ASCOBANS workshop on management of MPAs for Small Cetaceans

Inf2.5c

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Objectives of the workshop

To discuss and make recommendations on
1) criteria and clear options for well-formulated conservation objectives for small cetacean MPAs, and
2) a toolbox of ambitious and innovative practical conservation measures for small cetacean MPAs
Threats

• Bycatch
• Impulsive/acute underwater noise
• Continuous/chronic underwater noise
• Prey depletion
• Environmental contaminants and pollutants
• Disturbance from the presence of humans
• Habitat quality
Conservation objectives

SMART – Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Results-oriented, Time-limited

• Suggesting ambitious draft ideas
• Choosing a few and re-wording to well-formulated

By 20xx the relative abundance of *species* during the *period/season* has increased from x to y within *site*.
Conservation measures

Ambitious and innovative examples of practical conservation measures
• Creating situation models – what leads to the threats?
• Drafting measures
• Prioritizing and specifying

Establish and enforce mandatory use of effective mitigation measures (e.g. bubble curtains, soft start, etc.) during construction and other noise-emitting activities, within MPAs and their buffer zone
What’s next?

• We have a good start of the envisioned toolbox
• All participants agreed that we did not have enough time

→ We would very much like to do a second workshop to eventually end up with a more complete toolbox of measures
Thanks!!

- Participants
- Organising committee
- Financiers