



Ministerie van Landbouw,
Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit



Proposal for an international bycatch project

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Need from an international perspective

- › CFP developments
 - 812/2004 exit
 - 2017/1004 new DCF
 - 2019/1241 new TMR
- › MSFD/HD obligations
- › OSPAR/HELCOM Workshop
September 2019
- › Complaint NGO's
- › Letter Sinkevičius to EU Ministers
 - Joint recommendations MSs
- › US Marine Mammal Protection Act
- › CBD post 2020
- › EU Green Deal





Need for a coordinated approach

- > ICES WGBYC
- > ASCOBANS/ACCOBAMS – Joint Bycatch WG
 - 2 consultancies (monitoring and mitigation)
- > IWC – Bycatch mitigation Initiative (BMI)
- > CMS – Bycatch WG
- > OSPAR/HELCOM
- > NAMMCO
- > FAO
- > RFMO's
- > Etc etc





Idea based on Benthis project



Title	Benthic Ecosystem Fisheries Impact Studies
Instrument	Collaborative project
Total cost	7.78 million Euros
EU contribution	5.99 million Euros
Duration	60 months
Start date	1 October 2012
Consortium	33 partners from 12 countries
Project coordinator	Wageningen Marine Research
Website url	www.benthis.eu





Approach

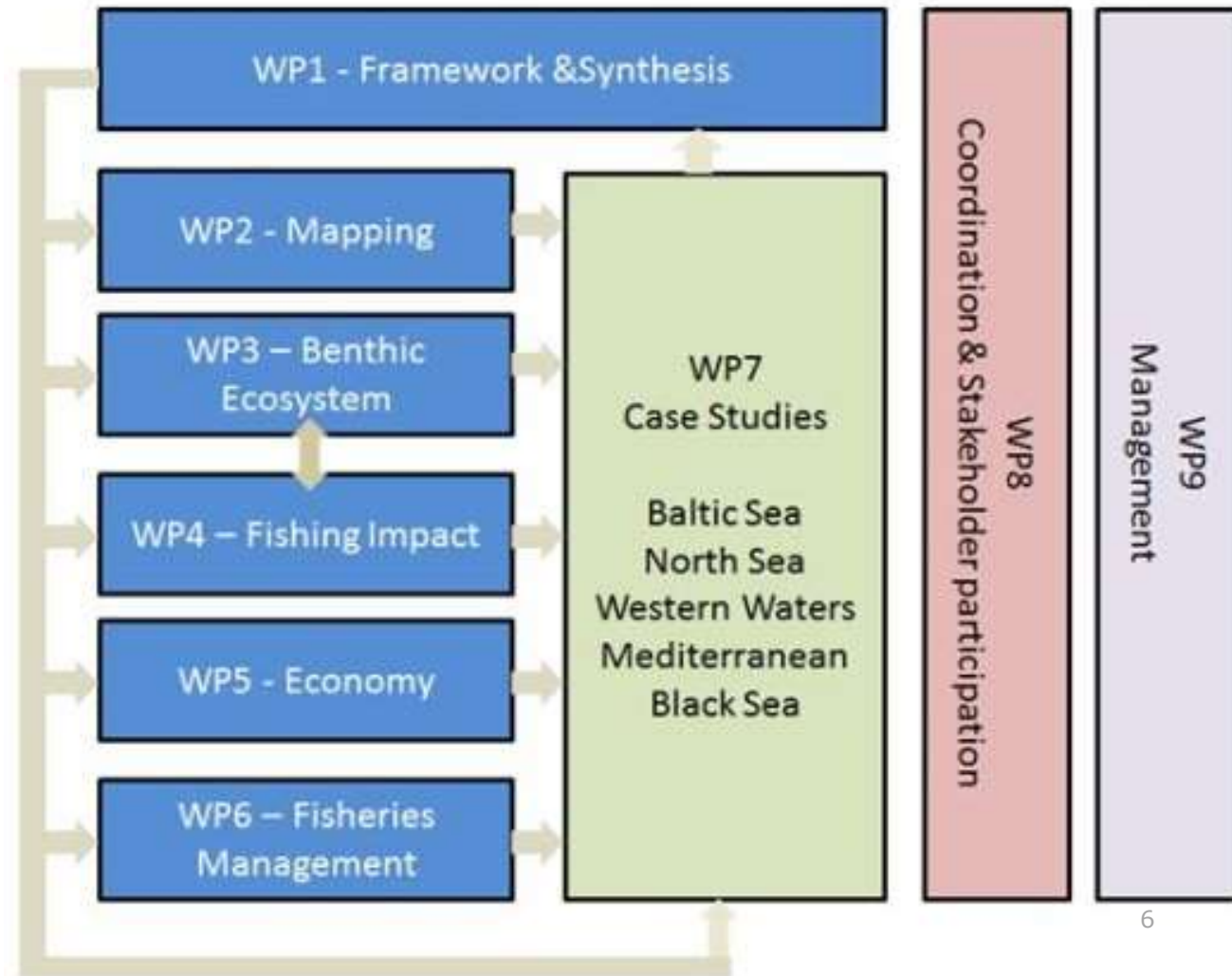
- > Multi-disciplinary approach with strong stakeholder involvement
- > Trials with innovative fishing gears conducted together with fishermen
- > Generic tool development to assess the impact of fishing gears
- > Bio-economic model development to quantify the effect of mitigation measures on the socio-economy of the fishing sector.





