

**Technical Report on the
National Data Collection Programme under
Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008,
Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008
and Commission Decision 2008/949/EC
Estonia 2010**

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I. General framework

This document describes the results of the Estonian National Program for collection of data in the fisheries sector in 2010. The program has been developed and performed in accordance with the rules laid down in relevant Commission and Council regulations, and STECF comments on the proposals of earlier years.

Estonia joined the DCR in 2005, and there have been no major changes in approach compared to the years before.

The year 2010 is covered by the Technical Report.

II. National data collection organization

II.A National correspondent and participating institutes

The programme will be conducted in close cooperation between:

- **Estonian Marine Institute (EMI)**

Estonian Marine Institute, University of Tartu, is a Public Research Institution that carries out research, investigations and provides advice concerning sustainable exploitation of live marine and fresh water resources. It has experience in fisheries management and economics, as well as in mathematical modelling. Institute has an agreement with the Ministry of the Environment to conduct applied fisheries research in Estonia, and is responsible for the main part of the National Data Collection Programme in 2009-2010.

- **Estonian Ministry of the Environment (EME)**

Estonian Ministry of the Environment is responsible for regulating the questions concerning the protection of marine nature and environment, as well as for solving the tasks concerning the use of marine resources. The Fish Resources Department, established in 2001 to replace the Fisheries Board and the Fisheries Department, manages and co-ordinates research, assessment, exploitation, reproduction and protection of fish resources.

- **Estonian Ministry of Agriculture (EMA)**

As of March 2001, the fisheries matters are divided between two ministries: the Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Agriculture. Fishing Economics Department of the latter deals with issues of pisciculture, production, processing and marketing of fish and fish products, structural fishing policy. Since 1 January 2006, EMA holds the Estonian Fisheries Information System of commercial fishery.

Estonian Ministry of the Environment is acting as coordinator for the Estonian Programme. The participating institute will be treated as partner.

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The last National coordination meeting was held in 9th December 2009. Participants of the meeting were from the Estonian Marine Institute and the Ministry of the Environment carrying out the data collection programme. The topics discussed:

- 1) Including the test fishing data in the NP – pro and contra. Decision was to include as for advice concerning management of local (coastal) stocks, test fishing data are of great importance. Database of test fishing in permanent research areas are available since 1992.
- 2) Data collection in the North Atlantic in situation of sharply declined Estonian fishing activity in this region.
- 3) Investments to support data collection
- 4) Multiannual agreements between the Ministry and the Estonian Marine Institute for conducting data collection
- 5) Problems associated with collection of economic data, possible solutions
- 6) Problems with EFIS (Fisheries Information System); proposals for improvement
- 7) Data collection concerning recreational fishery
- 8) Technical and other topics, including FishFrame.

The data collection problems in 2010 are discussed in close cooperation with EMI as main executor of the Estonian National Programme and special coordination meeting was not held.

The next National coordination meeting is planned in 2011 during the IV quarter.

II.B Regional and International coordination

II.B.1 Attendance of international meetings

See standard table II.B.1. Both RCM Baltic and RCM North Atlantic were attended.

II.B.2 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

Recommendation	
RCM NA recommends MS to carefully draft their NP proposal for the years 2012 and 2013 in order to anticipate any changes/modifications of their programme and dedicated budget. (RCM NA 2009 Recommendation)	Included in NP proposal for 2011-2013
In compiling the National Programmes 2011-2013, MS should ensure that the information provided in describing the métiers to be sampled relates directly to the information provided to the RCM NA in the métier section. (RCM NA 2009 Recommendation)	Included in NP proposal for 2011-2013
RCM NA recommends MS to prepare their NP Proposal 2011-2013 on recreational fisheries based on the DCF requirements, using their own knowledge of the fisheries, without waiting for the outcomes of the PGRFS. RCM NA recommends also MS to consider the recommendations of the ICES WGEEL. (RCM NA 2009 Recommendation)	Included in NP proposal for 2011-2013
National Programmes to include appropriate reference to RCM NA report in relation to sampling agreement at métier level. National Programmes to include in annex formal bilateral agreements, using the template in annex XI. (RCM NA 2009 Recommendation)	No such agreements
RCM Baltic 2009 endorses the recommendation from RCM NS &EA: For the purposes of regional understanding of sampling activities, National information on sampling should be compiled regionally in advance of the next meeting. To enable this, participants from MS should strictly respect the agreed naming conventions of fishing ground and métiers as well as the deadline for submission of the data. The Chair is responsible for requesting the data and compiling it on a regional level (RCM Baltic 2009 recommendation)	Followed by Estonia

