



CIBBRiNA Stakeholder Advisory Board Meeting

The purpose of this meeting was for the SAB members to get to know each other, get their feedback on their experiences after the first project year, and foster input and information exchange with the project leads.

Thursday 10 October 2024 13.00 – 16.00 CEST

Attendees:

Chair SAB: Katie Longo (Marine Stewardship Council)

CIBBRiNA Coordinators: Anne-Marie Svoboda (Chair), Graham Pierce

CIBBRiNA Stakeholder Advisory Board: Jenny Renell (ASCOBANS), Cristina Morgado (EFCA), Begona Santos (EFCA), Debbie Hembury (OSPAR), Dale Rodmell (EEFPO), Daniel Mitchel (Birdlife), Tamara Talevska (NSAC), Kateryna Urbanovych (NSAC), Zaan Olivier (IFAW), Russell Leaper (IFAW), Caterina Fortuna (ISPRA), Begonia Santos (EFCA), Jules Danto (EAPO), Miriam Mueller (BfN)

CIBBRiNA WP Leads: Arantza Murillas (WP3), Wouter Jan Strietman (WP4), Gudjon Mar Sigurdsson (WP4), Lotte Kindt-Larsen (WP5), Lisa Borges (WP5), Martin Pastoors (WP7), Adryan Rademakers (WP7), Els Torreele (WP9), Merel den Held (WP10), Chantal Lyons (WP10)

CIBBRiNA Project secretary: Sunny Lammers (notes)

Minutes

		<i>Decision/ Action</i>
1.	Opening Katie welcomes the attendees. A short round of introductions followed.	
2.	Project update, progress of case studies – Anne-Marie Svoboda (on behalf of WP7 Leads Martin Pastoors and Adryan Rademakers) Anne-Marie shares a presentation on the progress of the case studies 20241010 PPT CIBBRiNA update SAB - WP7 consists of 8 case studies: 3 on gillnets (northern, southern, UK), 3 on longlines (deepwater, surface, UK) and 1 on pelagic trawls and 1 on demersal trawls. UK has separate case studies because it was not clear until late if the UK could participate in an EU project. All the case studies work together. Each CS has specific bycatch issues but there is also a lot of overlap, similar challenges. There are already a lot of activities where all the CSs can learn from.	

General WP7 progress

- CS summaries have been provided.
 - Quarterly meetings with CS leads and WP leads are scheduled and held to exchange knowledge. These meetings usually focus on specific themes.
 - Scoping meetings with the fishing industry took place.
 - Data has been collected through underwater video cameras and acoustic techniques.
 - First sea-trials have been carried out to find out if gear modification e.g. results in the reduce of bycatch rate.
- The aim of CIBBRiNA is to have all the different stakeholders involved in the CSs. For each CS we would really like to involve the fishery industry, the researches, policy people and the NGO's. The slide *Overview of actors in different case studies* shows some CSs are still in need of interaction with stakeholders. This is work in progress. We organize communication courses and capacity building courses on how to involve the different partners and communicate with them.

The different case studies are:

CS1 – Northern gillnets (Sweden, Germany, Iceland, Denmark, Poland)

- Main challenge: avoiding bycatch of seabirds and harbour porpoises
- The first sea trials took place in Iceland where it is less sensitive to catch harbour porpoises.
- 2 PhD students employed and 1 PostDoc.
- 2 different mitigation devices are tested: pingers and pearls. The pinger is an active device, it produces a loud noise. The pearl is a reflecting device.
- Fpods and sound traps are placed on the nets to record porpoise echolocation.
- CS1 has taken a very scientific approach. They have a control group, a pearl net group and a pinger group.
- Preliminary results: a few porpoises were bycaught in control nets, none in modified nets.
- More results are underway.

CS2 – Southern gillnets (Spanish Atlantic and Mediterranean waters)

- Main challenge: avoiding bycatch harbour porpoises, elasmobranchs, birds
- Engagement of stakeholders: 2 fisheries associations and NGO CEMMA.
- 2 Types of acoustic pingers have been tested in gillnets in June 2024.
- Experimental trials have been performed to use hydrophones in trammel nets.
- Upcoming: contracting observers and start onboard in Galician fishery.

