

ANNUAL REPORT

LATVIAN NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR COLLECTION OF FISHERIES DATA 2016

Riga, May 2017

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I. General framework

This is the Technical Report of Latvian National Program for Collection of Fisheries Data 2016. It has been prepared in accordance with to the *Guidelines for the submission of Annual Reports on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU; Version for Annual Reports 2015 (January 2016)*.

The data collection in 2016 was accomplished according to the “Latvian National Program for Collection of Fisheries Data, 2011-2013” (hereinafter – the DCP) which has been developed in accordance with the rules laid down in the:

- *Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 establishing a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy;*
- *Commission Regulation (EC) No 605/2008 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 concerning the establishment of a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy;*
- *Commission Decision (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.*

In 2016 there have been no major methodological changes in approach for data collection in comparison with the previous years.

The list of derogations is provided in standard table I.A.1. It includes derogations which were approved as well as those that were rejected. During the reference year any new derogation was added.

The standard table I.A.2 includes bilateral and multilateral agreements concluded by Latvia and which were in force also in 2016. Latvia has one multilateral agreement for sampling in CECAF area.

II. National data collection organization

II.A National correspondent and participating institutes

The national correspondent of Latvia:

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The collateral contact person:

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The following institution was involved in Latvian DCP.

Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment “BIOR”, Lejupe str. 3, LV-1076, Riga, Latvia: phone: +371 67620526, phone: +371 67620434; fax: +371 67620434, e-mail: bior@bior.lv, website: www.bior.lv or Daugavgrivas str. 8, LV-1048, Riga, Latvia, phone: +371 67612409, phone: +371 67676027 fax: +371 67616946, e-mail: Didzis.Ustups@bior.lv

The information on Latvian National Program for Collection of Fisheries Data can be found on the website of the BIOR: <http://www.bior.gov.lv/lv/left-menu/zivju-resursu-izpete/datu-vaksanas-programma>. There we put the main information on the implementation of data collection programme like results of scientific surveys, main international coordination and assessment groups meetings. The data collected in the frames of the data collection programme are not inserted there as all the biological data are submitted to the regional databases.

The execution of the DCP in 2016 as in previous years was performed by the Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment “BIOR”. The National data collection programme in 2016 was performed and the Annual Report of Latvian National Program for Collection of Fisheries Data 2015 was prepared by the Fish Resources Research Department of “BIOR”.

Like in 2011-2015 DCP in 2016 was executed by one institution. There are two main national coordination meetings in Latvia. The first meeting takes place in the beginning of year and is confined with arrangement of organizational issues for the execution of the national programme:

1) designation of the responsible persons for procurement procedures for the rent of vessels for scientific surveys;

2) designation of the responsible persons for preparation of contracts with fishing firms for on-board sampling in commercial fishery and for self sampling in the coastal fishery;

3) drafting of the list of eligible meetings where the participation of Latvia is important for the implementation of data collection program and designation of persons who will participate in these meetings;

4) setting of dates, responsible persons and deadlines for the preparation of data for the ICES assessment working groups and for the Annual Report of the implementation of DCF in the previous year;

5) designation of the responsible persons and setting of dates for preparation of Latvian Work Plan for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors 2017-2019.

6) submission of Latvian National Program for Collection of Fisheries Data 2017 to Rural Support Service to be run under European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

Agenda of Latvian National Coordination meeting

Meeting Start: 10:00 am Tuesday 4 January 2016

Venue: Fish resources research department of BIOR.

Address: Daugavgrivas 8, Riga, Latvia

1. International research surveys on Polish vessel “Baltica” from National Marine Fisheries Research Institute in Gdynia, Poland.
 - 1.1. At the end of January ends tender about surveys in March and May.
 - 1.2. Documentation preparation for tender about surveys in October and December.
2. International research surveys on Latvian fishing vessel.
 - 2.1. Documentation preparation for tenders in February – March.
 - 2.2. Joint Latvian – Estonian 10 days acoustic herring survey (GRAHS) in Gulf of Riga.
3. Communication with company “Batterfish” about possibility to sign agreement to collect biological information from redfish fishery in NEAFC zone. Responsible person - Aleksandrs Kozlovskis.
4. Signing of agreements with coastal fishermen to collect biological information from commercial fishery.

- 4.1. Samples of herring from pound nets – 3 fishermen. Responsible person – Georgs Kornilovs.
- 4.2. Samples of freshwater species from gillnets – 5 fishermen. Responsible person – Eriks Kruze.
- 4.3. Samples of freshwater species from Salacgriva – 1 fisherman. Responsible person – Mariss Plikss.
- 4.4. Samples of smolts, salmon, eel and other coastal species – 2 fishermen. Responsible person – Janis Birzaks.
5. Submission of Latvian National Program for Collection of Fisheries Data 2016 to Rural Support Service until 31st of January.
6. Designation of the responsible persons and setting of dates for preparation of Latvian Work Plan for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors 2017-2019.
7. Matching permissions to make research surveys in open sea with Environment ministry and Fishery Control agency. Survey leaders send comments to responsible person (Aleksandrs Kozlovskis) until the end of first week of January. During January responsible person arranges the meeting with Environment ministry and Fishery Control agency.
8. All information that will be collected in 2016 must be entered in new Biological database – BIODATA.
9. List of meetings that everyone wants to attend in 2016 must sent to heads of division until 15th of January.
10. Other questions.

The second national coordination meeting is held in the beginning of May and is dedicated to the preparation of the Annual Report. The responsible persons submit the prepared Text and Tables. During the meeting participants check all tables and text. Agenda for this meeting is not needed.

Besides, in 2016 BIOR performed quarterly reporting on progress in implementation of data collection programme to the Ministry of Agriculture and to the Rural Support Service which supervises the financial implementation of DCF.

II.B Regional and International co-ordination

II.B.1 Attendance of International meetings

An overview of the international co-ordination meetings that were attended by Latvia is given in standard table II.B.1. In 2016 Latvia participated in 16 international meetings linked to the data collection programme. The number of attended meetings slightly increased compared to the previous three years. Latvia participated in all meetings relevant for the coordination of data collection, planning of surveys and assessment of stocks for regions where Latvia has important fishing activities. It should be pointed out that in 2016 the list of eligible meetings was not available. The preference was given to data collection coordination meetings (RCMs, PGECON) and ICES assessment working groups (WGBIFS, WGBFAS, WGBAST) and other meetings, which are more important for Latvia in relation to fishing activities and respective data collection. In some cases, Latvia did not attend planned meeting because the most suitable expert for the participation in the respective workshop was not available.

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

The recommendations relevant for the biological, economic and transversal data collection are presented in the Table II.B.2. For the economic data collection in 2016 reference year was 2015 and all LM, RCM, STECF and PGECON recommendations for 2015 were checked. For metier and stock biological data collection all recommendations in the LM, RCM and STECF reports relevant for the implementation of DCF in 2016 were checked.

III. Module of the evaluation of the fishing sector

III.A General description of the fishing sector

In 2016 the Latvian fishery was taking place in the Baltic Sea (53% of landings), in the North Atlantic: NEAFC (ICES IA, IIA) and ICES V, XII, XIV (6% of the total landings) and CECAF (Mauritania 1.32 and Morocco 1.13)) where landings made up to 42% of total Latvian landings. The general overview of Latvian fleet fishing activities by geographical areas is given in standard table III.A.1. In 2016 in CECAF fishing zone operated three fishing vessels and their landings were close to their long-term average. However, in 2014-2016

III.B Economic variables

All Supra - Regions

The format for the economic part of the Annual Report submission is according to the *Guidelines for the submission of Annual Reports on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU; Version for Annual Reports 2015 (January 2016)*.

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

The standard table III.B.1 shows population of vessel segments for collection of economic data. The economic data in 2016 were collected for 2015. The Target population is represented by number of vessels included in the Fleet Register for each fleet segment at the 1st of January 2015. The Target population in the Annual report table III.B.1 differs from Target population in the similar table in the National Program for 2011-2013 due to the updated population of vessels in the Fleet Register. The collected data cover all members of population and Achieved Sample rate is 100%. Type of data collection is A (census).

There were 59 inactive vessels in the segment 0-<10 m using Polyvalent 'passive' gears belonging to fishing firms. Other 376 active and inactive boats in the segment 0-<10 m belonging to self-consumption fishermen have been involved in recreational fishery in 2015. For that type of fishing activity transversal and landings data were collected by coastal logbooks but that vessels category was excluded from economic analysis. The data for capacity and capital value for 59 inactive vessels belonging to commercial fishing firms were collected and provided to the data Call for fleet economic scientific data concerning 2008-2016.

The data for 8 vessels which operated in Atlantic NAFO, NEAFC areas and 2 vessels which operated in CECAF area were obtained from logbooks, questionnaires and Fishing Vessels Register. However to protect confidentiality of the data, Latvia did not submit the data on vessels which operated in Atlantic (segment Pelagic trawlers 40 m or larger). The vessels which operated in Atlantic region also cannot be clustered with the Baltic Sea fleet due to the differences in the fishing activities and areas.

