

## EU making slow progress in reducing overcapacity

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Overcapacity-far too many boats for the volume of fish available- was identified as the primary shortcoming of EU fisheries management in a 2009 Commission Green Paper. A new report this week indicates that little progress is being made in addressing this problem, In 2010 fleet capacity expressed in engine power and tonnage was reduced on average by 2 and 4 per cent respectively. Technological progress probably offsets these minor capacity reductions. The report's findings put into question the efficiency of publicly financed capacity reductions. A 2011 Court of Auditors' report also concluded the failure of the current measures, and advocates either a new approach or better application of existing measures. Report available here:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/fishing\\_effort/official\\_documents/com\\_2012\\_368\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/fishing_effort/official_documents/com_2012_368_en.pdf)

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