

Annual Report 2013 – THE NETHERLANDS

(Detailing the state of completion of the aims set at the time of the drawing-up the National programme for the Data Collection Framework)

by

Ministry of Economic Affairs

IMARES (Institute for Marine Resources & Ecosystem Studies)

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- NLD_Annual_Report_2013_Text-Aug-2014.docx containing updated the Annual Report text.
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I. General framework

In 2010, the Netherlands submitted a proposal for a multi-annual National Programme for the years 2011-2013 for the collection of biological and economic data of the fishing sector and commercial exploited fish stocks. In this report, this national data collection programme will be further referred to as the National Programme (NP). This programme covers the second period of the revised regulations¹ introduced by the European Commission (EC) for the collection of biological and economic data in the period 2009-2013. These regulations oblige Member States (MS) to collect data, needed to support the Common Fishery Policy (CFP). This Framework of Data Collection Regulations (DCF) contains procedures, guidelines, and both qualitative as well as quantitative criteria, on which and how much data has to be collected. Further, the EC has established provisions to facilitate the cooperation between MS in carrying out their NP.

A revised programme for the year 2012 was submitted in 2011 by the Netherlands, taking into account the agreements with other MS to implement a common sampling programme for catches in long distance fisheries. For 2013 no further changes in the programme were proposed.

This report is an Annual Report of Activity (AR) of the work which was carried out in 2013 in the Netherlands with reference to the aims described in the proposal and the requirements listed in the DCF. With exception of the triennial international mackerel egg survey, the data collection programme carried out in 2013 was the same as in 2012. Also, no new methodological changes in approach have been implemented in 2013. The lay-out of the report follows the revised guidance template submitted by the Commission to the MS for this purpose in 2013². Most of the required information is given in the tables (grey fields) which are distributed separately in an Excel document.

¹ COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 861/2006 of 22 May 2006 establishing Community financial measures for the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy and in the area of the Law of the Sea

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 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

2010/93/: COMMISSION DECISION of 18 December 2009 adopting a multiannual Community programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector for the period 2011-2013 (notified under document C(2009) 10121)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1078/2008 of 3 November 2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 861/2006 as regards to the expenditure incurred by Member States for the Collection and management of the basic fisheries data

² Guidelines for the submission of Annual Report on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008 and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU (Version 2013)

Derogations applicable to the Netherlands

The following derogations apply to the NP by the Netherlands.

Short title of derogation	NP proposal section	Type of data - variables	Region	Derogation approved or rejected	Year of approval / rejection	Reason/ justification for derogation
Derogation for sampling metier MIS_UND_0_0_0	III.C.6 (North Sea)	Biological and metier related variables; landings and discards	IV, VIIId	approved	2011	this metier was created by unidentified log book records
Derogation for sampling metier FYK_CAT_>0_0_0	III.C.6 (North Sea)	Biological and metier related variables; discards	IV (fresh water)	approved	2011	all discards (if there are any) survive
Derogation for sampling metier LH_FIF_0_0_0	III.C.6 (North Sea)	Biological and metier related variables; discards	IV	approved	2011	this is a fishery by anglers for sea bass. There is no access to the fishery.
Derogation for sampling metier TBB_DEF_90-119_0_0	III.C.6 (North Sea)	Biological and metier related variables; landings and discards	IIIa	approved	2011	no access to the catches and vessels by NLD; total effort is about 4 fishing weeks
Derogation for sampling metier TBB_DEF_DEF>=12 0_0_0	III.C.6 (North Sea)	Biological and metier related variables; landings and discards	IIIa	approved	2011	no access to the catches and vessels by NLD; discarding assumed to be very low; total effort is about 1 fishing week
Derogation for sampling metier SSC_DEF_70-99_0_0	III.C.6 (North Atlantic)	Biological and metier related variables; landings and discards	VIIe	approved	2011	no access to the catches and vessels by NLD
Derogations for sampling metier OTM_SPF_UND_0_0	III.C.6 (Other regions)	Sampling catches	SPRFMO	approved	2012	no access to the catches and vessels by NLD and probably no fishery at all
Employment by gender	IV.B.6	Data on employment by gender	All areas	approved	2012	Data not available due to time lag of 2 years.

II. Organisation of the National Programme

II.A. National correspondent and participating institutes

The Dutch National Correspondent in 2013 was drs. C.J.M. Verbogt (Kees), employed by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, section "Directie Agroketens en Dierenwelzijn" (DAD) (Animal Supply Chain and Animal Welfare Department).

The NP in the Netherlands was carried out by 3 partners in 2013:

- 1) The Animal Supply Chain and Animal Welfare Department (EZ-DAD) is a section in the Ministry of Economic Affairs and performs control and authority exercises at the commercial fisheries and the recreational and game fisheries. This partner also acted as coordinator for the execution of the National Programme in 2011;
- 2) LEI (Institute of Agricultural Economics). This institute is a private research institution, part of Wageningen University and Research Centre. LEI is responsible for collection of agricultural and fisheries economics statistics in The Netherlands; Within the programme, LEI is responsible for the evaluation of the fishing sector; transversal variables; the evaluation of the economic situation of the aquaculture and the collection of data concerning the processing industry.
- 3) IMARES (Institute for Marine Resources & Ecosystem Studies). This institution is a private research institution, as part of Wageningen University and Research Centre. IMARES is responsible for the biological part of the data collection programme, including stock- and métier related variables; recreational fisheries and research surveys at sea.

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The national DCF website is: <http://www.wageningenur.nl/nl/Expertises-Dienstverlening/Wettelijke-Onderzoekstaken/Centrum-voor-Visserijonderzoek-1.htm>

National coordination

A Steering Group has been established with members from the three partners. The main objective of the Steering Group is to coordinate the work to be carried out according to the DCF. National coordination between the involved partners has been undertaken regularly, mostly through electronic communication techniques.

In 2013, two coordination meetings were held to evaluate the work carried out in the Netherlands. The first meeting was held in May and dealt with the NLD response to the

report of the financial audit carried out in 2012 and 2013. The main subjects in the other meeting held in December 2013 were:

- data collection under EMFF;
- preparation to stakeholder meeting in 2014;
- consequences of landing obligation to DCF;
- inclusion of MFSD under data collection;
- state of play financial audit.

The minutes are included in Annex 5.

II.B. Regional and International coordination

II B 1 Attendance of International meetings

Table II.B.1 lists the meetings which have been attended by the MS in 2013. The meetings listed in this table which are indicated in strikethrough font were canceled. In some cases it was intended to participate in these meetings. For these meetings the attendance column has been left blank.

This list includes all the coordination meetings. In 2013, NLD participated in the RCM NS&EA, RCM NA, RCM LDF and PGECON. In 2013, Frans van Beek (NLD) chaired the RCM NS&EA meeting and Heleen Bartelings (NLD) the PGECON meeting. Frans van Beek also attended the Liaison meeting.

MS participated in almost all ICES meetings which were planned in the NP. Meetings indicated for participation but not attended were WGEF, WGSAM, WKLIFE3 and WGRFS due to staff or agenda problems.

Meetings not listed but attended in 2013 because they were relevant to the data collection were WGBYC (on by catches in fisheries), WKPELA (benchmark assessment for north Atlantic mackerel) and the SPRFMO Science Working Group.

In 2013 NLD has provided chairs for the following ICES expert groups: SGPIDS, WGEEL, WGBYC, SGELECTRA, WKDATR, DIG, SGSIPS, WGWIDE, and WGNEW.

II B 2 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

The chapter of recommendations has been updated with the new recommendations made in 2013 by the LM and STECF. All relevant recommendations are listed in section VII, including those from previous years. The following recommendations are applicable to this chapter: EWG 11-08 no 4, Liaison 2010 no 18 and Liaison 2011 no 25, 27.

III. Module of evaluation of the fishing sector

III.A. General Description of the fishing sector

The Dutch fishing sector in marine waters can be split up in three major segments: the demersal fishery in the North Sea, the pelagic fishery in European and international waters and coastal fisheries for bivalves. Table III.A.1 gives an overview of the areas where Dutch fisheries are active.

No major changes have taken place in the Dutch fishing fleet in 2013.

Composition of Dutch fleet (at the end of the year)

Fishing fleet	No. of vessels 2011	No. of vessels 2012	No. of vessels 2013
Demersal fisheries	310	318	308
Pelagic fisheries	14	12	13
Other sea fisheries	248	209	224
Aquaculture	102	104	106
Non active	168	203	190
Total Dutch fleet	842	846	841

source: Vessel Register

Demersal fisheries

The major demersal fisheries by the Netherlands are beam trawl fisheries directed to flatfish in the North Sea. These fisheries are mixed fisheries taking also non target species and discards and operate all year round. Three metiers can be distinguished within the beam trawl fleet: beam trawlers <300 HP and two metiers of beam trawlers >300 HP. The first group, so called Eurocutters, consist of relative small vessels, mainly operating in coastal areas³ which are by regulation not accessible to the larger vessels. Within the second group, two metiers can be distinguished, those fishing with a minimum mesh size of 80-99 mm for a mixture of plaice and sole, mainly fishing in Division IVc and part of Division IVb and those fishing for plaice with 100 mm mesh size and larger in Division IVb. Because of regulations, aiming at protecting cod in the North Sea, the beam trawl activities fishing with 100 mm mesh size and larger are very variable in recent years pending on changes in these regulation. The number of vessels and effort of the total beam trawl fleet has decreased considerable due to decommissioning schemes and effort regulations as part of the management plans for flatfish in the North Sea.

Due to new regulations aiming at reducing bycatch and disturbing the sea bottom and economic incentives (reduce fuel costs), the beam trawl fleet shows developments into new fishing methods. In the last decade beam trawl methods have been introduced using pulse stimulation instead of tickler chains. Also alternatives for the beam itself, such as a fly wings have been introduced. The catch composition with these "new gears" is different from the traditional beam trawl. Also, a continuous change from beam trawl fishing methods to towards other fishing methods, such as twin trawling, fly shooting, seine and shrimping is going on, mainly driven by fuel prices and objectives to reduce unwanted (by)catches.

Fleet segments, which have recently developed in the Netherlands, are twin trawlers, fishing in the southern North Sea and the eastern part of the English Channel for a mixture of plaice, roundfish and non-quota species such as mullets and gurnards. Also a fishery directed to Norway lobster, mainly with twin trawls has developed in the past decades.

³ fishing in the 12 miles coastal zone and plaice box

The fishery for brown shrimp (*Crangon crangon*) is carried out within the 6 mile zone along the continental coast extending from Sylt to the Dutch-Belgian border, including the Wadden Sea and other estuaries. This fishery is regulated by licenses.

The Netherlands have small quota for some demersal species in the Gulf of Biscay (VIIIc) and the Irish Sea (VIIa). Traditionally these quotas are exchanged with other countries and no fishing of Dutch vessels has taken place in these areas in 2013.

Pelagic fisheries

Dutch pelagic trawlers fish for pelagic species using pelagic or semi-pelagic trawls in North East Atlantic, North African and Pacific waters. The fishing operations of the pelagic fisheries are by nature directed to single species which are taken with relative few bycatch and discards. Major target species in Atlantic waters are herring, mackerel, horse mackerel and blue whiting. In African waters the target species are sardinella and horse mackerel and west of Chile and Peru the target is jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*). The landings from African and Pacific waters are mainly landed abroad, outside the EU. The fisheries for the various pelagic species occur in different seasons and are generally not of a mixed nature. All fish is landed frozen and used for human consumption. Due to quota restrictions in the Pacific, no fishery has taken place in 2013. A limited fishery in African (Mauritanian) waters has been carried out in 2013.

Other marine fisheries including inactive vessels

This part of the Dutch fleet (414 vessels in 2013) comprises vessels involved in gill net fishing and various other sea fishing as well as non-active vessels. In total, 224 vessels are considered active and 190 vessels are inactive. Of the active small scale fishery fleet, around 50 vessels took part in gill net fishing. The other vessels took part in other seas fishery such as shellfish fishing on the North Sea, fishing with static gears for lobster and eel in the coastal and delta zone, and smelt fishing with seines. The non-active fleet consisted of vessels which had not made any (registered) fishing trip.

Aquaculture and coastal fisheries for bivalves

In the Wadden Sea and Easter Scheldt Estuary, mussels are cultured by a fleet mainly operating from Yerseke. Seed mussels, which are small mussels obtained in the wild or from mussel seed collectors, are transported to locations where better conditions for growth are expected and harvested 1-2 years later. The fishery for mussels is a form of aquaculture and is regulated by extensive national regulations.

The fishery for cockles is carried out by hand in the Wadden Sea and Scheldt Estuary. A major mechanical cockle fishery in coastal waters has been terminated in 2005.

The native oyster (*Ostrea edulus*) and the invasive Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) are cultured in the Scheldt Estuary. Only a few companies, operating from Yerseke, are involved in the oyster culture.

On a smaller scale, a fishery for shellfish (molluscs) takes place in coastal waters. The fishery is directed to either spisula (*Spisula subtruncata*, *Spisula solida*) or to American jackknife clams (*Ensis americanus*). The latter species is an invasive species which has expanded considerable in recent years. The fishery is regulated by licenses.

III.B. Economic variables (Supra region ICES and NAFO areas)

Supra Region Baltic Sea (ICES area II b-d), North Sea (ICES areas IIIa, IV and VIId) and Eastern Arctic (ICES areas I and II), and North Atlantic (ICES areas V-XIV) and NAFO areas.

III.B.1 Achieved Sampling: results and deviation from NP proposal

In the Dutch fishing fleet two large groups of vessels can be distinguished besides the fleet segmentation of the DCF; commercially active and less active vessels (including those which are non-active). These two groups of vessels differ in cost structure and income and thus are considered separated target populations. Commercially active vessels carry out the fishery on a commercial basis add more than 95% to the commercial catches. The less active vessels participate occasionally or never in the sea fishery. A large part of these vessels merely exist because of administrative reasons (e.g. to store licences, capacity, sea days, ITQ). In order to distinguish between economically less active and active vessels we use a lower threshold for economic active vessels of 50,000 Euro on gross revenue.

The commercially active vessels are concentrated in the following segments:

- Beam trawl: 12-18 m
- Beam trawl: 18-24 m
- Beam trawl: 24-40 m
- Beam trawl : 40- m
- Demersal trawls and seiners : 18-24 m
- Demersal trawls and seiners : 24-40 m
- Pelagic trawls and seiners : 40- m

Data from commercially active vessels was gathered directly by copying fishermen's accounts by three full time accountants who have access to the full accounting of the firms (all individual bills and invoices. The data of individual vessels is elaborated by week (trip) and fishery. This data was collected during the reference year. So data from 2012 has been collected during 2012. Final validated data will only become available 10 months after the reference year.

The commercially less-active vessels are mainly concentrated in the following segments

- Passive gear: 0-10 m
- Demersal trawls: 0-10 m
- Polyvalent gear: 12-18 m
- Dredges 0-10 m

Data from commercially less-active vessels has been collected indirectly by means of a paper questionnaire

Annual economic data for the small scale fisheries has been collected by a survey send out one year after the reference year, so data from 2011 for the small scale fisheries has been collected in 2013 and final validated data for these segments was available end-2013, one year after the reference year.

LEI panel: target population

Detailed economic data have been collected in 2013 from 85 cutters and 13 industrial vessels, as specified in the national programme (Netherlands Directorate of Fisheries, 2002). A special segment is the fleet segment of pelagic trawlers over 40m, covering the Dutch pelagic trawler fleet. As this segment consists of only 3 companies, complete economic and catch information has been gathered.

The current panel consists of 85 vessels (approximately 30% of the total commercially active cutter fleet) and is stratified according to gear type and length. As discussed in SGEA 09-02, the panel selection meets the requirements of a Probability Sample Survey as the participants of the panel has been selected randomly and replacements of participants dropping out of the panel are also selected randomly. For each of the

vessels economic data are collected on effort, catches, revenues, variable and fixed costs and financial position. The revenues and costs are collected for nine types of fishery in which the vessels can be involved. These types of fishery are: (1) pair trawling for herring, (2) otter trawl, (3) beam trawl, (4) pair trawl for demersal round fish, (5) shrimp trawl, (6) fishery for Nephrops, (7) gill net, (8) Danish seine, (9) twin rig and (10) others. As from 2012 onwards, puls fishing is also taken into account. In last year's AR it was shown that the panel stratification is representative for the Dutch fleet.

The segment of beam trawl vessel between 24 and 40 metres is highly heterogeneous, both in technical characteristics as well as in economic and fishing performance. This is mainly because 22 vessels longer than 24 metres are in fact euro cutters and thus hardly comparable to the other vessels in this segment. Therefore variability in this segment is large and the segment is stratified further based on the engine power as specified in the extended program, according to appendix IV of the EC regulation. The number of vessels in each of the two sub segments and the number of vessels included in the panel are given in the table below.

Number of commercially active vessels in the beam trawl segment from 24-40 from which economic information is gathered, together with population numbers

Length (m)	Fishing technique	Hp	Population	Panel
24-40	Beam trawl	<301	11	3
24-40	Beam trawl	>300	11	4

There were no deviations from the planned sample rate for the commercially active fleet.

Paper Questionnaire: target population

Information of the vessels that are not included in the population for the LEI panel (both less important fisheries and vessels which earn less than 50.000 euro per year) is gathered by sending out a questionnaire.

The results of the questionnaire showed that within the group of vessels categorised as less active or inactive, 182 vessels were non-active. The other vessels could be categorised in 4 segments, of which the small vessels using passive gears was by far the most important. The number of small pelagic vessels was too small to report on and grouped with the demersal vessels as their cost structure is far more comparable with demersal vessels than with the larger pelagic trawlers.

Table III.A.1 shows that in 9 of the total of 10 identified segments coverage of the active vessels in the sample is > 20%. Only in case of the Demersal trawls and seines 0-10m data coverage slightly less (19%).

As planned the questionnaire was send out to all less active and inactive vessels. Thus there were no deviations from the planned sample rated. As the questionnaire is voluntary the response rate is still not optimal. Therefor a model to better estimate the economic results of this segment is further developed and tested. In addition, activity level and main fishing activity has been assessed for most vessels (50%) that were targeted by the paper questionnaire. This resulted in better information on activity levels and higher response rates for questionnaires.

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

Different variables are collected from different sources and the data quality checks differed per source. For all variables the coefficient of variation was calculated following the standard formula:

$CV = \text{standard deviation of the estimated variable} / \text{estimated value of the variable}$

The standard deviation of the variable was estimated using the statistical software program SPSS.

Information on catches and effort were retrieved from the official catch database (VIRIS). In order to obtain detailed data on landings according to market category, contact has been made with the different auctions and they have agreed to deliver detailed data on

landings and prices per market category. Detailed data are available per market category from 2004 onwards.

Technical information on vessel size, engine power etc. was retrieved from the official vessel register. This is a complete census of the Dutch fleet and thus no estimations are necessary for the capacity indicators.

The price per capacity unit is calculated based on a fixed amount per gross tonnage of the vessel and kW of the engine. This amount is every year adjusted by a heavy machinery index. Two PCUs are calculated, one for vessels over 70bt and one for vessels below 70bt. 65% of the calculated capital value is attributed to value of the hull and 25% of the calculated capital value is attributed to the value of the engine. The PCU has been estimated with a linear regression model based on real sales prices. The hull is depreciated in 20 years, the engine in 10 years. In fisheries segments that make less extensive use of their equipment (shrimp fisheries, gillnetters etc.) the economic lifecycle is extended to 25 years for the hull and 15 years for the engine. These depreciation time frames are chosen based on expert knowledge of the fisheries segments.

The number of FTE's are calculated based on the average number of crewmembers. It is assumed that annual number of working hours is 2000.

Like stated before, economic data is collected either directly from the fishermen's accounts or by paper questionnaires. The data quality differs between these two collection methods. As the fishing area of the Dutch vessels exceeds the borders of the regions specified in the EU regulation (level 3), even within one trip, data on the economic variables (income from subsidies, production costs, fixed costs, interest and the number of vessels) are not available on this aggregation level. Information on effort and catches is available on this aggregation level. Thus, the values of the required economic variables are estimated, based on the total value in the group and the relative amount of effort in each of the regions for both the commercially active and the commercially less active vessels.

LEI panel: data collected

From the vessels within the LEI panel information of over 200 highly detailed costs and income categories is collected. The table below gives an overview of these costs and incomes categories and shows how they are used to calculate the parameters defined in appendix XVIII of the DCF. Besides these, information on income from fisheries is gathered by species and all purchases of tangible assets are registered, classified in more than 50 different categories. All economic data are available electronically at this highly detailed level, so that changes in the DCF can be easily applied on both current and formerly collected data.

Investments are valued, based on the actual purchase price whenever possible. In case the purchase price is not known insurance value is used as a proxy of the replacement value. If the insurance value is also unavailable, the value of the investment is estimated based on standards or expert knowledge. This last possibility, however, is only seldom used.

Leasing of equipment is highly uncommon in the Dutch fishing fleet. Over the last years none of the panel members leased any equipment. Therefore, the invested capital of leased equipment is not applicable to this fleet.

The engine and the hull of the vessel are written down exponentially, whereas all other assets are written down linearly. Based on this, depreciation is calculated.

For the calculation of the employment, full time employees are defined as employees who are normally joining the fishing operation (>70% of the fishing trips). In some instances the number of crew members is larger than the number of people working on board the vessel at any given trip, so that crewmembers get some days off. All of these crew members are defined as full-time employees.

Results representativeness sample

In 2011 the representativeness and the reliability of the sample was extensively tested using 2009 data. The research showed that the current fleet sample is reliable and representative when stratification is made in both fishing gear and vessel length.

The 2008 panel that was used consisted of 87 vessels (29% of the total commercially cutter fleet). The vessel length groups are defined as: 12-18 meters, 18-24 meters, 24-40 meters and >40 meters. The fishing gear groups after rearranging (groups with less than 10 vessels in it were combined) were: Beam trawl and Demersal trawl and Seiners.

The reliability of the sample was tested using the standard error. The relative standard error of most of the target variables is less than 10 %.

For the representativeness the mean of the population was compared with the mean of the panel and p-values were given. In all cases no significance difference ($p < 0.05$) was found between the fleet population and the sample.

The same calculations were done for an adjusted classification. Because the beam trawl boats 24-40 meters is a heterogenic group this segment was further stratified. The old group 24-40 meters is split in a 24-30 meters group and a 30-40 meters group. The quality of the new setup is compared with the original setup and showed that it was even more representative and reliable. More information from the research can be found in Turenhout et al (2011).

The representativeness and reliability of the panel will be tested every 5 years.

There was no deviation of the national program for the data gathered by the panel in 2013, either in sampling or in the variables collected. The precision levels of the variables were good to acceptable in all cases.

Paper Questionnaire: data collected

For the vessels not included in the population for the LEI panel information was gathered by means of paper questionnaires. As the information could only be gathered after the end of the year, data were gathered from 2012. These data were available for the data requests by the commission in spring 2014.

Data gathered with the paper questionnaires is less extensive than data gathered through the LEI panel. Variables gathered included various costs (energy cost, repair cost, fixed cost, employment cost, other variable cost and fishing right cost) and income, investment and effort.

Because previous years resulted in a high level of non-response, questionnaires were sent out to the owners of all commercially less active vessels (in total approx. 360).

