# Towards a better understanding of fishers' behaviour

#### An multi- / transdisciplinary approach

M.Kraan, K.Hamon, JJ.Poos, E.van den Broek, R.Verkempynck, M.de Vries, A.Rijnsdorp, E.van Helmond, B.Trapman (+ yet unidentified fishermen)





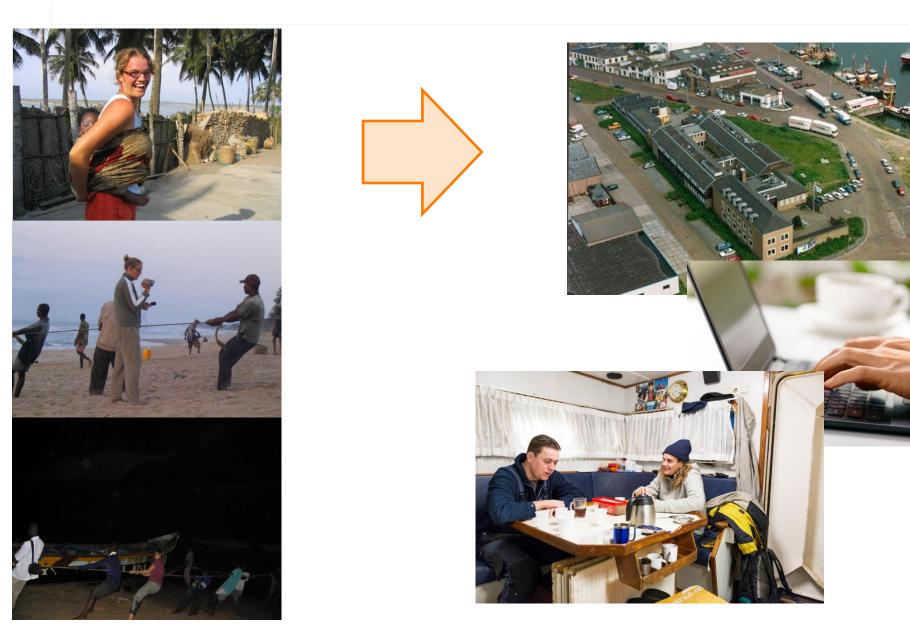
#### 'Where you are coming from...'

Lessonslearned: Explain where you're Coming from... water tower where i used So when you leave toplayasa kid youturn Rightand... north you ? Drive an hour or so in north WEST DIRECTION ..





#### "Where do I come from?"



#### Topic of our project

Is it possible to arrive at a more integrated [better] understanding of fishers' behaviour and develop a standardised method to study it?







#### **Different perspectives**

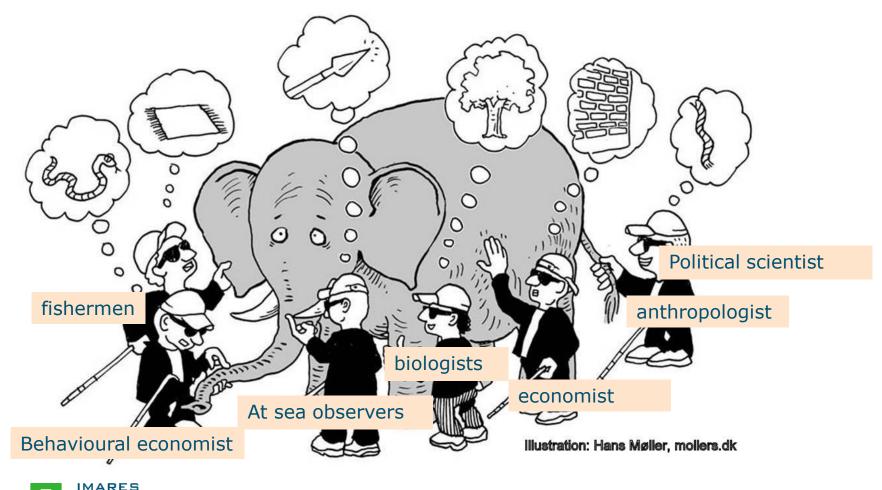
## Fishers' behaviour



- What is it?
- How can we study it?
- What do we need it for?



