



Deliverable 2. Minutes/ Brief reports of meeting, plenary sessions, workshops and consultation process

Document	Deliverable 2. Minutes or brief reports of meetings, plenary sessions, workshops and consultation process.		
Date	24/02/2023		
Version	I		
Author(s)	Susana Rivero, Joël Vigneau		
Reviewed by	Rosa Fernández	Date	28/02/2023
	Joël Vigneau	Date	20/03/2023
Final approval		Date	20/03/2023

FISHN'CO is funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) of the European Commission



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Content

Background information.....	4
Plenary sessions.....	5
1 st Plenary Meeting.....	5
2 nd Plenary Meeting.....	14
3 rd Plenary meeting.....	23
4 th Plenary meeting for compiling all RWP initiatives and questionnaires for communication to NCs	31
5 th Plenary meeting for compiling all RWP initiatives and questionnaires for communication to NCs	43
6 th Plenary meeting for compiling all RWP initiatives and questionnaires for communication to NCs	51
7 th Plenary meeting – Wrapping up of the Regional Work Plans	59
Coordination meetings (WP5)	68
Internal kick-off meeting.....	68
Preparation for 1 st plenary meeting-1.....	73
Preparation for 1 st Plenary Meeting_2.....	76
Follow up meeting_1.....	77
Follow up meeting_2.....	80
Partner’s meeting preparing Fishn’co presentations in the RCG	84
Work Package leaders meeting_1.....	89
Follow up meeting_3.....	91
Work Package Leaders meeting_2	94
Work Package Leaders Meeting_3.....	99
WP Leaders Meeting_4	106
WP Leaders Meeting_5	109
WP Leaders Meeting_6	112
WP and Task Leaders Meeting	115
WP Leaders Meeting_7	119
WPI - Meeting minutes.....	123
WP1 – Kick Off Meeting.....	123
WP1 – Follow up meeting_1	130
WP1 – Follow up meeting_2	134
WP1 – Follow up meetings_3.....	137
WP1 – Follow up meeting_4	142
WP1 – Follow up meeting_5	148
WP1 – Follow up meeting_6	150



WP2 - Meeting minutes.....	152
WP2 – Kick off meeting	152
WP 2 – Meeting_1	159
WP 2 – Meeting_2	164
Annex I – Fishn'Co Workshop. Developing RWP's for the Regional Coordination Groups NANSEA, Baltic and Large Pelagics, and Economics Issues. October 2022.....	167



Background information

This document has been prepared with the aim to compile in one single document the minutes from project meetings, reports from workshops and any other creative tool through which stakeholder engagement has been stimulated throughout the lifetime of Fishn'Co project.

Therefore, the document covers the partial deliverables: D1.2, D4.4 and D5.1.

The compilation goes from general to more specific topics, thus starts with the plenary meetings which were attended by partners and non-partners institutions; followed by coordination meetings, attended by Fishn'Co consortium; specific work packages meetings, attended by work packages leaders; with a final section for workshops and consultation processes.



Plenary sessions

1st Plenary Meeting

Date	11 th March 2021	Venue	
Time	9:00		Remote (MS Teams)

Attendees

Listed in annex

Objectives

- Set a **levelling ground for all participants**
 - Understand exactly what the expectations and timelines are
 - Clarify the role of FISHN'CO in the EU-MAP and RCG world and what the synergies are with RCG ISSGs
 - Everyone at the end of the morning should know where he/she stands and what is expected from him/her in the coming weeks
 - Everyone should also know and understand what the others are doing
- **Agree collectively on a way of functioning** and running the project
- Be as **interactive** as possible with you
- End up with a **field work plan**

5

Agenda

- 9:00** Welcome and generalities
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 9:30** Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps (WPI)
Leonie O'Dowd (Marine Institute), Hans van Oostenbrugge (WUR-WMR)
- 10:30** *Coffee-break*
- 10:50** Establishing decision-making structures/processes (WP2)
Jørgen Dalskov (DTU-Aqua), Els Torreele (ILVO), Kolyo Zhelev (EAFA)
- 11:10** Drafting Regional Work Plans (WP3)
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), Mathieu Depetris (IRD), Ireneus Wojcik (MIR), Monica Gambino (NISEA)
- 11:25** Communication and dissemination (WP4)
Rosa Fernández (CETMAR)
- 11:45** Project coordination and management (WP5)
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER)
- 12:00** Discussion, questions from the audience and conclusions.
- 12:30** Closure



Specific issues addressed

* All the presentations are available at MS Teams – FISHN'CO_TECH channel, Files

FISHNCO_TECH > WP5_COORD&MNGMT > MEETINGS > **Plenary meeting #1**

Welcome and Generalities

Joël Vigneau (FREMÉR), the project coordinator, presents the agenda and objectives of the meeting. Next, he goes through the project relevant details, including the consortium, strategic objectives, work-plan structure and main milestones. Some relevant generalities for partners are also mentioned. At this point, Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) explains general issues concerning non-partner participants, which should be formally adopted by means of a Terms of Reference document to be signed between CETMAR and each non-partner organisation.

Joël's presentation ends with a list of the documents available and in preparation, which can be accessed at the MS Teams project channel, namely the Grant Agreement, Consortium Agreement, Data Sharing Agreement and Terms of Reference (for non-partners).

[Access introduction ppt here.](#)

Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps (WPI)

[Access ppt here](#)

Leonie O'Dowd (MI), as WP leader, presented the general aspects of this WP (relevant info can be checked at the corresponding ppt file). The main issues highlighted regarding this WP are:

- Establishing the level of ambition of the regional coordination, according to a proposed scale (slide 3);
- Thematic focus areas are at different stages of development, and this should be especially taken into account and a flexible approach adopted.

In line with the annual DCF reporting, EG and RCG cycles, the following milestones are foreseen:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| May 2021: | Gap analysis and levels of ambition for most of biological work, first support tasks completed for WP3; |
| September 2021: | Gap analysis and levels of ambition for socio-economic work; |
| May 2022: | Completion of support tasks and communication to WP3. |

Next, the leaders of each thematic focus areas (TFAs) briefly explained the most relevant aspects of each one with regard to aims, current status, ambition, specific FISHN'CO support tasks, timing and interactions with other themes.

10 RWP Thematic Focus Areas

The WP tasks are performed within these RWP thematic focus areas

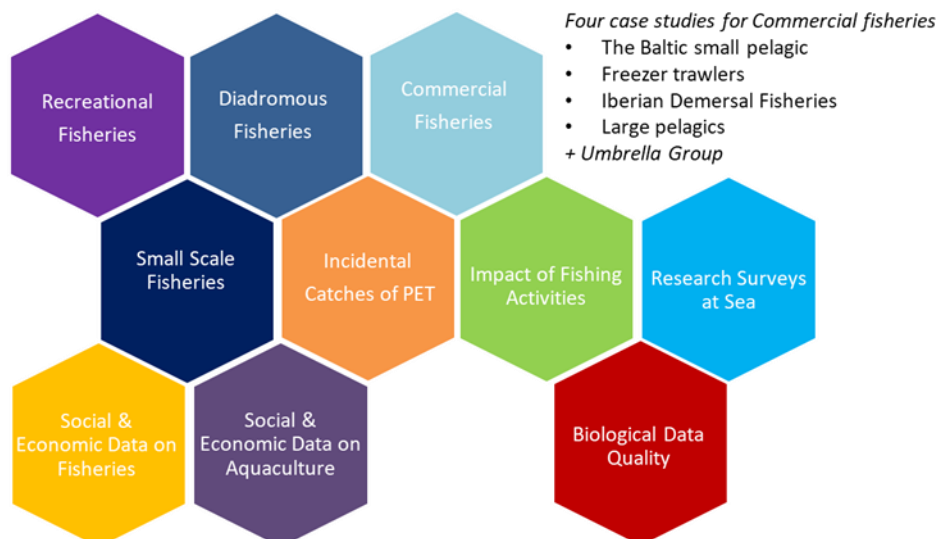


FIG. 1. Thematic Focus Areas (WP1)

- Commercial fisheries – four case studies are included in this TFA:
 1. The Baltic small pelagics, presented by Marie Storr-Paulsen (DTU-Aqua), co-leader with Katija Ringdhal (SLU). This is the most advanced so far. It is expected to make a decision on a common sampling protocol by June 2022;
 2. Freezer trawlers, presented by Andrew Campbell (MI), co-leader of this TFA with Jens Ulleweit (THÜNEN). In the short term (2021), this TFA aims to have a proposal for a joint sampling plan and the scope of a pilot study for the proposed sampling plan;
 3. Iberian demersal, presented by Rita Vaconcelos (IPMA);
 4. Large Pelagics, presented by Mathieu Depetris (RD), co-leader with Julien Lebranchu (IRD). It is primarily aimed to define RSP for the tropical tunas fisheries (linked with RECOLAPE project), as it is yet unclear how to define it for other LP fisheries.
 5. Umbrella group – Coordination of sampling plans, presented by Harriet van Overzee (WUR), co-leader with Kirsten Birsh (DTU-Aqua) and Rita Vasconcelos (IPMA), it is aimed to develop guidance for the development of optimized and operational regional sampling plans.
- Specific fisheries
 1. Recreational fisheries, presented by Estanis Mugerza (AZTI). Work in this area will prioritize areas for improvement for coordination at the different levels from the flow-chart (level of coordination scale);
 2. Diadromous species, presented by Tapani Pakarinen (LUKE). It is focused on three main species: salmon, sea trout and eel. FISHN'CO is expected to support the harmonisation of regional data collection, procedures, methods and comparability of results;
 3. Activity variables and Small Scale Fisheries, Estanis Mugerza (AZTI). The different levels of coordination for these fisheries will be checked according to the proposed scale and prioritized;

- Ecosystem impacts
 1. Incidental catches of PETS, presented by Estanis Mugerza (AZTI). Ambitioning to achieve a common monitoring strategy and a joint data collection, the main task to be undertaken in this regard is related with the analysis of coverage need for high-risk bycatch metiers;
 2. Impact of fishing activities on marine biological resources, presented by Pierre Cresson (IFREMER). This TFA is in a much earlier stage, as there is not coordination in sampling and even methodological discrepancies between countries, so the primary aim is to reach a minimal agreement on methodologies and shared information.
- Research surveys and data quality
 1. Research surveys at sea, presented by Christoph Stransky (THÜNEN), co-leader with Sieto Verver (WUR). The main issues regarding this TFA are the refining and implementation of generic cost-sharing models for surveys included in RWP and in support of decision making. A proposal on how to align survey tables in NWP with those from RWP will be produced;
 2. Biological data quality, presented by David Currie (MI). It aims at achieving a common, standardised method of describing regional sampling programmes, continuing from the extensive work that has been already done within the RCGs and ICES;
- Social and economic data, both presented by Hans van Oostenbrugge (WUR), co-leader with Heidi Pokki (LUKE) and Monica Gambino (NISEA).
 1. Social and economic data on fisheries,
 2. Social, economic and environmental data on aquaculture.

These TFAs are at a much earlier stage of development and will base on previous PGEcon and Secfish work to deliver a consistent set of methodologies and guidelines, covering both fisheries and aquaculture.

Questions and comments:

Regarding PETS, Rita Vasconcelos (IPMA) suggests to establish interaction with other teams, particularly mentions the project, which she considers very relevant in this regard. Estanis Mugerza (AZTI), leader of *Incidental catches of PETS* TFA points out that this will be relevant for the work to be carried out next year.

Joël asks about the umbrella ISSG mentioned during the presentation and Rita explains it is an overarching group for regional sampling plans case studies, to detect gaps, provide guidelines, etc.

Estanis mentions that he has recently participated in an RCG Med&BS meeting and they are facing the same issues, so there shall be many common tasks between FISHN'CO and STREAMLINE and interaction between both projects should be encouraged.

Blanca García (DG Mare, technical project officer for FISHN'CO) offers help from DG Mare team whenever necessary. She suggests that having regular (monthly) update meetings will help the project monitoring, as the reporting periods (mid and end 2021) are foreseen to be very busy due to the review of the pilot studies.

Marie Storr-Paulsen (DTU-Aqua) highlights the relevance to convince member states about the benefits of coordinated work.

The situation of UK raises in the debate and Blanca asks to let her know should any issues arise to access the database. As it is a third country now to the EU, Joël asks what would be the best way to approach them and



Blanca suggests that they can be invited as observers to RCGs' meetings and to the project, keeping in mind that they cannot participate in the decision-making processes.

Next, participants take a short break (15')

Establishing decision-making structures/processes (WP2)

[Access ppt here](#)

Els Torreele (ILVO) presents WP2. It is led by herself, Jørgen Dalskov (DTU-Aqua) and Kolyo Zhelev (EAFA).

A WP2 start up meeting is planned for the end of March – beginning of April, to identify all topics to be taken into account when describing the decision-making processes for adopting a RWP. Apart from direct consultations with the relevant actors, this process will involve a revision of the RoPs of RCGs. Els highlights the relevance to encourage NCs to get involved in this WP.

As Blanca did before, Monika Sterczewska (DG Mare) offers to help whenever necessary.

Els asks the date of the next formal NCs' meeting, which Monika informs is foreseen during the second half of April. Els suggests to have a WP2 meeting before to send her feedback in advance and Monika offers to save a slot in the agenda of the NCs' meeting for addressing this issue.

Drafting Regional Work Plans (RWPs) (WP3)

[Access ppt here](#)

Joël presents this WP and expresses the need to capitalize all the work carried out during the previous two years. RWPs have to be co-created with the RCGs to guarantee the consistence and coherence with the NWPs and the EU-MAP regulation.

An initial proposal regarding several issues has been made from RCGs NANS&EA and Baltic to the STECF during the last meeting, so as RWPs are taken into account in the revision processes currently going on.

WP3 will rely on results from WPs 1 and 2, and also develop some necessary contents such as a regional table IA and any other tables not taken care by WP1. Also a dedicated WP3 workshop will be convened.

Communication and dissemination (WP4)

[Access ppt here](#)

Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) presents WP4 and updates on progress achieved so far. She makes special emphasis on the relevance of using the materials which are agreed for use within the project i.e. logos, templates, etc.). She highlights that communication works better when it is a continuous process starting from the beginning of the project, as it enables us to better manage the expectations to, therefore, keep the interest on the work we are doing.

Project coordination and management (WP5)

[Access ppt here](#)

To complete the general issues presented during the meeting introduction, Joël presents the reporting sequence and highlights the relevance to establish links with the STREAMLINE project. The SECWEB project,

which is presented by Els as its coordinator, will be an essential support in this regard ([access SECWEB slides here](#))

The SECWEB project, “Developing mechanisms to support the planning and execution of administrative tasks and the branding and online visibility of the RCGs with the aim to establish a long-term supportive structure” is coordinated by Els Torreele (ILVO) and involves a consortium composed by CETMAR, AZTI, EAFA and WUR.

A huge community will be addressed by SECWEB activities, namely RCGs and the community of experts involved, including NCs; DCF end-users; other EU institutions and Member States; fishing industry, NGOs and specialised media, and the other MARE/2020/08 projects.

SECWEB OBJECTIVES

- Develop a framework and setup a **secretariat** in support of fluent administrative procedures of the RCGs and establish a **long-term** script, including a suitable financial scenario for that;
- Promote **good practices in communication within and among the RCGs** and engaging with all the **stakeholders** and the general public;
- Develop and setup a **website** linked with existing (relevant) websites and SharePoint, and to improve the overall capacity to reach out to a wider audience about past and present RCG work and outcomes;
- Identify tools to **increase the visibility** of the work and outputs of the RCGs;

10



FIG. 2. SECWEB Objectives



Joël also informs about the upcoming integration of Manon Troucelier to the project team (beginning of April). She is also attending the meeting and has the chance to introduce herself.

Discussion, questions from the audience and conclusions.

What should be expected to be delivered by June 2021?

Blanca reminds the need to take into account other end users, apart from the primary ones. She also agrees on the idea posed by Rosa about the relevance of communicating from the beginning and addressing efforts to a large number of stakeholders, but it is necessary to be careful and do not generate unrealistic expectations.

WPI should decide on the level of ambition and identification of gaps and tasks. In this regard, Joël asks if the level of ambition should be decided within the RCGs.



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues



The WP2 will start consultations to NCs and RCGs to get their feedback, but they are not sure if this could be ready for the next round of meetings to be held in June. In this regard, Hans van Oostenbrugge (WUR) reminds that RCG Econ is foreseen by the end of the summer and, therefore, it is necessary to adopt a flexible timeline that fits everyone.

As for WP3, it is key to facilitate the understanding of what a RWP is and what elements it should have.

Leonie reminds that WPI is working on a template for the information that should be considered.

Leonie suggests to convene a new plenary meeting after the RCGs’ meetings to reorganise the work and Joël reminds that those meetings will take up the summertime, as they are foreseen from June to September. Blanca mentions that in September the liaison and the formal NCs meetings, both organised by the EC, will take place. Maria Hansson (SLU) suggest to have a new plenary meeting before the summer break and there is a general agreement on that.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Next plenary meeting	IFREMER as project coordinator, CETMAR	Before summer break.

The meeting ends by 12:40

Annex: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Els Torreele	ILVO	BE	Y
Sofie Vandemaele	ILVO	BE	Y
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BG	Y
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	BG	Y
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Josefine Egekvist	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ES	Y
Lucia Zarauz	AZTI	ES	Y
María Pérez	CETMAR	ES	Y
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	ES	Y
Isabel Bruno	IEO	ES	Y
Jose Castro	IEO	ES	Y
Jose Luis Cebrián	IEO	ES	Y
Pakarinen Tapani	LUKE	FI	Y
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	FI	Y
Joel Vigneau	IFREMER	FR	Y
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	FR	Y
Pierre Cresson	IFREMER	FR	Y
Sébastien Demanèche	IFREMER	FR	Y
Julien Lebranchu	IRD	FR	Y
Mathieu.Depetris	IRD	FR	Y
David Currie	MI	IE	Y
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	IE	Y
Monica Gambino	NISEA	IT	Y
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	NL	Y
Harriet van Overzee	WUR	NL	T
Blanca García Álvarez	EC DG Mare	BE	N
Monika Sterczewska	EC DG Mare	BE	N
Christoph Stransky	THÜNEN	DE	N
Matthias Bernreuther	THÜNEN	DE	N
Sven Stötera	THÜNEN	DE	N
Tiit Raid	University of Tartu	EE	N
Elo Rasmann	University of Tartu - EMI	EE	N
Redik Eschbaum	University of Tartu - EMI	EE	N
Ivo Šics	BIOR	LV	N
Maksims Kavsars	BIOR	LV	N
Dália CC. Reis	Azores Gov	PT	N
Ines Ferreira	DGRM - Gov	PT	N
Emília Batista	DGRM - Gov	PT	N
Suzana Cano	DGRM - Gov	PT	N



Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PT	N
Marta Rufino	IPMA	PT	N
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	PT	N
Maria Hansson	SLU	SE	N
JR			



2nd Plenary Meeting

Date	2 nd July 2021	Venue	
Time	10:30 (CET)		Virtual (MS Teams)

Attendees

33 people attended the meeting, including partners and non-partners. For more details see Annex I.

Objectives

The aim of the meeting is to level-up all participants with the most recent progress of the project:

- providing a special focus on the Fishn'Co contribution to the development of Regional Work Plan (RWP) during the recent RCG NANS&EA and Baltic and the preparation of the upcoming RCG LP, LDF and Economics.
- short synthesis of the work done and feedback received.

Agenda

- 10:30 Welcome and adoption of the agenda
→ Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 10:45 First months of the project, progress made so far (administrative and technical information)
→ Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
→ Leonie O'Dowd, WPI leader
- 11:00 Contribution to RCGs and feedback from RCG NANS&EA and Baltic
→ Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 11:15 Plan ahead in view of proposing a RWP 2022 for RCG NANS&EA and Baltic
→ Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 11:30 Discussion
- 12:25 Closure

Specific issues addressed

* All the presentations are available at MS Teams – FISHN'CO_TECH channel, Files

FISHNCO_TECH □ WP5_COORD&MNGMT □ MEETINGS □ **Plenary meeting #2**

Welcome and adoption of the agenda

Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), the project coordinator, presents the agenda and objectives of the meeting.



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Additionally, Joël acknowledges everyone, partners and non-partners, for their participation. After he gives the floor to the NCs and RCGs chairs for presentation. At the meeting there were present the NCs from: Estonia, Denmark, Ireland, Portugal and Bulgaria as well as NANS&EA and Baltic RCG chairs, RCG ECON chairs and RCG LP chair. The participation of project partners and non-partners was also high see annex I for details.

First months of the project

[Access ppt here](#)

Joël Vigneau gives a general overview of Fishn'Co project.

Fishn'co Strategic Objectives

One of the Fishn'Co strategic objectives is to support RCGs and ISSG in their common objective of developing a RWP, proposing a full structure/process and elements for each of their activities.

There have been identified 10 thematic areas of interest and one of the goals within the project is to have a consistent approach for all of them. For that reason Fishn'co is counting with RCG experts and NCs involvement in the project work so the project outcomes and the different elements of the RWP are regionally coordinated and the experts from different countries feel comfortable with the results.

The RWP is an element that belongs to the RCG, it is for the RCG to design and propose the contents.

Fishn'co aims to strengthen regional or EU- wide cooperation which means that all project outcomes will be addressed to all relevant MS.

During the Technical Meeting of RCG NANS&EA and Baltic held in June 2021 Fishn'Co was an important part of the agenda, there was room for discussion during the different sessions. Following the meeting, Fishn'co expects feedback from RCG on two main topics and how to proceed on:

- (i) Finalising the development of RWP 2022 by September
- (ii) Preparing the ground during the next inter-session for the development of RWP 2023 and further.

The aim is to progress as much as possible with the RWP before the end July so a proposal for the RWP that can be presented in the Decision meeting (in Sep). That way the NCs can have a close look at the RWP and give their feedback. Fishn'co then could work in further improvements during winter time.

5 Work Packages

WP 1. Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps

WP 2. Establishing decision making structures/processes

WP 3. Drafting the Work Plan

WP 4. Communication and dissemination

WP 5. Project coordination and management

Fishn'co Timeline

Jan-June 2021, preparing for RCG 2021 session. It was a hectic period for everybody.

June- Oct 2021, getting feedback from RCG and adaption of the proposed RWP upon demands. This period is crucial now.

No 2021- June 2022, Keep the momentum for the intersessional work

On the administrative side of things, the Grant agreement has been signed and in force since 1st Jan. 2021. We are now gathering the last signatures for the consortium agreement. Similarly for the Data sharing agreement collecting the last signatures among partners and non-partners. Also there are Terms of reference for non-partners, there is a provision of money to finance non-partner travelling costs.

To conclude this section, Joël Vigneau highlights that the proposed RWP for 2022 it will be non-binding

Progress made so far

WP 1. Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps

Leonie O'Dowd presents the progress made so far. Each thematic area identified the elements for the inclusion in the RWP, then the level of ambition were discussed and agreed on for regional coordination and then looked at the gaps that need to be addressed to progress towards a RWP. Those gaps were looked at and identified as tasks that could be undertaken under Fishn'co project and which are tasks that can be carried out in the ISSG themselves. And a final step, communication of the work towards WP 3 which is looking at the structural elements of the RWP.

Wide range of thematic areas:

1. Recreational Fisheries
2. Small Scale Fisheries
3. Social and Economic data on fisheries
4. Social and Economic data on aquaculture
5. Diadromous Fisheries
6. Incidental catches of PET
7. Commercial Fisheries
8. Impact of Fishing Activities
9. Biological data quality
10. Research Surveys at Sea

Some of these thematic areas cut across different RCGs.

There are different levels of ambition:

0. No coordination
1. Coordinated data reporting
2. Agreed guidelines
3. Common monitoring strategy
4. Joint data collection

Defining the level of ambitious allows us to identify gaps and makes it easier to progress towards a RWP.

The work done was focused on finalization of ambitions, gaps analysis and roadmaps in ISSG sub-groups; proposition for amendments and endorsement of elements that can be included in the RWP.

The timing for the Biological data and Socioeconomic data is slightly behind so it can be coordinated with the discussion within RCG ECON (early Sep).

WP 2. Establishing decision making structures/processes

Jørgen Dalskov

Two years ago, we had integrated RoPs for North Atlantic and North Sea & Eastern Arctic. Then with the ISSG NCs we looked at the differences between these RoP and the RoP for Baltic Sea. The work was presented during TM in June RCG NANS&EA and Baltic. As a result there a combined version of RoP for NANS&EA and Baltic that it will be presented to other RCGs (LDF, LP, ECON, Med Sea) for their consideration in the hope that we can have final common RoPs.

Then Fishn'co will work on how can we have the decision process for the RWP and take advantage of the learning process and experiences that we can get from having a non-binding RWP for 2022.

We really need to have a proposal for a RWP on the table so this learning experience can be capitalize.

WP 3. Drafting the Work Plan

Joël Vigneau

Working on the templates of the RWP, we had a test run on 2020 with its own template. Though there were elements that were not clear and generated some confusion, overall, it was a good process. Received comments from STECF that are being incorporated and we will continue with the test run on 2022. *Templates for text and tables of RWP following test run 2021 analysis by STECF*

From this first test run it was concluded that the RWP can have the same elements as in the NWP. In order to avoid duplication and to facilitate the work, it will be easier to understand in fill in the templates if they resemble the NWP templates. The templates are not finished yet it is a work in progress. However, we do want to capitalize on the effort made to develop these templates.

MS are free to include what they want in the RWP. However, some countries are not making their recommendations. RWP could help because it belongs to RCG and could be a reference.

WP 3. It is working on the so called "low hanging fruits". Table 1.xx- Data availability, International coordination, bi and multilateral agreements, recommendations, and Table 2.1.

Table 2.1. List of required stocks. At the moment we have the table structure without the figures.

Template available in Teams, WP3. [EUMAP NWP-AR template Table 2.1 pre-filled](#)

It has also been sent to RCGs chairs. Last week lots of work has been added to it with feedback from STECF and RCGs NANS&EA and Baltic.

RWP tables and textboxes can accommodate any needs. All regionally agreed initiatives should be in the RWP.

WP 4. Communication and dissemination

Joël Vigneau



A lot of effort has been devoted since the beginning of the project to develop the communication channels and dissemination activities. We have engaged with more than 90 experts and also with EC services. Good interaction with Secweb project to develop the website and the newsletter.

There is a dedicated channel in Teams where templates, reports, leaflet, minutes, and additional materials are available. Please we encouraged you to use these tools available.

We also have developed mailing lists for participants and WP leaders for internal communication.

How to be on the loop?

- You can contact us through the secretariat's email (secretariat@fisheries-rcg.es) and let us know about any concerns or what do you need to feel comfortable with the project.
- Catch up with WP leaders
- Set your areas of interest to contribute
- Ask for access to the Teams folders
- Participate in meetings.

Contribution to RCGs and feedback from RCG NANS&EA and Baltic

Feedback from RCGs NANSEA and Baltic, it was agreed to include general principles on the RWP template.

A full template for RWP was proposed to be tested for RCG NANS&EA and Baltic as soon as 2022 (to be proposed by 15 October 2021)

What are the general principles to include in this non-binding 2022 RWP? It should be regionally agreed elements, it could be link with work done under WPI ambition level and gaps.

RWP will contain information on a more general level so that there will not be a need to update it every year.

18

Plan ahead in view of proposing a RWP 2022 for RCG NANS&EA and Baltic

To be done in the next 4 weeks (by the end of July) with the aim to be circulated for the pre-decision meeting in September.

Focus on:

- Tables 1.2, 1.4; update with information for 2022
- Table 2.1, script available to complete the table taking into account EU/Impl.Act Table I. The core of it is working now. We will share the script in a few days. This is an important achievement following STECF recommendations. In the future it should be easier to calculate EU share in the region.

Joël is very keen to include **ambitions and roadmaps in a RWP textbox** to have a trace of what it is agreed and can help for plan ahead. And this is something that could be done by the end of July for the following:

- Case studies for regional sampling plan
- Recreational fisheries
- Stomach sampling

It is not controversial and could be used as a guideline for next years, on what can be done and the progress made.

As a conclusion, there is this table on What to include in a future RWP, with different columns showing NWP for all MS/ RWP NANS&EA/ RWP Baltic/ ISSG (final slide of ppt).

Discussion

Joël opens the floor for discussion (11:30h)

Leonie, as a NC, we were talking of using a few case studies. There are quite a few regional differences, stomach sampling more advanced and Baltic than in Celtic Sea. What are we agreeing or endorsing?

We need to work on a way of reflecting those regional differences, how can we do it?

Joël, we can start with a RWP for NANS&EA and a different RWP for Baltic

Maria Hansson is a bit confused on what to do for now on. Low hanging fruits and textboxes... but for the ppt is not clear what is going on RWP for 2022. Same templates for NWP and RWP. So, which sections are going into RWP? And which in the NWP?

Joël, sees Maria's point. However, it is very difficult to be clear unless we agreed on something. In tables you have commitments these go into the NWP. Put on the elements that go into the NWP.

Then WP2 will take care on the decision process. Take the opportunity to include in the textboxes what you want there because is not binding.

Maria confused with the duplication exercise. How to be sure that I am doing the right thing for the NWP. Deadlines are too tight no room for discussion with the holiday period starting.

Lucía Zarauz, worries or struggles to see the content of the NWP and RWP. For example, in the Iberian case study: As there are things not coordinated regionally (Portugal and Spain) in the sampling plan then we will have to have the sampling part splitted into two different things regionally and national, this is a difficulty.

About the process of organizing ourselves, present the tables and incorporated into the NWP. The content of the RWP is not clear, difficult to discuss if content is not clear.

Joël, does not want to put pressure on what has to go there. How should we do it? We have a blank sheet here.

Maria Hansson, if you need to agree on something you should go for the low hanging fruits agreed on the RCGs discussion. She felt comfortable with these. The agreements made there were good and that is how we should move forward.

Countries might have a difficult time to contribute, holiday season.

Maria, wants to try the templates for NWP first, have control of what is happening at national level. Also new templates, new elements to get familiar with at national level. She does not think that we are matured enough to go for regional without duplication. She wants to fill in the NWP first get used to the template and from there decided what can go into RWP.

Lucia, stocks and areas table she thinks we are ready for that table to have some regionally coordination. Other tables related to sampling it is more difficult. Present the sampling protocol in the table but not regionally coordinated, not sure it will work. Huge documents if we include the protocols. Ready for 1.2 and 1.4

Leonie, sees the issue that Maria and Lucia have raised. NWP is binding so efforts will be dedicated there, it is normal. Fishn'co is here to help and not to put extra effort, so tables can be tested in RWP and go into NWP if there are no issues with it. Learning exercise and compile these comments and learning steps. Take the tools if it helps them.

Emilia, also shares the same concerns. To do this during July is very difficult. In her case, she has to coordinate with different institutions, not only on the mainland but also Azores and Madeira. For the time being we should stick to table 1.1 and 1.4. Also asks for explanation on the shares.

Joël, in relation to the EU shares comments that it was a STECF recommendation to put these forward. Although at the moment we should not concentrate our efforts into this.

Joël, so we are sticking to table 1.2 and 1.4 to progress during July. Be coordinated by the ISSGs NCs group? With support for FISHN'CO

To do the compilation work during July. Work on Teams area

Table 1.3. will be done a posteriori. After autumn

Recreational fisheries.

Estanis shares the same concerns as Maria and Lucia.

Focus on those items that can be done in the short time. Need to discuss previously with different MS. Estanis will check what was agreed on this subject. However, Estanis believes that the progress that can be achieved by the end of this month would be very little.

Joël, perhaps recreational fisheries it is a no go. We should be focused on what can be achieved. Save the effort for latter.

Maria Hansson, suggests to include this as clear task for ISSG work to be ready for next year.

Elo, that it is what was agreed. Include this task for next season ISSG work. And deliver what they have now.

Fishn'co project to coordinated this, how is this going to happened. Coordination with FISHN'CO all year round.

Lucia as RCG chair received many questions from the ISSG groups, most of which had doubts on how to fill in the tables. The project needs to figure out how are we going to do it and let the ISSG know.

Estanis, same understanding as Elo. ISSG trying to move for a RWP but during the season, not by the end of July. ISSG and Fishn'co to work coordinated.

Joel and Manon to coordinate during July with ISSG chairs to compile table 1.2 and 1.4

In relation to the project internal communication and how to improve it, no suggestion or issues were raised during the meeting. Meeting's frequency remains as it is.

Expert are they comfortable with the way is going? Everymonth

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Share script for Table 2.1	IFREMER/Joël Vigneau	08/07/2021
Use Teams channel to share work	All	asap
Progress with tables 1.2, 1.4 and 2.1 for the RWP	All	asap
Coordination with ISSGs to feed in the tables	WP 3 leaders	asap
Progress regionally with Table 1.3		Autumn

The meeting ends by 12:25 (CET)

Annex: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Sofie Vandemaele	ILVO	BE	Y
Adelbert De Clercq	ILVO	BE	Y
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BG	Y
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	BG	Y
Sven Stötera	THÜNEN	DE	N
Marko Freese	THÜNEN	DE	N
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Mollie Elizabeth Brooks	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Tiit Raid	University of Tartu	EE	N
Elo Rasmann	University of Tartu - EMI	EE	N
Jose Luis Cebrian	IEO	ES	Y
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	ES	Y
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ES	Y
Isabel Bruno	IEO	ES	Y
Lucia Zarauz	AZTI	ES	Y
Joel Vigneau	IFREMER	FR	Y
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	FR	Y
Pierre Cresson	IFREMER	FR	Y
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	FR	Y
Ivana Vukov	Croatian Ministry of Agriculture	HR	N
David Currie	MI	IE	Y
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	IE	Y
Remigijus Sakas	University of Klaipeda	LTU	N
Antanas Kontautas	University of Klaipeda	LTU	N
Maksims Kovsars	BIOR	LV	N
Jamal Roskam	WR	NL	Y
Maciej Adamowicz	MIR	PL	N
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	PT	Y
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PT	Y
Emília Batista	DGRM - Gov	PT	N
Dália CC. Reis	Azores Gov	PT	N
Maria Hansson	SLU	SE	N
Nuno Prista	SLU	SE	N

3rd Plenary meeting

Date	13 th October 2021
Time	09:30 (CET)

Venue	Virtual (MS Teams)
--------------	--------------------

Attendees

33 people attended the meeting, including partners and non-partners. For more details see Annex I.

Objectives

- To plan the work load for the next 6 months in preparation for the RCG meetings next year.
-

Agenda

9:30 Welcome and generalities

Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator

9:40 Role played by Fishn'Co project in contributing to RWP 2022. Lessons learned.

Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator

10:15 Organize the next phase of Fishn'Co project.

Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator

10:30 WP discussion and ways forward

WP leaders, floor open to discussions

11:15 Relevant administrative information

Rosa Fernández (CETMAR), WP4 and WP5 leader

23

Specific issues addressed

Welcome and Generalities

Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), the project coordinator, presents the agenda and objectives of the meeting. One of the main objectives of the meeting is to agree on the planning for the next 6 months not to experience the same rush as last spring. Then, the floor opens to WP leaders to steer some discussion on the implementation of their work plan. Finally, it is presented some information on administrative issues relating to the next reporting period.

The presentation used can be consulted at the MS Teams project channel [here](#)

Role played by Fishn'Co project in contributing to RWP 2022. Lessons learned.

Joël comments on the work achieved over the summer period and after the 2nd plenary meeting; FISHN'CO had dedicated slots in the RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic meeting in June, RCG LP in July and also RCG ECON meeting in September. For RWP purposes, tables 1.2 and 2.1 were developed considering the feedback from



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

RCG meetings and the elements from different work packages. There was also an agreement to include ambition levels in the RWP. Eventually, two non-binding test-run RWP for 2022 have been presented and accepted at the Decision Meeting that took place in September 2021, i.e. the RWP for the Baltic and the RWP for NANS&EA. These can be considered as a major achievement for the FISHN'CO project and a platform to build upon for the work ahead.

Joël takes the opportunity to clarify the relation between ISSG work and FISHN'CO, which is always a common question in the debates around FISHN'CO. ISSGs have their mandate from RCGs independently from FISHN'CO, they are free to make their own initiatives under the RCG's umbrella. FISHN'CO approaches ISSGs to ask about the elements from their coordination activities that they considered worth having in a RWP. FISHN'CO also helps understanding the concept of a RWP and the benefits of it. In doing this collaborative work FISHN'CO reaches different ISSGs and connects them, sharing good practices between ISSGs, looking for consistency of approaches to present the activities in the RWP with the same format, so the information can be standardized and made easily readable for everyone. In final instance, the RWP belongs to the RCGs, FISHN'CO is there to help and to make it happen.

A brief summary of the achievements accomplished so far during 2021; WP1 completed the ambition levels and the roadmaps for the 10 thematic focus areas addressed by as many ISSGs; WP2 made progress defining the decision processes although there are still some legal challenges on how to implement the RWP, WP2 is working closely with COM legal department to look into these issues; WP3 made the WP tables in a collaborative way and delivered two RWP for both Baltic and NANS&EA regions for 2022, both RWP are for a non-binding test-run; WP4, the narrative about FISHN'CO can be visited on RCG's website <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/fishnco/>

Initially, FISHN'CO was very ambitious on what to include in the RWP (details of proposed inclusion in the ppt) some elements were included in the RWP and others were not. However, now the two proposed RWP are concrete objects that we can test and run and learn from.

Following the recommendations received mainly by the STECF after the non-binding test RWP 2021, the proposed RWP is very similar to a NWP. This was done in order to avoid further confusions and the extra work of having to fill in a complete new template.

The RWP has an Introduction section which states that the RWP is a non-binding test. Table 1.2 was developed and agreed between all National Correspondents in their dedicated ISSG. Table 2.1 was developed collaboratively between FISHN'CO experts and ISSG on RDB catch, effort and sampling overviews. This table includes a control table to compare declared landings in the RDB and in EUROSTAT, this is only for information purposes. The feedbacks received so far are very positive on this table.

There are also *ad hoc* textboxes on selected ISSGs highlighting their ambitions for a future regional coordination of their activities and their current state of play. These are:

- Regional coordination for sampling diadromous species and Sea trout (textbox 2.3 in the Baltic and in the NANS&EA RWP)
- Regional coordination for sampling Small pelagics (textbox 2.5 in the Baltic RWP)

For regional coordination purposes and to be able to see at a glance the level of ambition achieved for each activity, tables with colour coding have been developed to be included in the RWP. These tables are not a stand-alone document they should be accompanied with explanatory text.



Table 2.1- List of required stocks is ready and has been shared with all relevant NCs, it has the same setting as in the NWP. It allows the calculation of the shares of landings. FISHN'CO in collaboration with COM is looking into having the FIDES codes associated with all relevant entries of EU Delegated annex Table I. The threshold used, fully compliant with the guidelines and a control table as mentioned previously are also included.

In conclusion, the lessons learned from the RCG technical meeting (June – Sept) are that

- There is willingness to progress towards the formalisation of regional coordination activities in the form of RWPs;
- There are some difficulties to give birth to the new approach that need to be taken into account, no need to rush;
- The feedback received will be used for the next intersession period;
- Test run RWPs contain the seeds for the future.

Organize the next phase of Fishn'Co project – Plan ahead

The proposal is to divide the work ahead in three sequences and to act as if RCG 2022 meetings will be taking place in February instead of June. This way everything is ready before hand and there is still time to accomplish a consultation process and circulate the final proposal one month before the RCG meetings take place.

The **intersession sequences** will be as follow:

1. Finalisation of all proposals to be included in a RWP for 2023 + legal aspects (**October 2021- January 2022**)
2. Consultation with all MS (**February- March 2022**)
3. Reporting and RWP proposal to the RCGs (**April- May 2022**)

25

Also consider convening a plenary meeting towards the end of January 22.

WP discussion and ways forward

The floor is now opened to discussion.

Jørgen Dalskov asks about who has the responsibility of actually submitting the RWP to the COM?

Elo Rasman points out that in the past when they had the previous test run it was a task for the RCG chair to submit the RWP. Harriet van Overzee as RCG NANSEA chair confirms that she is planning to submit the RWP for NANS&EA 2022.

Joni Tiainen expresses his concerns with the intersession timing, in particular with the second and third sequences. He suspects that the timing might collide with other important deadlines as the AR for 2021. FISHN'CO might struggle to get the feedback on time. Joël takes the point on this, Coordination team and WP leaders need to think about a possible solution.

Maria Hansson shows her approval with the timing, she likes the fact that the work plan is clear for the next months and leaves enough room for everyone to be well informed prior to the RCG meetings.

Marie Storr-Paulsen comments about the regional coordination for Stomach sampling, asks Joël for more details on the process because she had the impression that it was something already agreed to have it in the RWP however is not there. Joël explains that there were still many questions regarding that thematic focus area, mainly, the analysis of the stomachs, there was a lot of discussions we were close but, in the end, there was no consensus and this could not be included in the RWP. This is still work in progress.

Joël informs about the intention to make the RWP accessible for everyone, a public document that can be consulted. The way forward for this could be to share through the RCGs website, whether to do it on the FISHN'CO web pages or in a different part of the website still to be decided.

Monica Gambino comments on the planned work towards ECON RWP, during RCG ECON meeting it was agreed to have a draft RWP ready by May 2022, with tables and boxes for the economic and social variables, Monica asks if this timing will still work with FISHN'CO. Joël says that it will be ok to have everything ready by May.

In relation to table 2.1 in the RWP, Marie asks in the case of making corrections to this table what is the procedure. Just to annotate the corrections in the comment section, email, Elo also echoes the question, should the corrections be highlighted?

Joël answers saying that FISHN'CO wants to make it simple so in that sense do as best as you can, comments are ok, email to Joël is also appreciated. The final message is that FISHN'CO will do the compilation of all the corrections, although it might involve scanning through the NWP and through the emails to see the comments.

At this point, Rosa Fernández suggests that FISHN'CO could have two versions of the document to ease this compilation process. One clean version of the RWP that could go onto the website to be consulted by everyone and a second version, with a separate table to gather the feedback from every country and where the corrections can be annotated. This document could be shared using google docs or Teams collaborative tools. CETMAR could organize this. Joël thinks this is indeed a good idea and it is adopted.

WPI. Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps.

Linda O'Hea WP leader points out that the highlights from WPI have mostly already been covered in Joël's presentation. The next steps in WPI will be to contact Task leaders to finalize the tables and the levels of ambition. Over the next two weeks Linda and Manon Troucelier will be in touch with Task leaders to progress accordingly to the intersession plan.

Mathieu Depetris, about RCG LP and the contributions towards a RWP, says that RCG LP has committed an ISSG on the level of ambition so people have been identified to work on this subject in line with FISHN'CO objectives. Some fisheries like purse-seiners and tropical tuna are more likely to progress towards a RWP than other LP fisheries where the human resources within the RCG LP are very limited. Joël comments that even if it is only for those two fisheries it will be a fantastic progress, to have a RWP for 2023 than could be taken as an example for the other LP fisheries and that is the way to move forward.

Hans van Oostenbrugge presents the progress done towards RWP for social and economic data, during summer 2021 the gap analysis was made, mainly related to methodological issues still outstanding in RCG ECON based on previous reports. From that a list with the level of ambition was created. Overall, the level of ambition for social and economic data is level 2. For most economic data this is found as an appropriate level of ambition.

It is still not clear on what specific cases the regional coordination will be leading to a better-quality data. The plan is to run a consultation process to find out in which cases the cross-border cooperation will result in better estimates. The idea is to have an overview to see how to take this into a future RWP for ECON.

Aggregated social data is already available for some variables, and there is also a Methodological handbook on sampling.

