FISH-X

epp group in the european parliament

renew europe.

# Small-scale fisheries turning digital: how to do it right?

23 April 2025

EU-project no.: 101060879

European Parliament

Funded by the European Union

Photo: Carlo Gianferro

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# Welcoming remarks

**Željana ZOVKO**
Member of the European Parliament
Croatia, EPP

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**Moderated by Laure Guillevic**,
Ocean Policy Officer,
WWF European Policy Office

# Panelists

**Jana Stünkel**
Fish-X Project
Coordinator
TransMarTech S-H

**Euckehard Reussner**
Head of Unit
DG Mare, C4 Data
Management Unit

**Marko Kožul**
Small-scale fisher
Croatia

**Nelson Caracol**
Small-scale fisher
Portugal

WWF Conference at European Parliament – 23 April 2025

# Fish-X Project

## Providing a European Fisheries Data Space Through a Consultative Approach

Jana Stünkel (Fish-X Coordinator, TransMarTech SH)
| EU-project no.: 101060879

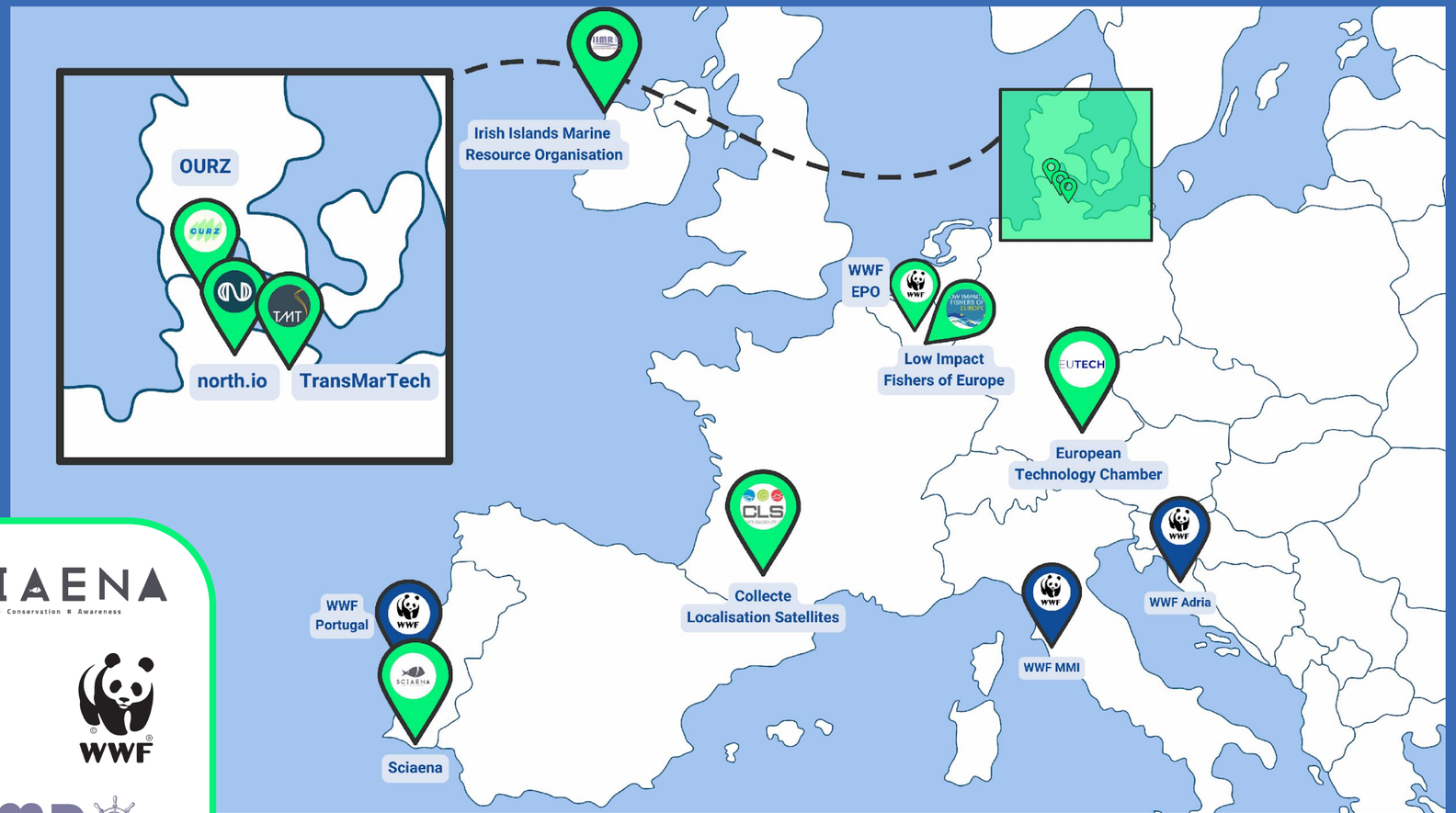
https://fish-x.eu

Co-funded by the European Union

# Fish-X At A Glance

**June 2022 – May 2025**
**(36 months)**

**€6 Million**
**EU-Funding: €4.5 Million**




TransMarTech SH Driving Maritime Future
SCIAENA Oceans ■ Conservation ■ Awareness
OURZ
CLS COLLECTE LOCALISATION SATELLITES
WWF
north.io
IIMR IRISH ISLANDS MARINE RESOURCE ORGANISATION
LOW IMPACT FISHERS OF EUROPE
EUTECH