RCM Baltic 2009 endorses the recommendation from RCM NS &EA: For the purposes of understanding the heterogeneity of métiers and the consequences for task sharing and discard sampling, national descriptions of the regionally ranked métiers should be compiled using the format in annex 3. To enable this, participants from the MS should strictly respect the agreed naming conventions of fishing ground and métiers as well as the deadline for submission of the information. Appointed persons are responsible for requesting the data and compiling it on a regional level (RCM Baltic 2009 recommendation)	Implemented.
In order to make analyses of the data collected within DCF and to optimise the coordination work, the developed regional database FishFrame 5.0 should be used within the RCM Baltic. (RCM Baltic 2009 recommendation)	Implemented.
WGBAST recommends that the proportion of adipose fin clipped salmon in Baltic salmon fisheries should be monitored in conjunction with DCR or other data collection programmes.	Implemented for commercial fishery.
Member states are recommended to seek for task sharing when starting ageing new species. (RCM Baltic 2008 Recommendation)	Approved but not implemented. No specialists for ageing eg redfish, Greenland halibut in Estonia, and samples are available for analyses in interested laboratories/MS-s

III. Module of the evaluation of the fishing sector

III.A General description of the fishing sector

No major changes as compared to NP Proposal for 2009.

The Estonian fleet operates regularly in 2 regions:

1. Baltic Sea, fishing ground SD 25-32 (occasionally SD 22-24);
2. North Atlantic, mostly fishing grounds of the NAFO Regulatory Area. Irregular fishery is conducted in the North Sea and Eastern Arctic region (fishing grounds I and II), and even more occasionally in other regions.

Sampling programme can be designed for areas where the fleet operates regularly, namely, Baltic region, fishing ground 25-32, and North Atlantic.

Fishery in NAFO area was at a very low level in NAFO area in 2010 (only 5 fishing trips, 2 for shrimp and 3 for fish).

National fishery is described in Table III.A.1.

III.B Economic variables

Supra region: Baltic Sea (ICES areas III b-d), North Sea (ICES areas IIIa, IV and VII d) and Eastern Arctic (ICES areas I and II), and North Atlantic (ICES areas V-XIV and NAFO areas).

III.B.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Types of data collection for each fleet segment and for each economic variable are described in standard tables III.B.1 and III.B.3.

The data concerning economic variables were collected as listed and defined in Appendix VI of Commission Decision 2008/949/EC. For economic variables included in Estonian Fisheries Information System (EFIS) (includes log book data, fishing vessel register) data were collected about all members of the population (census type of data collection). For other economic variables questionnaires were sent out. It is important to mention that all these surveys have been carried out on a voluntary basis.

There was a deviation from NP proposal. Instead of probability sample survey census type of data collection scheme was decided to use in the case of trawlers. Previous practice showed quite low response rate for enquiries. Due to the above reason and low population sizes, questionnaires were sent for each vessel. In these populations the use of census type of data collection scheme is more justified instead of probability sample survey to achieve better results – to ensure the greatest possible number of responses. In the case of vessel using passive gears (coastal fishery) probability sample survey was used like planned.

III.B.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Accuracy indicators and the values of them are presented in standard table III.B.3. Response rates was used as accuracy indicator for census type of data collection. In case of probability sample survey coverage rates and the coefficient of variation (CV) were calculated according to SGECA-09-02 report. The data sources for estimation of variables are homogenous, therefore data are consistent.

Standard errors for the estimated means and sums obtained, taking into account the fact of sampling from finite population. In addition, sensitivity analysis approaches used to assess potential biases due to non-response and false reporting.

Due to the changes in data collection scheme there was deviation from NP proposal. Instead of probability sample survey census type of data collection scheme was decided to use in the case of trawlers. Previous practice showed quite low response rate for enquiries. Due to the above reason and low population sizes, questionnaires were sent for each vessel. In these populations the use of census type of data collection scheme is more justified instead of probability sample survey to achieve better results – to ensure the greatest possible number of responses. In the case of vessel using passive gears (coastal fishery) probability sample survey was used like planned.

III.B.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

- In particular, **STECF (PLEN-09-02) recommends** that MS indicate the data collection category that is to be applied for each fleet segment and for each economic variable as listed in Appendix VI of Council Decision 949/08. SGECA 09-02 identified three different categories of data collection scheme that covers all the possible typologies of data collection:

- Census, which attempts to collect data from all members of a population.
- Probability Sample Survey, in which data are collected from a sample of a population members randomly selected
- Non-Probability Sample Survey, in which data are collected from a sample of population members not randomly selected.

STECF notes that this classification will facilitate the comparison of survey methodologies among Member

States (MS).

- **STECF (PLEN-09-02) also recommends** that MS:

- include in their NPs for the period 2011-2013, a methodological report to describe the sampling strategies. **STECF also recommends** that MS adhere to the guidelines for the preparation of the methodological report given in the Table 4.1.1 (adapted from the report of the STECF-SGECA 09-02).

