



Assisting (sub) regional cooperation for the practical implementation of the MSFD second cycle by providing methods and tools for D11 (underwater noise)

Project overview

Maria Emanuela MIHAILOV

Maritime Hydrographic Directorate (Romania)

13TH MEETING OF THE IENWG (IENWG-13)

23th May 2023



This project has received funding from DG Environment of the European Commission within the “DG ENV/MSFD 2020 call” under Grant Agreement No. 110661/2020/839603/SUB/ENV.C.2

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

- The EU aims to effectively protect and conserve the health of our oceans and coasts through the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). The aim is to achieve a good environmental status of the EU's marine waters and sustainably protect the resource base upon which marine-related economic and social activities depend.
- In 2008, the EU adopted the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) to maintain healthy, productive and resilient marine ecosystems while securing a more sustainable use of marine resources.
- The Directive requires Member States to develop national marine strategies in order to achieve, or maintain where it exists, 'good environmental status'. Such status should have been achieved by 2020. The marine strategies comprise regular assessments of the marine environment, setting objectives and targets, establishing monitoring programmes and putting in place measures to improve the state of marine waters. All these actions must be done in close coordination with neighbouring countries at regional sea level.

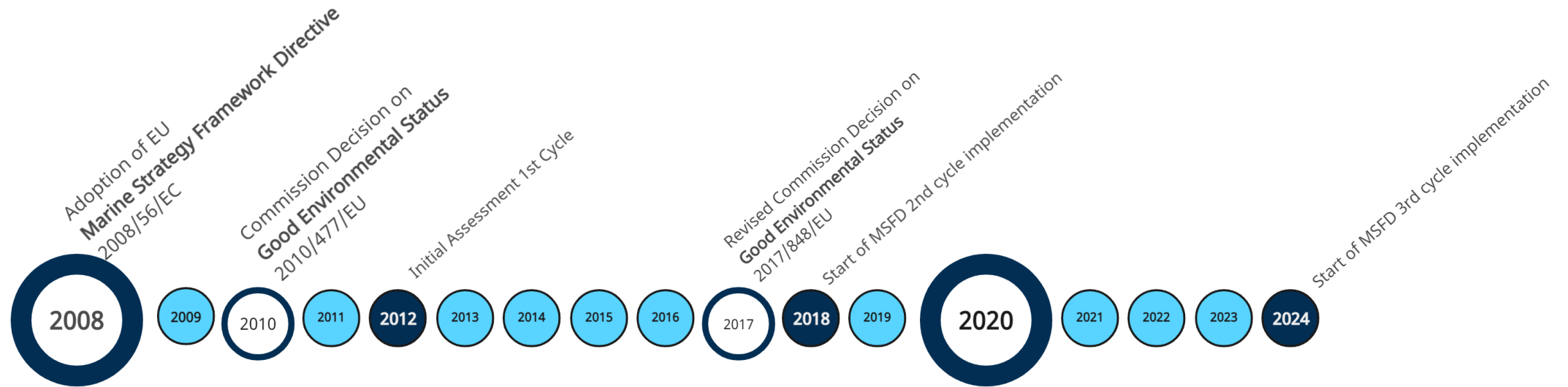
(https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/marine-and-coastal-environment_en)

MSFD GES – Annex I Descriptors

No.	Topic
1	Biological diversity
2	Non-indigenous species
3	Commercial fish & shellfish
4	Food-webs
5	Eutrophication
6	Sea-floor integrity
7	Hydrography
8	Contaminants
9	Contaminants in seafood
10	Litter
11	Energy, incl. underwater noise




Timeframe of the implementation of the Directive. Commission Decision (EU) 2017/848, adopted in 2017





MSFD reporting cycles

- **Coordinator: Marine Technology Centre-CTN (Spain)**
- **Implementation period: 28 months (01/02/2021 – 31/05/2023)**
- **Funded by DG Environment-European Commission to support the MSFD implementation**
 - Estimated Project Cost: € 994.967,49
 - Requested EU Contribution: € 795.973,99

