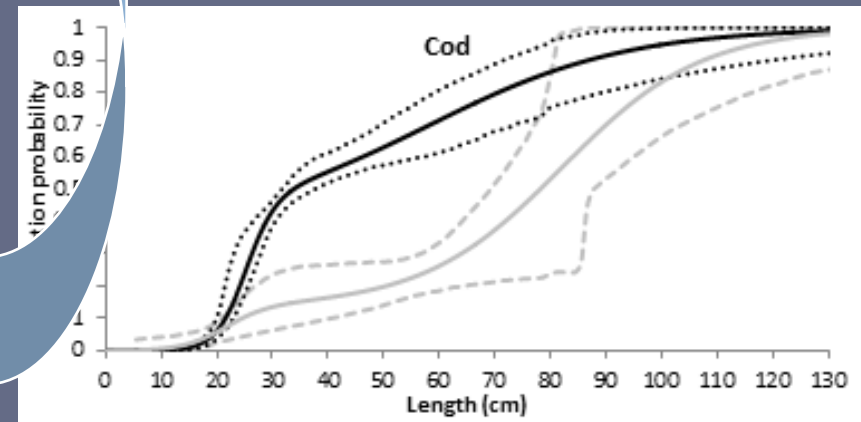
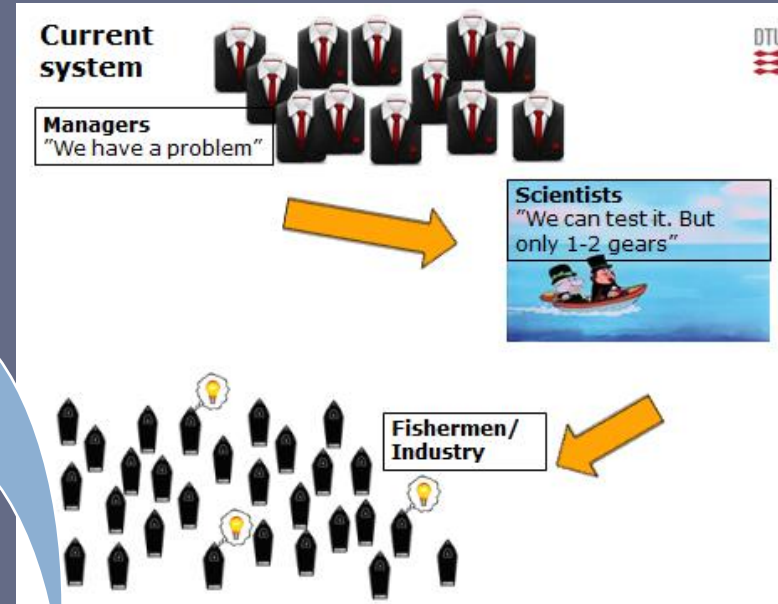
Jordan P. Feekings, Søren Qvist Eliassen, Ludvig Ahm Krag, Lars O. Mortensen, Tiago A. de Vega Malta, Clara Ulrich



The current EU frame of gear selectivity regulation (top-down)

The negative micro-management spirale

- A conservation objective is identified
- Technical measures to achieve this are put in place
- The industry experiences losses of catch value or fishing opportunities
- Industry makes technological adaptations which nullifies negative economic effects of regulation
- These adaptations nullify conservation effect in the process
- Conservation outcomes not achieved



2. 3.5 m for a codend of circumference between 88 and 75 diamond meshes measured in front of the window and;

- (i) Clean the hole.
- (ii) Count the meshes to be replaced. Prepare a patch using knotless braided single twine that is the same material, diameter and strength of the net needing to be patched.
- (iii) The patch should be no more than two meshes larger in each direction than the cleaned-up hole to provide sufficient netting to overlap the edges of the hole.
- (iv) Lay the patch over the hole and lace it to the existing netting using braided twine, as shown in the illustration.
- (v) Make sure to lace the crosses of the netting together.
- (vi) Continue lacing around the hole so that you have at least two rows of lacing around the patch.
- (vii) The patched hole will resemble the above illustration when finished.

What are the pitfalls in the top-down approach?

- Slow and inflexible system
- Does not reach its objective
- Reduces sense of ownership the fishermen have over their fishery
- little possibility to develop and test more selective fishing practices.



