



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES EAST COAST DEMERSAL FISH STOCKS SURVEY IN COOPERATION WITH KUWAIT INSTITUTE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (KISR)

Strategic Goal:	Sustainability of Ecosystems
Thematic Area:	Enhancement of Commercial Fish Stock
Geographic Scope:	Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in the East Coast of the United Arab Emirates
Timeline:	2014 - On Going
Purpose:	Assessment of the current status of the main demersal stocks and monitor changes that occur when subjected to fishing pressure
Project Lead:	Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE)
Partner:	Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR)

Project Brief

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) plans to conduct a demersal fish survey similar to those completed in 2003 and 2013. The proposed survey will sample fish stock using demersal trawling nets and acoustics. The Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research has been requested by the UAE's Ministry of Climate Change and Environment to submit a proposal to conduct that portion of the survey along the UAE's east coast, i.e. Sea of Oman. This technical service proposal sets out the general framework for the demersal fish survey in order to assess the current status of the main demersal stocks and to monitor the changes that occur when it is subjected to fishing pressure.



Figure 1.1
Chart showing location of UAE east coast sampling
stratum and trawl stations.
(Photo by: Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research)

Activities and Outcome

- Demersal fish stocks survey in the east coast of the UAE (Sea of Oman) using KISR's Bahith 2 ship
- To estimate biomasses of the fish stocks
- To determine the geographical and temporal abundances of the fish stocks
- To conduct biological investigations for selected demersal fish species
- To study the key environmental factors affecting fish stocks
- To provide comparative study of demersal fish stocks with the previous years including 2011, 2003 and 2017
- Data on important physical characteristics of each location



Figure 2.1
Chart showing location of UAE east coast sampling
stratum and acoustic transects.
(Photo by: Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research)

Future Directions

The outputs of this study serves future studies of the status of demersal fish stocks in the Sea of Oman, and considered to be a historical record of changes in fish stock biomass till 2017. They would also support future Ministerial decrees on management of the fisheries sector in UAE.

