

# Strategies for the Conservation of Cetaceans and Sea Turtles in the Adriatic Sea

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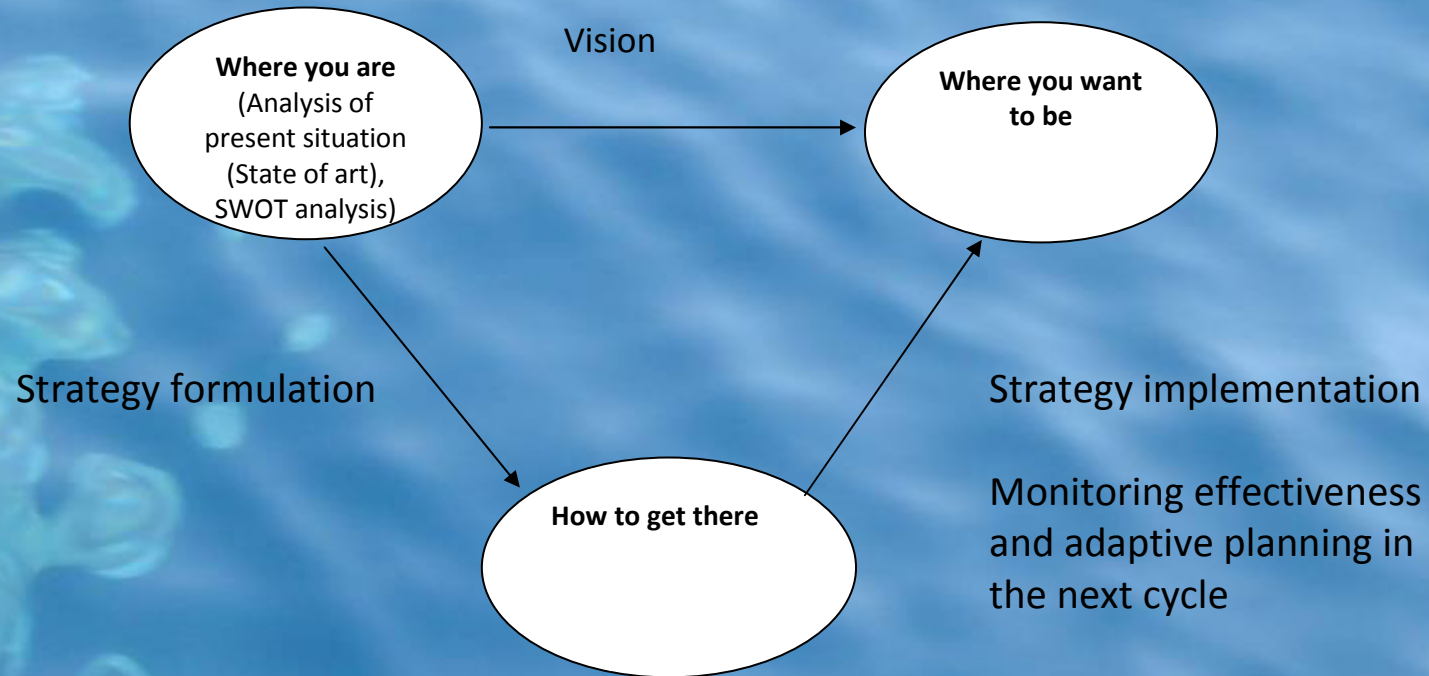


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# Strategic planning



## Vision

*“The Adriatic is a safe place for cetaceans/sea turtles and humans to coexist”*



## Objectives

Cetaceans	Sea turtles
<b>Improve knowledge</b>	
<b>Reduce impacts of threats, particularly interaction with fisheries</b>	
<b>Enhance cooperation between different stakeholders</b>	
<b>Establish a common conservation legislation framework in the Adriatic</b>	
<b>Ensure effective conservation of important habitats</b>	<b>Understand adequacy of targeted protection of areas for conservation of sea turtles in the Adriatic</b>
<b>Improve capacities for conservation issues</b>	
<b>Raise awareness</b>	
<b>Ensure adequate funding</b>	



