

Conference on “Oceans Past VII”

2017/3/EPISG01 A Conference on “Oceans Past VII” will be held during 22–26 October 2018, at Bremerhaven, Germany with Alison MacDiarmid (New Zealand) and Poul Holm (Ireland) as Convener.

The local organizing committee will be chaired by Gesche Krause (Germany), and the Scientific Steering Group will be chaired by Henn Ojaveer (Estonia).

Supporting Information

Priority:	The symposium is highly relevant for ICES, both its science and advisory roles as the expected conference contributions will be the following: i) provide new evidence on historical perspectives on living marine resources, their exploitation/consumption levels and related human behaviour, ii) help to identify types and patterns of marine population and ecosystem responses to various natural and anthropogenic forcings and evaluate consequences in an interdisciplinary manner (by involving expertise in various disciplines in marine research, archaeology, history, mathematical modelling and socio-economics), iii) assist to further identify historical baselines and assist setting quantitative targets for ecosystem-based management, and iv) identify trajectories and repercussions of management interventions on marine social-ecological systems through time.
Scientific justification:	<p>The expected conference presentations should essentially contribute to the following two elements of the ICES Science Plan 2014-2018: Ecosystem Processes and Dynamics (EPD), and Ecosystem Pressures and Impacts (EPI), but potentially also to Integrated Ecosystem Assessments (IEA).</p> <p>The expected conference presentations are also directly linked to ICES advisory role by advancing our understanding on how the exploited ecosystems and their components have performed over time, incl. as a result of climate change/variability and various human drivers. This would assist ICES to incorporate historical knowledge from times when human impact was low to develop further management options and propose mitigation options to address, for instance, climate change effects. As several conference contributions are expected to originate from outside ICES-area and/or disciplines currently not well-represented in ICES work (e.g., archaeology, socio-economy), it would allow ICES to broaden its knowledge base and strengthen cooperation with scientists from ICES partner organisations such as CIESM and PICES.</p>
Resource requirements:	The majority of funding will come from the EU COST Action on Oceans Past Platform. In addition to the conference fee (amount to be decided), the organizers will search for other potential sources of co-financing as well.
Participants:	Conference participants are expected to represent wide range of geographical regions globally, by incl. Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and several regional seas with coverage of Europe, Asia, Northern and Southern America and Australia/New Zealand
Secretariat facilities:	Secretariat help might be needed to promote the conference and encourage scientists involved in ICES partner organisations (like CIESM, PICES etc.) to attend the conference.
Financial:	None to ICES.
Linkages to advisory committees:	The symposium topic is directly linked to the remit of the ICES Advisory Committee by contributing to the knowledge pool on assisting to identify historical baselines for marine ecosystem management, track development of fisheries technology over time, assess changes in marine ecosystems and their components state as a result of multiple human activities, and contribute to success/failure stories on recovery and conservation efforts on exploited populations, species, habitats and ecosystems.

Linkages to other committee or groups:	The symposium topic is directly related to the Working Group on History of Fish and Fisheries (WGHIST), Working Group on Social and Economic Dimensions in Aquaculture (WGSEDA) and Strategic Initiative on the Human Dimension (SIHD). In addition, linkage exists to any ICES expert group(s) dealing with historical aspects of marine ecosystem and its' sub- components.
Linkages to other organizations:	Global network on Oceans Past Initiative; potential also for CIESM and PICES, but not contacted as yet
Publication of proceedings	None.
