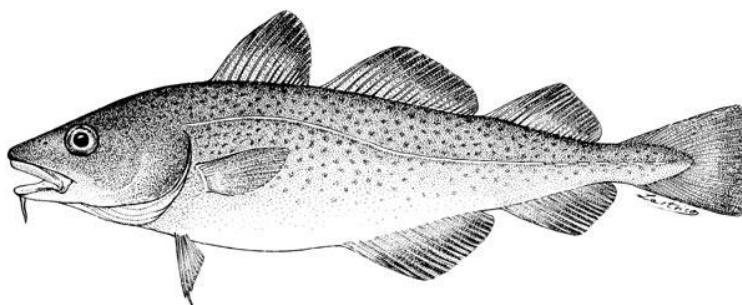


FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

FISHERY By-Product:	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)
LOCATION:	North-East Atlantic (Norway)
DATE OF REPORT:	22/11/16
ASSESSOR:	Virginia Polonio

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

Form No: 9a	Report Ref:	Page 1 of 6	CCM Code:
-------------	-------------	-------------	-----------

This report shall not be reproduced in full or in part without the permission of Global Trust Certification Ltd.

1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: Vedde As		
Address: Rasmusbakken, 6030 Langevåg		
Country: NORWAY	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	IFFO135
Key Contact: : Ola Kare Dybvik	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Virginia Polonio	Deirdre Hoare	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
		By-Product Surveillanve Yr 2
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		North-East Atlantic (Norway)
4. Fishery Method		
		Demersal trawl gear, gill nets and handlines.
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Approved

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Cod in the North-East Atlantic is an internationally-fished species, with robust management plan in place and applied to a large number of independently-managed stocks. The Cod assessment follows the Norwegian system for quota allocation and regulation – a regulatory chain. The regulatory system for fisheries management in Norway is an interactive and iterative process based on incremental changes and it consist of 9 steps where the stock and the TAC are revised according to the system of management. Although cod has been categorised as vulnerable by the IUCN, a number of cod fisheries worldwide have been certified against the MSC standard, including Norway Cod in Norway coastal waters and the Barents Sea.

4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME	
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>The management of the fishery used to produce the By- Product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.</i>	
LOW	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
MEDIUM	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.
<i>Determination: A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently</i>	
<p>Administrative and legal framework: The fisheries resources are regulated by the Marine Resource Act (2009). The Act introduces important principles that seek to balance between the need to protect both species and habitat and the possibility to harvest living marine resources.</p> <p>Research is imperative in order to understand and protect the ecosystems and stocks. In fish stock assessments, scientists combine data from scientific surveys with available information from fisheries, catch statistics, and information on the state of the ecosystem, including food supplies for the individual species.</p> <p>The Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs is responsible for, amongst other activities, ensuring long-term, optimal exploitation of living marine resources; ensuring sound management of the marine environment; and progressing towards a profitable, self-sustained fisheries industry. The regulatory system for fisheries management in Norway is an interactive and iterative process based on incremental changes, and is sometimes referred to as the regulatory chain. The chain has no set start or finish, but can rather be seen as a continuous process. About 90 per cent of Norway’s fish stocks are shared with other states, and bilateral or multilateral negotiations for these stocks take place as the first stage of quota-setting. After these negotiations, the Directorate of Fisheries makes a proposal regarding the regulations for the upcoming year to a broad range of stakeholders. After this consultation, the Directorate of Fisheries recommends next year’s fisheries regulations to the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. The Ministry bases its final decision on outcomes from the quota negotiations with other states, discussions from the consultation process, the recommendation from the Directorate of Fisheries, as well as input from various fisheries industry organisations. A new law – the “Ocean Resources Act” - was adopted by the Parliament in May 2008 (Ot.prp. nr. 20 (2007-2008) Om lov om forvaltning av viltlevande marine ressurser (havressurslova).</p> <p>Enforcement: Norwegian fisheries regulations are enforced at sea, when the fish is landed and when it is exported. At sea, the Coast Guard is responsible for inspecting fishing vessels and checking their catch against their log books. Both Norwegian and foreign fishing vessels are subject to stringent controls in all Norwegian fishing waters. The Coast Guard performs more than 1800 inspections of Norwegian and the foreign vessels that fish in Norwegian waters annually. Vessels over 24 meters (15 meters for vessels from EU) are required to carry satellite transponders which make it possible to track their activity 24 hours a day. Controlling the fishing on shared fish stocks requires close cooperation between the affected states. Norway currently has co-operative agreements with the countries which shares the cod stock in the North East Atlantic. On the other hand, Norway</p>	

