



# Science Board Action Plan (2012-2015)

## The Science Board Mission

Science Board takes the role of planning scientific activities, overseeing the standing committees and their expert groups, and making recommendations to the Council on all the scientific matters relevant to the purpose of the Organization.

Science Board will:

- (a) have general oversight over:
  - the scientific interests of the Council and its scientific work;
  - the programs of research approved by the Council;
  - the arrangements for carrying out the Council's scientific work and the programs of research recommended or coordinated by it;
  - the organization of special scientific meetings.
- (b) be responsible for advising the Council on all matters mentioned in sub-paragraph (a);
- (c) provide guidance, as it may deem necessary, to groups under their jurisdiction, as to the performance of their functions;
- (d) review and make recommendations to the Council concerning the provision of scientific advice to Contracting Parties or other international organizations requesting such advice;
- (e) consider, at each Annual Meeting of the Science Board, reports from all groups under their jurisdiction and report thereon to the Council with special reference to any expenditures involved;
- (f) advise the Council of its publication requirements.

## The Science Board Strategy

To implement its mission, the Science Board will address each of the five central themes of the PICES Strategy: (A) Advancing scientific knowledge; (B) Applying scientific knowledge; (C) Fostering partnerships; (D) Developing capacity; and (E) Ensuring a progressive organization. Specific goals, actions and tasks within each of these themes are as follows.

### Theme A *Advance scientific knowledge*

#### Goal 1. Understand the functioning, resilience, and vulnerability of marine ecosystems.

**Action 1.1** Make sure that progress can be made in understanding ecosystem functioning under natural and anthropogenic forcing.

**Task 1.1.1** Coordinate the standing committees so that relevant expert groups (S-CCME, S-HD, S-CC, S-HAB, WG 26, WG 27, WG 28, WG 29) can work together to achieve the goal.

**Task 1.1.2** Oversee AP-AICE and AP-COVE in evaluating progress and making necessary adjustments.

**Action 1.2** Make sure that the vulnerability of North Pacific ecosystems can be properly quantified and compared.

**Task 1.2.1** Oversee and guide WG 28, S-CC, and S-HD in developing potential indicators, and analyzing and comparing vulnerabilities in North Pacific ecosystems.

**Action 1.3** Ensure that theoretical frameworks and operational methods related to ecosystem resilience can be properly developed and applied.

**Task 1.3.1** Oversee and guide WG 28, S-CC, and S-HD to analyze and identify the issues of ecosystem resilience which can lead to the establishment of a new expert group.

**Task 1.3.2** Establish a new expert group to undertake the central issues of ecosystem resilience.

**Task 1.3.3** Coordinate the new expert group on ecosystem resilience with S-CCME and S-HD.

**Goal 2. Understand and quantify how marine ecosystems respond to human activities and natural forcing.**

**Action 2.1** Oversee and coordinate expert groups to achieve the goal.

**Task 2.1.1** Coordinate the standing committees so that relevant expert groups (S-CCME, S-HD, S-CC, S-HAB, WG 26, WG 27, WG 28, WG 29) can work together to achieve the goal.

**Task 2.1.2** Oversee AP-AICE and AP-COVE in evaluating the progress and making necessary adjustments.

**Action 2.2** Build capacity in important gaps.

**Task 2.2.1** Identify the need of capacity building in coastal ecosystem modeling.

**Task 2.2.2** Identify the need of capacity building in dealing uncertainty in forecasts.

**Task 2.2.3** Develop and implement capacity building plans in the above areas.

**Theme B *Applying scientific knowledge***

**Goal 3. Provide scientific advice pertinent to North Pacific ecosystems.**

**Action 3.1** Promptly respond to any need of member countries or other organizations.

**Task 3.1.1** When requests for scientific advice are made to PICES, establish task teams to cope with the requests and provide advice.

