

The optimal process of self-sampling in fisheries

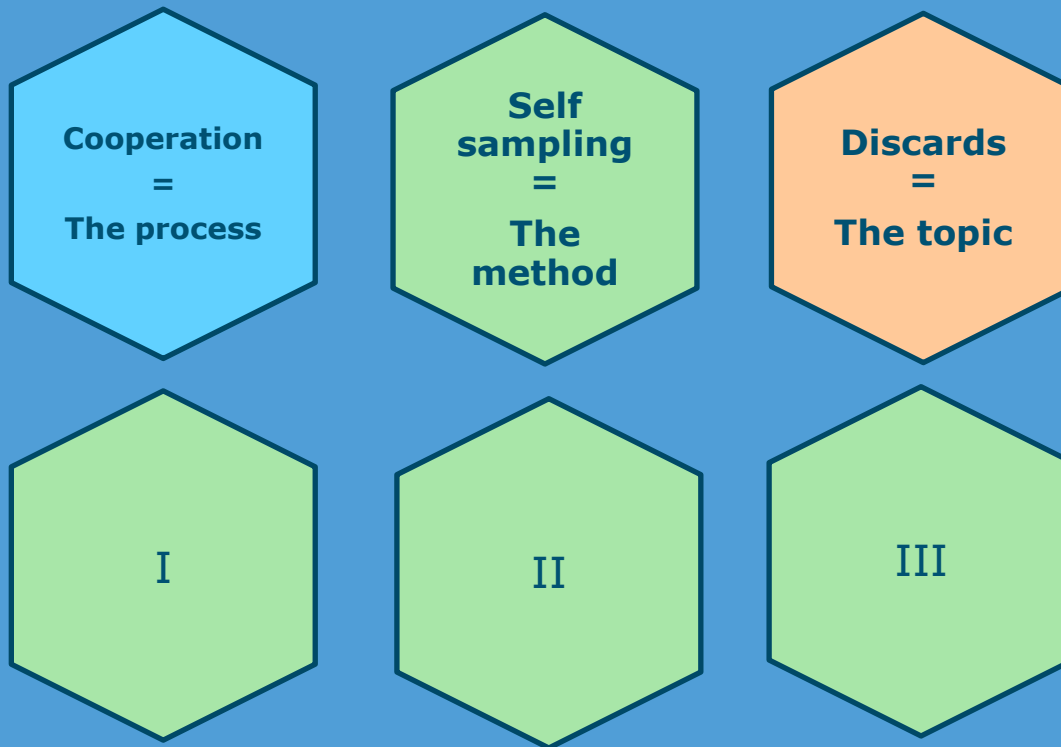
Lessons learned from the Netherlands

9 May 2012, Marloes Kraan, Josien Steenbergen, Edwin van Helmond



GAP – Case Study (2011-2015)

(How) Can we use Self Sampling as a tool to get more information on discards?



Cooperation in the Netherlands

“ The relation is very good at the moment ”

- Regular contact in cooperation platform
- Industry survey
- Fisheries Innovation Platform
- Study groups (13)



Cooperation: the process

■ Science in partnership of industry*

Information on stock for
assessment/management
purposes

Innovation and sustainability

Fishery-
dependent
data
collection

Industry
based
surveys

Self
sampling of
discards

Gear
selectivity
studies



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Johnson & van Densen, 2007

Discards the topic: *Dutch Flatfish fishery*

- Total discards up to 80%*



TBB 70-99 mm Helmond et al, 2011

Oscar Bos

Increased need for information on Discards



'License to produce'

GREENPEACE



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Collecting data

Observer programmes:

- E.g. 8 trips/year:

'the estimate of discard %'

are not sufficient!

- Clustered data
- Limited temporal & Spatial coverage
- Diversification of gears
→ Increase sampling effort



Self Sampling



Self sampling method I



Sample Analyses at the laboratory



Self Sampling method II

- Fishermen sample 1-4 hauls:



1. Commercial Fish

2. Other fish

3. Benthic species

Commercial size

Undersized

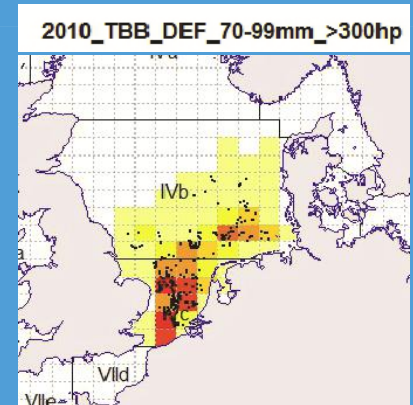


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Examples

- EU DCR (%)
- Reference fleet (25)
- Monthly sampling
- Pulse: proof the burden for the EU
- Reference fleet (20)
- Weekly sampling
- Innovation projects
- Small group, one or more vessels
- Short period of weekly sampling



Van Helmond et al, 2011



Benefits

- 👍 Increase in spatial & temporal coverage
 - 👍 Information on a fishing method relatively unknown
 - 👍 Direct quick information on performance of gear
- 👍 Better understanding of the data produced
 - 👍 Acceptance of the discard data by industry
 - 👍 Increased awareness

"its only after sampling myself I realized that we actually do have a lot of discards"



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Risks

- 👎 Bad implementation
- 👎 Misunderstanding of

Ownership / compensation
Dialogue on perceptions / relevance
of discards?

- 👎 Acceptance of the data for assessment
- 👎 Acceptance of the data in
- 👎 Acceptance of the outcomes of the participants

Combine observer trips
Expectation management

'Only young fish
are discards'



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Yes we can!

Know how to 'cook the fish':

- Self sampling is a tool, the process can add value
 - Incentives: ownership / compensation
 - Perception: relevance of discards?
 - Expectation management
 - Acceptance of data in the outer world
- Custom made ('No one size fits all')
 - Design in dialogue
 - Discuss findings regularly
 - Take your time....



Acceptance

Why do we expect the fishers to accept our collected data with all its limitations, when we are not able to accept data collected by fishers?



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