- include in their annual Technical Reports, the data quality indicators given in the Table 4.2.2 (discussed under TOR 2 of STECF-SGECA 09-02).

- **SGECA-09-02 recommends** that in case non-probability sampling is applied, MS describe clearly in the methodological reports the methods used to overcome problems of bias and possible ways to assess the quality of the estimates and their outcomes. Based on this information, **SGECA recommends** to launch a call for a study to harmonise quality reporting and propose methodology in this specific situation. **SGECA-09-02 also recommends** that the suggested study on quality indicators for non probability sampling should also address the question of the impact of non random non response on the final estimates.

- **SGECA-09-02 recommends** that MS should carefully assess the impact of non-response, especially in the case of census with low response rate.

- Regarding the clustering issue, SGECA-09-02 considered that approaches to clustering should depend on the particular characteristics of fleet segments. The group proposed that MS should distinguish between segments considered for clustering as follows: 1. important segments with distinct characteristics, 2. segments similar to other segments, 3. nonimportant segments with distinct characteristics. **SGECA-09-02 recommends** a set of guidelines for clustering for each of these three cases.

- Due to concerns raised over the implications for data time series if clustering practices change over time, **SGECA-09-02 recommends** MS to take this into account when they segment the fleet in order to produce consistent time series over time.

Estonia has been taken into account these recommendations.

III.B.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

As surveys carry out on a voluntary basis continuous clarification about importance of data collection among target group should be one possible way to maintain or even enhance response rates.

III.C Metier-related variables

Baltic Sea

III.C.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

See standard tables III.C.3, III.C.4, III.C.5 and III.C.6 with the information collected during the

sampling year.

Two métiers were undersampled for the following reasons:

GNS_DEF_>=36_0_0 (concurrent-at-sea) was undersampled due to limited possibilities to send researchers to the sea on board of small boats used in this fishery.

FYK_DEF>=16_0_0 was slightly undersampled for the same reason.

Over- and undersampling of several species is related to the catch rate of these species, which varies annually and is hard to prognosticate. Catches of *Salmo salar*, *Anguilla anguilla*, *Psetta maxima*, *Coregonus lavaretus* were low, and usually a few specimens could be sampled during a trip. *Sander lucioperca* could be sampled only in Pärnu Bay, in other areas along the Estonian coast only a few specimens were registered in the catch.

Significant oversampling of, *Platichthys flesus*, *Perca fluviatilis*, *Clupea harengus* was due to higher CPUE than expected, especially in test fishing catches (all individuals are analyzed in test fishing catches).

III.C.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Precision estimates were calculated as the weighted average of CVs over all length/age classes. The weight was the total estimated number of individuals per length/age classes.

For some species (eg eel), compiled data of several MS could achieve the target. For local species (eg pike) where analytical assessment has not been used and can probably not be used in future, Estonia follows the stock situation using test-fishing data (CPUE, age/length distribution) for advice.

III.C.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

Recommendation	
In the NP proposals, a short description of all métiers selected by the 90% ranking procedure	Included in NP proposal for 2010

should be provided. Such a table would enable RCM to identify whether a métier with the same name covers the same or different fisheries in different NPs. (RCM Baltic 2008 Recommendation)	
The Working Group noted that despite all of the observations made under EC Regulation 812/2004, there is little mention in national reports of any seal bycatch , and recommends to the European Commission that bycatches of seals and other protected species should be reported by observer programmes established under the 812/2004 regulation as well as those conducted under Data Collection Regulations for discard sampling. (WGMME)	Data are collected, but not in frames of DCR

III.C.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

In cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment, agreement with trawl owners has been reached to send an observer on board of vessels targeting cod in Western Baltic in 2010.

To achieve planned numbers of concurrent-at-sea samples (trips), specifically trained “whale observers” on board of fishing vessels will be more used in future.

For local species currently at low stock level, other methods than analyses of commercial catches should be used to follow the stock status. In Estonia, coastal stocks are monitored in frames of regular (since 1993) test fishing in the coastal zone.

North Atlantic

III.C.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

See standard tables III.C.3, III.C.4, III.C.5 and III.C.6 with the information collected during the sampling year.

Metier sampling was less than planned due to limited fishing activities of the Estonian fleet in NAFO area in 2010.

Estonian catches in the North Atlantic consist mostly of 3 species listed in Tables. In the case of shrimp fishery, volume of discarded (damaged) shrimp is registered by observers (discarding is very low), but discarded shrimps can not be analyzed due to their poor condition. All bycatch species are registered as well as their weight, and ageing structures were collected from redfish. Length distribution of bycatch (to be discarded) is registered in the case of most abundant bycatch species, redfish.

