

Rights-based measures and environmentally sustainable fishing

Presentation to NGO Workshop on RBM
Brussels, 23 March 2009

by Chris Grieve, Meridian Prime



My purpose – Your purpose



What I plan to talk about:



Setting
the
context



All in the
design



Examples
of environ-
mental
outcomes



Rights in
the EU
context



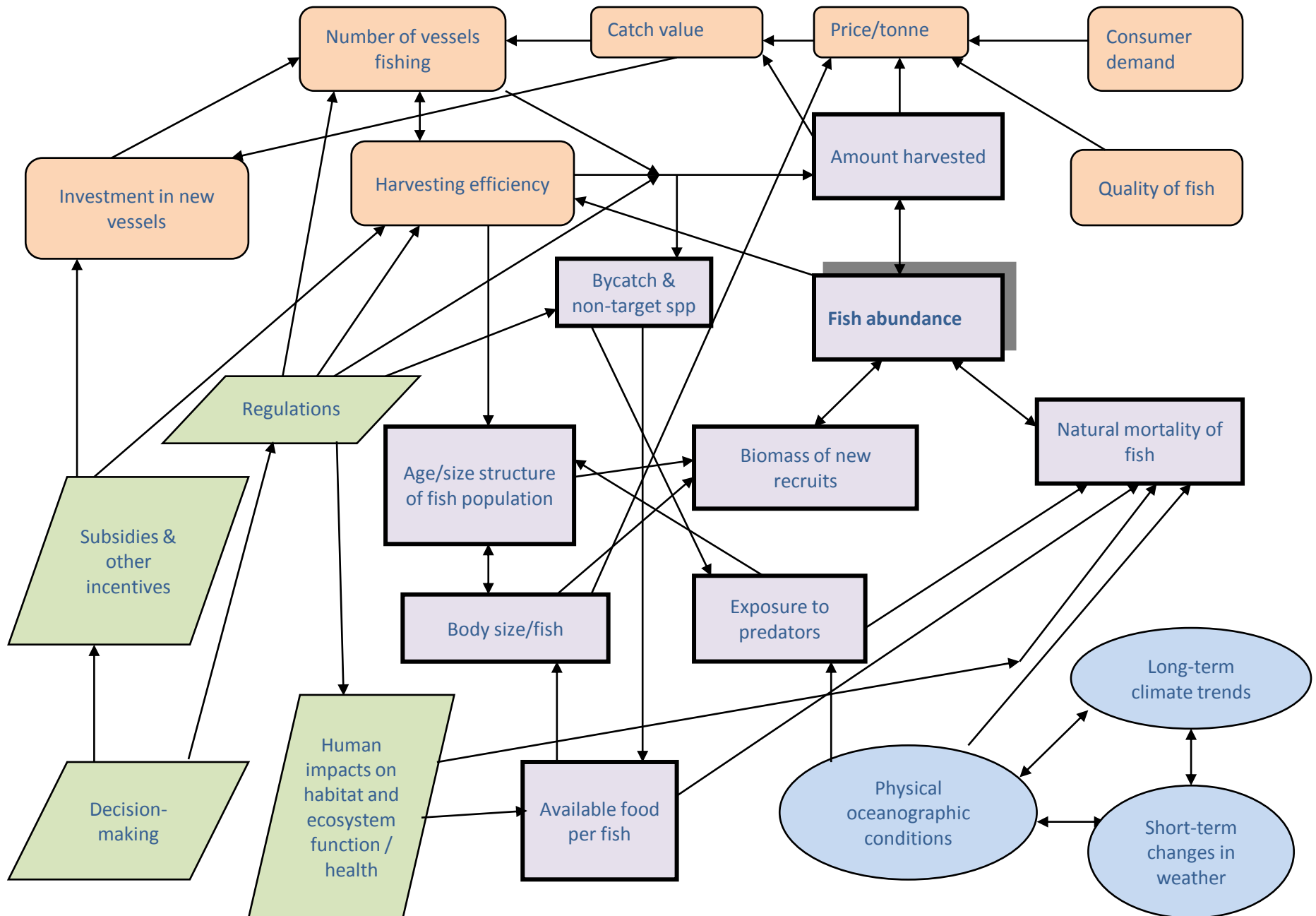
Conclusions

25 minutes



Setting
the
context





Source: Grieve, C. (2001) *Reviewing the Common Fisheries Policy: EU fisheries management for the 21st century*. IEEP. Adapted from: Young et al. (1999). Adapted by C. Grieve, March 2009

