



**POLISH ANNUAL REPORT ON THE
COLLECTION OF FISHERIES DATA FOR 2011**

by



NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

GDYNIA, POLAND



DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

WARSAW, POLAND

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I General framework

Polish Annual Report covers fisheries, biological, and economical sampling activities in 2011, collected within the Polish National Programme for the Collection of Fisheries data for 2011-2013. Report was prepared in accordance with the Commission guidelines: *Guidelines for the submission of Annual Report on the National Data Collection Programmes under Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, Commission Regulation (EC) 665/2008, and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU, Version January 2012*. Polish Annual Report on fisheries data collection 2011 was prepared within the framework of approved Program for 2011-2013 and in agreement with Council Regulations (EC) 199/2008, 665/2008, and Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

II National data collection organization

II A. National correspondent and participating institutions

National correspondent

National correspondent: Dr. Zbigniew Karnicki

Postal address:

National Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Morski Instytut Rybacki – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy
ul. Kołłątaja 1
81-332 Gdynia
Poland

E-mail: zkarnicki@mir.gdynia.pl

Phone: +48 58 73 56 236

Fax: +48 58 73 56 110

Mob: +48 691 404 913

Additional contacts:

Dr Emil Kuzebski (Economic variables)

E-mail : emil.kuzebski@mir.gdynia.pl

Phone: 048 58 73 56 118

Ireneusz Wójcik (Biological variables)

E-mail: iwojcik@mir.gdynia.pl

Phone: 048 58 73 56 366

Postal address:

National Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Morski Instytut Rybacki – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy
ul. Kołłątaja 1
81-332 Gdynia
Poland
Fax: +48 58 73 56 110

Participating institutions

National Marine Fisheries Research Institute

National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (NMFRI), formerly Sea Fisheries Institute in Gdynia (SFI), is a sole executor of Data Collection Program.

The NMFRI was established in 1921 to conduct research in marine biology. Areas of research at the NMFRI include fisheries biology, fisheries oceanography and marine ecology, fish processing technology, and fisheries economics.

The National Marine Fisheries Research Institute is supervised by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Postal address:

National Marine Fisheries Research Institute
Morski Instytut Rybacki – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy
ul. Kollataja 1
81-332 Gdynia
Poland

Phone: +48 (0) 58 73 56 100

Fax: +48 (0) 58 73 56 110

Email: sekrdn@mir.gdynia.pl

WWW: <http://www.mir.gdynia.pl>

Department of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development,

The Fisheries Department realizes Ministry's tasks for coordination of the CFP, the development of sea fishery, inland fishery and the fish market.

Postal address:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Fisheries Department

Tomasz Nawrocki

Director

ul. Wspólna 30

00-930 Warszawa

Poland

Email: Tomasz.Nawrocki@minrol.gov.pl

WWW: <http://bip.minrol.gov.pl/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabOrgId=1689&LangId=0>

Phone: +48 22 623 24 04

Fax: (+48 22) 623 22 04

Additional contact person: Roman Pitera

Email: Roman.Pitera@minrol.gov.pl

Phone: +48 22 623 20 24

Fax: (+48 22) 623 22 04

Postal address:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Fisheries Department

ul. Wspólna 30

00-930 Warszawa

Poland

Polish National Programme is executed solely by the National Marine Fisheries Research Institute in Gdynia. Polish data collection programme is financed through the contract with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

In 2011 no national coordination meeting took place. As the National Marine Fisheries Research Institute is a sole executor of Data Collection program, therefore coordination of our activities is done without unnecessary formalities, often on daily basis. Though in the plan there was foreseen a meeting and the same is done for 2012 but it is a precautionary approach in case of necessity for formal coordination meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in relation to funding. However so far all problems were resolved either by phone, mail or in connection with other meetings.

II B Regional and International coordination

II B 1 Attendance of International meetings

The full list of international co-ordination meetings Poland planned to attend and actually attended is provided in table II.B.1.

Out of 22 international meetings indicated in the annual budget forecast for 2011 as planned to attend, Poland did not attend 7 meetings, for reasons given below:

<i>Meeting planned but not attended</i>	<i>Reason</i>
RCM NA	Attendance was planned on the basis of fishing activity in the ICES area XIV. Since this area was moved under the competence of RCM NS&EA, Poland attended that meeting instead.
WKMSHS	Neither of two Polish stock coordinators for herring and sprat could attend the meeting as both of them were at sea at the time of the meeting. However, all required metadata were provided to the Workshop. Also samples for direct intercalibration of the maturity stages of Baltic herring and sprat were prepared and ready for shipment but unfortunately, none of the courier mail service provider in Poland accepted the shipment due to the formalin content (used for sample preservation)
WKMSREGH	Attendance was planned on the basis of Polish fishery for Greenland halibut in previous years. However, Poland did not fish for Greenland halibut in 2010 and 2011 due to lack of sufficient quota allocation and/or exchange and therefore Poland had no data to analyse or share.
WKPICS	Although Poland considers this Workshop as very important in the context of DCF and NP execution, the reasons for nonattendance were of financial nature. Meeting took place in early November 2011 and at that time Institute was short of funds available for coordination (as set in the NP 2011 budget agreed internally with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development) and, pending

	the approval from the Ministry for budget amendments, Institute had no funds available to cover the cost of participation in international co-ordination meetings. Therefore, the personnel with most sufficient expertise in that area were directed to other activities.
SGPIDS	Meeting took place during last week of June and the person originally planned to attend the meeting participated in two STECF meetings in row immediately prior to SGPIDS (EWG 11-06 and EWG 11-07) and Institute decided not to send other expert due to financial reason – by mid-year the funds available to finance participation in international co-ordination meetings (as set in the NP 2011 budget agreed internally with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development) were almost fully consumed and, pending the approval from the Ministry for budget amendments, Institute had no funds available to cover the cost of participation in international co-ordination meetings.
WKDEEP	Poland do not participate in fishery for deep water species and had no data to share and could not provide any reasonable input to the work of the workshop.
WGMME	The person originally planned to attend the meeting left the Institute.

There were also two international co-ordination meetings (i.e. *WGEEL* and *Workshop on Allocation of Economic Data on Disaggregated Level*) Poland planned to attend and actually attended but the cost of participation in those meetings could not be covered from the funds available to finance NP 2011 because at the time of those meeting NMFRI was short of funds for coordination (based on the NP 2011 budget agreed internally with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development). Therefore, those costs were covered by the Institute from its own resources.

Additionally, Poland attended following meetings which were not indicated in the annual budget forecast for 2011:

<i>Meeting not planned but attended</i>	<i>Reason</i>
RCM NS&EA	Originally, Poland planned to attend the meeting of RCM NA, based on fishing activity in the ICES area XIV in previous years. Since this area was moved under the competence of RCM NS&EA, Poland attended that meeting instead.
8 th Liaison Meeting	At the RCM LDF 2011 meeting, the representative of the Institute was elected as the RCM LDF chair for 2012-2013 and was invited to attend 8 th LM. By the EC letter (MARE C3/IG/AK Ares (2011) of 15/09/2011), the 8 th LM was added to the list of meetings eligible for financial EU support for the expert's participation – see Annex III.
WKCUPEFFORT	As this meeting is of significant importance to the utilization of data collected under the DCF, Poland decided to attend this WK instead of WGDEEP.

WGFTBF	This meeting was closely related and held at the same time and place as SGTCOD meeting and Poland took the advantage of extending the attendance to WGTBF meeting (by the same expert attending SGTCOD)
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Poland also participated in an *ad hoc* organized DCF Dialogue Meeting of National Correspondents (Brussels, 23 June 2011), which was not included in the official list of meetings eligible for financial EU support for the expert's participation in 2011.

II B 2 Follow-up of regional and international recommendations

List of recommendations from all relevant RCMs 2010 not dealt with in Annual Report 2010 and all relevant RCMs 2011 addressed in 2011 and not dealt with in other sections is given below.

RCM	Recommendations	Action taken
RCM Baltic 2010	For the purposes of regional understanding of sampling activities, National information on sampling should be compiled regionally in advance of the next meeting.	Recommendation was fulfilled.
RCM Baltic 2010	Development of a report in FishFrame which calculate the top 90% ranking of metiers for each MS as well as on regional level. The data should be based on data from the two previous years.	Poland uploaded the data
RCM Baltic 2011	For institutes collecting small volumes of age samples for certain species and when new species are to be sampled, task sharing of age reading is necessary in order to optimise the use of age reading expertise. The RCM Baltic recommends the following MS to investigate their capability to read relevant age samples of interested MS: (1) Germany: plaice and dab (2) Denmark: plaice, dab and sole (3) Poland: flounder and turbot (4) Sweden: eel and salmon (5) Finland: salmon The suggested coordination should be discussed, agreed and decided by the National Correspondents so the first agreements could be established before December 2011.	Poland followed the recommendation and notified the Chair of RCM Baltic that had no capability yet to read age of flounder and turbot samples from other MS

III Module of the evaluation of the fishing sector

III A General description of the fishing sector

There were no significant changes in composition and capacity of Polish fishing fleet in 2010 and 2011. In 2011 (Dec 31st) the Polish fishing fleet consisted of 790 registered vessels, with a combined gross tonnage of 33,379 GT and total power of 82,890 kW. The overall average age of vessels was 27.7 years in 2011. The size of the Polish fishing fleet has followed a downward trend between 2004 and 2011. The number of vessels in the Polish fleet declined by 37% or 458 vessels and the total GT and kW of the fleet decreased by 27% and 44% respectively during that period.

Total employment was around 2.1 thousand jobs and 1.3 thousand FTEs in the Polish fleet in 2010. The level of employment decreased between 2008 and 2010, with the total number employed decreasing by 21% and the number of FTEs decreasing by 6% over the time period.

In 2010 the Polish fishing fleet spent a total of 62 thousand days at sea, 90% of which were actual fishing days. The total number of days at sea decreased between 2004 and 2010.

The total volume of landings by the Polish fishing fleet in 2010 was 170.8 thousand tons of which 110 thousand tons of fish constituted Baltic Sea production. The total volume of landings decreased between 2009 and 2010. In terms of Baltic Sea landings composition, in 2010 sprat was the most common species landed in terms of tonnage (58,8 thousand tons), followed by herring (24.7 thousand tons) and cod (12.2 thousand tons). The recent years changes in landings volume were caused mainly by high sprat catches which, to great extent, were influenced by the cooperation between Polish and Swedish companies commenced in 2008.

Number of deep-sea vessels in 2010 consisted of 4 vessels. The vessels operated on Northern Atlantic (FAO 27) – 1 trawler, Central Atlantic (FAO 34) – 2 trawlers. One vessel was engaged in krill fishery on Antarctic Atlantic (FAO 48). Three vessels were involved in exploitation of horse mackerel resources on Southern Pacific (FAO 87).

III B Economic variables

Baltic Sea, North Sea, Eastern Arctic, North Atlantic (Supra region)

III B 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Fisheries economic data has been produced using two main sources of primary information: administrative documents (fishing logs, landing declarations, first sale documents) and statistical questionnaires filled out by fishing vessel owners.

Followed previous years, due to confidentiality reasons deep sea trawlers segment were excluded from economic analysis (data were collected but cannot be reported). In 2010 this segment consisted of only 4 very characteristic vessels, what makes impossible to report data without identifying them and infringe the law of data confidence.

Methods used for collecting data adhere to these planned in the NP proposal

Economic Clustering of fleet segments

The final economic clustering is slightly different from NP proposal. Changes occurred in two segments. A separate segment was created for Demersal trawlers 10-12 (initially clustered with Demersal trawlers 12-18m), since the number of vessels belonging to this segment exceeded 10 units (compared to provisional number of 7 vessels). Additionally one vessel belonging to Pelagic trawlers 12-18 was assigned to this segment (an explanation for that is provided below). The second change compared to planned segmentation was adding 4 vessels using hooks 10-12m to a clustered segment Vessels using hooks 12-18m. This vessel segment did not exist in 2009 and will not appear in 2011, **which means that there were too few vessels (less than 10 units) to create an unclustered segment HOK VL1012 in these years.**

The table below presents catches of vessels that were clustered for sampling or confidentiality purposes. The total number of 15 vessels belonging to 6 small segments (consisting of 5 or less vessels each) was clustered by merging them with 4 bigger segments.

Table 1. III B 1 Volume of catches of clustered segments, 2010.