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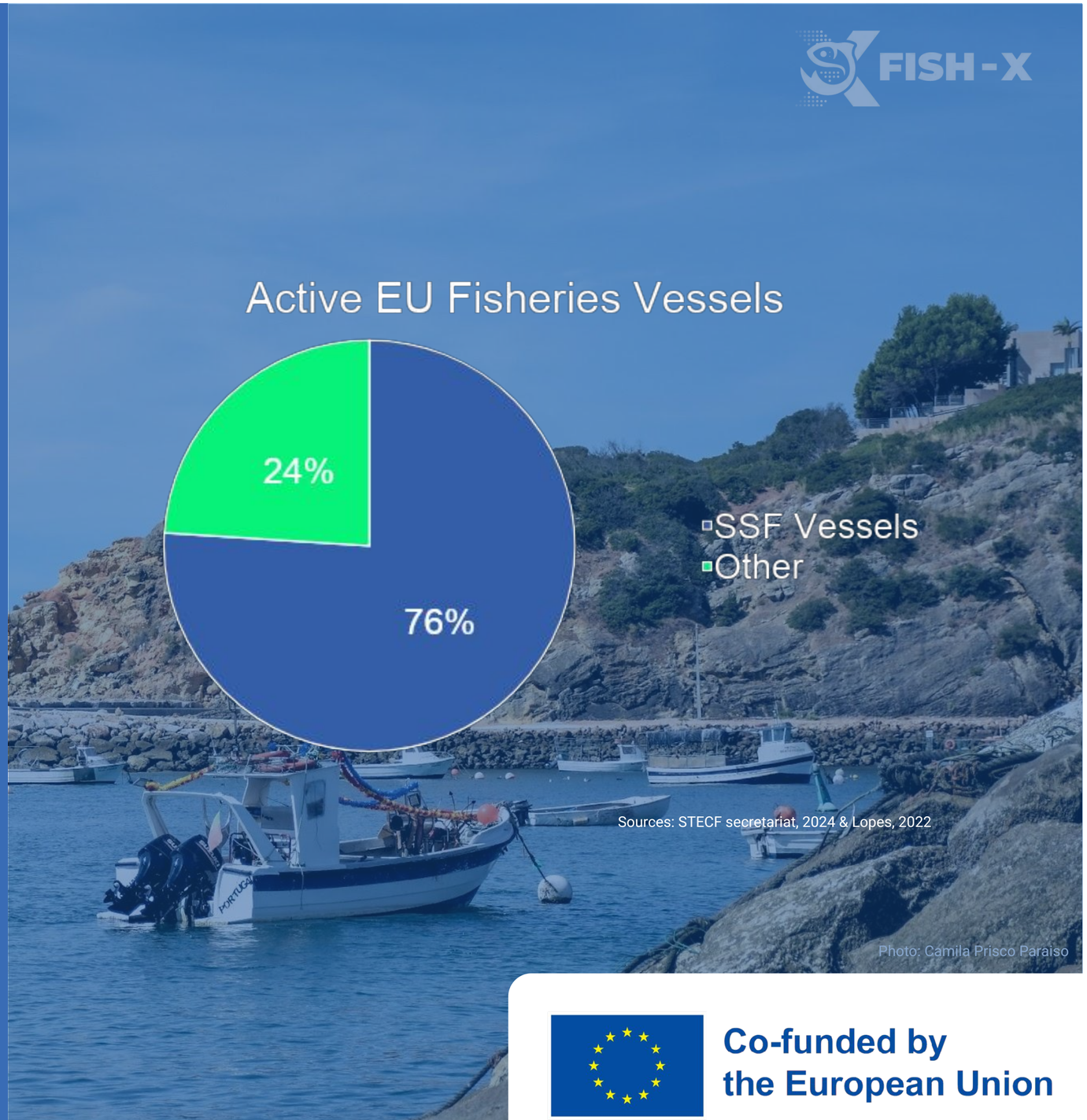
# Economic & Legislative Context

- Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) crucial part of coastal economies and cultures, but remain underrepresented

- Competitiveness Compass (01/2025): push for competitiveness & simplification

- Oceans Pact: providing strong momentum to sustain SSF sector

- Revised EU Fisheries Control Regulation 2023/2842: Changes for SSF
  - Tracking devices for all SSF vessels by 2030
  - Electronic logbook for all SSF vessels by 2028



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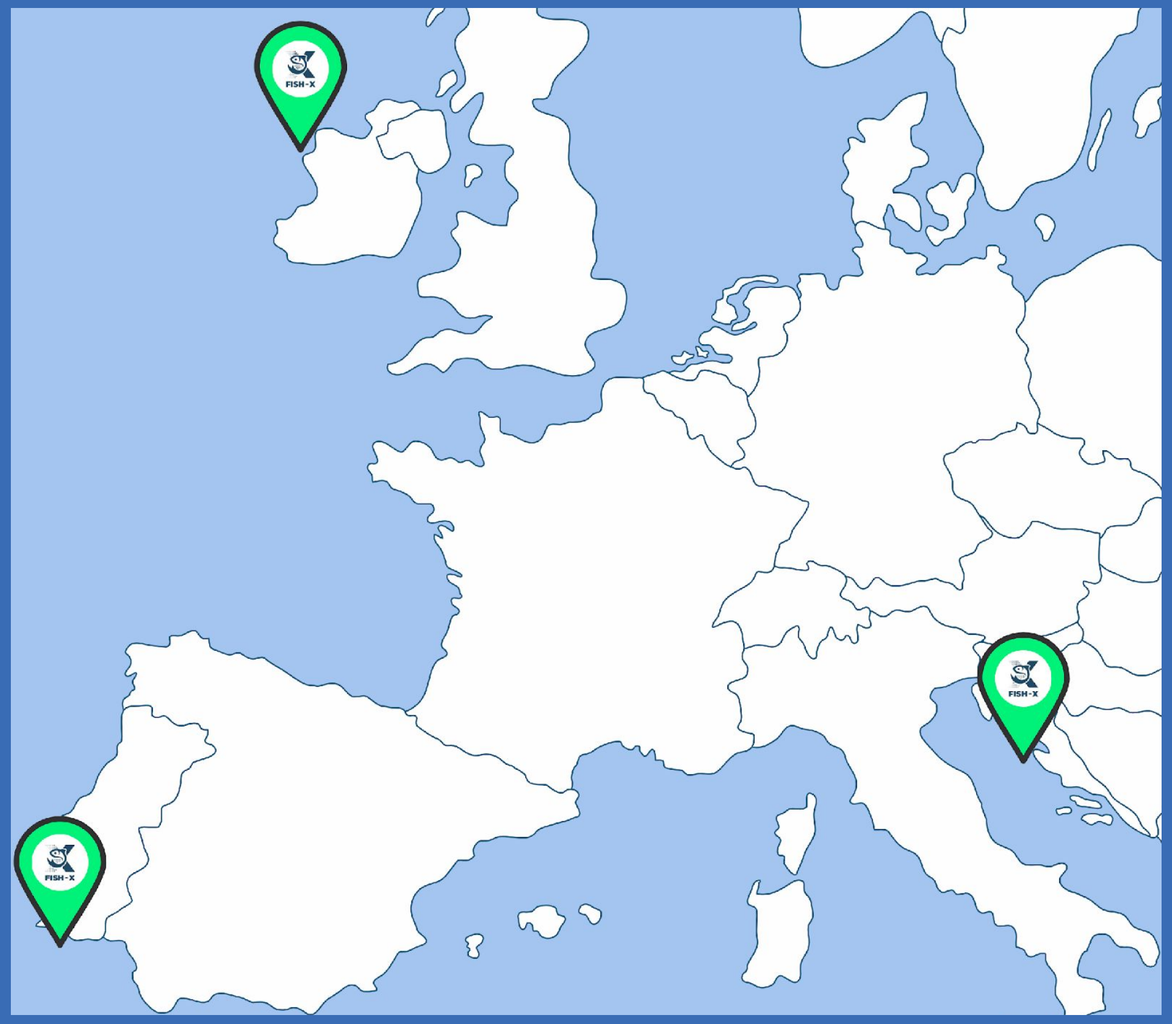
# Fish-X Results After 3 Years

## 3 Technological Tools

Development of 3 technological outputs to
- collect, anonymise and analyse VMS and catch reporting data,
- publicly display fisheries activities on maps, and
- to ensure transparent seafood traceability