In general the overall response to the questionnaire was good (around 30%) and for all segments defined economic parameters could be estimated. However the targeted precision levels could not be attained. This had mainly two reasons:

- response was low for some of the specific requested parameters.
- due to the high variability in the answers, (mainly caused by high variability within the segments), the targeted precision levels could not be attained even in cases where coverage was more than 50%.

Because the variability within the segments for this part of the fleet is very high, higher precision levels were tried to be obtained by increasing the stratification level of the largest segment: passive gear 0-10m. This segment passive gear was further stratified in vessels fishing with gillnets and vessels fishing with other passive gear. The assumption was that the vessels fishing with gillnets would be active for a larger part of the year and thus provide a more homogenous group. These vessel owners were specifically targeted and send a specific questionnaire, furthermore the producers group of gillnet fishermen was involved to motivate members to return the questionnaire. The response rate in this specific group was about 35%, the same as the year before. The variability in this segment however was still quite high. Effort varied between 3 days at sea per vessel to

over 100 days at sea per vessel, making it impossible to attain the target precision levels even with this increased stratification.

To improve the low quality of the data collection for the paper questionnaire MS is working on a model to assess the passive gear fisheries business results. In 2013 this model was not further developed, but the contact with the fishermen was intensified (see also below).

For reporting of the economic data small segments (including < 10 vessels) have been clusters as stated in Table III B 2. The remainder of the clustering of segments with more than 10 vessels (passive gears 10-12m and 12-18 m) has been done for consistency reasons (as stated in the guidelines) and because these vessels were similar to smaller vessels using passive gears and the segments were of limited importance.

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

No recommendations apply.

III.B.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

In order to cope with the low quality data the modeling exercise done in previous year has not been taken forward. Instead, the communication with the fishermen has been intensified by means of telephone interviews in addition to the paper questionnaires. More than 50% of the owners of vessels have been contacted and asked about their fishing activities and their willingness to get involved in the survey. In addition, the possibility was given to submit the data via e-mail or via a web based questionnaire. This resulted in a higher response in different groups and in higher quality data.

III.B. Economic variables (Other regions)

In 2012 one large pelagic vessel spent the majority of their time at sea outside the supra region of ICES and NAFO areas (in African and south American waters), and four other vessels spend part of their time fishing in these waters. Due to the small number of vessels fishing in the supra region 'Other Regions' it is not possible to report on any economic results for this region due to confidentiality agreements. In accordance with the NP,, no data has been collected in 2012.

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

Data from all pelagic vessels was collected including the vessels fishing in other regions. Results are however attributed to the North Sea supra-region due to confidentiality agreements. This is in accordance with the NP.

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

See description of the data quality for the supra region of ICES and NAFO areas.

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

Under current circumstances publication of the data will not be possible unless economic results are combined with results of other countries.

No recommendations apply.

III.B.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

There are no actions planned

III.C. Biological - métier-related variables (North Sea)

North Sea (ICES areas IIIa, IV and VIId) and eastern Arctic (ICES areas I and II)

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

Tables III.C.3, III.C.4, III.C.5 and III.C.6 provide the sampling plan for the metier related variables and the realised results in 2013.

Several sampling systems are used in NL to obtain length and age compositions of the catches. The length sampling of the landings of marine demersal species is based on measurements in the fish auctions by species and size grades. These measurements are representative for all metiers with landings of these species for which size grades information of the landings is available from auction sale slips. In addition discards programmes with observers and self-sampling programmes are used to estimate discards for a number of metiers.

The planned number of trips to be sampled in the fish auction in 2013 was overshoot (367 vs 110 planned). The planned number of 60 mentioned in the NP was not correct. This number should have read 110. However, sampling more trips doesn't imply more visits to the auction. During the same visit, several vessels are sampled, thus overshooting the number of trips doesn't result in higher costs, but does result in a wider spread over the sampling frame reflecting the supply at the auction.

The self-sampling programme for discards has been introduced in 2009 and was continued since then. The self-sampling programme covers several metiers. In this programme, samples of the discard fraction of the catch are taken by the crew of vessels operating in the commercial fishery using a sampling protocol provided by IMARES. The samples are processed ashore by IMARES. The sampling at sea is carried out by reference fleets which are representative to metiers as defined in the DCF. The vessels participating in the reference fleet get a financial compensation for the samples they bring ashore.

The experiences with the discard self-sampling programme are positive. The industry is cooperating well and the programme provides much better information on the spatial distribution in discarding. In addition to the self-sampling programme, 10 observer trips have been carried out in 2013, to enable to detect possible bias in the self-sampling. The number of observer trips is in accordance with the planning, however distributed over several metiers. In 2012, an evaluation of the self-sampling programme was carried out through comparison of observations from self-sampling with the observer observations collected in 2009, 2010 and 2011. The evaluation concluded that the self-sampling observations provide a representative estimate of discarding. A validation for 2013 will be conducted later this year.

The metier TBB_CRU_16-31_0_0 is the shrimp fishery for Crangon. Discards in this metier are estimate through an observer programme. In this metier all 8 planned observer trips were carried out in 2012. We observed a trend that the fishery is changing to longer trips. As a consequence more observer days are needed to cover 8 trips and, ultimately, the budget was not sufficient to cover these extra observer days.

The discard sampling of the various beam trawl metier (TBB_DEF) is carried out through self-sampling. The planning was directed to two components, the so called Euro-cutters which mostly operate in coastal waters and the larger trawlers operating off shore. However, the samples obtained originate from other beam trawl metier as well which were not included in the planning. In total, 81 of the 100 planned self-samples were realised.

The mixed fishery for Nephrops and demersal fish is carried out in metier OTB_MCD_70_99_0_0 which is a sampling frame containing also the other OTB activities. In total 40 trips of this metier were planned in 2013 to be sampled through self-sampling for discards of which 40 trips were realised.

The metier GN_DEF_100_119_0_0 refers to the Dutch cod fishery with gillnet (passive stationary nets). Cooperation with the Dutch gillnet fishery is difficult, gillnet fishers are

not willing to participate, resulting in a limited number of observed trips. In this metier 5 of the 10 planned discards trips were eventually monitored in 2013.

From the Scottish Seine SSC_DEF_70_99_0_0 only 7 of the planned 20 self-samples for discards were obtained in 2013. A large part of the catches are landed abroad creating logistical problems for the monitoring programme..

Eels were sampled at fresh water landing sites in different parts of the country. The sampling was severely hampered by a general closure of the fishery during part of the year as part of the Dutch implementation of the Eel Recovery plan. In addition, in some areas, a permanent closure of the eel fishery has been introduced because of a too high dioxin level in eels. These closures handicap the data collection from fishery dependent sources. Several fishermen seized fishing earlier than planned and some of the gears in IJsselmeer/Markermeer were barely being used. Consequently, sampling targets, set earlier, have not been met. From the 40 samples planned in 2013, 30 have been realised. It is expected that the closures will be maintained in future years. At a national level, this has led to shift from fishery dependent to fishery independent data collection for eel and a further reduction of the number samples collected from the commercial fishery. Note that the actual planning in de NP (80 samples) originates from the period before the closures. The NP of the Netherlands has not been updated for 2013 and 2014.

The number of trips for eel metier FYK_CAT_0_0_0 are unknown. This also applies to the sampling trips of this metier. When measuring fish at (fresh water) landing sites, the samples mostly consists of a fish originating from mixture of trips (by the same fisherman). So, in principle one measurement is representative for several trips.

The pelagic fishery is carried out with large freezer vessel operating in several areas during one trip. The description of the sampling of the pelagic metier is included in the section North Atlantic.

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

The fast development and changes in fishing techniques, in combination with slow anticipation of the data collection and the (control) regulations, negatively influences data quality and may have introduced bias in the discard estimates in the TBB metier. The TBB_DEF_70-99_0_0 is the largest metier operated by NLD in the North Sea. Recent developments in this metier are the introduction of electric stimulation and hydro-dynamic beams (sum wings) replacing the traditional beam. These innovations have led to a reduction in fuel (costs) and also intend to reduce the impact on the bottom structure and fauna. However also the catch composition (species and length composition) may differ from the traditional beam trawl. Also the level of discarding may be different (assumed to be lower). This will not affect the estimation of landings and its size composition since these estimates are based on exhaustive information from logbooks and auction slips. However the estimates of discards for the TBB fleet as a whole will be affected. Despite the fact that the (self)sampling fleet includes a number of vessels operating these new gears it is not possible account for the potential differences between these and traditional beam trawlers. This is due to there not being a unique registration code of the 'new gears', as they are all registered as TBB and the composition of the different types gear operating in the TBB fleet is unknown. This may lead to bias in the total catch composition. In order to reduce the bias in the estimation of discards from this metier, the sampling fleet has been adjusted and now composes of a mixture of gears which is thought representative for the metier.

Sampling of eels has been reduced again in 2013 because of closures of the fishery. This will not affect the quality of the data but the data will become less useful in applications to estimate eel abundance. Instead, fishery independent data collection has been intensified again in 2013 to cover the data gap. These data collections falls outside the scope of the DCF.

National software, developed for this purpose, has been used to calculate precision estimates using methodology developed in COST. A short summary of the method is given in Annex 4.

Despite the unclear variables in Table III.C.5, the precision provided refers to length sampling on stock area basis. In earlier years, NLD has provided comments on this table which are repeated in section IX, which have not been addressed so far by the Commission.

The following derogations apply for sampling of the following métiers:

MIS_UND_0_0_0 (IV, VIId), FYK_CAT_0_0_0 (IV, fresh water), LH_FIF_0_0_0 (IV), TBB_DEF_90-119_0_0 (IIIa), TBB_DEF_>=120_0_0 (IIIa). These derogations were approved based on the National Program version 2011.

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

Notwithstanding earlier recommendations that still apply, no recommendations are of relevance for this section as described in section VII.

III.C.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

At sea sampling for discards

- The NP list for 10 observer trips on TBB_DEF_70-99 (>330hp). However, 6 trips are done on beam trawlers and the other 4 trips on other métiers (TBB_DEF_70-99 (>330hp): 1 trip and OTB_MCD_70-99: 3 trips). Since the introduction of self-sampling, the observer trips are no longer used for estimation of discards but for checking the self-sampling programme. The trips can therefore be allocated to all métiers where self-sampling is applied. There is no need for action.
- For a number of years there are problems getting access to vessel operating GNS gears. The problem is related to observations of by catches of harbour porpoises and publication of those. Establishing a better relationship with the gillnet métier was partly successful, eventually 50% of the planned trips were monitored. The plan for 2014 is to start collecting data on refusals: number of vessel not willing to participate and the reasons why. This information could give an insight in the scope of the problem and the bias of the few data that is collected over the previous years.

Self-sampling for discards

- Since allocations of fishing trips to métiers are post-stratified actions, the métier approach is not an ideal concept for planning of sampling activities. In 2013, the distribution of the realised samples in the TBB métiers deviated from the planning and included métiers which were not intended to sample. This cannot be avoided. Therefore no action will be taken. The trips of the sampled métiers which were not included in the planning are included in the tables.
- Because a large part of landings of métier SSC_DEF_70_99_0_0 is landed abroad, NLD has limited access to the fishing vessels. This makes sampling of the métier, even through self-sampling, problematic. Solutions will be explored in 2014 through bilateral agreements with France, UK and Denmark where most of the catches are landed. Otherwise NLD will seek for a derogation for sampling this métier.

III.C. Biological - métier-related variables (North Atlantic)

North Atlantic (ICES areas V-XIV and NAFO areas)

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

Tables III.C.3, III.C.4, III.C.5 and III.C.6 provide the sampling plan for the métier related variables and the realised results in 2013.

The sampling programme in the North Atlantic exists of an observer programme at sea on board of pelagic freezer trawlers (métier OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0) fishing in European waters and a self-sampling programme carried out by this fleet. The Dutch fishing activity in this region is entirely directed to a restricted number of pelagic species: mackerel, horse mackerel, blue whiting and herring which are caught in large quantities. Also a small amount of argentines (deep sea) is caught by this fleet. The fishing trips of this fleet are not restricted to a specific region or fishing ground but are following the distribution of the stocks covering several regions and fishing grounds including those in the North Sea and the Eastern English Channel.

During the trips covered by observers, concurrent samples of landings and discards for all species are taken on each fishing ground. Further, by-catches of cetaceans are recorded routinely during the trips in order to comply with EU legislation⁴.

In addition a self-sampling programme is providing frozen samples of the unsorted catch from different fishing grounds. The samples are collected and processed by IMARES. The self-sampling programme includes (Dutch owned) vessels with the German and UK flag and from 2010 onwards also with the French flag.

Note that the fleet is targeting species which are widely distributed over a number of fishing grounds. Therefore the sampling frame chosen for sampling is not the métiers as ranked by fishing ground but a combination of métiers. In fact the sampling frame is the fleet of freezer trawlers. The fleet is including 1 pair trawl combination, fishing for the same species in the same areas with similar gear characteristics as the midwater otter trawl. Therefore the pair trawl métiers have been merged with the midwater otter trawl.

The programme proposed in the NP of 2013 was fully realised. The total number of observer trips planned in 2013 is 12. In total 12 observer trips were carried out including one trip on a French flagged vessel, two trips on a British flagged vessel and three trips on a German flagged vessel.

In addition 45 trips were sampled by self-sampling. Each self-sampling trip contains samples of several species and often also from different fishing grounds. The planned number of self-sampling trips was 36.

In a number of bilateral meetings between NLD and GER, it was agreed to cooperate closer in sampling of the OTM_SPF métier. NLD and GER reported on the results of the discard sampling in a joint report for the first time in 2013.

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

The data quality is considered to be good. The observed discard proportions are relatively low (<5%) and do not affect the quality of the data.

The métier OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0 is owned by a few Dutch companies operating a number of vessels flying different flags. Through a number of bilateral agreements, NL has agreed to include vessels flying a foreign flag in its sampling programme. As a consequence, in cause of time the sampling programme has been shifted from only Dutch vessels to all international vessels operated by Dutch companies. As these vessels are fishing on the same stocks and all operate in the same way, this will cause no bias in the estimates obtained from the change in vessel selection.

⁴ COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 812/2004 of 26 April 2004 laying down measures concerning incidental catches of cetaceans in fisheries and amending Regulation (EC) No 88/98.

Only one derogation applies for this area, the approved derogation for sampling SSC_DEF_70-99_0_0 in area VIIe, due to high costs and no access to fish.

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

Notwithstanding earlier recommendations that still apply, no recommendations are of relevance for this section as described in section VII.

III.C.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No actions required for 2014.

III.C. Biological - métier-related variables (Other regions)

Outside North Atlantic and North Sea waters, the Dutch National programme encompasses sampling in CECAF waters under “Other regions”.

Following the multilateral agreements between The Netherlands, Poland, Germany, Latvia, and Lithuania, a common sampling programme was implemented in the CECAF waters for the pelagic fleet.

The type of data collection is concurrent sampling for length composition of all species in the catch. The sampling has been carried out by Mauritanian observers on board of European pelagic trawlers all fishing in the métier OTM_SPF_>=40_0_0. A description of the sampling programme is given in Annex 7 of the National Programme resubmitted for 2012.

The sampling was carried out by the Mauritanian institute IMROP and coordinated by subcontractor Corten Marine research (CMR)

No fishing activities took place in Pacific waters in 2013.

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

Tables III.C.3, III.C.4, III.C.5 and III.C.6 provide the sampling plan for the métier related variables and the realised results in 2013. The information in these tables is also relevant to Poland, Germany, Latvia, and Lithuania. These countries may refer in their Annual Reports to the Annual Report of the Netherlands for their achievements.

Due to the late commencing of the Agreement between the EU and Mauritania on the fishing access to this area and the lack of interest of the vessels to participate in the fishery under the conditions in the new Agreement, the fishery was very limited and started only in the second half of the year. The original planning was to carry out 12 concurrent sampling trips during the year. Because of the late start and the limited effort in 2013, only 4 trips were realised, covering the period July-December. Therefore most sampling targets have not been met.

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

The data quality is not determined and has not been evaluated yet.

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

Notwithstanding earlier recommendations that still apply, no recommendations are of relevance for this section as described in section VII.

III.C.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The bilateral agreement between NLD and the other countries in place for 2013 covered both 2012 and 2013. Sampling was discontinued mid 2012 due to the absence of a fishery but was continued in 2013 as soon as a substantial new fishery started. For 2014 and 2015 new agreements have been made between the countries involved in this fishery.

It should be kept in mind that the samples are taken from a non-randomly selected units from the population which may cause bias. The main reason for applying non random sampling is that in the recent past observers have been refused to board frequently. MS involved in the agreement have, again, been asked to take provisions to allow observers on all trips.

III.D. Biological - Recreational fisheries (North Sea)

North Sea (ICES areas IIIa, IV and VIId) and eastern Arctic ICES areas I and II)

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

NL has set up a multiannual sampling programme covering all recreational angler fisheries in fresh and marine waters. The surveys are directed to cod and eel but also provides information on other species such as sharks. As there is no licence system from which recreational fishermen can be identified, the programme consists of screening survey covering about 50.000 randomly selected households. The screening surveys were held in December 2009, 2011 and 2013. These households were questioned on their participation in recreational fishery as part of a screening survey. This survey was subcontracted to TNS NIPO. Based on the results of this screening survey about 2000-2500 recreational fishermen have been selected to provide information on their recreational catches, motivation and spending in a diary survey. These diary surveys ran between March 2010-2011 and March 2012-2013 and make use of logbooks.

The data collected in the first period have been analysed and published^{5,7}. The results from the screening survey indicate that in 2009 1.7 million recreational fishermen (10.9% of the Dutch population) were active. In 2011 the number of recreational fishermen decreased to around 1.4 million participants or 8.3% of the Dutch population.

Overview of the number of recreational fishermen in the Netherlands (van der Hammen & de Graaf, 2013).

	2009	2011
FRESHWATER	1.048.242	848.940
MARINE	195.450	127.772
FRESHWATER & MARINE	445.347	422.790
Total	1.683.039	1.399.502

The estimates of recreational catches of eel and cod from the first diary survey are presented in the table below. The estimates from the second diary survey March 2012-2013 have not been analysed yet.

The preliminary estimates of recreational catches of eel and cod are presented in the table below. Surprising is the high tonnage of landed eel because it is forbidden to retain eel as a recreational fisher since 2009. The recreation catch for both species is significant (15-30) in relation to the commercial catch. In comparison, the recreational catch of sole is <0.6% of the commercial catch.

Overview of recreational catches in the Netherlands in 2010. Note that these are preliminary estimates (uncorrected data; these data should not be reproduced without consultation with IMARES).

⁵ van der Hammen, T., and Martin de Graaf. 2012. Recreational fishery: catch estimate of cod (*Gadus morhua*) and eel (*Anguilla anguilla*). [Report number C014/12](#)

⁷ van der Hammen, T., and M. de Graaf. 2013. Recreational fishery in the Netherlands: demographics and catch estimates in marine and fresh water. [Report number C147/13](#).

Species	Caught (t)	Retained (t)	Release Rate (%)	% Commercial Catch
Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>): MARINE	43-60	17-36	40-60%	
Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) FRESHWATER	187-215	37-78	64-80%	
Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>): MARINE + FRESHWATER	231-276	55-115*	58-76%	15-30%*
Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)	700	635	10%	~19%

*Catch and release mortality has not been included in these calculations.

The sampling programme, as it has been set up now, also provides estimates of the recreational catch of other species in marine waters and fresh water. In the 2010 survey few sharks were reported and all reported sharks were released. In the Netherlands sharks only appear to be targeted by a small group of catch-and-release fishers. In order to better quantify the amount of released sharks by recreational fishers in the Netherlands, the Diary Survey may have to be increased to incorporate an appropriate sample of fishers from this specific strata (marine boat anglers in the south of the Netherlands).

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

The methodology used to obtain the estimates is quite unique and tailored to the Dutch situation where no public information on the activity of recreational fishery is available. The estimates show large confidence intervals but are in line with results in previous pilot studies. Reducing the confidence intervals would lead to disproportional increase of sampling costs and is therefore not considered.

A closer look at the lengths of the fish recorded by the logbook holders seemed to show that many logbook holders might not actually measure the fish accurately. The lengths recorded were strongly biased towards 0s and 5s (e.g. 30, 35, 40 etc.). More importantly, comparison with onsite data suggests some overestimation of the sizes of retained fish. Little difference was found between recorded lengths in the logbooks of released fish in comparison with onsite data. For eel it was not possible to use length frequency data from the onsite sampling as only two eels were encountered in the field program. To obtain onsite length data for retained eel will be difficult as in almost all waters retaining eel is forbidden. In other words most of the eel has been illegally retained. Furthermore, eel fishermen are widely scattered over the Dutch inland and coastal waters and are difficult to intercept during an onsite program. These factors make it difficult to collect onsite length frequency data for eel. To calculate eel biomass from numbers we used the length frequency from the logbooks (uncorrected estimate) but also calculated a biomass estimate (corrected estimate) using a correction factor based on the overestimation calculated for cod and dab. Parallel to the second diary survey in 2012-2013 a more elaborate onsite programme was conducted to improve the collection of length frequency data of retained fish.

Until recently the recreational data collection was restricted to the angling population because legislation was in force which forbids recreation fishing with set nets. However, a recreational fishery with passive gears (gill nets) has been allowed again along certain parts of the Dutch coast. The catches of this type of recreational fishery have been included in the 2014 survey.

In 2013, NL did not participate in the ICES Working Group on Recreational Fishery Surveys (WGRFS). This working group is presently mainly dealing with exchanging

expertise between different countries but also aims to harmonize the methodology used in the different countries (WGRFS 2013).

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

Based on discussions within the WGRFS it was recommended that during the next Diary Survey in 2012-2013 information on both fishing trips in the Netherlands as fishing trips abroad will be recorded. In the previous (2012-2013) and current Diary Survey (2014-2015), recreational fishermen can record both national and international fishing trips. An additional Screening Survey will need to be conducted to determine the number of fishing trips abroad.

Taking account of international recommendations of PGRFS the survey design in the Netherlands need to address the following potential bias issues:

- 1) Determine if the TNS-NIPO database is representative for the general population in the Netherlands. It will have to conduct a screening survey using random digit dialling (phone) parallel to the online screening survey. This parallel survey was conducted in December 2013.
- 2) Improve the onsite surveys to obtain better length frequency data. Good quality length frequency data are detrimental for a reliable biomass estimation. The programme was elaborated in 2012 and has been implemented again during the current diary survey in 2014.

Notwithstanding earlier recommendations that still apply, no recommendations are of relevance for this section as described in section VII.

III.D.4. Actions to avoid shortfalls

NLD has increased the number of onsite samplings in 2012 and 2014 in order to obtain better estimates of the length composition of the catch.

NLD included the sampling of recreational fisheries with set nets in its NP.

In December 2013, an online and random digit dialling survey was conducted simultaneously in order to determine possible bias (accuracy) issues related to an online screening survey.

Because of financial restriction in the national research budget, the Netherlands cannot immediately implement all relevant international recommendations. Recommendations to estimate methodological bias in the sampling and to estimate number of fishing trips abroad will be addressed if financial resources become available.

III.E. Biological - stock-related variables (North Sea)

North Sea (ICES areas IIIa, IV and VIId) and eastern Arctic ICES areas I and II)

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

The sampling targets and achievements of the biological stock related variables are presented in table III.E.3. The columns in this table, reflecting achievements on regional level, are not relevant, since achievements of other MS are unknown at the time of reporting.

