

2024- RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic

Terms of Reference

- 1. Propose ways to improve the alignment between data collection and end-user needs (by region)**
 - Define end-user needs and assess how they are met by current and future data collection.
 - Define and suggest mechanisms for communication and implementation of end-user needs.
 - Feedback from ICES end-user groups and RCG feedback on their recommendation.
 - Improve regional cooperation for small-scale fisheries and assessing effects on the ecosystem.
 - Formulate recommendation(s) for revision of EU-MAP to ensure that it is in line with end-user needs.

- 2. Implement and maintain data quality in data collection**
 - Assess the documentation of data quality procedures.
 - Update on fisheries overview and sampling overview.
 - Update on the development of RDB and RDBES.
 - Review the outcome of regional-orientated projects and other groups.
 - Develop a strategy for the implementation of electronic data capture (REM).

- 3. Review the impact of management measures on data collection**

- 4. Development and implementation of Regional Work Plans**
 - Identify and propose potential regional work plans.
 - Review and evaluate the outcome of regional-orientated projects to identify templates, content, and actions to incorporate into the regional work plan.
 - Optimize the use of surveys: efficiency, multi-purpose & task sharing decisions and actions to be taken.

- 5. Propose ways to improve regional coordination and feedback on regional issues**
 - Review and evaluate the outcome of regional-orientated projects.
 - Develop & adopt tools and working procedures for more effective regional cooperation and coordination.

- 6. Support of ToRs**
 - Promote the publication of findings, likely in the form of peer-reviewed publication (e.g. CRR) that documents the development of methodologies in the field of regional coordination & data collection and the state of scientific knowledge on the topic at the end of the 3-year TOR period.
 - Identify pilot studies—decisions and actions to be taken.