## 3 Locations

Pilot project to install vessel monitoring system (VMS) devices and electronic fishing gear marking devices (e-gear markers) with fisher's communities





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# Fish-X Use Cases & Stakeholder Engagement

## 3 Locations

Ireland, Portugal & Croatia

## Installations

104 Vessel Monitoring System devices (NEMO)

11 Electronic Fishing Gear Markers (NAOS)

Photo: Camila Prisco Paraiso

Photo: IMRO

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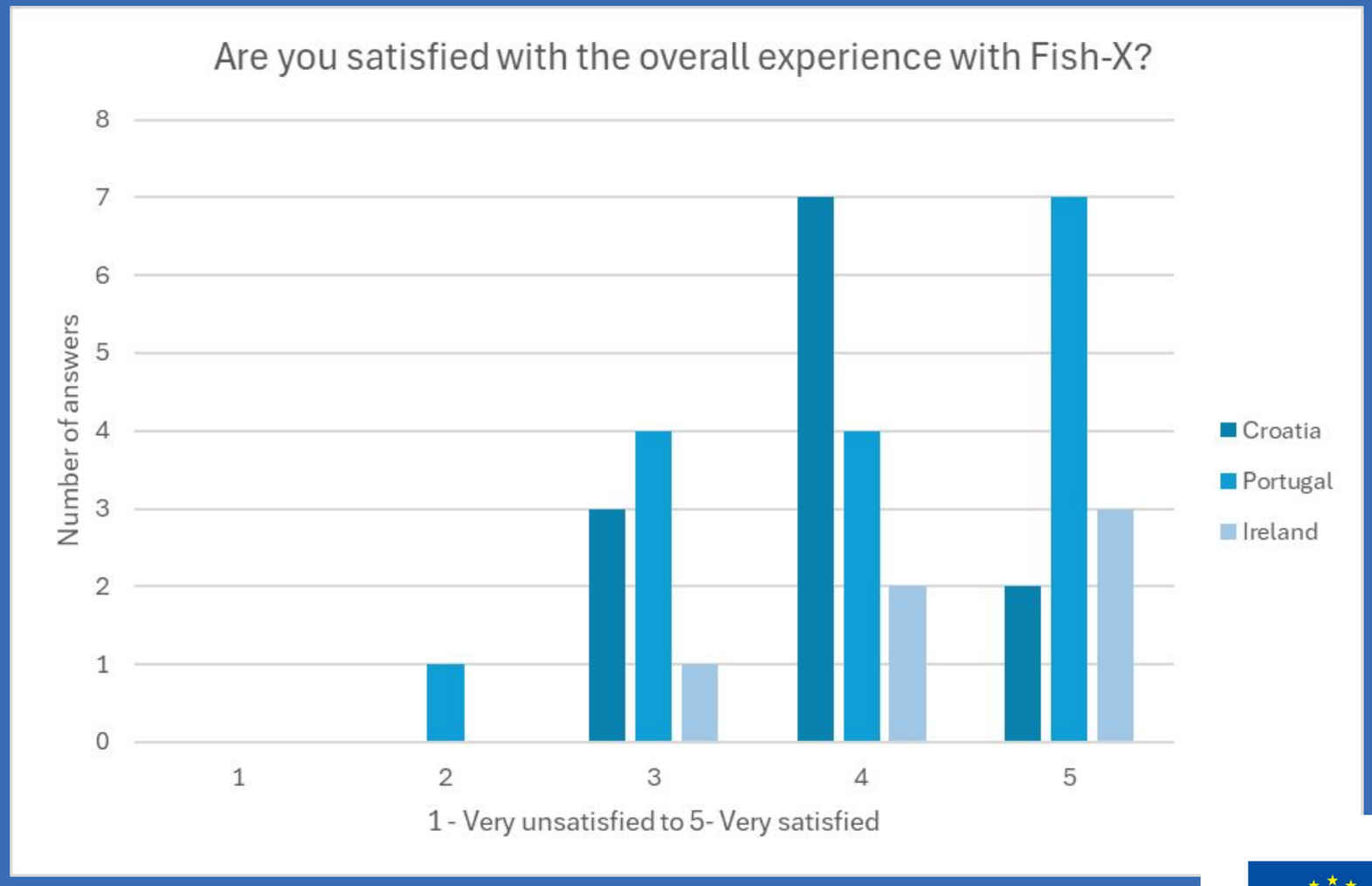
# Fish-X Use Cases & Stakeholder Engagement



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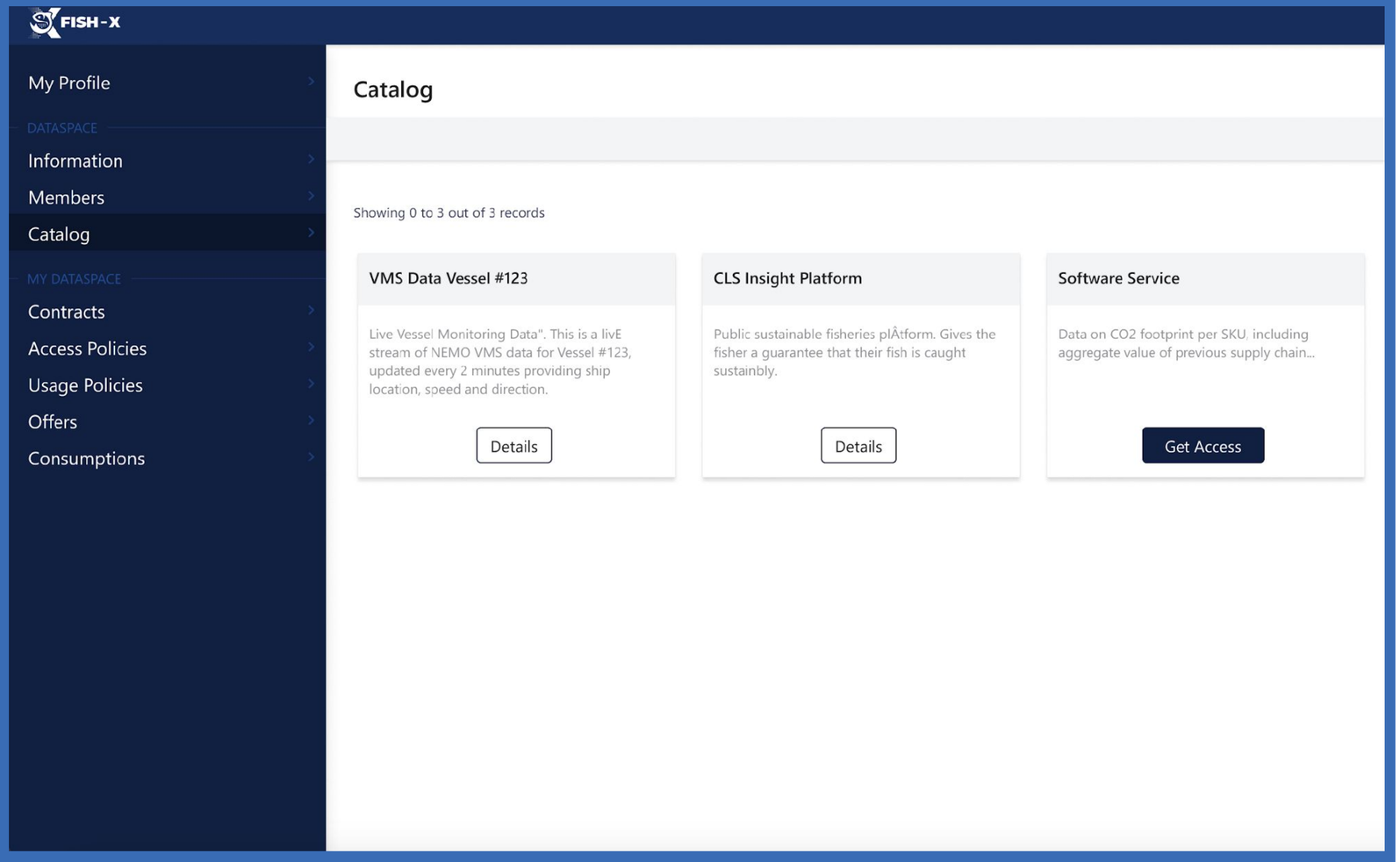
# Fish-X Digital Tools

