

RESOLUTION 8.2
WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR THE 2023-2025 TRIENNIUM

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area:

Acting in accordance with the commitments of the Parties to conserve cetaceans in conformity with the Agreement, especially the fundamental obligations placed upon Parties in Article II,

Recalling Article IX, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Agreement, stating that the Parties shall determine the scale of contributions to the budget and that the Meeting of the Parties shall adopt a budget by consensus,

Taking into account the ACCOBAMS Strategy (2014-2025), as adopted under Resolution 5.1, as well as the new ACCOBAMS Strategy as adopted under Resolution 7.4,

Acknowledging the relevant work being carried out in other organizations, in particular within the framework of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention), the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution (Bucharest Convention) and the Agreement for the Establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

Acknowledging with appreciation:

- a. the financial support and in-kind contributions provided by the Government of H.S.H. the Prince of Monaco for the ACCOBAMS Secretariat under the Headquarters Agreement,
- b. the voluntary contributions provided by the Governments of Italy, Malta, Monaco, and Spain,
- c. the co-financing from SPA/RAC and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN),
- d. the financial support provided by MAVA Foundation and European Union through specific projects,
- e. the support from Partner organisations for Agreement activities,

Thanking the Scientific Committee for its work and advice to Parties in setting up accurate conservation measures,

Thanking also the Sub-Regional Coordination Units and the ACCOBAMS Partners for their continuous support to the implementation of the Agreement,

Aware that scientific research in Agreement area remains essential to identify populations with the least favourable conservation status and to address the conservation priorities,

Conscious that the current heterogeneity of management and research capacity in the area covered by the Agreement must be addressed by capacity-building and public awareness,

Stressing the need to increase collaboration with those international organisations whose mandates encompass interrelated aspects in the same area of the Agreement, in the spirit of the ecosystem approach,

Recognizing the need to set priorities,

Taking into consideration the results of Meeting of National Representatives organised in July 2021, where the needs and priorities of Parties for the implementation of the Agreement have been identified,

Stressing the importance of the payment by all Parties of the contributions due to the budget of the Agreement,

Recalling that Article IX, paragraph 3, calls for voluntary contributions to increase the funds available for monitoring, research, training and projects related to conservation,

Recalling Resolutions 1.7 and 7.8, establishing and implementing a Supplementary Conservation Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the audited accounts for the period 2020-2022 presented by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat;
2. *Agrees* to provide financial support for the participation to the ACCOBAMS Meetings of the Parties of delegates (one delegate by country) from countries with middle and low incomes, as classified by the World Bank in 2022 and as listed in [Annex 5](#) to the present Resolution, excluding countries with arrears of more than three years of contribution to the Trust Fund;
3. *Adopts* the Budget for 2023-2025, as in [Annex 1](#) to the present Resolution;
4. *Confirms* that Parties shall contribute to the budget, in accordance with Article III, paragraph 8 (e), of the Agreement, at the scale agreed upon by the Meeting of the Parties;
5. *Agrees* to apply, for the calculation of the minimum ordinary contributions, a percentage of the total budget, instead of a fixed amount;
6. *Agrees* to the scale and amounts of contributions of Parties to the Agreement, as listed in [Annex 2](#) to the present Resolution, and to the application of that scale to new Parties *pro rata* of the remaining financial year;
7. *Requests* Parties, in particular those that pay the minimum contribution, to consider paying for the entire triennium in one instalment at the beginning of the period;
8. *Further requests* Parties to pay their contributions as promptly as possible, but, in any case, no later than at the end of March of the corresponding year and in compliance with national legislation;
9. *Asks* the Parties that have unpaid pledges to pay their pending contributions within a reasonable time, at the latest two to three months after the end of 2022, in order to close the budget for the 2020-2022 triennium as soon as possible;

10. *Requests* the Secretariat to use the amount of 10 000€ from the expected remaining amounts, in order to replenish the secured funds mentioned in paragraph 19 of Annex 3 on the Terms of Reference for Administration of the Budget;
11. *Requests* the Bureau to:
 - a. monitor the accrual of unspent funds on the ACCOBAMS budget with a view to providing the Secretariat with guidance to prevent the accumulation of unspent funds or, as appropriate, on their timely utilization;
 - b. propose to the Meeting of the Parties a procedure concerning the management and the recovery of the long term pending contributions;
 - c. monitor the maintenance by the Secretariat of an adequate secured fund, and the application of paragraph 19 of Annex 3 to Resolution 8.2 on the Terms of Reference for Administration of the Budget.
12. *Invites* Parties, Range States and organisations to consider the feasibility of providing personnel for the ACCOBAMS Secretariat;
13. *Also invites* Parties and States that are not Parties to the Agreement, as well as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental Organizations and other possible donors, to consider contributing to the implementation of the Agreement on a voluntary basis;
14. *Approves* the terms of reference for administration of the Agreement Budget for the period 2023-2025, as set out in [Annex 3](#) to the present Resolution, as well as the guidelines for the acceptance of financial contributions, as set out in [Annex 4](#), provided that no voluntary contribution shall entail any present or future financial liability for the Agreement Trust Fund without the prior consent of the Parties or the Bureau;
15. *Entrusts* the ACCOBAMS Secretariat with the task of exploring the availability of appropriate external funds to support the implementation of the Agreement;
16. *Adopts* the Programme of Work for 2023 – 2025, as presented in [Annex 6](#) to the present Resolution;
17. *Urges* Parties to support projects and activities in line with the Work Programme by means of financial and in-kind contributions and to report thereon to the Ninth Meeting of the Parties;
18. *Urges* Parties to fully commit themselves in the ACCOBAMS Meeting of National Representatives, which should be organized in 2024, by having a representative attending the Meeting;
19. *Recommends* Parties, in order to prepare this ACCOBAMS Meeting of National Representatives, to organize through ACCOBAMS Focal Points a half-day national meeting to collect all the relevant data prior the Meeting, if necessary;
20. *Urges* Parties and specialized international and national organizations to develop international cooperative projects for implementation of the Work Programme and to keep the ACCOBAMS Secretariat fully informed of progress;
21. *Further urges* Parties and *encourages* national and international organizations and other donors to provide financial assistance to Countries in need of capacity-building to support the implementation of the Agreement

and of the Work Programme, directly or through the financial mechanisms of the Agreement, in particular through the Supplementary Conservation Fund;

22. *Asks* Parties, non-Parties, Partners, all relevant organizations and experts to share all relevant information regarding their activities in NETCCOBAMS;
23. *Calls on* the Scientific Committee, the ACCOBAMS Secretariat, the Bureau, the Sub-Regional Coordinating Units, ACCOBAMS Partners and international and national non-governmental Organizations to promote the actions necessary to facilitate implementation of the Work Programme, bearing in mind the Resolutions adopted by the Meetings of the Parties;
24. *Calls on* the Scientific Committee to further promote cooperation with scientific Institutions of the ACCOBAMS Area;
25. *Requests* the ACCOBAMS Secretariat to strengthen co-operation and develop activities with other relevant bodies;
26. *Instructs* the ACCOBAMS Secretariat to:
 - a. prepare a zero nominal growth scenario and a real nominal growth scenario to be included as reference scenarios in the draft Programme of Work and Budget for the triennium 2026-2028, to be submitted to MOP9;
 - b. disseminate the Work Programme for priority actions for 2023-2025, collaborate closely in its implementation with the Secretariats of other relevant conventions, international organizations and ACCOBAMS Partners, and seek appropriate donors;
 - c. inform in time the National Focal Points of workshops and meetings, as well as of the establishment of working groups within the ACCOBAMS framework.

