SESSION 6: CASE STUDIES IN ECOSYSTEM EXPLOITATION, ASSESMENT AND MANAGEMENT

This session can be divided into three main themes :

– Ecosystem approach to fisheries and aquaculture:

Recognising that resource exploitation modifies trophic webs and the habitats on which stocks depend for their sustainable renewal, the ecosystem approach constitutes a measure of conservation. This approach implies the development of novel techniques and indicators to evaluate and manage stocks. Studies need to deal with the change in scale from a single stock exploited by vessels to the whole socio-ecosystem with the geographical dimension being of prime importance. Novel governance schemes to be developed require the consideration of more and more stakeholders and this session aims at presenting this change in paradigm as well as the ecosystem approach.

– Limit food waste:

All aspects related to limiting the waste of marine food resources are eligible in this session. Particular attention will be paid to work on the management of unwanted catches of different types of fisheries or on the management of processing industry by-products. Seeking new functional ingredients, from this type of resource, can be presented. Similarly, efforts to increase the proportion of directly edible food product may be proposed as well as the elements that can contribute to improving the safety and organoleptic quality of these products, and extend their shelf-life. All part to reduce the ecological footprint of end products and to re-use or recycle seafood is also eligible. All work in connection with the rational exploitation of resources is also eligible including also non-food uses. Papers addressing the notions of risks and opportunities are particularly welcome.

- This session will also present case studies concerning the principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management and the Ecosystem Approach. Such studies should outline how they support the preservation and functioning of ecosystems and how management of different anthropogenic activities in such shared zones can ensure sustainability. Components and functioning of the socio-ecosystems studied will be presented as well as the need for risk assessment for different industries. Tools of analysis, data required, spatial planning and governance schemes will be considered. Feedback from such studies will allow for discussion and integration of innovative experiences to develop further strategies.