In the NP, the number of planned biological observations by species was based on the samples obtained from fish market or self-sampling. These were listed in the NP for 2013. In addition biological observation is obtained during surveys and discard trips. The number of observations from these sources is difficult to plan and was not included in the NP. However, these observations are sometimes more relevant and supplementary to those obtained in the fish market.

In general, the sampling targets set in the NP proposal of the Netherlands were met. However, in some cases, under or oversampling occurred. As sampling for length, weight, sex & maturity at age usually is performed on the same individual, the mentioned deviations are applicable to all these parameters, except if stated otherwise. In line with the guidelines, only undersampling of more than 10% and oversampling of more than 50% is explained.

For pelagic species (metier OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0), sampling targets by fishing ground are commonly not met. This deviation is due to the nature of the pelagic fisheries sampling. Sampling of this metier can only take place on-board, since the catches are not brought to auction. The samples are taken by trained crew-members. Sampling therefore automatically follows the fishery, resulting in an expected deviation of sampling effort from one area to the other compared to the planning. Additional effort, to obtain sufficient samples from all areas, resulted in extra samples, however, in general, the planned number of samples by area was not met, while the overall target on a species level was met.

The targets set for *Clupea harengus* in the various areas was not met. Overall, the achieved sampling for *Clupea harengus* for all areas combined, overshot the planned number just by 3%.

The targets set for *Scomber scombrus* and *Trachurus trachurus* in the various areas was not met. Overall, the achieved sampling for both stocks for all areas combined, exactly met the planned numbers.

The targets set for *Platichthys flesus* and *Limanda limanda* were overshot by 100%, while *Microstomus kitt* was overshot by 110%. Due to changes in sorting behaviour in the fish auctions, the sampling procedure has been adapted. These species are now landed in 2 categories and the sampling intensity follows these categories to ensure complete coverage of the length range landed at the auction. Consequently the targets are overshot.

The target set for *Nephrops norvegicus* was not met as sampling reached 49% completion. As for the last years, due to changes in processing of *Nephrops* on board fishing vessels, one market category was not landed during a large part of the year. Despite this change, the number of individuals sampled per category remained unchanged, resulting in a lower number of individuals per sample, ultimately resulting in the virtual shortfall in numbers of individuals sampled.

For the determination of length, maturity, gender, weight and age of *Anguilla anguilla*, fish samples are obtained aiming to meet the planned numbers in table III.E.3. However, not all samples will be further processed. Only a small part of the otoliths will be aged as soon as validated methodology has become available.

Eel samples were collected between May and August 2013. Roughly 1 sample per 8 t was sampled. Samples were spatially distributed based on their contribution to the total

eel landings in 2012. In 2013, 30 eels samples from the following geographical areas: IJsselmeer (8 samples, 4 gear types), Markermeer (4 samples, 2 gear types), Friesland (2 samples), Hollands Noorderkwartier (4 samples), Grevelingenmeer (1 samples), IJssel Plus (2 samples), Rijnland (2 samples), Noorderzijlvest (2 samples), Veluwe Randmeren (2 samples), Lauwersmeer (1 sample) and Volkerak-Zoommeer (2 samples). A sample consisted of measuring the length of 150-200 specimens and collecting 2-4 eels per 10 cm size class for further analysis in the laboratory (length, weight, sex, parasites, growth).

The target of 1500 fish (otoliths) set in the NP for age sampling is not realistic since no age-based assessment is possible. About one hundred otoliths from two locations were selected for aging to study spatial differences in growth.

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

Table III.E.3 also list some values of the accuracy indicators for the following biological parameters as estimated from auction samples: weight at age, length at age, sex-ratio and maturity at age. A coefficient of Variation (CV; the standard error divided by the mean) has been computed for each of the biological parameters as the average over the most abundant age groups. As sampling for most species has not covered the entire stock, the parameters are more representative to the national catch. In general, precision appears to increase rapidly with increasing sample size up to approximately 1000 fish. Lengths-at-age are generally estimated with much higher precision than weights-at-age. The precision estimates of maturity-at-age are difficult to interpret and are poorly defined, since for most species 100% of all sampled individuals of older ages are mature. For the estimated mean length-at-age and sex-ratio-at-age, the precision targets have been met for all species. For the estimated mean weights-at-age, the precision targets have been met for 4 intensively sampled species (*Solea solea*, *Pleuronectes platessa*, *Micromesistius poutassou*, *Platichthys flesus*).

It must be noted that the precision requirements are set arbitrarily and are set the same for all species. In general it is difficult to obtain unbiased precision estimates for biological parameters which are representative to the stock. Mostly the problem is insufficient coverage of the population by sampling. In many cases, the catches from where the samples are taken cannot be assumed to give a representative sample of the entire population. Some of these problems could be overcome by a regional coordination of sampling. Others can only be solved by specific, sometimes expensive sampling programmes.

Further, in order to be able to calculate biological parameters, there is often also external information needed which is not included in the sampling. For instance ratios of abundance in different areas to weight the observations. This information is often not available or available from other sources. The calculation of the precision will then have to take account of the quality of the external information.

The data sources mentioned in the NP table III_E_3 were based on commercial and survey estimates together. However, in the AR, these data sources are split to facilitate precision calculation based on commercial data only. Both the sources surveys and discards are mentioned separately.

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

No recommendations are of relevance for this section as described in section VII.

III.E.4. Actions to avoid shortfall

For fisheries on pelagic species, sampling follows the distribution of the fisheries. As these fisheries may shift from area to area without adhering to the proposed sampling area, the obtained samples deviate by definition from any spatial planning. The most important issue is however to cover the catches in the actual fishing areas, which is achieved through the applied sampling strategy. As is done in previous years, additional effort will be made to collect samples of herring by special requests to vessel owners

from specific areas which are easily missed because they are visited only by a few vessels in a few trips, such as area IIa.

For *Nephrops*, no changes will be made to the sampling strategy, as current procedures cover the remaining categories sufficiently.

As described in this Annual Report (Section III.E.2) and repeatedly approved by numerous Workshops, if CV's are to be set, CV's should be set specifically for species and variables. It must be noted that the precision requirements are set arbitrarily and are set the same for all species. In general it is difficult to obtain unbiased precision estimates for biological parameters which are representative to the stock. Mostly the problem is insufficient coverage of the population by sampling. In many cases, the catches from where the samples are taken cannot be assumed to give a representative sample of the entire population. Some of these problems could be overcome by a regional coordination of sampling. Others can only be solved by specific, sometimes expensive sampling programmes.

III.E. Biological - stock-related variables (North Atlantic)

North Atlantic (ICES areas V-XIV and NAFO areas)

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

In general, the sampling targets set in the NP proposal were met except for the target set for *Clupea harengus* in area VIa, as no samples could be obtained from that area. As for the North Sea this deviation is due to the nature of the pelagic fisheries. Sampling of this metier is completely relies on samples taken during on-board sampling and as the samples cannot be obtained from auctions. The sampling therefore follows the fishery, resulting in a shift of effort from one area to the other, or even from region to region, compared to the scheduled sampling scheme.

However, as described in section III.E.1 (North Sea) when the targets for area I, II, V and IV, VIIId, IIIa and VIa are combined, the sampling is completed at exactly 100%. The shift in areas had no financial implications.

Sampling targets have been set in the NP for *Argentina spp* for fishing ground VIIbjck. However all catches reported from this stock in 2013 were from fishing ground VI. Therefore these was no sampling of catches from fishing ground VIIbjck. Instead, catches of argentines from fishing ground VI have been sampled.

The overall targets (areas combined) for *Scomber scombrus*, *Micromesistius poutassou* and *Trachurus trachurus* were exactly met, despite a different distribution over the areas. As sampling follows the fishery, no data implications arise from this.

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

The sampling targets and achievements of the biological stock related variables are presented in table III.E.3. The columns in this table, which reflect to achievements on regional level, are not relevant, since there has been no regional coordination of the sampling of biological parameters. Also achievements of other MS are unknown at the time of this reporting.

In general, the sampling targets set in the NP proposal of the Netherlands were met within the boundaries around 100%.

For some of the parameters, precision estimates (CV) have been calculated. Comments given in section III.E.2 of the Region North Sea and Eastern Atlantic are also valid for this region.

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

No specific recommendation applies to this section of the report.

III.E.4. Actions to avoid shortfalls

As for the North Sea region, sampling of pelagic species like *Clupea harengus*, *Scomber scombrus*, *Micromesistius poutassou*, *Trachurus trachurus* and *Argentina spp* completely relies on samples brought ashore by the trawlers. The sampling follows the main activities of the fleet and as a result, sampling intensity may shift from area to area without adhering to the proposed sampling area. The most import issue is however to cover the actual fishing areas, which is done through this strategy.

Comments given in section III.E.4 of the Region North Sea and Eastern Atlantic regarding CV's and coverage are also valid for this region.

III.E. Biological - stock-related variables (Other Regions)

CECAF (all areas).

Following a multilateral agreement between the Netherlands and Poland, Germany, Latvia, and Lithuania, a common sampling programme was implemented in the CECAF waters for the pelagic fleet.

The type of data collection is concurrent sampling for length composition of all species in the catch. The sampling has been carried out by Mauritanian observers on board of European pelagic trawlers all fishing in the metier OTM_SPF_>=40_0_0. A description of the sampling programme is given in Annex 7 of the National Programme resubmitted for 2012.

The sampling was carried out by the Mauritanian institute IMROP and coordinated by subcontractor Corten Marine research (CMR)

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

The sampling targets and achievements of the biological stock related variables are presented in table III.E.3. Only the columns in this table reflecting achievements on regional level are relevant.

The sampling target was based on the assumption of monitoring the fishery during the entire year. However, the fishery only took place for a few months, hence most sampling targets have not been met.

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

No evaluation of the data quality has been carried out so far. The evaluation is not part of the multilateral agreement.

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

No new recommendations are relevant. The former recommendation SGRN 10-02 no 1 was relevant and is implemented

III.E.4. Actions to avoid shortfalls

No actions are required for 2014. Sampling will be continued when vessel from countries under the bilateral agreement deploy a fishery in this area. The existing multilateral agreement covering the years 2012-2013 was extended to the 2014-2015..

III.F. Transversal variables

III.F.1. Capacity

III.F.1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Data on capacity was available from the fleet register and has been solely obtained from this data source. Data was available for the entire Dutch fleet so no estimation was required. Data collection was according to the national program and there were no deviations from the national programme.

III.F.1 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Full information on capacity indicators was available through the fleet register. Therefore only this information source has been used. The fleet registry covered the entire fleet. There were no deviations from the national program.

III.F.1 Actions to avoid shortfalls

There are no shortfalls.

III.F.2 Effort

III.F.2 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Effort data are available through the VIRIS logbook database. In addition to the EC regulation on logbooks, all vessels below 10m have to register all fishing trips and landings (also <50 kg) in their logbooks. Therefore the VIRIS logbook database covers the complete Dutch fleet and effort does not need to be estimated.

The following effort variables were however not available as these are not mentioned on the logbook:

- Number of rigs
- Number of nets and length
- Number of hooks and number of lines
- Number of traps
- Soaking time

For the commercial fleet these variables were not collected. For the non-commercial fleet some questions were added to the paper questionnaire about these variables. The results however were not representative for the entire sector and therefore not reported on. This however was not a deviation from the NP as derogation was requested and granted for these variables.

III.F.2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Effort data is based on exhaustive information and quality checks on the data were done by the General Inspection Service. There were no deviations from the NP.

III.F.2 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No initiatives have been taken to coordinate the national programme with other MS.

III.F.2 Actions to avoid shortfalls

There were no shortfalls

III.F.3 Landings

III.F.3 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Landings data are available at the trip level through the VIRIS logbook database. In addition to the EC regulation on logbooks, all vessels below 10m have to register all

fishing trips and landings (also <50 kg) in their logbooks. Therefore the VIRIS logbook database covers the complete Dutch fleet.

The data on landings are checked in the VIRIS data system. Data on prices are obtained directly from fish auctions and are checked with company accounts.

III.F.3 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Price and value data are available at a trip level from sales notes for almost all fishing trips. In case complete data on landings are available from logbooks, the total value of the landings is simply calculated by adding up the landings for all trips in one metier and for one fleet segment. In case price and value data of a specific metier/segment combination is not available for all trips, total value of landings will be estimated based on the total landings and the average price per species and month in this metier/segment combination. Thus it will be assumed that the average price of the fish is the same for trips with and without price information.

Average annual prices will be based on weighted averages of all landings.

Conversion factors are given in table III.F.3.2 and will be updated in case of modifications.

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

No initiatives have been taken to coordinate the national programme with other MS.

III.F.3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

There were no shortfalls.

III.G Research surveys at sea

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

The technical achievements of the research surveys at sea are given in table III.G.1 and III.E.3. All surveys listed in the NP were carried out. Most surveys planned in 2013 have been carried out without major problems. The station grids (figures 1-8) are presented in Annex 1.

The number of plankton samples taken during IBTS in 2013 was slightly higher than planned because some international exchange of stations took place. Due to the shift in stations with Danish partners, the locations of the actual stations differ from the planned locations.

The North Sea Beam Trawl survey faced technical problems, due to which RV Isis could not go out for four days. As a result, not all planned stations could be visited. However, in all rectangles at least one haul has been carried out, so the spatial range is equal to other years and the data could be used for the stock assessment.

During the Sole Net Survey, RV Isis broke down again. FV G058 took over the sampling. More days were needed than planned because the level of damage of RV Isis was not clear from the beginning, so the crew first tried to repair the ship before they went to port and stayed in for a thorough revision.

The number of trawl hauls carried out by Tridens during the NS Herring Acoustic Survey was 19. The planned number of trawl hauls was 25. The number of hauls is related to the distribution of herring as indicated by the acoustic equipment and the mixing of herring with other species in the water column. The hauls are taken for biological samples of herring and to verify the species composition associated with the acoustic signals. The planned number of trawl hauls is therefore indicative. 19 hauls were considered sufficient for these purposes.

Due to acceptable to good weather conditions throughout the survey period, the Blue Whiting Survey resulted in a high quality coverage of the stock and more nautical miles covered than planned. This despite a late cancellation of the Norwegian participation to this survey. For this reason the station grid of the survey needed to be redesigned.

During the International Mackerel and Horse Mackerel egg survey the number of fish hauls should be considered as indicative, as the number of fish to be collected for fecundity and atresia is leading. Depending on the availability of fish, more or less hauls than planned will be carried out. Due to mechanical winch problems in the first part of the survey, less plankton samples could be taken than originally planned.

Maps

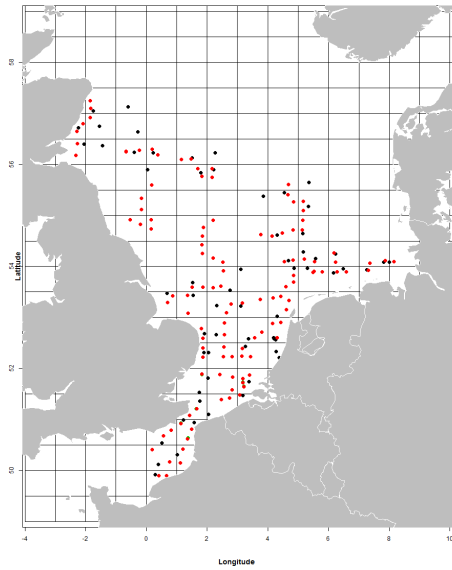


Fig 1. Sampling grid Dutch International Bottom Trawl Survey 2013. Red: MIK (plankton) hauls; Black: GOV (fish) hauls

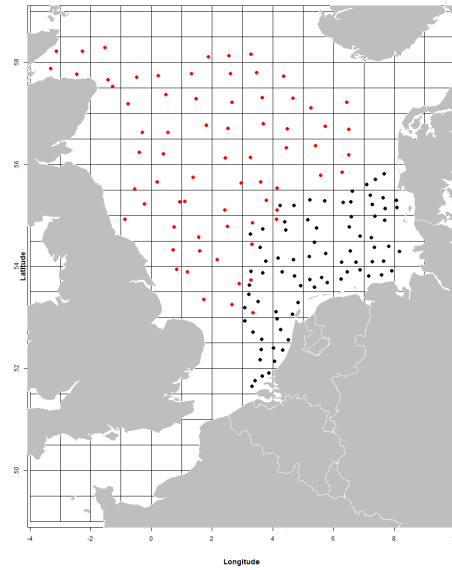


Fig 2. Sampling grid Dutch Beam Trawl Survey 2013. Red: RV Tridens; Black: RV Isis

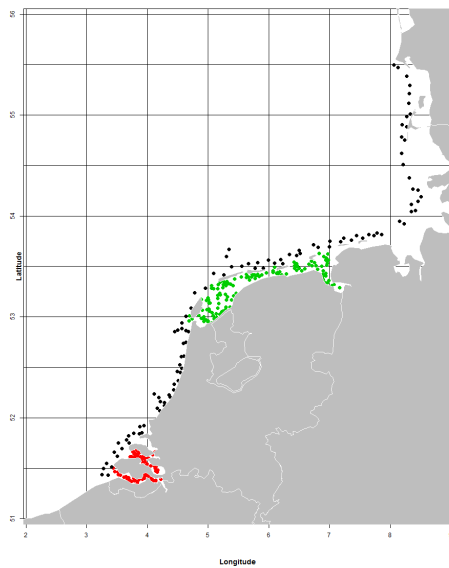


Fig 3. Sampling grid Demersal Young Fish Survey 2013. Red: RV Schollevaar; Black: RV Isis; Green: RV Stern

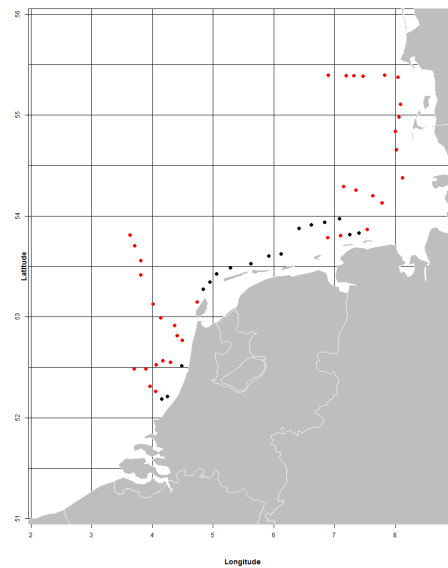


Fig 4. Sampling grid Sole Net Survey 2013. Red: FV G058; Black: RV Isis

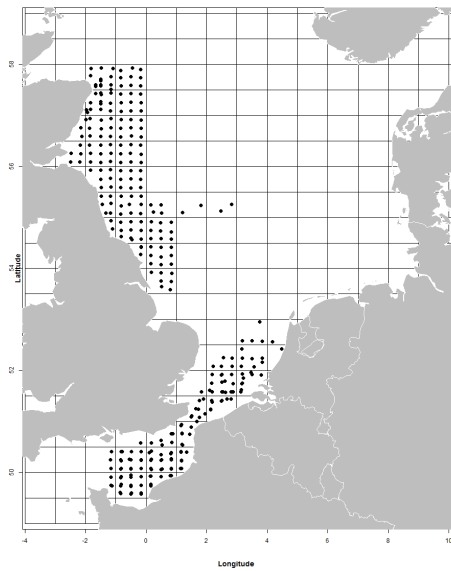


Fig 5. Sampling grid Herring Larvae Survey 2013.

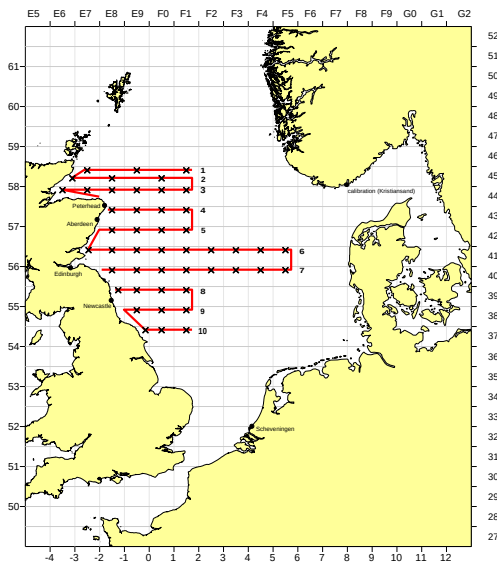


Fig 6a. Sampling grid NS Herring Acoustic Survey 2013. Acoustic transects (red line) and hydrography stations (black X).

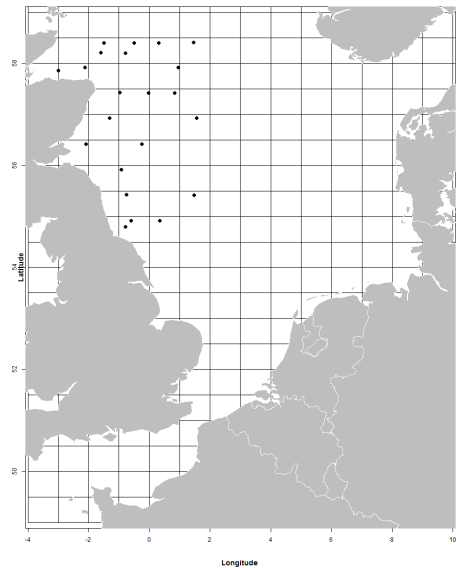


Fig 6b. Sampling grid NS Herring Acoustic Survey 2013. Fish hauls.

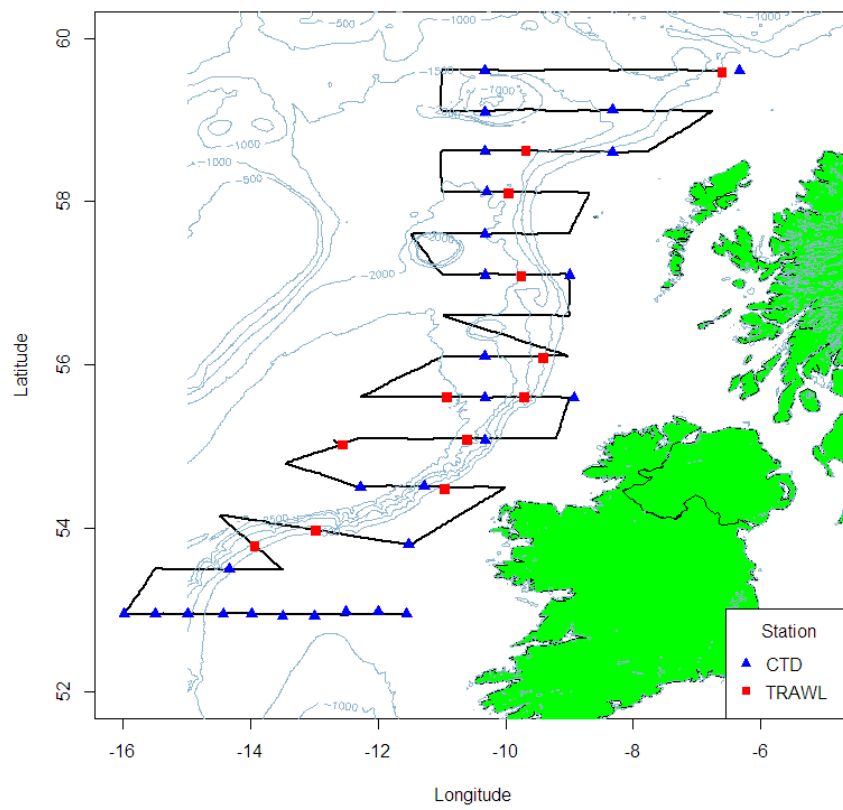


Fig 7. Sampling grid Blue Whiting Survey 2013. Black line: acoustic transect; red squares: fishing positions; blue triangles: hydrography stations.