ANNEXES

[Annex 1](#): Budget 2023 -2025

[Annex 2](#): Overview of expected incomes and expenses & Annual contributions of Parties to the ACCOBAMS Trust Fund 2023-2025

[Annex 3](#): Terms of reference for administration of the Budget

[Annex 4](#): Guidelines for accepting voluntary financial contributions

[Annex 5](#): Eligibility for funding to attend Meetings of the ACCOBAMS Parties

[Annex 6](#): Draft Programme of Work 2023 - 2025

ANNEX 1 - BUDGET 2023 -2025

Table 1- BUDGET OC - 2023 - 2025 based on a non-decrease amount for conservation actions (in €/euros)

		Approved budget - OC 2020-2022	Proposed budget – OC	Secured from Remaining	Additional required funds	LB1101	LB1102	LB1103	LB1104	LB1201	LB1202	LB 1203	LB 1300	LB 1400	LB1501	LB1502	LB1600	LB2100	LB2200	LB2300	LB2400	LB2500	LB52	LB53	LB54			
General Management and Administrative support																												
General Management ¹⁰ (Administrative staff, Administrative Assistance, Bank fees, Hospitality)		379 200	432 900			36 000	150 000	150 000	75 000	3 000	6 000	9 000	1 500	2 400														
MA1a	Strengthen involvement of all key stakeholders in ACCOBAMS's operations	227 600	214 000	5 000	41 000										3 600	39 400		61 000	49 000	25 000						36 000		
MA2a	New funding possibilities	0	0		75 000																							
MA3a	Improve the level of implementation of and compliance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions	5 000	20 000		56 000												0				15 000	5 000						
MA4a	Ensure implementation of the ACCOBAMS's cetacean conservation standards in the adjacent areas	0	0																									
triennium budget General Management and Administrative support		611 800	666 900	5 000	172 000	36 000	150 000	150 000	75 000	3 000	6 000	9 000	1 500	2 400	3 600	39 400	0	61 000	49 000	25 000	15 000	5 000	0	0	36 000			
				843 900																								
Conservation actions																												
CA1a	Cetacean population estimates and distribution	20 000	36 400	148 600	3 127 000																					36 400		
CA1b	Population Structure	0	0	0	96 000																							
CA1c	Monitoring cetaceans status	42 000	0	42 000	47 000										0											0		
CA1d	Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation	17 000	26 000	11 000	121 000										6 000											20 000		
CA2a	Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture	11 000	18 000	2 000	750 000																					18 000		
CA2b	Anthropogenic underwater noise	24 500	26 000	17 000	132 000																					26 000		
CA2c	Ship strikes	10 000	8 000	6 000	32 000																					8 000		
CA2d	Cetacean watching	7 000	0	12 000	203 000																							
CA2e	Marine debris	11 500	17 000	16 000	82 000																					17 000		
CA2f	Chemical & biological pollution	0	0	10 000	40 000																							
CA2g	Climate change	0	0	0	2 000																							
CA2i	Captivity related issues	0	0	15 000	0																							
CA3a	Area-based measures for cetacean conservation	61 000	0	44 000	18 000																					0		
CA4a	Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans	48 000	65 500	22 500	181 500																					65 500		
triennium budget Conservation Actions		252 000	196 900	346 100	4 830 500										6 000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69 000	56 400	65 500
				5 373 500																								
TOTAL triennium budget		863 800	863 800	351 100	5 002 500	36 000	150 000	150 000	75 000	3 000	6 000	9 000	1 500	2 400	9 600	39 400	0	61 000	49 000	25 000	15 000	5 000	69 000	56 400	101 500			
				6 217 400																								
Triennium budget by year & Budgetary Line (LB)						LB1101	LB1102	LB1103	LB1104	LB1201	LB1202	LB 1203	LB 1300	LB 1400	LB1501	LB1502	LB1600	LB2100	LB2200	LB2300	LB2400	LB2500	LB52	LB53	LB54			
2023						12 000	50 000	50 000	25 000	1 000	2 000	3 000	500	800	3 200	15 000	-	-	20 000	7 000	-	-	29 000	20 000	40 000			
2024						12 000	50 000	50 000	25 000	1 000	2 000	3 000	500	800	3 200	14 000	-	3 000	29 000	7 000	15 000	5 000	20 000	20 000	35 000			
2025						12 000	50 000	50 000	25 000	1 000	2 000	3 000	500	800	3 200	10 400	-	58 000	-	11 000	-	-	20 000	16 400	26 500			

¹⁰ See table 1. below on the description of budget lines

Table 2. Budget Lines

General Management and Administrative support		2020-2022	2023 -2025 Scenario 0% (from OC)	2023 -2025 Scenario with non-decrease for conservation actions thanks to remaining amounts
General Management				
1100	Administrative staff			
1 101	Executive Secretary Housing Allowance	34 000	36 000	36 000
1 102	Programme & Project Officer 1	133 500	150 000	150 000*
1 103	Programme & Project Officer 2	133 500	150 000	150 000*
1 104	Accounting and Programme Assistant (50%)	60 000	75 000	75 000*
1200	Administrative Assistance			
1 201	Translators	3 000	3 000	3 000
1 202	Fund management controller	2 000	6 000	6 000
1 203	External Assistance	5 300	9 000	9 000
1300	Bank fees	2 400	1 500	1 500
1400	Hospitality	1 500	2 400	2 400
Administrative support				
1 501	Coordination Units	21 600	9 600	9 600
1 502	Secretariat staff travels	50 000	39 400	39 400
ACCOBAMS Strategy				
1 600	Evaluation and ACCOBAMS Strategy	0	0	0
Institutional Meetings				
2100	Meeting of the Parties	61 000	61 000	61 000
2200	Scientific Committee	49 000	49 000	49 000
2300	Bureau	32 000	25 000	25 000
2400	Meeting of National Representatives	21 000	15 000	15 000
2500	Follow-up Committee Meeting	5 000	5 000	5 000
Support to Conservation actions				
52	Human-cetacean interactions / Emergency situations	51 000	69 000	77 000 (including 8 000€ from remaining)
	Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture			
	Anthropogenic underwater noise			
	Ship strikes			
	Cetacean watching			
	Marine litter			
	Chemical & biological pollution			
	Climate change			
	Captivity related issues			
53	Habitats / Research and monitoring	133 000	56 400	97 000 (including 40 600€ from remaining)
	Cetacean population estimates and distribution			
	Population Structure			
	Monitoring cetaceans' status, including Species conservation plans			
	Functional stranding networks & responses to emergency situation			
	Area-based measures for cetacean conservation			
54	Information/ Communication/Public awareness	61 000	101 500	106 000 (including 4 500€ from remaining)
	NETCCOBAMS			
	Communication Strategy			
	Citizen Science			
	ACCOBAMS teaching Module			
	Promotion and dissemination			

* Increased amount due to the correction of miscalculated wages for the 2020-2022 period, and to the update foreseen on social charges for 2023-2025.

