

WGEAWESS

Working Group on Ecosystem Assessment of Western European Shelf Seas



Integrated Ecosystem Assessments
Steering Group (IEASG)

OUR CHAIRS



Sigrid Lehuta



Jacob Bentley

RESEARCH FOCUS

- WGEAWESS focuses on using integrated ecosystem assessments (IEAs) to inform the ecosystem approach to marine management of the Atlantic European continental shelf.
- A key responsibility is reviewing and updating ICES Ecosystem Overviews for the **Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast**, and the **Celtic Seas** ecoregions. Sub-regional areas of interest include the West of Scotland, Celtic Sea, Irish Sea, Bay of Biscay, Cantabrian Sea, Galician Waters, Western Iberia, and the Gulf of Cadiz encompassing five countries (Ireland, UK, France, Spain, and Portugal).
- Our work builds on case studies within these areas to identify key trends, pressures, and threats, and to understand the ecosystem dynamics within our ecoregions.

OUR OBJECTIVE

The overall aim of WGEAWESS is to produce high quality science that underpins holistic, adaptive, evidence-based management. As a group, we have a particular interest in risk assessment, integrated trend analysis, multiple modelling approaches (food web, fisheries, and spatial), and collaborating with other ICES groups to evolve and update the Ecosystem Overviews and move towards implementing IEAs as a tool for marine management. In this regard, we are exploring ways to effectively incorporate the socio-economic and climate change side of our ecosystems into management.

OUR EXPERTISE

- Integration of ecosystem knowledge into management tools (IEA) and advice
- Ecosystem fisheries and food web dynamics
- Ecosystem and operational modeling
- Indicator development and time series analysis
- Risk analysis
- Interdisciplinary research and stakeholder engagement

Scan the QR code
to learn more
about our work