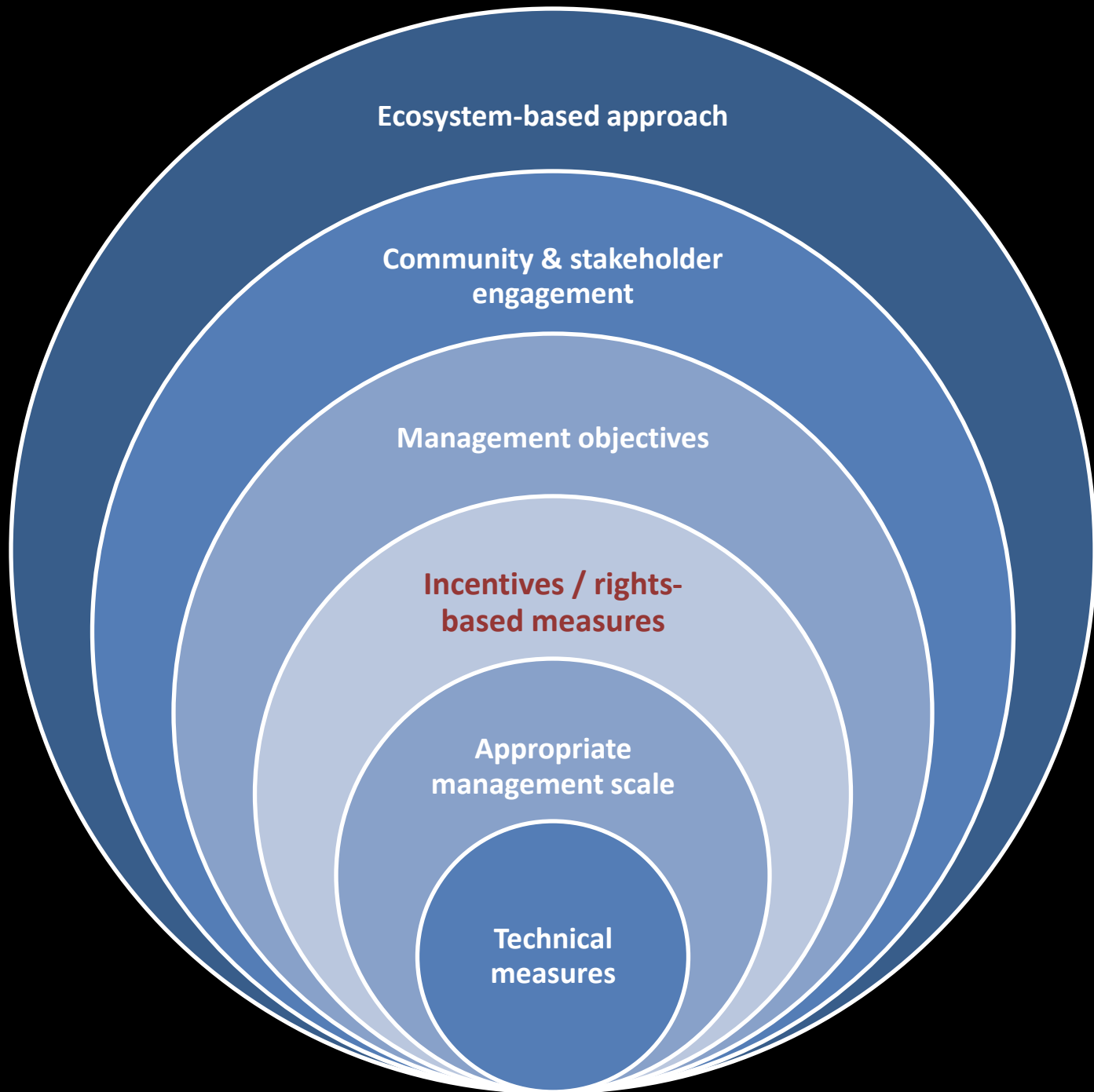
Rights = Tools





All in the
design





Ecosystem-based approach

Community & stakeholder
engagement

Management objectives

**Incentives / rights-
based measures**

Appropriate
management scale

Technical
measures

Badly defined rights



Perverse incentives

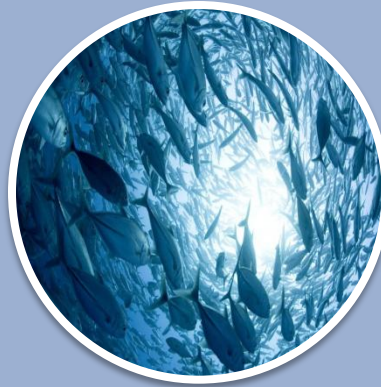
6 characteristics

= Bundle

**The
more
in the
bundle =
well-
defined
rights**



**ARE YOU
READY YET?**



**Examples of
environmental
outcomes**

Positive environmental outcomes 1

- Reduced over-capacity in the fleet
 - Danish herring & mackerel fishery – ITQs
- Improved resource status
 - Spanish shellfish fisheries – limited licenses, *Cofradias*, TURFs
 - Swedish roe fishery – limited licenses and co-management



Positive environmental outcomes 2

- Reduced discards and overfishing
 - France – PO & individual sub-quotas – dealt with over-shooting quota problems with quota penalties
 - Danish herring & pelagic fishery – ITQs
- Fewer, newer, more fuel efficient vessels
 - Danish herring & mackerel – ITQs