is involved in some agreements to avoid IUU and the country has a black list of vessels which are involved in illegal fishing activities. The management system encourages the reduction of these types of practices.

Species-specific management: Cod is managed as a number of distinct stocks in the North-East Atlantic, each of which is subject to an annual TAC and a variety of other management measures. The specific nature of management mechanisms in place and the nature (and effectiveness) of management plans varies between management units. Among the factors influencing the Northeast Atlantic cod growth and recruitment are water temperature, food supply, and cod population abundance. Environmental drivers (capelin biomass, ice coverage, temperature, and oxygen saturation) were used in the estimation of recruitment and temperature in the estimation of cod cannibalism. The distribution area of cod has expanded northwards and eastwards in recent years, and is now the widest ever reported (north to 82°N and east to 80°E, as observed during the ecosystem survey in August–October) (ICES 2015).

The stocks include the FAO area 27, the Norway stock includes ICES areas I and II but there are other different divisions included in the North East Atlantic Cod, they are listed as follows:

- Divisions VIIe-k (Celtic Sea cod). No specific management objectives, but a plan is under development. 2016 TAC was 4,565t.
- Division IIIa East (Kattegat). Currently no directed fishery. 2016 TAC was 643t.
- Division VIIa (Irish Sea). Currently no directed fishery. TAC for 2017 is established at zero. For 2016 it has been setting up 0.14 th. tones for bycatch.
- Division VIb (Rockall). Very limited fishery. 2016 TAC is 17 tones
- Division VIa (West of Scotland). Subject to the EU cod long-term management plan. 2016 TAC was zero tones.
- Subdivisions 24-32 (Eastern Baltic Sea). 2016 TAC was 917t.
- Subdivisions 22-24 (Western Baltic Sea). The 2016 TAC was 26,994t.
- Subareas I and II (Northeast Arctic cod). Subject to a Joint Russian-Norwegian Fisheries Commission plan since 2004. The 2016 TAC was 805,000t.
- Subareas I and II (Norwegian coastal waters cod). Subject to a Norwegian rebuilding plan, evaluated by ICES in 2010 and found to be provisionally consistent with the precautionary approach. The 2016 TAC was 16,000t.
- Division Va (Icelandic cod). Subject to an Icelandic Government management plan (which was found precautionary by ICES) since 2009. The 2016/17 TAC was 12,379t.
- Inshore cod in NAFO Subarea 1 (Greenland cod). Precautionary approach (same advice value as for 2014–2016) < 12,379t
- Subarea IV (North Sea) and Divisions VIId (Eastern Channel) and IIIa West (Skagerrak). Subject to an EU Norway management plan. 2016 TACs were set at 47,359t
- Subdivision Vb2 (Faroe Bank). Closed to fishing since 2009.
- Subdivision Vb1 (Faroe Plateau). A management plan has been developed but not yet applied; TAC advice is based on the MSY approach.

R1-4

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

Form No: 9a	Report Ref:	Page 4 of 6	CCM Code:
-------------	-------------	-------------	-----------

This report shall not be reproduced in full or in part without the permission of Global Trust Certification Ltd.

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>	
LOW	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
MEDIUM	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
HIGH	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

Determination: Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate therefore there is a research to support the management of the byproduct species under assessment.