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Objectives	Targets
<b>1. KNOWLEDGE BASE</b>	
1.1. Improve knowledge about the state of cetaceans/sea turtles in the Adriatic Sea, as a basis for conservation planning	1.1.1. Accurately estimate population size and dynamics of cetaceans /sea turtles in the Adriatic
	1.1.2. All existing and newly collected data about cetaceans /sea turtles promptly available to the experts
<b>2. MANAGEMENT OF THREATS</b>	
2.1. Reduce the (impact of) threats to cetaceans, particularly interactions with fisheries	2.1.1. Decreased mortality rate and number of animals injured through activities caused by humans
<b>3. COOPERATION between INSTITUTIONS/SECTORS for CETACEANS / SEA TURTLES CONSERVATION</b>	
3.1. Enhance cooperation between stakeholders, particularly those involved in nature conservation and fisheries	3.1.1. All strategic decisions (e.g. preparation of the Adriatic (relevant) strategic/management plans related to cetaceans) made with active involvement of all relevant stakeholders
<b>4. LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT</b>	
4.1. Establish a common cetacean/sea turtle conservation legislation framework in the Adriatic	4.1.1. All Adriatic countries follow the EC acquis communautaire
<b>5. CETACEANS/SEA TURTLE HABITAT CONSERVATION</b>	
5.1. a Ensure effective conservation of important cetacean habitats through targeted protection and appropriate governance of areas	5.1.1.a State of cetaceans in at least 5 protected areas in the Adriatic containing critical habitats is maintained or improved
5.1. b Understand the adequacy of targeted protection of areas to conserve sea turtles in the Adriatic	5.1.1.b Importance of habitats for sea turtles is recognised
<b>6. CAPACITY BUILDING</b>	
6.1. Improve human capacity for cetaceans/sea turtle conservation issues, particularly for addressing strandings and monitoring	6.1.1. Functional stranding network(s) and responses to emergency situation
	6.1.2. Adequate human capacity with knowledge about inventorying, monitoring and applying cetacean /sea turtle conservation
<b>7. PUBLIC AWARENESS</b>	
7.1. Raise awareness about cetacean/sea turtle conservation in the Adriatic	7.1.1. General public and other relevant stakeholders are aware about cetaceans and a need for their conservation
<b>8. FINANCING</b>	
8.1. Ensure funding for cetacean/sea turtle conservation activities at the Adriatic level	8.1.1. Financial support available and used for implementation of the most of the activities stipulated in conservation strategy

Objectives	Targets	Indicator/Source of verification	Link to the Aichi targets	Link to the EU biodiversity targets	Link to the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region	Link to the ACCOBAMS Strategy 2014 - 2023
<b>1. KNOWLEDGE BASE</b>						
<b>1.1. Improve knowledge about the state of cetaceans in the Adriatic Sea, as a basis for conservation planning</b>	1.1.1. Accurately estimate population size and dynamics of cetaceans in the Adriatic	GES Indicators: 1.1. (species distribution), 1.2. (population size), 1.3 (population condition)/MSFD reports	Aichi Target 12 Aichi Target 19	EU Biodiversity Target 1	Horizontal issues - Building on the Biodiversity knowledge base	Specific objective B.1.
	1.1.2. All existing and newly collected data about cetaceans promptly available to the experts	Strandings and emergency events data/Web-site (NETCET follow up)				
<b>2. MANAGEMENT OF THREATS</b>						
<b>2.1. Reduce the (impact of) threats to cetaceans, particularly interactions with fisheries</b>	2.1.1. Decreased mortality rate and number of animals injured through activities caused by humans	Cetacean mortality trends for the Adriatic Sea in relation to abundance/ Annual reports about mortality in the Adriatic Sea  GES Indicators: 4.3 . (Abundance/distribution of key trophic groups/species), 8.2. (Effects of contaminants), 10.2. (Impact of litter on marine life), 11.2. (Continuous low frequency sound)/MSFD reports	Aichi Target 6 Aichi Target 8	EU Biodiversity Target 4 EU Biodiversity Target 2		Specific objective B.2.
<b>3. COOPERATION between INSTITUTIONS/SECTORS for CETACEANS CONSERVATION</b>						
<b>3.1. Enhance cooperation between stakeholders, particularly those involved in nature conservation and fisheries</b>	3.1.1. All strategic decisions (e.g. preparation of the Adriatic (relevant) strategic/management plans related to cetaceans) made with active involvement of all relevant stakeholders	Affiliation of stakeholders participating in development of strategic documents for the Adriatic/Lists of participants in the document				Specific objectives A.1 and A.2.

