

**Resolutions for Operational Groups**

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Data and Information Group (DIG) ..... 1

Training Group (TG) ..... 4

Science Impact and Publication Group (SIPG) ..... 6



## Resolutions for Operational Groups

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### Data and Information Group (DIG)

**2024/OG/SCICOM01** The **Data and Information Group (DIG)**, chaired by David Currie\*, Ireland, will meet online on 19 February 2025 and from 20–22 May 2025 at ICES Secretariat, Copenhagen, Denmark, to:

- a ) Provide guidance and feedback to the ICES Data Centre;
- b ) Advise on data governance within ICES, and identify any changes required and their impact;
- c ) Facilitate best practice in data management by providing guidance to expert groups, engaging in dialogue, and supporting the ICES Data Centre CoreTrustSeal accreditation;
- d ) Evaluate and monitor challenges and opportunities in data management, technology, artificial intelligence, and cyber-security;
- e ) Engage with the ICES community, and beyond, to encourage knowledge sharing about data management.

DIG will report by 28 June 2025 to the attention of the Science Committee.

### Supporting Information

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Priority	The Data and Information Group provides ICES with solicited and unsolicited advice on all aspects of data management including technical, data policy and data strategy and user oriented guidance. This operational group flies the flag for ICES in setting standards for global databases. It also provides an important interface for oceanographic, environmental, and fisheries data management in ICES, and promotes good data management practice
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Scientific justification	<p><b>Term of Reference a)</b></p> <p>Direct interfacing with the ICES Data Centre around priorities and general best practise recommendations enables the Data Centre to receive both solicited and unsolicited advice on solutions and practises from a broader international community.</p> <p><b>Term of Reference b)</b></p> <p>It is important for the data users to be engaged in identifying priorities for data governance within ICES. DIG acts as a focal point for the data governance groups as well as the wider ICES community. DIG works with the ICES Data Centre to define and improve the data governance framework within ICES. This includes reviewing the ICES Data Policy, data licenses, and recommending changes where required.</p> <p><b>Term of Reference c)</b></p> <p>DIG will ensure that data governance and best practices in data management are promoted in the ICES community. DIG also supports the CoreTrustSeal accreditation obtained by the ICES Data Centre. As the multi-disciplinary use of data, and the complexity of that data are both increasing this work will become increasingly important in the coming years.</p> <p><b>Term of Reference d)</b></p> <p>By reviewing and monitoring current and future activities, DIG can proactively advise ICES and specifically DSTSG on emerging issues. Utilising the experience of the group and combining it with the operational knowledge of the ICES Data Centre, the potential benefits and challenges can be identified and their impact presented. In particular, the impact of Artificial Intelligence techniques on ICES work, and supporting ICES to become more cyber-secure are key topics in 2025.</p> <p><b>Term of Reference e)</b></p> <p>Effective data and information management is an essential foundation for digital transformation and DIG acts as a focal point for these topics within the ICES community. DIG aims to build a culture around data – this includes engaging data providers and users, and sharing knowledge.</p>
Resource requirements	The resource required to undertake additional activities in the framework of this group is negligible.
Participants	The Group is expected to be attended by some 15–30 members, with good international and topical coverage
Secretariat facilities	Meeting facilities, organization and facilitation of Teams meetings (frequency and participants depending on topics to be discussed). Participation of ICES Data Centre
Financial	No financial implications.

Linkages to advisory committees	ACOM (indirect)
Linkages to other committees or groups	As Data is an important topic for most groups under SCICOM and ACOM, this group links to a large number of groups, although often indirect.
Linkages to other organizations	There are linkages with relevant international bodies and programmes like SeaDataNet AISBL, EMODNet, IOC and its Working Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE), OSPAR, and HELCOM.

## Training Group (TG)

**2024/OG/SCICOM02** The **Training Group** (TG), chaired by Anders Nielsen, Denmark, will work via WebEx and by correspondence and meet at the 2025 ASC to guide and support implementation of ICES training:

- a) Evaluate, develop, and implement a strategy for the ICES Training Programme;
- b) Identify priority topics for training courses and potential instructors to provide them;
- c) Oversee running of training courses and evaluate cost-effectiveness and feedback from instructors and participants;
- d) Appraise opportunities to run training courses, including on-line courses, supported by projects and advise on their relevance to ICES mission;
- e) Plan future collaboration with Strategic Initiative on Graduate Education (SIGE).

TG will report to SCICOM and ACOM at the Annual Science Conference, and by October 2025 (Annual Progress Report).