## Fish-X Data Space

- Sharing of fisheries data among relevant stakeholders
- In line with EU data space principles & revised control regulation
- Supporting better decision-making

Technological Readiness Level (TRL) 6/7: demonstrating (sub-)system prototypes in relevant environments



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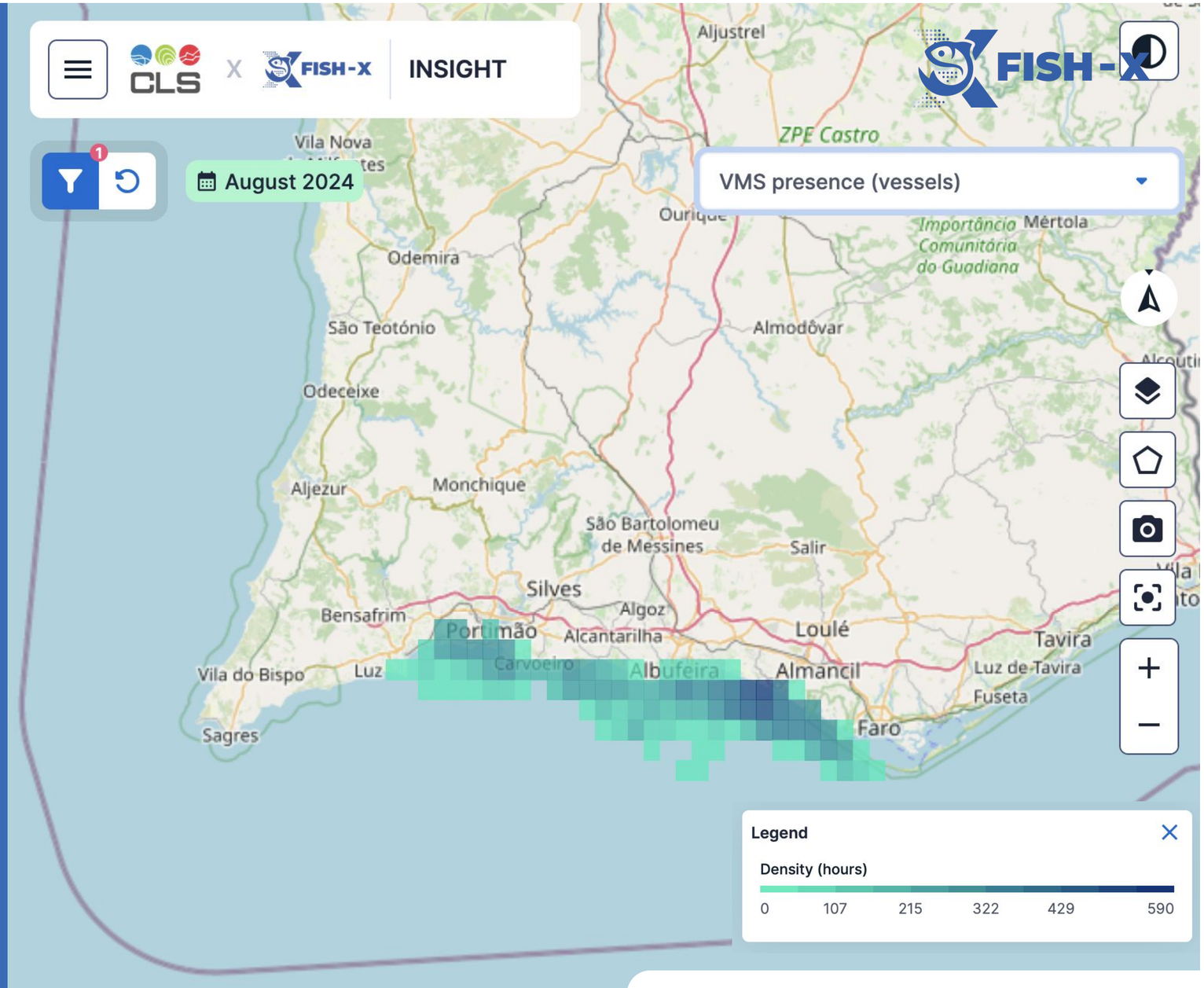
# Fish-X Digital Tools

