



# Bycatch in ACCOBAMS Area

Agreement for the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea,  
Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area

*ACCOBAMS ASCOBANS Joint Bycatch Working Group  
First Meeting Online 10-12 February 2021*

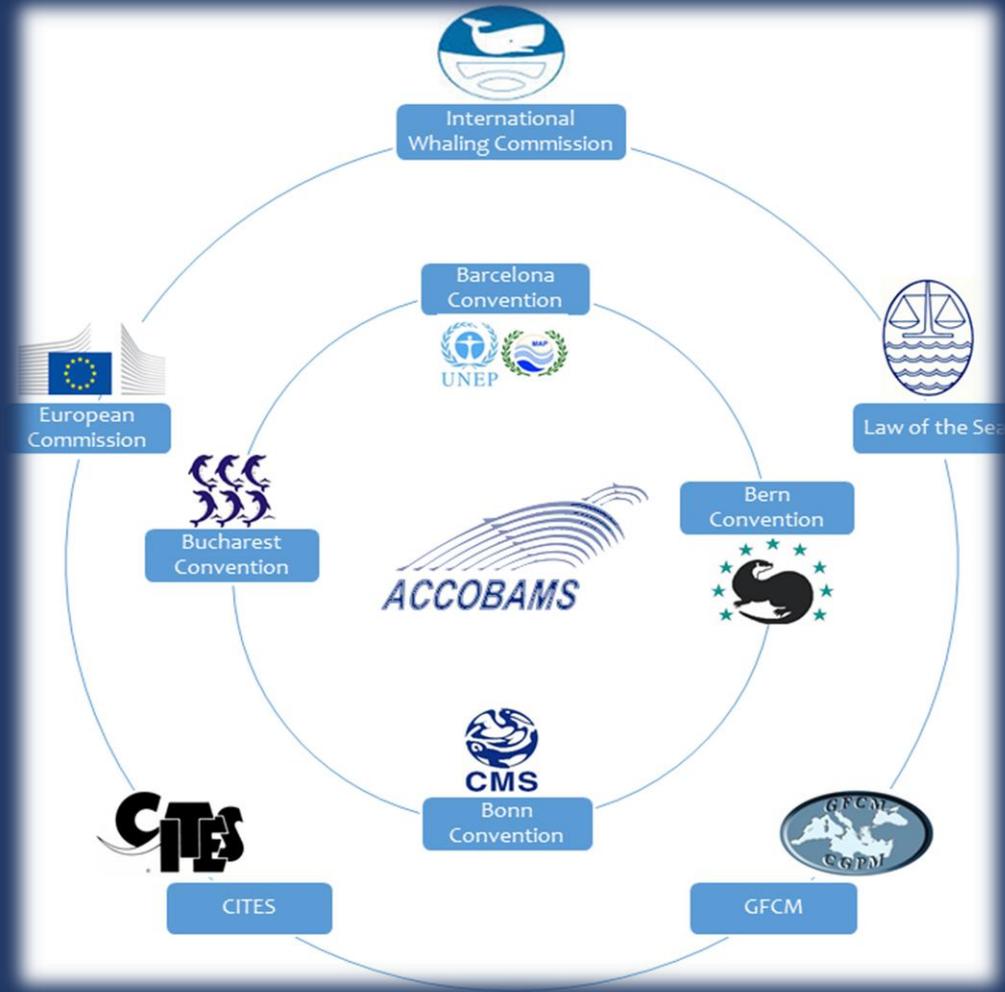
**Ayaka Amaha Ozturk**

Turkish Marine Research Foundation  
Faculty of Aquatic Sciences, Istanbul University





