



Etelärannikon Kalaleader  
Sydkustens Fiskeleader

# Baltic Sea Seal & Cormorant TNC project



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## Baltic Sea Seal & Cormorant TNC

14 Flags in cooperation

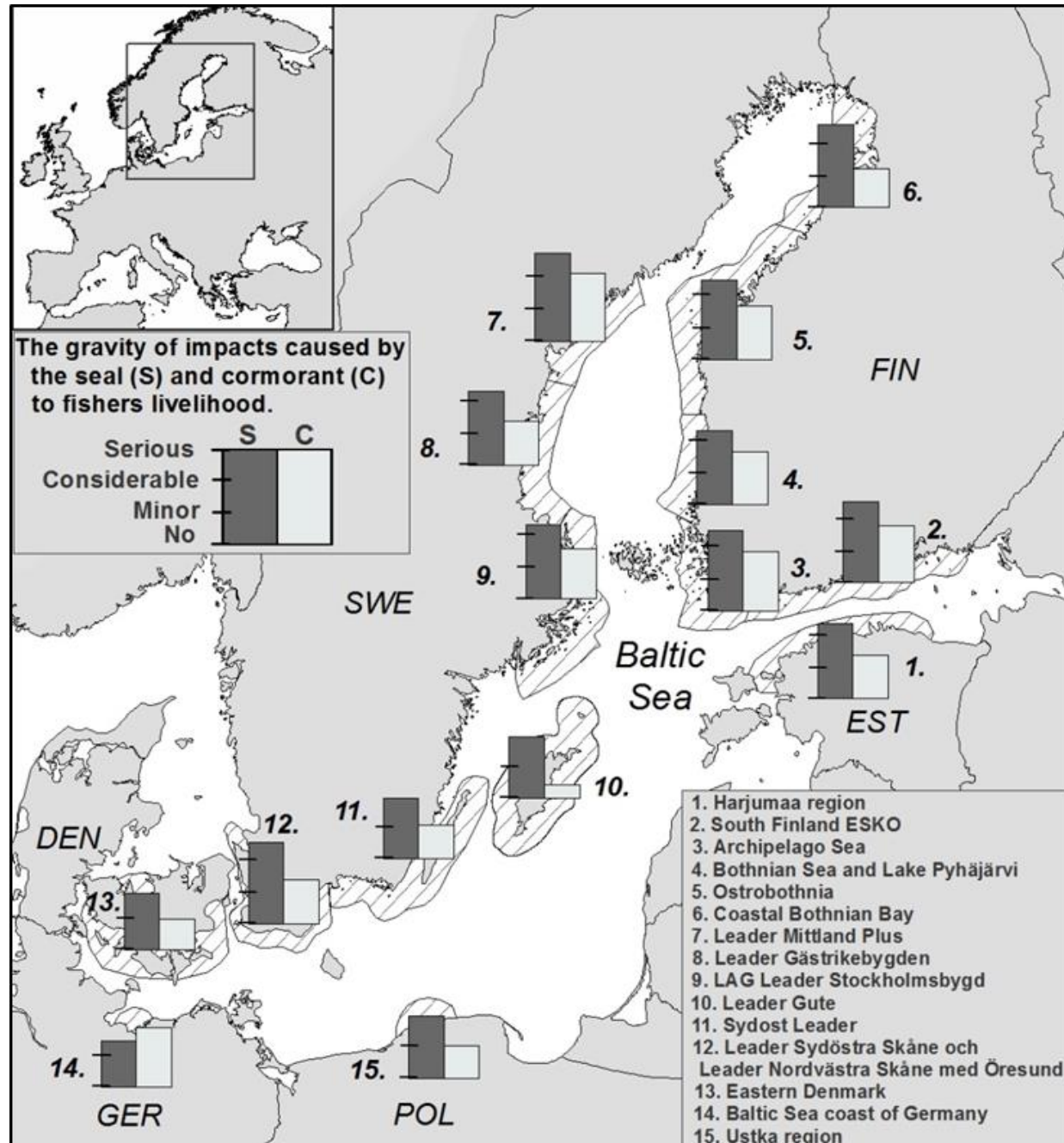
- Why this project?
- What we did
- Results



# Interview with 220 fishermen in 6 countries

The gravity of seal and cormorant induced impacts on interviewee's fishing livelihood in study areas

Results:





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## Effects

- Damage to the caught fish and also damage to fishing gear
- Reduction of catches and changes in fish stocks and fish behaviour
- An increase in workload
- An increase in operation costs



