

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania
Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of
Lithuania
Agricultural Information and Rural Business Centre

Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 of 25 February 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 Regulation (EC) No 665/2008 of 14 July 2008

laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1251 of 12 July 2016 adopting a multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the period 2017-2019

Lithuanian Work Plan for data collection in
the fisheries and aquaculture sectors

2017-2019

Version 1 – 2017

Vilnius,

2016

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SECTION 1: BIOLOGICAL DATA

Pilot Study 1: Relative share of catches of recreational fisheries compared to commercial fisheries

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 4 of Chapter V of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2 and Article 4 paragraph (3) point (a) of this Decision.

Pilot study is not foreseen for 2017-2019

SECTION 1: BIOLOGICAL DATA

Text Box 1E: Anadromous and catadromous species data collection in fresh water

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 2 points (b) and (c) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2 of this Decision.

Method selected for collecting data.

From 10 to 20 trips are planned to perform during the spring (January 1 – May 15) and 15-20 trips during the autumn (August 15 – October 15) for sampling in 10 rivers that are indicated in the Table 1E.

During the trips interviewing of amateur fishermen using face to face questionnaires (ICES WGFRS recommendation) method will be performed, biological parameters such as total length and weight will be registered. Collection of scales and otoliths for age determination are also foreseen.

Eel

Recreationally fishery

Using the questionnaires strategy more than 1000 fishermen will be interviewed in Inland waters for estimating of recreationally fishery. Eels fishing season continues from April to October and in order to this the interviews will be carried out after the eel fishing season (from October to March).

During the trips interviewing biological parameters as length, weight, fishing place, catch and percentage of released catch will be registered (Table 1 D).

Commercial fishery.

A minimum of 100 individuals shall be analysed per management unit as specified in Regulation (EC) No 1100/2007 for yellow and silver eels separately. Samples for biological analysis (100 units in Inland and 100 units in Curonian Lagoon) will be obtained on shore (Table 1C, 1F, 5A).

In Inland 3 monitoring places (3 river trap nets) will be used to estimated eel migratory intensity, CPUE, biological data. Data indicated in Tables 1B, 1C, 1F, 4A, 4B will be collected. 9 trip days per season (April – May) is planned to visit monitoring places (Table 4A).

In Curonian Lagoon 3 monitoring places (about 15 fykenets) will be used to estimated eel density , CPUE, biological data. Data indicated in Tables 1B, 1C, 1F, 4A, 4B will be collected. 12 trip days per season (May-October) is planned to visit monitoring places (Table 4A).

SECTION 1: BIOLOGICAL DATA

Pilot Study 2: Level of fishing and impact of fisheries on biological resources and marine ecosystem

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 3 point (c) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2 and Article 4 paragraph (3) point (b) of this Decision.

In order to achieve the objectives set out in paragraph 3 point (c) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme, there is a need to get information on end user needs, as well as to evaluate the capability to start a pilot project governed by the Regional Coordinate Group. As member States have to submit their Work Plan for the period of 2017-2019 by 31th October 2016 there is no possibility to consider a project.

SECTION 1: BIOLOGICAL DATA

Text Box 1G: List of research surveys at sea

General Comment: This Box fulfills Chapter IV of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2 and Article 7 paragraph (3) of this Decision. It is intended to specify which research surveys at sea set out in Table 10 of the multi-annual Union programme will be carried out. Member States shall specify whether the research survey is included in Table 10 of the multi-annual Union programme or whether it is an additional survey.

1. Objectives of the survey

Baltic International Trawl Survey – BITS Q1. *The main aim of the BITS surveys is to estimate cod and other demersal species recruitment indices and abundance in ICES Subdivision III_d.*

2. Description of the methods used in the survey. For mandatory surveys, link to the manuals. Include a graphical representation (map)

The surveys has been conducting within period of February-March in the Lithuanian Exclusive Economic Zone (LEEZ) according to the BITS manual (ICES, 2014. Manual for the Baltic International Trawl Surveys (BITS). Series of ICES Survey Protocols SISP 7 - BITS. 71 pp.)

