

**ANNUAL REPORT
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**NATIONAL FISHERIES DATA
COLLECTION**

2016

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I. General framework

The National Programme (NP) of the Netherlands 2014-2016 for fisheries data collection refers to the Community¹ and National Programme defined in Articles 3 and 4 of Council Regulation 199/2008, to Article 1 of Commission Regulation 665/2008 and the Annex of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. This NP is a roll over from the 2011-2013 programme.

The Annual Report (AR) 2016 on the NP of the Netherlands refers to Article 7 of Council Regulation 199/2008, to Article 5 of Commission Regulation 665/2008 and to the Annex of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. This report describes the activities carried out in the Netherlands in 2016. If the reference year differs from the report year, it is accordingly stated in the sections for Modules IV and V.

This AR is based on the "Guidance for the submission of Annual Report on the National Data Collection Programmes (...), Version for Annual Reports 2015", which is related to the layout and contents of the NP 2014-2016. No specific guidance is applicable to the 2016 Annual Report (email Commission to NCs d.d. 19 April 2017 9:20).

No major methodological changes in approach have been introduced in 2016 compared to the years before.

In the past, the Netherlands has requested a number of derogations for data collection. These are listed in table I.A.1.

The Commission has established provisions to facilitate the cooperation between MS with the regard to the collection of data. These are Regional Coordination Meetings (RCM), bilateral and multilateral agreements with other MS and in the future regional databases. The bilateral and multilateral agreements between the Netherlands and other MS are listed in table I.A.2.

In 2015, the standing multilateral agreement between NLD, DEU, LVA, LTU, and POL on the sampling of EU catches of pelagic fisheries in the CECAF area has been extended to 2016. Through this agreement, The Netherlands also covers the condition in the NLD-UK bilateral agreement to cover sampling of UK vessels fishing in CECAF waters. Also, in 2015, a multilateral agreement between NLD, DEU, LTU, and POL on the sampling of EU catches of pelagic fisheries in the SPFRMO area was established for 2015 and 2016.

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-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

II. National data collection organisation

II.A National correspondent and participating institutes

The Dutch National Correspondent is I.H. Janssen (Inge), employed by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs (EZ), Department for European Agricultural and Fisheries Policy and Food Security.

Three partners were involved in the 2016 data collection in the Netherlands:

- 1) The European Agricultural and Fisheries Policy and Food Security Department (EZ-ELVV) and the Animal Supply Chain and Animal Welfare Department (EZ-DAD), both sections in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, perform control and authority exercises at the commercial fisheries and the recreational and game fisheries. EZ-ELVV also acted as coordinator for the execution of the National Programme;
- 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. The institute's name was changed in September 2016 into Wageningen Economic Research (WEcR).
- 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 metier related variables; recreational fisheries and research surveys at sea. The institute's name was changed in September 2016 into Wageningen Marine Research.

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According to Commission Regulation 665/2008 article 8(2) a national DCF website has been established. The site can be found under the following link: <http://www.wageningenur.nl/nl/Expertises-Dienstverlening/Wettelijke-Onderzoekstaken/Centrum-voor-Visserijonderzoek-1/Data-Collection-Framework.htm> (in Dutch).

Under header “data collection framework”, all information of relevance to participants of the Dutch DCF programme can be found.

National Coordination is carried out by a Steering Group consisting of representatives of the three partners. The meetings of the group are chaired by the NC. The main objective of the Steering Group is the national coordination of the work to be carried out according to the DCF. A formal meeting took place on 18 May 2016 in The Hague (minutes available in Annex 3). Next to that, the partners frequently contacted each other informally to discuss day-to-day issues. The main discussion points dealt with were, the DCF recast, aquaculture data collection and the Dutch EMFF declaration.

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 2016. The meetings in the table were copied from the list of recommended meetings provided on the DCF website of the Commission. In addition the 2016 STECF EWG meetings were added to the table.

This list includes all the coordination meetings. In 2016, NLD participated in the RCM NS&EA, RCM NA, RCM LDF and PGECON. As chair of RCM LDF, NLD also attended the Liaison meeting.

MS participated in all ICES meetings for which participation was planned.

In 2016, NLD has provided chairs for the following ICES expert groups: HAWG, WKNSEA, ADGNEPH, DIG, WGCAN, WGVHES, WGISUR, WGELECTRA, WKARDAB2, WKPIMP, WGMEGS and WGIPS.

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

Table II.B.2 lists the 2015 recommendations from the Liaison Meeting, STECF and ICES survey planning groups relevant to the Netherlands in 2016. Table II.B.2 includes the response of the Netherlands to these recommendations.

Recommendations from RCMs and PGECON

In principle the Liaison Meeting evaluates all recommendation made by the RCMs and lists there in its report. The LM report of 2015 has therefore been the basis for considering the RCM recommendations.

Recommendations from STECF

No summary of recommendations is given in the 2015 STECF plenary reports as all reports state explicitly that no new recommendation arose during the discussions at the plenary meeting. The STECF 16-02 and 16-03 plenary reports contain a number of recommendations, none of which applies to MS,.

Recommendations from survey planning groups

The ICES recommendation database [2015](#) and [2016](#) was scanned for recommendations relevant to ACOM (Netherlands), ICES Delegates, ICES Member Countries (via Delegates), and from the Survey planning groups. No recommendations in the database are relevant to NLD in relation to DCF.

III. Module of evaluation of the fishing sector

III.A General Description of the fishing sector

The Dutch fisheries in marine waters have three major components: the demersal fisheries in the North Sea, the pelagic fisheries 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.

Demersal fisheries

Demersal fisheries by NLD are mainly restricted to the North Sea and some activity in the English Channel. The major demersal fisheries are beam trawl fisheries directed to flatfish and operate all year round. These fisheries are mixed fisheries taking also non target species and discards. Beam trawlers are operating with various mesh sizes depending on the area and target fish. In the past decade, most of the beam trawlers targeting sole have innovated their gears by introducing pulse stimulation instead of tickler chains and fly wings instead of beams. There are only a few traditional beam trawlers left.

Due to regulations, aiming at reducing effort and bottom impact of the gear but also economic incentives, many beam trawlers have stopped their activities or changed to other fishing methods such as twin trawling, fly shooting, seine and shrimping.

A fishery for brown shrimp (*Crangon crangon*) is carried out within the 6 mile coastal zone extending from Sylt to the Dutch-Belgian border, including the Wadden Sea and other estuaries.

NLD has small quota for some demersal species in Skagerrak (IIIaN), Gulf of Biscay (VIIIc) and the Irish Sea (VIIa). Traditionally these quotas are exchanged with other countries and hardly any demersal fishing of Dutch vessels has taken place in these areas in the last years.

Pelagic fisheries

The Dutch pelagic freezer trawlers operate in North East Atlantic waters targeting pelagic species (herring, mackerel, horse mackerel and blue whiting) with pelagic or semi-pelagic trawls. The fishing operations of the pelagic fisheries are by nature directed to single species which are taken with relative few bycatch and discards.

Occasionally part of the freezer trawlers operate in African waters (CECAF) targeting sardinella and horse mackerels and in the Pacific (SPRFMO) targeting jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*). Catches from African and Pacific waters are mainly landed outside the EU. Because of low quota or unfavourable fishing agreements, the interest of the Dutch fleet for fishing in these waters is presently low.

Aquaculture and coastal fisheries for bivalves

In the Wadden Sea and Easter Scheldt Estuary, blue mussels are cultured. Seed mussels are transported to locations where optimal conditions for growth are present 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. Only a few companies are involved in the fishery. A major mechanical fishery for cockles in coastal waters has been terminated in 2005.

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

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

Other marine fisheries

There are a few small scale marine fisheries operating in coastal waters. These are: gill net fisheries for sole or sea bass, fisheries using static gears targeting lobster or eel and smelt fishing with seines.

III.B Economic variables (All Supra regions)

Text refers to all supra regions of relevance to The Netherlands.

III.B.1 Achievements: 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 trawlers: 18-24 m
- Beam trawlers: 24-40 m
- Beam trawlers : 40- m
- Demersal trawlers and seiners: 18-24 m
- Demersal trawlers and seiners: 24-40 m
- Pelagic trawlers: 40- m

Data from commercially active vessels was gathered directly by copying fishermen's accounts by three 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 2016 has been collected during 2016. However, as final validation can only be done after the accounts are complete, validated data only become available 10 months after the reference year. Therefore, data collection of 2015 data is normally completed at the end of 2016 as is noted in the tables.

Data on the capital costs are retrieved from the financial accounts of fishing companies and only become available 18 months after the end of the reference year. Because of this financial data from the commercially active vessels were gathered from 2014 instead of 2015.

Data collection from the pelagic trawlers represents a specific case as these vessels are owned by three large companies who combine fishing and trade activities. Because of the small amount of vessels in this group, accounts of all vessels are taken into account. This also includes the accounts of vessels that have been active in other regions (see also clustering). These accounts become available in the year after the reference year.

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

- Passive gear: 0-10 m
- Passive gear: 10-12 m
- Beam trawlers: 0-10 m
- Demersal trawlers: 0-10 m
- Passive gears - Drift and/or fixed netters 12-18 m and 18-24 m
- Dredges 24-40 m

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

telephone and paper questionnaire. These questionnaires are carried out one year after the reference year, so data from 2015 for these fisheries has been collected in 2016 and final validated data for these segments was available end-2016, one year after the reference year.

