

A **Workshop on guidelines and methods for the evaluation of rebuilding plans (WKREBUILD)** chaired by Vanessa Trijoulet (Denmark) and Martin Pastoors (Netherlands) will meet from 24 – 28 February 2020 at ICES headquarters, to:

- a) Review the history of scientific advice, evaluation and implementation of rebuilding plans for fisheries management in the Northeast Atlantic and in other fora around the world.
- b) Evaluate technical tools that are available or could be developed for evaluating the performance of different types of rebuilding plans. Take into account the work of WKG MSE2 (2019) on characterizing relevant uncertainties and bias.
- c) Develop guidelines for the evaluation of rebuilding plans that take into account the precautionary approach, the species life history (incl. longevity), changes in productivity and rebuilding potential.
- d) Propose criteria for the acceptability of rebuilding plans including rebuilding target, time and probability that would be consistent with international best practices.

WKREBUILD will report to ACOM by 27 March 2020.

Supporting Information

Priority	<p>High. ICES regularly recommends rebuilding plans in combination with zero TACs for the next year, especially when stocks are estimated to be below Blim and there is no perceived possibility of rebuilding above Blim within the time-frame of a short-term forecast. While there has been ample attention in ICES to the guidelines and methods for carrying out Management Strategy Evaluations (MSE, e.g. WKG MSE2 2019) that are applicable in the long term, there are no agreed methods or guidelines on evaluating rebuilding plans.</p> <p>Faced with a number of herring stocks where rebuilding plans have been recommended by ICES (Celtic Sea herring, Western Baltic herring, Herring in 6a and 7bc) and where rebuilding plans have been proposed or are under development, ICES is faced with the challenge to evaluate such plans and their potential to achieve a form of rebuilding that would be consistent with the precautionary approach while at the same time stocks may be expected to be below Blim for a number of years.</p> <p>The ICES WKG MSE2 guidelines (2019) touch on the issue of rebuilding plans but they do not address the technical and advisory implications. The specific feature of evaluation of rebuilding plans is that they tend to focus on the short-term perspectives, and thereby the starting conditions, while MSEs tend to focus on the longer term when starting conditions are no longer relevant.</p>
Scientific justification	ICES is regularly recommending the development of rebuilding plans so guidance on how to evaluate these plans is required.
Resource requirements	One meeting room at ICES HQ with at least one breakout room.
Participants	Scientists with experience and interest in rebuilding plans and tools for short-term evaluations of potential effects of rebuilding plans.
Secretariat facilities	Secretariat administrative and scientific support.

Financial	No extra funding requested
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Linkages to advisory committees	The results of this work will feed in directly in the ICES advisory process.
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Linkages to other committees or groups	HAWG, WKG MSE2, GWIDE, WGBFAS, WGCSE, WGNSSK, NWWG, AFWG, WGHANSA
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Linkages to other organizations	
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