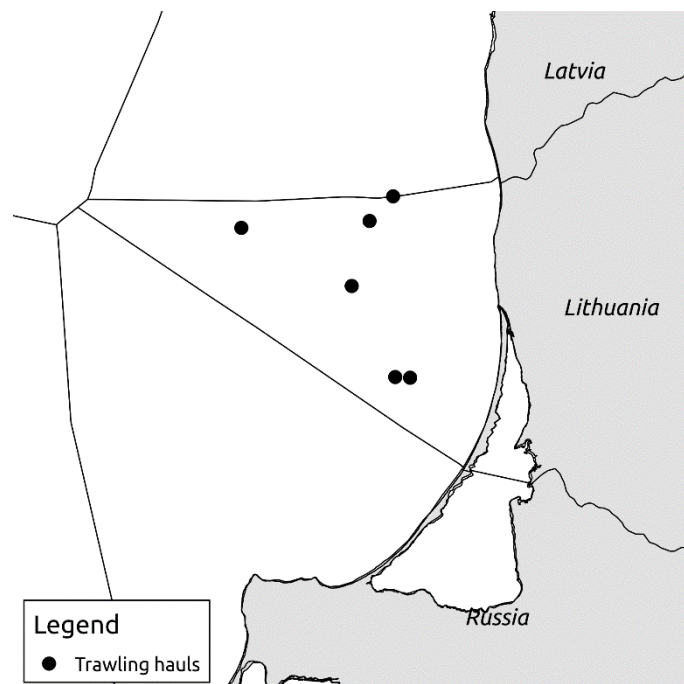


Figure 1. Allocation of stations defined in the LEEZ for BITS survey over 2013-2015 period

3. For internationally coordinated surveys, describe the participating Member States/vessels and the relevant international group in charge of planning the survey

Survey is coordinated by Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group (WGBIFS). All Baltic countries, including Russia, are participating in this survey. Countries and vessels, involved into BITS survey are mentioned in the manual mentioned above.

4. Where applicable, describe the international task sharing (physical and/or financial) and the cost sharing

agreement used

Not relevant

5. Explain where thresholds apply

Not relevant

1. Objectives of the survey

Baltic International Trawl Survey – BITS Q4. *The main aim of the BITS surveys is to estimate cod and other demersal species recruitment indices and abundance in ICES Subdivision III d.*

2. Description of the methods used in the survey. For mandatory surveys, link to the manuals. Include a graphical representation (map)

The surveys has been conducting within period of November – December in the Lithuanian Exclusive Economic Zone (LEEZ) according to the BITS manual (ICES, 2014. Manual for the Baltic International Trawl Surveys (BITS). Series of ICES Survey Protocols SISP 7 - BITS. 71 pp.)

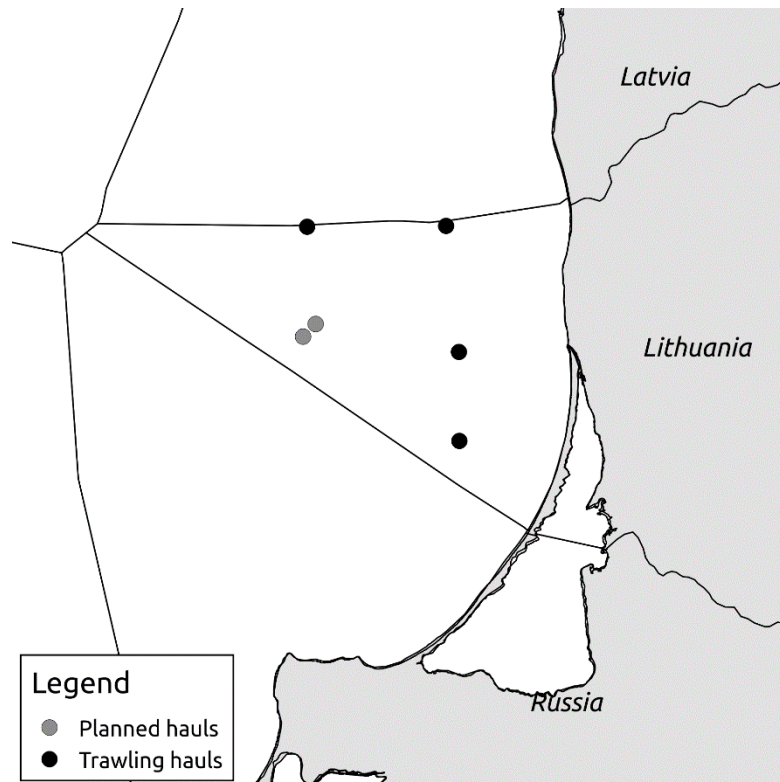


Figure 2. *Allocation of stations defined in the LEEZ for BITS survey over 2013-2015 period*