In *Reinhardtius hippoglossoides* and *Sebastes* fisheries, unsorted catches are analyzed by observers. Bycatch is registered by species and volume, but bycatch is too low to get significant samples for length, weight measurements.

III.C.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

See table III.C.5 with the values of the accuracy indicators (CV).

In case of species which were sampled in low numbers (primarily due to low stock abundance), accuracy indicators achieved nationally did not meet the requirements of DCR.

III.C.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

Recommendation	
The RCM-NA recommends that all MS should follow strictly the naming conventions for reporting the sampling and statistics information.	Used mesh sizes checked in métiers.

To that aim, MS are invited to investigate closely on the mesh size range actually used. (RCM-NA 2008 Recommendation)	
In the NP proposals, a short description of all métiers selected by the 90% ranking procedure should be provided. Such a table would enable RCM to identify whether a métier with the same name covers the same or different fisheries in different NP. (RCM-NA 2008 Recommendation)	Included in NP proposal for 2010

III.C.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Data collection in the North Atlantic is dependent on fishing activities of the Estonian fleet in this region, and on coverage rate of fishing trips by observers. Fishery is declining, and sampling in this region will probably decrease in the coming years. Only the most qualified observers will continue their duties, and this will probably improve the data quality.

III.D Recreational fisheries

Baltic Sea

There is no recreational fishery in other areas than the Baltic Sea.

III.D.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Data on catches (includes recreational gillnet and loglines catch data for sea and salmon and sea trout rod catch data in rivers) of cod, salmon and eel (as well as other species) in recreational fishery is available in EFIS, as reporting of abovementioned recreational catches are mandatory since 2005. The proportion of recreational catches of total catch was the highest in case of salmon (46,3% includes river catch) followed

by sea trout (24,4%), whitefish (21,5%), flounder (14%) and other species (< 10%; Table below). Sprat is caught occasionally in the coastal zone. The following Table includes catch data for 2010 and percentage of recreational catch from the total catch since 2005:

Species	Catch in 2010, t			Recreational, % of total catch					
	Commercial	Recreational	Total	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Cod	796,1	0,9	797,0	0,1	0,1	0,1	0	0	0,1
Eel (catches at sea)	3,5	0,1	3,6	3,9	2,5	3,9	3,3	2,5	5,2
Eel (catches of inland waters)	14,2	1,0	15,2	6,8	7,9	3,5	3,2	3,4	6,0
Salmon *	3,8	3,3	7,1	46,3	41,4	35,7	32,6	18,9	20,3
Sea trout *	12,2	4,1	16,3	25,1	21,0	19,2	16,2	17,4	18,2
Flounder	285,0	46,8	331,8	16,4	16,8	14,1	12,8	12,2	10,4
Baltic herring	28861,8	3,6	28865,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Sprat	47861,7	0,1	47861,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Whitefish	15,5	4,3	19,8	21,5	18,4	19,0	17,4	18,3	21,8
Pike	22,8	2,3	25,1	9,3	10,8	14,7	9,0	6,9	10,6
Pikeperch	73,4	0,7	74,1	0,9	0,8	1,3	1,3	0,8	0,9
Perch	878,8	12,8	891,6	1,4	1,2	2,2	1,4	1,1	2,3

* includes river catches for recreational fishery

III.D.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Recreational catch data for species in Table (above) should be considered as exhaustive. However, there is no recent catch data of anglers except salmon and seatrout angling in rivers.

Length, weight and age composition of recreational catches was not studied in 2010, due to low volumes of catches and financial restrictions.

No derogations asked.

III.D.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

Recommendation	
The Baltic RCM recommends to further investigate the amount and variability of recreational fisher's catch of Baltic cod, with the aim to include these catches as soon as possible in the assessment and management advice. (RCM Baltic 2007 Recommendations)	Recreational catch of cod in Estonia is very small. Instead, Estonia proposes to use test-fishing data (national gill-net survey data) to be used in the assessment and management advice (implemented in Estonia). Also Estonia are planning to carry out the study for rod fishery to clarify the amount and variability of cod catches by recreational fishermen at sea. Results will be presented in 2011 Technical Report.
WGBAST recommends that the proportion of adipose fin clipped salmon in Baltic salmon fisheries should be monitored in conjunction with DCR or other data collection programmes.	Implemented for commercial fishery.

III.D.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Study for angling is planned for 2011-13.

III.E Stock-related variables

Baltic Sea

III.E.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Table III.E.3 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

In most cases, the achieved data collection was different compared to what was planned in the NP proposal.

In the case of herring, and flounder, sampling was at a planned level.

Parameters for sprat (except length-weight) were undersampled by 1/4 due to the lack of personnel (two persons of the small pelagic group left abroad), but the sampling rate was still higher than prescribed by the DCR and higher than in 2009.