Segments - clustered	Segments - before clustering	tons	%	type of segment
VL0010 PG	VL0010 DTS	164 159	2%	S
	VL0010 PG*	8 119 384	98%	S
VL0010 PG - total		8 283 543	100%	
VL1218 DFN	VL1218 DFN	1 832 383	87%	S
	VL1824 DFN	276 652	13%	S
VL1218 DFN - total		2 109 035	100%	
VL1218 DTS	VL1218 DTS	7 214 898	100%	S
	VL1218 TM	2 250	0%	N
VL1218 DTS - total		7 217 148	100%	
VL1218 HOK	VL1012 HOK	197 631	32%	S
	VL1218 HOK	412 323	66%	S
	VL1824 HOK	13 282	2%	N
	VL2440 HOK	511	0%	N
VL1218 HOK - total		623 747	100%	
VL2440 TM	VL1824 TM	2 429 681	3%	N
	VL2440 TM	77 520 280	97%	S
VL2440 TM - total		79 949 961	100%	

*HOK, DFN, FPO

S- segments similar to other segments; N – Non-important segments with distinct characteristics; I- Important segment with distinct characteristic

Passive gears 0-10m (VL0010 PG)

Three vessels mostly using bottom trawl were merged with passive gear 0-10m vessels consisting of 464 units. These 3 vessels accounted for only 2% of the total catches of the whole segment (2010) and are targeting similar species to other boats below 10 m length (cod, herring, flatfish).

Drift and fixed netters 12-< 18 m (VL1218 DFN)

The clustered segment consist of 22 vessels belonging to two smaller segments of 2 and 20 vessels. As it is demonstrated on the graph below catch composition of these two groups of vessels is quite

similar. The only difference is a higher share of flatfish in Drift and fixed netters 12-< 18 m catches than in Drift and fixed netters 18-< 24 m, where cod constitutes over 90% of the total catches. However, since these two species belongs to one species assemblage (demersal fish) merging of these two vessel groups should not have negative impact on data quality.

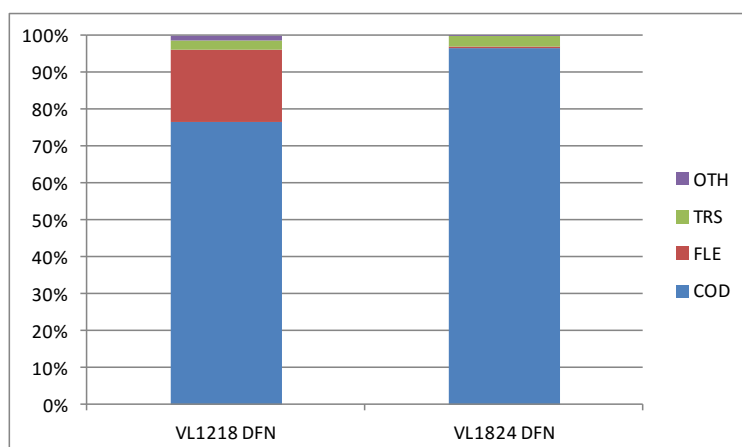


Figure 1. III B1 Drift and fixed netters 12-< 18 m – composition of catches of clustered vessels.

Demersal trawlers 12-< 18 m (VL1218 DTS)

The clustered segment consist of 47 vessels (46+1). The only one vessel that originally should belong to Pelagic trawlers 12-< 18 m, was merged with demersal trawlers because of its similar technical characteristic. For the same reason it was unjustified to merge them with Pelagic trawlers that are generally much bigger than this particular vessel. Since its catches were very low (2,2 tons) this way of clustering should not have negative impact on entire segment anyway.

Vessels using hooks 12-< 18 m (VL1218 HOK)

The segment of vessels using hooks is made of all vessels that used longlines in their catches in 2010, and these gears played dominant role in their catches. The clustered segment consist of 37 vessels with dominant role of vessels 12-18 meters length (30 vessels). These vessels had 66% share in total catches of the cluster. The vessels belonging to the clustered segment targeted sea trouts and salmons and cod.

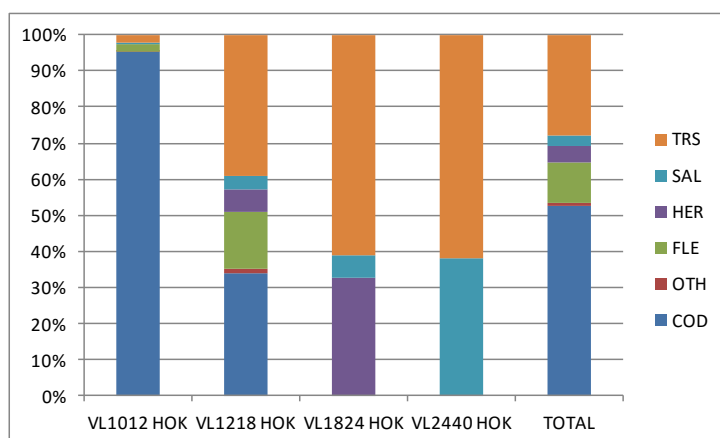


Figure 2. III B1 Vessels using hooks 12-< 18 m – composition of catches of clustered vessels.

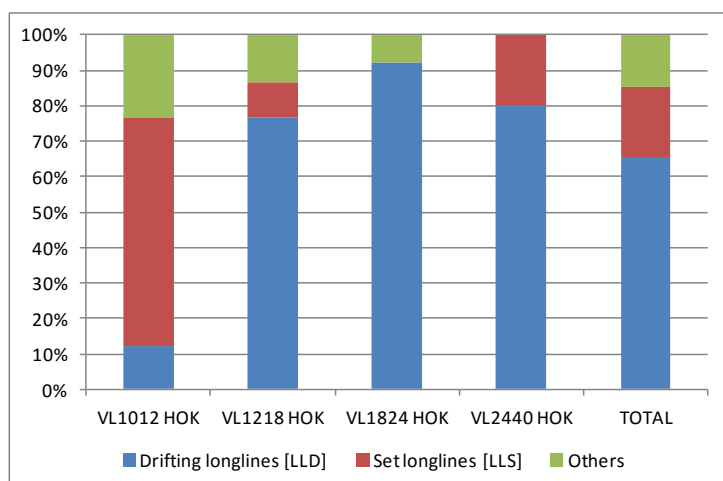


Figure 3. III B1 Vessels using hooks 12-< 18 m – distribution of effort (days at sea) by gears.

Taking into account species composition of catches, the only identified segment with distinct characteristic are vessels targeting cod using set longlines (VL1012 HOK). Usage of similar gear was a reason for the decision to merge them with other vessels using hooks. The alternative solution would be to merge these vessels with Drift and fixed netters 10-<12 meters which are characterized by quite similar catch species composition but use different fishing gear (gillnets).

Pelagic trawlers 24-< 40 m (VL2440 TM)

The clustered segment consists of 46 vessels belonging to two segments: Pelagic trawlers 24-< 40 m (41 vessels) and Pelagic trawlers 18-< 24 m (5 vessels). Similar gears used and similar catch composition was a reason for the decision to merge these two groups of vessels into one.

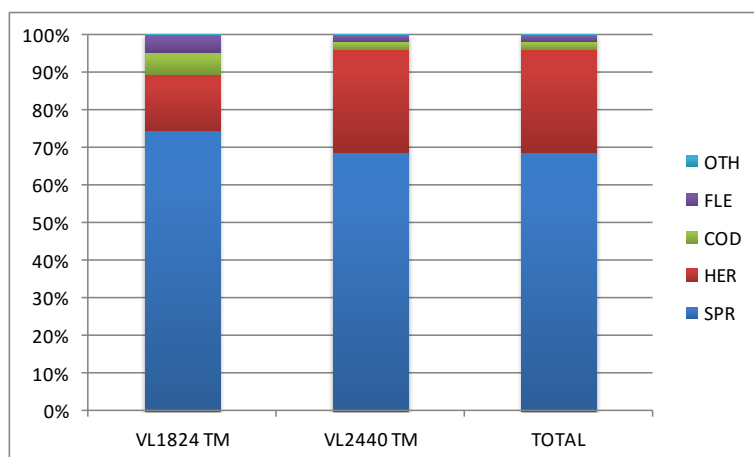


Figure 4. III B1 Pelagic trawlers 24-< 40 m – composition of catches of clustered vessels.

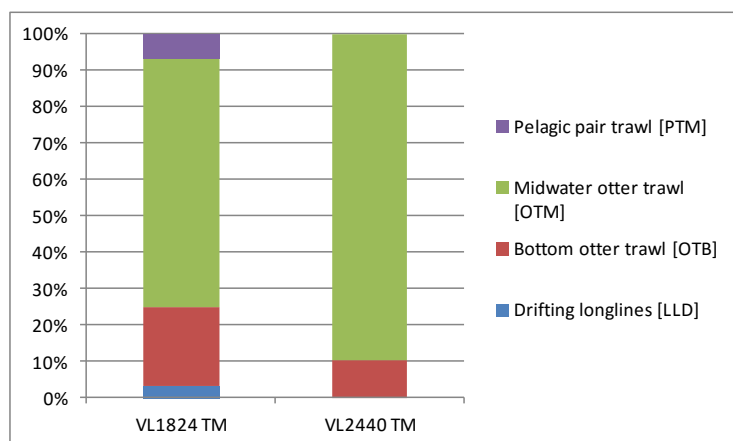


Figure 3. III B1 Pelagic trawlers 24-< 40 m – distribution of effort (days at sea) by gears.

Estimation of capital value and capital costs

In order to ensure consistency with data provided for previous years, taking into consideration a specific situation of Polish fisheries (subject of severe capacity reduction program) and, as it was described in NP, premiums paid by government for scrapped vessels were taken into account when calculating invested capital. Council Regulation 2792/1999 method of calculation of premium rates was used to determine scrapping value of the vessels. Following the regulation method, capital value of vessels from 16 to 29 years old was depreciated by 1,5 % annually and value of vessels of 30 years old or more decreased by 22,5 %. It is believed that this approach of capital value calculation reflects better value of capital invested in the sector compared to other indicators based on insurance value, book value or replacement value (as well as information collected from questionnaires) which are usually even several times lower than the scrapping premiums.

Values used for estimation of capital invested in Polish fleet (according to CR 2792/99)

TABLE 1

Category of vessel by tonnage (GT)	EUR
0 < 10	11 000/GT + 2 000
10 < 25	5 000/GT + 62 000
25 < 100	4 200/GT + 82 000
100 < 300	2 700/GT + 232 000
300 < 500	2 200/GT + 382 000
500 and above	1 200/GT + 882 000

Since 50% of the fleet capacity has been already withdraw with public assistance and further 30% is intend to be reduced until 2013, it is considered that financial compensation have significant influence on capital value. This as well has influenced depreciation which is considered to be better reported through questionnaires.

The major problem in full implementation of PIM method is very low number of newly constructed vessels, and subsequently scarce information about PCU .

III B 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

No deviation compared to NP proposal took place.

In accordance with national regulations, each vessel's owner is legally bound to fill out a questionnaire regarding the economic results of the fishing vessel. In order to ensure the maximum number of questionnaires is received, similarly to previous years reminders of the obligation to file them were sent by registered mail. As the number of returned questionnaires did not reach a plan of respond rate, calculations were made based on the questionnaires received. Economic data received, based on census does not usually exceed 70% of respond rate. However all responses were of random character (probability sample), which ensures the representativeness of the sample.

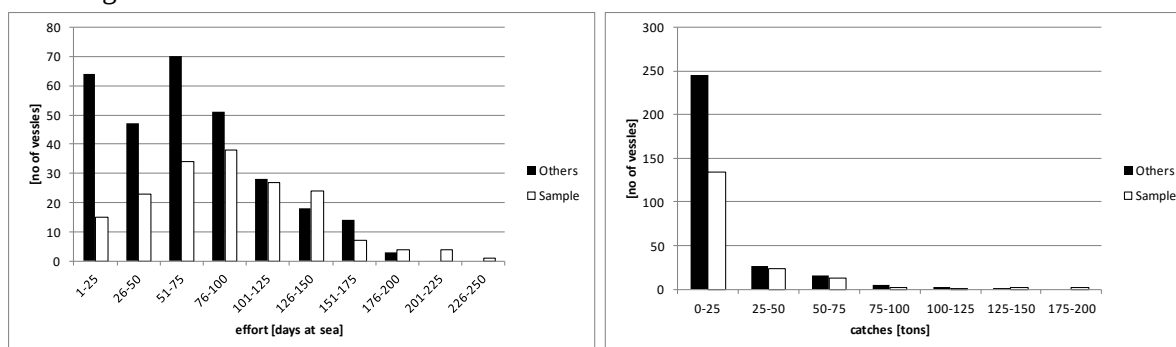
There were several actions undertaken that resulted in an increase of a response rate over past years. Reminders of the obligation to provide questionnaires were sent by mail to each vessel's owner and repeated in case of non response by registered mail or phone calls were made to execute the obligation. Additionally, recommendation of the Lisbon DCF workshop on "statistical issues related to the collection of economic data within the DCF" will be taken into account to deal with the non response problem.

