**Factsheet for new measures - Introduction and Guidance**

The Programme of Measures summarizes the required existing and new measures to achieve the objectives of the first planning cycle of the MSFD. New measures are additional measures to maintain and achieve good environmental status that do not build on existing EU legislation or international agreements (Category 2b) or that build on existing implementation processes but go beyond what is already required (Category 2a).

Fact sheets have been developed for each new measure (Category 2a and 2b). The purpose of the fact sheet is:

* To document proposed measures to provide, among others, information in the context of public participation. To this end, the factsheets partially include the results of the analysis of the measure selection;
* To act as an internal agency instrument for measure selection and later for monitoring and controlling measures; and
* To support electronic reporting to the EU by providing the mandatory information, as well as more detailed information to support the content of the report.

The structure of the fact sheets was developed in line with the fixed, EU-defined fields for reporting in accordance with Art. 13 (9) MSFD. As such, the structure of the fact sheets can also be viewed as a type of “guidance” to help facilitate the drafting of individual measures and their factsheets. The reporting requirements were developed under the EU Common Implementation Strategy for the MSFD and are laid out in the document “Programme of measures under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive – Recommendations for implementation and reporting” (PoM Recommendations), confirmed by the marine directors in Rome on 25 November 2014[[1]](#footnote-1).

1. https://circabc.europa.eu/sd/a/0ee797dd-d92c-4d7c-a9f9-5dffb36d2065/GD10%20-%20MSFD%20recommendations%20on%20measures%20and%20exceptions%20-%20final.pdf. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)