ANNEX 2
OVERVIEW OF EXPECTED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2023-2025

Expected Income 2023-2025	
Expected total Remaining amounts as of 31/12/2022	380 000
<i>including the secured fund</i>	<i>18 800</i>
Available remaining amounts for 2023-2025 triennium	361 200
Ordinary contributions (OC) for 2023-2025 triennium	863 800
Voluntary contributions (VC) and external funds (EF)	0
Financial revenue	100
Host Country Contribution	636 000
TOTAL	1 861 100

Expected Expenditure 2023-2025	
General Management and Administrative support from OC budget	666 900
General management from remaining amounts	5 000
General management from external funds	-
Increase of the secured fund through remaining amounts	10 000
General Management from Host Country Contribution	636 000
Conservation actions from OC 2023-2025 triennium	196 000
Conservation actions from remaining amounts	346 100
Conservation actions from additional VC or EF	0
TOTAL	1 860 000

**ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF PARTIES TO THE ACCOBAMS TRUST FUND
2023-2025**

Parties	UN scale 2023-2025	ACCOBAMS Key 2023-2025	Ordinary Contributions (in euros) 2023-2025
Albania	0,008	0,80	2 304
Algeria	0,109	1,50	4 328
Bulgaria	0,056	0,80	2 304
Croatia	0,091	0,92	2 661
Cyprus	0,036	0,80	2 304
Egypt	0,139	1,42	4 086
France	4,318	23,16	66 712
Georgia	0,008	0,80	2 304
Greece	0,325	4,40	12 662
Italy	3,189	22,49	64 769
Lebanon	0,036	0,80	2 304
Libya	0,018	1,17	3 360
Malta	0,019	0,80	2 304
Monaco	0,011	0,80	2 304
Montenegro	0,004	0,80	2 304
Morocco	0,055	0,80	2 304
Portugal	0,353	3,66	10 538
Romania	0,312	1,72	4 947
Slovenia	0,079	0,80	2 304
Spain	2,134	19,70	56 732
Syrian Arab Republic	0,009	0,80	2 304
Tunisia	0,019	0,80	2 304
Türkiye	0,845	9,50	27 370
Ukraine	0,056	0,96	2 769
TOTAL		100	288 582

ANNEX 3
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUDGET

1. The terms of reference for administration of the budget of ACCOBAMS shall refer to the financial years beginning 1st January 2023 and ending 31st December 2025.
2. The budget shall be administered by the Executive Secretary according to these Terms of reference.
3. The financial resources of the budget shall originate from:
 - (a) Contributions from the Parties according to Annex 2, as well as contributions from new Parties, and
 - (b) Voluntary contributions from Parties, contributions from States not Party to the Agreement, other governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organisations and other sources.
4. All contributions to the budget shall be paid in Euros.
5. With regard to contributions from States that become Parties after the beginning of the financial period, the initial contribution (from the first day of the third month after the deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession, until the end of the financial period) shall be determined *pro rata* on the basis of the contributions of other Parties according to the adopted scale of assessments and depending on the remaining annual financial exercise.
6. Contributions by all Parties throughout the triennium 2023-2025 are calculated on the basis of the United Nations scale of assessments applicable for 2022, with the modifications needed to adapt it to the ACCOBAMS Parties.
7. The contributions are due on 1st January 2023, 1st January 2024 and 1st January 2025, and shall be paid into the following account:

<i>Account holder</i>	<i>Swift code</i>	<i>IBAN code</i>
ACCOBAMS	CFMOMCMX	MC 02 1273 9000 7001 0702 3000 M76

8. For convenience of the Parties to the Agreement, the Executive Secretary shall notify them as soon as possible regarding their calculated contributions for each year of the financial period.
9. Voluntary contributions received into the budget and not immediately required for financing activities shall be invested at the discretion of the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau, and any generated income shall be used to implement the Agreement.
10. The budget shall be audited by a fund management controller.
11. The budget estimates of income and expenditures for each calendar year of the financial period shall be prepared in Euros and submitted to the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement.
12. The estimates for each calendar year covered by the financial period shall be divided into sections and objectives of expenditure, be specified according to budget lines, be consistent with the programmes of work to which they relate, and be accompanied by information as may be required by or on behalf of the contributors.

13. The proposed budget, including all necessary information, shall be dispatched by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat to all Parties at least 90 days before the date established for the opening of the Meeting of the Parties.
14. The budget shall be adopted by consensus at the Meeting of the Parties.
15. The ACCOBAMS Secretariat can, if needed, transfer funds up to 20% from one budget line of the approved budget, to another budget line within the same budget section. If the needed transfer of funds within the same budget section is higher than 20% of the budget line from which the transfer is made, the Secretariat shall request the authorization of the Bureau.
16. Should the ACCOBAMS Secretariat anticipate a shortfall in resources over the financial period, the ACCOBAMS Secretariat shall consult the Bureau about priorities for expenditure.
17. Commitments against the resources of the budget may only be made if they are covered by sufficient income.
18. No transfer of funds shall be authorized from the ordinary contributions of the Trust Fund to the Supplementary Conservation Fund.
19. A secured fund is created, equivalent to 30% of the administrative budget.
20. At the end of each calendar year of the financial period, the ACCOBAMS Secretariat shall submit the annual accounts to the Bureau. These shall include details of actual expenditures and comparisons with the original provisions for each budget line.
21. The ACCOBAMS Secretariat shall provide the Bureau an estimate of proposed expenditures for the coming year, and simultaneously, or as soon as possible, the communication of the accounts and reports referred to in the preceding paragraphs.
22. The ACCOBAMS Secretariat shall present the audited accounts for the financial exercises to the Meeting of the Parties.
23. The present terms of reference shall be implemented by the Executive Secretary.

ANNEX 4
GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTING VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

1. General rules

No voluntary contribution, gift or donation for a specific purpose may be accepted if considered incompatible with the policies and aims of the Agreement, or the UNEP/CMS.

2. Approval of donors

2.1 Donors who are not governmental institutions of Parties or economic integration organizations or riparian States not Party to the Agreement, must be approved as such by the Bureau before their contributions are accepted by the ACCOBAMS Secretariat.

2.2 Sources known to have been involved in interests or activities which conflict with the aims of the Agreement or the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and any organisation or individual who has deliberately brought, or might bring, the Agreement into public disrepute, shall be excluded. The same shall apply where there is a risk that a source might try to influence the decisions of any organ of the Agreement where, in the opinion of the Scientific Committee, this source has, or has had in the past, an environmentally unfriendly attitude.

