



## ICES Training programme

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) offers courses led by high-profile scientists and instructors. Visit the Training web page: [www.ices.dk/training](http://www.ices.dk/training)

### Introduction to stockassessment.org and SAM

#### Context and level

The course is an introduction to the state-space<sup>1</sup> assessment model SAM and its interface *stockassessment.org*. Focus will be on using the model, controlling the (relative few) configuration options, and on validating the results.

The state-space assessment model (SAM) is an assessment model which is used for several assessments within ICES. The model allows selectivity to evolve gradually over time. It has fewer model parameters than full parametric statistical assessment models, with quantities such as recruitment and fishing mortality modelled as random effects.

The model is associated with an online user interface, which allows easy access to all aspects of the assessment model without installing any programs on the user's local laptop (or mobil device).

#### Course dates

16-17 October 2013

#### Admission and registration

The course is designed for a maximum of 25 participants. The working language is English. The course is intended for people carrying out stock assessments, and participants are expected to be familiar with the basics of age-based stock assessment, for instance from prior experience with VPA, XSA, or statistical catch-at-age models. Prior experience with the R programming language and basic statistical knowledge will be helpful, but is not necessary.

Please register online:

[www.ices.dk/iceswork/training/registration/](http://www.ices.dk/iceswork/training/registration/)

The deadline for the submission of applications is 23 August 2013.



#### Programme

Day		Topic
Wednesday	AM	Introduction to the course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Introduction to model</li> <li>– Data management</li> <li>– Error handling</li> <li>– Collaborating (sharing)</li> <li>– Read in “own” data</li> </ul>
	PM	First run <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Default run</li> <li>– Basic configuration</li> <li>– Run own stock</li> </ul>
Thursday	AM	Results and validation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Basic figures and tables</li> <li>– Adding custom output</li> <li>– Model diagnostic</li> <li>– Model validation</li> <li>– Model comparisons</li> <li>– Case studies</li> </ul>
	PM	Advanced features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Running off-line</li> <li>– Including custom data</li> <li>– Changing the model</li> <li>– Adding options</li> </ul>

The course is built around applied examples, case studies, and hand-on exercises.

Participants are required to bring their own laptops to connect to a local area network.

<sup>1</sup> State space is a statistical approach to estimate both process variability and observation error.

## Instructors

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## Contact ICES Secretariat for more information

Coordinator for Training

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## Fee

The fee for the course is €300<sup>2</sup>. This covers only tuition fee.

## Venue

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

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You can find more information about:

You can find more information about:

ICES HQ [here](#)

Hotels close to ICES [here](#)

The hostel next to ICES [here](#)

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<sup>2</sup> The course fee for participants from non-ICES member countries is 500 €