Benthis workstreams

- > <https://www.benthis.eu/en/benthis/Work-packages.htm>





REM pilot Netherlands

- > 2013-2017
- > 14 vessels
- > Strong fisheries involvement
- > Building trust, cooperation
Danish fishermen

- > Link:
<https://edepot.wur.nl/466450>



Electronic monitoring of incidental bycatch of harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) in the Dutch bottom set gillnet fishery (September 2013 to March 2017)

Author(s): Melke Scheidat, Bram Couperus, Marije Siemensma

Wageningen University &
Research report C102/18





Scope

- › Focus on **high risk fisheries** (static gears, e.g. gillnets, pots and creels, but also pelagic trawls)
- › **Multi species** level (all PETS)
- › Regional scope **NEA/Baltic**, however, linkages with Med and Black Sea projects are recommended





Overarching objectives

- › Achieve successful cross-border cooperation with fishermen and among countries
- › Implement successful monitoring programmes in cooperation with the RCGs
- › Implement successful/proven mitigation measures
- › Develop Joint Recommendations (CFP art.11), starting with high-risk species and fisheries
- › Determine high risk species and fisheries and develop a long-term strategy to minimize bycatch





Participation

- > Regional representation depending on commitment, at least per country:
 - Fisheries/environment dept
 - Scientific expert
 - Fisheries industry repr
- > IGO's and NGO's





Project set-up LIFE

- > A. Preparatory Actions:
 - A.1 Development Assessment Framework
 - Statistical design, data checks etc
 - A.2 Suitability Assessment
 - Factors of success
 - A.3 Socio-economic aspects
 - Mapping supply chain
- > C. Conservation actions:
 - C.1 Funding mechanisms (fisheries and monitoring)
 - C.2 Fisheries perspective: stakeholder participation
 - C.3 Mitigation toolkit
 - C.3.1 Species behaviour & ecology
 - C.3.2 Alternative fishing gear
 - C.3.3 Net modifications
 - C.3.4 Time/area closures
 - C.4 Data Collection & monitoring tools
 - C.5 Upscaling of monitoring and mitigation

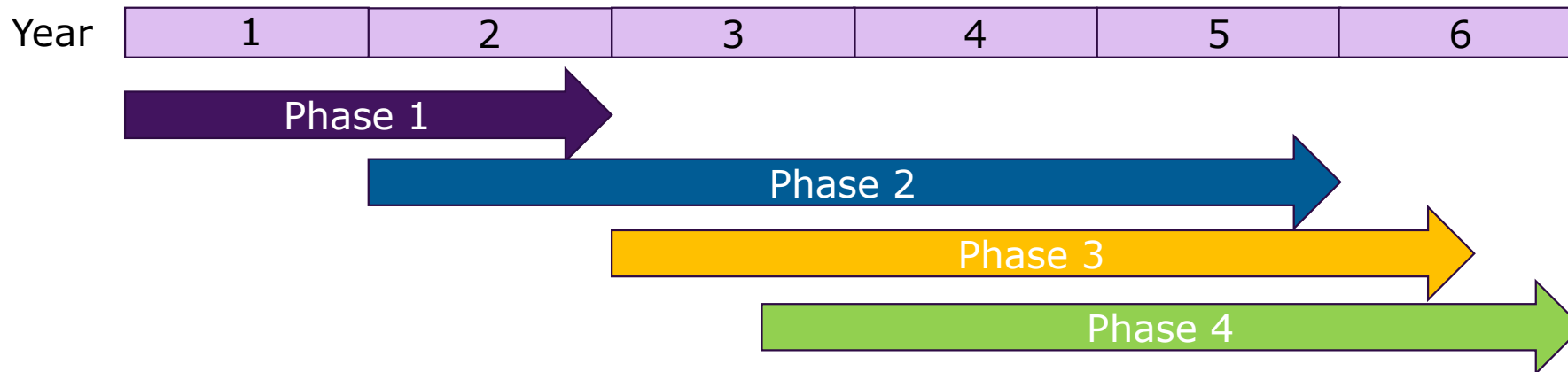


Project set-up LIFE (2)

- > D. Monitoring of the impact of project actions
 - D.1 Monitoring of progress
 - D.2 Establishment of harmonized monitoring programmes
 - D.3 Socio-economic impacts
- > E. Public awareness and dissemination results
 - E.1 Joint recommendations
 - E.2 Standardisation of monitoring activities
 - E.3 Reporting and dissemination results
- > F. Project management
 - F.1 Management and project coordination
 - F.2 Monitoring progress and reporting to EU



Phased approach



1. Preparation phase: experimental design, invest in stakeholder dialogue, socio-economic aspects, funding;
2. Implementation phase: field monitoring and demonstration of mitigation;
3. Monitoring and evaluation: analysis information and assessing measures;
4. Dissemination results: aim for a structural reform in monitoring programs to increase coverage across regions via input in the Regional Coordination Groups, as well as develop Joint Recommendations to establish regional mitigation measures.



Last and next steps

- > Informal Webex with interested experts
- > Presentations ASCOBANS and OSPAR
- > Presentation EAPO, several AC's
- > Kick-off meeting 4 March 2021
- > Establish work package leads
- > ICES WGBYC September
- > Develop full proposal





EU LIFE

- > New Life call launched in June 2021 (expected)
- > Deadline full proposal October 2021 (expected)
- > EU co-funding 60-75%
- > Aim is total €10-20 million
- > Depending on:
 - #countries
 - #vessels



- types of methods trialed
 - Monitoring: Remote Electronic Monitoring, observers, app
 - Mitigation: pingers, alternative gear, net modifications etc.
- > Different expertise in countries
- > Interest from BE, DE, DK, ES, FR, IR, LT, NL, NO, POL, POR, SW, UK





Request from parties

- › Consider partnership
- › Partners can be:
 - Funding partners
 - In-kind partners
 - Subcontracted partners, e.g. specific pilot studies
 - Advisers
- › Formal commitment needed in full proposal phase

