

Report of the
**Steering Group for the ICES/GLOBEC
North Atlantic Programme and Regional Office**

By correspondence

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International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

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1 INTRODUCTION

Dr Scott Parsons retired as chair of the Steering Group during 2003. The group continued to be co-chaired by Dr K. Drinkwater and Dr F. Köster. The Group will meet during the Annual Science Conference in Tallinn in October 2003.

GLOBEC is the main internationally coordinated programme through which marine ecosystem research is currently being funded in the North Atlantic. ICES benefits from attracting scientists working on nationally and regionally funded GLOBEC programmes to its Working Groups, workshops, Theme Sessions and Symposia. The cooperation adds value to both ICES and GLOBEC and helps to maintain the focus of GLOBEC on application in relation to fisheries and marine environmental management.

2 STRATEGIC GOALS

The Strategic Goals for the International GLOBEC programme (see Appendix c of ICES CM 2001/C:13) are contained in the GLOBEC Science Plan and the Implementation Plan sets out the means of achieving them. The ICES/GLOBEC Cod and Climate Change programme is the North Atlantic regional component of the Plan. The 2001 report of SGNARO includes a description of the Cod and Climate Change Programme, as envisaged in the 1999 GLOBEC Implementation Plan (Appendix c of ICES CM 2001/C:13) and also considers the goals for the GLOBEC Programme and the ICES/GLOBEC Office in Relation to the ICES Strategic Plan.

Dr Ottersen, who is co-chair of the Cod and Climate Change WG (and a member of the International GLOBEC SSC), is drafting a revised strategic plan for the CCC WG. While the main goals of CCC remain as adopted during the 1998 meeting, the action items have been updated on several occasions, most recently at the WG meeting May 2003. The revised strategic plan will also summarize the scientific achievements so far, identify gaps in knowledge, and propose an action plan to address these.

3 REVIEW OF PROGRAMME AND WORKPLAN

ICES' members are involved in many GLOBEC related activities, which are brought within the scope of ICES in various ways (planning groups, working groups, workshops, theme sessions, symposia, publications). The principal scientific activities are the Cod and Climate Change programme; zooplankton related work (Working Group on Zooplankton Ecology, Trans-Atlantic Study of *Calanus*, GLOBEC/PICES/ICES Zooplankton Symposium in 2003); work on pelagic species (herring, sprat, sardine and anchovies) in the Bay of Biscay, North Sea and under SPACC (Small Pelagic Fishes and Climate Change).

The ICES Bureau approved the workplan (Appendix b) and reports on progress submitted to it in January and June 2003 and also endorsed the initiatives being undertaken to secure future funding for the continuation of the ICES/GLOBEC office after 2004.

A detailed review of progress and discussion of the programme and workplan took place during the meeting of the Cod and Climate Change Working Group. The report (ICES CM 2003/C:11) contains a full account, which will not be repeated here.

Subsequent to the workplan for 2003 being agreed, Dr Brander was invited and took part in the IPCC Working Group 2 Expert meeting on the Detection and Attribution of the Effects of Climate Change in New York in June.

4 FUTURE DIRECTION AND SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

The Cod and Climate Change Working Group discussed the future scope and direction of the programme, as well as the funding required to maintain the programme office. The subject will be raised again at the SGNARO meeting to be held in conjunction with the 2003 ICES ASC in Estonia in September, but WGCCC proposed that Dr. Brander continue to pursue possible funding avenues, in particular the possibility of taking part in an EU Network of Excellence.

The WG also discussed the long-term future of the ICES/GLOBEC position. In the past, it was suggested that the position should become part of the ICES secretariat but the financing for this has never been available. The WG felt that a position that dealt with climate and environmental issues related to fisheries was essential to ICES in order to provide the best possible fisheries advice. Given that the GLOBEC program will officially end in 2009, the WG decided that ICES should address this issue and the co-chairs were instructed to write a letter to ICES as a means of beginning the discussions on this issue.

4.1 Pan-Atlantic research and new vehicles for research cooperation

GLOBEC has a good history of productive pan-Atlantic research and a well-developed international community. It is therefore well placed to take advantage of new opportunities for research cooperation and, at the request of the Cod and Climate Change Working Group and with the support of the International GLOBEC programme director, Dr Brander submitted an Expression of Interest for the EU FP6. Elements of this Expression of Interest appear in the resulting call for proposals and Dr Brander has continued to put forward the case for including the ICES/GLOBEC programme as a part of a future Network of Excellence. The links with work in Canada and the US have also been actively pursued in order to assist with similar funding opportunities in those countries.

5 RELATIONSHIP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL GLOBEC PROGRAMME

ICES is a regional co-sponsor of GLOBEC. It had a major role in the development of the International GLOBEC programme and has a substantial part to play in the future development of GLOBEC, in particular because of its long experience as an Application Oriented Organization and its collective expertise in many aspects of marine ecosystem studies.