## Supporting Information

Priority:	ICES Training Programme has high priority. The objective is to help build capacity and skills in ICES and to support the scientists. ICES offers training courses by high-profile scientists and instructors.
Scientific justification	<p>ICES needs to ensure that scientists, including those who do work related to the advisory process, have the necessary skills. ICES has an obligation to ensure that training is available as needed. The Training Programme offers tactical courses meeting immediate needs and strategic courses which may be more aligned with anticipated future needs of ICES science advancing knowledge of marine ecosystems and the advisory process. Specifically the training program should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunity to participants in WGs and the advisory process to develop skills needed to deliver high quality science and advice,</li> <li>• Support a common understanding of ICES advisory practise,</li> <li>• Disseminate insight throughout and outside the ICES community,</li> <li>• Intensify cooperation with expertise from other organizations to bring in new disciplines and perspectives in ICES science and advice.</li> <li>• Plan future collaboration with the ICES Education initiative (WKEDU).</li> </ul> <p>Within the ICES Joint Work Plan 2019–2024 the Training Group is tasked to evaluate, develop, and implement a strategy for the ICES Training Programme, including assessment of training needs, online training courses, considerations of alternative training initiatives (courses arranged by Ph.D/Post.doc), and exploring options for accreditation of the training course.</p>
Resource requirements:	Requires significant input from the Secretariat.
Participants:	Members of the Training Group and the ICES Secretariat Coordinator for Training.
Secretariat facilities:	Standard Secretariat support.
Financial:	

Linkages to advisory committees:	Participation of SCICOM and ACOM members.
Linkages to other committees or groups:	All Steering Groups.
Linkages to other organizations:	Some courses have been offered in coordination with other organizations and co-sponsored courses are part of the business plan.

## Science Impact and Publication Group (SIPG)

**2024/OG/SCICOM03** The Science Impact and Publication Group (SIPG), chaired by Silvana Birchenough, United Kingdom, will meet online on the (tbd) February, (tbd) May, (tbd) September, and (tbd) November 2025 to:

- a) Monitor publication output and provide advice to SCICOM, ACOM, ICES Secretariat, and ICES network on ICES publications.
  - i) Develop and recommend policies governing scientific publications as requested by SCICOM.
  - ii) Review and provide guidance (to SCICOM, ACOM, ICES Secretariat, and ICES network) on the evolution of Science publication, and potential risks and opportunities.
- b) Catalogue and report on the types and quantity of published outputs facilitated by the ICES network.
  - i) Assess the impact of ICES publications and relevant scientific outputs generated by the ICES network.
  - ii) Use existing descriptions of the societal impact of ICES science for reporting and outreach.
  - iii) Oversee the process of cataloguing ICES historical publications in the ICES library.
  - iv) Continue to update on recent and relevant developments concerning publications (e.g. AI standards and protocols)
- c) Propose approaches for increasing the impact of ICES publications and ICES library, and identify target audiences for communicating science, advice, data, and training products, both within and beyond the ICES community.
  - i) Explore targeted opportunities to publish relevant material (e.g. opinion papers, posters and presentations) to increase the profile and the impact of SIPG outputs over the wider ICES network.
  - ii) Continue to disseminate SIPG outputs to EGs, helping to cascade and the continuous use of the ICES library, new data sources and relevant ICES materials.
- d) Review and provide recommendations on Publication resolutions prior to SCICOM meetings and intersessionally.

SIPG will report by October 2025 (Annual Progress Report) for the attention of SCICOM.



## Supporting information

Priority	A good publication strategy is essential to projecting the scope, scale and impact of ICES science
Scientific justification	<p>ToR a, b, and c support the implementation of the science plan, specifically the actions to increase the visibility of, and access to, our science, data and advice, recognise, promote, and use the science outputs from expert groups, and monitor and report on progress towards meeting the goals of the science plan</p> <p>ToR a allows ICES to develop its approaches to scientific publication and meet the evolving needs of our network</p> <p>ToR a ensures alignment of ICES publications with ICES objectives as outlined in the strategic plan and science plan</p> <p>ToR a, b, and c support the science plan commitment to increase the visibility of, and access to, our science, data and advice and recognise, promote and use the science outputs from expert groups- while also ensuring that efforts to promote ICES science do not result in risks to our organisation [a (ii)].</p>
Resource requirements	Support from ICES Secretariat - engagement of ICES Lead Editor and Associate Editor in SIPG, and use of ICES editorial office for data collection, handling, and processing
Participants	Members appointed by SCICOM and members from the ICES Secretariat, including ICES Lead and Associate editors
Secretariat facilities	None
Financial	Support from ICES Secretariat for engagement of ICES Lead and Associate editors in SIPG
Linkages to advisory committees	ACOM
Linkages to other committees or groups	SCICOM and associated Steering Groups, DIG, Data Centre
Linkages to other organizations	Ocean Practice Federated Network (under development)