

Impact of bottom-trawled gears in two European marine regions

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Fisheries management, mainly focused on single species, is shifting to an Ecosystem Approach to Management (EAM). Its objective is to sustain healthy ecosystems and the fisheries they support. Marine capture fisheries of the EU Members States are all managed by the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) but for each region different regulations may apply. Our study focuses on demersal fisheries in two European marine regions with different ecosystem and management characteristics, the North Sea and the Eastern Mediterranean. Our aim is to develop and use a suite of different types of generic indicators applicable to different ecosystems and fisheries, to support EAM. Here we review both the ecological components that appear to be affected in each region by the fishing practices that target demersal resources. Then, by developing appropriate scenarios using environmental and socio-economic indicators we expect to contribute towards building a state of the art methodology in line with applying an EAM.

References

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