

May 2021



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная  
организация  
Объединенных  
Наций

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC FISHERY COMMISSION (WECAFC)

**Extended session of the Second meeting of the WECAFC-CRFM-OSPESCA Fisheries Data and Statistics Working Group (FDS-WG)**

**Virtual Meeting, 25-28 May 2021**

**Updated FDS-WG2 Intersessional Work plan template (October 2020-May 2022)  
Noting performance since October FDS-WG2 session**

### Code sheet

Yellow Highlighting indicates new column since FDS-WG2 October 2020 session

Red font indicates- progress update

Activity	Timeframe	Status	Note/Comments
I. It is proposed to convene a follow-up virtual meeting of FDS-WG2 to address the following topics during Q2 2021.	Q2 2021	Extended session, Underway	
<b>Extended Meeting Components</b>			
1. Vessel mappings	Q2 2021	Extended session, Underway	
a. Liaise with FDS WG focal points for additional submissions			
b. Review submission from WECAFC Members and highlight where revisions are needed			
c. Implementations in the Regional Database with corresponding metadata			

d. Discussion of adding vessel type information into FIRMS tables, including vessels images when available			
<b>2. WECAFC Subarea Boundaries</b>	Q2 2021	Extended session, underway	
a. Finalize the proposal in the Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala sub-region under the OSPESCA umbrella		Intersessional meetings held	
b. Review feedback from countries on sub-areas related to area 31 and 41, and if the case appears feasible, prepare for presentation at CWP		Intersessional meetings held	
c. Discuss a recommendation for SAG and the Commission, or any other plan to move forward			
<b>3. FIRMS Inventories</b>	Q2 2021	Extended session, Underway	
a. Summarize inputs by countries, highlight latest submissions, discuss/elaborate specific FIRMS services for the region (delivered through WECAFC map viewer)		Additional fisheries inventories completed	
b. Discuss/identify/implement a path for updating inventories in OSPESCA region- e.g., consultant to further inventory development on a country by country basis possibly, considerations of focus groups working with fleet segments (across multiple countries) to enrich inventories			
c. Also noting that FIRMS Secretariat may develop a pilot demonstrating how a possible future addition of FIRMS fishery Ids (optional) in certain Tasks of the DCRF can be exploited, for presentation at next FDS-WG			
<b>4. Small Scale Fisheries Matrix</b>	Q2 2021	Extended session, Underway	
a. Summarize list of countries which submitted highlighting latest submissions and new pilot testing			
b. Present a synthesis of the level of adaption of the SSF matrix to the WECAFC region and what would			

need to be changed in the SSF matrix for it to be of practical application for the region			
c. Discuss a recommendation for submitting to FAO for consideration WECAFC iDCRF			
5. <b>WECAFC List of main Species</b> , annotation of important Subareas by species and DCRF tasks	Q2 2021	Extended session, Underway Revisions incorporated into v.6, new ordered list of species	
a. Review submissions by countries and WGs for additional species, and sub-areas for species, and proceed with countries endorsements for the proposals. The use of the FIRMS map viewer will help to obtain additional input on annotation of area by species.		All inputs reviewed to date and incorporated into updated list of species in DCRF v.6	Input on elevation of species by subarea and DCRF task is considered to be ongoing process
b. Review inputs from relevant Working groups, for the list of species and their sub-areas and identification of specific DCRF tasks		No additional WG inputs received since October 2020 session	Noting, omission of 4 shark species in Appendix 3.b, to be corrected in v.6 to be delivered to SAG, WECAFC 18
c. Annotation of relevant standard conversion metrics by species/subarea for inclusion in DCRF catalogue (Tables) of conversions		Initiated for Extended session as new content in Appendix 6 in DCRF v.6	considered to be ongoing process
d. Annotation of relevant biological parameters for select set of species in main list of species by important subareas (e.g., reproductive ogives, growth parameter estimates) for inclusion in DCRF catalogue (Tables) of biological parameters		Extended session, initiated February 2021 in DCRF v.6, new content	considered to be ongoing process
6. <b>iDCRF</b>	Q2 2021	Extended session, Underway	
a. A revised DCRF document will be made available early December for review by Members, WGs and ICCAT by end January 2021, for consolidation in February and final review in March for adoption at		Completed including revised Appendices,	

the extended session of FDS-WG2 (end March/early April) of a recommendation for SAG and the Commission, or any other plan to move forward		section 4 v.6 DCRF	
b. Further proofing DCRF (post extended session of FDS-WG2) with:		Completed	
i. pilot testing starting with Data preparatory workshop and initial country submissions that will follow			Anticipate work to be done Q3 2021
ii. two proposed e-TWGs:			
a. for elaboration on measures of fishing effort per Fleet segment or Gear type		Work began March 2021 under CWP-TWG Effort, TORS developed	
b. for refinement of Biological tasks – countries with experience invited to be part of this WG		Work began February 2021 under FDS-WG	Noting this work item also included under above item 5 Species (d)
<b>II. Operationalization of the DCRF (DCRF) and Contributions to RDB (RDB-1)- post Q2 2021, initiate June 2021</b>	<b>To be Initiated Q3 2021</b>		
a. Finalize the Maps viewer (through e-TWG?) for public release as soon as possible		Work begun Q1 2021, to be presented at extended session	
b. Identifying countries willing to commit in the intersession, to populate the RDB using local statistics in 2020 and 2021. Local statistics uploaded to RDB. Identification of local country data manager.		Extended session agenda item	Need to liaise with Secretariat, Q3 2021+  Also noting parallel and related request by WECAFC Secretariat to members to provide available data in context of the WECAFC Transformation process
c. Liaising with and identifying Regional species WGs to combine their expectations for data with the countries contribution (Shrimp and Groundfish, Lobster, ...), and organize joint activities			Need to liaise with Secretariat to identify opportunities to work with WGs

d.	Identifying issues/challenges with countries committing data to RDB during pilot tests			
e.	Developing road map including pilot data sets for implementing data uploads to RDB by end of 2021			
(*)	[Consider communication of OSPESCA Director of 12 June 2020 on topic of collaborating on pilot data sets to test for RDB that currently are already capturing statistics]			
III.	<b>Discussion of how the RDB information can contribute to informing SDG 14.4.1</b> (initiate Q1 2021 through the work of the FDS-WG via the DCRF? Has any progress been made yet, what is needed to begin to make progress (individual countries operationalizing the DCRF through committing to contribute to the RDB). Develop some time tables and a path (roadmap)-			Noting FAO plan for a regional workshop during second half of 2021 to raise awareness on the SDG14.4.1 indicator and train stakeholders in reporting methodology for this indicator
1.	is a sub-committee needed- perhaps focus on one of the pilots (e.g., OSPESCA lobster)			
IV.	<b>Fostering Growth of FDS-WG throughout region - this work is ongoing</b>			
a.	Co-convener shadow training to develop leadership in WG	Q3 2021		Possible considerations of co-convener for training
V.	<b>How can this WG interact or begin to interact with other regional/international WGs</b> (species, topical, RFMOs) to further improve the regional statistics and information on fisheries		Work begun Q2 2021 at extended session	
1.	<b>Under MoU with ICCAT-</b> contribute to the planned joint ICCAT-WECAFC working group where respective species list might be examined		MoU discussions ongoing between WECAFC/ICCAT	

2.	<b>Should this WG contact ICCAT re' participating in ICCAT statistics WG</b> as observer to learn how ICCAT develops/prioritizes and carries out its tasks/intersessional work on the topic of statistics (a question to ask to the participants? would anyone volunteer)		Work begun Q2 2021 at extended session	iDCRFv.6 has been shared with ICCAT data manager for any feedback  Noting ICCAT has been invited to Extended session
<b>VI. Review Logbooks guidelines</b>	and revisit FDS-WG 2 (LOG-1) Begin Q3 2021		Item on Extended session Agenda, Q2 2021	
	1. Review work done during FDS-WG 1 intersession-discuss LOG-1 (two pilot surveys) and LOG-2 (historical experiences) survey instruments in context of best practices in logbook implementation in region and identify needed revisions for survey instruments LOG-1, LOG-2.			
<b>VII. Capacity building- other needs-this work is ongoing</b>				
1.	Finalize the list of criteria and propose a short list of WECAFC Members meeting these criteria for final selection		Q2 2021, Work began and results will be presented at extended session	

2.	For the selected WECAFC member(s), define the work plan and related budget for support	Q3 2021		
3.	Seek for co-funding from other regional projects and agree on the shared investments	?		