REPORT OF THE

TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON CETACEAN-FRIENDLY MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING FOR THE ASCOBANS AREA

Online

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Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas

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1. Introduction and background

Welcome

The ASCOBANS Coordinator, Jenny Renell (Secretariat) welcomed participants to the workshop on behalf of the Secretariat and invited a round of introductions.

Round of introductions

All participants introduced themselves by giving their name, affiliation, role and by specifying whether their background was in cetacean ecology or Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). The Chair of the workshop, Aline Kühl-Stenzel (NABU), observed that there were new participants in this ASCOBANS discussion which could bring a wealth of expertise to the workshop. There was a total of twenty-five participants including policy advisors, scientists, government representatives, consultants, and NGOs.

Rationale and scope for Draft Guidelines

The Chair gave an outline of the two-day workshop referring to the Provisional Agenda and Schedule and then proceeded to give a presentation on the rationale and functionality of the "cetacean-friendly" MSP guidelines. Background information was given on ASCOBANS, and the Chair stated that the Agreement aims for a favourable conservation status of cetacean species. It was noted that half of all cetacean species in the ASCOBANS area have a concerning conservation status (IUCN).

The Chair then emphasised the fact that area-based and temporal management are effective conservation tools which improve the protection of cetacean populations by reducing disturbance, improving prey availability, and avoiding vessel collisions. For example, a study showed that zonation reduced collision rates between vessels and right-whales, a relatively site-specific species, by 90%. The Chair noted that large-scale adaptive management is required for such efforts to be successful and that MSPs can play a huge role in cetacean conservation because it is large-scale and can, therefore, connect international and transboundary marine management in addressing anthropogenic pressures.

Presentations

To facilitate discussions, Peter Evans (Sea Watch Foundation/Bangor University), Cormac Walsh (Dr Cormac Walsh Research & Consulting), and Ms Kühl-Stenzel provided contextual presentations:

- Rationale and scope for draft ASCOBANS guidelines for cetacean-friendly MSP
- Cetacean-friendly Maritime Spatial Planning: Draft Guidelines

2. Introduction to MSP and Presentation of Draft Guidelines

Mr. Walsh defined MSP as "a public process of analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economical, and social objectives" which is evidence based. He added that MSP has two key roles: regulatory (the coordinated use of sea space) and strategic forward planning (marine ecosystem management). Mr. Walsh emphasized that MSP processes should be a multi-stakeholder learning processes. The draft MSP guidelines were outlined as including an introduction, recommendations, and the threats to

cetaceans and appropriate MSP measures. Mr. Walsh quoted ASCOBANS Resolution 8.5 (Rev.MOP9): "the general aim should be to minimize (i.e. ultimately to reduce to zero) anthropogenic removals (i.e. mortality), and in the short term, to restore and/or maintain biological or management units to/at 80 per cent or more of the carrying capacity".

Mr. Walsh then listed the core underlying MSP principles within the guidelines, which are also well established in international policy context, as being ecosystem-based, precautionary, and the use of the Best Available Technology (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP). High-level recommendations were then presented from the current version of the draft guidelines, as focusing on the application of ecosystem-based MSP, area-based cetacean conservation embedded within MPA networks, the use of an adaptive process with a mitigation hierarchy to net benefit cetaceans and the transboundary coordination and cooperation of MPAs. Mr. Walsh showed a matrix of threats, geographical distribution, species and sectors of cetaceans was shown based on ICES 2019. He noted that underwater noise can be impulsive or continuous and categorized as relatively widespread or highly location-specific. In the draft report it is recommended that marine spatial plans should ensure critical noise thresholds are not exceeded.

Mr. Walsh discussed the expert review process and firstly thanked multiple contributors (HELCOM, OSPAR, IWC, Animal Welfare Institute, Finland, Germany, and Poland) and the guidelines working group who gave comments on the draft text. Mr. Walsh informed participants that Mr. Evans provided specific expert comments and was preparing a report on cumulative effects assessment, which may serve as a technical annex to the report at a future date.