The segment clustering was not applied in 2015 and the table III.B.2 for the clustered fleet segments was not filled.

The data for Capital value and Capital costs are derived from questionnaires. The calculations were not applied. The quality of collected variables is provided in the table III.B.3.

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

The economic data collection strategy is the same for all fleet segments and it is shown in the table III.B.3. The economic variables were received from the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB) by state statistical form/questionnaire “1-Fisheries”. Collected economic information is based on the annual balance sheet. Primary economic information from state statistical form/questionnaire “1-Fisheries” was received annually from owners of fishing firms aggregated by fleet segments. Economic data collection covers all members of the population involved in the commercial activity. Despite of the fact that economic data collection is based on questionnaire form, participation of the responders is obligatory according to the Latvian legislation. All economic data are stored in the CSB database. Type of data collection for Latvian fishing fleet is “Census”. The Achieved sample rate and Response rate for the collected data were 100 %.

The data collection strategy for transversal variables from the Appendix VI were moved to standard table III.F.1 and reported for all fleet segments for 2015 according to the Appendix VIII.

Although according to the guidelines the Capital costs and Capital value should not be included in the table III.B.3 these data were not erased from the table because the data were collected by questionnaires. The data for the Capital value and Capital costs are based on information provided by state statistical form/questionnaire “1-Fisheries” and the estimation has not been applied. All requested quality parameters for the data collected by questionnaires are provided in the Excel table III.B.3. The Capital costs and Capital value for active and inactive vessels were provided in the frame of Call for fleet economic scientific data concerning 2008-2016.

The Imputed value of unpaid labour was calculated based on the data collected by questionnaire form. For the calculation of Imputed value of unpaid labour the data about average salary in the segment and number of unemployed persons were used.

The variable Financial position was calculated, based on the collected data about debts.

FTE national and FTE harmonized were calculated based on the data about total employments and days at sea (Study No FISH/2005/14 Calculation of labour including FTE in fisheries).

The obtained from questionnaires data for price per kg were analysed and the most reliable prices were used for calculations of gross value of landings.

The submitted data for quota or other fishing rights has a zero value due to the absence of fishing rights market in Latvia. The data for direct subsidies also was submitted as zero due to the absence of subsidies in 2015.

III.B.3 Actions to avoid deviations

The data for each economic variable for all fishing fleet were collected for 2015. The data for some segments were not transmitted in the frame of Call for fleet economic scientific data concerning 2008-2016.

The reasons not to transmit the data are:

- The capital costs data and capacity cannot be submitted for seven inactive vessels in the segments 12-18 m and 24-40 m, as well as the data for one inactive vessels in the segment over 40 metres due to the confidentiality of data. In case if in each segment more than 10 vessels will be inactive the data would be submitted.
- The collected data for eight vessels which operated in the North Atlantic (NAFO, NEAFC) areas and two vessels in the Central Atlantic (CECAF area) could not be transmitted due to protection of confidential data. The Latvian National Program 2011-2013 has derogation: "In order to keep the principle of confidentiality for the distant-sea fleet segment >40 m operating in North Atlantic economic data will not be reported, because there are only two fishing vessels," as well as second derogation "For the distant-sea trawlers more than 40 m operating in CECAF area economic data will not be reported for the confidentiality reasons". If more than 10 vessels will operate in each segment in Atlantic the data would be transmitted.
- The data for coastal boats used in recreational fishery. There are no obligations to collect economic data for recreational fishery. The weight of landing for 2015 contributes only 3% of total landing for the coastal segment 0-<10. The required data about catches for salmon, eel and cod were collected and submitted in the frame of Call for fleet economic scientific data concerning 2008-2016.

III.C Metier related variables

Baltic Sea (ICES areas III b-d)

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

Latvia applied a 'Metier Based' sampling strategy. In the Baltic Sea Latvia sampled seven metiers that were selected by the ranking system and belonged to the top 90% of the parameter's cumulative value (Table III.C.1). Information used for ranking the metiers was obtained from open sea and costal logbooks, value of landings for 2014-2015 was calculated from data received from Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB) state statistical questionnaire.

Two metiers which not belong to the top 90% of the parameter's cumulative value displayed in NP have been sampled because they have local importance. The metier (GNS_DEF_>=157_0_0) is targeting turbot, the metier (FYK_FWS_>0_0_0) is targeting eel, salmon, trout and pike-perch, and although both effort and landings are low, it is important for the collection of biological parameters of the above mentioned species. In previous data collecting period (2011-2013) the metier (FYK_FWS_>0_0_0) belonged to the top 90% of the parameter's cumulative value.

Data were collected from all nine selected metiers. Collected material contains data from open sea vessels and coastal area boats (vessels < 10 m). Any of the selected metiers were merged.

Although in Latvia NP data collection of plaice is not planned, information about discards of this species from cod direct trawl and gillnet fishery was collected and is displayed in table III.C.6.

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

In general for the majority of species the achieved length sampling has exceeded the required and planned levels. The excess sampling has taken place due to

continuation of the previous sampling practices where the data series are used for analytical assessment purposes. The second reason for the excess sampling in the coastal fishery was connected with data collection for eel, common whitefish, salmon, pike perch and sea trout to achieve the planned sampling level since the catches of these species in coastal fishery were very low and the number of fishes in a single fishery act was small. Excess sampling has been realized on the national expense of Latvia.

Planned sampling levels for length measurement were not reached for eel and salmon due to very low catches in coastal fishery even although sampling activity was higher than planned (the total catch was only 0.1 t for eel and 4.8 t for salmon).

Planned sampling level for sampled trips were not reached for métier (FPN_SPF_28_0_0) targeting spawning herring in the Gulf of Riga and métier (OTM_SPF_16-31_0_0) targeting sprat in open sea fishery and herring in the Gulf of Riga. For métier (FPN_SPF_28_0_0) sampling level was not reached because of shorter spawning season and hence shorter fishing season. For métier (OTM_SPF_16-31_0_0) sampling level was not reached because in 2016 most of the fishing vessels stopped fishery in summer period.

Planned sampling level for sampled trips were not reached for métier (GNS_DEF_110-156_0_0) targeting cod with gillnets. In recent years the Latvian gillnetter fleet decreased. At the beginning of 2016 four gillnetters participated in fishing. In the second part of year 3 gillnetters were scrapped for economic reasons, the cod catches were too small in this segment. The only one Latvian gillnetter is less than 20 m, and there is no place for observer.

Metier OTB_DEF_105_1_120 is targeting two species cod and flounder; it is divided in two national metiers - OTB_cod and OTB_flounder. Six trips were planned from the cod direct fishery and three trips from flounder direct fishery. All planned trips for this metier except one from cod direct fishery were reached. Information about flounder was mainly collected from the cod direct fishery. It is not easy to predict when ships will switch from cod direct fishery to the flounder direct fishery. Very often there is a situation when the initial goal is cod direct fishery, but in the situation with poor cod catches the final result for the trip is direct flounder fishery.

III.C.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

For 2017 the sampling scheme will be adapted to take into account the changes in fishing activity and to ensure that the planned number of length measurements and trip number are achieved.

III.C Metier related variables

North Atlantic (ICES areas I, II, V-XIV and NAFO areas)

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

There is only one Latvian vessel fishing in the North Atlantic. The ship is targeting redfish with pelagic trawl in the NAFO area. The ship performed two trips in 2016. Information from both trips was collected.

Information used for ranking the metier was obtained from logbooks information, value of landings for 2014-2015 was calculated from data received from Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB) state statistical questionnaire.

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

Achieved length sampling for redfish has exceeded the required and planned levels. Excess sampling has been realised on the national expense of Latvia. The biological data on redfish has been collected from two trips performed in the second half of the year. The contract on sampling redfish fishery was concluded in august since the fisherman informed us that they plan to start the fishery in autumn. However, they performed also fishery in the second quarter in fishing areas XII-XIV about what we were not informed. Therefore biological information on trips in second quarter was not collected.

III.C.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

For 2017 the sampling scheme will be adapted to take into account the changes in fishing activity and times. It planned to sign agreement with fishing company about observing redfish fishery in the very beginning of 2017.

III.C Metier related variables

Other regions (CECAF area Central East Atlantic)

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

Latvia started to collect data from this area in 2010. There were only 3 Latvian vessels fishing in the CECAF area in 2016. All ships belong to one metier which is targeting small pelagic fishes with pelagic trawl. Starting with 2012 the sampling of pelagic fishery is performed on the basis of multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Poland by local observers. The results of this sampling could be found in the Annual Report of the Netherlands. Information used for ranking the metier was obtained from logbooks information, value of landings for 2014-2015 was calculated from data received from Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB) state statistical questionnaire.

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

The sampling of pelagic fisheries was performed by local observers on the basis of multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Poland. The results of this sampling could be found in the Annual Report of the Netherlands.

III.C.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No shortfalls.