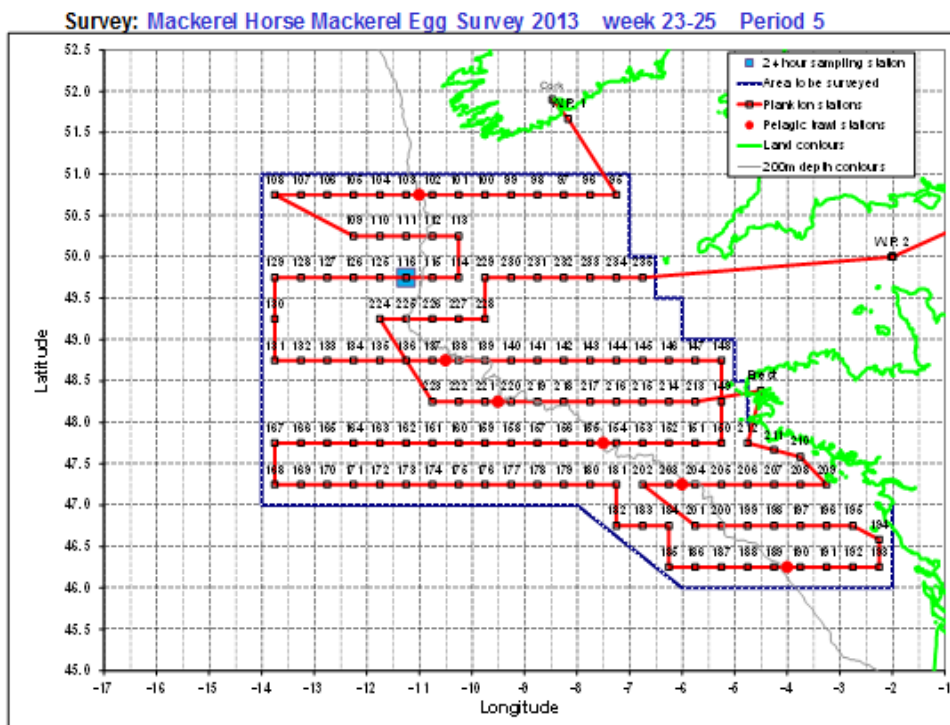
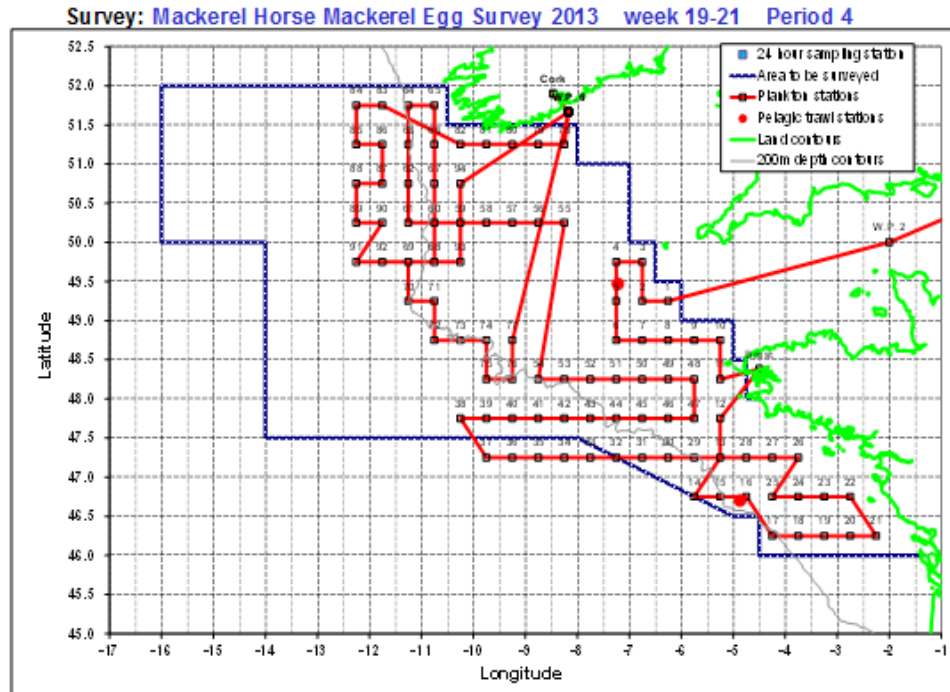


Fig 8.: International Mackerel and Horse Mackerel egg survey 2013. Upper: Dutch sampling in week 19-21, lower: Dutch sampling in week 23-25. Black open squares: plankton stations; red dots: fish trawls; red line: route; blue box: planned 24-hour plankton sampling station.

Fig 9.: Mackerel egg survey: no survey in 2013 (according to schedule, next survey planned for 2014)

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

The deviation of the planned programme had minor to no influence on the quality of the survey indices of 2013 is expected. See also III.G.1-Achievements.

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

The following recommendation applies: STECF EWG 11-08 no 11

III.G.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Dealing with weather conditions is part of research at sea. The planning of the sampling is always based on an 'average' year. During 'good' years it is important to communicate (inter)nationally if other ships need extra sampling to cover their programme. In 'bad' years it is highly recommended to communicate as soon as possible on the potential shortfalls that will occur. Since on all Dutch vessels involved in internationally arranged surveys internet is available, communication is easy.

Norway announced at short notice that it had decided not to participate in the 2013 international blue whiting survey, despite the fact that they had committed to carry out their traditional part earlier in the ICES planning group (WGIPS). Reasons for the Norwegian decision were changes in national priorities. Although the survey has been carried out successfully by the remaining countries, this is mainly due by the exceptional good weather this year. Also the station grid of the survey and the allocations to the remaining countries had to be adapted. The blue whiting survey is carried out in an area and period when poor weather conditions prevail. In the past, poor weather conditions have frequently lead to incomplete spatial and temporal coverage of the area. In one occasion (2010) this even lead to disqualifying the result of the survey by ICES. In order to reduce the risk that the survey cannot be completed, it is important that all participants do their utmost best to cover their designated part. Also flexibility in coordination is required to cope with vessel failure and weather conditions to reduce the risk that the important areas may not be covered by the survey. The risk is high that backing off by one country can make the result of the survey invalid and the effort of the other countries will become in vain. Measures reducing the risk that this will happen would be welcome.

Further actions are not necessary.

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

IV.A. Collection of economic data for the aquaculture

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

The aquaculture sector in the Netherlands consists of three main components:

- The mussel sector
- The oyster sector
- The land based aquaculture sector.

For each of these sectors economic data is collected.

For the mussel and oyster sector data is collected through a panel which covers about 20% of all the firms in the sector. There were no deviations from the NP proposal for the mussel sector. The collection of data for the oyster sector and especially the land-based aquaculture was more problematic. In contrary to the fisheries sector, the aquaculture sector is relatively data poor. Only for the mussel culture, reliable data exists on the total production from the mussel auction in Yerseke. Data on the total production of land based aquaculture is available from Eurostat, based on figures provided by Statistics Netherlands and the Ministry of Agriculture Nature conservation and Food safety. However these data show quite some inconsistencies. From this comparison it seems that the Eurostat definition under NACE Code 05.02: "Fish Farming" does not include all aquaculture firms. Thus the data collection of these sectors solely depends on data collection from firms. LEI started to collect data about the aquaculture sector in the year 2005. Through contacts within this relatively small sector and its product organisations (PO mussel culture, Dutch Oyster Association, Dutch Fish Farmers Association NEVEVI, Dutch Fish Product Board), since that time LEI knows fairly accurately how many firms are operating in the sector. The closedown of activities from the Dutch Fish Product Board for the aquaculture sector has made this task more challenging. In 2013 the collection of data from the oyster sector and the land based aquaculture sector proved to be increasingly difficult. In the oyster sector some panel members backed out and it was impossible to find replacements. As a result only from 4 companies financial accounts could be obtained.

In previous years, it was already experienced that based aquaculture in the Netherlands is a relatively small, fragmented, highly competitive and dynamic sector. As a result firms are reluctant to provide data on their economic position. Most panel members were backing out of the panel in 2013, leaving 3 in the panel. Therefore, the decision was taken that an estimation of the economic performance of the land based aquaculture for 2011 would be obtained through simple extrapolation of the data gathered in 2012, combined with additionally gathered information on the development of prices and costs.

In 2013 the collection program for macro data has been carried out. This includes the number of companies (by species), production and annual revenue. Contact information of fish farms was gathered from official sources (Statistics Netherlands, Dutch Fish Product Board) and complemented with expert knowledge and a web-scraping exercise. All known fish farmers were contacted and approached for a telephone questionnaire. Non-response however is still a concern. Many respondents are reluctant to provide information because this is a small economic sector and they are concerned about anonymity. The response rate to this survey was 50%.

Because the data are based on financial accounts, data collection is delayed by almost a year. Therefore the 2013 program will cover 2011 data and final validated data will only become available 18 months after the reference year. The shellfish sector is a special case because the financial year covers the period from July –June. As the majority of the

production (> 80%) takes place from July-December, the economic results of the 2011-2012 season will be presented as the 2011 data.

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

The total value of the economic variables is estimated through different aggregation procedures for each of these sectors:

- Mussel segment: as the total production is available here gross value of production and variable production costs are aggregated according to the production. Fixed costs are aggregated based on the number of vessels.
- Oyster segment: as opposed to the mussel segment there does not exist a statutory duty of sale by auction for oysters. However the Fish Marketing Board request the oyster producers to submit an annual statement of supplied oysters. Furthermore LEI makes use of a panel of oyster companies from which the annual financial accounts are analysed
- Land based fish farming segment: In 2012 no data was collected from the panel of companies for land based aquaculture. Instead a simple estimation procedure was used to attain some indication of the economic performance of the aquaculture sector, based on the data gathered in previous years and additional information on the developments in price levels and cost structure obtained through telephone interviews. Because of this no information on quality is provided in the excel sheets As a results the resulting data can only be seen as indicative for the performance of the sector.
- The current number of Dutch oyster companies is 27. Throughout the years LEI has had a panel of oyster companies to estimate the overall economic situation of the oyster sector. Last year, due to several companies unexpectedly leaving the panel, we only had 4 companies remaining. Due to this low number of companies present in the panel the reliability of the estimates for the total oyster sector is considered to be insufficient. Next year our aim is to increase the number of companies taking part in the panel with at least 3; this should ensure statistically robust numbers.

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

No recommendations were done at the North Sea RCM with regard to the economic data collection of the fishing fleet. No initiatives have been taken to coordinate the national programme with other MS.

IV.A.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

The number of firms presented in the oyster panel will be increased next year.

Effort to gather new members of the aquaculture panel will be increased. Besides, new ways to gather information on the land based aquaculture will be tested and implemented, e.g. telephone questionnaires to obtain a better coverage of the basic information on production prices and employment. It will also be tested whether accounts from the Chamber of commerce can be used to obtain the economic data. Moreover, closer cooperation with Statistics Netherlands will be sought to obtain economic data as companies have an obligation to provide data to Statistics Netherlands. The problem here is that the target population used by the Eurostat regulation differs from that in the DCF. Detailed analysis of the statistics provided by SN will be done to try to overcome this problem.

IV.B. Collection of data concerning the processing industry

Data on fish processing was compiled by LEI from a number of sources. The European Commission requested data from only fish processing and no data collection on fish wholesaling.

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

LEI Collects data from several resources: LEI survey, SN business statistics, Business statistics collected by Chamber of Commerce, landings statistics, statistics of international trade. The financial account provided by the Chamber of Commerce and the SN database have been directly used to estimate the variables. Other data sources have been used to cross check the results.

LEI collects data on employment and economic performance of the processing sector and fish wholesaling by means of a 5-annual survey (questionnaire). This survey was conducted in 2010.

There were no deviations from the national programme.

SN Business statistics

Economic data on fish processing and wholesaling businesses is available in a structural business statistics database kept by the national statistical office Statistic Netherlands (SN). The database is updated annually. Definitions of variables comply broadly with Commission Regulation (EC) No 2700/98. LEI has access to a set of anonymous micro-data. The SN database contains, among others, data on the following variables:

Income (Turnover):

Turnover comprises the totals invoiced by units in the sector during the reference period, and this corresponds to market sales of goods or services supplied to third parties. Turnover includes all duties and taxes on the goods or services invoiced with the exception of the VAT invoiced by the unit vis-à-vis its customer and other similar deductible taxes directly linked to turnover.

Production costs include:

- Wages and salaries of staff: defined as the total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable by an employer to an employee (regular and temporary employees as well as home workers) in return for work done by the latter during the reference period. Personnel costs also include taxes and employees' social security contributions retained by processing units as well as the employer's compulsory and voluntary social contributions.
- Purchases of goods and services include the value of all goods and services purchased during the accounting period for resale or consumption in the production process. This includes:
 - Raw materials (including purchases for resale, changes of stocks)
 - Energy costs
- Other operational costs include:
 - Packaging
 - Payments for agency workers
 - Costs of selling
 - Other operating costs: e.g.: postal and telecom, consultancy payments.
- Fixed costs include costs linked to the depreciation of buildings and equipment (payments for maintenance and repair, leasing payments), and financial costs.
- Employment (number of persons employed and FTEs)

Business statistics collected by Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce provides a Register of individual business. The register includes data on financial position (share of own capital) and investment (asset), for all businesses. The financial data are obtained from this source.

Landing statistics

Data of landings at national auctions (by vessel, trip, and market category) is collected and kept in a database kept by LEI. The database can be updated at a monthly basis, is based on sales notes and covers all recorded landings at all national auctions. The data set provides data on volume, value and prices of raw materials purchased from all domestic landings of fresh fish. Data on landings and landings value of sea frozen fish is collected by LEI from vessel owners.

Statistics of international trade

Data on international trade (volume, value and prices) of raw materials and final products is provided by SN and Eurostat. LEI has access to a dataset at Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) rev.3 8-digit level. This dataset allows e.g. estimation of volume of raw materials imported and of prices of final products produced from TAC related species.

All indicators as set out in Appendix XIX of the DCR can be submitted but with one year delay as micro-data of SN are not sooner made available.

Sample rate and precision achieved vary by indicator and depend on the secondary source. The sample rate of all indicators collected from business statistics database of SN amounts to 40%.

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

Data checks were done internally by the Central Bureau of Statistics Netherlands. To ensure data quality figures used were also checked with official published data on Statline..

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

No initiatives have been taken to coordinate the national programme with other MS.

IV.B.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No shortfalls.

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

V.1. Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

No specific additional activities have been carried out in the DCF directed to this module. The data required are collected in other modules or are available from other sources. The indicators 1, 2 and 3 listed in Commission Decision 2008/949/EC Appendix XIII of the Commission Decision require data on species abundance and length distribution by species from fishery independent research surveys. These data has been collected through the annual surveys carried out by the Netherlands. Table V.1 lists the information collected during the sampling year.

VMS positions (indicators 4-7) are available for all vessels which are subject to the obligation of having VMS equipment on board. With regard to the confidentiality of the VMS data there still is a conflict between national legislation and DCF legislation. VMS data has been made available by IMARES for research purpose under certain conditions.

Catch composition (indicator 8) of the landings are available for all metiers. Discard data are available for all metiers which are subject to discard sampling. These include all major metiers operating under the flag of the Netherlands.

The data collection through the LEI panel allows for the direct calculation fuel costs (Indicator 9) per quarter and metier. Estimation of the total costs for fuel in each metier are based on total effort (from logbooks) and fuel costs per sea day (from panel data).

Numerous activities, regarding the analyses of data collected under the DCF, have been carried out in 2012. One of the major activities is the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and the development of indicators of Good Environmental Status (GES). However, these activities have not been carried out under the DCF and are not eligible.

V.2. Actions to avoid shortfalls

There are no shortfalls. Action has been taken to streamline national legislation and DCF legislation.

VI. Module for management and use of the data

VI.1. Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Management of the data

Databases

Three relational databases are maintained for storing fishery related data, VISSTAT, FRISBE and ARTIS. VISSTAT and FRISBE are based at IMARES. ARTIS is operated at LEI. The data bases contain only primary data. No aggregated data are kept in these databases, but aggregations can be made from this primary data.

The standard procedures for operating these databases have been maintained in 2013. These procedures are described in the NP 2009-2010. There were no major technical problems with the data bases

VISSTAT contains information of the fishery, mainly obtained from external sources (log-books, sale slips, VMS etc.). Data in this database have been regularly supplemented with actual information for the year 2013. There is often a few months delay between the collection of the data and the submission to VISSTAT. The database is relatively new (a few years). Action has been continued to build up a historical time series by including data from earlier years.

FRISBE contains biological information from the metier sampling, biological parameters, and survey and discard data. Data from 2013 sampling activities have been collected and entered off line using standardised input software. Updated versions of this software “Billie Turf” have been developed in order to be able to cope with new data requirements, format revisions and bugs. All data is quality checked before data is submitted to FRISBE.

The biological data base is fed with data through two data entry applications. The standard data entry application (named Billie Turf) runs on a PC environment and is used in the laboratory and on board of research and commercial vessels. A “light” version of the standard data entry program Billie (named Libbie) runs on a tablet and is used at auctions.

All economic data are held in databases at LEI. The data of the active vessels are stored in a central object orientated database (ARTIS). ARTIS was developed at LEI for the collection and analysis of all its economic data. Data for the less active and inactive vessels are stored in SPSS data files. Data from the following years will be added routinely to ARTIS. All aggregated data for the DRC are stored in an ACCESS database which is accessible for the commission by means of a system of web services.

Data requests by end-users are administrated in a separate database “FIDAREQ”..

Regional Data Bases

As in 2012, limited progress was made during 2013 by implementing the Regional Data Bases (RDB) in the North Sea and East Atlantic and the North Atlantic Region. Support was given to all the three meeting of the Steering Committee. All meetings were held in Copenhagen. In 2013, NLD co-operated in the call from the RCM chairs to submit data from 2010-2012 to the RDB for the purpose of coordination of data collection.

Use of the data

Table VI.1 gives a summary of the information transmitted to major data users in 2013 (ICES and STECF working and study groups). It mostly concerns fisheries and fish stock data from data collection in 2012 and survey data from 2011 and 2012.

This table is incomplete as it does not include data transmission from secondary sources such as ICES InterCatch and DATRAS to other users. Most of the data has been

aggregated and exchanged in the format defined by the user. Survey data are also kept in RDBs together with the survey data from other countries hosted at ICES or various national institutes. In some cases these RDBs hold primary data. In other cases they contain aggregated data. Data for all surveys, for which an international database exist, have been transmitted to these RDBs. The routine transmission of survey data to RDB are included in the table VI-1.

VI.2. Actions to avoid shortfalls

A continued shortfall is carried over from earlier years.

The conflict between EU and national legislation on the confidentiality of VMS data still persist. In the past the approach was taken that VMS data will be made available prevailing EU law above national law.

However, since 2011, the EU introduced a new control regulation. The control regulation conflicts with the DCF in the area of confidentiality of certain data, in particular VMS data. Hence, this regulation hampers the use of VMS data for research (publication) purposes.

VIIa Follow-up of STECF recommendations

The recommendations, dealt with in this section, are addressed to the MS by the STECF EWG in 2010 and 2011. The recommendations for 2012 and 2013 originate from the STECF reviews (in the STECF plenary reports) of the EWG held in 2012 and 2013.

STECF EWG in 2010

The following recommendations were selected from the SGRN 10-02 and SGRN 10-03. The selection contains the recommendation which are considered relevant to the Netherlands or the MS in general.

No final SGRN 10-01 report is available (also not on the JRC website). In a draft report, provided by a participant of the meeting, no recommendations are highlighted.

The numbering of recommendations of SGRN 10-02 is applied by the MS. In the report of SGRN 10-03, no recommendations addressed to the MS were found.

1 Topic: Long-Distance Fisheries sampling		III-E3
STECF SGRN 10-02 Recommendation	SGRN recommends the relevant MS to attend the RCM LDF in future if the corresponding MS has a long-distance fishery in "Other regions" and to be equipped with the necessary data, background information and mandate to take decisions.	
Follow-up actions needed	Relevant MS to attend the RCM LDF.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions		
Time frame (Deadline)		
MS response	MS has attended RCM LDF meetings in 2010 and 2011	

2 Topic: Reporting of landings vs. retained catches	
STECF SGRN 10-02 Recommendation	SGRN recommends using the term 'retained catches' instead of 'landings' throughout.
Follow-up actions needed	European Commission, MS, SGRN.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	
Time frame (Deadline)	
MS response	MS considers this recommendation redundant

3 Topic: Data calls		VI-1
STECF SGRN 10-02 Recommendation	SGRN recommends MS to report technical problems with the upload of data in detail to JRC and DG MARE. The consistency of data with the DCF and Data Call lies in the responsibility of the Member States.	
Follow-up actions needed	Member States to report technical uploading problems to JRC and DGMARE. Member States to ensure consistency of the data with the DCF and Data Calls	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions		
Time frame (Deadline)		
MS response	MS reports possible problems to JRC when applicable. MS strives for consistency of the data throughout all data calls.	

4 Topic: Data calls		VI-1
STECF SGRN 10-02 Recommendation	SGRN recommends that all MS to thoroughly check the data quality before submitting them and to use the electronic upload procedure and eventual built-in automatic quality checks. SGRN strongly recommends that all MS to submit data in the given time frame.	
Follow-up actions needed	Member States to respect these recommendations	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions		
Time frame (Deadline)		
MS response	MS respects these recommendations.	

5 Topic: Data calls		VI-1
STECF SGRN 10-02 Recommendation	SGRN recommends MS to report problems with the upload of data in detail to JRC and DG MARE	
Follow-up actions needed	Member States to report uploading problems to JRC and DG MARE.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions		
Time frame (Deadline)		
MS response	see topic 3	

6 Topic: Transversal variables		VI-1
STECF SGRN 10-02 Recommendation	SGRN recommends that all MS to thoroughly check the data quality before submitting them and to use the electronic upload procedure and eventual built-in automatic quality checks.	
Follow-up actions needed	Member States to respect these recommendations.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions		
Time frame (Deadline)		
MS response	MS agrees with this recommendation and does already perform internal quality checks of the data.	

7 Topic: Fish processing industry		VI-1 IV-B3
STECF SGRN 10-02 Recommendation	SGRN recommends that MS should consult with the national statistical offices in order to improve efficiency and guarantee consistency in the data collection process. Efficiency can be improved because national statistical offices could already have information required to be collected under the DCF. Data consistency will be met if the same definitions are applied. SGRN recommends that MS to follow the specification stated in the DCF and fully comply with future data calls on economic data related to the fish processing sector.	
Follow-up actions needed	Member States to respect these recommendations.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions		
Time frame (Deadline)		
MS response	Member State already consults with national statistical office about the data collection of the processing industry	

STECF EWG in 2011

The following recommendations were selected from STECF EWG 11-02, EWG 11-08 and EWG 11-19. The selection contains the recommendation which are considered relevant to the Netherlands or the MS in general. The numbering of recommendations of EWG11-02 is applied by the MS. The numbering of the recommendations of the other EWG corresponds with those in their reports.