Discussion

Chris Parsons (Animal Welfare Institute) addressed the use of the term 'cetacean-friendly' in the guidelines as some activities (e.g. fishing, shipping) may still have an impact on cetaceans despite mitigation efforts and asked whether it may be more beneficial to use an alternative phrase, such as 'cetacean-sensitive'. The Chair responded saying that the term is not finalised for use as of now and that the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee would assess it in September. However, it was agreed that for the next version of the draft guidelines, the term would be changed to 'cetacean-sensitive'.

Patrycja Enet (European MSP Platform) asked if Mr. Walsh had considered EU policies and EU strategies regarding MSPs in the assessment. Mr. Walsh replied saying that as ASCOBANS extends beyond the EU area they were trying to not focus too much on the European policy side. He added, however, that the EU Maritime Spatial Planning Directive and the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive were the focus for the definition of ecosystem-based MSP in the draft ASCOBANS MSP guidelines.

3. Thematic Sessions

Offshore wind and underwater noise

Mr. Evans showed an illustration of the relationship between human activities and pressures (Figure 3.2, HELCOM) and explained that different human activities produce different sound signals at different strengths, decibels, and frequencies. Mr. Evans continued by showing examples of how these sounds affect groups of marine mammals differently. For example, peak hearing sensitivities of Baleen Whales is 1kHz and dolphins and porpoises peak hearing is at 150kHz.

Mr. Evans showed an illustration of the overlap between offshore wind energy development in Europe and the ASCOBANS area which has amenable conditions for offshore wind farms (EEA, 2008). He listed impacts of offshore wind development both negative, for example seabed damage and habitat loss by barrier effects, and positive impacts for example habitat enrichment. Mr. Evans also noted that tidal and wave energy developments are actively increasing due to energy demands. Mr. Evans then moved onto seismic surveys saying these surveys can be very loud, up to 252 dB, and they have been observed to cause cetaceans to avoid areas during surveying. Mr. Evans defined active sonar as 210-230 dB at a frequency of 450 Hz – 8kHz and stated that mass stranding

events of cetaceans has also been linked to the use of military sonar with it being thought to affect mainly deep divers such as beaked whales (Tyack *et* al. 2011) causing both behavioural and physiological negative responses.

He noted that it is important to be able to map these impulsive noises temporally and spatially and that although pulse block days are used as the unit of measurement for different sound sources and can be used to combine multiple sources, this can sometimes lead to the disguising of species-specific noise impacts.

Discussion

Jeanne Ledoux (Aktis Hydraulics) asked Mr. Evans for clarification on habitat enrichment in offshore wind farm construction to which he replied that this offshore construction can cause the formation of artificial reefs, thus the colonization of plants and attraction of invertebrates and therefore, fish to the area. Ida Carlén (ASCOBANS Jastarnia Group) commented that maybe there should be a reflection on the fact that wind farms may be in areas where biodiversity thrives, therefore, fishing in a wind farm area may negatively influence this benefit.

Isabella Kratzer (Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency) asked if Mr. Evans knew of any publications which showed negative impacts on cetaceans through barrier effects. Mr. Evans clarified that in the presentation he was referring to general negative impacts from wind turbine development across all species rather than cetacean-specific and he said he was not aware of any publications which focused on cetacean barrier effects. Mr. Walsh added to the discussion by commenting that his understanding of the barrier effect is that if you study one wind farm, you're unlikely to see a significant barrier effect, however, in years to come if there is a higher volume of wind farms then there may be a substantial barrier effect.

Anna Moscrop (WDC) mentioned the potential spread of offshore wind and enquired about the noise profiles of the operational turbines of offshore wind farms and the impact of floating gravity-based foundations which are anchored to the seabed. Mr. Walsh agreed that floating offshore wind is a significant issue as certain areas in Europe are becoming more suitable for offshore wind farms. He said this may have a positive impact by reducing the pressure on areas like the North Sea but that's not clear yet. Mr. Walsh also mentioned that there is range of techniques that can be used to anchor wind turbines some of which produce significantly less impulsive noise than others. He commented that it is too early to tell if floating turbines are improving upon the traditional turbine foundations. Dominik Auch (NABU) raised the point that although there can be positive effects of offshore wind farms there will also be a constant maintenance traffic within the area for the maintenance of the turbines.

