

Roadmap for the implementation of collective actions within the Recommendations for the protection and conservation of OSPAR listed Species and Habitats 2017-2025

Action sheet 26

Action 26	Develop and/or refine relevant measures and strategies for preventing and reducing impacts on turtles entanglement and ingestion of marine litter (plastic bags especially), pollution, collision and bycatch.
Participants	France with the support of Spain
Plan:	<p>Entanglement by and ingestion of marine litter, interactions with fisheries (especially incidental capture in fishing gears), pollution and boat collisions are considered as the main threats to sea turtles (OSPAR, 2008; 2009a-b; 2010 and 2015).</p> <p>This action applies to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Leatherback turtle <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> and the Loggerhead turtle <i>Caretta caretta</i> - All OSPAR regions where the species are under threat and/or in decline i.e. regions IV and V for the Loggerhead turtle and all regions for the Leatherback turtle (OSPAR, 2008; 2013a-b). <p>Guidelines need to be developed on how impacts on turtles by human activities can be minimised by preventing or reducing pressures arising from those activities.</p> <p>A task group gathering experts of turtles and Contracting Parties delegates from BDC and EIHA could be set-up to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Build a directory of all partners involved on turtle's conservation (scientists, stakeholders, NGOs...) b) Produce a Scoping Document (prepared by France, based on elements provided by participating CPs) on the measures aiming to prevent or reduce impacts of entanglement and ingestion of marine litter, pollution, collision and by-catch on turtles. For each type of pressure and impact, this document should identify: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. what is being undertaken by other groups or fora (e.g. HELCOM, Barcelona Convention, CMS, NATO, NEAFC, IMO, etc.) b. what is being undertaken at national and/or regional levels c. what type of data is available or needed (in cooperation with COBAM and EIHA) d. what should be undertaken in the future <p>1.</p>

	<p>c) Initiate if possible a cost-effectiveness analysis of existing regional and national measures for each pressure. Sharing national or/and local initiatives will provide an overview and help formulating recommendations.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>d) Define a strategy to experiment new measures for preventing and reducing the impacts of human activities on turtles.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>Actions to reduce marine litter in the OSPAR maritime area should be implemented through the RAP-ML (under the ICG-ML coordination). Contracting Parties should in particular contribute to the action 44 implementation and to the development of a the candidate indicator “ingestion of litter by sea turtles”</p> <p>OSPAR has already adopted a candidate indicator on ingestion of plastic particles by turtles from Region IV, which is being further developed by the EU funded INDICIT project. BDC (ICG-COBAM, ICG-MSFD), EIHA (ICG-ML, ICG-C) and HASEC (ICG-INPUT, ICG-MIME) should encourage the development of actions on turtles species</p>
Timeline	<p>OSPAR meeting cycle 2018-2019 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Task group: Meeting and Scoping Document proposal <p>OSPAR meeting cycle 2019-2020 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - POSH, BDC and EIHA : Validation of the scoping document - Task group: Proposal of guidelines on how impacts on turtles by human activities can be minimised <p>OSPAR meeting cycle 2020-2021 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - POSH,BDC and EIHA: Validation of the guidelines
Events	<p>Yearly meetings of ICG-POSH, BDC and EIHA</p> <p>Task group meeting (WebEx or face-to-face)</p>
Links to other actions	<p>Link to all actions relevant to turtles and monitoring/assessment, pressures and research/knowledge generation: actions 5, 17, 18, 19, 35</p>
Added value of action by OSPAR	<p>Part of this action is taken forward through the implementation of the RAP-ML</p> <p>Production of guidelines that will help to build a strategy to reduce pressures and impacts on turtles</p>
Resources	<p>Financial resources to host and participate to the task group meeting</p> <p>Human resources to participate to the development of the scoping and guidelines documents</p>
Barrier to progress	<p>The task group efficiency to produce a scoping document and identify potential additional measures relies on the involvement on experts and CPs delegates</p>
Stakeholders to engage	<p>Experts on turtles (academic, stranding network, health centres...)</p> <p>Any national or international fora that could undertake actions on human activities and/or sea turtles conservation (NEAFC, ICES, CMS, NATO, IMO, NGOs, etc.)</p> <p>Industry representatives</p> <p>National and local authorities</p>
Other Competent	<p>Regional Sea Conventions (HELCOM, Barcelona Convention)</p> <p>ICES</p>

Authorities:	<p>CMS, CITES</p> <p>IMO</p> <p>UNCLOS</p> <p>National fisheries authorities and RFMOs (NEAFC, NATO, etc.)</p>
Product(s):	<p>Scoping document on existing measures aiming to prevent or reduce impacts of entanglement and ingestion of marine litter, pollution, collision and by-catch on turtles.</p> <p>Additional measures to reduce impacts on turtles by human activities</p>
References	<p>OSPAR Commission (2008). Case Reports for the OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species and Habitats. OSPAR Publication 2008/358.</p> <p>OSPAR (2009)a. Background document for Leatherback turtle <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>. OSPAR Publication 2009/421</p> <p>OSPAR (2009)b. Marine litter in the North-East Atlantic Region: Assessment and priorities for response. OSPAR Publication 2009/386</p> <p>OSPAR (2010). Report of the OSPAR workshop on defining actions and measures of the OSPAR List of Threatened and/or Declining Species and Habitats. OSPAR publication 2010/520.</p> <p>OSPAR (2013)a. OSPAR recommendation 2013/06. OSPAR(2) 13/4/1, Annex 9.</p> <p>OSPAR (2013)b. OSPAR recommendation 2013/07. 3</p> <p>OSPAR (2015). Background document for Loggerhead turtle <i>Caretta caretta</i> - Update. OSPAR Publication 2015/647</p>