REQUIREMENTS FOR MARINE RESOURCES AND APPROACHES FOR MANAGING THE FUTURE

May 2, 2013



#### When we talk about production from marine resources, we only talk about the tonnage of biomass pulled from the ocean, which is primarily protein.

We need to look at what else is important from marine organisms.

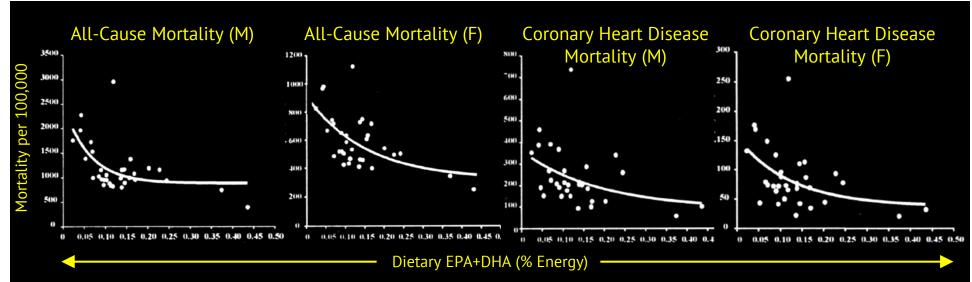


#### **EPA and DHA omega-3s are among the most important resources in the ocean.** They are a critical part of life, helping cells function and develop properly, but they only come from the marine environment.

# Why is this important for managing diversity of marine genetic resources?

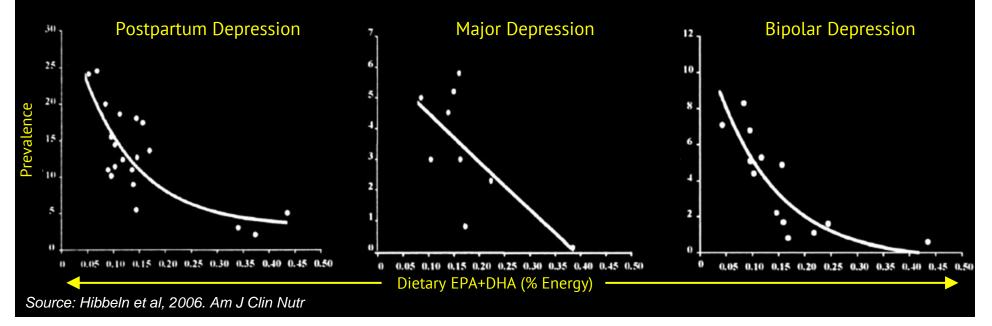
Human beings and their nutritional needs need to be considered stakeholders as important as the fish in the ocean.





#### Do we really need EPA and DHA in our diets?

Yes, low intakes of EPA and DHA are convincingly associated with increased mortality and chronic disease rates.



#### How much omega-3 do we need?



250 mg/day

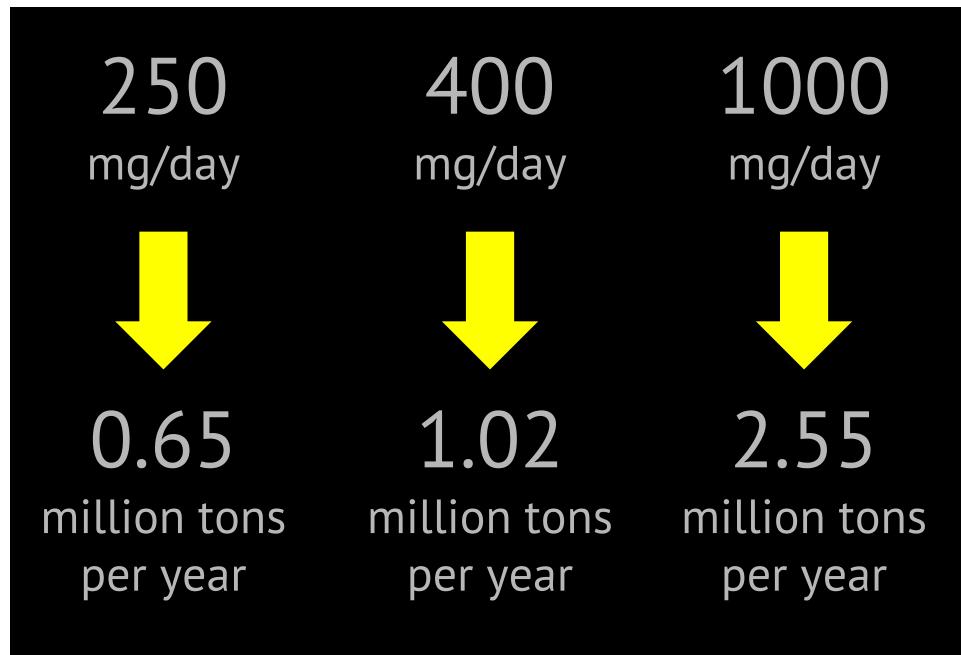
WHO and EU Recommended Intake 400 mg/day