3. Acceptance of Voluntary contributions

3.1 Voluntary contributions shall only be accepted when the purpose is consistent with the policies and aims of the Agreement.

3.2 No voluntary contributions shall have an immediate or ultimate financial liability for the Agreement Trust Fund without the prior consent of the Parties or the Bureau.

3.3 If indirect costs occur, in relation to administrative support of the activity implemented through a voluntary contribution, including financial and information resources management, and not included in the project budget targeted by the voluntary contribution, then the Secretariat can retain a percentage up to 4% of the dedicated voluntary contribution, up to 50.000 €, and of 7% for the dedicated voluntary contribution of more than 50.000 €. The Secretariat is asked to report on the application of this provision to the Bureau and to the Meeting of Parties.

3.4 All monetary contributions shall be paid in freely convertible currency; exceptions may, however, be made for special projects if the currency in question can effectively be used.

3.5. Voluntary contributions in kind may be accepted, provided that they are used to cover activities approved by the Meeting of the Parties. These may include, *inter alia*, direct or indirect involvement in a joint project, free office accommodation, equipment, or the secondment of staff.

ANNEX 5
ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING TO ATTEND MEETINGS OF THE ACCOBAMS PARTIES

Based on the scale of middle and low incomes of the World Bank in 2022, the ACCOBAMS Secretariat is authorised to cover, upon budget availability, travel and accommodation fees of the representatives of the following Parties for the Meetings of the Parties of ACCOBAMS (one delegate/Party):

- Albania
- Algeria
- Bulgaria
- Egypt
- Georgia
- Lebanon
- Libya (pending on settlement of unpaid pledges)
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Romania
- Syrian Arab Republic (pending on settlement of unpaid pledges)
- Tunisia
- Türkiye
- Ukraine

ANNEX 6 - DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2023-2025

MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT (MA)

MA1		INVOLVEMENT OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS							
MA1a		Strengthen involvement of all key stakeholders in ACCOBAMS's operations							
Expected outcomes									
Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Ensure ACCOBAMS institutional functioning / governance / process Strengthen involvement of all riparian Countries to encourage accession to the Agreement	Main	Secretariat, Parties, Non-Party Range States, Scientific Committee Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizing ACCOBAMS Institutional Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting of the Parties - Scientific Committee Meetings - Bureau Meetings Inviting Observers, including riparian Countries Non-Parties, and relevant experts to ACCOBAMS Meetings Liaising with the Depositary to encourage accession to the Agreement of riparian states 	138 600 €	61 000 € LB 2100 49 000 € LB 2200 25 000 € LB 2300 3 600 € LB 1501				
Establish/strengthen partnerships and collaborations with all relevant IGOs, NGOs, and international/national entities Establish synergies with the European Union policies (MSFD, HD), Barcelona Convention, Bucharest Convention and other relevant Agreements and Organizations strategies	Main	Secretariat, Parties, Non-Party Range States, Scientific Committee Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing MoU with relevant IGOs, government bodies, scientific organizations, Universities, NGOs and relevant organizations. Participating in relevant Meetings, fora and WG Contributing to the development of relevant regional policies documents / reports Ensuring dialogue between regional Conventions to facilitate the reporting by Countries in the framework of other Conventions 	39 400 €	39 400 € LB1502				
Enforce communication within the ACCOBAMS community and strengthen exchanges of information on national and regional projects / activities / initiatives		Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using NETCCOBAMS platform as sharing/consultation tool - Exchange of information on national reports and regional projects / activities / initiatives 	72 000 €	36 000 € LB54				36 000 €
Reinforce synergies with and between Partners		Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considering new applications for ACCOBAMS Partnership Organizing meetings of ACCOBAMS Partners in order to share expertise/ knowledge / information Reviewing the ACCOBAMS Partners status 	10 000 €		5 000 € remaining LB54			5 000 €
TOTAL MA1a - Strengthen involvement of all key stakeholders in ACCOBAMS's operations				260 000 €	214 000 €	5 000 €	-	-	41 000 €

MA2	ENSURE ADEQUATE FUNDING, IN PARTICULARLY FOR CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES
MA2a	Mobilizing and diversifying funding sources

Expected outcomes

Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Fund projects under the Supplementary Conservation Fund (SCF) related to cetacean conservation	Main	Secretariat, Parties, Non-Party Range States, Scientific Committee Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launching a new ACCOBAMS call for proposals for projects related to cetacean conservation 	45 000 € New call under SCF					45 000 €
Diversify funding sources to develop projects /actions in line with ACCOBAMS priorities			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launching call for voluntary contributions Exploring and examining international funding opportunities for cetacean conservation projects in the framework of partnership with donors Developing proposal for a sponsorship program Organizing encounters with relevant potential donors Leveraging existing partnerships and collaborations with all IGOs, NGOs, and international/ national entities Securing national funds to be used as cofundings to support project proposals developed by national organizations 	<i>Budget from other actions</i>					
Strengthen national capacities in cetacean conservation project development and fundraising			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing information on funding opportunities Organizing training workshop for FPs and relevant national stakeholders on project development and fundraising 	30 000 €					30 000 €
TOTAL MA2a - Mobilizing and diversifying funding sources				75 000 €	-	-	-	-	75 000 €

MA3	IMPLEMENTATION OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH ACCOBAMS
MA3a	Improve the level of implementation of and compliance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions as well as the monitoring of its progress

Expected outcomes

Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Revise the ACCOBAMS Strategy (2018-2025) and propose a new one after evaluating overall Agreement's effectiveness	Main	Secretariat, Parties, Scientific Committee Partners, SRCUs, Non-Party Range States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluating the overall Agreement's effectiveness Preparing an ACCOBAMS Strategy (2026-2037) in collaboration with all ACCOBAMS bodies 	50 000 €	0 €				50 000 €
Reinforce the involvement of National Focal Points	Main	Secretariat, Parties, Non-Party Range States Scientific SRCUs, Committee Partners,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminating the guide on the role of the ACCOBAMS National Focal Point Providing regular update on the implementation of Resolutions by Parties Organising the Meeting of National Representatives with sub-regional meetings to develop the 2026-2028 Programme of Work by identifying actions related to cetacean conservation, according to national priorities 	21 000 €	15 000 € LB2400				6 000 €
Propose remedy actions in cases of non-follow-up with ACCOBAMS Resolutions and infringements	Main	Follow up Committee Secretariat, Parties, Scientific Committee Partners, SRCUs, Non-Party Range States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convening a Follow up Committee meeting Applying Follow up Procedures 	5 000 €	5 000 € LB 2500				
TOTAL MA3a- Improve the level of implementation of and compliance with ACCOBAMS Resolutions as well as the monitoring of its progress				76 000 €	20 000 €	-	-	-	56 000 €

MA4	ACCOBAMS EXTENSION AREA
MA4a	Ensure implementation of the ACCOBAMS's cetacean conservation standards in the adjacent areas

