



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Management (2) Negotiations and quota allocation

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Today's presentation

We will cover

how the UK negotiates annual quotas with EU Member States and how the quotas agreed are shared among the UK fleet:

- EU Common Fisheries Policy
- Annual negotiations within EU
- Allocating quotas
- History of the system
- Previous initiatives to change it

Common Fisheries Policy



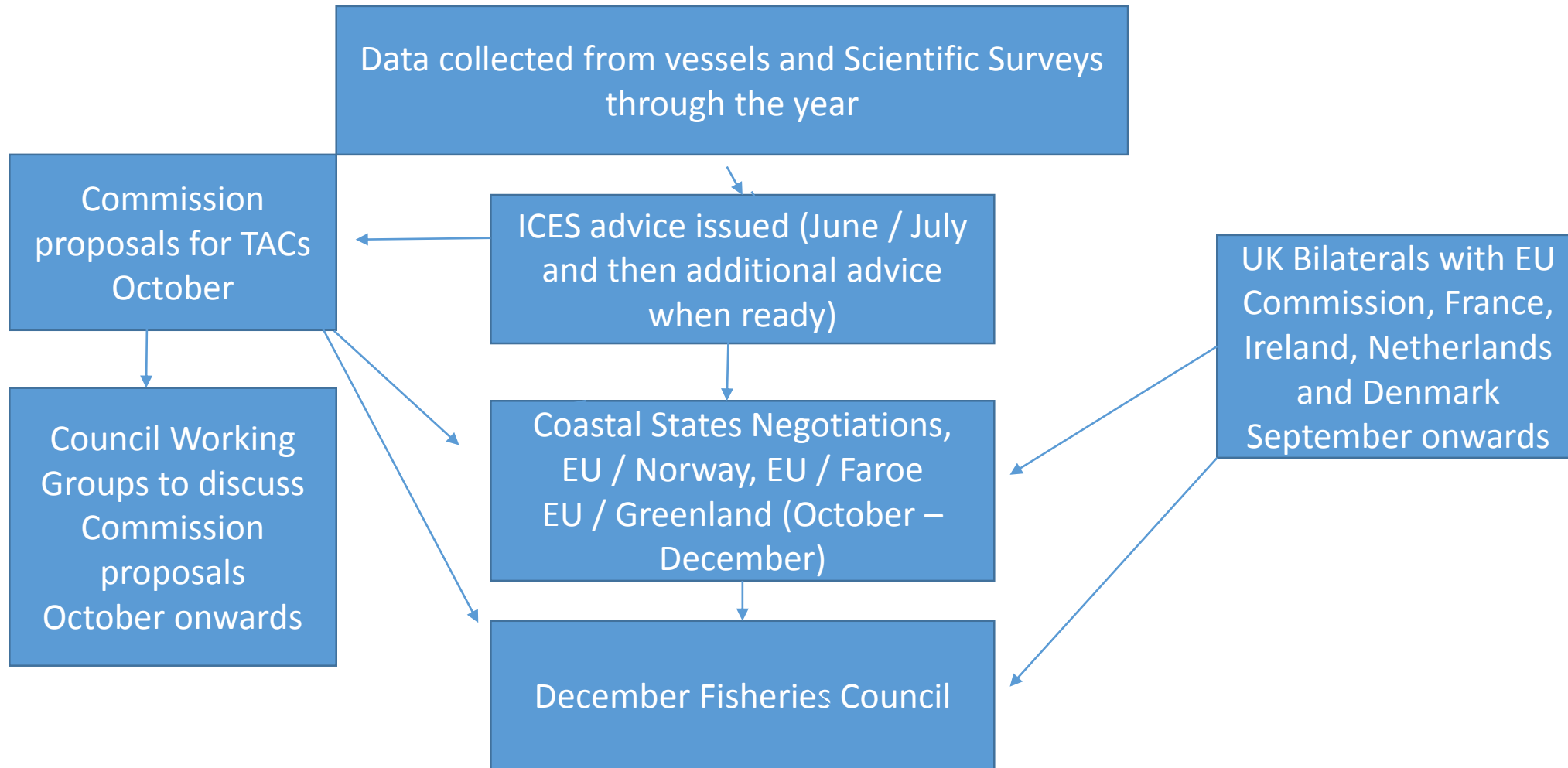
- Equal access for all Union vessels to all Union waters except those within 12 nautical miles of a Member State's coastline.
 - Between 6-12 nm there are special arrangements based on historic access rights between 6-12 nautical miles, and within 6 nm of their coast, Member States retain exclusive access rights.
- “Total Allowable Catch” (TAC) limits for fish stocks set by Council on an annual basis, and distributed among Member States as quota according to historic proportions from 1983 (called Relative Stability).
 - Where stocks are also prosecuted by third parties, the Commission negotiates a TAC with them that is then ratified by Council; more on this to follow.
 - TACs cover 36 species split into 203 stocks. The UK has access to around 150 of these.
- Science-led fisheries management.

