



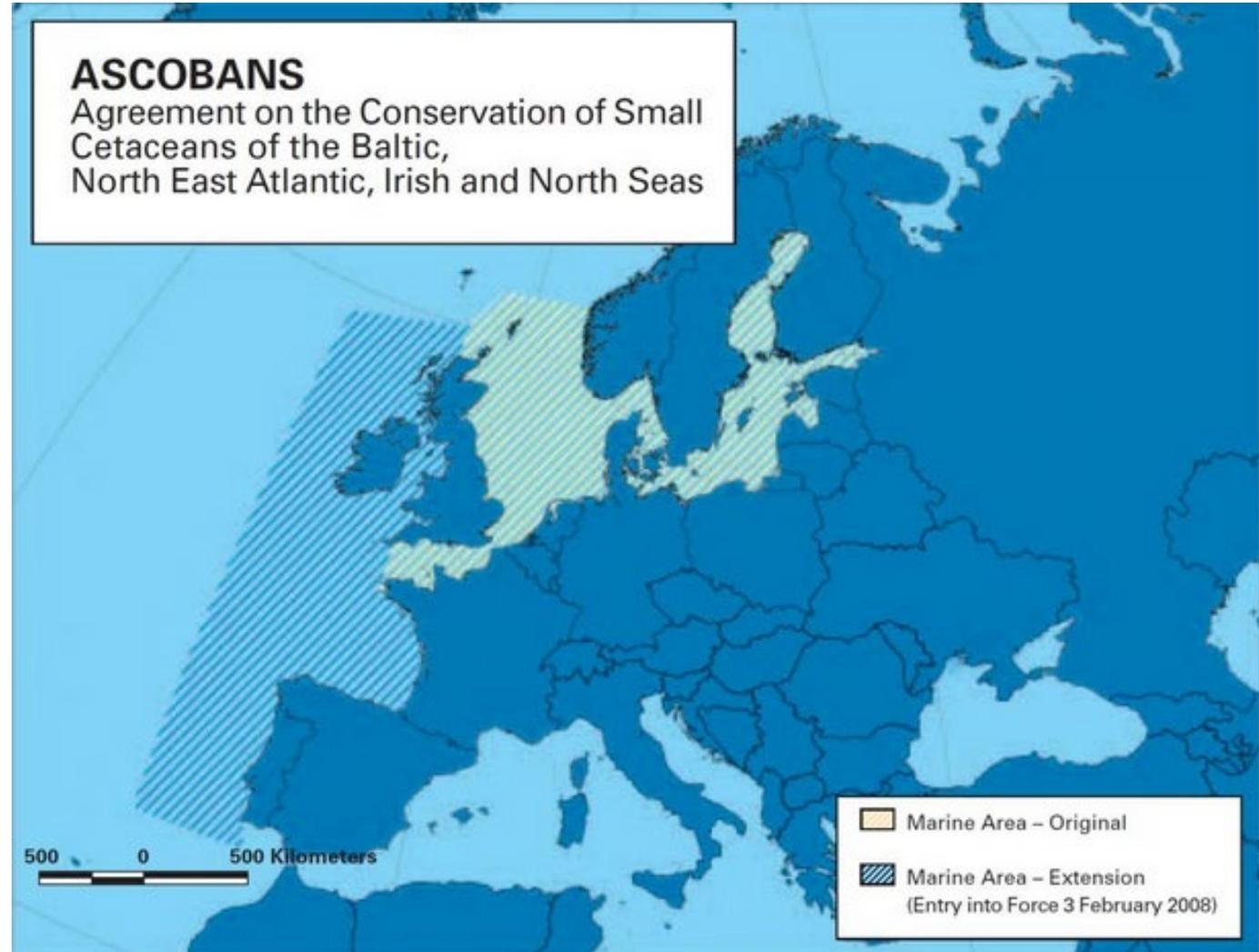
ASCOBANS mandates on the strandings database: update

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What is ASCOBANS?

- Promotes close cooperation between countries, to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for small cetaceans
- Legally binding, multilateral UN treaty
- Administered by UNEP; Secretariat shared with CMS
- 10 Parties, 7 non-Party Range States
- Covers any species, subspecies or population of toothed whales (*Odontoceti*) occurring in the Agreement Area (except the sperm whale)
- www.ascobans.org



ASCOBANS mandates for a strandings database

Conservation and Management Plan

- Use of bycatches and strandings: “the information collected shall be made available in an international database”

Resolution 7.4 *Impacts of Chemical Pollution on Small Cetaceans*

- “Strongly encourages the creation of a web-accessed database for marine mammal strandings and necropsy data in the ASCOBANS region”

Resolution 8.10 (Rev.MOP9) *Small Cetacean Strandings Response*

- Adopted the *Best Practice on Cetacean Post-mortem Investigation and Tissue Sampling protocol*
- “Encourages Parties to contribute data to the web-based strandings database under development” ... “Calls on Parties to provide sufficient funding and support for the creation and maintenance of a web-accessed database for marine mammal strandings”





Status

- 28th Meeting of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee (Sept 2023) endorsed the proposal from ICES to develop Phase I of the database
- Funding needed
- Governance arrangements to be discussed




ASCOBANS

Thank you
for your attention!

