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Organización de las
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منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS

Intersessional Meetings of Aquaculture and Fisheries Subject Groups – Joint session

Eight Meeting of the Aquaculture Subject Group (AS) and Twenty-Ninth meeting of the Fisheries Subject Group (FS)

20 – 23 June 2022

(Online, Zoom platform + FAO HQ Queen Julian Room – B323)

ICES activities report to CWP

Author: ICES

Update on main ICES activities of relevance to CWP

1. ICES data accreditation

In 2021, ICES was awarded accreditation by CoreTrustSeal and joins a network of worldwide certified repositories for data management; <https://www.ices.dk/news-and-events/news-archive/news/Pages/Stamp-of-approval.aspx>

2. ICES data policy

ICES continues to develop and maintain up-to-date data policies that maximize the availability of data to the scientific community; <https://www.ices.dk/data/guidelines-and-policy/Pages/ICES-data-policy.aspx> Public data are now under the CC BY 4.0 data license.

3. Continue development of the Transparent Assessment Framework, TAF

The main aim of TAF is to make the data, methods and results from ICES assessments easy to find, explore and re-run. Several workshops have taken place and are planned in the near future to engage stock assessors with this framework (see dedicated Github public repository with relevant materials: https://github.com/ices-eg/wk_WKTAF/tree/master/WKTAF_2019). TAF is to be applied beyond fish stock assessments and advice and will be a priority for ICES products and assessments related to other components of the marine environment such as protected and vulnerable species. A general description of the Framework can be found here: <https://www.ices.dk/data/assessment-tools/Pages/transparent-assessment-framework.aspx>

4. ICES benchmarks

ICES has set up a Benchmark Oversight Group with members of the Advisory Council and ICES Secretariat to prioritize ICES benchmarks. Most of the ICES benchmarks aim at improving fish and

shellfish stock assessments that inform ICES advice on fishing opportunities and stock status. ICES ran in 2022 the first benchmark to review and evaluate existing methods that ICES uses for the provision of vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) advice;

<https://www.ices.dk/community/groups/Pages/WKVMEBM.aspx>

In addition, in 2022 ICES will hold the first seal assessment benchmark where the models for three stocks of harp and hooded seals will be evaluated;

https://www.ices.dk/community/groups/Pages/WKSEALS_2021.aspx.

5. Training courses and capacity building

ICES ran three training courses per year both in 2020 and 2021:

<https://www.ices.dk/events/Training/Pages/Previous-reports.aspx>

Three additional training courses will be held in 2022:

<https://www.ices.dk/events/Training/Pages/default.aspx>

Also, open workshops will be organized within the next 18 months on tools to enhance data quality:

- **Data limited methods** - a benchmark on the Stock production model SPiCT (if wanted JBBA too) in late 2022 or early 2023 and ad hoc sessions. Aimed at stock assessor.
- **Transparent Assessment framework (TAF)** usage - 3 events over next 18 months and drop in sessions. Aimed at stock assessors
- **Regional Database and Estimation System (RDBES)** - raising and links to TAF – 3 events over next 18 months. Aimed at data submitters and stock coordinators
<https://github.com/ices-tools-dev/rdbes>
- **Data Profiling Tool** – aids experts to evaluate completeness of supporting information for a dataflow or data product with annual training events. Aimed at experts introducing new data into advice (especially the overviews). <https://www.ices.dk/data/tools/Pages/Data-profiler.aspx>

6. Industry data

A Workshop on Science with Industry Initiatives (WKSCINDI) was held in 2021. One of the purposes of the Workshop was to develop a roadmap for taking measurable steps toward the inclusion and application of scientific data from industry;

<https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.5610>

7. Standards

Level 6 metier codes have been harmonized and defined in an ICES vocabulary at [//vocab.ices.dk/?ref=1647](https://vocab.ices.dk/?ref=1647). Further details, scripts and documentation can be found at:

<https://github.com/ices-eg/RCGs/tree/master/Metiers>

8. ICES has released its first Aquaculture Overview

This new advice product dedicated to the Norwegian Sea incorporates interactions of environmental, economic, and social drivers of aquaculture as well as future projections and emerging threats and opportunities:

<https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.9574>

9. Release of ICES Roadmap for bycatch advice on protected, endangered and threatened species

The Roadmap was published in 2020 and was updated in 2022 to include lists of species (mammals, birds, fish) of bycatch relevance by Ecoregion.

