

Marine Strategy Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy Working Group on Economic and Social Assessments

Terms of Reference

Introduction

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) states that, as part of the initial assessment, an economic and social analysis needs to be carried out of the use of Member

State waters and of the cost of degradation of the marine environment. There are yet many questions that need to be defined and addressed in order to establish a common understanding of the requirements of the Directive and their implications for methodology and approach. The formation of a working group on the economic and social assessment, WG ESA, has therefore been proposed.

This ToR determines the responsibilities and tasks of the working group for the economic

and social assessment in the Marine Strategic Framework Directive. The Commission indicates that this work will build, to the extent possible, on the existing available methodologies such as those of other Directives and of the work under the European regional sea conventions. It is thus important that:

- ☐ All available methodologies are being considered for their applicability under the MSFD;

- ☐ Representation of Member States, Regional Sea Conventions and other ‘interested

parties’ (see MSFD Art 9(3) for an explicit consultation requirement of all interested parties including Regional Sea Conventions) is possible to assist in the development of the “criteria and methodological standards”.

Objectives and Tasks

Proposed objectives of the working group are:

- ☐ Facilitate a common understanding of the requirements of Article 8(1)(c) of the Directive and provide, as appropriate, recommendation concerning the level of detail required to implement Article 8(1)(c), taking due account of cost and efficiency consideration.

- ☐ Identify practicable methodologies and approaches to meeting the requirements of

Article 8(1)(c), keeping under consideration in particular such methods/approaches already used in the context of other EC Directives or in the framework of 2(3)

Intergovernmental Organizations, and provide, as appropriate, recommendations, taking due account of cost and efficiency considerations.

- ☐ Promote communication, cooperation and coordination between marine regions and

sub-regions in order to improve the consistency and coherence of social and economic assessments.

- ☐ As necessary, provide a forum for addressing other social and economic matters covered by the Directive.

- ☐ Facilitate cooperation and links between WG ESA and other MSFD CIS work.

Deliverables

Deliverables are defined in the Work program.

Thematic coverage should include shipping/ fishery/ offshore-wind parks/ oil and gas exploitation (platforms)/ pipelines/ data cables/ energy cables/ sand & gravel extraction/

aquaculture/ dumping site (dredged material and ammunition) and, in addition, MPAs as

“protective measures”.

A reference year is required in order to get comparable results. Taking into account possible delays in the collection of statistical data, a baseline year will be determined having regards to the availability of data.

Links with other CIS activities

The working group shall continuously coordinate activities with other working groups in

order to exchange information and data needed for the analysis.

Timetable

Timetable of deliverables and meetings is defined in the work program.

The ESA working group will exist at least until the initial assessment of the MSFD is to

be completed, that is, until the end of 2012.

Structure and organizations

The working group ESA can if necessary set up sub-groups that can take the responsibility of certain aspects of the economic and social assessment. These subgroups

will be appointed by the working group and report directly to this group. The working group ESA will report to the Strategic Coordination Group.

The working group will comprise of

- ☐ European Commission (DGs: ENV, JRC, other on occasions, European Environment Agency)
- ☐ Member States
- ☐ Representatives of regional sea conventions (Secretariats and/or specific Member States), other marine protection conventions, international marine scientific organisation
- ☐ European stakeholder organisations

3(3)

Numbers of meetings

No more than 4 per year.

Lead countries and contact names

Sweden and the UK will co-lead and co-chair the working group. WG group meetings will be held in Sweden or the UK, or other Member States that offer to host. The secretariat of the ESA working group will be held in Sweden.

Contact persons:

Sweden

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Contact person: Katrin Zimmer

katrin.zimmer@naturvardsverket.se

Stockholm Resilience Centre

Contact person: Siv Ericsson

Siv.ericsson@stockholmresilience.su.se

United Kingdom

Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Contact person: Philip Stamp Philip.Stamp@defra.gsi.gov.uk

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

ENVIRONMENT

Directorate D - Water, Chemicals & Biotechnology

ENV.D.2 - Marine

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