

Open Session: “The Challenge of Integrated Ecosystem Understanding”

Wednesday, 25 September 2013, 14:00–17:00

The new draft ICES science plan calls for the network to address the “challenge of integrated ecosystem understanding”. Following the discussions on Monday morning (SCICOM Plenary and SCICOM Open Sessions), this session intends to explore further the scientific vision behind the concept of “integrated ecosystems” and the increasing policy requirements for integrated ecosystem views. The session will explore the needs for integrated observation and monitoring, for integrated modelling and assessment, and the tools that the ICES network has to deliver this challenge in practical ways. The session will include presentations and discussions, with the outcomes to feed into the new ICES science plan and its implementation.

14:00 – 14:05 **Manuel Barange**, SCICOM Chair, PML, Plymouth, UK – Introduction

14:05 – 14:25 **Kenneth Patterson**, DG Mare, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium – Policy needs concerning advice about marine ecosystems

14:25 – 14:35 Discussion

14:35 – 15:05 Integrated Ecosystem observations (15' each)

Nils Olav Handegaard, Institute of Marine Research, Bergen, Norway – Integrated Ecosystem Observation and Monitoring

Geir Huse, Institute of Marine Research, Bergen, Norway – Integrated Ecosystem Modelling

15:05 – 15:20 Discussion

15:20 – 15:40 Coffee

15:40 – 16:10 Integrated Ecosystem Assessments (10' each):

Leonie Robinson, University of Liverpool, UK - Data mining tools to support Integrated Assessments – Options for Delivering Ecosystem-based Marine Management

Vanessa Stelzenmüller, VTI, Hamburg, Germany – Data mining tools to support Integrated Assessments - potentials and limits of Bayesian Believable networks

Andrew Kenny, CEFAS, Lowestoft, UK – Data mining tools to support Integrated Assessments - the REGNS approach.

16:10 – 16:25 Discussion

16:25 – 16:40 **Carmen Fernandez**, ICES Secretariat, Denmark – Linking science and advice via an ecosystem benchmarking process

16:40 – 16:50 Discussion