Common Fisheries Policy Reform 2013



- A legal requirement to fish all stocks at sustainable levels (“maximum sustainable yield, or MSY) by 2020.
 - This also implements UN commitments including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- An end to wasteful discarding through the introduction of a landing obligation for all quota species by 2019.
- Further regionalisation of decision-making, with increased powers for regional Member State groups.

Setting Total Allowable Catches at the international level

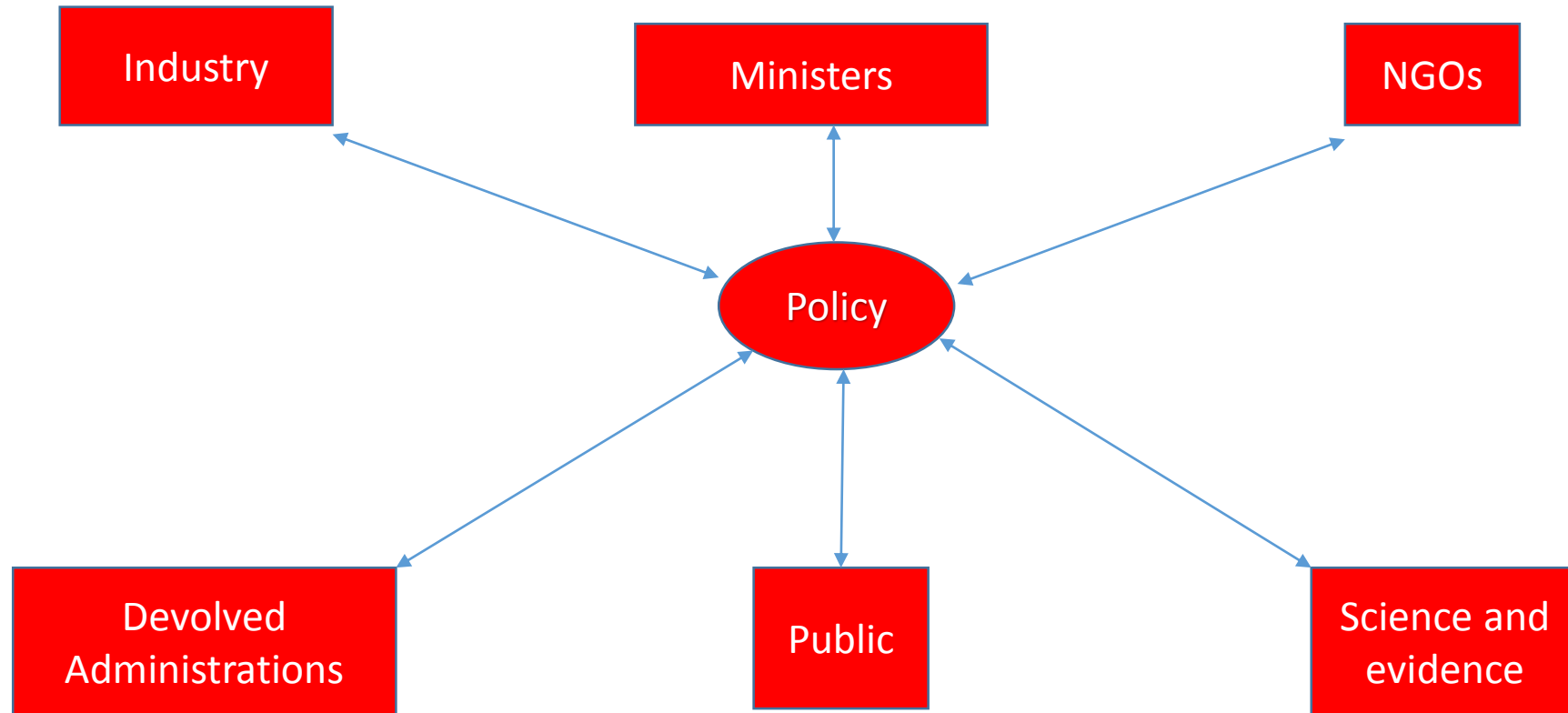


Developing a negotiating strategy The key events



Developing a negotiating strategy: The partnerships

Policy: balance, integration, evidence based



Developing a negotiating strategy: Sustainability principles

Respecting the science

- Maximum Sustainable yield
- Precautionary approach

Agree balanced and justifiable negotiating position

- Stock by stock
- Benefits all parts of UK

Developing a negotiating Strategy – Building alliances

Getting everyone on board



- Different parts of UK will have different priorities
- Need to know what other Member States think – forming alliances and supporting other's positions

Challenging Proposals

Evidence based decision making in action

- Plaice 7fg (Bristol Channel) is an example of a stock where the ICES advice for a TAC was accepted.
- Plaice 7hjk (Celtic Sea) is an example of a stock where the ICES advice for a TAC was not accepted.

