

The **ACOM/SCICOM Workshop on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Methods** (WKIDEA), chaired by David Reid (Ireland) and Jörn Schmidt (Germany), will meet at ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark, 11–12 October 2016 (2 full days).

Under the aegis of SSGIEA there is now a range of integrated ecosystem assessment (IEA) expert groups operating within ecosystems from the Arctic to the Mediterranean, and from the Baltic to the North West Atlantic. These groups are often following similar lines of research, and although bilateral joint meetings have been held, there has been no opportunity to meet altogether. This workshop is intended to help identify common problems and solutions to them. It will allow the exchange of ideas, methodologies and analytical approaches across the expert groups. It will also provide the potential for a comparison of the different analytical approaches used and potentially lead to a synthetic review of the utility and application of these methods for publication. Where possible, the workshop will aim to identify where approaches could be harmonized across some of the IEA expert groups. The workshop will summarize the progress made and methods used across the ICES IEA groups and their utility. In particular, the workshop will specifically scope for ways to include more explicit consideration of the human dimension. The workshop will also address the issue of timings of provision of IEA based advice.

WKIDEA will report by 15 November 2016 (via BSG and SSGIEA) for the attention of SCICOM, ACOM.

ToR descriptors

TO R	DESCRIPTION	BACKGROUND	SCIENCE PLAN TOPICS ADDRESSED	DURATION	EXPECTED DELIVERABLES
A	Review, summarize and compare the methods of regional ICES IEA groups, based on the research question the groups have addressed.	Serves as a knowledge base and as comparison to other regional approaches. Illustrate the utility of methods.	Integrated ecosystem assessments	WK	Guideline document and potential peer reviewed review publication
B	Explore what 'human dimension' means in the different systems analysed and describe how to take it into account in IEAs	There is the perceived need to include the human dimension in IEAs, but it is still open how to do this.	Integrated ecosystem assessments and the human dimension	WK	Guideline document and potential peer reviewed review publication
C	Identify and report on the scope for harmonized products across the IEA groups, or identify how to directly or indirectly compare and contrast the results for IEAs from different methodologies and different regions	Coherent and comparable outputs from the different ecoregions under study would potentially be of great use to a wider range of users.	Integrated ecosystem assessments	WK	Guideline document
D	Working with the Secretariat determine the best approach to public dissemination products from IEAs	It is important that the more popular products developed by ICES for public dissemination are smoothly integrated with the outputs of the IEA expert groups.	Integrated ecosystem assessments	WK	Guideline document

Summary of the Work Plan

Year 1	Brief Summary report
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Supporting Information

Priority	High, this WK is seen as a key strategic move forward that will help the IEA groups to position their work in a broader context and increase their visibility in the system.
Scientific justification	This workshop follows on from WKBEMIA 2012 and WKRISCO 2014. It supports the IEA groups for the next round of development and provides two products, a cross comparison of methods used and being developed by the IEA groups and a scoping exercise of how a demonstration advice could be drafted.
Relation to Strategic Plan	Developing and applying greater ecosystem understanding is core to the new ICES strategic plan. The IEA groups are the key mechanisms (along with a new benchmark process) by which ICES plans to apply integrated ecosystem understanding to management needs.
Resource requirements	Two meeting rooms at ICES HQ, webex facilities
Participants	IEA group chairs or members, BSG chairs, SSGIEA chairs, SIHD chairs, ICES Secretariat
Secretariat facilities	SharePoint site, secretariat support for reporting.
Financial	None
Linkages to advisory committees	ACOM
Linkages to other committees or groups	SSGIEA, BSG, SIHD, all IEA groups, methodological groups like WGIPEM, WGIMM, WGSA, WGMARS
Linkages to other organizations	