Omega-3 Mortality Paper 1000 mg/day

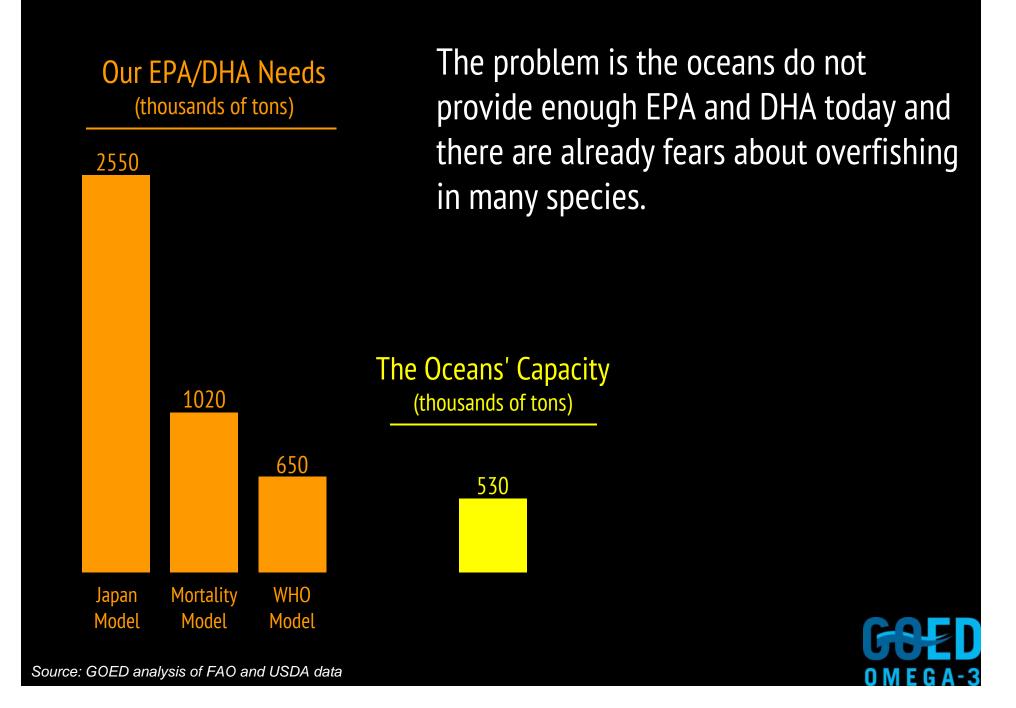
> Japanese Recommended Intake



Source: WHO, EFSA, Mozaffarian et al 2013 Ann Int Med, Japanese MHLW



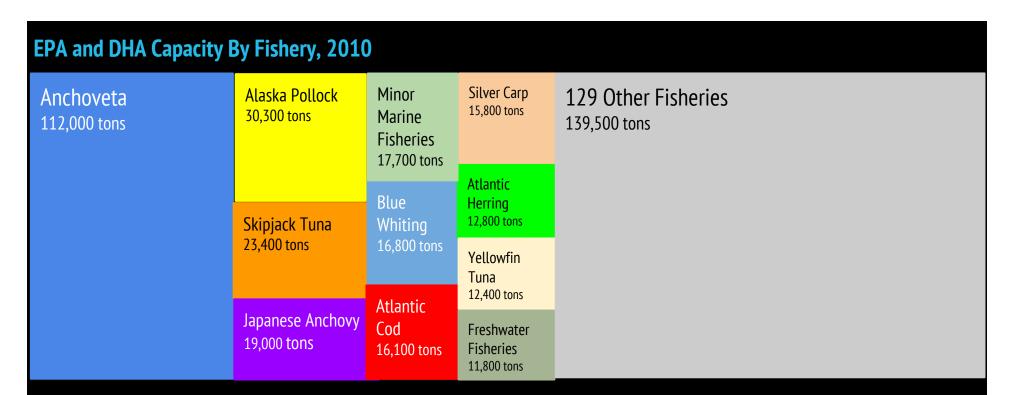




# There is clearly a nutrition gap, so it is important to protect the resources we have.

In addition, even more resources will be required to supply specialized pharmaceutical and clinical nutrition applications.





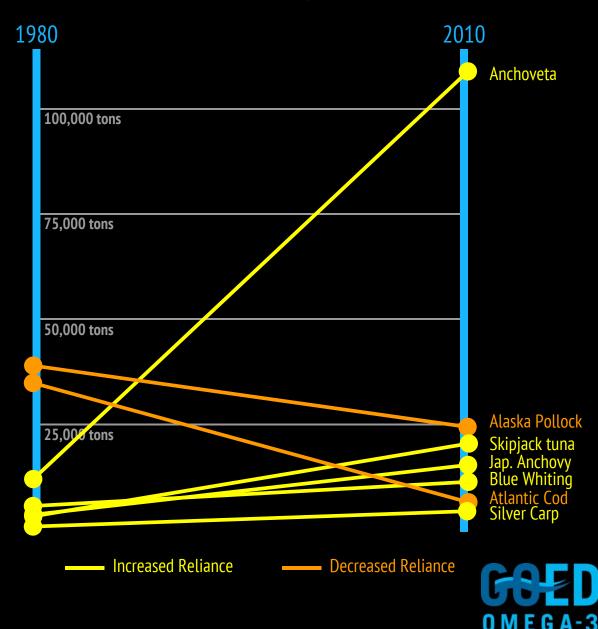
Eleven fishery groups account for 55% of the earth's EPA and DHA capacity today, so any threat to these fisheries is significant to humans.