III.D Recreational fisheries Baltic Sea (ICES areas III b-d)

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

In Latvia recreational fisheries could be divided in two basic parts:

- 1) Self consumption fishermen which are operating by limited number of static gears used in commercial fisheries – gillnets, fyke-nets and bottom long-lines;

- 2) Angling operating by angling tackle (different kind of rods with hook).

Recreational fishermen fishing with commercial gears are obliged to report the catches in the same way as commercial fishermen filling the log-books. Thus the catch information on self consumption fisheries is exhaustive and it covers both coastal and inner water fisheries.

Anglers are not obliged to report the catches, except for salmon and sea trout in the rivers where angling targeting these species is licensed. The share of angler's catches in fisheries is estimated from inquiries, sold licenses and returned licenses which contained information on catches.

In DCP of 2011- 2013 Latvia obtained derogation for sampling cod recreational fishery due to negligible cod catches (see Table I.A.1). In 2012 Latvia performed sampling of cod catches on the vessel from which the angling of cod was carried out. The observations showed that the catches were negligible that is evidently determined by the present pattern of cod distribution where Latvian waters are outside the main distribution area of cod.

There is no recreational fishery for sharks in the Baltic Sea.

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

Data from self consumption fisheries are exhaustive because fishermen are obliged to report the catches by the same type logbooks as commercial ones. These data cover all seasons, gear allowed and watercourses. Since self consumption fishermen use the same fishing gears as commercial fishermen the biological sampling performed in commercial fishery could be applied to self consumption fishery.

Information on catches of salmon by anglers was obtained from reports on purchased and returned licenses and is also exhaustive because only the licensed angling of salmon was allowed in 2016. However, it could be considered that not all licenses are returned and catches in licensed angling could be slightly underestimated. Information on catches of eel by anglers was obtained from reports on purchased and returned licences and estimated by the inquiry. Since the coverage of salmon and eel landings was planned exhaustive no precision targets were foreseen.

III.D.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

There are no shortfalls to note.

III.D Recreational fisheries

North Atlantic (ICES areas I, II, V-XIV and NAFO areas)

Latvia does not have recreational fisheries in the North Atlantic.

III.D Recreational fisheries

CECAF area

Latvia does not have recreational fisheries in the CECAF area.

III.E Stock related variables

Baltic Sea (ICES areas III b-d)

III.E.1 Achievements: results and deviations from NP

Average landings for each species and stock were calculated from 2013-2015 years reference period.

The achieved levels of age, weight, sex ratio and maturity sampling are presented in standard table III.E.3. For the majority of fish species the planned sampling levels have been reached. The sampling has been performed in three ways: onboard sampling, harbor sampling and self-sampling.

Latvia has planned excess sampling, e.g. herring sampling in trap-net fishery that is used as tuning fleet in the assessment. In many cases sampling has been done for species which have local importance but have relatively small catches therefore the required sampling level would be deficient and the excess sampling has taken place due to continuation of the previous sampling practices because the data series are used for analytical assessment purposes. Excess sampling has been realized on the national expense of Latvia.

In 2014 ICES Benchmark Workshop on Baltic Flatfish Stocks (WKBALFLAT) decided to split flounder stock (SD 22-32) in four separate stocks. Latvian fishermen have landings only in two of them – in SD 24-25 and SD 26+28. The majority of the landings (93.5% on average in the last three years) come from the stock in SD 26+28. Latvia is one of the major fishing countries in flounder fishery for this stock and therefore collects most of the planned data from Subdivisions 26+28.

Latvian landings in SD 24-25 are on average 126 t in the last three years and usually are as by-catch in cod fishery. Latvia is not performing any biological sampling in cod fishery from SD 22-24 and therefore regular flounder data sampling is possible only from SD 25. Flounder biological data (length and sex) collected in SD 25 are included in Table III.C.5.

Latvia does not have any fishery in areas of two other flounder stocks (SD 27+29- 32 and SD 22-23) and does not perform any data collection for those stocks.

III.E.2 Data quality: results and deviations from NP

For such species as European eel and salmon the total number of age, weight, sex ratio and maturity sampling was lower than planned, (respectively 25%, 20%). For these species the planned sampling was not reached due to low catches of these species although sampling activity was higher than planned (the total catch for eel and salmon in 2016 was only 0.1 and 4.8 t respectively). Besides for salmon, sea trout, pike-perch and whitefish sex ratio and maturity sampling is problematical because fishermen prefer to sell these fishes as whole.

Latvia has asked for derogation to collect biological data of whitefish, however the request of Latvia was rejected. Therefore Latvia has performed biological sampling of whitefish. Total catch for whitefish during fishing season of 2016 was 3.1 t.

Biological data collected from commercial fishery in 2016 were uploaded to the Fishframe regional database.

III.E.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

For 2017 the sampling scheme will be adopted to take into account fishing activity and to ensure that the planned number of biological variables is achieved.

III.E Stock related variables

North Atlantic (ICES areas I, II, V-XIV and NAFO areas)

III.E.1 Achievements: results and deviations from NP

Average landings for redfish were calculated from 2013-2015 years reference period.

The sampling of redfish (NEAFC area) fishery was carried out by observers on board of fishing vessel.

Concerning redfish fishery biological sampling, in previous years Latvia has collected only length and sex data and collected otoliths for age determination. Latvia has not collected other biological variables because it is very complicated to organize observer trips in this fishery. Latvia has only one vessel fishing in the North Atlantic targeting redfish. Therefore there are no other options for sampling. The vessel is not entering Latvian ports and the landings are made in ports outside EU (mainly in Iceland). The fishery schedule is unpredictable and landing ports are chosen depending on market conditions. Therefore the only solution to perform sampling was to sign contract with some crew member who was instructed how to make measurements of the fishes and how to extract otoliths. On the other hand information collected on redfish length distribution as well as catch composition and by-catch of other species could be rather valuable as it covers all the performed trips.

III.E.2 Data quality: results and deviations from NP

Information about length related variables are included in table III.E.1.

Latvia has not performed age reading although the otoliths have been collected. Latvia does not have expert in age reading of redfish and Latvia has repeatedly tried to find the possibility to use the collected material delivering age determination to other institute. Latvia has pointed out this problem also during the National correspondent meeting in Brussels on 25th of March 2015. It was stated that only Iceland and Norway perform age reading of redfish however the reliability of age determination is rather low that restricts the use of these data in the assessment. The conclusion of the discussion was that it is redundant to collect data which are not used and that in such cases Member states should ask for derogation.

Biological data collected from redfish fishery in 2016 were uploaded to the Fishframe regional database and submitted to ICES North Western Working Group.

For redfish the total number of age, weight, sex ratio sampling was lower than planned, (respectively 51%). Data on redfish maturity were not collected. Unlike from the 2015 when the vessel made one trip, in 2016 two trips were made.

III.E.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

During the Workshop on National Age Reading Coordinators [WKNARC] (Boulogne-sur-Mer, 2011) it was discussed the possibility to exchange collected age structures of fishes for which national laboratories do not have experienced readers or when it would be unprofitable to prepare an age reader for species for which the number of collected age reading structures is low. It is the case with redfish for Latvia. WKNARC recommended that coordination between MS is established to solve this problem (see explanation in Section III.E.1).

Till now Latvia has not succeeded to find interested ICES working group or institute that would be willing to get the collected redfish otoliths and perform their age reading, although Latvia has informed on this issue several ICES working groups like

WKNARC, WRAMDEEP, AFWG, NWWG. Latvia will continue efforts to find the possibility to perform the age reading of the collected redfish otoliths.

For 2017 the sampling scheme will be adopted ensure that the planned number of biological variables is achieved.

III.E Stock related variables

Other regions (CECAF area Central East Atlantic)

III.E.1 Achievements: results and deviations from NP

Latvia started to collect data from this area in 2010. There is one metier in CECAF area which in 2016 contained 3 vessels which were targeting small pelagic fishes with pelagic trawl. Starting with 2012 the sampling of pelagic fisheries is performed on the basis of multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Poland by local observers.

The sampling results are presented in the Annual report of the Netherlands.

III.E.2 Data quality: results and deviations from NP

The sampling of pelagic fisheries was performed by local observers on the basis of multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Poland.

The sampling results are presented in the Annual report of the Netherlands.

III.E.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Actions to avoid shortfalls are not needed

III.F Transversal variables

The format for the transversal part of the Annual Report submission is according to the *Guidelines for the submission of Annual Reports on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU; Version for Annual report 2015 (January 2016)*.

The transversal data for vessels over 10 metres have been collected under Control Regulation No 1224/2009 and 404/2011. The information about data collection for the small scale fleet below 10 metres is provided in the Table III.F.1.

III.F.1 Capacity

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

All fishing vessels are registered in the Ships Register of the Latvian Maritime Administration (LSR). Latvian fishing vessels are included in the Fishing Vessel Register (FVR) which is part of the Integrated Control and Information System for Latvian Fisheries (ICIS). The FVR contains full information of vessels capacity parameters for all fleet segments and also includes data for inactive vessels.