Supporting MSFD implementation for D11-underwater noise

quietMED  Guidelines and tools for D11 monitoring at MED level.
(2017-2019)

quietMED₂  From pressure to impact for D11C1 at MED level.
(2019-2021)

quiet seas  From pressure to impact for D11C2.
Specificities for MED and Black Sea.
Integrated management for D11-GES assessment.
(2021-2023)

1. CTN - SPAIN
2. ACCOBAMS - MONACO
3. Shom - FRANCE
4. POLIMI-DICA - ITALY
5. HCMR - GREECE
6. IzVRS - SLOVENIA
7. SPA/RAC - TUNISIA
8. MHD - ROMANIA
9. DFMR - CYPRUS
10. ICES - DENMARK



- Mediterranean Sea
- Black Sea
- Link with Regional Sea Conventions
- Competent Authorities
- Collaboration with no EU Countries



General Objective:

Support the practical development of the second implementation cycle under the MSFD for Descriptor 11-underwater noise (D11C1 and D11C2)

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

THEMATIC BLOCKS

S01: Identify relevant **indicators for criterion D11C2** (Anthropogenic continuous low-frequency sound in water).

S02: Promote the **consolidation** and support the **operationalisation of indicators** for D11 in close **coordination with of TG Noise**.

S03: Promote **harmonisation of regional work on threshold values with TG Noise recommendations**.

S04: Develop effective and efficient mechanisms for GES assessment and regional coordination by providing management **tools for harmonization, reporting and assessment of D11**.

S05: Demonstrate the potential **effectiveness** of coordinated **mitigation measures** to reduce shipping noise.

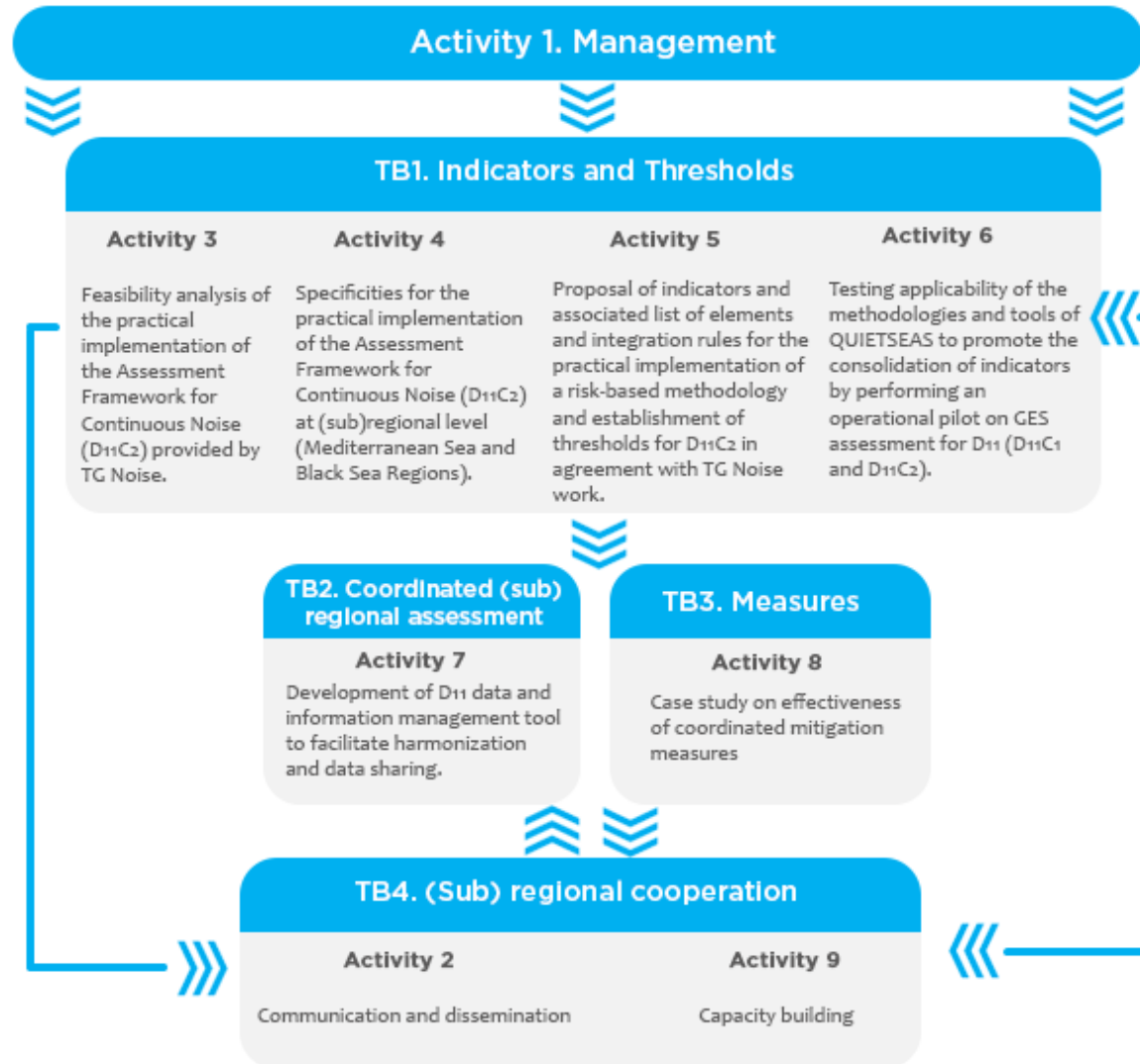
S06: Promote **(sub)regional cooperation** to ensure i) coordination across the region/ subregions ii) the **involvement of Competent Authorities** iii) long-term **dissemination of the results**.