3. For internationally coordinated surveys, describe the participating Member States/vessels and the relevant international group in charge of planning the survey

Survey is coordinated by Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group (WGBIFS). All Baltic countries, including Russia, are participating in this survey. Countries and vessels, involved into BITS survey are mentioned in the manual mentioned above.

4. Where applicable, describe the international task sharing (physical and/or financial) and the cost sharing agreement used

Not relevant

5. Explain where thresholds apply

Not relevant

1. Objectives of the survey

Baltic International Acoustic Survey (Autumn) – BIAS. *The main aim of the BIAS surveys is to assess abundance of herring and sprat resources in ICES Subdivision III.*

2. Description of the methods used in the survey. For mandatory surveys, link to the manuals. Include a graphical representation (map)

The surveys has been conducting within period of September – October in the Lithuanian Exclusive Economic Zone (LEEZ) according to the IBAS manual (ICES. 2014. Manual of International Baltic Acoustic Surveys (IBAS). Series of ICES Survey Protocols SISP 8 - IBAS. 24 pp.)

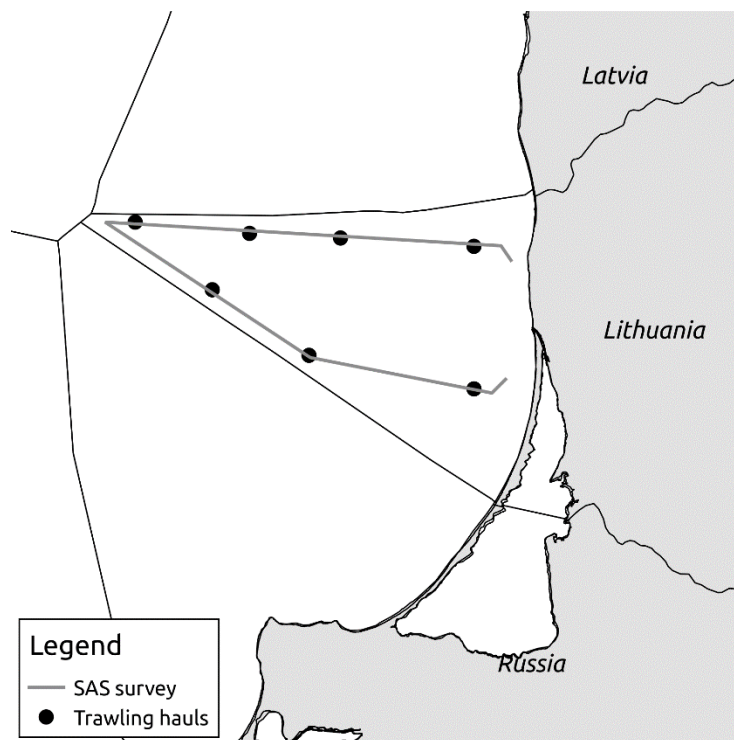


Figure 3. Cruise track design and hauls of BIAS in LEEZ

3. For internationally coordinated surveys, describe the participating Member States/vessels and the relevant international group in charge of planning the survey

Survey is coordinated by Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group (WGBIFS). All Baltic countries, including Russia, are participating in this survey. Countries and vessels, involved into BIAS survey are mentioned in the BITS manual mentioned above.

4. Where applicable, describe the international task sharing (physical and/or financial) and the cost sharing agreement used

Not relevant

5. Explain where thresholds apply

Not relevant

1. Objectives of the survey

Sprat Acoustic Survey – SPRAS. *The main aim of the SPRAS surveys is to assess abundance of sprat and herring resources in ICES Subdivision III_d.*

2. Description of the methods used in the survey. For mandatory surveys, link to the manuals. Include a graphical representation (map)

The surveys has been conducting within May in the Lithuanian Exclusive Economic Zone (LEEZ) according to the IBAS manual (ICES. 2014. Manual of International Baltic Acoustic Surveys (IBAS). Series of ICES Survey Protocols SISP 8 - IBAS. 24 pp.)