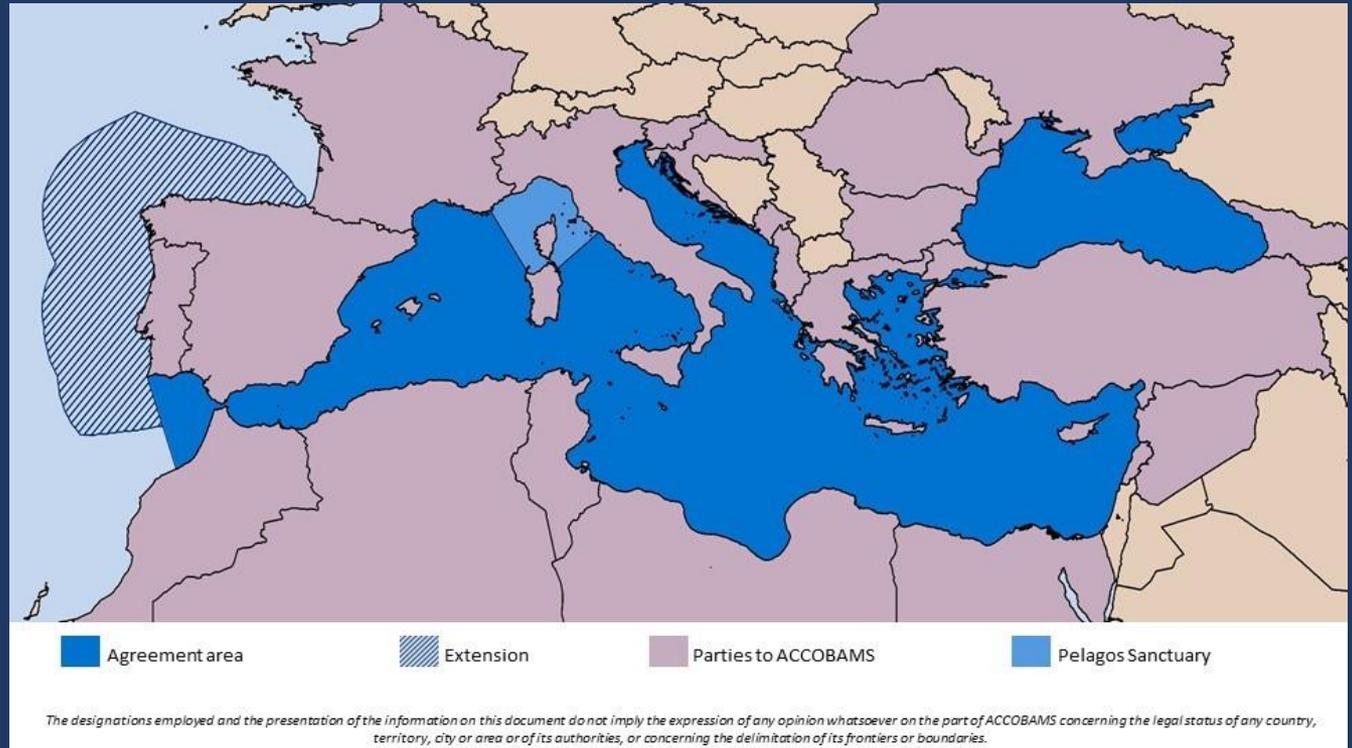
- ❖ Created in 1996
- ❖ Under the auspices of the Bonn Convention
- ❖ Entered into force in 2001
- ❖ Permanent Secretariat hosted by the Principality of Monaco



## 24 Member States

### OBJECTIVE:

Implement a  
**Conservation Plan**  
to achieve and  
maintain a favorable  
conservation status  
for cetaceans.