Representativeness

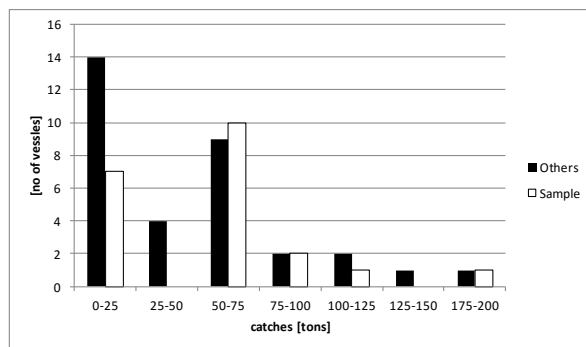
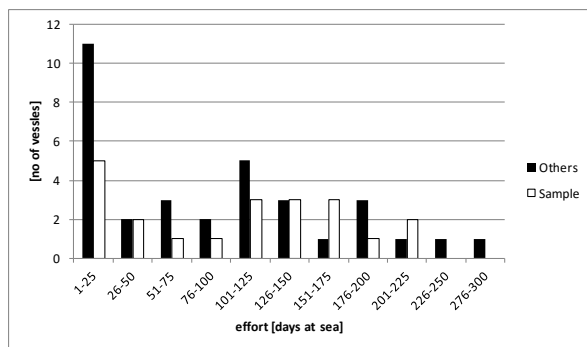
There is no standard approach implemented on how the representativeness of the data can be evaluated. An analysis of the frequency distribution of two variables: volume of catches and effort was performed to check similarity between the sample and the total population. The results presented on graphs below show that there is a little difference between sampled group of vessels and the total population. Species composition of catches confirms a good similarity as well.

Figure 1. III B2. Comparison of frequency distribution of the effort and catch variables between sample and total fleet (2010).

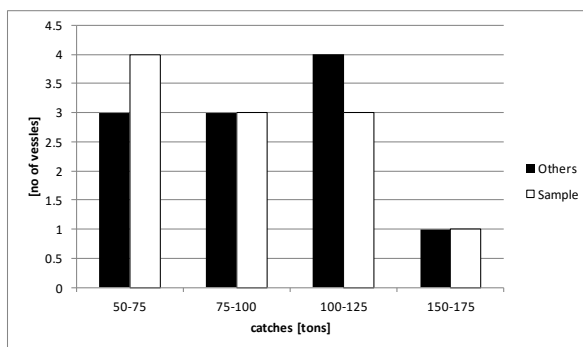
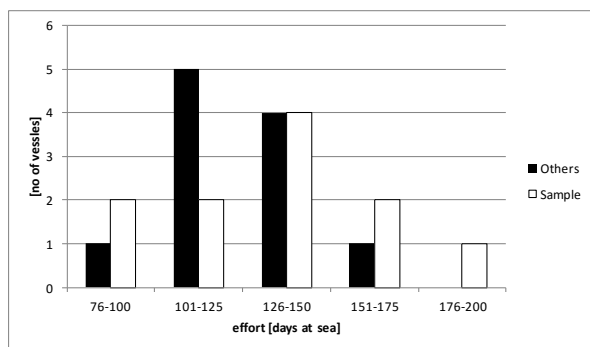
Passive gears 0-10m



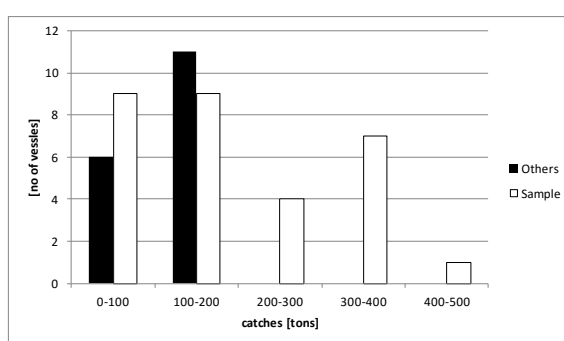
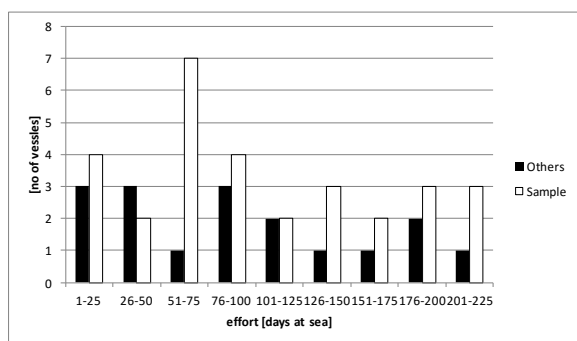
Passive gears 10-12m



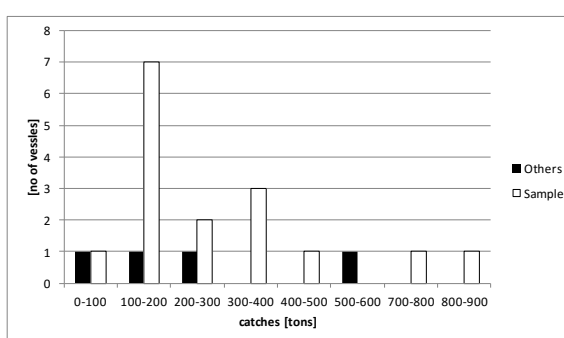
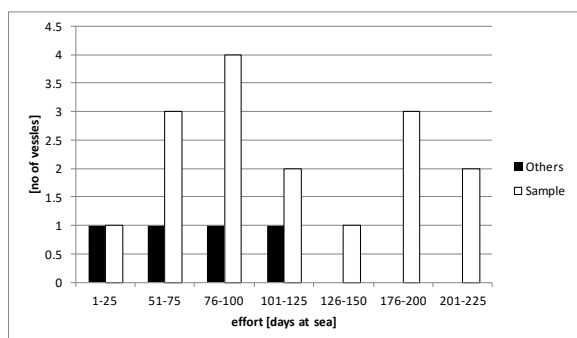
Drift and fixed netters 12-18m



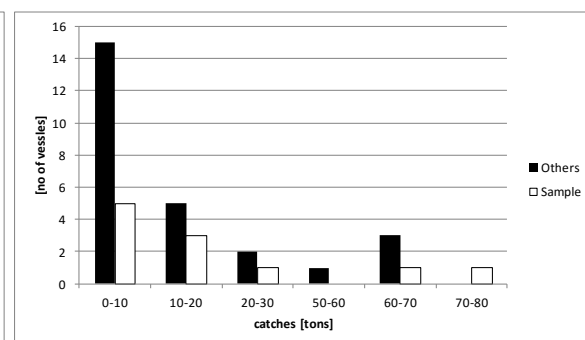
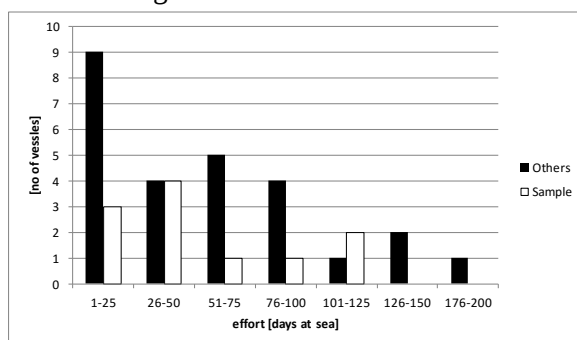
Demersal trawlers 12-18m



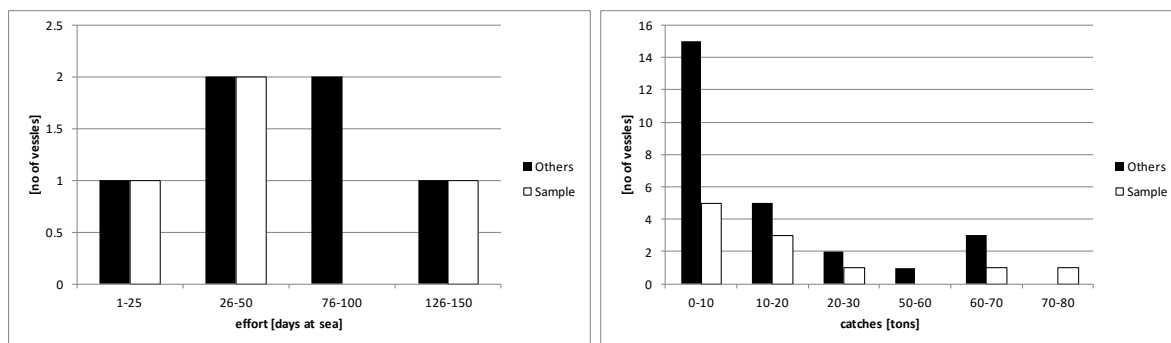
Demersal trawlers 18-24m



Vessels using hooks 12-18m



Demersal trawlers 24-40m



Pelagic trawlers 24-40m

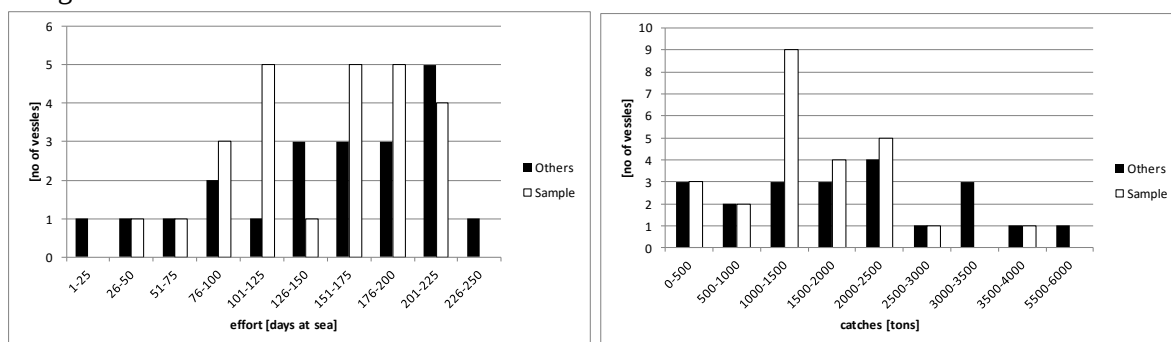
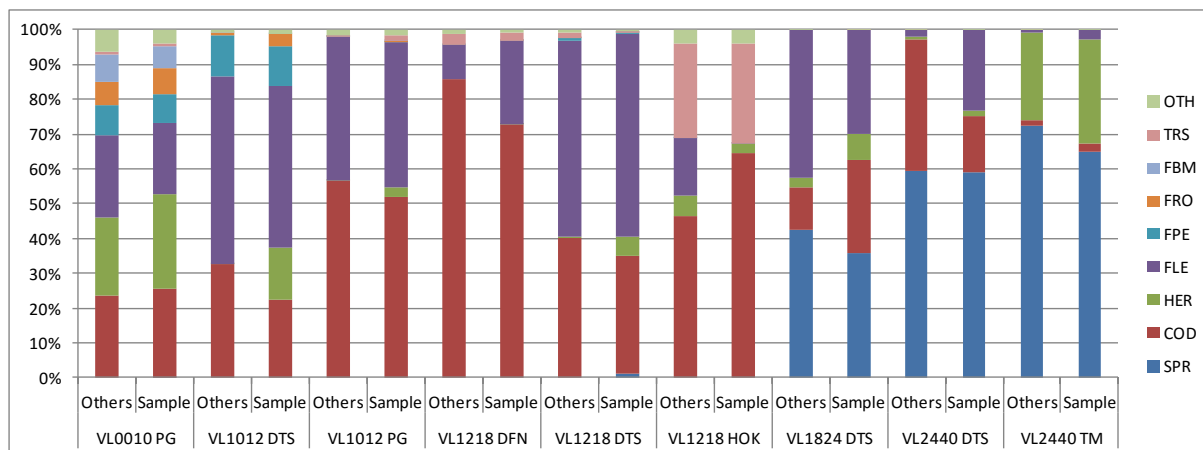


Figure 2. III B2. Comparison of species composition of catches between sampled vessels and total population, 2009 (by segments).



III.B 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

RCM NS&EA Recommendations

<i>Recommendations</i>	<i>Planned responsive actions</i>
<i>Economic variables: sampling strategy for the collection of economic variables</i>	
The RCM NS &EA recommends the following: 1. the inclusion of a methodology report, as proposed by SGECA, would provide significant benefits 2. there would be merit in reviewing the SGRN guidelines as proposed by SGECA	Methodology of economic variables collection has been provided in NP. Additional relevant information are provided in the Report.
<i>Economic variables: Clustering of fleet segments</i>	
The RCM NS &EA recommends that 1. Statistical legislation had a key role to play in guidance relating to clustering for confidentiality reasons 2. The guidance drawn up by SGECA, setting out the different approaches should be followed 3. Further work be undertaken at a regional level, e.g. Baltic Sea, through the RCMs; any harmonisation should be through guidelines rather than a statutory requirement 4. The distant-water fleet for Baltic Sea MS should not be merged with others because of its distinct characteristics	Poland adhered to suggested recommendations when clustering fleet segments.

III.B 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No major shortfalls were observed.

