The Future of Sustainable Fishing in the South China Sea

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The South China Sea's Depleted Fisheries

Capture fishing since 1960 has led to a decline in the abundance of several species, especially along the Chinese coast. This has pushed fishing vessels farther out and into disputed waters.

Source: UN Food and Agriculture Organization
Impact of the South China Sea Case
Scarborough Shoal
Where to for sustainable fisheries?

• Key question: has the lack of political will to find solutions changed?
• Plenty of legal options that would allow states to preserve sovereignty whilst cooperating to manage fisheries.
• The South China Sea award has some solutions, but utility of this is doubtful given political opposition.