This includes overfishing, pollution, and of course, improper management of the gene pool.



We know that fishery capacity of EPA and DHA is already changing and that we are more reliant on fewer fisheries for these nutrients, the anchoveta fishery in particular.

#### **30-Year Change in EPA and DHA Capacities of Leading Fisheries**



Source: GOED analysis of FAO and USDA data

The Peruvian Anchoveta fishery has suffered in the past from poor management, but has recovered due to successful, aggressive action.

16,000 12,000 000s of metric tons 8,000 4,000 0 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010

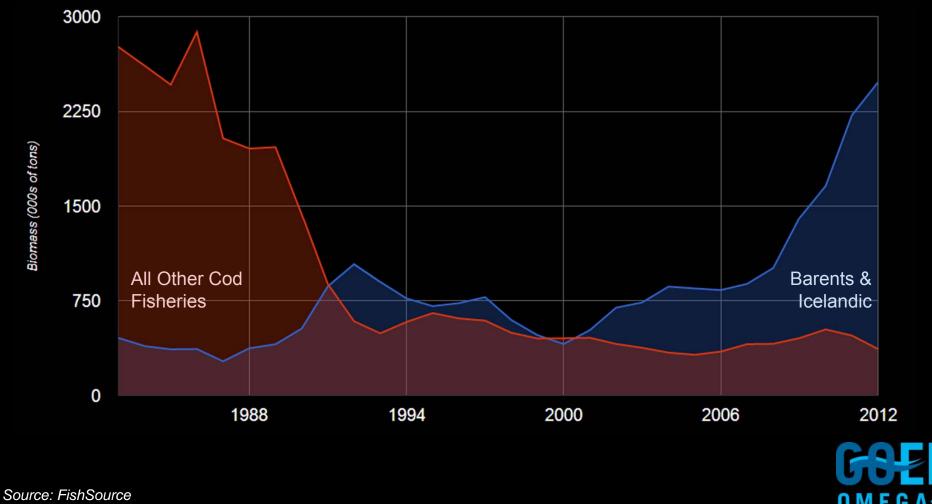
**Biomass of Peruvian Anchoveta, 1963-2013** 

