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# Voluntary report on implementation of the Programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity – Germany

## III. PROGRAMME ELEMENTS

### Programme element 1: Implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management (IMCAM)

**Operational objective 1.1:** To apply appropriate policy instruments and strategies, including building of capacity, for the effective implementation of IMCAM

#### **Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*Regional and international organizations*

#### **Progress made in implementation**

*The German strategy of an “integrated coastal zone management” (ICZM) was adopted in march 2006 and formulates basic ICZM principles based on the EU recommendation 2002/413/EC, describes and analyzes the ecological, economic, social and legal situation in coastal and marine areas and on this basis elaborates steps to support the ICZM process and thus implementation of the basic ICZM principles. It is aimed at making a contribution to the development and preservation of coastal zones as an ecologically intact and economically prospering habitat for humankind.*

*The German ICZM is an informal approach to supporting sustainable development of coastal zones through good integration, coordination, communication and participation. On the one hand, ICZM is a process that should permeate all planning and decision-making levels as a guiding principle and, on the other hand, is a tool applied for the purpose of integrated identification of potential development and conflict as well as for resolving conflicts in an unbureaucratic manner. It is not an independent formal planning and decision-making tool and not an instrument for pushing through specialized and individual interests.*

*ICZM deals with the interactions between the exclusive economic zone (EEZ), the Territorial Waters (12 sm) and the transitional waters in accordance with the Water Framework Directive (WFD), the areas adjoining estuaries and influenced by the tides as well as the adjoining rural districts and respective administrative units on shore. The relevant scope is defined by the interrelationships existing in each individual case.*

#### **Barriers of implementation**

*The development of this strategy is already part of the ICZM process. It follows extensive (preliminary) work by various parties involved, integrates the relevant actors into a supporting working group and will be presented and discussed at a conference. At the same time the varying points of view of different actors and the necessity of open communication have already clearly emerged and influenced the strategy.*

*An analysis of the situation on the coast shows that major sections of the basic ICZM principles have already been implemented by means of the current set of legal instruments and the situation of the German coast based on that. The ICZM strategy urges a number of further adaptations of the legal control instruments and is aimed at fostering the ICZM process by creating the basis for continuation of the dialogue process. Additional experience is to be gained at various levels in best practice projects.*

*ICZM should permeate all relevant areas; therefore, all actors will contribute to its unbureaucratic implementation. At the same time bottom up and top down processes must complement each other since different approaches are appropriate for different problems and challenges.*

#### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*Establishment of a national coordination-secretariat (planned)*

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**Operational objective 1.2:** To undertake direct action to protect the marine environment from negative impacts

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities*

**Progress made in implementation**

*Germany's coastline borders at the North Sea and at the Baltic Sea. Germany is therefore active member in the essential international and regional cooperation, arrangements, and conventions and have to fulfil all relevant EU Directives (CBD, OSPAR, HELCOM, the Conference on the Protection of the North Sea, the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation, ASCOBANS, the EU Habitats and Birds Directives, the EU Water Framework Directive). Germany is committed to a wide range of measures over specified periods to protect the coastal and marine environment as well as habitats, biotope types and species.*

*On the following topics, general information and specific data is available at other competent Federal and/or Länder Authorities:*

- *Marine living resources: according to EU fisheries regulations (Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, vTI)*
- *Pollution: Umweltbundesamt (UBA)*
- *Land based: coastal Länder (Federal States)*

**Barriers of implementation**

*The implementation of the agreements established by the regional seas conventions is taking longer than expected due to the coordination of a variety of stakeholder interests with long-term guarantees for accomplishment.*

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*Under the OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic, a system of Ecological Quality Objectives (EcoQO) is to be developed, part of which will also be used as indicators to evaluate the effectiveness of protective measures. Under a resolution by the 5th International Conference on the Protection of the North Sea, ten such EcoQOs are to be trialled as a pilot project for the North Sea (including the German regions). These 10 EcoQOs include the development of the seal population and monitoring of the imposex phenomenon (whereby female animals develop male sex organs and become infertile) in whelks.*

