

Working Group on Socio-Economic Dimensions of Aquaculture (WGSEDA)

2017/MA2/ASG02 The Working Group on Social and Economic Dimensions of Aquaculture

(WGSEDA), chaired by Gesche Krause, Germany, and Cornelia Kreiss*, Germany, will work on ToRs and generate deliverables as listed in the Table below.

	Meeting dates	Venue	Reporting details	Comments (change in Chair, etc.)
Year 2018	28 May–1 June	Oban, Scotland, UK	Interim report by 10 July	
Year 2019	13-17 May	Halifax, Canada	Interim report by 1 July	Additional Chair in 2019: Cornelia Kreiss, Germany
Year 2020	11-15 May	By correspondence	Final report by 26 June to ACOM and SCICOM	

ToR descriptors

TOR	DESCRIPTION	BACKGROUND	Science Plan codes	DURATION	EXPECTED DELIVERABLES
a	Identify and develop methods to determine the socio-economic effects of aquaculture	<p>Aquaculture can offer employment and income earning opportunities to local, often rural and marginal, communities. However, questions pertaining to i.e. social site-selection criteria, community impacts, right of access, ownership, taxation, liabilities of the negative repercussions from the environmental effects on society, ethical issues, to name but a few, have remained largely untackled in a comprehensive, integrated manner. Practitioners note that sustainable aquaculture must not only maximize benefits, but also minimize accumulation of detriments, as well as other types of negative impacts on natural and social environment.</p> <p>However, the systematic assessment of the socio-economic effects of aquaculture is still in its infancy. The question how and by which methods to capture the social repercussions of aquaculture are central here.</p>	5.8, 7.1	3 years	Review Paper
b	Assess and identify trajectories of socio-economic concerns of aquaculture development	<p>The social transformations caused by new technological innovations that competes, and threatens to replace, a capture fishery imbued with history and mythology about traditional practices is a major challenge that science is facing today. If aquaculture is to play a vital role in the well-being of coastal communities, it must be better integrated into social life. So far, aquaculture productions can be outright failures due to a lack of stakeholder participation, acceptance and/or understanding of social influences on ecosystems and of ecosystems on humans and society. Most interpretations of the social and economic dimension of aquaculture production are also highly context-specific, each following different trajectories and outcomes. This makes the issue of a general strategy for sustainable aquaculture that endorses the relevant</p>	7.1, 7.3	3 years	Review Paper/Policy brief

context-based social issues so difficult. Whilst addressing the interactions and feedbacks between issues (e.g. economic, social and environmental consequences of aquaculture) in a spatial planning context, it becomes evident that many of these play out over time (i.e. in past, present and future contexts) and space (i.e. at local, regional and ecosystem/global scale)—these are referred to as ‘cross-scale’ or ‘multi-scale’ processes. Processes commonly unfold at different geographical scales and over different time scales: the more aggregated the geographical scale (e.g. the regional ecosystem scale), the slower a system's dynamics unfold. Conversely, at a less aggregated geographical scale (e.g. the local scale) the social-ecological dynamics are more responsive. To capture this increased complexity in the context of sustainable aquaculture and its interrelation with socio-economics, this ToR aims to identify central socio-economic trajectories of aquaculture development.

c	Identify knowledge transfer processes that are available and employed for socio-economics of aquaculture	For WGSEDA to be able to address present and emerging issues and provide the most relevant science advice to promote the sustainable use of living marine resources, it must become familiar with respect to how knowledge is transferred in a bi-directional manner, focusing on socio-economic aspects.	7.5	3 years	Review Paper
d	Identify new emerging issues of socio-economic aspects of aquaculture.	This activity will identify and rank issues identified by the group as a whole that may require future attention by the WGSEDA or other related ICES Expert Groups, either alone or through collaborative work. The task is to highlight new and important issues that may require additional attention by the WGSEDA and/or another Expert Group as opposed to providing a comprehensive analysis. Proposals for Theme Sessions for the Annual Science Conference may evolve from this activity.	5.8, 7.1	1-3	Report

Summary of the Work Plan

WGSEDA envisions for the next 3-year term to work especially on the realm of reviewing and advancing method development for integrative assessments of aquaculture. In addition, special attention will be placed on trajectories of socio-economic concerns and the identification of related emerging issues within the ICES member states. Furthermore, knowledge transfer processes that are accessed and used for socio-economics of aquaculture shall be subject to analysis to gain a better understanding on science-stakeholder interaction processes that are of particular relevance for the social and economic dimensions of aquaculture development. The outputs of these activities shall be created by a report, policy brief and review paper(s).

Year 1	Review Paper
Year 2	Report
Year 3	Policy brief and review paper

Supporting information

Priority	The current activities of this Group will lead ICES into issues related to the ecosystem effects of fisheries, especially with regard to the application of the Precautionary Approach. Consequently, these activities are considered to have a very high priority.
Resource requirements	The research programmes which provide the main input to this group are already underway, and resources are already committed. The additional resource required to undertake additional activities in the framework of this group is negligible.
Participants	The Group is normally attended by some 8-15 members and guests.
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to ACOM and groups under ACOM	ACOM
Linkages to other committees or groups	There is a very close working relationship with all the groups of ASG and EPISG. It is also very relevant to the Working Group for Marine Planning and Coastal Zone Management (WGMPCZM) and the Working Group on the History of Fish and Fisheries (WGHIST).
Linkages to other organizations	EU COST Action OPP and EU COST Action OceanGov