

EWG 19-05

Evaluation of mandatory surveys under the DCF

06-10 May 2019, Varese

Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)

The aim of this Expert Working Group (EWG) is to evaluate a list of candidate scientific surveys at sea, to be proposed for inclusion on the list of mandatory surveys (a revision to Table 10 of the EU Multiannual Programme (EU MAP)).

Background

Member States (MS) regularly conduct research surveys of marine fish resources to provide fundamental data for assessing the condition of exploited fish stocks and for monitoring general conditions of the marine ecosystem. A number of these surveys are included in the Data Collection Framework (DCF). They have been consequently supported financially by direct management (2002-2013) and EMFF (2014-2020). The list of mandatory research surveys at sea (Appendix IX of the Multiannual Community Programme¹) was first reviewed in 2007 (Sub-Group of Research Needs (SGRN) 07-01²). This meeting was followed by two other EWGs (SGRN 09-04³ which developed the TORs and roadmap for SGRN 10-03⁴). However, the resulting 2010 Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) recommendations did not lead to modifications in the data collection legal framework of 2011⁵, because the specific elements were incorporated in the National Programmes of MS. The ensuing legal revisions of the Data Collection Framework (DCF) (roll over 2014-2016⁶ and current EU MAP) have kept the original list of surveys intact, as reviewed in 2007.

STECF recommended that surveys should be subject to frequent evaluation (at least once every 5 years). To prepare for a new evaluation of surveys, a scoping meeting was conducted last year (EWG 18-04), in order to agree on the TORs and the methodology to be followed. The EWG18-04 considered a fundamentally different approach, compared to the previous evaluations in 2007 and 2010, in line with the new legal DCF framework (Recast⁷,

¹ COM Decision of 6 November 2008 adopting a multiannual Community programme pursuant to Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 establishing a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy

² Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF). Report of the Working Group on Research Needs: Review of list of surveys at sea (Appendix XIV OF EU Commission Regulation N°1581/2004) with their priorities (SGRN 07-01), Brussels, 12-16 February 2007.

³ Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) Framework and a Roadmap for the Review of Surveys. Report of the Subgroup on Research Needs (SGECA/SGRN 09-04) Joint Subgroup on Economic Affairs (SGECA) and on Research Needs (SGRN) of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), 07-11 December 2009, Hamburg.

⁴ Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF). Sub-Group on Research Needs: SGRN 10-03. Review of needs related to surveys. 4 - 8 October 2010, Brussels, Belgium.

⁵ COM Decision of 18 December 2009 adopting a multiannual Community programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector for the period 2011-2013.

⁶ COM Implementing Decision of 13.8.2013 extending the multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector for the period 2011-2013 to the period 2014-2016.

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2017/1004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 (recast).

EU MAP⁸), which is end-user driven. This new approach requested the input of MS and end users in a set of new tables ('Stock' and 'Survey'). The Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs), MS and main end users (Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries – STECF; International Council for the Exploration of the Sea –ICES; General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean – GFCM) are in the process of finalising the requested information on the proposed future surveys. This exercise will be finalised before the EWG 19-05.

Tasks for the EWG

TOR 1. Evaluate the list of surveys.

The EWG is requested:

- a) to evaluate a list of candidate surveys at sea to be supported by the DCF based on the Stocks database, Surveys database, and Decision Support Tool (DST), which are described in the EWG 18-04 report⁹;
- b) to provide quality assurance of the information contained in the Stocks database and Surveys database;
- c) to produce a set of tables that summarize the DST results;
- d) to produce a list of surveys proposed for inclusion on the list of mandatory surveys (a revision to Table 10 of the EU MAP) based on the application of the DST; and
- e) to identify potential duplicate surveys that need evaluation.

TOR 2. Identify fishery management needs.

The EWG is requested to provide analyses of the Stocks database:

- a) that identify stocks not covered by surveys and
- b) that identifies duplicate surveys and compares this list of duplicates with the list of duplicates identified under TOR 1e.

The analyses for this TOR should be conducted after completing TOR 1b (provide quality assurance of the two databases).

TOR 3. Identify survey information relating to an ecosystem-based approach to fishery management.

The surveys review EWG is requested to provide an analysis of the Surveys database that identifies contributions by the surveys of ecosystem data supporting Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) descriptors 1, 3, 4, 6, and 10.

The analyses for this TOR should be conducted after completing TOR 1b (provide quality assurance of the two databases).

The EWG should take into account relevant information from previous STECF meetings (e.g. SGRN 07-01, 09-04, 10-03, STECF Plenary 18-01, 18-02, 18-03, EWG 18-04), relevant end users (e.g. GFCM WGSAD/ WGSASP reports, ICES WGs) and steering committees of surveys (eg. ICES WGs, Pan-Mediterranean Acoustic Survey (MEDIAS), International Bottom trawl survey in the Mediterranean(MEDITS)), RCM/ RCG reports, MS DCF programs,

⁸ COM Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1251 of 12 July 2016 adopting a multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the period 2017-2019

⁹https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=89e5e98b-139f-4d8a-afbe-fda76aea1259&groupId=43805

CFP priorities, CFP and DCF Regulatory Framework (CFP, Recast, EU MAP, Work Plan template, Annual Report template), with particular reference to data requirements, survey implementation, data transmission failures linked to current surveys and any relevant scientific publications and meetings.