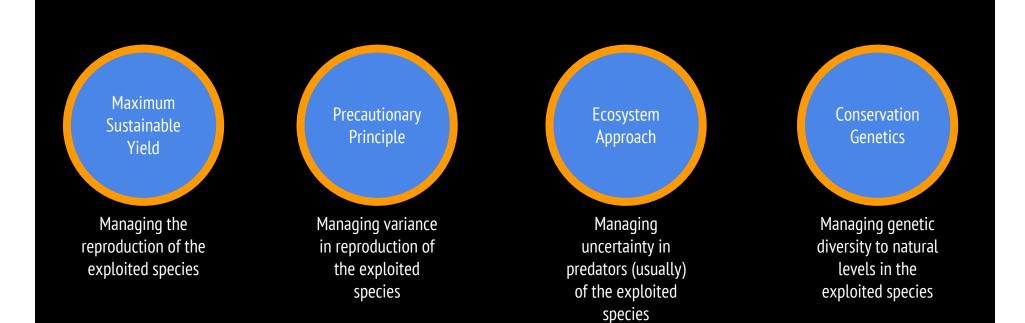


Source: IMARPE

# Most of the Atlantic Cod fisheries have been unable to recover despite fishing bans. Could this be related to low genetic diversity?

#### **Biomass of Cod Liver Oil Fisheries vs Other Cod Fisheries**





#### What is being done to protect fisheries today?



**Preserving genetic diversity is not a significant part of fisheries management today, except in aquaculture and hatchery fisheries.** Sustainability management is a constantly evolving process though, and genetic measurement can play a role.



We also need to find new sources of EPA and DHA outside of the marine environment to close the broader gap and relieve pressure on fisheries.

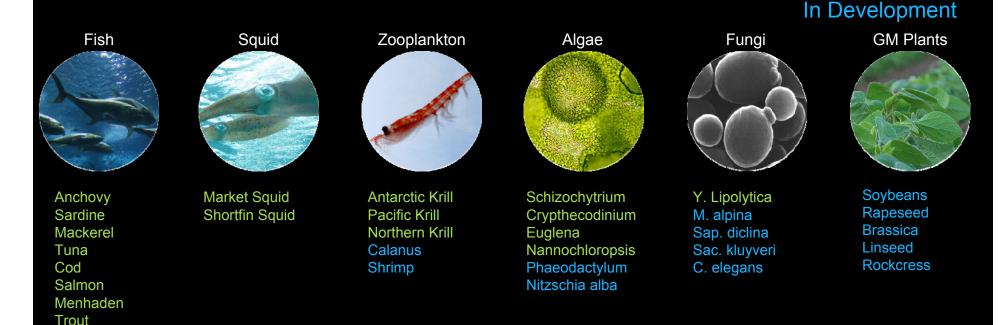


#### **Commercially Available**

Pollock

Angelfish Saithe

Hoki Halibut Sandeel



The list of omega-3 sources, both commercial and in research, is getting longer with new algaes, new fish and new zooplankton projects having been announced in the last six months



# Fermentation

- Commercially producing DHA today
- High cost of capital
- Uses sugars as energy sources

Algal sources of omega-3s are being researched in three predominant types of production systems