Ms. Enet noted that the future planning should consider how different energy industries together with other sectors will be working together to meet energy targets alongside other targets, such as biodiversity, and referenced the "Roadmap to Integrate Clean Offshore Renewable Energy into Climate-smart Marine Spatial Planning" development plan and the "Best Practice Guidance in Multi-Use Issues and Licensing Procedures", which could be of use in the drafting of this guideline. It was then discussed that the report guidelines should refine and fix the methods used for MPA assessments within the ASCOBANS area and aim to improve the data sharing of results to provide valuable information.

Mr. Parsons noted that currently on the US east coast 3D scanning sonar and seismic sparkers (ca. 200-205 dB) are being used to map and select offshore wind sites and these might have an acoustic impact but have been relatively unstudied, although one assessment did find that 3D scanning sonar likely caused a mass stranding event of cetaceans off East Africa.

Ms. Kratzer commented on the draft guidelines suggesting that the line "alternative non-percussive pile-sinking methods should be applied where possible" should be altered as the alternatives are not state-of-the-art yet and therefore caution should be taken when recommending alternatives. The Chair then pointed out that using the terms BAT (Best Available Technology) and BEP (Best

Environmental Practice) could be good terminology to use in this section to which Ms. Kratzer agreed.

Shipping

Mr. Evans introduced global shipping by pointing out that much of the shipping around the world occurs in that mid temperate region which includes much of the ASCOBANS agreement area. He explained that vessel density and speed is increasing over time and that the chance of a lethal vessel strike occurring increases with increased vessel speed. He also specified that recreational vessels are increasing dramatically, and this has been shown in studies to cause both short- and long-term negative effects to cetaceans. With reference to the shipping industry, Mr. Evans pointed out that there is a reluctancy to reduce vessel speed limits as this can cause financial losses due to slower shipping times.

Discussion

Recreational vessel regulation was discussed by participants including speed limits and bans in certain areas and commercial shipping was also discussed with reduced speed limits being suggested alongside re-routing to avoid overlays with cetacean distributions. Ms. Carlén brought up the fact that monitoring and controlling speed limits and bans could be extremely difficult. Ms. Kratzer commented on the fact that reducing the speed of vessels may not necessarily reduce noise as some boats are optimized at certain speeds.

Compliance to marine regulations was then discussed and Mr. Evans noted that a paper produced in 2022 showed that Special Areas of Conservation for bottlenose dolphins in New Quay, Wales the code of conduct developed has the highest compliance among commercial wildlife trip operators and lowest amongst the casual recreational whale watching.

Emily Hague (Heriot Watt University) mentioned that in her Scottish Vessel Project data, AIS underrepresented vessel traffic by ~50% in coastal Scottish waters.

Fisheries

This thematic focus was discussed in two sections: bycatch and resource depletion. Mr. Evans started this thematic session by showing an illustration of the main species affected by accidental capture in the ASCOBANS area. However, he emphasised that poor cetacean monitoring may be underestimating the bycatch of other species. Mr. Evans then explained that commercial fishing of key cetacean prey species such as mackerel and herring is the main cause of cetacean resource depletion.

Discussion

Stakeholders' involvement in MSP areas were discussed regarding conflict between different industries such as trawling and wind power. Penina Blankett (Finland), shared a document on "Finland's maritime spatial plan 2030" and the Chair noted that there was a good stakeholder dialogue and participation on this MSP.

Kate Kaminska (Poland) commented that monitoring the fishing activities of small vessels less than twelve metres is also very important and should be a point to focus on. Mr. Walsh continued this discussion by saying that it can be hard to distinguish between small- and large-scale fisheries and then questioned if this is a useful parameter in terms of impacts on cetacean populations. The Chair responded to this question commenting that different regulations and monitoring regimes applied to different vessel sizes and that every effort should be made to close the gaps that exist today. Ms. Carlén added that the impact can also be species-specific noting that some cetaceans are impacted more greatly by small-scale fishing gear like gill nets. Mr. Evans replied that the trend in the fishing industry is to become smaller so it could be redundant to talk about "small-scale" fishing. Ms. Blankett

added that recreational fishing should also be recognised in the guidelines. Mr. Parsons commented that scallop dredging can cause a lot of noise and should be highlighted in the report.