North East Arctic cod is managed together with Russia. The Joint Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission has adopted rules for setting annual total allowable catch of cod, ICES agrees that the precautionary approach is in place and Scientific research on the stocks are carried out by ICES and IMR at the same times. Due to Cod having the largest number of stocks, the management measures, the level of research and stock assessment varies considerably between stocks. However, ICES assesses most stocks on an annual basis and at a minimum, landings data are collected for all stocks. Most stocks are also the subject of fishery-independent surveys and other research by the countries who have the most relevant allocation to share.

The specific management measures of each divisions are listed below:

- Divisions VIIe-k (Celtic Sea cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial catches, one combined survey index and one commercial index.
- Division IIIa East (Kattegat). Assessed annually based on commercial catches and four survey indices.
- Division VIIa (Irish Sea). Assessed biennially, based on commercial landings and nine survey indices.
- Division VIb (Rockall). Assessed biennially based on official landings statistics.
- Division Via (West of Scotland). Assessed annually based on commercial catch and one survey index.
- Subdivisions 25-32 (Eastern Baltic Sea). Assessed annually based on commercial catches, two survey indices and one commercial index.
- Subdivisions 22-24 (Western Baltic Sea). Assessed annually, based on commercial catches, two survey indices and one commercial index.
- Subareas I and II (Northeast Arctic cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial catches and three survey indices.
- Subareas I and II (Norwegian coastal waters cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial catch, acoustic survey and one survey index.
- Division Va (Icelandic cod). Assessed annually, based on landings-at-age and spring and autumn survey indices.
- Inshore cod in NAFO Subarea 1 (Greenland cod). Assessed annually, based on commercial landings data and one survey index.
- Subarea IV (North Sea) and Divisions VIId (Eastern Channel) and IIIa West (Skagerrak). Assessed annually, based on commercial catch and one survey index.
- Subdivision Vb2 (Faroe Bank). Assessed whenever new survey results become available (closed since 2009).
- Subdivision Vb1 (Faroe Plateau). Assessed annually, based on commercial catch and two survey indices.

R4-R5

C. STOCK STATUS

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864			
Form No: 9a	Report Ref:	Page 5 of 6	CCM Code:

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>C. The fish used to produce the fish By- Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.</i>	
LOW	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.
MEDIUM	The fish By- Product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish By- Product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.
HIGH	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.
<p><i>Determination: Although cod is considered by IUCN as Vulnerable, the scientific advice prove that the stock is above the TRP and there are some stock of cod MSC certified. The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.</i></p> <p>Based on most recent estimates (June 2016) the stock level is above MSY, Btrigger and has full reproductive capacity. Fishing pressure is currently just below the recommended level. Scientific advice is that catches in 2017 should be no more than 805,000 tones (805,000 t in 2016; no more than 894, 000 t in 2015; 993,000 t in 2014; 940,000 t in 2013) and that bycatches of coastal cod should be kept as low as possible.</p> <p>R4-R6</p>	

5. REFERENCES

R1- *Gadus morhua* (Linnaeus, 1758) drawing -FAO.org- <http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/2218/en>

R2 – Norway Fisheries website, ‘The Regulatory Chain’:
http://www.fisheries.no/resource_management/setting_quotas/The-regulatory-chain/

R2 – Norway Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs website: <http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/fkd/The-Ministryof-Fisheries-and-Coastal-Affairs.html?id=262>

R3 – Norway Fisheries website, ‘Control and Enforcement’:
http://www.fisheries.no/resource_management/control_monitoring_surveillance/Control_and_enforcement/

R4- ICES Advice 2016, Book 3 <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/cod-arct.pdf>;

R5 – Institute of Marine Research
http://www.imr.no/radgivning/kvoterad/kvoterad_for_2014/ices_rad_for_arktiske_bestander/enR6 – IUCN Red

R6 – List: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864			
Form No: 9a	Report Ref:	Page 6 of 6	CCM Code: