Section II: Habitat Conservation and Management
C. Habitat Change and Degradation

13. Physical Habitat Change
National Reports 2022

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13.1. Provide spatial information on locations (in form of maps and/or links) of physical habitat change in your country by activity type (dredging, marine construction, coastal construction) for the reporting period.

- All countries except for Lithuania provided spatial information on locations with physical habitat change.
13.2. Does your country have any reported cases of physical habitat changes (e.g. dredging, marine construction, coastal construction) impacting small cetaceans during the reporting period?

No specific habitat change except construction of a mariculture farm.

Harbour construction in Wales but best practices used.

Figure 1: Pie chart of countries with reported physical habitat changes
13.3. Does your country have any mitigation measures (regulations/guidelines) to prevent impacts on small cetaceans during physical habitat change activities (e.g. dredging, marine construction, coastal construction)?

No. of countries with mitigation measures for physical habitat change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. of countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BE</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NL</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2: Bar chart of the number of countries with physical habitat change mitigation measures present
13.3. Does your country have any mitigation measures (regulations/guidelines) to prevent impacts on small cetaceans during physical habitat change activities (e.g. dredging, marine construction, coastal construction)?

**Mitigation Measures**

- **BE:**
  - Sound & effect mitigation

- **DE:**
  - Low noise construction methods
  - Avoid cumulative impacts

- **DK:**
  - Major physical changes require EIA

- **FI:**
  - Bubble curtains

- **PL:**
  - Pingers, bubble curtains, presence monitoring

- **UK:**
  - Marine mitigation plans requirement of EIAs

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Figure 2: Bar chart of the number of countries with physical habitat change mitigation measures present.
13.4. Relevant new initiatives/projects/publications (reports, theses, papers in journals, books) in your country during the reporting period on impacts from physical habitat change on small cetaceans (incl. title, organization, lead author).

**BE:**
- 4 publications on temporary unavailability of marine space for porpoises during construction activities.

**DE:**
- HP monitoring during construction
- 2 reports; cumulative effects of construction noise on HP and OWF operational noise.

**DK:**
- Wind farm assessments but few monitored construction & operational phase.

• None listed: FI, LT, NL, PL, UK.
13.5. Have there been any other instances/issues in your country regarding physical habitat change during the reporting period?

- No reports
13.6. Is the perceived level of pressure from physical habitat change in your country increasing, decreasing, staying the same or unknown?

- LT: Unknown
- PL: no response.