The Data Collection Framework (DCF)

Explanatory meeting with Serbia,
30 September 2014
Introduction

Since 2000, the EU has had common rules on **scientific** fisheries data collection:
1. The Data Collection Regulation (Council Regulation No 1543/2000)
2. The Data Collection Framework "DCF" (Council Regulation No 199/2008)

These rules are different to those on data for **control** purposes (Council regulation No 1224/2009)
Introduction

The DCF lays down rules concerning:

• the **collection and management**, in the framework of multiannual programmes, of biological, technical, environmental and socio-economic data concerning the fisheries, aquaculture & processing sectors;

• the **use of data** concerning the fisheries sector in the framework of the Common Fisheries Policy, for the purpose of scientific analysis.
The legal basis for the DCF

Scientific aspects/obligations:

• Council Reg. No 199/2008 (Framework for data collection)

• Commission implementation Reg. No 655/2008 (Detailed rules for data collection)

• Commission Decision No 2010/93/EU (EU Multiannual Programme) extended to 2014-2016 (C(2013)5243)

• Member State National Multiannual Programmes (currently 2014-2016)
Financing of data collection

• Data collection is eligible to 80% of EU co-financing (for eligible expenses) under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

• 520 M Euro available for data collection for 2014-2020

• Obligations to implement DCF irrespective of financial support by EU.
Main provisions of the DCF – what data?

- Establishment of a multi-annual EU programme
- Covers commercial fisheries by EU vessels (incl outside EU waters), recreational fisheries, (marine) aquaculture, industries processing fisheries products, impact on fishing on ecosystem.
## Data covered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Types of variables</th>
<th>Sector covered</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biological data</strong></td>
<td>a) Quarterly length distribution of species and quarterly volume of discards</td>
<td>a) Commercial fish stocks – not all variables needed for all stocks. Variables collected either every year or every three years depending on stocks.</td>
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<td>Length, weight, sex, maturity, fecundity of individual fish.</td>
<td>b) Recreational fisheries (salmon, cod, eels, sharks)</td>
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<td>b) Quarterly estimates of catches</td>
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<td><strong>Socio-economic data</strong></td>
<td>Different categories of income and of costs, employment, size of the fleet or sector:</td>
<td>1. Fleet</td>
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<td>2. <strong>Aquaculture sector</strong></td>
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<td>3. <strong>Processing sector</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Transversal or 'control' data</strong></td>
<td>a. Capacity (Number of vessels, GT, kW, vessel age)</td>
<td>Commercial fish stocks</td>
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<td>b. Effort (Number of vessels, Days at sea, Hours fished, Fishing days, kW*Fishing Days, GT * Fishing days, Number of trips, Number of rigs, Number of fishing operations, Number of hooks, Number of lines, Numbers of pots, traps, Soaking time)</td>
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<td>c. Landings (Value, Price and total weight)</td>
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Main provisions of the DCF – how are data collected?

- Observer schemes on board commercial vessels,
- Scientific research surveys
- Harbour sampling of landings
- Questionnaires (socio-economic data)
Main provisions of the DCF – procedures

A. MS to establish a Multiannual National Programme

B. MS to coordinate through
   i) Regional Coordination Meetings
      • Baltic
      • North Sea
      • North Atlantic
      • Mediterranean & Black Sea
      • Long-distance fisheries
   ii) Planning Group for Economic Issues

C. MS to ensure access to sampling sites, protection of data, quality control, transmission of data to end-users.
Planning, Monitoring & Reporting

- Member States submit their National Programme
- Commission adopts these after a technical evaluation has taken place (STECF) via a Commission Decision.
- Every year, Member States may choose to update their National Programme (e.g. following RCMs)
- Amendments to National Programmes are also checked by STECF and adopted via a Commission Decision.
Planning, Monitoring & Reporting

- Every year, Member States report on their delivery of the National Programme for the previous year.
- Commission evaluates Member States' Annual Report (based on STECF evaluation).
- Commission evaluates compliance of Member States with their obligation to transmit data to end-users.
Revision of the DCF

CFP Basic Regulation(EU) No 1380/2013 - Article 25: Principles and objectives, but no new legal base:

Council Reg. No 199/2008 will be revised (Co-Decision procedure)
Objective of the revision

What will change:

- *Scope of the DCF*
- *End-user oriented data collection*
- *Improved data quality*
- *Improved availability of data*
- *Simplification & rationalization*
- *Strengthened regional cooperation*
- *Improved compliance*
**Objective of the revision**

What will **not** change:

- *EU multiannual programme, implemented through national programmes*
- *Key obligations upon Member States in relation to collection, storage, protection and provisions of data*
- *Provisions on rights and obligations of data users.*
- *Provisions on cooperation within and between Member States.*
- *Requirement for an Annual Report*
Future legal set-up

1. Council & Parliament Regulation with cross-cutting rules
   - DCF Regulation 199/2008 -> Modify (co-decision)
   - Timeline: proposal not likely before end 2014

2. A Commission legal act with details of the variables to be collected
   - EU Multiannual Programme
Land-locked countries

- Currently no obligation to implement DCF
  - but collection under other legislation (eg Eurostat)
- Once DCF is revised:
  - Socio-economic and sustainability data for freshwater aquaculture (if included in revised DCF)
  - Socio-economic data only for the processing industry
  - Only if either is present in their territory