



Ministerie van Landbouw,
Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit



Proposal for an international bycatch project

Anne-Marie Svoboda

1



Needs from an international perspective

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

2

2



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

3

3



Idea based on Benthis project



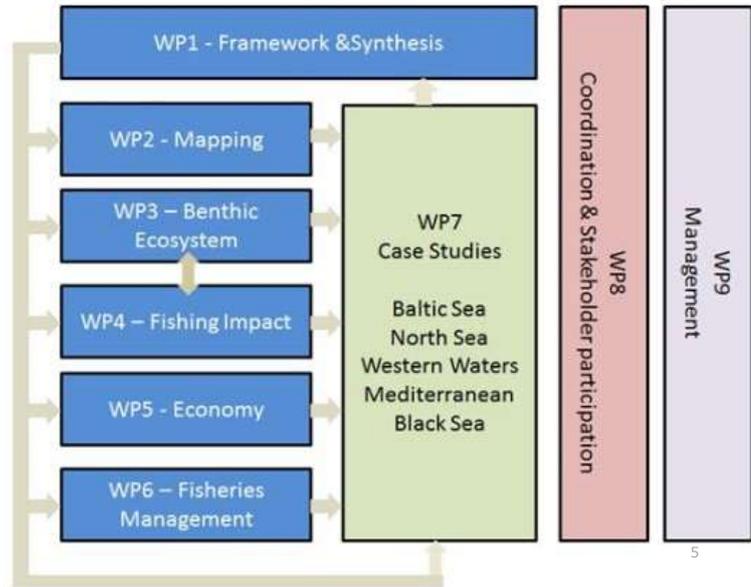
Title	Benthic Ecosystem Fisheries Impact Studies
Instrument	Collaborative project
Total cost	7.78 million Euros
EU contribution	5.99 million Euros
Duration	60 months
Start date	1 October 2012
Consortium	33 partners from 12 countries
Project coordinator	Wageningen Marine Research
Website url	www.benthis.eu



4

Benthis workstreams

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



5

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.



6

6



Scope and participation

- › Focus on small scale fisheries (static gears, e.g. gillnets, pots and creels)
- › Multi species level (all PETS)
- › Regional representation depending on commitment, at least:
 - Fisheries/environment dept
 - Scientific expert
 - Fisheries industry repr
- › Regional scope NEA/Baltic, however, linkages with Med and Black Sea projects are recommended
- › IGO's and NGO's

7

7



Overarching objectives

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

8

8



Work packages

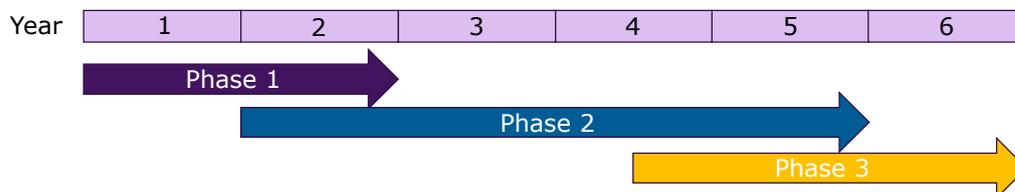
- > WP1: Framework and Synthesis
- > WP 2: Funding mechanisms (fisheries as well as monitoring)
- > WP 3: Fisheries perspective: communication and stakeholder participation
- > WP 4: Socio-economic aspects
- > WP 5: Statistically robust design / data checks / data
- > WP 6: Data Collection & monitoring (tools)
- > WP 7: Mitigation
- > WP 8: Joint recommendations
- > WP 9: Management & project coordination

9

9



Phased approach



1. Look at the experimental design, invest in stakeholder dialogue, socio-economic aspects, funding;
2. Field monitoring of a significant portion of the SSF fleet;
3. Analyse the information gained from the first two phases and 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.

10

10



Latest and next steps

- › Informal Webex with interested experts – 14 May and 28 July
- › Decide type EU-funding – August: LIFE
- › Define work packages – September
- › Presentation ASCOBANS – September and December
- › Establish work package leads – December/January
- › Develop concept note – from January onwards
- › Face to face meeting – Spring 2021 (Corona volente)
- › Life call – April 2021
- › Input WGBYC – May 2021
- › Deadline concept note – July 2021

11

11



EU LIFE

- › New Life call launched in April 2021
- › Deadline concept note July (no legal commitment yet)
- › After approval fall 2021-> full proposal (commitment)
- › EU co-funding 60%
- › 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 +/- 10 countries (BE, DE, DK, FR, NL, SP, SW, POL, POR, UK)

12

12