

### Proposal for investment in SCICOM activities 2015–2018

*The meeting will be asked to consider and approve a proposal for investment in SCICOM activities, to ensure a successful implementation of the science component of the Implementation Plan to implement the ICES Strategic Plan, 2014-2018. This request was, in part, considered by the Finance Committee and Bureau. Following those meetings, ICES has been approached by PICES on our participation in and contribution to a joint Early Career Scientists Conference, to be arranged in 2017.*

### Proposal for investment in SCICOM activities 2015–2018

In February 2010, ICES Bureau agreed to provide funding to SCICOM in order to strengthen SCICOM operations beyond national contributions, to enhance participation of early career scientists (ECS) in the ASC, and to kick-off new SCICOM priority areas from the ICES Science Plan in 2010, under the direction of SCICOM and advice from ACOM. In total, 600 000 DKK led to the establishment of the SCICOM Strategic Initiatives, to the recurrent travel support for ECS from ICES member (and, if available affiliate) countries and to regular mutual support of theme sessions at ICES and PICES annual science conferences.

The funding was well invested and facilitated the successful performance of SCICOM over the past four years. Four Strategic Initiatives were established under SCICOM, some with joint ownership with ACOM, and a total of 12 topical sessions or workshops were supported by travel funds provided to ICES co-conveners and keynote speakers. In turn, PICES supported a total of 15 theme sessions at ICES ASCs. As another example, a total of 99 ECS received travel support for the ASC since 2010, some of which even won the prestigious ECS Award at the ASC (best presenter, best poster).

The Strategic Initiatives: The ICES–PICES Strategic Initiative on Climate Change effects on Marine Ecosystems (SICCME) formed during 2011 emerging from the P/ICES Working Group on Forecasting Climate Change and its Impacts on Fish and Shellfish. Ever since, SICCME produced several peer-reviewed publications, actively contributed to organizing the second ICES/PICES/IOC Conference on Climate Change Impacts on the World's Oceans in Yeosu, Korea, and organized two workshops on climate modelling and forecasting in Friday Harbor (US) and St. Petersburg, Russia.

The SCICOM/ACOM Strategic Initiative on Area-based Science and Management (SIASM) formed in 2010 and spurred two workshops on marine spatial planning science issues, one jointly with OSPAR and HELCOM (WKMCMS 2010 and 2011). WKMCMS produced several peer-reviewed publications and an interactive computer-run game on the topic of spatial planning. The game has resulted in a proposal under HORIZON 2020 for further development. SIASM successfully concluded its activities in 2012.

The Strategic Initiative on Biodiversity Science and Advice (SIBAS) organized a workshop on biodiversity science and its application to producing advice (WKMARBIO) in 2011 with

participation of the Regional Conventions and CBD. SIBAS participated in several biodiversity-related science symposia and recently established ICES participation in the IPBES global biodiversity initiative (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services).

Strategic Initiative for Stock Assessment Methods (SISAM) started with a workshop (WKADSAM) in 2010 which produced an overview of existing stock assessment models/methods with good participation of RFMOs and scientists worldwide. SISAM activities culminated in another workshop and subsequent science symposium held in Boston, US in summer 2013 and the results published in the ICES JMS. In addition, SISAM spurred several theme sessions at ICES ASCs.

From 2014 a new Strategic Plan is in place with an ambitious science element. The implementation of the plan, the current engagement of ICES in the implementation of the MSFD and the EU Maritime Policy will impose additional tasks for the science community. Having in view the current workloads in the ICES member institutes, putting the science element into practice will require additional resources. In addition, ICES has two new strategic areas, the Arctic and Aquaculture. While good working relationships with the key players have been established in both fields, the next stage is to actively participate in the main events and involve ICES groups and key scientists by providing travel money. In addition, there is an emerging network of marine and mostly academic science institutions in Europe, EuroMarine+. It is complimentary to ICES and has expertise in disciplines which are not well represented in ICES. ICES should attempt to channel this knowledge into our integrated ecosystem research.

#### **The SCICOM Chair requests the following funds for SCICOM activities:**

Strategic Initiatives: biodiversity, climate change and impacts of marine living resources and human activities, stock assessment methods for the period 2015-2018: 576.000 DKK

Science cooperation with PICES: Travel support for ICES conveners and invited speakers at PICES Annual Meetings 2015-2018, meetings of the P/ICES Group on Strategic Cooperation: 218.000 DKK

Science cooperation with CIESM: Travel support for ICES conveners and invited speakers at CIESM Science Meeting 2016, meetings with CIESM scientists and secretariat on strategic cooperation: 36.300 DKK

The Arctic and aquaculture: Travel support for ICES EB scientists to participate in key events: 270.000 DKK

Science cooperation with EuroMarine+: three workshops to facilitate the input of academic research into IEA 2015–2017: 16.200 DKK

Another ICES instrument in support of the next generation of marine scientists is the regular Early Career Scientists Conference, a series started in 1999 and meanwhile carried out jointly with PICES. The 2012 ECSC was held in Palma de Mallorca, Spain and has seen enthusiastic feedback from participants

([http://www.pices.int/publications/pices\\_press/volume20/v20\\_n2/pp\\_41-43\\_Majorca-2012.pdf](http://www.pices.int/publications/pices_press/volume20/v20_n2/pp_41-43_Majorca-2012.pdf)).

ICES SCICOM and PICES Science Board have concluded that the optimal time interval in order to embrace the generations of ECS in both worlds (Europe, NA, East Asia) is five years. The next conference is therefore scheduled for 2017. While the very first conference was held in Denmark (Gilleleje 1999), the following ones were held in North America (Baltimore MA, 2007) and in Europe (see above). The 2017 conference has seen an interest expressed by Korea to be the host.

Funding for the 2007 and 2012 conferences came from ICES, PICES, NOAA and national/regional sources. For 2017 SCICOM asks for 450 000 DKK to match PICES and third party funds.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2015-18
<b>SCICOM Strategic Initiatives</b>					
SICCME	45000	47000	49000	51000	192000
SISAM	45000	47000	49000	51000	192000
SIBAS	45000	47000	49000	51000	192000
<b>PICES scientific cooperation</b>					
conveners/speakers at PICES ASM	33000	33500	34000	34500	135000
Strategic P/ICES group meeting	20000	20500	21000	21500	83000
<b>CIESM scientific cooperation</b>					
session convener, keynote speaker workshops	5000	20500	5300	5500	36300
<b>Strategic science areas</b>					
Aquaculture	33000	33500	34000	34500	135000
Arctic	33000	33500	34000	34500	135000
<b>EuroMarine cooperation</b>					
workshops for academic input into IEA	8000	8200			16200
<b>Early Career Scientists Conference</b>					450000
2017			450000		
	267000	290700	725300	283500	1566500