

Agenda Item 9.3

Funded Projects and Activities

Prioritisation of Activities Requiring
Funding

Document 9.3

Activities Requiring Funding

Action Requested

- Prioritise the activities listed
- Decide on calls for projects in 2020
- Assign funding (agenda item 19)

Submitted by

Secretariat



Note:

Delegates are kindly reminded to bring their own document copies to the meeting, if needed.

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. Unfunded activities of the ASCOBANS Work Plan 2017-2020 ([Resolution 8.2](#)) or addressing requests of the AC and its working groups, that would be feasible to implement in the coming months if funding were available, would require approximately € 98,310 (incl. € 11,310 in UN Programme Support Costs, PSC).

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
Long-term Coordination of the Harbour Porpoise Action Plans	
<p>Thanks to voluntary contributions in 2018-2019, the coordination of the three Harbour Porpoise Action Plans was able to go ahead for year 2019. Document AC24/Doc.3.0 presented in its Table 1 a flexible example of how annual payments could be distributed and shared amongst Parties. The total coordination costs per annum were estimated at € 28,250 (including 13% UN Programme Support Costs).</p> <p>Mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 6.1 (Adoption and Implementation of the Jastarnia and North Sea Plans) • Terms of Reference for an ASCOBANS Baltic Sea Coordinator (AC18 Report, Annex 6) • Terms of Reference for a Coordinator of Harbour Porpoise Action Plans (AC23 report, Annex 7) 	
Coordinator for one year	25,000
13% UN PSC	3,250
Funding Required	28,250

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
Coordination of the Species Action Plan for the NE Atlantic Common Dolphin	
<p>The ASCOBANS Species Action Plan (SAP) for North-East Atlantic Common Dolphin was tabled at AC24 and adopted intersessionally. A small amount of funding was allocated by AC24 to kick-start the work, and more is urgently needed to support implementation of the SAP, with emphasis on the activities outlined in section 1.5 of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Ideally, the Common Dolphin SAP would have a coordinator, similarly to the Harbour Porpoise Action Plans. (While AC24 considered there were a lot of synergy between Common Dolphin SAP and the Harbour Porpoise Action Plans, combining the coordinator positions was thought to be very expensive, with a full-time position probably needed).</p> <p>Mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Dolphin SAP (2019) • AC24 (Report, Action Point 2) 	
Funds to implement urgent SAP activities	15,000
13% UN PSC	1,950
Funding Required	16,950

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
Development of the 2020 National Reporting Questionnaire for MOP9	
<p>Resolution 8.1 on National Reporting has set the schedule for reporting from 2016 onwards, whereby Parties continue to report annually focussing on a select number of sub-items. All together the annual reports from one MOP cycle will make up one full national report.</p> <p>Funds are currently needed to develop the questionnaire for national reporting covering 2016-2019 (to be submitted by 31 March 2020) which will cover all topics in line with Resolution 8.1.</p> <p>Experience from the past three national reporting cycles in 2017-2019 suggests that at the very least a dedicated expert workshop is required to produce a suitable questionnaire, which not only allows to measure the level of implementation in the ASCOBANS Parties but also aims to take into account the complexities of reporting under other legal instruments ensuring that reporting is done in synergy.</p> <p>Furthermore, Resolution 8.1 requests that the data collected should lend itself to statistical analysis as far as possible. Given this complexity it would also be advisable to have a dedicated consultant for developing the 2020 national reporting questionnaire.</p> <p>This activity is very urgent, not least given that by January 2020 a new questionnaire will be needed, to allow Parties to submit their reports by 31 March 2019.</p> <p>Mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 8.1 (National Reporting) • Resolution 8.2 (Work Plan) 	
Consultant to develop professional, analytical reporting form and to conduct data analysis of data collected	15,000
Consultant to input the reporting form online, test its functioning and solve bugs	4,500
Dedicated 2-day workshop for developing the 2020 national reporting questionnaire (covering 2016-2019)	7,000
Estimated Subtotal	26,500
13% UN PSC	3,445
Funding Required	29,945

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
Workshop for new Strandings Database	
<p>The purpose of this workshop would be to bring together all the European Strandings networks, which are currently part of the new international strandings database in development by the Zoological Society of London (see presentation AC24/2.5.2). Such a workshop has been foreseen since the database was first planned, however while the development of the actual database is funded by the UK, the workshop is currently not funded. In the current critical phase of development in 2019 the core design, the metadata within the system and the display of strandings data is being agreed. To facilitate this process together with all stakeholders a workshop is needed to ensure the final database matches the needs and expectations of everyone. Experience has shown that such discussions between partner strandings networks and pathologists on causes of death (how/why) and discussions on output and display of “Causes of Death” are vital to fine-tune such a complex project.</p>	

Mandate: ASCOBANS Conservation and Management Plan, section 3 (use of bycatches and strandings) and section 5 (information and education).	
Travel and subsistence costs for invited experts	10,000
13% UN PSC	1,300
Funding Required	11,300

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
Revision of Harbour Porpoise Action Plans	
<p>Three Harbour Porpoise Action Plans have been adopted by ASCOBANS Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Recovery Plan for Baltic Harbour Porpoises (Jastarnia Plan) was first elaborated in 2002. In 2009, a revised and updated version was adopted by MOP6. In 2016, the Jastarnia Plan was updated and adopted at MOP8. • In 2012, the Conservation Plan for the Harbour Porpoise Population in the Western Baltic, the Belt Sea and the Kattegat (WBBK) was adopted by MOP7. • The Conservation Plan for Harbour Porpoises in the North Sea was also adopted in 2009 (MOP6). <p>All three plans foresee regular reviews and revisions. The Jastarnia Plan was updated in 2016. Subsequent meetings of the Jastarnia Group have discussed an intersessional review of the WBBK Plan, but thus far there has been no recommendation to revise it.</p> <p>The North Sea Plan speaks of periodic reviews being essential in order to “adjust the actions to the diverse changes that can occur, either in response to the results of the monitoring of the conservation plan actions themselves or to changing external factors.” At AC24, it was considered that the North Sea Plan would be due for revision after 2019.</p> <p>At AC25 progress reports are available to assess implementation of the three Harbour Porpoise Action Plans (AC25/Doc.4.1, AC25/Doc4.2, AC25/Doc.4.3), thanks to the Coordinator for the Harbour Porpoise Action Plans. Based upon this information the Advisory Committee should be in a good position to assess the need for revision. The figures below illustrate a hypothetical situation whereby the AC25 recommends the revision of the plan(s).</p> <p>Mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 6.1 (Adoption and Implementation of the Jastarnia and North Sea Plans) • Resolution 7.1 (Conservation of Harbour Porpoises and Adoption of a Conservation Plan for the Western Baltic, the Belt Sea and Kattegat) 	
Consultant to review the North Sea Plan	7,000
13% UN PSC	910
Funding Required	7,910

Initiative	Estimated costs (€)
(Re-)Prints of Outreach and Information Material	
<p>Regular revision and/or reprinting of ASCOBANS outreach and information material (see Resolution 8.2) is necessary in order to be able to inform the public and stakeholders about our work and our mandate.</p> <p>Material will be (re-)produced depending on availability of funds. Therefore, the figures given below are only a rough indication.</p> <p>Mandate: Resolution 8.2 (Work Plan)</p>	
Minor revisions and reprinting	3,500
13% UN PSC	455
Funding Required	3,955

Action Requested:

The AC is requested to prioritize the activities listed, decide on calls for projects to be made in 2020; and to assign funding to prioritized activities (under agenda item 19).