STECF EXPERT WORKING GROUPS EWG 25-10

Evaluation of fisheries dependent information (FDI) for European Fleets

8 - 12 September 2025, JRC – ISPRA

Terms of Reference EWG 25-10 Evaluation of Fisheries Dependent Information for European Fleets

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JRC focal person: Zeynep Hekim

Chairs: Arina Motova-Surmava and Antonella Zanzi

Background information

EWG 25-10 Evaluation of Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI) for European Fleets to review the data transmitted by Member States under the 2025 FDI datacall to judge:

1. If data submitted is complete in terms of areas of fishing, types of fleet segment and gear operated and species identified;
2. If data submitted is complete in terms of type of data requested: capacity metrics, effort metrics, landings, discards and spatially disaggregated landings and effort.

In addition, the EWG is asked to map the data on fishing effort obtained from the call for spatially disaggregated data.

In considering the completeness of the data submitted the EWG is entitled to use external sources of data where necessary, as well as expert judgement.

The STECF EWG is requested to:

1 – Review and document completeness of the data set and feedback from Member States on approaches used and problems encountered in responding to the data call.

1.1 As a matter of priority, the EWG is requested to ensure that all unresolved data transmission (DT) issues encountered prior to and during the EWG meeting are reported online via the Data Transmission Monitoring Tool (DTMT)[1]. Such issues should be reported in full within 2 weeks of the end of the EWG.

1.2 Review outputs of the ad hoc contract that provides the catches, landings and discards, at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as defined in the EU relevant delegated regulations specifying the details of implementation of the landing obligation for 2026.

1.3 Review data quality checks and produce National methodological chapters.

2 – Provide landings and discards data for exemptions in discard plans.

Based upon the previous work and method established in STECF EWG 20-10, EWG 21-12, EWG 22-10, EWG 23-10, EWG 24-11 and the output of the ad hoc contract:

1 https://dcf.ec.europa.eu/dtmt_en

2.1 STECF is asked to provide figures for landings and discards in 2024, at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as specified in the Delegated Commission Regulations (EU) 2023/2459, 2023/2623, 2023/2918, 2023/2462 and 2023/2460 specifying the details of implementation of the landing obligation for 2026.

2.2 STECF is asked to assess and if possible, provide percentages of discards estimates below and above MCRS at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as specified in in Delegated Commission Regulations (EU) 2023/2459 and 2023/2623 specifying details of implementation of the landing obligation for 2026.

2.3 In cases where there is insufficient discard data for the above task, the STECF is asked to provide **estimated catches** (landings + discards) for 2024. Only if this is possible and sufficient data is available for such estimation.

3 – Review dissemination formats and produce dissemination tables and maps of spatial effort and landings by c-squares

3.1 Discuss current dissemination formats and check if it is still relevant.

3.2 Review progress on dissemination of aggregated data proposed by STECF EWG 25-05 and use of confidential data.

3.3 If GIS technical skills are available in the EWG, produce maps of effort and landings by c-square (to be inserted in the EWG report) for the following regions (as defined in COM-2016-134 for areas other than 'distant waters') and major gear types (as defined in appendix 4 of the data call):

a. Baltic; North Sea; North Western Waters; South Western Waters; Mediterranean and Black Seas; Distant waters

b. Trawls (except beam trawls) with mesh < 100mm; trawls (except beam trawls) with mesh ≥ 100mm; beam trawls with mesh < 120mm; beam trawls with mesh ≥120mm; seine nets; gillnets and entangling nets; dredges; hooks and lines; surrounding nets; pots and trap.

4 – Follow up on the comparability between the data collected in the FDI database and the data provided to the AER

The EWG 25-10 is requested to review progress at national and regional level on the harmonisation of AER and FDI data. Following the results from the RCG ECON workshop (Dec 2023), the EWG is requested to identify issues to be resolved and provide recommendations for further work. The EWG is also requested to follow up on DTMT issues reported in STECF EWG 24-08 and STECF 24-15 reports in relation to AER and FDI data comparison.

5 – Follow up and finalise work on procedures and scripts extracting the catches, landings and discards, at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as specified in each exemption of each delegated regulation specifying the details of implementation of the landing obligation. With the aim to finalise all scripts needed to extract data and produce visualisations needed finalising piloting phase of data extraction procedures developed by EWG 24-11 and 25-05.