**ICES CM 2018/N**

**Findings from the ICES workshop on Methods for Stakeholder Involvement in Fishing Gear Development**

Feekings, J., Valentinsson, D., Veiga-Malta, T., and Krag, L. A.

Many initiatives have been established throughout the European Union (EU) to enhance the involvement of stakeholders in the development, testing and documentation of new fishing gears. The direct involvement of stakeholders can help to alleviate some of the mistrust and non-compliance currently observed, provide incentives to fish selectively, and help to achieve several of the aims of the EU’s Basic Regulation (notably the landing obligation) and of the current proposal for a new technical measures framework regulation (greater flexibility and increased stakeholder involvement). The initiatives established are currently coordinated at national level, where project structures, incentives, data collection methods etc. often differ from each other. In order for such initiatives to help facilitate the landing obligation and the proposed new technical measures regulation, these initiatives would benefit from greater coordination. The ICES workshop on Methods for Stakeholder Involvement in Fishing Gear Development aimed to define how to obtain the most out of these initiatives. Here we provide a summation of the major findings from the different initiatives as well as the perceptions from different stakeholder groups on this more inclusive and collaborative approach to developing fishing gears.

**Keywords: s**takeholder involvement, fishing gear development, selectivity, fishermen, WKMSIGD

**Contact author**: Jordan Feekings, Danish Technical University – DTU-Aqua, jpfe@aqua.dtu.dk