

## WGSOCIAL – Working Group on SOCIAL indicators

**2017/MA2/IEASG04 - Working Group on SOCIAL indicators** (WGSOCIAL), chaired by Lisa L. Colburn (US), Amber Himes-Cornell (FAO) and Marloes Kraan\*, the Netherlands, will be established and 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	25-29 June	ICES HQ, Copenhagen, Denmark	Interim report by 15 August to IEASG	Incoming chair, Marloes Kraan*, the Netherlands,
Year 2019	11–15 March	FAO, Ispra, Italy	Interim report by 26 April to IEASG	
Year 2020	TBD	TBD	Final report by Date	

### ToR descriptors

ToR	Description	Background	Science Plan topics addressed	Duration	Expected Deliverables
a	To map the current work and identify future needs for social science in ICES, giving consideration to useful connections to international marine/ fisheries social science organizations such as the Society for Applied Anthropology.	This is primarily a scoping exercise within ICES, but also ensures coordination of activities with other international bodies and links to the wider scoping work in the Strategic Initiative for the Human Dimension (SIHD).	8, 17, 19	Years 1, 2	Annual reporting
b	To identify and report on culturally relevant social indicators and community data gaps that point to priorities for data collection, research, institutional needs, and training in all ICES member countries; and where possible propose systems to collect missing data.	To aid prioritization of data collection to enable qualitative and quantitative analyses of social issues for ecosystem overviews and integrated ecosystem assessments and future advice requests. The ToR also links to ICES Data Centre.	25, 27	Years 1, 2	Annual reporting
c	To define and report on the information flow needed to provide trade-off analysis of fishing impacts on communities and stakeholder groups.	To develop a system to support potential future advice requests and development of ecosystem overviews and integrated ecosystem assessments.	14	Years 2, 3	Annual reporting

d	To assess and report on the social and cultural significance of commercial fishing for selected coastal regions in the ICES area	To support future potential advice requests and development of ecosystem overviews and integrated ecosystem assessments.	8	Years 2, 3	Annual reporting, potentially also scientific manuscript
e	To coordinate the provision of culturally relevant social indicators, and analysis with economic and ecological information.	Contribution to the development of a framework for collective reporting of social, economic and ecological data and information .	18, 20	Years 1-3	Annual reporting

### Summary of the Work Plan

<b>Year 1</b>	Start mapping the current work and identify future needs for social science and community impact assessment in ICES (ToR a) and identifying social data gaps (ToR b). Briefly brainstorm and discuss ideas on how to address and organize work under the remaining ToRs in year 2. Establish close connections with other relevant groups within and outside ICES (ToRs a and e). Produce Interim Report.
<b>Year 2</b>	Work towards completion of ToR a and ToR b. Start work on defining the information flow needed to provide trade-off analysis (ToR c) and assessing the social and cultural significance of commercial fishing (ToR d). Work with other relevant groups within and outside ICES (ToR e). Produce Interim Report.
<b>Year 3</b>	Finalize ToR c, d, and e, including the manuscript. Discuss and plan strategies and concrete steps for future work. Produce Final Report.

### Supporting information

#### Priority

Nations are concerned about fish stocks and marine ecosystems, not least because they can contribute to human wellbeing; therefore, these natural resources have a societal value. The social dimension is increasingly an integral part of marine science and scientific advice regarding the use and conservation of marine resources.

Demand for science and advice to address social and societal considerations is increasing, but ICES does not engage many social scientists in its existing work. The Strategic Initiative on the Human Dimension (SIHD) has served to raise the profile of social science in ICES in the last few years, but, with a few exceptions, SIHD efforts are not comprehensively supported and informed by the work of ICES EG. Further, none of the existing EG that address social issues are focusing primarily on the development of social metrics and core social analyses that are demanded in parts of the ICES network (e.g. further development of ecosystem overviews).

The benefits of expanding the engagement of ICES in social science were highlighted in the outcomes of recent meetings, especially the "Understanding marine socio-ecological systems" (MSEAS) Conference which ICES co-sponsored in Brest, France, in 2016. Others drivers include high level aspirations for Blue Growth in European countries and globally, and a desire to understand social consequences of human-induced changes in the sea (WGHIST). Although there is no official request of social indicators, there is a recognition in ICES that it would be desirable to add social metrics to ICES ecosystem overviews and thus to recognize people and their livelihoods as part of the ecosystem. Further, in the longer term, ICES growing engagement in aquaculture science will likely lead to overviews of aquaculture activity that will also require social inputs.

Resource requirements	The group will rely on ongoing international and national research projects to support involvement of WGSOCIAL members.
Participants	This is a new Group, expected to be attended by some 15–20 participants.
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to ACOM and groups under ACOM	In the longer term the EG will be ready to support ACOM in addressing advisory requests from ICES clients if these are forthcoming.
Linkages to other committees or groups	The subject area of this EG has close linkage with the following ICES groups: WGSEDA, WGECON, WGIMM, WGRMES, WGNARS, WGHIST and the Strategic Initiative SIHD. Frequent interaction with WGECON and SIHD will be especially important to ensure the smooth and efficient introduction of further social and economic science into the ICES network
Linkages to other organizations	Society of Applied Anthropologists, NOAA Fisheries Human Dimensions and IEA Program, PICES, IMBER Human Dimension group, Future Coasts