CS3 – UK gillnets

- Main challenge: bycatch of harbour porpoises, dolphins and deepwater sharks
 - CS3 focuses on understanding how the species behave around static nets.
 - A hydrophone array has been deployed in Cornwall with 7 depth sensors at different points along the net.
 - Results: the recording devices pulled the gillnets up by ± 2 m (which needs to be avoided and is being looked into).
- Dolphins were present around the net.
- In cooperation with the fishers a new idea is being developed.

CS4 – Deepwater longlines (Portugal, Madeira, Azores)

- Main challenge: bycatch of deepwater sharks
- Meeting with deepwater longline fishers took place.
- Meeting with Fish Tek Marine who are developing an electric pulsed device to scare of sharks and ray. These devices are very expensive and therefore not economically viable for the fishers.
- Call for a PhD student was published (mainland Portugal fishery)
- Upcoming: start onboard observations in Madeira.

CS5 – Surface longlines (Madeira)

- Main challenge: bycatch of pelagic sharks
- Meeting with tuna 14 longline fishers in Madeira took place.
- Start public procurement process for tagging and deploying underwater camera's.
- Looking for technical solutions to deter sharks from hooks (magnetic or electronic).

CS6 – UK longlines

- Main challenge: bycatch of seabirds
- Frequent interaction with fishers are taking place.
- Two approaches so far:
 - 1) bird scaring lines (behind the vessel). The line was too heavy. A lighter version is being developed.
 - 2) modified gears – get the hooks sink quicker.
- Upcoming: mitigation trials of both approaches.

CS7 – Pelagic trawl

- Main challenge: bycatch of sea mammals, sharks and tunas
- Tunas are not an ETP specie but they are everywhere.
- Sea trials with cameras in the net.
- CCTV systems are installed (DK).
- This CS involves, Dutch, Danish, Scottish and Irish pelagic fishers.
- Regular meetings with industry and skippers have a positive outcome.
- Technical innovation mitigation gears; excluder (tube within a tube) have been used on a Danish vessel. Trial an improved design.

CS8 – Demersal trawl

including the Dutch and the Belgian demersal fisheries.

- Main challenge: behaviour of elasmobranchs, safe release procedures
 - A high survival rate in the demersal trawl. Handling procedures are needed.
 - This CS has not started yet. WMR and ILVO are preparing a workplan.
 - The focus will be on collecting underwater footage and safe release procedures.
- Links between the different case studies need to be created and links between case studies and work packages.
- The case studies are intended to be "the engine" of CIBBRiNA. All the work packages are feeding information into the case studies and vice versa.
- The CSs focus more on the technical mitigation approaches and engagement with the fishers. We are trying to look at all the different aspects.

Q&A

- Miriam Mueller has a question about the trials of CS1.

Will there be further trials next year?

A: Yes, there will be more trials.

These results are mainly the result of the Icelandic trials.

Lotte Kindt-Larssen (CS1/WP3) adds there was no bycatch of porpoises in this trial.

The acoustic data is not analyzed yet.

The pearl trials will start in Denmark next year.

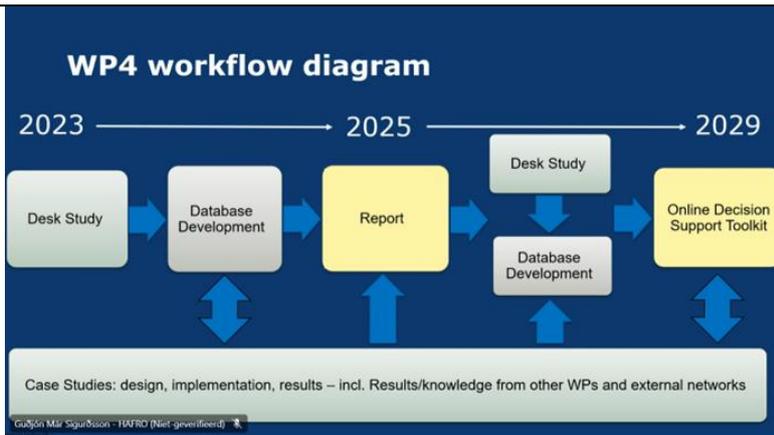
There were a lot of porpoises around the net so it will be interesting to analyze the acoustic data.

Preliminary results will come soon.

