



Life
**CONCEPTU
MARIS**



34th ECS Conference WORKSHOP & NETWORKING EVENT

Crossing the trail of cetaceans: harmonising and improving EU transborder monitoring of cetacean using ferries/large vessels as multidisciplinary research vessels to support the EU Nature Legislative framework

 **April 17, 2023**

 **15.00 – 18.30**

 **Eurostars Isla de La Toja
Rúa Cortegada, s/n, 36991 A Toxa,
Pontevedra, Spain**

Description: Cetaceans are essential components of the marine ecosystem, whose preservation is a pillar of the nature and environmental legislative framework. Identify the priorities for conservation is however challenging as many influencing factors make it difficult to gather sufficient information to disclose the variable nature of their life. On the other side, the EU nature legislation framework is not always coherent and aligned, and there is still a lack of shared systematic methodological approaches to answer the legislative requirements.

Large scale, international cooperation is a prerequisite for scientific programmes aiming at supporting the legislative requirements, and enhance the conservation of cetacean species. Long term programmes were run in EU waters for the monitoring of cetaceans species using operating ferries/cargo as research platform. During recent years, effort was put in place for networking among initiatives, fine tuning methodological approaches, supporting multidisciplinary procedures and advancing the use of new technologies.

Exploring all the phases, from protocol to data collection, data analysis, guideline, practicalities and tools, this workshop aim at advancing awareness on the state of the art of programmes and projects dealing with the interface between science and policy. Starting from the main advancements reached by two wide range projects, the IMPEL EU MTT and the LIFE CONCEPTU MARIS, the WS aims at improving the sharing of experiences with other projects and initiatives, delineating new perspectives for a large scale international cooperation.

Organizers:

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For the participants of the workshop, there will be a **FREE BUS** leaving at 13.30 pm from Vigo Airport to O'Grove



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Moderators: Arcangeli A., Azzolin M., Crosti R., David L., Tepsich P.



15.05

Video LIFE CONCEPTU MARIS

The floating lab: On the trail of Mediterranean cetaceans and sea turtles with a ferry boat



15.10

General overview of projects:

- LIFE CONCEPTU MARIS - A. Arcangeli (ISPRA)
- IMPEL MTT - R. Crosti (ISPRA)



15.20

Making a bridge between science and policy: the legislative requirements and main ongoing initiatives

- Policy needs and the experience of MSFD in France. *Benjamin Guchard (Office français de la biodiversité - OFB)*
- Making the bridge between science and policy, the Regional Sea conventions and the ACCOBAMS initiatives. *Maylis Salivas (ACCOBAMS)*
- Making the bridge between science and policy in Spain. *Camilo Saavedra Penas (Instituto Español de Oceanografía - IEO)*



15.45

Harmonisation of data collection:

- Presentation of experience on harmonisation on methodology for data collection from large vessels within the IMPEL MTT & LIFE CONCEPTU MARIS experiences). *E. Santini, E. Pasanisi (ISPRA)*
- Sampling strategy from commercial vessel routes can capture marine biodiversity distribution effectively. *E. Boyse (University of Leeds)*
- Round table: Sharing of experiences for data collection from cargo and ferries
 - *Rebecca Dudley (Irish IWDG),*
 - *Ana Mafalda Correia (Macaronesian CIIMAR),*
 - *Natacha Aguilar de Soto (Canary Islands ULL)*
 - *Ibrahem Ben Amer (North Africa - WWF Africa)*
 - *Others.*



16.30

Coffee break



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 **17.45**

Data management: harmonisation of data, repository, and interoperability (FAIR data)

- Presentation of IMPEL MTT deliverable on FAIR data. *I. Campana (Accademia del Leviatano)*
- Example of tools for helping the harmonization of data:
 - The IMPEL APP. *M. Manghi (Nauta, Natura GIS)*
 - The LIFE CONCEPTU MARIS DB. *P. Tepsich (CIMA)*

 **17.00**

Standard data analysis to assess status and trends of cetaceans and risk assessment

- Presentation of tests performed within LIFE CONCEPTU MARIS
 - Testing indicators for assessing trend in abundance of fin whale. *V. Levati, P. Tepsich (CIMA)*
 - Testing indicators for trend assessment of range and habitat of low-density cetacean species in the Med Sea. *A. Arcangeli (ISPRA)*
 - From past to future. The data collected from ferries allow investigating the ESH in relation to climate conditions: The case of the striped dolphin of the Adriatic and Ionian Seas. *Q. Wu, M. Azzolin (Univ. Torino, Gaia Research Institute)*
- Presentation of output of the networking workshop LIFE CONCEPTU MARIS and ABIOMMED. *L. David (EOI)*
- State of the art on Risk Exposure Assessment on cetaceans to floating marine litter. *M. Gregoriotti (University of Palermo)*

 **18.00**

Round table: sharing experiences on data analysis for assessing cetaceans status and trends and risk assessment.

- All