Cod was oversampled due to recent stock increase. Our sampling protocol prescribes to analyze all demersal fish in the catch of most gears. Sampling rate (trip No) was kept high due to problems with getting samples of several other species.

Perch was undersampled (except for length-weight), as well as pikeperch. Age sampling for perch was restricted in 2010 as stock has a simple structure (only a few year-classes). The reason for pikeperch undersampling was decreased stock. We did not increase the number of trips to sample specifically pikeperch, as its stock structure is currently rather simple (due to intensive fishery, older fish are almost lacking in catches); in addition, this fishery is very restricted spatially (concentrated in Pärnu Bay).

Length, weight, scales for ageing and sex composition of commercial salmon and sea trout catches (50 and 183 specimens, respectively), as well as presence/absence of adipose fin (which is clipped in stocked specimens) were studied in 2010; maturity data are available for a part of this sample. Additional 13 sea trouts were analysed from test-fishing catches.

Most of oversampling was done on the national expense.

Several species were under-sampled as in previous years: salmon, whitefish, pike, and eel. There is directed fishery only for eel, but catches are extremely low due to stock situation. Other species are essentially bycatch species, their stocks are at a low level and catches are also low, and, in spite of many samples, planned sampling numbers could not be achieved. Additional obstacle was lack of money to purchase fish for sampling as all these species are of high commercial value and prices are high.

III.E.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Values of the accuracy indicators will be calculated in an international level, as (in most cases) national sampling are at low level to get accurate estimates.

III.E.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

Recommendation	
Member states are recommended to seek for task sharing when starting ageing new species (RCM Baltic 2008 Recommendation)	Approved but not implemented. No specialists for ageing eg redfish, Greenland halibut in Estonia, and samples are available for analyses in interested laboratories/MS-s

III.E.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Better planning of NP proposal is needed in future. Increase of national funding will allow to get bigger samples of valuable commercial species which stock is at a low level.

North Atlantic

III.E.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Table III.E.3 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

Estonian shrimp fishery in the NAFO area decreased significantly in 2010 and only two trips were performed to catch shrimp. Observers were on board during both trips and they took samples of shrimp and bycatch (mainly redfish) from 113 hauls, at the same frequency as in previous years, but the total number of analysed shrimp was lower than originally planned. Juvenile redfish (as a bycatch in shrimp

fishery) was oversampled without additional expenses (observers were on board during the whole fishing trip).

Only 3 trips were performed to catch finfish during 2010 in NAFO. The main species were Greenland halibut and redfish; these species were oversampled. This did not imply additional cost for sampling as observers are in board of all vessels during the whole fishing trip.

III.E.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Planning and quality ensuring are rather complicated in the case of the Estonian. All data will be transferred to the NAFO Scientific Council which assesses the quality of data internationally.

III.E.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

Recommendation	
The RCM-NA recommends that all MS should follow strictly the naming conventions for reporting the sampling and statistics information. To that aim, MS are invited to investigate closely on the mesh size range actually used. (RCM-NA 2008 Recommendation)	Used mesh sizes checked in mètres.
In the NP proposals, a short description of all métiers selected by the 90% ranking procedure should be provided. Such a table would enable RCM to identify whether a métier with the same name covers the same or different fisheries in different NP. (RCM-NA 2008 Recommendation)	Included in NP proposal for 2010

III.E.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Observers (engaged in sampling in NAFO area) need permanent training for maturity estimation of shrimp and fish, as well as for identification of (rare) bycatch species.

III.F Transversal variables

III.F.1 Capacity

III.F.1.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Table III.F.1 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

Data collection was exhaustive.

III.F.1.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Table III.F.1 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

Data collection was exhaustive.

III.F.1.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

III.F.2 Effort

III.F.2.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Table III.F.1 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

Effort data are based on data obtained from the Estonian Fisheries Information System (EFIS). It includes all necessary data for trawlers where vessels with length of more than 10 meters are used and therefore the Community logbook is utilized but for coastal fishery (small vessels mostly with length below 10 meters using passive gears) the data are recorded in national logbooks and therefore above mentioned data are not electronically recorded in the EFIS.

The problem has been noted and in order to improve the situation we have to consider how our system for collecting the data on vessels with length less than 10 meters can be improved.

Data collection was exhaustive for vessels with length of more than 10 meters.

III.F.2.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Data collection was exhaustive.

III.F.2.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No.

III.F.2.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The problem has been noted and in order to improve the situation we have to consider how our system for collecting the data on vessels with length less than 10 meters can be improved.

III.F.3 Landings

III.F.3.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Table III.F.1 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

Data collection was exhaustive.

