

FranceAgriMer

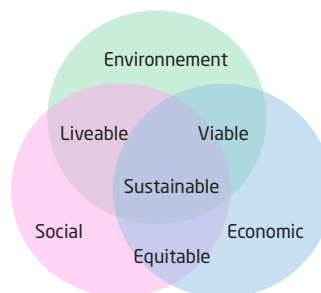
Certification of products from sustainable marine fishery « Pêche Durable » Label



Started during the Grenelle environmental forum, the label was created to meet the demand of the fishing sector to hold a public label suited to the activity.

- **A label rewarding sustainable fishing:**

By combining a high level of environmental criteria (resource and habitat), with ethical criteria and product quality, this label gives value to the numerous characteristics of the sector.



- A certification of the whole sector, from the producer to the final consumer: two certification categories are provided, one for the fishing activity and one for the marketing chain.

- **A participatory approach with continuous monitoring:**

The standard has been developed by a Committee composed of all representative stakeholders of the sector, from top to bottom, and representatives of government, NGOs, consumers and scientists.

Two public consultations have completed the specifications with the opinions of the general public.

The specifications and the enforcement plan have been approved by ministerial decree, published in the Official Journal of 16th December 2014.

Revisions for updating and improving the standards are set whenever the Ecolabel Committee deems it necessary and at least every three years.

- **An impartial and transparent certification system:** inspections are carried out by certification bodies accredited by the French national accreditation agency, COFRAC, each certification body acts completely independently and impartially, in accordance with international certification standards (ISO 17065).

- **A label open to all:** Although registered in French law, this label will be awarded to candidates from other countries.

Requirements for applicant fisheries:

Prerequisites:

A prerequisite is a criterion whose value is independent from the activity conducted by the certification unit. These prerequisites (PR) have to be checked before any certification process by the auditee and the auditor.

PR1 : The target stock exploitation rate corresponds to the maximum sustainable yield (F_{MSY}).

PR2 : There is an international framework to maintain in the precautionary limits the stock concerned by the ecolabelling application.

PR3 : The fishing activity does not threaten the non target stocks.

PR4 : The flag State has signed the agreements of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on the working conditions in fishing vessels.

PR5 : The States implement a strategy to achieve good environmental status of the marine environment at the latest in 2020.

PR6 : The loss of fishing gear has to be reported to a management body as soon as it is detected.

Themes, principles and criteria of the specifications:

The requirements are divided into 4 themes: **Ecosystem, Environment, Social aspects and Quality**. Each theme is divided into principles, themselves split into criteria. In total, the specifications include **36 criteria**.

Ecosystem

Principles	Criteria
P1. An appropriate governance of the certification unit ensures the supervision of sustainable use.	1.1 Governance enables adaptive management. 1.2 Management measures should be taken in consultation with various stakeholders.
P2. The certification unit protects the reproductive capacity of the impacted stocks.	2.1 Means are implemented to limit the catch of juveniles. 2.2 The fishing activity does not affect the functional areas known (nursery / spawning grounds).
P3. The certification unit, through the catch, has no impact on protected or endangered species.	3.1 The fishing activity is adapted to limit unwanted catches of protected or endangered species. 3.2 Recording and reporting of unwanted catches of protected or endangered species. 3.3 Maximizing survival of individuals caught accidentally.
P4. The certification unit has little or no impact on the habitat.	4.1 The impacts of fishing on the funds and on the sessile flora and fauna associated do not affect the habitat irreversibly. 4.2 The rules of the special habitat area management body are followed. 4.3 Dialogue and collaboration exist between the certification unit, scientists and managers of the special habitat area.

Environment

Principles	Criteria
P5. The certification unit uses fossil energy in a limited way.	5.1 : The energy used is limited. Certified ships implement a Quality and Energy Plan.
P6. Pollution from solid, liquid, oil and gas is avoided.	6.1 : Prevention of pollution by sewage. 6.2 : Prevention of pollution by garbage. 6.3 : Prevention of pollution in the atmosphere.

Social aspects

Principles	Criteria
P7. The crew has good employment conditions and sea life.	7.1 : Guaranteed minimum wage for the sailors. 7.2 : Easy access to additional protections including pension provision for temporary incapacity or disability. 7.3 : Information on the economic activity of the company.
P8. The crew has good security conditions.	8.1 : Information for newcomers. 8.2 : Work areas and product processing area onboard enable the crew to operate safely. 8.3 : Monitoring of work accidents.
P9. The crew is made aware and trained in safety, hygiene and sustainability issues.	9.1 : Additional training on safety. 9.2 : Training on hygiene. 9.3 : Raising awareness of the dangers of addictive consumption. 9.4 : Training on the topics of resource, biodiversity and environment.

Quality

Principles	Critères
P10. The freshness and quality of eco-labelled products are guaranteed	10.1 : Preservation of the quality of the products on board. 10.2 : Quality of fishery products landed.
P11. The products are well valued	11.1 : Forecast of the landing.
P12. Traceability is guaranteed	12.1 : Maintaining traceability and requirements up to the first sale.

Requirements for operators in the marketing chain

Principles	Criteria
P1. Control of inputs: the company shows proper management of inputs and sources certified products	1.1 : Control of Suppliers: supply from certified vendors. 1.2 : Guarantee of inputs certification.
P2. Identification of certified products	2.1 : Clear and permanent product identification (reception, storage, processing, packaging, sales). In the case of product processing, the reference to the ecolabel has to be indicated on the new packaging. 2.2 : Guarantees of non mixing of certified and non-certified products.
P3. Traceability: presence of a traceability system formalized within the company	3.1: The traceability system enables tracking and tracing of incoming and outgoing products and the realization of a material balance of the certified products. 3.2 : 2 Keeping of the records necessary for traceability.
P4. Quality of certified products	4.1: Quality of the products sold as whole fish, fresh, and not packaged. 4.2: The presentation for sale of fresh certified products frozen-defrosted without further processing operations (cooking, smoking, curing, marinating) is not allowed.
P5. . Proper use of the logo and marketing indications	5.1: Proper use of the logo and marketing indications.

Issuance and validity of certification

- The audits must be performed by certification bodies accredited by COFRAC, according to the NF EN ISO 17065 and meeting the accreditation scheme established for the label specifications.
- Certification can be applied for a group of ships or a group of marketing units.
- The certification is valid:
 - 5 years for the production
 - 3 years for the marketing chain
- Annual surveillance audits will be carried out by the certification bodies.

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