WEcR panel: target population

Detailed economic data have been collected in 2016 from 85 cutters and 8 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. The economic detailed data are gathered by three accountants. Due to the unexpected illness and death of one of the accountants in 2015 and the resulting delay in the collection of the data of 2014, spring 2016 was partly used to complete the collection of 2014 data. Because of a substantial period of illness of one of the accountants during autumn 2016 the delay in data collection was not resolved by the end of 2016. Although all of the accounts were finished for 2014, the economic data from 25 vessels for 2015 could not be completed before the end of the data call in February 2017. Although the number of vessels covered was lower than before, coverage of the segments concerned was still acceptable (15-41%) and extra care was taken to ensure representation. In spring 2017 the economic data of these vessels will be completed.

As discussed in SGEA 09-02, the panel selection meets the requirements of a Probability Sample Survey as the participants of the panel have 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, innovative gears like pulse fishing and pulse wing fishing are also taken into account.

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 14 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. 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. As the number of vessels in the panel are low (only 2 vessels from this length class this year) data from another 5 vessels randomly selected from the length class 18-24 m and over 40 meters were used as proxies for the data of vessels in this class. The resultant number of vessels have been used in the table.

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	14	3
24-40	Beam trawl	>300	14	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 economically less important fisheries -vessels using passive gears and dredges- and vessels using active gears which earn less than 50.000 euro per year) is gathered by carrying out a telephone and a paper questionnaire.

In order to increase response rates from the questionnaires, all owners of less active fishing vessels have been contacted by telephone to gather information about the activity level and main fishing activity. Besides the fishermen have been asked in what way they would like to participate in the paper questionnaire (by mail/e-mail or through a web-based questionnaire). Because of this, the response rate of the questionnaires has increased considerably over the last years.

The results of the questionnaires showed that within the group of vessels categorised as less active or inactive, 200 vessels were non-active. The other vessels could be categorised in 8 segments, of which the small vessels using passive gears was by far the most important.

Clustering

Table III.B.2 shows that the Dutch fishing fleet consists of a large group of very small segments: 19 segments count less than 10 vessels and 16 segments count even less than 5 vessels. With the exception of 1 demersal trawler and 5 dredgers, these are all segments with very limited income per vessel and, in combination with the low number of vessels, thus segments are of limited economic importance for the Dutch fishing sector (also stated as N in table III.B.2), except for the demersal trawlers > 24 meters (stated as S in table III.B.2). Therefore the segments have been clustered for both data collection and data reporting. Clustering has been done taking into account:

- Consistency of the clustering in the time series
- Similarity in cost structure (as far as possible clustering of passive gears and active gears)
- Based on length classes.

The resulting clustering is as follows (see also table III.B.2):

One demersal trawler > 40 m has been clustered with the demersal trawlers 24 – 40m, based on similarities in the cost structure (S in table III.B.2)

Two pelagic trawlers > 40 m fishing predominantly in other regions have been clustered with the pelagic trawlers fishing in EU waters, based on similarities in the cost structure (S in table III.B.2)

All vessels using active gears smaller than 12 meters have been clustered

All vessels using active gears 12 – 18 meters have been clustered

All vessels using passive gears 12 – 18 meters have been clustered

All vessels using passive gears 18 – 24 meters have been clustered

All vessels using passive and active gears above 24 m have been clustered.

This was mainly done because of similar cost structure in the underlying segments.

The resulting segments/clusters have more than 10 vessels except for the dredgers 24-

40 meters and drift and fixed netters 12-18 meters and 18-24 meters. The size of the first group has been fluctuating around 10 vessels in the past years, but has distinct features and is therefore kept separate (especially the larger dredgers). The last two groups were larger previously and have been kept separately for reporting this year. However, the economic data from these two groups have been aggregated together, also because of low number of observations. The same was done for all economic data of inactive vessels from 0-12 meters and for all inactive vessels over 12 meters. These last segments were reported separately for the sake of historical consistency. For most of the resulting segments the achieved data coverage of the economic data collection is > 20%. Only in two cases of the smaller segments coverage is less.

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.

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 agreed to deliver monthly averages on landings and prices per market category and detailed data from the vessels in the panel. These data are available from 2004 onwards. From 2014 onwards a complete set of detailed sales notes data are provided by the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

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.

For the commercially active vessels, the price per capacity unit (PCU) 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 an 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 using a degressive model. 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. Besides a list of other tangible assets is kept for each vessel and these are depreciated linearly with 4, 8 and 12 years (depending on the type of asset) and the costs are incorporated in the gear costs or landing costs. For non-commercial vessels, the value of capital is based on the insurance value and depreciation is calculated linearly for the complete vessel.

The number of FTE's are calculated based on the average number of crewmembers on the vessel and the number of sea days. The national threshold for one FTE is 1820 per annum.

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.

WEcR panel: data collected

From the vessels within the WEcR panel information of over 200 highly detailed costs and income categories is collected. 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 valuated, 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.

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.

Representativeness WEcR panel

In 2016 the representativeness and the reliability of the sample was extensively tested using data from 2008 till 2015. The research showed that the current fleet sample is reliable and representative for most technical and fisheries characteristics when stratification is made in both fishing gear and vessel length. The report will become publically available in 2017.

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

Besides the above mentioned delay in data processing, there was no deviation of the national program for the data gathered by the panel in 2015, either in sampling or in the variables collected. The precision levels of the variables were good to acceptable in all cases.

Despite the fact that the panel data are representative for the population (averages not statistically different), differences between outcomes of the panel data and the population will exist for e.g. landing value, due to random variation. In order to improve consistency among data sets the economic outcomes were adjusted for differences between the total value of landings and total landings income. All costs and earnings related to fishing activities were adjusted, proportional to the ratio between value of landings and income from landings.

Data from pelagic trawlers

Data from pelagic trawlers are obtained from the company accounts. Specific attention should be given to the following:

Prices: Because the fishing companies combine fishing and trading activities, internal prices are used to calculate the wages of the crews and these prices are also used to estimate income to the fishing vessel operation.

Financial position: Because of the complicated company structure with numerous

firms combining different activities it is impossible to assess the financial position of these companies. Because of this, the financial position has been assumed to be 50%.

Paper Questionnaire: data collected

For the vessels not included in the population for the WEcR 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 2015. These data were available for the data requests by the Commission in spring 2017.

Data gathered with the paper questionnaires is less extensive than data gathered through the WEcR 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 of assumed low levels of 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.

III.B.3 Actions to avoid deviations

In order to improve the response rates for the less active fishing vessels, communication with the fishermen has been intensified by means of telephone interviews in addition to the paper questionnaires. Around 60% 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. Besides, also data for the inactive vessels have been gathered through the telephone questionnaire. This has almost doubled the response rate for these inactive vessels.

III.B. Economic variables (Other regions)

In 2015 only two 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). 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 specifically due to confidentiality agreements. However data was collected and presented combined with the data on fishing activities from EU waters.

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 Actions to avoid deviations

There are no actions planned.

III.C Métier-related variables (North Sea)

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

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

At present NLD sampling strategies in the North Sea are a mixture of metier based sampling and statistical sound sampling approach. Sampling of demersal and pelagic landings is based on a statistical sound approach in terms of random auction or direct representative sampling, while discard sampling is based on a metier approach.

The sampling objectives, targets and strategies are described in the NP 2014-2016 of NLD. Note that on request of the Commission this NP is rolled over from the period 2011-2013 without any changes. As a consequence, the objective for the sampling programmes in NLD carried out in 2016 remained unchanged. There are some deviations in the work carried out in 2016 from the sampling strategies as outlined by NLD in its NP.

Table III.C.1 lists all metiers for which fishing activities have been recorded during the reference period (2007-2008). The reference period corresponds to the NP 2014-2016 and is not updated in this AR because it was the basis for the NP carried out in 2016. The landings and effort information provided in this table are sensus data originating from logbooks records. The data on the value are based on sale slips records.

Table III.C.4 provides the sampling strategy applied by NLD in 2016. The achieved sampling is provided in table III.C.3. The achieved length sampling of catches, landings and discards by metier and species is given in table III.C.6.

Fishing activity as defined in Table III.C.4 does not necessarily match with metiers in Table III.C.3. For fishing activity 'demersal fisheries' no predefined targets are given at metier level. These metiers are reflected in Table III.C.3. Regarding sampling frames NL1 and NL2, 173 self-sampling trips and 9 observer trips are reported by metier. This adds up to a total of 182 trips which is within the range of a total of 170 trips as described in the sampling strategy for these sampling frames in Table III.C.4.

The sampling frame NL9 (Table III.C.4) refers to auction sampling of demersal fisheries. As the selection of fishboxes to sample is quasi-random (see section III.C.2 in the report). The PSU is site*time, metier is not of relevance in this situation. Table III.C.3 has been updated for sampling frame 9 as requested, however, this information suggests targeting metiers for sampling and this is not the case and the information is not of any relevance for evaluation as metiers were not the target unit. Regarding the sampling levels, see below.

