



Photo: M. Scheidat

SCANS-IV

Small Cetaceans in European Atlantic waters and the North Sea

*AC 26 ASCOBANS
Presentation by Meike Scheidat
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Summary

SCANS-IV is the fourth SCANS survey (1994, 2005, 2016). It is covering shelf and offshore waters of the European Atlantic.

The main objectives are:

Abundance estimates and trend assessment of the regularly occurring cetacean species by population-wide surveys

Provide outputs for Member States to report under the **Marine Strategy Framework Directive** (Article 8: due 2024), the **Habitats Directive** (Article 17: 2019 – 2024) and for **OSPAR/HELCOM** assessments.

Provide outputs for **impact assessments** of offshore industries and fisheries.

Development of a **governance framework** for future SCANS surveys conducted in 6-year cycles to ensure long-term implementation.

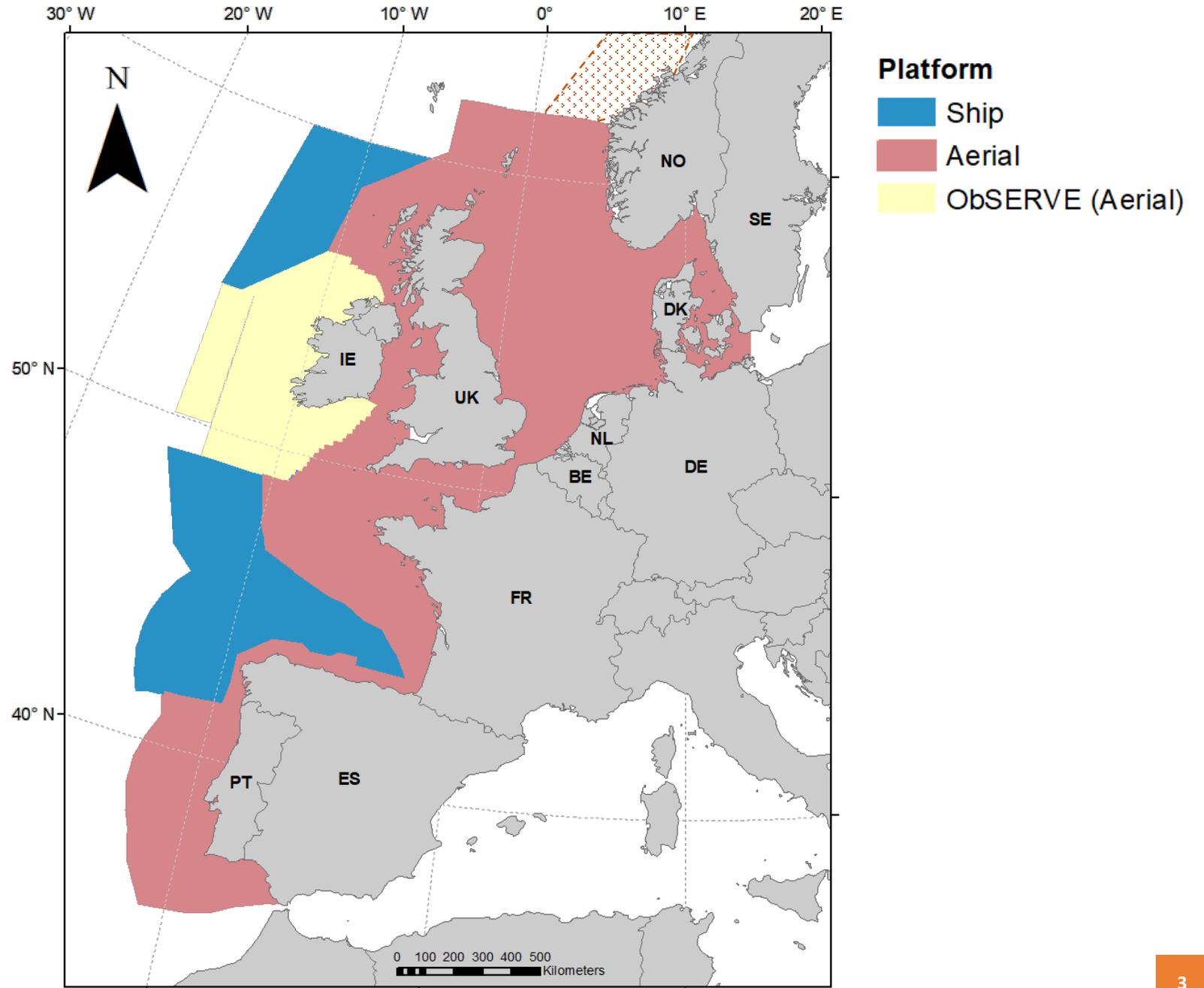
Draft study area

Aerial surveys

- 8 to 9 planes
