

Joint SIMP Meeting TG-WH & TG-M

24 January 2020

Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (BSH)

Room Fehmarn

Bernhard-Nocht-Straße 78, Hamburg



BACKGROUND

In the process of developing the SIMP, the WSB 30 (November 2019) endorsed the four key topics: 1) tourism, 2) fisheries, 3) shipping, and 4) impacts from outside the property (including industrial facilities such as wind farms, gas and oil rigs and coastal flood defense and protection), and asked CWSS to prepare the proposed next steps (see [WSB30 5.1-2 SIMP status report.pdf](#)).

Additionally, WSB 30 asked to contact IUCN to present the progress done up to date in the process of developing the SIMP with the aim of assuring that it is on the right track and covering the UNESCO requirements.

The aim of the joint meeting of TG-M and TG-WH is to define the next feasible steps for developing the content of the SIMP regarding the four key topics and to identify whom to involve. In order to achieve that aim, we need:

1. To identify the expectations: what do we want to and can achieve regarding each key topic within the timeline of the SIMP?
2. To define the overall process to link the key topics to the content development (considering the WSB 30 decision on creating a round table to address shipping led by the WSF and supported by TG-M and CWSS, and the up to date progress of TG-M regarding fisheries).
3. To name who needs to be involved in the content development of each of the key topics.
4. To plan the further involvement of IUCN.

The expected outcomes of the meeting are:

- a) a content structure to guide the work for developing the content of the four key topics,
- b) a list of people and institutions that need to be involved, and
- c) an agreed procedure to organise this (e.g. ad-hoc group, round table, etc).

It is important to emphasize that discussions and interactive work will be directed to address the general process and guiding structure to develop the content of the four key topics. **We will NOT talk about the specific content of each key topic**, since that is the work of the people and institutions that will be identified in the joint meeting.

Below is the annotated draft agenda for the joint SIMP meeting. Items 3 and 4 include the objective, the method that we will apply specifying, what **you need to prepare before the meeting**, and the outcome we expect to achieve in the meeting.

¹ The Leeuwarden Declaration 2018 includes the task to develop a single integrated management plan for the Wadden Sea World Heritage as requested by the WH Committee in 2014. The context, objectives and timeline are defined in [Annex 1 of the Leeuwarden Declaration](#).

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

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1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting will be opened by the TG-WH & TG-M Chairpersons at 09:00 hours on 24 January 2020.

2. Introduction

SIMP development process: what have we achieved and next steps considering the SIMP timeline. Objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop.

3. Envisaging a content structure for the key topics in the SIMP

Objective

To identify and discuss about the different expectations of how far we can go in the planning process on each key topic, in each country, and at the trilateral level.

Method

To prepare before the joint meeting:

Reflect (and/or consult with your team if necessary) about the question “What is possible and wanted to achieve in my country/Federal State regarding each of the four key topics and considering the management system in place?”

To answer this question in the context of the content development for each key topic in the SIMP, reflect if the “Proposed content structure for the key topic” (Table 1, page 4) is achievable and wanted for your country/Federal State.

In the joint meeting:

Interactive work in groups per country and plenary discussion.

In the discussion each group will present the expectations per country and the plenary will examine what content structure can we expect at the trilateral level for each key topic.

Expected outcome

1. Agreed content structure useful to guide the content development of each key topic and assure it is linked to the OUV and the existing local, national and trilateral management tools.

4. The who and how to advance in the content development of the four key topics

Objective

To name who needs to be involved in the content development of each key topic and how this should be organized (e.g. ad-hoc group, round table, etc).

Method

To prepare before the joint meeting:

Reflect on who are the ideal and necessary persons/organizations in your country/Federal State that need to be involved in the content development of each key topic, indicate if you think their participation is feasible or what would be needed to allow their participation. Have in mind your answer in item 3.

In the joint meeting:

Brief presentation of relevant information:

- In the case of the key topic tourism, NG-ST will take the lead.
- In the case of the key topic shipping, WSB 30 decided on creating a round table led by the WSF and supported by TG-M and CWSS.
- There is no common TWSC position/approach on all items regarding renewable energy, however the TWSC participation in the World Heritage and renewable energy workshop can be used as a starting point.

The plenary:

- Puts together a preliminary list of persons/organization per country and per key topic.
- Discusses about the strategic way in which the persons/organizations should be organized in order to achieve the expected content development for each of the four key topics.
- Identifies of the next necessary steps.

Expected outcome

1. List of persons/organization per country/Federal State and per key topic.
2. Agreement on the type of group to be established.
3. Next necessary steps.

5. IUCN involvement

Barbara Engels (Chair TG-WH) has made progress by contacting the IUCN responsible for our region (Katherine Zischka). In the joint meeting we would like to discuss and agree on a procedure to involve IUCN in the process.

6. Closing

The meeting will be closed no later than 14:00 hours on 24 January 2020.

Table 1. Proposed content structure to encourage that the content developed for each key topic in the SIMP is linked to the OUV and plan management activities directed to support maintaining the OUV through measurable indicators, strategic actions that are linked to trilateral, national and regional management tools.