III.F.3.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Table III.F.1 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

Data collection was exhaustive.

III.F.3.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

STECF:

MS are responsible for collecting the data on landings and discards for all the vessels flying their flag, wherever they fish, and provide data to the organisation responsible for advice and/or management	Landings and discards data are collected for all the vessels.
In case the landings occur in a non-EU country, MS shall do all necessary effort to organise the sampling	In the NAFO area, sampling will be done by observers on board (employed by EMI). No regular fishery in other areas. In the Baltic Sea trawl and gill net fishery, data collection is normally also done by observers on board (not in 2009 as fish owners did not agree to take observers on board)

III.F.3.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

III.G Research surveys at sea

III.G.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

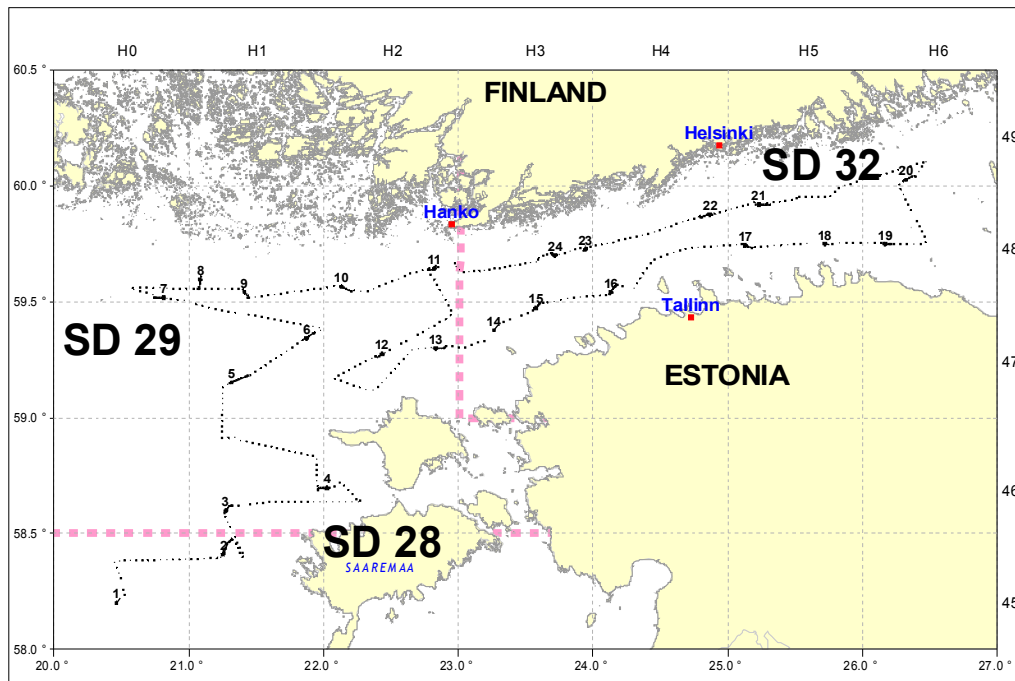
See standard table III.G.1 with the information collected during the sampling year.

All planned surveys were performed (Figures and Table below).

Estonian-Latvian Gulf of Riga herring survey was performed between 20-28.07.2010, using the same chartered vessel as in previous years. The length of the acoustic track was 506 miles; 18 trawl hauls were performed.

Joint Estonian-Finnish-Polish survey was conducted between 24 October and 1 November., using (as in previous years) Polish research vessel “Baltica”.

BITS survey was conducted as in previous years (number of days at sea and number of fish hauls).