Mr. Walsh then summarised the discussion as needing increased monitoring of all fishing vessel types (large and small-scale) and gear used, and a need to include fishing as an underwater noise source. It was then discussed, and agreed, that aquaculture should be included in the report with a focus on the need to map where aquaculture is occurring and whether AHDs (Acoustic Harassment Devices or seal scarers) or pollutants (such as antibiotics, pesticides, antifoulants) are being used at specific aquaculture sites.

Ms. Moscrop added that seaweed cultivation poses an entanglement risk to cetaceans and suggested that AHDs (as a mitigation measure) being used in offshore wind developments and other developmental projects be considered in the report. The distinction between temporary cetacean displacement for the purposes of offshore developments and permanent displacement was also discussed between participants.

Climate change adaptation

Mr. Evans introduced the topic of climate change focusing on the marine environment by presenting a graph on the "Average Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies, 1850 to 2019". He referenced some papers which demonstrated the increase in global temperatures both on land and in the ocean. Mr. Evans also noted that this change in temperature has caused a stratification in the ocean. He mentioned a study that has shown that this stratification change has subsequently affected plankton communities and thus cetacean prey distribution (e.g., blue whiting, sprat, mackerel, herring) and therefore cetacean species that feed upon them. Mr. Evans reiterated that climate change needs to be incorporated into the MSP guidelines, as there is little we can do to reduce the negative effects of such a major issue as climate change, but we can perhaps alleviate the negative effects of other human impacts that are negatively affecting cetaceans.

Discussion

Mr. Auch started off the discussion by commenting that local atmospheric changes and oceanographic changes due to offshore wind farms could locally affect climate conditions and would need to be monitored. Ms. Enet noted that due to sea-level rise, there will be increased sand dredging activities taking place in marine space for sand nourishment as a solution for protection and adaptation of vulnerable coastlines, as in the Netherlands. Ms. Enet added that coastal management and coastal adaptation plans should be incorporated into MSPs, and participants agreed that adaptive and dynamic management should be key in spatial planning of marine and coastal areas.

Mr. Walsh summarised this session saying that at a policy level there needs to be better links between adaptation plans to climate change. He also added that in the long term a reduction in anthropogenic impacts is essential for coping with the negative effects of a changing climate. Mr. Walsh then mentioned the possibility of adding a future outlook section on the implications of current trends in the report. Mr. Evans added that a plan to monitor and adapt the actions according to the situations at hand is essential for the protection of cetacean species.

Integration of cetacean conservation in MSP (e.g. MPAs)

Mr. Evans introduced Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by showing a map of the marine protected areas designated under the Regional Sea Conventions. He stated that the aim has been to get 30% of the sea to be protected however, thus far, this has not been achieved in many areas. Mr. Evans then introduced Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) an initiative under IUCN which recognized areas "important for one or more marine mammal species" and they are evidence-driven. He emphasized the fact that an MPA is only protected if it has effective management and that stakeholders should be involved with the development of MPAs from the start. Mr. Evans noted that a self-assessment management effectiveness of marine Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs

questionnaire was produced for the European Commission DG Environment which will be used to circulate to Member States of the EU. However, he then highlighted that the assessment of management effectiveness can be difficult because of the lack of scientific research in these areas.

Discussion

The importance of effective monitoring, enforcement and assessment of MPAs was discussed by participants and Mr. Walsh asked how MPA effectiveness monitoring could be integrated into MSP. Ms. Kühl-Stenzel thought step one would be to include all the relevant layers to arrive at an ecosystem-based approach in MSP and not to 'cherry-pick'. Mr. Walsh summarised the session as needing a serious commitment to the monitoring, enforcement and assessment of MPAs and that this needs to be integrated some way into MSP. He then continued to add that MPAs need to be placed in a wider societal context in order to gain awareness and acceptance from all stakeholders. Mr. Parsons commented that a study was done in Madagascar looking at the social science behind effective stakeholder MSP participation – planning consultation has to be done carefully to avoid conflict or excluding (or over amplifying), certain stakeholders. Mr. Walsh then brought up the importance of acknowledging the traditional knowledge of locals during MSP as this is a way to ensure that they know their views are taken seriously.