The relationship between the International GLOBEC programme and the regional programmes is defined in the MoU (Letter of Agreement between IGBP, SCOR and IOC): *"... the Sponsors recognise that there are regional international organisations such as ICES and PICES, that have been, are, or will in future be active in organising GLOBEC at regional level. The Sponsors agree that these organisations are to be considered as regional co-sponsors, and that their interests should be considered in the governance of GLOBEC. The sponsors further agree to inform and consult with these organisations separately or collectively and as deemed necessary by either the regional organisations or the sponsors"*

Dr Ottersen is a member of the Scientific Steering Committee of the International GLOBEC programme and co-chair of the Cod and Climate Change Working Group.

Two sessions at the 2nd GLOBEC Open Science meeting in Qingdao in October 2002 dealt with the North Atlantic. One reviewed the response of plankton and fish to climate forcing and the effects of food and environmental limitations on growth production of cod. The invited speakers were Dr B. Planque, Dr G Ottersen and Dr J-D Dutil. The second was an open session convened by Dr Tande and Dr Carlotti on "Zooplankton-climate linkages in different regions of the northern hemisphere".

The International GLOBEC website carries updated information about the Cod and Climate Change programme.

6 STRATEGY FOR FUNDING

The Council endorsed, in principle, the establishment of the Project Office for GLOBEC in 1994 (C.Res. 1994/4:7, Appendix f). Following the decision by the Council in 2000 "to continue to support the ICES/GLOBEC office by covering the indirect costs, provided that there are sufficient external funds to cover the direct costs (salary, travel etc.)" the programme has continued and the contract of the Coordinator has been extended to the end of December 2004. During their meeting in June 2003 the Bureau reiterated their support for continuing with the ICES/GLOBEC office beyond 2004, if funding to pay the direct costs can be secured.

6.1 Current Funding Situation

The direct costs of the Regional Office are currently provided by the US, Canada, UK and Norway as shown in Appendix c. US funding runs to 31 January 2004 with provision for a further one year extension. A three-year renewal of Canadian funding was confirmed and runs to the end of 2004. The DEFRA (UK) renewal of funding is at a slightly increased level and runs from 1 April 2001 for five years. Norwegian funding currently runs to the end of 2004. Income and expenditure for the ICES/GLOBEC office for the period 2001–2004 and core budget requirements to 2004 are given in Appendix c.

Some additional costs (e.g., attendance at the ICES Annual Science Conference) and recent fluctuations in exchange rates resulted in a projected deficit for the period to the end of 2004. Expenditure was therefore reduced by cutting the salary and working hours of the Coordinator to 80% from the beginning of 2003. Options for further funding were put forward in last years Recommendations, but have not produced any results to date.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) Delegates of Member states with an active interest in the ICES-GLOBEC initiative are requested to examine the possibility of contributing financially to the office.
- (2) The General Secretary should seek additional external funding to cover the direct costs of maintaining the ICES/GLOBEC office for the period to the end of 2009. If the direct costs of maintaining the programme in its present form (see Appendix c) are adequately covered, additional funding should also be sought in order to support elements of the programme and activities which require extra resources (e.g., particular tasks related to preparation and running of workshops).

8 APPENDICES

Appendix a) Terms of reference for the Steering Group (SGNARO)

2C17 The **Steering Group for the ICES/GLOBEC North Atlantic Programme and Regional Office** [SGNARO] (Co-Chairs: S. Parsons, Canada, K. Drinkwater, Canada and F. Köster, Denmark) will work by correspondence in 2003, and meet as appropriate at national expense, to:

- a) review and advise on the further evolution of the ICES/GLOBEC North Atlantic Programme and the workplan of the ICES/GLOBEC office, taking into account:
 - i) the strategic goals for ICES/GLOBEC research and the strategic approach for the ICES/GLOBEC office as agreed by the Council,
 - ii) developments in the international GLOBEC programme; and
 - iii) available funding.

The Group will include the General Secretary, the GLOBEC Coordinator, the Chair of the Oceanography Committee and a representative of the international GLOBEC Scientific Steering Committee, and will be open to participants in the ICES/GLOBEC programme. Member countries not participating directly in the ICES/GLOBEC programme are also entitled to designate representatives to participate in the work of this group, should they so choose.

SGNARO will report by 31 May 2003 for the attention of the Bureau and the Oceanography Committee.

Appendix b) Annual Workplan for the ICES/GLOBEC office reviewed by the ICES Bureau in January 2003

ACTIVITY CP2: North Atlantic GLOBEC

Activity leader: Keith Brander

OBJECTIVES AND BACKGROUND

The objective is to coordinate and help to implement the GLOBEC programme within the ICES area. The GLOBEC programme aims to improve forecasts of the responses of the marine ecosystem to physical forcing and global change by developing our understanding of its structure and functioning under varying physical conditions. The research provides the basis for a wider ecosystem approach to issues in fisheries management and environmental protection. Within ICES this will require closer cooperation between physical, chemical and biological oceanographers on the one hand and fisheries and environmental assessment scientists on the other.

