

## Participants



Institute for European Environmental Policy, UK



University of Venice, Department of Environmental Sciences, Italy



Institute for Fisheries Management and Coastal Community Development, Denmark



Institute for Marine Biological Resources, Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, Greece



Fishery Research Service, Scotland



Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer, France



Università di Roma 'La Sapienza', Italy



Institute of Coastal Research, Sweden



Central Institute for Marine Research, Italy



IAMC-CNR Sezione di Mazara del Vallo, Italy



Netherlands Institute for Fisheries Research



Imperial College, Department of Environmental Science and Technology, UK



Sea Fisheries Institute, Poland



AZTI Foundation, Spain



CEFAS Lowestoft Laboratory, UK



IDDRA, France



Danish Institute for Fisheries Research, Denmark



Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute, Finland



Joint Nature Conservation Committee, UK



Estonian Marine Institute, Estonia

## Annual Conferences

Two annual conferences will be held where the most recent research results will be presented and discussed. Policy makers, other stakeholders and experts from outside the EU will also be invited to make presentations. This will provide guidance for further work both within and beyond the project.

One conference will be held in Gdansk, Poland, in September 2005 and the other in Athens, Greece, in March 2006. If you are interested in participating, please contact the project coordinator. Further details are also available at [http://www.ieep.org.uk/research/INDECO/INDECO\\_Home.htm](http://www.ieep.org.uk/research/INDECO/INDECO_Home.htm)

Project Coordination Assistant

James Brown

Institute for European Environmental Policy

28 Queen Anne's Gate

London

SW1H 9AB

Tel: +44 (0)20 7340 2688

[jbrown@ieeplondon.org.uk](mailto:jbrown@ieeplondon.org.uk)

European Commission Contact

Jacques Fuchs

Project Scientific Officer

Directorate General Fish

1049 Brussels

Belgium

[jacques.fuchs@cec.eu.int](mailto:jacques.fuchs@cec.eu.int)



*'Applying indicators to support improved management of European fisheries'*

Specific Targeted Research Project of the Sixth Research Framework Programme of the EU on 'Modernisation and sustainability of fisheries, including aquaculture-based production systems'

Contract no.: 513754

1 December 2004 – 30 November 2006

## Project Purpose

*INDECO seeks to ensure a coherent approach to the development of indicators at EU level, in support of environmental integration within the CFP and internationally.*

Well-designed indicators are a recognised tool to help assess progress towards policy objectives, as well as to provide a basis for adjusting policies and communicating with stakeholders. Ultimately, the use of indicators should promote action to improve management systems in pursuit of policy goals and objectives.

## Objectives

The principal objectives of INDECO are:

1. to identify quantitative indicators for the impact of fishing on the ecosystem state, functioning and dynamics, as well as indicators for socio-economic factors and for the effectiveness of different management measures;
2. to assess the applicability of such indicators; and
3. to develop operational models with a view to establishing the relationship between environmental conditions and fishing activities.

Priority will be given to the impact of fishing on benthic communities, sensitive species and trophic structure. Indicators for measuring the success of a number of other management objectives will also be looked at. All of this will be done within a clear policy framework, using current CFP management objectives as a starting point.

The work is designed and co-ordinated to ensure general applicability across a range of fishery zones, including the Mediterranean, and major habitat types, including sea regions prone to eutrophication.

In summary, the project aims to undertake a review of existing research, synthesise and present the state of the art on fisheries/ environment indicators, identify gaps in the current research, data collection and statistical work, and examine necessary policy and institutional changes needed to fill these gaps. This will be achieved by bringing together key scientific and policy experts, as well as end-users and relevant stakeholders in the EU and other regions of the European Research Area, including those currently less focused on using indicators as a management tool.



*Priority will be given to the impact of fishing on benthic communities, sensitive species and trophic structure.*

## Work Programme

INDECO is undertaken by a consortium of 20 research organisations from 11 EU Member States. They are working under nine different work packages, each of varying scope. The first work package focuses on the policy interface and evaluation of indicators emerging from the project. The following five work packages aim to produce suggestions of indicators, as well as models to underpin some of them. Two annual conferences will also be held as separate work packages, and finally, the task of project co-ordination forms the ninth work package.

Work packages 2-6 can almost be considered mini-projects. They bring together expertise in particular areas, with the work being undertaken parallel in time. The overall co-ordination and the efforts to link this work to the policy framework will therefore be central to the project fulfilling its objectives.

## Project Approach

The project objectives will be achieved by:

- synthesising existing research and analysis from national, EU and international sources;
- using operational models establishing the relationship between fishing activities and changes in the marine environment to underpin some of the ecological indicators;
- identifying data gaps and ways of addressing them; and
- seeking ways of ensuring that agreed indicators are subsequently used in the policy process.