Another issue is the current fleet segmentation, the segments are not homogeneous for international comparison and bio-economic modelling. In the coming year, the plan is to extend this work with another

workshop also in coordination with other RCG to check if the new segments proposed also make sense for biological data.

All this work will be carried out before the next RCG ECON in May 2022 and it will be part of the RWP ECON.

Regarding the specific work on quality issues, David Currie comments on the plan to subcontract a person to develop the template for data checks associated to the RDBES data format.

WP2. Establishing decision making structures/processes

There are some legal challenges to the implementation of the RWP that need to be looked into.

Jørgen comments on the progress done so far in relation to the RoPs at the Decision Meeting, RCG Baltic and RCG NANSEA had agreed to have common RoPs. On this basis, the plan is to call for a 3-days in-person meeting, towards the end of Nov. beginning of Dec. People who have shown interest in WP2 on the “contribution table” will be invited to the meeting. Jørgen is liaising with Kolyo Zhelev for the organization of such meeting. The main idea of the meeting is to have a brain storming on how can the decision processes be made on a regional basis. To have a draft ready in April 2022 and then a revised version in June 2022.

Joël points out that the COM legal services should also be invited to attend the meeting.

Kolyo, further elaborates on the WP2 progress and mentions that RCG ECON also welcomes the idea of having common RoPs. All NCs were present in RCG so the work ahead could be easy. The idea of common RoPs was also presented in RCG Med&BS. We will see in the coming months how the idea progresses with both RCGs. The new role of RCG ECON and the opportunity to prepare a RWP was also a point for discussion during the RCG meetings.

WP3. Drafting Regional Work Plans

The plan is to continue the work on improving the coding in table 2.1. Note that the code is publicly available on a [github](#) now. WP3 will continue working towards the new RWPs as mentioned previously liaising very closely with WP1 and WP2.

WP4. Communication and dissemination

The communication strategy as you might already know is done in collaboration with Secweb project. The website content has been displayed on the RCG's website. <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/>

Rosa Fernández, when planning the communication strategy, got the message that the best moment to communicate on achievements will be after the RCGs meetings and Decision Meeting, once achievements have been presented and decisions adopted. We are at this moment now and we have prepared a series of interviews, starting with an interview to FISHN'CO project leader.

Also, we are in communication with Manon Troucelier to represent the levels of ambition in a more visual manner, infographic or similar. When developing the communication materials, we think mainly in RCG community member but also new experts that might want to join RCG work, in a way that we can “translate” FISHN'CO work to a more general public. Then the RCG's website will host most of these elements.

Another important communication item is the newsletter, we need to start populating the newsletter with all these elements. At the moment there is not much content yet to add to the newsletter but it will be available

soon. So, she encourages everyone to subscribe to the newsletter using the following link <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/newsletter/>

We are also working on developing a centralized stakeholder database (in collaboration with Secweb) so soon you will be asked to fill in your details to populate the database. This will be a big achievement and a major improvement also for our internal communication processes. With the contact database we could address communications more strategically and make sure that the right information is reaching the right people, also avoid people receiving information that is not relevant to them.

Administrative information

Rosa explains that the first progress report (concerning the first 6 months of the project) has been formally approved by COM. After an exchange of emails with the project officer in which we were requested to organize the partial deliverables in a table and track the information. Reference to the information that is relevant for the partial deliverables and which is available in the RCGs reports, minutes, etc has been organized in a separate Teams channel. For the partial deliverables we do not need to produce stand-alone documents, although there will eventually be stand-alone documents to be developed for the main deliverables. The message from the EC is that the level of achievement is good and the project is doing good progress.

In terms of reporting, the next phase will be to prepare for a more comprehensive report comprising the period from 1st January to 31st of December 2021. In this case the INTERIM report must cover technical and financial information. The report has to be submitted within 60 days. As for the technical information CETMAR will gather the main pieces for the reporting and produce a first draft to receive feedback and to be completed. For the financial part, each partner has to complete its own information. CETMAR has created excel files for each partner with the individual financial information (budgets) and the instructions all in one file. These files are available on Teams, please visit **FISHNCO_ADMIN> REPORT_INTERIM**

28

As you might know, the whole budget is split in cost items and not per year. In the files, the budget is allocated per each cost item. Rosa strongly recommends to have a look at the financial tables well in advance before the reporting period. This way people can get familiar with the files and ask in case of any doubts. The sooner we have the report ready the better and it will be important also to identify relevant deviations from foreseen expenditures and to communicate those.

Additionally, Benedicte Duffet from IFREMER has recently informed that all signatures for the Consortium agreement (CA) are ready. The CA will be available through Teams for administrative purposes. CETMAR will send a communication with the details regarding this issue.

There is also the Data Sharing Agreement (DSA), for which CETMAR will get in charge of the signature process. Prior to the signature process each partner will receive a communication with the DSA final text in order to confirm some details: no more text changes are expected ; Questions remain whether partners and non-partners will be using electronic or manual signature, whether it is fine to have a combined document with electronic and hand written copies. Depending on this information we might have to stick to one procedure or the other, electronic or hand-written signature. CETMAR will set the deadlines for the signature process.

Agreements and further actions

The intersession work plan for the next 7 months:

- I. **October 2021- January 2022** - Finalisation of all proposals to be included in a RWP 2023 + legal aspects



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

2. **February- March 2022** - Consultation with all MS
3. **April- May 2022** - Reporting and RWP proposal to RCGs

Next plenary meeting towards the end of January 2022.

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Invitation and organization of in person meeting (late Nov/beginning Dec 2021)	WP2 leaders	asap
Make CA available on Teams for administrative purposes	CETMAR	20/10/2021
Launch the signature process for the Data Sharing Agreement	CETMAR	asap

The meeting ends by 11:33 h.

Annex: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Adelbert De Clercq	ILVO	BE	Y
Sabine de Peuter	ILVO	BE	Y
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BG	Y
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	BG	Y
Sven Stötera	THÜNEN	DE	N
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Elo Rasmann	University of Tartu - EMI	EE	N
Redik Eschbaum	University of Tartu - EMI	EE	N
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	ES	Y
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	ES	Y
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ES	Y
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	ES	Y
Isabel Bruno	IEO	ES	Y
Jose Luis Cebrian	IEO	ES	Y
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	FI	Y
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	FI	Y
Joel Vigneau	IFREMER	FR	Y
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	FR	Y
Sebastien Demanèche	IFREMER	FR	Y
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	FR	Y
David Currie	MI	IE	Y
Linda O'Hea	MI	IE	Y
Monica Gambino	NISEA	IT	Y
Remigijus Sakas	University of Klaipeda	LTU	N
Irina Jakovleva	Fisheries Service (Ministry of Agriculture Lithuania)	LTU	N
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	NL	Y
Harriet van Overzee	WUR	NL	Y
Jamal Roskam	WUR	NL	Y
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PT	Y
Emilia Batista	DGRM - Gov	PT	N
Dália CC. Reis	Azores Gov	PT	N
Maria Hansson	SLU	SE	N

4th Plenary meeting for compiling all RWP initiatives and questionnaires for communication to NCs

Date	03/02/2022	Venue	
Time	09:30 (CET)		Virtual (MS Teams)

Attendees

46 people attended the meeting, including partners and non-partners. For more details see Annex I.

Objectives

- Provide an overview of Fishn'Co implementation status.
- Plan Fishn'Co activities in line with RCGs work cycle and the timeline for the submission of the final version of RWP for adoption in 25-27.

Agenda

- 09:30 Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 09:40 Feedback from STECF on RWPs**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 10:00 Status, action-plan and future needs for each Work Package**
- 10:00 WP 1. Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps**
Linda O'Hea (Marine Institute), Hans van Oostenbrugge (WR)
- 10:20 WP 2. Establishing decision-making structures/processes**
Jørgen Dalskov (DTU-Aqua), Els Torreele (ILVO), Kolyo Zhelev (EAFA)
- 10:40 WP 3. Drafting Regional Work Plans**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER)
- 11:00 Coffee-break**
- 11:15 WP4. Communication and dissemination and coordination with SecWeb Project**
Rosa Fernández (CETMAR), Els Torreele (ILVO)
- 11:35 WP5. Coordination and management**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), Rosa Fernández (CETMAR)
- 11:55 Discussion, questions from the audience and conclusions**
- 12:30 Closure**

Specific issues addressed

Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting

1. Joël Vigneau, Fishn'Co project coordinator, welcomes everyone followed by a round of presentations from DG MARE Team (Blanca García, Eleni Bintouni, Tim Lemmens) and WP leaders and co-leaders who will intervene later during the meeting (Linda O'Hea & Hans van Oostenbrugge (WP1); Jørgen Dalskov, Els Torreele & Kolyo Zhelev (WP2); Joël Vigneau (WP3&5), Mathieu Depetris, Irek Wojcik (WP3); Rosa Fernández (WP4&5)). Followed by the adoption of the agenda and objectives of the meeting.
2. One of the main **objectives** of the meeting is to build upon the lessons learned from last year and prepare the ground for RCG 2022 sessions. The lessons learned from the 2021 RCGs meeting (June-Sept) are that:
 - There is willingness to progress towards the formalization of regional coordination activities in the form of RWPs;
 - There are some difficulties to give birth to the new approach that need to be taken into account, no need to rush;
 - The test-run for 2022 provided valuable feedback that will be used during the intersession period.

The intersession sequences will be as follow:

- Finalization of all proposal to be included in a RWP for 2023 + legal aspects (October 2021 – January 2022). During plenary last July the feedback from Fishn'Co experts was that most of regional initiatives were not ready yet to be part of the test run RWP 2022, we should be now in a better place.
- Consultation with all MS (February-March 2022)
- Reporting and RWP proposals to the RCGs (April-May 2022) prior to the technical meetings.

So, FISHN'CO will compile all initiatives into a RWP-look-alike document. Additionally, will associate the RWP proposal with a questionnaire to be sent to all NCs.

3. Which **questionnaire**? Joël shows the previous questionnaire undertaken with FishPi project, it was the first of this kind and very informative. Although the questionnaire was more about Regional Sampling Plan, it can be considered as the very early stages of what we are doing now. The outputs from the questionnaire were a clear green flag to go and develop further the RWP. The questions below 40% positiveness index in the first questionnaire are the ones associated to the risks and conflicts with NWP that we need to look into more detail now.

STECF feedback on RWP test run 2022

4. The evaluation of the non-binding RWP Baltic and NANSEA 2022 was positive:
 - **Table 1.2.** was filled in a collaborative way and gave input to all individual NWPs. Table 1.2 it was said to be a good example of regional coordination.
 - **Table 2.1.** The process for filling the table in a collaborative approach with RCGs and ISSGs was highly appreciated. The table was presented to MS around mid Sep 2021, the timing was not perfect and there were some difficulties with it. However, STECF recommended that European TAC and TAC shares need to be calculated in coordination and cannot be done by individual MS. Therefore, table 2.1 should be part of the RWP.

- Related to the **text on ambitions** that was proposed, STECF noted that if a RWP is valid for 3 years then the 'current status' or current state of play is ambiguous. This is something to be further discussed in Fishn'Co.
- A **pan regional Master Code List** should be developed within the Fishn'Co project to support the further development of RWPs. This MCL should extend the existing MCL already developed in order to eventually have a single MCL covering both NWP and RWP needs.
- 5. **IMPORTANT message**, we need to think ahead of the **next 3-year period**. STECF commented on the RWP and came up with some suggestion on the **development timeline**:
 - MS will resubmit a 3-year plan for 2025-2027.
 - If we take the lessons learned, there are too much difficulties to adapt in October with a RWP finalised in September. MS should be aware of RWP when there are having the discussion in preparation of their NWP by beginning of 2024.
 - **RWP 2025-27 should then be ready by the end of 2023.**
 - Fishn'co finishes in 2022. So, RCG 2022 is suggested to revive ISSG/RWP to take over Fishn'Co
 - ISSG/RWP to prepare a fully operational RWP 2025-2027 to be presented to RCGs in 2023. Evaluated by STECF and ok by COM by the end of 2023, so RWP is available for MS in early 2024 when they are discussing their NWP.
 - MS to include all RWP agreed elements in their NWP during 2024.
- 6. STECF also suggested that:
 - All RCGs progress within the same timeframe when constructing the RWPs (i.e. 2025-27)
 - Time will be needed for MS to interact with RCGs before summer 2023
 - Update period for RWP should be the same as for NWP
 - What should be the reference period for RWP? To be addressed during RCG 2022 session
 - MS having already proposed a NWP covering the period 2025-2027 will need to resubmit in order to take account of the RWP
- 7. STECF commented on the document "RWP and NWP feedback and roadmap 2021" presented by RCGs chairs during EWG-20-18:
 - Each MS is required to hold one set of tables and one text document for the NWP containing information on both national and regional aspects – having a standalone document is said to be a legal and financial obligation for MS.
 - Each row in the NWP table that is coordinated on regional level will have a reference to respective RWP where all elements will be detailed – some NWP tables do not contain formal link to RWP and in this case the field comments should be used.
 - All possible types of regional coordination and planning should be able to be included/identified in RWP and mirrored in NWP
- 8. **In summary**,
 - What has Fishn'Co to do and propose for RCGs 2022? The more the RWP contents to be proposed in June 2022 is close to the final RWP to be drafted in 2023 the better. That is why it is so important to focus on the consultation process that is going to be launched soon.
 - The critical period goes from November 2022 to September 2023, when it will be the last time period before the official RWP.

Round of Q&A

- 9. Marie Storr-Paulsen (DTU-Aqua), enquires about the percentage of MS that have adopted table 2.1 during the last test-run. Do we have an idea of where we are?
Joël Vigneau, we do not know the precise number yet because the officially adopted NWPs are still not fully available on the EU Data collection website. Once they are released it is an exercise that we will do.

Blanca García (DG MARE) confirms that the NWP's would be released soon.

10. Remigijus Sakas (University of Klaipėda), about table 2.1. he is very happy with the fact that the table will be prepared in coordination and have time to discuss. However, he points out that there are still inconsistencies not only the percentages but also the selection YES or NOT.

Joël Vigneau, the table was put on hold in Sept. We are working in coordination with EU experts to improve the consistency and this is being addressed with the EC.

There are two types of discrepancies: mismatches that have to do with the ongoing coding; and mismatches resulting from MS reporting different figures to EuroStat and/or RCG data calls than those to be reported nationally. STECF said not to use Eurostat and prefer the information from RCG Datacalls. This is a difficult task, there has been good progress on this and the forthcoming consultation process should help.

Blanca García, The EC is taking care of discussions and about inconsistencies, but they cannot commit to sort out everything.

11. Kirsten Birch Håkansson (DTU-Aqua), could the Data Call include a note to say what will go into the RWP?

Joël Vigneau, suggests that maybe this question should be addressed to RCGs chairs.

12. Joël ask Blanca about her feeling about STECF evaluation. Blanca states that it was very positive. Now it is for MS and Fishn'Co to think where to take it, to decide in the RCGs.

13. Blanca García, clarifies that RWP have not been “adopted” by COM, it is something that was mentioned during Joël’s presentation in relation to both the test run 2022 and the building of the next RWP. For 25-27 it is not yet clear if COM will adopt it or not. COM will adopt the NWP's for sure and the NWP may include information and the elements from the RWP but it is not clear that the RWP will be adopted as such. This is still being discussed in EC.

Status, action-plan and future needs for each Work Package

WPI. *Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps* - Linda O’Hea (Marine Institute), Hans van Oostenbrugge (WR)

14. Linda O’Hea(MI), presents a quick update of WP status. The main work to date has been looking at Level of ambition and current position. The current position will change over time and this will need update, and thus will not go into the RWP. However, the progression over time will be shown in an interactive infographic, this is still work in progress but can be visited [here](#)

The different Thematic Focus Areas (TFA) within WPI, a total of 10 TFA, have different levels of ambition and have progressed differently.

15. Status for each TFA

- Commercial fisheries, some of the case studies are still having discussions.
- Stomach sampling, we still need to look at what can be achieved.
- Surveys at sea, table 2.6 needs to be updated.
- Biological Data Quality, some subcontracting still to be done this year.

16. Follow up, decide what is achievable and what can finally be included in RWP.

17. Hans van Oostenbrugge (WUR), presents the status of the economic part. A few methodological issues have been identified related to Valuation of Physical Capital. There are guidelines on this respect, however some MS are still lagging behind. There has been sent out a questionnaire to find out how MS are implementing these guidelines.

Also, there is a discussion about the Effects of Alternative Segmentation application. We have met with ISSG Metiers from NANSEA. There will be a workshop on 28th-30th March to further analyse

this issue which will be based on analysis of catch data. Blanca García is interested in taking part in the workshop, she says to invite Zeynep (JRC) as well.

18. There is also the issue of social data. They are developing the social profiles. There will be a case study in the Netherlands to be launched in 2 months and presented in RCG ECON in May 2022.
19. Consistent implementation of guidelines is the main goal of RCG ECON, that is the level of ambition for regional coordination set at the last RCG ECON meeting. But also, identification of issues which need international cooperation and that could have advantages for data consistency. Analyse inventory in April 2022.
20. The action plan for next months is to analyse results coming out from questionnaire and workshops (March and April). The basic profile for social data/national community to be developed in April. All to feed into RCG ECON in May 2022.

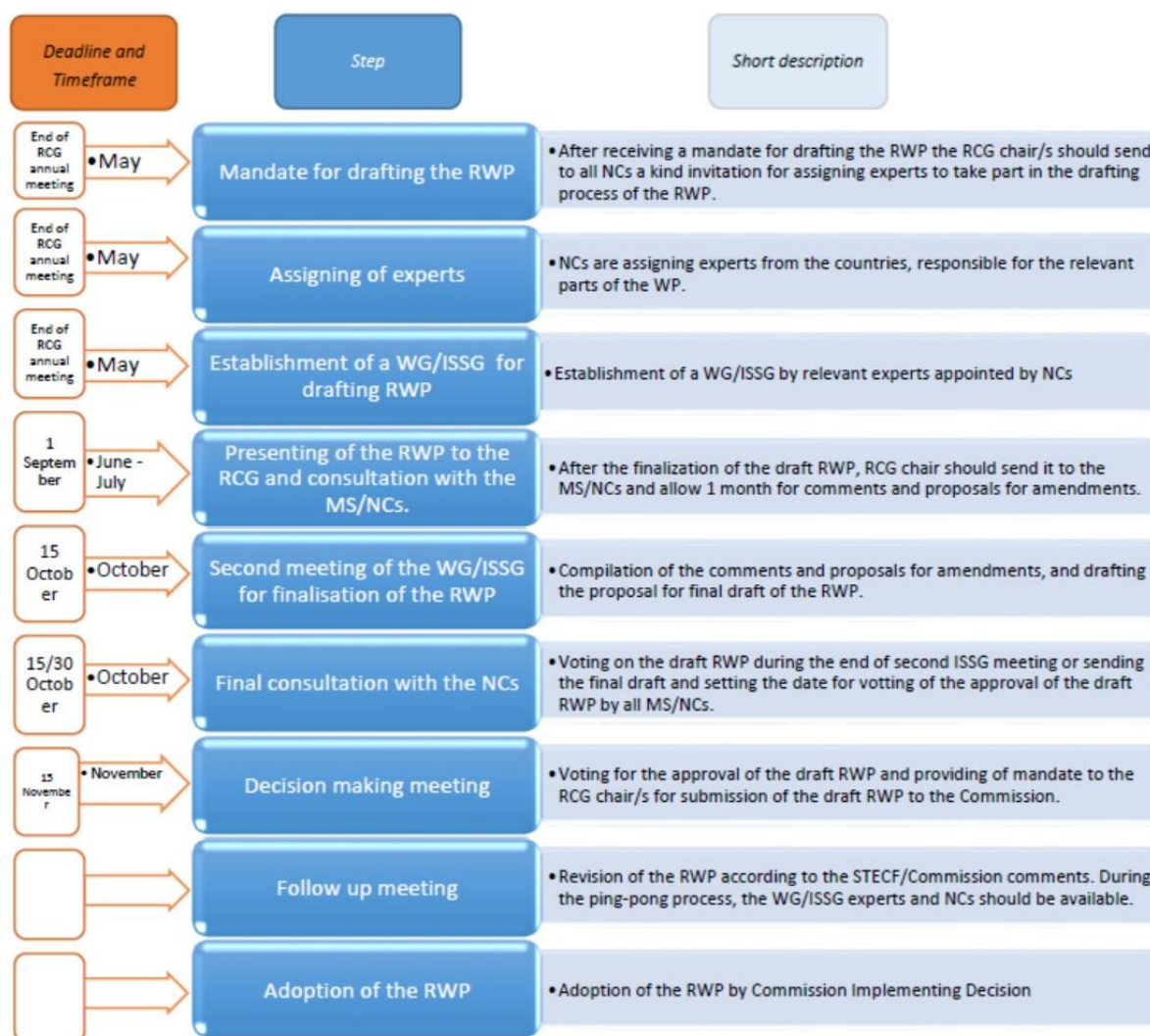
Round of Q&A

21. Joël Vigneau, the general plan is to compile everything in February, to be sent together, all the relevant questions, by the end of February for consultation.

WP2. *Establishing decision-making structures/processes - Kolyo Zhelev (EAFA), Jørgen Dalskov (DTU-Aqua), Els Torreele (ILVO)*

22. Kolyo Zhelev (EAFA), presents the status of WP2. WP2 had a recent meeting to discuss RWP development, timeline, connections between NWP and RWP and the time schedule. How the timeline will fit into Fishn'Co.
23. Presentation of "Draft decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans" and discussion on how to improve the document before send it to the NCs. This is a flow chart document, step by step:

Draft Scenario for the Draft decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans



36

24. When we were reviewing the flow, there were a lot of questions that remain, such as: who will be responsible for what and how will be the process. Also, questions related on how to include new tables, boxes, etc. Deadline and timeline were scheduled for one year, without taking into consideration STECF conclusions at that point. This will be revised accordingly.

The first step is the inclusion of the point in the agenda of RCGs, giving a mandate to include the drafting of RWP once Fishn'Co comes to an end. Another critical point is the communication channel among NCs, experts, RCGs chairs and EC. Who should inform NCs about the different decision to be taken into account? Should it be a special decision meeting with the participation of experts? During the preparation process is very important to have the availability of NCs and experts to follow the recommendations and be able to react quickly.

WP2 supports the idea of having a live document where comments are available in a transparent way.

25. The decision-making process should be ready soon for a new test run, to be presented to STECF and in 2023 to have time to prepare the final version of the RWP to be fully consistent and approved so that the 24 version enables its consideration for the NWP for the period 25-27.

There will be another WP2 meeting in February 2022 to fine tune some of the remaining questions and also to identify clearly the questions to address to NCs during upcoming consultation process. The feedback should be ready for the RCGs sessions in 2022.

We are also looking at RCGs RoPs to accommodate accordingly the RWPs, in to be reviewed in RCGs upcoming meetings.

Round of Q&A

26. Blanca García, explains that there is a procedure for the adoption of RWPs by EC, however, the procedure implies a lot of signatures in the hierarchy of EC and there are concerns about the legal implications. The EC is happy with the work in progress and they cannot guarantee that the whole machinery in the EC is ready for an adoption. The EC can commit to read RWPs and provide feedback. Kolyo Zhelev, so to clarify this question. The final adoption of RWP is not such, it will be an agreement. Jørgen Dalskov, at this point asks about Article 9.1. of the DCF? Which foresees the adoption of RWPs so he does not understand if this cannot be used... then something should be done.
- Blanca García, it is foreseen in the regulation to commit to this decision, however the heavy machine is not ready yet. If we need to amend the every year it is going to be difficult. To facilitate the task, we suggest to have agreements at RCGs level and take it to NWP. At the same time, we are having discussions with our legal services trying to find the solution however not ready yet.
- Joël Vigneau, this is indeed a very important point. We do not want to change the plans every year. Then maybe EC can reflect on the adoption. Very difficult to test if there is nothing tangible.
- Jorgen Dalskov, it is important to know EC expectations. On the RoPs we are referring to this article and we need to know about the interpretation of article 9, when we are revising the RoPs.
- Blanca García, agrees to provide a short text to WP2 leaders related to this issue.

WP3. Drafting Regional Work Plans - Joël Vigneau (IFREMER)

27. Joël Vigneau, comments WP3 achievements so far.
- Formating the templates, there were no comments which is a good sign. Now needs to be endorsed/validated/amended by WP2.
 - Table 1.2, approved and appreciated by STECF
 - Table 2.1, STECF stated that the European TAC and shares should not be filled by individual MS. We are working to progress on this, by the end of June we can evaluate what can be done or can be approved.
 - Working on other tables: ambition textboxes and table 1.3 Bi and multilateral agreements, it has disappeared from the test run, working on this to see what we deliver for 2023.

28. The plan for 2022:

- In principle, no change on the templates. They should be kept at least for the next two years.
- Ongoing work on table 2.1 with EU and FIDES experts
 - Table 1.3 on agreements, should be part of RWP. Therefore, we need to draft a question on this specific topic.

29. Joël Vigneau, shows examples of the type of questions to be included in the questionnaire:

- Q3.1 - RCG NANS&EA and Baltic proposed a new template for the RWP test run 2022;
 - do you agree with the template as presented (i.e. same template as NWP)? Y/N
 - Please comment and/or suggest on the need for a revised version
- Q3.2 – Proposed table 2.1 raised a lot of questions on its use together with NWP table 2.1. Further, STECF (November 2021) stated that the fields European TAC and shares should not be filled by MS on their own but from a collaborative effort.
 - Do you agree with this approach? Y/N
 - Fishn'Co will prepare a new table 2.1 for the RCGs 2022 for testing purpose, what would be your best case scenario for this table?

- Q3.3 – Table I.3 on bi and multi lateral agreements was not considered for the RWP test run 2022 because of the lack of time and expertise to ensure completeness of the table at a regional scale between June and September 2021
- Do you agree that table I.3 should be part of a RWP? Y/N
 - Please comment

Round of Q&A

30. Marie Storr-Paulsen, in relation to table 2.1 points out that the people with the right skills are all very stressed at the moment. Irek Wojcik agrees.
31. Irek Wojcik believes that table I.3. should be part of the RWP. There was no time this year. He suggests having an ISSGs dedicated to this. Maybe the RCG's Secretariat could help to collect the information needed about the agreements in force, compile this information from MS.
- Rosa Fernández, in relation to the RCG's Secretariat the work load is already above the original commitment. Need to understand first what the job will entail before we can commit to it. Els Torreele, is in support, as Secweb coordinator she knows the pressure that is on the RCG's Secretariat at the moment.
- Joël Vigneau, WP3 will cover that need in relation to table I.3. while Fishn'Co is running. Afterwards, we need to reflect on the matter again.
- Irek, clarifies that the idea of having the RCG's Secretariat involved was to set up a channel, where all NCs could be asked to leave their comments and MS could update table I.3.
- Rosa Fernández, if that is the need then it could be assume under WP4 of Fishn'Co.
- Joël, it could work Fishn'Co to set up the template and have the NCs to fill it in.

WP4. Communication and dissemination and coordination with SecWeb Project - Rosa Fernández (CETMAR), Els Torreele (ILVO)

32. Rosa Fernández, presents an overview of the communication and dissemination strategy of Fishn'Co. The dissemination and communication plan (DCP) is one of the important commitments, during the first months we had identified the elements, channels, target audience, etc. of the DCP. Now we have a consolidated document that will be available soon on FISHN'CO SharePoint.
- The DCP is a living document that is updated periodically, we need to keep flexible in case some of the needs might change or we encounter emerging needs.
- The DCP contains a communication action planner where all the actions are mapped in terms of timing, target audience, channel, communication products, etc.
33. Contents and materials,
- Project leaflet, to use and share with people that might not be familiar with the project [visit here](#)
 - Newsletter, in coordination with Secweb communication strategy. In the first issue of the RCG's newsletter (released in December 2021) there were included two items directly related to Fishn'Co:
<https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/regional-work-plans-for-data-collection-in-the-fisheries-and-aquaculture-sectors-launched-for-testing/>
<https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/interview-with-joel-vigneau/>
 To subscribe to the newsletter, use the link below:
<https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/newsletter/>
 - Fishn'Co project has its own microsite in the RCG's webpage, <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/fishnco/>

- WPI infographic, this is an interactive infographic that contains the information on ambition levels from all TFA all in one single entry point. This is still work in progress as we are in coordination with WPI leaders to get the final updates. The preliminary version can be visited [here](#). At this point, it is important to decide how we want the matrix/structure because changes to the structure imply redoing the whole thing. On the other hand, new information on the different items (rows) it can easily be updated, there is a spreadsheet that feeds into the infographic and the changes are automatic. This feature also allows to see the progress/evolution over time is like having a picture taken at different stages.
- 34. Els Torreele, explains the rationale behind the combined communication strategy for both SecWeb and Fishn'Co project. SECWEB aims indeed at improving not only the communication but also what it has been developed in the two projects. We need to be careful that everything that has been built is running smoothly after the projects end, 31st Dec 2022. In the NCs meeting in March we will present the results, where we stand now, results from the long-term funding consultation. The importance of having decisions on how to proceed with the RCG's Secretariat once the project is finished. CETMAR is a partner of the project, they are not officially the Secretariat. We had a meeting with ICES they are fully supporting of RCG's Secretariat takes it further. We could have a letter of support from ICES if needed.
The communication of FISHN'CO can perfectly be channeled together with SECWEB. WPI infographic, for example, it could be part of the long-term communication as it has the potential to be the RCGs dashboard.
- 35. Rosa Fernández comments the action plan for the next months:
 - Continue communication and dissemination activities in support of all WP
 - Support the consultation processes
 - Support the Fishn'Co interventions in the RCGs meetings
 - Stakeholders' events and networking
 - Set-up and permanent update of the Stakeholders database for the RWP
 - A shared identification of stakeholders is in progress

Round of Q&A

- 36. Joël Vigneau, praises the results of WPI infographic. The output is fantastic for RCGs as you can see the full scope of regional coordination in a single page. It could be a living document beyond Fishn'Co.
- 37. Marie Storr-Paulsen, asks about the practicalities of updating the infographic. Is there a place where TFA leaders can update the contents?
Rosa Fernández, at the moment Linda O'Hea and Manon Troucellier are the ones compiling and receiving feedback from WPI and also in charge of updates. Not sure about the idea of everyone having permits to edit, it is something that we should explore further. It could be that the infographic is embedded in a website. There are still things to consider on this regard.
Els Torreele, we need to think how to continue the work beyond Fishn'Co, RCGs need to endorse the infographic. And then it could probably be embedded in RCG's website. In fact, the Secretariat should be in charge of updating. Joël agrees.
- 38. Hans van Oostenbrugge, also likes the WPI infographic, however, he points out that it could be misleading some how as you compare the level of ambition rather than using specific aims for specific RCGs. For example, for ECON common data collection is not the aim. Putting this together with other case studies can give the notion that they are behind.
The users of the infographic should know that the overall aim for the different groups is not to reach level 5. So, infographic is not used a score board.

Els Torreele, sees the point and this is something that it should be very clear when communicating, the same way when it goes to RCGs for endorsement must be very clear.

WP5. Coordination and management - Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), Rosa Fernández (CETMAR)

39. Joël Vigneau, on the management side of things we are committed to consultation process with NCs coming up in March. Also, with the proposal to set up a channel/document online to work RWP in a collaborative way. In addition, dealing with the Interim report and interim payment.
40. Rosa Fernández, Fishn'Co partners are aware that CETMAR is in the process of gathering the financial and technical information for the interim report. CETMAR then will report to IFREMER by mid-February so the interim report can be submitted within the deadline, end of February 2022.

Agreements and further actions

- **Next Fishn'Co plenary meeting on Monday 23rd May 2022, 9:30- 12:30 (CET)**
- There will be a WP leaders meeting before RCG ECON (4 - 6th May) so they can have the feedback needed.

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
WPI meeting	WPI leaders	Mid-February
WP2 meeting	WP2 leaders	Mid-February
Consultation process	All WP leaders	Feb-March
Reporting and RWP proposals to the RCGs	All WP leaders	April-May

The meeting ends by 12:20 (CET)



Annex: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Els Torreele	ILVO	BE	Y
Sabine de Peuter	ILVO	BE	Y
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BG	Y
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	BG	Y
Sven Stötera	THÜNEN	DE	N
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Kirsten Birch Håkansson	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Elo Rasmann	University of Tartu - EMI	EE	N
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	ES	Y
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	ES	Y
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ES	Y
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	ES	Y
Irina Jakovleva	Fisheries Service (Ministry of Agriculture Lithuania)	LTU	N
Isabel Bruno	IEO	ES	Y
Jose Luis Cebrian	IEO	ES	Y
Jose Rodríguez	IEO	ES	Y
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	FI	Y
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	FI	Y
Heidi Pokki	LUKE	FI	Y
Joel Vigneau	IFREMER	FR	Y
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	FR	Y
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	PT	Y
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PT	Y
Ivone Figueiredo	IPMA	PT	Y
Marta Rufino	IPMA	PT	Y
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	FR	Y
Blanca García	MARE		
Eleni Bintoudi	MARE		
Tim Lemmens	MARE		
David Currie	MI	IE	Y
Linda O'Hea	MI	IE	Y
Irek Wójcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	PL	N
Sven Stötera	THÜNEN	DE	N
Jens Ulleweit	THÜNEN	DE	N
Remigijus Sakas	University of Klaipeda	LTU	N
Antanas Kontautas	University of Klaipeda	LTU	N
Tiit Raid	University of Tartu	EE	N



Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Didzis Ustups	Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment	LV	N
Maksims Kovšars	Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment	LV	N
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	NL	Y
Jamal Roskam	WUR	NL	Y
Sieto Verver	WUR	NL	Y
Inês Ferreira	DGRM - Gov	PT	N
Suzana Cano	DGRM - Gov	PT	N
Maria Hansson	SLU	SE	N
Nuno Prista	SLU	SE	N
José Castro Pampillón	IEO	SP	Y



5th Plenary meeting for compiling all RWP initiatives and questionnaires for communication to NCs

Date	23/05/2022	Venue	
Time	09:30 (CET)		Virtual (MS Teams)

Attendees

31 people attended the meeting, including partners and non-partners. For more details see Annex I.

Objectives

- To present the results from NCs consultation launched in April 2022 and agree on the key messages for RCG/TM coming in June.

Agenda

- 09:30 Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 09:35 RWP saga, where are we now?**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 10:00 Outputs from the recent NC consultation – Preparing for RWPs**
WP Leaders
- 10:30 Preparation of elements for discussion/agreement in the forthcoming RCGs**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), WP leaders, Task leaders
- 11:15 Coffee-break**
- 11:30 Plan ahead for the project**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), Rosa Fernández (CETMAR)
- 12:00 Discussion, questions from the audience and conclusions**
- 12:30 Closure**

Specific issues addressed

Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting

- Joël Vigneau, Fishn'Co project coordinator, welcomes everyone and proceeds with the adoption of the agenda and objectives of the meeting. Joël also mentioned that some people presented their excuses for not attending today, as it is an extremely busy period and other meeting are taking place at the same time.
- One of the main **objectives** of the meeting is to present the results from NCs consultation launched in April 2022 and agree on the key messages for RCG/TM coming in June.



Prepare the presentations as planned in the RCG agenda (8th June all afternoon):

- Presentation on the outputs of the consultation on the future of RWP;
- Presentation on the infographics for monitoring RCG/ISSGs activities;
- Presentation on the elements to form the basis of future RWP;
- Agreement on reviving the ISSG on Drafting RWP to take over Fishn'Co project by the end of the year;
- Discussion on a plan of action to get official RWPs 2025-2027 by the next TM 2023.

RWP saga, where are we now?

3. Do we need a RWP test run in 2023?
4. Regional Work Plan adoption timeline. There are three possible scenarios depending on the procedure for adoption by European Commission.
Some MS have expressed their preference for a formal adoption. European Commission however is in favour of a multilateral agreement procedure similar to the ones done for surveys as this would allow for a more agile response and to better encompass the timing with the National Work Plans.
5. Joël also reflects on the fact that we need to plan for next year, what needs to be done and how we will carry on after FISHN'CO project comes to an end. Joël is on the opinion that the ISSG on drafting Regional Work plans will have to be revived. Ideally, a co-chair should also be found for sharing responsibilities with Joël, that way a smooth transition is guaranteed before Joël retires.
6. RWP 2025-2027 to be ready by the second quarter of 2023. It goes back to RCGs during the DM in September so we are all clear when it comes to implement the RWP 2025-2027.

Outputs from the recent NC consultation

7. The consultation was launched in April 2022, and it was addressed to all MS. The questionnaire was fine tuned and published using the EU survey platform.
<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/home/welcome>

The final questionnaire is available on Teams [here](#) as well as the file with MS replies/ feedback [here](#)

8. CETMAR helped with the publication of the questionnaire and also the corresponding reminders. Overall, we had a good rate of responses, so far, we have received the feedback from 21 MS. Although some key countries, like Spain, are still missing. We will try to get their feedback before RCGs technical meeting in June. In this regard, Blanca García offered to contact Spain and remind them about the outstanding questionnaire.
9. There was some confusion with Mediterranean MS, as they thought they did not need to cover the questionnaire because of STREAMLINE project. Joël has been in communication with STREAMLINE coordination team and they are aware of the consultation. Additionally, the feedback obtained within FISHN'CO consultation will be shared with STREAMLINE.
10. The outputs of the consultation are very promising, we have received many YES therefore these could be elements to be included in the RWP.
11. Manon Troucelier shows an overview of the responses obtained from the NCs consultation:

RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION BY QUESTION



The vast majority of questions have received a high percentage of YES (in green), there is an approval of issues proposed, there is a general consensus. MS that have replied NO to many of the questions correspond to MS that are not really concerned by the issues.

12. However, the section relating to **stomach sampling** has received a high percentage of NO, thus this is a subject that needs further consideration. Not all countries are collecting stomach samples according to ISSG protocol. In that respect, Marie Storr-Paulsen comments that the recommendation was to use the protocol in the IBTS survey, so it is kind of expected that MS are not all following the protocol. The transportation of biological material for later analysis is complicated. Some MS are willing to do the stomach analysis for other MS.
13. The **decision-making structure** proposed gets the approval. The structure proposed did not consider the formal adoption by European Commission. Some questions remain about the formal adoption of RWP by EC. This is something to be further discussed further at RCG level. Blanca is interested in the comments received as she might further elaborate on this topic during the RCG meeting.
14. The section on **large pelagics (LP)**, Mathieu explains that the elements for the RWP were focused on a specific fishery, namely: purse-seine tropical tuna. Among the reasons to choose that fishery he highlighted the cooperation between France, Spain and Italy the main MS involved. This LP fishery will be considered as a reference, as a starting point and from there learn how to apply the regional approach to other LP fisheries.
15. There is a big consensus about the inclusion of **different tables** (Table 1.2; 1.3; 2.1, ...)
16. **Monitoring the work progress towards RWPs**, the level of ambition infographic has received a variety of comments. In general, MS need more information about the infographic. The infographic is conceived as a monitoring tool rather than as an element to be included in the RWP. The infographic is an output from FISHN'CO that can be used directly by RCGs, this can be further discussed during the RCG technical meeting.

Marie Storr-Paulsen mentions that there is need to discuss what are we going to do if MS do not all agree to the same Level of Ambition towards regional coordination. Joël sees Marie's point and perhaps this is something that could be considered in the decision-making structure developed within WP2 FISHN'CO.



Q5.a. Do you find the information available on the infographic useful and clear?
Please explain in comments.



-Yes in general. But as for format, not all the text is readable.
-The no : Infographic is very limited in information. Different themes are not entirely comparable and clearly some of themes can be identified as more urgent than others.
Urgency should be policy driven which is not entirely clear.

Q5.d. Do you agree to display the interactive infographic of Levels of ambition developed within Fishn Co on the RCG's website?

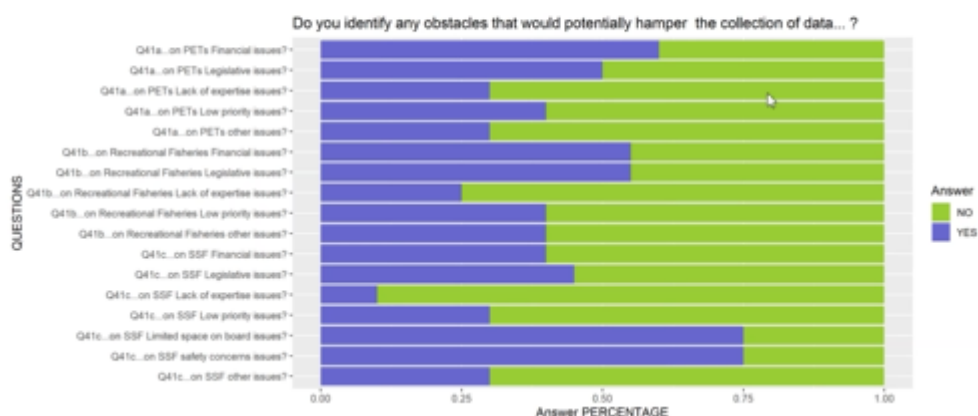


Yes, but not as an agreement that these themes have been agreed to be advanced as RWP at any cost and without making priorities.
Too detailed for the wider public. Maybe highlights are useful to demonstrate progress

There are still questions about the most convenient use of the infographic. However, most MS agree with the concept. The infographic is going to be presented in plenary session during the RCG meeting in June, so all MS can appropriate the concept.

17. Pets, recreational and small-scale fisheries

RWP CONTENTS ABOUT PETS, RECREATIONAL AND SMALL SCALE FISHERIES



These questions were analysed in a slightly different way as they had a different structure. There are comments that are not shown in this initial analysis.

Estanis Mugerza is interested in the consultation feedback and to extract information towards the annual report for the technical meeting.

Round of Q&A

18. Maria Hansson, according to the NC consultation feedback it seems that there are still a lot of questions to be discussed at RCG level. We need to think about how to do this? Maybe a regional analysis of the results might help to narrow down some of the issues/topics. We need a plan on how to tackle the discussion. Also, a deeper analysis of results, that would allow us to identify whether we have a few countries that have a problem with all elements proposed, or different countries having a problem with the same issue.

Preparation of elements for discussion/agreement in the forthcoming RCGs

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER TODAY

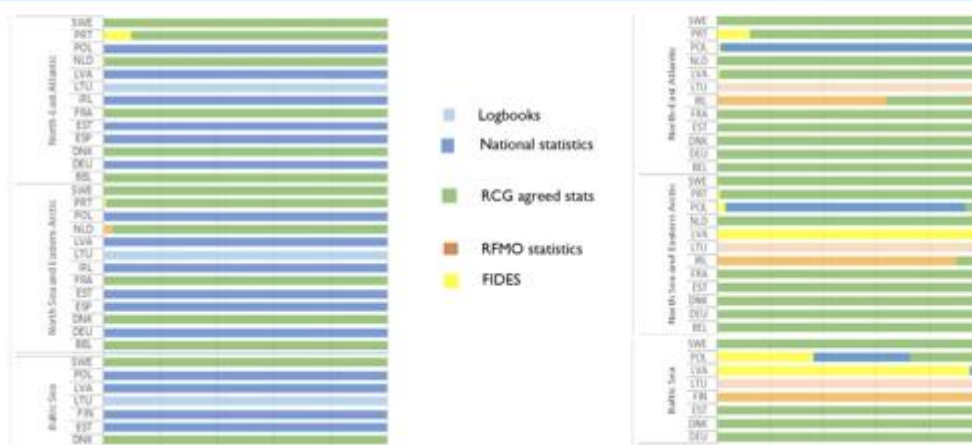
- Do we have new materials to include in a RWP test run 2023? If yes do we need to test and receive feedbacks on the inclusion of this information in a RWP? Or do we have sufficient approval on principles from the consultation to skip that stage?
- When preparing the RWP for 2025-27 by mid-2023
 - which option do we prepare?
 - What are the contents we propose?
 - How do we make it happen?

19. Do we need a new test run in 2023?

Joël believes that is not necessary. Maria Hansson, her opinion is also not to go for a test-run 2023. It takes a lot of time also to get feedback. Better to go for the actual RWP and work through it. Harriet van Overzee also agrees. No need for a RWP test-run in 2023, we could follow a similar approach to that done for surveys.

20. Joël we will work on the presentations as planned in the RCG agenda. The results shown today will be further analysed to be included in the RCGs presentations.

TABLE 2.1 – WHAT HAVE MS USED IN THEIR NWP 2022-2024??



21. Table 2.1, initially when we presented table 2.1. there was a lot of confusion on how to use it. However, from the graph above we can see that around half of the MS have taken our data (in green, RCG agreed stats). The graph was done taking into consideration the NWP publicly available and looking at the different sources that they have used to build their tables. This fact points out that NCs and MS are very eager to take the information that we provide at RCG level. This is very promising.

22. Rosa Fernández presented the level of ambition infographic:
[Level of ambition Infographic](#)

48

The preliminary infographic was done using Power Point, which proved to be limiting in terms of allowing changes and updates to the initial design. We have found a new tool fit for purpose, Power BI. The output is similar to the initial one with the advantage that it allows more flexibility to add and updated contents. Also is much more interactive, you can filter and select different thematic focus areas and a lot of information is displayed in pop-ups. In addition, the procedure for updating the infographic is quite straight forward, it feeds from an Excel file.

Joël, ideally we would like an agreement on the level of ambition for each thematic focus area, we need to think how to steer this discussion at the RCG meeting in June.

Linda O'Hea, there are still gaps in some thematic focus areas which it does not help with the visualization. Linda is going to contact WPI task leaders for last updates to infographic.

David Currie, comments that the infographic display could benefit from adding lines or number to the ambition levels. So, you could in one glance the level of ambition achieved for each thematic focus area.

23. Elements that will be the basis of the RWP

Joël, from the NCs consultation we can extract a clear roadmap: tables, surveys ... a lot of elements to be included. Our work now it is to compile the different elements that have been test run. Elements from the different ISSGs, so in collaboration with thematic focus areas task leaders we have to figure out what are we going to propose at the RCGs meeting. Tangible elements that will be definitively propose for RWP in July 2023. RWP 2025-2027 is to be finalized by May 2023 prior to the RCGs meetings.

Blanca García asks if an exchange with DG-MARE C4 unit is needed in this regard. Joël says that an email exchange or quick meeting would be much appreciated.

Round of Q&A

24. The group is on the opinion that the plenary discussion at RCG level should focus on the items to include on RWP 2025-2027.
- Diadromous, there are still some doubts with the species that could be included as they also live in fresh waters.
 - Estanis Mugerza, points out the inclusion of RDBES... as a reference for the situation about recreational fisheries.
 - Marie Storr, from their experience in filling out table 2.5, the Baltic small pelagic case study they have some suggestions for improvement.
 - Rita Vasconcelos, Iberian trawl case study still working on how to proceed, things have not worked out. There will not be any proposal for the RWP.
 - Mathieu Depetris, sampling plan for large pelagics build on the cooperation between France and Spain, they are hoping to also have Italy in the loop.
 - Linda O'Hea, Surveys the plan is to include table 2.6

All presentation should be ready by the 6th June when we meet in Ostende prior to the RCG technical meeting.

Project situation

25. Project Interim report was submitted in March 2022, you can find all the information on Teams under WP5 folder
[FISHN'CO interim report](#)
We have received some comments to the report from DG MARE and FISHN'CO coordination team is working on these comments to resubmit the interim report before the end of this week.

AOB

26. Blanca García, Fishn'Co project officer, she announces that she is leaving DG MARE. From 1st June she is taking on her new position and therefore she will no longer be the project officer. Monika Sterczewska will take on Blanca's role as Fishn'Co project officer.

Agreements and further actions

- **Next Fishn'Co meeting on Monday 6th June 2022, 13:30- 16:00 (CET)**

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Uploaded NC consultation feedback on Teams	CETMAR (Susana)	24/052022
Contact WPI task leaders for updates to the infographic	MI (Linda)	02/06/2022
Prepare presentations for RCG meeting in June	WP leaders	06/06/2022
Fine-tune infographic display	CETMAR	06/06/2022

The meeting ends by 12:40 (CET)



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Annex: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BG	Y
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Mollie Elizabet Brooks	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y
Elo Rasmann	University of Tartu - EMI	EE	N
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	ES	Y
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	ES	Y
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ES	Y
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	ES	Y
Irina Jakovleva	Fisheries Service (Ministry of Agriculture Lithuania)	LTU	N
Isabel Bruno	IEO	ES	Y
Jose Luis Cebrian	IEO	ES	Y
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	FI	Y
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	FI	Y
Joel Vigneau	IFREMER	FR	Y
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	FR	Y
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	PT	Y
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PT	Y
Marta Rufino	IPMA	PT	Y
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	FR	Y
Blanca García	MARE		
David Currie	MI	IE	Y
Linda O'Hea	MI	IE	Y
Irek Wójcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	PL	N
Antanas Kontautas	University of Klaipeda	LTU	N
Didzis Ustups	Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environmen	LV	N
Maksims Kovšars	Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environmen	LV	N
Ricard Buxó	Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. General Secretary for Fisheries	ES	N
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	NL	Y
Harriet van Overzee	WR	NL	Y
Inês Ferreira	DGRM - Gov	PT	N
Maria Hansson	SLU	SE	N

6th Plenary meeting for compiling all RWP initiatives and questionnaires for communication to NCs

Date	02/12/2022	Venue	
Time	09:30 (CET)		Virtual (MS Teams)

Attendees

24 people attended the meeting, including partners and non-partners. For more details see Annex I.

Objectives

- Prepare for the final phase of the project

Agenda

- 09:30 Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 09:35 Lessons learned from the RCG 2022 season**
- looking back to RCGs discussions and recommendations + Decision meetings, etc...
 - clear path to RWP
 - revival of ISSG/RWP + hand-over by Fishn'co
- 10:10 Outcomes of the Vigo workshop**
- taking care of the NC consultation
 - Progress and achievements on all elements to be included in RWP
 - RWP text and tables ready to be completed
 - decision making process
- 11:00 Coffee-break**
- 11:15 Final phase of the project**
- looking at all deliverables and timelines
 - Communication and dissemination
 - administrative needs
 - plan ahead
- 12:00 Discussion, questions from the audience and conclusions**
- 12:30 Closure**

Specific issues addressed

Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting

1. Joël Vigneau, Fishn'Co project coordinator, welcomes everyone and proceeds with the adoption of the agenda and objectives of the meeting.
2. One of the main **objectives** of the meeting is to present the outcomes from Vigo workshop and steer in the discussion on how to find tune the deliverables.
3. Joël also informed that the request for a two-months project extension has been granted. Fishn'co submitted a new calendar going until the end of Feb 2023. Which it means in administrative terms that project partners can claim staff costs until that period.

Lessons learned from the RCG 2022 season

4. Since last plenary in May 2022, we accomplished the consultation process successfully and we have dedicated a lot of effort to integrate the feedback from the consultation process into Fishn'Co outputs and also making the consultation results accessible for everyone. This took a big part of the work during June and summer 2022. [Report on the NCs consultation_final.pdf](#)
5. In September 2022, during RCG Decision meeting, national correspondents agreed on developing RWPs for 2025-2027 by mid 2023 with no formal adoption needed by COM.
6. Additionally, it was decided to revive the ISSG Regional Work Plan but not only that, the ISSG would have a pan regional scope. Thus, there is the need for an extra chair from the Med&BS region to join the ISSG. The nomination of an extra chair for ISSG/RWP is an issue that still needs to be discussed further with RCGs chairs.
7. Fishn'Co objective is to draft the most accurate RWP with all the material that is now available. Advance as much as possible with all the elements that are mature enough to be regionally coordinated, as we have learned from the consultation there are enough elements to be included in the RWP. So, let's do it!
8. All project deliverables to be finalized by the end of Jan 2023. This would allow enough time for NCs to feedback and consult internally before the RCG technical meetings take place.

52

Outcomes of the Vigo workshop

9. Last October, during the workshop in Vigo, the group started drafting the RWPs. The working files can be found on Teams ([WORKSHOP Oct 2022 Vigo Working Files](#)) as well as the RWP proposals [RWP 2025-2027](#). The structure is there, there is also some text, we need to make sure that the work is finished. During the workshop people was appointed as responsible for each task, to monitor the progress and make sure that everything is on track. That file can be consulted here, [RWP_responsibilities_allocated.xlsx](#)
10. The main message today is: How to do this? Fishn'Co to collect all elements of coordinated activities within the different ISSGs
 - Picking up those elements mature to be part of RWP
 - Proposing those elements which seem relevant providing some adjustments during 2023. Remember our proposed RWP will go through a consultation and RCG technical meeting and decision meeting before being final. So, don't shy up proposing anything at this stage. Joël encouraged the fact of proposing elements, if we don't proposed these elements they will never get to the RWP.
11. Joël asked the group if they agreed with this proposal in general terms. Joël is also interested in knowing COM's opinion on the matter.



Round of Q&A

12. Maria Hansson (co-chair ISSG RWP) found Joël's presentation very clarifying in terms of the next steps towards 2023. Maria also added that herself and Joël as ISSG RWP chairs are going to meet next week to program ISSG task for 2022-2023. After that meeting, they will have a clearer idea on the human resources needed to accomplish the ISSG tasks for the season.
13. Monika Sterczweska (COM) commented that it is good to see the RWP tables and textboxes getting shape. Values positively the fact of having concrete material to work with.

WPI update

14. Linda O'Hea (WPI leader), WPI tasks are now fully completed. However, there is some work in progress to complete textboxes here and there. The plan is to review the progress in early Jan to make sure that all expected inputs are in place. Also, we are going to look again at the level of ambition because some things might have changed and we will update accordingly. WPI is also preparing for the final phase and to provide some text for the final report.
15. Regarding the socioeconomic part, Hans van Oostenbrugge (WPI task leader) gave a comprehensive update of the situation. The approach followed for RWP ECON is slightly different in the sense that the contents of RWP would be composed of agreed definitions of variables and methods. The process followed the following steps:
 - Consultation with MS for comments
 - Compile comments and provide solutions
 - Circulate provisional solutions before the meeting
 - ISSG meeting to discuss comments and proposed solutions

During the ISSG meeting (Nov 2022) all comments were discussed, with a quite large number of experts, 44 experts from 22 MS, very good coverage. Additionally, all variables were also discussed during the meeting. Overall results by groups: fleet segmentation agreed on 20 definitions; aquaculture agreed on 25 definitions; processing agreed on 20 definitions; and 7 definitions agreed on social aspects. There are still some outstanding issues. All this information is currently being processed and it will be reported to Fishn'Co. The full description of the process will also be part of WPI deliverable. Additionally, the group has already planned a workshop during 2023 to address some of the outstanding issues: valuation of tangible assets; and processing sector. RCG ECON as a group will discuss the formal adoption of RWP and the formal adoption process.

Round of Q&A

16. Joël expressed his concern with the overall structure and the formatting of ECON RWP, ideally it should not diverge greatly from other RWP structures. Joël suggested to discuss which is the best way to format ECON RWP proposal. Hans proposed to insert the definitions and methods in the textboxes as a way forward, therefore following the format.
17. Monika congratulated the group on the progress and the number of agreed definitions. She wondered if these definitions are very different from those of the Eurostat group because sometimes SBS (Structural Business Statistics) have complained about this. Hans commented that that point was also considered and discussed, the common understanding of the group is that definitions should be as close as possible. So, ECON is not diverging from SBS.
18. Joël pointed out to consider how to embed ECON RWP into NWP, as textboxes do not have to be in NWPs. NWPs can refer to textboxes without having to copy and paste all the information into each NWP.

19. Regarding country profiles, Hans clarified that no countries profiles for social variables will be included in ECON RWP.
20. Hans asked the group their opinion about the process for agreed definitions and whether or not they considered that they needed an additional round of comments. Hans explained that RCG ECON considers that the definitions have already been agreed by means of a participatory process and can be presented in the next RCG ECON technical meeting. Joël has not got a strong opinion on the matter, as long as we are transparent with the process he is fine with the approach.

WP2 update

21. Jørgen Dalskov (WP2 leader) we have now finalized the decision-making structure. This document will be part of Fishn'Co final deliverables.

Kolyo Zhelev commented on the final document

Draft_Scenario_Draft_decision-making_structures_for_developing_the_regional_work_plans_WP2_V.4_Final_clean.docx

The main changes in the document compared to previous versions are related to the decision meeting and follow up meeting according to the group discussions and comments received by COM. During the ping-pong process the main driving force is the ISSG RWP. Joël referring to the ping-pong process commented that there might be some duplication between comments received by NCs and RCG chairs and foresees the problem of handling many different versions of the same document. Monika on that point suggested to consider using google docs instead of sending attachments in emails. It is true that DCF has formal procedures but maybe this is something that could be considered in the loop process before the final approval. And send requirements for active involvement of NCs. Els agreed with the approach of sending requirements to NCs.

At this point, it is suggested that a communication channel between RCG chairs, COM, NCs and ISSG RWP is needed. The group asked CETMAR if this is something that the RCG's Secretariat could support. Susana Rivero (RCG's Secretariat team) commented that indeed this communication channel is something that can be supported by the secretariat, there is a communication module within the stakeholder's database that is actually under construction that could be used for the purpose. Monika commented that there are also dedicated apps to approve comments and track the changes that could be useful. Susana commented on the willingness of the secretariat to support this sort of services and to liaise with WP2 leaders to specify the requirements for the communication channel and explore the different possibilities.

22. Jørgen, we have revised the rules of procedures (RoP) again for RCGs to adapt and to accommodate for the development and adoption of RWP. We believe that at this stage RoPs do not need further amendments as there is no need to have consensus to adopt/adhere to RWP. However, considering the two-month project extension WP2 group would call for a meeting and discuss this point further.
23. Irek supported the approach mentioned above. Irek revised the RoPs since the workshop held in October, Vigo and he foresees no changes to the RoPs.

Round of Q&A

24. Joël added that he would like to see some clarification on the relation between NWP and RWP, there is a strong expectation from NCs on this regard. Something like a guidance document on how to draw a NWP besides a RWP, how to deal with practical issues. For example, not duplicating the textboxes in NWPs, etc.

25. Marie Storr Paulsen (as Liaison meeting chair) recalled a problem during the Liaison meeting this year, what to do if a NC is not present, how to adopt a decision. This is something that nowadays is not covered by RoPs. It could be interesting to be considered in future revision of the RoPs.
26. Jørgen commented that there is no need for consensus, an NC not showing up to Decision meeting is something that is not acceptable, it is a legal obligation as NC. So, it is the COM to do something about it. Monika replied that there has been some high-level communication regarding this issue however it takes time.

WP3 update

27. Joël commented on the “low hanging-fruit”, the different elements that are ready to be part of a RWP.

Table 1.2. Meetings

Table 1.3. Bi and multilateral agreements. If regionally coordinated then there is no need for bilateral agreements anymore. This is a compilation of existing elements already.

Table 2.1. List of required species/stocks. Mathieu Depetris has been working hard on this, developing like a library (in the form of a function). Joël asked Kirsten Birch to comment on this work, as Mathieu could not join today. Kirsten has been involved in the work with a group of other coders and finds the recent developments very useful. Kirsten pointed out the need to find a server to store the work in a more stable way, long-term. Joël suggested to have a two-hour meeting to see how to move forward on this point. With the aim of setting the ground for updating tables 2.1 and incorporated them into RWPs as a output of Fishn'Co project.

WP4 and WP5 update

55

28. Susana gave an update of WP4, currently working on Fishn'Co video to be released before the end of the project. The video is targeted to a broader audience and describes the process of fisheries data collection for sound scientific advice as well as the importance of establishing RWPs. It is a short video, 3 to 4 minutes.
Additionally, there are some updates to be done in the infographic and we have started liaising with RCG Med&BS to discuss how to accommodate their ISSG on the infographic and develop an action plan for it.
29. Susana, regarding WP5 we have confirmation of two-month project extension, meaning that the Fishn'Co project will run until the end of February 2023. The official countersigned documents for the project amendment are expected soon, once we have received them they will be circulated among project partners for their records.
CETMAR will also send a communication before the end of the year to all project partners indicating clearly deadlines and instructions for the final financial and technical reporting. Considering the amount of project partners we most likely will follow a precautionary approach, and ask for the inputs well in advance.

Final phase of the project

30. Joël showed the progress made during the workshop in Vigo, the draft textboxes and tables for NANSEA, Baltic, Large pelagics and ECON RWPs can be consulted in the following link

[RWP 2025-2027](#)



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

There was a discussion whether or not to remove the tables that are not applicable to RWP, the group agreed to keep them so RWP retains the same structure as NWP and simply add not relevant in a regional context. The title of the RWP was also slightly adjusted.

31. Maria Hansson raised another topic for discussion, Maria wondered if ECON RWP should be kept separately or not and how to avoid working in parallel. Maria would like it to be part of other RWP so to reflect on all topics within a region.

Monika sees problems with this approach, there will be duplications of the textboxes.

Joël commented that the RWPs belong to RCGs, so Fishn'Co can propose it could be that Fishn'co presents the two options RWPs with and without the socioeconomic part.

Irek suggested to include a preamble indicating which tables are relevant within each section of the RWP.

Monika suggested to use reference to ECON RWP instead of copying the text in different documents, it is always tricky later on with updates and so on.

32. Textboxes for RDBES and diadromous will be readjusted before the end of the project.

Recreational fisheries, Estanis Mugerza (AZTI) commented that two topics can be included in the form of textboxes: RDBES data call in 2023 and the list of selected species for different regions. There has been recent work on the selection criteria, the criteria could go in the RWP. Joël commented to have a look at Med&BS RWP they have done some nice work on recreational fisheries.

33. It was agreed to use table 2.5 for completed case studies, other case studies that are in progress can be included in textbox I.b, to highlight the work in progress that is not completed yet.

Ana Cláudia Fernandes (IPMA) commented that the Iberian case study is not going to make any progress until 2025, therefore should be included in textbox I.b.

Estanis wondered who is going to be responsible for incorporating all case studies in textbox I.b because we are probably not aware of all ongoing case studies. Joël, it will be a task for the ISSG RWP, we are talking about case studies coordinated at regional level, so those should be in our radar.

34. PETS, Estanis there is also a list of agreed species. This list has been agreed by ICES not the RCG, still relevant.

35. Linda is going to check with the case study on freezer trawler whether there is updated info to be included in the RWP.

36. In the case of Surveys, there has been some progress, there is work ongoing so we are expecting more textboxes to come.

37. SSF, data model for the RDBES. Estanis is going to check whether this info can go into text I.b.

38. Textbox 4.2. Estanis is going to check with other experts what issues can be included here related to PETS. Monika this could be a good place to information specifically related to PETS. Estanis agreed, although problem is that most things are coordinated at national level and not at regional level. Estanis will check on information agreed at ICES expert groups.

39. Stomach sampling, since both ISSG chairs could not participate at Vigo workshop neither at this meeting Joël suggested to call for a meeting with them.

40. Joël referring to RWP tables and textboxes, all the wording should be final at the latest by the end of Jan 2023.

AOB

41. Monika commented that they have been discussing internally the dates for next NCs meeting, most likely dates 9 or 10 March 2023. It will be an online meeting.

Agreements and further actions



- All project deliverables to be finalized by the end of Jan 2023.
- Next **WP leaders meeting** beginning of Jan 2023.
- Next **Fishn'Co plenary meeting** will be first week of February.

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Complete text boxes and provide final WPI deliverable	Linda O'Hea (WPI leader)	31/01/2023
Report on the ECON RWP	Hans van Oosterbrugge	31/01/2023
Adapt ECON RWP format to textboxes	Hans van Oosterbrugge	31/01/2023
Define the requirements for the communication channel between RCG chairs, NCs, COM, ISSG RWP	WP2 leaders in collaboration with RCG's Secretariat	31/01/2023
Call for a meeting regarding Tables 2.I	WP3 leader and task leaders	asap
Send communication, reporting instructions, to all project partners	CETMAR	23/12/2022
Provide inputs for RWP tables and textboxes	WP3 leader and task leaders	31/01/2023
Call for a meeting, Stomach sampling	Joël	asap
Convene next meetings (WP leaders & 7 th Plenary)	CETMAR	Early Jan 2023
Provide inputs for Fishn'Co final project report	All WP leaders	31/01/2023

The meeting ends by 12:30 (CET)

Annex: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ESP	Y
Maksims Kovšars	BIOR	LAV	N
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	ESP	Y
Inês Ferreira	DGRM - Gov	PRT	N
Suzana Cano	DGRM - Gov	PRT	N
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	DNK	Y
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	DNK	Y
Kirsten Birch Håkansson	DTU-Aqua	DNK	Y
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BGR	Y
Irina Jakovleva	Fisheries Service (Ministry of Agriculture Lithuania)	LTU	N
Jose Castro	IEO	ESP	Y
Pepe Cebrián	IEO	ESP	Y
Els Torreelle	ILVO	BEL	Y
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	FIN	Y
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	FIN	Y
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	FRA	Y
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PRT	Y
Monika Sterczweska	MARE		
David Currie	MI	IRL	Y
Linda O'Hea	MI	IRL	Y
Irek Wójcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	POL	N
Monica Gambino	NISEA	ITA	Y
Maria Hansson	SLU	SWE	N
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	NLD	Y

7th Plenary meeting – Wrapping up of the Regional Work Plans

Date	14/02/2023	Venue	
Time	10:00 (CET)		Virtual (MS Teams)

Attendees

30 people attended the meeting, including partners and non-partners. For more details see Annex I.

Objectives

- Participate in the wrapping up of the Regional Work Plans for RCG NANSEA, RCG Baltic, RCG Large Pelagics and RCG ECON
- Collaboratively validate the RWPs contents before their release.

Agenda

- 10:00** **Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator
- 10:15** **Point of situation with the final reporting and production of deliverables**
- 11:00** **Work beyond Fishn'Co**
 - Hand over of the RWPs to the ISSG RWP
 - Regional coordination, pan regional ISSG?
- 11:45** *Coffee-break*
- 12:00** **Key messages for NCs meeting, 9th March**
- 12:40** **Discussion, questions from the audience and conclusions**
- 13:00** **Closure**

Specific issues addressed

Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting

41. Joël Vigneau, Fishn'Co project coordinator, welcomes everyone and proceeds with the adoption of the agenda and objectives of the meeting.
42. One of the main **objectives** is to collectively revise the contents of the four RWPs so everyone involved is comfortable with Fishn'Co outputs. Although, we still have until the end of the month for the final fine-tuning this meeting is very important to have a common understanding of what should go into the RWPs and also how to move forward with some of the constraints and unblock situations.



Point of situation with the final reporting and production of deliverables

43. We are at the final milestone of the project, wrap-up stage; all project deliverables are to be finalized by the end of Feb. In addition, the coordination team is preparing the final reporting. We have strong foundation for the intersessional work ahead.
44. Another important date is the 9th March, NCs meeting, where the final outputs of Fishn'Co will be presented.
45. The structure that we have developed for the RWP is the definitive one, [RWP 2025-2027](#). However, these RWPs need to be revised before the TMs 2023, they need to be released soon (9th March). Then the hand-over to ISSG RWP, ISSG initial meeting first half of March, to take action and circulate the RWPs to NCs second half of March, so there is time to appropriate the RWPs before the TMs. Gather the feedback during April- May to go prepared for the RCGs TM 2023.
46. This meeting is the unique occasion to address remaining issues and to improve regional coordination, we would like to hear your questions, your views on how to unblock the hurdles. The approach is to put everything that has the potential to be coordinated in the textboxes and from there find the way forward. Otherwise, if it is not there nothing will happen.

Round of Q&A

47. Monika Sterczewska (DG MARE) agreed with the plan and the timeline presented, it is aligned with the submission to STEFC. Monika also highlighted the importance of the momentum, the final revision and feedback.

Revision of RWPs

48. In general terms, the case studies that are not mature enough for full regional coordination they are included in Text box 1a; case studies that are mature go into Table 2.5. They go in either part, they cannot be in both places.

60

NANSEA

[NANSEA REGIONAL_WP_2025-27_Text_v2022101.docx](#)

[NANSEA REGIONAL_WP_2025-27_Table_v2022101.xlsx](#)

Text box 1a: Test studies description, we have:

- Trawl Fishery in Iberina Waters Case Study
- Freezer Trawler Case Study

Text box 1b: Other data collection activities, we have:

- RCG's Secretariat
 - Regional Data Base and Estimation System (RDBES)
 - Regional Coordination taking place in ISSGs and pan regional cooperation between RCGs.
- On this point, Jørgen Dalskov (DTU) commented that some MS have claimed that they are small countries and therefore they don't have the experts to dedicate time to every single pan regional ISSG. How do we go on about solving this issue? Jørgen believes that this point should be addressed in the next NCs meeting.
- The text on the RWP is modified to: MS are requested to nominate experts....
- The dedication that is expected from each expert is 40 hours per ISSG per year. Therefore, institutions have to make sure that they free time of their experts assigned to ISSGs.



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Text box 2.3: Diadromous species data collection in freshwater

The text needs some modification, the message at the moment is that there is no coordination. We want to stress the opportunities for coordination.

Tapani Pakarinen (LUKE) commented that these issues are looked at the level of expert groups and the work of the ISSG is to pass on the message from these expert groups.

Joël and Diadromous task leaders are having a meeting next week to see into refining the text.

Text box 2.4: Recreational Fisheries

Joël, the plan is also to have a meeting with Estanis Mugerza to fine tune the message here.

Jorgen pointed out that there is a lot of work going on regarding the revision of the control regulation, and changes could apply in the case of recreational fisheries. He wondered if it will be worth it to adapt the text to the new regulation. However, the official documents for the new control regulation have not been released yet.

Both Irek Wójcik (NMFRI) and Lucia Zarauz (AZTI) commented that it will be better to wait for the official documents release.

Text box 2.5: Sampling plan description for biological data

Estanis is working on the text.

Text box 2.6: Research surveys

Linda O'Hea (MI) commented that she had a meeting with task leaders to define how to populate the RWP. Sieto Verver populate the table and Linda the textbox.

Linda, there is still work to do on the text. There are a total of 32 surveys. The FISHN'CO approach is that the surveys are included here but not in Annex 1.1, otherwise we will be duplicating the information. RCGs have to validate this approach.

Irek wondered how the information was outsourced for text box 2.6. Because each survey might be described slightly different in each NWP. How are we dealing with this?

Text box 3.1: Fishing activity variables data collection strategy

Small Scale Fisheries data models for RDBES, Estanis is also working on this. To double check with him, whether all RDBES developments are described in text box 1.b. If that is the case then they should be described there instead of text box 3.1. The same applies for bycatch (text box 4.2).

Text box 4.3: Fisheries impacts on marine habitats

There is a table to be filled in by MS specifying the number of samples that could be analysed, sent abroad, etc. Maria Hansson (SLU) it is important to know which countries are the samples been sent to, relevant information for the table.

Rita Vasconcelos (IPMA) was not comfortable with the fact that Portugal was listed on the table. Portugal has not participated in the in between discussions. Portugal is advancing on stomach sampling however at this moment, not to be included in the RWP.

Lucia Zarauz feels the same in the case of Spain.

Elo Rasmann, Estonia is not fishing in the North Sea so should not be included either on the table.

Table 1.3: Bi and Multilateral agreements

Joël and Maria working on it, clean up the table. There will a repository on the RCG's website for the bi and multilateral agreements so they agreements could be linked up from this common repository. The same in NWP's, the agreements to be linked up from the repository.

Table 2.1: List of required species/stocks

Live repository available on Github. Mathieu Depetris is leading the work here along with some other coders colleagues.

Nothing in Table 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, and 2.5

Table 2.6: Research surveys at sea

Baltic

The information is very similar to NANSEA RWP, and the overall approach to populate the RWP is has been the same.

[BALTIC_REGIONAL_WP_2025-27_Text_202210.docx](#)

[BALTIC_REGIONAL_WP_2025-27_Tables_202210.xlsx](#)

Table 2.5: Baltic Small Pelagics case study

There is a lot of information on the table at the moment, it is to be fine tuned in coming days. The group is meeting on the 27th Feb for this purpose.

Round of Q&A

49. Dália Reis, chair RCG NANSEA, asked Joël to clearly state the time foreseen for discussing the RWPs during the TM, so the agenda can be accommodated properly. In particular, considering that there is a clash of dates for both NANSEA&Baltic TM and ECON TM.
Monika commented that the solution could be to organize a virtual session were issues related to RWP could be addressed with NCs. Keep this in mind when drafting the agendas.
50. Joël, the proper discussions will take in June, the Decision meeting in Sep is more like a rubber stamp of the June discussions.

Large pelagics

The development of the RWP has followed a slightly different approach that can be consulted in the initial text.

[LARGE_PELAGICS_REGIONAL_WP_2025-27_Text_v20230207.docx](#)

[LARGE_PELAGICS_REGIONAL_WP_2025-27_Table_v20230207.xlsx](#)

Text box 1.b: Other data collection activities

RCG's Secretariat, RDBES and Regional Coordination taking place in ISSGs and pan regional cooperation between RCGs are to be included here.

Text box 2.5: Sampling plan description for biological data

- Tuna Sampling On Shore scheme
- Observer scheme

Table 2.5 to be developed

ECON

[RCGECON REGIONAL WP 2025-27_proposal.docx](#)

The section on General information to be completed to include the approach that the group has taken to draft the RWP.

Hans van Oostenbrugge raised a question related to this general section, which institutions should be included in this section, only institutions involved in Fishn'Co? Joël said the RWP belongs to the RCG ECON and it has the right to decide, it should be all institutions.

Text box 1.b: Other data collection activities

RCG's Secretariat, and Regional Coordination taking place in ISSGs and pan regional cooperation between RCGs are to be included here.

Text box 5.2: Economic and social variables for fisheries data collection

Definitions for the economic variable to be collected under Table 7 of the EU MAP Delegated Decision annex are listed here.

Hans clarified that RCG ECON organized a specific meeting on drafting the RWP in Nov 2022, the variables presented in the RWP have already been agreed with MS almost in their totality. Two variables need further discussion. There is already some meeting coming up in spring to address this and be prepared for June TM.

Some other variables it will be work in progress for next years.

ECON RWP has no tables.

General views on the RWPs

Joël is happy with the progress and the final outputs. Although, there is still some work to do the overall result is good. It has been a long way and in occasions we have been hampered by the impossibility to meet physically. However, the progress has been substantial.

Point of situation with the final reporting and production of deliverables

Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) we have received indications from project officer to merge some of the deliverables and submit stand-alone documents.

Joël also committed to write a final Fishn'Co report (about 20 pages) with the story line, and introducing the deliverables.

Rosa, deliverables to be finished by the end of the month, 28th Feb. Costs are eligible until the end of the project, 28th Feb. Further instructions about financial reporting will be provided shortly, we have made some consultations with financial officer, as soon as we have the reply we will inform the consortium.

We have got 60 days after the end of the project to deliver the final report. However, we need that time to gather the documents. Compile and check all the information before we hand over all documents to IFREMER for final submission. If someone has an issue with the financial reporting, please contact us and make us aware so we are prepared and we don't have to request any extension.

Once everything is submitted COM will check the document, the final payment balance it will go through IFREMER.

About the Data Sharing Agreement, it has been really tough to gather all the signatures. We went for a mix system (manual and digital signatures), then some electronic signature systems were not compatible. It was really difficult, finally we got the signatures from all the countries. We have sent it to IFREMER, we are not sure that the mix of signatures will be ok. We tried really hard but it was not possible, no document with all electronic signatures. However, at least there is evidence that all partners agreed on the principles.

Work beyond Fishn'Co – handover to ISSG RWP

Both Maria Hansson and Joël are the chairs for the ISSG RWP, they were actively looking for a third chair that could cover the Med&BS region, however there was no success.

Joël commented that one of the messages to the NCs is that the ISSG will only take care of the aspects that they have experts to work on. We need experts on the field.

Monika wondered if it is worth going the extra stretch to go for the ISSG pan regional approach. Because STREAMLINE produced the final version for Med&BS RWP. The set up is different, it works fine as it is for them.

Similarly with ECON RWP, Hans the RWP as stands now is the direct outcome of the meeting with experts and NCs, the document as stands now is an agreement. No more comments are foreseen from NCs during this period now.

Monika is fine with this ECON approach as well. The only remark was to include the RCG's Secretariat as part as the Other data collection activities in textbox 1.b. This is particularly important in the case of land-locked countries. It is important to make reference to Art. 9 DCF.

Maria Hansson, from the discussions today is clear that ISSG RWP should not aim to include Med&BS neither ECON RWPs. The first ISSG meeting will take place around mid-March, a doodle will be sent to choose the most convenient date, three hours meeting.

Agreements and further actions

- The table is text box 4.3. is to be filtered with only countries participating to the North Sea rotating system.
- Further develop the repository for bi and multilateral agreements, to be available on the RCGs website

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
To adapt the text under Text box 1b for the RCG's Secretariat	Monika Sterczewska	20/02/2023
Meeting with Diadromous task leaders to refine the text	Tapani/Marko/Joël/Linda	20/02/2023
Meeting with Recreational task leader	Estanis/Joël/Linda	24/02/2023
Meeting Baltic CS	Rie	27/02/2023
Meeting Large Pelagics RWP	Joël/Mathieu	27/02/2023
Draft Fishn'Co final report	Joël	15/03/2023
Send doodle – ISSG RWP meeting	ISSG RWP chairs	17/02/2023



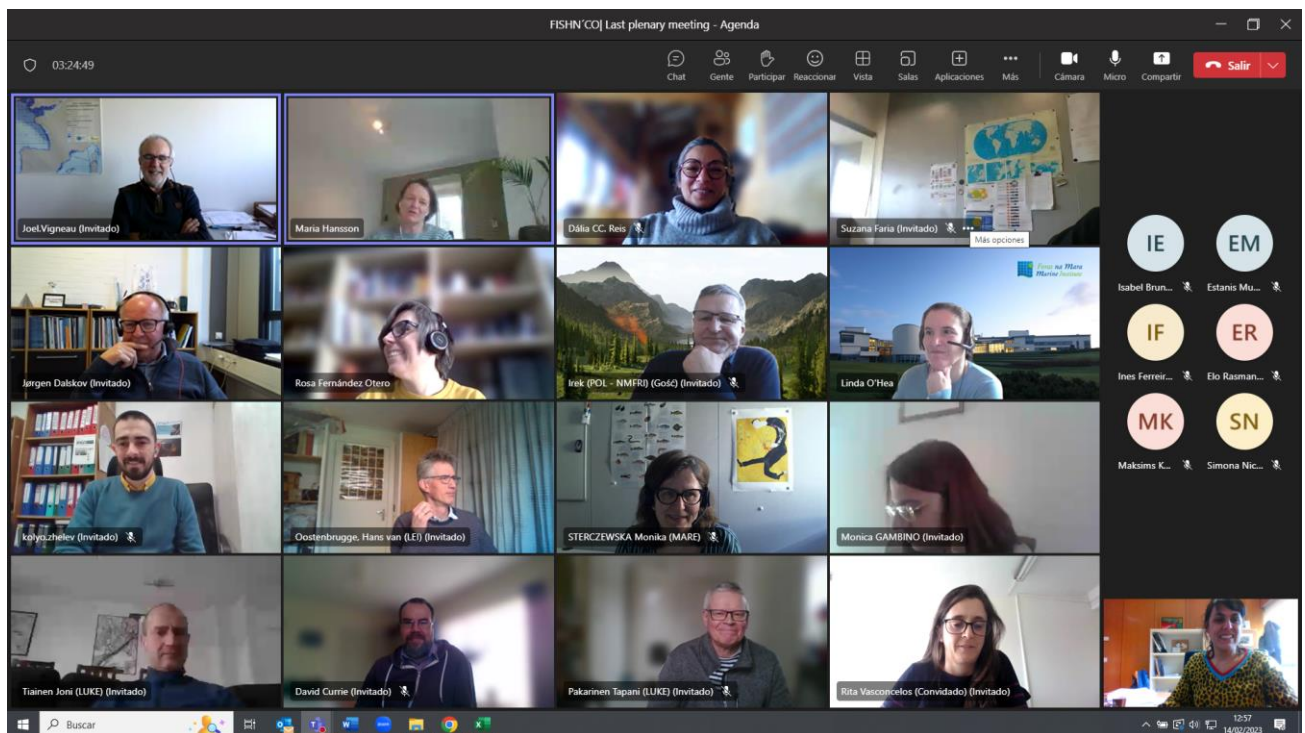
Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Finish project deliverables	WP leaders	28/02/2023

The meeting ends by 13:00 (CET)



Annex: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ESP	Y
Lucia Zarauz	AZTI	ESP	Y
Maksims Kovšars	BIOR	LAV	N
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	ESP	Y
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	ESP	Y
Monika Sterczewska	DG MARE		
Inês Ferreira	DGRM - Gov	PRT	N
Suzana Cano	DGRM - Gov	PRT	N
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	DNK	Y
Kirsten Birch Håkansson	DTU-Aqua	DNK	Y
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BGR	Y
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	BGR	Y
Elo Rasmann	Estonian Ministry of Environment	EST	N
Irina Jakovleva	Fisheries Service (Ministry of Agriculture Lithuania)	LTU	N
Jose Castro	IEO	ESP	Y
Isabel Bruno	IEO	ESP	Y
Els Torrelee	ILVO	BEL	Y
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	FIN	Y
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	FIN	Y
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	FRA	Y
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	PRT	Y
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PRT	Y
David Currie	MI	IRL	Y
Linda O'Hea	MI	IRL	Y
Irek Wójcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	POL	N
Monica Gambino	NISEA	ITA	Y
Dália Reis	Regional Fisheries Directorate of the Autonomous Region of the Azores	PRT	N
Maria Hansson	SLU	SWE	N
Remigijus Sakas	University of Klaipeda	LTU	N
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	NLD	Y



Coordination meetings (WP5)

Internal kick-off meeting

Date	4 th February 2021
Time	9:30

Venue	On-line meeting – MS TEAMS
--------------	----------------------------

Attendees

Meeting WP Leaders

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project Coordinator, WP3 & 5 leader
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	WPI co-leader
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	WPI co-leader
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-AQUA	In representation of Jørgen Dalskov, WP2 co-leader
Els Torreele	ILVO	WP2 co-leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Mathieu de Petris	IRD	WP3 co-leader
Ireneus Wojcik	MIR	WP3 co-leader
Monica Gambino	NISEA	WP3 co-leader
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 co-leader
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP4 co-leader

68

Joining for the Meeting on administrative issues (10:45)

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Bénédicte Duffet	IFREMER	Legal department
José Rodríguez	IEO	Partner
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	Partner
Sanna Piikkila	LUKE	Partner
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	Partner
David Currie	MI	Partner
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	Partner

Objectives

- Briefing on the kick-off meeting held on the 29th of January with the EU and the point of situation of the project;
- Agree on how to quick start the fieldwork;
- Agree on the date for a plenary session with all the participants;
- Clarify administrative and financial issues to be taken into account by partners for the project implementation;

Agenda

9:30 – 10:30: Meeting WP leaders

- Response to EU comments during kick-off
- Agree on the strategy for the field implementation,
- Finding a date for the general launch of Fishn'Co

10:45 – 12:00: Meeting on administrative issues

(WP leaders + partners' representatives + partners' admins)

- Administrative issues
- Information on kicking off the project
- Q&A

Specific issues addressed

Meeting WP Leaders

1. Briefing on the kick-off with DG MARE held on the 29th of January

The following comments are shared:

- Ensure regular communication with NC (WP2 & WP4)
- Take into account all end-users and all EU-DG (WP4)
- Make sure the reports are clear with no jargon since they will be broadly distributed (all)
- Communicate with Unit C5 for bridges to be initiated with non-EU countries sharing fisheries in a region

2. General comments

- There are about 80 people available to listen and contribute at some point during the project.
- It is necessary to agree on dates for internal meetings between WP leaders and task leaders and set up a detailed work plan in the short term.
- STECF meeting is next week. The outcome of this meeting is relevant for Fishn'Co, so no progress can be expected until mid-February.
- There is a need for a coordinated strategy with SECWEB in terms of communication plan and also for carrying out consultation processes, as those are foreseen in both projects and in many cases addressed to the same target. Els, as SECWEB coordinator, explains how this strategy will be outlined.

3. Review by work package

Work Package 1: Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps

The first tasks of the WP is to develop the level of ambition for regional coordination and gap analysis for all thematic focus area, together with the associated task leaders. These ambitions and gaps analysis need to be conducted without delay in a dedicated meeting with all participants of the working groups, in order to be presented at the plenary session.

Joel explains that the plenary in early March is just for setting a levelling ground on what is known about the project. However, field work in the WP may start now and the approach for the gap analysis and scope of ambition should be presented.

Hans explains that next RCG ECON meeting is planned in August, and only then they will be able to provide feedback on the discussion on the gap analysis and ambitions. Therefore, the work to prepare the material from Fishn'Co to be presented and discussed in RCG ECON meeting is timely.

Work Package 2: Establishing decision making structures/processes

Els points out the notification to stakeholders about the project (objectives, timeline, etc.) as the starting point. The STECF meeting will provide feedback, although Joel suggests to keep a scope for flexibility on the fine tuning of RWP, as once things are set in the regulation, there is not much room for changes or adjustments for a seven-year period.

Therefore, the first task identified is related to making a stakeholders' list, in coordination with WP4 and the SECWEB project. In first instance, the list is to be agreed, profiled and prioritised. CETMAR will facilitate this process through the TEAMS folders.

It is also identified the need to prepare a specific consultation with EU-MAP National correspondents (NC) on their views of RWP decision process in relation to RCG rules of procedures (RoP).

Work Package 3: Drafting Regional Work Plans

No immediate actions identified in this WP.

Work Package 4: Communication and dissemination

A Draft Communication Plan (DCP), consistent with SECWEB with regard to the coordination of efforts between both projects, will be outlined to be presented in the plenary meeting. It will include the main elements to be considered for its development, as well as a broad stakeholders' identification (EU DGs, end-users, EFARO, heads of institutes, NCs ...).

The DCP will include the release at regular intervals of a newsletter (suggested bimonthly) informing on the project. A first newsletter will be produced quickly to inform on the start of the project with a short description of all its objectives and milestones. It is agreed that the most suitable format for this first communication would be a leaflet with a project briefing that could be used later on in different contexts.

It is agreed that crafting the message is a key issue in order to facilitate stakeholders (particularly NCs) to understand their role and get them engaged in the project. For achieving this, lessons learnt from the RCGs work should be taken into account. Early awareness feeding relevant decision-making processes will probably be crucial for success.

ICES is pointed out as the main end-user of the RCGs results, so a initiating a formal approach from the project is deemed convenient by Marie. A better coordination and fluent interaction with them will involve some changes in procedures and it is important to keep them in the process. Joel comments that we also need to go step by step and be careful with the ambition but yes it is clear for everyone that there may be different interested parties. Additionally, it is necessary to go beyond and determine potential end users under a broader scope (DG Mare and DG Env are mentioned as examples). Els, Rosa and María will work out further on determining who the users are and who needs to be involved in the decision-making, with the contribution of all WP leaders.

Work package 5: Coordination

- The engineer position for a duration of 14 months siding with the coordinator has been published in January. As a result, 35 candidates applied to the job. WP leaders are invited to help the coordinator in filtering the 3-5 candidates that better fit the position and to participate in the interviewing session for the selected ones. The objective is to convene candidates by the end of February for interview or not and starting is the contract by April 1st.

- Two mailing lists have been initiated for managing the communication
 1. fishnco_wp_leaders@listes.ifremer.fr (11 email addresses registered)
 2. fishnco_participants@listes.ifremer.fr (80 email addresses registered)
- A poll will be conducted with all project participants for a plenary meeting of 3 hours on the 9th or 11th of March morning or afternoon. The timing chosen will be the one gathering the most of WP and WPI task leaders.
- For collaborative purpose (e.g. SharePoint, storing of file storage...) it is agreed to use MS TEAMS, which is already in use for managing administrative documents. If among the participants a better option is proposed and gathers a majority of support, then a discussion will be carried out for a final choice.
- A meeting with WP leaders is scheduled on the 15th of February at 16:00 CET for a duration of 1 hour

Meeting on administrative issues

Starting after a short break, the rest of partners join the session and CETMAR presents the most relevant administrative and financial issues to be taken into account during the project implementation (ppt available at TEAMS > FISHNCO_ADMIN > MEETINGS_Kick-off).

Transparency and early awareness about any trouble is encouraged to ensure a smooth development of the project. It is emphasised that project officers are keen to keep a fluent and continuous communication with the project.

- Consortium Agreement (CA)
In progress. A draft has been shared by the legal department of IFREMER for partners' consideration, and comments and suggestions have been gathered. A new consolidated version will be shared ASAP with a new period for revision, as significant changes have been proposed. Once an agreement is reached, a signature process will be initiated under a given deadline.
- Data Sharing Agreement (DSA)
In progress. A clarification is made about the purpose of this document: it is primarily aimed to cover mainly the datasets already collected during fishPi and fishPi² that will be used in fishn'Co for the development of regional sampling plans. Although this is covered by the agreement in force set up for the aforementioned projects, there is also the possibility that new datasets are necessary (to be considered by the project coordination) and this issue needs to be covered by a new DSA.
As the work to be carried out by CETMAR does not involve access to datasets, it is agreed that there is no need for this partner to sign the DSA.
- Payments from the EC and distribution among partners
As there is no contractual obligation for setting up a CA, and taking into account that partners are already bound by the Mandate provided to the coordinator, it is feasible to proceed to pre-payment distribution among partners, even if the CA is not signed yet. CETMAR, together with the legal department of IFREMER, will sort this out and inform partners on the procedure to be followed for payment request.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
WPI leaders to contact their teams and organise the field work	WPI leaders	Before Plenary
WP2 and WP4 leaders to exchange for the gathering of email addresses and contact NCs	WPI & 4 leaders	ASAP
Provide feedback on the STEFC meeting	IFREMER (Joël)	After the meeting
WP4 leaders to initiate the Draft Communication Plan	CETMAR	End Feb.
Determine who the users and other stakeholders are and who needs to be involved in the decision-making	ILVO, CETMAR	Before plenary meeting
First communication to stakeholders (leaflet project briefing)	CETMAR	End February
CA and DSA agreement and signature process	IFREMER,	
Procedure for distribution of the grant among partners	IFREMER, CETMAR	ASAP
Coordinator to proceed to the candidates analysis and prepare for interviews	IFREMER	
Next meeting is scheduled on the 15th of February at 16:00 CET for a duration of 1 hour	WP leaders	N/A

The meeting ends by 12:15h.

Preparation for 1st plenary meeting-1

Date	15.02.2021	Venue	
Time	16.00 to 17.00 CET		Remote (MSTeams)

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project Coordinator, WP3 and WP5 Leader
Leonie Odow	Marine Institute	WPI co-Leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-Leader
Ireneus Wojcik	MIR	WP3 co-Leader
Hans Van Oostenbrugge	WUR	WPI co-Leader
Monica Gambino	NISEA	WP3 co-Leader
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP 4 co-Leader
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP5 and WP4 co-Leader

Objectives

- Update on overall progress
- Preparation of the Plenary meeting

73

Agenda

→ No specific agenda was defined for this meeting.

Specific issues addressed

[Date for plenary meeting]

The doodle poll shows more availability for the 11th March 9 to 12 hours CET. It is checked that the majority of WP Leaders and Task Leaders will be available.

WP Leaders need to prepare for this meeting, get in contact with all the partners contributing to present to all (partners and non-partners) the work plan and clarify the expectations about the work ahead and how and when everyone shall contribute. Templates should be provided to clarify the information inputs needed.

[WPI]

Leonie explains that she has drafted some templates already and has uploaded them to the teams. She will get in contact with WP leaders and task leaders to revise the templates and the work committed and schedule a specific meeting to gather the insights from all those involved and prepare for the meeting on the 11th. It will be very important to concentrate on the relevant gaps for each of the thematic areas targeted, to address the level of ambition.



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Leonie points out that if shall happen that the challenges for some of the thematic areas (also called focus areas in the project technical description) are well defined while for some others not. It will be important that the project has the capacity to adapt to these two different circumstances and that everyone is happy with the works structure and timeline proposed for the activities. Hans agrees that the work presented by Leonie is already very helpful. For RCG ECON the work is different but he commits to prepare a gap analysis before the plenary, prepare a timeline for the ECON part and present this to the plenary also, with the other topics.

Leonie asks about the possibility to organise a mailing list for the WWP with all those involved in it. Joel confirms this possibility and Rosa explains that the full and updated list of partners is already in Teams (including partners and non-partners) although, tasks and wp responsibilities are not assigned to each person in this list (this will need to be done from the proposal text).

[WP2]

Kolyo Explains that he has just started with the preparation of a stakeholders list for the decision processes. Joel points out that this is being given more and more relevance according to recent interactions with the EC. The decision and processes and the templates to prepare the Regional Work Plans is yet a blank page but once there's one all the others will follow, and for some time the structure will be subject to revisions.

Also it is yet unclear the direct link between the National Work Plans and the Regional Work Plans.

Kolyo will get in contact with Els Torreele and Jorgen Dalskov to prepare fieldwork for WP2 and agree on the message for the non-partners during the assembly meeting.

[WP3]

Joel is the leader for this WP and will also prepare with the co-leaders (Mathieu De Petris, Monica Gambino and Irineus Wojcik) the message to be shared during the assembly.

[WP4]

Rosa comments that a structure for the communication plan has been drafted and a list of stakeholders was identified. It is to be consulted with SECWEB if the list is the relevant one, and after this we will be able to decide the most relevant ones for FISHNCO. In principle, for FISHNCO we should concentrate more directly on those dealing directly with the RWPs, while the approach for SecWeb is broader.

Templates have been prepared for reports, presentations and minutes. María offered to adapt the templates prepared by Leonie to the format that will be used for Fishn'co. All these materials are already available on the teams folders.

Regarding the logos, Hans confirms that the logo used for PGECON is fine for him, as it fits into the general image adopted for the other RCGs.

Finally, Rosa consults about the first briefing to be prepared, what sort of content it should have. Considering that the audience for this first meeting will be familiar with the RCGs and their role, etc. the briefing should be a Fishn'co briefing. CETMAR team will draft it from the project technical description in the proposal and share it for revision before the assembly.

[WP5]

Joel asked Rosa about the need to include every single person having access to the data, in each organisation, in the data sharing agreement.

Rosa confirms that it could be the case. The regulation about personal/private data is quite complex at the moment and it could be the case, depending on the nature of the information to be shared, that there is need

to have full traceability of who has access to what. However, Rosa commits to have a conversation about this issue with Bénédicte and try to explore the options to simplify it as much as possible. One of the options she suggests is to have the list of people expected to have access to the data in an annex to the agreement that can be permanently updated, so that the process for signature can now be speed up. If there is any possibility that the agreement is as simple as it was for FishPi2, the more simple the better.

The final issue addressed in the meeting is the convenience to organise a new catch-up meeting a few days before the assembly, to make sure that everyone is on the same page about messages and information to deliver during the meeting of the assembly. It is decided to schedule it on the 5th March at 9:30 am CET

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Communicate the date selected for the Assembly Meeting	CETMAR	ASAP
WP Leaders to get in contact with co-leaders and task leaders (WPI) and prepare the fieldwork and messages for the plenary	All in the meeting	ASAP and before 5 th March 2021
Adapt WPI templates with logos, etc	María	End of the day
CETMAR to progress on the Fishn'co DCP and to draft a Project Briefing	CETMAR	Before 5 th March 2021
Explore chances to simplify the DataSharing Agreement signature process	Rosa (to contact Benedicte)	ASAP
Communicate with task leaders and wp leaders reporting about this meeting and asking to save the date for the next two meetings (5 th March and 11 th March)	CETMAR	ASAP

The meeting ends by [17:00]



Preparation for 1st Plenary Meeting_2

Date	05/03/2021	Venue	
Time	9:30		Virtual – MS Teams

Attendees

WP Leaders

Objectives

- Agree on the strategy and information to share during the upcoming 1st Plenary Meeting on March 11th

Agenda

No specific agenda set

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Complete the FISHN'CO contact list (Excel) with participants to each WP	CETMAR	ASAP
WP2 – prepare the 1 st WP meeting	WP2 leaders	After the Plenary
Inform the Commission that we prepare communication towards the NC – ask for a ½ hour slot in the April meeting	IFREMER, Joël	ASAP
Invite them to the Plenary meeting		
WP4 – prepare a meeting in advance to the NC meeting with the Commission (week 19 th -23 rd April) – include STREAMLINE	CETMAR with the other WP leaders	1 st half of April
Project briefing:	CETMAR	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be presented as a draft in the Plenary • Final version ready for the NCs April meeting 	Feedback required from WP leaders	11/03/2021 19-23/04/2021

The meeting ends by 11:30



Follow up meeting_1

Date	12 th April 2021	Venue	
Time	16:00 (CET)	Virtual	

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	WP2 leader, NC Denmark
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project coordinator, WP3 leader
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination team, WPI, WP3
Els Torrelee	ILVO	WP2 leader, NC Belgium
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	WPI – TFA Large Pelagics (Id) leader, Chair RCG LP
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	WPI leader, NC Ireland
Irek Wojcik	MIR	Chair RCG LDF, NC Poland
Monica Gambino	NISEA	WPI – TFAs SE data (7&8) leader

Objectives

- Agreement on an operational roadmap in view of RCG meeting in June and implication of Manon (new engineer to the project – IFREMER team)
- Preparation of the communication following an invitation to the FISHN'CO coordinator to attend the DG MARE NC meeting of the 20th of April (10 minutes presentation). Agreed messages were undelined in each WP below in bullet points starting with 'Message to deliver to NCs'.

77

Specific issues addressed

Welcome and presentations

Manon Troucelier is introduced to the team. She has been recently hired by IFREMER to work full time for the project and will support WP leaders in coordination tasks.

Next, Joël invites WP leaders to share the status of each WP.

WPI – Leonie O'Dowd

1. The first round of reviewing the **level of ambition and information gaps** has been addressed and a first draft has been presented during the 1st Plenary Meeting (March 11th). Leonie recommends Manon to go through the presentations from this meeting to get an overview, as she is expected to facilitate the coordination between the different TFAs and with the other MARE/2020/08 projects. In this regard, it is highlighted that one TFA leader, Estanis Mugerza (AZTI) is dealing with three thematic areas and he has some specific ideas on how Manon could help him, in particularly with regard to SSF.

Another important task that should be dealt with in this WP is the translation of NWP templates to RWP ones.

It is not likely that this work is finished before the June RCG meetings, but the progress achieved so far could be presented to gather feedback from NCs.

2. Leonie highlights the relevance of addressing NCs, as it is crucial that they endorse the gap analysis and the level of ambition for the different Thematic Areas. Technical experts may make decisions and

propose a feasible level of ambition, but it needs to be discussed and validated within a relevant forum such as RCGs.

This consideration is key to craft the message that needs to be delivered during the upcoming NC meeting. In this regard, Irek suggests to focus on the project itself and what is expected from them in this context. This is later reinforced by Jørgen, who states that not all NCs are fully aware of the project and RWPs.

Message to deliver to NCs : ambitions and roadmaps will be presented to RCG and will need to receive feedbacks/agreements, what would be elements of the WPI work deserve to be in a RWP

3. Tasks on economics and aquaculture: Monica informs that RCG ECON will hold three important workshops until September, when their RGC meeting is foreseen (1st-3rd). Workshop during summer (on social variables, on segmentation, on alternative approaches for segmentation). She estimates RCG Econ will be able to have what is needed on time.
4. Regarding large pelagics, Mathieu expresses his concerns related to the degree of development of the cooperation dynamics within this scope. While some agreements and coordination has been achieved for tropical tuna, for other fisheries is still a lot of work to do. Joël suggests to concentrate on what can actually be achieved and maybe focus the level of ambition in expanding this kind of cooperation to other LP fisheries.
5. Specific tasks where Manon could be involved
 - Regional sampling plan – 3 initiatives ongoing with needs of coordination inter groups. It is suggested the implication of Manon in the fisheries overview ISSG in order to apprehend the different datasets available;
 - Estanis leading 3 tasks (Bycatch, Recreational and Small-Scale fisheries) in need of help to develop its deliverables, as mentioned before;
 - Manon is invited to the dedicated meeting on stomach sampling on April 13th;
 - Leonie will liaise with the relevant tasks leaders to discuss/decide on Manon's involvement in WPI and to set what is more a priority
6. A follow up meeting will be convened as soon as possible for this WP. CETMAR offers assistance for the organisation.

WP2 – Els Torreele, Jørgen Dalskov

4. Message to deliver to NCs: Jørgen suggests to use the slides from the kick-off meeting with the EC for the NC meeting. Els suggests not to adopt a too technical approach in this first interaction with NCs. For the NC it needs to be clear what is the definition of the RWP.
5. With regard to what a RWP is and what it should include, a broader discussion is required. In general terms, it is stated that bilateral or multilateral agreements should have a place in a RWP. The technical RCG meeting in June can contribute to decide on the level of ambition and gather some valuable information to work with. The result will be taken to the decision-making meeting foreseen in September.
6. A follow up meeting is planned to be held this week (date TBC). Manon is invited to attend.

WP3 –Joël Vigneau

7. Gathering all elements from WPI and WP2 to draft RWPs

8. Message to deliver to NCs: Remaining parts to be developed (ex table 1A, 6 and 7) as in the test run RWP 2021, to be proposed to the RCGs and NC meeting for feedback.
9. Manon started to develop the table 2.1 (ext 1A) with the list of stocks in the delegated annex table 1 without landings figures and shares (to be shared among all FISHN'CO participants) - filling in the landings and shares to be discussed as a backup to national process and for RCG coordination

WP4 – Rosa Fernández

10. Main messages to the NCs:

- The communication strategy of FISHN'CO will be directly coordinated with SECWEB. CETMAR is in charge of this in both projects.
- CETMAR (with the help from partners and participants) will produce the necessary communication materials to make any relevant stakeholder aware of the Fishn'co project progress and SECWEB will work on the visibility of RCGs.
- For FISHN'CO we need the confirmation that all NCs from the relevant RCGs have been contacted and are aware of the project; know where to find the related information and have the chance to express where and how they are willing to contribute, or simply remain as observers in the project network.

11. Leaflet to be delivered to NCs : The project leaflet can be distributed only after the title modification is authorised by the EC.

Regular coordination meetings

It is agreed to hold a monthly coordination meeting, next one to be scheduled by mid-May.

79

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
WPI – organise a follow up meeting	Leonie, supported by CETMAR	ASAP
WPI level of ambition and gaps – DRAFT	Leonie, TFAs leaders	June (RCGs meetings)
Introduce Manon in all the tasks/WPs where her support will be required	WP Leaders	ASAP
Convene next follow up meeting in mid-May	CETMAR	ASAP

The meeting ends by 17:15



Follow up meeting_2

Date	14/05/2021	Venue	
Time	09:00 (CET)	Venue	Virtual

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-Leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project coordinator, WP3 leader
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination team, WPI, WP3
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	WPI – TFA Large Pelagics (Id) leader, Chair RCG LP
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	WPI leader
Irek Wojcik	MIR	Chair RCG LDF, NC Poland

Objectives

- Update on overall progress
- Preparation for the RCGs meetings, agree deadlines and materials to be delivered to RCGs

Agenda

- 09:00 Quick overview of the outcomes from the meeting with the EC and NCs
- 09:10 Quick overview of the project management (amendment acceptance, CA, DSA, advanced payments) and communication aspects (Leaflet, Website contents...).
- 09:30 Contributions expected from Fishn'Co to the next RCG meetings (WPI, WP2, WP3)
- NANS&EA & Baltic (7th to 11th June)
 - LP (28th to 30th June)
 - LDF (5th to 7th July)
- 10:30 Final comments and discussion.

Specific issues addressed

Welcome and presentations

Susana Rivero is introduced to the team. She has recently joined CETMAR's team to work in both Fishn'Co and Secweb projects.

Meeting with EC and NCs

Joël (IFREMER) Fishn'Co project was presented to EC and NCs during a meeting held on April 20th. The presentation was based on Fishn'Co leaflet and no specific questions were risen during the meeting. It was a good opportunity to set the scene and explain what sort of management and decisions are expected from NCs, so they are aware of the process. The French NC committed to contribute to WP2- *Establishing decision making structures/processes*.

Project management and communications aspects

1. **Consortium agreement (CA)** signature is in progress. Therefore, pre-financing payments to partners have not been released yet. Need to collect signatures from all partners. CETMAR has sent its signature on the 14th May.
2. **Data sharing agreement** is also in process. All, including project partners and non-partners, need to sign the data sharing agreement. In this case, CETMAR is exempt as it will not be dealing with fisheries data handling.
3. **Project's name** has now officially been changed to include RCG ECON.
4. **Communication aspects**, Maria (CETMAR) comments on the progress made on the RCG's web <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/>
 - Scope maps for the RCGs are being developed with support from RCG's chairs, the maps are still under construction as some details on how to best represent LP, LDF or ECON are being analysed.
 - RCG's Newsletter, will be designed using Mailchimp tool which facilitates dissemination via email among other advantages. The newsletter will be issued twice a year. On the webpage there is also a section for subscription, partners are encouraged to subscribe to the newsletter.
 - Calendar with upcoming meetings.
 - Projects section, Fishn'Co has a dedicated page within this section. It can be used to share projects news, results, etc. Fishn'Co partners are the owners of the contents so in that respect will liaise with the secretariat to decide upon contents.

The intention is to keep the RCG's web running beyond the project lifetime. It will be secretariat's responsibility to keep the web running in the long term as well as other supportive tools.

5. **Fishn'co newsletter** will have a different format from that of RCG's, issued within the framework of SECWEB. It should be done after June, after RCG meetings, and before September. Further details to be discussed in upcoming follow up meetings.
6. **Fishn'co Leaflet** has been sent to all NCs.
7. **Improved templates** for reports and documents are now available at Teams; participants are invited to request any additional templates you might need.
8. CETMAR has established contact with **DG MARE communication department** to request their support to reinforce the project dissemination. A meeting has been scheduled on May 21st to advance on this aspect. CETMAR will inform about the meeting outputs.
9. **Infographics** for each Thematic Focus Area are being designed. Infographics proposals will be available at Teams for partners to comment and make contributions.

Contributions from Fishn'Co to the next RCGs meetings

WPI – Leonie O'Dowd

The different *Thematic focus areas* groups are working on the definition of ambition levels and gap analysis. Some templates have been shared between WP participants, which has proven very useful for boosting progress.

The templates are filled out by the experts working in the project which are leaders for each Thematic area. Then, templates will be shared with ISSG chairs for further consultation and discussion, although in some cases is not necessary as ISSG chairs and project experts are the same people.

At this point, it was mentioned that there is a necessity to be very clear about the differences between Fishn'Co deliverables and ISSG work, in particular when communicating to RCGs, so there is no confusion between project deliverables and ISSG proposals. Project partners, especially Task leaders will bear this in mind and clarify the boundaries between Fishn'Co and ISSG in order to tease out any issue that might arise in this regard.

The socioeconomic group is working with slightly different timing under Hans' supervision. It is agreed that after RCGs annual meeting, a meeting with socioeconomic group should be scheduled in order to near the work from the biological and socioeconomic groups.

Deadlines for delivering/reporting WPI outputs to RCGs are set:

- **26th of May** task leaders upload the completed draft templates that are to be presented to the RCG NANSEA & Baltic, i.e. all biological/fisheries related ones **except** large pelagics.
- **28th of May**, WP leaders and project coordinator receive completed draft templates for final revision before sending them to RCGs.
- **31st of May**, send revised draft templates to RCGs.

A WPI update meeting will be scheduled for next week (May 19th) as an opportunity to share information and make sure that the proposed deadlines are met.

The project coordination will communicate with RCGs chairs to inform that they will be receiving the templates prior to the annual RCGs meeting.

Joël, Manon, Mathieu and Leonie will liaise to prepare the project contribution to the RCG LP meeting, which is scheduled 28th-30th of June, and also for support during the meeting.

WP2 - Kolyo

82

There is a meeting scheduled for next week, May 18th, to identify the topics to be taken into account. Els has been working on some contributions to WP2. WP2 leaders will share the outputs from the meeting.

31st of May is the deadline to compile WP2 message to be delivered to RCGs.

WP3 – Joël

Last year test run for Regional Work Plan (RWP) received very detailed comments and useful suggestions from STECF that should be taken into consideration.

Joël explains that now there are two possible scenarios to further develop RWP template:

- Adapt test run template with comments received.
- Use for RWP the same template as for NWP, keep the tables. It is a simplistic approach that can facilitate the process; however attention needs to be paid on how to differentiate NWP from RWP. Thus, a debate arises around this idea; the RWP is a stand-alone document done *a priori* and not a compilation of NWP *a posteriori*. There is a general consensus that the RWP should be based on end-users requirements at regional level. However, we still lack clear criteria from end-users. An idea to fill this information gap is that Fishn'Co could map end-users and identify feedback loop to improve data collection, which might be done within WP2. Work package leaders are encouraged to reflect on this idea and evaluate to what extent this could be fitted within WPI and WP2.
- Table 2.1. *Stock list* is under revision most likely to be ready by the end of June.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Communication with RCGs chairs, templates available before RCG meeting	Joël	ASAP
Upload complete draft templates (WPI)	TFA leaders WPI	26/05/2021
Revise draft templates (WPI)	WPI leaders and project coordinator	28/05/2021
Send draft templates to RCGs chairs	Joël	31/05/2021
Convene WPI update meeting	Leonie	ASAP
Compile WP2 message to RCGs annual meeting	WP2 leaders	31/05/2021
Compile WP3 message to RCGs annual meeting	WP3 leaders	31/05/2021

The meeting ends by 11:00

Next follow up meeting, 2nd June 9:00h CET.

Partner's meeting preparing Fishn'co presentations in the RCG

Date	06/06/2022	Venue	
Time	14:10 (CET)		Hybrid format: ILVO premises in Ostende(BE) and Virtual (Zoom)

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Virtual (V), In Presence (P)
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	P
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	P
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	P
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	P
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	P
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	P
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	V
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	P
Els Torreele	ILVO	P
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	P
Heidi Pokki	LUKE	V
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	V
Linda O'Hea	MI	V
Ireneus Wojcik	MIR	P
Monica Gambino	NISEA	V
Harriet van Overzee	WMR	P
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	V
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	P
Dália Reis	SRMP-DMP AÇORES	P
Anja Gadgaard Boye	DTU-Aqua	P

Objectives

- To catch up with the partnership on the information planned for delivery during the RCGs technical meeting.
- To revise the commitments of the work plan expected for the second half of 2022.
- To discuss on the follow-up needed for 2023
- To share the project financial overview and anticipated management needs before the end of the project.

Agenda

13:30 Virtual connection checks and reception

14:00 Welcome
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator



- 14:10 Overview of the situation and key messages for the TM***
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), project coordinator / WP Leaders
- 15:30 The RWP work beyond Dec. 2022**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER)
- 15:45 Fishn'co finances enabling second half of the year action plan***
Rosa Fernández (CETMAR)
- 16:00 Wrap up and end of the meeting**

Specific issues addressed

Welcome, generalities and objectives of the meeting

The welcome is given and main objectives of the meeting are presented.

Project situation

The presentation and discussions started directly to avoid further delay. First thing reminded was the timeline and the content for the RWP. RWP 25-27 should be submitted in TM 2023

- **Outcomes from the consultation process**

These are crucial for understanding what needs to go into the RWP and how, according to the feedback provided by the MS

23 answers available out of 26 MS consulted. One of the major missing parts in the consultation is the answer by Spain who is a major player.

Italy is also missing, and Austria contacted as a landlocked country not having the obligation to answer on other issues than those directly connected with their involvement in RCG ECON

There's agreement that there's need to insist on asking Spain for an answer making it clear that the answer does not need to be positive, but there's need for an answer. It is explained that several reminders were sent, and it is agreed to approach the NC again and try to have an answer before the dedicated meeting on the afternoon of the 8th June for the TM presentation.

Then Joel goes through the contents and through the answers to the Consultation:

1st thing reminded is the 5 general principles about the RWP

The answers about the Med&BS RCG will be sent to RCGMed so as to coordinate with Streamline the use of this information in the RWPs they are developing.

The first dilemma is the **adoption or no adoption**. It seems that some countries are looking forward formal adoption for more legal guarantees. No adoption leads to more flexibility, but it poses an issue about what happens with a non-compliant country if there's no formal adoption and another one about **potential need for changes on the RWP**.

It is reminded for all those commitments should become binding through the NWP, if there's consistency (NWPs and RWP), there shouldn't be an issue. It is also discussed that there should be **capacity to modify the RWP**, however it is said that RWP should not change independently and, in fact, the RWP is not that expected to change. However, countries have asked to have the possibility for changes in the NWPs, but what

if a NWP that makes part of a RWP requests a change and this change can induce a change at the regional level? How can we keep consistency? (Rita Vasconcelos', IPMA, question) It is then commented that not all the changes at the national level may have a consequence at the regional level, in fact this should be quite extraordinary.

Marie Storr-Paulsen (DTU-Aqua) also comments that **to keep full consistency is sometimes difficult**. She found some challenges in the CS on Baltic Pelagic Freezer Trawlers for example regarding the stocks. Joel comments that reporting on inconsistencies found in practice is very much needed because this will be the sort of practical hurdles that the project needs to identify. It is not always to provide a solution but to learn about the implementation hurdles. These insights will be very valuable in the process ahead until the RWP25-27 is submitted.

Another important remark is that RWPs are not reported, it is reminded that AR are only for NWPs.

- **Decision making process**

Among the questions shared there is one important one about what will it happen with the RWP when it is sent to the EC, how is it expected/planned the internal process there? This is proposed as a question to address to the EC.

Regarding the timeline presented for the RWP there is just the remark to avoid relevant components of the process happening during the summer breaks, and this the Fishn'co WP2 partners will need to work on some adjustments for this.

Then the RoP is discussed. There was relevant **progress in unifying the RoP** for NANSEA and The Baltic. Also for LP RCGs but not yet for the other RCGs (ECON and Med&BS mainly); LDF is in an intermediate situation. Moreover, ECON is quite aligned to the unified RoP but there have been some recent changes due to the first year of ECON running as an RCG and these changes have not yet been incorporated.

The **question of a common RoP should be brought to the Decision Meeting this year**.

- **Implementation constraints**

Most of them are about **funds, expertise**, etc. There are few comments (from the consultation) on **technological barriers** but some of the experts in the meeting point out that there are some important ones. Some examples are mentioned such as lack of standardised protocols to collect data on PETS.

It is also noticed that some of the answers may reflect that there are some MS that may not be fully aware of what is available for the work of the RCGs (i.e. RDBS)

Going back to the **constraints** it is also a quite important remark that while funding is not that much an issue for sampling, it is an important one for the analysis. And sampling for future analysis does also have some problems because people is reluctant to do on-board work that is not for a clear and direct purpose. For one year or so there is no problem to gather samples and keep them frozen, but this cannot last for long. If there is a sampling effort, there's need to be a purpose and analysis work for the given purpose after that.

Another remark is **where to allocate the work that is done that is not that strictly focused on fisheries assessment and management** but on biodiversity, for example.

It is also remarkable that answers related to the **stomach sampling reveal some difficulties...** There is need for some multilateral arrangements.

Some countries could accept to share the analysis effort but then the problem comes with the need for multilateral agreements for that.



Then it is also discussed how and if there is **need to incorporate multilateral agreements into the RWP?**

There's need to be at least a mention the existing agreements, and this refers to both multilateral and bilateral. This would also contribute to increasing transparency.

- **Regarding the infographic**

It is agreed to put it on the website if visualisation works well and also having taken care that the text can be well understood for the audience beyond Fishn'co partnership.

There are some comments/requests to improve the capacity of the tool to also show progress. The Secretariat reports that it is not much they can do at the moment with the tool they are using (Power BI) but they will explore what is and is not feasible.

Comparison is already possible by recording versions and having them available... but implementing a progress bar can be more challenging.

The incorporation of the Med&Black Sea to the infographic is also considered convenient but then the work behind it needs to be addressed also in that RCG.

- **It is also discussed the future of the ISSG RWP.** Joel would only be available as co-chair if there are some candidates for chairing. If not, he will not take it any longer.
- **Overview on the status of the TFAs**

After the revision of the outcomes from the consultation Linda provides an **overview on the status of the TFAs** and reports that this has been incorporated into the new excel file feeding the infographic (already updated). However, there are yet some answers missing.

The final part of the meeting it is discussed the **convenience and commitment of organising a final stakeholder meeting** and this could be done by all the granted project together and could be done at the initiative of Secweb. The end of the year is very busy for everyone, and this may be a reason to ask for a two- or three-month extension. It is agreed to go for that, but it is also needed to first look at the available funds for that period.

Partners are requested to look at the **financial plan for all partners for the rest of the year** by mid-July, being aware that a **progress report is also expected by the end of June**.

Apart from this, Joel proposes to organise a **Fishn'co Plenary by late-September or early October** so that the work ahead to close the project is well organised and everyone is aware of what is needed from them before the end of the project.

It is reminded the dates for the DM and LM, first ones 19 to 21st and second 22nd 23rd September 22.

Regarding the **final report**, there are 60 days after the implementation period for the submission. Joel would like to have the technical part prepared as soon as possible by the end of the year or early in January, but Rosa and Susana point out that for the financial part for sure it will not be possible.

Also, if the partnership finally can go for a **request for an extension (2-3 months)**, this would also influence the reporting deadlines. The chances for this will also be consulted with the project Officer Monika Sterczewska (who has replaced Blanca García Álvarez in its role as officer of Fishn'co).

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Contact the Spanish NC to try to gather their answers	AZTI, IEO	Immediately
Lead the findings from the consultation to the RCG TM	All partners	Immediately
Address the comments and extract decisions and recommendations	All partners	Immediately
Revise the finances and analyse feasibility of a 3-month extension	All partners	15 th July
Doodle and schedule a plenary meeting between end of Sept and early Oct	CETMAR	After the RCG TM
Prepare and submit the progress report	INFREMER, CETMAR	31 st July

The meeting ends by 17:45 (CET)

Work Package leaders meeting_1

Date	16/06/2021	Venue	
Time	09:00 (CET)	Virtual	

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jorgen Dalskow	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project coordinator, WP3 leader
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination team, WPI, WP3
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	WPI – TFA Large Pelagics (Id) leader, Chair RCG LP
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	WPI leader
Irek Wojcik	MIR	Chair RCG LDF, NC Poland

Specific issues addressed

Impressions from RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic meeting

Fishn'co project was present in most of the discussions during the sessions. Some participants in the meeting showed their concerns about not feeling part of the process of Fishn'co. During the meeting emphasis was made in the fact that Fishn'co project is there as a support mechanism to RCGs, Joël also made a general invitation to anyone interested to be in contact with us so we could keep them in the loop.

In order to improve this situation and make everyone comfortable with Fishn'co, Rosa suggests to do two communication rounds:

- 1) Fishn'co participants (partners and non-partners) pointing where to find the Fishn'co information (RCG report, contributions table, etc.) in Teams channel. Asking them to revise the contributions table and their interests in the project so we are not missing information there.
- 2) RCG participants, reinforcing the idea that if they are willing to contribute please get in touch with the secretariat and from there we will take them to the contributions table and will be our responsibility to keep them in the loop.

There were lots of questions and some reluctances about the RWP and its implementation, it was somehow expected. The general agreement was to push the RWP draft forward during the summer so NCs can have a look at it in September during the decision meeting. It was agreed during the RCG that the proposed RWP would not be binding for 2022.

Convening meetings and communication flow

In order to improve internal communication, meeting invitation should be followed by participant confirmation. This could be done through Teams, instead of just sharing the link for the meeting we can invite people directly. This way, participants can accept or decline the meeting, the meeting is also shown in calendar and it will pop up a reminder a few minutes before takes place.

It was agreed that for the time being we will focus on improving the internal communication process, once this is done we could put more effort in reaching out.

Work plan and tasks before the end of July

The aim is to have a detailed RWP draft for NANS&EA and Baltic by the end of July. Thus, in September the NCs will have the chance to go through it and decide upon whatever they wish to.

Convene a plenary meeting first of week of July to decide WHO, WHAT and HOW to draft the RWP.

The group agrees that it will be a good idea to include ambitions in the RWP textbox, because it is not binding and it will be a good opportunity to test it out. Also, set the RWP draft in a way that the decisions could be taken on different elements of the RWP and not just a take it or leave as a whole.

Additionally, the RWP draft should consider what elements are applicable to different MS and responsibilities among MS.

Plenary meeting

Estimated duration, one hour and a half.

Start with a presentation (20-25 slides) on what needs to be done and how, the different elements on the RWP, and then open the floor for discussions. The expected output is that everyone is clear on their role and tasks, especially for the next few weeks.

RoPs

Related to WP2 Fishn'co, one of the most urgent tasks is to align RoPs between different RCGs so the decision making structures/processes can be built based on those.

During RCG NANS&EA and RCG Baltic it was agreed to come up with a proposal for general RoPs, further work to be done during June to finalize some aspects, so in July they could be sent to NCs to decide. The plan is also to share the RoPs to other RCG chairs for their consideration. However, based on what we will learn from the RWP these RoPs might need some amendments in 2022.

Manon's implication in Fishn'co

Manon as the dedicated engineer to Fishn'co will make the link between different groups to make sure that the Fishn'co information is shared and everyone is on the same ground about the project.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Setting doodle to convene plenary meeting	CETMAR	16/06/2021
Share agenda for plenary meeting	Joël	16/06/2021
Prepare ppt for plenary meeting	WP leaders + Manon	asap
Link the work between groups	Manon	On-going
Draft a RWP	All	End of July
Reinforce internal communication processes	CETMAR	On-going
Prepare Fishn'co progress report to be shared with WP leaders	CETMAR	24/06/2021

The meeting ends by 10:25h.

Follow up meeting_3

Date	09 th September 2021
Time	10:00 (CET)

Venue	Virtual
--------------	---------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project coordinator, WP3 leader
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination team, WPI, WP3

Objectives

- Follow up on project progress/situation, priority actions in the short-term
- Update on the conversation held with project officer

Specific issues addressed

1st Project Report- Project officer follow up

On the 20th August CETMAR team had a meeting with Blanca García Alvarez, project officer. Blanca explained that more evidences on the work in progress were needed for the official approval of the 1st Progress Report.

Blanca took the time to compile in a table the different deliverables expected in FISHN'CO. FISHN'CO coordination team was asked to fill the table and provide the evidence on where to find the work done for each partial deliverable.

Referring to the table:

The stand-alone deliverables to be considered for the project are the ones listed in grey, namely:

- Deliverable 1. Overview of the state of play, data gaps and needs
- Deliverable 2. Minutes or brief reports of any workshops, meetings or other
- Deliverable 3. Short description of the agreed decision making structure
- Deliverable 4. Draft workplan

The rest of the deliverables (in blue) are considered partial or in progress deliverables. We do not necessarily need to provide a stand-alone document for them as long as we can provide track/ document the progress done.

The table has been filled following the instructions, with links to reports when available or to the project internal documents. In order to facilitate this task a specific channel in Teams has been created: FISHNCO_FOLLOW UP_EU COM. There each partial deliverable has a folder where information on deliverable progress is available.

Joël is not completely sure about the convenience of this classification of the deliverables. He needs a bit more time to think about it. Rosa highlights that it will be beneficial in the sense that it loosens reporting burden.

Agreements:

- CETMAR to grant access to Blanca to the Teams channel.
- Joël to consider if new deadlines for partial deliverables are needed. Update the actual table also available in Teams. “*Timeline-Deliverables_FishnCo_FollowUp_RevCETMAR*”
- CETMAR to make sure that all the parcial/progress deliverables in the proposal have a correspondence with the “stand alone” deliverables in the cells shadowed grey in the table

Project progress/ situation

Manon is working on developing a series of tables that include goals, deadlines, and all relevant information for effective follow up of the gap analysis and ambition levels and of the progress achieved on the work related to those, intersessionally.. (These are elements to be presented as the “map” for D.I.I)

Joël explains that the objective is to organize FISHN'CO workload quarterly, in a way that the RWP proposal can be finalized in early 2022 and still have time to have an open consultation process and get the feedback from the NCs before RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic technical meeting in June 2022.

This plan will be presented to all partners in plenary, so everyone is aware of the deadlines and the expected contributions.

CETMAR as part of the coordination support can do the follow up of the plan.

It is recommended to Joël to have a recap after all RCGs annual meeting have taken place on the assignments/expectations that each RCG has from FISHN'CO project and according to what the RCGs reports and presentations reflect.

Financial reporting, CETMAR has shared instructions on the financial reporting requirements with all partners. Also made Excel files available for each partner on Teams to fill in with executed cost. Available at FISHNCO-ADMIN channel under the folder REPORT_INTERIM. The plan is to have all financial information complete from each partner by the end of January 2022. Allow February for the compilation of the different parts, gathering the signatures etc.

IFREMER has now gathered all the signatures for the Consortium Agreement (Joël to confirm this with Benedicte). Thus, the process for the Data Sharing Agreement can be launched. CETMAR offers to take over the process with the Data Sharing Agreement, but a decision on this must be made by IFREMER.

Agreements:

- Share/inform about FISHN'CO work plan for the next coming months, in plenary.
- Inform all partners about the financial requirements in order to be prepared for the reporting period, also in plenary.

Next meetings

DG-MARE project officer

Blanca sent an invitation for a meeting on the 22nd September (9:00 CET). The points of the agenda are the following, apart from a general chat on how things are and where support is needed:

- Deliverables
- Access to pilot studies
- FIDES (as mentioned in the pre-decision meeting. Late for this year probably but for next year and for RWP if needed)

Agreements:

- CETMAR to get in touch with Blanca and ask for clarification on the second point of the agenda, *Access to pilot studies*.
- All, confirm availability

WP leaders meeting

Convene a meeting with WP leaders to follow up WP progress. The meeting should be held before the plenary meeting. This is intended to be a meeting on a technical level. Suggested date 22nd September (11:00 CET), following after the meeting with project officer

Agreements:

- CETMAR to send the invitation to the WP leaders meeting and get their confirmation of availability.

Plenary meeting

It was discussed the convenience to have two differentiated parts of the meeting, as there are topics such as the financial requirement that should be addressed only with project partners and other information that is relevant for partners and non-partners.

First part of the meeting only with partners (a dedicated part to financial requirements), second part open to all partners and non-partners (on a technical level).

It is important to have a good level of attendance therefore we will confirm availability through doodle. Joël is willing to have the plenary meeting around the dates for the submission of the WP. Suggested dates 11th, 13th and 14th October.

Agreements:

- CETMAR to set a doodle to confirm availability.
- Joël to propose an agenda.
- CETMAR send the meeting invitation along with the agenda once the date has been fixed.

The meeting ends by 11:40 (CET)

Work Package Leaders meeting_2

Date	28/09/2021	Venue	
Time	11:00 CET		Virtual, MS Teams

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jorgen Dalskov	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project coordinator, WP3 leader
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination team, WPI, WP3
Els Torrele	ILVO	WP2 co-leader
Linda O'Hea	MI	WPI leader
Hans Van Oostenbrugge	WR	WPI co-leader

Objectives

- The main objective of the meeting is to follow up on WP progress and the discuss about the actions for the coming months.

Specific issues addressed**Lessons learned during the first project period**

Joël starts the meeting sharing his thoughts about the expectations and feelings from the first 9 months of the project. He explains that the first period for the project was expected to be challenging but it was very important to reach the RCGs' meetings with substantial progress so that at least a first approach to the RWP would come out from that. There was need to do as much as possible, even in a rush, to guarantee that we would be in a position to address the second round planned for final term in 2021 and 2022.

The Technical Meeting for NANSEA&BALTIC in June concentrated a lot of discussions on the work around RWP and Fishn'Co and substantial progress was made as a result.

Now it is important to have an efficient preparation of the process for the next period. It may seem a long period but there's not that much ease if the work plan is looked at into detail.

In addition to NANSEA and Baltic draft elements of RWP, ECON and LP have also had some discussions and made some progress towards their future RWPs.

Fishn'Co plenary in early July was planned to gather the feedback from the RCG technical meeting. We have also received feedback from NCs during the Decision process in September.



Preparing for the period from Nov 2021 to June 2022

Next project plenary meeting will be on the 13th October. The main purpose will be to prepare the work for the period Nov 21 – June 22.

Joël shares a quick overview of the work achieved under the different WPs so far, as a basis for the discussion later on during the meeting and the planning of the work ahead.

WPI. Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps

The levels of ambition were defined for each thematic focus area (TFA), however for most of the TFAs the level of ambition were not mature enough to be included in the RWP.

New tables have been proposed where you can see the progress towards the RWPs in a more visually manner. The tables have colour coding also indicators that could show the progress year after year. At the moment, there are different initiatives on different items. Additionally, the tables allow for a consistent approach throughout all TFA.

The case studies to be included in the RWP are: Baltic small pelagics and Diadromous species. The proposed RWP 2022 is a non-binding text.

WP2: Establishing decision making structures/processes

There has been progress related to what kind of mechanisms need to be put in place for the decision process. During the discussions, there was a point raised by Finland NC that we need to take into account. Some discussions with DG MARE have also been addressed.

WP3: Drafting Regional Work Plans

There are two RWP proposed for 2022 as a non-binding text: RWP for NANSEA and RWP for Baltic. Thus, we have something tangible to test and to be able to learn from, a concrete objective to discuss upon. This is indeed a very successful outcome already.

The tables developed in WPI (with the ambition levels) are also included in the RWP. The tables allow to see at a glance for each TFA what they are doing, what they plan for the future, and where they are at the moment. Joël suggests that this sort of approach could be adopted.

For the RWP, the new NWP template was adapted to include other elements such as textboxes and table 2.1, column for MS and threshold rules used. This will be a very good opportunity to test run table 2.1.

Additionally, a script was developed to be included as well in the NWP and a control table for table 2.1. In the control table, you will find a column with the year, and Eurostat information to compare with RDB data.

Next Fishn'Co plenary meeting on the 13th October

Joël proposes to split the work ahead in three sequences, namely:

- 1st. From Oct to Dec 2021. Keep the momentum to have everybody on board and finalise the work in progress
- 2nd. Jan-March 2022. Having a consultation process on all elements in the RWP with the NCs. With the aim of having all the feedback prior to the technical meetings.
- 3rd April-May 2022. Compile and integrate the elements into the new version of the RWP.

The timing needs to be strict because we want to avoid the rush in May.