TB1. Indicators and thresholds

TB2. Coordinated (sub) regional assessment

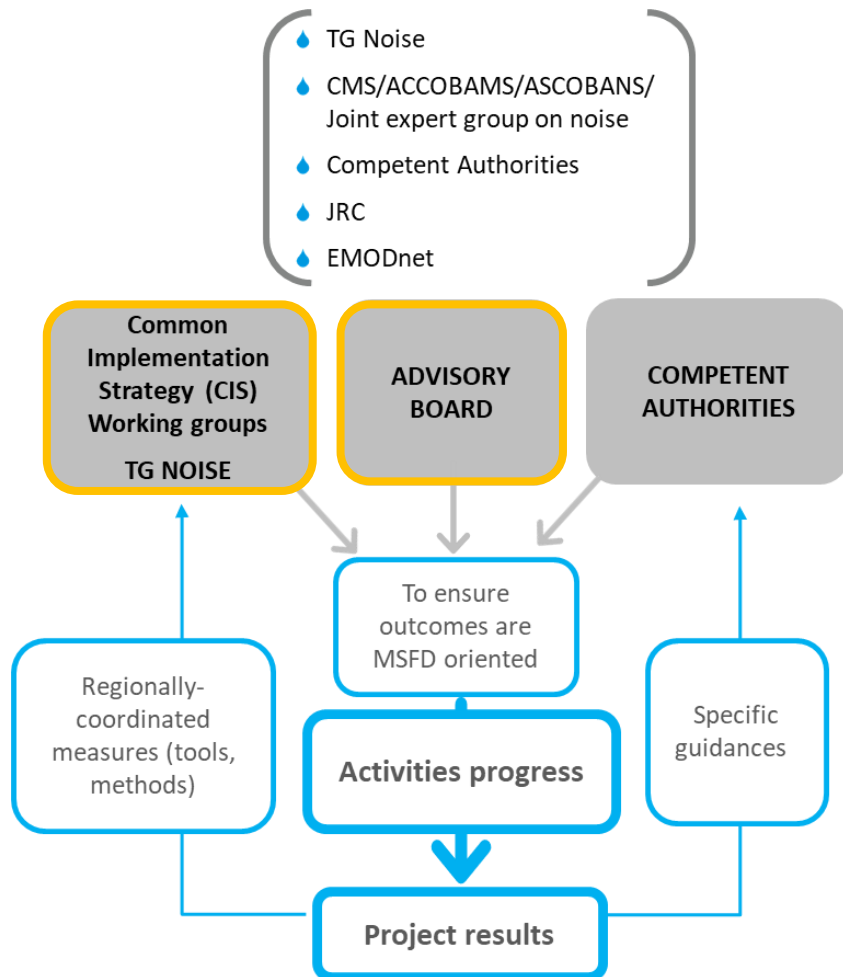
TB3. Measures

TB4. (Sub) regional cooperation



- Definition of **particularities for risk-based GES assessment in the Mediterranean Sea (MED) and Black Sea (BS) regions.**
- Recommendations on **acoustic propagation modelling for continuous sound assessment** in MED and BS regions.
- **Data gathering (D11C1, D11C2 and D1).**
- Proposal of a **methodology to establish thresholds values for D11C2 in the MED and BS regions in agreement with TG Noise work.**

- **Initial GES assessment of D11** underwater noise (D11C1 and D11C2) **in the MED and BS regions.**
- Management **tools for harmonization, reporting and assessment** of D11 (D11C1 and D11C2).
- Quantification of the **effect of potential mitigation measures** to reduce **shipping noise**: vessel speed slowdown and traffic reduction.
- **Training session for Competent Authorities and experts from EU and non EU countries.**
- **Networking** activities (other projects and initiatives).