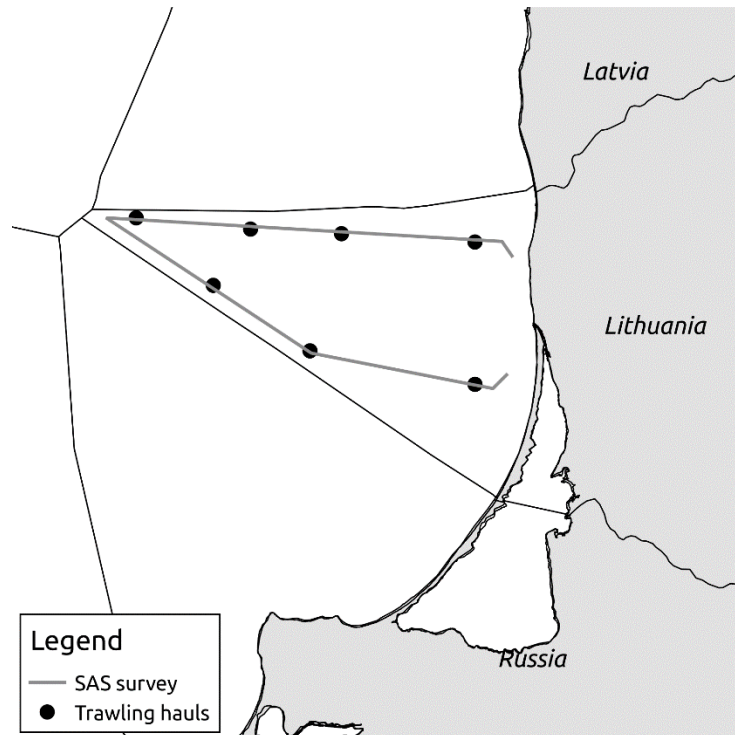


Figure 4. *Cruise track design and hauls of SPRAS in LEEZ*

3. For internationally coordinated surveys, describe the participating Member States/vessels and the relevant international group in charge of planning the survey

Survey is coordinated by Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group (WGBIFS). All Baltic countries, including Russia, are participating in this survey. Countries and vessels, involved into SPRAS survey are mentioned in the BITS manual mentioned above.

4. Where applicable, describe the international task sharing (physical and/or financial) and the cost sharing agreement used

Not relevant

5. Explain where thresholds apply

Not relevant

(max 450 words per survey)

SECTION 2: FISHING ACTIVITY DATA

Text Box 2A: Fishing activity variables data collection strategy

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 4 of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2, Article 4 paragraph (2) point (b) and Article 5 paragraph (2) of this Decision. It is intended to describe the method used to derive estimates on representative samples where data are not to be recorded under Regulation (EU) No 1224/2009 or where data collected under Regulation (EU) No 1224/2009 are not at the right aggregation level for the intended scientific use.

1. For all fleet segments by regions the transversal variables is deriving from database system IFDIS, which contains the data referred to Commission Regulation (EC) No 26/2004 of 30 December 2003 on the Community fishing fleet register in Annex I and Council Implementing Regulation (EC) No 404/2011 in Annex X. As well IFDIS contains an obligatory by National legislation monthly declarative forms, that derived from national logbook, for vessels of less than 8 m length overall which is operating in the Baltic Sea. Community fishing vessels from 8 to 12 metres' length overall are obliged to keep a fishing logbook and submit landing and transshipment declarations. Fishing vessels of 18 metres' length overall or more, the fishing logbook is in electronic form and the landing declarations are submitting electronically. The Lithuanian fleet does not consist of any vessels with the length class of 12 to 18 metres in length. Active and inactive vessels are included in the vessel register. The maintenance and continuous updates are up to dates. Using a conversion factor established in accordance with the Council Regulation (EC) No 404/2011 ANNEXES XIII-XV, IFDIS includes a built in function that converts processed fish weight into live fish weight. Lithuania has performed cross-checking, analyses and verifications through automated computerised algorithms and mechanisms on vessel monitoring systems, catch, effort and sales notes data and data related to the Community fishing fleet register as well as the verification of licences and fishing authorisations. Data is available in the form of primary data to the all national institutions implementing the workplans.