Expected outcomes

Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Promote the ratification of Amendment for geographical extension of the Agreement area to the Atlantic	Main	Secretariat Depositary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaising with the Depositary to encourage relevant national authorities to ratify the Amendment for geographical extension of the Agreement area to the Atlantic • Providing all Focal Points with explanatory note on the Amendment • Providing support to National Focal Points to solve problems regarding the ratification of the Amendment through the organisation of trilateral meetings between the National Focal Point, the Secretariat and an ACCOBAMS legal advisor 	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL MA4a - Ensure implementation of the ACCOBAMS's cetacean conservation standards in the adjacent areas				-	-	-	-	-	-

TOTAL MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT (MA)	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
			OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
	411 000 €	234 000 €	5 000 €	-	-	172 000 €
TOTAL MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT (MA) including General Management & Administrative Support (432 900 €)	843 900 €	666 900 €	5 000 €	-	-	172 000 €

CONSERVATION ACTIONS (CA)

CA 1 a	Cetacean population estimates and distribution
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Expected outcomes	<p>Improved knowledge of cetacean populations in the ACCOBAMS Area</p> <p>Global distribution and abundance of cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Seas established, based on results of surveys</p>
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Promote the implementation of the Long-Term Monitoring Programme, taking into consideration monitoring and reporting obligations of countries (MSFD, Barcelona Convention, Bucharest Convention)	Main	Scientific Committee Secretariat Parties, Non-Party Range States Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure funds for implementing ASI2, including by investigating the existence of possible funding at national / regional levels Development and implementation of a simulation framework to examine the performance of different future survey strategies (synoptic, regional/national) Undertaking synoptic basin-wide surveys in the ACCOBAMS Area with a focus on abundance and trends in 2024/2025 (ASI2) with the support of an ASI Contact Group to define the implementation conditions/protocol related to logistics (research platform, human means, equipment, training...) and administration (survey restrictions, permits,...), and of the SC to review and update as necessary the field and analytical protocols Promoting synchronization and standardization of existing monitoring efforts to contribute to LTMP purpose (coordination meetings at the sub-regional level, Working Group on cetaceans monitoring...) Collaborating with relevant organizations, such as the Barcelona Convention (EcAp-Med III), the Bucharest Convention and the European Commission (MSFD), 	<p style="text-align: center;">80 000 €</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15 000 €</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3 000 000 €¹¹</p> <p style="text-align: center;">30 000 €</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 000 €</p>	18 000 € LB53	+ 2 000 €	80 000 € (savings from ASI)	30 000 € (ABIOMMED project)	3 000 000 €
Promote the use of ASI data by increasing the visibility of ASI (and future) datasets and related results and encourage further analyses	High	Scientific Committee Secretariat SRCUs Parties, Non-Party Range States Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing NETCCOBAMS functionalities to create a repository system for ASI data Promoting ASI data and results in relevant fora, also through the Special Issue in Frontiers of Marine Science Sharing ASI data following received requests in accordance with ASI Terms of use and archiving/monitoring of the requests 	<p style="text-align: center;">12 000 €</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20 000 €</p>	3 400 € LB53	+ 1 600 €	15 000 € VC Italy (LB 6602)		12 000 €

¹¹ As estimated in ACCOBAMS/MOP8/2022/Doc27

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collecting outputs of work and analysis conducted following ASI full dataset requests to be used by the SC to give best scientific advice 						
Promote data collection at sub-regional and national levels (in coherence with ACCOBAMS survey methodologies)	Main	Scientific Committee, Secretariat, Parties, Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating exchanges and coordination between Parties on sub-regional surveys Organizing training activities on monitoring methods/protocols and data analysis for smaller-scale surveys (at local, national and sub-regional levels) Develop handbooks on standardized monitoring methods (aerial surveys, boat-based surveys, acoustic surveys,...) Collaborating with relevant organizations, such as Barcelona Convention (EcAp-Med III), the Bucharest Convention and the European Commission (MSFD) 	50 000 €	5 000 € LB53				65 000 €
Promote data collection from multidisciplinary surveys (such as fisheries / acoustic surveys), innovative technologies (UAV, satellite) and of platforms of opportunity (ferries, whale watching vessels, navy vessels, etc..)	High	Scientific Committee Secretariat Parties, Non-Party Range States Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertaking activities in pilot areas to collect data using multidisciplinary surveys (such as fisheries / acoustic surveys), innovative technologies (UAV, satellite) and platforms of opportunity (ferries, whale watching vessels, navy vessels, etc..) based on recommendations of previous studies Initiating collaboration with existing regional fisheries surveys (MEDITS, MEDIAS) and relevant organizations such as GFCM and ICCAT Collaborate with relevant existing networks (FLT) and initiatives/projects (ex. CONCEPTU MARIS Life project) Organizing meetings/workshops to discuss possible synergies and shared methodology and data analysis Developing protocols on standardized monitoring methods for multidisciplinary surveys/ Ferries Update the "Guidelines for the Monitoring of the Range of Cetaceans, Abundance and Demographic Characteristics of Populations" Regularly review « Best Available Technologies » and assess potential contribution to LTMP 	55 000 €	10 000 € LB53	20 000 € Remaining LB53			50 000 €
TOTAL CA1a - Cetacean population estimates and distribution				3 312 000 €	36 400 €	23 600 €	95 000 €	30 000 €	3 127 000 €

CA 1 b	Population Structure
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Expected outcomes	<p>Improved knowledge on population structure in the ACCOBAMS Area and species conservation management plans completed</p> <p>Exchange of samples is facilitated for joint analysis</p> <p>Data exchange is facilitated for basin wide analysis</p>
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Improve photo ID data collection and dissemination: - Update and harmonize protocols on data collection for photo ID - Share photo ID data	High	Scientific Committee Secretariat Parties, Non-Party Range States Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizing experts meeting for best practices guide on how to collect data for comparison Organizing regional experts trainings on analysis on photo ID including AI (Artificial Intelligence)– draft ToR to facilitate exchanges or an harmonized relevant databases Facilitating data sharing and the creation of large scale photo-id catalogues for in-depth analysis 	10 000 € 35 000 €					45 000 €
Improve data collection on cetacean populations genetic in the ACCOBAMS Area Development of genetical identification of population structure (particularly for Mediterranean), including e.g eDNA	High	Scientific Committee Secretariat Parties, Non-Party Range States Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing and promoting a common protocol on data collection on cetacean populations genetic Facilitating the creation of a general data-base/archive/inventory on existing samples/tissues in ACCOBAMS Area Disseminating databases and guidelines to stakeholders Facilitating analysis of existing tissue samples (including those from biopsies) to address questions on stock structure and genetic diversity Organizing workshop about genetic population structure (including e-DNA) for marine mammals in the framework of international scientific events or meetings Collaborating with relevant organizations (CITES, ABS Nagoya Protocol,...) 	6 000 € 30 000 € 15 000 €					51 000 €
TOTAL CA1b - Population Structure				96 000 €	-	-	-	-	96 000 €

