

# UNDERWATER NOISE

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### WORK PLAN ACTIVITIES :

- WPA 68 Review new information on underwater noise
- WPA 69 National report

### RESOLUTION : 8.11

### DOCUMENTS :

- National reports : Inf 5.1. a to j
- ECS Workshop report : Inf 5.1.1.b
- Peter Tyack Comments : Inf 5.1.1.a
- EIA Guidelines Inf 5.1.1.d
- Report JNWG Inf 5.1.1.c
- Comments from G. Prideaux Inf 5.1.1.f

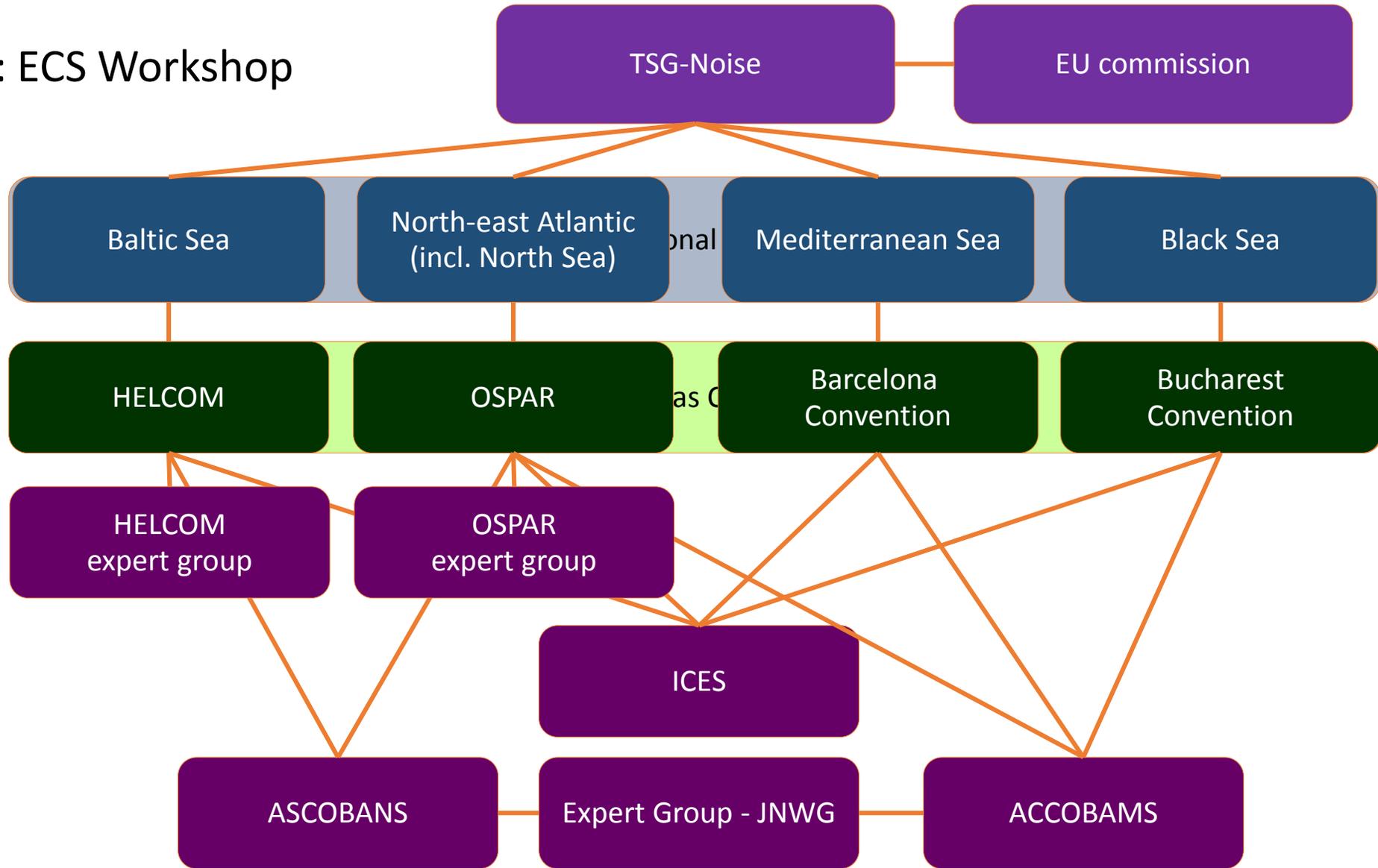
### 3 GENERAL QUESTIONS

- Q1 : What goals we want to achieve for small cetaceans preservation ?
- Q2 : How to improve the indicators (including National Reports format) to measure the success of Parties and Ascobans to achieve these goals ?
- Q3 : What raw data we need ? How to collect it ? (National Reports ?) and how to analyse it ?

## **JNWG Activities Inf 5.1.1.c**

- **Globally 20/52 tasks completed**
- **2/6 priorities identified by both ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS completed**
- **16/20 priorities identified by either ACCOBAMS or ASCOBANS completed**
  
- Med certification for MMO/PAM ongoing
- Update OSPAR on their noise mitigation consideration
- Developing EO11 indicators in the MED
- Continuing collaboration with CBD
- Testing guidelines and the application of mitigation measures in the field
- Contacts with NATO ongoing
- Update of Mitigation guidance for industry (2016)
- Noise Hotspots for the MED done
- Cetacean hotspots
- Update rules and procedures of JNWG

Key Activity: ECS Workshop



## Key Activity: ECS Workshop

### Distribution of roles

- TSG-Noise (and EU commission)
  - Assure efforts are in line with requirements and **objectives** of the directive