III C Metier-related variables

Baltic Sea

III C 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

FPO_FWS_>0_0_0 and GNS_FWS_>0_0_0 métiers in SD 22 – 24 and SD 25-32 were sampled concurrently and the achievement was 100 % of planned trips (tables III.C.3 and III. C.4). During sampling activity oversampling occurred in case of pike-perch and perch, which strongly exceeded planned length measurements, but mostly because unexpectedly high number of pike-perch discards or measuring whole catches during planned sea trips (tables III.C.5 and III.C.6). Oversampling did not result in the excess of national expenses. Within the métier FPO_FWS_>0_0_0 sampling of

European eel was conducted and only in SD 25 – 32 not all planned fish were measured because of low density of eels in the catchment area. In 2011 landings of eel were the lowest ever and fishery did not target this species. Getting appropriate number of eels was almost impossible in case of CPUE being less than 0,2 eel / gear/ day.

All planned trips of GNS_ANA_>157_0_0 métier were sampled.

One trip of LLD_ANA_0_0_0 métier were not sampled due to unpredictability of salmon fleet activity in the late autumn and winter time caused by changes in national technical regulations in relation to designation of salmon landings harbours.

Demersal métiers (OTB_DEF, GNS_DEF, LLS_DEF) selected by the ranking system for sampling separately in SD 22-24 and 25-32 were undersampled in most cases (5 out of 6). The main reason for not achieving the planned number of trips sampled was very low level of the cod TAC quota utilization in 2011 (32% in SD 22-24 and 81% in SD-25-32). With low catches, the number of trips available for sampling in SD-24 significantly decreased and could not be effectively compensated by the increase in number of trips sampled in corresponding métiers in SD 25-32 (except for OTB_DEF in SD 25-32 – representing the largest share of cod catch in the SD-25-32, reaching 55%). Thus, sampling reallocation between SD 22-24 and SD 25-32 could not compensate for the shortages of samplings and did not allow to meet the sampling plan in 2011. In the reference period (2007-2008) used for the sampling activity plan for 2009-2013 the cod catches in SD 22-24 amounted to 2371 tonnes in 2007 and 1361 tonnes in 2008. In 2011 the cod catch equaled to 486 tonnes only. Similarly, flounder catches in SD 22-24 during 2007-2008 amounted to 3016 t and 2094 t respectively, while in 2011 the catch was much lower – 1567 t.

Demersal fish métier (OTB_DEF) in SD 22-24 and in SD 25-32 was sampled in 8 and 32 trips respectively, as compared to 15 and 20 trips planned to be sampled per SD 22-24 and SD 25-26 (trips at sea and landings on shore combined). Reallocation of number of trips between sub-divisions (without any increase in the budget) was the consequence of the attempts to compensate for the low number of fishing trips observed in SD 22-24.

For GNS_DEF métier, 20 trips for both SD 22-24 and SD 25-32 were planned for sampling (trips at sea and landings on shore combined). Only 8 and 16 trips were actually sampled, respectively. Considerable discrepancy between the expected and achieved number of trips sampled in SD 22-24 was the result of the very low level of the cod TAC utilization (32%), as mentioned earlier.

For LLS_DEF métier, 5 trips in SD 22-24 and 10 trips in SD 25-32 were planned to be sampled on shore. No trips were sampled in SD 22-24 due to very low catch of both cod and flatfishes – 19 t and 1 t respectively (4% of the cod catch in SD 22-24 and <1% of the flatfishes catch in SD 22-24). In SD 25-32, 8 trips were sampled. The shortfall again was due to low level of quota utilization.

For OTM_SPF_32-104 métier for herring target fishery in SD 22-24 only one trip was sampled on shore and only one trip was sampled at sea, as compared to 3 and 3 trips planned for sampling respectively. The sampling deficiency can be explained by lower catch level comparing to the last years (only 86,6 % of herring catch quota in SD 22-24 was utilized in 2011).

For OTM_SPF_32-104 métier for herring target fishery in SD 25-32 total of 19 trips were sampled on shore and 5 trips were sampled at sea, as compared to 18 and 6 trips planned to be sampled respectively. The herring sampling in SD 25-32 from OTM gear was supplemented with 14 at sea trips

sampling (without any increase in the budget) of OTM_SPF_16-31 métier targeting sprat, in which herring was a by-catch.

Although total of 6 trips were planned to sample the merged OTB/PTB_SPF_32-104 métier in SD 22-24 and 25-32, no trip were sampled in 2011 due to significant decline in the use of these gears in the herring fishery, which made the sampling arrangements impossible.

For FPO_SPF_>0_0_0 métier three trips were planned to be sampled on shore in SD 22-24 and 6 trips to be sampled on shore in SD 25-32. However, only 1 and 2 trips respectively were sampled due to significant catch level decline in SDs 24 and 25.

GNS_SPF_32-109 métier in SD 22-24 and SD 25-32 was planned to be sampled in 3 and 6 trips respectively (sampling on shore), and only 2 and 3 trips respectively were actually sampled due to lower catch level comparing to the previous years.

For OTM_SPF_16-31_0_0 métier for sprat target fishery in the ICES SDs 22-24 and 25-32, one and 11 trips were sampled on shore respectively, as compared to 6 and 14 trips respectively planned for sampling in 2011. The shortfall of sprat sampling in the ICES SDs 22-24 was partly compensated by sampling of three at sea trips (without any increase in the budget), where the OTM_SPF_32-104 métier were applied. Moreover, sprat sampling in the ICES SDs 25-32 was supplemented with seven OTM_SPF_32-104 métier trips sampled on shore (without any increase in the budget). The OTM_SPF_16-31_0_0 métier sampling at sea in the ICES SDs 25-32, were focused on both the sprat industrial catches and discards. In total, 14 trips were planned for sampling at sea in 2011, and all planned sampling was accomplished, including sampling of four trips targeting sprat for human consumption, six trips targeting sprat for industrial purposes and four trips dedicated for discards evaluation.

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

There is shortfall in number of trips sampled on shore vs. planned in 2011 for the OTM_SPF_16-31_0_0 métier (fishery targeting sprat) in the ICES SDs 22-24. The commercial catches of sprat by the Polish fleet in that fishing ground in 2011 were significantly lower than in previous years. The annual Polish landings of Baltic sprat from the ICES SD 24 was 688.5 tons, which is below minimum level requiring sampling (2000 t). Furthermore, number of trips planned for sampling in the ICES SD 24 was based on the average number of 271 trips of the Polish commercial fleet using pelagic trawl in the reference years (OTM_SPF_16-31_0_0 and OTM_SPF_32-104 métiers combined), whereas only 39 of such trips were performed in 2011. Only 79% trips sampled on shore were achieved in 2011 in the ICES SDs 25-32. This shortfall was mainly due to reduced Polish sprat landings and the decline in the Polish commercial fleet activities in 2011. While during the reference years (2007-2008) an average of 2991 trips were realised by the Polish commercial fleet using pelagic trawls (sprat and herring directed fishery), the respective number of trips performed in 2011 in that area was lower by 55%. Nevertheless, all 14 planned trips for OTM_SPF_16-31_0_0 métier were sampled at sea in 2011 in the ICES SDs 25-32.

CV's parameters were calculated using COST scripts.

The required annual precision targets (CV) related to the retained catches and/or landings were achieved, with the exception of one only species, i.e. turbot (*Psetta maxima*) where the achieved precision were slightly only below the target. However, the precision actually achieved on discards were below the target, the reason for which could be that the actual variability of the variable sampled was much higher than assumed and the precision target could not be reached with the planned sampling intensity.

III C 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

RCM	Recommendations	Action taken
Baltic Sea 2010	RCM Baltic endorses RCM NS&EA recommendation of MS to use the average landing figures over the years 2007-2008 as the basis for ranking métiers within the NP 2011-2013	Recommendation was fulfilled.
RCM Baltic 2011	1. MS should upload all landing data into FishFrame allowing the RCM to analyse the possible needs for bilateral agreements. 2. The RCMs should each year perform an analysis on landings in foreign countries and conclude where bilateral agreements needed to be made. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case when it is indicated by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed. To include the agreed analysis in FishFrame would be very convenient and time saving. 3. MS should set up agreements, fixing the details of sampling, compilation and submission of data in each case it is concluded by the RCM that a bilateral agreement is needed.	Poland is following the recommendation. In 2011 bilateral agreement with Sweden was set (Annex IV). Possible agreements with other MS are under evaluation.
RCM Baltic 2011	To ensure possibilities for adequate sampling of biological and métier related data including landings in foreign MS, national institutes need to have online access to national logbook data and national VMS data.	Polish national institute has online access to logbook and VMS data

III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Shortfalls described in sections III.C.1 and III.C.2 were unavoidable due to dramatic change in the fishing pattern in 2011 as compared to previous years. Sampling scheme needs to be adjusted according to fishing spatial and temporal distribution.

North Sea and Eastern Arctic

III C 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Note:

*For the purpose of setting the NP 2011-2013, the definition of regions used for sampling plans were based on the Geographical stratification by Region as provided for in the Appendix II of the Commission Decision 2010/93/EU. Therefore sampling planned in the area XIV for Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*) fishery were referred to in NP 2011 as sampling in the region of North Atlantic. However, since the scope of the regions were slightly modified by the RCMs, and the area XIV were reassigned from North Atlantic to the region of North Sea & Eastern Arctic, the reference to the latter region is used in the Annual Report 2011*

Based on average landing figures over the reference period 2007-2008, Poland planned to sample one metier (OTB_DEF_>=120_0_0) during one trip in area XIV to collect data from Greenland halibut fishery. However, Polish quota for Greenland halibut is well below 10% of EU quota (2 tonnes only in 2011) and fishing by Poland for this species is depending entirely on the quota exchange between Poland and EU Members States in a given year. Polish fishing for Greenland halibut is performed by one Polish operator with the use of one fishing vessel only. In 2011 Poland did not participate in this fishery and therefore, no sampling was possible.

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

No data collected.

III C 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

RCM NS & EA 2010	RCM NS&EA considers that, in a situation where sampling resources are limited, priority should be given to the sampling of discards in those métiers with high discarding. In order to be able to allocate and prioritize sampling effort to observer programmes at sea or self sampling programmes for estimating discards, preliminary information is required on discarding by métier where it is available. The information required is an estimate of the level of discarding (volume and percentage) and the main species contributing to the discard fraction of the catch	No workshop dedicated to this topic was planned yet
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III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No action required.

Other regions – CECAF area (Morocco to Guinea)

III C 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

One métier for Small Pelagic Fish (OTM_SPF $\geq$ 40_0_0) were sampled during one trip at sea in the CECAF area in 2011 what was in line with sampling plan set in NP 2011.

With regard to Horse mackerel species (*Trachurus trachurus*), 7345 fish were measured for length as compared to 3000 fish planned to sample for length composition. Such an excess sampling resulted from increased sampling capacity because, instead of one observer (as planned), two observers from NMFRI were sent to sample the Polish fishery in CECAF area, but for the shorter period of observation and sampling than planned. The reason behind it is that in 2010 sampling effort was moved from CECAF area to newly emerging fishery in the South Pacific area (see AR 2010) and, as a result, no sampling took place in CECAF area. Additionally, the RCM LDF 2010 recommended that all MS involved in industrial small pelagic fishery in “From Morocco to Guinea Bissau” fishing ground shall ensure good sampling coverage for the landings and discards.

With regard to Chub mackerel species (*Scomber japonicus*), 4104 fish were measured for length as compared to 1000 fish planned to sample for length composition. The reasons for the excess sampling are the same as in the case of Horse mackerel sampling.

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

Data were collected mainly for Horse mackerel (*Trachurus trachurus*) and Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*) as well as for the main by-catch species: Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*), Short-body sardinella (*Sardinella maderensis*) and *Dentex maroccanus*.

As the age of fish sampled was not available yet at the time of preparation of AR, the accuracy indicators (CV) could not be calculated.

III C 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

RCM LDF 2010	All MS involved in industrial small pelagic fishery in “From Morocco to Guinea Bissau” fishing ground to ensure adequate sampling coverage for the landings and discards.	Recommendation fulfilled – joint sampling program set in 2011 – see Annex V
RCM LDF 2011	To implement a joint observer program in the fishery of small pelagic in the CECAF area during the years 2012 and 2013.	Recommendation fulfilled

III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No action required.

Other regions – SPRMFO area (South Eastern Pacific)

III C 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

One métier for Small Pelagic Fish (OTM_SPF>=40_0_0) were sampled during one trip at sea in the SPRMFO area in 2011 what was in line with sampling plan set in NP 2011.

With regard to Chilean jack mackerel species (*Trachurus murphyi*), 3107 fish were measured for length as compared to 3000 fish planned to sample for length composition.

With regard to Chub mackerel species (*Scomber japonicus*), only 173 fish were measured for length as compared to 1000 fish planned to sample. The shortfall in length sampling was a result of very low catches of that species in 2011. The fishery in SPRMFO area is targeting the Chilean jack mackerel and the Chub mackerel is a by-catch species. In 2011 vessels engaged in the fishery in that area spent exceptionally long time for searching the Chilean jack mackerel concentrations, moving long distances across the whole area and the by-catch of Chub mackerel were very low in 2011.