## Insight Platform

- Vessel Presence

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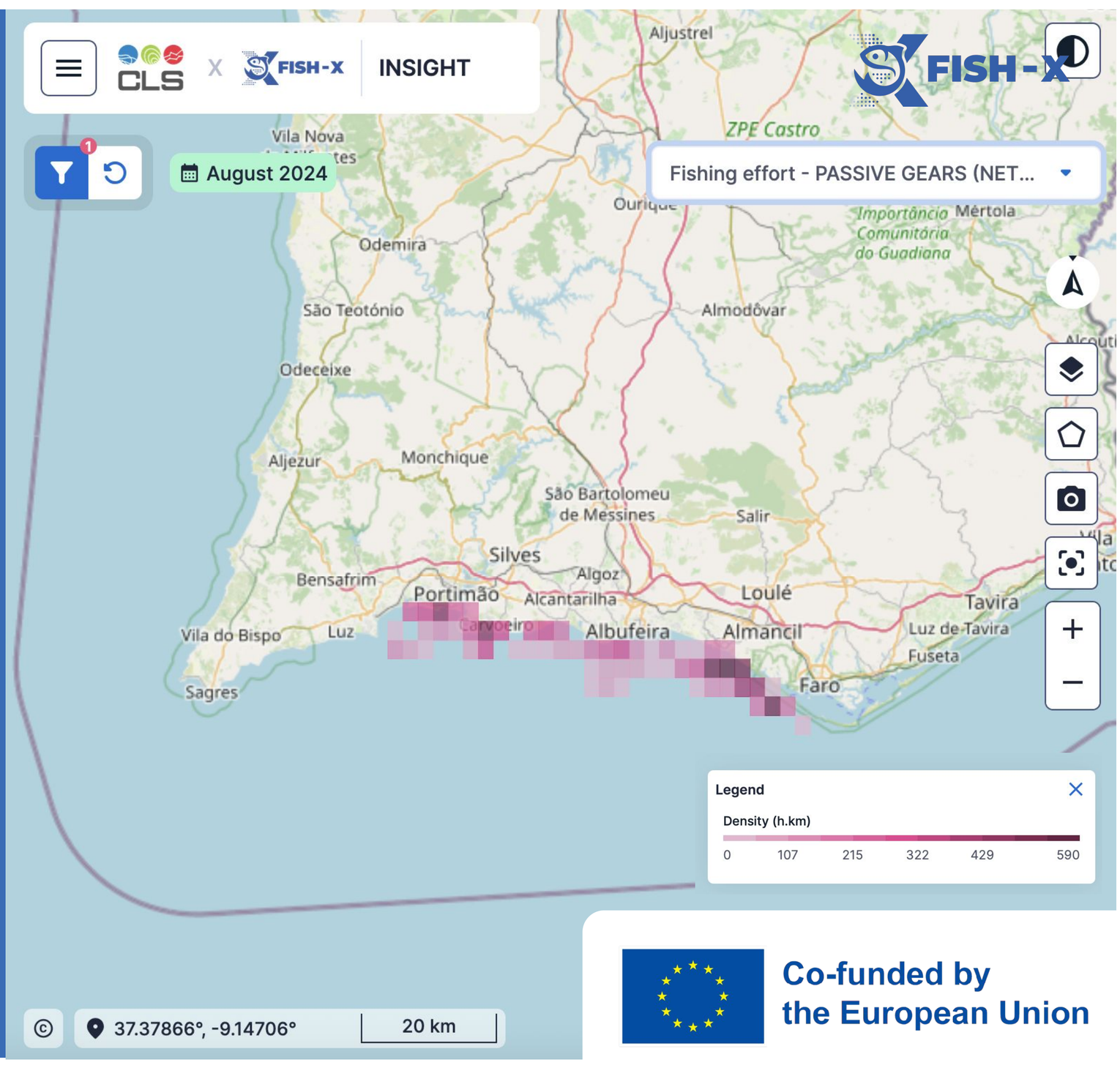
# Fish-X Digital Tools

## Insight Platform

- Fishing effort derived from VMS trajectories by AI & machine learning

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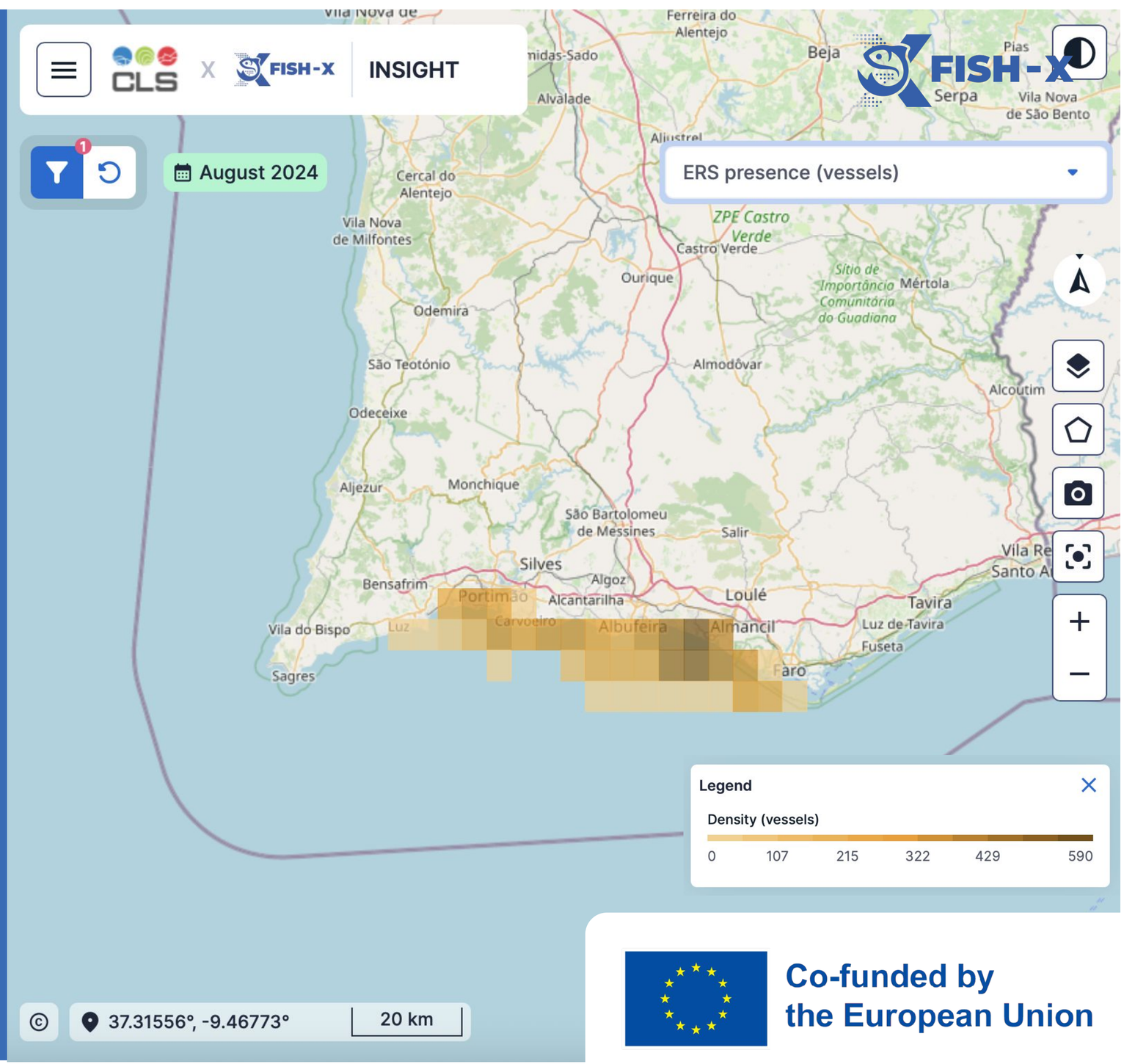
# Fish-X Digital Tools

