

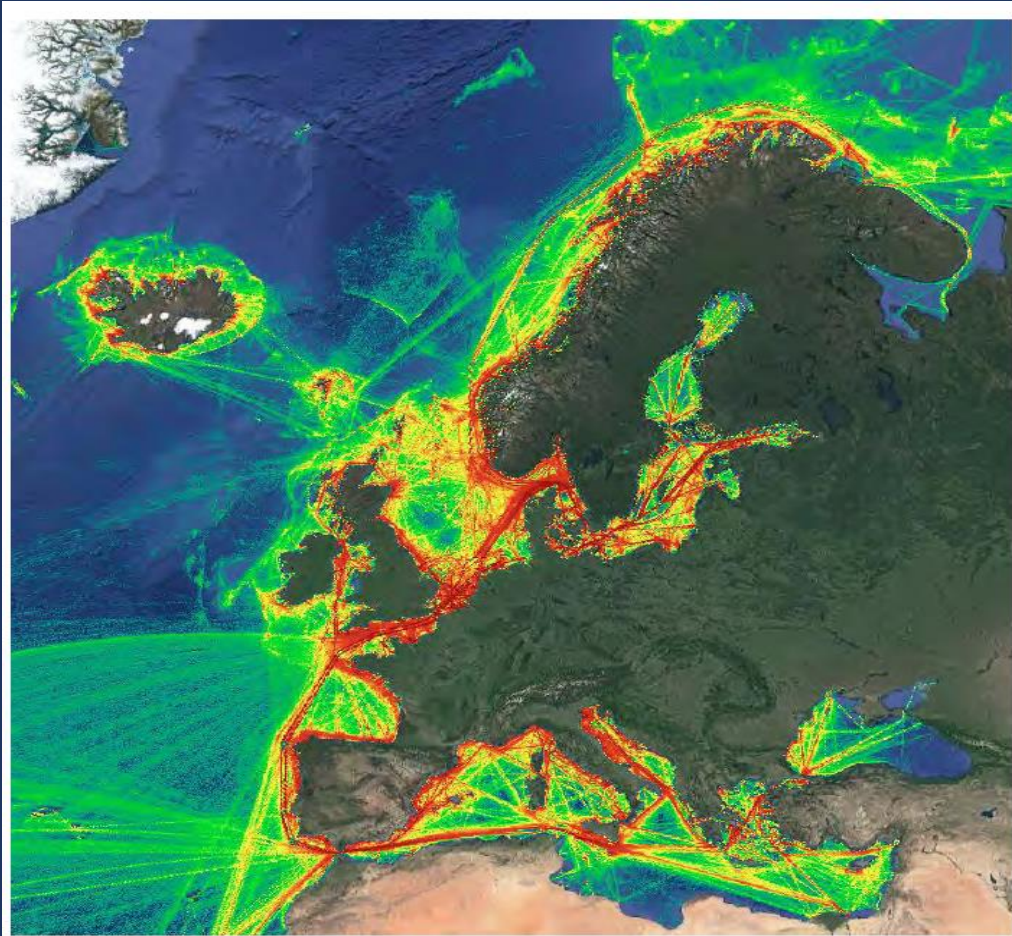
**Joint Action
Noise in the Marine Environment**