The alternative bottom-up approach: industry-led selectivity developments

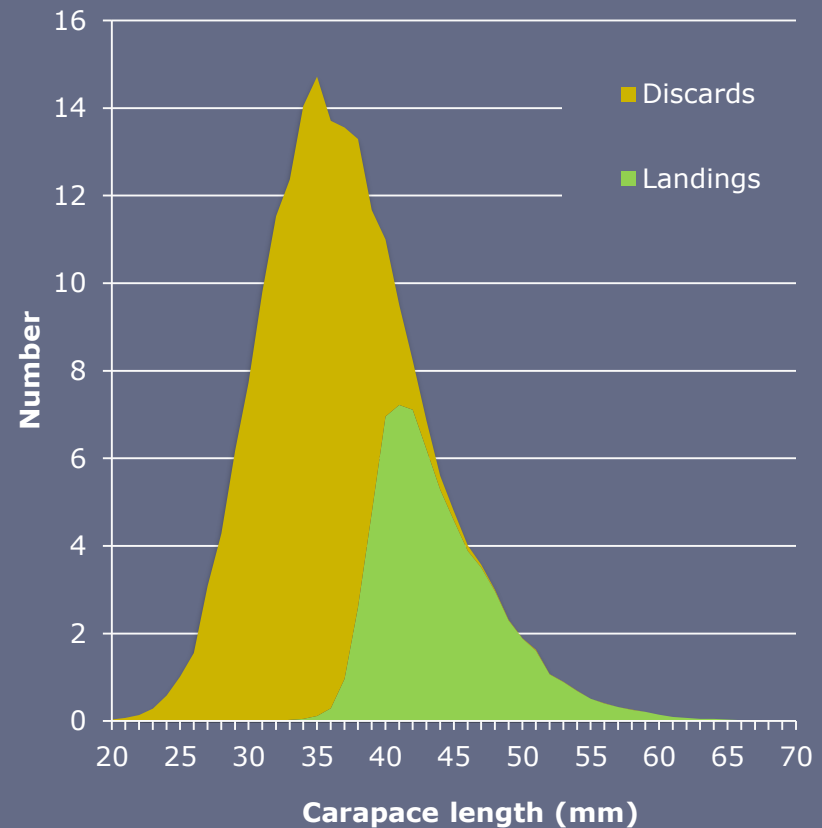
- Numerous cases of fisheries-science partnerships worldwide
- Bottom-up approaches seem intuitively “the right thing to do”
 - Utilise industry knowledge
 - Increase ownership and active role of the industry
- But the evaluation of success is difficult. The uptake of selective gears after the trials is usually unknown but likely limited
- Some administrative follow-up needed to have the gear agreed
- Defining appropriate protocols remain challenging
 - Proper balance in financial incentives for participation
 - Scientific trials remain costly and thus limited in number
 - Self-sampling data do not always comply with scientific standards. Close follow-up and real-time feedbacks needed



New CFP – A new era for bottom-up approaches

- Discards/unwanted catch now has a value and a cost
- Counts towards quotas
- Fishermen now have an economic incentive to improve their selectivity
- Individual and societal objectives are better aligned
- Technical rules are to be simplified

40 mm/ ~13 cm MLS



Learning from the past... making it right from start



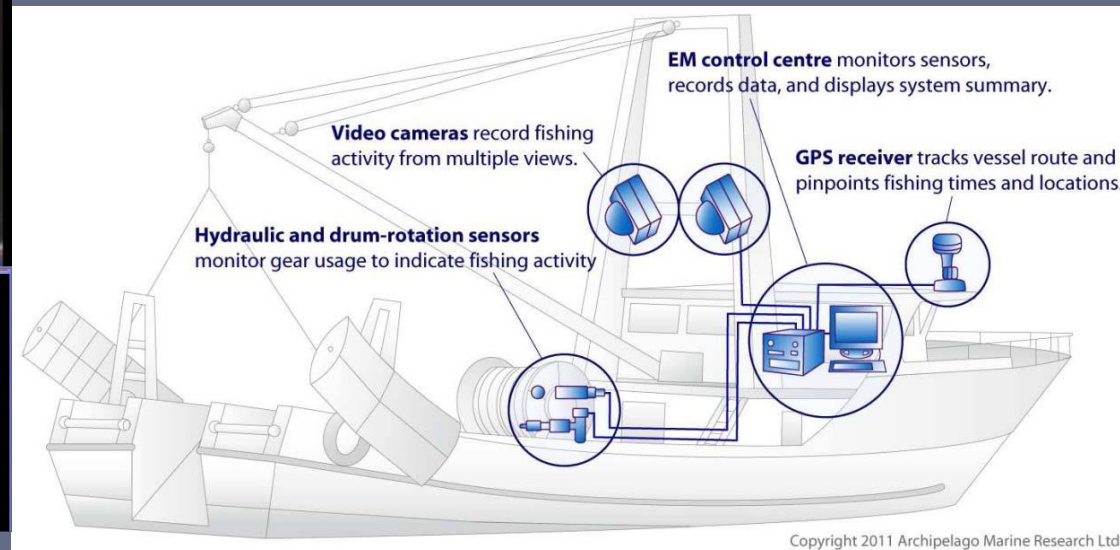
Generic protocols must be established to