*In Germany's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the North and Baltic Seas, responsibility for monitoring lies with the Federal Government, while responsibility for the coastal sea region (12 nautical mile zone) lies with the coastal Länder. Given the high momentum and continuous exchange process between marine regions, the monitoring programmes required for implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive, the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive are carried out in a system of nationwide cooperation between the Federal Government and Länder. This monitoring programme will also cover the monitoring obligations arising from resolutions under the marine conservation conventions OSPAR and HELCOM. In order to meet this target, there are plans to restructure and expand the existing Federal/Länder Measurement Programme in the North and Baltic Sea (BLMP).*

*The Helsinki Commission on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (HELCOM) will draw up a HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan by the end of 2007. In an initial step, ecological quality targets for the four priority areas of eutrophication, hazardous substances, shipping and biodiversity have been compiled. Supplementary to this, initial potential indicators have been identified which will form a key component of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan.*

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**Operational objective 1.3:** To develop guidelines for ecosystem evaluation and assessment, paying attention to the need to identify and select indicators, including social and abiotic indicators that distinguish between natural and human-induced effects.

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*Regional Seas conventions and action plans*

**Progress made in implementation**

*Regarding to the suggested activities under ANNEX III 1.3. (a) biodiversity key indicators are given by the annexes of the EC Habitats Directive and Birds Directive.*

*Responsible agencies as suggested in (b) on federal and state level have reported to the EU KOM for the periods 1994-2000 and 2000-2006.*

*Key habitats and marine living resources as suggested in (c) are identified by:*

- *A first set of marine key habitats was identified by the HD, annex I.*
- *In addition, OSPAR and Helsinki Convention has developed lists of threatened and declining species and habitats ('OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species and Habitats [Reference Number: 2008-6], replaces agreement 2004-6, see OSPAR 08/24/1, §7.12' and 'HELCOM lists of threatened and/or declining species and Biotopes/ Habitats in the Baltic Sea area Baltic [Sea Environment Proceedings No. 113]')*

*A comprehensive monitoring and research programme was set up to identify Natura 2000 key habitats and species by the federal government and coastal states of Germany (d).*

*Marine activities in Europe for the establishment of the Natura 2000-network of MPAs are coordinated in workgroups of the EU COM and the member states, e. g. the Marine Expert Working Group (e).*

*Cooperations like suggested in (f) have to set up with the regional conventions*

**Barriers of implementation**

*At the moment ecosystem evaluation applies only for a limited number of habitats and species. This list has mayor gaps concerning typical marine species, e.g. fishes and makroalgae.*

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*A broader assessment of all important parts of the ecosystem will follow with the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MFD) until 2012.*

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## Programme element 2: Marine and coastal living resources

**Operational objective 2.1:** To promote ecosystem approaches to the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal living resources, including the identification of key variables or interactions, for the purpose of assessing and monitoring, first, components of biological diversity; second, the sustainable use of such components; and, third, ecosystem effects.

### Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)

FAO

### Progress made in implementation

Regarding to the suggested activities under ANNEX I III 2.1. (a) Germany supports activities of the OSPAR Convention to protect biodiversity in areas beyond the areas of national jurisdiction. E. g. a first set of MPAs are identified and regulated with the Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs). Germany chair the respective OSPAR working group.

Information exchange and identification of key elements and threats as mentioned in (b), (c), (d) and (i) in cooperation with the relevant OSPAR, HELCOM and EC groups.

(f), (g) and (h) → Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, vTI

### Barriers of implementation

No barriers, information exchange and setup of expert and administrative groups is well developed.

### Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers

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**Operational objective 2.2:** To make available to the Parties information on marine genetic resources in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction and, as appropriate, on coastal and marine genetic resources under national jurisdiction from publicly available information sources.

### Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)

UNDOALOS, UNEP, IOC

### Progress made in implementation

A Global Information System on Fishes is given under <http://www.fishbase.org> and coordinated mainly at IFM-GEOMAR at the University of Kiel. FishBase is a relational database with information to cater to different professionals. It contains practically all fish species known to science. FishBase was developed at the WorldFish Center in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and many other partners, and with support from the European Commission (EC). The University of Kiel and many other partners provide with assistance from the EC detailed information on a broad range of commercial and non-commercial fish species

Information about genetic resources is given in several publications:

- Hunt, B. & Vincent, A. C. J.: *Scale and Sustainability of Marine Bioprospecting for Pharmaceuticals*, *Ambio* Vol. 35, No. 2, 2006.
- Leary, D. K.: *International Law and the Genetic Resources of the Deep-sea Beyond National Jurisdiction: Elements of a Future International Legal Regime*, 2006.
- UNU-IAS Report: *Bioprospecting of Genetic Resources in the Deep Seabed: Scientific, Legal and Policy Aspects*, 2005.
- UNU-IAS Report: *Queensland Biodiscovery Collaboration - The Griffith University AstraZeneca Partnership for Natural Product Discovery. An Access & Benefit Sharing Case Study*, 2008.

