Working Group on Risk assessment of Environmental Interactions of Aquaculture (WGREIA)

2020/FT/ASG03 The **Working Group on Environmental Interactions of Aquaculture (WGEIA)** will be renamed the **Working Group on Risk assessment of Environmental Interactions of Aquaculture (WGREIA)**, chaired by Ellen Sofie Grefsrud, Norway and will work on ToRs and generate deliverables as listed in the Table below.

	Meeting dates	Venue	Reporting details	Comments (change in Chair, etc.)
Year 2021	4-6 May	Copehagen, Denmark	E-evaluation to SCICOM by 21 May 2021	
Year 2022	10-12 May	Coimbra, Porugal	E-evaluation to SCICOM by 26 May 2022	
Year 2023	9-11 May	Bergen, Norway	Final report by 8 July to ACOM/SCICOM	

ToR descriptors[1]

ToR	Description	Background	Science Plan Codes	Duration	Expected Deliverables
a	Publication of review of laws and regulatory standards for monitoring and managing environmental impacts of marine aquaculture, and the corresponding thresholds values established by ICES countries and China, and knowledge gaps and prioritized research.	This work was initiated in WGEIA (2018-2020). Here we will complete the work and publish the results in a peer-review journal.	5.6,7.4	Year 1	Peer-review publication

b	Risk assessment methods for environmental impacts of aquaculture	Building on ToRa, ToRb aims to review and compare methods and models for assessing risk of negative environmental impacts due to aquaculture production.	2.1, 5.6, 5.8	Year 1, 2 &3	Write a review publication of when and how risk assessment is used for aquaculture. TIMES publication detailing Methods for risk assessment and risk analysis for environmental impacts of aquaculture.

Summary of the Work Plan

YEAR	
Year 1	ToRa (Review of laws and regulatory standards for monitoring and prioritised research) will be reported as a peer-review paper, and ToR b (Risk assessment methods) will be initiated.
Year 2	Continue discussion on risk assessment methods aiming to make a foundation for a common understanding on best practice within risk assessment and risk analysis of environmental impact of aquaculture. Peer-review publication of when and how risk assessment is used for aquaculture
Year 3	ToRb will be reported included a TIMES publication detailing Risk assessment methods for environmental impacts of aquaculture

Supporting information

Priority	The current activities of this Group will continue to lead ICES into issues related to aquaculture including elucidating the legal structure under which the environmental interactions of aquaculture are managed in different ICES countries. Scientific work on ecosystem interactions will lay the scientific foundation for further sustainable aquaculture growth to meet or surpass legal requirements. Consequently, these activities are considered to have a high priority.
Resource requirements	Hosting of the first meeting in Copenhagen.
Participants	The Group will be established of 15-25 experts of aquaculture - environment interactions, regulators, legal expertise, risk experts and others
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to ACOM and groups under ACOM	This WG sets the stage for future advice products from ICES as governments need to do risk assessment of the growing aquaculture industry in Europe and North-America.

Linkages to other committees or groups	There is a very close working relationship with all the groups of the Aquaculture Steering Group. We will seek to form links with the Working Group on Socio-Economic Dimensions of Aquaculture (WGSEDA) Working Group on Pathology and Diseases of Marine Organisms (WGPDMO), Working Group on Application of Genetics in Fisheries and Mariculture (WGAGFM), Working Group on Scenario Planning on Aquaculture (WGSPAQ), and Working Group on Ecological Carrying Capacity (WGECCA)
Linkages to other organizations	National regulatory authorities in ICES countries and China, EU, FAO.