

## WKING – Workshop on Innovative Fishing Gear

**2019/WK/EOSG12 The Workshop on Innovative Fishing Gear (WKING)**, in response to the EU DG-MARE request for ICES advice on the progress and impact that has been made in innovative gear use within EU waters, chaired by Antonello Sala (Italy) and Manu Sistiaga (Norway) will work by correspondence (May 2020) and meet again by correspondence 10 June 2020 and 7 September to address the request:

- a) Develop a suite of criteria to objectively define what an ‘innovative gear’ is.
- b) Develop a catalogue of gears considered ‘innovative’, including their objectives, technical specificities and known impacts/benefits (in terms of selectivity on target and non-target species and environmental impact in terms of benefits for, or negative effects on, marine ecosystems and sensitive habitats).
- c) Produce a report detailing the process taken and presenting the results.
- d) Draft a summary advice on the basis of the report produced.

To do so, a Core Group of members from the ICES Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour (WGFTFB) will work by correspondence in advance of the WKING meeting 7 September 2020. The Core Group will collect preliminary information on the types of innovative gears that have been used in EU fisheries in recent years. The first meeting of WKING will be held by correspondence during 20-22 May 2020 and 10 June to discuss criterion and definition of “innovative fishing gear” in EU context and review candidate gears.

At WKING in 7 September 2020, the Core Group will review and deliberate the findings to date, and draft the report and associated advice. WKING will report by 30 September 2020 for the attention of EOSG, HAPISG, ACOM and SCICOM.

### Supporting Information

Priority	High, in response to a specific request from the EU Commission to ICES to prepare the report described in Art. 31.1 of the EC Regulation 2019/1241.
Scientific justification	The EU Commission seeks ICES advice on the progress that has been made, or impact arising from innovative gear within EU waters. This advice should provide the scientific knowledge basis to assess the benefits for, or negative effects on, marine ecosystems, sensitive habitats and selectivity.
Resource requirements	ICES Secretariat support, meeting facilities at ICES HQ, Copenhagen and Advisory process.
Participants	The Core Group is expected to comprise 5-6 members. Other members of WGFTFB will be consulted during their annual meeting. Where relevant, stakeholder (NGO, fishing industry, gear industry) input will be sought during the process. Stakeholders will be invited to the final workshop. DG MARE will also be consulted for feedback on the initial suite of criteria. The requestors should be also engaged in the process through Webexes towards the end of the scoping and final meetings to ensure the product is fit for purpose.
Secretariat facilities	Secretariat support, web conference and meeting rooms
Financial	Covered by DG MARE special requests to ICES
Linkages to advisory committees	ACOM.
Linkages to other committees or groups	WGFTFB, WGBYC, WGEKO, SCICOM, EOSG, FRSG, HAPISG
Linkages to other organizations	Potentially GFCM, EU DG-MARE, STECF