WISER

Common Intercalibration Metrics

FACT SHEET

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TRANSITIONAL WATER FISH PSEUDO COMMON METRIC

GENERAL INFORMATION

BIOLOGICAL QUALITY ELEMENT

Fish

WATER CATEGORY

transitional water

MAIN STRESSOR

Multi-stressors

GEOGRAPHICAL INTERCALIBRATION GROUP

NEA

COMMON INTERCALIBRATION TYPES

We don't know exactly yet which type will be available

COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN INTERCALIBRATION EXERCISE

Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, Netherland, Germany, United Kingdom, Ireland

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TRANSITIONAL WATER FISH PSEUDO COMMON METRIC

SPECIFICATION

COMMON METRIC DESCRIPTION (INCL. WFD'S INDICATIVE PARAMETERS)

The use of a common biological metric has proved to be not feasible because of the difference in the sampling protocol and sampling strategy. Therefore in order to be able to use a common yardstick for the IC, we decided to use as it was proposed by ECOSAT, an external metric to which every MS could refer to. A common set of 16 pressures with description on how to assess each pressure was forward to each partner. The pressures selected include hydromorphological pressures (3 metrics), pressures on habitat and living resources (9 metrics) and water quality pressures including pollution indicators (4 metrics). All these pressures should be assess by expert judgment with the best available knowledge (real data, group of experts) following the notes given as a definition for what to consider in the assessment. This approach is referred as Pseudo-Common Metric (PCM) for the IC process (cf. COAST meeting, Cyprus November 2010). An Excel spreadsheet is given in annex with the details of the selected metrics.

COMBINATION RULE FOR MULTI-METRICS

SOFTWARE / (EXCEL) SPREADSHEET AVAILABLE FOR CALCULATING THE (INDIVIDUAL) COMMON METRIC(S)

To be done

AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS / ONLINE SOURCES REPORTING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON METRIC(S)

Not yet available

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DESCRIPTION OF DATA SET TO ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIP TO PRESSURE / NATIONAL ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS[1]

A set of 30 estuaries from the MS dataset is qualified in a first attempt with the PCM according to the salinity zone (level available for the fish data). Each MS is going to look at the correlation between the pseudo-common metric and the EQR obtained on each of its estuary. As a first try, the AZTI Fish Index (AFI) results for several estuaries were plot against the PCM (here called Pressures). This is still preliminary results because we still have to make sure that the pressures were really assessed in the same way. A coming meeting (11 april) should solve this question.
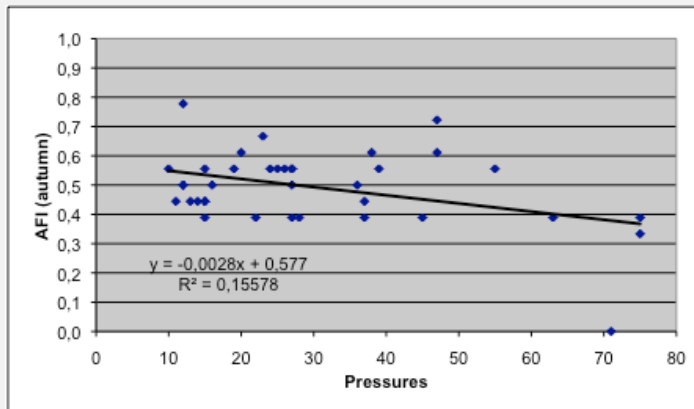
TYPE OF DOSE-RESPONSE-RELATIONSHIP[2]

To be done

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT METHODS (OR PARTS THEREOF) RELATED TO THE COMMON METRIC(S)[3]

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NAME OF COMMON METRIC

CONCLUDING REMARKS[1]

The work with the PCM is ongoing and the first attempt with the Basque dataset is already giving a good response. This work is done simultaneously in the IC group and in WISER. AZTI and Cemagref are part of the IC group and also in the WISER project. This ensures a good coordination for the work that has to be done. The same approach is also in duty for the MED GIG FISH group. If we have good results this could lead to an option 2 IC instead of option 3. In France, we already tried several times to show dose-response relationship between hydromorphological pressures and fish population with the WFD dataset. We haven't had any good success yet at the scale we are looking at the data (Twice a year, 8 replicates by salinity zone). Most of the time, the hydromorphological pressures are inducing a reduction in the habitat availability for fish (polder, any land claims, embankment, realignment) but as far as some surface of the same type of habitat still exist in the residual area, this reduction is very difficult to identify among all other type of pressures. If the PCM is giving good dose-response relationship and if each MS assessment tool has a good correlation with the PCM we will succeed with the Option 2 for IC, otherwise the Option 3 is still an option to consider and to maintain at this stage.