

### The Fishery Value Chain

27/10/2017

## What are we talking about?

The fishery value chain in Belgium









### Total fisheries in Belgium

Wild Catch landed in Belgian Ports: 16.713 ton

Total Import: 256.247 ton

Total Export: 137.894 ton

Source: Gfk 2016

### The fishery sector in Belgium

- The Fishing Fleet & Fishing ports
- The auction
- Wholesale processing companies
- Retail Fish markets Fish specialty stores

### The Belgian Fleet in 2016







Large fleet segment

(>221 kw)

33

vessels

**Small fleet segment** 

(<221

**Eurokotter** kw) Coastal fishery

13

vessels

17

vessels

### Who are the fishermen?

- Family owned businesses
- Dispose of a license to catch Belgian quota
- 1 maximum 2 vessels per shipowner
- Relatively stable catch over the year- very volatile on daily basis
  - Distribution of species
  - Prices
- Dependent on quota, weather, presence of fish at the fishing grounds

### **The Fishing Ports**

- 450 fish auctions along the European coasts
- 3 fishing ports in Belgium
- 2 fish auctions
  - Vlaamse Visveiling (Oostende & Zeebrugge)
  - Nieuwpoortse Visveiling

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### The Auctions

- 1. Platform to bring supply and demand together
  - Keeping the current supply and demand stable
  - Simultaneously developing new supply and sales markets
- 2. First point of sales
- 3. Services to shipowners and merchants







### 1. The Platform

#### 1. The Clock:

- A digital sales system allowing distant buying
- Reliable and fast sales (up to 500 transactions/ hour)
- Transparent sales system with international buyers
- Democratic system, equal opportunities for all parties
- "Countervailing power" by grouping the supply

#### 2. The Bidding Platform

Developing new markets for the Belgian catch

# 2. First Point of sales & its legal obligations



- Classification by weight classes
- Objective quality inspection following the QIM method
  - Reliability is extremely important for the 80% distant buyers



- Food safety control by FASFC
   (Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain)
- Communication with government quota control

### The buyers Vlaamse Visveiling: 170 buyers

- Wholesalers
  - Export
  - Processing
  - Restaurants
  - Catering
- Supermarkets
  - Carrefour, Auchan,...
- Markets and specialty stores

# 3. Services of Vlaamse Visveiling: Bringing together & facilitating supply and demand

# Services to suppliers

# Services to buyers

- Support for landing in foreign ports
- Bunkering and transportation equipment
- Organization refrigerated transport
- Calibrating the fish
- Fast and reliable payment

- ✓ Market creation
- ✓ Performant software for sales on the clock
- ✓ Fair price
- ✓ Traceability
- ✓ Neutral data

- Internal logistics / Preparing for export
- Direct distribution to companies in the clusters
- Packaging and labeling tailored to the customer

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## **European Food Centre**

The Wholesale and Processing Companies around the Auction

### EFC Cluster Zeebrugge



- Economic activities sustained by the logistics platform
- 100 companies, total investment of 150 million €:
  - Shipowners: 40
  - Fish trade and processing : 40
  - Ship supplies and maintenance : 20
  - Cold store
  - Employment: 1500

# EFC Cluster Oostende



- Economic activities sustained by the logistics platform
- 39 companies: \*
  - Shipowners: 6
  - Fish trade and processing: 25
  - Ship supplies and maintenance: 8
  - Employment: 200

\*Will expand significantly with new auction and workplaces

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- The Fishing Fleet & Fishing Ports
- The auctions
- Wholesale processing companies
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### **Consumption in Belgium**

- 66% of Fresh Seafood consumption is at home
  - 40% is bought in specialty stores or market
  - 10% in hard discount with no Belgian catch in assortment
  - 50% is bought in retail
- Especially Mussels and Dover Sole are restaurant products
- Seafood consumption is increasing
  - Salmon and Cod have the biggest market share
  - The Northsea species are increasing
  - Exotic species are decreasing