- Regional conventions
  - Assure that criteria for GES are relevant for their waters
  - Provide memberstates with tools and standards
  - Coordinate assessment **across** regional seas
- Advisory bodies to regional conventions
  - **Provide scientifically based advice on monitoring and assessment**
- National agencies
  - Introduce and enforce regulation of noisy activities
  - Report on progress to the EU commission

Key Activity: ECS Workshop

- **Pressure indicators:** how much noise is there? (current noise indicators for the MSFD)
- **Impact indicators:** how much does the noise affect the ecosystem? **ASCOBANS and ACCOBAMS value ?**



## Key Activity: ECS Workshop

- Example from HELCOM: Defining principles for GES (porpoises)

Levels of anthropogenic noise should not:

- cause injury on individual animals
- cause loss of habitat, through displacement, for a significant period of time or significant loss of habitat that leads to a decrease on the population level that affects the conservation status
- affect the energy budget of individual animals nor reproduction to a degree that leads to a decrease on the population level that affects the conservation status; particular emphasis should be on calving and nursing grounds
- cause masking leading to a decrease in the population level

→ There is a value for ASCOBANS give in put into this process

## Agenda Item - 5.1.1. Underwater Noise

### Key Activity: ECS Workshop

- Allows extraction of information about impulsive noises in ICES-squares or similar, with some information about source parameters
- No information about impact!