Since 2009 a discard self-sampling programme is in place for the Dutch demersal fisheries in the North Sea. Within this programme a so-called reference fleet with protocol-instructed fishers collect discard samples according to a predefined schedule during their regular commercial operations throughout the year. The vessels participating in the reference fleet receive a financial compensation for the discard samples they bring ashore. In 2016 the reference fleet consisted of 20 vessels covering 12 metiers, including subdivision of TBB_DEF_70_99_0_0 into TBB_DEF_70_99_0_0 (≤ 300 hp) and TBB_DEF_70_99_0_0 (>300 hp). This subdivision is made as the spatial distribution differs between the two; only vessels with an engine power of ≤ 300 hp are allowed to fish in a marine protected area ("plaice box") and the Dutch 12-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. As the metier composition of the reference fleet is representative of the metier composition of the Dutch demersal fleet, the sampled trips provide insight of the discard composition of the fleet. In order to discriminate between the metiers OTB_DEF_70_99_0_0 and

OTB_MCD_70_99_0_0, the OTB trips are classified based on landings of *Nephrops* per trip (i.e. when landings consist of $\geq 30\%$ *Nephrops* then trips are classified as OTB_MCD_70_99_0_0, otherwise the trip is classified as OTB_DEF_70_99_0_0). In addition to the self-sampling programme, 9 out of the 10 planned observer trips have been carried out in 2016, on board of self-sampling trips. The initial target of 10 observer trips was not reached due to staffing problems. On the other hand, more trips than planned were sampled under the self-sampling programme, hence the overall planned target of 170 sampled trips was met easily. The observer trips are used to fine-tune the sampling protocol and to validate the self-sampling data. A statistical procedure is proposed by Uhlmann *et al.* (2009) to evaluate potential bias in self-sampling observations; the self-sampling observations provide a representative estimate of discarding.

As in previous years the GNS metiers (GNS_DEF_100-119_0_0, GNS_DEF_90-99_0_0 and GNS_DEF_120-219_0_0) have been merged for (discard) sampling. The main reason for merging these metiers is that the vessels operating in these metiers are the same and it is often not in advance possible to target one of these metiers specifically for sampling. Cooperation with the Dutch gillnet fishery is difficult but improving. In this metier 8 out of the 10 planned trips were eventually monitored in 2016.

The pelagic fishery is carried out with large freezer vessels operating in several areas during one trip. In 2016 four pelagic observer trips only took place in area IV. However, as the planning of this metier relates to the entire North Atlantic, not solely the North Sea, the description of the sampling of the pelagic metier is included in the section North Atlantic.

As in previous years, the planned number of trips to be sampled in the fish auction in 2016 was overshot (395 vs 110 planned). The planned number of 60 mentioned in the NP was not correct. This number should have read 110. However, as in earlier years, 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.

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

The Dutch sampling design of the demersal landings was evaluated by WGCATCH in 2015. In short: The Dutch sampling design is stratified with sites*time being the PSU and fish box being the SSU when targeting fish. The PSUs are stratified by quarter and their selection is quasi-random. The SSUs are stratified by species and landing size category and their selection is quasi-random. Fish measurements by species are the TSU and their selection is random. The sampling design is the same for species which target is to obtain a length distribution or an age composition of the landed catch. Rare species, such as rays and skates are sampled opportunistic. WGCATCH considered that the design has a sound statistical approach. There is a small probability of bias because some minor fish actions are excluded from sampling.

Developments in the TBB_DEF_70-99_0_0 are the introduction of electric stimulation and hydro-dynamic beams (sum wings) replacing the traditional beam. These innovations may have changed catch composition compared to the traditional beam trawl. Also the level of discarding may be different. In order to avoid bias in discard estimates, the discard sampling design of this metier (self-sampling) has tried to take account of the distribution of 'different gears' in this metier. However, this distribution is based on circumstantial information because the required gear information is not provided by log-books. This contributes to the uncertainty of the

discard estimates provided for this metier.

Currently the budget for the discard sampling of the Dutch brown shrimp fishery (TBB_CRU_16_31_0_0) based on the assumption that trips are relatively short (i.e. 1-2 days). However, in practice we are observing a shift towards longer trips. As the budget is not sufficient to cover these extra observer days, short trips (i.e. 1-2 days) are selected. Consequently, there is a risk that the collected data are not representative for the entire Dutch brown shrimp fleet.

III.C.3 Actions to avoid deviations

Sampling of landings

- WGCATCH 2015 considered the potential small bias in sampling of landings acceptable. The present sampling design covers 85% of the total landings in the Netherlands. Covering all landings (all auctions) would lead to excessive extra costs. There is no need for action.

At sea sampling for discards

- For a number of years there are problems getting access to vessel operating GNS gears. The problem was related to claims of bycatches and mortality of harbour porpoises by this metier. In 2016, 80% of the planned trips were monitored. Even though the target of 10 trips was not reached in 2016, cooperation with this metier seems to have improved. There is no need for action.
- In 2016 90% of the planned demersal observer trips were monitored. The target of 10 trips was not reached due to staffing problems. For 2017, additional capacity is available, thus expecting full coverage in 2017 under the new EU-MAP proposals.

III.C Métier-related variables (North Atlantic)

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

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

In the North Atlantic, NLD only operates pelagic metiers fishing for herring, mackerel, horse mackerel and blue whiting. In addition, occasionally Greater argentine catches are recorded and sampled. The fishing trips of this fleet are not restricted to a specific region or fishing ground but are following the distribution of the stocks spanning several regions and fishing grounds including those in the North Sea and the Eastern English Channel.

In previous years, the pelagic metiers OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0 and PTM_SPF_32-69_0_0, have been merged for discard sampling as these metiers share similar characteristics.

The sampling programme in the North Atlantic exists of an observer programme at sea on board of pelagic freezer trawlers (metier OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0) fishing in European waters and a self-sampling programme carried out by this fleet.

From 1 January 2015 the Dutch pelagic freezer trawlers (metier OTM_SPF_32-69_0_0) fall under the landing obligation. Consequently, from 2015 onwards concurrent samples of catches are taken on a haul-by-haul basis during the trips covered by observers, rather than concurrent samples of catches and discards on a haul basis prior to the introduction of the landing obligation. Furthermore, by-catches of cetaceans are recorded routinely during the trips in order to comply with EU legislation².

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 WMR. The self-sampling programme includes (Dutch owned) vessels flying UK flag.

The sampling objectives, targets and strategies and quantities in 2016 were unchanged compared to 2011-2013 and are described in the NP 2014-2016 of NLD.

Table III.C.4 provides the sampling strategy applied by NLD in 2015. The achieved sampling is provided in Table III.C.3. The achieved length sampling of catches and landings by metier and species is given in table III.C.6.

The programme proposed in the NP of 2016 was fully realised. The 12 observer trips planned in 2016 for the North Atlantic (ICES areas I-XII) were carried out. The 12 trips included two trips on board a French flagged vessel and three trips on board a German flagged vessel.

In addition, 26 trips were sampled by self-sampling. Each self-sampling trip contains samples of several species and often spans different fishing grounds. The planned number of self-sampling trips was 36. The lower achievement results from sampling trawlers serving longer trips. Hence, this covers the expected fishing season well despite sampling less trips to achieve similar coverage.

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

The data quality is considered to be good, as no end-users objections are received and full seasonal coverage is achieved.

² 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.

III.C.3 Actions to avoid deviations

No actions are required based on the 2016 achievements.

III.C Métier-related variables (Other regions)

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

The type of data collection is concurrent sampling for length composition of all species in the catch. In CECAF waters, the sampling is been carried out by observers from the Mauritanian institute (IMROP) on board of European pelagic trawlers all fishing in the metier OTM_SPF_>=40_0_0 on behalf of The Netherlands, Poland, Germany, Latvia, and Lithuania. The sampling was coordinated by subcontractor Corten Marine research (CMR). A description of the sampling programme is given in Annex 7 of the National Programme.

Subcontractor CMR also coordinates the sampling in SPRFMO waters on behalf of The Netherlands, Poland, Germany and Lithuania. As sampling in SPRFMO waters was not foreseen in the National Programme, a description of the sampling programme was provided by CMR and approved already by the 2015 RCM LDF.

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

The sampling objectives, targets and strategies and quantities in 2016 were unchanged compared to 2013 and are described in the NP 2014-2016 of NLD.

Table III.C.4 provides the sampling strategy applied in 2016. The achieved sampling is provided in table III.C.3. The achieved length sampling of catches, landings and discards by metier and species is given in table III.C.6. The information on in these tables is also relevant to Poland (CECAF & SPRFMO waters), Germany (CECAF & SPRFMO waters), Latvia (CECAF waters) and Lithuania (CECAF & SPRFMO waters). These countries may refer in their Annual Reports to the Annual Report of the Netherlands for their achievements.

For CECAF: The programme proposed in the NP of 2016 was not fully realised. The total number of observer trips planned in 2016 was 12 (7 trips completed). The planned number was not reached due to limited fishing opportunities. Also, access to the vessels is limited in some cases as vessels can't cater for observer facilities as they don't have space available, this hampers sampling opportunities. The spring season was short and no option was available to deploy observers.

For SPRFMO: 2 (long) trips were sampled, covering roughly 75% of the fishing season. No formal number of trips was presented in the NP as sampling was not foreseen at that time.

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

Basic data validation has been carried out. The data will be delivered to relevant end-users through the subcontractor.

III.C.3 Actions to avoid deviations

The multilateral agreement between NLD and the other countries in place for 2016 was an extension of the 2014 contract for CECAF waters. For 2015 and 2016 new agreements were been made for CECAF, respectively SPRFMO area between the countries involved in this fishery

It should be kept in mind that the samples are taken from a non-randomly selected unit 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 due to limited space. MS involved in the agreement have, again, been asked to take provisions to allow observers on all trips.

The issue regarding limited access to vessels in the CECAF area has been brought to

the attention of the Commission and will be hopefully followed up in 2017 during the negotiations on the fisheries agreements in CECAF waters. The issue will also be discussed at the 2017 RCM LDF.