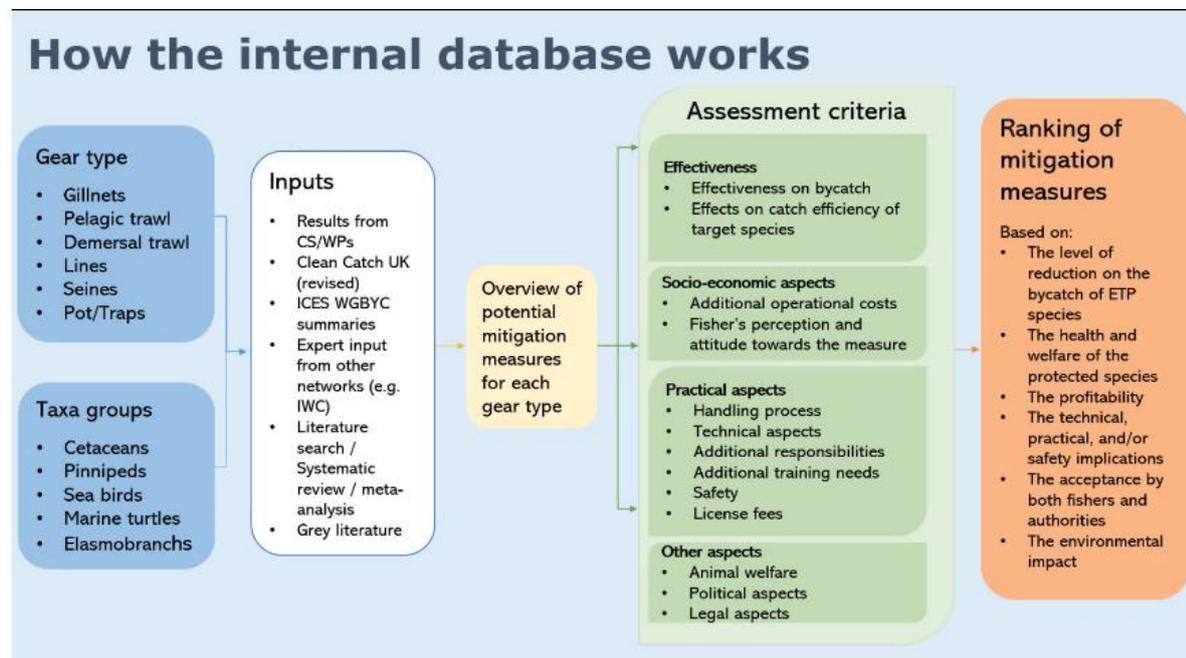
- Jenny Renell has a question about CS1/CS2.

	<p>The joint bycatch working group in ACCOBAMS & ASCOBANS will convene next month. Will there be results to share by then? https://www.ascobans.org/en/meeting/2nd-meeting-joint-bycatch-working-group-ascobans-and-accobams</p> <p>Note: this meeting is postponed to Q1 2025.</p> <p>A: Lotte can share some of the results from the Danish acoustic/noise workshop with Helcom. Lotte will keep the meeting of the joint bycatch working group in mind and will share interesting results if they are available. Anne-Marie points out we will be happy to present CIBBRiNA at the meeting.</p> <p>- Daniel Mitchel has a comment about CS6. Birdlife has a lot of experience in developing bird scaring lines and offers advice and would be happy to answer any questions. Anne-Marie thanks Daniel for this and will link him to Al Kingston.</p> <p>- Russell Leaper The statistical significance is going to be an issue for a lot of case studies and work packages. Is there a consistent approach for the case studies within CIBBRiNA and is there a way for people to share the approaches. A: Lotte shares she is in contact with Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour (gear technology on ICES). WGFTFB is working on a document how to analyze the different mitigation solutions. Lotte is working on a collaboration between WGFTFB and CIBBRiNA. Graham will check if there is data available in the southern gillnets study. Graham emphasizes some of the work in CIBBRiNA is follow up work from other projects. Some statistical significance may be already established.</p> <p>- Debbie Hembury Debbie points out JWG Bird (HELCOM-OSPAR-ICES Joint Working Group on Seabirds) will meet 18 – 22 November. During this meeting an update from the case studies related to bird bycatch will be welcome. Debbie offers to make any connection. A: Anne-Marie will send out an email to Matt Parsons.</p> <p>Katie thanks Anne-Marie for the presentation and points out she feels this will provide the members of the SAB with some linkages which will able them to give some recommendations to the different case studies in the different areas. Anne-Marie underscores this is really an open invitation to the SAB to give any advice. This will be very welcomed.</p>	<p>Lotte</p> <p>Jenny/ CIBBRiNA PMT</p> <p>CIBBRiNA PMT</p> <p>Lotte</p> <p>Graham</p> <p>Anne-Marie (done)</p> <p>SAB</p>
3.	<p>The role of the CIBBRiNA SAB – Discussion on input to the Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Strategy (20240829 SAB input to CIBBRiNA SEC Strategy.docx)</p> <p>Chantal Lyons (Mindfully Wired Communication)</p> <p>- The SECS was one of the first deliverables of CIBBRiNA. There were 2 rounds of review of the document for the SAB. The SECS was finalized in June 2024. The document will be reviewed annually. The next round will be in April 2025. - The SECS helps us how to get the stakeholders involved and how we communicate in and outside CIBBRiNA. - There are 4 key messages in the SECS</p> <p>Key message theme 1: We acknowledge that the bycatch of Endangered,</p>	