Negative environmental outcomes

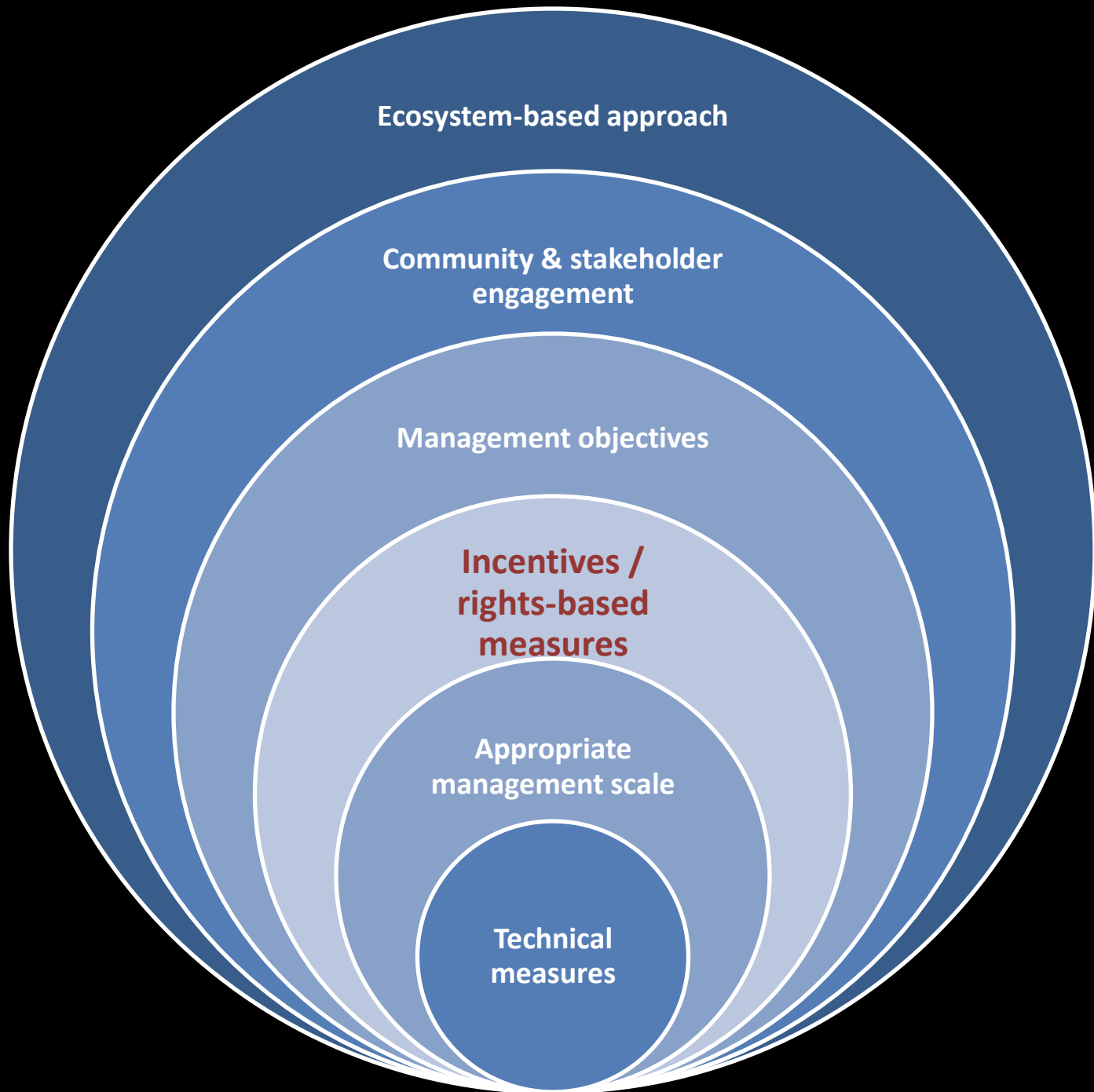
- ITQs and links to high grading and increased discards
- TURFs areas becoming overfished, habitat degradation
- Fishing effort displacement
- Questionable protection for bycatch species and habitats under some quota regimes





**Rights in
the
EU/CFP
context**









Framework for rights under the CFP?

Stakeholders

- Readiness?
- Design & implementation must involve those affected by decisions
- Local – push rights questions closer to the action

Context

- Require analysis of the individual fisheries to determine options that will provide the best value and benefits
- Acknowledge complexity of the system and allow local flexibility

Objectives

- Require consistency with 'local' management objectives – social, economic, environmental
- Require other complementary management tools and measures

Design

- Must be well-defined and designed
- Balance with the ability to apply condition that help achieve local objectives

Objectives - design features

Environment

- Transferable rights and forfeiture to reduce overcapacity
- Preferential allocation or transferability limited to selected gear types
- “Basket” quotas – multi-species fisheries, reduce discards
- Territorial Use Rights – area based, limited to selected fishing methods

Social

- Allocation of rights to small scale-operators, community quotas
- Maximum holdings to prevent consolidation of rights
- Links to vessel ownership; Minimum holdings to ensure viability
- Rules to prevent corporatisation; Rights coupled with co-management

Economic

- Unlimited transferability across Member States
- No minimum/maximum holdings
- Allocation to onshore processors and post-harvest companies

Other features of the system

- Setting the right TACs and species mixes (if quota-based)
- Management on the right scale
- Setting the right boundaries
- Rigorous enforcement
- Access to information
- Other complementary technical measures





Conclusions

Conclusions 1

- An EU Rights-based Measures Framework under the CFP has potential
- Could mandate key processes and protocols for Member States to introduce, streamline or review rights-based measures at local levels
- Other elements of the CFP need fixing to realise potential benefits of rights-based measures

Conclusions 2

- Rights-based measures are tools, not an ideology or a 'system'
- One size does not fit all
- It is all in the design – as 'local' as possible and an appropriate 'bundle'
- Nested within a holistic management system that uses other tools too
- Concepts of readiness and stakeholder engagement are keys to success

Thank you!