# For a multi- / transdisciplinary approach we need a team



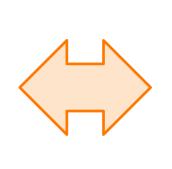
#### (How) Can we make a better link?

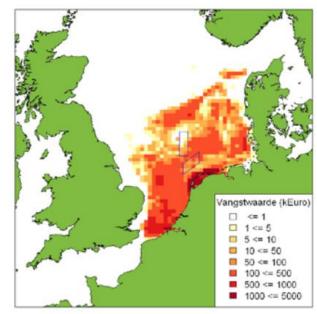
#### Current common representation of fishers' behaviour in fisheries science

Traditionele boomkor 2013

#### Fisher behaviour in fishing practice



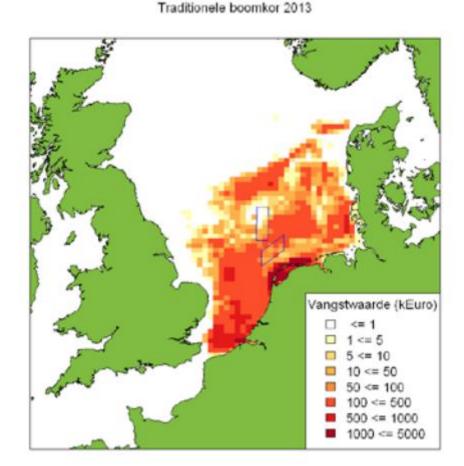






### Why do we want to do this? (1)

- Our image of fishers' behaviour:
- Assumption: we only rationalise about the result / effect of behaviour, without understanding what causes the behaviour.





### Why do we want to do this? (2)

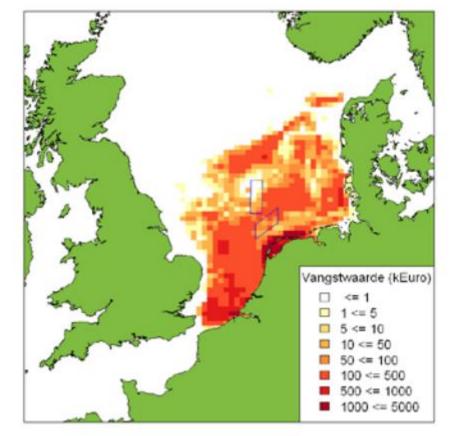
- This is quite fine (I guess) for understanding fleet behaviour at aggregate level.
- Not sufficient to understand diversity
  - Within métiers
  - i.e. fishermen operate in different métiers
- Nor to predict how (big) changes will work out.

measures

AGENINGEN UR

MARES

 i.e. the landing obligation in Europe or revision technical

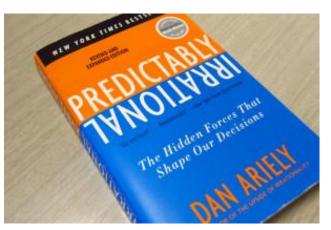


Traditionele boomkor 2013

### Why do we want to know this? (3)

- In addition, one of the main assumptions we have about fishers' behaviour in modelling is that they are rational operating individuals – maximising some kind of utility.
- But...
- What we know from social science & behavioural economics is that individuals are not rational operating individuals.
- In fact people are 'predictably irrational'





#### Example: Landing obligation (1)

"It (the landing obligation) is designed to trigger behavioural change and encourage fishermen to improve selectivity voluntarily to avoid catching small low value fish that will now have to be landed and counted against quota's." [EU Commission impact assessment new TM 2016]

