using FLEX – FLatfish EXcluder –
to reduce the bycatch of flatfish and undersized roundfish in trawl fisheries

TARGET SPECIES
cod and other roundfish
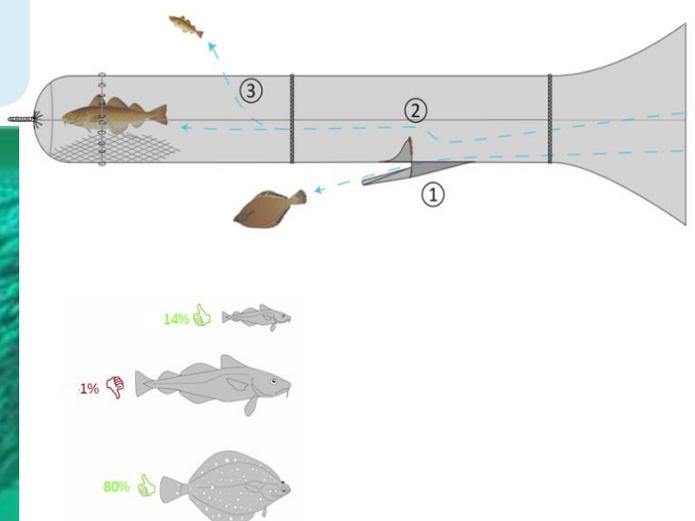
AREA, VESSEL
Tested in the western Baltic sea (SD24) onboard the RV Solea (42.40 m, 1780 kW)

GEAR MODIFICATION
1) FLEX is an outlet in the lower panel of the net, designed to take advantage of the swimming path of flatfish to improve their escape
(2) A flapper situated above the outlet discourages roundfish using FLEX
(3) Further selection of fish that do not pass through FLEX takes place in the codend

RESULTS
Fishing with FLEX reduces catches of juvenile cod by 14% and

plaice by 80%.

There were only 1% losses of marketable cod

THÜNEN

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www.discardless.eu/selectivity_manual