2. Data on landings for vessels less than 8 m length overall, which is not covered under Control Regulation, are derived from the combination of the monthly declarative forms which have been cross-checked with sales notes. These provide the key details on the species, presentation, location of landings, weight and value of fish being landed that is entered into computer system. For all fleet segments value is estimating based on prices derived from sales notes multiplying by weight from landing declarations.

3. Based on sales notes the average price by species, presentation and region is computing by dividing the total value of fish available for sale by the total weight available for sale during the period. Each sale note is related to the vessel trip or monthly report, which allow computing the average price on base of vessel trips or monthly report.

4. To approach reliable and high quality of data Lithuania uses a "census" type of declarative form for vessel, which is not recordered data under the Regulation (EU) No 1224/2009. Monthly declarative forms that derived from national logbook are completing by a company engaged in commercial fishing in the Baltic Sea coastal area. List of vessels is approved by national legislation and covers the whole segment population. The

landings and metier based effort variables are provided by abovementioned forms. The forms shall be transmitted to the authority by the tenth day of the following month. When classifying a data transmission failures regarding timeliness or completeness the company is notified and report is re/submitted. The monthly declarative forms as well as landing declarations are cross-checking with sales notes.

(max 900 words per Region)

SECTION 3: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DATA

Text Box 3A: Population segments for collection of economic and social data for fisheries

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 5 points (a) and (b) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2, Article 4 paragraphs (1), (2) and (5) and Article 5 paragraph (2) of this Decision. It is intended to specify data to be collected under Tables 5(A) and 6 of the multi-annual Union programme.

1. Description of methodologies used to choose the different sources of data

The total population for fleet economic and social variables are all active and inactive vessels registered in the Union Fishing Fleet Register on 31 December of the reporting year and vessels that do not appear on the Register at that date but have fished at least one day during the reporting year.

Collection of economic variables of the Lithuanian fleet will be based on following major data sources:

- Lithuanian Agricultural and Food Product Market Information System (LAFPMIS) administered by State enterprise Agricultural Information and Rural Business Center (AIRBC);
- Integrated Fishery Data Informational System (IFDIS) administered by Fisheries Service;
- Fleet register.

Economic variables for the variable groups as Income, Labour costs, Energy costs, Repair and maintenance costs, Other operating costs, Subsidies, Capital costs, Capital value, Investments, Financial position, Employment and Energy consumption are obtained from LAFPMIS (DR-1), whereas Economic variables for the Effort (except Energy consumption), Number of fishing enterprises/units and Production value per species are obtained from IFDIS. Data for variable group Fleet is available from Fleet Register.

Social data as Employment by gender, FTE by gender, Unpaid labour by gender, Employment by age, Employment by employment status and FTE National will be collected on annual basis and available from data source LAFPMIS (DR-1). Social variables as Employment by education level and Employment by nationality will be collected each three years (starting in 2018) by pilot study and available from data source LAFPMIS (DR-1).

Variable gross value of landings will be available from two data sources, IFDIS (gross value of landings) and LAFPMIS questionnaires (income from landings). First of all, two values will serve for crosschecking purposes

when data collected by questionnaires regarding production costs, capital value and employment firstly should correspond to the income from same data source and only after that to the gross value of landings from IFDIS.

2. Description of methodologies used to choose the different types of data collection

For all economic and social (excluding Employment by education level and Employment by nationality) variables census data collection scheme will be applied for all regions and all fleet segments. Data are collected by Statistical questionnaires (code DR-1), approved by the law of the Minister of Agriculture No 3D-707 on 4-th August of 2010 (last amended in 2016). IFDIS and Fleet Register possess census data as well.

3. Description of methodologies used to choose sampling frame and allocation scheme

Data collection is based at enterprise level. If enterprise operates two vessels or more, belonging to different fleet segments, it is required to provide separate questionnaires for individual segment, if all vessels belongs to one segment, only one questionnaire for all vessels in segment is provided. Logbook based data on effort for each active population vessel is extracted from IFDIS and depending on it overall length, fishing area and activity by gear, allocation to segments are performed. Criteria and primary data for segmentation of vessels, less than 10 m are also extracted from IFDIS.