## Action plans

- 57 actions for conservation of cetaceans and 41 for sea turtles
- 1. **Knowledge base** – inventory, monitoring, data storage and exchanges
- 2. **Management of threats** – addressing interaction with fisheries, marine debris, collisions with boats, anthropogenic noise, climate change (cetaceans), cetaceans watching
- 3. **Cooperation between institutions/sectors for cetaceans and sea turtles conservation** –continue with the NETCET partnership, active City Network
- 4. **Legislation and enforcement** – harmonisation of legislation, cooperation for enforcement
- 5. **Cetaceans and sea turtle habitat conservation** – identification of important areas and effective management of existing (cetaceans)
- 6. **Capacity building** – operational stranding networks, tissue banks, capacity building for monitoring of cetaceans, education about conservation
- 7. **Public awareness** – information
- 8. **Financing** – new funding possibilities

# 1. KNOWLEDGE BASE

## Objective 1.1. Improve knowledge on the state of cetaceans in the Adriatic Sea, as a basis for conservation planning

### Target 1.1.1. Accurately estimated population size and dynamics of cetaceans in the Adriatic Sea

No.	Activities	Responsible subjects	Expected results	Target species	Relevant Adriatic Countries (based	Priority	Possible sources of	Link to ACCOBAMS
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## 2. MANAGEMENT OF THREATS

### Objective 2.1. Reduce (impact of) threats to sea turtles in the Adriatic, particularly interactions with fisheries

#### Target 2.1.1. Decreased mortality rate and number of animals injured through activities caused by humans

1.1.1.1. IN	No.	Activities	Responsible subjects	Expected results (outputs)	Target species	Relevant Adriatic Countries	Priority	Possible sources of funding	Link to the RAC/SPA Mediterranean marine turtles Action plan
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#### 2.1.1.1. INTERACTION WITH FISHERIES

1.1.1.1.2.	2.1.1.1.1	Assess accurately current bycatch rate and hot-spots of sea turtles/fisheries interactions	N* (involved in sea turtles conservation and fisheries)	Bycatch rate assessment report with maps of hotspots	All species	All countries	Very high	IP, NF	B.I.b
	2.1.1.1.2	Explore, test and if adequate implement new techniques and devices (e.g. TED) to mitigate bycatch	N,I* (involved in sea turtles conservation and fisheries)	Report about adequate bycatch mitigation measures	All species	All countries	High	IP, NF	
	2.1.1.1.3	Set up a systematical bycatch (including monitoring effectiveness of mitigation measures) (link with 1.1.1.2.3.)	N (involved in sea turtles conservation and fisheries)	Bycatch monitoring programme  Periodical overviews of state of bycatch	All species	All countries	High	IP, NF	



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## Regional Strategies → National Action Plans

-Strategies represent guidelines for development of the National Action Plans, prepared or revised under the NETCET project

4. LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT								
Objective 4.1. Establish a common cetacean conservation legislation framework in the Adriatic Sea								
Target 4.1.1. All Adriatic countries follow the EC <i>acquis communautaire</i>								
No.	Activities	Responsible subjects	Expected results (outputs)	Target species	Relevant Adriatic Countries	Priority	Possible sources of funding	Link to ACCOBAMS Strategy Activities
1. HARMONISATION OF LEGISLATION								
4.1.1.1.1.	Harmonise fully the existing national legislation relevant for cetaceans conservation in the non EU Member States with the EC <i>acquis communautaire</i> , particularly with EU Habitats Directive and MSFD	N	Amended existing national legislation	All species	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro	High	NF	
4.1.1.1.2.	Improve transposition of the EC directives and regulations into the national legislation in the EU Member States	N	Amended existing national legislation	All species	Croatia, Italy, Slovenia	High	NF	



## Development of National Action Plans

Country	Partner	
	<i>Cetaceans</i>	<i>Sea turtles</i>
Albania	APAWA	HAS
Croatia	SINP/CAEN & BWI	
Italy	ISPRA	WWF Italy
Montenegro	IMB	
Slovenia	UPR	



Thank you for your attention!

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