The floor is now open for WP leaders to comment on the progress and workplan ahead

WPI. Linda is working through Leonie's hand over documents. Leonie has been in touch with Hans.

Hans had RCG ECON last month and they carried out the gap-analysis on the economic issues and social issues.

The ambition level was discussed and now there's a list of actions to be taken during the upcoming period in order to resolve some methodological issues. The economic partners already know the tasks for the coming months, there has been conversations with them. These issues will be overcome partly this year and partly next year. This includes the provision of some of these elements in the RWP work in 2022.

The message to convey during the plenary meeting is to keep an eye on the timing as it was already mentioned to be well prepared in advance of the technical meetings.

As a novelty, next year RCG ECON will take place also in June instead of September so this will allow for a better timing between FISHN'CO and RCG ECON cycle.

Manon to work closely with Linda in WPI activities/tasks.

Joël confirms with Linda that she'll have everything about the ambition levels etc (WPI) by the end of December.

WP2. Els comments on the very interesting discussions during the RCGs and the NCs meetings. There were no major remarks in general. The stepwise approach is welcome by the NCs. However, there is still a strong need to clarify the combination of RWP and NWP, and how this will work. The fundamental analysis needs to be further looked into.

There might be the need to prepare different scenarios, including worst-case scenarios (i.e. one country not getting sufficiently involved and concentrated in NWP...). Additionally, for Economics issues the RWP will be overarching, we don't have a step-wise decision. We need to look into it.

Jorgen agrees with the comments made by Els and sees potential for the tables developed in WPI to be included somehow in the decision process. How do we set up the decision is still not clear, if go ahead with only a couple species, how do we do that?

Jorgen would like to discuss this issue into detail with an in-person meeting. The question is who to involve in such a meeting. Joël suggest to have as much people as possible in order to have a successful brainstorming. Monika and Blanca from DG MARE should also be invited to the meeting so they could bring ideas from the legal side of things. DG MARE C3 unit is already looking into the legal aspects with their legal department. Els, also suggests that is worth exploring what is in the head of NCs on this regard, maybe there can also be invited to the meeting. So, we can be prepared and ahead of some of these discussions.

For the in-person meeting, two days is considered sufficient time, need to consider the possibility of hybrid approach (online- in person) as some countries are still facing restrictions. Jorgen volunteers as a host as they have lifted all restrictions in Denmark. Suggested dates, second half of November. CETMAR offers support with the organization of the meeting.

WP3. Table 2.I has been now been sent to all NCs. We have received a lot of questions about it. Keep sending the message that is not a binding text. They can change all the values in their the RWP. If something is found wrong, NCs can communicate these errors to Joël so that this can be amended.

Another very positive outcome, is that the EC team has confirmed that they will embed the FIDES code in table 2.1.

Joël is very pleased with the work accomplished over the summer period and is looking forward to convey the message in plenary and keep the momentum.

WP4. Communication and dissemination

Joël foresees an important workload during the consultation process to be carried out within WP3 also in WPI.

Rosa, comments that the plan for the next period is to move a step forward in the communication.

A first step, will be populating the newsletter. For that a preliminary text has already been prepared, the text revolves around the organization of RCG, their annual cycle and the implications for regional coordination on fisheries data collection.

A second step, a first round of interviews targeting FISHN'CO and SECWEB leaders. The preliminary questions are already available on Teams, [here](#)

The aim is to emphasize the importance of RWP, what are the benefits from it, what can be expected, etc. In short, to have a friendly and easily understandable description of the RWP.

Joël to have a look at the questions and provided answers. The answers should be kept short, no longer than 150 words each question if possible.

Joël reflects on the word used “shift”, not very happy with it because do we really want to promote a shift?

Rosa, comments that the word is most likely coming from the initial project description. We can change the word or alternatively reflect upon it in the answers provided and use it to catch the eye of the reader.

After the first round of interviews (FISHN'CO and SECWEB), there will be a similar approach for RCGs chairs.

Another communication output are the infographics, there is plenty of material than can be used. Rosa suggests to work closely with Manon to decide on what elements can be displayed in a visual format from WPI and WP3. One of the committed outputs from WPI, Deliverable 1.1: The results of the compilation and identification of gaps will be presented as a “map”. These maps could be a set of infographics. Even in WP2 when the discussions are more advanced and the decision process is clear could have an infographic.

The communication is a work continuously in progress, WP4 can support consultation process, organization of meetings, gather information, questionnaires, etc. Just need to get the instructions.

Joël, the consistent table (WPI) is something that can evolve, it is worth having a look at it and see how to improve it to present in a more graphic way.

The message in plenary will that and also anyone that has a need for communication support can request support from WP4.

WP5. Coordination and management

In IFREMER they have a budget for meetings, that was not touched. There is a question on how much to keep for this year. They need to reallocate it before the year comes to an end. It is foreseen that Manon can travel where and when needed for support and to bridge the work under different WPs.

For IFREMER, mid October is the last time to reallocated, so this is something that needs to be discussed further.

Rosa, comments that the official budget of the project is for the whole duration of the project for each item. However, internal rules might apply as it is the case in IFREMER. It is something that we need to foresee. There are forms available for each partner on Teams, under the folder FISHNCO ADMIN> INTERIM REPORT, to check the executed costs. We need to make an estimation and communicate to DG MARE any changes/reallocation in budget. The best moment to do this is at the end of first financial year after the financial report is done. Please have a look at the files and have a go at them.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Proposal for meeting in Nov (venue, dates, participants,...)	Jorgen Dalskov	05/10/2021
Launch the organization of the meeting	CETMAR	06/10/2021
Complete interview questions	Joël Vigneau	Before 13 th Oct

The meeting ends by 12:15 (CET).



Work Package Leaders Meeting_3

Date 10th December 2021

Venue

Time 13:00 CET

Virtual, MS Teams

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jorgen Dalskov	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Blanca García Álvarez	EC DG Mare	
Monika Sterczewska	EC DG Mare	
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	Project coordinator, WP3 leader
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination team, WPI, WP3
Els Torrele	ILVO	WP2 co-leader
Linda O'Hea	MI	WPI leader
Irek Wojcik	MIR	WP3
Monica Gambino	NISEA	WP3
Hans Van Oostenbrugge	WR	WPI co-leader

Objectives

- The main goal of the meeting is to revise the plans for each of the WPs and to prepare for presenting results by the end of Jan.
- To keep the teams in line and to prepare the general assembly of FISHN'CO by the end of January, beginning of Feb.

Agenda

- Feedback from STECF on RWP.
- Feedback from DG MARE on FIDES team and their implication for table 2.1.
- Latest development in each of WP.
- Preparation of guidance for FISHN'CO teams how to propose regional initiatives in the next RWP to be presented in June 2022 (template + questionnaires + collaborative platform).
- AOB (date for the next plenary, ...).

Specific issues addressed

Feedback from STECF on RWP

1. Joël Vigneau starts presenting the sequence of where we are at the moment in Fishn'Co and pointing to the plan ahead for the next 3 to 6 months.

PRINCIPAL MILESTONES

	Timeline	Key milestones	Work plan brief summaries
✓	Jan - June 2021	Preparing RCG 2021 session	Starting the project for all WP and tasks Organising meetings and consultation Preparing RWP scenarios for structure and contents and scenarios for decision and implementation procedures.
✓	June - Oct 2021	RCG and LM sessions MS implications in drafting NWP	Communication Adaptation of the proposed RWP upon demands
	Nov. 2021 - June 2022	Lessons learned and preparing RCG 2022 session	Developments of all elements of RWP with lessons learned from the 2021 RCG session. Preparing a second version of RWP scenarios for structure and contents and scenarios for decision and implementation procedures
	June - Oct 2022	RCG and LM sessions MS implications in drafting NWP	Communication Adaptation of the proposed RWP upon demands
	Oct. Nov. 2022	Wrap-up	Lessons learned from the 2 sessions of RCGs Compilation of all the work done Prospective Final reporting

FISHN'CO



Co-funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund



We are gathering the lessons learned and preparing for RCG 2022 session. Next Fishn'Co assembly meeting (February 2022) will serve as a forum to present all proposals to be included in RWP, taking account of the lessons learned so far. The proposals together with a set of questions to be discussed during the Fishn'Co assembly will feed into the consultation process to NCs. The consultation process to NCs is very important and it is expected to begin around February-March, leaving 2 to 3 months for NCs to reply prior to the RCG sessions in 2022. The feedback from the consultation process will be gathered by Fishn'Co in order to finalise the proposals for RWP to be presented in RCGs meetings.

100

2. Feedback from STECF on RWP. STECF evaluated the RWPs and made comments that are available on the following report [Evaluation of work plans for data collection \(STECF-21-17\)](#)

Joël Vigneau presents the **main outcomes/highlights of the report** relevant to Fishn'Co scope:

- One of the main changes is the development timeline for regional work plans with an objective of being ready to include all RWP elements in NWP by October 2024, when all MS will resubmit a 3 year plan for 2025-2027.
- The recommendation is to align timing. There is the need to discuss how to accommodate the timing as Fishn'Co finishes at the end of 2022. The plan could be that a dedicated ISSG be revived during RCGs 2022 to carry on the work and prepare RWPs for presentation to RCG 2023 and adoption in October 2023.
- Another recommendation is that all RCGs should progress within the same timeframe when constructing the RWPs.
- Giving the timing, MS will need to interact with RCGs before summer 2023.
- Update period for RWP should be the same as for NWP.
- MS having already proposed a NWP covering the period 2025-2027 will need to resubmit in order to take account of RWP.

STECF also discussed the document **“RWP and NWP feedback and roadmap 2021”** previously presented during EWG-20-18. The comments are the following:



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

- Each MS is required to hold one set of tables and one text document for the NWP containing information on both national and regional aspects. Having a standalone document is said to be a legal and financial obligation for MS.
- Each row in the NWP table that is coordinated on regional level will have a reference to respective RWP where all elements will be detailed. The link between NWP and RWP needs to be clearly described.
- The NWP will contain both NWP and RWP agreements. The rows coordinated at regional level will have a reference to the RWP. All possible types of regional coordination and planning should be able to be included/identified in the RWP and mirrored in NWPs.

Regarding the **evaluation of the non binding RWP Baltic and NANSEA**, the following comments are highlighted:

- Table 2.1 was highly appreciated. Not only because it was filled in a collaborative way and gave input to all individual NWPs but because table 2.1 shows exactly what can be achieved withing the RWP approach.
- European TAC and TAC shares need to be calculated in coordination and cannot be done by individual MS. This is therefore a part of the RWP.
- Regarding the text on ambitions that was proposed, STECF noted that if a RWP is valid for 3 years then the “current status” is ambiguous. This is something that needs to be further discussed within Fishn’Co.
- A pan regional Master Code List should be developed within the Fishn’Co project to support the further development of RWPs. This MCL should extend the existing MCL already developed in order to eventually have a single MCL covering both NWP and RWP needs.

3. Hans Van Oostenbrugge raises a question related to STECF report, is there any advice or opinion directly related to economic issues?

Joël Vigneau answers that he has read through the document and extracted the main points to share with us. The details can be found in STECF report. No especial recollection about economics issues though.

Hans Van Oostenbrugge adds that RCG ECON met last week and they concluded that there is little added value in creating tables coordinated regionally in their case. Currently, there is no regional coordination, besides coordinating the methodologies. So, there are no expectations to have tables coordinated regionally on economic data. The ECON group concluded that Guidelines are the most appropriated format to develop and implement procedures and methods on socio-economic data under the umbrella of a RWP as socio economic data have to be considered as pan-European and, therefore, cannot be addressed at regional level without duplicating the content and structure already present in the NWP.

Joël explains that this is nothing prescriptive, each RCG goes as far as it makes sense to the RCG to go, this is way the ambition levels were proposed.

Latest development in each WP

4. **WP I. Compiling, identifying and filling information gaps**

Linda O’Hea presents WPI status. Linda and Manon Troucelier had met with Task leaders over the last weeks and discussed text boxes and tables. There is a lot of work in progress in each of the Thematic Focus Areas (TFA).

TFA I. Commercial fisheries, case studies are being prepared. More info expected mid Jan2022.



TFA 2. Recreational fisheries, Estanis Mugerza is working with ICES on what to include. Meetings have been planned to draft the text boxes and tables.

TFA 3. Diadromous, finalizing the levels of ambition. The focus will be on IBTS 2022 survey.

TFA 4. Social and economic issues, levels of ambition are being finalized. Include general methodologies in text boxes.

TFA 5. Research surveys, the plan is to build the RWP tables in the next weeks.

TFA 10. Biological data quality, lots of work going on at the moment. Subcontracting analysis work is expected for January.

Joël acknowledges the work done by Linda and Manon over the last months. Additionally, Joël points out some key messages:

- Case Studies for Commercial fisheries are a good example of what a RWP can achieve as they have key material for the RWP. It is the end point of having a fully regional sampling plan in place... but Joel is doubtful about the possibilities of achievement. The project is pushing but there is no clear advance... It is extremely important to have a plan for January 2022, and have their input ready for the consultation process with NCs in February 2022.
- Stomach sampling, there is also the need to have a plan and at least have specific questions to share during the consultation process with NCs. Specific issues, such as the cost of shared stomach analysis, etc, should be ready to propose to NCs.
- Research surveys at sea, cost shared surveys are the main part. However, Joel also points to the surveys that are in the annex of the Implementation annex and that should also be part of the RWP. In January we should have the full scope for this as well. Jorgen Dalskov informed that the group dealing with surveys will come up with something useful. They are a few people very much into the system loop... it should be perfectly feasible to integrate them. There will be a meeting in March 2022 to estimate a cost-sharing model. Which is also aligned with what is needed for Fishn'Co.

5. WP 2. Establishing decision making structures/processes

Jorgen Dalskov says very little progress has been made since last meeting. The meeting to advance on the decision-making structures and processes will be scheduled in Jan 2022. Jorgen is confident we'll have a proposal for the RCG in June. It could be a living document.

Joël Vigneau suggests to at least compile a set of questions relating to WP 2 by January that could be shown to NCs during the consultation process. After the meeting, the group is informed that a draft document to start discussions is compiled by Kolyo Zhelev and Simona Nicheva, describing some general scenario's; issues such as timeframe need to further looked at. This is linked to the adoption of future RWPs.

Hans Van Oostenbrugge asked clarification on the comment of a living document. MS will commit to one version of the document on decision making structures and processes, if it is going to change then the legal status will need to be revised. Hans wonders if this is possible on a legal basis.

Jorgen Dalskov replies to Hans's question suggesting that there should be some scope for small changes and/or adaptations in the document maybe once a year, but from times to times, nothing to alter the commitments on a daily basis. Documents need to have certain flexibility to allow room for adaptation in changing situations.

6. WP 3. Drafting Regional Work Plans



Joël Vigneau states that tables 1.2 and 2.1 need to continue to improve. An initiative is ongoing to involve the COM FIDES team into linking the entries of table 1 to the TAC coding. Joël will discuss this with Monika Sterczewska and Blanca García to be then discussed with MS.

There is the need to compile all returns from different MS to see how to respond at best to their comments.

There are other generic tables to look at and especially table 1.3 on bi and multilateral agreements.

For the socioeconomic data collection, apart from the guidelines the RWP could include tables on planned regional and international coordination (present table 1.2), on Bi and Multilateral agreement (table 1.3) and on data availability (table 1.1).

There also the need to take care of STECF suggestion to create a Master Code List for RWP, something to be dealt with WP3 and WPI TFA on data quality.

Additionally, WP3 is supporting WPI to answer questions about the RWP when they come up in the thematic areas.

7. WP 4. Communication and dissemination

Rosa Fernández comments that recent work has been concentrated in two main elements of the communication plan: RCGs newsletter and infographics.

The **RCGs newsletter** has got 92 subscriptions so far. The idea is to release the first issue of the newsletter in December before the Xmas holidays. The newsletter includes an interview to Joël Vigneau with the aim to spread the word about FISHN'CO. This item is available at <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/interview-with-joel-vigneau/>

Another upcoming news item is related to the non-binding test for Regional Work Plans. CETMAR will share the text with DG MARE team for their revision prior to go public.

Rosa Fernández encourages everyone to act as ambassadors of the RCG's web and newsletter among their contacts.

Joël Vigneau also comments that the newsletter should have a bottom-up approach. Therefore, WP leaders should write/provide information to WP4 leaders to feed into the newsletter.

Interactive infographic, Rosa and Susana Rivero present the interactive infographic to represent the level of ambition for regional coordination using the inputs for each of the thematic focus areas (TFA) in WPI.



The main advantage of the infographic is that allows to see all the information available for each TFA in the same page. There are arrows that allow to navigate the document up and down, left- right. You can click in the area of interest to see the display.

The group considers the infographic design very useful and elegant. CETMAR will carry on this line of work to finish the infographic with the inputs from WPI.

The infographic is built based on the data available on a spreadsheet, the fact of using the Excel spreadsheet will allow updates and track changes overtime with no problems. Fishn'Co needs to think about how to track motion, linked also to WP I.

Consultation process will be planned in January. Current need to check if there have been changes to the NWP will be done through the revision of the NWP files, they will be publicly available soon. Blanca García also adds that if NWP are needed before that they can be facilitated by EC.

8. WP 5. Coordination and management

We have to prepare for the mid term report which also includes expenses. CETMAR to send a reminder with the instructions to fill in the forms for executed costs. Deadline for the financial part, end of Jan 2022.

There are 60 days from the end of Dec to present the interim report including also the technical report. WP leaders are to provide feedback and inputs to technical report in due time.

AOB

- Next Fishn'co Assembly meeting**, it is agreed to have it the first week of February 2022. Dates to be set with a doodle, options the 3rd and 4th Feb, 3-hour time slot.

Els Torreele, ask for the possibility to include a time slot in the agenda to present Secweb updates.
Joël agrees.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Convene a WP 2 meeting (mid Jan 2022)	Jorgen Dalskov	13/12/2021
Release first issue of RCG's newsletter	CETMAR	28/12/2021
Feed content to newsletter	WP leaders	Continuous
Convene Fishn'Co assembly meeting (3-4 Feb 2022)	CETMAR	15/12/2021
Send a reminder about financial reporting	CETMAR	15/12/2021

The meeting ends by 14.33 (CET).

WP Leaders Meeting_4

Date	07/03/2022
Time	16:00 CET

Venue	Virtual, MS Teams
--------------	-------------------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	WP3 leader, coordination team
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	WPI, WP3
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	WP3 co-leader

Objectives

- Assess the level of information compiled for the consultation process and decide on key messages for NCs meeting on March 2022

Agenda

106

- Preparing EU/NC meeting on the 10th March, Fishn'Co's plan and expectations from NCs
- WPs inputs for the consultation process

Specific issues addressed

Fishn'Co vs ISSGs, the setting of Regional Work Plans

- Joël, comments about WPI and the difficulties that we still face in some cases to distinguish between the work that has to be delivered within Fishn'Co and ISSGs. Linda O'Hea (WPI leader) asked for some support because of the large scope of WPI TFAs. Joël suggested to get in contact with outgoing RCG chairs, namely Lucía Zarauz and Maria Hansson, to support WPI to deliver on all expectations regarding RWPs. Both, Lucía and Maria were really enthusiastic and active taking part in meetings discussions and coming forward with some recommendations. One message that was raised during the discussions, it was the confusions in both the RWP concepts and Fishn'Co role vs ISSG. It was decided for the sake of clarity to SIMPLIFY as much as possible elements of language for the RWP and Fishn'Co activities. As a result, a short note was produced: *Clarification on the expectations from Fishn'Co regarding the setting of Regional Work Plans*. Joël shared the note with WP leaders for feedback on 18th Feb.
- Therefore, the approach is to simplify as much as possible, and for example remove ambition levels from RWP and include only in RWP tangible elements.
- In conclusion, Fishn'Co aims to get as close as possible to what it would look like a RWP in a few years, to be able to show to RCGs in 2022 meetings. Therefore, RCGs will have time to reflect upon them, extract lessons learnt and move forward in regional coordination.



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Preparing for NCs meeting

4. Joël would like to share the approach mention above, RWP compose of tangible elements or building blocks, with NCs during the meeting 10th March. The group agrees.
5. Jørgen likes the approach of building blocks, it is aligned with the discussions/reflections in WP2.
6. Mathieu, referring to LP case study he still finds some difficulties to bring elements into RWP; as to say, how do we start putting the elements together. Do we use the templates for RWP test-run 2022? Joël advice is to start first by compiling the different elements that could be coordinated regionally. Look at the agreements (bilateral or international) that are already in place, and look into how to position these agreements in the RWP.
7. Financial implication of RWP is also an important point to be considered. No NCs will agree on anything unless is completely clear the financial and legal implications. Which is the case for example for Stomach sampling; cost-sharing agreements could be the solution in these cases.
8. Joël would like to show the timeline for Fishn'co however COM has not had a saying on it yet, whether it is in line with their timeline or not. The group agrees to show the timeline and play safe adding that Fishn'Co will adapt the timeline in case needed.
9. Take the advantage of NCs meeting and announce that Fishn'Co consultation process is going to be launched soon so NCs are more prone to participate in the consultation process.
10. Manon had the chance to look at the NWP presented last year and analysed the level of inclusion of RWP elements. In general, the acceptance is good. Joël will show some of these figures at the NCs meeting.

WP inputs for the consultation process

11. Manon, WPI updates. Linda O'Hea also shared by email the working documents because she could not attend the meeting
TFA-Stomach sampling has shared the protocol and some questions for the consultation process.
TFAs- PETS, Marine Recreational Fisheries and SSF have also shared some questions.
TFA- Surveys have filled the excel file. The want surveys to be in EU MAP
TFA- Small Pelagics in the Baltic shared a text explaining how they are doing to introduce the case study in RWP
TFA- Biological Data Quality expecting some inputs from David Currie.
The rest of TFAs said that their work is still in progress, they have not reached any agreements yet. Therefore, no relevant questions have come up.
The group on social and economic data mentioned that in their case they will not be able to fill tables in RWP, the general approach does not really fit them. Jørgen, that is understandable, however describing methods could be part of RWP, protocols and manuals could also fit. Thus, the group should keep the focus on that.
12. Jørgen, WP2 has met recently and the group has produced a series of documents and questions that can be used for the consultation process. The most important point at this stage is to get a positive feedback from NCs that Fishn'Co is progressing in the right direction towards RWPs.
Kolyo, NCs should have RCGs technical meetings in their agendas and be participants of the discussions on what building blocks should go into RWPs. Regarding the processes and decision-making structures for developing RWPs developed in WP2, the final step- *Adoption of the RWP* still needs further clarification. WP2 contacted Blanca García (DG MARE) in this regard, Blanca said that during NCs meeting (10th March) there will more information related to this topic.
13. Rosa, asks about the consultation process itself. Is there a clear idea on how to organize the questions? Any defined structure?

Jørgen, mentions that WP2 has included half a page of introduction that then it will be followed by the relevant questions.

The group agrees that having a summary of each WP as a way of introduction it is a good idea and then the questions. This way the NCs could have a better idea of the context.

The preferred format would be a questionnaire where NCs could mark off questions and also add comments.

14. Regarding the time frame for the consultation process, thinking of between 30-45 days to get the feedback. Bearing in mind that the results should be ready for RCGs technical meetings.
15. Joël would like to appoint another WP leader to lead the consultation process by the end of the month.

Next meeting (WP leaders + Lucía Zarauz and Maria Hansson) 21st March, 13:00 (CET)

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Share WP2 inputs for consultation process	WP2 leaders (Jørgen)	08/03/2022
Check with TFA- Social and economic data inputs for consultation process/updates	WPI (Manon)	08/03/2022
Check with TFA- Diadromous inputs for consultation process/updates	WPI (Manon)	08/03/2022

The meeting ends by 17:04 (CET).



WP Leaders Meeting_5

Date	21/03/2022
Time	13:00 CET

Venue	Virtual, MS Teams
--------------	-------------------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	Project partner and former RCG chair
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	WP3 leader, coordination team
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	WPI, WP3
Els Torreele	ILVO	WP2 co-leader
Linda O'Hea	MI	WPI leader
Maria Hansson	SLU	former RCG chair

Agenda

1. Interim report
2. Feedback from NCs meeting
3. Launching Fishn'Co consultation process

109

Specific issues addressed

Interim report

Fishn'Co interim report has been finalized and it is ready for submission. All documents are available on Teams repository: FISHNCO_TECH > WP5_COORD&MNGMT > REPORTING.

Joël Vigneau, project coordinator, will submit the interim report to EC within this week.

Feedback from NCs meeting

During the NCs meeting held on 10th March, Joël presented what has been achieved so far within Fishn'Co, lesson learned and especial attention was given to the consultation process and the feedback expected from NCs and MS. No questions were risen during the NCs meeting regarding Fishn'Co. For more details consult ppt [here](#)

Launching Fishn'Co consultation process

It was agreed that the consultation process will be launched in early April, thus there is one week to fine tune the questionnaire (30th March).

Additionally, options need to be explored for the technical implementation of the survey. Ideally addresses should be granted the possibility to see all the questions at once, to download the questionnaire off line, and also to go back and forth in the questionnaire during the answering process. Survey should also provide the



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

option to keep a record of their answers. CETMAR will explore the different functionalities available within the survey platforms and provide a solution.

Linda and Els mentioned that DG MARE has recently done a consultation process regarding the CFP in which they used similar tools. CETMAR will consult further with Monika to gather more details about survey platform used.

Regarding the questionnaire itself, some discussions arise about how to formulate the questions and which questions to include. Ambiguity should be avoided in order to be able to have conclusive results.

The group agreed on general guidelines for drafting the questionnaire:

- Include an Introductory section with background information and purpose of the consultation process. Also include an Appendix with relevant information that will enable a better understanding of some of the questions, like for example the questions related to decision making process (DMP).
- The questionnaire will have three differentiated sections:
 - I. General principles
 - II. DMP
 - III. RWP contents
- Questions would be a direct question with a Yes/No/Partially options and the comment option available in all answer cases, though mandatory for No and Partially answers.

Then it is discussed the feedback provided by EC during the NCs meeting about the legal procedures for RWP, an issue that was pending from last Fishn'Co plenary meeting.

EC presented three different scenarios with their corresponding timelines. Two scenarios consider the adoption of RWP (adoption by legal act) and a third scenario with no adoption (agreement instead of legal act). For more details visit [here](#)

110

The scenario preferred one by EC, is the one with no adoption, which allows for more flexibility and a shorter timeline.

Joël, ask WP2 leaders whether this no adoption approach is consistent with the decision-making structure developed. Kolyo, confirms that the decision-making structure is consistent apart from the last step that remained open due to this issue. Moreover, the timeline developed within WP2 is also consistent.

After some exchanges on the options and timelines associated, it was decided to go along with the no adoption approach and learn with the process. Take advantage of the flexibility of a non-legally adopted RWP.

This approach could be the one applicable during 25-27 (thus, this RWP would have to be revised by STECF by Nov. 24), and from the experience of the implementation by agreement of the MS, lessons can be extracted to decide what improvements/adjustments are needed and whether it would be advantageous to go for a formal and legal adoption, for the period beyond 2027. This also could better encompass the timing for the revision of the EU MAP and the DCF.

The bulk of the questions for the consultation process come from WPI. Linda and Manon have liaised with TFA task leaders to gather the questions. Questions have been received from the following TFAs: Marine recreational fisheries; PETS; SSF; and Stomach sampling.

WP2 have also drafted questions and provided additional information for the consultation process.

Next part of the meeting concentrates on the formulation of the questions. Both Joël and Linda were tailoring live the questionnaire and questions according with the feedback of the group. Questions were reformulated

and wording was chosen carefully to avoid ambiguity. Generic questions were narrowed down so NCs will be more likely to provide an answer.

Agreements and further actions

Joël will compile inputs to the questionnaire into a single document and share with the group for comments and final approval. Questionnaire should be ready by 30th March to stick to the timeline.

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Explore technical implementation of survey. Consult DG MARE (Monika) for details about survey platform.	CETMAR/Rosa & Susana	30/03/2022
Adapt final step of decision-making structure WP2	EAFA/ Kolyo	30/03/2022
Send reminder to TFAs task leaders – questions for consultation process	MI/Linda	22/03/2022
Complete questionnaire draft and share for comments	IFREMER/Joël	25/03/2022

III

The meeting ends by 15:05 (CET).



WP Leaders Meeting_6

Date	18/05/2022
Time	15:30 CET

Venue	Virtual, MS Teams
--------------	-------------------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	Project partner and former RCG chair
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Els Torreele	ILVO	WP2 co-leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	WP3 leader, coordination team
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	WPI, WP3
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	WP3 co-leader
Irek Wójcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	WP3 co-leader

Objectives

- Prepare the ground for next plenary meeting and RCGs NANSEA and Baltic technical meeting.

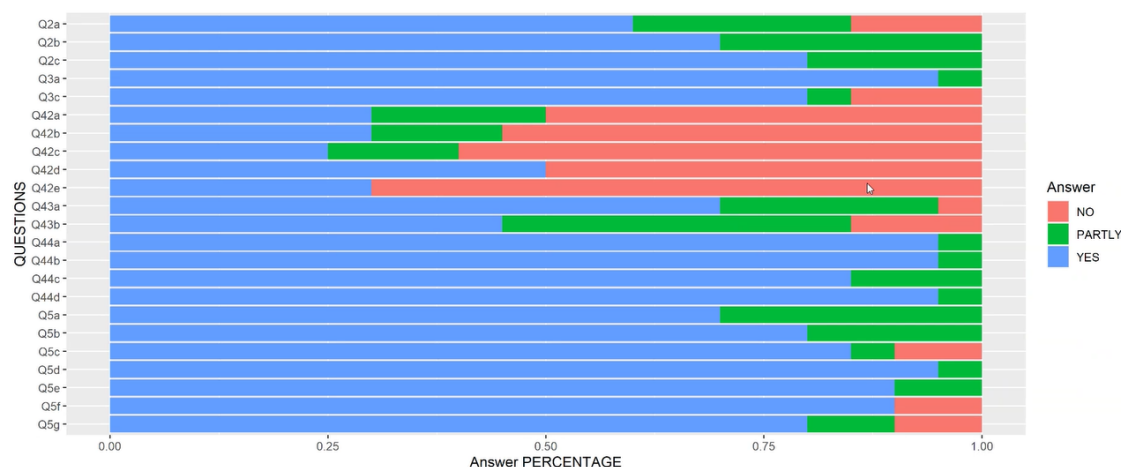
Agenda

- Analysis of the consultation outputs
- Wrap-up of all information related to the upcoming RCG to share in the next plenary

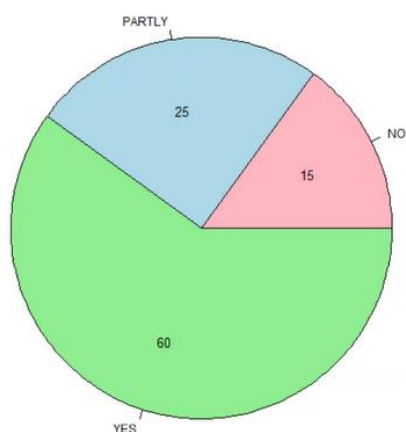
Specific issues addressed

Analysis of the consultation outputs

1. Joël Vigneau, we have received replies from 20 member states (MS). Some important MS are still missing, namely: Spain and Belgium, as well as Italy, Croatia and Greece.
 2. Els Torreele, something must have gone wrong with the submission process because she had filled in the questionnaire for Belgium. She will double check and resend the answers.
 3. Joël it is important that we get feedback from the remaining MS, in particular Spain. Rosa will contact directly the Spanish Ministry highlighting this issue as she is in contact with them. The remaining MS will be also contacted.
 4. Manon Troucelier presents an overview of the analysis carried out so far. They have developed some scripts so further replies can be analysed easily.
- Overall, the results are positive, we can see a vast majority of YES for most of questions. The questions receiving more Nos are the ones related to Stomach sampling.



Q2.a.Do you agree with the step-wise approach and the option of proceeding with a RWP 2025-2027 without formal adoption by the DG Mare services?



5. Els is curious whether we have received comments when MS reply NO. Manon says that in general there are a lot of comments, difficult to show in a graph representation although she is going to work on it.
6. The results from the NC consultation are available on Teams, [FISHNCO_TECH >WP5 >CONSULTATION](#)
7. The group agrees that the analysis should look into regional patterns, four different regions, that would allow to have a regional panorama.
8. Rosa Fernández, we can prepare a ppt template so the graphs will be displayed following the project visual identity. Also available on Teams.
9. Els suggests to focus on the visualization of results for Monday plenary meeting. Then, work on the comments and/or prioritize the question with a high ranking of comments.

Wrap-up

10. Joël overall there is a general willingness to go for the Regional Work Plan (RWP). The non-formal adoption of the RWP by EU is most likely to be a point for discussion during the RCGs technical meetings. There are MSs that clearly stated that they would rather prefer a formal adoption. We will focus on the topics that would need to be discussed in the RCGs.
11. Joël is of the opinion that there will not be need for a new RWP test-run in 2023.
12. At the RCGs meeting in June the consultation outputs will be presented, the focus will be on the topics that need further discussions, also the formalization of the RoPs. For the content of the final RWP 2024-2027 elements from the different test-runs will be gathered and fine-tuned to be presented in 2023.
13. Kolyo Zhelev is interested on the questions related with the decision process and a regional analysis of them.
14. One of the topics for discussion during the meeting on 6th June could be related to questions that need clarification from MS and how to approach this issue.

Next meetings:

- 23rd May, 9:30 (CET) plenary meeting, virtual
- 6th June, 13:30 (CET) hybrid meeting in Ostende.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Resend answers to NCs consultation	Els Torreele	asap
Check survey platform for new submissions	Susana Rivero	periodically
Contact Spanish Ministry	Rosa Fernández	19/05/2022
Contact remaining MS	CETMAR	19/05/2022
Prepare ppt template for NCs consultation analysis	CETMAR	19/05/2022

The meeting ends by 16:20 (CET).

WP and Task Leaders Meeting

Date	25/08/2022
Time	11:00 CET

Venue	Virtual, MS Teams
--------------	-------------------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	WP3 leader, project coordinator
Els Torreele	ILVO	WP2 co-leader
Heidi Pokki	LUKE	Task leader
Linda O'Hea	MI	WPI leader
David Currie	MI	Task leader
Irek Wojcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (PL)	WP3 co-leader
Monica Gambino	NISEA	WP3 co-leader ; task leader
Maria Hansson	SLU	
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WR	WPI co-leader; task leader

Objectives

- To make the point on where we are and planning for the end of the project.

Agenda

- Finalise the report of the consultation for sending back to all NCs and COM before the September DM and LM
- Prepare for the DM - review recommendations/messages channeled through RCGs to NCs which are aimed to preparing for the future RWP; anything to amend or add?
- Prepare the final sequence of the project - review status of all planned deliverables and final roadmap
- Prepare a (final?) face-to-face or hybrid plenary meeting in autumn

Specific issues addressed

Joël Vigneau, Fishn'Co project coordinator, welcomes everyone and proceeds with the adoption of the agenda and objectives of the meeting.

Consultation report, Decision and Liaison meetings in September

- The latest version of the consultation report is available on Teams [here](#)
Joël, the report deserves the group's full attention as a major deliverable of 2022. The idea is to send the report as background information to NCs prior to the DM (19th Sep).

Maria notes that the report is already close to being finished, lots of work have gone into it already.

The group agrees on the dates to provide feedback and comments. The deadline to receive experts' contribution and comments no later than 1st September, 12:00 (CET). The coordination team would then check for final comments and formatting and arrange to send the report to NCs, 1st September afternoon just before the pre-decision meeting (2nd Sep).

Preparing for Decision Meeting

2. One decision and one recommendation were issued from Fishn'Co project during RCG NANSEA and Baltic 2022 technical meeting, these are:

Decision – D04

Do NCs agree to give mandate to ISSG/RWP to develop the first official RWP for the period 2025-27 by spring 2023?

- **Background for decision or recommendation**
EU-NC meeting March 2022 and Fishn'Co consultation outputs
- **Action to be taken**
Development of RWP 2025-2027 in coordination with ISSG/RWP
- **Deadline**
DM2022

Recommendation – R09

- **Background for decision or recommendation**
The project Fishn'Co ends at the end of 2022 and needs to pass over all findings to ISSG/RWP
- **Action to be taken**
Each MS to provide a name at the DM of at least one expert to participate in ISSG RWP
- **Deadline**
DM2022

116

Linda is going to contact every task leader next week to check whether they have any other relevant information to convey to the pre-decision meeting.

3. Maria would like to assure the participation of relevant ISSG chairs (those with an interest in developing elements of RWP) in the ISSG Regional Work Plan for the season 2022-2023. Joël suggests that they could be named an **automatically to the ISSG/RWP**. The group accept the proposal, Joël is going to contact RCG chairs to see how to proceed with naming the ISSG chairs as *de facto* members of ISSG/RWP.
4. Joël this year the DM and Liaison meeting are clashing with ICES/ASC meeting in Dublin. As a consequence, Joël might only to be able to attend partially the DM and LM. Someone else might have to cover for Fishn'Co during DM and LM. Joël will duly inform COM about this issue.
5. Heidi comments that RCG ECON has no decisions to take to the Decision Meeting. However, a consultation regarding the economic part of RWP has already been launched and is on their way at the moment. The plan is to have a workshop in November to take into account the feedback received and finalize the RWP on economics.

Prepare the final sequence of the project

6. Rosa comments that the second progress report has been sent to COM in July. COM has acknowledged the reception of documents; however, we are still waiting for feedback/confirmation of acceptance. The only reporting obligation to fulfil now until the end of the project would be the final report.
7. Additionally, in July CETMAR compiled the proposed changes in budgetary lines from all project partners and sent a formal request to COM for budgetary adjustments. Recently, we have received confirmation from COM on the budgetary reallocations requested between headings for Fishn'Co.
8. One pending issue, to be decided it is how far can we extend the project beyond the official final date (31st Dec 2022). Rosa explains that SECWEB is struggling to find the mechanism for the long-term funding of the RCG Secretariat, in particular a mechanism that could be enforced from 1st Jan 2023. There three different options are on the table now, however we need to wait until the Decision meeting to have a better idea of the likelihood of the different options. At the moment, the most plausible one is to ask for a project extension of two-months to gain some extra time for the administrative procedure to be in place. In this event, we would like Fishn'Co to go in parallel and ask for the same period extension.

Rosa highlights that one other benefit of asking for an extension there will be more time to write and prepare the final report, instead of end Feb we will have until end of April 2023 to submit final report with all deliverables and financial information.

Joël sees the point behind SECWEB, however he worries that the extension might delay the transition from Fishn'Co to ISSG Regional Work Plan.

Els supports the idea of an asking for an extension, she notes that Fishn'Co deliverables could be ready and installed from 1st Jan 2023, the project extension should not hamper that process. Instead, the extension could be use to use unspent money and having extra time to prepare for the final reporting. After analysing pros and cons the group supports the idea of asking for a project extension in parallel with SECWEB in case is needed.

Prepare face-to-face or hybrid plenary meeting in autumn

9. Rosa is of the opinion that the final meeting could be combined with other MARE-grants to have the general overview of the outcomes of the MARE-grants. Joël likes the idea although he thinks that there should be another meeting exclusively for FISHN'CO; a working meeting or workshop where there is the chance to reflect on various issues face-to-face and project deliverables are fine-tuned.

The group agrees to have two different meetings:

- FISHN'CO workshop in early autumn (week 42). Open to all, partners and non-partners. Specific dates to be decided with a poll.
Rosa offers CETMAR premises in Vigo for the workshop. The group concurs to have an in-person meeting, no hybrid option. The workshop over three days: first day afternoon session; second day full day; third day morning session.
- Final meeting (in collaboration with other MARE-grants). Strong focus on communication and final outcomes of the projects. Dates to be decided depending on project extension or not.

10. Joël wants to arrange to have the linkage between FISHN'CO workshop in Oct and RCG ECON workshop (RWP economics) in Nov. Monica and Hans are the perfect candidates for this purpose. Hans suggests to liaise with Linda after the workshop as to align the approach of RWP economics with FISHN'CO. Joël agrees, Linda and Maria to liaise with Hans and Monica to do the linkage.

Agreements and further actions

- Provide inputs to the Consultation report, deadline Thursday 1st Sep 12:00 (CET).
- Organize a workshop in Vigo, mid-October, in-person only.
- Possibility of two-month extension gets the green light.

- Final meeting could be end of Jan – Feb 2023, subject to project extension.

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Provide comments and feedback to Consultation report on Teams	WP leaders and Task leaders	01/09/2022
Send Consultation report to NCs	Coordination Team	01/09/2022
Contact task leaders and check on additional supporting information	Linda O'Hea	asap
Contact RCG NANSEA and Baltic chairs regarding ISSG participation	Joël Vigneau	asap
Inform Fishn'Co partners about acceptance of budgetary adjustments requested	CETMAR	01/09/2022
Send a poll to set the dates for FISHN'CO workshop in Oct	CETMAR	26/08/2022
Linkage between FISHN'CO and RCG ECON workshop	Linda O'Hea, Maria Hansson, Monica Gambino, Hans van Oostenbrugge	ongoing

The meeting ends by 12:55 (CET).

WP Leaders Meeting_7

Date	12/01/2023
Time	14:00 CET

Venue	Virtual, MS Teams
--------------	-------------------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, coordination team
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	WP3 leader, coordination team
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	WP3 co-leader
Irek Wójcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	WP3 co-leader
Linda O'Hea	MI	WPI leader
Monica Gambino	NISEA	WP3 co-leader

Agenda

The agenda covered the following topics:

1. Review all RWP proposals under development and define precisely the remaining work and task allocation
2. Review the status of all other deliverables
3. Agree on the final stages of the project and on a date for the last plenary session

119

Specific issues addressed

Joël Vigneau (IFREMER) welcomes everyone and proceeds with the adoption of the agenda.

RWP proposals review

The latest RWP developments and updates can all be found in the following folder on Teams:

[RWP 2025-2027](#)

Joël prepared a check list document to review the state of development of the different RWPs textboxes and tables; and assign responsibilities to finalize pending tasks.

The group assess the situation of each RWP; refer to the document [RWP check list \(1\).docx](#) for further details:

NANSEA

Regarding Table 1.3., the group discussed whether all the agreements at regional level could be listed in the table so all MS could use the same reference in their respective NWP. Concerns were expressed in those cases where agreements comprise financial implications. Irek Wójcik is of the opinion that in those cases the table will not suffice. At this point, it was mentioned the possibility of having a repository for these type of agreement on the RCGs website. So national institutes can refer to and consult the agreements from the same source.



Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) said that the RCG's Secretariat in collaboration with AZTI will explore the feasibility of having the repository available before the end of the project. Irek volunteered to provide the agreements in which Poland is involved for the purpose.

Mathieu Depretis (IRD) took the floor to explain the progress achieved in relation to Table 2.1, really good progress has been made with the support from other coders colleagues. More details can be found on the following links:

[OB7-IRD/rwptool: R toolbox package for the EU Regional Work Plans development \(github.com\)](#)
[Regional Work Plans Tool • rwptool \(ob7-ird.github.io\)](#)

Mathieu and Joël working on it, the idea is to propose an update of the tables with 2021 data and an update with 2022 data in June 2023.

Baltic

The group reviewed the status of the RWP and check task and work load allocation for those remaining tasks.

Irek Wójcik mentioned that there is some bilateral cooperation in terms of Stomach sampling in the Baltic region; in the form of a new project. Joël suggested to include this coordination in textbox 1.a. as a case study. Irek will check the level of coordination and report back to the group for its inclusion in the Baltic RWP.