1 Topic: STECF, RCM and LM recommendations	
STECF EWG 11-02 Recommendation	EWG 11-02 recommended that all relevant recommendations issued by RCMs, LM, STECF and its sub-groups should be compiled,
Follow-up actions needed	Compile the Information – Circulate to NC
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Frans van Beek volunteered to do a list of STECF 2009 recommendations (see Annex 4) Recommendations are compiled in RCM report.
Time frame (Deadline)	By end April 2011
MS response	Frans van Beek has produced and distributed the list

2 Topic: Co-operation between Control Authorities and the NP of the DCF	
STECF EWG 11-02 Recommendation	EWG 11-02 recommends including in the new DCF, commitments for Member States to set up at national or regional level, a system to encourage cooperation between control authorities and the National Programmes of the DCF. The cooperation system should address all issues of relevance for the collection and processing of data to be collected under the CR and the DCF Follow Up Action Needed : Scope out requirements for such
Follow-up actions needed	Scope out requirements for such a co-operation
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS DG MARE
Time frame (Deadline)	2011 et seq.
MS response	MS agrees with this recommendation and will strive to implement such a system when needed.

3 Topic: Control Regulation and Sampling Plans for Vessels not Subject to Logbooks	
STECF EWG 11-02 Recommendation	The CR includes commitments for MS to develop and implement sampling plans for vessels not subject to logbook requirements and landing declarations. EWG 11-02 recommends that when MS develop the sampling plans due notice is taken to the data requirements under the DCF. This could be done by actively involving at national level the DCF experts in the development of the sampling plans.
Follow-up actions needed	MS to Identify Sampling Plans under CR
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS Control Authority and DCF Personnel DG MARES
Time frame (Deadline)	2011 et seq.
MS response	MS is also using questionnaires for small scale fisheries, but the results resemble the information in the logbooks as there is no National exemption from the logbook regulation in the Netherlands

3 Topic: Calculation of CV		III-B3
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that information and description on the method/software used for calculation of CV's should be included (or referred to) in the AR if not provided in NP.	
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE MEMBER STATES	
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary Address in 2012	
MS response	Annex 6 of this report contains a short description on the method/software used for calculation of CV's including references. A paper with a description of the methods is in preparation For Economic variables, MS has followed the suggested calculation of CV as provided in the definitions on the JRC website.	

4 Topic: List of Meetings Attended		II-B2
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends for the AR tables, Table II.B.1 (list of eligible meetings) that is provided by the Commission should be used and all meetings and not only the meetings attended should be provided.	
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States	
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary. Action in 2012	
MS response	MS has followed this approach in the AR	

5 Topic: Recommendations from LM, STECF	
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that STECF compiles the filtered LIST of recommendations by region (from the previous year) for use by Member States in compiling AR and NP. This list should be available on the DCF website. MS put in a filtered list of Recommendations and show what actions that have been taken to follow up recs. Amend the current guidelines to say only previous year recs. should be followed. (EWG 11-08 would point out that a recurring recommendation should be a guideline).
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, STECF, Member States
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary, Address in 2012
MS response	STECF has not taken this action. The approach of NL with dealing of regulation is explained in this report.

6 Topic: Derogations Table	
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that a table including derogations asked for and if granted or rejected to be included in the AR tables. Adjust Guidelines for AR to include this.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary, Address in 2012
MS response	The guidelines to the 2012 AR have not been adjusted to this request. NLD has provided a table with derogations in its NP.

7 Topic: Tables from NP included in AR	
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that. Table III.C.1 and III.C.2 III E 1 should not to be deleted from the AR. Maintaining the tables is what is expected. This should be included in the revision of the AR guidelines.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary, Address in 2012
MS response	MS has not deleted any table from the AR

10 Topic: MS Website		VI-1
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that MS set-up a website on their data collection. They are obliged (by DCF regulation) to do so. No MS mentioned or referenced in the AR to such websites.	
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States	
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary. Address in 2012	
MS response	MS has set up a DCF section in the CVO website: http://www.cvo.wur.nl/default.asp?ZNT=S0T2O489	

11 Topic: MS unable to conduct a Survey		III-G3
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that in cases that a research vessels is not available for carrying out a contribution to a DCF survey, that MS in question should demonstrate that it made all necessary efforts to carry out the survey. MS must make provisions so that such problems do not happen e.g. seek assistance from other MS or charter a vessel.	
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States	
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary, Address in 2012	
MS response	MS agrees with the recommendation. In the past, in such situation MS has managed to find replacing vessel capacity.	

14 Topic: Capital Value Calculation		III-B3
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that for the calculation of Capital value, all MS shall use PIM (Perpetual Inventory Method) in the future. A Workshop has already explained the method (DCF Workshop on Capital Valuation, Naples June 2011). MS should use this report in next AR. Also explore the need for a Training Workshop. This Report should be made available on the on DCF WEB site.	
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States	
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary Address in 2012	
MS response	MS has calculated the capital value following the PIM method	

16 Topic: AR TEMPLATE	
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that files with filters, hidden cells, track changes, coloured cells etc. should not be submitted in AR
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary, Address in 2012
MS response	Yes, MS agrees and applies

17 Topic: Guide Line Review		III-C3
STECF EWG 11-08 Recommendation	EWG 11-08 recommends that non conformities in the tables of the AR needs to be explained in the text.	
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in July	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE, Member States	
Time frame (Deadline)	After STECF July Plenary, Address in 2012	
MS response	Yes, MS will do so.	

1 Topic: Annual Reports 2013 – Reporting of Adjustments to NP

STECF EWG 11-19 Recommendation	EWG 11-19 recommends that for Annual Report 2013, all the adjustments carried out by MSs must be clearly reported to illustrate the activities implemented in the reference year. This rule has to be applied to all kind of adjustments (minor, major, substantial etc etc) even in case MS have submitted or not a revised version of the National Program. All these “adjustments” should then appear in the relevant tables of the Annual Report Changes in AR tables with respect to the NP tables should be tracked in red.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in April 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE , STECF, Member States, Data End Users
Time frame (Deadline)	During early 2012 after STECF Plenary April 2012
MS response	This recommendation is unclear. Also, if this is relevant, it should be dealt with in the guidelines.

2 Topic: Metier Ranking System

STECF EWG 11-19 Recommendation	According to Commission Decision 93/2010, all MS performing the ranking system should use the average values of the 2 previous years. EWG 11-19 recommends that MS (even if they submitted or not a revised version of the National Program) use the most update set of values (i.e. landing values, tons, fishing days) in order to select the metiers to be sampled.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in April 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE , STECF, Member States, Data End Users
Time frame (Deadline)	During early 2012 after STECF Plenary April 2012
MS response	NLD does not agree with this recommendation because the NP is a multi-annual programme defined for a period of 3 years based on the average values of the 2 previous years. The follow-up of recommendation would require that all MS resubmit their 2012 NP after the April Plenary in 2012. This would complicate the process for a number of reasons. It would be undesirable to change on-gong sampling programmes as this would lead to incomplete information. There would also to time for harmonisation with other MS. Also, many unmodified NPs or NPs with minor modification have already been approved by the Commission before the proposed deadline for resubmission. If annual update of the NP based on a reanalysis of the ranking system is desirable, this should be requested in the guidelines taking into account the possibility for RCM to allow harmonisation. In that case there is also no need to establish a multi-annual programme.

5 Topic: On the revision of the National Programmes within a Programme Period

STECF EWG 11-19 Recommendation	EWG 11-19 recommends that revisions in the text of the NP proposals within the programme period should be done in a way allowing the reader to follow the development in the MS. This means that all information valid for the first years of the triennial programme should be kept and not deleted. For example, if a pilot study was carried out in 2011 and the NP for 2012 was revised in accordance with the result from the pilot study, information about the pilot study should be kept in the text of the NP, specifying that this was the situation in 2011, and description of the related modifications should be added, specifying that this was the revised situation for 2012.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in April 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE , STECF, Member States
Time frame (Deadline)	During early 2012 after STECF Plenary April 2012
MS response	MS does not agree with the recommendation. The NP for a specific year should contain the intended actions and not the history of the actions done in the past. These can be found in NP's of previous years.

14 Topic: Issues identified from a Brainstorm of the DCF

STECF EWG 11-19 Recommendation	EWG 11-19 recommends that the issues raised during the DCF brainstorm session (list of 46) should be used to inform the debate on the new DCF. The focus should be on addressing these issues rather than identifying new issues.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in April 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE , STECF, Member States, Data End Users
Time frame (Deadline)	During early 2012 after STECF Plenary April 2012
MS response	This recommendation is incorrectly addressed to the MS

15 Topic: Updated SWOT on DCF

STECF EWG 11-19 Recommendation	EWG 11-19 recommends that the updated SWOT analyses (Table 3.2) should be used to inform the debate on the new DCF. The focus should be on addressing the issues in the SWOT rather than identifying new issues.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in April 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE , STECF, Member States, Data End Users
Time frame (Deadline)	During early 2012 after STECF Plenary April 2012
MS response	This recommendation is incorrectly addressed to MS

16 Topic: STECF Comments and Recommendations on new DCF

STECF EWG 11-19 Recommendation	EWG 11-19 recommends that the 18 issues outlined in the Table 4.1 of this report are included in the discussion on a new DCF during the early part of 2012.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in April 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE , STECF, Member States, Data End Users
Time frame (Deadline)	During early 2012 after STECF Plenary April 2012
MS response	This recommendation is incorrectly addressed to MS

17 Topic: Concurrent Sampling

STECF EWG 11-19 Recommendation	EWG 11-19 recommends that for on-shore sampling, MS should continue to sample the metiers and make sure to cover all the species/stocks where a demand is formulated by an end-user (or listed in Appendix VII of the Comm. Dec.), but the methodology used to achieve the goals remains at the discretion of the MS, provided that it is fully documented and approved within their NP proposal.
Follow-up actions needed	Await review by STECF Plenary in April 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	DG MARE , STECF, Member States, Data End Users
Time frame (Deadline)	During early 2012 After STECF Plenary April 2012
MS response	MS agrees with the recommendation and proposes to apply the concept in the revision of the DCF.

STECF EWG in 2012

The following recommendations were selected from STECF PLEN-01, PLEN 12-02 and PLEN 12-03. In its second meeting in 2012 STECF stated that conclusions and recommendations from EWG reports are NOT the opinion of the STECF before review and adoption by the committee. Therefore, recommendations were collected not from the EWG reports but from STECF. This section presents a selection of recommendation which apply to data collection and which are considered relevant to the Netherlands or the MS in general. The numbering of the selected recommendations is applied by the MS.

1 Topic: National Programme and Annual Report	
STECF PLEN 12-01 Recommendation	In order to facilitate enhancements in the NPs, STECF recommends that the Commission should: - include in the guidelines definitions of minor, major, or substantial changes (e.g. methodological issues, sampling design, changing in the surveys, derogations etc etc). - request all MS to include a summary page giving a brief overview of the main revision made to the NP. - publish the list of all relevant recommendations from STECF, RCM, Liaison meetings in the data collection web site. STECF recommends that the Commission provide to the NP review group, the original text and the proposed NP revisions for ease of comparison. The final version of the approved NP is what should appear on the DCF website. This website is currently not up to date.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Commission
Time frame (Deadline)	
MS response	MS endorses the recommendation and regrets that no list of relevant recommendations of STECF has been provided so far.

2 Topic: Overview of selectivity of gears used in EU fisheries

STECF PLEN 12-01 Recommendation	STECF recommends that a more detailed analysis of discard data gathered under the Data Collection Framework should be undertaken to provide a quantitative rather than a qualitative assessment and this analysis be used to identify the level of discards for the aggregated fleets.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	
Time frame (Deadline)	
MS response	MS strongly supports this recommendation. The Netherlands has started a quantitative analyses in 2013 and urges other MS also to do so. The information is relevant to for the implementation of the landing obligation under the new CFP. The Netherlands also would support an initiative to coordinate this internationally.

3 Topic: International dimension

STECF PLEN 12-02 Recommendation	STECF recommends that FPAs be based on management plans, which should include management objectives, harvest control rules, TAC or effort allocation keys and should be supported by data collection programs, scientific advice and monitoring.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	
Time frame (Deadline)	
MS response	MS supports this recommendation. Future legislation on data collection should accommodate for this.

4 Topic: fishing effort data call

STECF PLEN 12-02 Recommendation	STECF would like to reiterate its recommendation from STECF PLEN-11-03 that data collected under different EU programs and DCF have to be compatible if bio economic modelling should be further developed and improved. In particular, there is an urgent need to harmonize gear and area descriptors between economic and biological data calls, as well as to improve the consistency of transversal data such as effort and landings by fleet and métier across these data calls. At present, economic data are only available for aggregated groups of vessels assigned to a single majority activity (to preserve confidentiality) without detailed information on their actual fishing activities, while biological data are collected at the scale of fishing activities =(or métiers) without insights of how individuals select different combinations of activities, making the two data sets largely irreconcilable as they are currently requested under Data Calls. In practice, it might be possible to link the two through allocation to fleets and métiers of logbooks data crossed with fleet register. STECF emphasizes that the DCF needs to explicitly improve this link.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	
Time frame (Deadline)	
MS response	MS agrees, but it is unclear what kind of action has to be taken by who.

5 Topic: STECF advice from July 2012 on tuna fisheries where sharks are associated species

STECF PLEN 12-03 Recommendation	To facilitate data collection and accurate documentation and reporting of catches, STECF recommends that any sharks caught in FPA fisheries should be retained and landed whole (with fins wholly or partly attached to their respective carcass).
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	
Time frame (Deadline)	
MS response	The recommendation does not apply to the Netherlands

STECF EWG in 2013

There were no recommendations from the 42th meeting of the STECF which are relevant to data collection. Also no recommendations arose during discussions at the 43th and 44th plenary meeting of the STECF.

VIIb Follow-up of recommendations from the Liaison Committee

Liaison Committee in 2010

Selection of recommendations from the Liaison Committee Meeting in 2010 which require actions in 2011 from the MS in general or the Netherlands in particular. The numbering of the 2010 LM recommendations is applied by MS.

LM 2010-1 Topic: Data call (quality issue transmission of the data)	
RCM Med&BS 2010 Recommendation	Participants recommend the following improvements in the context of data calls: respect legal provisions to deliver data calls (1 month); provide clearer indications on variables; standardize formats of the request with agreed common formats at Regional Level (see RCM Med&BS 2009 report); respect DCF format and do not change format from one year to another; develop an upload system that clearly detail the errors occurred. Participants are also concerned about the extremely restrictive filter of the data calls that make upload of the data extremely difficulties.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS, SGRN, JRC, SGMED, DG MARE
Time frame (Deadline)	
LM comment	LM notes that data end-users should use the codifications of the DCF Decisions 2008/949/EC and 2010/93/EU. As a basis for developing a standard data exchange format and common codification to be used when exchanging DCF data, the specifications given in the ICES Coop.Res.Rep. 296 (2009) and RCM/LM codifications should be taken into consideration.
MS response	NLD considers that this recommendation is not directed to the MS.

LM 2010-2 Topic : Metier and stock related variables: III.C, III.E, Data quality control and validation of data in NP proposals	
RCM Med&BS 2010 Recommendation	Following the analysis carried out during the meeting (analysis on the paragraph III.C and III.E related to data quality and validation), RCM Med&BS recommends MS to revise their NPs in order to achieve all requirements listed in the NP Guidelines for the submission of National Program Proposals, or to explain why it is not done.
Follow-up actions needed	Member States to review their National Programs; SGRN
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS; Liaison, SGRN
Time frame (Deadline)	Before NP evaluation by SGRN (June 2010)
LM comment	LM considers that SGRN 10-01 pays particular attention to those NPs where information on data quality control and validation of data is missing.
MS response	NLD has reviewed its NP and no action was considered required.

LM 2010-3 Topic : DCF requirements: Reference landings by country	
RCM Med&BS 2010 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS to upload the landings in EUROSTAT by ICES division and by genus and species, and avoid as much as possible the use of the generic code "spp". It is reminded that STECF (2007) recommended the use of EUROSTAT as the reference for landings by country and area, and that all effort should be done to secure the quality of information provided to EUROSTAT. RCM NA recommends EUROSTAT to disseminate its transmission procedure for this kind of data, to all MS.
Follow-up actions needed	All MS, EUROSTAT for dissemination of transmission procedure
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	National Correspondents
Time frame (Deadline)	before end of 2010
LM comment	LM recommend that MS populate EUROSTAT
MS response	MS considers that requested action is outside the mandate of the DCF

LM 2010-4 Topic : COST tool

RCM Med&BS 2010 Recommendation	The Group discussed the outputs of the WS on Cost. The Group recognize that the tools generated by the COST project could improve noticeably the quality of DCF data collection schemes. But before to address the final request of the WS (a second Cost project), RCM Med&BS recommends to further progress testing the tool and to clearly screen the applicability and functionality. The Group recommend also waiting feedback from users (National laboratories and JRC) to assess and identify issues and need for improvement of the software.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS, Liaison Meeting, JRC, DGMARE
Time frame (Deadline)	
LM comment	LM recommend MS to use COST tools and encourage MS to report on the implementation of these tools in analysing their data.
MS response	NLD considers that the recommendation is not addressed to the MS

LM 2010-5 Topic : COST 2

RCM Med&BS 2010 Recommendation	RCM NS&EA considers that given the fact that most likely, almost all Member States involved in the DCF will use COST for computing their precision levels for 2009 and prepare assessment working groups, resulting in a positive attitude of the EC towards the implementation of COST, a follow up of the COST project – COST 2- is required. The framework for the continuation of the project has several objectives: -avoiding the development of national versions of the tool -creating a functional help mailing list and expanding/enhancing the examples (taking into account the simulation outcomes). -correcting the possible bugs, improving the code, adapting to new versions of exporting (InterCatch) -progressing on benchmarking the methods and simulating different sampling schemes and levels with COSTsim -make the tool user friendly
Follow-up actions needed	MS to start to implement COST
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS to be prepared to use COST
Time frame (Deadline)	results to reported to EC and RCM NS&EA in 2011
LM comment	LM recommend MS to use COST tools and encourage MS to report on the implementation of these tools in analysing their data.
MS response	This recommendation is not addressed to the MS

LM 2010-6 Topic : COST tools hands-on workshop

RCM Med&BS 2010 Recommendation	The Group discussed the outputs of the WS on Cost. The Group recognize that the tools generated by the COST project could improve noticeably the quality of DCF data collection schemes. But before to address the final request of the WS (a second Cost project), RCM Med&BS recommends to further progress testing the tool and to clearly screen the applicability and functionality. The Group recommend also waiting feedback from users (National laboratories and JRC) to assess and identify issues and need for improvement of the software.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS, Liaison Meeting, JRC, DGMARE
Time frame (Deadline)	Before NP evaluation by SGRN (June 2010)
LM comment	LM recommend MS to use COST tools and encourage MS to report on the implementation of these tools in analysing their data.
MS response	No follow up actions are specified. Also, this recommendation is not addressed at the MS

LM 2010-7 Topic : Recreational fisheries : Best practise
III-D3

RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS not to wait for the outcomes of the PGRFS to revise current (when relevant) and prepare future NP Proposal on recreational fisheries, but base their planning on the DCF requirements and their own knowledge of the fisheries. RCM NA also recommends to consider the recommendations of WKSMRF, WGEEL, and the future recommendations of PGRFS.
Follow-up actions needed	Revising MS NP proposals 2011-2013 and drafting new NP's
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS.
Time frame (Deadline)	October 2011
LM comment	LM recommends that SGRN 10-01 takes this recommendation and the RCM-NA 2009 recommendation (which was not taken into consideration) into account when evaluating MS plans for recreational fisheries sampling
MS response	MS disagrees with approach of considering future unseen recommendations. MS has taken all available recommendation into account in the drafting and revising of the sampling proposal for recreational fisheries.

LM 2010-8 Topic : Metier variables: description of nationally ranked metiers		III-C3
RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	RCM 2010 recommends that MS use the template provided by RCM NA 2009 to update old metier descriptions (when needed) and describe new ranking métiers identified at this RCM, and strictly respect the agreed naming conventions of fishing ground and métiers as well as the deadline for submission of the information. Appointed persons are responsible for requesting the data and compiling it on a regional level.	
Follow-up actions needed	Preparation of metier descriptions/exchange data for task-sharing.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS.	
Time frame (Deadline)	Every year before RCM meetings	
LM comment	LM endorses this recommendation	
MS response	NLD provides its metier description in an Annex to the NP. They are yearly updated.	

LM 2010-Topic : Recreational fisheries : Best practise		III-C3
RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	RCM 2010 provides a template for summarizing national information on the actions undertaken by MS to include concurrent sampling in their sampling programmes, and recommends that MS use this template to document their activities regarding this topic.	
RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	RCM 2010 recommends SGRN to review the actions undertaken by MS regarding concurrent sampling, and give feedback to RCM for the 2011 meeting.	
Follow-up actions needed	Preparation of national descriptions on concurrent sampling	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	RCM participants and MS without delegates in RCM NA 2010	
Time frame (Deadline)	Before RCM 2011	
LM comment	LM regards this as an issue for SGRN, by reviewing the experiences of MS with concurrent sampling under the DCF.	
MS response	MS has given feed back on its concurrent sampling to the chair of RCM NA	

LM 2010-8 Topic : Metier variables: description of nationally ranked metiers		III-C3
RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	RCM 2010 recommends that MS use the template provided by RCM NA 2009 to update old metier descriptions (when needed) and describe new ranking métiers identified at this RCM, and strictly respect the agreed naming conventions of fishing ground and métiers as well as the deadline for submission of the information. Appointed persons are responsible for requesting the data and compiling it on a regional level.	
Follow-up actions needed	Preparation of metier descriptions/exchange data for task-sharing.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS.	
Time frame (Deadline)	Every year before RCM meetings	
LM comment	LM endorses this recommendation	
MS response	NLD provides its metier description in an Annex to the NP. They are yearly updated.	

LM 2010-10 Topic : Metier variables: Concurrent sampling		III-C3
RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	RCM 2010 provides a template for summarizing national information on the actions undertaken by MS to include concurrent sampling in their sampling programmes, and recommends that MS use this template to document their activities regarding this topic.	
RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	RCM 2010 recommends SGRN to review the actions undertaken by MS regarding concurrent sampling, and give feedback to RCM for the 2011 meeting.	
Follow-up actions needed	Preparation of national descriptions on concurrent sampling	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	RCM participants and MS without delegates in RCM NA 2010	
Time frame (Deadline)	Before RCM 2011	
LM comment	LM regards this as an issue for SGRN, by reviewing the experiences of MS with concurrent sampling under the DCF.	
MS response	MS has given feedback on its concurrent sampling to the chair of RCM NA	

LM 2010-11 Topic : Metier variables: Inclusion of bilateral and RCM agreements in NP	
RCM NA2010 Recommendation	Revised National Programmes to include appropriate reference to RCM NA report in relation to sampling agreement at metier level. National Programmes to include in annex formal bilateral agreements, using the template in annex 9.
Follow-up actions needed	National Correspondents to ensure that National Programme includes appropriate reference to RCM and bilateral agreements in relation to sampling activities as referred to in the RCM NA report. Programs; SGRN
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	National Correspondents
Time frame (Deadline)	Before NP evaluation by SGRN (June 2010)
LM comment	LM considers that the overviews on bilateral agreements produced by RCMs should serve as basis for SGRN to highlight further needs. LM notes that this overview should be produced for the Baltic by the next RCM.
MS response	The recommendation should be to ask the Commission to change the guidelines for the production of the NP. The sampling agreements made at the RCM are translated in bilateral agreements. NLD has included these in its NP using the standard and agreed template.