	<p>Threatened and Protected (ETP) mammals, birds, turtles, and elasmobranchs negatively affects ecosystems and people and represents a multi-dimensional challenge requiring collaboration to address.</p> <p>Key message theme 2: We are working collaboratively to minimise bycatch of ETP species, in a Safe Working Environment in which the fostering of mutual trust, respect, and understanding of different perspectives is essential. Note on key message theme 2: When drawing on this key message theme for communications targeted at external stakeholders, it may be appropriate to use "environment" instead of "Safe Working Environment" (e.g. in a social media post where text is limited) or – if the communication is longer in nature (e.g. a policy brief) – to explain CIBBRiNA's definition of the Safe Working Environment.</p> <p>Key message theme 3: We are exploring the best possible ways to minimise bycatch of ETP species which will support their conservation and be practical for fishers.</p> <p>Key message theme 4: Minimising the bycatch of ETP species is essential to the flourishing of both marine ecosystems and fishing livelihoods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SECS provides general guidance for developing communications using the key message themes. - There are engagement and communication tools in the SECS as well. - From some SAB members MWC received feedback about adding a 5th key message theme speaking more about the incentives for fishers. WP10 felt key message theme 4 covers this already. - Chantal refers to the CIBBRiNA website page About - CIBBRiNA which specifically speaks about the reasons why bycatch affects fishers and why they would like to reduce bycatch. - WP10 is currently working on a 2-page flyer about CIBBRiNA where it will be emphasized what the benefits to engage with CIBBRiNA can be for fishers. - Chantal points out we are making sure out we are out talking about incentives for fishers in our communication. - Chantal thanks the SAB for the feedback in regard to the website. www.cibbrina.eu 	
4.	<p>WP4 Mitigation Toolkit Gudjon Mar Sigurdsson – Co-lead WP4</p> <p>Gudjon presents progress and an update of the workpackage. 20241010 WP4 Overview Plan Oct 2024.pptx</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gudjon is co-lead of WP4 with Wouter-Jan Strietman (Wageningen University & Research). - Other CIBBRiNA partners involved in WP4: Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), Pelagic Freezer Association (PFA), Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature (LVVN), Seawatch Foundation (SWF), WWF Portugal (ANP), Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Swedish University of Agriculture Science (SLU), International Whaling Commission (IWC). - Leading up to the online Decision Support Tool/the Mitigation Toolkit, WP4 will provide an assessment of mitigation efforts applied in the types of fisheries from the case studies. WP4 will provide guidance as well as learn from the case studies. - WP4 needs to submit two deliverables: in 2025 a report on the efficacy of mitigation measures and at the end of the project (2029) the Mitigation Toolkit. - WP4 is currently working on an internal database including relevant information regarding technical, practical, by-catch effects, animal welfare, etc. - Gudjon shows a workflow diagram for WP4. 	



- Gudjon shares some information on the internal database and how it will work.



- Gudjon elaborates some more about the two deliverables for WP4.
 - The status and planning 2024-2025 for WP4 is shared.



