2022 National Reports: Other Matters (Section VII)

• Other information or comments important for the Agreement
  – Initiated a four-year pilot project exploring the feasibility of tagging HPs in the Dutch North Sea (NL)
  – New programme initiated: ‘Monitoring and research for nature reinforcement and species protection’ NL
  – CIBBRiNA project granted (NL)
  – The UK stranding programmes are currently undertaking a scoping project to enhance the knowledgebase on cetacean welfare during live stranding or bycatch events (UK)

• Difficulties in implementing the Agreement
  – Time constraints to participate to relevant meetings organised by ASCOBANS (BE)
  – Lack of knowledge on current abundance & distribution of the Balti Proper HP; military refusing permits for deploying passive acoustic equipment in the Swedish part of the Baltic Proper (DK)
  – Implementation of many monitoring & concrete conservation measures is either n/a, impossible, or extremely difficult in Finnish waters due to extremely low density of animals (FI)
  – Data sharing barriers; Long-term funding for surveys; Not having the right org. at the table; Too many technical outputs & too few communicable key messages for policy makers (NL)

• Burning issues
  – Construction of offshore solar plants, wind farms, new pipelines (BE); Wind power constructions (FI)
  – Funding for SAMBAH-II, and finding a permanent solution for future funding (DK)