

French fishery data in Harmonie

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Objectives of the Harmonie database

The Harmonie database is the French central banking system for the Fisheries Information System (FIS) of IFREMER. It is defined as a system with a scientific objective and constitutes a real tool for integrated analysis of the French fishery, for research, evaluation and expertise work carried out in particular in support of public policies.

It is a unique and integrated system, gathering all the information characterising the “fishing system”, from the resources to the uses and economy of the profession.

Its objectives are to :

- make the data consistent, via reference frames and harmonised procedures, to promote inter-comparison between the different sources and thus improve the overall quality of the data;
- promote the integration of data from other information systems (notably the SIPA, fisheries and aquaculture information system of the DPMA, Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture Branch in the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food) and interoperability with other systems;
- optimize data backup, integrity and sustainability, qualification, enhancement and dissemination;
- rationalise operations (ensure a continuous operational service for all incoming and outgoing flows, allow access to continuously updated data).

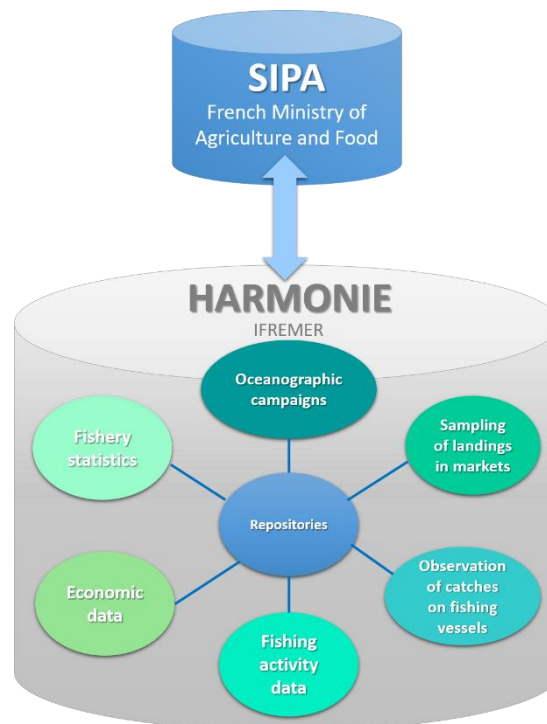


Figure 1: Harmonie interfaced with SIPA

Contents of the Harmonie database

Around a single repository, it integrates :

- fisheries data acquired by IFREMER through :
 - vessel activity surveys
 - economic surveys
 - sampling of catches on board professional fishing vessels (OBSMER program)
 - biological sampling on markets (OBSVENTES program)
 - observations of landings (OBSDEB program)
 - biological parameters (sex, age, maturity)
 - scientific fishing campaigns
 - the RECOPECA project (effort, catches, geolocation and environmental data)

These data are entered in software developed by Ifremer and interfaced with the database.

- regulatory information transmitted via the DPMA's Fisheries and Aquaculture Information System (SIPA) :
 - administrative data characterising the fishing fleet (Community fishing fleet register, shipowner's register, Role/Armament)
 - catches and landings data (logbooks, fishing records)
 - sales data from the Inter-Critical Network (RIC) managed by FranceAgrimer
 - geolocalized data (VMS, RECOPECA)
- some products :
 - aggregates (catches, sales)
 - SACROIS data (algorithm for cross-referencing multiple data sources)
 - data in COST format (OBSMER, OBSVENTES)

Fully interfaced with SIPA, Harmonie allows for continuous exchange of information.

Having taken up all the available historical data, Harmonie constitutes a unique memory of the evolution of the fisheries.

Moreover, the centralisation of data in a single system offers new possibilities, particularly in terms of cross-referencing data and integrated products.

Dissemination of fisheries data and products

Data dissemination is mainly done through :

- the FIS web (<http://sih.ifremer.fr/>) :
 - a public part with description of FIS and data and publications and summaries
 - a restricted access part by login/password to access to internal information, data extraction (html, csv), file downloads (zip, RData)
- mapping tools allow to show spatial and temporal representation (vessels activity, fishing effort and catches of geolocalized vessels).
- the ftp for transmit SACROIS data to DPMA