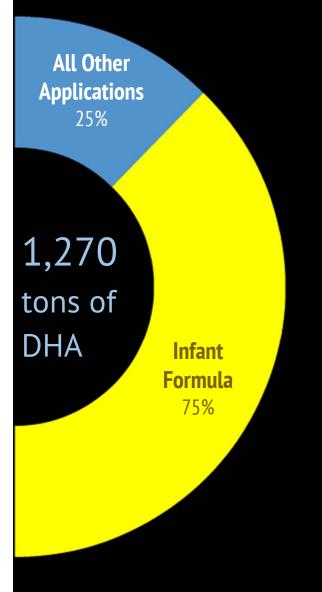
- Limited production of EPA today
- High cost of capital
- Uses sunlight as energy source

Photobioreacto



- No commercial production today
- High cost of capital
- Uses sunlight as energy source





Most algal DHA is going into infant formulas and provides less than 0.2% of the world's omega-3 nutrition needs today.



Source: Frost & Sullivan report commissioned by GOED

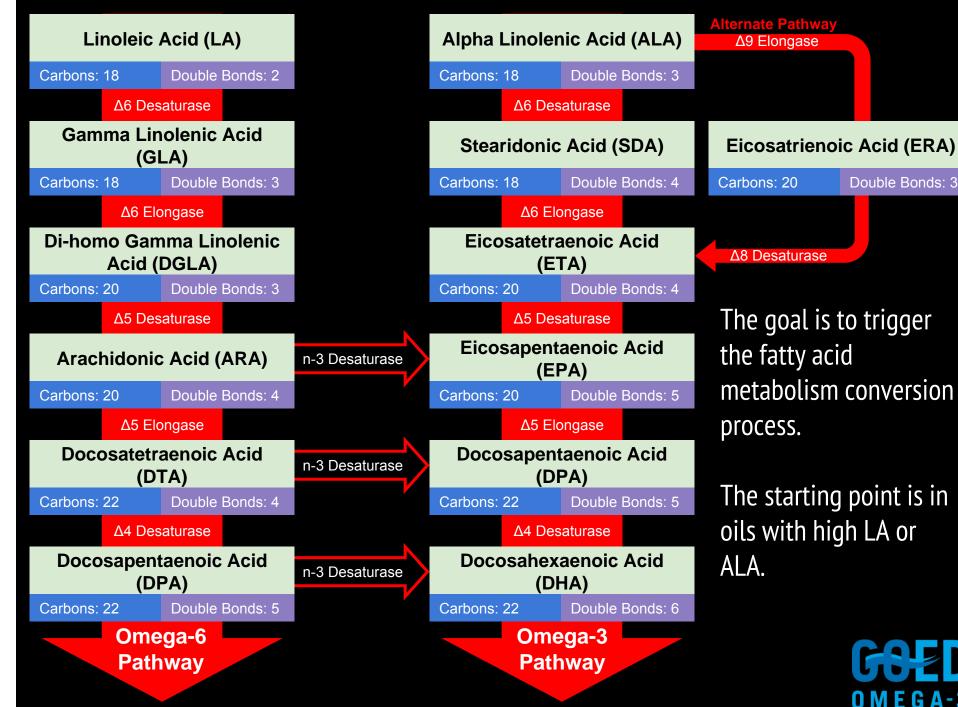
# What is the potential of algae to fill demand that the oceans cannot provide?

It will depend on the economies of scale that these companies can achieve in order to displace their higher capital costs.



#### **Research is also ongoing into plant sources of EPA and DHA, but plants do not natively contain these fatty acids.** This means genetic modification is required in plants.





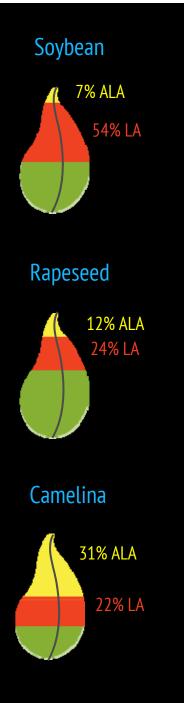
The goal is to trigger the fatty acid metabolism conversion

Double Bonds: 3

The starting point is in oils with high LA or



There are three primary sources of plant EPA and DHA under development, but the challenges are the same for all.



#### **Open Questions**

How much EPA and DHA will they yield?

Can the EPA and DHA be extracted?