LM 2010-12 Topic : Metier variables: Sampling coordination	
RCM NA2010 Recommendation	RCM NA 2010 recommends MS to review precisely all statements made by RCM NA in the section describing the fishing and sampling activities per fishing grounds, and propose actions. RCM NA recommends SGRN to use the tables proposed by RCM NA in its evaluation of NP proposals 2011-2013 in June 2010.
Follow-up actions needed	Propose actions in line with RCM NA recommendations
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS, SGRN
Time frame (Deadline)	June 2010, Revision of the NP proposals after SGRN evaluation
LM comment	LM endorses this recommendation
MS response	The recommendation is unclear and the reference should be more specific

LM 2010-13 Topic : Metier variables: Tasks prior to the RCM Baltic 2011

RCM Baltic 2010 Recommendation	Development of a report in FishFrame which calculate the top 90% ranking of metiers for each MS as well as on regional level. The data should be based on data from the two previous years.
Follow-up actions needed	Landing -, effort – and landing value statistics should be uploaded in FishFrame.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	RCM participants and FishFrame designers and developers
Time frame (Deadline)	Prior to RCM in 2011
LM comment	LM endorses these recommendations and would like to widen the scope to all regions by recommending that before the RCMs in 2011. MS should look at their transversal data (landings, effort, value), review their metier ranking, and in the in case of significant changes, bring these to the attention of RCMs. As the RCMs had noted that some MS had used the reference years 2008-2009, instead of the reference years 2007-2008 agreed at the 2009 RCMs, the consistent use of the same reference years among MS can be critical in this respect.
MS response	NLD has supported this recommendation and provided the required data in the requested format to the RCM NA and RCM NS&EA in 2011

LM 2010-14 Topic : Metier variables: Tasks prior to the RCM Baltic 2011

RCM Baltic 2010 Recommendation	For the purposes of regional understanding of sampling activities, national information on sampling should be compiled regionally in advance of the next meeting.
Follow-up actions needed	Preparation of exchange data for task-sharing.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	RCM chair and RCM participants
Time frame (Deadline)	Prior to RCM in 2011.
LM comment	see recommendation nr 13
MS response	This recommendation is unclear. What is meant with 'national information on sampling'? Sampling activities have been described in the Dutch NP. It is not clear what is more required.

LM 2010-15 Topic : CECAF area: Fishing activities and sampling coverage		III-C3
RCM LDF 2010 Recommendation	All MS involved in industrial small pelagic fishery in “From Morocco to Guinea Bissau” fishing ground to ensure adequate sampling coverage for the landings and discards.	
Follow-up actions needed	All MS involved in fishery to draft one agreement to share tasks.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	National Correspondents from all MS involved in fishery. The Netherlands will take initiative.	
Time frame (Deadline)	Before the next RCM LDF, to be approved and signed at that RCM.	
LM comment	LM endorses this recommendation.	
MS response	All MS involved in small pelagic fishery in the CECAF area have agreed to implement a shared sampling programme in these waters in 2012 and included it in their NP.	

LM 2010-16 Topic : Stock variables: Studies on shared international age-length keys		
RCM NA 2010 Recommendation	The RCM NA recommends that a case study for deriving regional stock based age-length keys be carried out for mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) in the North East Atlantic and Western Channel. This information is required to evaluate if it is appropriate to introduce task sharing, at stock level, with regard to sampling for ageing of fish.	
Follow-up actions needed	Coordinating country (Ireland) to contact Spain, United Kingdom, Portugal and The Netherlands for supply of data and support in analysing the data.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Andy Campbell, Marine Institute, Ireland, to coordinate and produce working document. Spain, United Kingdom, Portugal and The Netherlands should send the sampling data to Andy Campbell (andy.Campbell@marine.ie) on request. ICES	
Time frame (Deadline)	RCM NA 2011	
LM comment	LM endorses these recommendations. See also section on the 'Role of the RCM', where the general approach of internationally coordinated sampling efforts is supported by LM.	
MS response	NLD has provided data for this exercise to the co-ordinating MS.	

LM 2010-17 Topic : Regional sampling of stocks with national quota shares of <10%:

RCM NS&EA 2010 Recommendation	The RCM NS&EA recommends that relevant countries investigate the distribution of their landings from the named stocks in Table IV-4 in relation to the overall distribution across the stock area. Where they have no sampling plans for catches, they should consider if their component of the stock is adequately sampled, spatially and temporally by other MS.
Follow-up actions needed	Check if MS has catches in this RCM area and if MS has no sampling plans for catches, ensure that its component of the catch is adequately covered elsewhere. MS to report back to RCM NS&EA 2011.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, The Netherlands, Sweden, Portugal and Spain
Time frame (Deadline)	10 June 2010 for NP Revision
LM comment	LM endorses the recommendation.
MS response	The MS has dealt with this recommendation in the RCMs in 2011

LM 2010-18 Topic : Member States participation to DCF meetings

II-B2

RCM Med&BS 2010 Recommendation	Because of the necessity to coordinate tasks sharing in both fishing grounds Black sea and Mediterranean region, RCM Med&BS addressed the problem of effective regional coordination with the absence of several member states (in this particular case the Group refers to Greece, Malta and Cyprus). The non-attendance to the DCF meetings (i.e. RCM Med, PGMed, Surveys working groups) may affect negatively also the work of all the other MS. RCM Med&BS recall the importance of the DCF Meetings at Regional level (especially the RCM Med&BS) and stresses the participation in the future meetings of all MS.
Follow-up actions needed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS; SGRN; DG MARE
Time frame (Deadline)	
LM comment	LM would like to recall that MS participation in the relevant RCMs is mandatory. Furthermore, LM considers that RCMs should continue their efforts in inviting third countries with fisheries in the relevant regions.
MS response	NLD agrees with LM. NLD has participated in all meetings of all relevant RCMs.

Liaison Committee in 2011

Selection of recommendations from the Liaison Committee Meeting in 2011 which require actions in 2011 from the MS in general or the Netherlands. The recommendations are numbered following the numbering in the Liaison report.

LM 2011-3 - Topic : Sampling of Metier related variables including foreign landings : Requirement of on-line information on fleet behaviour	
RCM Baltic 2011 Recommendation	To ensure possibilities for adequate sampling of biological and metier related data including landings in foreign MS, national institutes need to have online access to national logbook data and national VMS data.
Follow-up actions needed	National institutes to get access to online logbook and VMS data
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS administrations
Time frame (Deadline)	As soon as possible
LM comment	LM notes that this recommendation is common to the NS&EA and NA regions as well. LM supports this recommendation strongly, as access to VMS and logbook data is critical.
MS response	Dutch national institutes have attempted to obtain online access to national logbook data and national VMS data but the access has been refused by the control authorities.

LM 2011-4 - Topic : Metier related variables: Routines for establishing bilateral agreements

RCM Baltic 2011 Recommendation	1) MS should upload all landing data into the Regional Data Base allowing the RCM to analyse the possible needs for bilateral agreements. 2) The RCMs should each year perform an analysis on landings in foreign countries and conclude were bilateral agreements needed to be made. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case when it is indicated by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed. To include the agreed analysis in FishFrame would be very convenient and time saving. 3) MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case it is concluded by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed.
Follow-up actions needed	1. MS to upload data into FishFrame 2. RCMs to check for the need for agreements and ICES/FishFrame respectively 3. MS to set up bilateral agreements
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	1. MS 2. RCM 2012 3. MS
Time frame (Deadline)	1. Annually. Deadline 1st of July 2012 2. Annually 3. Annually. Before deadline for compilation /amendment of NP
LM comment	LM notes that this recommendation is common to the NS&EA and NA regions as well. LM supports a formal data call (in collaboration with the Commission), noting that MS legally are not obliged to respond within 1 month.
MS response	1) MS uploaded the requested data. 3) and updated the bilateral agreements in 2011 and will do so in 2012 as well

LM 2011-7 Topic : Metier related variables: Recreational fisheries		III-D3
RCM Baltic 2011 Recommendation	1. MS is requested to submit the recreational fishery available data (total removals, any biological data) to the next meeting of WGBFAS, WGBAST and WGEEL in 2012. ICES WGBFAS, WGBAST and WGEEL are asked to consider the usefulness of inclusion the recreational fishery data into the stock assessment. If it is useful for certain stock WG should provide the list of necessary data needed from recreational fishery in the Baltic.	
Follow-up actions needed	1. MS responsible scientists Decide during corresponding ICES WG how to proceed	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	1. MS national correspondent for recreational fisheries WGBFAS, WGBAST and WGEEL stock assessment coordinators	
Time frame (Deadline)	1. Before corresponding ICES WG meetings (March 2012 - WGBAST, April 2012 - WGBFAS, September 2012 - WGEEL) March-September 2012	
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation.	
MS response	1. MS will make requested data available to all relevant ICES WG in 2012	

LM 2011-9 - Topic : Stock related variables: data quality and deficiencies.	
RCM Baltic 2011 Recommendation	MS to look into discard sampling program according to WKACCU 2008 guidelines (12 aspects).
Follow-up actions needed	The Chair RCM and all the MS
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	The Chair RCM and all the MS
Time frame (Deadline)	RCM Baltic 2012
LM comment	
MS response	It is unclear what kind of action is required from the MS

LM 2011-19 - Topic : DCF Requirements	
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends that the collection of otoliths of John Dory is continued but not proceed with age readings until an agreed standardized method is developed.
Follow-up actions needed	All MS having catches of John Dory to collect otoliths
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS
Time frame (Deadline)	None
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation and regards it relevant for the NS&EA region as well. LM recommends that PGCCDBS provides guidance on
MS response	This recommendation does not apply to NLD

LM 2011-20 - Topic : Feedback from assessment working groups	
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS to describe in detail the methodology on the separation of the catches of the 2 <i>Lophius</i> species. This information should be available to the 2012 benchmark assessment.
Follow-up actions needed	Prepare a document to be forwarded to the WGHMM <i>Lophius</i> stock coordinators.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS having catches of <i>Lophius</i> in the Atlantic and having not provided this information to the ICES assessment Working group in 2011.
Time frame (Deadline)	End of 2011
LM comment	LM recommends that the National Correspondents make this information available well before the Benchmark Workshop (WKFLAT) 2012, ideally during November 2011.
MS response	Catches of <i>Lophius</i> by NL flag vessels are very low and not sampled.

LM 2011-22 Topic: Metier variables: Increase sampling in deep-water fisheries

RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS to check in their NP proposal 2012 that sufficient coverage of deep-water fisheries on-board sampling is planned, in order to meet the EWG needs.
Follow-up actions needed	MS to check and consider increasing the sampling coverage of deep-water fisheries in their amendment of 2012 NP proposal.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS
Time frame (Deadline)	October 2011
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation.
MS response	In the absence of deep-water fisheries in NLD, this recommendation does not apply to MS.

LM 2011-23 - Topic : Métier variables : Métier descriptions
III-C3

RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	MS to update metier descriptions already compiled by RCM NA 2010 and using the standard template complete descriptions for any new regionally ranked metiers identified. Updated and new files to be uploaded by Fishing Ground co-ordinators.
Follow-up actions needed	MS to complete métier descriptions
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS
Time frame (Deadline)	RCM NA 2012
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation and notes that it applies to all regions.
MS response	All nationally ranked metier descriptions are yearly updated and provided as an annex to the NP. See also RCM NA 2010 no 8.

LM 2011-24 - Topic : Metier and stock variables : Concurrent sampling III-C3	
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	MS to fill in template on concurrent sampling and provide it to the chair of RCM NA for compilation and sending to the chair of STECF EWG 11-19 in advance of the December meeting
Follow-up actions needed	MS to fill the template Chair of RCM NA to compile all questionnaires and sent them to the chair of STECF EWG 11-19
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS, chair of RCM NA
Time frame (Deadline)	November 31 2011
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation and notes that the deadline for submission of questionnaires should be 15 November 2011 in order to allow compilation of information before STECF EWG 11-19.
MS response	NLD has done so. See also RCM NA 2010 no 10.

LM 2011-25 - Topic : Metier variables : Merging metier II-B2	
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends RCM participants to contact relevant staff within their institute to attend the ICES WKPICS1 meeting on practical implementation of statistical sound catch sampling programmes
Follow-up actions needed	Identify experts for attending WKPICS1
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	RCM NA participants
Time frame (Deadline)	November 2011
LM comment	
MS response	MS has identified expert to attend the ICES WKPICS1 meeting. However, he was not able to attend the meeting.

LM 2011-27 - Topic : Metier related variables: Routines for establishing bilateral agreements		II-B2
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	MS should make sure that their landings abroad are included in the RDB upload allowing the RCM to analyse the possible needs for bilateral agreements. The RCMs should perform an annual analysis on landings in foreign countries and conclude where bilateral agreements need to be made. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case when it is indicated by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed. Standard output algorithms to enable analysis of compiled data should be included in the RDB.	
Follow-up actions needed	MS to make sure landings abroad data are included into the RDB	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS	
Time frame (Deadline)	Annually. Deadline 1 st of July 2012.	
LM comment	See RCM Baltic	
MS response	See response on LM 4	

LM 2011-30 - Topic : Recreational fisheries: Best practice		III-D3
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS to include recommendations and outcomes of PGRFS in the adjustment of their 2012 NP, if relevant..	
Follow-up actions needed	Revising MS NP proposals 2012.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS.	
Time frame (Deadline)	October 2011	
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation	
MS response	This recommendation is a repetition of a previous recommendation in 2011. See RCM NA 2010 no 7	

LM 2011-33 - Topic : Stock variables : Quality issues

RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS to complete properly the tables III.E.1 and III.E.2
Follow-up actions needed	MS to review their tables of the NP Proposal 2011-2013
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS
Time frame (Deadline)	October 2011
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation.
MS response	The tables in the NP Proposal 2011-2013 of NLD have been reviewed and are correct. From the recommendation it is not clear why this request does not apply to all tables.

LM 2011-38 - Topic : Stock variables : Regional collection

RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends all MS to have a careful look at the tables in annex VII, in order to identify stocks for which a bilateral agreement would improve the sampling scheme.
Follow-up actions needed	MS to identify bilateral agreement, contact NC and propose such agreement in their NP proposal for 2012
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS
Time frame (Deadline)	October 2011
LM comment	
MS response	This action has been carried out by the MS in the various RCMS.

LM 2011-42 - Topic : Metier variables : Regional ranking / RDB		VI-1
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends that all MS investigate data loaded to RDB under metier 'No_logbook' and replace with the agreed code given in section 3.1 and request the RDB steering group to endorse these as the only permitted entries within the fields defined.	
Follow-up actions needed	Resubmit data into the regional database after correction	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS	
Time frame (Deadline)	July 2012	
LM comment	See RCM Baltic recommendation	
MS response	Resubmitted and new data from NLD to the RDB will take account for this recommendation. In order to prevent non agreed codes in a RDB, NLD is of the opinion that it is important that the RDB software should check all input data and only accepts agreed data codes.	

LM 2011-43 - Topic : Metier variables : Regional ranking/ RDB		VI-1
RCM NA 2011 Recommendation	RCM NA recommended the use of the standard code MIS_MIS_0_0_0 to replace 'No_Matrix' for fisheries not specified in Annex IV of the Commission Decision.	
Follow-up actions needed	Resubmit data into the regional database after correction	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS	
Time frame (Deadline)	July 2012	
LM comment	See RCM Baltic recommendation	
MS response	Resubmitted and new data from NLD to the RDB will take account for this recommendation. NLD is of the opinion that it is important that the RDB should check input data and only accepts agreed data codes.	

LM 2011-48 - Topic : Quality issues: use of FishFrame as regional database		VI-1
RCM NS&EA 2011 Recommendation	The RCM NS&EA recommends that that all MS respond to the data call in 2012 from the chair of RCM NS&EA and load their data to FishFrame or make it available in the FishFrame format. This data call will include Commercial Landings, Commercial Effort and Commercial Samples records for 2010 and 2011.	
Follow-up actions needed	MS to have responded to the data call. If issues persist then ICES to inform the chair of RCM NS&EA	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	All MS and chair of RCM NS&EA	
Time frame (Deadline)	Data call in February 2012 and then deadline 4 months later	
LM comment	See RCM Baltic recommendations.	
MS response	see response to LM 4	

LM 2011-50 - Topic : Stock Variables: Studies on shared international age-length keys		
RCM NS&EA 2011 Recommendation	Sampling for <i>ages</i> and the construction of ALK should follow sound statistical sampling practices set out according to WKPRECISE. Greater emphasis should be placed on the collection of <i>age</i> samples for species subject to age based stock assessments as the collection of length frequency data not linked to age samples may be of limited benefit in improving bias and precision estimates for numbers at age. Databases structures should allow storage of linked age and length samples. Collection regulations should not encourage the collection of length only data at the expense of age sampling for species subject to age based assessments.	
Follow-up actions needed	MS to review their sampling for ages and construction of ALKs (if used). Commission to frame collection regulations so as to encourage best statistical practice.	
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS, Commission	
Time frame (Deadline)	To be considered for the new DCF	
LM comment	LM notes that this issue will be discussed further in the light of a revised DCF.	
MS response	MS agrees but not relevant at this moment	

Liaison Committee in 2012

Selection of recommendations from the Liaison Committee Meeting in 2012 which require actions in 2012 from the MS in general or the Netherlands. The recommendations are numbered following the numbering in the Liaison report.

1 Topic : Stock Variables: Potential bilateral agreements on sampling of landings abroad	
RCM NS&EA 2012 Recommendation	Where it was identified that bilateral agreement is required, according to the rules agreed upon at the RCM NS&EA 2011 and endorsed by the LM8 and STECF 11-19, MS are requested to establish or update a bilateral agreement on sampling of landings abroad
Follow-up actions needed	MS to evaluate the need for such an agreement based on the overview provided by the RCM NS&EA (Annex No ??)
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS
Time frame (Deadline)	Annually. Before deadline for compilation/amendment of NP
LM comment	LM supports this recommendation.
MS response	MS agrees and has already adopted this procedure for a number of years.

2 Topic : Regional Database: Review of the Data Policy Document

RCM NS&EA 2012 and RCM NA Recommendation	In respect of the development of the RDB and the protection of the data and the ownership of the data, a draft Data Policy Document has been established. The data policy document is based on the current situation but need to reviewed in all its aspects in order to be satisfactory for all MS. The data policy document is a “flexible” document and must be updated as the needs and the development of the RDB are changing. For example, a new data policy document will be prepared if there are changes to the exchange format (update is needed).
Follow-up actions needed	The National Correspondents (NC) from all MS are requested to read through the document, and sent all remarks and/or suggestions for improvements to the chair of the relevant RCM and to the RDB Steering Group (RDB-SG). Even if the NC has no specific remarks or suggestions, it is recommended to send a notification that the document has been read. Based on the input from the NCs, an updated version will be presented at the next NC Coordination meeting organized by the EC.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Chair RCM & RDB-SG, National Correspondents of all MS, EC
Time frame (Deadline)	Before the 15th of November 2012
LM comment	LM agrees with this recommendation and recommends the Commission to forward the request to the NC's..
MS response	The Netherlands has considered the document and supports it.

3 Topic : Métier related variables: Routines for establishing bilateral agreements	
RCM Baltic 2012 Recommendation	1. MS should upload all landing data into the Regional Data Base allowing the RCM to analyse the possible needs for bilateral agreements. 2. The RCMs should each year perform an analysis on landings in foreign countries and conclude where bilateral agreements need to be made. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case when it is indicated by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed. To include the agreed analysis in FishFrame would be very convenient and time saving. 3. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case it is concluded by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed.
Follow-up actions needed	1. MS to upload data into FishFrame 2. RCMs to check for the need for agreements and ICES/FishFrame respectively 3. MS to set up bilateral agreements
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	1. MS 2. RCM 2013 3. MS
Time frame (Deadline)	1. Annually. Deadline 15th March 2013 2. Annually 3. Annually. Before deadline for compilation /amendment of NP
LM comment	LM endorses the recommendation while noting that the development of the agreed analysis has to be taken up by the RDB-SC.
MS response	NL has uploaded the requested data in the RDB and, where required, considered the sampling details in its bilateral agreements with other MS.

4 Topic : Sampling of Métier related variables in foreign landings : Requirement for sampling of foreign landings

RCM Baltic 2012 Recommendation	The RCM Baltic 2012 recommends that landings should not be sampled abroad by landings countries as these data cannot be used but should be compensated by the flag countries by a higher sampling level in the flag country.
Follow-up actions needed	MS should ensure bilateral agreements are made.
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Chair to present in the LM
Time frame (Deadline)	LM 2012
LM comment	LM supports the recommendation for 2013 under the conditions that: 1 The data needs of the end-users are sufficiently covered under the current standards. 2 MS involved specify the approach through a derogation or a bilateral agreement in the 2013 National Programs and seek approval through the evaluation process currently in place.
MS response	The Netherlands does not agree with this recommendation. Also this recommendation is in contradiction with recommendation 1 and 7 by RCM NS&EA and RCM NA. MS notes that LM supported these contradictory recommendations.

5 Topic : Sampling of Métier related variables including foreign landings : Requirement of on-line information on fleet behaviour	
RCM Baltic 2012 Recommendation	To ensure possibilities for adequate sampling of biological and métier related data including landings in foreign MS, it is recommended that the national authorities give ensure that national institutes have online access to national logbook data and national VMS data as this is needed for carrying out cost efficient DCF obligations.
Follow-up actions needed	National institutes to get access to online logbook and VMS data
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS administrations
Time frame (Deadline)	As soon as possible
LM comment	LM endorses the recommendation and notes that access to this information, preferably online and in real-time, is crucial for adequate sampling. This recommendation should be forwarded to the NC's by the Commission.
MS response	National Institutes in the Netherlands do not have online access to national logbook data and national VMS data. Access to the data for carrying out DCF obligations is guaranteed through a copy of the data in a database maintained by IMARES.

6 Topic : Métier variables: Metier Descriptions	
RCM NA 2012 Recommendation	RCM NA 2012 recommends that the metier descriptions for fishing grounds under the remit of the RCM be updated by each MS in as much detail as possible. These descriptions to be used as a tool, in conjunction with outputs from the RDB, to identify metiers that could be combined for regionally coordinated sampling plans.
Follow-up actions needed	MS to update Metier descriptions
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS participating in fisheries under the remit of RCM NA
Time frame (Deadline)	June 2013
LM comment	LM endorses this recommendation.
MS response	The metier descriptions are submitted in the NP and are updated in the resubmissions of the NP.

7 Topic : Stock related variables: Setting up of Bilateral agreements

RCM NA 2012 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS put in place bilateral agreements for sampling of landings abroad where applicable.
Follow-up actions needed	Include bilaterals in the revised NP proposals
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS
Time frame (Deadline)	31 Oct 2012
LM comment	LM endorses this recommendation
MS response	MS agrees and has already adopted this procedure for a number of years.

