

Session C

Advances in marine ecosystem research: what we have learned from GLOBEC and what we can carry forward in future climate related programs

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The Cod and Climate Change programme has stimulated a wide range of research on cod, the ecosystems in which it occurs and the physical, biological and human drivers which shape its life history and population dynamics. This Theme Session will be an opportunity to take stock of what we have learned and to ask what progress we have made in resolving some of the issues which provided the scientific and management impetus for the programme. These include (i) better understanding of the processes governing recruitment (ii) the importance of processes in later life (growth, maturation, mortality) in governing population changes and in maintaining resilience (iii) the interaction between population dynamics of zooplankton and the productivity of cod (iv) the influence of hydroclimatic variables on observed long-term changes in cod populations (v) top-down and bottom-up changes in ecosystems in which cod plays or used to play a major role (vi) the role of spatial dynamics and meta-population structure (vii) changes in management strategies which have or should have resulted from new insights. The emphasis will be on papers which take a broad, critical overview of developments in the field and do not focus only on specific processes within a single stock.

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