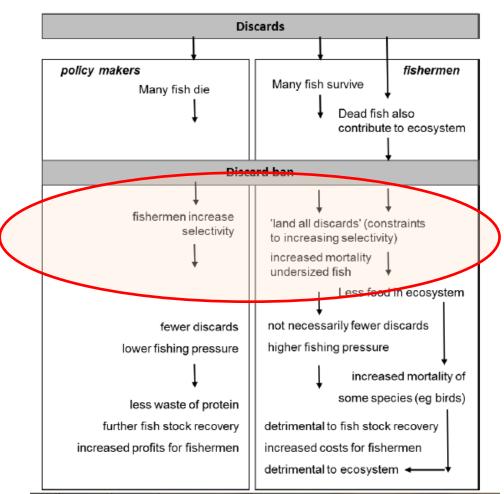




## Example: Landing obligation (2)

- It is expected that the landing obligation will stimulate fishermen to fish more selective.
- Are they **able**?
  - Technical / rules
  - To what point?
- Are they willing?
  - Do they support the goal and mean of the landing obligation?

societal pressure to ban discards (end to wasteful practice)





Kraan & Verweij forthcoming





#### What drives fishermen' behaviour?



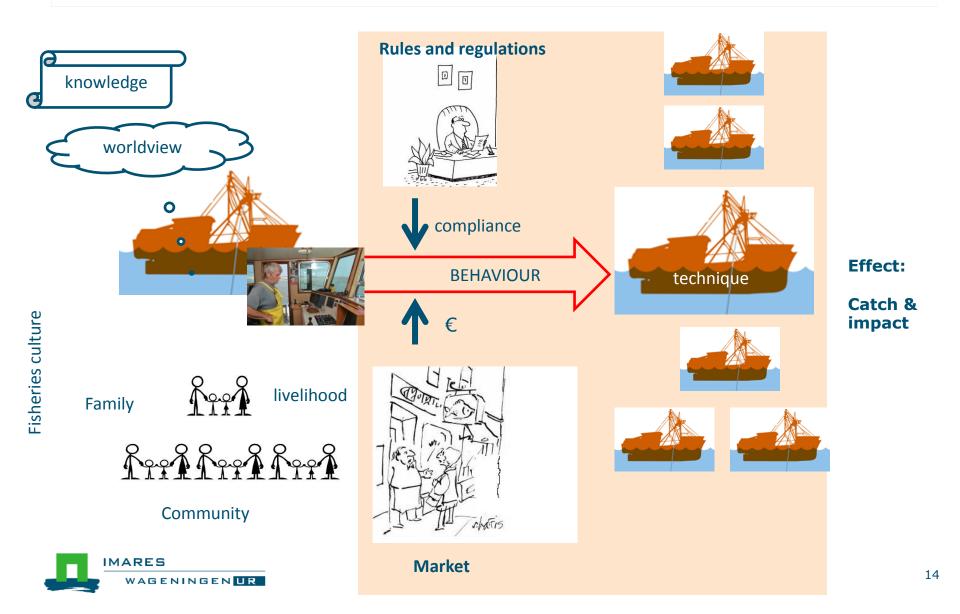
## Able?