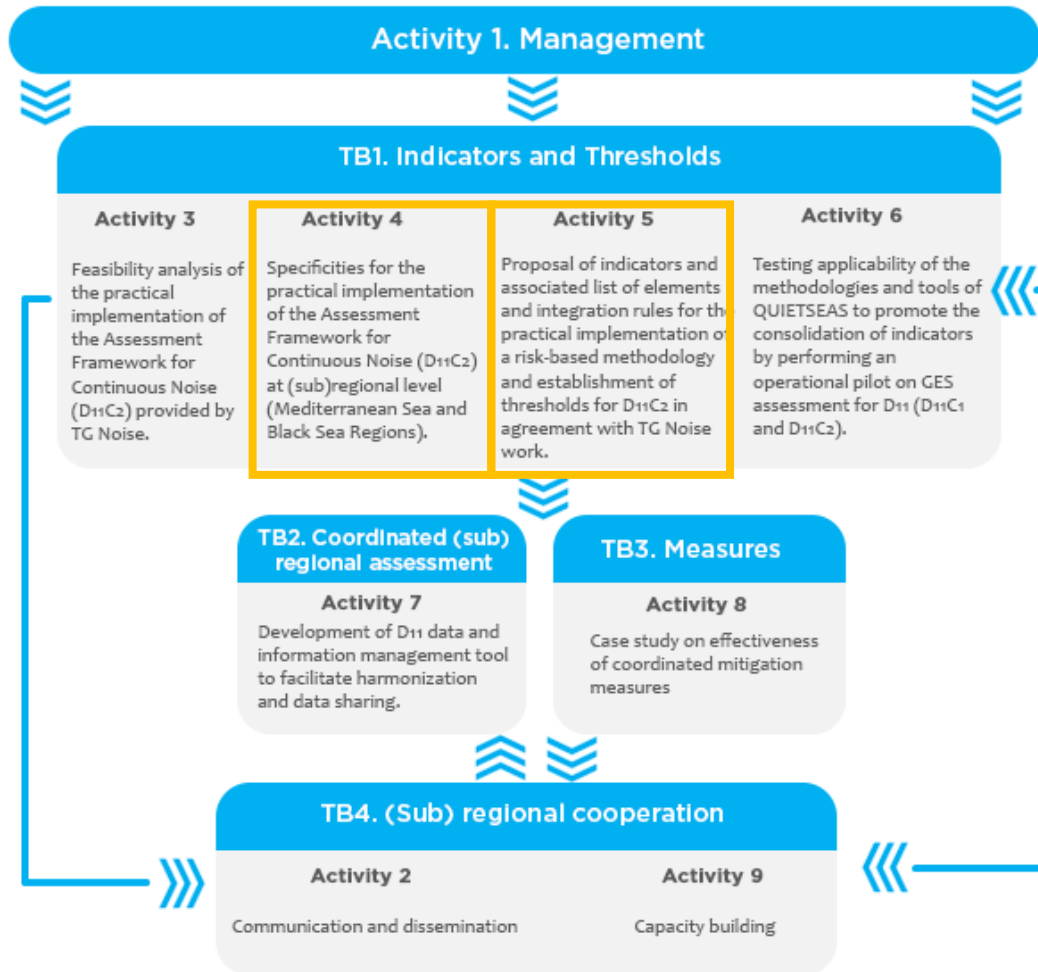


- **TG Noise**

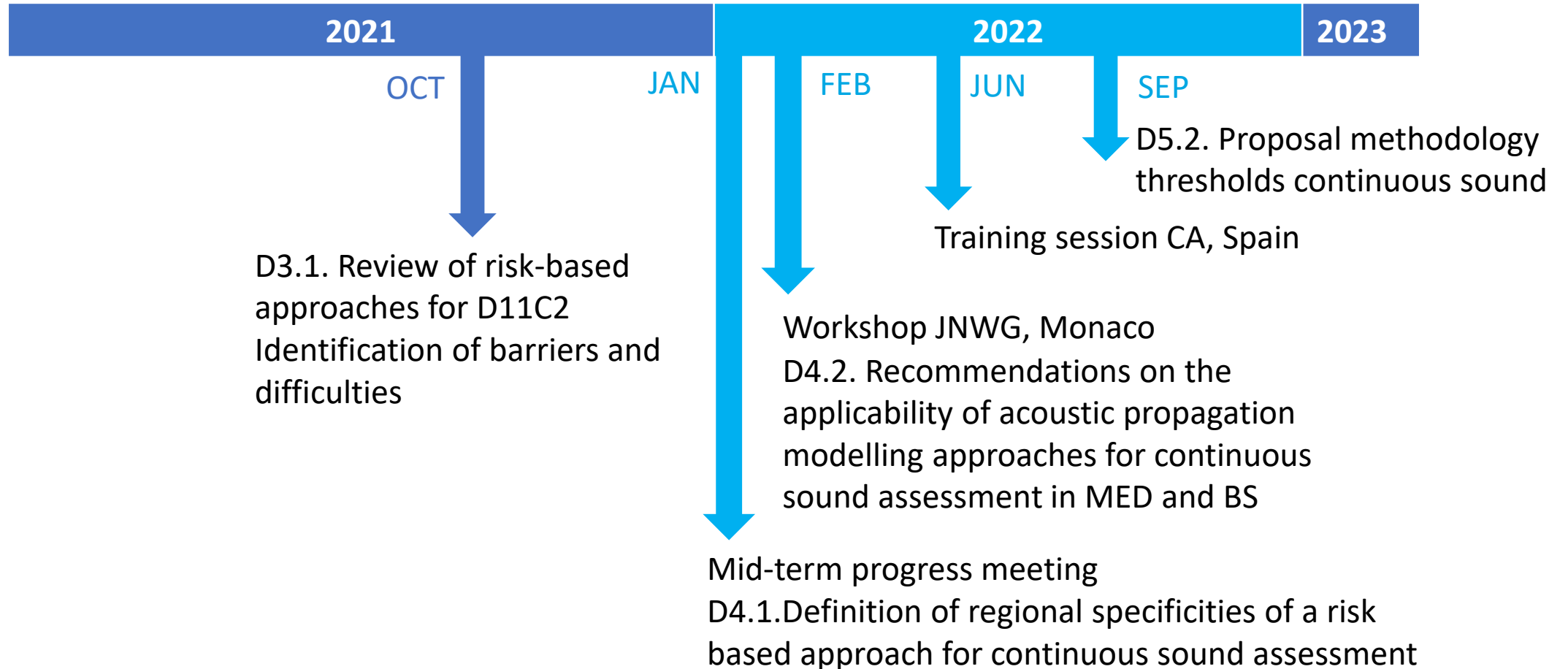
- Sharing draft deliverables at early stages.
- Attending TG Noise meetings.
- Workshop with JNWG, Monaco