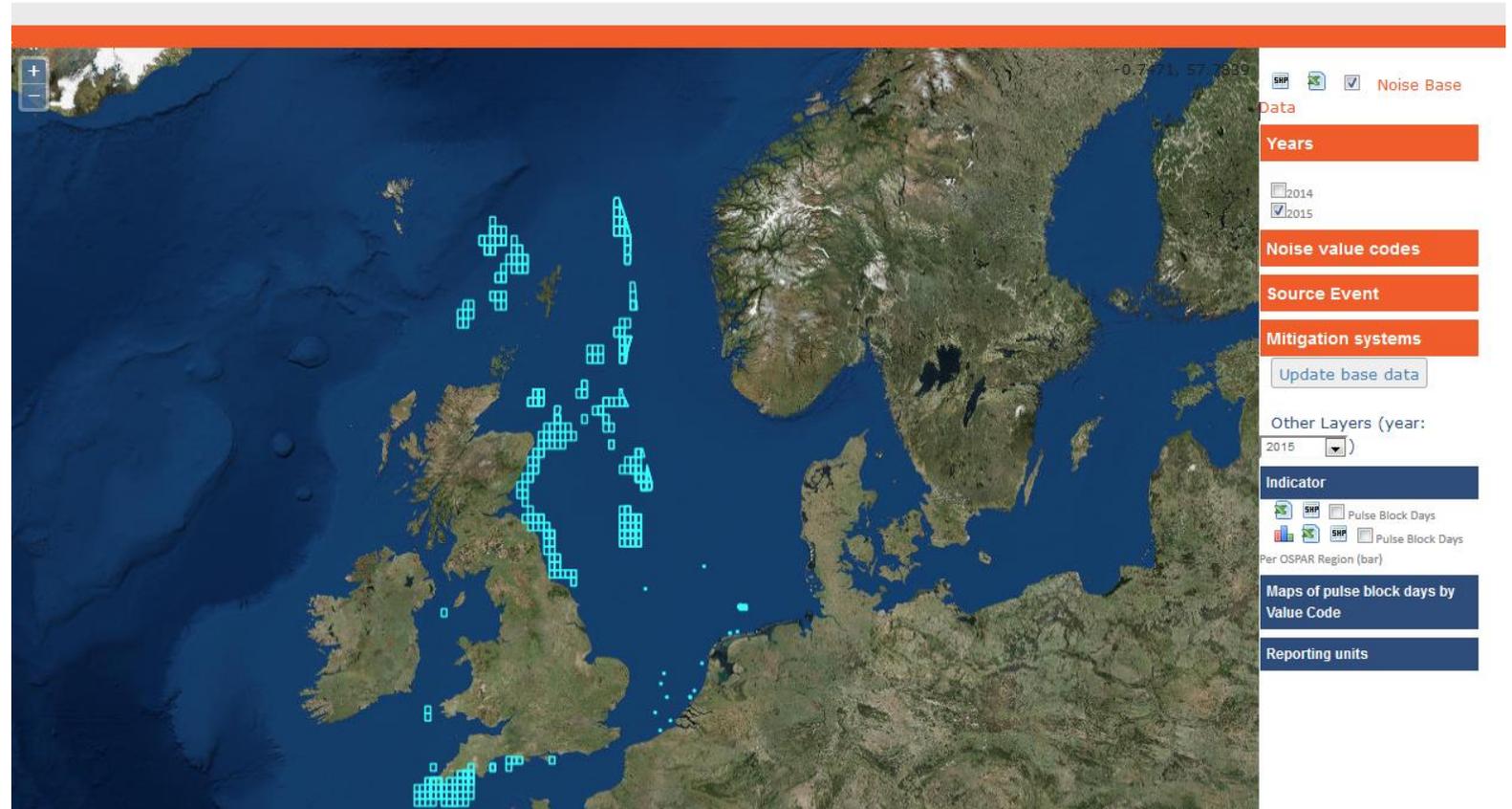


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BETA

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Impulsive Noise Register Submit data Submission status Map Web Services new



