

## Integrated Ecosystem Observation and Monitoring

*The meeting will be updated on the ACOM/SCICOM review of surveys.*

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### 1 Request

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The ICES Bureau has requested that ACOM/SCICOM provide a 10 page position paper reviewing existing surveys, and how ecosystem data can be included in future surveys. The review should be mindful of the current policy context including the new CFP, MSFD, and the ecosystem approach.

### 2 ACOM/SCICOM Approach

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ACOM and SCICOM used the Joint Open Session: Integrated Assessments and Ecosystem Surveys (SSGIEA/SSGIEOM) at the ASC in La Coruna to discuss the approach and then further discussed the issue to refine the report needed.

A joint ACOM/SCICOM Workshop is proposed established under the Steering Group on Integrated Ecosystem Observation and Monitoring. The Workshop will produce a draft position paper based on existing reviews and related work currently underway.

The following existing reviews have been identified for consideration:

- STECF review of DCF surveys (STECF SGRN 10-03)
- A WKECES review of survey methodology based on an 'ideal ecosystem survey' developed by WGISUR, and further reviews contained in WGISUR has additional reports contain useful reviews.
- WKCATDAT review of ecosystem data products could currently be delivered by surveys in the context of the 11 MSFD descriptors.

Related work currently underway:

- WGISDAA has planned activities looking at statistical analyses to evaluate some of the consequence for reducing sampling within a survey. This was principally in a statistical sense of increasing variance. Issues like risk to the survey and some spatial aspects were also not considered.
- ICES SSGIEOM: The list of ICES coordinated surveys (under SSGIEOM) are currently being mapped to information being collected. This list needs verifying ideally prior to the workshop.
- LOT projects: Three contracts to look at MSFD sampling in Baltic, NS/Celtic Sea and Med. The CS study is looking at using the existing fishery survey resources to build a designed for purpose ecosystem survey and/or improving the existing surveys. Also included is evaluation of other ad hoc data collection such as litter and benthic fauna to evaluate potential use but this work needs to be extended.