Detailed informations are given under:

- <http://www.un.org/Depts/los/biodiversityworkinggroup/biodiversityworkinggroup.htm>
- <http://www.ias.unu.edu/>

### Barriers of implementation



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**Operational objective 2.3:** *To gather and assimilate information on, build capacity to mitigate the effects of, and to promote policy development, implementation strategies and actions to address: (i) the biological and socio-economic consequences of physical degradation and destruction of key marine and coastal habitats including mangrove ecosystems, tropical and cold-water coral-reef ecosystems, seamount ecosystems and seagrass ecosystems including identification and promotion of management practices, methodologies and policies to reduce and mitigate impacts upon marine and coastal biological diversity and to restore mangrove forests and rehabilitate damaged coral reef; and in particular (ii) the impacts of mangrove forest destruction, coral bleaching and related mortality on coral-reef ecosystems and the human communities*

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*International Coral Reef Initiative and its partners, UNEP-RSP, IOC*

**Progress made in implementation**

*From the above habitat list only seagrass habitats exist in the German North- and Baltic Sea. Seagrass habitats are protected in Germany as part of the EC protected habitat "Large shallow inlets and bays (EC-Code 1160)*

**Barriers of implementation**

*TMAP report: a decline of intertidal seagrasses in the southern and central Wadden Sea from the 1950s to the 1990s seems to have come to an end and some slow recovery is evident. This is also the case in the northern Wadden Sea where no decline was noted and at present more than 80 % of seagrass area occurs.*

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

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**Operational objective 2.4:** *To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of marine living resources in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction*

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*United Nations General Assembly and other relevant international and regional organizations*

**Progress made in implementation**

- *Substantial contribution to the Adoption at CBD COP9 (May 2008) of scientific criteria for the identification of ecologically and biologically significant areas beyond national jurisdiction and guidance for the development of representative MPA networks. [Decision IX/20 of COP9 urges States and invites relevant organizations to apply the criteria and guidance, and calls for a scientific workshop in late 2009 to assess progress]*
- *Initiation of a 2-year Project by the German Federal Ministry for Environment and Nuclear Safety (BMU) in order to support the preparatory work leading to the scientific workshop in late 2009 in Canada to assess the progress on identifying ecologically and biologically significant areas beyond national jurisdiction and establishing representative networks of MPAs.*
- *Within the context of the OSPAR Convention, Germany as the convenor of the Intersessional Correspondence Group on Marine Protected Areas (ICG-MPA) has facilitated the progress in elaborating the first proposals to designate OSPAR MPAs in Areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) in the North-East Atlantic. In 2008, the OSPAR Commission has in principle agreed to proceed with one specific MPA proposal to designate parts of the Charlie Gibbs Fracture Zone (CGFZ) on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge as an MPA in the High Seas of the OSPAR Maritime Area. In addition, Germany has contracted the University of York (UK) to identify other ecologically significant areas that qualify to receive protective measures in the North-East Atlantic. As a result, corresponding proposals for seven areas (Northern-Mid Atlantic Ridge; Reykjanes Ridge; Rockall and Hatton Banks; and the Josephine, Milne, Altair, and Antialtair Seamounts) have been elaborated and presented to OSPAR Contracting Parties. Currently these proposals are being refined.*

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**Barriers of implementation**

*Unclear legalities with respect to the mandates of the different competent authorities and the pioneering process to designate Marine Protected Areas in Areas beyond National Jurisdiction.*

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

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## Programme element 3: Marine and coastal protected areas

**Operational objective 3.1:** *To establish and strengthen national and regional systems of marine and coastal protected areas integrated into a global network and as a contribution to globally agreed goals.*

### **Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*Regional and international organizations*

### **Progress made in implementation**

*German activities supported the building of networks of MPAs in the North-East-Atlantic including the North Sea and the Baltic Sea by developing a comprehensive network of 118 sites (22.791 km<sup>2</sup>, 40,3 %) for the Natura 2000 network according to EU regulations and as part of the MPA networks of HELCOM and OSPARCOM*