III.D Recreational fisheries (North Sea)

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

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

NLD carries out a multiannual sampling programme covering all recreational angler fisheries in fresh and marine waters. The surveys are directed to cod and eel but also provide information on other species such as sharks (table III.D.1). As there is no licence system in NLD 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, 2013 and 2015. These households were questioned on their participation in recreational fishery as part of a screening survey. This survey was subcontracted to Kantar (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 in a diary survey. These diary surveys ran between March 2010-2011, March 2012-2013, April 2014-2015 and March 2016-present and make use of logbooks.

The sampling programme is based on questionnaires supplemented with field measurements. As it has been set up now, the programme provides biennial estimates of the recreational catch by anglers of cod, eel and sharks but also of all other species in marine waters and fresh water. The sampling programme provides estimates of biomass and numbers of retained catches. Also the released and retained fraction of the catch is estimated in numbers. The results are published (Hammen 2017) , and provided to relevant data users.

There were no deviations from the NP proposal. No derogation applies to 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 for some species large confidence intervals. However, improving the precision may lead to disproportional increase of sampling costs and is therefore not considered at this stage.

To calculate retained biomass from numbers ideally the length frequencies from the onsite survey were used. For most common marine species this was no problem, however, for more rare species the length recorded by the logbook holders were used.

To obtain onsite length data for retained eel remains 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 programme. 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. In general, recreational anglers in inland waters are widely scattered, hampering to obtain onsite length data for any of the freshwater fish species. 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 as a pilot in the 2014 and 2016 diary survey.

III.D.3 Actions to avoid deviations

NLD has continued to collect onsite samplings in 2012 , 2014 and 2016 in order to obtain better estimates of the length composition of the catch.

NLD included the sampling of recreational fisheries with set nets as a pilot in 2014-2015 and 2016-2017 Diary survey.

III.E 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

Table III.E.1 provides an overview of the stocks listed in Appendix VII of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. The table indicates for which stocks biological parameters are being collected in the Dutch NP.

Table III.E.2 provides an overview of which variables are being collected for each stock and the frequency of sampling.

The sampling targets and achievements of the biological stock related variables are presented in table III.E.3.

As the NP 2016 was a roll over from previous years, the sampling targets have remained unchanged compared to 2014 (as based on NP 2011-2013). Targets were set in line with the sampled average of the last years.

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.

Comparing the achievements to the original plans is hampered by limiting the choice in data sources for the report. For the 2016 report, data sources (like discard sampling and auction sampling) are combined. Hence the achievement rate is often less informative as the plan was based on e.g. auction sampling only.

Eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) samples were collected from May until July 2016. Roughly 1 sample per 10 t was sampled. Samples were spatially distributed based on their contribution to the total eel landings in 2015. 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). As in earlier years, the target of 1500 fish (otoliths) set in the NP for age sampling is not realistic since no age-based assessment is possible. About fifty otoliths from several locations were selected for aging to study spatial differences in growth.

The targets set for *Clupea harengus* in the individual areas were not met. However, the overall achieved sampling for *Clupea harengus* for all areas combined, reached 100% coverage. This is due to the aim to follow the fishery and not to stick to the predefined areas as this would lead to insufficient coverage of the actual fisheries (if at all possible to sample in a region with limited fisheries).

The target for *Argentina* spp. was not met due to poor fishing opportunities as well as limited access to the few landings that did happen.

Targets set for *Merlangius merlangius* (commercial onshore), *Cancer pagurus*, *Scyllorhinus canicula* and to a lesser extent for *Solea solea* (commercial at sea) were not met. This undershoot is the consequence of the combination of sampling following the fishery and changes in the fishery since targets were set.

The target set for *Nephrops norvegicus* was not met. Sampling at sea reached 88% completion. This completion rate depends on the executed number of 'demersal' observer trips targeting *Nephrops*; in 2016 only one, randomly selected, demersal observer trip targeted *Nephrops*. Sampling ashore reached 53% completion for maturity and length at age, while 97% was sampled for sex ratio at length. Completion rate differs between variables as the discard sampling only sampled sex

ratio at length. As for the last years, due to changes in processing of *Nephrops* on board fishing vessels, several market categories were 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. However, the actual categories landed are sufficiently covered.

As in other years, the targets set for *Platichthys flesus*, *Limanda limanda* were overshot, by 100% and 526% respectively. Due to changes in sorting behaviour in the fish auctions (compared to the time of writing the original 2011-2013 plan), the sampling procedure has been adapted. These species are now landed in 2 size 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 coverages as described in table III.E.3, is even higher as the achieved sampling of the discard programme has been included, while no sampling target was initially set.

The respective targets set for *Scomber scombrus* in the various areas were not met. However, the achieved sampling for all areas combined, met the planned numbers exactly. The shift in areas is a result of following the fishing activities, which reflects in shifting the origin of the samples.

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

Prior to 2015, CVs of the sampling by stock were estimated and presented in table III.E.3. As indication of the quality of the sampling, the reporting of these CVs is no longer required since. Pending the development of international quality indicators, no further development has taken place to define new quality indicators. Also, as sampling methodologies are stable over time, given the good quality performance over the last years and the continuation of sampling and data check quality procedures, drastic deviations in data quality are very unlikely. However, within the relevant frameworks, the Netherlands cooperated with other MS to continuously improve quality assurance.

It is noted that, in order to be able to calculate biological parameters at the stock level, often external information is needed which is not included in the sampling of one MS. For instance abundance ratios in different areas to weigh the observations. This information is often not available or available from other sources. The calculation of the precision of the parameter at the stock level will then have to take account of the quality of the external information.

III.E.3 Actions to avoid deviations

The sampling of biological parameters on pelagic species follows the spatial distribution of the fisheries. As these fisheries may shift from area to area without adhering to the proposed sampling area, the obtained number of samples deviates by definition from any spatial planning. The most important issue is here to cover the catches in the actual fishing areas by samples, which is achieved through the applied sampling strategy. As in previous years, additional effort will be made to collect samples of stocks from fishing grounds which are poorly covered by Dutch fishing effort. This will be done by requesting vessels to take additional samples from these areas. Further action is not necessary.

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

III.E Stock-related variables (North Atlantic)

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

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

Table III.E.1 provides an overview of the stocks listed in Appendix VII of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. The table indicates for which stocks biological parameters are being collected in the Dutch NP.

Table III.E.2 provides an overview of which variables are being collected for each stock and the frequency of sampling.

The sampling targets and achievements of the biological stock related variables are presented in table III.E.3.

As the NP 2014-2016 was a roll-over from previous years, the sampling targets have remained unchanged compared to 2013. No targets were given for biological observations obtained during surveys and commercial at sea (discard trips). The number of observations from these sources is difficult to plan. 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.

As listed in the North Sea section, the spatial distribution of the samples of *Clupea harengus* and *Scomber scombrus* doesn't match the intended distribution. However, the sampling intensity remains at a sufficient level overall and follows the spatial distribution of the fisheries.

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

The comments given in section III.E.2 for the region North Sea and Eastern Arctic apply also to the North Atlantic region. See section III.E.2 region North Sea and Eastern Arctic.

III.E.4 Actions to avoid deviations

As in previous years, some of the deviations are unavoidable. The sampling of biological parameters on pelagic species follows the spatial distribution of the fisheries. As these fisheries may shift from area to area without adhering to the proposed sampling area, the obtained number of samples deviates by definition from any spatial planning. The most important issue is to cover the catches in the actual fishing areas by samples, which is achieved through the applied sampling strategy. As in previous years, additional effort will be made to collect samples of stocks from fishing grounds which are poorly covered by Dutch fishing effort. This will be done by requesting vessels to take additional samples from these areas.

III.E Stock-related variables (Other Regions)

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

Following a multilateral agreement between the Netherlands and Poland, Germany, Latvia, and Lithuania (Annex 1), a common sampling programme was implemented in the CECAF waters for the on board of European pelagic trawlers. The sampling programme is part of the Dutch NP and was coordinated by subcontractor Corten Marine research (CMR). A description of the sampling programme is given in Annex 7 of the NP. The sampling is carried out by the Mauritanian institute IMROP and coordinated by subcontractor Corten Marine research (CMR).

Through a second multilateral agreement (Annex 1), subcontractor CMR also coordinates the sampling in SPRFMO waters on behalf of The Netherlands, Poland, Germany and Lithuania.

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

Table III.E.1 provides an overview of the stocks listed in Appendix VII of Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. The table indicates for which stocks biological parameters are being collected in the Dutch NP.

Table III.E.2 provides an overview of which variables are being collected for each stock and the frequency of sampling.

The sampling targets and achievements of the biological stock related variables are presented in table III.E.3.

The sampling targets were based on the assumption of monitoring the fishery during the entire year. However, relative limited fishery took place in 2016 due to poor fishing opportunities..

For SPRFMO: 2 (long) trips were sampled, covering roughly 75% of the fishing season. No formal number of trips was presented in the NP as sampling was not foreseen at that time. Also, as no Dutch vessels participated in the fishery in 2016, the number of trips registered is 0, while 2 trips on non-Dutch vessels are sampled.

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.

Also, no common data quality indicators are established at the moment. However, basic quality control procedures on data entry and data validation are in place to ensure the provision of validated data where relevant.

III.E.3 Actions to avoid deviations

No actions are required for 2017. Sampling will only be carried out when vessels from countries under the multilateral agreement deploy a fishery in this area. Which they did, as a result sampling in both CECAF and SPRFMO water already commenced at the time of writing this report.

The multilateral agreements expired after 2016. The RCM LDF arranged a follow up in 2016 of the multilateral agreement. From 2017 onwards, Poland takes over the sampling in SPRFMO waters.