- **Advisory Board**

- Sharing draft deliverables at early stages.
- Mid-term progress meeting, Online
- Training session with Competent Authorities, Spain



- D4.1. Definition of regional specificities of a risk-based approach for continuous sound assessment in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea regions.
- D4.2. Recommendations on the applicability of acoustic modelling approaches for continuous sound assessment in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea regions.
- D5.2. Proposal of a methodology to establish thresholds values for D11C2 in the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions.



Progress achieved during the reporting period. Work completed

QUIETSEAS. ACTIVITIES PROGRESS

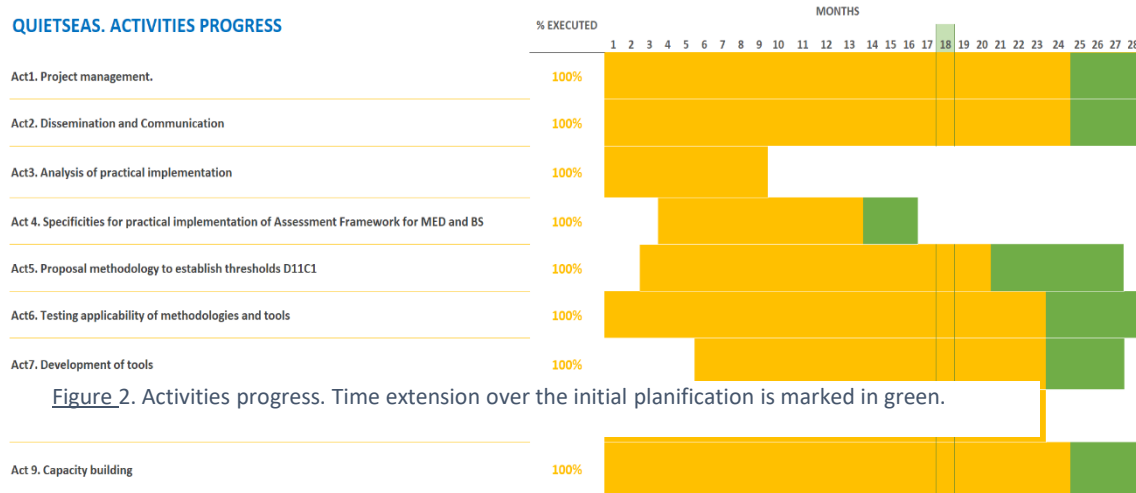
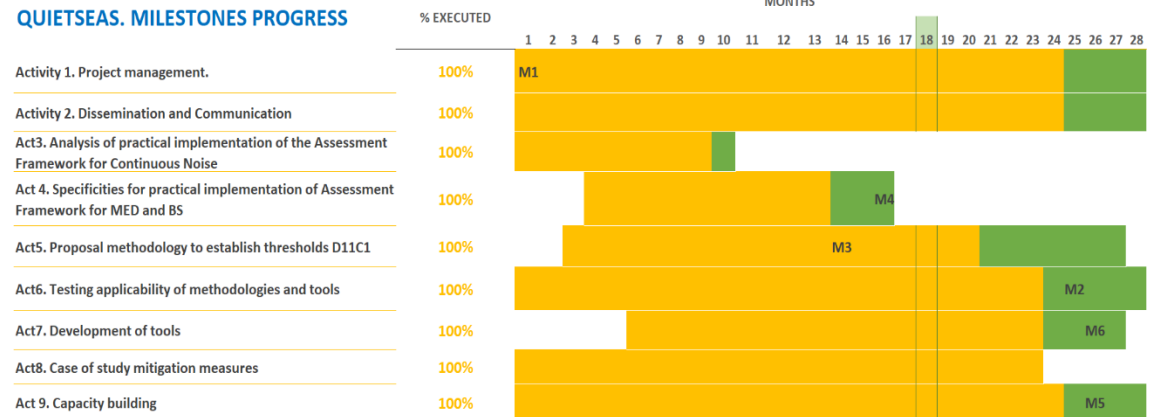


Figure 2. Activities progress. Time extension over the initial planification is marked in green.