## Insight Platform

- Electronic Logbooks
  Reports & statistics

TRL 7: system prototype demonstration in operational environment

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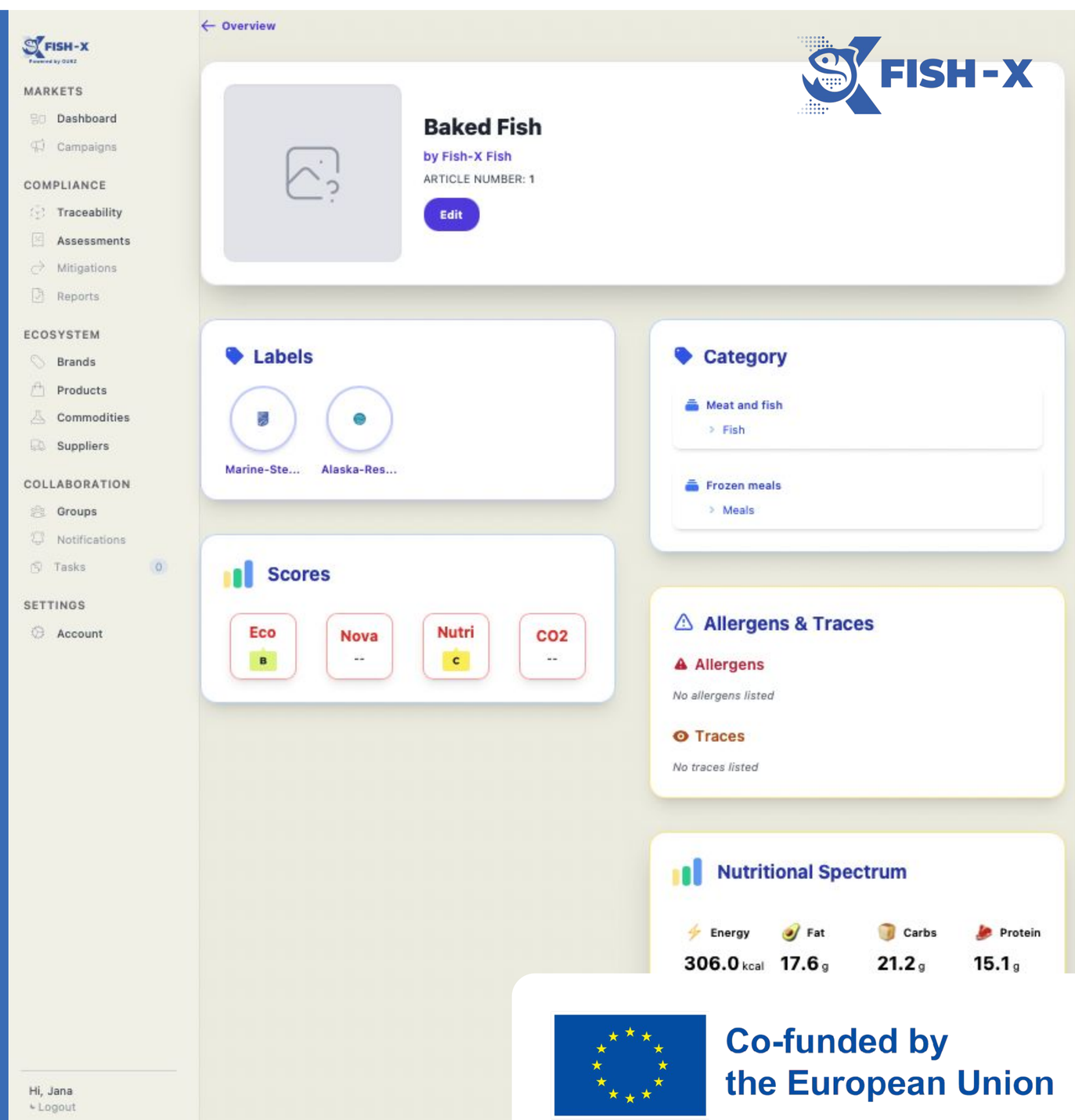
# Fish-X Digital Tools

## Traceability Platform + App

- Transparent & comprehensive mapping of seafood products
- Using blockchain technology
- App enables consumers receiving information on supply chain

TRL 5: Technology validated in relevant environment

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# 3 Main Lessons Learned

1. **Collaboration across sectors** is key

2. **Demonstration of benefits** for SSF is crucial to:

   - Simplify work
   - Prove fishing grounds

4. Need of **robust stakeholder engagement**

   - Trust & capacity building

Photo: Joana Jesus

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# 3 Main Lessons Learned

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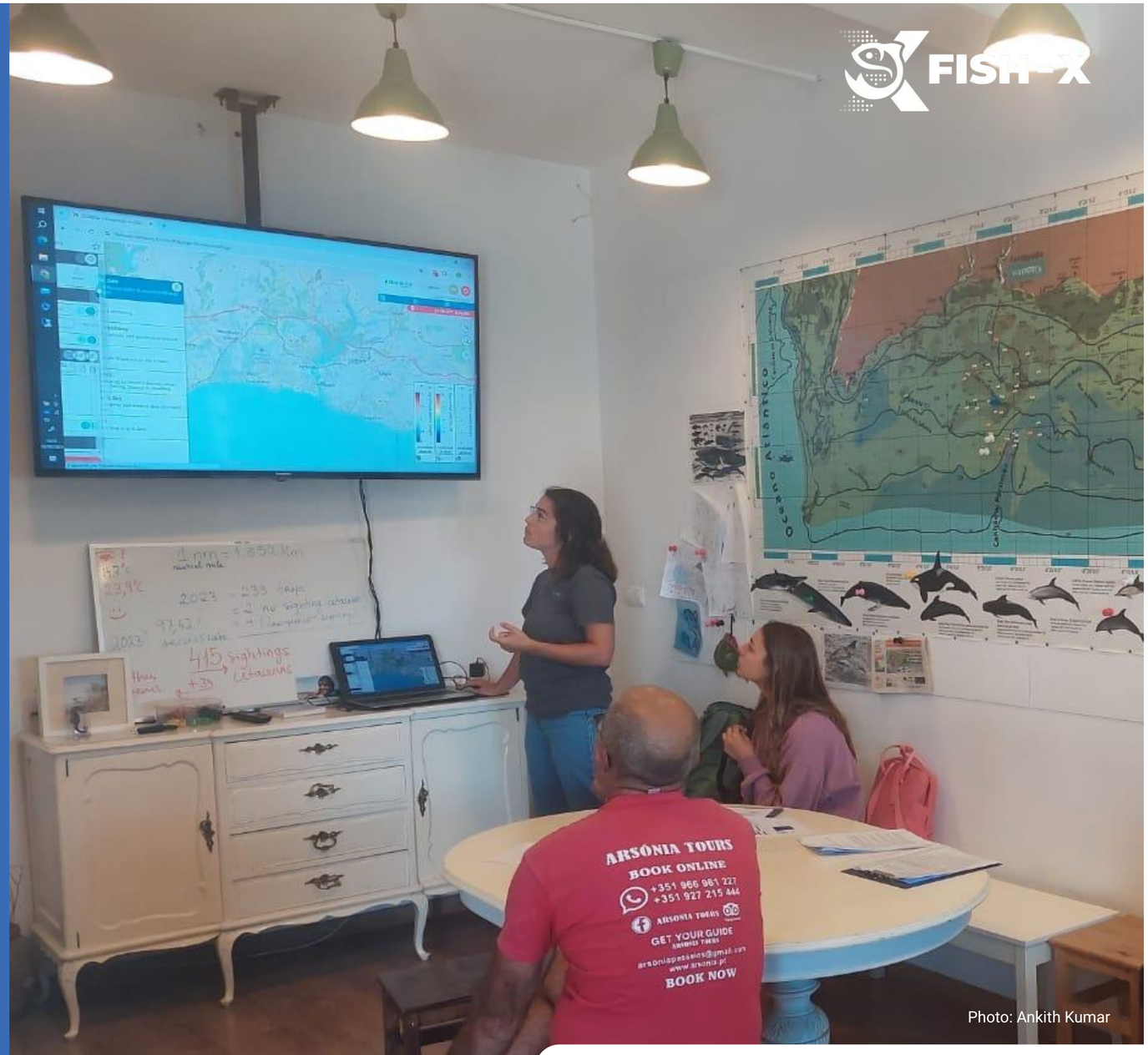