III.F. Transversal variables

III.F.1. Capacity

III.F.1.1 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. See also table III.F.1.

III.F.1.2 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. See also table III.F.1.

III.F.1.3 Actions to avoid deviations

There are no deviations.

III.F.2 Effort

III.F.2.1 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 a derogation was requested and granted for these variables. See also table III.F.1.

III.F.2.2 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.2.3 Actions to avoid deviations

There were no deviations.

III.F.3 Landings

III.F.3.1 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.

For the pelagic trawlers first sale prices are not available because the companies combine fishing and trading activities. Therefore, internal prices which are used to calculate the wages of the crews are also used to calculate the value of landings.

III.F.3.2 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.2 and will be updated in case of modifications.

III.F.3.3 Actions to avoid deviations

There were no deviations.

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. The number of samples taken for biological parameters is given in table III.E.3. The planned number in the NP is a combined figure for commercial and survey samples. For the surveys the current number of biological samples in Table III.E.3 is based on long term information on biological sampling. The sampling for biological parameters in the surveys is stratified by area (survey specific) and length class (cm or 0.5 cm). Sampling for maturity only takes place in the spawning season, following the recommendations of WKMSPDF2, WKMSTB³: 'Macroscopic maturity staging is a reliable method when used two months before the spawning season to assess maturity. Outside this period the macroscopic method can easily lead to misidentification and histological sections should be used to correctly identify the maturity stage. It is therefore recommended that maturity staging of fish only takes place in this period, unless it can be supported with histological sections.'

Most surveys listed in the NP were carried out without or with only some minor issues. There are two modifications worth mentioning here:

- The ICES survey planning group for the surveys on pelagic species re-developed the sampling scheme for the Herring Acoustic Survey in the North Sea (NHAS).
- Due to the refit of Tridens in January/February 2016, the following changes applied to the NLD surveys at sea:
 - NLD herring larvae survey on fishing grounds IV and VIId in January has been carried out using a different vessel (RV Zirfaea). This vessel has a lower speed than Tridens so more ship days were needed to complete the full programme.
 - NLD IBTS has been carried out by Cefas Endeavour, and the number of stations was fitted to the number of shipdays available. The remainder of the stations was distributed to other participants by IBTSWG.

³ ICES. 2012. Report of the Workshop2 on Sexual Maturity Staging of sole, plaice, dab and flounder, 9-13 January 2012, Oostende, Belgium. ICES CM 2012/ACOM:50. 64 pp.

ICES. 2012. Report of the Workshop on Sexual Maturity Staging of Turbot and Brill (WKMSTB 2012), 5–9 March 2012, IJmuiden, Netherlands. ICES 2012/ACOM:56. 48 pp.

Maps

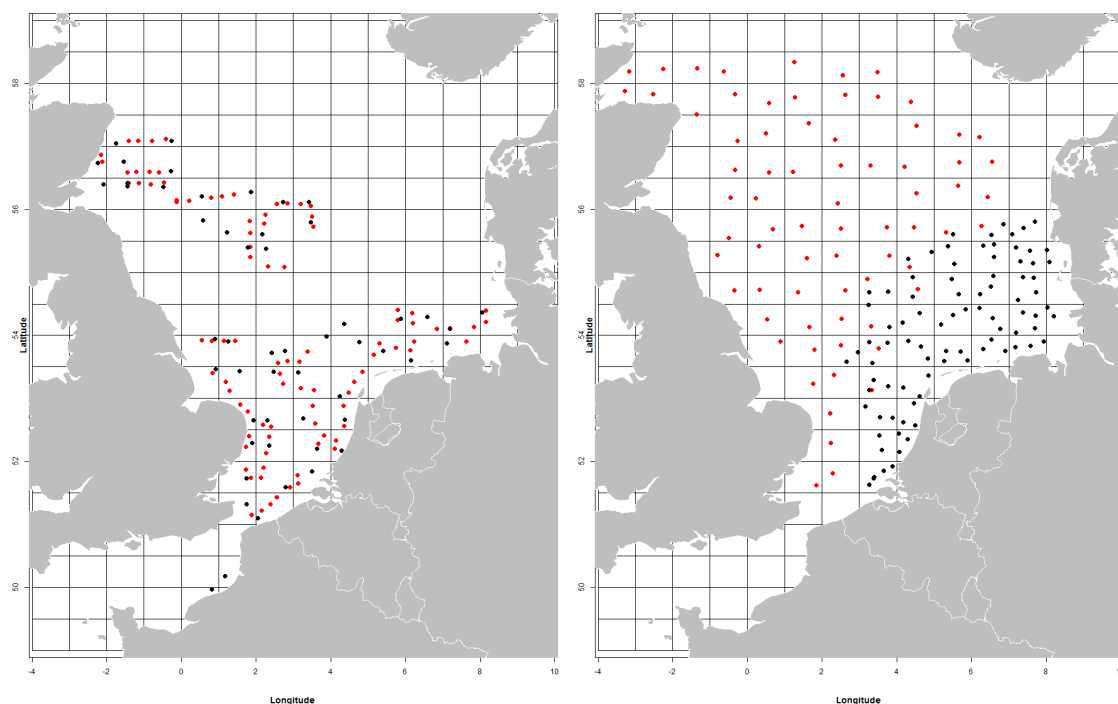


Fig 1(left). Sampling grid Dutch International Bottom Trawl Survey 2016. Red: MIK (plankton) hauls; Black: GOV (fish) hauls

Fig 2 (right). Sampling grid Dutch Beam Trawl Survey 2016. Red: RV Tridens; Black: RV Isis

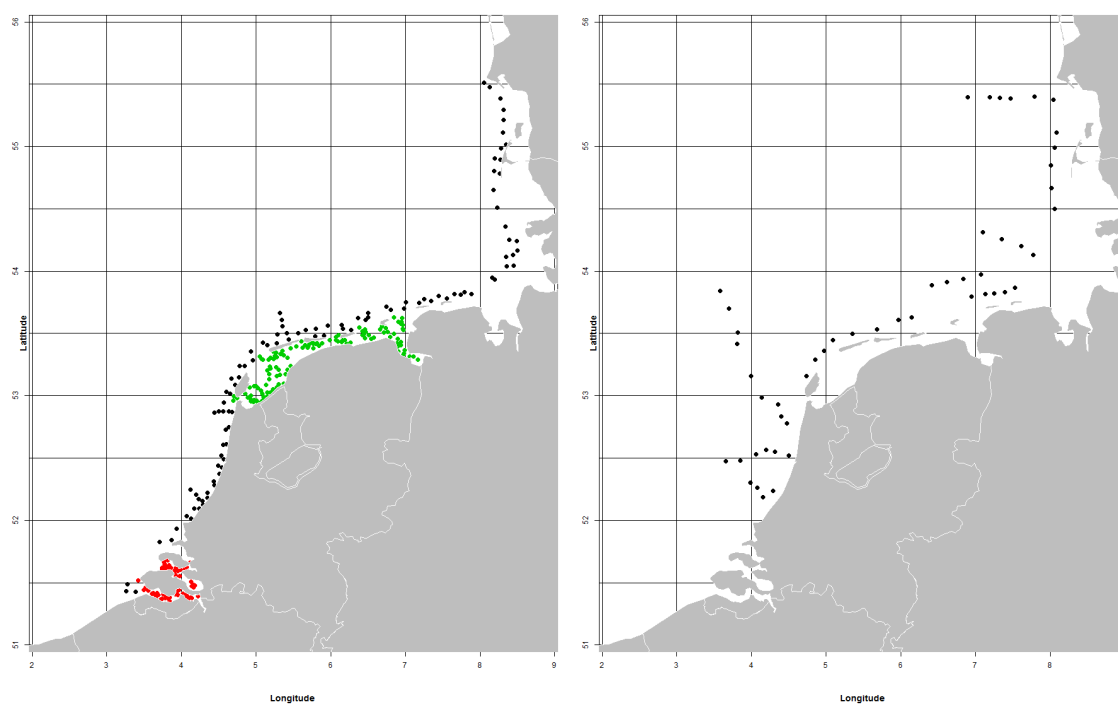


Fig 3 (left). Sampling grid Demersal Young Fish Survey 2016. Red: RV Schollebaar;

Black: RV Isis; Green: RV Stern

Fig 4 (right). Sampling grid Sole Net Survey 2016. Black: RV Isis

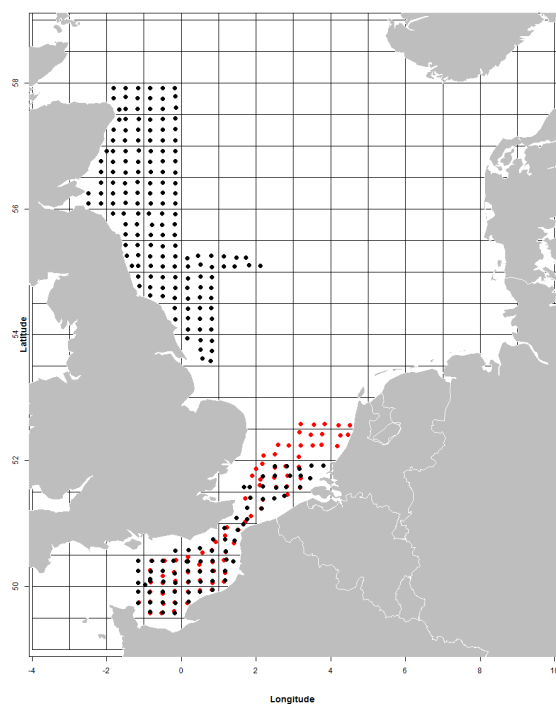


Fig 5. Sampling grid Herring Larvae Survey 2016. Red: RV Zirfaea; Black: RV Tridens.

