

Joint ICES/ NMTT Workshop exploring the establishment of a Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture (WKNCCFFA)

2020/WK/HAPISG12 The Joint ICES/ NMTT Workshop exploring the establishment of a Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture (WKNCCFFA), chaired by Carl-Christian Schmidt, Denmark; and Arni M. Mathiesen, Iceland, will meet in Elsinore, Denmark, 9–10 December 2021 to:

- a) Review and consider recent research and other initiatives relevant to challenges posed by climate change for fisheries and aquaculture in the Nordic region ([Science Plan codes](#): 1.1; 2.1; 3.6; 7.3);
- b) Synthesize expertise, practical experiences and lessons learned of stakeholders in meeting challenges of climate change ([Science Plan codes](#): 4.1; 5.2; 7.3; 7.7);
- c) Develop a collaborative platform to facilitate exchange among the Nordic fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders, science, civil society and policy makers ([Science Plan codes](#): 2.1; 3.6; 7.3; 7.5).

WKNCCFFA will report by 15 March 2022 (via HAPISG) for the attention of SCICOM and ACOM.

Supporting information

Priority	<p>Rising sea temperatures, changing salinity, acidification, pH and oxygenation are some of the effects that increasingly will be felt by the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Some changes have already taken place. However, little has been done in terms of supporting the preparedness of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors to reduce their own climate impacts while adapting to the anticipated changing conditions. The Workshop, organized jointly by the Nordic Marine Think Tank (NMTT), ICES and with support from the Nordic Council of Ministers, will bring together fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders and scientists from the Nordic countries to advance collaboration on addressing challenges imposed by climate change.</p> <p>Consequently, the workshop is considered to have a very high priority in establishing a climate change forum for fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders which will act as a knowledge exchange platform with mutual benefits for industry, science and fisheries policy makers.</p>
Scientific justification	<p>Term of Reference a)</p> <p>The IPCC report (2019) notes that “ <i>A.5. Since about 1950 many marine species across various groups have undergone shifts in geographical range and seasonal activities in response to ocean warming, sea ice change and biogeochemical changes, such as oxygen loss, to their habitats (high confidence). This has resulted in shifts in species composition, abundance and biomass production of ecosystems, from the equator to the poles.</i>”</p> <p>It is important to synthesize the science on a regional scale and reflect on it with science, industry, NGOs and policy makers to identify relevant knowledge for decision making, specifically considering social and economic impacts and the future role of seafood production in the overall food producing sector.</p> <p>Term of Reference b)</p> <p>Industry is already challenged by climate change affecting the marine environment and the dynamics of the resources. In addition the sector needs to adapt to increasing regulations on emissions while reducing the environmental impact of their activities. Besides the scientific</p>

knowledge, sharing the lessons learned and knowledge within the sector will help to facilitate adaptation.

Term of Reference c)

The fisheries and aquaculture sectors urgently need to identify pathways to adjust to a changing climate (adaptation) while concurrently take up measures and techniques in both fisheries and aquaculture that will reduce the sectors' impacts on the climate (mitigation). To facilitate the exchange among stakeholders, industry, civil society science and policy makers need a safe and trusted forum for discussion. The proposed Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture aims to provide this.

Resource requirements	The resource required in the framework of this workshop is marginal and is mainly organisational support for establishing a workshop programme and assistance for broadening participation from stakeholders.
Participants	The Workshop will be attended by 100-120 participants from across the Nordic countries. Participation will be broad and include industry, scientific community, fisheries policy makers and managers, and NGOs working in the field of fisheries and aquaculture.
Secretariat facilities	Standard EG support.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to advisory committees	ACOM
Linkages to other committees or groups	SICCME, SIHD, EPDSG, HAPISG, EOSG, FRSG, DSTSG, ASG, WGREIA, WGS2D, WGGRAFY, WGOOFE
Linkages to other organizations	The work of this Workshop is aligned with other international fora considering climate change in fisheries and aquaculture such as the FAO, IUCN, OECD, UN.