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

Type of data collection for Latvian fishing fleet is “Census” for each variable listed in Appendix VIII of the DCF (Commission Decision 2010/93/EU).

III.F.1.3. Actions to avoid deviations

Actions to avoid shortfalls are not needed.

III.F.2 Effort

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

The information on fishing effort for 2016 was retrieved from ICIS database. The vessels operating in the coastal zone have obligations to fill a coastal logbooks and this information is also included in the ICIS database. The coastal logbook information covered all fishing vessels in the segment 0-<10 m using Polyvalent 'passive' gears operating in the Baltic Sea. The information on effort data for 2016 is shown in the Table III.F.1.

Calculations of energy consumption for the all fleet segments are based on fuel price data and fuel costs which were obtained from questionnaires.

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

Type of data collection is “Census” for each collected variable listed in Appendix VIII of the DCF (Commission Decision 2010/93/EU).

III.F.2.3. Actions to avoid deviations

Actions to avoid shortfalls are not needed

III.F.3 Landings

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

The landing data collection for small scale fleet in 2016 is shown in the Table III.F.1. The information on landings for 2016 was obtained from coastal logbooks and covered all fishing vessels operating in the Baltic Sea coastal zone.

For the calculation of variable Value of landing the information about prices was collected from sales notes and questionnaires. The delivered price data was analyzed and the most reliable prices used for the calculations.

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

Type of data collection is “Census”. For the information delivered from questionnaires the data response rate and achieved sample rate was 100%.

III.F.3.4. Actions to avoid deviations

Actions to avoid shortfalls are not needed.

III.G Research surveys at sea

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

In 2016 Latvia planned to carry out five Priority 1 research surveys in the Baltic Sea. All surveys have been carried out as planned in NP proposal.

In standard table III.G.1 the performed activities during the surveys are shown. The route of the surveys is shown in Figures 9.1.-9.5. The survey results are submitted to ICES Baltic Fish Survey Working Group where are combined with the same surveys performed by other countries. The obtained results are used for the tuning of assessments of cod, herring and sprat stocks in the Baltic Sea. The performed surveys are as follows:

1) Baltic International Trawl Survey in the first quarter (BITS Q1). The survey was conducted on 03-11 March on the rented research vessel “Baltica” from National Marine Fisheries Research Institute in Gdynia, Poland. The primary purpose of the survey is to produce abundance estimates and indices of recruitment for cod in the Eastern Baltic (Sub-divisions 25-32) that are necessary for tuning VPA and prediction of the recruitment. The survey is conducted in collaboration with national institutes from Denmark, Germany, Poland, Lithuania and Sweden within the framework of ICES. During the survey the hauls are performed according to the positions determined by the coordinator of the survey (ICES WGBIFS). If the survey time allowed the additional hauls were performed. The length, weight, sex and maturity stage of cod is determined on board of the vessel. The age determination is performed in national laboratory. Additionally the information about other main species – flounder, turbot, herring and sprat were collected. During the survey also the basic hydrological parameters (temperature, salinity, oxygen content) were measured. Collection of the data from the echo-integration conducted during the haul time and between hauls locations was performed. The survey is suitable for the calculation of the ecosystem indicators 1 to 4 listed in the appendix XIII. The tasks of the survey were performed entirely. Five additional hauls were made in Lithuanian EEZ.

2) Baltic International Trawl Survey in the fourth quarter (BITS Q4). The survey was conducted on 03-12 December on the rented research vessel “Baltica”. The primary purpose of the survey is to produce abundance estimates and indices of recruitment for cod in the Eastern Baltic (Sub-divisions 25-32) that are necessary for tuning VPA and prediction of the recruitment. The survey is conducted in collaboration with national institutes from Denmark, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Estonia and Sweden within the framework of ICES. During the survey the hauls are performed according to the positions determined by the coordinator of the survey (ICES WGBIFS). The length, weight, sex and maturity stage of cod is determined on board of the vessel. The age determination is performed in national laboratory. Additionally the information about other main species – flounder, turbot, herring and sprat were collected. During the survey also the basic hydrological parameters (temperature, salinity, oxygen content) were measured. Collection of the data from the echo-integration conducted during the haul time and between hauls locations was performed. The survey is suitable for the calculation of the ecosystem indicators 1 to 4 listed in the appendix XIII. The number of hauls performed during the survey was lower than planned due to the very bad weather conditions, 5 working days during the survey were lost.

The primary data from both BITS are stored in the BIODATA database, as well as in ICES DATRAS database.

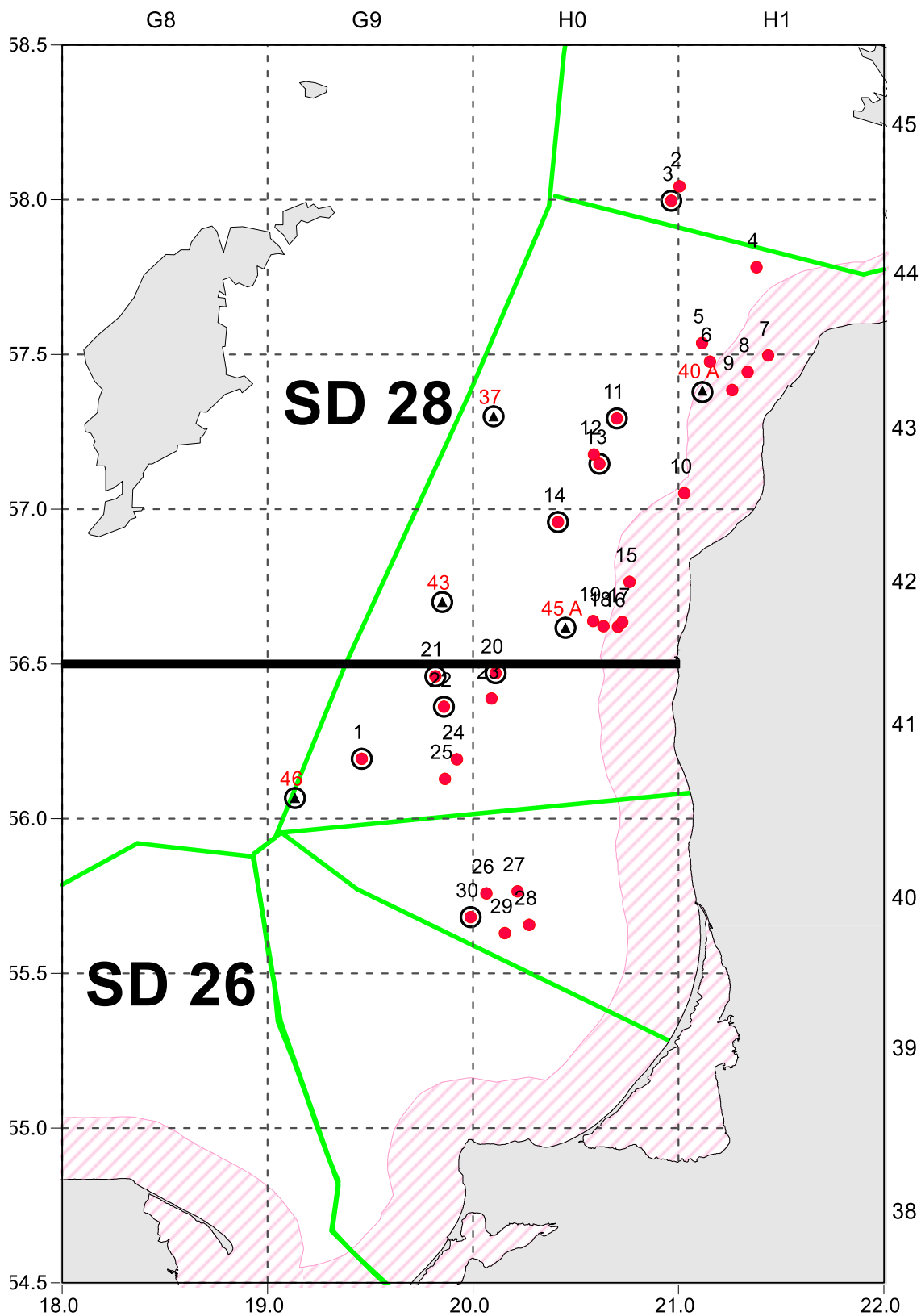


Figure 9.1. Trawling positions in the BITS first quarter survey in March 2016

(● trawling positions; ▲ hydrological stations; ○ ichthyoplankton stations; — border between sub-divisions; — border of fishing zones; territorial waters).