What is the cost of extraction?

When will they be commercialized?



# What is the potential of **plants** to fill demand that the oceans cannot provide?

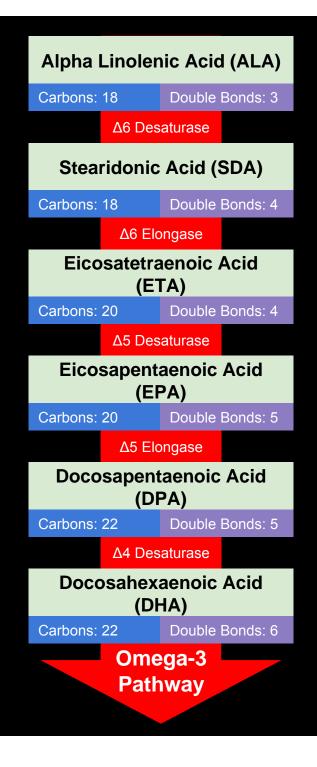
We do not know yet. However, if you can achieve 10% EPA+DHA content in the oil and normal oil yields, it could take 2.5 million hectares to yield 10,000 tons of EPA +DHA from soybeans. There are about 100 million hectares of non-EPA/DHA modified soybeans planted today. So EPA+DHA content is important!



Source: GOED Analysis of data from the International Food and Agricultural Management Review

### Background Appendix Slides

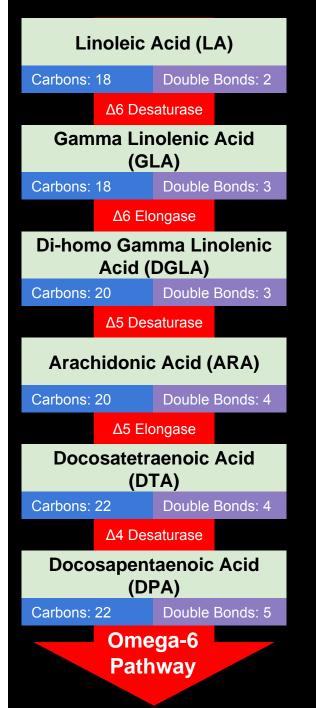


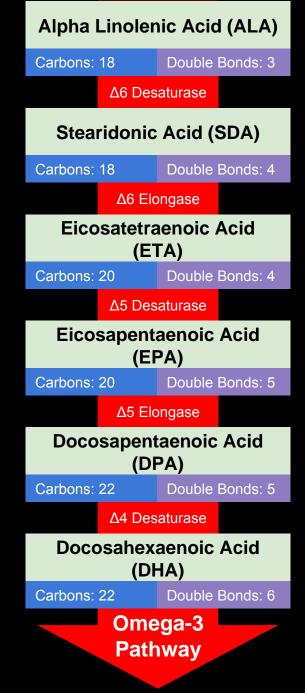


Omega-3 fatty acids follow a biological conversion pathway. ALA, a short- chain omega-3 is plentiful in landbased plants. Long-chain EPA and DHA are found in marine organisms.

Any organism can theoretically convert shorterchain omega-3s like ALA into EPA and DHA, if they have the right enzymes.







The problem for humans is that omega-6 fatty acids compete for the same enzymes needed to convert short-chain omega-3s into EPA and DHA.

Omega-6s are even more plentiful in the diet than ALA, coming from soybeans, red meats, etc., and thus dominate enzyme usage and limiting omega-3 conversion.



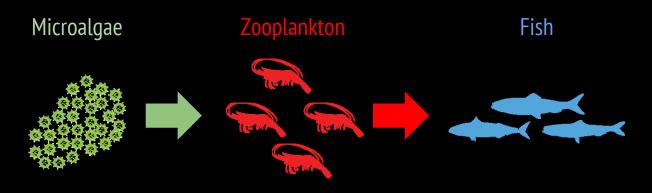
#### Microalgae



# Human consumption of EPA and DHA starts with marine algae.

Marine microalgae synthesize sunlight with photoreceptors to produce carbohydrates, proteins and ultimately oxygen. The photoreceptors are formed from fatty acids, primarily omega-3s.