GLOBEC is a core project of the IGBP (International Geosphere Biosphere Programme) and is sponsored by the International Oceanographic Commission and the Scientific Committee on Ocean Research. It is the only global change programme in which ICES plays a major part.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE ICES/GLOBEC PROGRAMME OFFICE

The Cod and Climate programme continues to carry out its rolling five year plan and is now beginning a synthesis stage, the three principal products of which will be a book on the programme, an update of the Cooperative Research

Report on Spawning and Life History Information for North Atlantic Cod Stocks and the ICES Symposium on the Influence of Climate Change on North Atlantic Fish Stocks, all in 2004.

Financial support for the programme has fallen somewhat, due to reduced contributions from some countries, no current EU funding and adverse exchange rate fluctuations. This level of funding, which is secure until the end of 2004, is roughly 80% of the total required to run the full programme. A contingency plan to cope with this situation, which has been in place for over a year, was discussed at the meeting of the Steering Group for the programme office in September 2002 (see budget sheet below). The Coordinator will drop to 80% working time as from 1 January 2003. Meanwhile efforts will continue to raise additional funding. As in 2002, the budget will restrict foreign travel to one trip and will preclude attendance at WGZE and the Zooplankton Symposium.

TASKS AND TARGETS for 2003

Task 1 Implementing the Cod and Climate Change work programme, in fulfilment of the contracts and commitments made with funding bodies. (60% of KB's time)

Targets and Milestones:

1. Assist with the work of the Cod and Climate Change Working Group. Attend meeting in May, assist with report due in June 2003 20 days
2. Organise and take part in the Workshop on Synthesis of the Cod and Climate Change programme in May . Organise web site for dissemination of drafts, exchange of ideas and information, provision of data products. Assist with report. 20 days.
3. Assistance with book synthesising results from the Cod and Climate Change programme. - open ended time requirement.
4. Compilation of new information on cod life histories, to update Coop. Res. Rep.205. -time required is open ended and assistance is needed - due 2004
5. Prepare the report of the Workshop on Transport of Cod Larvae for publication as a CRR. 10 days - April 2004
6. Maintain regular ICES/GLOBEC Newsletter and pages on the WWW. - min. 8 days to produce two Newsletters in March and September 2003.
7. Preparations for the Symposium on Fisheries and Climate Change in 2004, including writing a paper - 15 days
8. Preparing GLOBEC Theme Sessions for ASC. 2 days

Task 2 Writing proposals for continued funding, preparing reports and accounts, dealing with ad hoc requests for data and information, evaluating papers and research proposals (40% of KB's time)

Targets and Milestones:

1. Proposals for new or renewed funding - 15 days
2. Paper on "climate change and fisheries" at a conference on climate change and biodiversity Norwich in April - 7 days inclusive preparation.
3. ICES WGZE and Zooplankton Symposium Gijon, May - 10 days inclusive preparation. Subject to funding.
4. Deal with ad hoc requests for data, information, reviews - 35 days per year.
5. Steering and review for GLOBEC related programmes. Present talks on North Atlantic GLOBEC programme. 10 days
6. Complete and submit papers 35 days

Appendix c) Budget for ICES/GLOBEC Project Office

All in DKK:	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Carried forward	105877	163268	-24903	-80495		
INCOME:						
From USA	433406	374650	342961	<i>374650</i>		
From Canada	215575	106507	92386	<i>106507</i>		
From UK ²	161476	134761	<i>134761</i>	<i>134761</i>	<i>140102</i>	<i>36375</i>
From Norway	91583	98130	<i>101590</i>	<i>101590</i>		
Total Income	902040	714048	<i>671698</i>	<i>717508</i>	<i>140102</i>	<i>36375</i>
EXPENDITURE						
Salary ⁴	610386	639228	<i>511382</i>	<i>511382</i>		
Pension ³	208322	232385	<i>185908</i>	<i>0</i>		
T&S ¹	25400	30383	<i>25000</i>	<i>25000</i>		
Other expenses	541	223	<i>5000</i>	<i>5000</i>		
Total Expenses	844649	902219	<i>727290</i>	<i>541382</i>		
BALANCE	163268	-24903	<i>-80495</i>	<i>95631</i>		

Notes

- 1 ICES ceased paying the Coordinators costs for attending the ASC in 2001
- 2 UK Income in 2001 includes arrears paid on 14/03/02
- 3 Pension is paid in advance therefore zero in final year
- 4 Salary and pension reduced to 80% from 1/1/03