# Organizational Structure of ACCOBAMS

## Scientific Committee

CMS, IWC, ECS, CIESM,  
IUCN

4 regional repr.  
(West, East, Central Med  
+ Black Sea

**WORKING GROUPS**

Partners

**Bureau**  
5 parties

**Permanent  
Secretariat**

**MOP: Meeting of Parties**  
24 parties

**Resolutions**

**Work  
Programme**

**Sub-Regional  
Coordination Unit:  
SPARAC, BSC**

**Follow-up  
Committee**

# Cetaceans of the Black and Mediterranean Seas

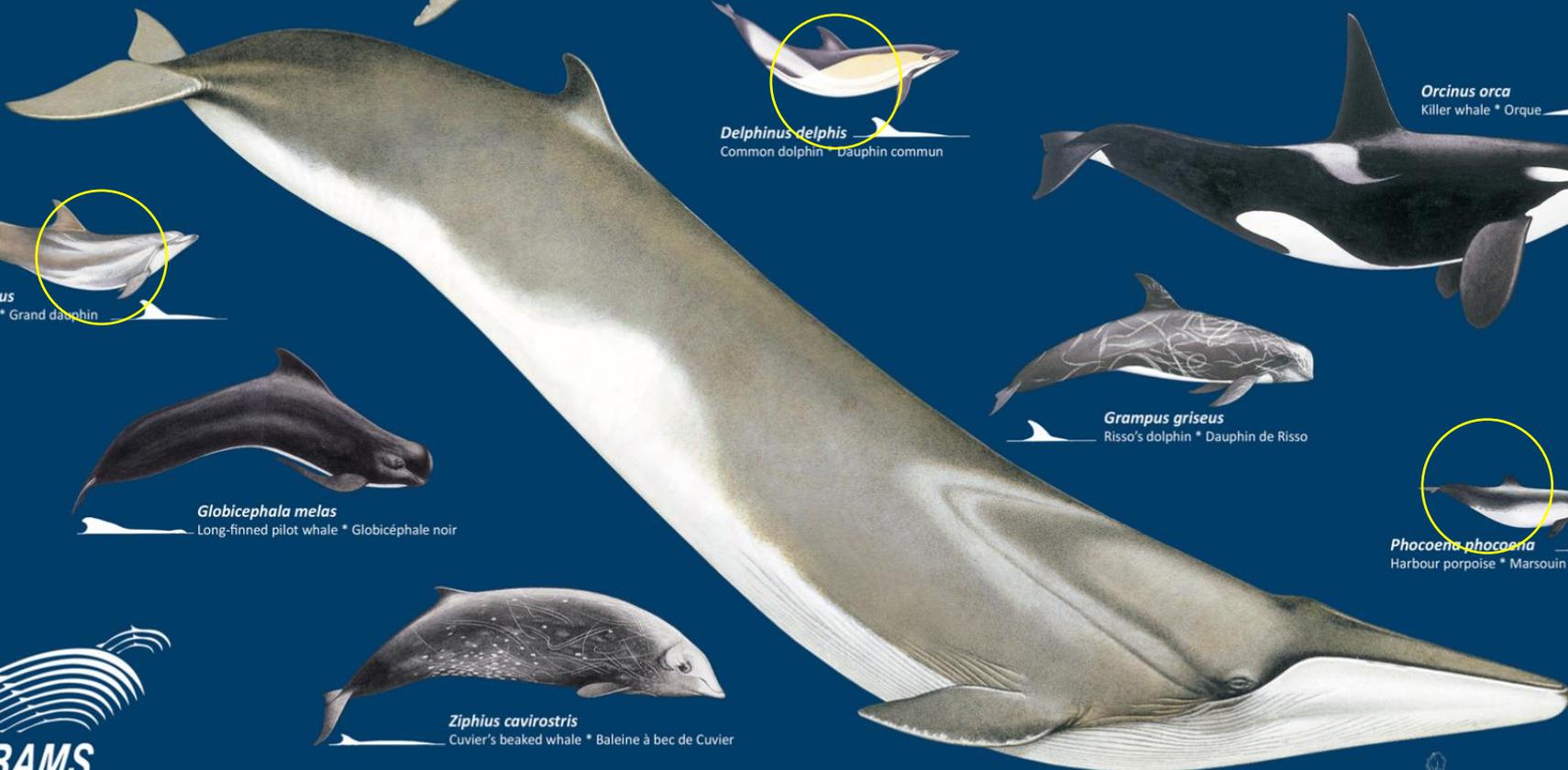
## Cétacés de mer Noire et de Méditerranée



