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Report of the Workshops to provide capacity building for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy (MSFD CIS) in the Black Sea

14–17 April 2014



ICES

International Council for
the Exploration of the Sea

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Participants and facilitators at end of workshop in Varna, Bulgaria on 17 April 2014.



Participants and facilitators at workshop in Constanta, Romania on 15 April 2014.

Report of the Workshops to provide capacity building for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy (MSFD CIS) in the Black Sea

by

Mark Tasker and Ingeborg de Boois

Summary

ICES were requested by DG Environment to provide capacity building in Romania and Bulgaria to help those countries implement the monitoring aspects of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). The format for this work was through two two-day workshops, one in Romania and one in Bulgaria. These workshops fitted into a series of similar workshops being undertaken by consultants ARCADIS on other aspects of MSFD. The specific areas focussed upon by ICES were the development of integrated monitoring programmes and methods to understand the costs of monitoring. ICES worked closely with ARCADIS and with relevant Black Sea authorities to specify what exactly was needed and to avoid unnecessary overlaps with ARCADIS work.

One workshop was held in Constanta, Romania, with the second in Varna, Bulgaria. Seventeen and nineteen delegates attended the Romanian and Bulgarian meetings, respectively, although not all delegates attended on both days (Annex 1). One Bulgarian participant attended the Romanian event, and vice versa, to help in generating future co-operation. The agendas of both events differed as they were adjusted to meet needs expressed at the meetings. By popular request, a talk on MSFD Descriptor 11 on underwater sound was added to both meetings due to the presence in the ICES facilitators of Mark Tasker, co-chair of the relevant EU group dealing with this Descriptor. ICES is grateful to the two local organisers (Dan Vasiliu (RO) and Georgi Parlichev (BG)) for their excellent organisation of local logistics.

The workshops were comprised of a mixture of presentations and practical exercises in groups. Presentations were from the ICES course facilitators and (in order to gain an understanding of existing monitoring) local scientists. The exercises were related to establishing an integrated monitoring programme and carrying out a costing exercise on such a programme. There was good participation in both exercises, partly because the groups were able to use local language while discussing ways to progress each theme. Both facilitators were available (in English) to help if needed. Guidance was provided by the facilitators in ways of feeding back from the exercises – a skill likely to be useful if participants need to propose integrated monitoring or financing to others in future.

All presentations are available on ICES [WKBlackS Community site](#) or on request from the workshop facilitators or local contacts (Dan Vasiliu (RO) and Georgi Parlichev (BG)).

Request from DG Environment

ICES is requested to:

Contribute to the development of the Black Sea components of the preparation of the MSFD Common Implementation Strategy WP 2014-18 in cooperation with Black Sea EU MS authorities. The activities include the organisation of two capacity building workshops with (focus on preparation of content, programme, speakers and conclusions) on integrated monitoring and financing of monitoring infrastructure, one in Bulgaria and one in Romania.

Workshop Programme and Facilitators

The two-day workshops were organised as a series of presentations, exercises and discussion sessions that focused on the needs of attendees (Annex 1). The course therefore differed between Romania and Bulgaria. The programmes are found in Annex 2.

Facilitators

Mark Tasker, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Inverdee House, Baxter Street, Aberdeen, AB11 9QA, Scotland, Email: mark.tasker@jncc.gov.uk

Ingeborg de Boois, IMARES Wageningen UR, PO Box 68 1970AB IJMUIDEN, The Netherlands. Email: ingeborg.deboois@wur.nl

Selection of points that arose during the course

Things to keep in mind with respect to the MSFD:

- An indicator should say more about the environment than only about itself, and it should be manageable, reactive and measurable.
- It is difficult to deal with too many indicators. Be selective in what you try to achieve and what you try not to achieve.
- Data management is important to consider and to include in costs.
- There are issues in both countries around multiple agencies and need to work together to integrate, even before joint integration of monitoring in the Regional Sea context. NGOs may play an important part of some monitoring. There will be further challenges if management is required, especially in a Black Sea context as EU Member State waters are a small portion of the Sea.

Other points that arose during the workshops:

- Few participants were used to the recommended approach to the calculation of costs of monitoring (break down the process into small steps whose cost can be estimated). It was quite difficult to get started at first, but with some help how to break the monitoring into tasks and how to allocate person hours to tasks, good cost estimates came out of the subgroups. A demonstration using an IMARES project management

system opened their eyes even further that this was not 'just an exercise', but it is really important to get used to translating work into costs.