4. Description of methodologies used for estimation procedures

Imputed value of unpaid labour will be calculated for all the individual enterprise operating only in the coastal area which in DR-1 questionnaire provides number of unpaid family members engaged in fishery sector. The number of unpaid family members involved in production, or number of their working hours (if provided) will be multiplied by average annual wage calculated for “paid labour” at particular segment level.

Value of physical capital and consumption of fixed capital will be estimated using Perpetual Inventory Method (PIM) through a template model developed by EC study No. FISH/2005/03 proposes to determine the aggregate value of the physical capital in the current year by aggregation of active fleets by age or vintage classes. Methodology is provided in “Methodologies for the socio-economic data described in EU MAP (Ref. Ares(2016)2440332 – 26/05/2016).

In the case, when response rate is less than 100% of population, the missing variables are estimated from the sample, taking into the consideration the value of landings which has census on all active fleet (IFDIS) of missing vessel and data from sample.

$$X_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i} * Y_j$$

where:

X_j – missing variable information about the vessel;

x_i – collected variable of the sample;

n – sample size;

Y_j – value of landings of the vessel;

y_i – value of landings of the sample.

For fleet that logbook is obliged, the days at sea variable is estimating as defined in Chapter I of COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2016/1251. For vessels of less than 8 m length overall which is operating in the Baltic Sea only, the days at sea variable is derived from monthly declarative forms, that computed based on national logbook records on fishing activities.

5. Description of methodologies used on data quality

Fleet economic data collection is included in the annual Official Statistic data collection Program and therefore quality is ensured by application of principles of European Code of Practice. The data collection processes in AIRBC complies the ISO 9001 requirements for data quality and ISO 27001 requirements for data security. AIRBC has carried out a self-assessment of the compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice, which can be considered as a best practice in the European Statistical System. The self-assessment reviews the institutional environment (professional independence, mandate for data collection, adequacy of resources, commitment to quality and statistical confidentiality, impartiality and objectivity) as well as the statistical processes and the quality of its outputs.

For data quality assurance, LAFPMIS Interactive Data Input System contains:

- logical verification and data validation at different data processing stages;
- automatic data aggregation during data input process;
- for external users, especially data providers, system ensure easy accessibility of methodologies;
- system is flexible in terms of development according requirements from end users and external users;
- update and storage of exhaustive administrative data.

In addition, primary data, intermediate results and statistical outputs are regularly assessed by the expertise of personnel, data are checked for inconsistencies, completeness, and timeliness. Any detected errors are registered in non-compliance register. Based on records from this register data audition unit of AIRBC periodically visit fishing companies and perform primary data quality and accuracy audition by checking questionnaire data with companies accounting documents.

For quality measurements, response rate (separately at respondent/vessel and reported item levels) and coverage rate (taking into account value of landings) are calculated.

In IFDIS has been performed cross-checking, analyses and verifications through automated computerised algorithms and mechanisms on vessel monitoring systems, catch, effort and sales notes data and data related to the Community fishing fleet register as well as the verification of licences and fishing authorisations that ensure Fleet, Effort (exclude Energy consumption), Number of fishing enterprises/ units and Production value per species variables quality.

SECTION 3: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DATA

Pilot Study 3: Data on employment by education level and nationality

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 5 point (b) and paragraph 6 point (b) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2 and Article 3 paragraph (3) point (c) of this Decision. It is intended to specify data to be collected under Table 6 of the multi-annual Union programme.

1. Aim of pilot study

In accordance with Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1251, adopting a multiannual Union programme for collection, management and use of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the period 2017-2019, social data shall be collected every three years and data on employments by education level and employment by nationality may be collected on the basis of pilot studies. The pilot study is foreseen for implementation of this legal act.

2. Duration of pilot study

Each pilot study is expected to be launched at the June of each three years starting in 2018 (2018 06) and results should be available after six months from starting date.