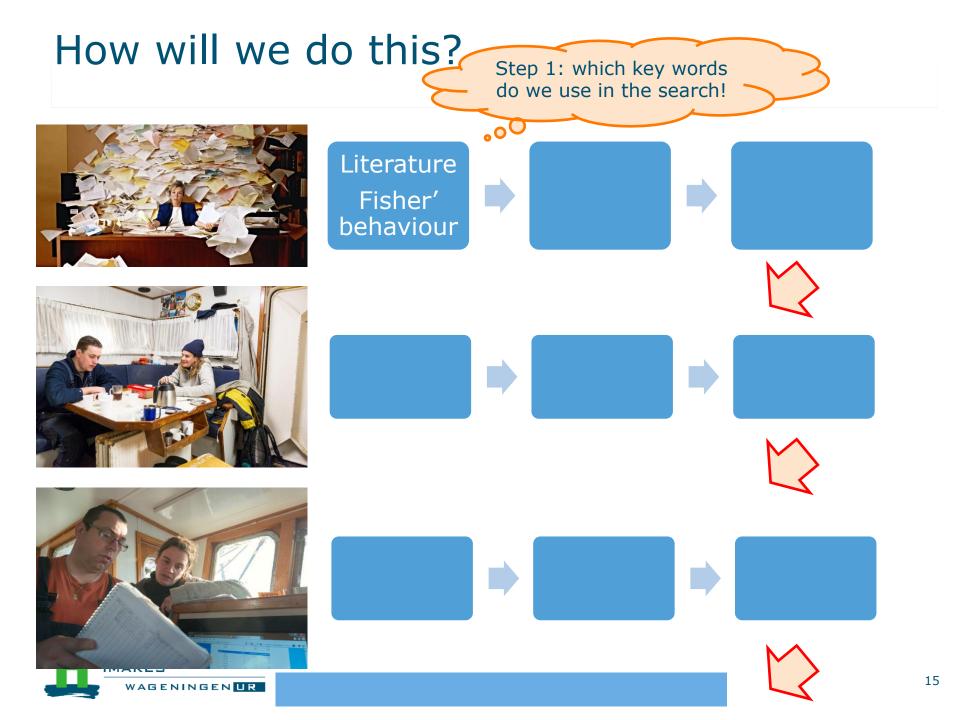
# Willing?

Do we **understand** why fishermen do what they do?



#### An integrated approach:





#### To start with a literature review





The decline and fall of the literature review southernfriedscience.com/the-decline-an ... Are you reviewing the literature?

S Vertaling weergeven



#### literature review

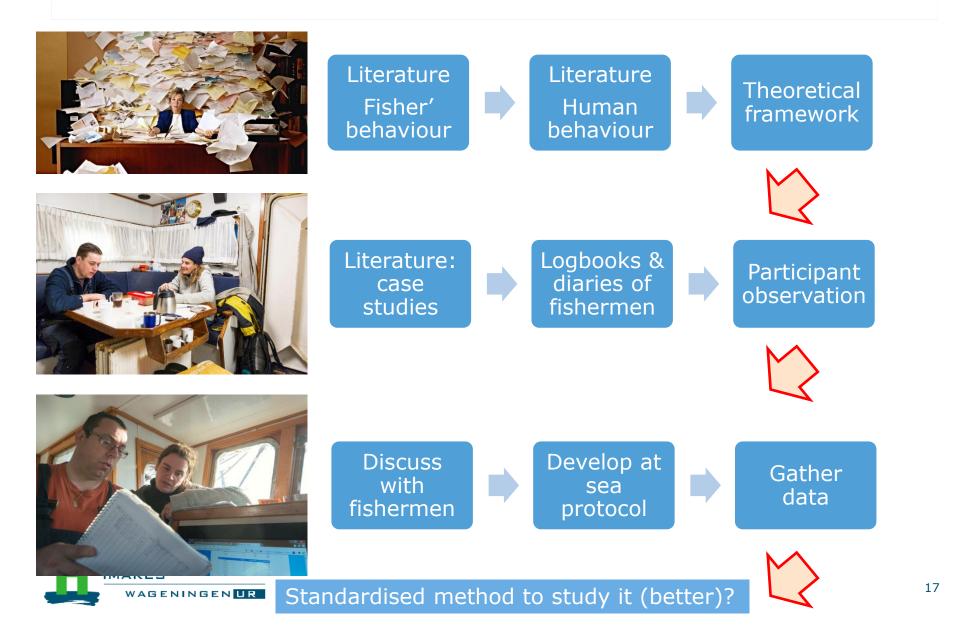
Let's not reinvent the wheel!

What is already out there?



How is it currently defined in all different disciplines?

#### How will we do this?



#### Thanks!



Please send any tips, ideas, links to <u>marloes.kraan@wur.nl</u>

**Team effort**: M.Kraan, K.Hamon, JJ.Poos, E.van den Broek, R.Verkempynck, M.de Vries, A.Rijnsdorp, E.van Helmond, B.Trapman (+ yet unidentified fishermen)