Large pelagics

Similarly, to the other RWPs, there is the need to develop some content for section I, General information.

Mathieu informed that there are no cases studies to be included in textbox 1.a.

Regarding textbox 2.5. Mathieu will check the level of coordination for sampling of biological data at port in case it can be included here. Joël suggested that if the level of coordination is not mature enough it could be included in textbox 1.a. instead.

Textbox 3.1. Common approach on effort for Purse seiners to be included.

Annex 1.1 to be completed if something goes into textbox 2.5.

Table 1.2. international coordination to be reviewed.

ECON

Section I, General information about the context is to be completed.

Monica Gambino (NISEA), the approach is that of transposing the information already available, and agreed by NCs, in Excel format to textbox format. Next week there is a meeting planned to conclude on the approach and the final format for the textboxes and its completion.

Joël mentioned that it will be ideal to have the information available before 14th Feb, in preparation for the next plenary meeting. Joël will circulate all RWP templates and related document to Monica so they could have an inf

Monica to have the documents so we could have a final discussion next week, with these documents on hand.

Final comments

Joël, WP leaders in collaboration with task leader should finalize the inputs for RWPs textboxes and tables by 31st January. Accordingly to the task allocation reflected on the document [RWP check list \(1\).docx](#)

Deliverables status review

Susana Rivero (CETMAR) commented on the status of the contractual deliverables based on the information compiled on the following document [ListAgreedDeliverables_FISHN'CO.docx](#) in Nov 2022.

WPI

The latest updates related RWPs textboxes and tables will be incorporated in the final deliverables: D.1.1, D.1.2. by the end of Jan.

WP2

The content of D.2.1 to D.2.4 was reviewed during the workshop in Vigo last Oct and updates were done accordingly. In the case of D.2.4 – Revised RoP for RCG to adapt to accommodate development and adoption of RWP; after the workshop in Vigo, Irek went through the latest version of RoPs (RCG NANSEA and Baltic) and in collaboration with WP2 leaders concluded that there is no need for a revision of the actual RoPs. The RoPs as they are now allow for the adoption of RWPs. The reasoning behind it is that of going for a full revision and update of RoPs for all RCGs, alignment with RCGs: LDF, LP, ECON and Med&BS.

D.2.5. Slideshow to be done.

WP3

The 2nd version of RWPs (D.3.1. to D.3.4) are being drawn in collaboration with WPI. D.3.5 is in progress, Joël is working on the document on Teams [Development of RWP.docx](#); comments and contributions to the document are welcome.

D.3.6. Slideshow to be done once the other deliverables are finished.

WP4

D.4.2. there is a new piece of the dissemination and communication materials that is a dedicated Fishn'Co video; the final edits are being done and the video will be released soon.

D.4.4. work ongoing.

There is also a final stakeholder event planned at the end of the project. This event is to be aligned with SECWEB project, and preferably with other MARE- grants namely STREAMLINE and RDBFIS, in order to facilitate the attendance of the maximum number of stakeholders. On a SECWEB meeting held this morning, SECWEB was in favor of organizing a physical meeting, in Brussels, at the end of February. No later than the end of February so partners could claim travel expenses to the projects. Ideally, this meeting should also be combined with the NCs meeting.

Joël, pointed out that if the final stakeholder event is to be combined with NC's meeting, we should aim for at least 45 minutes time slot for each project. RCG's Secretariat to approach DG MARE team with the proposal of having the morning dedicated to MARE grants, one hour each project, and the afternoon will be free for NCs and COM meeting.

WP5

The coordination team is working to have all deliverables ready on time for the final reporting period. Reporting instructions have already been shared with all project partners (email 19th Dec 2022), indicating the internal deadlines



The deadline to submit final deliverables and technical contents for final technical report **31st January 2023**. WP leaders have been asked to send their contributions to section 3 for the final report to COM, template provided.

The deadline to submit final financial statements **15th March 2023**. Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) recommended project partners to get in touch with the financial department in their institutions asap to make sure that the financial information is prepared well in advance of the deadline.

Partners who could send the financial information before the established deadline please do so to facilitate the work of coordination team towards the presentation of the final report in due time and form.

Final stage of the project

The group agreed on the date for the last Fishn'Co plenary meeting to be on the 14th February from 10 to 13h (CET). The main topics to be covered are: wrapping up of all the elements of the project; preparing for the final reporting and communication to COM.

Agreements and further actions

- Align the final stakeholder event with that of SECWEB project.
- Last Fishn'Co plenary meeting on 14th February, 10-13h (CET).

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Finalize inputs for RWPs textboxes and tables	WP leaders in collaboration with Task leaders	31/01/2023
Develop an online repository for regionally coordinated agreements	RCG's Secretariat in collaboration with AZTI	28/02/2023
Contact NCs to gather regionally coordinated agreements	RCG's Secretariat	20/02/2023
Finalize deliverables	WP leaders	31/01/2023
Contact DG MARE to assess the possibilities of a combined final stakeholder even at the end of Feb	RCG's Secretariat	13/01/2023
Send save-the-date for final plenary meeting	CETMAR	16/01/2023

The meeting ends by 15:35 (CET).

WPI - Meeting minutes

WPI – Kick Off Meeting

Date	1 st March 2021	Venue	
Time	14.00 hours		MS-Teams

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	Thematic Area: RSP Baltic Small pelagics case study
Estanis Muguierza	AZTI	Thematic Area: SSCF, Recreational, Bycatch
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	Thematic Area: RSP Large pelagics case study
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	WPI Co-Chair
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	Thematic Area: Diadromous
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	Thematic Area: RSP Iberian demersal trawl fisheries case study
Pierre Cresson	IFREMER	Thematic Area: Ecosystem effects (Stomach sampling)
Monica Gambino	NISEA	Thematic Area: Socio-economic
Heidi Pokki	LUKE	Thematic Area: Socio-economic
Hans Van Oostenbrugge	WR	WPI Co-Chair
David Currie	MI	Thematic Area: Data quality
Kirsten Birch Håkansson	DTU	Thematic Area: RSP-Umbrella group
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 and 5

123

Objectives

- To share an overview of work in WPI
- To understand the scope of work and the timelines for each of the thematic areas
- To validate the [template](#) for gathering information about gaps and scope of ambition.

Agenda

No specific agenda was planned rather than the set of objectives to address.

Specific issues addressed

[Issue 1]

Preliminary comments:

The WPI folder in Teams is going to be used on a regular basis to share documents, and the documents for this specific meeting are available there.

Introduction to WPI

WPI

Leonie O'Dowd and Hans van Oostenbrugge lead this WP; Leonie for the biological part and Hans for the socioeconomic part.

Every thematic area should define the level of ambition and identify the existing gaps.

Then it should be agreed on ISSG core tasks and the Fishn'Co support tasks for filling in the identified gaps and progress towards the RWPs.

Then the communication for the development of the Regional WP structure should happen in coordination with WP3.

The first thing to do according to the Fishn'Co proposal is to map what exists from there to work on the gaps using the various meetings and collaboration tools and strategies that RCGs have available and the support from the project.

Thematic groups considered are mentioned together with some examples of identified gaps:

- Commercial fisheries: regional sampling design and estimation procedures, feasibility and costs of alternative RSPs
- Recreational fisheries: improvement of a regional database specific for recreational fisheries
- Diadromous Fish: regional harmonization of catch & effort, index river designation, electrofishing
- Small scale fisheries: Risk assessment methodology for data gaps
- Incidental catches of PET: analysis on minimum coverage for robust estimates of bycatch
- Social & economic data on fisheries: agreed guidelines and shared methodologies
- Data Quality: Common templates for Table 5a, guidance on Sampling Implementation, data capture checks, data storage guidance, evaluation of data accuracy (precision and bias) and documenting templates.

124

However not all the thematic focus areas are at the same stage. Some ISSGs pre-identified such gaps and included the tasks into the proposal. The challenge is to identify the core tasks done by the RCG's subgroups and then define the specific scope for the facilitating activities in Fishn'Co. Other groups are in a different situation, aiming to use the project to deliver on the information on gaps and tasks to progress to RWP.

Timelines are already preliminary addressed by looking at the process for addressing the gaps and different focus areas are expected to proceed differently, in some cases there are two rounds of discussion, in others the process is already advanced, etc.

Leonie asks for everyone to introduce themselves and explain how to address the work and with that present the overall timeline.

[Issue 2] Round of individual presentations (topic by topic)

- **Marie Storr Paulsen (DTU Aqua). Commercial fleet: CS Baltic Small Pelagics with Katjia RingDahl (SLU)**

It is a case study to identify the part of the fishery which is not currently included in the MAP. The first part of the work (gap identification) is done, and the work further under development is to prepare a protocol to incorporate these data: They had a Workshop a month ago (end of Jan), on the optimization of samplings and the software code for that. Nuno Prista had a specific thematic meeting on how to optimize code.

Everybody had the chance to work with their datasets, but it is not enough to present that things will be done in a different manner. There is need to show people that they'll do better or at least that they'll not do worse.

14 days later they had another WS to decide how to move towards a common protocol. Optimum sampling size was discussed and the code presently developed still presents some hurdles as is not able to address length stratified sampling. Optimisation at the sampling level is yet a challenge.

Kirsten Birch, from DTUAqua, had a Workshop on how to estimate the optimal sampling size in the RDBES. The estimation workshop looks at the hierarchy in the RBES and it is hoped it can help the countries to understand what changes.

Feedback will be provided to the Assessment WGs in ICES. They are not expected to show a final product. They will gather feedback from the stakeholders but present everything as work in progress. RCGs have sufficiently clear levels of ambition for the support tasks conducted in the project. There are concrete plans to be presented, but countries are moving at different speeds and this needs to be respected. How can a regional sampling plan be developed with 3 out of 8 countries. There needs to be some discussion on how a regional plan can be described (e.g. if the plan can be presented as RWP even some countries are still lagging behind in the process) and how to address the different levels of progress and commitment.

Leonie explains that this is where the definition of the levels of ambition comes in as of uttermost relevance.

What about the template?

Marie Storr-Paulsen had not looked at it yet.

Questions?

It will be convenient to add some statistical knowledge to carry out the work that is committed.

Kirsten Birch asks about the data sharing agreement as she thinks that there may be some constraints in it. It is specific for the case study and needs to be reviewed to ensure that it is fit for purpose.

Leonie advises Kirsten that if she feels that it does not work as it is now, we will need to address this. She recommends Kirsten to write down what the concerns are and to suggest possible solutions.

Rita Vasconcelos IPMA. Case study for RSP for Iberian Trawl fisheries. It started in Fishpi2. There was an exercise already where scenarios were selected and simulated. Those were based on statistical and other criteria.

The idea is to develop this work with the intersessional work of the RCG. The objectives in Fishnco are to address the missing gaps. So the ISSGs work and the Fishn'co objectives will be almost the same. The support tasks are split into short term and longer term. The short term tasks are the gaps that can be addressed in the shortterm ie addressing how to overcome practical limitations, logistics, data sharing, etc. It is planned to complete these tasks before the 2021 RCG technical meeting. The longer term tasks are carrying out simulations with length data. This is aimed for the second year. There is a clear process for first and second year. That is to clarify what needs to be done for the RSP and RWP.

What about the template?

Rita has no comments as she had no time to look at it into detail.

What support is expected from Fishn'co? Sometimes it is going to be hard to differentiate what comes under the project and what under the usual work of the RCGs and ISSGs. One of the things that the project can provide is an exchange when other groups are progressing, so that ones can learn from the other's experiences. Consistency among the groups will also be important.

- **Mathieu Depetris (IRD). Large Pelagics.** First important thing is to identify the main participants who will get involved in the large pelagics case study as part of this project. Mathieu remarks also that

not all the fisheries have the same level of development. There are some specific fisheries with very important gaps. Thus, it is not so important to talk about tropical tuna but e.g. for the Spanish and French tuna fishery. There's no specific subgroup yet and there is some lack of understanding on how this works and how the project group has been created. It will be beneficial for this group on large pelagics to understand what is working and what not in the subgroups so that if there a specific subgroup for RCG Large Pelagics, they'll need to use this knowledge.

LP fisheries have several non-EU contributors and these countries cannot be directly in the Fishn'co project but they should be somehow informed and invited to be involved in these discussions.

It is very important to get a global overview of the partners that need/want to get involved and what is the overall ambition they can assume.

Leonie asks when they will have the first round of discussion of the level of ambition of the elements to be brought into the RWP. Mathieu confirms that this should happen soon. For tropical tuna they'll have a WG next week and for the other fisheries by the second half of March they hope to have a global overview of the panel. Mathieu comments that Joel shared a document as an example of how the RWP could be and it was very useful. It was from the Baltic.

The document proposed by Joel should be further shared to have a common vision of what the RWP should look like. Leonie suggests Mathieu to share this document on TEAMS.

The template is very useful to define exactly where do we want to go. The situation for tropical tuna is very different to those other fisheries where there are significant gaps.

Kirsten Birch and Rita Vasconcelos are asked about the commercial fleet umbrella group. Is there any further comment? It will be beneficial to add the Large Pelagics within the scope of this umbrella group.

- **Estanis Muguerza (AZTI) – TFA Recreational Fisheries:** The plan is to focus on the specific regional database for recreational fisheries and try to start working on data models which have been used with commercial fisheries and explore how far they fit. Not all of the people working on recreational fisheries are familiar with data models from commercial fisheries. As the plan is to have recreational fisheries data in the RDBES by 2023, they will also explore if they can have a specific database solution in the short term. The level of ambitions will be completed before the next RCG. The focus area of recreational fisheries also needs a clearer definition of the participants who will contribute to the project tasks. For next RCG meeting in June they expect to have some progress to share.

Leonie asks about the possible ISSG task on recreation.

Marie Storr says that the benchmark on North Sea stocks had the ambition to include recreational data in stock assessment. However the challenge is if the data is not collected in a way that it is fit for purpose, i.e. most assessments need length and age data. The intersessional group needs to interact with stock assessors to ensure data collection programmes are compatible with end-user needs. Estanis will liaise with the other ISSG members to progress this.

- **Tapani Pakkarinen – LUKE – Diadromous species**

The diadromous ISSG has a short history and has not been involved in FishPi before. There are three main species eel, salmon and trout and three marine regions. There are some projects going on that may provide some elements needed. There are very diverse data for diadromous, so it is important to focus on certain areas:

- Catch and effort data. When it comes to commercial data it is coming from the system. The 'legal' framework provides the data that is needed but when it comes to recreational fishing it is where there are clear gaps as regulation is often not developed and/or harmonised. There is also need to look at the harmonisation to guarantee that the data is comparable. There is an overlap with Estanis group on recreational fisheries.
- Index river designation,
- harmonised data collection for electric fishing and evaluation of bringing these activities into the RWP

There is need to evaluate possibilities. There could be an analogous situation to large pelagics (different situations for different fisheries).

Time lines: NA salmon and Trout meetings will take place in about a month. They will communicate directly through these groups and will reassess the level of ambition. This exercises of defining the level of ambition is something that needs to be done together with the assessment working groups in ICES. It'll be good to have ICES WGs support for this because they have the knowledge, and there are many countries involved. It is going to be a huge achievement even to have the level of ambition defined between different countries.

About the template, Tapani had not looked at it yet.

Estanis mentions that Tapani is looking at commercial and recreational diadromous species. There's need for collaboration and dialogue. This is yet missing and could be expected very beneficial.

Small scale coastal fisheries (Estanis Muguerza, AZTI). One of the general tasks is to see where this group is in terms of the levels of ambition for the regional coordination. The second task is to carry out a risk analysis following the methodology developed by WGCATCH. The groups to work with are the ISSG SSCF and WGCATCH subgroup on coastal fisheries. SSF will be very relevant for the economists and probably there's need to have some coordination and collaboration also with them. Monica Gambino agrees on the importance of interaction between biological groups and economists for SSF at least.

Question from Leonie. There's more national rather than international management of these fisheries and this is like for recreational fisheries a challenge and to see what sort of coordination the MSs can accept/ promote... Maybe part of the people for this task are the same than for recreational.

Bycatch (Estanis Muguerza, AZTI). Same applies for the general approach to the task. More discussions are needed to see the level of coordination already achieved and the what they want to achieve. In the focus group, they need to work on the coverage and quality of the data. This task is challenging but will receive support from WGPETs and Sweden, who is planning to work on this specific task. The topic of bycatch has received a lot of attention recently with pressure on MS/research institutions to find a solution. It is hoped that there'll be some feedback to share in June. The engineer to be hired by IFREMER will be helpful to this task. Leonie confirms that there are a lot of expectations but it is a difficult topic in terms of sampling efforts.

- **Pierre Cresson (IFREMER) Additional data on Marine Biological Resources.** The topic of coordinating stomach content samplings to support management is beginning from scratch, as many countries sample stomach content on their own, and in the framework or research project or to support MSFD indicators. The first question is how to coordinate that and therefore who is and who wants to be involved. Contact points with all the countries involved, time lines-will be a bit later,
- Working with the co-chair of the ISSG group to address how the level of ambition can be coordinated, as work is being carried out by different countries. The first thing will be to learn who is there for this

task and what has been done so far. An online table received several contributions about works that have been done, to identify methods shared between countries that can be considered as the methodological baseline.

Contacts: there's need to find a way to identify all who can contribute. Those in charge of each topic can add the names they know there and we can ask the countries and institutes (partners and non partners) to confirm and add whoever is relevant. There is a specific ISSG, there's need to identify collaborators. By now it is mostly focused on the NS, but there may be people willing to contribute from other areas. NS and IBTS was proposed as a CS to coordinate the sampling. Review so far indicates that it is impossible to standardise the protocols. So the possibilities will be explored whether countries can use different protocols but provide the results to feed into common indicators. All methodologies can produce large datasets that can be merged to produce longer and more comprehensive series.

Hans van Oostenbrugge. Socioeconomics (fisheries and aquaculture).

The RCG ECON has already some history on this topic with SECFISH. They looked into some issues. The ambition level is to reach a set of consistent guidelines to analyse the socioeconomic data for fisheries and aquaculture and in the coming months they will do the gap analysis based on the information that is already available from RCGECON and the subgroups and they will analyse the gaps and existing methodology available for gathering the data.

About the support tasks from Fishn'Co they will make a proposal and this will go into discussion with the RCG ECON scheduled already by the end of august. Then they will understand the ambition level and the support tasks that will need to be done.

On Thursday this same week they'll have a meeting among the economists to set out the tasks.

The plan is to bring everything to the PGECON meeting after the summer time. This meeting is set already, so they cannot organise another meeting before because this will probably mean to double work.

All these comments are both for fisheries and aquaculture.

They are interested in exploring how the extra support can work from the engineer.

The link of RCG ECON with SSF is very important and they'll work closely with Estanis on that.

- **Surveys are not addressed because either Sieto Verver (WUR) nor Christoph Stransky (Thuenen)** are present to the meeting.
- **David Currie (Marine Institute) Biological data quality.** Tasks are quite well defined already for the regional context. There are five tasks: document template for samplings: types of data checks that have to be done by the MS and to try to categorise these checks; data storage and types of data uploaded to international databases; data accuracy (precision and bias) and regional database SG at the regional group. Documentation at regional level.

Data quality ISSG will work in two of them and three others will be outsourced. The most challenging part is to find the right person to contribute to that piece of the work.

They had one meeting and they are trying to make the time-plan a bit more realistic, esp. for the outsourcing. The main risk is if they cannot find the right expert.

The Template seems fine. Regional level scale does not make that much sense for this group (but no problem it is because of the stuff they use to deal with).

Main briefing questions from Leonie:

RCG ECON have slightly different timelines. But for all the biological/fisheries thematic areas, it looks feasible with the timeline before the RCG meeting in June to complete the level of ambition, gap analysis and identification of tasks (so mid-May will be the deadline for all to complete this part of VVP, bearing in mind that the work of the support tasks is already ongoing and varies between the different areas).

It is planned to have an update meeting in early April to learn about progress and maybe look at some early examples of outcomes (as something that was suggested and can speed up progress for all). We'll try to schedule something by early April.

Main question: need to determine the exact list of people that will contribute to each CS. From Fishn'co we'll prepare a strategy for that.

Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) and Leonie O'Dowd will write the meeting minutes and share then in TEAMS. Outcomes from the WPL meeting next Friday will also be used for feedback to this meeting. Feedback will also be important to avoid inconsistencies with work in other WPs.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Minutes	Rosa & Leonie	5th March.21
Feedback from the meeting of WPLs on the 5 th March	Leonie	5 th March 21
Setup a poll for a new meeting by mid April	Rosa/Leonie	Within 2 weeks
Organise a system to gather the comprehensive list of participants for each task and thematic focus area	Leonie/Rosa (asking also Joel)	In two weeks
For Kirsten and all other thematic focus areas to review if data sharing agreement will be suitable for their needs.	Kirsten and other task leaders as needed	Rosa to check

129

The meeting ends by [15:35]



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

WPI – Follow up meeting_I

Date	21/04/2021
Time	9:30

Venue	Virtual – MS Teams
--------------	--------------------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	Leader of TFAs 2. Recreational fisheries, 4. Small Scale Fisheries and 5. Incidental catches of PETS
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	WP4 leader, support to coordination (WP5)
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP4, support to coordination (WP5)
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU Aqua	Leader of TFA 1.a) The Baltic small pelagics case study
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination (WP5), support to WPI, WP3
Pierre Cresson	IFREMER	Leader of TFA 6. Additional data on the impact of fishing activities
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	Leader of TFA 1.b) Iberian trawl case study, involved in TFA 5. Incidental catches of PETS
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	Leader of TFA 1.d) Large pelagics case study
David Currie	MI	Leader of TFA 10. Biological data quality
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	WPI leader
Monica Gambino	NISEA	Leader of TFAs 7. Social & economic data on fisheries and 8. Social, economic & environmental data on aquaculture

130

Objectives

- Update on progress of the different TFAs in the GAP analysis and level of ambition;
- Share experiences and lessons learnt.

Specific issues addressed

Introduction of Manon Troucelier. She is a new member of IFREMER team and, among other tasks, she will be able to assist the TFA leaders as necessary. She has first started working with Pierre Cresson (IFREMER) in TFA 6 (additional data on the impact of fishing activities).

Pierre explains that the aims of the project in this regard are aligned with those from the corresponding ISSG. A consultation has been launched to learn what has been done on stomach sampling but results have not met expectations, so they are working in a new questionnaire. It is quite challenging, since there are different analytic approaches between countries. In particular, analysis of stomach samplings is complex and costly in some areas being done for the MSFD; no improvements can be done if no additional funding is made available. There has been an attempt of standardisation but people are reluctant to introduce changes in their working procedures as this may have an impact in the coherence of the available time series.

Estanis Mugerza (AZTI) reports no progress for the moment, as the areas he leads are in an earlier stage. He is expecting to hear other colleagues in a more advanced stage, particularly David Currie, as he would like to follow a similar approach and learn from the outcomes of first runners.

Leonie O'Dowd (MI) suggests to start setting up individual meetings of the TFA leaders with Manon to define the project support and to define which tasks correspond to the project and which ones to the ISSGs themselves.

Mathieu Depetris (IRD) reports no progress either and announces the date for the technical meeting of the RCG LP, to be held next June 28th – 30th. As he has mentioned in previous meetings, the tropical tuna fishery will probably be de reference to set the level of ambition for other LP fisheries with lower coordination levels, but this will come later, beyond the RCG meeting.

Monica Gambinio (NISEA) announces a workshop that will be held on the first week of May to address some methodological issues. There's also one on fleet segmentation planned for June. This, together with the workshops scheduled in September and November, will produce clearer ideas on what the TFAs related to economics issues will bring about.

Rita Vasconelos (IPMA) also reports no progress regarding the Iberian trawl case study and she announces a meeting scheduled in a few days to organize the work among participants. Leonie suggests a meeting with her and Mannon afterwards and it is accepted.

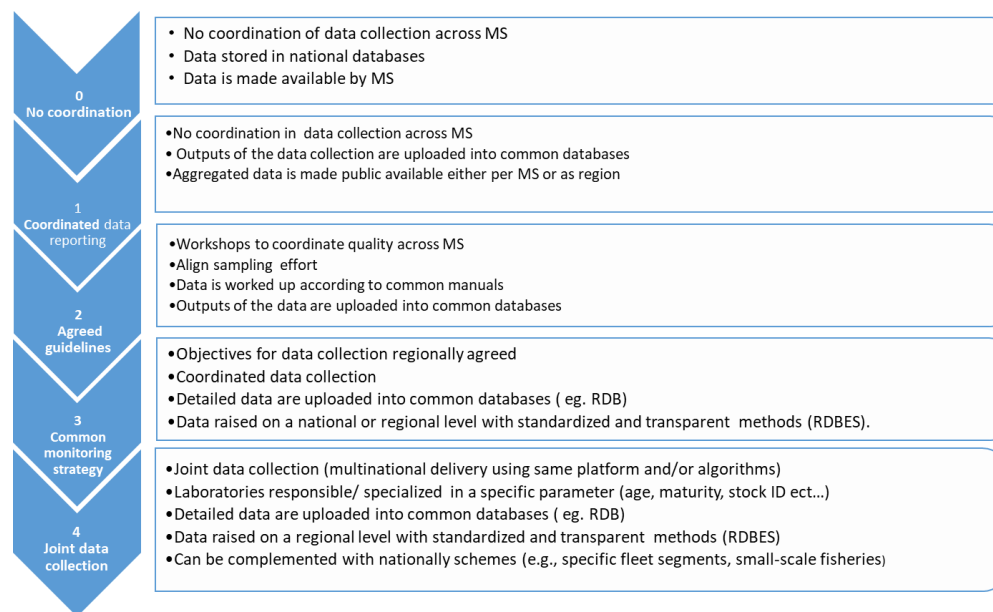
Marie Storr-Paulsen (DTU-AQUA) explains the progress achieved in TFA I.a) The Baltic small pelagics case study. She comments on an assessment meeting that was held last Tuesday with regard to species mis-reporting. Marie Storr presents progress with the Gaps and Ambition template (available at the corresponding teams folder [FISHNCO TECH > WPI_INFO GAPS](#)). Regarding *level of ambition*, Member States do not guarantee full coverage. Misrepresentation of some species will be one of the issues (it should be explored if data from observers, which are few, can be supplemented with control data... which are not easy to obtain); the common identification of the elements that should go into the RWP is another; or when addressing a common sampling plan, should it be defined for a fleet or for a given stock? If the sampling plans are addressed for a fleet some stocks can be poorly covered. There's need to clarify what shall be covered and what not when the Plans are designed; this way, local stock components which are not covered well into the RSP should go into the national ones.

Also, it is commented that proposing new standards or procedures has some difficulties. As Pierre anticipated, for stomach sampling people will not want to change their protocols if they are not demonstrated the advantages derived from the use of the new ones. There's need to simulate and demonstrate added value.

There were also comments on the fleet selection (fleet segments) and on age readings. There's need to standardise and systematise and Smartdot is the tool for this, there is work in progress by ICES and there's need to coordinate with them on this particular aspect.

It is also necessary to talk to the different parties involved about ambition levels to determine what can be reached in each case.

Leonie asks to what extent this kind of analysis will be included as a background in RWPs and how this will reinforce them. Estanis suggests to ask participants on what is the basic level of ambition they consider necessary for the RWPs and then try to match with those levels. Marie highlights the relevance to have a reference based on the levels of ambition graphic, as putting too much pressure for full cooperation would prevent MSs participation, so it is better to ask where in the figure they see a feasible coordination, and then get more details on that.



Estanis asks about the relevance of subjective aspects when rating the level of ambition and Marie recognises some difficulties in this regard. In the Baltic, Denmark and Sweden express higher levels of ambition than other countries, so there can be a discrepancy. Leonie points out that these kinds of issues arisen on RSPs need to be highlighted for other WPs, particularly WP2 which deals with decision making.

Next, Marie explains the identified gaps from the table in the template. She wonders if it would be possible to get help from the EFCA in order to address species mis-reporting.

Pierre brings the attention to the fact that the Baltic CS addresses only one region, but other TFAs such as stomach sampling cover several regions. He asks if it would be necessary to produce one document for each region and invite colleagues from all regions. Marie suggests that the easiest way to start would be setting a common protocol as best practice independent from the region. However, Pierre is aware that the group will not be willing to change their current protocols in order to keep the time series integrity. Instead, it could be suggested an intercalibration approach to make sure that the data obtained are interoperable. Marie recognises that it is easier in the Baltic because no stomach sampling is being carried out at present. A way forward is to highlight where elements of RWP and levels of ambitions can already be defined and then specify if this is region specific or pan-regional.

David Currie (MI) takes the floor to explain the progress achieved in TFA 10. Biological data quality. The level of ambition is set in 4, as common standardized methods and tools for the implementation of RSPs are expected to be achieved during the project. He shows the identified gaps and the foreseen tasks during the project from the table in the aforementioned template (available at the corresponding teams folder [FISHNCO TECH > WPI INFO GAPS](#)). Regarding the latter, some work is to be subcontracted, as foreseen in the proposal and reminds that there are some challenges in assessing data accuracy and finding the right profile to do that is not a simple task.

Estanis remarks that the shown gaps will be in the first place for small scale and for recreational fisheries and, in general, many of these issues will be relevant for all TFAs. He also asks how specific will these tools be and how similar things can be coordinated/covered for the different groups. Dave is keen to get the view from different groups and case studies. Data precision and bias is more an issue and RDBs data structure will be the information to work upon. Estanis points out the relevance to have this dialogue as there are in initial stages, unlike large scale fisheries.

Marie brings the attention to the appropriateness of setting the level of ambition at 4, as the description of a protocol does not imply its adoption/implementation. However, Dave remarks that the rationale behind this TFA is different from others, as it is limited to developing support tools, not dealing with their implementation.

Leonie asks if any modifications are necessary to the current templates but they seem to be suitable for all.

Marie raises the difficulties she is experiencing to separate tasks of the project from those of the ISSG. Leonie acknowledges that a number of groups are struggling with this issue. Rita Vasconcelos (IPMA) is not so worried as she considers it is more relevant to get results than allocating those to one or another scope.

Monica informs that on April 22th (the day after this meeting) the economists' group will have a meeting to work on the template. Leonie proposes a brief meeting with her and Manon for catching up afterwards and it is accepted.

Leonie gives the floor to Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) to explain what is foreseen with regard to the infographics to be produced in WP4 (Communication). Rosa highlights the relevance to have homogeneous terms, concepts and categories, in a similar way to what has been done in the levels of ambition figure, in order to deliver a coherent message. She asks how many tables are foreseen at the end to gather all the relevant info and Leonie sees some heterogeneity at the moment, so no clear answer is provided yet. It will be necessary to progress further.

Rosa will prepare some proposals to share during the next meeting.

Leonie proposes to have a new meeting in three weeks' time to deal with the following issues:

- Share other examples of TFAs' progress;
- Share proposals for infographics;
- Decide what will be presented at the RCGs' meetings scheduled in June.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Catch-up individual meetings with TFAs	Leonie, Manon	After TFAs' specific meetings are carried out
Prepare proposals of infographics	CETMAR	Next meeting
Next meeting –(doodle to sound out best date)	MI, CETMAR	After sharing this minutes

The meeting ends by 11:00h CET

WPI – Follow up meeting_2

Date	19/05/2021
Time	10:00 (CET)

Venue
Virtual

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	Leader of TFAs 2. Recreational fisheries, 4. Small Scale Fisheries and 5. Incidental catches of PETS
María Pérez	CETMAR	WP4, support to coordination (WP5)
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, support to coordination (WP5)
Kirsten Birch Håkansson	DTU Aqua	Leader of TFA RSP- Umbrella group
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination (WP5), support to WPI, WP3
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	Leader of TFA 1.b) Iberian trawl case study, involved in TFA 5. Incidental catches of PETS
David Currie	MI	Leader of TFA 10. Biological data quality
Leonie O'Dowd	MI	WPI leader

Objectives

- Check status, share other examples of the completed draft templates on ambition levels and gap analysis.
- Agree what will be presented at the RCGs NANSEA & Baltic meeting in June

134

Specific issues addressed

Progress update and thematic focus area templates

1. Leonie (MI) opens explaining the objective of the meeting, which is meant to be a short review of the progress achieved in WPI and an opportunity to look at new templates examples and solve questions about the preparation for RCGs meeting.
Two new templates are now available at Teams folder, namely: Research Surveys [link](#) and Stomach sampling [link](#). There are some good templates examples although the groups might still do some fine tuning to the documents.
2. Quick update on status to know how everyone is getting on with their tasks and get feedback for discussions within each individual group.
 - Kirsten (DTU Aqua) leading the **Umbrella group** explains that they are experiencing some difficulties fitting in with the template format because of the group peculiarities. They are focusing on identifying the gaps rather than trying to solve them. Leonie suggests not to worry too much about the template and put together what is best for the group, start may be with a general section, followed by specific case studies,..., anything that is important. Also add a few lines about other RCGs and a link with the work done for LPs as well.
Kirsten appreciates the suggestions; she will work this week on it to have a draft ready before the end of the week to share with Leonie for further discussion.
 - Rita (IPMA) explains the progress done for the **Iberian trawl case study**. From the guidance template, they have identified three key elements that they are working on: common sampling protocol, developing a scenario for RWP and the design of a pilot study. Good progress has

been made on the common sampling protocol that is the group's priority for 2021. To develop a scenario for RWP they will take advantage of lessons learnt in FishPi2 project. Very concrete approach, working timely.

- Estanis (AZTI), TFA leader for **Recreational fisheries, PETS and SSF**, explains that during previous weeks meetings with experts working on the different groups were held in order to explain what is needed as Fishn'Co outputs and work towards RCGs meeting, also how to use the guidance template and identify key elements to be considered in a RWP. The groups are working following the instructions to meet the deadline set, 24th May. That gives Estanis time to compile the feedback received from each group and prepare outputs for WPI and RCGs meeting.
- David (MI) task leader for **Biological data quality** explains that, in consultation with Joël (project coordinator), they have decided to use the Baltic small pelagic fishery as a case study, and the results for this case study could be used as an example for other case studies. A questionnaire on data capture has being designed and it is ready to be send out to countries for completion, most likely starting with this process next week. The idea is to have the process completed by the end of June, with time to analyse questionnaire results and get a consistent template for data capture. Final results on the questionnaire will not be ready for the RCG meeting.

Leonie points out that that should not be a problem, indeed it is good because MS could have the chance to look at the questionnaire in advance and make questions and comments during the RCG meeting before the questionnaire is closed. It is suggested to find a time slot for this purpose- Thursday morning (10th June) during ISSG on data quality seems like a good opportunity to get an update, ask people if they have the chance to fill in the questionnaire or if they experience any trouble, etc.

End-users identification and mapping

Leonie brings up the subject about end-users and how this is something that has recurrently come up in different meetings, in particular last week meeting with WVP leaders. There is a need to know who are the end-users other than the primary ones (assessment) and their priorities and when to bring them on-board. Leonie asks TFA leaders to consider this issue when thinking of filling up the gap analysis, particularly important for some thematic focus areas.

Although mapping end-users is something that has not been specifically addressed in Fishn'Co initial design, the reality is that to address some of the actions we will have to deal with it. For example, the governance processes involved in WP2.

Estanis highlights that there is some previous work done with FishPi2 project, at least for recreational fisheries. Updates on that work could easily be achieved within Fishn'Co.

Leonie says that she will send a reminder to rest of TFA to start this discussion within the groups.

Contributions to RCGs meeting

Deadlines have been set previous week and groups are working timely to meet deadlines and produce outputs needed.

Leonie will compile templates for WPI, add overview from Umbrella group. Also, a small summary of tasks/activities completed will be presented, as well as a description of interactions between groups and WVPs.

Manon (IFREMER) explains WP3 progress in relation to RWP templates. They have been working on the tables and also text-boxes. A first approach was to leave blank space to fill in the country's name, however there

are some country specific issues that could not be addressed that way, so basically the tables will mirror NWP tables. For the text-boxes there are some new proposals that will be taken into consideration. The documents are available at Teams folder (FISHNCO_TECH > WP3-DRAFTING RWP > RWP template) [link](#). Please check the documents available and feel free to send feedback.

Next meeting

Leonie leaves open the possibility to hold small meetings in the coming week in case it is needed. Otherwise, the next WPI meeting will take place after RCG meeting, giving time to compile contributions from RCGs and draw some conclusions.

Possible date for next meeting, second half of June.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Complete templates for WPI	WPI TFA leaders	26/05/2021
Complete overview Umbrella group-draft	Kristen Birch	asap
Send reminder to task leaders about end-user discussion	Leonie	asap
Convene next WPI meeting	WP leader, CETMAR	15/06/2021

136

The meeting ends by 10:35 (CET)

WPI – Follow up meetings_3

Date	November 2021 various dates	Venue	
Time	various		Virtual

- A number of meetings were scheduled in November in order to follow up on progress under each TFA. Where task leaders were not available, updates were provided via email.

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Linda O'Hea	MI	WPI leader
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER	Coordination (WP5), support to WPI, WP3
Kirsten Birch Håkansson	DTU	TFA 1.e) RSP- Umbrella group
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	TFA 1.d) Large pelagics case study
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	TFA 1.b) Iberian trawl case study, involved in TFA 5. Incidental catches of PETS
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	TFAs 2. Recreational fisheries, 4. Small Scale Fisheries and 5. Incidental catches of PETS
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	TFA 3) Diadromous Species
Heidi Pokki	LUKE	TFA 7, 8: Socio-economic
Monica Gambino	NISEA	TFA 7, 8: Socio-economic
Hans van Oostenbrugge	WUR	TFA 7, 8: Socio-economic
Christoph Stransky	THUNEN	TFA 9) Surveys
Sieto Verver	WR	TFA 9) Surveys
David Currie	MI	TFA 10. Biological data quality

137

Objectives

- Check status under each Thematic Focus Area

Specific issues addressed

Progress update and thematic focus area templates

Meeting attended by Mathieu, Rita, Kirsten, Manon & Linda 26/11/2021 TFA I Commercial Fisheries

Rita update – Iberian Trawl CS - little progress made since RCG. Need to work on Iberian trawl case study and common sampling protocol. Next step at RCG level and FishNCo is preparation of pilot study for trawl fishery and finding a way to make the pilot study work. Suggestion to include proposed pilot study in text box and if more info available in a few months can include it then.

Mathieu update – Large pelagics CS – initially had high ambition to include all fisheries in example of RWP. Looked at long liners, day boats and cruise liners. Identified experts.

Problem is lack of people and experts. Would like to initiate collaboration France, Spain and Italy

Level of ambition drafted for tropical tuna – feedback needed. Mathieu to update table for level of ambition for large pelagics. 5 focus areas for each LP fishery.

Kirsten – small group meeting of Baltic planned in January, will discuss text and tables for RWP

Manon noted draft required by end Jan to have time to discuss/review. To have a draft RWP to discuss at RCG. Propose to include level of ambition in text box.

Kirsten will follow up with others in the Small Pelagics in Baltic group to discuss case study.

Kirsten clarified role of umbrella group – to develop guidance, to take lessons learned from case studies and to identify new case studies, to draft guidance based on experience from case studies.

Kirsten, Rita and Harriet will discuss next month. Action: Manon to send files

Meeting attended by Estanis, Manon & Linda 23/11/2021

TFA 2 Recreational Fisheries

TFA 4 Activity Variables and SSF

TFA 5 Incidental catches of PETs

Recreational update – work is focussed on integration of data into RDBES.

Estanis will be attending the WGRDBESGOV next week. The plan is to discuss ideas next week and based on outcome, work on the data – for inclusion of MRF data in RDBES

Will have something to review by January.

Question from Manon – Lucia asked Manon to talk about FishNCo at WGRDBESGOV – to focus on relationship between FishNCo Case studies and RDBES.

Manon will ask other groups for information and will mention Marine Recreational Fisheries.

138

Small Scale Fisheries & PET update

SSF format – everyone happy with format, no problem to add landing and effort data to RDB.

PET – made a test in April (Bycatch working group) – checked format – no problem to incorporate bycatch data to RDBES.

Type of data needed /outputs planned

MRF – wait for next week's discussion

Actions:

Level of Ambition Tables and Gaps. Manon to send latest versions to Estanis to edit. Estanis to discuss with group and update/complete tables.

Discussed Tables and Text boxes for RWP

Table 2.4 Marine Recreational Fisheries – Estanis was involved in STECF review of WP tables. Need to discuss with group what to include (species to be incorporated).

Mandatory Species, Targeted Species, Listed by Region

Discuss regional lists at RCG for incorporation into RWP.

Bycatch – agreed protocols – brainstorming

PET tables

Other tasks more technical and in parallel with work in subgroups.
Not linked to tables in RWP – transversal data/scientific data for SSF.

There will be a subgroup meeting to discuss work plan for next few months. Will progress the tasks over next few months and present in general meeting. Manon to join meetings

Meeting attended by Tapani, Manon & Linda 17/11/2021 **TFA 3 Diadromous Species**

Levels of Ambition - no change in text since Spring 2021.
Mentioned 3 species, 3 regions - Salmon, Sea Trout in Baltic and NANSEA and Eels in Mediterranean
Manon noted that Eels have not been included in these tables.

RWP a long way off, No acknowledged end user of sea trout data in North Atlantic.
However, Baltic is a small area with a long history of coordination and cooperation.

Working Group discussion required by end of year - no regular meetings planned before end March.

Action: Tapani to discuss with WGEEL and WG North Atlantic Salmon and also Martin Kessler (Baltic Salmon and Sea Trout) to get a general understanding of what is possible.

Manon noted that the goal would be to have something to propose by end January 2022 (Text box and table) - same tables as NWP but filled in a regional way.

Include Level of Ambition in RWP text box even if not reachable.

Also a question on Data workshop by end users and if this should be included in RWP. Tapani mentioned it wouldn't be included. Workshop on Baltic salmon and sea trout planned for Autumn 2022.

Action: Tapani to look at Gaps and Levels of Ambition files on Teams and update sections which are currently blank if there is information available.

There is currently one table for levels of ambition per region (Baltic and NANSEA) covering salmon and sea trout. If levels for each species are very different in a region, a second table may be required.

If only small differences this can be noted in the one table.

139

Meeting attended by Sieto, Christoph, Manon & Linda 10/11/2021 **TFA 9 Research Surveys -**

Levels of Ambition - Note: Current level for regional coordination already at a high level – cost sharing agreement for surveys – multilateral agreements

Review Level of Ambitions table and indicate where sections are not relevant rather than leaving blank.

Next Steps/Actions:

Plan to build RWP tables from NWP tables – Table 2.6 examples.

STECF EWG report should be available in December. Survey Table/Cross Matrix – compile based on list of surveys in Table 2.6

Once NWPs available, compile an overview of shares by member states to identify potential surveys for cost sharing.

Plan meeting of ISSG subgroup to Share ideas/thoughts on FishNCo tasks – scheduled Dec 9th.

Adopted NWPs – text/tables available in Jan 2022

Goal to have text box/table for end Jan 2022. Use surveys with Cost Sharing Agreements as examples in RWP

Meeting attended by Hans, Heidi, Monica, Manon & Linda 19/11/2021

TFA 7 & 8 Socio-Economics -

Update document provided by Hans outlining tasks for FishNCo supporting the work of RCGEcon
Hans mentioned discussing FishNCo tasks with RCGEcon chairs and noted that there are a few topics to progress before their next meeting.

Hans requested assistance from Manon in relation to a database containing estimation of total capital value of fishing vessels.

Calculated based on capacity value per tonnage. For some reason these values vary greatly among member states, there may be valid reasons and it may also be due to differing methodology used.

A separate meeting is to be arranged to discuss the work required.