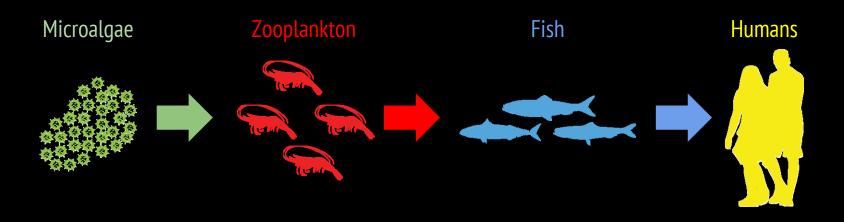




### Successively larger marine organisms concentrate the EPA and DHA in their flesh and other organs.

Coldwater fish tend to accumulate EPA and DHA in their flesh because it allows for a more flexible cellular structure that is important for movement in cold environments.

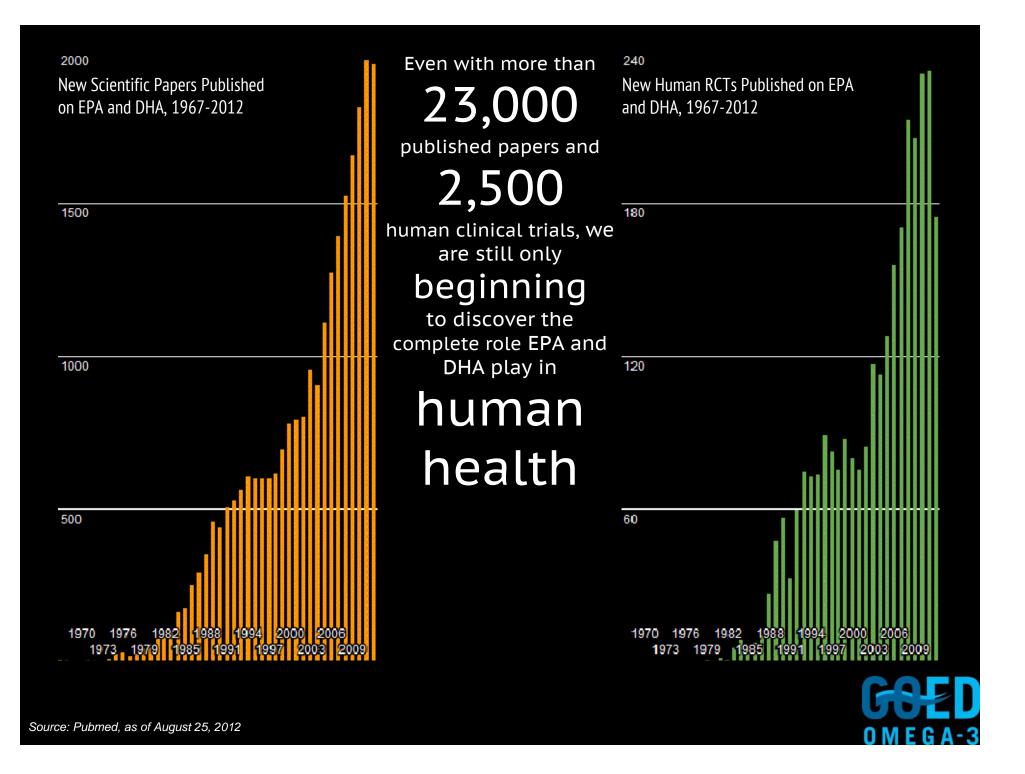




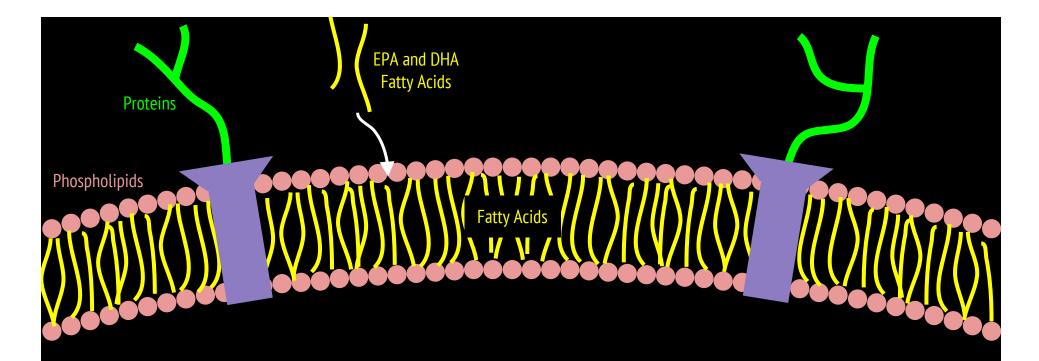
# Humans consume EPA and DHA naturally through seafood consumption.

However, oil is extracted from some reduction fisheries and consumed through supplements and fortified foods as well.





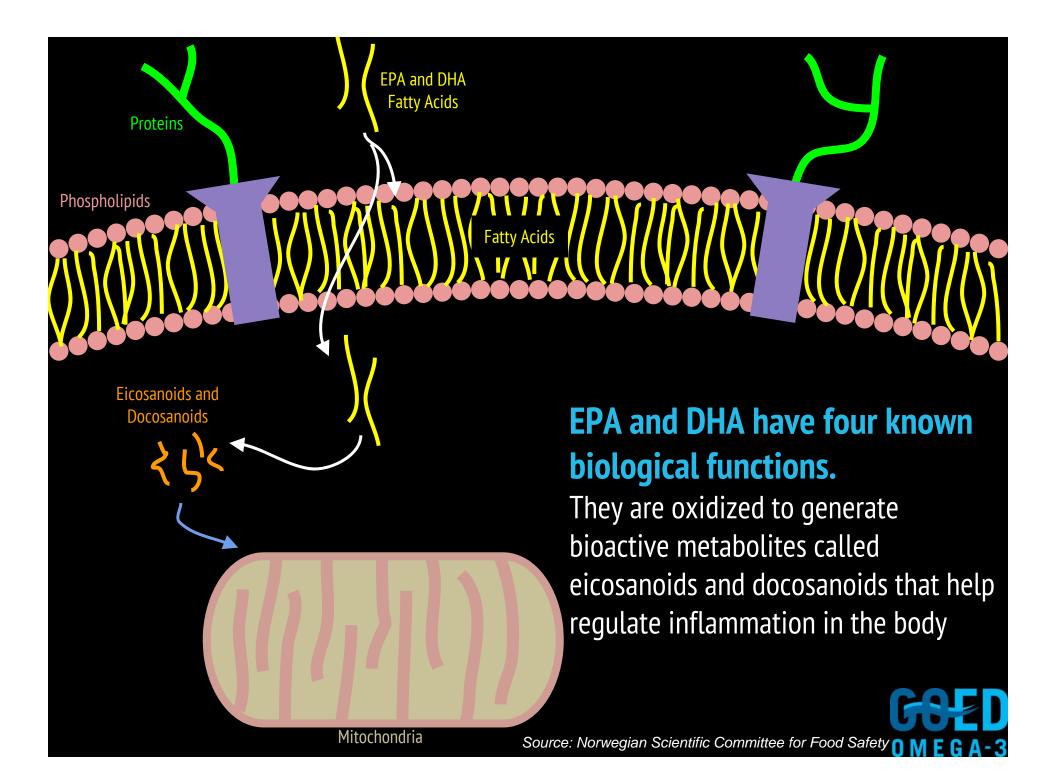
EPA and DHA have four known biological functions.



### EPA and DHA have four known biological functions.

They are incorporated as structural components of cell membranes, increasing fluidity and allowing for proper functioning of proteins

Source: Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety



Eicosanoids and Docosanoids

Proteins

Phospholipids

Enzymes

Fatty Acids

# EPA and DHA have four known biological functions.

Modulate enzyme activity, including inhibiting protein kinases and preventing increases in calcium and potassium in cells

Mitochondria

EPA and DHA Fatty Acids

Source: Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety

