WKSEATEC2 – Workshop on Technical Development to Support Fisheries Data Collection 2

2017/2/EOSG19

The **Workshop on Technical Development to Support Fisheries Data Collection 2 (WKSEATEC2)**, will make recommendations on technical solutions for the collection and quality assurance of fisheries data at sea and in ports. The workshop will be co-chaired by David Stokes, Ireland, and Marcellus Rödiger, Germany, will meet on **27–29 November 2018**, in ICES Headquarters, specifically to:

a) Review and support progress on electronic measuring board projects underway and presented at WKSEATEC2017;

b) Review additional electronic data capture technologies such as electronic callipers, scanners beyond scope of WKSEATEC2017;

c) Address the key recommendation from WKSEATEC2017 by agreeing on a roadmap to defining a common Fisheries Data Language (FDL) and the development of an Application Program Interface (API).

WKSEATEC will report by **10 January 2019** to the attention of the EOSG Committee.

Supporting information

Priority	Substantial resources are expended on fisheries data collection annualy with much of the data screening occuring often weeks or months after sampling is complete. Electronic data capture provides the opportunity to review data in realtime while samples are still available thus facilitating the correction of data rather than its removal after the fact where issues arise. It is critical therefore that fisheries data collection be supported to utilize the technologies avaialble to maximise quality assurance during the narrow window where sampling process is actually live.
Scientific justification	**Justification by topic area** **a) – Update on Board Development** Several countries are in the process, or recently completed electronic measuring board development and would benefit from updates following significant exchange of ideas at WKSEATEC2017. **b) – Review of additional data capture technologies** The 2017 workshop ostensibly limited itslf to measuring board technologies in the first year to ensure this multi-disciplenary and multi-project topic was addressed in reasonable detail. Application of a number of other data capture technologies such as electronic callipers, scanners, various tags, cameras for example is being actively pursued by many member states. The effectiveness and application of these in both teleost and non-teleost sampling programs is of equal relevance to data quality management and would therefore benefit from a comparative review. **c) – FDL & API** The ambitious, but key outcome from the 2017 workshop was the concept of a common Fisheries Data Language (FDL) in conjunction with an Application Program Interface (API). Both concepts are proven in other fields, but were seen as potential 'game changers' in supporting the integration of technology and open source "data tool boxes" for fisheries data collection. An FDL in itself would enhance technology integration and data exchange by extending the familiar concept of exchange files to include additional data types not already covered by DATRAS, RDB for example. An API would operationalise this static format so incoming data from a range of hardware could be automatically recognised through this common language, once hardware and software are connected through the API. Both of these

	concepts need further development - the workshop will agree on the specific outcomes and milestones that are required, who will be involved in this development, and a timeline. If possible, simple implementations could be developed or presented during the 2018 workshop.
Resource requirements	A 3 day workshop to work on TORs and report recommendations.
Participants	The Group is normally attended by some 15–20 members and guests.
Secretariat facilities	Admin support and communication with other relevant groups/meetings where sampling data quality and planning is a term or reference.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to advisory committees	EOSG (SGIEOM), SCICOM, ACOM..
Linkages to other committees or groups	Members of IBTS, MEDITS, ICES Data Center/DIG, PGDATA and WKINVITED, FishPi2.
Linkages to other organizations	TBC.