1. Encourage fishers to formulate their own problems and think about their own solutions
2. Make a rapid appraisal of the ideas to filter the promising ones
3. Run a self-sampling trial where the fisher can experiment freely under Full Documentation
4. Establish criteria for when "better selectivity" is achieved
5. Validate the gear through scientific testing
6. Have the gear accepted at national/EU level

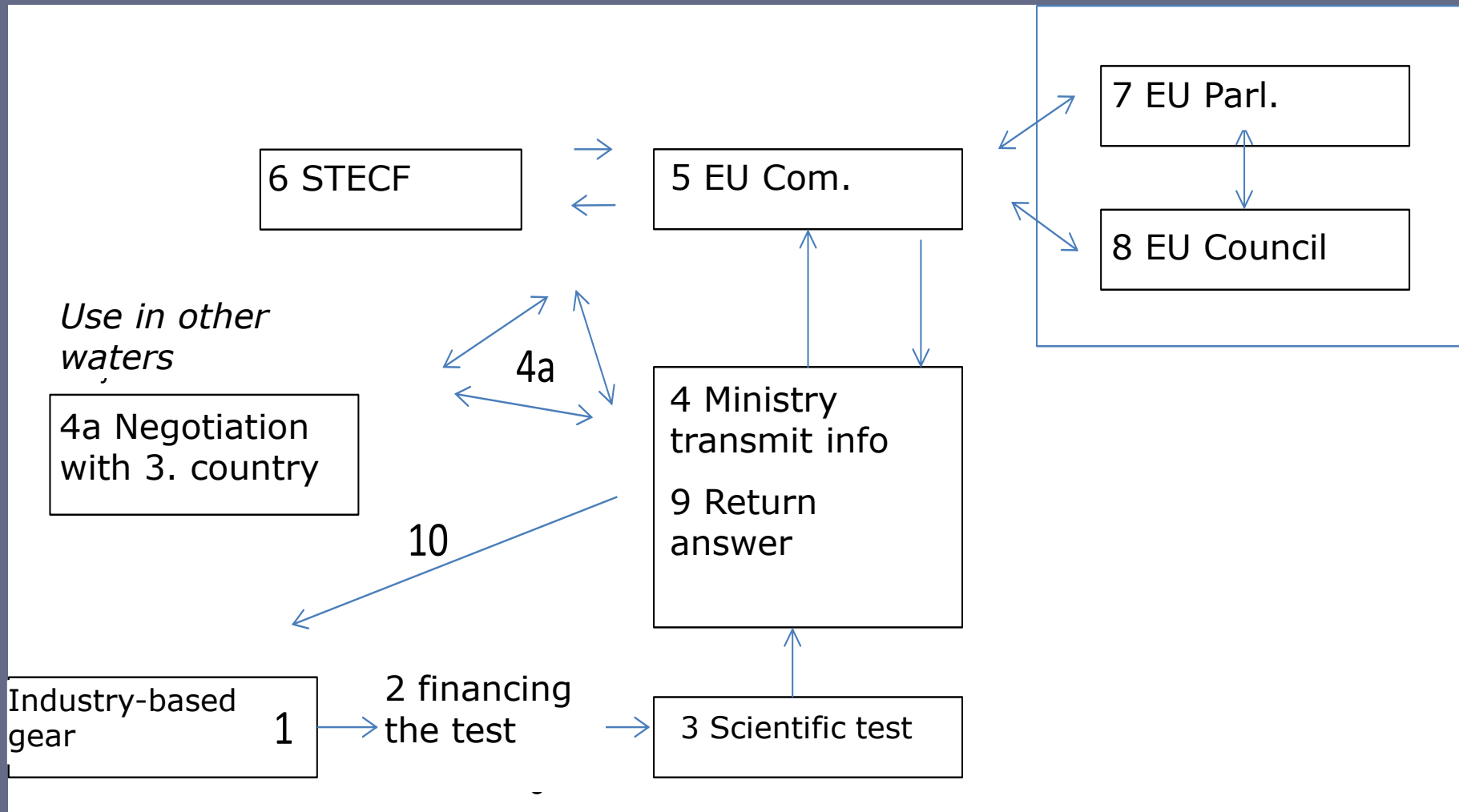


The self-sampling stage

- Free gear choice under Full Documentation of all catches (logbooks records + CCTV documentation)
- Length measurements
- Borrow REM setup, running costs borne by the fisher