Photo: Ankith Kumar

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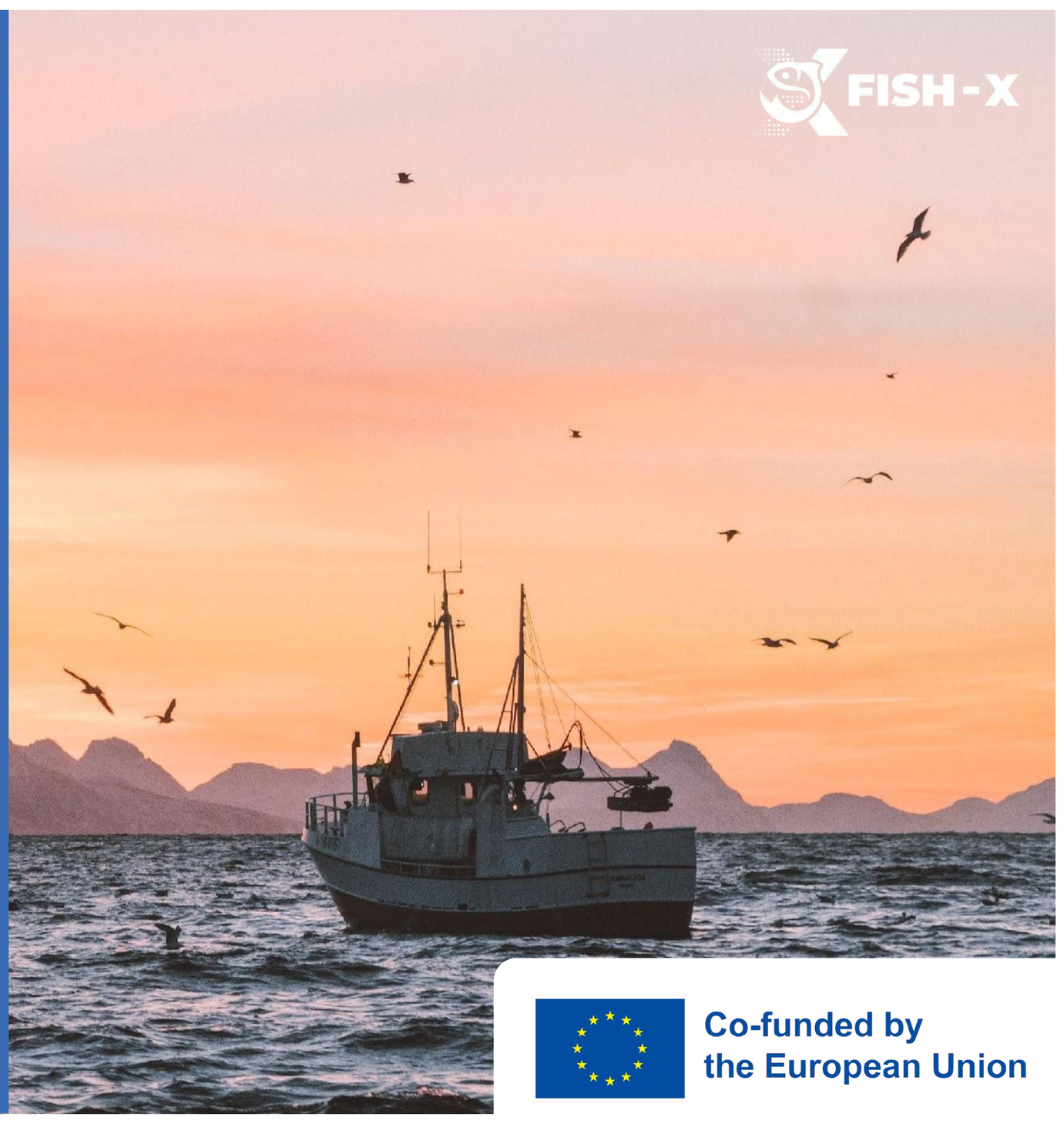
# What‘s Next?

- Maintain Fish-X technological tools operational
- Policy Recommendations
- Inspired by Fish-X: EMFAF Proposal: Future for Young Fishers

- Lessons > long-term transformation
- Continuation to support pilot projects & communication effort
- Progress on analysis of vessel trajectories





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Digitalisation isn’t optional

– it’s essential for fairness and sustainability for the fishing sector, coastal communities and for the environment.

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# Fish-X EU Parliament event
# Small-scale fisheries turning digital: how to do it right?

# Tracking & reporting for Small-Scale Fisheries in the revised Control Regulation

**Eckehard REUSSNER**
**Head of the Data Management Unit – DG MARE**

**23 April 2025**

Document 32023R2842

? Share

**Regulation (EU) 2023/2842 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, and amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1967/2006 and (EC) No 1005/2008 and Regulations (EU) 2016/1139, (EU) 2017/2403 and (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards fisheries control**

PE/38/2023/REV/1

*OJ L, 2023/2842, 20.12.2023, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2842/oj (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)*

In force

ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2842/oj

Regarding all fishing vessels, including <12m LOA, MS must

- track them and receive position data from them at regular intervals.
- receive their fishing logbooks, submitted by electronic means

COM must

- develop a software solution to provide for these new reporting requirements, after MS request.

# The Control Regulation and the future Implementing Regulation

- […]
- Control of fisheries:
  - VMS (time lapse TBD)
  - Fishing logbook => => => => =>
  - Landing declaration
  - Weighing
  - Sales notes

[…]

*ANNEX XV (ex X)*

**INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE FISHING LOGBOOK, LANDING DECLARATION, AND TRANSHIPMENT DECLARATION**

The following minimum information on the vessels' fishing activities shall be recorded in the fishing logbook and other catch documentation, as applicable, in accordance with Articles 14, 17, 19a, 21, and 23 of the Control Regulation and Title VII, Chapter II of this Regulation, without prejudice to any additional requirements set under the rules of the common fisheries policy or by the , national authorities of a Member State or third country.

