

WKMSIGD – Workshop on Methods for Stakeholder Involvement in Gear Development

2017/MA2/EOSG04

The **Workshop on Methods for Stakeholder Involvement in Gear Development (WKMSIGD)**, chaired by Jordan Feekings, Denmark, and Daniel Valentinsson, Sweden, will meet in ICES HQ, Denmark, **22-24 May 2018** to:

- Review current knowledge and experience in involving stakeholders in the development of fishing gears (ideally this should involve scientists, fishers and managers);
- Propose future work looking at how to improve the methodologies current employed;
- Develop an advice and best practice document to help identify incentive structures, self-sampling methods, facilitating stakeholder involvement, and information transfer between initiatives;
- Identify how these initiatives can facilitate the landing obligation and the proposal of the new technical measures.

WKMSIGD will report by 28 June 2018 for the attention of the Advisory and Science Committees.

Supporting Information

As described in the *Impact Assessment on a proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the council on the conservation of fishery resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures (11.03.2016)*, the current technical measures regime is no longer fit for achieving the sustainability objectives of the new common fisheries policy (CFP). Specifically, the current measures are:

based on negative, mostly coercive incentives in a top-down governance system creating mistrust among stakeholders as measures are seen as inequitable, leading to non-compliance; impossible to measure their impact on the achievement of the conservation objectives of the CFP; numerous and overly complex making compliance and control more difficult; controlling too many aspects of fishing operations undermining the sector's confidence in the measures; providing little incentive to fish selectively where there is no cost to discarding, or of catching vulnerable species or affecting adversely on the seabed; and suboptimal in respect of achieving broader environmental and ecological policy objectives

The Impact assessment aimed to:

1. Maximise the contribution of technical measures in achieving the key objectives (to minimize/phase out discards) of the new CFP that came into force on 1 January 2014.
2. Create the flexibility required to adjust technical measures by facilitating regionalised approaches (consistent with the objectives in EU law).

Currently, there are several countries trialling initiatives which aim to have the fishing industry to develop the gears they perceive better suit their fisheries. The involvement of stakeholders in the development and testing of fishing gears can help to alleviate some of the mistrust and non-compliance currently observed, provide incentives to fish selectively, and help achieve the aims described in the Impact Assessment. The initiatives established are currently coordinated at a national level, where project structures, incentives, data collection methods etc. all differ from each other. To be able to use such types of initiatives to help facilitate the landing obligation and the proposed reformed technical measures these initiatives should be coordinated at a regional level. This workshop aims to define how to obtain the most out of these initiatives.

Priority	Gear selectivity trials/improvements provide crucial information on the selectivity of fishing gears used in the fisheries and their descriptions in the technical regulations. Consequently, these activities are considered to have a high priority.
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Scientific justification	TOR a) to d) The work currently being carried out by a number of member states on involving stakeholder in the development and testing of fishing gears is coordinated at a national level, where project structures, incentives, data collection methods etc. all differ from each other. To be able to use such types of projects to help facilitate the landing obligation and the proposed reformed technical measures these initiatives should be coordinated at a regional level.
Resource requirements	The national programs which provide the main input to this group are already underway, and resources are already committed. The additional resources required to undertake the workshop are meeting room facilities at ICES headquarters.
Participants	Members of WGFTFB (10-15 participants expected) and guests.
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to advisory committees	There are linkages to both SCICOM and ACOM.
Linkages to other committees or groups	There are links to WGFTFB and WGMARS.
Linkages to other organizations	The work of this group is of interest to all EU countries as it pertains to the landing obligation and how stakeholder driven gear development can facilitate a successful management framework.