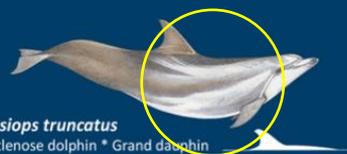
*Steno bredanensis*  
Rough-toothed dolphin \* Sténo



*Stenella coeruleoalba*  
Striped dolphin \* dauphin bleu et blanc



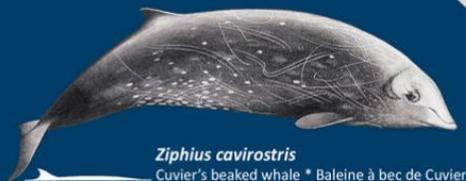
*Delphinus delphis*  
Common dolphin \* Dauphin commun



*Globicephala melas*  
Long-finned pilot whale \* Grand dauphin



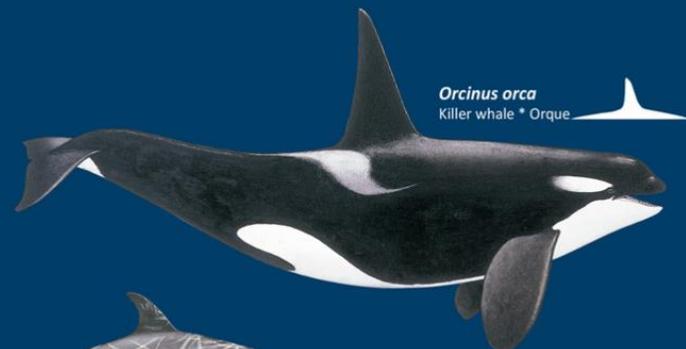
*Globicephala melas*  
Long-finned pilot whale \* Globicéphale noir



