



Ministerie van Landbouw,
Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit



Proposal for an international bycatch project

Anne-Marie Svoboda

Ministry of Agriculture, Nature
and Food Quality

The Netherlands

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Need from an international perspective

- › CFP developments
 - 812/2004 exit
 - 2017/1004 new DCF
 - 2019/1241 new TMR
- › MSFD/HD obligations
- › OSPAR/HELCOM Workshop
September 2020
 - Data collection/ monitoring
 - Objectives/ threshold levels
- › Complaint NGO's
- › Letter Sinkevičius to EU
Ministers
 - Joint recommendations MSs
- › US Marine Mammal Protection
Act
- › CBD post 2020
- › EU Green Deal

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Need for a coordinated approach

- > ICES WGBYC
- > ASCOBANS/ACCOBAMS – Joint Bycatch WG
 - 2 consultancies (monitoring and mitigation)
- > IWC – Bycatch mitigation Initiative (BMI)
- > CMS – Bycatch WG
- > OSPAR/HELCOM
- > NAMMCO
- > FAO
- > RFMO's
- > Etc etc

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Idea based on Benthis project



Title	Benthic Ecosystem Fisheries Impact Studies
Instrument	Collaborative project
Total cost	7.78 million Euros
EU contribution	5.99 million Euros
Duration	60 months
Start date	1 October 2012
Consortium	33 partners from 12 countries
Project coordinator	Wageningen Marine Research
Website url	www.benthis.eu



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Approach

- > Multi-disciplinary approach with strong stakeholder involvement
- > Trials with innovative fishing gears conducted together with fishermen
- > Generic tool development to assess the impact of fishing gears
- > Bio-economic model development to quantify the effect of mitigation measures on the socio-economy of the fishing sector.



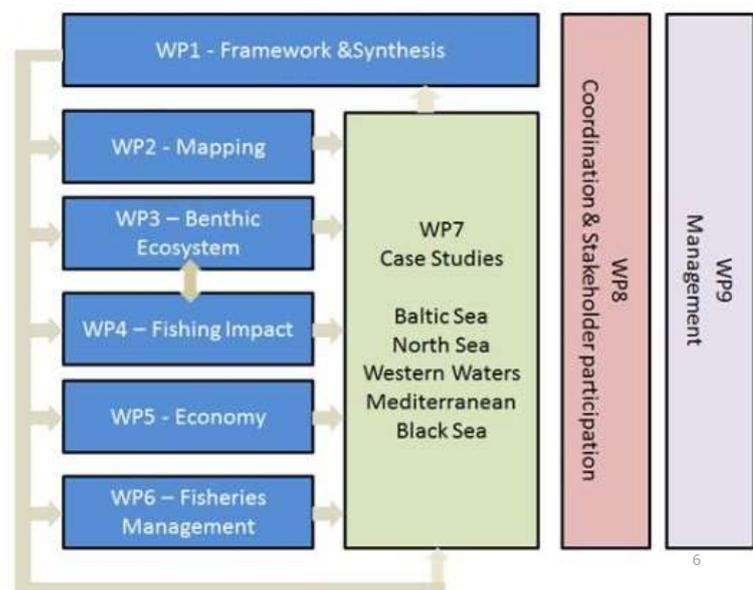
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Benthis workstreams

- > <https://www.benthis.eu/en/benthis/Work-packages.htm>



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REM pilot Netherlands

- > 2013-2017
- > 14 vessels
- > Strong fisheries involvement
- > Building trust, cooperation Danish fishermen

- > Link:
<https://edepot.wur.nl/466450>



Electronic monitoring of incidental bycatch of harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) in the Dutch bottom set gillnet fishery (September 2013 to March 2017)

Author(s): Heke Schelle, Bram Couperus, Hergo Steenstra

Wageningen University & Research report 112018



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Scope and participation

- > Focus on small scale fisheries (static gears, e.g. gillnets, pots and creels) – discussion point
- > Multi species level (all PETS)
- > Regional representation depending on commitment, at least:
 - Fisheries/environment dept
 - Scientific expert
 - Fisheries industry repr
- > Regional scope NEA/Baltic, however, linkages with Med and Black Sea projects are recommended
- > IGO's and NGO's

