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Publication date:
2015

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

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Citation (APA):
Feeקים, J. P., O'Neill, B., Krag, L. A., & Ulrich, C. (2015). *A review of programs established to encourage industry-led approaches to selective gear development*. Abstract from ICES Annual Science Conference 2015, Copenhagen, Denmark.

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A review of programs established to encourage industry-led approaches to selective gear development

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There are numerous examples from around the world where collaborative science-industry partnerships, which provide a bottom up approach to trawl gear development, have had better success in implementing selective gears as opposed to a top down approach where selective gears are enforced into legislation. Such collaborations create a sense of ownership and control over the gears developed and often result is a range of technical solutions which all achieve the same objective. In contrast, when new more selective gears are introduced into legislation, in a top down approach, the selective performance of these gears is frequently negated. Here, we aim to highlight the salient features which lead to the success and failure of such collaborative approaches to fishing gear development. We further aim to identify where the legislative structures in certain countries inhibit such types of partnerships from being undertaken.