

WKing2 – Workshop 2 on innovative fishing gear

2022WK/FRSG[XX] **Workshop 2 on innovative fishing gear** (WKing2), in response to the EU DG-MARE request for ICES advice on the progress and impact that has been made in innovative gear use within EU waters, chaired by Antonello Sala, Italy, and Julia Calderwood, Ireland, will be established and meet **online 23–25 August 2023** to:

- a) Evaluate/endorse the catalogue of gears considered ‘innovative’, including their objectives, technical specificities, and known impacts/benefits (in terms of selectivity and catch efficiency on target and non-target species and environmental impact in terms of benefits for, or negative effects on, marine ecosystems and sensitive habitats);
- b) For innovations ready for deployment, assess the level of uptake of innovative gears by the EU industry (per sea basin and fishery). Investigate what aspects impact the uptake of innovative gears. Depending on data and knowledge availability, assess the impact of finance, user-friendliness, health, and safety. For those innovations which are already taken up, present the results for the fleets;
- c) For those innovations not implemented, discuss the main drivers that prevented their use if known. Where possible, include analysis of the socio-economic trade-offs and propose ways to facilitate their implementation;
- d) Produce a report detailing the process taken and presenting the results;
- e) Draft a summary advice based on the report produced.

A Core Group of members from the ICES Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour (WGFTFB) will work by correspondence to address ToR (a). The Core Group, with input from other experts in the ICES community, will facilitate information collection and discuss the Innovative Gears conceptualization. The Core Group will also collect information on the types of innovative gear that have been used in EU fisheries in recent years.

At the WKing2 meeting, the Core Group will present results for review and deliberate the findings to date. ToRs (b) and (c) will be addressed here. Following this, a report and associated advice will be drafted.

This workshop will be followed up by a meeting between experts and ACOM Leadership.

WKing2 will report by 15 September 2023 for the attention of FRSG, ACOM, and SCICOM.

Supporting information

Priority	High, in response to a specific request from the EU Commission to ICES to prepare the report described in Art. 31.1 of the EC Regulation 2019/1241.
Scientific justification	<p>The EU Commission seeks ICES advice on the progress that has been made, or the impact arising from innovative gear within EU waters. This advice should provide the scientific knowledge basis to assess the benefits for, or negative effects on, marine ecosystems, sensitive habitats and selectivity. The following EU projects should be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discardless (http://www.discardless.eu/);• Minouw (http://minouw-project.eu/);• SmartFishh2020 (https://smartfishh2020.eu/); and• Gearing Up (https://gearingup.eu/). <p>STECF plenary meeting and EWG reports will also be consulted.</p>
Resource requirements	ICES Secretariat support with meeting logistics and advisory process.
Participants	The Core Group is expected to comprise 2 members. Other members of WGFTFB will be consulted. Where relevant, stakeholder (NGO, fishing industry, gear industry) input will be sought during the process. Stakeholders will be invited to the final workshop. DG MARE will also be consulted for feedback on the initial suite of criteria. The requestors should be also engaged in the process through online meetings towards the end of the scoping and final meetings to ensure the product is fit for purpose.
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	Covered by DG MARE special request to ICES.
Linkages to advisory and science committees	ACOM, SCICOM.
Linkages to other groups	EOSG, FRSG, HAPISG, WGFTFB.
Linkages to other organizations	GFCM, EU DG-MARE, STECF.

WKING2 Agenda

23/08 morning session

Meet in plenary few hours to discuss ToRs

Split into two subgroups: social, technology

Technology

Tor (a). Evaluate/endorse the catalogue of gears considered 'innovative'

Social

Tor (c). Discuss the main drivers that prevented the use of the innovations not implemented (if known)

Afternoon session: TBD

24/08 morning session

Meet in plenary to discuss the progress

Social+Technology

Tor (b). Assess the level of uptake of innovations ready for deployment by the EU industry (per sea basin and fishery)

Afternoon session: TBD

25/08 morning session

Meet in plenary to wrap up the work done and coordinate future report tasks

Only the Core group (Social and Technology chairs and experts by invitation)

Meeting Registration: <https://forms.gle/8yP9XSEdYavnxJnM6>