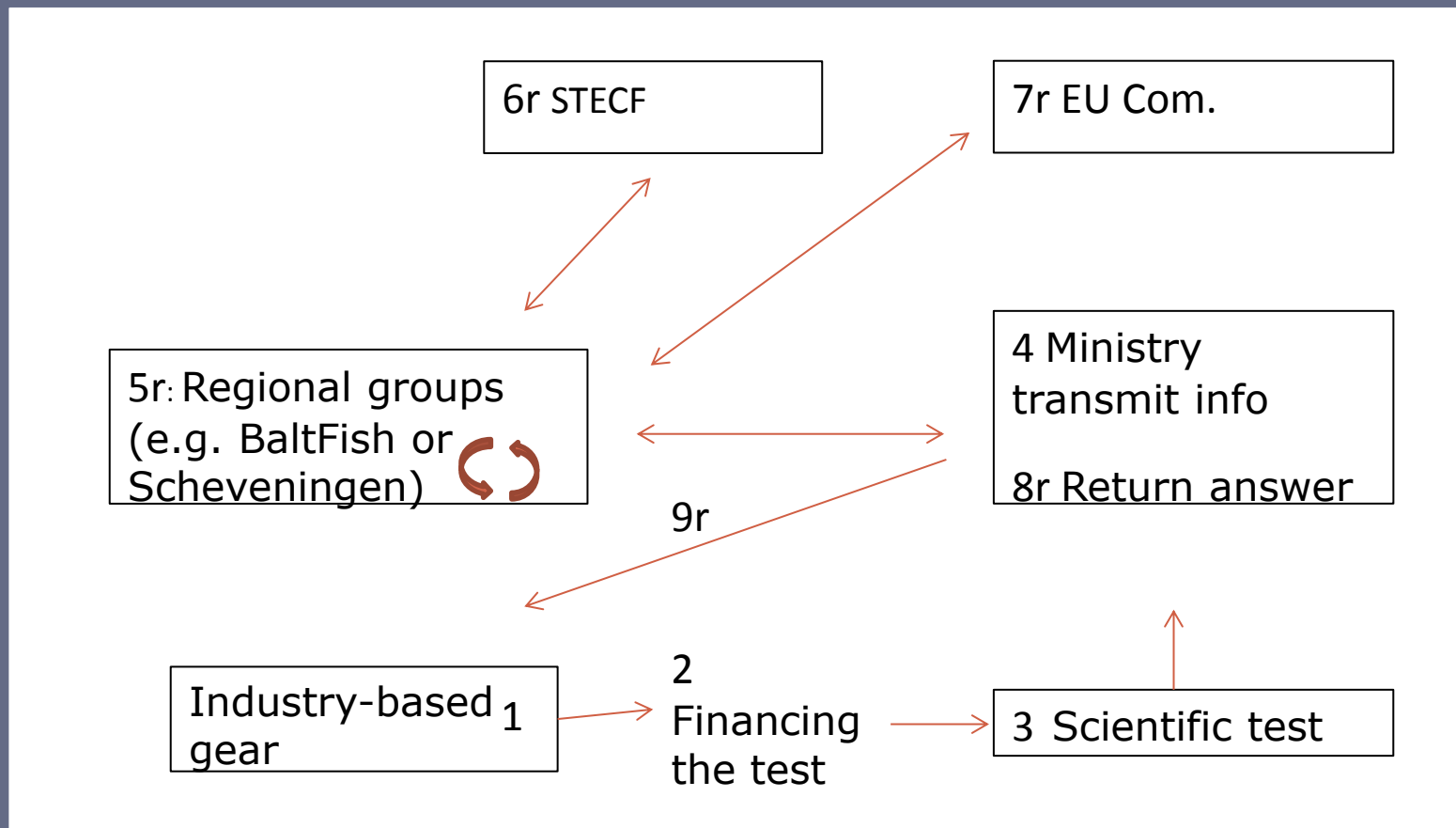


The gear acceptance stage – current technical rules



The gear acceptance stage – new technical rules and regionalisation

- Several models are possible
- A likely one “with baseline standards” could be as follows:



Simplification and cost-efficiency

- Multi-annual budget plan to finance a fixed number of trials each year
- National platforms to share and disseminate results
- Regional collaboration across countries
- Regional protocols