CA 1 c		Monitoring cetaceans status							
Expected outcomes		<p>Regional conservation plans (Med and BS) for cetacean are promoted at the national level</p> <p>Relevant conservation management plans are developed and implemented</p> <p>National Action Plans are developed and implemented in several Countries</p>							
Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Support in implementing Regional Conservation Plans for cetaceans (in Black Sea and in Mediterranean Sea)	Main	SRCUs Parties Non-Party Range States Secretariat Scientific Committee, Partners,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the BSC in the revision of the Regional Conservation Plan for cetacean in Black Sea, taking into consideration the IWC Conservation Management Plan. Supporting the SPA/RAC in the implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan for Cetaceans adopted by Parties to the Barcelona Convention 	2 000 €	0	+ 2 000€			
Develop/ revise/ implement relevant Conservation Management Plans for cetacean species	Main	Scientific Committee Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizing Experts Workshop(s) to develop/ revise/ Conservation Management Plans for cetacean species, taking into account all national conservation plans Initiating focus on Black Sea with preliminary document Supporting the implementation of relevant actions of the approved Conservation Management Plans for cetacean species with emphasize of coordination actions and organization of stakeholders' workshop Starting the development of CMP for other Mediterranean species such as Cuvier's beaked whales and sperm whales Derived CMP actions are cross-cutting and considered in the framework of other specific activities 	80 000 €	0	+ 20 000 € 4 000 € Remaining LB53	5 000 € VC France (LB 6350) 4 000 € VC Monaco (LB 6900)		47 000 €
Facilitate the Development/ revision/ implementation of National Action Plans for cetaceans	High	Parties Non-Party Range States, Secretariat, SRCUs Scientific Committee, Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the revision / development of National Action Plans for cetaceans in collaboration with SRCUs and national authorities, through participatory process involving all relevant organizations (NGOs, associations, national partners...) Establishment of national Working Groups or Councils in the framework of National Actions Plan 	7 000 €		5 000 € Remaining LB53	2 000 € VC Italy (LB 6600)		
TOTAL CA1c - Monitoring cetaceans status				89 000 €	0 €	31 000 €	11 000 €	-	47 000 €

CA 1 d	Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situations
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Expected outcomes	Official National Stranding networks are established and operating Information on stranding events is regularly exchanged among national networks
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Set up /Reinforce official national stranding networks (with all national institutions concerned and relevant international agreements)	Main	Parties, Non-Party Range States, Scientific Committee, Secretariat, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminating study on legal/institutional status of National stranding networks in order to assist experts in the establishment of official national stranding network when relevant Assistance in the preparation of a legislative framework to settle the national coordination network Organizing trainings on necropsies, response to live strandings and emergency situation in the ACCOBAMS Area, and on the use of relevant databases 	48 000 €	6 000 € LB 1501		3 000 € VC Italy (LB 6600)		39 000 €
Encourage collaboration among national networks of Parties	Main	Scientific Committee Secretariat Parties, Non-Party Range States Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminating the procedures on Best Practices on cetacean postmortem investigation and tissue sampling resulted from the harmonization process in ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS 	3 000 €	3 000 € LB53	+ 3 000€			
Perpetuate mutualization of stranding protocols between Parties			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating Regional Task Force for stranding events (exchange photos/ advice / scientific explanations even in the field) including strandings of non-common species taking into account national legislations in order to support national network to deal with non-common events 	30 000 €	17 000 € LB53	5 000 € Remaining LB53			5 000 €
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing tele-necropsy in the ACCOBAMS Area (workshops and trainings) Entering relevant national data into relevant regional databases, such as MEDACES Supporting and financing of MEDACES Creating a network to exchange information on sampling through NETCCOBAMS Platform 	54 000 €					54 000 €
Communicate simply and efficiently on uncommon situations in the ACCOBAMS Area (Example of killer whales in 2019/2020)	High	Scientific Committee Secretariat Parties, Non-Party Range States Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of a task force for the management of uncommon situations, including monitoring of uncommon species in the ACCOBAMS Area, taking into account national legislations 	3 000 €	-				3 000 €
TOTAL CA1d - Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situations				158 000 €	26 000 €	8 000 €	3 000 €	-	121 000 €

CA 2 a		Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture								
Expected outcomes		Impacts of cetaceans' bycatch and depredation are assessed and reduced								
		Ecotourism activities (whale watching and pescatourism) are proposed as an alternative income source to fishermen impacted by depredation								
Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)	
						OC	VC	EF		
Support countries in monitoring and mitigating depredation and bycatch situations, with urgent focus on harbour porpoise bycatch in the Black Sea	Main	Secretariat, Parties, Scientific Committee (JBWG), Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving data collection on interactions with fisheries (implementation of on-board observers programs and port questionnaires...) and testing mitigation measures Sharing experience and results, including from past projects on interactions with fisheries (workshops, field visits...) Investigating the use of stranding data to assess bycatch mortality (using drifting models) Collaborating with relevant entities, in particular with GFCM, EC (DG MARE and DG Environment), Barcelona Convention (EcAp-Med III project) and IWC BMI Establishing an Emergency Task Force with EC, GFCM and BSC to address the porpoise bycatch critical issue in the Black Sea 	600 000 € 15 000 € 30 000 € 10 000 € 15 000 €	18 000 € LB52	+ 2 000 €				650 000 €
Provide support to Parties to promote the development of ecotourism activities as an alternative income to fishers (pescatourism and whale watching)	High	Secretariat, Parties Scientific Committee, Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the development of sustainable ecotourism activities in pilot sites Considering socio-economic aspects of alternative solutions 	100 000 €						100 000 €
TOTAL CA2a - Interactions with fisheries / aquaculture				770 000 €	18 000 €	2 000 €	-	-		750 000 €

CA 2 b	Anthropogenic underwater noise
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Expected outcomes	Main anthropogenic activities generating underwater noise are monitored in the ACCOBAMS Area Use of mitigation measures for anthropogenic activities generating underwater noise
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020 - 2022	VC	EF	
Encourage the monitoring of anthropogenic activities generating underwater noise	Main	Scientific Committee including through the JNWG Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising awareness amongst countries by organizing an awareness & consultation workshop at national level with different stakeholders, especially at ministerial level, Involving different national stakeholders (coordination by National Focal Points) and identify an entity that can centralize information at the national level, Inviting Port authorities to develop incentive programmes to encourage the monitoring of and reduction in underwater noise emissions, and to report regularly all activities generating noise to improve the mapping for Noise Hotspots Report, Organizing trainings for national entities on noise monitoring (CB), including analyses of PAM collected data in some identified priority areas, Taking into consideration work achieved and advices provided by the JNWG, Managing the regional noise register, Feeding data on impulsive noise generating sources from the entire ACCOBAMS Area into the existing International Noise Registry managed by ACCOBAMS, Providing necessary data to update risk maps and generate maps for the Black Sea by considering relevant target species, Reviewing the Noise Hotspots Report II, Revising and updating the ACCOBAMS Guidelines on underwater noise taking into account outcomes from recent projects, Producing a study on the effects of underwater noise generated by the foreseeable increase of wind farms in the ACCOBAMS Area, Developing cooperation on underwater noise issue with other international Organizations, such as Barcelona Convention (ECAP) and EU (MSFD) and collaboration with other regional projects on noise issues 	<p>15 000 €</p> <p>30 000 €</p> <p>8 000 €</p> <p>60 000 €</p> <p>8 000 €</p> <p>15 000 €</p> <p>6 000 €</p>	20 000 € LB52	+ 2 000 € 6 000 € Remaining LB52	5 000 € VC Malta (LB 6356) 4 000 € VC Monaco (LB 6900)		105 000 €