- Using regional (existing) survey teams where available

Shipboard surveys

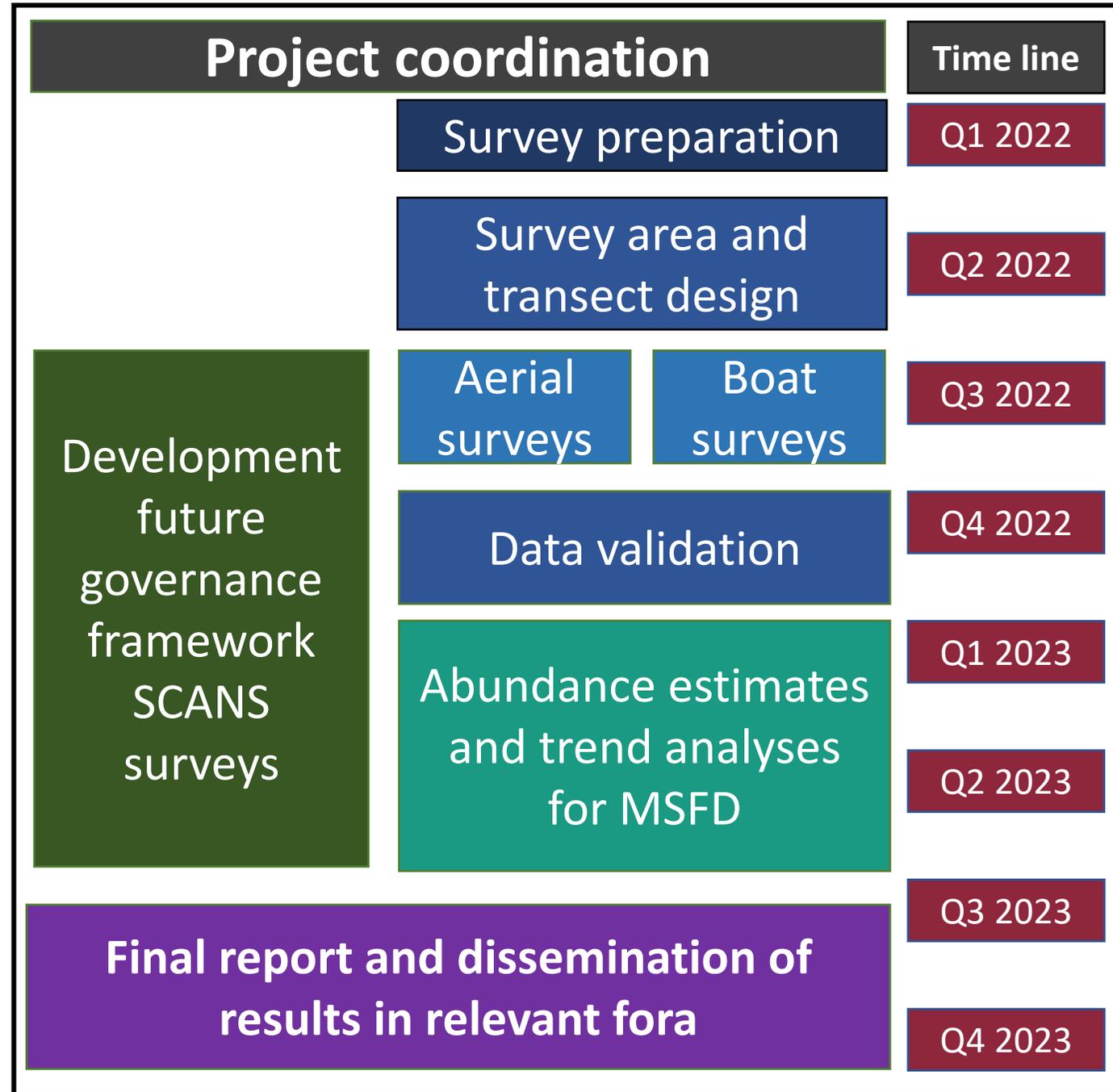
- 2 to 3 vessels
- Covering primarily offshore waters



Project structure

Funding bodies*	Scientific project partners
Denmark	Aarhus University
France	La Rochelle University
Germany	University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover
Netherlands	Wageningen Marine Research
Portugal	Instituto da Conservação da Natureza
Spain	Instituto Español de Oceanografía
Sweden	Swedish Museum of Natural History
United Kingdom	University of St. Andrews Joint Nature Conservation Committee

STEERING COMMITTEE



*can be several agencies per country



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- **Thank you** to all funding agencies for their commitment for SCANS-IV!
- **Thanks** to the ongoing efforts from the participating institutes to get this off the ground.
- And **thanks to ASCOBANS** for supporting this process and we hope Parties can continue to do so to make sure it is a success.