3) Baltic International Acoustic Survey in autumn (BIAS). The survey was performed on 11-20 October on the rented research vessel “Baltica”. The survey was carried out in Sub-divisions 26 and 28 including territorial waters of Latvian EEZ. The main aims of the survey are to obtain abundance estimates of herring and sprat which are used for tuning VPA for the assessment of herring in Sub-divisions 25-29, +32 and of sprat in Sub-divisions 22-32 of the Baltic Sea. The survey is conducted in collaboration with national institutes from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Poland, Russia and Sweden within the framework of ICES. From each trawl the length, weight, sex and maturity of herring and sprat are determined and otoliths for age determination are taken. During the survey also the basic hydrological parameters (temperature, salinity, oxygen content) were measured. Collected data are stored in ICES database BAD1, as well as in the national database BIODATA. The survey is suitable for the calculation of the ecosystem indicators 1 to 4 listed in the appendix XIII. The tasks of the survey concerning the route of the survey were performed entirely, but the number of hauls performed during survey was lower than planned due to bad weather conditions in the middle part of survey.

4) Gulf of Riga acoustic herring survey (GRAHS). The survey was performed on 26 July - 4 August on the rented commercial fisheries vessel “Ulrika” in the Gulf of Riga (Sub-division 28.1). The main aim of the survey is to obtain abundance estimates of herring in the Gulf of Riga which are used for tuning VPA for the assessment of the Gulf of Riga herring (separate assessment unit). The survey is conducted in collaboration with Estonian Marine Institute within the framework of ICES. From each trawl the length, weight, sex and maturity of herring and otoliths for age determination are taken. During the survey also the basic hydrological parameters (temperature, salinity, oxygen content) were measured. Collected data are stored in the national database BIODATA. The survey is suitable for the calculation of the ecosystem indicators 1 to 3 listed in the appendix XIII. The tasks of the survey concerning the route of the survey and the number of hauls were performed entirely.

5) Sprat acoustic survey (SPRAS) or Baltic acoustic spring survey (BASS). The survey was performed on 12-21 of May on the rented research vessel “Baltica”. The survey was carried out in Sub-divisions 26 and 28 including territorial waters of Latvian EEZ, Estonian EEZ and eastern part of Swedish EEZ. The survey was performed in collaboration with Polish National Marine Fisheries Research Institute. The main aims of the survey are to obtain to achieve abundance estimates of sprat which are used for tuning VPA of sprat in Sub-divisions 22-32 of the Baltic Sea. The survey is conducted in collaboration with national institutes from Germany, Russia, Estonia and Lithuania within the framework of ICES. From each trawl the length, weight, sex and maturity of herring and sprat are determined and otoliths for age determination are taken. During the survey also the basic hydrological parameters (temperature, salinity, oxygen content) were measured. Collected data are stored in ICES databases BAD1, as well as in the local database BIODATA. The survey is suitable for the calculation of the ecosystem indicators 1 to 4 listed in the appendix XIII. The tasks of the survey were performed entirely.

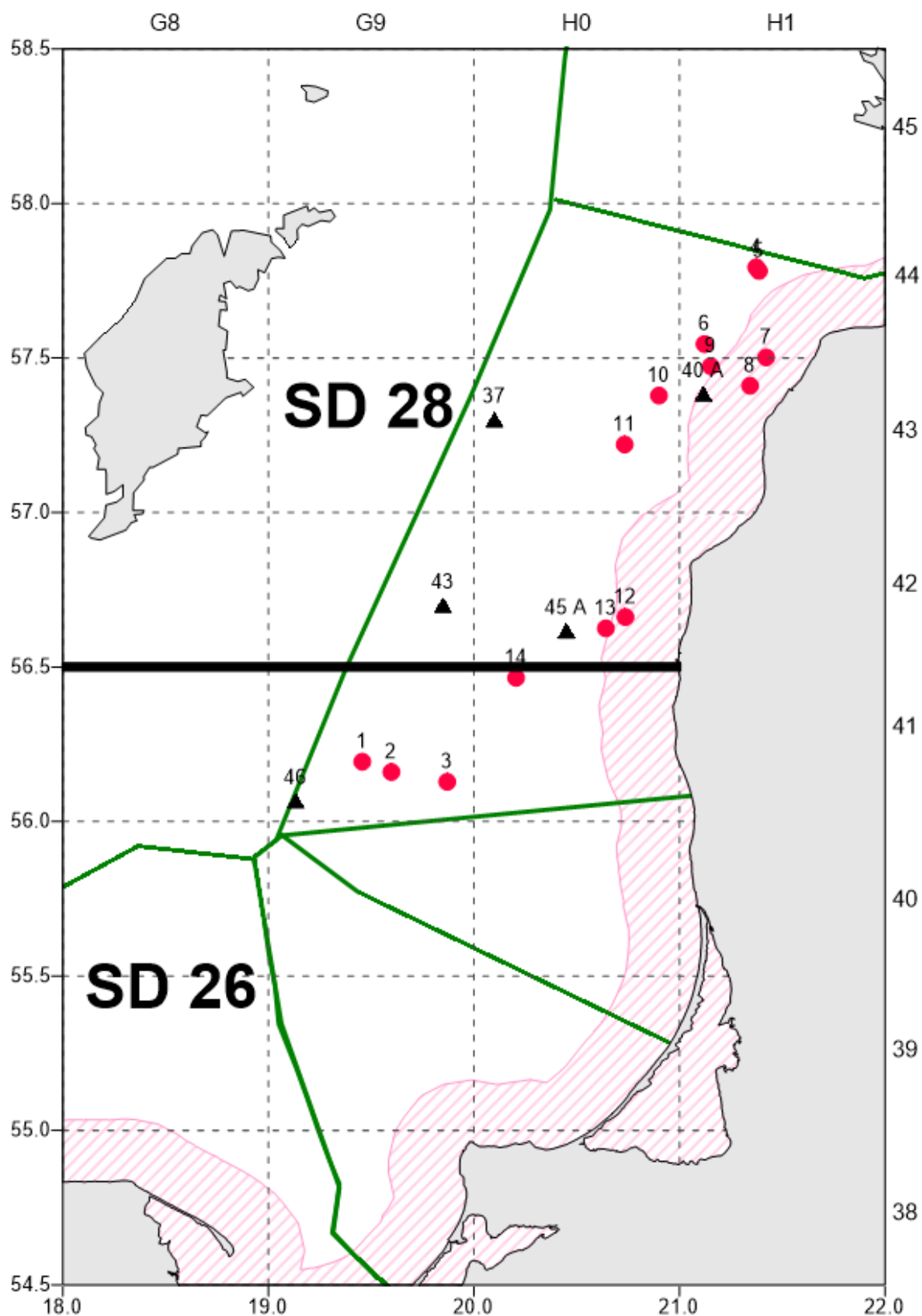


Figure 9.2. Trawling positions in the BITS fourth quarter survey in December 2016

(● trawling positions; ▲ hydrological stations; — border between sub-divisions; — border of fishing zones; ▨ territorial waters).