<https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.6022>

10. Developments related to various databases

• Additions to the Stock Information Database, SID

A new module has been added where the main issues by fish stock, to be addressed at upcoming benchmarks, can be consulted. Issues can be related for example to input data, model settings or reference point estimation.

• Advice database

A new database, related to SID, is being developed to hold information on historical ICES catch advice for fish and shellfish stocks.

• Regional Database and Estimation System, RDBES

The RDBES stores detailed commercial fisheries sampling data and aggregated effort and landings data. The aims of the RDBES are:

- to ensure that data can be made available for the coordination of regional fisheries data sampling plans,
- to provide a regional estimation system such that statistical estimates of quantities of interest can be produced from sample data,
- to serve and facilitate the production of fisheries management advice and status reports, and
- to increase the awareness of fisheries data collected by the users of the RDBES and the overall usage of these data

ICES launched a test data call to populate the RDBES in 2021. A second data call for all ICES stocks as well as data on bycatch of protected species will be issued in 2022. RDBES is expected to be fully functional in 2024 and to be the main information feeding into ICES stock assessments and the assessments of bycatch of protected species.

• Launch of the Joint Cetacean Data Programme Portal, JCDP

JCDP was developed by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) with the vision of promoting and facilitating cetacean data standardization and maximizing value through collation and enabling universal access. ICES was brought on board to build and host the [JCDP](#) which mobilizes all effort-related at-sea data collected through vessel or observer/digital aerial methods in the Northeast Atlantic area in an effort to strengthen the evidence base for cetaceans. All data must meet the agreed [data standard](#) from multiple data providers collected through ship-based and aerial methodologies.

<https://www.ices.dk/news-and-events/news-archive/news/Pages/WGJCDP.aspx>

11. Data Call process

ICES produced 15 data calls in 2021, including one joint call with GFCM/EIFAAC. Data calls have far reaching planning and resource demands on the institutes and recipients of the calls.

The formalised process is robust and includes year on year improvements to ensure that the data requested are relevant, used in the assessment and advice processes, and timely. There are challenges in the production of the data call related to ensuring sufficient time for review of proposed changes, the impacts of these changes on data providers and the assessment, and sufficient communication of changes within the data and advice teams, and to the data call recipients.

The ICES Secretariat has now initiated a new process and sign-off procedure through the online collaboration environment (GitHub). This identifies clear check-points, ownership and consistency checks. This will also allow for better planning and time management, to help avoid situations where data call input comes in very late, which then affects the quality of the call and the ability to quality control the changes. This procedure will now be used for all ICES initiated data calls.

RDBES Commercial Fisheries - 2022 #2

 Open  8 of 14 tasks neil-ices-dk opened this issue 21 days ago · 27 comments



neil-ices-dk commented 21 days ago · edited by odontaster

Checklists

▼ Publication Review Checklist (click arrow to expand)

- Data Call team established
- Timeline for Data Call Publication communicated
- Draft of Data Call received from Experts (if applicable)
- First review of Data Call by ICES lead
- Review of Data Call by ICES authors
- Revision and feedback to Experts by ICES lead
- Review of Data Call by Head of Advice Dept. AND/OR Head of Data dept.
- Final revision by ICES lead
- Publication of Data Call on ICES website/ICES library
- Check DOI resolves
- Data call communicated to recipients

▼ Data Specific Review Checklist (click arrow to expand)

- Updates to vocabs communicated via Vocab management Group <https://github.com/ices-eg/DIG/projects/2>
- Updates to format/database confirmed by Data Centre
- testing and checking of changes in upload/format/QC checks