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

Data were collected mainly for Chilean jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*) and Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*) as well as for the by-catch species: *Brama japonica*, *Allothunnus fallai* and *Pseudopentaceros richardsoni*.

As the age of fish sampled was not available yet at the time of preparation of AR, the accuracy indicators (CV) could not be calculated.

III C 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

There were no RCM recommendations related to sampling in SPRMFO area.

III C 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No action required.

III D Recreational fisheries

Baltic Sea

III D 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

According to Polish NP proposal for 2011 only cod recreational fishery was planned to be sampled. Two types of data were planned for collection in order to monitor the development of cod recreational fisheries and to estimate the catch level.

1. Data on the number of recreational sea-going trips and the number of anglers participating at those trips were collected from seven Maritime Offices' registers.
2. Data on total weight of fish caught and biological data (length, weight, sex, maturity and age) were collected and processed from ten angling trips with observers on-board. According to NP 2011, twelve trips for recreational fishery were planned to sample. However, the agreement between NMFRI and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for the execution of data collection program in 2011 provided for sampling of ten recreational trips only and such an amount of recreational trips to sample were set in the 2011 budget. In order to achieve sampling intensity set in NP 2011, as approved by the European Commission, NMFRI actually placed observers on twelve recreational cod fishing trips but the cost of ten such trips only were accepted by the Department of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, leading to the situation where NMFRI had to cover the cost of two recreational trips (those in excess of ten trips set in nationally approved budget) from its own resources without the chance for any compensation. Therefore, data collected from those two recreational trips were neither processed nor uploaded to the national data base. For this reason, the number of achieved trips sampled for recreational fishery indicated in tables III.C.3 and III.C.4 is ten.

Eel recreational fishery

Eel recreational fishing is investigated within the framework of Polish Eel Management Plan following Council Regulation 1100/2007. Consequently, in the current national sampling programme, sampling of eel recreational fisheries is a subject for derogation (Polish NP 2011 – 2013).

III D 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Data on number of recreational sea-going trips and the number of anglers participating at those trips collected from Maritime Offices registers are the complete data source on marine recreational fisheries status. Each angling vessel's departure, including number of anglers on-board, is recorded in Maritime Office documents.

Main intention of on-board observed trips is to weight each fish angled in order to determine the whole catch of fish during given trip. This allows for estimating the total catch applying raising method by number of trips recorded by Maritime Offices. Sampling of all ten trips in 2011 were performed according to the method described above, with the collection of length of the fish. Part of the catch was also sampled for biological data (age and sex).

Vessels for on-board observer trips are selected randomly.

III D 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

Following the comments from the WKSMRF Workshop (2009) to increase the number of on-board observer trips in order to cover each month of the angling season, the number of planned on-board observer trips was increased to 12 each year. However, this goal could not be achieved for reasons explained in the section III.D.1.2 above.

RCM Baltic 2011	MS is requested to submit the recreational fishery available data (total removals, any biological data) to the next meeting of WGBFAS, WGBAST and WGEEL in 2012. ICES WGBFAS, WGBAST and WGEEL are asked to consider the usefulness of inclusion the recreational fishery data into the stock assessment. IF it is useful for certain stock WG should provide the list of necessary data needed from recreational fishery in the Baltic.	Poland will deliver a data to relevant WG`s.
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III D 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

In order to avoid shortfalls in sampling intensity experienced in 2011 (data from 10 trips only collected and processed instead of 12 trips planned), NMFRI applied to the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development with the proposal of the necessary amendments of the nationally agreed budget for data collection. However, as the annual agreements between NMFRI and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for fisheries data collection (including the budget) is based on the Decision of the National Council of Ministers setting the multiannual fisheries data collection programme for the period 2007-2013, changes of the structure of the budget for data collection requires the respective amendment of the Decision of the Council of Ministers and any change in this decision is a lengthy process.

III E Stock-related variables

Baltic Sea

III E 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

There are no shortfalls in the European eel biological variables sampling.

Some over-sampling of sea trout, pike-perch and perch occurred, with the excess below 50 % of the target and with negative impact on the planned sampling cost.

There are no shortfalls in cod and flatfish length measurements in SD 22-24 and SD 25-32 as compared to planned minimum in the NP proposal. There were neither shortfalls in terms of number of aged cod and flatfish except for cod in SD 22-24, where achieved number of aged cod reached only 23% of the plan. The shortfall was due to low level of the cod catch quota utilization (32%).

There were shortfalls in herring biological variables data collection. Achieved levels of age related data for herring were 36% for SD 22-24 and 52% for SD 25-32, which was firstly caused by the

shortfall in sampling described in the section III.C.1 and secondly, by closure of herring fishery in Poland from mid-November due to early quota utilization of SD 25-32 herring stock.

Despite significant changes in the activity of the Polish commercial pelagic fleet resulting in the shortfalls of métier related sampling for sprat fishery, there were no shortfalls in sprat biological variables data collection. Baltic sprat sampling intensity in 2011 for stock-based variables was accomplished on the level of 108% vs. planned.

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

CV's parameters were calculated using COST scripts.

The precision actually achieved regarding sampling intensity for stock related variables were below the target, the reason for which could be that the actual variability of the variable sampled was much higher than assumed and the precision target could not be reached with the planned sampling intensity. It also seems that the required precision target was set at the unrealistic level, achieving of which would require both unrealistically high level of sampling intensity and substantial increase in sampling costs.

The discards rates observed in fishing trips with NMFRI's observers on board vary considerably. The discards occurrence, its volume and species composition depend heavily on the spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and target species. On one hand, there are fishing trips with no discards at all and on the other, there are fishing trips with high rates of discards, e.g. for hauls with a large number of undersized fish. Therefore, good estimation of discards volume by fishing ground and target species depends on close cooperation with the fishing industry, which is one of Poland's priority to improve precision in that area.

III E 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

RCM	Recommendations	Action taken
RCM Baltic 2011	To ensure possibilities for adequate sampling of biological and métier related data including landings in foreign MS, national institutes need to have online access to national logbook data and national VMS data.	Polish national institute has online access to logbook and VMS data
RCM Baltic 2011	In order to be able to analyse the current sampling level of cod in the Baltic and suggest optimal sampling levels for future regional coordinated sampling, the data must be available in an agreed format and checked for errors. Data has to be uploaded in FishFrame. All MS should upload 2010 cod data into FishFrame before the	Poland will upload data to FishFrame as requested

	end of October 2012.	
RCM Baltic 2011	MS to look into discard sampling program according to WKACCU 2008 guidelines (12 aspects).	Poland will look into discard sampling programme upon request from relevant WG chairs and recommendations

III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Shortfalls described in sections III.E.1 were unavoidable do to changes in the fishing pattern in 2011 as compared to previous years. Sampling scheme needs to be adjusted according to fishing spatial and temporal distribution.

North Sea and Eastern Arctic

III E 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

No data collected in 2011 under the NP – see comments provided in the Section III C – North Sea & Eastern Arctic.

Apart from the sampling planned within the NP 2011, on the basis of a contract with fishing operator, NMFRI placed observers on the Polish vessel engaged in the following fishery in the NS&EA region:

- fishing for Saithe (*Pollachius virens*) in ICES div. IVa in February/March 2011. In total, 9182 fish were measured for length and 649 fish were sampled for age. The catch at age and biological data were provided to ICES Working Group on the Assessment of Demersal Stocks in the North Sea and Skagerrak (WGNSSK)
- and Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*) and cod (*Gadus morhua*) in ICES div. IIb in March 2011. In total 5136 fish were measured for length and 288 fish were sampled for age regarding Greenland Halibut and 3489 fish were measured for length and 163 fish were sampled for age regarding cod. The catch at age and biological data were provided to ICES Arctic Fisheries Working Group (AFWG)

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

No data collected under the DCF.

III E 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

RCM NS & EA 2011	The RCM NS&EA recommends that that all MS respond to the data call in 2012 from the chair of RCM NS&EA and load their data to FishFrame or make it available in the FishFrame format. This data call will include Commercial Landings(CL), Commercail Effort (CE) and Commerical Samples (CS) records for 2010 and 2011.	Recommendation will be followed in the future if the Polish fishery and data collection resume in the area concerned. Data that Poland has for previous years will be uploaded to FishFrame upon request from the RCM NS&EA
RCM NS & EA 2011	Sampling for ages and the construction of ALK should follow sound statistical sampling practices set out according to WKPRECISE. Greater emphasis should be placed on the collection of age samples for species subject to age based stock assessments as the collection of length frequency data not linked to age samples may be of limited benefit in improving bias and precision estimates for numbers at age. Databases structures should allow storage of linked age and length samples. Collection regulations should not encourage the collection of length only data at the expense of age sampling for species subject to age based assessments.	Recommendation noted for implementation. Poland will follow recommendation if and when the Polish fishery and data collection resume.
RCM NS & EA 2011	The RCM NS&EA recommends that the task sharing species are investigating by MS participating in current age reading programs and decide whether task sharing is desirable or possible for the future.	Recommendation noted but not addressed directly to Poland.

III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No action required.

Other regions – CECAF area (Morocco to Guinea)

III E 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

During one trip sampled in CECAF area in 2011, stock-based variables were collected for Horse mackerel (*Trachurus trachurus*) and for Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*).

With regard to Horse mackerel species (*Trachurus trachurus*), 646 fish were sampled for age related variables (i.e. length@age, weight@age and sex-ratio@age) as compared to 300 fish planned to sample – which gives the % achievement of 215%. The excess sampling resulted from increased sampling capacity - as the duration of the trip actually sampled was shorter than originally planned, NMFRI sent two observers to sample the Polish fishery in CECAF area (instead of one observer as originally planned). The reason behind it is that in 2010 sampling effort was moved from CECAF area to newly emerging fishery in the South Pacific area (see AR 2010) and, as a result, no sampling took place in CECAF area. Additionally, the RCM LDF 2010 recommended that all MS involved in industrial small pelagic fishery in “From Morocco to Guinea Bissau” fishing ground shall ensure good sampling coverage for the landings and discards.

With regard to Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), 381 fish were sampled for age related variables as compared to 300 fish planned to sample – which gives the % achievement of 127%.

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

As the age of fish sampled was not available yet at the time of preparation of AR, the accuracy indicators (CV) could not be calculated.

III E 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

RCM LDF 2011	In the absence of a maturity scale for CECAF stocks, the RCM-LDF recommends for the time being to use the maturity scale established in the ICES WKSPMAT 2008 Workshop.	Recommendation is followed (within the frame of joint observer program)
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III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Action was taken internally to avoid the situation that data are not available on time to calculate CV values. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in 2011a multilateral agreement on joint sampling program in the area concerned was signed (in force from 2012) – the program is led and coordinated by the Netherlands (Annex V)

Other regions – SPRMFO area (South Eastern Pacific)

III E 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

During one trip sampled in SPRMFO area in 2011, stock-based variables were collected for Chilean jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*) and for Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*).

With regard to Chilean jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*), 350 fish were sampled for age related variables (i.e. length@age, weight@age and sex-ratio@age) as compared to 300 fish planned to sample – which gives the % sampling achievement of 117%. .

With regard to Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), only 77 fish were sampled for age related variables as compared to 100 fish planned to sample – which gives the % sampling achievement of 77%. The shortfall in length sampling was a result of very low by-catches of Chub mackerel in 2011 in the fishery targeting the Chilean jack mackerel.

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

As the age of fish sampled was not available yet at the time of preparation of AR, the accuracy indicators (CV) could not be calculated.

III E 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

There were no RCM recommendations related to sampling in SPRMFO area.

III E 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No action required.

III F Transversal variables

III F 1 Capacity

III F 1 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Data originated from the national register of fishing vessels. Assigning a given vessel to a segment of the fleet was based on information derived from fishing logbooks. The data were collected from all active vessels (those which performed catches on at least one day per year) as well as from inactive vessels (those which do not conduct catches, but were registered).

III F 1 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

The data were collected for the entire population; there is no need for data sampling.

III F 1 3 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Not applicable

III F 2 Effort

III F 2 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Effort data were collected from vessel register, logbooks or monthly catch declarations in case of vessels less than 8 meter length. Some assumption had to be made in order to calculate soaking time. 2011 logbook and monthly catch declarations data on fishing time (unavailable for earlier years) were used to recalculate soaking time for years 2008-2010 and to produce 2011 values. Since logbooks information about fishing time seemed to be useless for calculation of soaking time (missing information about soaking time), the parameter was calculated based on data derived from monthly catch reports of vessels less than 8 meters of LOA. This group of vessels usually reports actual time that fishing gear spent in water. An average soaking time per trip was calculated for this group of vessels and extrapolated to other vessels using information about their total number of trips.

III F 2 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

All effort data are based on census information.

