

ICES: a world-leading marine science organization

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) is an intergovernmental organization that develops science and advice to support the sustainable use of the seas and oceans. Our network of 5000 experts are distributed throughout 700 institutes and organizations in 20 member countries and beyond. Through global partnerships and collaboration, our work in the North Atlantic extends into the Arctic, the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, and the North Pacific.

Providing evidence for decision-making

As an international marine science organization, ICES provides a bridge between the science community and decision-makers. The work carried out by our community advances scientific understanding of marine ecosystems and the services they provide. Working together with our member countries, partners, clients, and stakeholders, as well as the wider marine science community, we create and share knowledge, data, and advice that supports conservation, management, and sustainability goals.

Advancing marine ecosystem understanding

Our science is interdisciplinary. From observation and exploration to understanding human interactions with the sea, our strength comes from the range of scientists and experts in our network. Natural scientists, social scientists, and economists all contribute to work that spans all aspects of marine ecosystem and sustainability science. To encourage the growth of our network, we provide training and networking opportunities for the new and emerging generation of marine scientists, and support the work of early career scientists.

Analysing essential data for science and advice

ICES Data Centre has more than 300 million measurements to explore and download. Our community collects and analyses this information, contributing to the evidence that underpins ICES advice. We share our knowledge through our publications, conferences, and training courses.

Working together

ICES provides impartial scientific advice to a wide range of recipients, including our member countries and international organizations and commissions, such as the Oslo Paris Commission (OSPAR), the Helsinki Commission-Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM), the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), and the European Commission (EC). Although ICES advice is in general for the Northeast Atlantic, our work has set standards that are applied elsewhere, both within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction.



ICES is an intergovernmental organization with 20 member countries:

Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, and United States of America



Through strategic partnerships our work in the North Atlantic extends into the Arctic, the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, and the North Pacific.

SCIENCE PRIORITIES

Our seven interrelated scientific priorities



Ecosystem science



Impacts of human activities



Observation and exploration



Emerging techniques and technologies



Seafood production




Conservation and management science



Sea and society

ICES PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

- Annual recurrent advice on 200–250 fishing opportunities, including areas beyond national jurisdiction
- Special advice on the status and use of marine ecosystems, methods of monitoring, indicators of the state of the environment, evaluating management plans, regional fisheries overviews, ecosystem overviews
- Global scientific platform
- Identification of research needs
- Data used in science and advisory products
- Science highlights and viewpoints on topics of societal importance
- Training
- Publications
- Conferences and symposia



JOIN OUR NETWORK
 Engage with us and contribute to our work. We welcome new participants and observers to our activities and meetings.
 Contact us: info@ices.dk