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Subject: 2023 call for data for the Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI)

The Scientific Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI) database was developed to support the management of fishing effort management regimes. With a transition to area-based multiannual plans there was an opportunity to both rationalise the data base and move to the collection of an EU wide data set of fishing capacity, effort, landings, and discards. Since 2018 the Commission has requested the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) to collect and review data in relation to a newly specified FDI Database. Expert working groups¹ reviewed both the data supplied and the appropriateness of the data call with respect to completeness of data and compatibility between data calls within the Data Collection Framework (DCF) Regulation².

As in the previous year, reviews and improvements since the 2018 data call have been incorporated into an updated data call for 2023.

Currently within DG MARE, the FDI data is used for, where possible, the calculation of fishing opportunities concerning the exemptions of the landing obligation; the calculation of percentages above and below Minimum Conservation Reference Size; and for ad-hoc requests as the database is a comprehensive overview of EU wide fishing effort – allowing

¹ STECF EWG 18-11, STECF EWG 19-11, STECF EWG 20-10, STECF EWG 21-10 and 21-12, STECF EWG 22-10

² Regulation (EU) 2017/1004

comparison between regions at detailed level (métier, gear) as a result of coherent underpinning methodologies used by the Member States.

The Commission herewith asks the Member States to provide data for 2022 and to resubmit the years 2013-2021, with the requested changes for the EEZ and métier codes, from within their National Data Collection programs³. Resubmission of previous years' data will not be mandatory for Member States that are not affected by the change of those codes. The present data call refers to DCF data aggregation in relation to i) the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 and Regulation (EU) 2017/1004, and ii) for nations party to the FDI-classic data call, the gentlemen's agreement (DG MARE - Member States) on evaluation of the fishing effort regimes (continued from the 'classical' FDI data call last issued in 2017).

Please note that for data submitted for 2022 and years 2013-2020 the EEZ indicator code should include "UK", for data related to fishing activity in UK waters, as described in the FDI data call Annex 1. This was already asked for year 2021 in the 2022 data call. Taking advantage of the major update on new métier codes by the Regional Coordination Groups (NANSEA and Baltic Sea), Member States are requested to use the new métier codes included in the FDI 2023 data call code list, when submitting the 2022 data and the whole time series 2013-2021. The aim for these updates is to reduce the number of data submissions from Member States' administrations. Resubmission of previous years' data will not be mandatory for Member States that are not affected by the change of those codes.

A meeting took place between JRC, DG MARE, ISSG Métiers and Spanish experts (20.12.2022) on the inclusion of specific principal target species in addition to the target species assemblage for large pelagic metiers (tuna fisheries) in the FDI data call. A need was identified for a new métier field that would allow for Member States to include métier level 7 codes and this column was introduced in the FDI data base. The métier code list for the métier level 7 are given in the FDI 2023 data call. This will enable Member States to report tuna fisheries at a higher level of detail and make it possible to compare this information among the Member States.

The data format to be used is described in Annex 1 and data sets should be uploaded on the [DCF data collection website](https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dc/fdi) (<https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dc/fdi>), where uploading guidelines are available.

This data call requests 2022 data together with the 2013-2021 time series with updated EEZ and metier codes to be submitted. Please check the [Data Transmission Monitoring Tool](#) to see issues reported by STECF and any required follow up actions.

The Data Validation tool will open 1st of March 2023 allowing to validate data before submission. The Data Upload tool will open on **1st of June 2023 until the legal deadline**

³ Commission Decision of 18 December 2009 No 2010/93/EU adopting a multiannual Community programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector for the period 2011-2013; Commission implementing Decision C(2013)5243 of 13.8.2013 extending the multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector for the period 2011-2013 to the period 2014-2016; Commission Decision of 12 July 2016 (2016/1251/EU): Adopting a multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the period 2017-2019 (notified under document C(2016) 4329). Commission Delegated Decision (EU) 2019/910 of 13 March 2019 establishing the multiannual Union programme for the collection and management of biological environmental, technical and socioeconomic data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors and Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/909 of 18 February 2019 establishing the list of mandatory surveys and thresholds for the purposes of the multiannual Union programme for the collection and management of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Commission Delegated Decision (EU) 2021/1167 of 27 April 2021 establishing the multiannual Union programme for the collection and management of biological, environmental, technical and socioeconomic data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors from 2022 and Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1168 of 27 April 2021 establishing the list of mandatory research surveys at sea and thresholds as part of the multiannual Union programme for the collection and management of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors from 2022.

on 30th of June 2023. According to data-handling procedure for STECF EWGs, the operational deadline will be set on the **28th of August 2023 12:00 CET.**

As per Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1004, Member States are requested to supply the relevant detailed and aggregated data, in the format specified, within the given deadline. Member States are kindly requested to submit the data no later than **30th of June 2023 12:00 CET.** Member States should follow the agreed procedure for transmission of data (by upload onto the JRC server) and abide to the [data handling procedures for the STECF Expert Working Groups](#) (Ref. Ares(2015)498884)⁴.

This year there will be two EWGs for the FDI, the first one being on data methodology and dissemination. This meeting will allow to continue to harmonise the methodology used among the Member State when submitting the data to FDI data call and to finalise the work done for potentially transferring the Mediterranean and Black Sea biological data to FDI, which is currently missing from the FDI data set.

The first EWG 23-05 will take place in 29th of May – 2nd of June and the second meeting EWG 23-10 will take place 11-15th of September 2023.

For further information and guidance, you may contact the JRC data submission team (JRC-DATASUBMISSION@ec.europa.eu).

We look forward to your contributions,

Fabrizio Donatella

Enclosure: Fisheries Dependent Information data call 2023 - Annex 1

⁴ Visit https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/10213/881778/2015-02-06_Data-handling+procedure+for+EWG.pdf for a copy of the document.