**Action 3.2** Ensure that scientifically useful products are made available.

**Task 3.2.1** Oversee AP-SOFE to prepare and disseminate FUTURE products.

**Task 3.2.2** Encourage publication of scientific reports on relevant issues.

**Goal 4. Ensure that PICES products are relevant, timely, and broadly accessible.**

**Action 4.1** Sustain high quality publications.

**Task 4.1.1** Encourage scientific publications.

**Action 4.2** Ensure that FUTURE products meet timelines.

**Task 4.2.1** Develop and modify timelines for FUTURE products based on the FUTURE roadmap.

**Task 4.2.2** Oversee AP-SOFE in coordinating expert groups to develop FUTURE products according to the plan.

**Action 4.3** Ensure outreach products are available in a timely manner for broad user groups.

**Task 4.3.1** Oversee AP-SOFE in developing outreach products.

**Task 4.3.2** Encourage expert groups to develop educational materials.

## **Theme C. *Foster partnerships***

**Goal 5. Collaborate with organizations and scientific programs relevant to PICES.**

**Action 5.1** Exchange and facilitate cooperation with other organizations and scientific programs.

**Task 5.1.1** Send PICES representatives to meetings of other organizations and scientific programs.

**Task 5.1.2** Invite representatives of other organizations and scientific programs to PICES meetings.

**Task 5.1.3** Monitor regularly the progress in collaboration with other organizations and scientific programs.

**Action 5.2** Encourage joint activities with other organizations and scientific programs.

**Task 5.2.1** Encourage joint workshops and topic sessions at PICES annual meetings.

**Task 5.2.2** Encourage inter-sessional joint workshops and topic sessions with other organizations and scientific programs.

**Task 5.2.3** Co-sponsor and convene inter-sessional symposia with other organizations and scientific programs.

**Task 5.2.4** Encourage joint scientific activities with other organizations and scientific programs.

**Goal 6. Strengthen communication and engagement with users of PICES scientific products.**

**Action 6.1** Plan and implement engagement with users.

**Task 6.1.1** Oversee AP-SOFE in making engagement plans.

**Task 6.1.2** Oversee and aid AP-SOFE in implementing dissemination of FUTURE products.

## **Theme D. *Develop capacity***

**Goal 7. Advance methods and tools to improve and enhance scientific activities.**

**Action 7.1** Encourage expert groups to develop new methods and tools.

**Task 7.1.1** Encourage expert groups to identify the gaps and needs of harmonization of methods and techniques.

**Task 7.1.2** Encourage expert groups to identify the gaps and needs of developing new methodologies.

**Task 7.1.3** Plan and implement the identified needs.

**Action 7.2** Encourage TCODE to identify the gaps and needs in data exchange.

**Task 7.2.1** Plan and implement a better data exchange.

**Goal 8. Foster collaboration among scientists within PICES.**

**Action 8.1** Activate the PICES Visiting Scientist Program.

**Task 8.1.1** Implement and expand the PICES Visiting Scientist Program.

**Action 8.2** Continue Early Career Scientist conferences.

**Task 8.2.1** Plan and convene Early Career Scientist conferences on a regular basis.

**Goal 9. Create education and training opportunities.**

**Action 9.1** Plan and hold training courses for early career scientists regularly.

**Task 9.1.1** Plan and hold PICES Summer Schools annually in a geographically and thematically balanced way.

**Task 9.1.2** Co-sponsor training courses with other organizations and scientific programs.

**Action 9.2** Enhance training, in general.

**Task 9.2.1** Evaluate the needs and feasibility of regular training courses.

**Task 9.2.2** Plan and implement regular training courses, if necessary.

**Theme E. *Ensure a progressive organization***

**Goal 10. Provide an effective infrastructure to support PICES activities.**

**Action 10.1** Plan and establish new expert groups required to achieve the scientific goals of the Organization.

**Task 10.1.1** Develop plans and roadmaps to achieve the goals of the Organization.

**Task 10.1.2** Regularly evaluate the progress of FUTURE and other scientific activities and assess the need of new expert groups.

**Task 10.1.3** Establish new expert groups and oversee their activities.

**Action 10.2** Evaluate and improve the efficiency of organization

**Task 10.2.1** Evaluate and improve the efficiency in communication and coordination, in general

**Task 10.2.2** Evaluate and improve the efficiency in procedures of annual meetings.

**Task 10.2.3** Evaluate and improve the efficiency in FUTURE program.

**Task 10.2.4** Evaluate and improve the performance of the Secretariat.