WKDEICE2 - Workshop on Developing Integrated Advice for Baltic Sea Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management 2

2016/2/SSGIEA06

The Workshop on Developing Integrated Advice for Baltic Sea Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management 2 (WKDEICE2), chaired by Maciej Tomczak, Sweden, Rudi Voss, and Christian Möllmann, Germany will meet in Gdynia, Poland, on 19–21 June 2017 to:

- a) Further test the newly developed concept with model simulations
- b) Broaden the environmental assessment to include pelagic species
- c) Apply the concept to data poor assessments;
- d) further develop the innovative advice document

WKDEICE2 will report by 1 August 2017 to the attention of SCICOM and ACOM.

Supporting Information

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The planned activities of this new workshop are in line with the ICES strategic plan to progress towards integrated ecosystem assessments. This initiative was triggered by the need for a more comprehensive advice that considers environmental and socio–economic conditions and uses novel modelling multi–species and ecosystem modelling approaches. Consequently, these activities are considered to have a very high priority.

Scientific justification

Baltic fish stocks are known to be strongly dependant on environmental conditions. At the same time, present fish stock advice is largely depending on fisheries catch data bearing a number of shortcomings and flaws. Both facts may result in considerable uncertainty in fish stock assessments as exemplified by the present unclear situation of Eastern Baltic cod. The new WK will collect ongoing work on indicator approaches and environmental risk assessments as well as innovative modelling approaches to supplement the present single–species advice towards an advice that integrates traditional single–species fish stock with multi–species and indicator–based environmental assessments. The WK will furthermore do a first evaluation of including the human dimension into a future integrated advice by screening and evaluating socio–economic indicator and modelling approaches.

This workshop is conceived as being the first in a series. The main aim for this first workshop will be the proactive provision of the type of information on fisheries and ecosystem interactions in the Baltic Sea that would be most useful in developing integrated advice for fish stocks. This is seen as an ongoing process where the advisory process would report back on the value and utility of the information, and perhaps suggest improvements. Ideally, this would lead to an active engagement of assessment scientists in the WK. The WK would be repeated based on the developing advice needs and on the developing ecosystem understandings. The likely outcome would likely be to ultimately benchmark the combined process.

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	Experts on single and multi-species stock assessment, marine ecology and modelling, socio-economists.	
Secretariat facilities	None.	
Financial	No financial implications.	

Linkages to advisory committees	There are close links with WGBFAS, ACOM, and SCICOM. Thus, WKDEICE2 will report to WGBFAS in due time for the WGBFAS meeting (April 2017).
Linkages to other committees or groups	There is a very close working relationship with the ACOM/SCICOM Benchmarking Steering Group (BSG), WGIAB, WGBFAS, SGSPATIAL and other groups (WGISDAA, WGFTFB, WGSAM, WGMM,) holding information about the Baltic Sea System.
Linkages to other organizations	HELCOM, BSAC