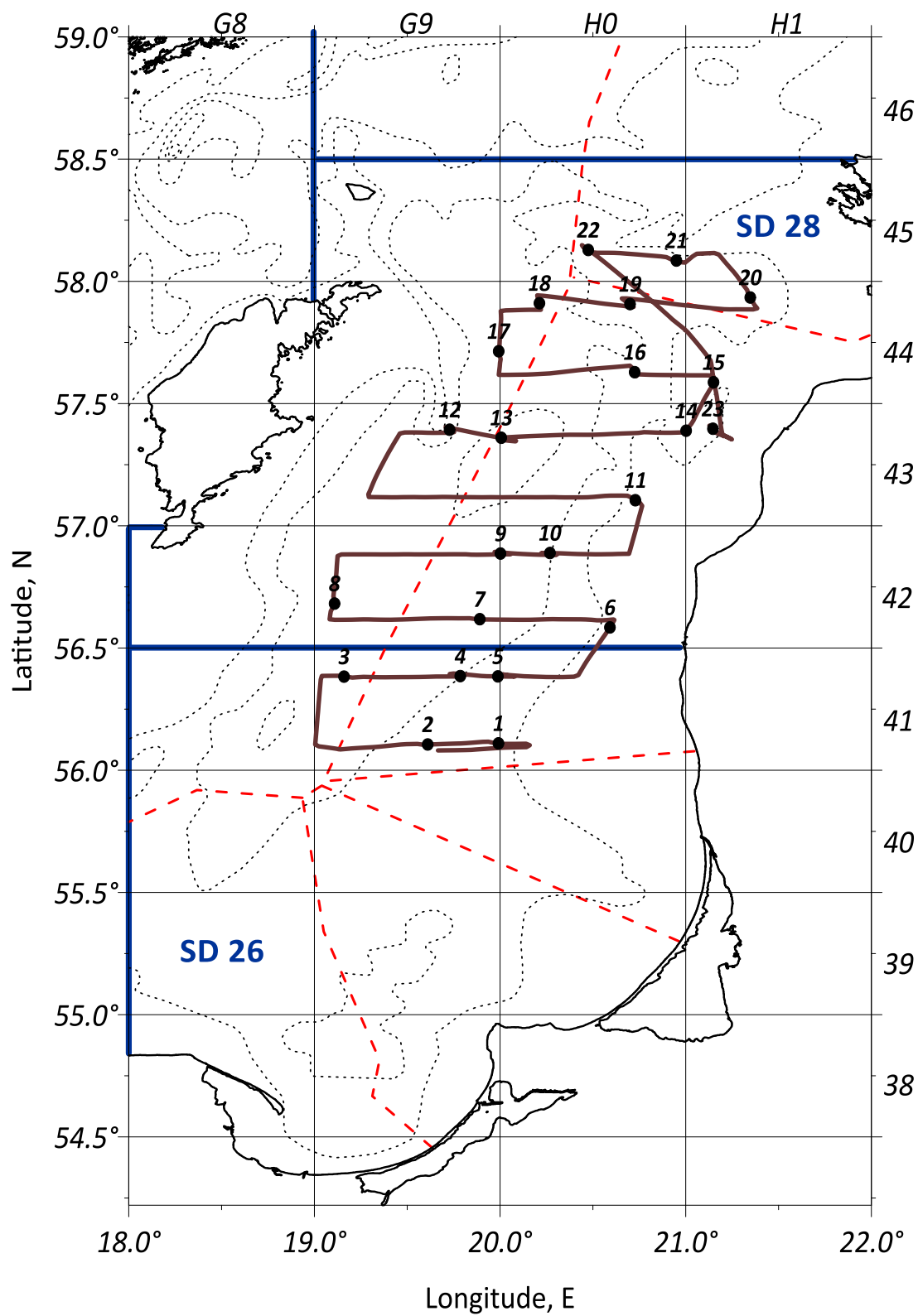


Figure 9.3. Cruise track design and haul positions of the joint Latvian-Polish Baltic International Acoustic Survey (BIAS), October 2016 (Baltic Sea, ICES Sub-divisions 26 and 28.2, r/v "Baltica").

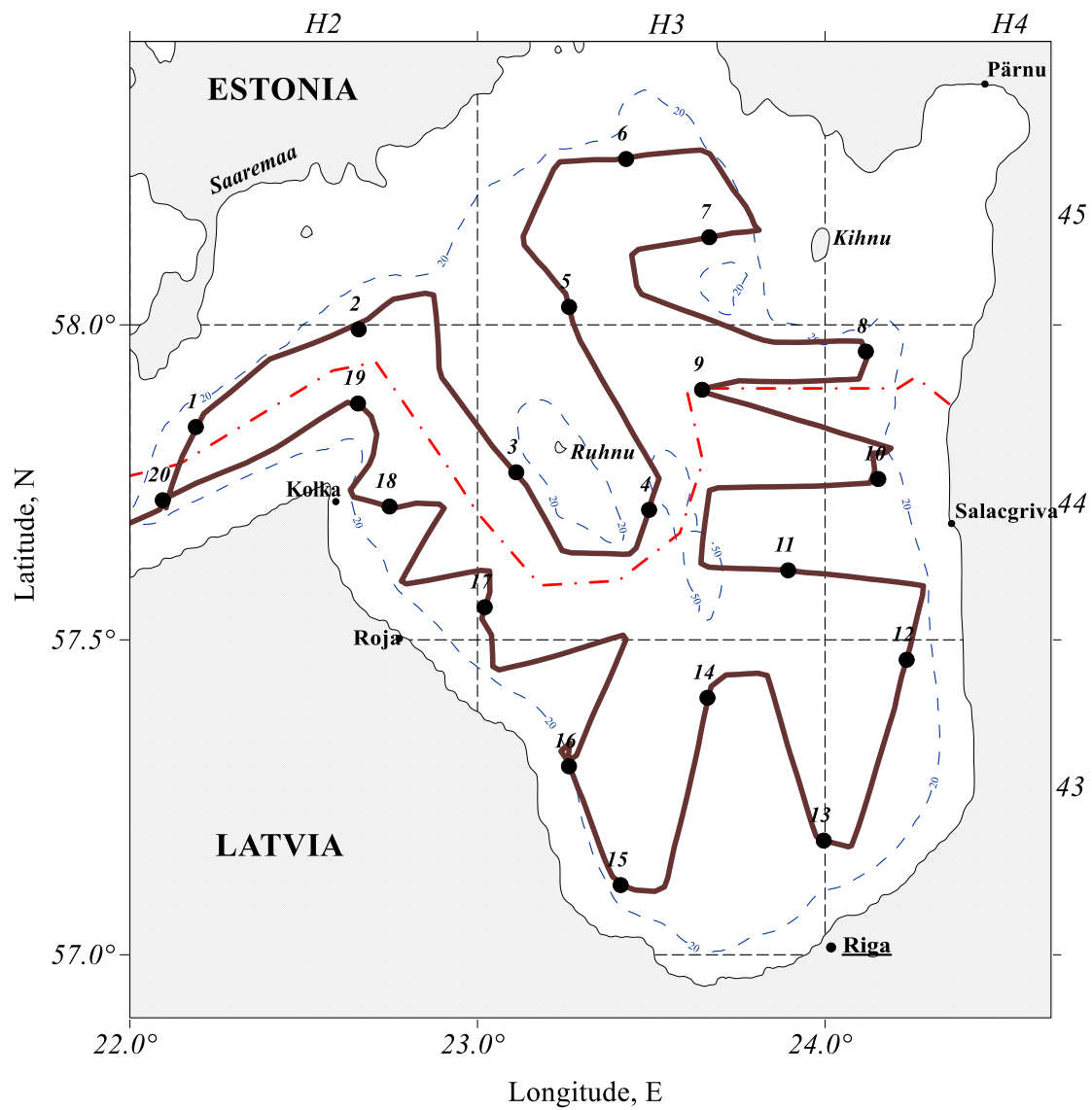


Figure 9.4. Cruise track design and hauls of joint Latvian-Estonian GRAHS, July-August 2016 (Gulf of Riga, ICES Sub-division 28.1, f/v "Ulrika").

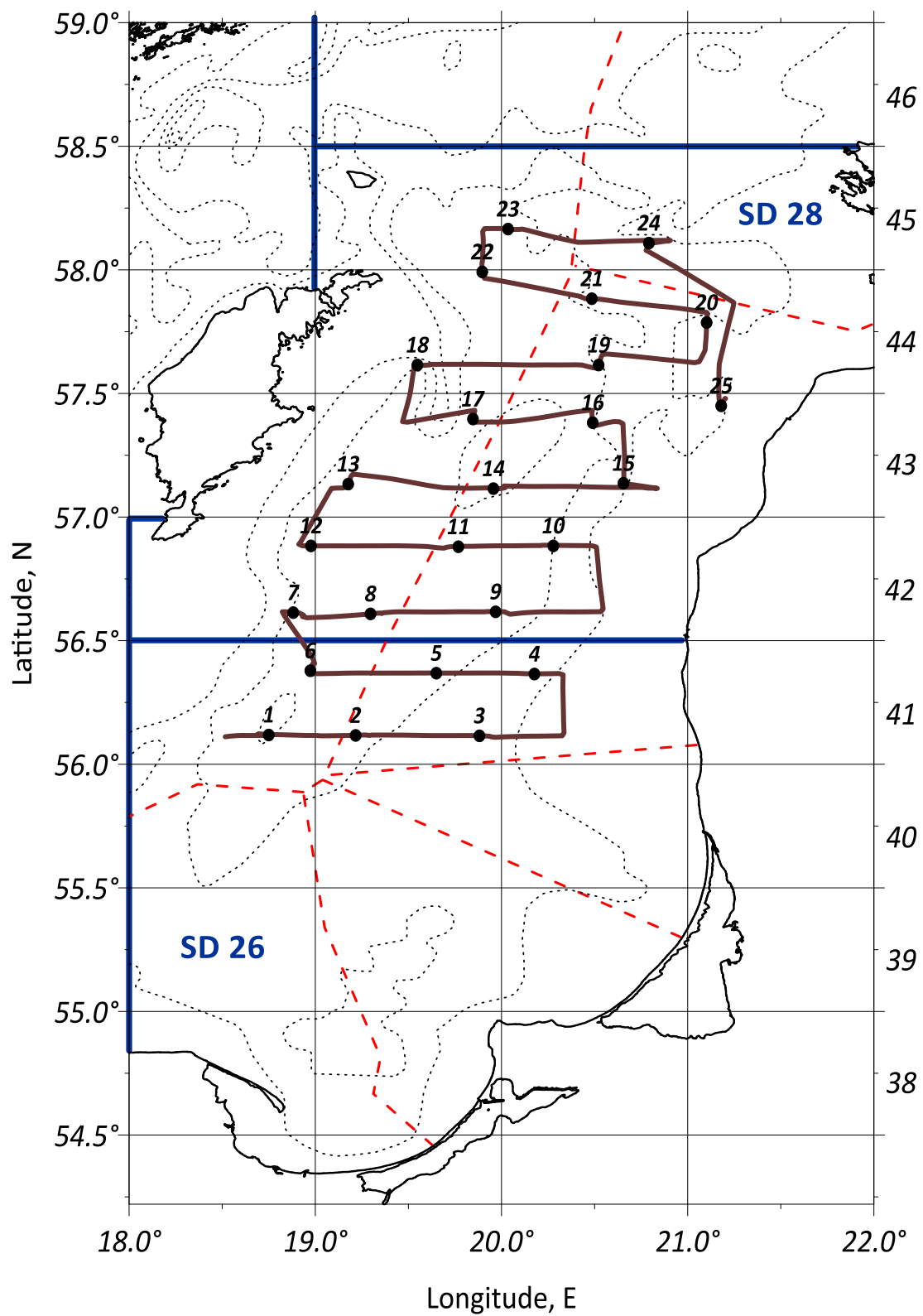


Figure 9.5. Cruise track design and haul positions of the joint Latvian-Polish Baltic acoustic spring survey (BASS), May 2016 (Baltic Sea, ICES Sub-divisions 26 and 28.2, r/v "Baltica").