Encourage the use of mitigation measures for anthropogenic activities generating underwater noise	Main	Scientific Committee including through the JNWG Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving enhanced training of regulators on the appropriate application of the CMS Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and ACCOBAMS Noise Guidelines Producing common minimum requirements for appropriate national legislation and other regulations regarding underwater noise impacts on cetacean Promoting the ACCOBAMS Highly qualified MMO/PAM operators' certificate Supporting the development and update of the ACCOBAMS HQMMO/PAM training tools Granting the status of ACCOBAMS HQMMO Partners to entities for the implementation of the Highly qualified MMO/PAM operators' certificate Revising and updating the ACCOBAMS "Guide for Parties to use mitigation measures " Developing joint project/initiatives for simulating mitigation measures such as speed reduction and related benefits Developing cooperation on underwater noise issues with other International Organizations 	18 000 €	6 000 € LB52				12 000 €
Exchange of relevant information with competent authorities before military activities / exercises	High	Scientific Committee including through the JNWG Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular information letter from the Secretariat to NATO and to national Navy forces to raise attention of impacts on noise on cetaceans and to propose mitigation measures Workshop/meeting with national Navy forces and NATO members 	15 000 €					15 000 €
TOTAL CA2b - Anthropogenic underwater noise				175 000 €	26 000 €	8 000 €	9 000 €	-	132 000 €

CA 2 c		Ship strikes							
Expected outcomes		Reduction of ship strikes in high risk areas							
Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020- 2022	VC	EF	
Monitor / assess high-risk areas for ship strikes (CCH) in the Mediterranean Sea and adjacent Atlantic Area	High	Scientific Committee Secretariat, Parties, Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging the entry of ship strikes data in relevant databases such as the IWC central database on ship strikes Improving protocols for the identification of ship strikes via necropsies in collaboration with the Pelagos Agreement Identifying high risk areas for ship strikes (CCH) by encouraging studies that improve understanding of temporal and spatial distribution of shipping and of cetaceans (IMMAs), and supporting interactive map of areas with high risk of ship strikes for crews of relevant ships Developing cooperation on ships strike issue with other International Organizations, such IWC, EMSA (EU) / REMPEC / IMO/ Pelagos Agreement and contributing in any other relevant initiatives, projects and workshops in the ACCOBAMS Area Follow and assist Parties in the PSSA project process in collaboration with the Permanent Secretariat of the Pelagos Agreement 	4 000 € 30 000 € 4 000 €	8 000 € LB52				30 000 €
Promote the use of mitigation measures	High	Secretariat, Scientific Committee Parties, Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening cooperation between countries that share marine areas with high risk of collision for cetaceans in order to develop a joint and coherent management for these areas Fostering the development of incentive systems to shipping companies adopting suggested mitigation measures Supporting national or regional projects in order to reduce the risk of collision (FLT network / REPCET system...) Evaluation the efficiency of implemented or proposed new mitigation measures 	8 000 €	0 €	+ 4 000 € 2 000 € Remaining LB52			2 000 €
TOTAL CA2c - Ship strikes				46 000 €	8 000 €	6 000 €	-	-	32 000 €

CA 2 d		Cetacean watching							
Expected outcomes		Cetacean watching activities are properly conducted in the ACCOBAMS Area							
Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Monitoring status of whale watching activities in the ACCOBAMS Area and their potential adverse impacts on individual cetaceans and on populations	High	Scientific Committee through the WWWG, Parties, Secretariat Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revising the Guidelines for commercial cetacean-watching in the ACCOBAMS Area Analysis of existing national legislations related to whale watching regulation Implementing a pilot study to define the whale watching 'carrying capacity' in a targeted geographical area where commercial whale watching is intensively practiced Collaborating with relevant organizations, such as IWC and Pelagos Agreement 	5 000 € 5 000 € 150 000 €		10 000 € Remaining LB52			150 000 €
Promote the use of whale watching vessels as platforms of opportunity	High	Scientific Committee through the WWWG, Parties, Secretariat Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing and updating the data collection form for commercial whale watching vessels and test the revised common procedure for whale watching activity in identified pilot areas (e.g. the Ligurian-Provençal Basin, including the Pelagos Sanctuary, Gibraltar Strait, and south Portugal) Organizing photo-ID and data collection training for whale watching operators, with the final goal of sharing the collected data 	50 000 €					50 000 €
Support the implementation of the HQWW certificate in the ACCOBAMS Area	High	Secretariat, Partners Parties Non-Party Range States, Scientific Committee SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting the implementation of the HQWW certificate by Parties and in areas -based management measures in collaboration with relevant projects/ organizations Organizing Trainings on HQWW (CB Parties) Liaising with relevant tourism Organizations 	5 000 €		2 000 € Remaining LB 52			3 000 €
TOTAL CA2d - Cetacean watching				215 000 €	-	12 000 €			203 000 €

CA 2 e	Marine litter
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Expected outcomes	Improved monitoring of marine litter in relation with cetaceans.
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Monitor the impacts of marine litter (ingested marine litter / microplastics / entanglements in ghost nets) on cetaceans	High	Scientific Committee Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting pilot actions to implement the best practice guidelines for cetacean <i>post-mortem</i> investigation, including the assessment of ingested marine litter and entanglement in ghost nets 	50 000 €	17 000 € LB52		16 000 € VC Italy (LB 6600)		82 000 €
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting/ supporting/ liaising with projects, research activities in order to develop standardized methods to detect the occurrence and effects of marine litter, including micro-plastics, in cetacean species 	10 000 €					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying hot-spot areas for marine litter accumulation and identifying threat to cetacean species occurring in those areas 	30 000 €					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a proposal to use cetacean species as indicators of marine litter in the ACCOBAMS Area 	10 000 €					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborating with relevant Organizations (ASCOBANS, IWC, MEDPOL, IMO, FAO) including through joint activities Promoting campaigns on the ban of single-use plastics 	15 000 €					
TOTAL CA2e – Marine litter				115 000 €	17 000 €	-	16 000 €	-	82 000 €

