Basic FACTS

FISHERIES
ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

UNEP
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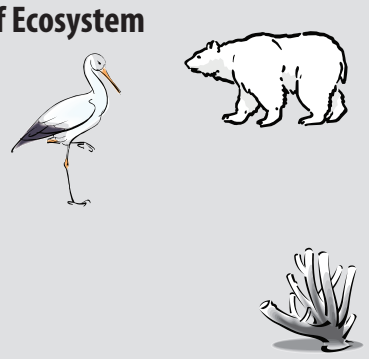
Why preserve fisheries?

Food

Fish are an important part of daily nutrition in many countries

Linking Parts of Ecosystem

Fish link different parts of the ecosystem via transport of nutrients and energy

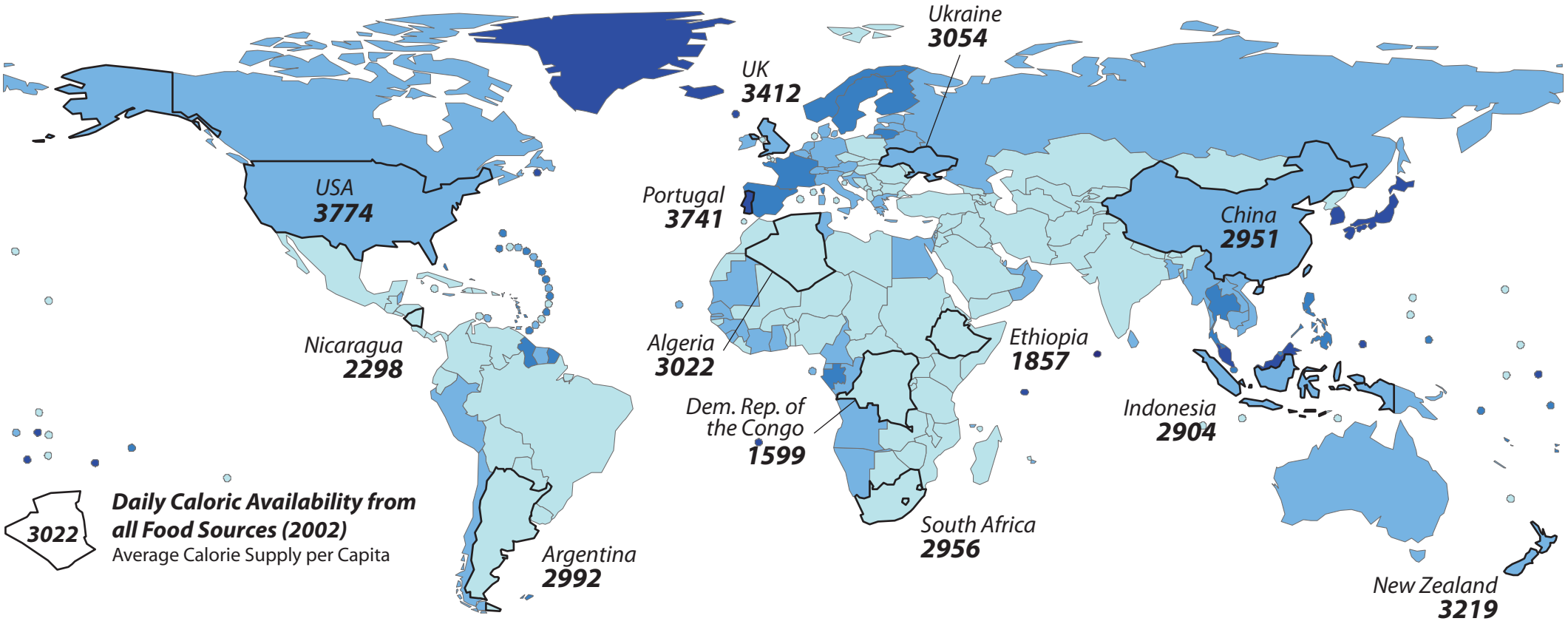


Recreation

Recreation and derived medicines are important uses in many areas of the world

other services: Sprituality • Regulation of Populations • Habitat Engineering

How important are fish to the average diet?



