USING QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE STAKEHOLDER KNOWLEDGE: EXAMPLES FROM EUROPEAN DEEPWATER FISHERIES

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Deep-water fisheries in European waters are diverse, exploiting a range of stocks with different life history strategies and being prosecuted by different types of fleets. Due to this diversity, one single management objective and regulation framework does not fit all fisheries, making it necessary to develop case specific management approaches. Further, deep-water fisheries are generally poor in official regulatory data, making the input of stakeholders on biology and fisheries essential.

Stakeholder knowledge and data were collected and used for (1) identifying local management issues and solutions for several deep-water fisheries, from longlining to trawling, using cognitive maps; (2) calculating standardised cpue as input to stock assessments (illustrated for blue ling to the West of the British Isles) using tallybook data and (3) collecting socio-economic data for describing the current situation and stakeholder views on management using questionnaires. These examples allow to demonstrate how knowledge from stakeholders expressed in cognitive maps, data stored in tallybooks and collected in questionnaires can overcome data limited situations and at the same time involve stakeholders in the management and assessment process.

Theme: Collection of socio-economic data and fishers' knowledge data and integration into the analytical and management process