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Overarching objectives

- › Achieve successful cross-border cooperation with fishermen and among countries
- › Implement successful monitoring programmes in cooperation with the RCGs
- › Implement successful/proven mitigation measures
- › Develop Joint Recommendations (CFP art.11), starting with high-risk species and fisheries
- › Determine high risk species and fisheries and develop a long-term strategy to minimize bycatch

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Project set-up LIFE

- › A. Preparatory Actions:
 - A.1 Development Assessment Framework
- › C. Conservation actions:
 - C.1 Funding mechanisms (fisheries and monitoring)
 - C.2 Fisheries perspective: stakeholder participation
 - C.3 Socio-economic aspects
 - C.4 Mitigation toolkit
 - C.4.1 Species behaviour & ecology
 - C.4.2 Alternative fishing gear
 - C.4.3 Net modifications
 - C.4.4 Time/area closures
 - C.5 Statistically robust design / data checks / data needs different users
 - C.6 Data Collection & monitoring tools
 - C.7 Upscaling of monitoring and mitigation

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Project set-up LIFE (2)

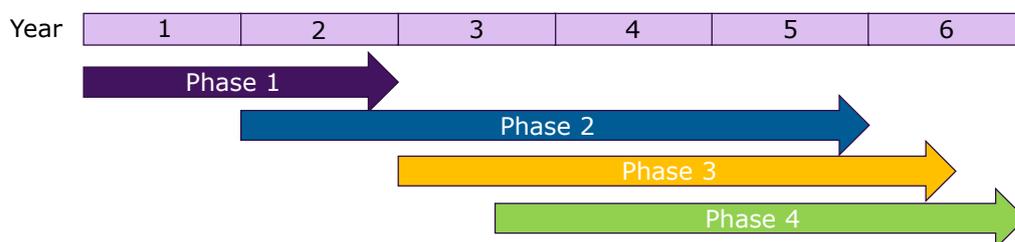
- > D. Monitoring of the impact of project actions
 - D.1 Monitoring of progress
 - D.2 Establishment of harmonized monitoring programmes
 - D.3 Socio-economic impacts
- > E. Public awareness and dissemination results
 - E.1 Joint recommendations
 - E.2 Standardisation of monitoring activities
 - E.3 Reporting and dissemination results
- > F. Project management
 - F.1 Management and project coordination
 - F.2 Monitoring progress and reporting to EU

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Phased approach



1. Preparation phase: experimental design, invest in stakeholder dialogue, socio-economic aspects, funding;
2. Implementation phase: field monitoring and demonstration of mitigation;
3. Monitoring and evaluation: analysis information and assessing measures;
4. Dissemination results: aim for a structural reform in monitoring programs to increase coverage across regions via input in the Regional Coordination Groups, as well as develop Joint Recommendations to establish regional mitigation measures.

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Last and next steps

- › Informal Webex with interested experts: 14 May and 28 July
- › Presentations ASCOBANS and OSPAR: September and December
- › Presentation EAPO: 9 February
- › ASCOBANS ACCOBAMS Joint Bycatch WG: 10-12 Feb 2021
- › **Kick-off meeting: 4 March 2021**
- › Establish work package leads: March – April
- › Develop concept note: March –July
- › Life call: April 2021
- › Deadline concept note: July 2021
- › WGBYC – September 2021
- › Decision: end 2021/early 2022
- › Deadline full proposal: spring 2022

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EU LIFE

- › New Life call launched in April 2021
- › Deadline concept note July (no legal commitment yet)
- › After approval fall 2021-> full proposal (commitment)
- › EU co-funding 60-75%
- › Aim is total €10-20 million
- › Depending on:
 - #countries
 - #vessels
 - types of methods trialed
 - Monitoring: Remote Electronic Monitoring, observers, app
 - Mitigation: pingers, alternative gear, net modifications etc.
- › Different expertise in countries
- › Interest from BE, DE, DK, ES, FR, NL, NO, POL, POR, SW, UK

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Request from parties

- > Consider partnership
- > Partners can be:
 - Funding partners
 - In-kind partners
 - Subcontracted partners, e.g. specific pilot studies
 - Advisers
- > Formal commitment needed in full proposal phase (late 2021/early 2022)



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