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

Baltic International Trawl Survey in the fourth quarter (BITS Q4). Due to bad weather conditions the number of performed fish hauls was lower than planned. The 14 hauls were made from the planned 25.

In the Baltic International Acoustic Survey in autumn (BIAS) the number of performed hauls was somewhat lower than planned due to bad weather conditions.

The survey results were submitted to ICES Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group (WGBIFS) where they were combined with data of other countries performing the same surveys. According to opinion of WGBIFS the Latvian survey data were suitable for the assessment of fish stocks in the Baltic Sea.

III.G.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

It was decided to increase the duration of BITS survey in December by one day taking into account the frequent stormy weather in that period of the year.

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

The format for the economic part of the Annual Report submission is represented according to the *Guidelines for the submission of Annual Reports on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU; Version for Annual Report 2015 (January 2016)*.

IV.A Collection of data concerning the aquaculture

The general overview of aquaculture activities is shown in standard Table IV.A.1. In Latvia only freshwater aquaculture is carried out. There is only one state hatchery which performs rearing of salmon and sea trout smolts. All information on this enterprise is public and available in the internet.

The Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB) carries out general reporting on aquaculture sector by collection of some basic data as production by species in tonnes and value, total area of fish ponds, volume of rearing tanks and number of employment. CSB gathers official account reports from enterprises according to the EUROSTAT definition under NACE Code 05.02: "Fish Farming". The value and volume of freshwater aquaculture production annually is provided to the EUROSTAT in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 762/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on the submission by Member States of statistics on aquaculture and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 788/96.

The Commission Decision 2010/93/EU (*Appendix X* List of economic variables for the aquaculture sector) defines that collection of data for fresh water species is not mandatory. There is a derogation in Latvian National Programme 2011-2013: "Latvia will not present economic data in aquaculture sector because aquaculture enterprises in Latvia perform farming of fresh water fish species for which the collection of data is not mandatory according to Commission Regulation 2008/949/EC (IV.A.2(2))".

IV.B Collection of data concerning the processing industry

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

The economic data in 2016 were collected for 2015. The company segmentation was applied according to the Appendix XII of the Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

The economic variables for processing industry are based on the information provided by Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB). All information was provided according to statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE Code Rev. 2). CSB collects economic data based on the state questionnaire forms and administrative sources (such as State Revenue Service database). Questionnaire forms are distributed by CSB to the owners of processing enterprises. The participation of the responders is obligatory according to the Latvian national legislation.

The number of enterprises and planned sampling is shown in the standard table IV.B.1. The questionnaires were sent to all economically active enterprises in 2015. For the segment companies > 250 employments the Achieved sample rate was 100%. For the segments companies 11-49 and companies 50-249 employments Achieved sample rate was around 83% and 93% respectively. The data for the segment companies ≤10 employments was derived from Latvian Revenue Service database. The energy costs data for companies ≤10 employments were received from survey. The response rate was 50%, coverage rate 23%, achieved sampling rate 9% and calculated coefficient of variation 63%.

The lists of economic variables from Appendix XII received from different data sources for all segments are presented in standard table IV.B.2. The same data is submitted annually to EUROSTAT database as SBS data.

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

The questionnaire forms were sent to all members of the population in 2015 and all variables from Appendix XII were collected. The description of sampling strategy and values of accuracy indicators for fish processing industry are shown in table IV.B.2. In cases when the data were delivered from administrative data sources Type of data collection is A (census), Achieved sample rate and Response rate are 100%. The data for segments companies 11-49 and companies' 50-249 employments are collected by questionnaires and Type of data collection is B (Probability sample survey). For the segment companies > 250 employments data were collected from all members of the population and Type of data collection is A (census).

IV.B.3. Actions to avoid deviations

The data for each economic variable for all company segments were received. Actions to avoid shortfalls are not needed.

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

V.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

According to the *Guidance for the submission of Annual Reports on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU Version for Annual Reports 2015(January 2016)* the information collected to measure the effects of fisheries on the marine ecosystem is shown in standard table V.1.

The indicators 1 - 4 require biological data on fish species from fishery independent research surveys. These data have been collected through the surveys carried out by research vessels in the Baltic Sea. Baltic International Trawl Survey was performed in I and IV quarters in cooperation with other MS. Full list of surveys is shown in the Table III.G.1. Individual biological data were recorded for the majority of fish species.

The indicators 5 - 7 require the access to VMS data which are available on temporal resolution one record every 2 hours. Spatial resolution could be obtained in dependence from requested conditions. For research purposes, as well as if it will be requested, these data could be aggregated at métier level 6 and be used for calculation of environmental indicators 5 - 7.

The indicator 8 “Discarding rates of commercially exploiting species” could not be calculated because the landing obligation rules (with fixing of minimum conservation reference size for cod at 35 cm) were implemented from 1 January 2015 according to *Commission delegated Regulation (EU) No 1396/2014*. The potential or theoretical discard could be quantitatively determined on the base of observer data.

The indicator 9 “Fuel efficiency of fish capture” could be estimated for each vessel segment based on the level 6 for the métier classification by region, quarter and year taking into account proportionality with the quarterly effort by métier. Direct estimation of Fuel consumption by métier is impossible as the aggregated economic data (generated by CSB of Latvia) are summarized by fleet segment.

V.2 Actions to avoid deviations

Actions to avoid deviations are not needed.

VI. Module for management and use of the data

VI.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

The biological, economic and transversal data for Latvian Fisheries collected during the 2016 year were transmitted to ICES and EU Commission scientific structures in accordance with the required procedure. Information on the data transmitted in 2016 is shown in standard table VI.1.

VI.1.1 Management of data

There were no cases of data non-transmission and deviations from NP proposal.

In 2016 as in previous years information about capacity, landings and efforts was taken from Integrated and Control Information System of Latvian fishery (ICIS). This information system covers all fleet segments in open Baltic Sea, Gulf of Riga and coastal area. ICIS information system is linked with Latvian ship register and actual information is available with one-day delay. Information about open sea fishery is available with few hours delay from Electronic Logbooks system (ERS) which is under observation of Fishery Control agency. The introduction of coastal logbooks is handled by BIOR personal. Catch and landings statistics are always checked for mistakes and inaccuracy. Coastal logbooks also cover part of recreational fishermen who are using commercial fishing gears in fishery (fish nets and hooks). They all are licensed and are obliged to fill monthly coastal logbooks. ICIS system is hosted by Agriculture ministry and all safety, backup and maintenance procedures occur on regular basis.

All biological information which was collected in 2016 was entered to Latvian biological data base - BIODATA. This information was used to answer to data calls from

JRC, ICES and other end users. During 2016 BIODATA information system was improved to be more flexible and user friendly. Data from BIODATA are available for registered users – biologists, fisheries specialists and administrative staff. To provide safety of the data backup operation was made on one-day basis.

The economic variables for processing industry were provided by Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB). All information was provided according to statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE Code Rev. 2). CSB collect economic data based on the state questionnaire forms (1-Fishery and 1-Aquaculture) and administrative sources (such as State Revenue Service database). Questionnaire forms are distributed by CSB to the owners of processing enterprises. The participation of the responders is obligatory according to the Latvian national legislation. All information is stored in CSB database.

Sales notes and VMS information was requested from Fishery Control agency and used to response of end-user request. This information is sensitive and it is available only in one year and can be used only for research. All safety, backup and maintenance procedures are made by Fishery Control agency.

VI.1.2 Data transmission

There were no deviations from NP proposal and issues in data provision to end-users.