# Losses

The average seal and cormorant induced losses estimated by the fishermen

## FINLAND

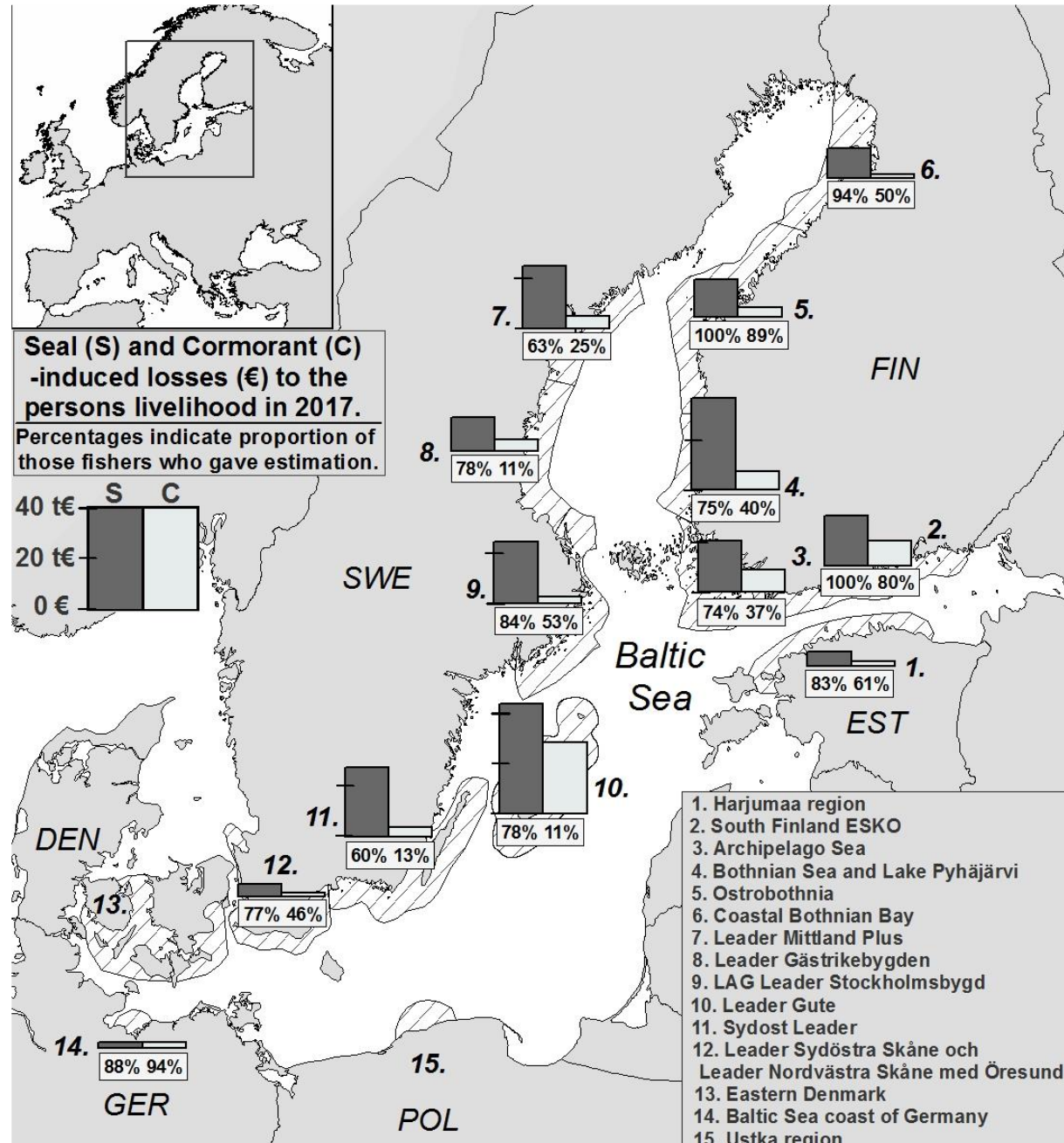
Seals 19.930 € (n= 77)

Cormorants 5.993 € (n= 52)

## SWEDEN

Seals 22.064 € (n=67)

Cormorants 5.667 € (n=42)





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## Conclusions

- Human-animal conflict between seals, cormorants and fishermen
- Threat to continuation of livelihoods
- Seals generally have bigger impact
- Effects are direct / indirect
- > Hard to calculate or estimate
- Low income -> no possibility of investing in new technologies
- Doing something about the number of seals and cormorants was considered the most popular alternative for mitigating their negative effects
- Need for wide-range collaboration in combating the problem and creating governance tools



Etelärannikon Kalaleader  
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# Thank you!



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## The impacts of seals and cormorants experienced by Baltic Sea commercial fishers

Kristina Svells, Pekka Salmi, Juhani Mellanoura and Jari Niukko