

## CFAME Task Team Workshop – Linking and Visualising

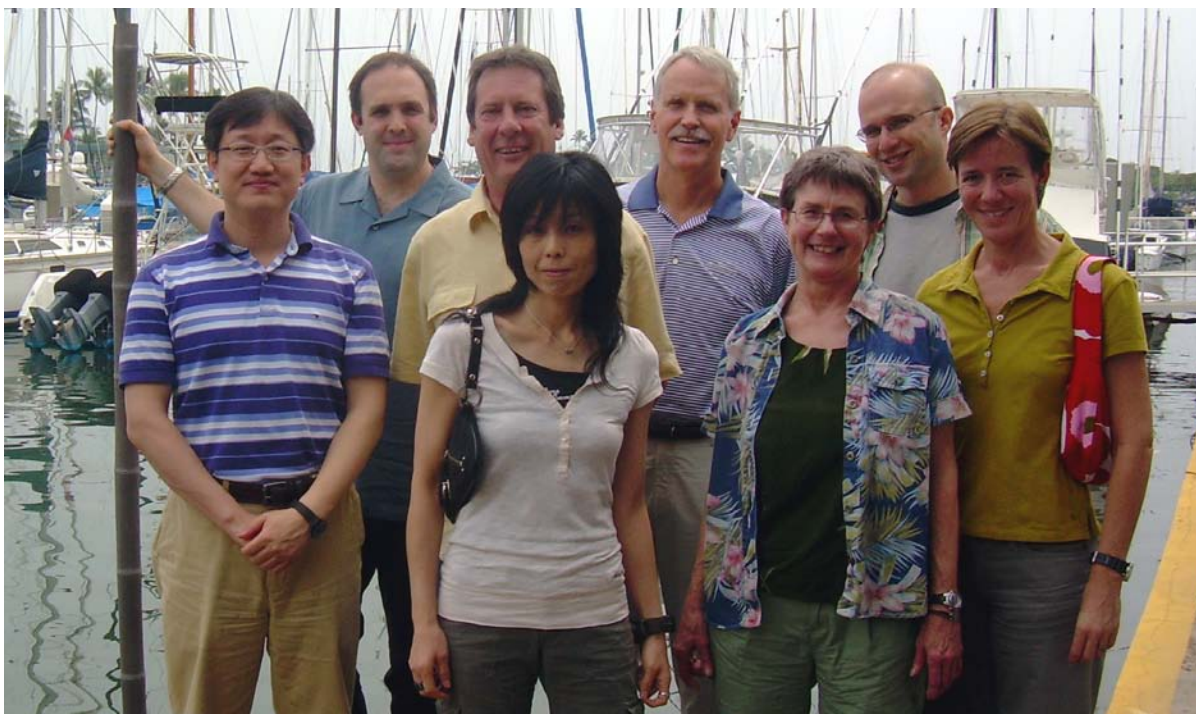
by Kerim Aydin

An inter-sessional workshop of PICES CFAME (Climate Forcing and Marine Ecosystem Response) Task Team on “*Linking and visualizing climate-forcing mechanisms and marine ecosystem changes: A comparative approach*” was held on April 15–17, 2008, in Honolulu, U.S.A. The workshop brought together three ecosystem comparison teams which have been working together since May 2007 on the California Current (CC), the Kuroshio/Oyashio (K/O), and the East China/Yellow Seas (ECS/YS). Prior to the workshop, team leaders who were responsible for developing ecosystem mechanism tables (Vera Agostini for CC, Akihiko Yatsu for K/O, and Young-Shil Kang for ECS/YS) coordinated a review of the details of these tables and provided explicit descriptions of ecological processes and their relation to climate. This information was given to graduate students working with Brenda Norcross, who produced summary drafts and figures documenting the projected changes in ecosystem components based on future scenarios forecasted by IPCC climate scenarios for the three selected ecosystems. Drafts of the results were completed in January 2008 and circulated prior to the workshop.

At the workshop, CFAME members and invited guests reviewed draft versions of the graphic representations of ecosystem mechanisms relating to climate/ocean scenarios. Michael Foreman, Co-Chairman of PICES WG 20 on

*Evaluations of Climate Change Projections*, provided immediate feedback as to the accuracy of the physical model results which drive our biological predictions. Each ecosystem team then worked to revise text and figures during the meeting and to finalize graphic representations of our knowledge of the physical processes affecting species’ population dynamics. One figure for each of the three regions was prepared, showing likely impacts under climate warming.

After successfully completing this review, a schedule was established for final scientific publications. These include: a PICES Scientific Report and peer-reviewed manuscripts describing the past two years of CFAME work. The intention is to distribute the results widely as a contribution to forecasting future ecosystem states. The goal is to submit the PICES Scientific Report and an accompanying summary manuscript to a high-profile peer-reviewed journal immediately prior to the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of PICES in October, 2008. Three further manuscripts, one for each ecosystem, will be submitted to journals in late 2008 or early 2009. A critical requirement for meeting this goal is funding from PICES for a graphic artist to transform the CFAME figures into a unified set of images that provide both scientific explanation and communication with the public.



Participants of the 2008 inter-sessional CFAME workshop (April 15–17, 2008, Honolulu, U.S.A.). From left to right: Jae Bong Lee, Kerim Aydin, Sandy McFarlane, Sanae Chiba, Michael Foreman, Brenda Norcross, Christopher Harvey and Vera Agostini. Kerim Aydin (Kerim.Aydin@noaa.gov), the author of this article, is a Research Scientist with NOAA’s Alaska Fisheries Science Center and Co-Chairman of CFAME.