VII List of acronyms and abbreviations

BIAS	Baltic International Acoustic Survey
BIODATA	Biological Data System for Latvian Fisheries
BITS	Baltic International Trawl Survey
CECAF	Central East Atlantic Fisheries Organization
CSB	Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia
DATRAS	ICES Database on Trawl Surveys
DCP	Data Collection Program
DCF	Data Collection Framework
EC	European Commission
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FISHFRAME	Commercial Fish Sampling Database
FTE	Full-time equivalent
FVR	Fishing Vessel Register
GRAHS	Gulf of Riga Acoustic herring Survey
GT	Gross tonnage
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICIS	Integrated Control and Information System for Latvian Fisheries
KW	Kilowatts
LOA	Length over all
LSR	Latvian Ships Register of the Latvian Maritime Administration
MS	Member state
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
NEAFC	North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
RCM	Regional coordination meeting
SD	Sub-division
SBS	Structural Business Statistic
SGRN	Subgroup on Research Needs

SPRAS	Sprat Acoustic Survey
STECF	Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
VAT	Value added tax
VMS	Vessel monitoring system
VPA	Virtual population analysis
WGBAST	Baltic Salmon and Sea Trout Working Group
WGBFAS	Baltic Fisheries Assessment Working Group
WGBIFS	Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group

VIII Comments, suggestions and reflections

Latvia considers that the proposed indication of the landing values (<200 t) in Table III.E.1 could be quite misleading for several species which have much lower landing values but for which Latvia collects the biological data. Thus such species as salmon, sea trout, eel, common whitefish and turbot has annual landings below 10 t and some species even around 1 t. Latvia proposes to present the actual landing figure.

IX References

DG MARE. Report of the 11th Liaison Meeting. Meeting between the Chairs of the RCMs, the ICES PGCCDBS, PGMED and PGECON, the STECF EWGs on the DCF, the Regional Database Steering Committees, the ICES and GFCM representatives and the European Commission. 8-9 October 2014, Brussels, Belgium.

DG MARE. Report of the 12th Liaison Meeting. Meeting between the Chairs of the RCMs, the ICES PGDATA, PGMED and PGECON, the STECF EWGs on the DCF, the Regional Database Steering Committees, the ICES and GFCM representatives and the European Commission. 8-9 October 2015, Brussels, Belgium.

RCM LDF. Report of the Regional Co-ordination Meeting for the Long Distance Fisheries 2015. 21 - 22 April 2015, Thünen Institute [TI]), Hamburg, Germany and 9 – 12 June 2015, Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO), Centro Oceanográfico de Cádiz Cádiz, Spain.

RCM BALTIC. Report of the Regional Co-ordination Meeting for the Baltic Sea region (RCM Baltic) 2015. 24 – 28 August, 2015, Fish Resources Research Department of Institute BIOR, RIGA, LATVIA

PGECON. 3rd Planning Group on Economic Issues. 31 March – 4 April 2014, Thünen-Institute of Sea Fisheries at the Center for Technology and Society, Technical University of Berlin.

PGECON. 4th Planning Group on Economic Issues. 18 – 22 May 2015, Thünen-Institute of Sea Fisheries at the Center for Technology and Society, Technical University of Berlin.

EWG 14-18 Review of DCF National programme amendments for 2015 & development of the revised DCF Multiannual Programme. 25 – 28 November 2014, Brussels, Belgium.

Annex 1 Multilateral agreement

Multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters

Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland agree to co-operate in the biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters in 2012 and 2013. This agreement is in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation 199/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

Having regard the above mentioned Regulations and Decisions and the project description "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF water in compliance with the DCF" as discussed at the Regional Coordination Meeting for Long Distance Fisheries in Slovenia, May 2011, the following details apply to this agreement:

Partners

The following institutes are considered as partner within this agreement:

Member State	Institute	Contact person
Germany	Johann Heinrich von Thunen Institute (vTI)	C. Stransky
Latvia	Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and environment	G. Kornilovs
Lithuania	The Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania	V. Grusauskas
The Netherlands	Centre for Fisheries Research (CVO)	F.A. van Beek
Poland	Sea Fisheries Institute	I. Wojcik

Coordination

The Netherlands coordinate the execution of this multi-lateral agreement. The Netherlands will contract independent contractor 'Corten Marine Research' (CMR) as agent between The Netherlands and IMROP, the Mauritanian Fisheries Research institute. CMR will hire Mauritanian observers from IMROP to carry out the actual sampling. CMR and IMROP will have an agreement in which the mutual obligations will be formalized; among others that only the additional costs for this specific task will be priced.

Sampling protocol

Biological sampling is carried on board fishing vessels in CECAF area by Mauritanian observers. These observers are instructed by CMR and follow the sampling protocol as described in "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters in compliance with the DCF", version 31-05-2011.

Data responsibility

CMR is responsible for data collection, quality control and delivery to the CECAF pelagic working group of all data collected under this agreement. CMR also reports all data to CVO and CVO will distribute the data to Partners.

Costs

The total costs for the sampling programme amount € 64,768,= per year. This sampling programme is eligible for 50% funding under the current DCF. The Netherlands will include the total costs in its Annual Cost Statement. The remaining 50% of the costs (€ 32,384,=) is paid for by all partners following a key based on average catches in 2006-2010.

Contributor	Share catches (2006-2010)	Contribution	Amount (€/year)
Netherlands	30,53%	30,53% of 32,384	9,887
Germany	3,76%	3,76% of 32,384	1,224
Poland	6,07%	6,07% of 32,384	1,966
Lithuania	32,67%	32,67% of 32,384	10,579
Latvia*	26,95%	26,95% of 32,384	8,728
Subtotal partners			32,384
EU (through DCF)	-	50% of 64,768	32,384
Total contribution			64,768

The Netherlands sends each Partner an invoice per year, to which normal financial conditions apply.

Access to vessels

On top of Council Regulation 199/2008 (Section 2, Article 11), each Partner ensures access to its fleet for Mauritanian observers under this agreement. Denied access to vessels does not exempt a Partner from legal or financial obligations.

Term

This agreement commences on January 1, 2012. With exception of financial obligations, this agreement ends on December 31, 2013. This agreement, with exception of financial obligations, is subject to dissolve prior to this date in case the pelagic fishery in the CECAF area by EU vessels closes. Eventual remaining contributions will be pro rata reimbursed to Partners.

AMENDMENT TO:

Multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECF waters

April 2015

This Amendment adapts the Amendment dated December 2014 to extend the effective time-frame for this multi-lateral agreement and to reflect budget modifications for 2016. This amendment commences 1st of January 2016.

The Multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECF waters, as signed by all Member States concerned in June 2011, and amended in December 2014, is amended as follows from 1st January 2016 onwards:

Term:

The multi-lateral agreement is extended until 31 December 2016.

Costs:

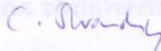
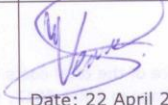
The cost share of the total costs for 2016 for each Member State follows a key based on the share in average landings in 2008-2012, as previously agreed. Following EMFF co-funding rules, co-funding of the national expenses shall be covered through the National EMFF budget of each respective Member State.

Cost shares are maximum amounts, in case of lower costs, deductions might apply in line with the relative shares.

Total Landings 2008-2012 (RCM LDF Data) and cost shares by partners

Partner	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	average 2008- 2012	Landings share	Cost share per year
Germany	0	0	20,650	37,088	14,582	14,464	4.96%	€ 3,358
Latvia	68,410	81,283	87,237	89,667	30,723	71,464	24.51%	€ 16,593
Lithuania	120,100	124,480	116,040	121,000	44,133	105,151	36.06%	€ 24,413
Netherlands	83,630	68,019	92,980	55,044	34,926	66,920	22.95%	€ 15,537
Poland	17,709	46,287	14,605	60,177	29,178	33,591	11.52%	€ 7,799
TOTAL	289,849	320,069	331,512	362,976	153,542	291,590	100.00%	€ 67,700

Signatures for agreement

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	 Date: 22 April 2015
Latvia	Aivars Berzins	Director, Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment BIOR	 Date: _____
Lithuania	Indre Sidlauskienė	Director, Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania	Date:  14 May 2015
The Netherlands	Sieto Verver	Head Centre for Fisheries Research	 Date: 22 April 2015
Poland	Ireneusz Wójcik	Head of Department of Logistics & Monitoring	 Date: 22 April 2015

Category	Sub-category	Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Tax	Net Price	Gross Price
Electronics	Laptops	HP Laptop	10	1200	12000	1200	10800	12000
		Dell Laptop	5	800	4000	400	3600	4000
		Lenovo Laptop	3	600	1800	180	1620	1800
		ASUS Laptop	2	400	800	80	720	800
Furniture	Chairs	Office Chair	20	50	1000	100	900	1000
		Bar Stool	10	30	300	30	270	300
		Bar Stool	5	20	100	10	90	100
		Bar Stool	3	10	30	3	27	30
Supplies	Paper	Copy Paper	100	10	1000	100	900	1000
		Printer Paper	50	20	1000	100	900	1000
		Printer Paper	25	40	1000	100	900	1000
		Printer Paper	15	60	900	90	810	900
Services	IT Support	IT Support	10	100	1000	100	900	1000
		IT Support	5	50	250	25	225	250
		IT Support	3	30	90	9	81	90
		IT Support	2	20	40	4	36	40
Total	Grand Total							

Amendment to multi-lateral agreement CECAF waters 2016, version April 2015

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