3. Methodology and expected outcomes of pilot study

Pilot study will be conducted for two variables (Employment by education level and Employment by nationality) every three years, starting from 2018. Each pilot study is planned to be performed together with annual economic fleet data collection of respective year as additional information, requested in statistical questionnaires (code DR-1), approved by the law of the Minister of Agriculture No 3D-707 on 4-th August of 2010 (last amended in 2016). Consequently, data collection scheme for pilot study will be census based in line with annual fleet economic data survey, coming with official cover letter indicating additional requirements for fleet social data and referring to EU legislation. Social data will be collected and be available at each fleet segment level and for all fishing areas. As Pilot study will cover only two social variables from eight, it is not expected to be difficult to achieve.

SECTION 3: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DATA

Text Box 3B: Population segments for collection of economic and social data for aquaculture

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 6 points (a) and (b) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2, Article 4 paragraphs (1) and (5) and Article 5 paragraph (2) of this Decision. It is intended to specify data to be collected under Tables 6 and 7 of the multi-annual Union programme.

Lithuanian aquaculture sector consists only from freshwater aquaculture activities, therefore as data collection for this type of aquaculture is optional, it is not foreseen for 2017-2019.

SECTION 3: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DATA

Pilot Study 4: Environmental data on aquaculture

General comment: This Box fulfills paragraph 6 point (c) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme and Article 2 and Article 4 paragraph (3) point (d) of this Decision. It is intended to specify data to be collected under Table 8 of the multi-annual Union programme.

Data collection for aquaculture is not foreseen for 2017-2019 as all sector in Lithuania consists of fresh water aquaculture activities

SECTION 3: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DATA

Text Box 3C: Population segments for collection of economic and social data for the processing industry

General comment: This Box fulfills footnote 6 of paragraph 1.1(d) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme, Article 2, Article 4 paragraphs (1) and (5) and Article 5 paragraph (2) of this Decision. It is intended to specify data to be collected under Table 11 of the multi-annual Union programme.

1. Description of methodologies used to choose the different sources of data

Economics and social data variables concerning fish processing industry to be collected under Table 11 of the multi-annual Union programme will be based on 3 data sources:

- Lithuanian Agricultural and Food Product Market Information System (LAFPMIS) administered by State enterprise Agricultural Information and Rural Business Center (AIRBC), annual survey (ŽF-1) for economic data collection.
- LAFPMIS semiannual survey (ŽP-1) for social data collection.
- The list of animal food handling entities holding veterinary approval number for the total number of fish processing companies, gathered by Lithuanian State Food and Veterinary Service (SFVS).

Moreover, Economics and social data variables concerning fish processing industry will be cross-checked with information collected by National Statistical Department (NSD) on economic data and with information collected by State Social Insurance Fund (SSIF) on social data. Also data on classifications by activity status of fish processing companies will be cross checked by Institutional sectors and subsectors data from National Statistical Department.

Economic and social data is gathered from all fish processing industry companies by statistical forms ŽF-1 and ŽP-1 approved by the Minister of agriculture and included in the official statistics work programmes (OSWP) which is regulated by Lithuanian Law on Statistics and is mandatory for all type of economical entities. The data is more detailed than that of the National Statistical Department and covers all of the fish processing companies' population and is used to meet the need for national administrative purposes. Therefore, data from statistical forms ŽF-1 and ŽP-1 will be the main source for economics and social data.

The population will refer to enterprises whose main activity is defined according to the Eurostat definition under NACE Code 15.20: "Processing and preserving of fish, crustaceans and molluscs". Also data will be collected from those enterprises that carry out fish processing but not as a main activity.

The list of all fish processing companies will be obtained from SFVS on a yearly basis, segments will be assigned according to data from (SSIF) and main activity will be determined according to (NSD).

Social variables will be collected on 3 year basis, according to Statistical forms Fish processing and employment half-yearly report (ŽP-1) which are approved by the Minister of agriculture

2. Description of methodologies used to choose the different types of data collection

Census (A), which attempts to collect data from all members of a population, will be applied for each segment for most of the economic and social variable, except:

- Value of unpaid labour - will be calculated for all the enterprises which will provide the data about the unpaid employees engaged in fish processing activities. The calculations will be based on the statistical forms ŽP-1 and ŽF-1. The number of unpaid workers involved in processing, or number of their working hours will be multiplied by average annual wage calculated for “paid labour”.
- For the calculation of national FTE, the number of hours worked during the year will be collected from the enterprises through the statistical forms (ŽP-1). This parameter will be divided by national annual full-time working hours, which is based on the law of the Minister of social security and labour. It confirms the number of average working hours per year annually.