Monitoring and dynamic management

Mr. Walsh introduced cetacean monitoring and dynamic management by discussing the traditional MSP approach which would include a 'cetacean layer' in a set of static maps. He argued that this MSP approach is unable to deal with the dynamic biology of cetaceans and ecosystem in which they live and then listed the benefits of using a dynamic management approach for example, having protected areas with flexible boundaries which would account for the mobile nature of cetaceans and the potential risks of using a dynamic approach.

Discussion

Mr. Evans brought up the fact that regular monitoring of cetaceans for dynamic management can be extremely expensive and may not be financially feasible. He then proposed the use of citizen science as an alternative for monitoring and gave the example of the Joint Cetacean Data Programme. Ms. Kratzer asked for clarification on whether dynamic management required a revision every six years. The Chair commented that this duration was based on the monitoring cycle under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) guidelines. When the MSP guidelines had first been negotiated at EU level this is was the monitoring cycle that had been proposed by experts, but unfortunately this had subsequently been "watered down" and extended to ten years. Obviously, the more often a revision could be done the better and more dynamic the approach would be. She agreed with Mr. Evans' point regarding the integration of citizen science monitoring and made the point that high resolution monitoring may be difficult to achieve within the plan. Mr. Evans then added that a lot of MPAs are too small to effectively be protected and that are sometimes made smaller than initially planned due to stakeholders wanting the areas for activities such as wind farms. Ms. Enet proposed a focus on long-term forecasting of marine environmental changes. Mr. Walsh brought up the key issue of funding for monitoring and proposed that the key users of marine spaces could contribute to the funding of monitoring efforts. The Chair responded saying that the cost aspects could be discussed at the AC and that as this is a technical scientific meeting these ideas could then be proposed. Mr. Evans suggested that a central fund managed by the government could be used for monitoring purposes thus ensuring that standardized monitoring was taking place. The inclusion of a standardized monitoring methodology regulation and evaluation was decided to be included in the guidelines.

Mr. Walsh summarised the session starting off with the need for increased for harmonized monitoring in MSPs. He mentioned that monitoring can be very expensive and that there are various methods which could be used to alleviate this financial cost such as citizen science and acoustic monitoring. Mr. Walsh continued saying that stronger links are needed between the strategic planning level and

applied management. This could be addressed in the guidelines along with the centralisation of information sharing and guidelines for monitoring for environmental impact assessments.

Restoration

Restoration and nature-based solutions were introduced by Ms. Kühl-Stenzel. In her presentation she gave background information on the restoration goals of the Global Biodiversity Framework and some of the accelerators of marine restoration were listed. Ms. Kühl-Stenzel then posed a question for discussion, "why does MSP currently only rarely include zones/measures for nature restoration?" despite the political momentum to drastically speed up nature restoration in the marine environment

Discussion

It was discussed that active restoration was important i.e., having an end goal for a restoration project and also having an action plan for after the restoration project is complete. Mr. Walsh posed the question as to whether the guidelines should focus on site-specific or population-specific areas. Mr. Evans responded suggested not restricting it to just to site or population-specific areas.

Ms. Kühl-Stenzel posed a question to the participants asking if anyone had any insight into integrating active restoration into MSP and Florent Nicolas (HELCOM Secretariat) highlighted that there is MSP output data on the topic of nature conservation on Basemaps. A common language was used on the database which is displaying sea uses and nature conservation areas.

Ms. Enet enquired about what the targets in the guidelines would be regarding nature restoration. Ms. Kühl-Stenzel replied to this question saying that the guidelines are based on the conservation status of cetaceans within the ASCOBANS area and that it would be important to identify areas for both passive and active nature restoration. Mr. Walsh summarised this session saying the key messages were that restoration areas should be a distinct category in MSP in terms of data and data sharing and that restoration should not necessarily be specific to individual cetacean populations but sometimes may be. Finally, he commented that there is an ongoing challenge to find a common language to communication nature restoration areas between borders.