- There was wide interest in the statistical aspects of sampling design – this was followed up after the workshops with material being provided to the Bulgarian contact point. Good statistics is essential for optimising surveys (and therefore using funds most effectively).
- All were interested in possible sources of funding, but this is to be subject of a future ARCADIS event.

For future workshops, it is recommended that all attendees are present during the complete meeting. First of all because attendees would gain more from being present on both days, and secondly this facilitates an integrated multiple-day workshop instead of a number of separate days.

Acknowledgements

We are particularly grateful for the help received from the Romanian and Bulgarian authorities, the local organisers (Dan and Georgi) and from ARCADIS staff. The courses were enjoyable due to the active participation of attendees and the facilitators learned a lot about the challenges of implementing EU legislation in SE Europe.

Annex 1: List of participants

Constanta (not all participants joined on both days)

Name	Authority/Institute	email
Otilia Antonaru	AMAR-ABA Dobrgea-Litoral	otilia.antonaru@dadl.rowater.ro
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Dan Vasiliu	Geocomar	dan.vasiliu@geocomar.ro

Varna (not all participants joined on both days)

Name	Authority/Institute	email
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Annex 2: Programmes for ICES workshops on integrated marine monitoring. 14–17 April 2014, Constanta and Varna

GEOECOMAR, 304 Mamaia Blv, Constanta, Romania 14-15 April 2014

Questions and discussion were taken throughout

14 April

0930 Introductions and local arrangements

0945 Marine Strategy Framework Directive – reminder/background/objectives. *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1015 What monitoring is needed: focused on D1, D3, D4, D6. *Ingeborg de Boois* (ICES)

1045 Break

1100 Local presentations: What is Romania/Bulgaria doing at present – *Laura Boicenco. Mihaela Murescan, Violin Raykov* (for BG),

1230 Break

1330 What is integrated monitoring? *Ingeborg de Boois* (ICES)

1430 Two breakout groups to work on integration of the local monitoring

- Subgroup 1: Combine D5 monitoring from two institutes
- Subgroup 2: Combine benthic sampling from two Romanian institutes

1620 Underwater noise – Descriptor 11, what to do, how to do it *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1720 Finish

15 April

0930 Integration in Helcom, progress and prospects *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

0945 Improving efficiency in surveys – some key points *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

0955 How to present outcomes of breakout groups *Ingeborg de Boois* (ICES)

1000 Breakout groups completing and preparing presentations

1100 Break

1120 Presentations from breakout groups

1230 Break

1340 Estimating the cost of monitoring - possible use of checklists and other material *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1415 Two breakout groups to work on direct costs of a example monitoring programme

1530 Breakout group presentations and discussion

1615 Possibilities for use of EMFF funding *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1630 Course feedback and general discussion

1700 Finish

Black Sea Basin Directorate, Varna, Bulgaria 16-17 April 2014

Questions and discussion were taken throughout

16 April

0930 Introductions and local arrangements

0945 Marine Strategy Framework Directive – reminder/background/objectives. *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1015 What monitoring is needed: focused on D1, D3, D4, D6. *Ingeborg de Boois* (ICES)

1045 Break

1100 Local presentations: What is Bulgaria doing at present – *Georgi Parlichev, Minko Madjarov, Georgi Daskalov*

1300 Break

1410 What is integrated monitoring? *Ingeborg de Boois* (ICES)

1440 Two breakout groups to work on integration of the local monitoring

- Subgroup 1: Integration of WFD and MSFD D1 sampling
- Subgroup 2: Integration of at-sea sampling for Bulgarian MSFD implementation

1600 Presentations and discussions from breakout groups

1640 Possibilities for use of EMFF funding *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1710 Finish

17 April

0910 Improving efficiency in surveys – some key points *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

0915 Underwater noise – Descriptor 11, what to do, how to do it *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1015 Break

1035 Estimating the cost of monitoring - possible use of checklists and other material *Mark Tasker* (ICES)

1100 Introduction of breakout work *Ingeborg de Boois* (ICES)

1110 Two breakout groups to work on direct costs of an example monitoring programme

1210 Presentations from breakout groups

1245 Discussion

1315 Finish