Allocation of UK quotas

December Council agrees national quotas

UK departments agree adjustments such as
topslices and uplifts
December / January

Quotas allocated on FQA basis and to pools as
appropriate
Informally January – February
Official FQA statements sent in March by MMO

How are Quotas allocated in the UK

- 1999 system of FQAs and pool put in place
- FQAs managed by Producer organisations for their members (the sector) There are 23 POs in the United Kingdom
- MMO holds FQAs for the under 10 metre pool and the over 10 metre pool – managed on monthly catch limits. Majority of under 10s based in England and Wales.
- Quotas may only be fished by licence holders
- Non quota stocks managed through licences and effort (days at sea regimes)

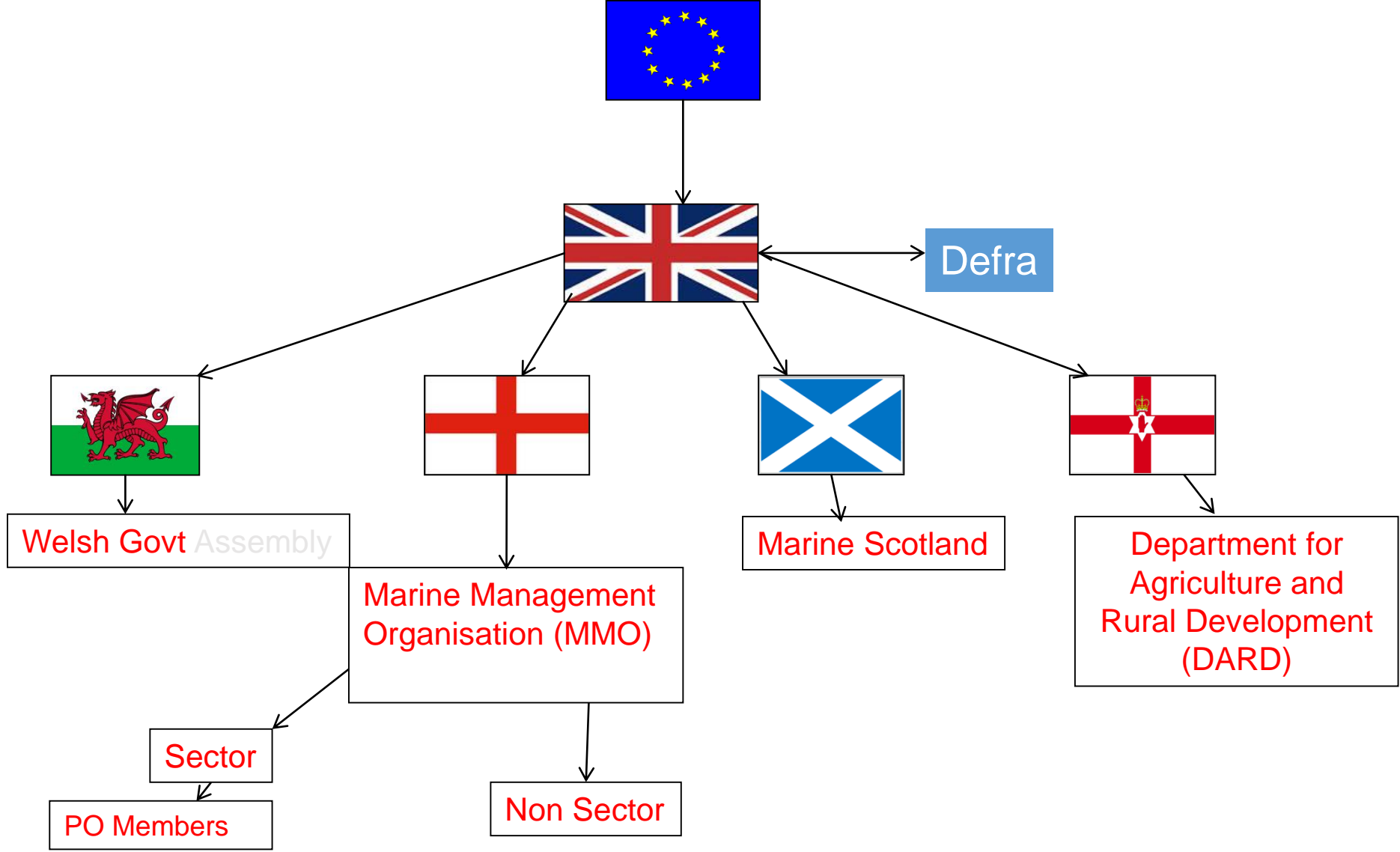
Management of Fisheries in England and Wales