8 Topic : Stock related variables: Setting up of Pilot programmes for sampling of Boar fish (*Capros aper*)

RCM NA 2012 Recommendation	RCM NA recommends MS involved and that have obligations in the Boar fish fishery to set up a pilot program for sampling.
Follow-up actions needed	Include pilot study in the revised NP proposals
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS fishing Boar fish
Time frame (Deadline)	31 Oct 2012
LM comment	LM endorses this recommendation.
MS response	Netherlands does not conduct a fishery directed to Boar fish. These species is caught as a by-catch and is sampled in the discard monitoring programme

Liaison Committee in 2013

In May 2014, still no report of the Liaison Committee from the 2013 meeting had been distributed. Therefore it was not possible to respond to Liaison recommendations and the RCM recommendations reviewed by Liaison in this Annual Report. Instead, in this section response is given to the relevant recommendations by the RCM's with exception of the RCM NA for which also no report was available in May 2014. Relevant recommendations listed are recommendations which require follow up action from the MS.

RCM Baltic 2013

No recommendations were presented which require follow up actions from the MS.

RCM NS&EA 2013

NS&EA Recommendation 2103-6: Managed repository for RDB upload successes and data status reports	
RCM LDF 2013 Recommendation	RCM recommends that MS document their interpretation of trips, samples and sampling events and describe what the TripID and SampleID represent in there uploaded data.
Justification	The key identifiers for the biological data refer to trips and samples in most instances, for example on a discard trip each event is quite distinct but ashore where sampling might only focus on components or categories of a landing then this can lead to a different interpretation and achievements are therefore not directly comparable. Sampling events, trips and samples are crucial for auditing and monitoring sampling design and key to significant quality indicators.
Follow-up actions needed	MS to provide a summary document of their interpretation of these key fields in the upload data formats. RCG to collate these documents for storing in the RDB repository (see earlier recommendation)
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	MS, SC-RDB.
Time frame (Deadline)	Next SC-RDB meeting
LM comment	
MS response	MS will provide a summary document before summer 2014

RCM LDF 2013

LDF Recommendation 2103-1: Sampling Observer Programme

RCM LDF 2013 Recommendation	RCM LDF recommends to renew a joint observer program in the pelagic trawl fishery for small pelagic species in the CECAF area for another two years period.
Follow-up actions needed	Negotiation of financial aspects between the MS concerned and if agreement is reached modification of their NP
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Members State involved: the Netherlands, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany and the UK.
Time frame (Deadline)	Before the 31 of December 2013
LM comment	
MS response	The existing observer program has been extended for a period of two years (2014 and 2015)

LDF Recommendation 2103-2: Sampling Observer Programme

RCM LDF 2013 Recommendation	RCM LDF recommends the implementation of the multilateral agreement on a joint sampling program of fisheries activity in the SPRMFO area.
Follow-up actions needed	Preparing the draft of the agreement for consultation and acceptance by the MS concerned
Responsible persons for follow-up actions	Chair of the RCM LDF and Members State involved: the Netherlands, Germany, Lithuania and Poland.
Time frame (Deadline)	2013 - 2014
LM comment	
MS response	NLD supports the development of joint sampling programmes of fishery activities by EU vessels in long distance waters. The sampling programmes should be implemented as soon as fisheries in these areas are established or resumed

VIII. List of acronyms and abbreviations

shortcut	abbreviation of
ACCESS	Microsoft database
AGDMM	ICES Ad hoc Group on the Distribution and Migration of Northeast Atlantic Mackerel
AR	Annual Report
ARTIS	Database with economic data maintained by LEI
BTS	Beam Trawl Survey
CBS	Statistics Netherlands
CECAF	Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic Fisheries
CEFAS	Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Lowestoft UK)
CFP	Common Fishery Policy
COST	Common Open Source Tool
CR	Commission Regulation
CRM	Corten Research Management
CTD	instrument to measure water characteristics like salinity, temperature, pressure, depth and density
CV	Coefficient of variation
CVO	Centre for Fisheries Research (Netherlands)
DATRAS	ICES Database with survey data
DCR	Data Collection Regulation
DCF	Data Collection Framework (successor of DCR from 2009 onwards)
DG MARE	Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Commission
DPMA	Direction des pêches maritimes et de l'aquaculture
DTU-Aqua	National Institute of Aquatic Resources of the Technical University of Denmark
EC	European Commission
EL&I	Dutch Ministry of Economics, Agriculture and Innovation
EL&I-DAD	Animal Supply Chain and Animal Welfare Department of EL&I
EU	European Union
EUROSTAT	European Statistical Office
EWG	Expert Working Group
EZ	Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs
FIDAREQ	Database administrating data requests
FRISBE	Database with biological data maintained by IMARES
FYK	gear code for Fyke net
GER	Germany
GNS	Gear code: Gill net
HAWG	ICES Herring Assessment Working Group for the Area South of 62°N
HP	engine power expressed in horse power
IBTS	International Bottom Trawl Survey

shortcut	abbreviation of
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
ICES	International Council for Exploration of the Sea
IBTS	International Bottom Trawl Survey
IMARES	Institute for Marine Resources & Ecosystem Studies, Wageningen UR
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
ITQ	Individual Transferable Quota
JRC	Joint Research Centre
LEI	Institute of Agricultural Economics
LM	Liaison Meeting
MS	Member State of the European Union
MCD	Mixed crustacean and Demersal fish target composition
MFSD	Marine Framework Strategy Directive
NACE	Nomenclature statistique des activités économiques dans la Communauté européenne (General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities)
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
NA	North Atlantic
NLD	The Netherlands
NP	National Data Collection Programme
OTB	gear code for otter trawl
PCU	price per Capacity Unit
PGCCDBS	ICES Planning Group on Commercial Catch, Discards and Biological Sampling
PGMED	Planning Group for the Mediterranean
PIM	Perpetual Inventory Method
RCM	Regional Coordination Meeting
RCM LDF	RCM Long distance Fisheries
RCM NA	RCM North Atlantic
RCM NS&EA	RCM North Sea and Eastern Arctic
RCM Med&BS	RCM Mediterranean and Black Sea
RCM Baltic	RCM Baltic Sea
RDB	Regional Data Base
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
SGECA	STECF Sub-group on Economic Affairs (subgroup from STECF)
SGELECTRA	ICES Study Group on Electrical Trawling
SGIMC	ICES Study Group in Integrated Monitoring of Contaminants and Biological Effects
SGPIDS	ICES Study Group on Practical Implementation of Discard Sampling Plans
SGRN	Subgroup on Research Needs and Data Collection (subgroup from STECF)
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SN	national statistical office Statistic Netherlands
SPSS	Software package for statistical analyses
SSC	gear code for Scottish Seine
STECF	Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries
TAC	Total Allowable Catch

shortcut	abbreviation of
TBB	Gear code: Twin Beam Trawl
TBS	Gear code: Beam Trawl Shrimp
TNS NIPO	Dutch research organization specialized in market research
UK	United Kingdom
VAT	Value Added Tax
VIRIS	Visserij Registratie en Informatie Systeem (Database with logbook entries in the Netherlands, maintained by EZ)
VISSTAT	Dutch data base with (non-biological) data on fisheries
VMS	Satellite based Vessel Monitoring System
vTI	Heinrich von Thünen-institute, Germany
WKACCU	
WKFLAT	Benchmark Workshop on Flatfish
WKFRAME2	ICES Second Workshop on Implementing the ICES FMSY Framework
WKIDFL	ICES Workshop on the identification of clupeoid, flatfish, gadoids and other fish larvae
WKISS	ICES Workshop on the Implications of Stock Structure
WKMSFD11 D3+	ICES Workshop of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive2-Descriptor 3
WKPELA	ICES Benchmark Workshop on Pelagic Stocks
WKPRECISE	
WKSMRF	ICES Workshop on Sampling Methods for Recreational Fisheries
WGBAST	ICES Working Group on Baltic Salmon and Trout
WGBFAS	ICES Baltic Fisheries Assessment Working Group
WGCRAN	ICES Working Group on Crangon Fisheries and Life History
WGEEL	ICES/EIFAAC Working Group on Eels
WGEGBS	ICES Working Group on North Sea Cod and Plaice Egg Surveys in the North Sea
WGDIM	ICES Working Group on Data and Information Management
WGEVO	ICES Working Group on Fisheries-Induced Evolution
WGRFS	ICES Planning Group on Recreational Fishery Surveys (previously PGFRS)
WKHERMP	ICES Workshop on the evaluation of the long-term management plan for North Sea herring
WGMASC	ICES Working Group on Marine Shellfish Culture
WGMEGS	ICES Working Group on Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Surveys
WGNAPES	ICES Working Group on Northeast Atlantic Ecosystem Surveys; previously PGNAPES
WGNEW	ICES Working Group on new MoU species
WGOOFE	ICES Working Group on Operational oceanographic products for fisheries and environment
WGRFS	ICES Working Group on Recreational Fishery Surveys
WGWIDE	ICES Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks (consists of parts of former WGNPBW and WGMHSA)

IX. Comments, suggestions and reflections

Comments to the cost statement:

- The format used for the cost statement is the same as the one used for the calculation of the budget proposal for the NP 2011-2013. These formats were provided by the Commission as Excel worksheets.
- The labour rates in the cost statement are calculated for each employee separately based on the eligible labour costs and a productivity of 210 days (1512 hours) for full time employees. For employees with a productivity higher than 1512 hours, the labour rates were reduced. For employees which were not fully employed in 2011 a proportionally reduced productivity was used.
- In order to be able to deal with the reporting of time by activity, as requested in the financial format, activity categories have been introduced in the national time declaration reporting systems. However, the activity descriptions do not always exactly match with those in the financial form. The labour time listed in the financial forms is taken from the national time declaring system. However, in some cases the stratification over activities is partly based on expert judgement.
- The daily rates of the research vessels have been recalculated based on the actual costs in 2013.
- The Demersal Young Fish survey is carried out with three vessels. The vessel costs are specified in separate sheets. The labour and other costs cannot easily be separated between the vessels and are included combined in the sheet of RV "Isis".

Comments to the report:

- All recommendations by STECF DCF expert groups in 2010 and 2011 and the Liaison Committee meetings in 2010, 2011 and 2012 are collected in section VII. The recommendations from STECF expert groups in 2012, endorsed by STECF, are taken from the STECF plenary reports. In their reports of 2013 STECF specifically stated that: *No recommendations arose during discussions at the plenary meeting of the STECF*. So no STECF recommendations for 2013 have been presented.
- No reports were available from the 2013 Liaison meeting and the RCM NA. Therefore the recommendation from these groups could not be considered.
- The presented recommendations are a selection of only those addressed to the MS or specifically directed to NLD. These recommendations are numbered. As far as possible the original number has been applied. In the case there was no original numbering, a numbering has been applied by the MS for this report. In the relevant sections in the report dealing with 'follow-up of recommendations', we refer to the relevant recommendation with numbering as applied in section VII.
- For a large number of recommendations there appears to be no appropriate place in the report template for response. Also, some recommendations would be more appropriate to deal with in the NP. Also a number of recommendations is unclear or are wrongly addressed to the MS.

Comments to the tables:

- NL has repeatedly commented on Table III.C.5. The table is internally inconsistent and also inconsistent with the requirement from the Decision. The

white cells in the table require information on the sampling intensity for length compositions of the metiers combined. However the grey cells require the information by metier. So the planning (white) and reporting (grey) information does not match. Also, the variables to be entered “number of fish measured/aged” is unclear since the table supposed to deals with length compositions only. It is not clear from the reported data in the table which species are measured by age and which one by length. Also the associated achieved precision would differ for age and length. Further there is only one column in which the required precision can be indicated, while precision requirements for discards and landings are different. The column “Precision (CV) achieved on volume of discards” does not belong in this table since this table deals with length measurements. Also it is not clear whether the volume is should be given by metier or metiers combined.

- The mismatch between the NP and AR part of Table III.C.5 was mentioned in previous year’s Technical Reports and brought to the attention of the Commission. However, no changes in tables and guidelines have been provided. This table is a big mess and unhelpful.
- The format of table VI_1 is not suitable to report transfer of data sampled under foreign flag or under a bilateral agreement.

Reflections on data use

- For the meetings listed in Table II_B_1, eligible travel costs are limited to two persons per meeting. NLD considers that this limitation is not justified. In order to reduce the number of working groups, ICES has merged a number of groups and meetings but the tasks have been unchanged. This applies as well to survey planning groups (SGIPS + PGNAPES = WGIPS) as for working groups analysing data for the purpose of providing advise (WGPNBW + WGHMSA = WGWIDE). Although the number of meetings is reduced, the number of participants is not.

X. References

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XI Annexes

Annex 1 Set of survey maps

Upon request by the Commission, the set of survey maps has been moved into the section III.G.1.: Research surveys at sea

Annex 2 Bilateral Agreements

Bilateral Agreement between The Netherlands (Centre for Fisheries Research) and Germany (Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, vTI) for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision 2010/93/EU

Agreement:

Pelagic freezer trawlers fishing on herring, blue whiting, mackerel and horse mackerel, and beam trawlers fishing on plaice and sole under the German register, which land for first sale into The Netherlands, will be sampled as part of the German National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the German National Sampling Programme 2011-2013.

Description of sampling:

The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the German National Sampling Programme.

Sampling intensity:

Levels and coverage of sampling will be as agreed at the annual meeting of RCM North Sea & Eastern Arctic.

Data responsibility:

Germany is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. Germany will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to The Netherlands as and when requested.

Contact persons:

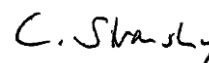
In The Netherlands (CVO): Sieto Verver: sieto.verver@wur.nl

In Germany (vTI-SF): Jens Ulleweit: jens.ulleweit@vti.bund.de

Signatures:

For The Netherlands (CVO)

For Germany (vTI)



Sieto Verver

Dr. Christoph Stransky

Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research

German National Correspondent

Date: 24 March 2010

Bilateral Agreement between the UK (CEFAS) and Netherlands (Centre for Fisheries Research) for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

Agreement:

- (1) Landings and discards by Anglo-Dutch vessels fishing on the UK register, which land for first sale into the Netherlands, will be sampled as part of the Netherlands National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). This agreement builds on the practice which has been already adopted and carried out by the Netherlands since 2000. The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the Netherlands National Sampling Programme from 2011 onwards.
- (2) Scallops landed by Dutch vessels fishing for Scallops in area VII which land for first sale in the UK will be sampled for biological parameters as part of the UK National Programme from 2011 onwards. The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the UK National Sampling Programme from 2011 onwards.
- (3) The Netherlands holds the obligation to sample bass for biological parameters triennially. The age reading of these samples will be carried out by CEFAS. This agreement builds on the practice which has been already adopted and carried out by the UK since 2006
- (4) Landings and discards by Anglo-Dutch vessels fishing on the UK register, participating in metier OTM_SPF>=40_0_0 in the CECAF region, will be sampled as part of the Netherlands National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008) for 2012 and 2013.

Description of sampling:

- (1) The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the Netherlands National Sampling Programme.
- (2) The sampling will be carried out in accordance with the UK National Sampling Programme
- (3) Not relevant
- (4) The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the Netherlands National Sampling Programme.

Sampling Intensity: (1) & (2) Levels and coverage as agreed at the annual meeting of RCM NS&EA and NA. (4) Levels and coverage as agreed at the annual meeting of RCM LDF

Data responsibility:

- (1) The Netherlands is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. The Netherlands will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to the UK as and when requested.
- (2) The UK is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. The UK will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to the Netherlands as and when requested.
- (3) Not relevant.

- (4) The Netherlands is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. The Netherlands will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to the UK as and when requested

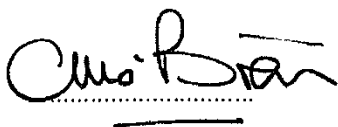
Contact persons:

In The Netherlands: Sieto Verver (sieto.verver@wur.nl)

In UK: Steve Warnes (steve.warnes@cefasc.co.uk)

Signatures:

For CEFAS



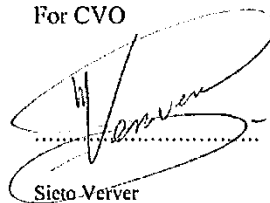
Carl O'Brien

Defra Chief Fisheries Science Adviser

CEFAS

Date: 12-10-2011

For CVO



Sieto Verver

Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research

CVO

Date: 12-10-2011

Bilateral Agreement between the Netherlands (Centre for Fisheries Research) and France (DPMA) for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

Additional information:

RCM North Sea and Eastern Arctic (2008) recommended that The Netherlands and France should establish a bilateral agreement on the sampling of the landing French trawlers landing into the Netherlands. These trawlers are operated by a Dutch company, but sail under the French flag. As the vessel fly the French flag and are selected for sampling within the French National Programme, France holds the obligation to sample these vessels. But, as France doesn't have access to the majority of the landings, The Netherlands will take over this responsibility.

The Netherlands holds the obligation to sample 120 Red Mullet per year in the North Sea for biological parameters. As France is taking the majority of the landings in IV and VIIId, the Dutch samples are of minimum relevance. However, these samples can be taken over by France.

Agreement:

- (1) Landings and discards by French-Dutch vessels fishing on the French register, which land for first sale into the Netherlands, will be sampled as part of the Netherlands National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). The eventual additional sampling costs will be covered within the Netherlands National Sampling Programme from 2011 onwards.
- (2) France will sample an additional 120 individuals of Red Mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*) per year to replace the Dutch samples.

Description of sampling:

- (1) The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the Netherlands National Sampling Programme.
- (2) The sampling will be done for biological variables following the French standard sampling protocol and procedures.

Sampling Intensity:

- (1) Levels and coverage as agreed at the annual meeting of RCM NS&EA and NA and in compliance with the Dutch sampling scheme.
- (2) Levels and coverage in compliance with the French sampling scheme.

Data responsibility:

- (1) The Netherlands is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. The Netherlands will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and the data for the additional species to France as and when requested.
- (2) France is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework.

Contact persons:

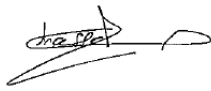
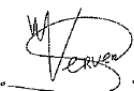
In The Netherlands: Sieto Verver (sieto.verver@wur.nl)

In France: Patrice Chasset (Patrice.chasset@agriculture.gouv.fr)

Signatures:

For CVO

For DPMA



Sieto Verver
Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research
CVO

Patrice Chasset
National Correspondent
MAAP/DPMA/MAS

Date: 01/06/2010

Date: 01/06/2010

Bilateral Agreement between the Netherlands (Centre for Fisheries Research) and Denmark (DTU-Aqua) for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

Additional information:

The Netherlands discussed with Denmark sampling of Dutch vessels fishing in IIIa which land in Denmark. Only a few vessels in a short time-frame land into Denmark and on top of this, the majority of the landings is loaded into trucks for transport to The Netherlands. This practice hampers sampling activities. Denmark doesn't have access to the landings and therefore can't sample the métiers. The involved métiers are TBB_DEM_90-119_0_0 and TBB_DEM_>=120_0_0. As The Netherlands don't have access to the landings as well, The Netherlands will ask for derogation of sampling these métiers.

Despite this, the obligation to sample IIIa plaice for biological parameters remains. To cover this, The Netherlands and Denmark agree on the following:

Agreement:

- (1) The Netherlands hold the obligation to sample plaice from IIIa for biological parameters. Denmark will take over this obligation by taking extra samples, additional to the Danish sampling scheme to cover for the Dutch landings, accounting 1273t (average 2007-2008). These samples are added to the normal Danish sampling schedule.
- (2) Denmark holds the obligation to sample plaice and sole from IV for biological parameters. The Netherlands will take over this obligation by taking extra samples, additional to the Dutch sampling scheme to cover for the Danish landings, accounting 240t (2009) of sole and 580t (2009) of plaice. These samples are added to the normal Dutch sampling schedule.

Description of sampling:

- (1) The sampling of the biological variables will be carried out in accordance with the Danish National Sampling Programme. Denmark will describe the additional samples in its National Programme and Technical Report.
- (2) The sampling of the biological variables will be carried out in accordance with the Dutch National Sampling Programme. The Netherlands will describe the additional samples in its National Programme and Technical Report.

Sampling Intensity:

- (1) Sampling intensity and strategy are in full compliance with the Danish sampling schedule and the samples are treated as normal Danish samples.
- (2) Sampling intensity and strategy are in full compliance with the Dutch sampling schedule and the samples are treated as normal Dutch samples.

Data responsibility:

- (1) Denmark is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework.
- (2) The Netherlands is responsible for submitting the data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework.

Contact persons:

In The Netherlands: Sieto Verver (sieto.verver@wur.nl)

In Denmark: Marie Storr-Paulsen (msp@dtu-aqua.dk)

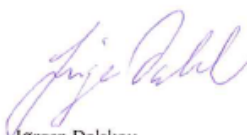
Signatures:

For CVO



Sieto Verver
Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research
CVO

For DTU-Aqua



Jørgen Dalskov
National Correspondent
DTU-Aqua

Pa

Date: 3/6/2010

Date: 3/6/2010

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	Partner Person
Germany	Johann Heinrich von Thünen 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. Grušauskas
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.

Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: _____
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: _____
Latvia	Georgs Kornilovs	National Correspondent	Date: 30.06.2011. <i>G. Kornilovs</i>
Lithuania			Date: _____
Poland	Ireneusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: _____

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.

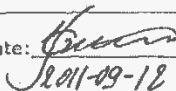
Term

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.

Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: 23/06/2011 <i>C. Stransky</i>
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: 23/06/11 <i>Dirkjan van der Stelt</i>
Latvia	<NAAM>	<FUNCTIE>	Date: _____
Lithuania	<NAAM>	<FUNCTIE>	Date: _____
Poland	Ireneusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: 23/06/11 <i>Ireneusz Wojcik</i>

Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-23
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-23
Latvia	Georgs Kornilovs	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-30
Lithuania	Vytautas Grušauskas	Director	Date:  2011-09-12
Poland	Ireneusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: 2011-06-23

Annex 3 Subcontracts

Copies of the subcontracts between IMARES and its subcontractors are available in the Certificate of Expenditure.

Annex 4 Methodology for estimating the precision of estimates based on biological market sampling data

Methodology for estimating the precision of estimates based on market sampling data

At IMARES a number of statistical procedures have been implemented to estimate the precision of estimates of key biological parameters (weights-at-age, lengths-at-age, maturity-at-age and numbers-at-length) in the landings, based on market sampling data as required under the DCF. The statistical procedures that are used depend upon the sampling methodology (Cochran 1977) and are described in the manuals of the EU funded COST project and as documented in the reports from the ICES workshops WKPRECISE and WKACCU (ICES 2008, 2009).

For each species, a description has been made of the sampling design, the target population and the sampling frame (sampling frames have not yet been fully evaluated for all species) (ICES 2008). A combination of design-based and model-based methods are used to compute the precision estimates (ICES 2009). These methods have been implemented in a number of custom made computing scripts in the statistical programming language R (<http://www.r-project.org/>). The procedures are essentially similar to the procedures as used in the COST package but are written in such a way that they communicate directly with the VISSTAT and FRISBE databases at IMARES which contain data on fisheries statistics and biological market sampling.

For the species which are sampled primarily at market, a bootstrap is used in the raising procedure, with resampling (with replacement) of trips from which fish have been sampled. Thus, for these species, the fishing 'trip' is the primary sampling unit. For the (mostly pelagic) species which are sampled at sea with several samples per trip, the primary unit which is used in the bootstrap procedures is the sample. For the precision estimation, the number of primary units that are used in the bootstrap in each stratum is equal to the number of units in this stratum minus one as a correction factor for too overoptimistic variance estimates due to small sample sizes per stratum (Lahiri 2003, Efron 1987).