Levels of Ambition for regional coordination – questionnaire of potential data collection issues that could be solved by increased international cooperation.

Discussion on alternative segmentation for economic data collection – workshop planned for early 2022 - Will alternative segmentation result in homogeneous cost structure?

Quality Assurance Framework – discussed with Monica – need to consider the teaching from the handbook in template for WP.

Monica asked about end Nov deadline based on project timetable. Manon clarified objective to have text/tables by end Jan to allow time to review.

Hans – not able to provide tables but will focus on text boxes.

For economic data collection – focussing on Ambition Level 2 – harmonised methodology rather than shared data collection.

Manon suggested to include level of ambition table in text box.

Hans – text already agreed – general methodologies in text box. Heidi – methodological framework – include documents as annex in RWP.

Final topic – social data – national and community profiles.

Want to develop a frame for national and community profiles. Sort methodological issues – technical challenge to provide social data.

Analysis of social data already available on fisheries communities.

Action:

assistance from Manon in relation to a database containing estimation of total capital value of fishing vessels.
Review Level of Ambitions table and indicate where sections are not relevant rather than leaving blank.

Meeting attended by David Currie, Manon & Linda 19/11/2021

TFA 10 Biological Data Quality -

Update document provided by Dave outlining status of tasks complete and remaining.

Levels of Ambition table updated and sent back

Annex I.Is will be available from each NWP for all sampling programmes. Once these are published RWP can link to existing Annex I.I.

Baltic Small Pelagic RWP – common biological protocol but sampling schemes still the national design.

Annex I.I doc for Baltic small pelagic Commercial catch sampling template can be used as an example for other RWP in the future.

Action: Guidance for evaluating data accuracy (precision & bias) remaining task – to be subcontracted in early 2022, ties in with other ICES work in Qtr 1 2022.

Discussion on Text box and tables.

No tables required – the output will be tools to support regional collaboration.

Annex I.I – data checked – links for each country.

Supporting documents for links to Annex I.I

Next meeting – Jan/Feb 2022 to follow up on actions

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Prepare text for RWP Text boxes / Tables	All	Jan 31 st 2022
Update Level of Ambition Tables	All	Jan 31 st 2022

WPI – Follow up meeting_4

Date	Dec 2022 – Feb 2023 various dates	Venue	
Time	various		Virtual MS Teams

- A number of meetings were scheduled between December 2022 and February 2023 with TFA task leaders in order to follow up on progress in relation to drafting Regional Work Plans. Where task leaders were not available, updates were provided via email.

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Linda O’Hea	MI	WPI leader
Jens Ulleweit	THUNEN	TFA 1.c) Freezer Trawler case study
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	TFAs 2) Recreational fisheries, 4) Small Scale Fisheries and 5) Incidental catches of PETS
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	TFA 3) Diadromous Species
Pierre Cresson		TFA 6) Impacts of Fishing Activities
Christoph Stransky	THUNEN	TFA 9) Surveys
Sieto Verver	WR	TFA 9) Surveys
David Currie	MI	TFA 10) Biological data quality

142

Objectives

- Check status under each Thematic Focus Area and progress on drafting text for various regional work plans.
- Discuss final tasks required to finalise deliverables

Specific issues addressed

Progress update and thematic focus area templates

Meeting attended by Pierre Cresson, Linda & Joel (19/12/2022)

TFA 6) Impacts of Fishing Activities

A short meeting took place via Teams with TFA 6 task leader to discuss progress made on documenting work to date within the focus area on stomach sampling. A discussion took place on how best to represent the information available and the current levels of regional coordination.

Action:

- Pierre to update text in draft RWP plan to populate Text Box 4.3: Fisheries impact on marine habitats and include table of countries also to provide an Annex I.1 for stomach sampling. Text will then be reviewed by Joel and Linda prior to finalising.

Meeting attended by Estanis, Linda & Joel (08/02/2023)

TFA 2) Recreational Fisheries, TFA 4) Activity Variables and SSF TFA 5) Incidental catches of PETs

A short meeting took place via Teams with Estanis TFA task leader for above TFAs to discuss progress made on documenting work to date within each of the focus areas. An update was given by Estanis. There will be nothing to include in tables for now, but text will be drafted outlining progress to date for each area including addition of detail on RDBES.

Actions:

- Estanis to talk to Lucia in relation to RDBES text and decide on where it fits best. In relevant text box for focus area or in Text Box 1b with the current information included on RDBES.
- Estanis to populate Text Boxes in advance of follow up meeting planned for 23/02/2023.

Text Box 2.4 Recreational Fisheries

Text Box 3.1 Fishing activity variables data collection strategy Small Scale Fisheries

Text Box 4.2 Incidental catches of sensitive species

Follow up meeting attended by Estanis, Linda & Joel (23/02/2023)

TFA 2) Recreational Fisheries TFA 4) Activity Variables and SSF TFA 5) Incidental catches of PETs

A short meeting took place via Teams with Estanis to review the text added to each of the relevant text boxes and to provide an update in relation to discussion with Lucia on RDBES. There is no information available at this stage for inclusion in Tables. Agreed list of species may be finalised and available by June Technical Meeting.

Actions:

- Estanis to finalise text in Text Boxes
 - Text Box 1.a case studies
 - RWP NANSEA
 - Bay of Biscay (BoB) common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) case study
 - North Sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) stock marine recreational fisheries sampling
 - RWP Baltic
 - PETS, Harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) bycatch case study
 - Baltic cod (*Gadus morhua*) marine recreational fisheries sampling

Text Box 2.4 Recreational Fisheries

Text Box 3.1 Fishing activity variables data collection strategy Small Scale Fisheries

Text Box 4.2 Incidental catches of sensitive species

Meeting attended by Tapani, Linda & Joel (20/02/2023)

TFA 3) Diadromous Species

A short meeting took place via Teams with TFA 3 task leader to discuss text provided Text Box 2.3: Diadromous species data collection in freshwater in both NANSEA and BALTIC RWPs which stated that there was no coordination. It was explained that there are initiatives of coordination within the ISSG and that the information included in the RWP should be consistent with this. Tapani was asked to update the text and include what is already available and also work under development and to determine the message we want to give to NCs in relation to diadromous species. 3 species in 3 regions, Salmon, Sea Trout and Eel in North Sea, North Atlantic and Baltic region.

Actions:

- Tapani to finalise text in Text Box 2.3 in both NANSEA and Baltic RWPs outlining current level of regional coordination in the areas of salmon, trout and eel, for example electrofishing surveys. Include information on end user needs, surveys and other data if there is a harmonised approach and/or common understanding.

Meeting attended by Sieto, Christoph, Linda, Jorgen, Maria Hansson (ISSG Surveys meeting) (16/01/2023)

TFA 9) Research Surveys

FISHNCO Project remaining tasks were discussed at a recent meeting of the ISSG on surveys and are included here as TFA9 Research Surveys update. It was agreed that both Text Box 2.6 and Table 2.6 would be added to draft RWP files. Once Table 2.6 is prepared, this would then be used as reference to identify participating member states and NWPs to be consulted to copy the relevant survey text box. The inclusion of Annex I.I for surveys in RWPs was discussed and it was agreed that these should remain in NWPs and not be included in RWPs.

Actions:

Two key actions were identified to close out the tasks required of ISSG Surveys.

- Table 2.6 - Sieto agreed to create one combined Table 2.6 for all mandatory surveys. This will then be filtered for NANSEA and Baltic and added to both RWP Tables files.
- Text Box 2.6 - Linda agreed to add a Text Box for each survey in both RWP NANSEA and Baltic taking text boxes available in

Update via email David Currie (01/12/2022)

TFA 10) Biological Data Quality

All FISHNCO Biological Data Quality Objectives have been completed as summarised below.

Objective 1) Produce guidance for Sampling Design

The FishNCo Baltic small pelagic case study was selected as an initial test case to evaluate how the existing DCF Workplan Annex 1.1 biological data quality templates can be used to describe a regional sampling programme. Once agreed it is intended that the other regional case studies can use the completed document as a guide when completing their own documents.

Objective 2) Produce guidance for Sampling Implementation

Handling of "Non-responses & Refusals" will be incorporated in the outputs of Objective 1 so no additional work required.

Objective 3) Produce guidance for Data Checks

Work completed by FishNCo out-sourced resource. MS were surveyed, the results were analysed, a report was written, and a template is proposed.

Objective 4) Produce guidance for Data Storage

Work completed by Data Quality ISSG – output is in 2021 RCG report

Objective 5) Produce guidance for Evaluating data accuracy (precision and bias)

Work completed by FishNCo out-sourced resource. The work on evaluating data precision proceeded in close collaboration with the ICES Working Group on Estimation with the RDBES data model (WGRDBES-EST).

i) Precision /variance

WGRDBES-EST are developing a package ("RDBEScore") to support design-based estimation using the RDBES – as part of this work functions to estimate totals/means using a generalised Horvitz-Thompson estimator and estimate variance using the Sen-Yates-Grundy formulation have been written. For the FishNCo project an RMarkdown script has been written to display the estimates and variance values in an interactive way. The latest version of the script can be found at

<https://github.com/ices-tools-dev/RDBEScore/tree/main/FishNCo>

ii) Bias

The Data Quality ISSG identified that the most important bias topic is to compare the sampling programme data to the commercial fishing effort and landings data to illustrate its coverage. (However, it should be remembered that any discrepancy between the sampling and fishing effort coverage do not lead to a bias when the sampling is done randomly following a well-designed protocol.) Stock assessors are often interested in the stability of a time series and how the latest year's data correlates with that time series so information about how the coverage has varied over time was included. R functions were developed and the latest version of the code, along with RMarkdown scripts to illustrate their use, can be found at

<https://github.com/ices-tools-dev/RDBEScore/tree/main/FishNCo>

Objective 6) Produce guidance for Documenting methods of editing and imputing

Work completed by FishNCo out-sourced resource. MS were surveyed, the results were analysed, a report was written, and a template is proposed.

Update via email Jens Ulleweit (12/01/2023)

TFA 1c) Freezer Trawler Case Study

The EU freezer trawler fleet targeting small pelagic species (mackerel, herring, horse mackerel, blue whiting, sprat and argentine) in the North Atlantic and North Sea was identified as a potential candidate for the development of a regionally coordinated sampling plan. The fleet comprising mainly Dutch, German, UK and French flagged vessels is sampled currently by the Netherlands and Germany. The primary aim of this case study is to propose a regional sampling plan for the European pelagic freezer trawler fleet to be considered for inclusion in a regional workplan.

Although a degree of cooperation exists between the Dutch and German sampling programmes, they are distinct, with differing sampling protocols and cannot be considered either fully randomized or harmonized. As a result, overall sampling coverage for the freezer fleet as a whole is unlikely to be optimized for the total allocated resources and is potentially less efficient than a regionally coordinated sampling programme.

A main difference between the sampling programmes of both involved countries is that the Dutch programme is designed to meet the requirement for bycatch monitoring only whereas the national assessment data needs are covered by a market sampling programme. In contrast, the German observer programme is designed to fulfil the national stock assessment requirements plus the monitoring of bycatch and catch composition. Therefore, the observer programme was selected (rather than the market sampling scheme) as it likely represents the most efficient approach to implementing a coordinated sampling programme with the other sampling nation.

The group analysed data from the Dutch observer programme in order to develop a setup for a pilot study for this approach. The analysis was finalised and the results were presented at the technical meeting of the RCG NANSEA 2022 and RCG Baltic 2022. In a first step a Dutch fishing trip in the herring fishery was carried out in a new sampling design following the analysis which meets the requirements for assessment data collection and bycatch monitoring in quarter 3/4 in 2022.

When the results of the pilot trip will be available in the Dutch national database, the results will be reviewed, analysed and compared with the Dutch market sampling scheme and the German observer sampling scheme. Following this analysis, it will be investigated if the sampling scheme can be extended to all NS Herring trips in 2023. Appropriate harmonized protocols for other fisheries still needs to be developed and the possibility to pool the Dutch and German sampling schemes investigated.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/ Person in charge	Deadline
Finalise text for RWP NANSEA Text boxes / Tables	All	28 th Feb
Finalise text for RWP Baltic Text boxes / Tables	All	28 th Feb
Update Level of Ambition – progress made - Excel File feeding infographic	All	28 th Feb
Project Deliverables	Linda	10 th March
Input to Final Report – Section 3 Work Progress and Achievements	Linda	10 th March

WPI – Follow up meeting_5

Discussion and work schedule around the thematic focus area cover covering the tropical tunas purse seiner fleet

Date	13/12/2021	Venue	
Time	13:00 CET	Online meeting	

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Pedro Pascual	IEO	Spanish partner
Jose Carlos Báez	IEO	Spanish partner
Francisco Abascal	IEO	Spanish partner
Antoine Duparc	IRD	French partner
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	French partner

Objectives

- Discuss and organise the roadmap regarding the Regional Work Plan (RWP) for the thematic focus area cover covering the tropical tunas purse seiner (PS) fleet.

Agenda

No defined agenda

148

Specific issues addressed

Remind of the project aims and work done so far

A brief presentation of the project was made with a reminder of his aims and especially the benefits of them regarding our work on the PS fleet. During this meeting, Spanish and French scientists were present. Italy, the last country involve in this fishery at the EU scale, was not present and did not respond to any solicitation. To put the meeting in context, initially and in according to what we have presented during the RCG LP 2021 annual meeting, we had a high level of ambition regarding the integration of the LP specifiers in the global fishnco regional work plan example. Unfourtunaely, due to a context of lack of human resources in our RCG, we not will be able to reach this objective. Furthermore, we propose to reduce our level of ambition and only integrate the tropical tunas purse seiner fleet specifiers in the RWP example. Indeed, we have a long time coordination and cooperation on this fleet and we have almost a Regional Sampling Plan applies on it. Of course we have to move forward on the other LP fisheries too and integrate them in the Fishnco dynamic, but regarding the situation we don't expect to integrate them specificities in the RWP example but use this study case of the tropical tunas PS to show the way and the possibilities.

Review of the PS work template thematic focus area

A review of this document and our level of ambition for our focus area was made. It's important to consider that only the French vision was used for drafting this document and our next move will be to integrate the other countries aims (or validated if we are on the same orientation).

Global conclusions

First, this new proposal was welcomed by the Spanish partners. It was clear that the Fishn'Co aim was directly connected with our work objectives and integrate more as we can this project should be a benefit for us especially regarding some points that we will have to achieve, even if the project was not initiated. All the work that we can launch among the project, with the advantage of being a guide and help with the project contributor, is time that we save for the future. It is noted that the contributions that all stakeholders are very important, and we have to find a way to integrate Italy in our reflexion. Furthermore, EU PS fleet is a particular case with a strong contribution of NEI fleet (Not Elsewhere Included) like Seychelles in the fishing effort. These countries must be included in our discussions, even if under the umbrella of the project (related to the time constraint) it could be difficult to integrate them specifies in the RWP example. During this meeting, we agreed on a roadmap (see the section below).

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Inform all RCG LP members of the new orientation	Mathieu Depetris	Before ending 2021
Send all background documents (work template PS thematic Focus Area draft, examples National Working Plan and draft examples of RWP NANSEA and Baltic) to partners (regarding the tropical tunas purse seiner fleet RWP example)	Mathieu Depetris	Before ending 2021
Feedback of all partners regarding the work template PS thematic Focus Area draft	All	Before end of January 2022
Meeting with partners for discussions	All	Begging of February 2022
Present the draft example for PS tropical tunas RWP to the RCG LP 2022 annual meeting	All	Last two weeks of June 2022

The meeting ends by 14:45 CET

WPI – Follow up meeting_6

Meeting regarding the Fishn'Co tropical tunas study case, focus on the tropical tunas purse seiner fleet

Date	08/02/2022	Venue	
Time	10:00 CET	Online meeting	

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Jose Carlos Báez	IEO	Spanish partner
Antoine Duparc	IRD	French partner
Pedro Pascual	IEO	Spanish partner
Francisco Abascal	IEO	Spanish partner
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	French partner
Luigi Pappalardo	Oceanis	Italian partner

Objectives

- Discuss partners feedbacks regarding work template PS thematic focus area and validated the draft.
- Discuss the inclusion of the NEI fleets (like Seychelles and Senegal) in our work.
- Establish and validated our roadmap with the aim to present a draft of the PS tropical tunas RWP to the RCG LP 2022 annual meeting.

150

Agenda

Same as objectives points

Specific issues addressed

[Global overview]

During this meeting, we had the pleasure to integrate in our group an Italian representative. Its presence and participation into the discussions allows us to have a better representativeness of the PS tropical tunas fishery. Furthermore, it's important to point out the importance of the NEI fleets (like Seychelles and Senegal) which represent a significant weight in the PS tropical tunas fishery. Regarding this point, our Seychelles partner should have been present during this meeting, but they aren't able to join us due to a setback. Even if they don't participate in the discussions they will be informed of progress and kept in the loop of exchanges until the next meeting. Otherwise, when it could be difficult, in terms of timing deliverable of the draft RWP, to integrate in a concrete way elements regarding these countries in the draft RWP, everyone agreed about the importance to keep them into our reflections and discussions.

Furthermore, a brief summary of the context and the latest news regarding the project (especially the roadmap presented during the last plenary meeting of the 3rd of February) were presented.

[Feedback and discussions about our levels of ambitions]

Most of the meeting was dedicated to validating our levels of ambitions through the document WPI – Thematic Focus Area. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to validate the whole document, but we have decided to

finish it separately and organise a short meeting at the beginning of the next week for validate it and integrate soon as possible this document in the Fishn'Co project dynamic.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Send soon as possible the last version of the WP1 – Thematic Focus Area focus on PS tropical tunas fishery	Mathieu D.	9th February 2022
Send a link for the organisation of a short meeting next week	Mathieu D.	9th February 2022
Finish to complete the document	All	Before the 16 th February 2022
Validation of the document	All	Between 17 th and 18 th February

The meeting ends by 12:00 CET

WP2 - Meeting minutes

WP2 – Kick off meeting

Date	18.05.2021	Venue	
Time	14:00 to 15:45		On-line (MS-TEAMS)

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Els Torreele	EV-ILVO	Fishnco Partner and NC BE
Elo Rasmann	EMI-EE	Baltic RCG Co-chair, NC EE
Lucia Zarauz	AZTI	Fishnco Partner, NANSEA Co-chair
Maria Hansson	SLU	Fishnco participant
Marie Storr Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	Fishnco Partner
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	Fishnco Partner, Med&BS RCG co-chair
Kolyo Zehlev	EAFA	Fishnco Partner, RCG Econ co-chair
Christoph Stransky	THUNEN	NC for DE
Heikki Lehtinen	MMM-FI	NC for FI
Manon Troucelier	IFREMER-FR	Fishnco Partner
Emilia Batista	DGRM-PT	NC for PT
Irek Wojcik	NMFRI-PL	LDF Chair, NC for PL
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR-ES	Fishnco Partner

152

Objectives

- To share an overview of the WP objective and discuss on the list of specific tasks to be addressed.
- To discuss the approach to address the two deliverables committed for this first project period.
- To identify all topics to be taken into account when describing the decision making processes for adopting a RWP.

Agenda

No proper agenda was shared but a detailed list of points to guide the discussions.

Suggestions for tasks:

- To ensure consultation with the RCGs, ISSG's, National Correspondents and the Commission - Especially regarding the implementation of the RWP
- 1. How?
 - Review the RoPs of the RCGs
- 2. Through ISSG NC?
 - Defining the process of discussion, decision making and adoption of the RWP
- 3. the ambitious level is to comply with the opinion of national correspondents
- 4. comply with Flowchart of the steps involved in a regional coordination? What if countries express higher levels of ambition than other countries?
 - Define/inventarize the relationship between national and regional work plans

Specific issues addressed

[Overview of WP2 objectives and deliverables]

Objectives WP2:

1. Develop methodology for creating RWP and determine the decision-making process on the implementation of RWP in accordance with the Rules of Procedures (RoP) for the relevant RCGs and the Regulation 2017/1004 establishing Data Collection Framework (DCF).
2. Develop and describe processes needed in discussions among MS and in the RCGs about sharing responsibilities, expected contributions, decision making and adoption processes, and how to implement and manage RWP in a harmonized, cooperative and transparent way.
3. Consultation with:

the RCGs

national correspondents

on the processes needed for the implementation of the RWPs including processes for discussions and decision making.

Tasks:

- Proposal for establishment of the communication process for the work for development of RWP
- Providing a proposal for methodology for creating RWP
- Providing of the proposal for the decision-making process to the RCG/NC
- Establishment of consultation channels with the RCGs

153

Two specific deliverables are initiators of this WP

Deliverables for May 2021 – to be presented to RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic in June

D2.1: A short description of the processes that needs to be taken into account when developing RWP. (Els will deal with this one)

D2.2: Draft decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans. (Kolyo will get in charge of this)

Discussions about D.2.1

It needs to consider which **countries** each part is relevant to.

Sharing of **responsibilities**

Explanation of **who (which MS) is responsible for what.**

For the identification of countries, Emilia comments that in the new EUMAP there are the areas which are marked to be considered under the RWP. It should be useful to go there and see if these are in accordance with those Member States considered with obligations under the regional coordination.

Relation/connections between RWPs and NWPs



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

NWP should not duplicate the work, to consider for the RWP the information that is in the NWPs. The question here is what goes first. There are differences and there is uncertainty about the best way to proceed.

Some specific parts of the EUMap are checked to reconfirm that the stepwise approach is the proper one.

Kolyo asks if FISHNCO will have the possibility to send the RWP before the NWP when these are agreed in accordance with the new EUMAP. In October this year the NWPs should be sent and the RWP will not be ready for that time. But then the question is, will it be considered that the RWP will only be ready when it has all its components?

Els mentions that the implementation of the RWP will work as a stepwise approach. So first only tables and text-boxes and further on more things will be added.

María Hansson also points at the need to look into what is actually going into the RWP and into the NWP and who is doing what and this comparison will help decisions on next steps.

The stepwise approach will have an impact on the decision process. Depending on what comes first, this needs to be considered for the design of the decision process.

The first attempt is not much about regional coordination but more about comparison (this is what Marie Storr recalls from past meetings with Joel). Case Studies could help implementation but... there are some constraints also for this.

Lucía points out that it is tricky to discuss the decisions issue until we know more about the content of the RWP. She suggests that maybe the outcome by now should focus more on the outcomes from Case Studies (CSs) rather than compiling and comparing all the tables, etc.

Els suggests that a CS could help as a benchmark to then see how this can be used for other CSs. And then it should go for another... It seems that this approach could work better than trying to go for all the MS adopting the RWP at once.

María Hanssen remarks that it needs to be considered RWPs are more than RSPs. The reason for the overview of the tables and text-boxes is precisely to identify where things can be integrated/merged, etc. So it seems that both approaches, CS implementation and NWP-RWP templates comparisons, could/should be followed.

But what is the expectation from the EC?

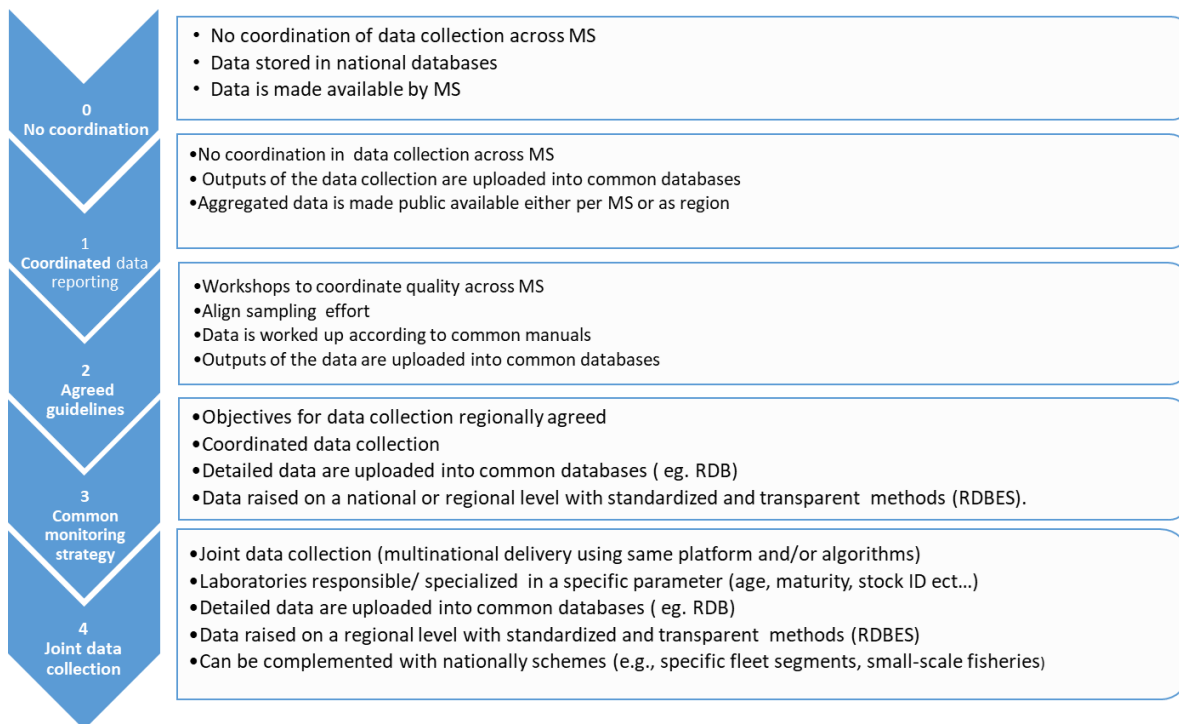
Maybe they don't expect the RWP until it is ready at the end. But there are some troubles due to the timing for NWPs, etc.

Els highlights that from this WP it should be stirred some decisions on how to start developing the RWP.

Even having a CS to implement the RWP there may be countries not participating, so how to deal with this? Can different MSs participate at different levels and paces? Who is allowed to take this decision? It would be wise to find the minimum level that everyone can agree.

It is said that from the moment that you have two MSs working together you'll have regional coordination although this is not the desirable level of cooperation.

There's a number of questions, i.e. to know where each country is in relation with the flowchart below (illustrating the levels of ambition for cooperation).



There'll also be different situations in different regions. And this will allow defining who is where and how they want to progress to next level. There may also be some other factors conditioning decisions.

It is also mentioned that there's need to **harmonise language**. Programmes which are regional need to be named the same for those in the same region.

155

Lucia asks about the content... if there's a RWP should it duplicate information from NWPs? If it is there already in the RWP, is there need for the NWP to copy the information?

Emilia adds that if there are MS that don't participate even if there are fisheries for this MS under a RWP, what happens if they consider they are not in the same stage? Maybe it should be asked that these MS present a plan to progress and go towards the same goal. If different MSs have a same fishery and some don't want to get involved in going to a given ambition level, there should be at least a commitment to progress in the same direction in the future. With different countries at different levels of cooperation a roadmap could be the way to facilitate all progressing and catching up.

Another option, suggested by L. Heikki would be that MSs that don't agree should provide substantiated reasons for the disagreement. The EC could support steps for progress towards agreement. There's a way to bypass the problem if just one or two MS don't agree, however, there's need to work towards a consensus, and this has been pursued by the EC. If there's no consensus there're ways to build pathways. It could also happen that non-agreeing countries could make progress through the NWPs

How to put the CSs in the RWPs? And it is expected that these are important part of the RWP?

It could happen that some tasks could concern less countries than the whole region but at least the countries involved in a CS, these should agree by consensus what is relevant to them. There may be actions where only a few countries get involved but all the others need to agree because the outcomes from the work of a few countries may have consequences for the others in terms of the regulation that affects a given fishery.

Els remarks that **what needs to be agreed by consensus is the approach to take decisions at the RWP, rather than the decisions themselves.**

Lucía considers that the consensus is on the RoP but maybe now that more things are under discussion and if it is found that this should be changed, then the change can also be decided.

Consensus is not just to agree on what has to be done by all but also on what cannot be done, ways for implementation in which some do a few things and others don't but assume the consequences.

The casuistic is large, another case would refer to the implementation procedures. It could happen that x MSs want to continue doing their sampling as they did up to now but some others agree to do their samplings in a different way, how to deal with this? Marie considers that if there's no general adoption of the agreed procedure there's no RWP but there may be consensus that some go ahead with the new sampling and others commit to adapt progressively... and at least this could give time to the MS to adapt in the future (there could be a sort of reserve period). Then it should also be considered how to deal with the data in this case. If something like this would happen, there should be a plan or something that enables shared and harmonized implementation in the future. Also: if there is a consensus that this can be accepted, then it is ok

There may be cases where some countries are in a more advanced stage for a specific theme and then the RWP could consider lower levels of ambition, and then what? Should the MS which is more advanced go back to a worse system. It may be the case that with one country doing a bit less the regional result for all is better. It may be difficult to assess what is a more efficient approach.

Heikki remembers that a RWP is a plan at the end and it would be nice if it could contain some dynamic systems. There are doubts about the legal possibilities but there should be elements for flexibility.

Kolyo, comments that during the meeting last week it was reminded that **end-users' needs should be taken into account**, even if there are some questions about how exactly to define the end-users' needs.

It is discussed that there's no clear information from the ICES WGs on how much data they actually need. There's no clear picture about the needs. The list of needs for ICES for different stocks is not available. At the end it becomes person dependent to a great extent instead of stock dependent. ICES is assessing 219 stocks...

156

The RCG chairs are in **communication with ICES**. They are focusing on recommendations and feedback (Lucía and Elo are dealing with this).

Lucía suggests to approach this requests through specific case studies. If the question is very as specific as are you willing to reduce the sampling to this extent, then they will answer...

Irek mentions that maybe presenting what is being done (number of fish sampled, measured, sized, etc.) then ICES could be asked if this is enough or not.

Everyone should have in mind that the approach and the amount of information used for assessment next years could change.

This is a recurrent conversation with ICES

Maybe from the RCGs the specific task of exploring and gathering clearly the list of needs could be a task to commit.

María Hanssen comments that there are tools and identified actions that can be undertaken

Discussions about D.2.2

Kolyo presents the Draft Decision-Making Structure

- Establishment of a WG by relevant experts appointed by NCs
- Working process between relevant experts in the different sections of the RWP

- These should present the proposal of the RWP to the MS

Justification/reporting: someone should compile all the proposals and present them to the MSs. This could be made by experts from participant organisations.

Request for additional comments in accordance with RoP

Then there should be agreement and after that submitted for adoption.

Further comments and suggestions:

Emilia, asks if after the approval of the RWP it should be transposed at the national levels? All the work that is agreed at the regional level has to be transposed at the national level?

Kolyo says it depends on the timing. If it is possible, then it sounds reasonable

The financial support for the NWP is related with the obligations on the NWP and depends on its approval by the EC. If the RWP brings in new obligations, then there may be financial problems.

Things in the RWP are not to be copied in the NWP but it is mandatory so EMFF money should cover the RWP obligations and efforts to carry it out also. The problem is that you can only report what is in the plan at national level.... Elo says that it depends on the templates. There's need to be careful with this.

The RECAST regulation says that the RWP will replace relevant parts of the NWP and this would confirm what Elo says. But then, how should this be reported?

Once the RWP is agreed it must be implemented through the NWP and reported through them.

157

There should be clear difference of what goes only in the NWP and what is part of the RWP.

Christoph remarks that in the decision making process it should be thought also **how to incorporate the follow up...** it is the RCGs?

What if the EC says they do not accept? In the negotiation process with the MSs there may be difficulties...

There'll be need to revise and need to consider the procedures after the submission of the RWP with different possible scenarios.

Els considers that this is a good suggestion because this is a possible decision scenario...

There'll be a ping-pong situation with the MS but normally there'll be requests for adjustments.

The draft RWP will only become the RWP after approval by the EC. Until then the NWP will continue being the reference.

Additional things/suggestions (Els)

Ongoing **revision of the RoP** and in particular about the decision process

Irek has done an exercise, compiling Baltic and NANSEA RoP to check what is aligned and what not.

The decision aspect has been taken and also a column has been added for PGECON and there'll need to add the RoP for LP; however it is pointed out that the LP is still discussing the RoP.

Els asks for volunteers to work with Kolyo on the decision part? Manon is employed for the project so Els asks if she could deal with this. Manon is more in WPI and WP3 but she confirms she could help with this, also.

Then who has the RoP of Large Pelagics? Irek thinks they are working on this. They are waiting for the common rules of procedure for NANSEA and Baltic... they've been dealing with this for long.

He considers that ideally there should be first one with a regional approach. Currently the NC ISSG is being consulted, and ECON will have in part the same countries.

Now the NANSEA and Baltic will be presented in the RCG meeting. Irek suggests that then ECON and LP will be presented these RoP and be asked to accept it. After having been working on this for long, this could be a more practical approach.

ECON has now its own RoP and then the comparative analysis could be done anyway. It can be done when there's a final version after going through the ISSG, once the NCs provide their feedback.

All MSs involved in NANSEA and Baltic are in the ISSG for NCs, if they agree to these RoP the only missing member states not accepting for ECON will be those from areas beyond NANSEA and the Baltic. So the process should be simple.

Els agrees and Kolyo also does.

Elo comments that maybe there are differences among different regions. For RoP on ECON they based already on the existing RoP for Baltic and NANSEA, so there shouldn't be a problem.

The RoP will focus on the decision aspects, first it will be agreed for NANSEA and the Baltic, then it will be presented to the others and ideally the final version will be approved by all.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Minutes	CETMAR	Asap
Feedback to be provided to Joel and Leonie	ILVO	Asap
Feedback expected from the RCG meeting will feed into the discussion	ILVO and the other partners in this WP	June
Next meeting to be fixed for the second half of Sept.	ILVO	...

The meeting ends by 15:45 (CET)

WP 2 – Meeting_1

Date	14/01/2022	Venue	
Time	09:00 CET		Virtual, Zoom

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-AQUA	
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	WP2
Elo Rasmann	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	NC Estonia
Els Torrele	ILVO	WP2 co-leader
Suzana Faria Cano	Ministerio do Mar	NC Portugal
Heikki Lehtinen	Natural Resources Department	NC Finland
Maria Hansson	SLU	

Objectives

- Discuss/reflect on the decision-making structures and processes needed for developing regional work plans (RWPs)

Agenda

159

1. Setting the scene of the meeting. Els, Kolyo and Jørgen.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Presentation of the section 3 of the STECF EWG 21-17 report. Els.
4. Presentation of “Draft decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans” prepared by Simona and Kolyo.
5. Based on point 3 and 4 prepare a list of issues that need to be taken into account before drafting a revised RoP.
6. Based on point 3 and 4 prepare a list of questions to be send to the NC’s for response.
7. Prepare a detailed timeline for the work to be carried out in WP2
8. AOB

Specific issues addressed

Setting the scene

1. Jørgen Dalskov welcomed the participants to the meeting. Jørgen informed the group about a FISHN’CO WP leaders meeting held on the 10th Dec 2021. During the meeting, Joël Vigneau (project coordinator) encouraged WP2 leaders to convene a WP2 meeting asap in 2022. WP2 should come up with questions, related to the decision-making process, to address to NCs during the consultation process envisaged in Fishn’Co. The consultation process to NCs is expected to begin around February-March, leaving 2 to 3 months for NCs to reply prior to the RCG sessions in 2022.
2. STECF evaluated the RWPs and made comments that are relevant to Fishn’Co scope, for more details visit the full report [STECF 21-17](#). One of the main changes, it is the development timeline for regional work plans which is October 2023.

Adoption of the agenda

3. The agenda was adopted with no changes to it.

Presentation of section 3, STECF EWG 21-17 report by Els Torreele

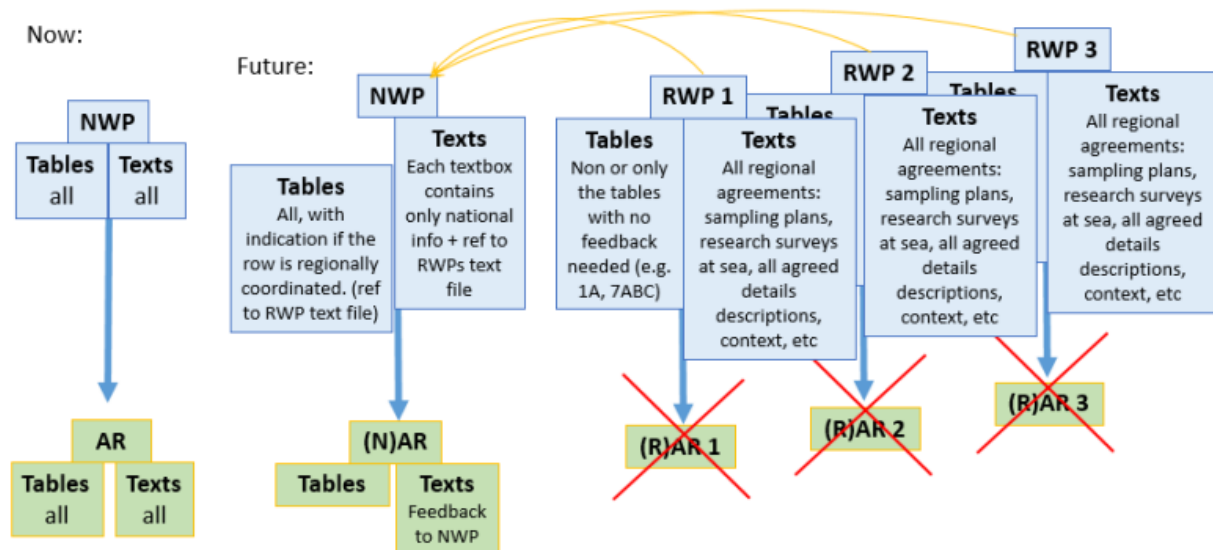
4. Els Torreele comments on the highlights from the STECF Expert Working Group (EWG) 21-17 that met in early November 2021. The RWP development timeline was one of the important points during the meeting. Main points regarding this topic are summarized below (STECF – Evaluation of work plans for data collection. STECF-21-17, pages 22-23):
 - Revision of the existing non-binding and draft RWPs by RCGs needs to be decided during RCG 2022. RCGs should revive the Inter Sessional Sub-Group (ISSG) on RWP to prepare the handover of Fishn'Co project outputs and MS to appoint an expert as participant for this ISSG.
 - ISSG on RWP to prepare a fully operational RWP for the period 2025-2027 for presentation to RCG 2023.
 - During the 2023 RCG meetings, the RWP 2025-2027 should be finalised and compiled taking into account Fishn'Co and ISSG/RWP outputs.
 - RWPs 2025-2027 should be presented by relevant RCGs to STECF during autumn 2023 for evaluation and approval.
 - **The final RWPs 2025-2027 need to be approved by 31st December 2023** – MS will then include/integrate RWP aspects in their NWP during 2024. During the RCG meetings in 2024, there can be clarifications on how the RWPs should be incorporated into the NWPs but no modifications of the RWPs will be allowed.

	2022												2023												2024											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
FishNCo project																																				
RCGs to compile RWPs																																				
STECF to evaluate and approve the RWPs																																				
RWP to be fully evaluated and approved																																				
MS develop NWPs incorporating the relevent elements from RWPs																																				
RCGs can provide clarifications on how the RWP should be used to inform the NWPs																																				
MS submit / re-submit NWPs for 2025-27																																				

5. Further comments from EWG 21-17.
 - Each MS is required to hold one set of tables and one text document for the NWP which contains information on both national and regional aspects. The regional aspects should match those of each RWP relevant to the MS. The EWG suggested that MS should copy all relevant information from RWP tables directly into the corresponding table in the NWP to ensure consistency between NWPs and RWPs, and when reporting in the AR.

- Having a stand-alone document (NWP Tables and Text) is a legal and financial obligation for many MS. Information in NWP tables should be complete - however it is possible that NWP text may summarise RWP text and provide a link to the RWP for more details.

Find below the diagram that illustrates the relationship between the NWP and RWP (STECF – Evaluation of work plans for data collection. STECF-21-17, page 24):



- + no duplication in filling in the tables
- + no (R)AR needed
- + no need to update the RWP legally every year
- + overviews of the fisheries can be compiled from NWP and still used for RCG needs

6. Some questions were raised after the presentation:

Maria Hansson, when RWP are evaluated and MS receive comments. How do we handle the comments? Els, you respond to comments in your annual report. There are new annual report templates available to accommodate for that.

Elo Rasmann, then RWP text file will be really descriptive. Tables of RWP will be a compilation, each MS will copy their row into the NWP? Els, yes that is correct.

Heikki Lehtinen, how can we cover that RWP will address new requirements? Els it is a good point; we need to think about that.

Presentation of “Draft decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans” by Kolyo Zhelev

- Kolyo presented the draft document “Decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans” that can be visited [here](#). He mentioned that when drafting the document they had into account comment from STECF Expert Working Group (EWG) 21-17 and in particular the new timeline proposed for developing RWPs. In the document a series of steps with their respective timeline are considered, each step comes with a short description.

8. Additionally, Kolyo share some considerations that arose when him and Simona were preparing the document:
 - Communication channel, need to consider what is the best communication channel between EC, NCs, ISSGs experts and RCGs for the whole process. Maybe a live document where questions could be posted and answered in a similar fashion that what it was done last year for the National Work Plans.
 - Socioeconomic data collection is very different in every country so the RWP for RCG ECON might not be possible.
9. Some questions were raised after the presentation:
 - Elo, regarding the evaluating of RWP by STECF, how is the pin-pong consultation process is going to be handle? At national level is easier, because NCs can consult with national experts.
 - Kolyo, suggests that maybe the experts evaluating the RWP should be available for consultation during the week of the meeting, or even having a combine meeting with NCs.
 - Marie, in her experience it is a quite extensive process before getting to a RWP. We need a process with a goal. She thinks that the experts and the ISSG group in charge of developing the RWP should be included in the communication loop some how.
 - Maria Hansson, the actual timing of decision-making does not allow to take into consideration the comments in the same year.
 - Els, maybe we could propose a different timing to accommodate for comments and inputs. Thinking of the timeline in STECF report we could request a time window for communication, it can not be squeezed in 1 or 2 weeks. End of January or Feb to finalized RWP.
 - Heikki, STECF comments will require time and reflection. Small changes on the STECF comments could be done relatively easy to the RWP and then RWP could be adopted using the written procedure. The point is, will it always STECF comments require a lengthy process of consultation?
 - Els, we could go for a precautionary approach in terms of asking for a new timeframe. If the extra time is not needed it, then we don't use it.

Based on point 3 and 4 prepare a list of issues that need to be taken into account before drafting a revised RoP.

10. Recommendation to EC, ask for a different time window to allow MS and ISSG to adjust RWP if needed in a proper way.
11. Jørgen suggest to further elaborate on the draft document presented today and clearly identified who is doing what, and who is taken the decisions at each step.
12. Another suggestion that come up from the group, it is to consider having different timing to submit NWP and RWPs. For example, RWP in spring and NWP in autumn, this way RWP it could be included in the NWPs.
13. Need to consider, how would the RWP deal with new things, for example new science that we need to sample.
14. Consider how to deal with the comments from STECF if they do not affect all MS involved.
15. Do all MS in a region need to be included in the RWP? Or could a subgroup of MS go for the RWP? RoPs do not allow for that at the moment to have countries on a different league.
16. In relation to the point above, the group is reluctant to change again the RoPs. First, we need a good overview of the mechanism that have been agreed and identify which procedures might require some adjustments.
17. Need to consider financial implications linked to RWP, for example, stomach sampling how is this going to be handled regionally. What should be the allocation key in these cases? Is there the need for

a specific group to discuss cost-sharing issues? A group for each region? At the same time, we should not over structure these decisions.