Other activities

The Chair then opened the floor to other comments regarding the integration of any other topics or amendments to the MSP guidelines.

a) Land and sea policy integration

The integration of land-sea interactions was discussed with Mr. Evans giving the example of contaminants used which could have impacts on cetaceans. Mr. Walsh then mentioned the One space planning approach promoted by the European Commission which aims to integrate terrestrial and maritime special planning. He then continued saying that something which could be focused on in terms of policy integration would be to align with the EU Water Framework Directive in terms of water quality.

b) Interacting with navies

It was decided that there would be a session focusing on navies. The importance of stakeholder dialogue with navies was discussed. Ms. Carlén mentioned that in Sweden C-pods are not allowed to be used due to unconfirmed security concerns and that in Swedish MSP there are areas designated for military use. Mr. Walsh suggested assuming assigned naval areas are high-impact underwater noise areas and to therefore introduce a buffer zone into these areas and incorporate this into the guidelines to ensure that other activities which generate high levels of underwater noise are not located within a certain distance. A side note which was discussed was the development of a system in which the entire ASCOBANS MSP was mapped and standardised similarly to that of the HELCOM base map.

Then Mr. Walsh summarised these discussions firstly saying that there is a need for land and sea policy integration as this fragmentation of the two areas is seen in many countries, including Germany. Next, Mr. Walsh summarised the discussion on interacting with navies saying that risk assessments could be conducted, fed into the military and then zones for naval exercises could be incorporated into the MSP along with buffer zones.

c) Assessing cumulative effects

Mr. Evans gave a presentation on cumulative effects by first introducing the importance of recognising the needs of individual species and species-specific human pressures and presented a table of "Threat Matrices for Marine Mammal Species by Ecoregion" (ICES, 2019). He then listed the definitions for terms used for assessing cumulative effects and explained the rationale behind the use of life history, population, ecological and conservation status factors in these assessments. Mr. Evans then showed examples of cumulative assessments for different marine species.

Discussion

The Chair mentioned that there would be an annex on cumulative effects within the MSP guidelines document and Mr. Walsh pointed out that the goal of this annex is to set out a common methodology for conducting cumulative effects assessment. Niki Clear (JNCC) asked if the approaches used in the Ocean Health Index could be applied to the guidelines. Mr. Walsh mentioned potentially recommending in that the MSP guidelines should be more concrete in terms of the spatial distribution of maritime activities as this may allow more accurate cumulative effects assessments. Ms. Moscrop then made the point that in the section on assessing cumulative effects it should emphasize precaution as we don't have sufficient data, or knowledge, on certain aspects of how the cumulative impacts could affect cetaceans.

General discussion

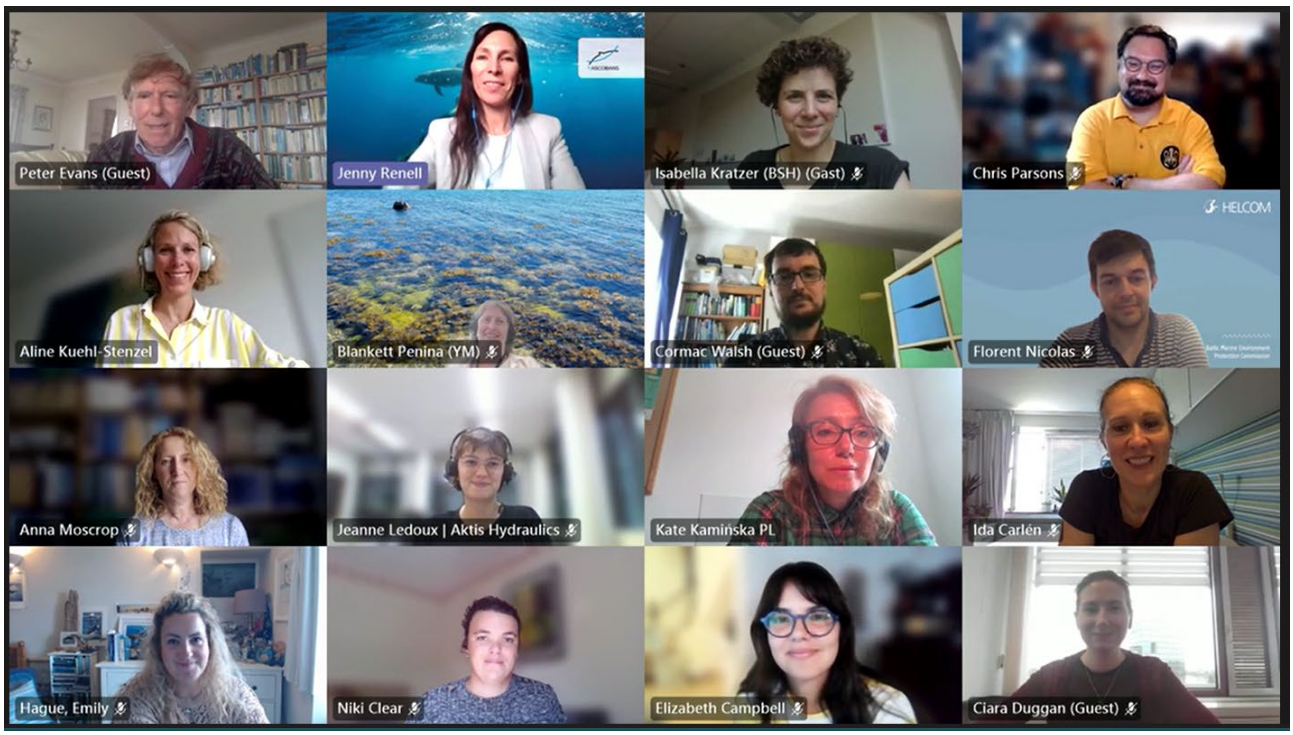
The Chair emphasized that this was the last opportunity for the participants to give their input into the draft MSP guidelines until the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee meeting in September. The establishment of a more "long-term" MSP working group was discussed.

