

Agenda Item 6.2

Project Funding through ASCOBANS

Prioritization of Project Proposals and  
Other Activities

Document 6.2.b

**Activities Requiring Funding**

**Action Requested**

- Review list of activities
- Consider possibility of financial support
- Provide guidance to Secretariat as to overall priority of the different activities

Submitted by

Secretariat



**NOTE:  
DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED  
TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**



## Activities Requiring Funding

1. Many activities identified or endorsed by Parties require funding for their completion. The table below indicates the urgent need for additional voluntary contributions in order to be able to progress the implementation of the Agreement's work programme.
2. The total needs for unfunded activities of the ASCOBANS Work Plan that would be feasible to implement in the coming months if funding were available are approximately € 132,210 (incl. € 17,187 PSC) for activities to be directly managed by the Secretariat, with the support of consultants as indicated, and an estimated € 4,520 (incl. € 520 PSC) for external activities addressing requests from the Agreement or agreed priorities.

### ASCOBANS WORK PROGRAMME

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>North Sea Coordinator</b>	
<p>At the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Parties in September 2009 the Conservation Plan for Harbour Porpoises in the North Sea (Annex 4 to the Report, accessible <a href="#">here</a>) was adopted. In order to facilitate implementation, the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee formed a North Sea Working Group and thanks to voluntary contributions from Parties, a part-time coordinator was first contracted in 2011.</p> <p>The contract of the current Coordinator will end in October 2014. The proposal below would allow the renewal of the contract for one year with the same level of activity, corresponding to approx. 1 work day per week, with up to one third of the funds allowable to be used for necessary and approved travel instead of time. If more resources can be made available, the activity level could accordingly be increased.</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MOP6 Resolution No. 1 (Adoption and Implementation of the Jastarnia and North Sea Plans)</b></li> </ul>	
Consultant (1 year)	21,500
13% UNEP PSC	2,795
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>24,295</b>

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>Baltic Sea Coordinator</b>	
<p>In line with the arrangement for the North Sea Plan, AC18 (2011) endorsed terms of reference for a Baltic Sea Coordinator. Reporting to the Jastarnia Group, the ASCOBANS Baltic Sea Coordinator would promote and explain the Jastarnia Plan to relevant stakeholders; provide advice on appropriate funding mechanisms and support fundraising efforts; and document and collate in cooperation with the ASCOBANS National Coordinators existing international and national regulations and guidelines that are relevant to the conservation and management of harbour porpoises in the Baltic Sea, and to provide this collation to all stakeholders. After an initial one month phase of full time work, the work would then average 2.5 days per week.</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AC18</b></li> </ul>	
Consultant (1 year)	40,000
13% UNEP PSC	5,200
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>45,200</b>

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>Revision of Format for Annual National Reports</b>	
<p>The 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties in Activity 20 in the ASCOBANS Work Plan (Res.7.2) mandated the revision of the national reporting format for ASCOBANS. A need for additional questions to be added to the National Reports has repeatedly been voiced by the AC and working groups, in order to obtain all necessary information for assessing progress in the implementation of the Agreement and its Action Plans. The new electronic system allows more sophisticated analysis of the data provided, if the questionnaire is designed accordingly.</p> <p>At AC20, Parties endorsed the suggestion to take a two-step approach, with the Secretariat leading a consultation process with key players, including the chairs of the intersessional working groups, to determine the content of the new format, and subsequently a transformation of this into an effective survey form lending itself to analysis.</p> <p>This activity is very urgent if a new, more effective format is to be proposed to MOP8 in 2016.</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MOP7 Resolution 7.2 (Work Plan)</b></li> <li>• <b>AC20 Action Point 28</b></li> </ul>	
Consultant to assist with consultations on content	6,500
Consultant to develop professional, analytical online reporting form	9,500
13% UNEP PSC	2,080
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>18,080</b>