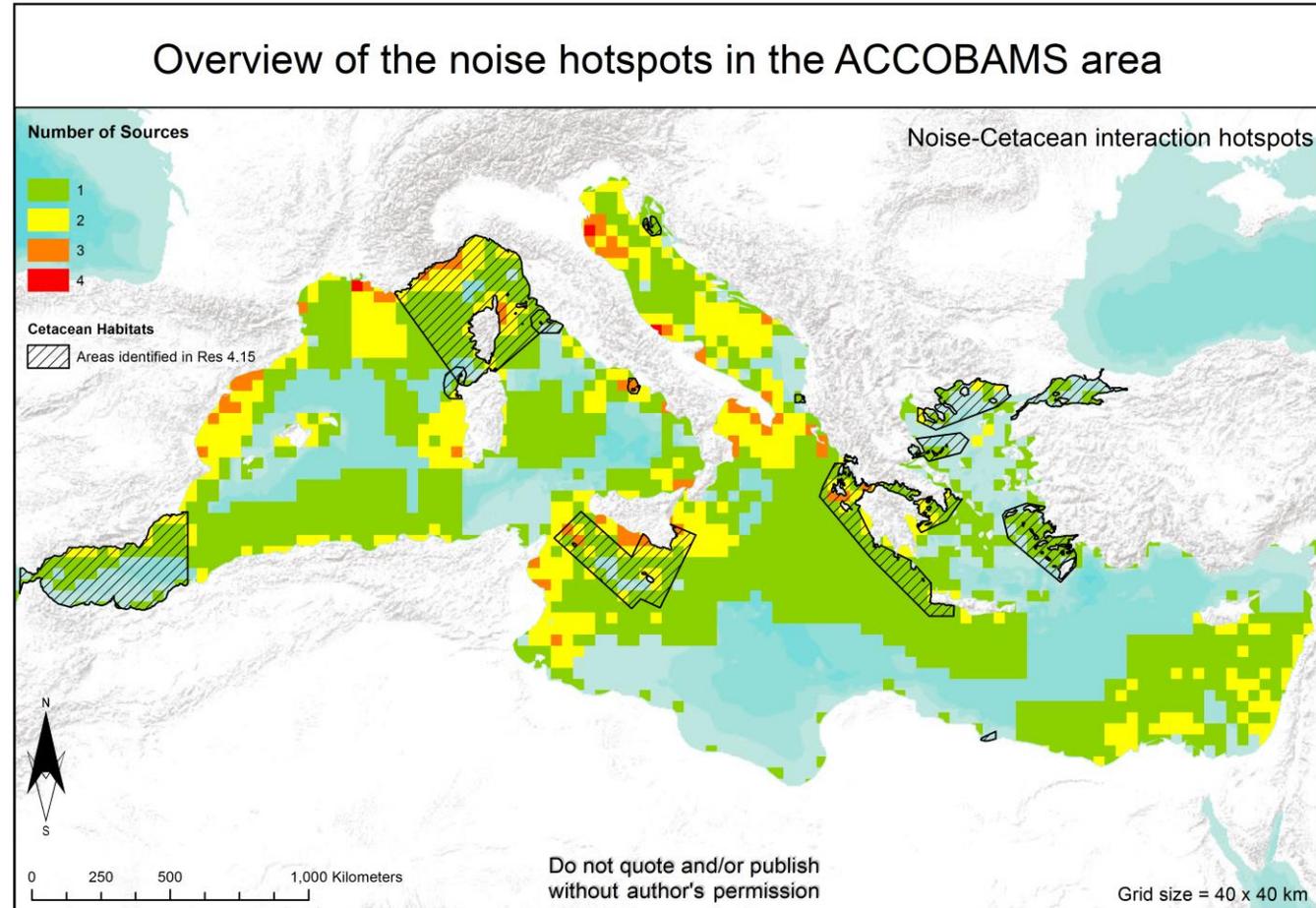
23rd ASCOBANS Advisory Committee Meeting – Le Conquet, France. 5 – 7 September 2017