III F 2 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No such recommendations

III.F.3 Landings

III.F.3.1 Achievements: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Information were gathered from entire population. As mentioned earlier due to confidentiality reasons some of the transversal variables, i.e. value of landings and prices by commercial species, could not be reported for “Other regions” where small number of vessels (4 units) operates (these data were actually collected). Data about landing value for smaller vessels (less than 8 meters) were estimated based on price information available from other vessels. Volume of landings of the vessels below 8 meters was taken from monthly catch reports submitted to FMC (census data).

III.F.3.2 Data quality: Results and deviation from NP proposal

Data for value of landings was produced for entire population (100%) using sales notes information. If value was missing for some vessels belonging to different segments it was estimated on the basis of average prices of similar group of vessels taking into account seasonal price variability. This relates to about 17% of total landings from Baltic Sea or 64% of vessels using passive gears 00-<10 meters length (Figure 1. III F). Available information about prices for different species were sufficient to estimate missing values (Figure 2. III F).

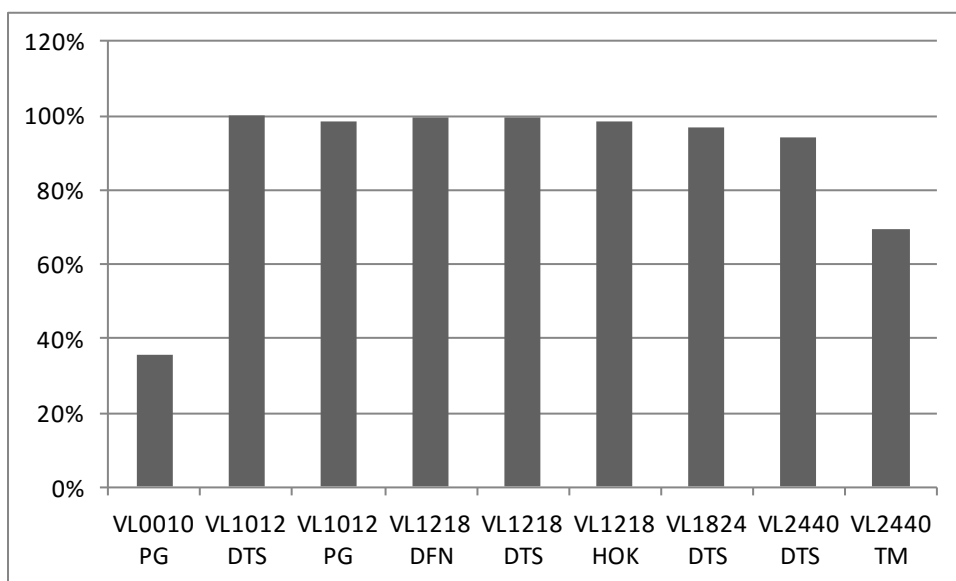


Figure 1. III F. Volume of landings with known landed value by fleet segment, 2010.

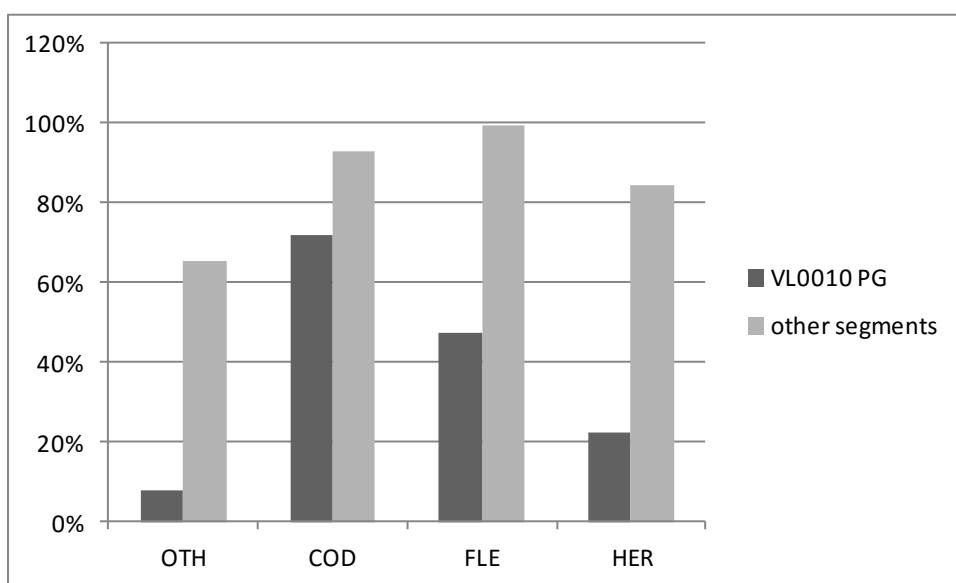


Figure 2. III F. Relation of landings with known value to total landings, by species and segments.

III.F.3.3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No such recommendations

III.F.3.4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

100% information is collected on volume of landings. Having landings volume it is possible to estimate value very precisely. An average fish prices from similar vessel size are taken to make the estimation.

III G Research surveys at sea

The following research cruises, which have the priority 1, were conducted in 2011 within the Polish EEZ, on the r/v "Baltica", by the National Marine Fisheries Research Institute in Gdynia:

- the bottom-trawl survey (BITS-1Q), marked with the number 3/2011/MIR, was accomplished in the period of 14.02-01.03.2011, within the framework of the Baltic International Trawl Surveys long-term programme,
- the acoustic and pelagic-trawl survey (BIAS), marked with the number 13/2011/MIR-PIB, was realised in the period of 19.09-06.10.2011, within the framework of the Baltic International Acoustic Surveys long-term programme,
- the bottom-trawl survey (BITS-4Q), marked with the number 17/2011/MIR, was conducted in the period of 19-30.11.2011, within the framework of the Baltic International Trawl Surveys long-term programme,

The principal methods of investigations, timing of the BITS and BIAS surveys and the scheme of randomly selected control-hauls spatial distribution in the bottom zone of the Baltic were designed and co-ordinated by the ICES Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group [WGBIFS] (Anon. 2011, 2011).

III G 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

• **BITS-1Q/2011 survey:** all from 16-planned working days at sea were utilized for fulfilling the survey purposes. According to the WGBIFS plans, the Polish vessel was recommended to cover parts of the ICES Sub-divisions 25 and 26, with 26 and 13 randomly selected bottom control-hauls respectively. The r.v. "Baltica" realized total of 46 catch-stations. All control-hauls assigned to the r.v. "Baltica" were realised and can be accepted as representative from a technical point of view (Fig. 1). Trawling was done with the standard rigging bottom trawl type TV-3#930 (without bobbins and additional chains connected with the footrope), with 10-mm mesh bar length in the codend. The length distribution and the mean mass at the 0.5 cm classes in the case of clupeids and at 1cm classes in the case of other species were determined. Overall, 9965 cod, 6086 herring, 5799 sprat, 1495 flounder and 422 plaice were taken for the length and mass determination. The very same number of specimens per species was visually inspected for determination the symptoms of different pathological changes, visible on the skin surface and in the vertebral column. Moreover, 75 cod livers, 90 alimentary canals and 90 samples of cod tissues as well as 12 samples of turbot tissues and alimentary canals were collected for physiological study of various parasites infestation. Total of 495, 538, 554, 355 and 160 individuals of the above-mentioned species were sampled for age. Materials collected during fish length measurements were used for the evaluation of juvenile, undersized specimens' numerical share in each sample. Furthermore, 25 and 37 samples, of herring and sprat gonads respectively (photographically documented) were collected for histological analyses and for intercalibration of fish maturity staging determination, planned in June 2011 at the ICES Workshop on Sexual Maturity Staging of Herring and Sprat [WKMSHS]. Every control-haul was preceded by the basic hydrological parameters measurements made continuously from the sea surface to a bottom. Overall, 63 hydrological stations (including hydrographic standard stations) were inspected. For more survey's details see: Trella, K., W. Grygiel and T. Wodzinowski 2011. *Research report from the Baltic International Trawl Survey (BITS-Q1/2011) in the Polish EEZ (14.02.-01.03.2011). Working paper on*

the WGBIFS meeting in Kaliningrad (Russia); 21-25.03.2011; [in:] ICES CM 2011/SSGESST:05, REF. SCICOM, WGISUR, ACOM; Annex 9; 348-363.

• **BITS-4Q/2011 survey:** overall, 12-planned working days at sea were utilized for fulfilling the survey goals. The r/v “Baltica” was recommended to cover parts of the ICES Sub-divisions 25 and 26 with 17 and 14 randomly selected control-hauls respectively. Totally, 28 representative catch-stations were realized (Fig. 2). Two other control-hauls can be considered as not representative, because of partly damaged net and due to low (0.48 ml/l) oxygen content in the bottom zone. Trawling was done with the standard rigging, cod bottom trawl type TV-3#930. Following numbers of fish were taken for the length and mass determination (the numbers of representative samples measured are given in the parenthesis):

- cod – 4501 (21),
- herring – 5211 (27),
- sprat – 4023 (22),
- flounder – 790 (8),
- plaice – 200 (3),
- turbot – 6 (1),
- greater sand eel – 314 (3),
- single specimens from remaining species.

The very same number of specimens per species (excl. turbot and greater sand eel) was visually inspected for determination the symptoms of different pathological changes, visible on the skin surface and in the vertebral column. Materials collected during fish length measurements were used for an evaluation of the juvenile, undersized specimens’ numerical share in samples. In total 448 cod, 956 herring, 300 sprat, 295 flounder, 125 plaice and 6 turbot individuals were taken to the standard biological analyses, including ageing. Total of 105 samples of livers, stomachs and muscles tissue from large (>38 cm total length) cod, fished in the western, middle and eastern parts of the Polish waters were collected for the pilot study of Baltic gadoids infestation by parasite fauna. The seawater temperature and salinity were measured in the whole water column at 27 fish catch-stations and two additional standard hydrographic stations, and oxygen content was determined at 25 stations. For more survey’s details see: *Grygiel, W. and B. Witalis 2012. Research report from the Polish Baltic International Trawl Survey (BITS-4Q/2011) in the southern Baltic (19-30 November 2011). Working paper on the WGBIFS meeting in Helsinki (Finland); 26-30.03.2012.*

• **BIAS/2011 survey:** 18 working days were utilized for the realization of survey goals, and 32 fish catch-stations with the use of herring small-meshes pelagic trawl type WP 53/64x4 were conducted (30 control-catches were planned) in the Polish parts of the ICES SDs 24, 25 and 26 (Fig. 3). On the beginning of survey (20.09.2011), nearby the Swedish Högö Island, the calibration of the EK-60 SIMRAD scientific split beam echosounder (38 and 120 kHz), applied on the r/v “Baltica” for routine acoustic monitoring was realised additional task, was performed. The distance covered with echosounding was 912 NM (901 NM were planned), what reflect echointegration data from 7643.7 NM² area of the Polish waters. In total, 66 hydrological stations were inspected (47 stations were planned) within the Polish EEZ and one additional hydrological station was made nearby the coast of Högö Island (Sweden), at the place selected for the echosounder calibration. Overall, length and mass was measured for 4928 sprats, 7199 herrings and 562 cods. Whole materials examined for fish length distribution were also used for determination of the numerical share of externally visible diseases. In total, 492 individuals of sprat, 1222 of herring and 332 of cod were biologically analysed (age, sex, maturity, stomach fullness). For more survey’s details see: *Wyszyński, M., T. Łączkowski, T. Wodzinowski 2011. Badania akustyczne zasobów ryb śledziowatych w polskich obszarach morskich*

III G 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

Primary BITS and BIAS surveys data collected by the NMFRI in Gdynia are stored in a local fish samples database and are regularly submitted to the internationally co-ordinated databases (BAD1, TowDatabase, ROSCOP, DATRAS, FishFrame). Relevant ICES Working Groups use aggregated data annually. The surveys data were submitted to the ICES Baltic International Fish Surveys Working Group (WGBIFS) for the analysis and the compiled data were provided to the Baltic Fisheries Assessment Working Group (WGBFAS) for the assessment of the Baltic fish stocks (cod, flounder, herring, sprat).

Most of the surveys data were successfully uploaded to ICES databases, and have been checked positively.

III G 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

No specific RCMs recommendations applicable to the research surveys at sea

III G 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

No shortfalls were experienced. The percentage of achieved number of stations slightly exceeded planned activities in both the BITS-1Q and BIAS surveys – this was a result of favourable wind and weather conditions during the surveys allowing for more station to be surveyed during the daytime.

IV Module of the evaluation of the economic situation of the aquaculture and processing industry

IV A Collection of data concerning the aquaculture

The Polish aquaculture sector includes approximately 1000 land-based farms. In 2010 the total volume of aquaculture production for consumption was 30.8 thousand tons. Of this, there were 15.4 thousand tons of carp, 12.9 thousand tons of trout, and 2.4 thousand tons of other species. Around 700 carp farms are located all over the country but the larger facilities are located in central and southern Poland where climatic conditions are warmer and thus more advantageous. Approximately 170 trout farms are located in the north on the Baltic Sea coast and in southern Poland in the Carpathian foothills in rich terrain with clear, cool waters. Most of aquaculture farms produce more than one species, mainly grass carp, silver carp, bighead carp, crucian carp, pike, European catfish, tench and sturgeon. In addition to the production of fish for consumption, Polish aquaculture produced stocking material for migratory (anadromous), rheophilic and predatory fish. This material was used to stock open waters, exploited by the Polish Angling Association and other leaseholders, the Baltic Sea and rivers. The target population for collecting economic data was only fish farms that produced Atlantic salmon

stocking material and cooperate with the Panel for Restocking appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.

