

REGIONAL FISHERY BODY SECRETARIATS' NETWORK

Eighth Meeting
Videoconference 24 February 2021 (16:00–19:00 hrs CET) 25 February 2021 (00:00-03:00 hrs CET)
COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS (CWP) SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES (2019-2020)

MESSAGE FROM THE CWP SECRETARIAT

The Coordinating Working party on Fisheries Statistics (CWP) provides a mechanism to coordinate the statistical programs conducted by intergovernmental organizations, including regional fishery bodies, with a remit for fishery statistics.

CWP achieved important results at its 26th session held in May 2019 including the endorsement of the updated International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Vessels (ISSCFV), of the global standard for Reference Harmonization on Capture production, Catch and Effort, of a new global standard for the socio-economic dimension, the approval of the International Standard Statistical Classification for Aquatic Animals and Plants (ISSCAAP) and an upgraded standard for GIS. These are going to be published soon through the CWP Handbook, which covers the concepts, definitions, classifications and data exchange protocols – and not least the codes as applied to capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics globally.

Following CWP26, FAO appointed Ms. Stefania Vannuccini as new CWP Secretary, succeeding Mr. Marc Taconet who acted on this role between 2016 and 2019.

Building further on these outcomes, CWP is now engaging its Members on the agreed intersessional workplan. For Capture fisheries, the main CWP objectives are to offer solutions to countries and regional fishery bodies for facing the increasing amount of reporting requirements, by defining or refining standards, formats and guidelines that support a better harmonization and streamlining of statistics including Catch, Effort, Fleets, Fishing activity. For Aquaculture, the main objectives are to strengthen statistical standards for aquaculture, by revamping the aquaculture section of the CWP handbook, producing a revised classification of farming systems, and adapting the ISSCAAP classification to a growing aquaculture reality. These activities will be carried out through the following five Task Groups (TGs):

- Ad-hoc TG on reference harmonization standard;
- Ad-hoc TG on best practices for streamlining statistical data workflow, with a focus on confidentiality issues;
- Ad-hoc TG on fishing effort concepts;
- Ad-hoc TG on catch concepts;
- Ad-hoc TG on the revision of the aquaculture section of the Handbook including farming systems classification.

CWP Members, also RSN Members, are warmly invited to participate to these five TGs, which will report their interim proposals at the CWP intersessional meeting planned in October 2021. RSN members not part of CWP and interested in learning more about these TGs, CWP activities or on how to apply to become a CWP member, please contact the CWP Secretary at CWP-Secretariat@fao.org

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Resources:

Report of the twenty-sixth session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics. Rome, Italy, 15–18 May 2019. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report No. 1293. Rome, FAO. 51 pp. (available at <http://www.fao.org/3/ca6684en/ca6684en.pdf>).

CWP handbook of fishery statistical standards. <http://www.fao.org/cwp-on-fishery-statistics/handbook/en/>