CA 2 f	Chemical & biological pollution
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Expected outcomes	Improved monitoring of chemical & biological pollution on cetaceans.
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
Monitor the impact of chemical & biological pollution (such as pathogens, invasive species) on cetaceans	Medium	Scientific Committee Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing an inventory of institutions or laboratories within the ACCOBAMS Area able to analyze samples for legacy and emerging pollutants Establishing a common database on diseases and chemical burdens 	5 000 €			10 000 € VC Italy (LB 6601)		40 000 €
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing cumulative effects and multiple stressors, including chemicals, marine litter, climate change, and emerging pathogens, on cetaceans in ACCOBAMS Area 	25 000 €					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminating the best practices to assess the impact of chemical pollution on cetaceans with a focus on emerging contaminants Organize training on the best practices to assess the impact of chemical pollution 	20 000 €					

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborating with relevant Organizations, initiatives and projects Encouraging Parties to follow existing protocols to minimize the introduction of pollutants in the marine environment 						
TOTAL CA2f - Chemical & biological pollution				50 000 €	-	-	10 000 €	-	40 000 €

CA 2 g	Climate change
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Expected outcomes	ACCOBAMS cooperates with regional initiatives on climate change, taking into account cetacean conservation
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020- 2022	VC	EF	
Contribute to regional initiatives on climate change	Medium	Scientific Committee Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaising with relevant CMS Working Group Participating in Meetings and side events 	2 000 €					2 000 €
Total CA2g - Climate change				2 000 €	-	-	-	-	2 000 €

CA 2 i	Captivity related issues
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Expected outcomes	All specimens held in captivity in the ACCOBAMS Area are listed Advisory Committee on captivity issues and semi-enclosed facilities is operational
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020- 2022	VC	EF	
Identify specimens held in captivity in the ACCOBAMS Area	High	Scientific Committee Parties Non-Party Range States, Secretariat Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing an ACCOBAMS Advisory Committee on semi-enclosed facilities that should provide guidance, based on best scientific evidence, to interested Parties on all the questions related to semi-enclosed facilities for cetaceans on the basis of the conclusion of the Follow-up Committee related to “interactions between humans and dolphins by resolution 3.13 (dolphin interaction programme) Updating the overview of specimens held in captivity in the ACCOBAMS Area in collaboration with international organizations (such as CITES) Reinforcing collaboration with NFP / NGO/ ACCOBAMS Partners / CITES authorities in each country Developing a template of genetic passport for different cetacean species kept in captivity, in collaboration with the ACCOBAMS Advisory Committee on Captivity related issues 	15 000 €			15 000 € CV Italy (LB 6602)		
TOTAL CA2i - Captivity related issues				15 000 €	-	-	15 000 €	-	0 €

CA 3 a		Area-based measures for cetacean conservation							
Expected outcomes		Cetacean Critical Habitats are updated IMMAs are updated and new ones are identified Implementation of relevant measures are initiated in some pilot Cetacean Critical Habitats							
Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020- 2022	VC	EF	
Regularly update Cetacean Critical Habitats (CCH) and Important Marine mammal Areas (IMMAs), as appropriate, including by identifying priority areas for action to mitigate the known threats (bycatch...) / area-based management measures	Main	Scientific Committee Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathering data, in particular through the organization of regional workshops to update CCH, taking into account IMMAs and EBSAs process) Gathering data on human activities and cetaceans, in particular through the organization of regional workshops with relevant regional organization (GFCM, maritime organization...), taking into account the IMMAs and EBSAs process and upcoming regional study from Duke Marine Lab. Launching a working group in order to review the best metrics to use considering the CCH aim 	36 000 €	-	28 000 € remaining LB53			8 000 €
Support implementation of relevant measures for adequate management in CCH	Main	Scientific Committee Secretariat, Parties Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and promoting relevant management measures in pilot CCH, in collaboration with all stakeholders, including network of MPAs managers Raising Parties' awareness on CCHs, on their added value during online workshops, on the use of existing IMMAs to identify and to declare new MPAs or MPAs network Collaborating with other Organizations, such as UNEP-MAP/ SPA-RAC, BSC, IMO, IWC, and GFCM, and in particular through the Strategical alliance 	26 000 €	0 €	+ 14 000 € 2 000 € Remaining LB53			10 000 €
TOTAL CA3a - Area-based measures for cetacean conservation				62 000 €	0 €	44 000 €	-	-	18 000 €

CA 4 a	Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans
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Expected outcomes	All ACCOBAMS Bodies, national focal/contact points, Partners and other relevant national institutions, Organizations and experts are familiar with activities implemented by or relevant for ACCOBAMS and share accurately information General public and other relevant stakeholders are aware about cetaceans and need for their conservation through activities supported by or linked to ACCOBAMS
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Proposed Action(s)	Priority	Action led by and in cooperation with	Means of implementation	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
						OC 2020- 2022	VC	EF	
Maintain regular information/ communication about ongoing activities, cooperation and funding possibilities, cetacean conservation scientists and experts operating in the region and other relevant information; facilitate communication among cetacean conservation actors of the ACCOBAMS Area, in particular in Southern Mediterranean countries	Main	Secretariat Parties Scientific Committee Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing the ACCOBAMS Communication Strategy, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - defining ACCOBAMS as brand - upgrading communication products - improving presence on social networks - assessing the effectiveness of the Communication Strategy Development of NETCCOBAMS Platform (MA1a) Promoting the use of the HQWW label (CA2d) Linking conservation with culture (UNESCO/ Ocean decade) by initiating joint natural history exhibitions and offering expertise and knowledge 	61 000 € 60 000 € 26 500 5 000 €	60 000 € LB54	8 000 € Remaining LB54			84 500 €
Promote citizen sciences uses		Secretariat Parties Scientific Committee Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of initiatives and tools already in place / in order to mutualize efforts in particular at the level of young people Workshop on how to collect data and data exchanges through citizen apps (standardization of the protocols and methodology for data collection) in the context of proposed analytical techniques 	21 000 €					21 000 €
Introduce in a new Country / Disseminate the ACCOBAMS Teaching Module courses		Secretariat Parties Scientific Committee Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing new teaching module in universities dealing with cetacean conservation Translation of the Teaching Module on national languages of ACCOBAMS Parties 	30 000 €			10 000 € CV Italy (LB 6602)		20 000 €
Promote and disseminate project results and tools		Secretariat Parties Scientific Committee Non-Party Range States, Partners, SRCUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizing a Conference on cetacean conservation in South Mediterranean Countries - CSMC Disseminating projects tools such as “whale risk” Special ACCOBAMS issue in a scientific review Encouraging publications of national experts in international journal with handbooks with simple and standardized methods and specific trainings and workshops 	40 000 € 20 000 € 6 000 €	5 500 € LB54	+ 4 500 €			56 000 €
TOTAL CA4a - Information /Communication / Awareness about cetaceans				269 500 €	65 500 €	12 500 €	10 000 €	-	181 500 €

TOTAL CONSERVATION ACTIONS (CA)	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
			OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
	5 373 500 €	196 900 €	+ 55 100 € 92 000 €	169 000 €	30 000 €	4 831 500 €

TOTAL BUDGET (MA + CA)	Total Budget (€)	OC 2023-2025	Funds secured (€)			Required additional VC/EF (€)
			OC 2020-2022	VC	EF	
	6 217 400 €	863 800 €	152 100€	169 000 €	30 000 €	5 002 500 €