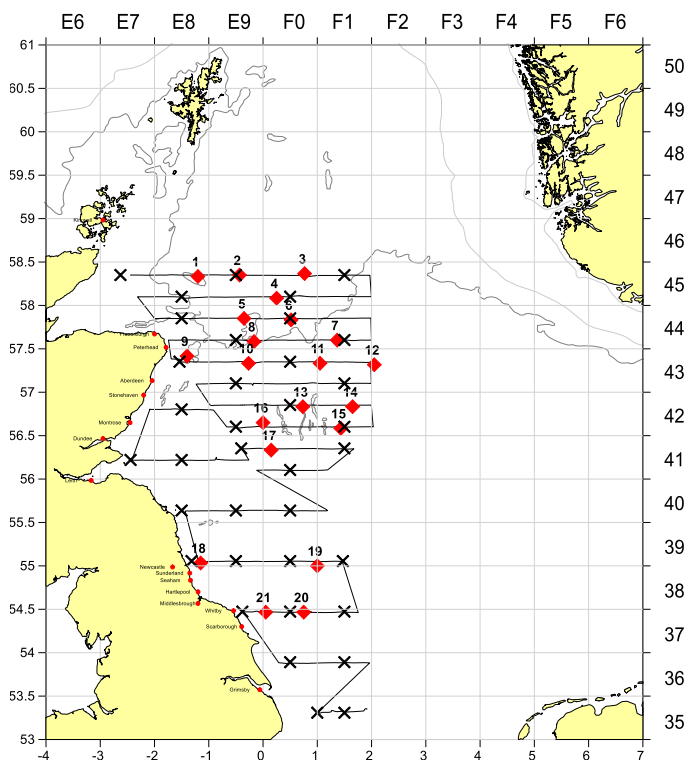


Fig 6. Sampling grid NS Herring Acoustic Survey 2016. Acoustic transects (black line), trawl stations (red diamonds) and hydrography stations (black X).

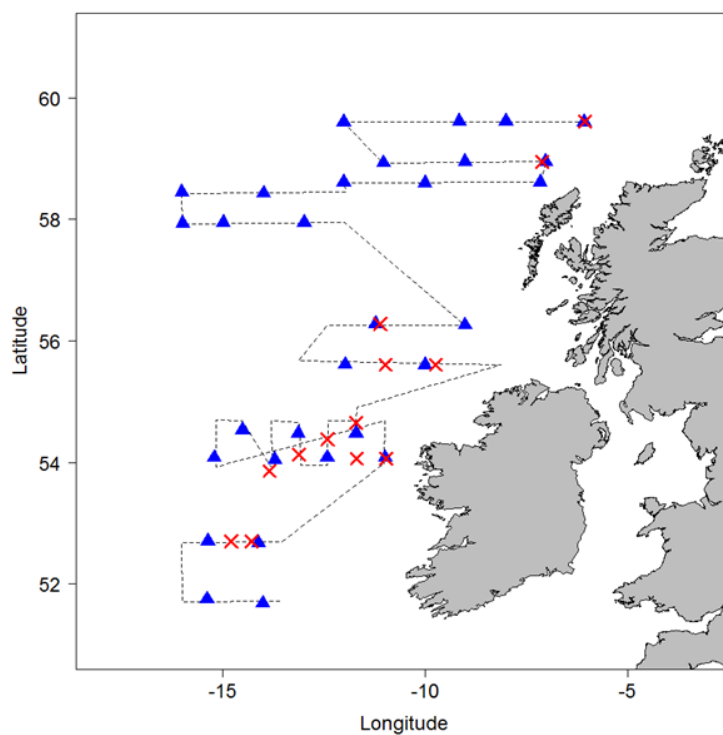


Fig 7. Sampling grid International Blue Whiting Survey 2016. Acoustic transect (dotted line), trawl stations (red X) and hydrography stations (blue triangles)(.

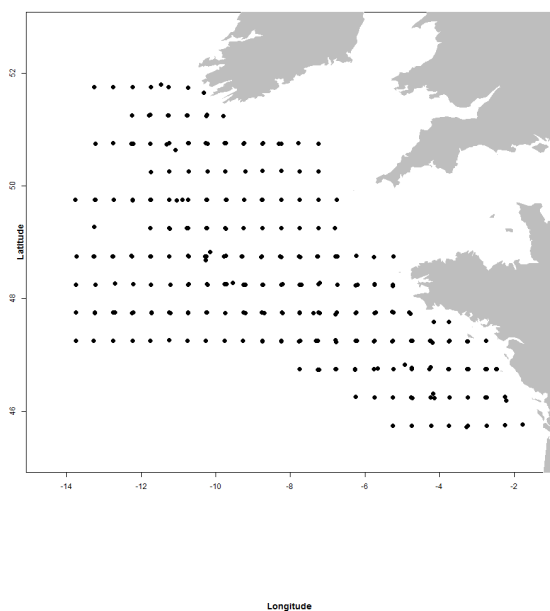


Fig 8. Mackerel egg survey 2016: plankton hauls

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

The deviations of the planned programme are expected to have minor to no influence on the quality of the survey indices of 2016. See also III.G.1-Achievements.

III.G.3 Actions to avoid deviations

Weather conditions

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 deviations that will occur. Since on all Dutch vessels involved in internationally arranged surveys internet is available (although on board RV Isis limited), communication is fairly easy.

Further actions are not necessary.

Technical issues

One cannot fully prevent technical problems during surveys at sea. Spare parts and sampling devices (e.g. CTD) are taken on board by MS whenever possible and this should prevent a stand-still in case of minor technical problems. Despite those measures, it is always possible that a survey has to be stopped in case of more severe technical problems.

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. For the mussel sector the panel covers about 20% of the population. There were no deviations from the NP proposal for the mussel sector. For the oyster sector around 25% of all firms are covered. The collection of data the land-based aquaculture was still 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. From 2014 onwards the collection of data from the oyster sector and the land based aquaculture sector proved to be increasingly difficult. Therefore a lot of effort was put in the data collection to get a better overview of these two sectors in 2015.

In the oyster sector enquiries, interviews and an intensive cooperation between WEcR, Dutch Oyster Association, Statistics Netherlands and oyster fishermen led to a good overview of the oyster production in the Netherlands. Since 2015 five companies provide financial accounts to collect economic data of this sector.

For both the oyster sector and the mussel sector the time lag in the collection of economic data is two years as indicated in the National Programme. This is because the economic data is based on financial accounts that only become available 18 months after the reference year. Therefore the 2016 program covered 2014 data. For most of the companies 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 whole season are presented as the data of the first year.

In previous years, it was already experienced that land based aquaculture in the Netherlands is a relatively small (36 farms in 2015), reluctant, fragmented, highly competitive and dynamic sector. In order to obtain information on the economic variables the following activities were carried out:

- One meeting was held with representatives of the Dutch association of aquaculturists (NeVeVi).
- All aquaculturists were approached individually both by mail and by phone to ask permission to use economic accounts.
- Three key companies were visited to discuss the delivery of economic data.

All these efforts were in vain. Only information on production volume and value level could be obtained. This information was gathered from a desk study and information from the Dutch aquaculture association NEVEVI. Around 2/3rd of the companies farm European eel or catfish. Important reasons for the reluctant attitude in the sector can be found in bad experiences with governmental/knowledge institutes, which distorted competition by granting subsidies and a ban for eel product in the Dutch Retail) and the idea that sharing financial information in a small sector will create problems with confidentiality. Moreover, both the eel and catfish aquaculture sector are dominated by one large company, that produces a major part of the sector total (for eel more than 50%). Because of this imbalance, economic data on costs and earnings are easily attributed to a single company which strengthens the reluctance of the large companies to deliver data. As a result data about the economic performance of the land-based aquaculture sector is also missing for 2014. Data on turbot and trout on-growing was not collected because of the low number of companies (total four companies). As from 2017 land-based aquaculture national data collection has been excluded from the National Plan. Collecting data from land-based aquaculture companies is on voluntary basis and not restricted by the EU.

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. Total production volumes are assessed by WEcR in cooperation with the Dutch Oyster Association, Statistics Netherlands and oyster fishermen. WEcR makes use of a panel of oyster companies from which the annual financial accounts are analysed
- Land based fish farming segment: In 2015 and 2016 the response rate for the economic data for land based aquaculture was zero. Only information about the population size, production volumes and values became available.

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

No recommendations were done at the North Sea RCM and PGECON 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 deviations

As mentioned above, the land-based aquaculture is excluded from the National data collection as from 2017.

IV.B Collection of data concerning the processing industry

Data on fish processing was compiled by WEcR 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

WEcR collects data from several resources: 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.

Due to reasons of confidentiality at the national statistical office Statistic Netherlands (SN) it was not possible to present meta data for the four different segments of enterprises. Only data for two segments (enterprises < 50 employees and enterprises of 50 or more employees) have been collected.

WEcR 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 2014. Results from the survey have become available (Beukers, 2015). 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, with a 1.5 year delay before official figures are released. Definitions of variables comply broadly with Commission Regulation (EC) No 2700/98. WEcR 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:
 - o Raw materials (including purchases for resale, changes of stocks)
 - o Energy costs
- Other operational costs include:
 - o Packaging

- o Payments for agency workers
 - o Costs of selling
 - o 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.