3. Description of methodologies used to choose sampling frame and allocation scheme

Since data are to be collected through a Census (A) a description of the sampling frame is not relevant.

4. Description of methodologies used for estimation procedures

In the case, when response rate is less than 100% of the population for a specific variable, the missing information of a company will be derived in accordance to data on employment from SSIF. The missing data on a specific variable will be calculated by dividing the sample of that variable from a specific segment by the number of employees from the sample of a specific segment and multiplying by employees of the company in question. If a specific segment, to which a company with a missing variable is assigned, is deemed too small, sample from the whole processing industry will be used.

5. Description of methodologies used on data quality

The methodologies for quality of fish processing sector is a fraught and consistent process of data collection covering data collection fullness checks, quality and integrity of gathered data and post collection data checks by auditing individual enterprises. All the irregularities will be noted in the non-compliance register (NCR):

1. As the data collection scheme is Census (A), data on fish processing will be checked for fullness according to timeliness through response rates. Non-response enterprises and belated data entries will be included in the NCR.
2. Data quality will be ensured by checking data integrity and quality during the initial data entry through LAFPMIS Interactive Data Input System (IDES), where input data will be automatically check for inconsistencies between coherent variables, data fullness, and other logical data coherences. Further data quality checks will be conducted by sector specialists, looking for inconsistencies in time data series, by cross checking data with other data sources, identifying extremities of separate variables, and other logical checks. All the irregularities will be included in the NCR.
3. In accordance with to the NCR, the validation of data will be checked by auditing companies with most irregularities by directly crosschecking statistical form`s data with that of the companies bookkeeping data. Any abnormalities and irregularities will be corrected.

Furthermore, in accordance to data NCR and audit outcomes, methodologies for data submitting and metadata

will be reviewed and changed to enhance the quality of data gathering.

(max 1000 words)

SECTION 4: SAMPLING STRATEGY FOR BIOLOGICAL DATA FROM COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

Text Box 4A: Sampling plan description for biological data

General Comment: This Box fulfills Article 3, Article 4 paragraph (4) and Article 8 of this Decision and forms the basis for the fulfilment of paragraph 2 point (a)(i) of Chapter III of the multi-annual Union programme. This Table refers to data to be collected under Tables 1(A), 1(B) and 1(C) of the multi-annual Union programme.

Description of the sampling plan according to Article 5 paragraph (3) of this Decision

Baltic Sea

Sampling on landing sites. Primal sampling unit (PSU) is day at port or any other landing place (in case of coastal fishery). 1 trip per month is planned to visit all landing places. During the trip randomly selected samples are intended to be collected by metier. If there no landings are present or not all samples were collected at the day of trip, next nearest day will be planned to visit landing places.

Sampling at sea. According to methodology of SGPIDS (see ICES, 2011a. Report of the Study Group on Practical Implementation of Discard Sampling Plans (SGPIDS), 27 June -1 July 2011, ICES Headquarters, Denmark. ICES CM 2011/ACOM: 50. 116 pp.) 14 PSUs (i. e. trips) per quarter and subdivision are planned to reach 95% confidence interval on the mean of population. During the trips all data indicated in Tables 1B, 1C, 1F, 4A will be collected.

North Sea and Eastern Arctic

2 vessels (1 vessel per stock) are operating in this region. Observers will be hired to collect all data indicated in Tables 1B, 1C, 1F, 4A during 3 trips

North Atlantic

2 vessels (1 vessel per stock) are operating in this region. Observers will be hired to collect all data indicated in Tables 1B, 1C, 1F, 4A during 4 trips

Other regions

Multilateral agreement for CECAF will be prolonged (Poland, Lithuania, Germany, Latvia and Netherlands), to ensure streamlined data collection. Agreement will be run by Netherlands

Multilateral agreement for SPRFMO was prepared (Poland, Lithuania, Germany, and Netherlands), to ensure streamlined data collection. Agreement will be run by Poland.