### **Barriers of implementation**

- *progress on EC, OSPAR and HELCOM level with aim to finalize the network in 2012 (EU) and 2010 (OSPAR and HELCOM)*

### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*The build up of MPA network is a priority on regional, national and European level*

**Operational objective 3.2:** *To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in marine areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction*

### **Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*UNDOALOS*

### **Progress made in implementation**

*Germany supports the endeavors of the European Commission at the level of UNGA to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction*

*These entail, for example,*

- *UNGA Resolution 61/105 with a view to protecting high seas fragile ecosystems from damaging fishing techniques.*
- *strengthening, performance assessment and extension of RFMOs;*
- *establishment of pilot MPAs in biologically and ecologically significant areas in ABNJ;*
- *adoption of UNGA resolutions on principles for oceans governance in ABNJ and on EIA*

### **Barriers of implementation**

*No information*

### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*Support is a priority for the German government*

**Operational objective 3.3:** *To achieve effective management of existing marine and coastal protected areas*

### **Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*Regional and international organizations*

### **Progress made in implementation**



Most of the MPAs in Germany are identified, selected and nominated according to the criteria of the EU Habitats Directive and Birds Directive. Some nearshore and coastal MPAs were established as nature reserves or national parks before the adoption of the EC directives in 1978 for BD and 1994 for HD. For effective management Germany protect identified MPAs according to the protection regime of the German Federal and State Nature Acts.

Currently, 3,4 % of the MPAs are protected as a national park (Nationalpark NP), 23,7 % as a nature reserve (Naturschutzgebiet NSG) and 33,8 % as protected regions of environmental or cultural value (Landschaftsschutzgebiet LSG). The remaining areas are protected as NATURA 2000 sites. In total, 13,5 % of the German maritime area is protected as a national park (Nationalpark NP), 9,5 % as a nature reserve (Naturschutzgebiet NSG) and 1,3 % as protected regions of environmental or cultural value (Landschaftsschutzgebiet LSG).

Anthropogenic uses are allowed in the MPAs in case they do not impede the conservation objectives of the site. Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate (Art. 6 (3) HD).

After having obtained the opinion of the general public, plans or projects, currently only one "no take area" of 126 km<sup>2</sup> exists in the coastal waters of the North Sea.

The management of the water quality is regulated with the EU WFD which is aiming to achieve in 2015 the good biological, chemical and morphological status.

As suggested under (c), for all processes relevant stakeholders and local communities as well as secretariats and NGOs are participants on all planning steps according to the Federal Nature Conservation Act (BNatSchG), etc.

### **Barriers of implementation**

Because of long traditions of sea uses in all marine water of Germany only one "no take"-zone is established to date. Destructive fishing activities in German waters of other nations can not be regulated by Germany, but only behalf of the EU COM and Council.

### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

Germany has the priority to develop necessary regulations for destructive fishing techniques in off-shore MPAs. Therefore a three year Research and Development Project to identify necessary management options was successfully conducted from 2005-2008. Results are available under ICES (web site ICES WKFMMPA).

**Operational objective 3.4:** To provide support for and facilitate monitoring of national and regional systems of marine and coastal protected areas

### **Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

UNEP-WCMC

### **Progress made in implementation**

For the German North and Baltic Seas a national monitoring which fulfils all the obligations of the Helsinki- and OSPAR Convention a coordinate group of all relevant administrative bodies, the so called "Marine Expert Group" (Expertengruppe Meer) was established in 2007 to set up a independent marine monitoring for reporting obligations of the WFD, NLK in marine areas and the future obligations of the MFD.

### **Barriers of implementation**

The group is effectively working

### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

The result will be available on the Web in 2009.

**Operational objective 3.5:** To facilitate research and monitoring activities that reflect identified global knowledge gaps and priority information needs of management of marine and coastal protected areas.