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>Live-Stranding Response Guide for the Public</b>	
<p>One of the ways in which the public can contribute to the conservation of small cetaceans is by administering first aid to a live-stranded animal and by alerting the authorities. This is also the recommendation given in the ASCOBANS exhibition. The aim of this project is to develop a one-sheet hand-out containing simple guidelines instructing laypersons how to react correctly. These would also include information on whom to contact in case of a stranding in each country. The same information would also be made available on dedicated pages on the ASCOBANS website. Draft content (on which experts will be consulted) has already been prepared by an intern of the Secretariat. As soon as the content is final, the hand-out will need to be translated, put in an appealing design and printed.</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MOP7 Resolution No. 2 (Work Plan)</b></li> </ul>	
Design of hand-out sheet	500
Translation	4,500
Printing	2,500
Project coordination (consultant)	5,000
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>12,500</b>
13% UNEP PSC	1,625
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>14,125</b>

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>Further Development of Children's Pages on ASCOBANS Website</b>	
<p>Following endorsement by AC19, the Secretariat with the help of interns, a consultant and in collaboration with Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC) and supported with funds from the voluntary contribution of Germany for 2013 had developed and launched a children's website, <a href="http://www.kids.ascobans.org">www.kids.ascobans.org</a>.</p> <p>While basic content is online, further enhancements are necessary, including interactive features and games, in order to make the website as attractive as possible to the target audience. In addition, in line with the Agreement's mandate translations are necessary in order to reach children throughout the Agreement Area.</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MOP7 Resolution No. 2 (Work Plan)</b></li> </ul>	
Development of interactive features	5,000
Translation (per language)	5,000
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>10,000</b>
13% UNEP PSC	1,300
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>11,300</b>

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>Development of Fisheries Pages on ASCOBANS Website</b>	
<p>AC17 endorsed a proposal to develop a section of the ASCOBANS website into a hub for information on bycatch-related issues in the ASCOBANS area. In addition, the Jastarnia Group had identified specific topics for which information should be gathered and made widely available. These are listed separately below. The website will be linked to the appropriate national pages and should be multi-lingual in order to reach the target audience foreseen.</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MOP7 Resolution No. 2 (Work Plan)</b></li> </ul>	
Synopsis of Bycatch-related Regulations of Relevance to Individual Fishermen (Mandate JG7)	2,500
Synopsis of Studies on New Methods of Monitoring and Mitigating Bycatch (Mandate JG7)	2,500
Web adaptation of new and existing material, including compilation of links to national information	2,500
Translation of summary information into all languages of the Agreement Area	4,500
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>12,000</b>
13% UNEP PSC	1,560
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>13,560</b>

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>Consultancy: Fisheries Legislation in the Baltic Sea Region</b>	
<p>One obstacle to assessing the situation and glean important information on the causes of mortality and health status of porpoises in the Baltic Sea are the low levels of reporting of bycatch and recovery of fresh carcasses. In order to gain an overview of the relevant practices and regulations in the Baltic Sea region, the Secretariat, through the assistance of a consultant, was requested “to produce a synopsis of bycatch-related regulations of relevance to individual fishermen, especially with regard to legal sanctions for bycatch and incentives for those delivering carcasses with a view to using the carcasses obtained for porpoise conservation research, irrespective of whether such incentives are laid down in national legislation” (Action Point 6 of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Jastarnia Group).</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>JG10 (endorsement by AC21 requested)</b></li> </ul>	
Consultant (3 months)	5,000
13% UNEP PSC	650
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>5,650</b>

**PROJECT SUPPORT**

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
<b>Web-Accessed Database for Marine Mammal Stranding and Necropsy Data</b>	
<p>AC19/Doc.6-05 contains the project report of the Zoological Society of London, which undertook a feasibility study for a web-accessed database for marine mammal strandings and necropsy data. Interest by stranding networks across the ASCOBANS region was high. In Resolution 7.4, Parties call for the establishment and long-term support of such a database. As a first step, a technical, fully costed proposal for the database needs to be developed.</p> <p><b>Mandate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MOP7 Resolution No. 4 (Chemical Pollution)</b></li> </ul>	
Development of a technical, fully costed proposal	4,000
13% UNEP PSC	520
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>4,520</b>