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

Data checks were done internally by the Central Bureau of Statistics Netherlands.

IV.B.3 Actions to avoid deviations

No deviations.

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

V.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

The data required are collected in other modules or are available from other sources. The indicators 1-4 listed in Commission Decision 2010/93/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 5-8) 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 NLD for research purpose under certain conditions.

Catch composition (indicator 8) of the landings is 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 WEcR 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 2016.

V.2 Actions to avoid deviations

There are no deviations.

VI. Module for management and use of the data

VI.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Transfer and use of data

NLD has provided sets of data to support scientific analysis needed to advise fisheries management. This includes information on catches and effort by fleet segment, parameters for assessment purposes or other scientific analysis such as number-at-age, weight-at-age and maturity-at-age. Data have been submitted to relevant ICES governed assessment groups, to relevant STECF expert groups and RCM's. Furthermore, NLD has provided data to other end user if requested. An overview of the data transferred by NLD is given in table VI.1.

Transmission from secondary sources such as ICES InterCatch and DATRAS to other users is not included in this table. 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.

Management of the data

NLD has developed standard protocols to collect and process data for most routine data collections. Manuals have been developed for all surveys, market sampling, discard sampling and age determination describing in detail the instructions how to carry out the data collection. The manuals are frequently updated when routines change. A manual for data collection in recreational fisheries is under development.

Biological data are stored in databases using 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. The data entry applications include some checking of parameter name and values of parameters within acceptable ranges. Further checking of the quality of the data is done in the submission process to the destiny database.

National databases

Three relational databases are maintained for storing fishery related data, VISSTAT, FRISBE and ARTIS. VISSTAT and FRISBE are based at WMR. ARTIS is operated at LEI. The databases contain only primary data. Only raw (so no aggregated) data are kept in these databases.

The standard procedures for operating these databases have been maintained in 2016. These procedures are described in the NP 2009-2010. There were no technical problems with the databases.

VISSTAT contains information on the fishery, mainly obtained from external sources (log-books, sale slips, VMS etc.). Data in this database has been regularly supplemented with actual information for the year 2016. There is often a few months delay between the collection of the data and the submission to VISSTAT. Action has been continued to build up a historical time series by including data from earlier years. VISSTAT presently holds information for the years 1990 to 2016 (partly 2017).

FRISBE contains biological information from the metier sampling, biological parameters, and survey and discard data. Data from 2016 sampling activities have

been collected and entered offline using standardised input software, checked using standard procedures, and imported in the database soon after the sampling (surveys and onboard discard sampling), or at regular intervals (metier and discard self-sampling).

All economic data are held in databases at WEcR. The data of the active vessels are stored in a central object orientated database (ARTIS). ARTIS was developed at WEcR for the collection and analysis of all its economic data. Data for the less active and inactive vessels and the data from landings, effort, technical characteristics and prices are stored in SPSS data files. Data from the following years will be added routinely to ARTIS and the SPSS datasets. 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

ICES received financial support to further develop the Regional Data Base (RDB) in the next two years. The RDB holds data for the Baltic, North Sea and East Atlantic and the North Atlantic Region. Support was given by NLD to meetings of the Steering Committee (SCRDB, Copenhagen).

VI.2 Actions to avoid deviations

Not relevant

VII List of acronyms and abbreviations

acronym/abbreviations	abbreviation of
ACCESS	Microsoft database
ALK	age-length key
AR	Annual Report
ARTIS	Database with economic data maintained by LEI (WEcR)
BTS	Beam Trawl Survey
CECAF	Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic Fisheries
CEFAS	Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Lowestoft UK)
CFP	Common Fishery Policy
CMR	Corten Marine Research
COST	Common Open Source Tool
CR	Commission Regulation
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)
DEU	Germany
DG MARE	Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Commission
DIG	ICES Data and Information Group
DNK	Denmark
DTU-Aqua	National Institute of Aquatic Resources of the Technical University of Denmark
EC	European Commission
EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
ELVV	Department of Ministry of Economic Affairs: European Agriculture Policy, Fisheries and Foodsafety
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 (WMR)
GBR	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
GER	Germany
GES	Good Environmental Status descriptors
GNS	Gear code: Gill net
GOV	IBTS standard gear
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
IBTSWG	International Bottom Trawl Survey Working Group

ICES	International Council for Exploration of the Sea
IMARES	Institute for Marine Resources & Ecosystem Studies, Wageningen UR (since September 2016 WMR)
IMROP	Institut Mauritanien de Recherches Océanographiques et des Pêches
ITQ	Individual Transferable Quota
JFATB	Joint Session of the ICES-FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour [WGFTFB] and the Working Group on Fisheries Acoustics Science and Technology
JRC	Joint Research Centre
LEI	Institute of Agricultural Economics (since September 2016 WEcR)
LM	Liaison Meeting
LTU	Lithuania
LVA	Latvia
MS	Member State of the European Union
MCD	Mixed crustacean and Demersal fish target composition
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
NA	North Atlantic
NLD	The Netherlands
NP	National Data Collection Programme
OTB	gear code for otter bottom trawl
OTM	gear code for otter midwater trawl
PCU	price per Capacity Unit
PGCCDBS	ICES Planning Group on Commercial Catch, Discards and Biological Sampling
PGECON	Planning Group for Economic Issues
PGMED	Planning Group for the Mediterranean
POL	Poland
PTM	gear code for pair trawl
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
RV	Research Vessel
SC RDB	Steering Group Regional Data Base
SN	national statistical office Statistic Netherlands
SPF	small pelagic fish
SPRFMO	South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SPSS	Software package for statistical analyses

SSC	gear code for Scottish Seine
STECF	Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
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
WEcR	Wageningen Economic Research (new name of LEI)
WGALES	ICES Working Group on Atlantic Fish Larvae and Eggs Surveys
WGBEAM	ICES Working Group on Beam Trawl Surveys
WGBYC	ICES Working Group on Bycatch of Protected Species Fishing Behaviour
WGCATCH	ICES Working Group on Commercial Catches Sampling
WGCHAIRS	Annual Meeting of Advisory ICES Working Group Chairs
WGCRAN	ICES Working Group on Crangon Fisheries and Life History
WGECO	ICES Working Group on the Ecosystem Effects of Fishing Activities
WGEEL	EIFAAC/ICES/GFCM Working Group on Eel
WGEF	ICES Working Group on Elasmobranch Fishes
WGEGBS	ICES Working Group on North Sea Cod and Plaice Egg Surveys in the North Sea
WGELECTRA	ICES Working Group on Electrical Trawling
WGFAST	ICES Working Group on Fisheries Acoustics Science and Technology
WGFTFB	ICES-FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour
WGISUR	ICES Working Group on Integrating Surveys for the Ecosystem Approach
WGIPS	ICES Working Group of International Pelagic Surveys
WGMEGS	ICES Working Group on Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Surveys
WGMG	ICES Working Group on Methods of Fish Stock Assessments
WGMIXFISH	ICES Working Group on Mixed Fisheries Advice for the North Sea
WGNEW	ICES Working Group on new MoU species
WGNEPS	ICES Working Group on Nephrops Surveys
WGNSSK	ICES Working Group on the Assessment of Demersal Stocks in the North Sea and Skagerrak

WGRFS	ICES Working Group on Recreational Fishery Surveys
WGSAM	ICES Working Group on Multispecies Assessment Methods
WGWIDE	ICES Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks (consists of parts of former WGNPBW and WGMHSA)
WKARDAB2	Workshop on Age reading of Dab (<i>Limanda limanda</i>)
WKFATHOM	Workshop on Egg staging, Fecundity and Atresia in Horse Mackerel (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>) and mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)
WKMSSPDF2	Workshop2 on Sexual Maturity Staging of sole, plaice, dab and flounder
WKMSTB	Workshop on Sexual Maturity Staging of Turbot and Brill
WKPIMP	Workshop to Plan an Integrated Monitoring Programme in the North Sea in Q3
WKRDB	ICES Workshop to develop the RDB data format for design based sampling and estimation with particular emphasis on population data
WMR	Wageningen Marine Research (new name of IMARES since September 2016)

VIII. Comments, suggestions and reflections

Comments to the report

No comments.

Comments to the tables

The pre-defined lists referring to RFMO/RFO/IO are not consistent with the guidelines. MS used the pre-defined lists. E.g. guidelines definition 'IO: ICES', drop-down list table 'ICES'.

The pre-defined lists in Table III.E.2 (columns A and C) did not provide the correct or incomplete information to fill in the sheet. MS put in the values as mentioned in the guidelines.

Other comments

As in previous years, NLD requests to make the LM recommendations available for all MSs well before the submission deadline for AR. LM 2014 report states that 'The LM considers that recommendations on DCF issues from STECF and other relevant groups (e.g. PGMed, PGECON) should also be included in the ICES database. The LM agreed, however, that only those recommendations that have been approved by the LM should enter the database. The Commission informed LM members that it will contract a person to compile all recommendations approved by the LM by early 2015 so that MS can use this compilation when preparing their Annual Reports for 2014.'. The recommendations agreed upon by LM meetings are however not mentioned in the ICES recommendations database.

2016 is the last year to report in this format. From 2017 onwards a new format for reporting progress will be used. To facilitate timely delivery of the 2017 annual report by May 2018, The Netherlands requests to have the guidelines and templates (tables and text) for this new reporting format available in due time, preferably in January 2018.