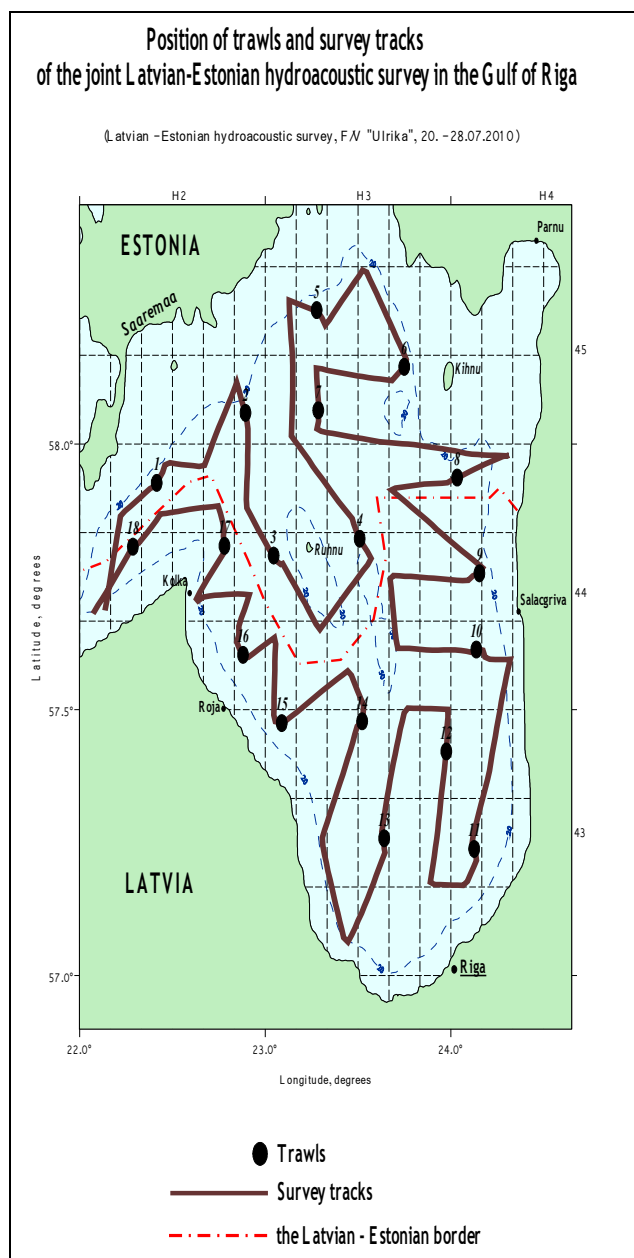


Figure III.G.1. Gulf of Riga survey 2010

Figure III.G.2. Location of the acoustic transects (red line), the fish control-hauls (numbered) inspected in October 2010 area by the R.V. "Baltica", inside the Finnish and Estonian EEZs (parts of the ICES Subdivisions 28N, 29 and 32).

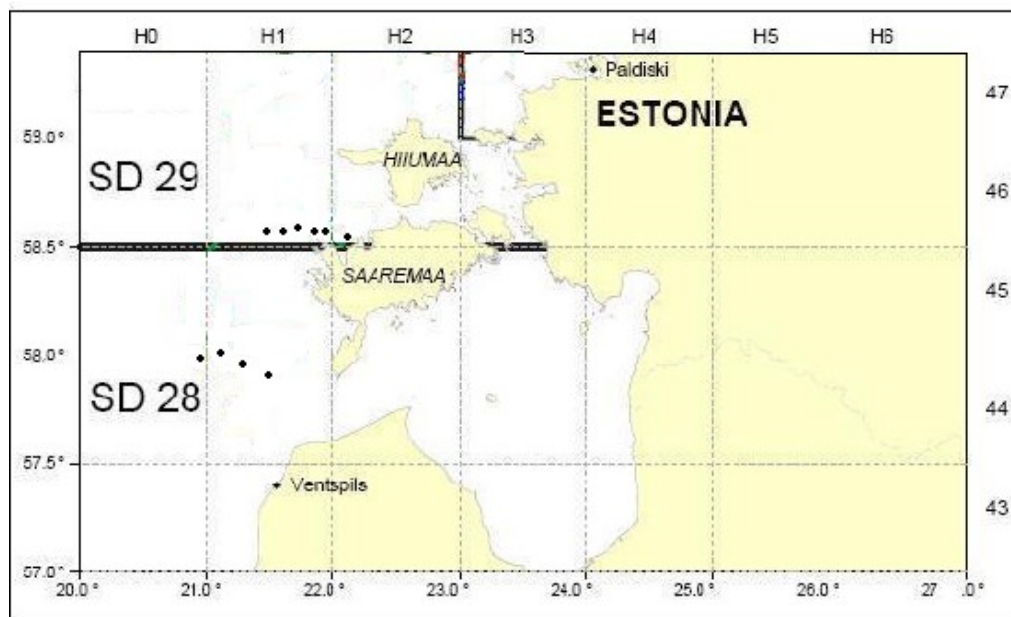


Figure . Location of 10 trawl hauls during BITS 4 QRT survey in Sub-divisions 28 and 29 in 2010.

III.G.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

No.

III.G.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No.

III.G.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

None.

IV. Module of the evaluation of the economic situation of the aquaculture and processing industry

IV.A Collection of data concerning the aquaculture

IV.A.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Types of data collection for each economic variable are described in standard table IV.A.3.

The data concerning aquaculture were collected as listed and defined in Appendix X of Commission Decision 2008/949/EC. The collection mode of data depended on source of economic variable. The part of data was collected from the financial statements sent by the enterprises to the Estonia Tax and Customs Board. For other economic variables questionnaires were sent out. It is important to mention that all these surveys have been carried out on a voluntary basis. In spite of source of the variables census type of data collection applied.

The willingness to give information on voluntary basis (questionnaires) was not very high among enterprises.