Milestones progress

QUIETSEAS. MILESTONES PROGRESS



Code	Deliverable name	Dissemination level	Delivery month	Status
D1.1	Inception report	CO	M1	Submitted
D1.2	Progress report	CO	M14	Submitted
D1.3	Final report	CO	M28	Submitted
D1.4	Presentation of the main results	CO	M28	Submitted
D2.1	Communication and dissemination plan	PU	M3	Submitted
D2.2	Final report on Communication and dissemination activities	PU	M28	Submitted
D3.1	Review of risk-based approaches and frameworks for D11C2	PU	M10	Submitted
D4.1	Definition of regional specificities of a risk-based approach for continuous sound assessment in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea regions	PU	M16	Submitted
D4.2	Recommendations on the applicability of acoustic modelling approaches for continuous sound assessment in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea regions	PU	M16	Submitted
D5.1	National barriers and difficulties for the implementation of the TG Noise methodological framework for D11C2	PU	M22	Submitted
D5.2	Proposal of a methodology to establish thresholds values for D11C2 in the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions	PU	M28	Submitted
D6.1	Initial GES assessment of D11 underwater noise in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea regions	PU	M28	Submitted
D6.2	Data package	PU	M25	Submitted
D7.1	Data management tool for harmonisation and noise data sharing	PU	M27	Submitted
D8.1	Best practices of sub regional cooperation to set mitigation measures to address underwater noise pollution	PU	M23	Submitted
D9.1	Guidelines for Competent Authorities on a reporting method for continuous noise appropriate for the GES assessment and the establishment of thresholds	PU	M28	Submitted

Thanks for your attention!

quiet seas

*Noelia Ortega¹, María Bernabé¹, Tania Vera¹, Susana Salvador², Maÿlis Salivas², Alessio Maglio², Marina Argyrou³, Lavrendios Vasiliades³, Konstantinos Antoniadis³, Andreja Popit⁴, Aristides Prospathopoulos⁵, Paraskevi Drakopoulou⁵, Dimitris Kassis⁵, Foteini Panagiotidou⁵, Arianna Azzelino⁶, Veronica Frassà⁶, Lobna BEN NAKHLA⁷, Marwan Abderrahim⁷, Carlos Pinto⁸, Neil Holdsworth⁸, Lise Cronne⁸, **Maria -Emanuela Mihailov^{9*}**, Laura Ceyrac¹⁰, Benjamin Ollivier¹⁰, Myriam Lajaunie¹⁰, David Dellong¹⁰, Michael Taroudakis¹¹*

¹Centro Tecnológico Naval y del Mar, Ctra. El Estrecho-Lobosillo Km2, Fuente Álamo, Murcia Region, Spain

²Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area, Jardin de l'UNESCO, Les Terrasses de Fontvieille, Monaco

³Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, 101 Vithleem Street, Nicosia, Cyprus

⁴Inštitut za vode Republike Slovenije/Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia, Einspielerjeva 6, Ljubljana, Slovenia

⁵Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, 46.7Km Athinon-Souniou Avenue, Anavyssos, Greece

⁶Politecnico di Milano-Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Piazza Leonardo da Vinci, 32, Milano, Italy

⁷Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre, Boulevard du Leader Yasser ARAFAT, Tunis, Tunisia

⁸International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, H.C.ANDERSENS BOULEVARD 44-46, COPENHAGEN V, Denmark

⁹Maritime Hydrographic Directorate "Comandor Alexandru Catuneanu", Fulgerului Street no. 1, Constanta, Romania

¹⁰Service hydrographique et océanographique de la marine, 13 rue du Chatellier, Brest, France

¹¹Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas, Institute of Applied and Computational Mathematics, N. Plastira 100, Vassilika Vouton, Heraklion, Crete



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