Dr. Benjamin Kürten

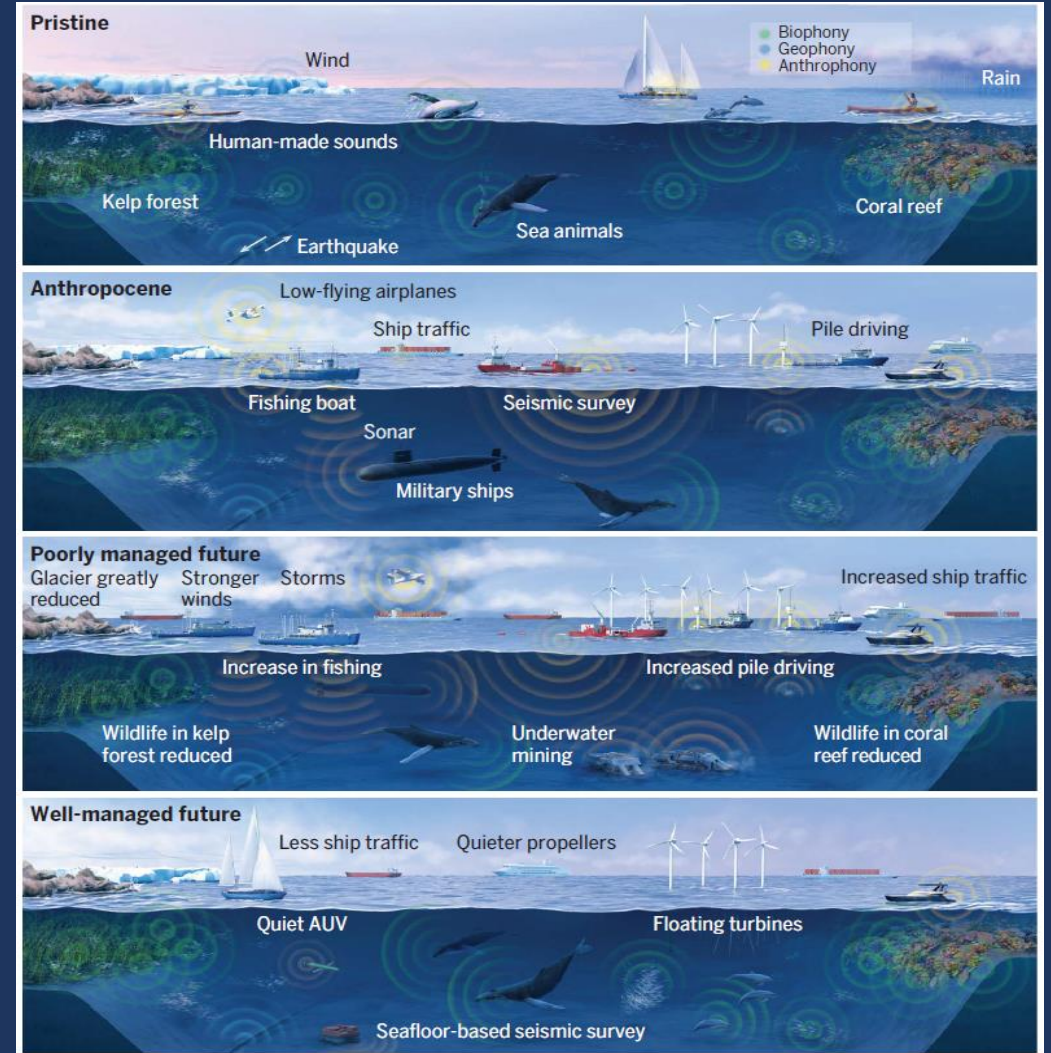
Prof. Dr. Angelo Camerlenghi

14.2.2023

Soundscapes



EU Vessel density map (European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), Human Activities, in the year 2019 (<https://www.emodnet-humanactivities.eu/view-data.php>)).



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




**OSPAR
COMMISSION**

Assessment of the environmental impact of
underwater noise

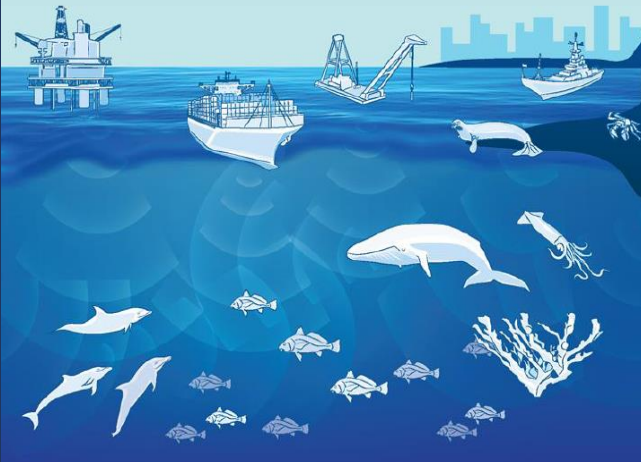


Biodiversity Series

2009



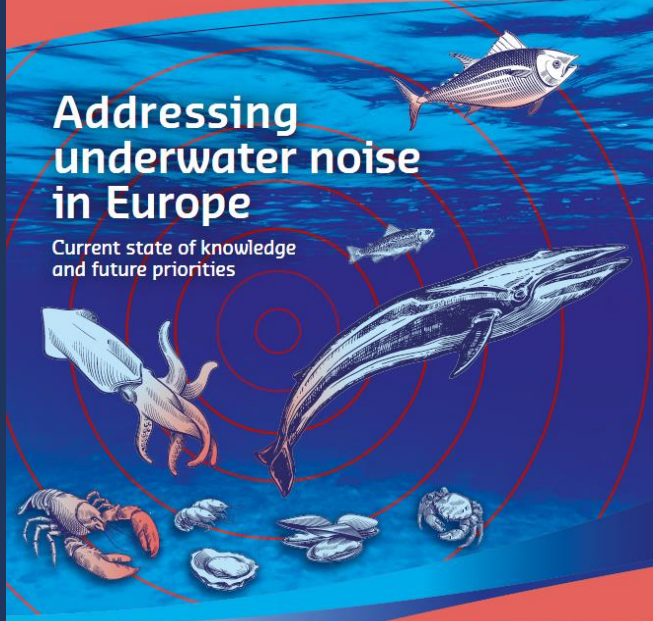
**Ocean Noise
Strategy
Roadmap**



Future Science Brief N° 7 October 2021

**Addressing
underwater noise
in Europe**

Current state of knowledge
and future priorities



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MARINE BOARD
Advancing Seas & Ocean Science

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.

20-21.5.2019 19th MB meeting Brussels



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 2nd 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.

6.05.2020

21st MB meeting Brussels, Online



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).

12-13.11.2020 22nd MB meeting, Online



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

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