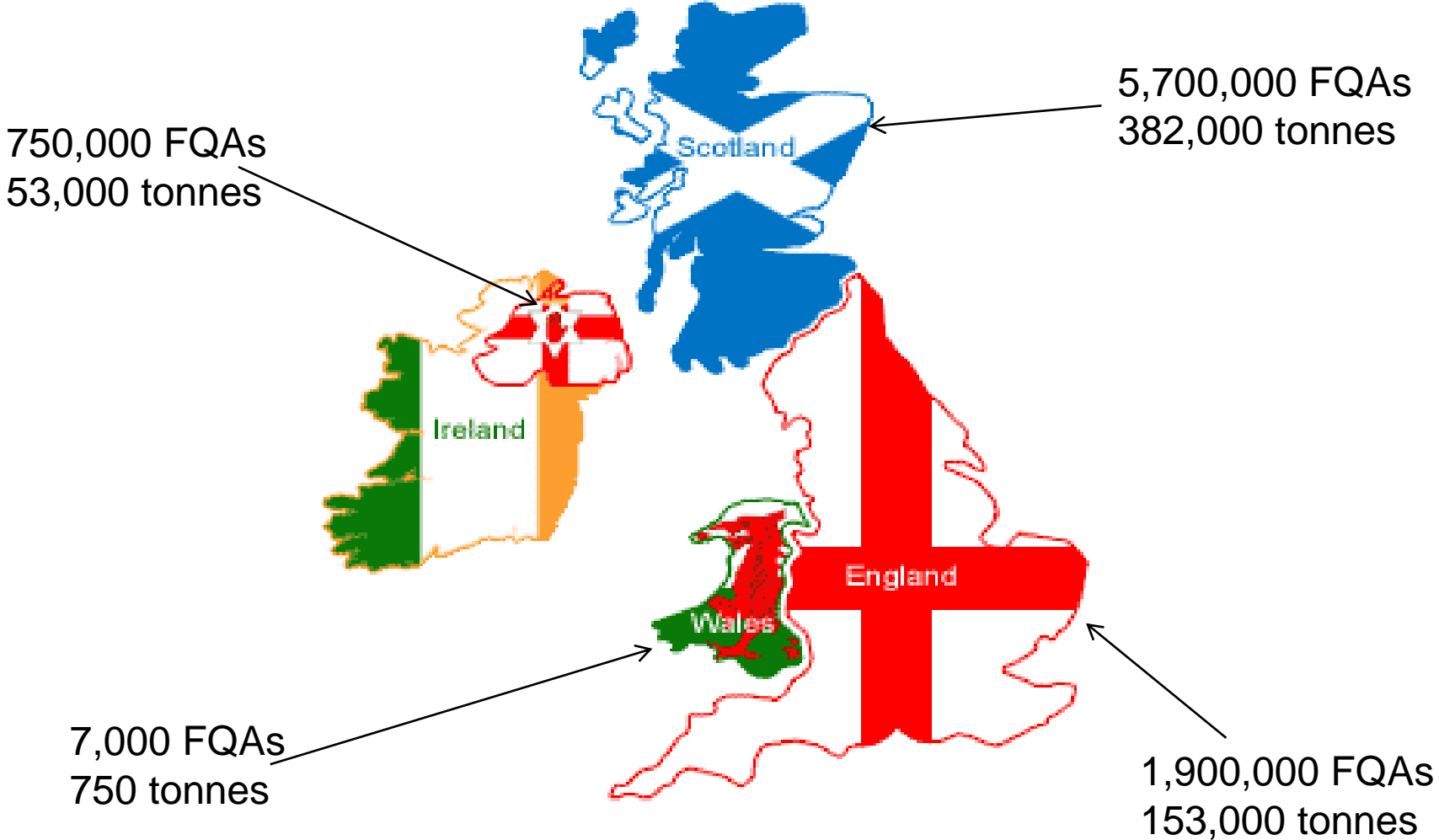
Management of waters in
England and Wales

- 0-6 mile zone Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authorities (IFCAs)
- 6-12 and 12 – 200 mile zones Marine Management Organisation

The hierarchy



UK Quota Allocation in 2016



Changes to system

- 2011 realignment of FQAs
- 2010 and 2015 Capping exercise
- 2014 offer of FQAs to under 10 metre fleet
- 2015 onwards – additional allocation of uplift to under 10 metre fleet