ANNEX

TABLE 10

RESEARCH SURVEYS AT SEA

| Name of the survey | Acronym | Area | Period | Main targeted species |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| Baltic Sea | | | | |
| Baltic International Trawl Survey | BITS Q1 BITS Q4 | IIIaS, IIIb-d | 1 st and 4th Quarter | Cod and other demersal species |
| Baltic International Acoustic Survey (Autumn) | BIAS | IIIa, IIIb-d | Sep-Oct | Herring and sprat |
| Gulf of Riga Acoustic Herring Survey | GRAHS | IIId | 3 rd Quarter | Herring |
| Sprat Acoustic Survey | SPRAS | IIId | May | Sprat and herring |
| Rügen Herring Larvae Survey | RHLS | IIId | March-June | Herring |
| North Sea and Eastern Arctic (ICES areas I and II) | | | | |
| International Bottom Trawl Survey | IBTS Q1 IBTS Q3 | IIIa, IV | 1st and 3 rd Quarter | Haddock, Cod, Saithe, Herring, Sprat, Whiting, Mackerel, Norway pout. |
| North Sea Beam Trawl Survey | BTS | IVb,IVc,VIIId | 3rd Quarter | Plaice, Sole |
| Demersal Young Fish Survey | DYFS | Coasts of NS | 3 rd and 4th Quarter | Plaice, sole, brown shrimp |
| Sole Net Survey | SNS | IVb, IVc | 3rd Quarter | Sole, Plaice |
| North Sea Sandeels Survey | NSSS | IVa, IVb | 4 th Quarter | Sandeels |
| International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas | ASH | IIa | May | Herring, Blue whiting |
| Redfish Survey in the Norwegian Sea and adjacent waters | REDNOR | II | August- September | Redfish |
| Mackerel egg Survey (Triennial) | NSMEGS | IV | May-July | Mackerel egg production |
| Herring Larvae survey | IHLS | IV,VIIId | 1 st and 3 rd Quarter | Herring, Sprat Larvae |
| NS Herring Acoustic Survey | NHAS | IIIa, IV,VIa | June, July | Herring, Sprat |
| Nephrops TVsurvey (FU 3&4) | NTV3&4 | IIIA | 2 nd or 3 rd Quarter | Nephrops |
| Nephrops TVsurvey (FU 6) | NTV6 | IVb | September | Nephrops |
| Nephrops TVsurvey (FU 7) | NTV7 | IVa | 2 nd or 3 rd Quarter | Nephrops |
| Nephrops TVsurvey (FU 8) | NTV8 | IVb | 2 nd or 3 rd Quarter | Nephrops |
| Nephrops TVsurvey (FU 9) | NTV9 | IVa | 2 nd or 3 rd Quarter | Nephrops |
| North Atlantic (ICES Areas V-XIV and NAFO areas) | | | | |
| International Redfish Trawl and Acoustic Survey (Biennial) | REDTAS | Va, XII, XIV; NAFO SA 1-3 | June/July | Redfish |
| Flemish Cap Groundfish survey | FCGS | 3M | July | Demersal species |
| Greenland Groundfish survey | GGs | XIV, NAFO SA1 | October/November | Cod, redfish and other demersal species |
| 3LNO Groundfish survey | PLATUXA | NAFO 3LNO | 2 nd and 3 rd Quarter | Demersal species |

| Name of the survey | Acronym | Area | Period | Main targeted species |
|--|--------------------|--|---|--|
| estern IBTS 4th quarter (including Porcupine survey) | IBTS Q4 | Vla, VII, VIII, IXa | 4 th Quarter | Demersal species |
| Scottish Western IBTS | IBTS Q1 | Vla,VIIa | March | Gadoids, herring, mackerel |
| ISBCBTS September | ISBCBTS | VIIa f g | September | Sole, Plaice |
| WCBTS | VIIe BTS | VIIe | October | Sole, Plaice, Anglerfish, Lemon sole |
| Blue whiting survey | | VI, VII | 1 st and 2 nd Quarter | Blue whiting |
| International Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Survey (Triennial) | MEGS | Vla, VII,VIII, IXa | January-July | Mackerel, Horse Mackerel egg production |
| Sardine, Anchovy Horse Mackerel Acoustic Survey | | VIII, IX | March-April-May | Sardine, Anchovy, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel abundance indices |
| Sardine DEPM (Triennial) | | VIIIc, IXa | 2 nd and 4 th Quarter | Sardine SSB and use of CUFES |
| Spawning/Pre spawning Herring/Boarfish acoustic survey | | Vla, VIIa-g | July, Sept, Nov, March, Jan | Herring, Sprat |
| Biomass of Anchovy | BIOMAN | VIII | May | Anchovy SSB (DEP) |
| Nephrops UWTV survey (offshore) | UWTV (FU 11-13) | Vla | 2 nd or 3 rd Quarter | Nephrops |
| Nephrops UWTV Irish Sea | UWTV (FU 15) | VIIa | August | Nephrops |
| Nephrops UWTV survey Aran Grounds | UWTV (FU 17) | VIIb | June | Nephrops |
| Nephrops UWTV survey Celtic Sea | UWTV (FU 20-22) | VIIg,h,j | July | Nephrops |
| Nephrops Survey Offshore Portugal NepS | UWTV (FU 28-29) | IXa | June | Nephrops |
| Mediterranean waters and Black sea | | | | |
| Pan-Mediterranean Acoustic Survey () | MEDIAS | GSA 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22 | Spring-summer (qtrs 2- 3) | Small pelagic species |
| Bottom trawl survey in Black Sea, | BTSBS | GSA 29 | Spring - autumn (qtrs 2,3,4) | Turbot |
| Pelagic trawl survey in Black Sea, | PTSBS | GSA 29 | Spring-autumn (qtrs 2,3,4) | Sprat and Whiting |
| International bottom trawl survey in the Mediterranean (), | MEDITS | GSA 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25 | Spring-summer (qtrs 2- 3) | Demersal species |