IV A 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

All economic variables concerning the aquaculture as set out in Appendix X of Commission Decision of 18 December 2009 (2010/93/EU 2008) were collected through questionnaires returned by fish farm owners:

- Income:
 - Turnover -per species;
 - Subsidies;
 - Other income.
- Personnel costs:
 - Wages and salaries, including social security costs;
 - Imputed value of unpaid labour
- Energy costs
- Raw material costs
 - Livestock costs
 - Feed costs
- Repair and maintenance costs
- Other operational costs including packaging costs.
- Capital costs
 - Depreciation of capital
 - Financial costs
- To calculate extraordinary costs net,
 - Extraordinary profits
 - Extraordinary losses
- Capital value - total value of fixed and current assets at the end of the year.
- To calculate net Investments
 - purchase of assets during the year;
 - sale of assets during the year
- Debt - all business liabilities, including credits and loans at the end of the fiscal year.
- Raw material volume in tones
 - Livestock
 - Fish Feed
- Volume of sales per species in tones.
- Employment:
 - number of persons employed by gender ;
 - annual worked time in hours, by gender, to calculate FTE based on the Polish reference level for FTE in the reference year.

IV A 2 Data quality: results and deviation from NP proposal

The target population was all fish farms that breed and rear Atlantic salmon fry and cooperate with the Panel for Restocking appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to stocking Polish marine areas and the maintenance and conservation of diadromous fishes in the surface inland waters. In 2010, there were five such farms that breed and rear Atlantic salmon fry and all of them responded to the survey.

IV A 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

NA

IV A 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

In order to increase the response rate more attention had been given to the collection of questionnaires with follow up calls and reminder letters.

IV B Collection of data concerning the processing industry

IV B 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

All information requested in Appendix XII of Commission Decision of 18 December 2009 (2010/93/EU 2008) were collected through questionnaires returned by fish processing plants owners.

Following information were collected:

- Income:
 - Turnover
 - Subsidies - includes direct payments. Excludes social benefit payments and indirect subsidies.
 - Other income
- Personnel costs:
 - Wages and salaries, including social security costs
 - Imputed value of unpaid labour – in small processing firms a profit will be calculated as the imputed value of unpaid labour of the owner
- Energy costs – expenses for electricity, water, heating, fuel, and gases
- Raw material costs - purchase of fish and other raw material for production
- Other operational costs, including packaging costs, contracted services (such as cleaning fish, transportation, storage, waste removal, etc.), incurred costs such as property and vehicle taxes, property insurance, replacing used work garments, etc.
- Capital costs
 - Depreciation of capital - depreciation of fixed assets and intangible fixed assets were calculated in accordance with annual depreciation rates listed in Appendix 1 of Law of 9 November 2000 to amend the Income Tax Act of individuals and amending certain other laws
 - Financial costs
- Extraordinary costs, net (extraordinary profit from the financial impact of random events that are difficult to predict- extraordinary expenses such as negative financial impact of random events that are difficult to predict).
- Capital value - total value of fixed and current assets at the end of the year.
- Net Investments - purchase and sale of assets during the year.
- Debt - all business liabilities, including credits and loans at the end of the fiscal year.
- Employment
 - average number of persons employed by gender.

- annual worked time in hours, by gender, to calculate FTE based on the Polish reference level for FTE in the reference year. In Poland the full-time basis is regulated in the Labour Law and in general cannot exceed 8 hours per day, which gives of 2024 hours in 2010 year.

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

The target population was 227 fish processing plants under NACE Code 10.20: "Processing and preserving of fish, crustaceans and mollusks" authorized to sell their products on national and EU market, recorded in the Polish veterinary registry . It was assumed to collect questionnaires from all fish processing companies (there is a legal obligation for the companies to fill them according to the regulation of June 29, 1995 on public statistics (Journal of Laws. No. 88, pos. 439, with later amendments). A 75% response rate was achieved. However, since all major players were included, this gives information on almost entire fish processing production in Poland. All questionnaires were verified for consistency, and only information received from verified questionnaires was used to carry out the analysis of the economic results of fish processing.

Economic information was also collected from companies that carry out fish processing but not as a main activity.

IV B 3 Follow-up of Regional and international recommendations

Not relevant

IV B 4 Actions to avoid shortfalls

In order to increase the response rate more attention were given to the collection of questionnaires with follow up calls and reminder letters.

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

V 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Fisheries independent research survey data collected in 2011 during three surveys called BITS1q, BIAS and BITS4q. Data collected during surveys included data related to four DCF indicators describing the effects of fisheries on the marine ecosystem (conservation status of fish species, proportion of large fish, mean maximum length of fishes and size at maturation of exploited fish species).

VMS data and catch data were collected directly from the national Fishery Monitoring Centre (CMR). In order to combine these data with data collected under DCF, the VMS and catch data were converted, on a trial basis, to relevant exchange formats *tacsat* and *eflalo* and uploaded to the Polish DCF database (NPZDRpl). The data formats conversion process in order to achieve compatibility with Polish DCF data base requires further development.

V 2 Actions to avoid shortfalls

NA

VI Module for management and use of the data

VI 1 Achievements: results and deviation from NP proposal

Poland prepared data sets for ICES assessment working groups for Baltic and Atlantic stocks. Poland delivered the requested data to the SGRN/STECF expert group and UE projects. Poland updated international databases like DATRAS, FISHFRAME, BAD1.

Poland delivered data in a spectrum that included: effort; quantities landed; quantities discarded; some CPUE data; survey data; length composition of landings; age composition of landings; length composition of discards; age composition of discards; growth; sexual maturity; sex ratios; economic data for the fleets; economic data for the fish processing industry.

In 2011 development of the our database “NPZDRpl” included: update of DATRAS database software (procedure for automatic calculating Day/Night and default settings for many parameters, new WoRMS fish codes), changes in old harbour codes to new coding system introduced by UE ERS reporting system, create VMS database for 2011 in original format and TACSAT2 format, create experimental universal catch database in EFLALO2 format, and finally establish new national catch database since 2011 from state ERS system and in the same time update old catch series since 2006 by current year catch data.

Polish DCF website is currently under development and temporary web address is <http://piotrpotega.nazwa.pl/dcf>

VI 2 Actions to avoid shortfalls

Poland experienced difficulties with up-loading data to FishFrame due to problems i.a. with data format conversion and therefore, modification of national data base is required. Relevant arrangement were made related to data base development.

VII Follow-up of STECF recommendations

STECF	Recommendation	Follow-up
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends that information and description of the method/software used for calculation of CV's should be included (or referred to) in the AR if not provided in NP	Recommendation followed
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends for the AR tables, Table II.B.1 (list of eligible meetings) that is provided by the Commission should be used and all meetings and not only the meetings attended should be provided.	Recommendation followed
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends that Tables III.C.1 and III.C.2 and III E 1 should not to be deleted from the AR. Maintaining the tables is what is expected. This should be included in the revision of the AR guidelines.	Recommendation observed
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends that MS set-up a website on their data collection. They are obliged (by DCF regulation) to do so. No MS mentioned or referenced in the AR to such websites.	The website on data collection is under preparation
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends that in cases that a research vessels is not available for carrying out a contribution to a DCF survey, that MS in question should demonstrate that it made all necessary efforts to carry out the survey. MS must make provisions so that such problems do not happen e.g. seek assistance from other MS or charter a vessel).	Recommendation noted
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends that for the calculation of Capital value, all MS shall use PIM (Perpetual Inventory Method) in the future. A Workshop has already explained the method (DCF Workshop on Capital Valuation, Naples, June 2011). MS should use this report in next AR. Also explore the need for a Training Workshop. This Report should be made available on the on DCF WEB site.	Recommendation noted and partly followed. Method of capital value calculation is provided in AR.
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends that files with filters, hidden cells, track changes, coloured cells etc. should not be submitted in AR.	Recommendation followed
2011	EWG 11-08 recommends that non conformities in the tables of the AR needs to be explained in the text.	Recommendation followed
2011	EWG 11-18 recommends not to address DCF data quality requirements for data which is mandatory to be collected under a different EU legislation	Recommendation already taken into account

SGRN 10-01	Some member states plan to sample data on stock-level variables for triennial species annually. Others plan a triennial approach. A common approach in the Baltic would be desirable. In many cases collection of annual data does not cause remarkable extra costs, since métier-level variables are sampled anyway. Task for RCM to decide? SGRN recommend that MS follow the RCM recommendations.	Poland has followed the discussion
SGRN 10-01	Overall the MSs need to provide more detailed information on the methods used to collect and analyze economic variables which are not clearly defined in the commission decision (capital value and costs, value of quotas and fishing rights, FTE national, imputed value of unpaid labor and fuel efficiency of fish capture).	Poland participated in workshop organized to clarify these variables and provided appropriate information.
SGRN 10-01	Overall most of the MSs need to provide more detailed information and description about the methodologies applied in the estimation process of the economic variables, the methods used to provide measures to assess data quality	Poland participated in workshop organized to clarify these issues and provided appropriate information. Methods used to assess data quality are provided in data quality chapters.
SGRN 10-01	Overall most MSs did not provide information for inactive vessels. SGRN invites the MSs to provide information on inactive vessels in the NPs.	More detailed information was provide AR.
SGRN 2010-02	Relevant MS to attend the RCM LDF in future if the corresponding MS has a long-distance fishery in “Other regions” and to be equipped with the necessary data, background information and mandate to take decisions.	Poland is attending RCM LDF

VIII List of acronyms and abbreviations

Acronyms and abbreviations	Names
ICES	INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEA
FishFrame	Fisheries & Stock Assessment Data Framework,
ROSCOP	Report of Observations/Samples collected by Oceanographic Programmes
DATRAS	DATabase of TRAwl Surveys
BAD2	Hydroacoustic database survey
TowDatabase	Database for trawl station
WGBFAS	Working group for international research surveys in Baltic
BITS	Baltic International Trawl Surveys
BIAS	Baltic International Acoustic Surveys
RCM	Regional Co-ordination Meeting
LDF	Long Distant Fleet
SPRFMO	South Pacific Regional Fishery Management Organization
CECAF	Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic Fishery
SD	Sub-division
WKSMRF	Workshop on Sampling Methods for Recreational Fisheries
NP	National Programme
NMFRI	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
OTB,PTB,MTB,LLK,etc	Fishing gear

IX Comments, suggestions and reflections

X References

- ICES Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group [WGBIFS] (Anon. 2011, 2011).
- Trella, K., W. Grygiel and T. Wodzinowski 2011. Research report from the Baltic International Trawl Survey (BITS-Q1/2011) in the Polish EEZ (14.02.-01.03.2011). Working paper on the WGBIFS meeting in Kaliningrad (Russia); 21-25.03.2011; [in:] ICES CM 2011/SSGESST:05, REF. SCICOM, WGISUR, ACOM; Annex 9; 348-363.
- Grygiel, W. and B. Witalis 2012. Research report from the Polish Baltic International Trawl Survey (BITS-4Q/2011) in the southern Baltic (19-30 November 2011). Working paper on the WGBIFS meeting in Helsinki (Finland); 26-30.03.2012.
- Wyszynski, M., T. Łączkowski, T. Wodzinowski 2011. Badania akustyczne zasobów ryb śledziowatych w polskich obszarach morskich Bałtyku. Raport z rejsu typu BIAS na r.v. „Baltica” we wrześniu-październiku 2011 r., Mor. Inst. Ryb., Gdynia, mimeo, 34 pp.