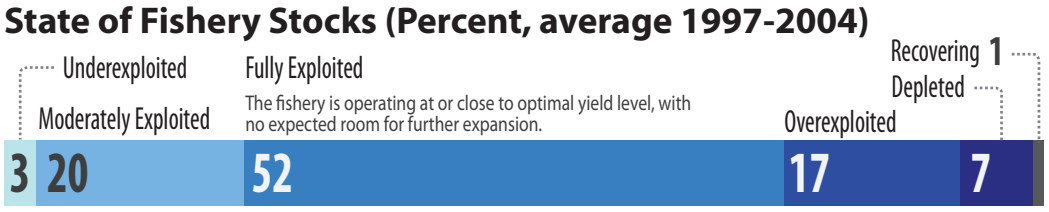
Fish Consumption per Capita (2003-2005)
Fish and Fishery Products Supply in kg / year

0 11.2 28.0 49.5 90.5 180

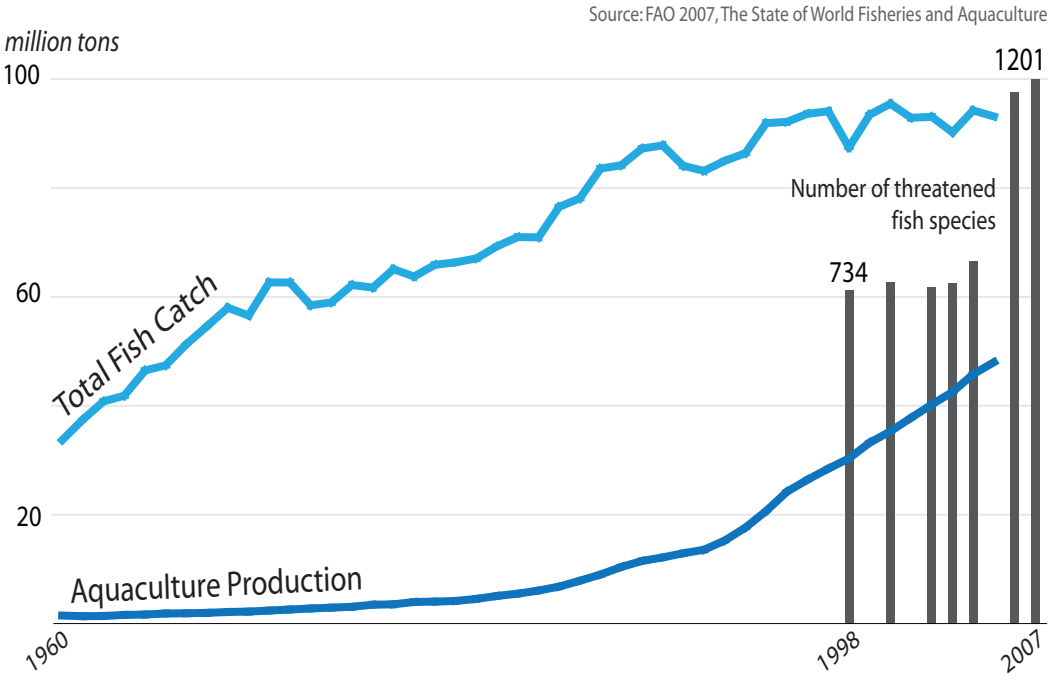
Source: FAO 2006, Yearbooks of Fishery Statistics, Summary Tables, UNEP GEO Data Portal, compiled from FAOSTAT

What is the current state of world fisheries?

State of Fishery Stocks (Percent, average 1997-2004)



Source: FAO 2007, The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture



Sources: UNEP GEO Data Portal, compiled from FAO, FISHSTAT Fishery Statistics; FAO 2006, Yearbooks of Fishery Statistics, Summary Tables, Capture Production 2006, Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, etc.; FAO 2005, Review of the State of World Marine Fishery Resources.

What are some major threats to fisheries?

Coral Reef Bleaching • Mangrove Destruction • Erosion
Climate Change • Bottom Trawling • Pollution

How are fisheries managed sustainably?

Some basic principles of MSC sustainable fisheries certification:

- **Sustainable fish stocks** - The fishing activity must be at a level which is sustainable for the fish population.
- **Minimising environmental impact** - Fishing operations should be managed to maintain structure, productivity, function and diversity of the ecosystem
- **Effective management** - The fishery must meet all local, national and international laws.

The challenge is to manage fisheries in a sustainable way

Look for an eco-label on products to make sure you are purchasing fish from a sustainably-managed fishery. The Marine Stewardship Council is a major, accredited certification body.

Produced by UNEP/DEWA/GRID-Europe, Feb. 2009