



Fishing and Hunting

Medium Risk Sector



Fishing and hunting of wild animals.
For fish and shrimps from aquaculture refer to the related 'Livestock Farming' sector.

Related Sectors:

- Livestock Farming
- Food and Beverage



Production Processes

Fishing: Catching fish or other aquatic animals, mainly for food. The catch of a commercial fishery includes a wide range of species: Tuna, salmon, cod, lobster, clams and squid. Commercial fishing methods have become very efficient using sonar, satellite images, huge nets and sea-borne processing factories.

A distinction is made between deep-sea fishing, fishing in middle waters and coastal fishing. Wet-fish trawlers are used for deep-sea fishing. Small, open trawlers are used for fishing near the coast and for middle-water sea fishing. Deep-sea fishing is usually conducted by large trawlers that catch the fish, process it and store it on ice. On factory ships, the fish is caught, processed and deep-frozen, salted or canned.

Hunting: Capturing or killing animals for food, sport, or to trade in their products such as furs. Animals that are hunted are referred to as game animals. Hunting is also a form of wildlife management, to reduce animal populations which have exceeded the capacity of their habitat or where individual animals have become a danger to humans.

Sustainability Issues

L	Energy
L	Water Use
M	Emissions to Water
L	Waste
L	Emissions to Air
H	Ecosystems
H	Workplace Health & Safety
L	Disaster Risk
L	Site Contamination

Sector Rating

- H High risk issue
- M Medium risk issue
- L Low risk issue

Risks & Opportunities

- **Extensive fishing may lead to the depletion of stocks of fish and other species.**
The effect of overfishing is the decline in fish populations, which may take decades to recover. This presents an economic risk for communities that rely heavily on fishing. The risk of overfishing increases with the number of fishermen, mechanized fishing technologies such as drift net fishing and a lack of effective regulation.
- **Over-hunting may endanger animal species and entail a risk for biodiversity.**
Excessive hunting of single species is unsustainable, as populations may decline irreversibly. Species may become extinct locally or globally. Over-hunting may have a negative knock-on effect on local ecosystems, and consequently for the local economy. The hunting of endangered species may violate national and/or international regulations.
- **Falls overboard, falls from heights and slips are the main risks for fishermen.**
Accidents in the fishing industry are often related to stress, fatigue and adverse weather conditions. Under these circumstances, the handling of machinery and work on board becomes riskier.
- **Waste from fish processing and from boat maintenance entails a risk for fishing grounds.**
Spills of oil from boat maintenance and waste from seafood processing may contaminate fishing grounds. This environmental impact increases with inappropriate waste disposal into the sea and high concentrations of older-generation fishing boats. Clean coasts are also a key asset in the tourism industry. Oil and solid waste may be washed up onto beaches, which will make them unattractive for tourist activities.