Where the Control Regulation does not require the master or their representative to record and report this information, the competent authorities of the Member State may, where appropriate, supplement the available data.

| **Data element** | **Mandatory (M), Optional (O) and CIF (Compulsory if applicable)** | **Description and/or timing of information to be recorded** |
|---|---|---|
| Unique identification number | M | A unique identification of the activity report. |
| **Vessel identification** | | In case of pair fishing operations, the same information for the second fishing vessel shall also be recorded. |
| 1. CFR number<br>2. Internal registration number (IR) | CIF<br>CIF | CFR, when required by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/218.<br><br>For any other vessels, a unique national registration number must be provided instead. |
| 3. UVI | CIF | The IMO number, where the vessel has such an identifier. |
| 4. IRCS | CIF | International radio call sign, where the vessel has such an identifier. |
| 5. Name of the vessel | CIF | The name of the vessel, where |



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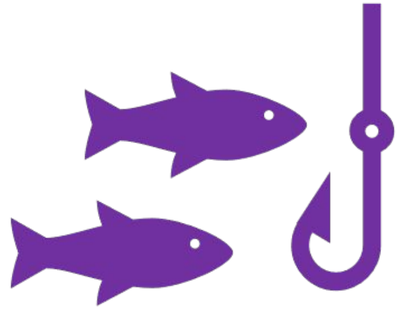
# Control Regulation: Exemptions for SSF

- Reporting per fishing trip (vs. per fishing operation).
- No prior notification of arrival to port.
- No need to notify the departure
- Fishing logbook sent after the last fishing operation and before landing
- (…)





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# Which data will be sent though the app?

**Identification**

- Of the user
- Of the vessel

**Fishing gears**

- Owned / onboard
- Dimensions, mesh size, number and size of hooks…

**Fishing activity**

- Catches and discards: species, size class, quantity.
- Fishing time
- Lost fishing gear

**Vessel position data**

- Coordinates, date, time, speed and course

**Return to port and Landing**

- Port, date and time.
- Landing declaration

**History**

- Option to consult the most recent logbooks

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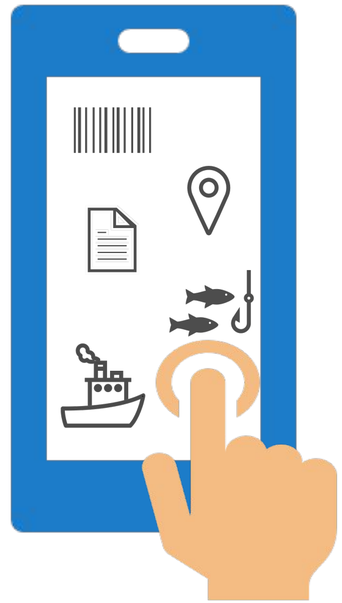
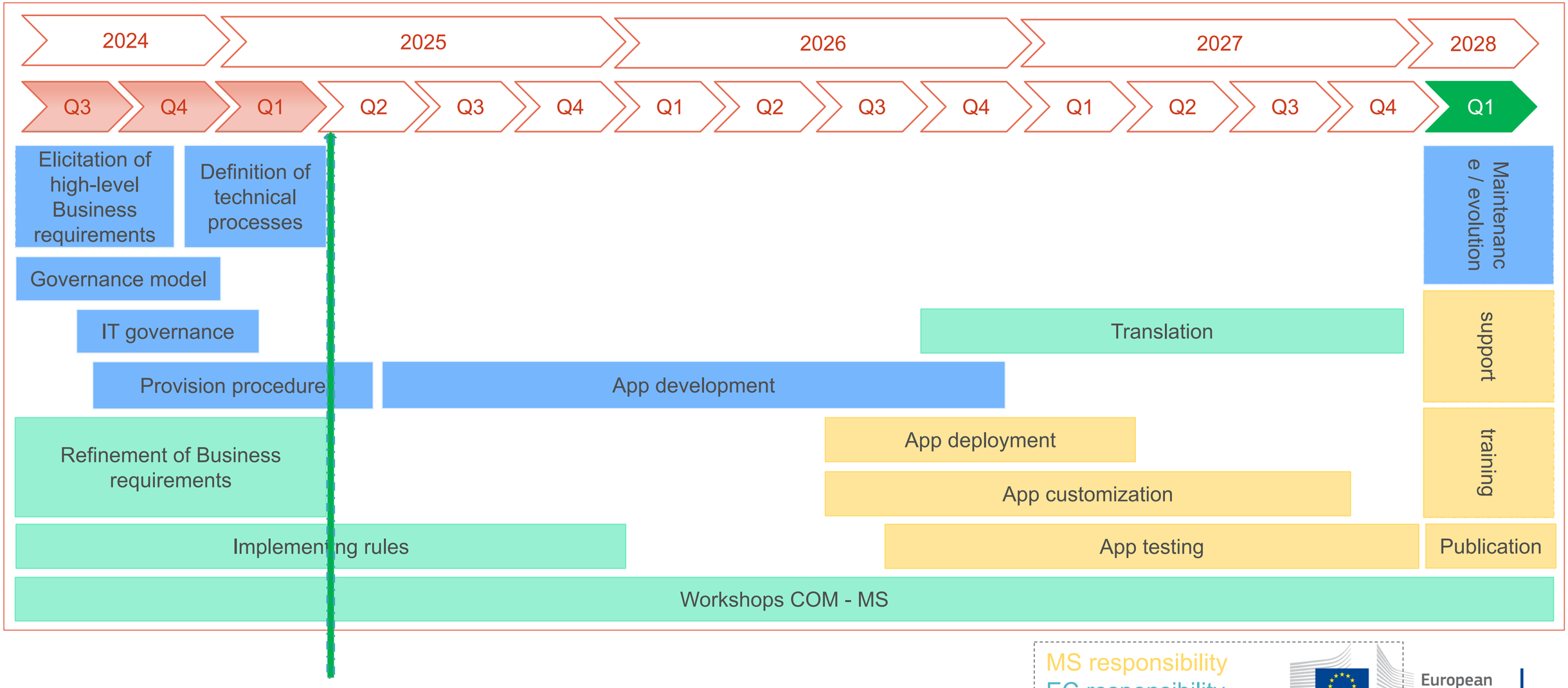
# Objective: easy to use app

- Option for storing data when out of network coverage.
- Try to make the interface as fisher-friendly as possible
  - big buttons
  - simple questions
- Training sessions

  to MS (=> fishers associations) => fishers.
- Free of cost for both MS and end users



# Planning: Roadmap and timeline




MS responsibility
EC responsibility
Shared responsibility

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# Thank you

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# Concluding remarks

**Stéphanie Yon-Courtin**
Member of the European Parliament
France, Renew

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# Thank you for attending the conference.

# The cocktail reception is now waiting for you!

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Get in touch: www.fish-x.eu | info@fish-x.eu

Photo: Camila Prisco Paraiso
FISH-X Conference #2 | 10 April 2024