Key topics: 1) tourism, 2) fisheries, 3) shipping, and 4) impacts from outside the property

Proposed content structure for each key topic

Heading	Description of the heading	<i>To think before the joint meeting</i>	<i>To do in the joint meeting</i>
		Wanted? Achievable?  or  (National/ Federal State level and for each key topic)	Agreed content structure  or  (Trilateral level and for each key topic)
Improve communication	Establish and improve communication among stakeholders		
Inventory	Where are we now? Summary of the current state.		
Common ground	Common vision		
OUV key value	Derived from the Statement of OUV of the Wadden Sea World Heritage Property. These were defined in the CVI (see Annex 1: CVI planning documents). For example, a key value is “high biomass production typical for the Wadden Sea”.		
Indicators (for each OUV key value)	Describe in more detail the quality, integrity and/or functioning of each OUV key value to be considered in management planning and monitoring (UNESCO 2012 ²). For the example above, the indicators should help to determine the overall status of the biomass production i.e. typical WS fish catch, density of shellfish, abundance of birds, etc.		
Threats and opportunities	SWOT analysis for each key value (or any other method to identify threats and opportunities)		
Threshold	A reference status or value to maintain.		
Strategies and actions for management	For maintaining OUV and in response of exceeding the threshold (accident, climate related effect, etc).		
Monitoring	Monitoring system for the indicators.		
Link to the existing management and monitoring tools	Management tools, agreements, plans, regulations, legal framework that supports the application of the strategies and actions for management and the monitoring system.		
Budget	Necessary resources to apply the strategies and actions for management.		
Business plan	Plan to obtain the identified necessary resources.		

² [UNESCO/ICCROM/ICOMOS/TUCN. 2012.Managing Natural World Heritage. UNESCO.](#)

Annex 1: Statement of OUV for the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site and derived draft key values (identified under the CVI project).

Statement of OUV	Draft key values (with TG-WH 27 changes)
<p>Criterion (viii) be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;</p>	
<p><i>The Wadden Sea is a depositional coastline of unparalleled scale and diversity. It is distinctive in being almost entirely a tidal flat and barrier system with only minor river influences and an outstanding example of the large-scale development of an intricate and complex temperate-climate sandy barrier coast under conditions of rising sea-level.</i></p>	<p>Scale of the extent of unbroken tidal flat and barrier system with minor river influences.</p> <p>Typical diversity of geological features</p>
<p><i>Highly dynamic natural processes are uninterrupted across the vast majority of the property, creating a variety of different barrier islands, channels, flats, gullies, saltmarshes and other coastal and sedimentary features.</i></p>	<p>Dynamic on-going natural geomorphological processes, creating typical variety and spatial patterns of natural landforms</p>
<p>Criterion (ix) be outstanding examples representing significant ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;</p>	
<p><i>The Wadden Sea includes some of the last remaining natural large-scale intertidal ecosystems, where natural processes continue to function largely undisturbed. Its geological and geomorphologic features are closely entwined with biophysical processes and provide an invaluable record of the ongoing dynamic adaptation of coastal environments to global change.</i></p>	<p>Naturalness and intactness of intertidal ecosystems</p> <p>Dynamic adaptation to linked geological, geomorphologic features with biophysical processes</p>
<p><i>There are a multitude of transitional zones between land, sea and freshwater that are the basis for the species richness of the property. The productivity of biomass in the Wadden Sea is one of the highest in the world, most significantly demonstrated in the numbers of fish, shellfish and birds supported by the property.</i></p>	<p>High biomass production typical for the Wadden Sea</p>
<p><i>The property is a key site for migratory birds and its ecosystems sustain wildlife populations well beyond its borders.</i></p>	<p>Key site for migratory birds and other wildlife populations beyond its borders.</p>

Statement of OUV	Draft key values (with TG-WH 27 changes)
<p>Criterion (x) contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.</p>	
<p><i>Coastal wetlands are not always the richest sites in relation to faunal diversity, however this is not the case for the Wadden Sea. The salt marshes host around 2,300 species of flora and fauna, and the marine and brackish areas a further 2,700 species, and 30 species of breeding birds.</i></p>	<p>High biodiversity of flora and fauna typical for a natural Wadden Sea.</p>
<p><i>The clearest indicator of the importance of the property is the support it provides to migratory birds as a staging, moulting and wintering area. Up to 6.1 million birds can be present at the same time, and an average of 10-12 million each year pass through the property.</i></p> <p><i>The availability of food and a low level of disturbance are essential factors that contribute to the key role of the nominated property in supporting the survival of migratory species.</i></p> <p><i>The property is the essential stopover that enables the functioning of the East Atlantic and African-Eurasian migratory flyways. Biodiversity on a worldwide scale is reliant on the Wadden Sea.</i></p>	<p>Staging, moulting and wintering area for migratory birds.</p> <p>Essential site for functioning of the East-Atlantic Flyway</p>