### **Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*Regional and international organizations, including research organizations*

### **Progress made in implementation**

#### **CURRENT STATUS OF SITE PROPOSALS**

*In December 2002, the BfN submitted to the BMU, within the context of the NATURA 2000 site proposal procedure, a catalogue of proposed SACs and SPAs within the German EEZ in the North and Baltic Seas. Together with the BfN the Ministry underwent a consultation process with the other ministries of the federal government concerned, and with the coastal states whose territories adjoin on the EEZ, and carried out the public participation process. Presented on the following pages are the 10 NATURA 2000 sites which were nominated after only 3 years of intensive preparatory work to the European Commission by the BMU. SPAs under the Birds Directive can be protected through appropriate regulations by the Ministry immediately after their notification to the European Commission. SACs under the Habitats Directive undergo an assessment process at EU level after their proposal by the Member State to the European Commission, in order to ensure the European coherence of the NATURA 2000 network. In a second step, the sites thus adopted under European criteria and criteria of coherence are designated as protected areas at the national level by the Member States concerned – i.e. in Germany under the responsibility of the Ministry.*

#### **Ongoing Research Projects:**

##### Marine Mammals and Sea Birds

1. *Surveys of Marine Mammals and Sea Birds in the German EEZ (F&E-FKZ 802 85 260, contractor: Research- and Technology Centre Westcoast)*
2. *Recovery Plan for the Harbour Porpoise Population of the Baltic Sea (Jastarnia-Plan) (F&E-FKZ 804 86 001, contractor: German Oceanographic Museum Stralsund)*
3. *Further Surveys on the Influence of acoustic Emissions of Offshore Wind Energy Installations on Marine Mammals in the Area of the German North and Baltic Seas (MINOS Plus\*\*\*, contractor: Research- and Technology Centre Westcoast)*
4. *Seals at Sea (SIS) Surveys of the spatial and temporal Use of the North Sea by Seals in the context of Offshore Wind Energy Installations (MINOS Plus\*\*\*, contractor: Leibniz-Institute for Marine Sciences Kiel)*

##### Fish

5. *Seals at Sea (SIS) Surveys of the spatial and temporal Use of the North Sea by Seals in the context of Offshore Wind Energy Installations (F&E-FKZ 802 85 200\_01, contractor: German Oceanographic Museum Stralsund)*

##### Habitat Types

6. *Surveys of the Habitat Types on Annex I of the Habitats Directive (F&E- FKZ 802 85 270, contractor: University of Kiel)*
7. *Benthological Surveys for the ecological Evaluation of suitable Areas for Wind Farms in the North Sea (F&E- FKZ 802 85 210, contractor: Leibniz-Institute for Marine Sciences Kiel, <http://www.habitatmarenatura2000.de>)*
8. *Development and Implementation of an effective Concept for Presentation to the Public (FKZ 802 85 320, contractor: Ms Wollny-Goerke)*
9. *Scientific Documentation (Compendium) (FKZ 803 85 250, contractor: Ms Verbeek)*

##### Management

10. *Restrictions of Human Activities in Marine Protected Areas (FKZ 803 85 210, contractor: Prof. Dr. Gellermann)*
11. *Management of Marine NATURA 2000-Sites in the EEZ (FKZ 804 85 007, contractor: University of Rostock)*

##### Breeding, Migratory and Resting Birds

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12. *Effects of Wind Energy Installations on Migrating Birds and the Bird Collisions on the Risk of Bird Collisions (BEOFINO\*\*\*\*, contractor: Institute for Avian Research "Vogelwarte Helgoland")*
  13. *Temporal and spatial Variability of the Distribution of Resting Birds in the German North and Baltic Sea and their Evaluation with regard to Offshore Wind Energy Use (MINOS Plus\*\*\*, contractor: Research- and Technology Centre Westcoast)*

Research and Development Projects (FuE)

14. *Fisheries Management in Protected Areas (F&E-FKZ 804 85 003)*
15. *MSC - Pre-Assessment (F&E-FKZ 804 85 010)*
16. *North Sea Ministerial Meeting on environmental impacts of Shipping and Fisheries (F&E-FKZ 804 85 009)*
17. *Effects of Underwater Sound Emissions from Offshore Wind Farms on the Fish Fauna (F&E-FKZ 804 85 001, contractor: Institute for Applied Fish Biology GmbH)*
18. *International Exchange of Experiences in relation to the ecological Monitoring of Offshore Wind Energy Installations in the North- and Baltic Seas (F&E-FKZ 804 46 001, contractor: TU Berlin, FTZ Büsum, IfAÖ GmbH)*

\* ZIP - Research Offshore-Wind Energy "within the framework of the Zukunftsinvestitionsprogramm (ZIP) of the Federal Government"

