

COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

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INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

1st WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION (MSE) FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

La Jolla, California (USA)
9-10 December 2019

OVERVIEW, OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE METRICS

ANNOUNCEMENT

The purpose of the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process in fisheries is to compare the performance of alternative management strategies in meeting management objectives, using computer simulations and relevant fisheries performance metrics. Some parts of the MSE process are highly technical and done by scientists, but others, such as defining objectives, performance metrics and management strategies, require input and participation of managers and other stakeholders. A better understanding of the MSE process and its components will strengthen communication among scientists, managers and other stakeholders, as well as foster their participation in the process.

In [Resolution C-16-02](#), the IATTC adopted elements of a management strategy, such as interim reference points and a harvest control rule (HCR), and the [IATTC Strategic Science Plan](#) includes a [work plan](#) for evaluating the IATTC's current strategy, along with alternatives using MSE. Because the elements, concepts and approaches involved in MSE are mostly new for managers and other stakeholders, a series of workshops was planned to introduce MSE to different audiences. With financial support from the FAO-GEF Common Oceans project, introductory workshops on MSE for tropical tunas in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) were held in Panama (2015) and the United States (2018), aimed at managers, and a further five, aimed at the tuna industry, took place during 2019 in Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, and the United States.

The objectives of this workshop, the first to be funded and organized by the IATTC as part of the current MSE process for tropical tunas in the EPO, are to explain and clarify the process, enhance communication and foster mutual understanding among fisheries scientists, managers, and other stakeholders on matters related to harvest strategies and MSE, and discuss potential management goals and performance metrics with managers and other stakeholders. Subsequent workshops will focus on other elements of the MSE process, such as reference points, operating models, and HCRs, in line with the recent [IATTC Performance Review](#) and the proposed [Strategic Science Plan](#), which includes improving knowledge sharing, human and institutional capacity-building, and communication of scientific advice. The Terms of Reference for these workshops were established in [Resolution C-19-07](#).

Scientists and managers from governments, industry, NGOs, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend. Some limited funding is available for qualified applicants.

Languages: English and Spanish, with simultaneous interpretation.