**Terms of Reference for STECF EWG- EWG 19-03 (Social data in the EU fisheries sector)**

**Background and general objectives**

One of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) is to promote social sustainability. The current legal framework refers to labour conditions, health and safety, as well as to job creation and training, social inclusion and a fair standard of living. Fisheries throughout Europe have undergone major structural changes, leading to important social consequences for both individual fishers as for fishing communities. In a number of fishing communities and regions of the EU, the social importance of the fisheries sector outweighs its direct economic contribution.

There is an increasing need of raising awareness and that more attention should be paid to the social dimension of fisheries. This need is reflected on the social impacts assessed in the framework of impact assessments of policy proposals as well as the social implications of the conservation and structural measures related to the CFP.

However the current lack of comprehensive data and scientific analysis on the social aspects of the CFP compromise these policy assessments. These data could for instance inform initiatives to promote small-scale, artisanal or coastal fishers, as a way of contributing to the livelihood of coastal communities or to facilitate access to the profession of young people.

Against this background, the main objective of this WG will be to produce a stand-alone chapter (separate from the whole report, in the annex) in the 2019 AER of the fishing fleet. This WG should also result in a general discussion on the limitations and analysis of these data and in what capacity they can input to support social impacts analysis in the context of the CFP. Regional sections in this stand-alone chapter are also needed to feed the preparation of the sea basin analyses provided for in the Commission’s proposal for the EMFF post 2020[[1]](#footnote-1). These sections should highlight the main drivers and challenges as regards social sustainability in each sea basin.

**Specific objectives**

2019 is the first year where social datasets are submitted. These datasets will be analysed by a group of experts with experience in their collection for the STECF EWG for the AER (fishing fleet) alongside social scientists

 The specific objectives and priorities are:

1. **Endorsement and quality check of social data submitted by MS**

The WG –in close cooperation with data experts from the fleet economic report -should lead to a data endorsement by the attending experts and detailed accounts of any data collection and transmission issues.

As a matter of priority, the EWG is requested to ensure that all unresolved data transmission (DT) issues and failures encountered prior to and during the EWG meeting are recorded on line via the Data Transmission Monitoring Tool (DTMT) available at <https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/web/dcf/dtmt>.

Guidance on precisely what should be inserted in the DTMT, log-on credentials and access rights will be provided separately by the STECF Secretariat focal point for the EWG.

The data transmission issues may be further looked by EWG 19-06, to check if data transmission issues have been fixed with the latest uploaded data.

The regulation on the collection of social variables does not specify the need to use stratification and consequently MS are only obliged to report national totals. However, reporting social variables at more disaggregated levels could be desirable when added value to the social analysis is provided.

1. **Drafting of stand-alone chapter including the following sections**

EU OVERVIEW

* Structure of the EU labour force in the Union fisheries fleet
	+ by age,
	+ by education level
	+ by nationality
	+ by employment status (Information on share-fishers and self-employed should be included)
	+ gender
* Employment and average wages per FTE
* Unpaid labour
* EU small-scale coastal fleet segments (key socio social indicators)

NATIONAL SECTIONS

Including a section on LSF and EU distant water fleets where relevant

Including a section on small-scale coastal fleet segments where relevant

Including a section on wider social where relevant including profiles of fishing communities.

If data-permitting, a social assessment of the fleets in outermost regions may be attempted.

1. **Social analysis in a wider context**

Experts are requested to provide recommendations to:

* expand the social analysis to a wider context to include communities profiling, social structures, etc.
* expand the social analysis and coverage to more qualitative measurements
* improve the quality and coverage of current social data in view of the next revision of the DCMAP
* propose methodologies to further integrate social analysis in the impact assessment of CFP measures.
1. Article 9(5) of COM(2018) 390 final [↑](#footnote-ref-1)