XI Annexes

Annex I, II r/v “Baltica” research surveys map

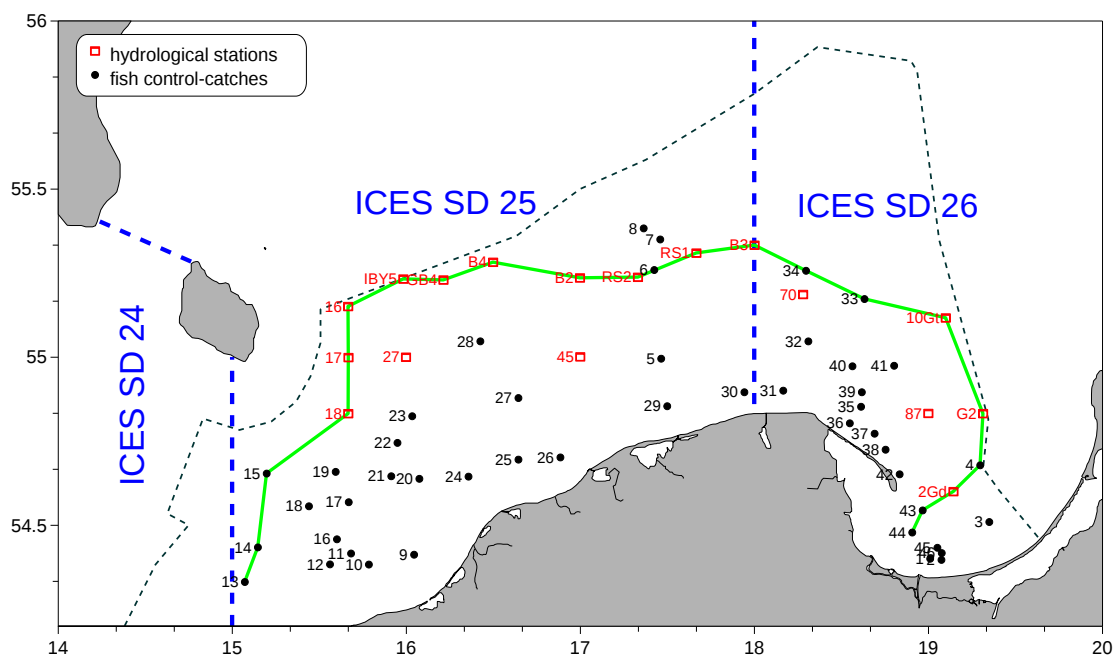


Figure 1. Location of the fish control-catches, hydrological stations (both, the standard stations and connected with hauls starting position) and hydrological research profile (green line) determined within the Polish EEZ (black dashed line) during the r.v. “Baltica” BITS-Q1/2011 survey.

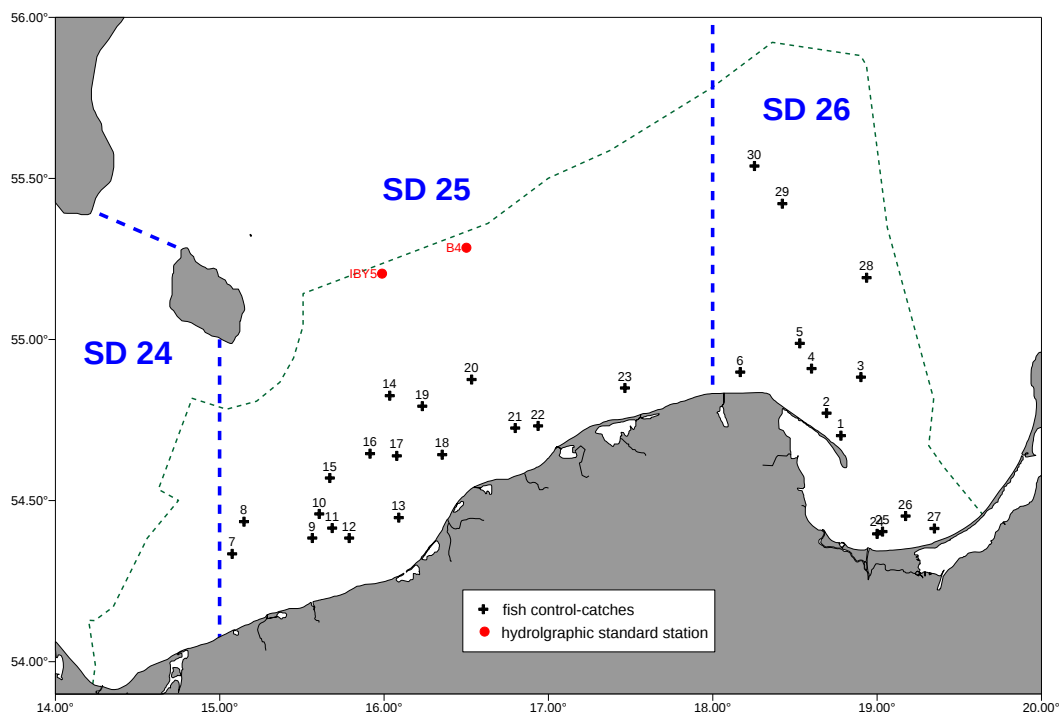


Figure 2. Location of the fish control-catches (points Nos. 1-30) and the hydrological stations (both, connected with the hauls starting position and the standard hydrographic stations) in the Polish EEZ (the r.v. “Baltica” BITS-Q4 survey; November 2011).

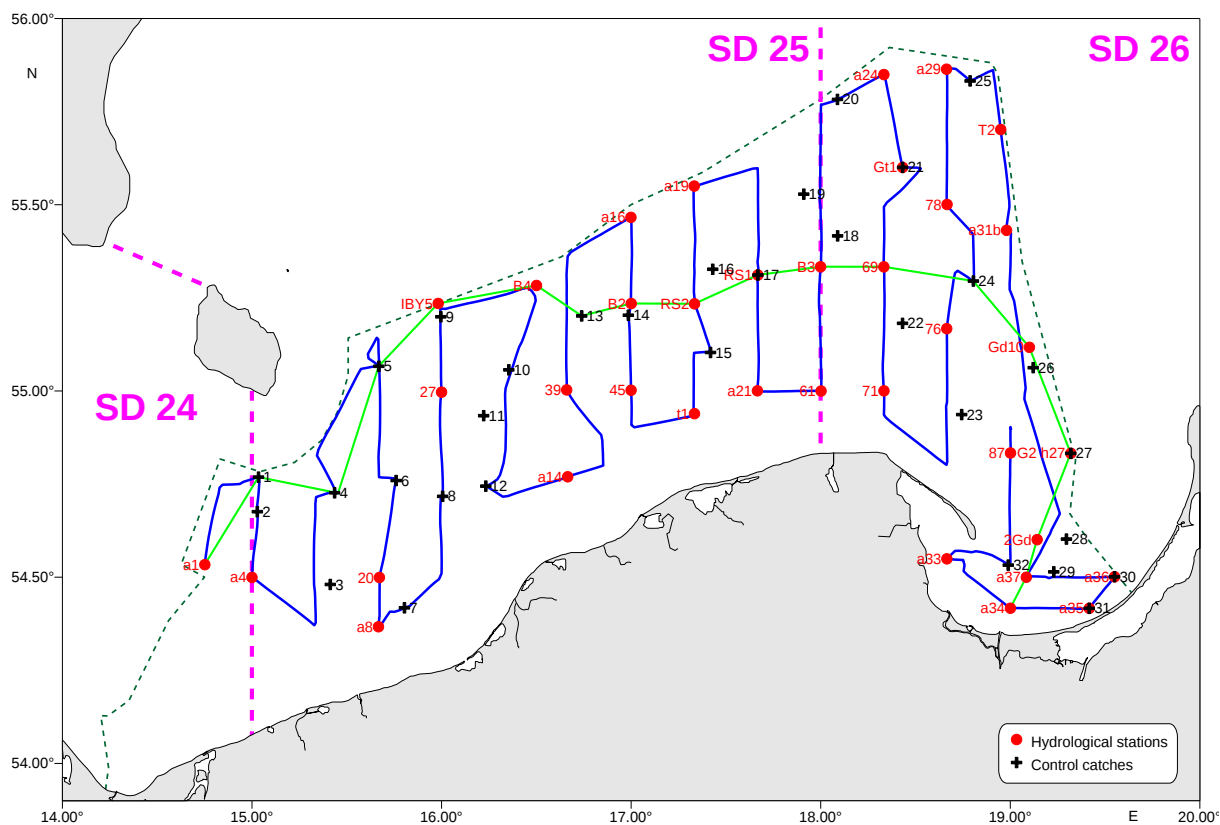


Figure 3. Location of the acoustic transects (blue continuous line) and the pelagic trawl control-catches linked with the hydrological stations (black cross N° 1-30) and the additional standard hydrographical stations (red bullets) inspected in September-October 2011 by the r.v. "Baltica" along determined the research profile (light green line) within the Polish EEZ (black dashed line).

ANNEX III

Ref. Ares(2011)977551 - 15/09/2011



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

ATLANTIC, OUTERMOST REGIONS AND ARCTIC

STRUCTURAL ACTIONS: IRELAND, SPAIN, FRANCE, PORTUGAL AND UNITED KINGDOM;
HORIZONTAL MANAGEMENT OF DATA COLLECTION

Brussels,
MARE C3/IG/AK Ares(2011)

NOTE TO NATIONAL CORRESPONDENTS UNDER THE DATA COLLECTION FRAMEWORK

Subject: International Coordination: Update to the list of meetings eligible for support in 2011

Dear National Correspondent,

On 03.11.2010, DG MARE sent you a letter (ref. ARES(2010)767333) attaching the list of meetings considered eligible for financial EU support for the experts' participation in 2011. We wanted to inform you that the 8th Liaison Meeting between the Chairs of the RCMs, the chair of ICES PGCCDBS, the chair of PGMED, the ICES representative, the Chairs of SGRN and SGECA and the European Commission has been added to this list.

You will find an updated list of 2011 eligible meetings attached.

Yours faithfully,

Isabelle GARZON
Head of Unit

Enclosure: Updated list of Eligible Meetings 2011

c.c.: Data Collection Team

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22931111
Tel. direct line +32 229+322295162 - Fax +32 229+3222950361

ANNEX IV

Bilateral Agreement between University of Agricultural Science (SLU), Institute of Marine Research Sweden and National Marine Fisheries Research Institute Poland 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

This agreement has been established between Poland and Sweden due to landings of sprat by Polish flagged vessels take place in Sweden in an amount that it has to be dealt with in a form of bilateral agreement (RCM Baltic 2011).

Agreement:

While sprat in the Baltic is managed as one single stock and that the stock is well covered concerning biological samples, vessels fishing under the Polish register, which land for first sale into Sweden, will be sampled as part of the Polish National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008).

Description of sampling:

The sampling will be for length and age of discards and landings, sampling will be carried out in accordance with the Polish National Sampling Programme.

Data responsibility:

Sweden is responsible for submitting the data from Swedish vessels, and Poland in the case of sampling Polish vessels, to the relevant ICES Expert Groups, and to the EC under the requirements of Data Collection Framework. Both Member States will provide the required data for the species that are requested by the relevant ICES Expert Groups as and when requested.

Contact persons:

In Sweden (SLU): Maria Hansson: maria.hansson@slu.se

In Poland (NMFR): Irenek Wójcik: iwojcik@mir.gdynia.pl

Signatures:

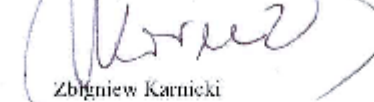
For Sweden (SLU)



Maria Hansson

National Correspondent, Sweden

For Poland (NMFR)



Zbigniew Karnicki

National Correspondent, Poland

Date: 1 okt 2011

ANNEX V

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	L. Woick

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.

Contributor	Share catches (2006-2010)	Contribution	Amount (C/year)
Netherlands	30,53%	30,53% of 32,384	9,887
Germany	3,76%	3,76% of 32,384	1,224
Poland	6,07%	6,07% of 32,384	1,966
Lithuania	32,67%	32,67% of 32,384	10,579
Latvia	26,95%	26,95% of 32,384	8,728
Subtotal partners			32,384
EU (through DCF)	-	50% of 64,768	32,384
Total contribution			64,768

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

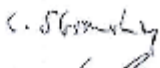
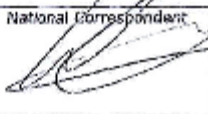
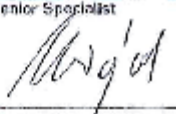
Access to vessels

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

Term

This agreement commences on January 1, 2012. With exception of financial obligations, this agreement ends on December 31, 2013. This agreement, with exception of financial obligations, is subject to dissolve prior to this date in case the pelagic fishery in the CECAF area by EU vessels closes. Eventual remaining contributions will be pro rata reimbursed to Partners.

Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: 23/06/2011 
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: 23/06/11 
Latvia	<NAAM>	<FUNCTION>	Date: _____
Lithuania	<NAAM>	<FUNCTION>	Date: _____
Poland	Ironeusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: 23/06/11 

Contributor	Share catches (2006-2010)	Contribution	Amount (€/year)
Netherlands	30,53%	30,53% of 32,384	9,887
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Subtotal partners			32,384
EU (through DCF)	-	50% of 64,768	32,384
Total contribution			64,768

*Latvia performs the payment if the necessary financing is available

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Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: _____
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: _____
Latvia	Georgs Kornilovs	National Correspondent	Date: 30.06.2011. <i>G. Kornilovs</i>
Lithuania			Date: _____
Poland	Ireneusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: _____

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Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-23
The Netherlands	Dirkjan van der Stelt	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-23
Latvia	Georgs Kornilovs	National Correspondent	Date: 2011-06-30
Lithuania	Vytautas Grušauskas	Director	Date:  2011-09-12
Poland	Ironiusz Wojcik	Senior Specialist	Date: 2011-06-23