Joint Action
Noise in the Marine Environment

Dr. Benjamin Kürten
Prof. Dr. Angelo Camerlenghi

14.2.2023
Soundscapes


Duarte, et al. (2021) Science 371. DOI: 10.1126/science.aba4658
Goal of the JPI Oceans Joint Action

The Joint Action aims at promoting a pan-European cross-disciplinary partnership for the integration of different sectors of the scientific research community with a focus on the impact of anthropogenic noise on the marine environment.

Policy context

In their recommendation “Mission Starfish 2030: Restore our Ocean and Waters” (2020, doi:10.2777/70828) the Mission Board proposed a mission on healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters under Horizon Europe to the European Commission. The Mission Board identified underwater noise as one of the four major types of pollution.

To achieve Good Environmental Status (GES; viz. Descriptor 11) within the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), it is the Commission’s Zero Pollution ambition and indispensable target of the Mission that “…underwater noise is regulated and reduced”.
The international landscape

Assessment of the environmental impact of underwater noise

Ocean Noise Strategy Roadmap

Addressing underwater noise in Europe

Biodiversity Series

2009

Future Science Brief

No 7 October 2021
24-25.4.2018 16th MB meeting Brussels
Proposal for new topic:
Italy highlighted that the impact of continuous and occasional acoustic pollution is under-recognised. The scientific evidence is lacking to support political decisions and governance. The topic is also interesting in a BLUEMED context.

Germany supported the view from Italy regarding underwater noise. There are currently national discussions in Germany and there could be an interest in looking further into this at a European level and to look if there are technologies, which are less damaging to the environment.

08-09.10.2018 17th MB meeting Reykjavík
Underwater noise in the marine environment – proposed by Italy.
Interest expressed by: BE, DE, DK, ES, IT, HR, NO, PT, UK + NOAA

Proponents tasked to organize a SCOPING Workshop
21-22.01.2019 1st JPI Oceans scoping workshop: Noise in the Marine Environment, Brussels

**Scope:** promoting a cross-disciplinary integration of different sectors of the scientific research community

**Relevance:** scientific, national regulatory frameworks.

**Impacts:** public perception of the relations between human activities in the sea (whether they are for research or industrial purposes) and the environment in a perspective of growing blue economy

**Expected outcome:** a proposal for the launch of a JPI-Ocean action specifically aiming at improving the scientific contribution in support of the implementation of the regulatory frameworks at a European level.

**Countries:** Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Greece, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom.
Conclusion and decision by MB

Following the suggestion from the Workshop participants, a further workshop is needed to identify the priorities which will lead to structuring or enabling actions.

The aim is to propose to the JPI Oceans MB a strategic document to facilitate implementation of action, also taking into account and considering coordinating other activities developed within JPI Oceans itself (munitions in the sea, MSFD) and other initiatives (OSPAR, HELCOMM, CIESM, etc.).
13-14.1.2020 2\textsuperscript{nd} JPI Oceans workshop on Noise in the Marine Environment, Rome

**Scope:** After the identification of research gaps that resulted from the January 2019 workshop, the group of experts identified the priorities which will lead to structuring or enabling actions to be proposed to the JPI Oceans Management Board before May 2020 for the implementation of a formal Action.

Link established with “Interdisciplinary Research for Good Environmental Status: support to MSFD - Lesson learnt, efficiency vs. effectiveness, and synergies” Capo Granitola, Sicily, on 12-13 September 2019.

**Working group 1** - Research gaps and needs on the state of knowledge of the impact of noise on the marine environment

**Working group 2** - Research gaps and needs on the state of knowledge of technology

**Working group 3** - Research gaps and needs for the implementation of regulatory framework in Europe, ethics, mitigation measures.
Conclusion and decision by MB

The Board adopted "Underwater Noise in the Marine Environment" as a JPI Oceans Joint Action, led by Italy, with Germany as co-leading country.

The Board welcomed additional countries to engage in the Joint Action as participants as well as additional co-lead(s).
Conclusion and decision by MB

The Board invites eligible countries to formally take part in the Joint Action by notifying the lead countries and the secretariat.

The Board agrees that countries and funding organisations are invited to express financial and/or in-kind commitments to the Joint Call, to be launched in autumn-2021 and funding of projects from 2022, by 30 December 2020.

The Board agrees to consider a proposal for a Knowledge Hub component of the Joint Action on Underwater Noise in the Marine Environment at a future meeting. Interested countries are invited to engage in the preparation of such a proposal.
Dr. Benjamin Kürten
Project Management Juelich
Sustainable Development and Innovation
Marine and Maritime Research, Geosciences and Shipping │ Coastal, Marine
and Polar Research (MGS 1)

Juelich Research Centre GmbH
Schweriner Str. 44 – 18069 Rostock
Germany

Tel.: +49 381 20356-271
b.kuerten@fz-juelich.de

Project Management Juelich
IDENTIFY. SUPPORT. CREATE.