In addition to the bootstrap procedure, an analytical variance estimator based on the delta method has been derived to estimate the precision of numbers-at-age (not required under the DCF). This analytical method is only used for species which are sampled in commercial size categories.

Cochran, W.G. (1977). Sampling techniques. Wiley series in probability and mathematical statistics-applied.. J.W.a.sons. 413 pp

ICES WKPRECISE REPORT 2009. Report of the Workshop on methods to evaluate and estimate the precision of fisheries data used. ICES CM 2009/ACOM:40

ICES WKACCU REPORT 2008. Report of the Workshop on Methods to Evaluate and Estimate the Accuracy of Fisheries Data used for Assessment (WKACCU). ICES CM 2008\ACOM:32

Lahiri, P. 2003. On the impact of bootstrap in survey sampling and small area estimation. *Statistical Science*, Vol. 18, No. 2

EFRON, B. (1987). Better bootstrap confidence intervals (with discussion). *J. Amer Statist. Assoc.* 82 171-200.

Annex 5 Minutes of National Coordination Meetings

Verslag jaaroverleg Begeleidingscommissie DCF van 11 december 2013

Den Haag, 11 december 2013

Aanwezig: Kees Verbogt (NC, Min EZ, DAD), John Nam Wong Ching (Min EZ, DAD), Hans van Oostenbrugge (LEI), Frans van Beek (CVO), Sieto Verver (CVO), Harold Hooglander (Min EZ, DAD), Berlinda van Nierop (Min EZ, DR)

onderwerp: jaaroverleg begeleidingscommissie

De belangrijkste reden voor dit overleg was om elkaar te informeren over de stand van zaken m.b.t. de ontwikkelingen in Brussel ten aanzien van de datacollectie en de gevolgen hiervan voor Nederland in eerste instantie in 2014 maar ook voor latere jaren. De voorzitter had Harold Hooglander en Berlinda van Nierop uitgenodigd. Zij zijn nauw betrokken bij de implementatie van de EMFF. Hun aanwezigheid bij deze vergadering werd door alle partijen als zeer nuttig ervaren. Door gebrek aan tijd zijn niet alle punten van de agenda aan de orde geweest

De agenda van de vergadering was als volgt:

1. Stand van zaken: besluitvorming EFMZV en herziening DCF
2. Voorbespreken stakeholderbijeenkomst 16 januari 2014
3. Datacollectie onder het EFMZV
4. Gevolgen aanlandplicht voor DCF
5. Coördinatie: verbreding werkveld, overlap KRM
6. Stand van zaken audit en reactie Rijksrederij
7. voortgang activiteiten dit jaar en knelpunten (toegevoegd)

1. Stand van zaken: besluitvorming EFMZV en herziening DCF

Harold meldt dat de besluitvorming van de EMFF in een stroomversnelling zit. Verwacht wordt dat Raad, Commissie en Europees Parlement in december een politiek akkoord sluiten. Dan wordt ook de precieze hoogte van het budget bekend. Eerder dit jaar heeft het Europees Parlement een amendement aangenomen om het budget voor dataverzameling te verdubbelen (vergeleken met het Commissievoorstel). Het is onwaarschijnlijk dat dit voorstel het haalt. Wel is het te verwachten dat het budget voor datacollectie hoger zal uitvallen dan het voorstel van de Commissie. Het budget wordt bekend gemaakt als er een politiek akkoord is over de verordening. De budgetten worden onderhandelend met het parlement. Frans vindt het vreemd is dat een politiek akkoord kan worden bereikt zonder inzicht te hebben in de beschikbare middelen voor de uitvoering daarvan.

In een vijftal meetings in 2012 en 2013 heeft STECF-EWG de Commissie geadviseerd over de inhoud en structuur van de dataverordening. Daar is echter nog niets concreets mee gedaan. De DC-MAP (opvolging van de DCF) is voorlopig van de kaart. De oude DCF is voorlopig met 3 jaar verlengd. Voorlopig wordt door de Commissie ingezet op een herziening van "Verordening 199", een proces dat zeker 2 jaar gaat duren. In 2014 wordt er nog en STECF-EWG georganiseerd.

NLD ontwikkelt momenteel een OP voor het EFMZV/EMFF. De formele deadline voor het indienen is 3 maanden na publicatie van het EMFF. De planning waar nu mee wordt gerekend is publicatie in april, indiening in juli en goedkeuring van het OP voor eind

2014. Frans heeft eerder dit jaar een bijdrage geleverd over specifieke ex ante conditionaliteiten. Er is echter een nieuw format uitbracht. Harold vraagt of Frans het nog een keer wil doen (deadline 15 januari) en zal het nieuwe format opsturen. Frans zegt dit met frisse tegenzin toe.

Het OP is een meerjarige plan dat aansluit bij de periode waarin de EMFF van kracht is. Omdat niet duidelijk is hoe de dataverzameling over de hele periode wordt georganiseerd zal het in de toekomst noodzakelijk zijn het OP aan te passen.

2. Voorbespreken stakeholderbijeenkomst 16 januari 2014

Op basis van informatie, verkregen door deelname aan EWG over de aanpassing van de DCF, valt er weinig nieuws te verwachten van de stakeholderbijeenkomst. Hij komt te vroeg. Een draft document voor deze vergadering, getoond bij de laatste EWG, was niet op orde. Er is nog geen heldere integrale visie door de Commissie op papier gezet.

Door het uitstel van een nieuwe dataverordening conform de doelstellingen van het nieuwe CFP, valt het verzamelen van gegevens voor een aantal nieuwe doelstellingen in de CFP buiten de huidige van kracht zijnde oude DCF. De huidige dataverzameling matcht dus niet met de ambities van het nieuwe CFP. Het nieuwe CFP moet uiteraard wel door de LS worden uitgevoerd maar de huidige situatie biedt geen mogelijkheid tot regionale coördinatie van het verzamelen van deze nieuwe gegevens.

Harold, Kees en Sieto gaan naar stakeholdersvergadering (Actie Kees: aanmelden): Verwachting is niets nieuws te horen. Doel is o.m. antwoord op vragen te krijgen hoe de ontstane gaten in te vullen.

3. Datacollectie onder het EFMZV

Binnen het EMFF zijn budgetten geoormerkt voor data collectie, controle en andere activiteiten. De geoormerkte bedragen moeten ook daadwerkelijk worden besteed voor hun doel. Het is mogelijk ruimte van de andere activiteiten te gebruiken voor data collectie maar niet andersom.

Door de vertraging van de EMFF moeten de DCF activiteiten die in 2014 worden uitgevoerd worden voorgefinancierd door het Ministerie. Later als duidelijkheid bestaat over EMFF zelf, de structuur van de nationale implementatie van de EMFF en de eligibiliteitscriteria (tariefstructuur, overhead) kan het Ministerie de kosten terugvorderen.

Doordat de structuur van de datacollectie verandert vanaf 2014 van 'direct management' naar 'shared management' is het niet duidelijk of de activiteiten die via het EMFF worden meegefinancierd openbaar moeten worden aanbesteed. Dit kan, in principe, consequenties hebben voor de partners die de DCF uitvoeren en de nationale coördinatie van de dataverzameling. Op dit moment wordt de dataverzameling uitgevoerd door IMARES en LEI die vallen onder de overeenkomst tussen het Ministerie en DLO. John wordt gevraagd uit te laten zoeken of openbare aanbesteding in de toekomst vereist is. Ook moet duidelijk worden of een eventuele aanbesteding ook van toepassing is op de vaartuigen. Op korte termijn zal het geen problemen opleveren. De Commissie heeft de NP van de LS met 3 jaar verlengd en goedgekeurd en daar staan IMARES en LEI als uitvoerende partijen genoemd.

Overigens zijn dit typische onderwerpen die ook voor andere LS aan de orde zijn. Een overleg tussen de NC van de LS hierover zou zinvol zijn.

4. Gevolgen aanlandplicht voor DCF

Dit punt is door tijdgebrek niet aan de orde geweest. De implementatie van de aanlandplicht voor de eerste vlootsegmenten is in 2015 en heeft geen gevolgen voor het onderzoek dat in 2014 zal worden uitgevoerd.

5. Coördinatie: verbreding werkveld, overlap KRM

Dit punt is door tijdgebrek niet aan de orde geweest. Bij de herziening van de DCF zal waarschijnlijk het verzamelen van data worden opgenomen t.b.v. het vaststellen van GES (Good Environment Status) indicatoren die ontwikkeld zijn in het raamwerk van de KRM. Ook kan besloten worden (op dit moment minder waarschijnlijk) dit buiten de herziende DCF te houden. Echter in dat geval blijft de verplichting van NLD bestaand de benodigde gegevens te verzamelen. In vele gevallen moet nog vastgesteld worden om welke gegevens het gaat. In beide opties kan het verzamelen van deze gegevens worden gefinancierd via de EMFF.

In het geval de KRM dataverzameling via de DCF gaat verlopen, worden ook andere partijen betrokken bij het opstellen van een AWP en AR. Er moet dus strakker worden gecoördineerd om deadlines van rapportages en aanleveren van data te halen.

Het is wenselijk voor de inbedding van dataverzameling in WOT programma's, een overzicht te maken van de verplichtingen voor NLD voortkomend uit de KRM waaruit duidelijk wordt waar de beleidsverantwoordelijkheid ligt en waar de dataverzameling wordt uitgevoerd

6. Stand van zaken audit en reactie Rijksrederij

In 2013 werd het rapport van de financiële audit van de datacollectie in Nederland uitgevoerd in de jaren 2009-2011 ontvangen van de EU. Naar aanleiding van het rapport zijn de cost statements voor die jaren aangepast. De aanpassingen hebben betrekking op de arbeidstarieven en de tarieven voor de vaartuigen. De formele afhandeling van de kosten in 2009 en 2011 is reeds uitgevoerd en zou moeten worden opengebroken n.a.v. de audit. De iets lagere tarieven in het aangepaste cost statement worden gecompenseerd door de hoger vaartuig tarieven. NLD stelt zich op het standpunt dat of beiden worden gecorrigeerd of dat door het wegstrepen van plussen en minnen wordt geschikt. Het gedeeltelijk openbreken van cost declaraties is voor NLD aanvechtbaar.

In de financiële audit is het duidelijk geworden dat de financiële administratie van de kosten van de vaartuigen door de RR niet op orde is. Op basis van de door de RR verstrekte informatie heeft EZ de kosten van de vaartuigen ondergedeclareerd. Hierdoor is in 2009 en 2010 2 ton aan cofinanciering misgelopen.

Naar aanleiding van de financiële audit moet naar de RR worden teruggekoppeld dat deze zijn financiën en scheepslogboeken op orde brengt. Kees moet laatste brief van de Commissie van 18 september met verzoek dit te doen nog doorsturen.

7. voortgang activiteiten dit jaar en knelpunten (toegevoegd)

- De invoering van een nieuwe wet voor dierproeven is uitgesteld, In 2013 is geconstateerd is dat het uitvoeren van surveys (bestandsopnamen) op haringlarven en IBTS in strijd is met de huidige wet op dierproeven. Voor 2014 is een ontheffing aangevraagd om deze survey te kunnen uitvoeren
- Er is geen nieuw Nationaal Programma voor 2014. De Commissie heeft besloten het huidige programma voor 3 jaar (2014-2016) te verlengen.
- Het Annual Report over 2012 is tijdig zonder problemen gereed gekomen. Het is door de Commissie geëvalueerd. NLD heeft gereageerd op verzoek van de Commissie om naar aanleiding van de evaluatie een aantal aanpassingen te maken. Er is nog geen reactie van de Commissie ontvangen
- Het verloop van de RCMs was succesvol. Doordat er geen coördinatie voor 2014 nodig was hebben deze een zinvolle bijdrage geleverd aan de ontwikkeling van coördinatie en kwaliteits tools voor de DCF in de toekomst.
- De response op de meeste data calls was voldoende en op tijd. Een uitzondering was de data call voor aquacultuur. Hiervoor waren data van het CBS nodig die niet tijdig konden worden geleverd i.v.m. problemen met groepering i.v.m. privacygevoelige informatie. Uiteindelijk zijn de gegevens wel, te laat, aangeleverd. Volgend jaar kan het zelfde probleem zich weer voordoen.

- Hans wil een uitzondering gaan vragen bij Commissie voor dataverzameling van aquacultuur. Het voorstel is om de productie informatie wel te verzamelen, maar geen volledig dekkende economische dataverzameling op te zetten voor de landgebonden aquacultuur omdat deze sector steeds kleiner wordt en de respons van ondernemers die stoppen of gaan stoppen heel laag is. Voor de andere sectoren (mosselen en oesters) is dit wel het geval.
- De bemonstering van de vangsten in het CECAF gebied (o.a. Mauritanië) is uitbesteed aan CRM. Ad Corten heeft gemeld dat er problemen waren om waarnemers aan boord te krijgen voor het bemonsteren van de vangst. De reden voor weigering was ruimtegebrek aan boord. De situatie kan leiden dat niet voldoende reizen worden bemonsterd. Het punt is gemeld aan het Ministerie en de EC.

Annex 6 Minutes of a bilateral meeting with Germany

Minutes of the Bilateral Meeting on the 28th of February 2013 between the Netherlands and Germany on the cooperation of sampling commercial vessels within discard sampling programmes of the DCF.

In follow up of the last bilateral coordination meeting between the Netherlands (NL) and Germany (GER) (29 November 2011, Hamburg, Germany) on the cooperation in data collection and sampling within the Data Collection Framework (DCF), representatives from The Netherlands and Germany met again on the 28th of February 2013 in IJmuiden, The Netherlands. The objective of the meeting was the co-ordination of discard sampling on commercial vessels following DCF obligations, implementation of bilateral agreements of the previous meeting (synchronize existing discard monitoring programmes; come to agreements on sampling protocols, methods and procedures or propose to investigate dissimilarities between programmes).

The following participants attended the Meeting:

- Christoph Stransky (GER, national correspondent)
- Edwin van Helmond (NL)
- Jens Ulleweit (GER)
- Josien Steenbergen (NL, sampling shrimpers)
- Marcel Machiels (NL)
- Kay Panten (GER)
- Aukje Coers (NL, sampling demersal trawlers)

The following subjects were discussed:

- 1 Sampling beam trawlers on brown shrimp (*Crangon crangon*) in the North Sea.
- 2 Sampling demersal trawlers in the North Sea.
- 3 Sampling the pelagic trawler fleet in western waters (from Norway down to Portugal).
- 4 Long distance fisheries (pelagic trawlers in Mauritania).
- 5 Discard ban.
- 6 Krill fishery.
- 7 STECF vs. ICES: inconsistent discard estimates
- 8 VMS data.

1) Sampling shrimpers (beamtrawlers on brown shrimp, *Crangon crangon*)

This métier is operated by NL, Bel, Ger and DK in continental coastal waters with same gear type and target species (level 5) but possibly different mesh size ranges (level 6). Also UK conducts a small shrimp fishery in the Wash. The largest stakeholders in this fishery are NL and GER.

NL has 232 vessels with a shrimp licence of which 80 are fishing in the North Sea only. Part of the time they also participate in other métiers. The other vessels also operate in the estuaries (the Wadden Sea). GER has about 250 vessels mainly operating by day trips.

Both GER and NL run an annual sampling programme of eight trips stratified by time (one trip per month during the season). Both programmes are not stratified by area. Because of technical issues and labour intensity, it is standard for both countries to deploy two observers on board. Deployment of two observers on one trip makes this programme relatively expensive. Lack of accommodation for two observers on the small shrimpers is often a problem, to a lesser account for GER, since they mainly conduct day trips.

Improving communication with the shrimp fleet was a point of concern in GER. A letter, published in a German fishery newspaper, explaining the objectives of the DCF to monitor catches on board, did not improve the situation. NL did not experience communication problems with the industry in recent years. In NL, objectives of the DCF monitoring were mainly communicated through the fishery association. Josien Steenbergen suggests the German counterparts to do the same.

During the last bilateral meeting, both countries noticed the lack of sufficient procedures to randomly select vessels or the appropriate measures in place to record refusal rates. So far, NL planned to investigate the possibilities of a statistically sound sampling programme, including random vessel selection and refusal recording procedures. Although, the effectiveness of statistically sound sampling procedure for a “8-trip” observer programme of a relatively large fishing fleet was questioned by counterparts of both GER and NL, it was agreed to be a good test case to investigate the implementation of such a sampling scheme. GER decided not to investigate the possibilities of a statistical sound sampling programme in the shrimp fishery at the moment.

GER and NL decided to combine results of the shrimp monitoring in one report. Preferred is a format for multiple uses, an ICES cooperative research report (CRR) was suggested. Edwin van Helmond will contact colleagues from Denmark to check if they also have an interest in joint reporting. A SharePoint will be created to collect (raw) data in the least aggregated form. NL agreed to combine the data of the different countries. Data will be analysed and results drafted by NL. Data will be made available by the end of March 2013. First contact is planned in June to discuss progress. Draft report will be ready at the end of 2013.

2) Sampling demersal trawlers in the North Sea

NL runs a self-sampling programme to monitor five different demersal métiers within their DCF programme. A reference fleet of 25 vessels cooperate with IMARES and samples 160 trips are sampled a year. 10 observer trips are used to validate the self-sampling programme on an annual basis. GER operates an observer programme of 4 trips a year (one per quarter), mainly on Dutch owned German flagged beamers.

During the last bilateral meeting NL and GER discussed innovative developments of the conventional beamgear. Both Member States observed in all beam trawl fleets the development of sumwing and pulse gear. These new gears have an effect on fishing behaviour and, therefore, possibly, result in other catch and discard compositions than conventional beamers. To correctly monitor the beam trawl fleet within the DCF, it is important to have a correct overview of these developments. Total discard volume on fleet level could be overestimated when a sampling programme is biased and only monitor conventional beamers. GER and NL agreed to share information on these developments within their fleets and update each other on overviews of fleet compositions, percentage of alternative beam trawlers within their beam trawl fleets.

Overlap in monitoring between GER and NL in DCF monitoring is within the fleet segment of beam trawlers > 300hp fishing with mesh size between 80 and 100mm targeting plaice and sole. These are Dutch owned flag vessels operating in IVb and IVc landing their catch mostly in NL. Both countries agreed to share their data for this métier, although sampling protocols on board are not as much alike. The effect on different sampling protocols on board beam trawlers was investigated in SGPIDS 2012 (Dutch Belgian case study). Also the intensity and difference in sampling plans (observer vs. reference fleet) are too far apart, therefore, for the moment, GER and NL decided not to combine results or report together.

Considering the changes in the up-coming reformed data collection (DCMAP) and the relatively small fleet size, GER planned to start a statistically sound sampling plan, following the approach as described in SGPIDS and WKPICS, for the beam trawl monitoring programme in the near future.

3) Sampling the pelagic trawler fleet in western waters

This pelagic métier operates in various fishing grounds in western EU waters (from Norway down to Portugal). The vessels are mainly Dutch-owned, but can operate under foreign flag (e.g. Germany, France, Ireland). Both NL and GER have included the monitoring of this métier in their NP and apply an observer concurrent sampling scheme. The sampling effort of the NL is 12 observer trips per year. The average trip duration is 4 weeks. The sampling also contains activities relating to EU Regulations on monitoring by-catches of cetaceans and conditions for catching deep sea fish. GER carries out 5 trips a year.

Already in previous bilateral meetings, the significant overlap between the two pelagic monitoring programmes was discussed. Even with differences in sampling protocols on board as a persistent issue (SGPIDS 2012, poster presentation at FDI conference in Galway in 2010 by Stransky et al.), communication between GER and NL and synchronization in planning is improving. In one occasion in 2012, a Dutch observer was able to replace a German observer in the German programme. Both NL and GER agreed to further integrate their monitoring programmes in 2013. NL will discuss the possibilities of using the “German sampling protocol” in the next pelagic observer group meeting.

After the meeting, an email exchange between GER and NL started on the possibility to include German data, aggregated at trip level, in a NL pelagic monitoring report over 2011 and 2012. Currently GER is investigating this opportunity. Conversely, there was a point of discussion during the meeting whether it is more interesting to combine data over a longer period of time and submit a report in the ICES series (ICES CCR).

4) Long distance fisheries

Long distance fishing is described as the pelagic fisheries outside EU waters. Sampling these pelagic fisheries is required for all EU MS through the DCF métier selection procedure. Currently there are no long distance activities, however it is expected that Lithuania will start their long distance fishing activities next year. In previous years, monitoring was outsourced to Ad Corten, a private consultant. Ad Corten has been carrying out a number of research projects in Pacific and African waters on behalf of the Dutch Ministry and the pelagic industry on a contract basis. Most information available from fisheries in these areas originates from these projects. However, it is foreseen that Ad Corten will not pick up his monitoring activities again. Replacement or alternative plans are not available yet. NL and GER agreed to deal with this issue in the RCM for long distance fisheries.

5) Discard ban

Under the reform of the CFP, a number of significant changes to the management system have been proposed. These include an obligation to land all catches, in other words a discard ban and a more regionalized approach in fisheries management. NL and GER agreed to coordinate their (monitoring) plans relating to the upcoming implementation of the reformed CFP. No concrete actions or plans were discussed during the meeting.

6) Krill fishery

Preliminary plans are made to start a krill fishery in the future. Although concrete plans cannot be made at the moment, NL and GER agreed to work on a common sampling programme to monitor this fishery.

7) STECF vs. ICES: inconsistent discard estimates

At the moment, there are two main end-users of collected discard data: ICES assessment working groups (AWG) and the STECF expert working groups (EWG). The requirements on the discard estimates differ between the end-users. ICES AWGs usually need discard estimates by stock, sometimes divided into major or “broad” fisheries (congregated metier) in order to examine the fishing mortality on the ages in the discard fraction of the catch. The STECF EWG use discard estimates in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the fishing effort regulation schemes and/or the contribution to the overall fishing mortality from certain parts of the fleets. In the ICES system, countries upload discard data into the database InterCatch and/or submit the data to the stock coordinators. The data is usually aggregated at a quite high level, decided by the AWG itself. In the STECF system data are obtained from the Member States through a yearly data call. MS are obliged to submit data in accordance with the call. If they fail to do so, they risk a cut in funding. The STECF data call requires data on a very fine scale (e.g. by gear (sub)type, mesh size, vessel length).

The EU Commission has recently started to make European data on effort, landings, discards and economic data obtained through the STECF data calls, available through a webpage (<https://fishreg.jrc.ec.europa.eu/web/datadissemination/tables>). Discard estimates are also published in different STECF EWG reports. These discard estimates seem not always to be consistent with the estimates published in the ICES AWG reports and/or advisory sheets.

Both NL and GER are alarmed by the inconsistencies between ICES and STECF. The main worry is the detailed level of the data call, which does not match any discard monitoring programme, and the in-transparency of raising procedures used by STECF. There is a clear mismatch between ICES working groups, STECF expert groups, post-stratification levels and sampling frames/plans of the DCF. NL and GER will raise these issues at the next STECF DCMAP meeting.

In addition, the PGCCDBS tried to estimate the extent of this inconsistency by making direct comparisons of discard estimates contrasting data in the EU database with estimates in the assessment group reports for a selected number of stocks (see PGCCDBS report 2013).

8) VMS data

Officially, it is not possible to get excess to VMS data. Both NL and GER will raise this issue, and confidentiality in general, at the next STECF DCMAP meeting.