	<p>Q&A</p> <p>Katie: Do you have specific audiences in mind where you will test the toolkit. A: This is not completely decided but WP4 is trying to be inclusive.</p> <p>Russell: You have pots and traps on your list. There are no case studies on pots and traps. Are those included in the toolkit. A: Yes, because there are a lot pots and traps fisheries in Europe we will include them. Russell offers to be in touch with Gudjon.</p> <p>Jenny: Is the literature review of existing mitigation measures already happening? A: WP4 started the framework in July. The Postdoc is now starting to collate the database. Information will be shared soon. Jenny offers to share some literature reviews she knows of. Gudjon points out WP4 will conduct a survey shortly which will also request this kind of information.</p> <p>Dale: Do you have any thoughts for after the project. How to keep the toolkit up to date. A: Anne-Marie shares CIBBRiNA has a separate work package WP9 Sustainability, replication and exploitation. WP9 will start in the second half of the project but is starting to develop a workplan now. This work package is focused on long term implementation. Dale: is the website updatable after the project. A: Chantal answers the website is available at least 5 years after the project. Catarina feels this is very important. Someone should "adopt" the tool. Perhaps ICES can continue the work. Graham notes there are more bycatch projects at the moment also planning on producing mitigation toolkits. It is important to think about coordination with these projects. Catarina emphasizes it is good to coordinate with other projects to avoid duplications. She suggests the projects could perhaps work together on one toolkit and each project can deliver specific parts and find a way to keep them updated afterwards. Graham acknowledges we are talking to other projects and this is work in progress.</p>	<p><i>Russell</i></p> <p><i>WP4</i></p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Upcoming events – Anne-Marie Svoboda</p> <p>CIBBRiNA has a lot of collaborations with other projects.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. REDUCE (HORIZON) Uni, Barcelona (2024-2027) 2. Marine BEACON (HORIZON) 2024 – 2028 <p>CIBBRiNA, REDUCE and Marine BEACON organize monthly joint webinars, every second Friday of the month 12.00 – 13.30 (JOINT WEBINARS communication September 2024.pdf) The permanent link to these webinars: Joint webinars on fisheries bycatch</p> <p>We are also in the progress of organizing a workshop on turtle bycatch with ICES, REDUCE and Marine BEACON</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. LIFE Mobile Marine Species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CMS - OfB; 1/1/24 – 31/12/2030 	

- Focus on bycatch mitigation of elasmobranches, marine mammals, birds and turtles

4. **FEAMPA ARP**

- OfB; 26/9/23 – 31/3/27
- Objectives: special risk analyses, qualification of interactions per gear and of species, testing of mitigation devices.

5. **LIFE PanPuffinus**

- Lead by several birdlife partners and governance of Malta, French and Portugal
- 2021 – 2025
- Organisation of an international conference on seabird conference in the South of France 20-21 October.

[LIFE PanPuffinus! Seabird bycatch conference - Preprogramme 22.07.pdf](#)

4. **DELMOGES**

Lead by La Rochelle and Ifremer

- 2022 - 2025
- Focus to understand the mechanisms leading to non-intentional captures of common dolphins in the Bay of Biscay
- Delmoges has a strong socio-economics component like WP3 in CIBBRiNA.

- CIBBRiNA is collaborating as much as possible with ICES, OSPAR, HELCOM and CMS.

- CIBBRiNA is in the process of submitting a proposal for a Marie Curie training network (led by REDUCE). The proposal, which can include 15 PhD projects on bycatch, needs to be submitted 24 November.

Graham adds this is discussed in the different projects and several partners are interested in training these PhD students.

Planning Q4 2024

- CIBBRiNA website has been launched. <https://cibrina.eu>
- Meeting Stakeholder Advisory Board (10 October)
- Communication course – three online sessions (3, 11, 20 November) hosted by proSea.

The course is designed to foster better dialogues between scientists and fishers to improve the joint cooperation.

- First interim technical report (1 December)

In the CIBBRiNA Monitor & Evaluation Plan we have many indicators and this will be the first trial to see how feasible and useful these are.

Planning 2025

- Joint workshop on turtle bycatch mitigation measures (Jan/Feb 2025) focused on the Atlantic and Mediterranean regions.
- CIBBRiNA capacity building course on science-industry collaboration (4-7 February 2025) in person in the Hague.

The course will focus on a number of themes that are at the heart of research collaboration and will give participants guidance for developing or working in research collaborations with fishers.

The training is based on existing tools from the [EU GAP2](#) project.