4. Close of the Workshop

The Chair then closed the workshop by thanking everyone for attending and for their input, and then declared proceedings closed at 13:42 CEST on Wednesday 28 June 2023.

Annex 1: List of Participants

Firstname	Family name	Affiliation	Country
Aline	Kühl-Stenzel	Policy Officer Marine Conservation, NABU	Germany
Anna	Moscrop	UK policy manager, WDC	United Kingdom
Chris	Parsons	Consultant, Animal Welfare Institute	United States
Cormac	Walsh	Researcher, Dr Cormac Walsh Research & Consulting	Germany
Dominik	Auch	Policy officer for MSP and Offshore wind, NABU	Germany
Elizabeth	Campbell	Programme Officer, IWC	United Kingdom
Emily	Hague	PhD Researcher, Heriot Watt University	United Kingdom
Emma	Eastcott	Senior Policy Advisor - Marine Species Conservation, DEFRA	United Kingdom
Florent	Nicolas	Associate Professional Secretary, HELCOM Secretariat	Finland
Ida	Carlén	Coordinator, ASCOBANS Jastarnia Group	Sweden
Isabella	Kratzer	Research assistant, Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency	Germany
Jeanne	Ledoux	Assistant North Sea Team European MSP Platform, Aktis Hydraulics	Netherlands
Kate	Kaminska	Chief expert, The Fisheries Department Ministry of Agriculture	Poland
Laura	Stockute	policy officer, European Commission DG MARE	Belgium
Lisa	Mogensen	Senior Marine Mammal Advisor, JNCC	United Kingdom
Niki	Clear	Marine Mammal Advisor, Joint Nature Conservation Committee	United Kingdom
Patricia	Brtnik	Biologist, German Oceanographic Museum	Germany
Patrycja	Enet	Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) North Sea focal point, European MSP Platform - Assistance Mechanism, Aktis Hydraulics	Netherlands
Penina	Blankett	Senior Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of the Environment	Finland
Peter	Evans	Director, Sea Watch Foundation/School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University	United Kingdom
Sandra	Vardeh	Biologist, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)	Germany
Susanne	Viker	Senior analyst, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	Sweden
Secretariat			
Jenny	Renell	ASCOBANS Coordinator	Germany
Bettina	Reinartz	Administrative Assistant	Germany
Ciara	Duggan	Rapporteur, CMS Intern	Germany


Peter Evans (Guest)
Jenny Renell
Isabella Kratzer (BSH) (Gast)
Chris Parsons
Aline Kuehl-Stenzel
Blankett Penina (YM)
Cormac Walsh (Guest)
HELCOM
Florent Nicolas
Anna Moscrop
Jeanne Ledoux | Aktis Hydraulics
Kate Kamińska PL
Ida Carlén
Hague, Emily
Niki Clear
Elizabeth Campbell
Ciara Duggan (Guest)