18. In general terms, the group thinks that the RCGs decision-making process is working well. It could benefit from having a reference document where to find background information and the decisions. Almost as a checklist where you could find the points that you need to reflect about and the considerations to be taken into account.
19. There was some discussion around the mandate, the conclusion was to include an additional step prior to the mandate to clearly state who is responsible for drafting the mandate and in what terms. Outputs from WPI FISHN'CO and the way the work is handed over to the ISSG it will also be crucial.
20. Related to step 2. Assigning of experts. Some small countries might not have a large pool of experts to cover all ISSGs.
21. Include an additional step after the establishment of WG/ISSG to allow time for revision of WG/ISSG outputs. It is important to find a proper channel to keep the information flow from ISSG to RCG and NCs. May be this is something that it could be considered in the RCG ToRs, some of these ToRs are under revision at the moment. Also, the other way around, if there is something new related to the RWP the ISSG could highlighted in the ToRs for the RCGs that year.

Detailed timeline for the work to be carried out in WP2

22. Beginning of Feb 2022, WP2 leaders receive feedback on the draft document "Establishing decision making structures/processes" and a set of preliminary questions to address to NCs.
23. Next WP 2 meeting, second half Feb 2022.
24. Finalize the document for consultation with NCs. So, the feedback could be gathered before and in preparation for the RCGs annual meetings.
25. Documents will be available on Teams (Guidance questions to NCs, History/background on issues discussed,...) under FISHN'CO TECH > WP2_DECISION MAKING
26. If you have problems accessing Teams SharePoint drop an email to the RCG secretariat, secretariat@fisheries-rcg.eu

163

Agreements and further actions

Next WP2 meeting in a month time, approximately. Second half of Feb 2022.

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Reflect on the work done by Kolyo and Simona, in particular reflect on the timing.	All	04/02/2022
Think about questions to ask NCs related to the decision-making process for RWPs.	All	04/02/2022
Brain into the history of what has been discussed and the approach used. To collect examples that could help further develop the procedure for WP2	All	11/02/2022

The meeting ends by 12:15 CET.

WP 2 – Meeting_2

Date	02/03/2022
Time	09:00 CET

Venue	Virtual, Zoom
--------------	---------------

Attendees

Name & Surname	Organisation	Role & position (project context)
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	Fishn'Co partner
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	WP4, coordination team
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU- AQUA	WP2 leader
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	WP2 co-leader
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	WP2
Elo Rasmann	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	NC Estonia
Suzana Faria Cano	Ministerio do Mar	NC Portugal
Heikki Lehtinen	Natural Resources Department	NC Finland
Maria Hansson	SLU	Fishn'Co non-partner

Objectives

- Discuss/reflect on the feedback received to the decision-making structures for developing the RWPs and agree on questions to address to NCs.

164

Agenda

- Welcome
- Feedback on our last meeting and the minutes for the meeting (previously circulated)
- Any changes to the present decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans?
- Finalizing the letter and questions to the NCs.
- AOB

Specific issues addressed

Welcome

1. Jørgen Dalskov (DTU-Aqua) chair of the meeting, welcomes everyone.

Feedback on our last meeting and the minutes

2. No issues or feedback to previous meeting minutes were raised during the meeting.

Any changes to the present decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans?

3. Prior to the meeting Jørgen circulated a document, draft letter to NCs asking for feedback on the suggested approach for decision-making structures for developing the RWPs and some questions. Some participants sent comments to the document (Maria Hansson, Els Torreele, Lucía Zarauz, Kolyo Zhelev and Heikki Lehtinen). WP2 leaders will merge all the comments in one single document.



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Additionally, Simona Nicheva and Kolyo Zhelev had also circulated an updated version of the decision-making structures document prior to the meeting.

Both documents, letter and decision-making structures, were used as a base to stir the group's discussions.

4. Jørgen, proposed a general timeline for WP2 to progress, being that:
 - Feedback from NCs to decision making structures document, deadline beginning of April 2022.
 - Send feedback to RCGs, late April beginning of May 2022. Taking into consideration the RCGs cycle; RCG ECON technical meeting on 4-6th May 2022.
5. Consultation should be address to all NCs considering that all MS at least are involved in RCG ECON.
6. One of the topics for discussion was voting vs consensus when talking about coming to a decision about RWPs. The actual RCG's Rules of Procedure (RoPs) state that decisions should be based on consensus. However, in the document we are referring to voting. What if a number of MSs within a region decide to stay out? Do the rest of MSs remain captive? MSs should be able to include elements of the RWPs in their NWP, this will not be possible if decisions are done by consensus. It is a rather complicate issue, Heikki Lehtinen mentions that it could have implications on an economic level. For example, a MS that does not have a particular interest in an element of the RWP could be overrun by other MSs of the region. COM could then put pressure on that MS not agreeing on the RWP draft. If you have voting on RWP, then should you have voting as well on other major issues? Maria Hansson, the RCG's Decision Meeting has not used a voting procedure. The word voting it is a bit misleading in this context.
7. Jørgen, brings another perspective to the discussion; at the moment the elements going into RWPs have not supposed any additional costs to MSs. However, in the future there will be more regional coordinated activities with economic implications. In his opinion, it will be a pity to give the mandate to RCGs to come up with the best RWP and then it is up to MSs to agree on it or not. The final aim should be to have the best and cheapest RWP. That flow in the procedure it does not make sense, to give the mandate to do something and then having to vote on it.
8. Maria Hansson, agrees with the point made by Jørgen and suggests that maybe we should not focus so much in the details of the procedure but identify clearly the elements that are good candidates for regional coordination and make the best use of the network and coordination developed over the years. Try to make people feel the advantages of cooperation and coordination. Also identify new challenges or aspects that might pose a difficulty and make use of the network to advance.
9. Jørgen, suggests the idea to refer in the document to the different building blocks that comprise a RWP. Then, MS do not necessarily have to agree on the whole RWP but building blocks. Building blocks from RWP are then taken into NWPs. Heikki, likes the idea of the building blocks. Heikki elaborates further on the idea of the building blocks, adding that they could also be used to progress on issues that are new as a result of policy changes; for example, biodiversity, environmental issues that will have an impact on RCG's work. Maria, the building blocks are there, they are the ISSGs and Thematic Focus Areas groups in Fishn'Co. Need to be clearer on how to prioritize the building blocks. Kolyo, the agreement of the building blocks to be prioritized should be one the first step. Agreed during RCGs technical meeting and then give the mandate to ISSGs or subgroups.

Finalizing the letter and questions to the NCs

10. The group gives the mandate to WP2 leaders to polish off the document to approach NCs.
11. Kolyo and Simona to change/readjust the wording in Annex 2. Kolyo mentions that the actual wording is according to the RoPs if we want to change the wording then RoPs should also be changed.

Jørgen, suggests to leave the modification of the RoPs for later, once we have received feedback from NCs to the procedure. Heikki, agrees. No substantial changes to the RoPs are expected.

12. Heikki, referring to the step - Assignment of experts; reinforce the wording there to stress the commitment not only a matter of nominating an expert but actually committing to do the work/mandate.
13. Lucía Zarauz, mentions that NCs might have doubts of what they are committing to when we will approach them with the questions as some of them might not have the whole picture in mind. They might have difficulties to grasp the content of the essence of RWPs.
Jørgen, perhaps we should try to make the effort to define a couple of examples.
Kolyo more inputs coming from WP1 and WP3 could be included to have a more informative document.
Susana Rivero, explains that the whole idea of the consultation process is going to be done within the framework of Fishn'Co not only for WP2 but also for WP1 and WP3. The approach of doing the consultation to NCs all together with the whole Fishn'Co umbrella will provide the full context for NCs.
14. Regarding the final step "Adoption of the RWP", during the last Fishn'Co plenary meeting (3rd Feb 2022) Blanca García (DG MARE) mention that there might not be a formal adoption by the COM with a legal act but an agreement. Blanca agreed then to provide a small text to support the description of that step. Kolyo will sent a gentle reminder to Blanca about the text.
15. Talking about the questions included in the letter to NCs, 5 and 6 should go out.
16. Annex 3 (Draft timeline) it is considered to be important to include in the consultation as a reference. Maria made a revision of the draft Annex 3 because there were some mismatches between annex 3 and the draft scenarios and decision-making procedure. Maria unified terms and dates. The group agrees to include the revised timeline in the consultation.
17. Next Monday, 7th March there is a Fishn'Co WP leaders meeting to discuss the consultation process to NCs. WP2 leaders will inform the rest of the group about the outcomes of the meeting regarding the NCs consultation process.

Agreements and further actions

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Merge comments to Letter&questions to NCs	WP2 leaders	07/03/2022
Update Draf scenarios-Decision making structures developing RWPs document with inputs from today's meeting (Annex 2)	Kolyo/ WP2 leader	04/03/2022
Contact Blanca García (DG MARE)	Kolyo/ WP2 leader	04/03/2022

The meeting ends by 10:30 (CET).

Annex I – Fishn'Co Workshop. Developing RWPs for the Regional Coordination Groups NANSEA, Baltic and Large Pelagics, and Economics Issues. October 2022





FISHN'CO Workshop

**Developing Regional Work Plans for the Regional Coordination Groups
(RCG) NANSEA, Baltic and Large Pelagics, and Economics Issues**

October 2022

Document	D 4.4 Report FISHN'CO Workshop October 2022		
Date	03/11/2022		
Version	V0		
Author(s)	Susana Rivero Rodríguez		
Reviewed by	Alessandro Ligas	Date	04/11/2022
	Joël Vigneau	Date	07/11/2022
	Monica Gambion	Date	09/11/2022
	Lucía Zarauz	Date	15/11/2022
	Estanis Mugerza	Date	21/11/2022
Final approval		Date	28/11/2022

FISHN'CO is funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) of the European Commission



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Content

1. Introduction.....	2
1.1 Background.....	2
1.2 Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.....	2
1.3 Participants.....	2
2. Lessons learned and work packages status	3
RCG and LM sessions, the lessons learned.....	3
WPI – Progress, achievements and milestones.....	4
WP2 – Progress, achievements and milestones.....	5
WP3 – Progress, achievements and milestones.....	6
WP4 – Progress, achievements and milestones.....	7
WP5 – Progress, achievements and milestones.....	7
Organization of the subgroups.....	8
STREAMLINE – Streaming the establishment of RWPs in the Med&BS.....	8
3. Subgroup work.....	9
3.1. RWP tables and text boxes.....	9
3.2. Establishing decision making structures and processes	13
4. Project deliverables status	13
Agreements and further actions.....	14
Annex 1: Meeting agenda	16
Annex 2: Attendance List.....	18



1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Reliable and complete data are key to fisheries management under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). The Data Collection Framework underlines the regionalization of data collection, Member States (MS) shall coordinate their data collection activities with other MS in the same marine region.

Fishn'Co project is entirely devoted to providing added value to the Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs) Inter Sessional Sub Groups (ISSG) and work in complement to them with the specific goal of proposing elements of Regional Work Plans (RWP) for each of their activities.

The RWP should only contain regionally coordinated elements agreed by RCGs. These elements shall be invariable and describe the cooperation for at least the 3-year period of a RWP. Only agreed elements which are to be or already coordinated or agreed regionally should be put in RWP.

Fishn'Co was mandated to add value to the RCG/ISSGs and work in complement to them with the specific goal of proposing elements of Regional Work Plans (RWP) for each of their activities.

Fishn'Co Work Package 1 has been designed to match with ISSGs scopes in what is called Thematic Focus Areas (TFA) in order to identify the existing regional agreements and gaps to be further addressed.

In parallel, Fishn'Co Work Package 2 is looking at determining decision making structures and processes on the implementation of RWP. Describing the processes needed in discussions among MS and in the RCGs about sharing responsibilities, expected contributions, decision making and adoption processes, and how to implement and manage RWP in an harmonised, cooperative and transparent way.

Fishn'Co Work Package 3 is responsible for developing the structure for RWP and integrating the elements gathered WP1 and WP2 into RWP format.

Fishn'Co Work Package 4 will implement communication and dissemination actions around the RWPs and about the activity of the RCGs to promote visibility and facilitate engagement towards the RWP stakeholders.

Fishn'Co Work Package 5 is devoted to support and facilitate fluent and efficient administrative procedures and adequate follow up of work progress and achievements.

2

1.2 Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Introduction of the meeting and its objectives by Joël Vigneau, Fishn'Co coordinator and welcome of participants and practicalities by Rosa Fernández.

After the opening of the meeting the draft agenda was adopted by the participants, with the addition of a new point on the second day, STREAMLINE presentation by A. Ligas.

See Annex I for the agenda of the meeting.

1.3 Participants

The workshop was attended by 25 experts, including Fishn'Co partners and non-partners from 13 Member States. Annex 2 provides an overview of the participants to the meeting and their respective affiliation.

2. Lessons learned and work packages status

RCG and LM sessions, the lessons learned

Joël presented [Presentation_20221018_IntroandWP3_WKSVigo_FISHNCO.pptx](#)

During RCG decision meeting (DM) Wlin September 2022, Fishn'Co has got the green light on developing RWPs for the period 2025-27 by mid-2023 with no adoption needed by COM.

During the Liaison Meeting (LM) it was agreed that the ISSG RWP should be pan regional. The participation to the workshop of Alessandro Ligas, coordinator of the STREAMLINE project, participated to this inclusivity idea. To facilitate the pan-regional scope of the ISSG RWP, the current chairs have already proposed to nominate a third Chair from the Med&BS region. Response is expected in the coming weeks.

Regarding on how to proceed with RWP, there are some considerations from RCG Technical Meeting (TM) and National Correspondent (NC) meeting in Sep 2022 that need to be taken into account:

- NC will need time to appropriate and feedback before the RCG TM 2023
- all RWP 2025-27 be in sufficient finalisation form at the end of the project before handing over to ISSG/RWP

So it comes that **all RWP 2025-27 should be prepared and finalised before the end of the project**

- The request for a 2 month extension (until Feb 2023) becomes crucial for this to happen
- The project deliverables will be unambiguous: All RWP final version (D3.1-4) + contextual document (how does it work? D3.5 & D3.6)
- The timing for releasing RWP to NC for communication will be March
- The handing over ISSG/RWP will be easy – sending the RWPs to NC, follow-up and update as per the feedback before the RCG TM 2023

3

This workshop is the perfect place to agree on this end-part of the RWP design process, agree the elements and structure of the RWP 2022-2025. There is already a V.0 of the RWP shared by Joël on the Project Teams folder. [RWP 2025-2027](#)

The economic part of RWP will take the form only of guidance tables on methodologies and definition of variables.

[Draft socio economic Guidance tables.xlsx](#)

The consultation process is a massive source of information to be shared within Fishn'Co for preparing RWP 2025-2027. There are some issues that have received a major agreement, these are:

1. RWP contents, general tables
2. Monitoring work progress
3. Decision-making process
4. General principles

About the General principles, Joël mentioned that there may be need to put some more thought on these to improve the description and enhance common understanding.

Discussions and feedback

Irek Wójcik wonders how can you come to the conclusion that the NCs will need to appropriate RWP. Joël gives more precisions that there'll be a need for NCs to understand, to prepare for the RCG TM in June, to accommodate their feedback, etc so that there is no surprise come the RCG/TM 2023. NCs receiving the first draft by March 2023 will give all necessary time to receive feedbacks and prepare a new version for the RCG/TM.

Jorgen Dalskov, asked when there is a RWP in place, there is a need to define precisely how MS will agree, partially agree or disagree and/or step out. Joel answers that only agreements come in RWP, so that those MS who don't agree can decide to be out and this does not make a huge problem to the RWP. It is flexible enough.

Joel recalled what we have learned from test run 2022 is that not all the MS were onboard and there may be even pages of the RWP which apply to some countries and not the others.

Irek commented the WP will need to evolve on a yearly basis if we are working towards having a RWP that is more ambitious. It is not that much that a MS is excluded (if they have a low interest) but if the others cover the information that is needed, there's no need for exclusion.

Joel: what are the common grounds. It is not totally defined by now. This is something to be worked out in the ISSG.

Elo suggests to start compiling the NWP and do the RWP from a more practical perspective. So far most of the discussions have been theoretical. Joel stresses that there is a fundamental difference between a compilation of NWP and a RWP, a RWP is a compilation of activities and elements agreed regionally that required a planification ahead of the implementation.

WPI – Progress, achievements and milestones

Linda O'Hea presented WPI progress, achievements and milestones

[Presentation_20221018_WPI_WKSVigo_FISHNCO.pptx](#)

Linda provided a summary of WPI objectives and status of deliverables. Additionally, Linda reminded participants about a living document delivered as part of annex II in the interim report that can be consulted/updated with progress made. [Annex 2- Ambition levels -TFAs.docx](#)

Linda presented a status overview for each thematic focus areas (TFA), highlighting elements that are ready to be included in RWP and work still in progress. Linda foresees as part of the discussions on this workshop to decide what is achievable or not.

Finally, a summary of next steps:

- Agree on elements which will be completed and available for inclusion in RWP by end of project (end Feb 2023)
- Follow up with task leaders – tasks outstanding – update and track timelines for completion
- Levels of Ambition – Infographic – live document - update excel file if new details available

Discussions and feedback

Maria Hansonn asked where can we find the elements already agreed for each TFA so they can be used to fill in RWP.



Joël shares the approach, we need to put things on the paper in practice to really see how it works.

Lucia wonders what will be the approach for initiatives/elements that are partially coordinated, as for example, a sampling plan with a regionally agreed protocol for commercial fisheries, or a common list of species for recreational fisheries. In these initiatives, there are elements of the sampling which are national, and others which are regional. Difficulties in terms of document reading are anticipated. How to go from NWP to RWP without losing or duplicating information and still at the same time have an easily readable document. Joel starts from the principle that when quantitative elements (i.e. allocation of sampling effort) are regionally coordinated, RWP tables should be duplicated in the respective NWP for the sake of reporting the realizations in Annual Reports. However, textboxes should not be duplicated.

The relation between NWP and RWP still needs to be clarified. Links can be used but it will be difficult to jump to the right section of the WP documents, from NWP to the RWP and back. It was suggested that the link to this type of agreed documents could be inserted in both NWP and RWP

The RWP will have a place on the RCG's website. The possibility of having a place to store agreed elements (such as a sampling protocol or a list of species) in the website was also discussed.

The discussion is recurrent and Elo Rasmann suggested that maybe it is yet very theoretical, there is need to put hands on and maybe the team members will change their minds.

WP2 – Progress, achievements and milestones

Jorgen presented the progress in WP2 [Presentation_20221018_WP2_WKSVigo_FISHNCO.pptx](#)

Jorgen reminded WP2 objectives, followed by a list of issues to be worked on:

- Description of data collection for a MS, where there will be two documents, a **national WP** and a **regional WP**. Only the **national WP** will be evaluated from the legal point of view. The **regional WP** only has to be commented on of the STECF and the Commission.
- **RWP tables must contain (quantitative) elements to be checked against when drafting elements of the National Annual Report linked to the RWP. RWP tables will be duplicated in the respective NWP.** Additional information (precisions and details of agreements, stepwise approach and ambition) need to be handled.
- **RWP will have the same binding force as it is integrated in the NWP.** Need for a learning phase. Start with the elements where RCGs can achieve agreements across all relevant MS.
- RWP needs to clearly **document which member state** is responsible for what.
- The **process of submission, reporting and review and the agreement of the RWP** which requires close cooperation between the RCGs and the Commission.
- **Update of the Rules of Procedure (RoP)** in order to contain the provision on that not all MS within a region participate in all elements of a RWP.

Another point highlighted was bridge building between Fishn'Co – RCGs – STEFC – Streamline. Based on ongoing communication with RCGs, the project will further look at the proposal from the RCGs for establishing principles for the format of the new templates for NWP to support the future development of RWP (and in communication with the project Streamline).

There is still some work to do to finish all deliverables before the end of the project, considering also the information that is available from the consultation process.

RoPs will be reviewed again, one of the open questions regarding the RoP is that Should the relationship between the RWP and the NWP be in the RoP for the RCG?

Discussions and feedback

Regarding RoPs, Els suggested to consider the RCG decision process and the need for flexibility.

Joël asks if these new RoPs will be for 25-27. Jorgen says that there might be some changes by then and again flexibility is pointed out as the clue to avoid having to review RoPs every year.

WP3 – Progress, achievements and milestones

Joël gave an overview of WP3 progress and the status of deliverables.

[Presentation_20221018_IntroandWP3_WKSVigo_FISHNCO.pptx](#)

The RWP test run was the occasion to simplify the core of the RWP.

Regarding RWP contents:

- Table 1.2 – Regional coordination meetings (ISSG/NC)
- Table 1.3 – Bi and multi lateral agreements (how to?)
- Table 2.1 – Stocks
- Gathering all elements from WPI
- RWP contextual document – aspects, approach, guidelines for implementation, decision making process (with WP2)
- And the General principles are coming back here!
- Slideshow presenting the contextual document and the proposed RWP

Discussions and feedback

6

Joël opened the discussion on the content of the different tables. There is need to for each RCGs to provide a list of Regional coordination meetings (Table 1.2).

Table 1.3 bi and multilateral agreements this is something that should be part of the discussions during this workshop. Table 1.3 has to be part of the RWP. There was some discussions about how to include the information/agreements.

Irek suggested instead of including the whole document with agreement just use links to the documents.

Joel recaps: table 1.3 Fishn'Co to gather all the elements of agreements, circulate to NCs and ask if they are in force or outdated and whether or not they foresee any modification, anticipate needs in the future RWP as soon as possible.

Table 2.1. a script has been developed to feed the table. It was tested in the test run 2021. The source of information is FIDES. Joël has some doubts whether or not this FIDES information can be shared, because it might contain confidential data from RCG datacalls. The question was sent to COM.

The NCs very much agree with the use of the script (80% of the countries used this data already for the NWPs 22-27).

The RWP contextual document can be a bit difficult to accommodate. Joël has included a new text box, text box 0, for this purpose. This is something that can be discussed further during the workshop.

WP4 – Progress, achievements and milestones

Rosa Fernández presented WP4 status

[Presentation_20221018_WP4_WKSVigo_FISHN'CO.pptx](#)

Rosa commented briefly on Fishn'Co communication objectives and approach which is aligned with Secweb communication strategy. Overview of the communication and dissemination materials developed, most of which are available on the RCG's website:

- <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/fishnco/>
- <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/regional-work-plans-for-data-collection-in-the-fisheries-and-aquaculture-sectors-launched-for-testing/>
- <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/interview-with-joel-vigneau/>
- <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/interview-with-alessandro-ligas/>
- <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/level-of-ambition/>

The interactive infographic level of ambitions has been subject to the consultation process, feedback received will be taken into account to design the maintenance strategy beyond Fishn'Co project.

WP4 team is also working on Fishn'Co video, which is planned to be released by the end of Nov. 2022.

The stakeholder database is currently under development in collaboration with Secweb.

Other deliverables such as templates, reports from stakeholders' events, minutes among others, are also available on Teams.

Discussions and feedback

No comments were raised.

7

WP5 – Progress, achievements and milestones

Rosa Fernández commented the actual project coordination and management situation

[Presentation_20221018_WP5_WKSVigo_FISHN'CO.pptx](#)

Official reporting to COM is on track; 1st Progress report, Interim report and 2nd Progress report have been submitted in due time and form.

Rosa also made reference to the list of officially agreed deliverables that have to be part of a stand-alone document at the end of the project so each WP leader is aware and prepare them with sufficient time. Narrative (executive summaries) and annexes need to be prepared for the final submission.

[ListAgreedDeliverables_FISHN'CO.docx](#)

Depending on whether or not Fishn'Co has a project extension we have two possible scenarios and the corresponding implications for project management:

WITHOUT Project extension

- Reporting deadline **28 Feb. 2023**
- Therefore, all **technical information** (final deliverables) have to be ready and submitted to coordination team no later than **31 Dec 2022**.



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

- All **economic information** (Excel tables and supporting information) ready and submitted no later than **31 Jan 2023**.

WITH Project extension (2 months)

- Reporting deadline **30 Apr. 2023**
- Therefore, all **technical information** (final deliverables) have to be ready and submitted to coordination team no later than **28 Feb 2023**.
- All **economic information** (Excel tables and supporting information) ready and submitted no later than **31 Mar 2023**.

Discussions and feedback

Considering the current project situation, it was agreed to ask for a two-months project extension. Project coordination team will motivate the project extension and make a formal request next week.

Organization of the subgroups

Two groups: one to deal with WP2 decision making-structures and processes and another group focused on WP3 and the compilation of the different elements.

STREAMLINE – Streaming the establishment of RWPs in the Med&BS

Alessandro Ligas thanked for the opportunity to attend the workshop and stressed the importance to share experiences between the two projects.

[STREAMLINE FISHN'CO WK Vigo.pptx](#)

STREAMLINE drafted in a co-creative approach with the RCG Med&BS and MSs a proposal for a non-binding RWP to be implemented in 2023. The RWP proposal was submitted in October 2022 to be evaluated by STECF EWG 22-18.

In parallel, STREAMLINE is also working on the design of the decision-making process. The timeline taken as a reference is the same as in Fishn'Co (with no formal adoption by the EC)

STREAMLINE is also preparing the handover to the RCG Med&BS and the following issues were included in the RCG Med&BS recommendations:

- The feedback of the STECF will be further considered by MS and RCG and included in the different RWPs,
- A Scientific Network for Sampling Optimization is established with the aim of analysing and refining the outcomes of the four case studies in the light of the STECF comments;
- An ISSG on RWPs will be established to support the RCG in drafting RWPs by mid-2023.

Discussions and feedback

Irek, about the timeline proposed - Consultation on draft RWPs June 2023 if it is not too late, Fishn'Co proposed March 2023 for the circulation of draft RWP. Alessandro explained that the slight delay in the proposed timeline is aligned to the RCG Med&BS timing.

Maria Hansson liked the co-creative approach used, in particular the case studies and the good progress made towards regional coordination. Maria is interested in the work done already towards RWP tables and to seek for synergies between both project.

Alessandro offered to share the documents that STREAMLINE prepared with the group. They are now available on Teams for consultation [STREAMLINE non-binding RWPs 2023](#).

Jorgen asked about the sampling plan optimization and how STREAMLINE dealt with it. Alessandro commented that they are trying to achieve an agreement. The work done within STREAMLINE was case study based, preliminary analysis was performed and they have some numbers of trips to optimize the sampling structure. However, MS cannot amend their sampling plan with such short notice. The work will be further developed in the ISSG and hopefully included in the new NWP, starting in 2025.

Alessandro, about the continuation of the work, they have already organised some trainings so that the transition to the ISSG-RWP is smooth.

Joel commented that there'll probably be need to organise something to put together the experts for all the ISSG.

3. Subgroup work

3.1. RWP tables and text boxes

The structure of the RWPs 2025 -2027, including both tables and text boxes, are now available on Teams

[RWP 2025-2027](#)

The approach is to discuss and complete, with the different elements already gathered within Fishn'Co, RWP tables and text boxes. Allocated responsibilities for subgroup work members can be found in the following file:

[RWP_responsibilities_allocated.xlsx](#)

Table 1.1 it is ok for Med&BS they have agreed to include it. Northern RCG are not so much in favour of it.

Text box 1.b Other data collection activities; include info related to Secweb/RCG's Secretariat, RDBES, RDBFIS and cooperation across RCGs.

Table 1.2 Planned regional and international coordination; create a second version to accommodate for extra information

Table 1.3 Bi and Multilateral agreements

Simona Nicheva gathered all the agreements already. [Draft RWP table 1.3.xlsx](#)

Simona commented about the agreements and their links, it is quite common that different MS are referring to the same document with different links because each institution has their own link in their NWP.

One way around having different links for the same agreement is to have a common source for the agreements, this could be the RCG's website then the link it will be always the same.

Simona presents the work she did for the agreements. It is agreed that there should be just one row per agreement in the RWP. There is need to confirm which documents are in force for every country. Simona, suggested to email to all NCs to indicate which agreements will be valid for 2025.

Joël added that Fishn'Co should compile table 1.3 and then forward it to NCs and RCGs for them to check and amend table 1.3.

The discussion followed on non-verbal agreements that are in place and whether they should be considered and if so where to find them. The group agreed that in first instance they should be considered because it reflects cooperation. NCs should be asked (this is a task for the ISSG RWP). Compile everything and then send a communication early Jan 2023 for feedback.

Table 2.1 List of required species/stocks

Table 2.1 has been very appreciated in the test run; we are now in good shape to finalize this work.

Joël gave the floor to Mathieu Depetris to comments on progress so far.

Mathieu has developed a series of R scripts; at the moment this work is hosted in IRD environment which is not the best option. The group should think where is the best place to host the Github and R packages.

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

<https://ob7-ird.github.io/acdc/>

From now on there may be need for some control / cross-checking utilities (Mathieu is working on that). There is still work to be done.

Joël asked Mathieu what does he needs to finish the work. Mathieu commented that there are confidentiality issues that do not allow certain changes. For example, if a change in the coding was needed Mathieu cannot do it because he has no access to the whole package. Additionally, there are confidentiality issues regarding FIDES data that need to be checked with EC.

The aim of Fishn'Co is to develop the stats only at RCG level (not at national level). Finalise the code and run the code.

Mathieu wondered where should this work be placed? RCGs website? Rosa about the RCGs website commented that at the moment the idea is to display public information. There is no private area yet on the web to store this type of information.

The group agreed that for the time being ICES Sharepoint is the best place to store the work. Mathieu will take the lead on this work in collaboration with Nuno Prista, Katja Ringdahl, Kirsten Birch, also Stefanos Kavadas from RCG Med&BS and Hans van Oosterbrugge RCG ECON.

Table 2.2 Planning of sampling for biological variables

There was a discussion on whether to keep the table or not and at the end it was decided to keep the table because it is the only way to have the information on the biological variables gathered at regional level. Maybe the ISSG on surveys should take this table onboard.

Marie and her team should look into the table for the CS Baltic small pelagics

This discussion is also covering 2.6, Marie in collaboration with Sieto to work on tables 2.2. and table 2.6. covering Baltic and NANSEA, no LP. This work to be carried out intersessionally, not for the short term.

Table 2.3 Diadromous species

Linda according to Tapani is very unlikely that it will be nothing to include on Table 2.3. It is suggested to use the corresponding text box as a place to reflect progress made.

Table 2.4 Recreational fisheries

Jorgen commented about the importance of this table and the importance to reach an agreement on the list of species to be sampled.

Estanis Mugerza considered that at this stage it will be difficult to use the table. Estanis liked the approach proposed by STREAMLINE to use the text boxes instead of the tables. According to Estanis, we are not ready for the tables because we miss crucial information on numbers. However, there has been substantial progress on protocols, RDBES, etc. that could fit into text box.

Estanis is going to check STREAMLINE proposal as well as a more in-depth analysis of the feedback received during the consultation process. With that Estanis will propose content for text box 2.4.

Lucía Zarauz asked what about if a list of species is approved next year during the DM, would that be included in the table?

Estanis in that case yes, the list of species agreed regionally at RCG level should go in the RWP. However, at the moment there is a preliminary list of species as a priority to present to the RCGs next year. What it can be included in the text box is the criteria that have been used to draw the list.

Joël commented that the plan is to ask NCs about the RWP elements in March 2023, so the preliminary list of species could be proposed then.

Table 2.5 Sampling plan description for biological data

Linda provided an update of the situation of different case studies (CS).

Maria commented that the same approach discussed earlier for table 2.4 should be used. Use textboxes to explain what has been agreed at each CS.

CS Iberian trawlers, Rita Vasconcelos commented that there is a common sampling protocol that could be part of the RWP. It could be included as a word document. Rita is going to adapt the document in the form of annex I.1 to be included in the RWP.

Question by Rita, what links to what? Where do we put the link? The sampling protocol is already in the NWP.

Irek, the idea is not to duplicate things, to have sampling plans in RWP so every MS refer to the same thing the same way.

CS Baltic small pelagics, there is also a common protocol and an agreed table 2.5. However, table 2.5 has been modified slightly, mainly due to the difficulty to link it to NWPs. Because the naming sometimes differed in each MS. The suggested approach to progress with table 2.5 is that table 2.5 proposed by CS Baltic small pelagics is to be included in the file as an extra tap. That way experts can comment and try to find a way forward.

CS Tropical Tuna purse seiners, Mathieu commented that the work is not mature enough to put into table format. There is information on the fishery; economic data, size of the boat,...but not sure how to fill in table 2.5. There is coordination ongoing the issue is how to reflect that on the table format.

PETS, the situation is similar to that of Recreational fisheries. Estanis said that there is work in progress, however nothing to include as table right now. In coming month, there is a list of agreed species by region, ICES list for: seabirds, marine mammals and reptiles. The fish species list is still work in progress.

Joël suggested to include that list in table 2.5.

Estanis also commented on the work done by other working groups such as ICES WGBYC, that could fit into textbox.

Rita commented on information related to PETs in the Bay of Biscay, CETAMBICTION project (<https://www.cetambicion-project.eu/objectives/>), proposal for monitoring methods of incidental bycatch. It might be mention also in the textbox. It is a coordinated agreement between 3 countries (POR, FRA, ESP).

Table 2.6 Research surveys at sea

To include every coordinated survey in the table.

Table 3.1 Fishing activity variables sampling strategy

Regarding small scale fisheries (SSF), Estanis commented that the situation is similar to recreational fisheries. There is no sampling protocol for SSF. There are some tasks coordinated during the last months that could fit into the textboxes.

Estanis will take into consideration the feedback received during the consultation process when filling the textboxes.

Table 4.1 Stomach sampling and analysis

Joël commented that we had a proposal in the RWP test run. We should have it again in 2025. Even if it is the same info that they have in the test run.

Linda will follow up with Pierre Cresson to have the latest updates included in table 4.1.

There is also the feedback on Stomach sampling and analysis from the consultation process to be taken into account.

Table 5.1 Fleet total population and clustering

Table 5.2 Economic and social variables for fisheries data collection strategy

Table 6.2 Economic and social variables for aquaculture data collection strategy

Table 7.1 Economic and social variables for fish processing data collection strategy

Tables 5.1, 5.2, 6.2, and 7.1 are the economic tables. RCG ECON is planning to have a workshop dedicated to this in Nov. 2022. Additionally, in July a guidance file has been circulated to all NCs for comments prior to the workshop. The feedback will be used to stir the discussions during the workshop.

Linda will follow up with Hans for updates after the Nov. workshop.

3.2. Establishing decision making structures and processes

The deadlines and steps in the decision-making structure for developing RWP have already been reviewed according to the comments received by COM in the second progress report. [Draft_Scenario_Draft decision-making structures for developing the regional work plans_WP2_V.3.docx](#)

The subgroup consisted in reviewing again the processes according to the discussions had during NCs, LM and the actual workshop.

There were some discussions regarding the third step “Drafting of the RWP by the ISSG”. The ISSG RWP it was said to be a pan-regional group, however RWPs should be drafted by region. Perhaps the ISSG RWP would have to consider having subgroups to deal with the different RWPs.

Another step that needed consideration it was “Follow up meeting” and the timing of the different tasks during the ping-pong process. Whether or not the prescreening was possible within the actual timeframe and how to make sure that NCs and experts are all available during that time. Something to be further discussed tomorrow in plenary.

RCG’s RoPs have to be revised to accommodate for development and adoption of RWP. The actual RoPs (combined for RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic) do not specify much on decision making process. Some adjustments are needed. However, the group agreed that the description of RoPs should be flexible enough so there is no need to amend then every year.

4. Project deliverables status

Project deliverables status can be consulted in the following link:

[ListAgreedDeliverables_FISHN'CO.docx](#)

Regarding WP2 Jorgen shared in plenary some of the concerns the group had with the timeline, in particular the timing for assessment by STECF.

After some discussions, and taking into consideration the timeline below. The conclusion is that comments by STECF will go to RCG chairs, chairs send STECF’s comments for revision and feedback to ISSG RWP and then NCs will be in the loop. There will be a document as an outcome of RCG TM in June with the feedback and then the 2024 DM is for the adoption of the RWP.

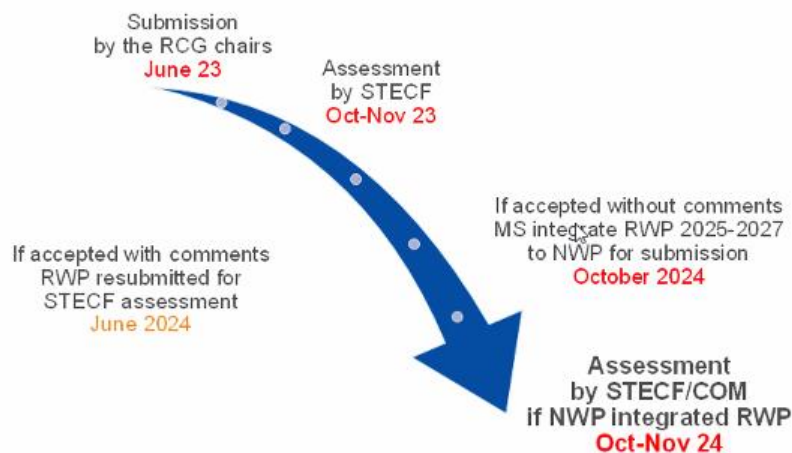


Figure 2.3. Draft decision-making structure and process for developing RWPs.

Lucía commented that it will be useful to consider to have almost like a guidance document with very clear instructions for national authorities on what needs to be changed in case of amendments.

Linda, WPI updates have been included in the working documents folder [WORKSHOP Oct 2022 Vigo Working Files](#)

RCG ECON has already circulated a guidance document on RWP among NCs for them to comment. Work in progress. Workshop planned for Nov.

Stomach sampling there is coordination in North Sea.

CS Freezer trawlers, there is a summary of the progress made available on Teams.

Diadromous, Tapani commented the situation for diadromous species. There is no agreement so far, so there won't be material to be included in the RWP.

Lucía commented that there is a good database for eel, she wondered whether this could be included as part of the information in text boxes. Similarly, to the approach adopted for RDBES.

CS Iberian trawlers, Rita has already added the information in the text box 2.5, referred also to annex 2.1.

Joël, deliverable 3.5. Development of Regional Work Plans, main aspects, approach and strategy for their implementation. The content/structure of D 3.5 was discussed and agreed during the meeting. Joël will focus on developing this document during next month. It was agreed to include reference to the web, <https://www.fisheries-rcg.eu/>, when describing general aspects about RCGs, RWP, link to infographic of ambition levels etc.

Agreements and further actions

- **Next Fishn'Co plenary meeting** on Monday 2nd December 2022, 09:30- 12:30 (CET)
- **Final project event** in order to have a back-to-back meeting with stakeholders, NCs, COM. The problem is that the agendas for 2022 are already fully booked. Depending on the acceptance or not

of the project extension there is the possibility to have that final project event in early Feb. 2023. To be done in a hybrid format to allow all participants to join.

Action	Partner/Person in charge	Deadline
Make a formal request for project extension	WP5 leaders	28/10/2022
Compile all the elements mature enough for RWP and include them in the consultation to NCs before June 2023	WP and task leaders in collaboration with ISSG chairs RWP_responsibilities_allocated.xlsx	Before next plenary meeting
Explore the possibility to have a final project event in Feb. 2023, combine with NCs meeting and other MARE/2020/08 grants.	WP5 leaders	Before next plenary meeting

Annex I: Meeting agenda

Meeting objectives

- Progress with developments of the elements of RWP which deserve to be part of an RWP 2025-2027
- Work in sub-groups and present elements in plenary
- Address issues hampering your work and seek clarities on any difficulties you are facing
- Discuss the transition with the ISSG/RWP, the lessons learned and the last deliverables of the project
- Prepare for Fishn'Co final event, communicating our findings to a wider audience.

Please, notice that the schedule is expressed as Central European Time

18th October (Tuesday)

Afternoon session

- 13:45** **Light lunch**
- 14:00** **Welcome of participants**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER) & Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) coordination team
- 14:15** **Adoption of agenda**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER)
- 14:30** **RCG and LM sessions, the lessons learned**
Joël Vigneau & Rosa Fernández
- 14:50** **WP1 – Progress, achievements & milestones**
Linda O’Hea (MI) WP leader
- 15:10** **WP2 – Progress, achievements & milestones**
Jørgen Dalskov (DTU) WP leader
- 15:30** **Coffee break**
- 16:00** **WP3 – Progress, achievements & milestones**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER) WP leader
- 16:20** **WP4 – Progress, achievements & milestones**
Rosa Fernández (CETMAR)
- 16:40** **WP5 – Progress, achievements & milestones**
Joël Vigneau (IFREMER), Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) WP leaders
- 17:00** **Summary of the day**
Joël Vigneau
- 17:10** **Organization of the subgroups - Subgroup work (hybrid)**
- 18:00** **Closure**

19th October (Wednesday)

Morning session

- 09:00** **STREAMLINE – Streamlining the establishment of RWPs in the Med&BS**
Alessandro Ligas (CIBM)
- 09:15** **Transition with the ISSG/RWP, roadmap (hybrid)**

Joël Vigneau (IFREMER) & Maria Hansson (SLU)

09:30 **Subgroup work (hybrid)**

All

11:00 **Coffee break**

11:15 **Subgroup work, continuation (hybrid)**

All

13:30 **Lunch break**

Afternoon session

15:00 **Subgroup work, continuation (hybrid)**

All

16:15 **Coffee break**

16:30 **Subgroup work presentation (in plenary)**

WP Leaders

17:45 **Summary of the day**

Joël Vigneau

18:00 **Closure**

20:30 **Social dinner***

***Note:** In the evening we are planning to organize a **social dinner** in the city centre. Please notice that Fishn'Co will not be able to cover the expenses in this case. If you are interested in joining the social dinner you can mark that option on the registration form. Thank you!

17

20th October (Thursday)

Morning session

08:30 **Compilation of all the work done – project deliverables status**

Presentation in plenary (WP Leaders)

09:30 **In preparation of the final project event**

10:00 **Final reporting**

Rosa Fernández

10:30 **Coffee break**

10:45 **AOB**

11:00 **Wrap up of the meeting**

Joël Vigneau

11:30 **Closure**



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic



Regional Coordination Group
Large Pelagics



Regional Coordination Group
on Economic Issues

Annex 2: Attendance List

Name & Surname	Organisation	Country	Partner (Y/N)	In person (P)/ Online (O)
Estanis Mugerza	AZTI	ES	Y	O
Lucía Zarauz	AZTI	ES	Y	P
Maksims Kovšars	BIOR	LV	N	P
Didzis Ustups	BIOR	LV	N	P
Rosa Fernández	CETMAR	ES	Y	P
Susana Rivero	CETMAR	ES	Y	P
Alessandro Ligas	CIBM (STREAMLINE)	IT	N	P
Jørgen Dalskov	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y	P
Marie Storr-Paulsen	DTU-Aqua	DK	Y	O
Kolyo Zhelev	EAFA	BG	Y	P
Simona Nicheva	EAFA	BG	Y	P
Jose Castro	IEO	ES	Y	P
Joël Vigneau	IFREMER	FR	Y	P
Els Torreelle	ILVO	BE	Y	O
Rita Vasconcelos	IPMA	PT	Y	O
Ana Cláudia Fernandes	IPMA	PT	Y	O
Mathieu Depetris	IRD	FR	Y	O
Joni Tiainen	LUKE	FI	Y	O
Tapani Pakarinen	LUKE	FI	Y	O
Linda O’Hea	MI	IE	Y	P
Elo Rasmann	Ministry of the Environment, Estonia	EE	N	P
Irek Wójcik	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	PL	N	P
Monica Gambino	NISEA	IT	Y	O
Maria Hansson	SLU	SE	N	O
Sara Königson	SLU	SE	N	O