The instructors are Marloes Kraan and Nathalie Steins (WUR).

- Deliverable D2.3 (WP2) – Guidance on principles of cooperation and best practices (D2.3).

- CIBBRiNA in person Spring meeting (April/May 2025)

Possible items for the agenda:

- Improving linkages WPs and CSs
- Dedicated workshops for WPs and CSs

	<p>- Sense making session based on the first Monitor & Evaluation report We are still open for suggestions - Next LIFE monitor visit will be in the autumn 2025.</p> <p>Q&A Katie informs about the status of the project calendar for the SAB. A: The proposal is to abstract interesting meetings from the CIBBRiNA internal Teams calendar and share this periodically with the SAB.</p> <p>Dale would like to know if the capacity building workshop anticipate industry as well? A: The workshop is intended for the CS leads but if there is space available it is open for more partners.</p>	<p>CIBBRiNA /PMT</p> <p>WP2</p>
6.	<p>SAB Experiences Discussion on experiences of the SAB after the 1st year and any other comments.</p> <p>- Katie starts the discussion by asking a practical question. <i>Would you think this type of meetings is useful?</i> Anne-Marie adds the frequency of these meetings officially need to be once a year but if all agree, we will have them every six months.</p> <p>- Debbie feels we are still getting in to being a member of SAB and this meeting is very helpful. It is a good way of being in contact with some of the work package and case studies. Debbie would like to ask the same question to the CIBBRiNA team: <i>What does the team need from the SAB?</i> To Anne-Marie's opinion this session was useful to get input and feedback from the SAB and she prefers having a meeting over emailing. Anne-Marie points out it we also could benefit from contact in between if necessary and it could also be useful if SAB members are invited to specific meetings. Russell encourages the WP leads and the CS leads to contact or invite SAB members when needed. Graham is certain these meetings become more valuable as the project progresses.</p> <p>- Martin shares he would be happy and open to hear about experiences from the SAB members to use in the case studies.</p> <p>- To Caterina's opinion these kind of meetings can become more useful for CIBBRiNA while the tools are being developed. Caterina feels we should not fix the frequency of SAB meetings but make the most use of the SAB while we can.</p> <p>- Tamara advises to send the overview of 2025 meetings/events to the SAB and specify where the industry and/or the SAB is welcome and needed. Anne-Marie acknowledges this and we will add this to the minutes. Martin adds the planning we have does not cover the whole year but we can share the first half year.</p> <p>- Katie informs about the use of Teams to share files. Martin confirms we use Teams extensively and we created a separate teams for the SAB. Please let Martin know if you have troubles with Teams. (m.a.pastors@minInv.nl)</p>	<p>CIBBRiNA /PMT</p> <p>SAB</p>
7.	<p>AOB & Closing Katie thanks all attendees and Anne-Marie thanks Katie for chairing.</p>	

ACTIONS	
Lotte can share some of the results from the Danish acoustic/noise workshop with Helcom with Jenny Renell	Lotte
Lotte will keep the meeting of the joint bycatch working group in mind and will share interesting results if they are available.	Lotte
CIBBRiNA PMT and Jenny Renell will be in touch about a general CIBBRiNA presentation during the meeting.	Jenny/ CIBBRiNA PMT
CIBBRiNA PMT will link Daniel Mitchel to Al Kingston	CIBBRiNA/ PMT
Lotte is working on a collaboration between WGFTFB and CIBBRiNA and will share information in due time	Lotte
Graham will check if there is data available in the southern gillnets study to share at the meeting of the joint bycatch working group.	Graham
Any advice from the members of the SAB for CIBBRiNA is much welcomed.	SAB
Russell offers to be in touch with Gudjon regarding pots and traps fisheries.	Russell
WP4 will conduct a survey including requests about literature reviews of existing mitigation measures.	WP4
An abstract of the CIBBRiNA internal calendar will be periodically shared with the SAB.	CIBBRiNA/ PMT
WP2 will extend the invitation of the Capacity Building Course when space is available.	WP2
An overview of 2025 meetings/events including specification if attendance of the SAB is needed will be send with the minutes of this meeting.	CIBBRiNA/ PMT
Members of the SAB are invited to use the SAB Teams environment. Martin can be contacted for any difficulty accessing Teams. m.a.pastors@minlnv.nl	SAB