IX. References

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X. Annexes

Annex 1 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)



Sieto Verver
Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research

For Germany (vTI)



Dr. Christoph Stransky
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

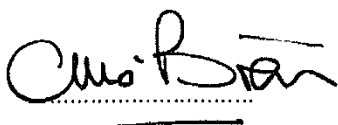
Contact persons:

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

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

Signatures:

For CEFAS



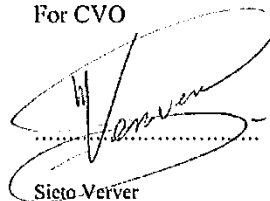
Carl O'Brien

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 VIId, 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.

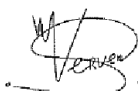
Contact persons:

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

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

Signatures:

For CVO



Sieto Verver
Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research
CVO

Date: 01/06/2010

For DPMA



Patrice Chasset
National Correspondent
MAAP/DPMA/MAS

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 hold 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.

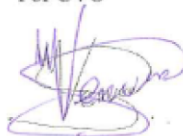
Contact persons:

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

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

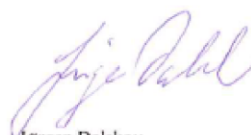
Signatures:

For CVO



Sieto Verver
Dpt. Head Centre for Fisheries Research
CVO

For DTU-Aqua



Jørgen Dalskov
National Correspondent
DTU-Aqua

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	Contact 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.

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

The Multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters, as signed by all countries named in June 2011 (See annex) is amended as follows from 1st January 2014 onwards:

Term:

The multi-lateral agreement is extended beyond its initial end date of 31 December 2013. The new end date is 31 December 2015.

Costs:

The cost share for each country of the total costs follows a key based on the share in average landings in 2008-2012. This results in the following share by country and the 50% co-financing by the Commission.

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

Partner	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	average 2008- 2012	Landings share	Cost share
Netherlands	83,630	68,019	92,980	55,044	34,926	66,920	22.95%	€ 7,432
Germany	0	0	20,650	37,088	14,582	14,464	4.96%	€ 1,606
Poland	17,709	46,287	14,605	60,177	29,178	33,591	11.52%	€ 3,731
Lithuania	120,100	124,480	116,040	121,000	44,133	105,151	36.06%	€ 11,678
Latvia	68,410	81,283	87,237	89,667	30,723	71,464	24.51%	€ 7,937
TOTAL	289,849	320,069	331,512	362,976	153,542	291,590	100.00%	€ 32,384
EU-cofinancing (50%, through The Netherlands)								€ 32,384
Total								€ 64,768

Co-financing is commissioned through the Dutch EU-cofinancing for Data Collection. Should the co-financing percentage change, the contribution by the partners will be matched accordingly (either increased or decreased).

AMENDMENT TO:**Multi-lateral agreement between Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in CECAF waters****April 2015**

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

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

Term:

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

Costs:

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

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

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

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

Multi-lateral agreement between the responsible institutions of Germany, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in SPRFMO waters

Germany, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland agree to co-operate in the biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in SPRFMO waters in 2015 and 2016. This agreement is in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation 199/2008.

Having regard the above mentioned Regulation, the project proposal including budget forecast "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in SPRFMO waters in compliance with the DCF" (Annex 1) as well as the "Observer Manual for biological data collection in SPRFMO waters" (Annex 2), discussed at the Ad Hoc Regional Coordination Meeting for Long Distance Fisheries in Hamburg, April 21st, 2015, the following details apply to this agreement:

Partners

The following Member States are considered as partner within this agreement:

Member State	Institute	Contact person
Germany	Thünen Institute (TI)	Christoph Stransky (National Correspondent)
Lithuania	Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania	Indre Sidlauskienė (Director)
The Netherlands	Centre for Fisheries Research (CVO)	Sieto Verver (Head CVO)
Poland	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (NMFRI)	Ireneusz Wójcik (Head of Department, DCF Coordinator)

Coordination

The Netherlands coordinates the execution of this multi-lateral agreement. The Netherlands will contract independent contractor 'Corten Marine Research' (CMR) to carry out the actual work.

Sampling protocol

Biological sampling is carried out on board EU fishing vessels in SPRFMO area by CMR observers. These observers are instructed by CMR and follow the sampling protocol as described in "Observer Manual for biological data collection in SPRFMO waters", based on data collection requirements set out in "**CMM 3.02, Conservation and Management Measure on Standards for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data (SPRFMO-COMM-03 (2015) ANNEX K)**".

Data responsibility

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

Costs

The total costs for the sampling programme is estimated at the amount of € 81,705,= ex VAT per year. This sampling programme is eligible for co-funding under the national EMFF budget of the respective partners.

The total costs are shared by the partners following the relative shares in fishing opportunities in the SPRMFO area as set in the *Council Regulation (EU) 2015/523 of 25 March 2015 amending Regulations (EU) No 43/2014 and (EU) 2015/104 as regards certain fishing opportunities*. Cost shares are maximum amounts, in case of lower costs, deductions might apply in line with the relative shares. The yearly costs by partner are shown in the following table:

Partner	Share (%)	Contribution
Germany	25.15	€ 20.548
Lithuania	17.50	€ 14.300
The Netherlands	27.26	€ 22.273
Poland	30.09	€ 24.584
Total contribution		€ 81.705

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

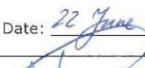
Access to vessels

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

Term

This agreement commences retrospectively on January 1, 2015. With exception of financial obligations, this agreement ends on December 31, 2016. This agreement, with exception of financial obligations, is subject to dissolve prior to this date in case the pelagic fishery in the SPRMFO area by EU vessels closes.

Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Thünen Institute (TI) Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	 Date: 21 April 2015
Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (FS) Lithuania	Indre Sidlauskienė	Director	 Date: 22 June 2015
Centre for Fisheries Research The Netherlands	Sieto Verver	Head Centre for Fisheries Research	 Date: 21 April 2015
National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (NMFRI) Poland	Ireneusz Wójcik	Head of Department (NMFRI), DCF Coordinator	 Date: 21 April 2015

Annex 1: "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in SPRMFO waters in compliance with the DCF".

Annex 2: "Observer Manual for biological data collection in SPRMFO waters".

Annex 2 Subcontracts

Copies of the subcontracts between IMARES and its subcontractors are in the National Programme.

Annex 3 Minutes of the NLD DCF meeting 18 May 2016 (in Dutch)

Verslag nationale coördinatievergadering DCF 18 mei 2016

10.30 - 12.00 Den Haag, Ministerie van Economische Zaken, kamer A- Noord 4e (6p)

Aanwezig: Harold Hooglander (EZ), Sieto Verver (Imares), Ingeborg de Boois (Imares), Hans van Oostenbrugge (LEI), Mike Turenhout (LEI), Inge Janssen (EZ, verslag)

Conform Artikel 3.2 van EU Verordening 665/2008, is de Europese Commissie geïnformeerd over deze geplande vergadering. De Commissie heeft Inge laten weten niet deel te nemen.

Conform Artikel 3.3 van deze verordening worden deze notulen opgenomen in het EU Jaarverslag over 2016.

1. Vaststellen agenda

Agenda wordt vastgesteld.

2. Annual report 2015

LEI zal vandaag de laatste informatie voor het annual report aanleveren.

Er is van de EC geen formele goedkeuring ontvangen van het verslag van 2014 na de aanpassing. Inge zal dit bij de EC opvragen.

De deadline voor het jaarverslag wordt gehaald.

3. Recast DCF, EU-MAP and template for Workplan

Inge geeft kort de stand van zaken aan.

Om tijdig een nieuw werkplan te kunnen opstellen is het belangrijk dat eind mei duidelijkheid is over EU-MAP en het format voor het werkplan.

4. Problemen met betrekking tot datacollectie voor landgebonden aquacultuur

Hans geeft aan dat er vanuit een deel van de sector geen medewerking is voor het aanleveren van gegevens. Er is een formele brief verzonden met het verzoek om gegevens. Het LEI zal nog om een formele reactie vragen.

Inmiddels wegen de kosten van de (pogingen tot) dataverzameling niet op tegen de opbrengsten.

Daarnaast is het zo dat als er wel cijfers zijn, er door de kleine omvang van de sector problemen zijn de gegevens te leveren in verband met privacy.

NL wil met de EC deze problemen rond de dataverzameling bespreken.

5. Declaratie DCF kosten onder het EMFZV

Afgesproken wordt dat alle subsidiabele kosten in de declaratie worden opgenomen, ook als deze hoger zijn dan het beschikbare budget. Doel is om compleet inzicht in de totale kosten te geven om zo een track record op te bouwen voor toekomstige evaluaties en/of aanpassingen. Kosten die nu niet opgevoerd mogen worden maar wel gemaakt worden (zoals batterijen) worden inzichtelijk gemaakt in een apart document.

Er wordt nog gekeken of lump sum een optie is. Dit geeft veel werk vooraf maar vereenvoudigt de verantwoording.

Met RVO zal worden besproken op welke wijze controle op de gemaakte kosten ingevuld/uitgevoerd wordt en welke taken bij de NC liggen. Hierover zal een document worden opgesteld dat vervolgens met de AA wordt besproken. Inge maakt hierover een afspraak met RVO.

Tijdens het overleg zullen ook de subsidiabele kosten worden besproken (specifiek punt is of de afschrijvingskosten van vaartuigen nu wel subsidiabel zijn).

Vervolgens zal met RVO, Imares en LEI een overleg plaatsvinden over de vereenvoudiging van de kostenstructuur.

6. A.o.b.

Het LEI zal in 2017 een PGECON workshop organiseren over schepen met een lage activiteit.

Dit zal worden opgenomen in de WOT Economische Informatievoorziening 2017.