Agenda Item - 5.1.1. Underwater Noise

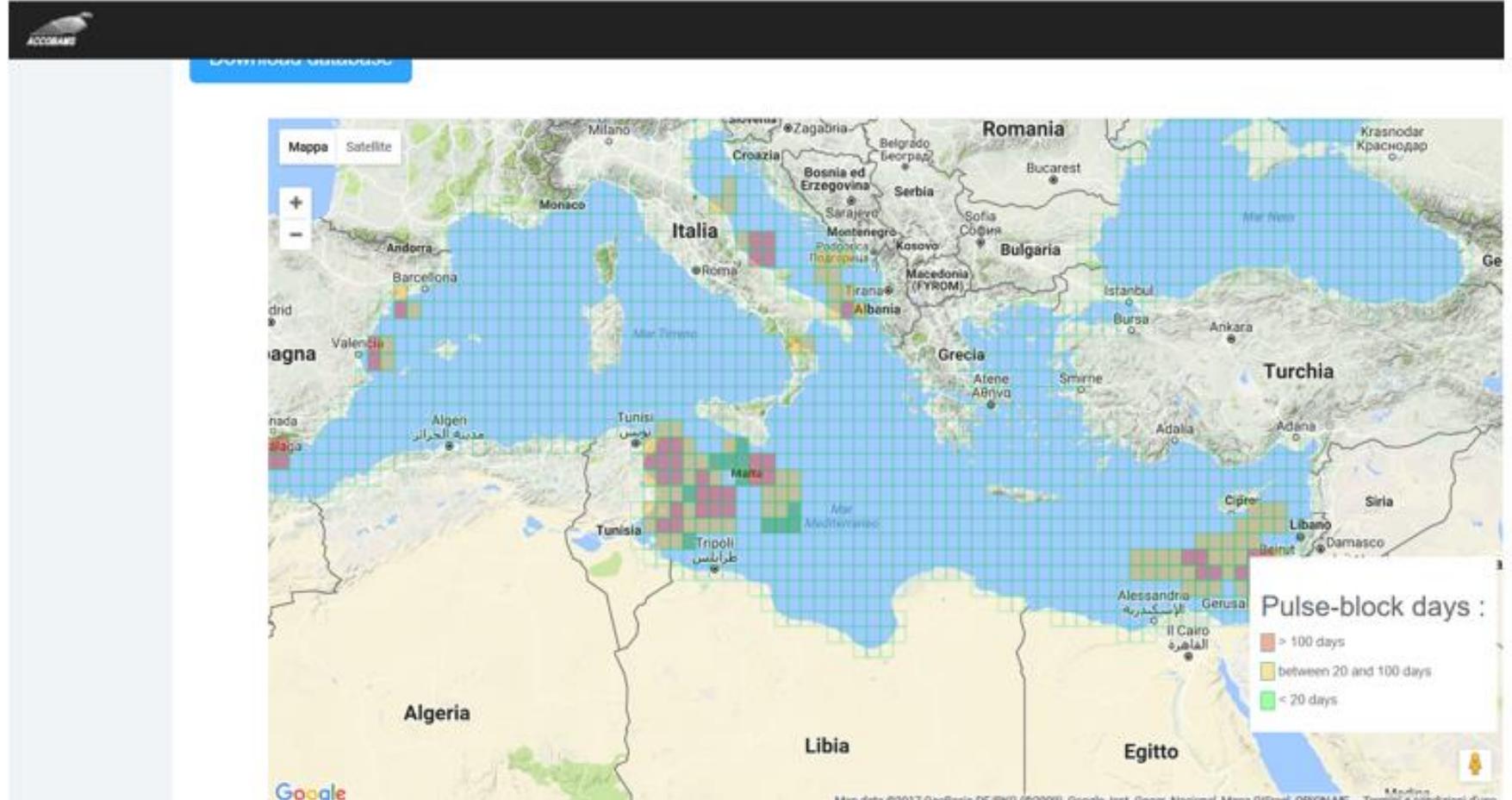
# Assessing Noise Hotspots in the ACCOBAMS Area based on a survey

No Register in place when doing this project



## Key Activity: ECS Workshop

- Same concept than ICES Register, under further development with **QuietMed** project



## Key Activity: EIA Noise Guidelines - CMS Family

- EIAs seem to generally address uw noise
- But low visibility in what is really implemented in each country and how assessment and mitigation are managed/implemented? Is it done for other projects than offshore renewables? e.g. Harbours, other offshore platforms, etc.
- What is the level of implementation of guidelines? Is it acceptable?
- Cumulative (transboundary) impacts?

## **SUGGESTIONS :**

- Work on cumulative effects in subregional areas, such as the Channel, North Sea...
- How to enhance synergies with ICES register and other OSPAR/HELCOM initiatives?
  - Data sharing
  - Assessment
- Small cetacean data strategy?
- Develop pilot projects in hotspot areas (ex.: comments from P. Tayak) ?