



# PICES Technical Committee on Data Exchange Action Plan 2006

## **Mission**

The mission of the PICES Technical Committee on Data Exchange (TCODE) is to identify the data management requirements of the PICES scientific community and PICES Secretariat and provide advice and assistance on all matters affecting information technology in PICES.

## **Strategy of TCODE**

To meet the mission of PICES, the PICES strategy for capacity building and the mission of TCODE, the committee will arrange its activity for the next several years based on the following directions:

- Maximize the usage of existing data throughout the PICES community through improved access, including searchable metadata inventories.
- Promote the development and use of contemporary technologies, standards, protocols, data analysis methods and software tools for studies of all components of the ecosystem.
- Assist and participate in the implementation of international data management programs and their regional components.
- Organize a virtual international TCODE community.

## **Theme A. Advancing scientific knowledge**

### **Goal 1. Understand the physical, chemical and biological functioning of marine ecosystems**

**Action 1.1** None

### **Goal 2. Understand and quantify the impacts of human activities and climate on marine ecosystems**

**Action 2.1** None

### **Goal 3. Provide advice on methods and tools to guide scientific activities**

**Action 3.1** Promote the development and use of shared information technologies in quantifying the biological and physical components of the ecosystem.

**Task 3.1.1** Hold a session at the PICES Annual meeting in 20XX on “Data management and software tools for conducting oceanographic and biological surveys”

**Action 3.2** Improved access to quality marine data.

**Task 3.2.1** Hold a session at PICES Annual meeting in 20XX on “Marine Data Exchange Systems”

**Task 3.2.2** Hold a session at PICES Annual meeting in 20XX on “Marine Data Quality Assurance”

**Task 3.2.2** Initiate the incorporation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) into the data archives

**Action 3.3** Keep the TCODE inventory updated and provide input to the North Pacific Ecosystem Metadatabase (NPEM).

**Task 3.3.1** Review the status of the datasets covered by the TCODE inventory and NPEM and update them on a regular basis.

**Action 3.4** Carry out a project that connects PICES member nations’ metadatabase systems into one integrated resource (“federated searching” program).

**Task 3.4.1** Identify participants for each member nation and arrange submission and updating of the metadata records.

## **Theme B. Applying scientific knowledge**

### **Goal 4. Provide scientific advice towards wise use of the North Pacific Ocean**

**Action 4.1** None

## **Theme C. Fostering partnerships**

### **Goal 5. Promote collaboration with organizations, scientific programs, and stakeholders that are relevant to the PICES goals**

**Action 5.1** Establish dialogue with the various bodies of the international, national, state and local organizations, commissions and programs involved into Marine Data Management issues.

**Task 5.1.1** Initiate and maintain a dialogue with the PICES/ICES groups (Monitor Technical Committee, a successor of ICES-IOC Study Group on the Development of Marine Data Exchange Systems using XML, ICES Working Group on Marine Data Management).

## **Goal 6. Promote collaboration among scientists within PICES**

**Action 6.1** Increase the “manpower” of TCODE.

**Task 6.1.1** Update the TCODE mailing list and advertise the TCODE web pages on a regular basis.

**Action 6.2** Provide support to the Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) initiatives.

**Task 6.2.1** Support HAB Section (HAB-S) work with the ICES-IOC Harmful Algal Event Database (HAEDAT) database and required metadata.

## **Theme D. Ensuring a modern organization in support of PICES activities**

### **Goal 7. Provide an effective infrastructure to support PICES programs**

**Action 7.1** None

## **Theme E. Distributing PICES scientific information**

### **Goal 8. Make the scientific products of PICES accessible**

**Action 8.1** Inform the PICES community about marine data management activities.

**Task 8.1.1** Implement and adopt a structure for the national annual reports (key institutes and agencies, key persons/contacts, data and metadata sets, ocean observing systems, data and metadata formats and standards, information technologies for collecting, measuring and enumerating marine organisms, software applicable in marine ecosystems studies and modeling, DM programs that underpin marine scientific programs, existing marine organization and institution data policies; available education materials and publications on marine DM issues, etc.).

**Task 8.1.2** Update the content of TCODE web pages on a regular basis.

**Task 8.1.3** Provide periodic articles in PICES Newsletters and related publications.