*Ziphius cavirostris*  
Cuvier's beaked whale \* Baleine à bec de Cuvier



*Physeter catodon*  
Sperm whale \* Cachalot



*Orcinus orca*  
Killer whale \* Orque

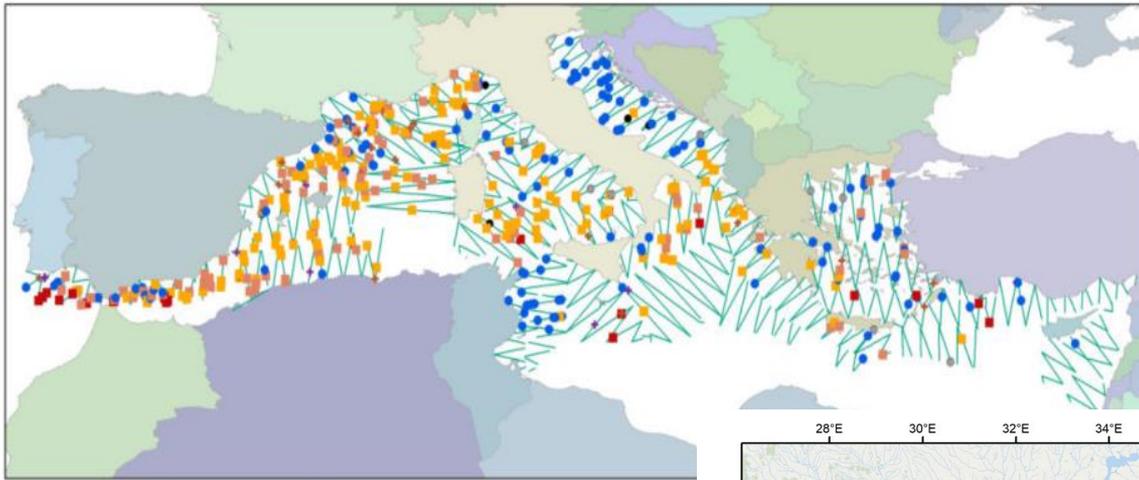


*Grampus griseus*  
Risso's dolphin \* Dauphin de Risso

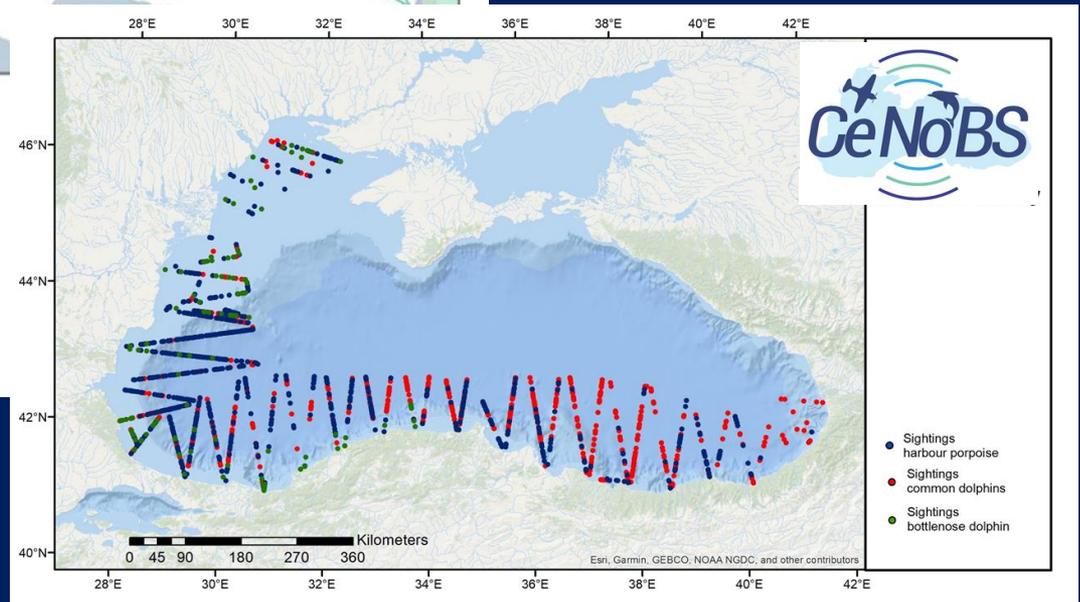


*Phocoena phocoena*  
Harbour porpoise \* Marsouin commun

# ASI ACCOBAMS SURVEY INITIATIVE



- species**
- Striped dolphin
  - Striped dolphin / Common dolphin
  - Common dolphin
  - Small delphininae
  - Bottlenose dolphin
  - Large delphininae sp
  - ◆ Small Cetacea
  - ◆ Delphinid sp.
  - Effort



- Sightings harbour porpoise
- Sightings common dolphins
- Sightings bottlenose dolphin

Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors



## Interactions with fisheries are main threats for cetaceans

Fisheries (in general): Overexploitation  
→ Prey depletion

 **Bycatch:** Entanglement in fishing gears (gill nets and trammel nets, trawlers, purse seiners) including abandoned fishing gear (ghost nets)

Secondary effect: Damage to social structure, loss of mothers for infants

**Depredation** is another serious problem in the Mediterranean (Morocco and Tunisia).



A.Tonay/TUDAV



## Bycatch in the Med and Black Sea

**Drift nets (tuna, swordfish) in the Mediterranean Sea** (legally banned since 2002, but still used illegally in some areas):

Common dolphins, Striped dolphins, Risso's dolphins, Sperm whales

**Bottom setnets (turbot, dogfish) in the Black Sea:**

Harbour porpoises, Bottlenose dolphins



A.Dede/TUDAV



P. Goldin

Thank you for your attention....