IV.A.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Accuracy indicators and the values of them are presented in standard table IV.A.3. Response rates was used as accuracy indicator for census type of data collection.

IV.A.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No

IV.A.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

More clarification about importance of data collection among target group should be one possible way to enhance response rate.

IV.B Collection of data concerning the processing industry

IV.B.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Types of data collection for each economic variable are described in the standard table IV.B.2.

The data concerning processing industry were collected as listed and defined in Appendix XII of Commission Decision 2008/949/EC. The most part of data was collected from the financial statements sent by the enterprises to the Estonia Tax and Customs Board. Also telephone interviews were applied to specify some variables.

There was a deviation from NP proposal. Instead of probability sample survey census type of data collection scheme was decided to use. It became obvious during the preparation of survey that the size of the population is much modest and most part of data is available from the financial statements of enterprises.

IV.B.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Accuracy indicators and the values of them are presented in standard table IV.B.2. Response rates was used as accuracy indicator for census type of data collection. The data sources for estimation of variables are homogenous, therefore data are consistent.

Due to the changes in data collection scheme there was deviation from NP proposal. Instead of probability sample survey census type of data collection scheme was decided to use. It became obvious during the preparation of survey that the size of the population is much modest and most part of data is available from the financial statements of enterprises.

IV.B.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No.

IV.B.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No need.

V. Module of evaluation of the effects of the fishing sector on the marine ecosystem

V.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Standard table V.1 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

V.2 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No problems.

VI. Module for management and use of the data

All fisheries data collected in frames of the National Programme as well as purely from national sources are stored in EMI in several separate databases. Currently, work is ongoing to join all databases of EMI (including fisheries databases) into a common system. As the first step, a meta-database of all available data (since the 1940s) is still under construction. This work is financed from other sources. Financing (from other sources) will be available to include all historic data into digital database presumably by the end of 2013. Fisheries data for 2005-10 are in agreed format and easily accessible from the institute. Survey data and data of test fishing for 2010 are already or will be shortly available from the Fish Resources Department, Ministry of the Environment.

Ministry of the Environment has established two new modules in information system to fulfil the requirements of COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 665/2008 articles 8 and 9. All the primary and meta-data for 2010 collected under DCR will be uploaded and available at the end of the year. Data call requests received and the responses provided in 2010 are registered in EFIS.

VI.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Standard table VI.1 contains the information collected during the sampling year.

Data of previous years are uploaded in FishFrame 3.2 or 4.1. Beginning from 2010, all data on analyses of commercial catches will be uploaded in FishFrame 5.0, which makes possible to include data in regional databases.

VI.2 Actions to avoid shortfalls

VII. Follow-up of STECF recommendations

SGRN insists that all actions planned for the new DCR, regardless of any funding agenda issue, actually starts on the 1st of January 2009.	Accepted
MS are responsible for collecting the data on landings and discards for all the vessels flying their flag, wherever they fish, and provide data to the organisation responsible for advice and/or management	Landings and discards data are collected for all the vessels.
In case the landings occur in a non-EU country, MS shall do all necessary effort to organise the sampling	In the NAFO area, sampling will be done by observers on board (employed by EMI). No regular fishery in other areas.
The RCM Baltic recommends that all MS upload data (effort, landings-all species, sea-sampling, sampling of landings) for the trawl fisheries targeting cod in the Baltic in order to allow analysis of the fisheries facilitating future task sharing of discard sampling (RCM Baltic 2007 Recommendation)	Trawl fishery for cod is conducted outside the Estonian EEZ, and catch is normally landed outside Estonia. Sampling depends on possibility to send an observer on board. Data gathered by observers will be uploaded
MS are obliged to sample recreational fisheries of cod, salmon and bluefin tuna in EU waters	According to Appendix IV, 1), salmon, cod and eel should be sampled in the Baltic Sea (no recreational fishery in other regions). It will be done.
All MS are requested to collect calcified structures for stocks listed in Appendix XV whether they have the facilities to read them or not.	This is the case.
On the confusion on the interpretation of the requirement to triennially update the estimates of "Other biological parameters".	The common tool to evaluate the precision of the biological parameters (COST project), will be implemented.
SGRN requests MS to clearly define the	All efforts will be done to meet this requirement

economic parameters collected under Module J of the DCR, with particular reference to fixed/capital costs.	

VIII. List of acronyms and abbreviations

EFIS Estonian Fisheries Information System (a computerized database for commercial fishery in the Fisheries Department, Ministry of Agriculture, for recreational fishery – Ministry of the Environment)

EMI Estonian Marine Institute

WGBFAS Baltic Fisheries Assessment Working Group (ICES)

WGBIFS Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group (ICES)

WGBAST Baltic Salmon and Trout Working Group (ICES)