\*\* MINOS - Marine warm-blooded animals in the North and Baltic Seas: Foundations for assessment of offshore wind farms Project and Data Co-ordination NPA SH Wadden Sea, Tönning

\*\*\* MINOS-Plus - Further Research on Sea Birds and Marine Mammals for the Evaluation of Offshore Wind Energy Installations Project and Data Co-ordination NPA SH Wadden Sea, Tönning

\*\*\*\* BEOFINO - Ecological Monitoring for the Utilisation of Wind Energy in the Offshore-Area on the Research Platforms in the North and Baltic Seas Project and Data Co-ordination Alfred-Wegener Institut, Bremerhaven

### **Barriers of implementation**

*The above named research programme effectively filled existing knowledge gaps of biodiversity in the offshore areas and had been the baseline for the identification and determination of 10 Natura 2000 sites in the German EEZ of the North- and Baltic Sea. As the first European state Germany set up a comprehensive MPA network in its marine waters.*

### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*For the habitats and species protected under the HD and BD a research programme is necessary for an implementation of the MFD.*

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## Programme element 4: Mariculture

**Operational objective 4.1:** To promote use of techniques, which minimize adverse impact of mariculture on marine and coastal biological diversity.

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

FAO

**Progress made in implementation**

*Mariculture is prohibited in the areas under national jurisdiction protected MPAs (two SPAs with 5.139 km<sup>2</sup>)*

**Barriers of implementation**

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

## Programme element 5: Invasive alien species

**Operational objective 5.1:** To achieve better understanding of the pathways and the causes of the introduction of alien species and the impact of such introductions on biological diversity.

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

IMO, Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)

**Progress made in implementation**

*Germany signed the “International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments”. Responsible in Germany is the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie, BSH):*

[http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine\\_data/Environmental\\_protection/Ballastwater/index.jsp](http://www.bsh.de/en/Marine_data/Environmental_protection/Ballastwater/index.jsp)

**Barriers of implementation**

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*Support IMO activities*

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**Operational objective 5.2:** *To put in place mechanisms to control all pathways, including shipping, trade and mariculture, for potential invasive alien species in the marine and coastal environment.*

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*IMO, the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), FAO, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands*

**Progress made in implementation**

**Barriers of implementation**

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

**Operational objective 5.3:** *To maintain an incident list on introductions of alien species*

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

**Progress made in implementation**

*An incident list on introductions of alien species in the HELCOM area is given under <http://www.cospi.kv.lt/nemo>*

**Barriers of implementation**

*A complete agreed European list does not exist*

**Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*Such a list will be developed within the next three years (2012) according to the obligations of the European Marine Framework Directive (MFD)*

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## Programme element 6. General

**Operational objective 6.1:** To assemble a database of initiatives on programme elements through a cooperative approach with relevant organizations and bodies, with special emphasis on integrated marine and coastal areas management.

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

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### **Progress made in implementation**

*Most information of programmes is stored at the responsible administrative bodies and organisations. Public access to the information is guaranteed by law (Environmental Information Act, UIG). The development of a comprehensive information infrastructure for all German activities to protect biodiversity and enhance water quality is in development.*

### **Barriers of implementation**

*A comprehensive database for all ICZM initiatives in Germany does not exist. For the time being a development is not intended as the development of open interfaces for a common use of all databases is technical complicated and expensive.*

### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**

*The development of open interfaces for the exchange of information of sea water quality and the conservation status of the marine biodiversity is a central issue of the MFD and is intended to be finalised until 2012*

**Operational objective 6.2:** To undertake effective collaboration, cooperation and harmonization of initiatives with relevant conventions, organizations and agencies while recognising their independent mandates.

**Partners identified in the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I of decision VII/5)**

*Relevant conventions, organizations and agencies, coordinating units of Regional Seas conventions and action plans.*

### **Progress made in implementation**

*Joined work schedules for the cooperation within the regional sea conventions for the North Sea and the Baltic Sea are harmonised within two boards, one which is responsible for monitoring and reporting (ARGE BLMP) and a second responsible for all other issues (BLANO).*

### **Barriers of implementation**

*The joined cooperation is effectively structured, but may be reconstructed concerning new task given to the Member States by the EU Marine Strategy Directive (MSD)*

### **Priorities for capacity-building to address barriers**