



CIBBRiNA Stakeholder Advisory Board meeting

15 October 2025 14.00 – 16.00 CEST

Chair: Russell Leaper

Attendees: Russell Leaper, Anne-Marie Svoboda, Graham Pierce, Aurélien Henneveux, Begoña Santos, Dale Rodmell, Ellen Hines, Farina Reif, Ilaria Bellomo, Ilenia Bonnaccorso, Kateryna Urbanovych, Olivier Zaan, Paul Thomas, Sandra Ougier (on behalf of Katie Longo), Ailbhe Kavanagh, Jade Maes, Noa van Keulen, Martin Pastoors, Rosa Fernández, Sarah Adams, Sunny Lammers (notes)

Minutes

		<i>Action</i>
1.	<p>Welcome and short introduction to the session Russell Leaper and Anne-Marie Svoboda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Russell is standing in for Katie Longo, until January 2026. - Russell shortly reflects on the main role of the SAB: to provide critical thinking and analysis to increase confidence in the decisions taken throughout the duration of the CIBBRiNA project and the production of the deliverables. CIBBRiNA has been operational for 2 years. At this point we are in the stage of establishing how the work of all the work packages is reducing bycatch in the long term. The most challenging phase of a bycatch project is what will happen with the results at the end of the project. - The focus of this meeting is to address any issues that are coming up within the work packages and the action plan of WP9 and discussing the draft 1st Periodic report. Some questions had been asked by certain WPs beforehand. 	
2.	<p>Project update</p> <p>20251015 CIBBRiNA SAB.pptx</p> <p>Update of the work of the work packages and the case studies</p> <p>Overall – Anne-Marie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne-Marie gives a short recap of the project structure and the 10 work packages. • The 2024/2025 public deliverables of CIBBRiNA were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D2.1: Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Strategy D2.3: Guidelines on principles of cooperation and best practices 	

D4.1 Report on the efficacy of mitigation measures
 D5.2 Monitoring guidelines: a synopsis of implemented or planned CS monitoring approaches
 D6.1 Monitoring programmes: Decision tree to design robust monitoring programmes under real-world conditions
 D8.1: Report describing the ToC and the monitoring framework
 D8.2 Biennial report on the progress of the monitoring/programme
 D8.3: Report on LIFE Key Performance Level Indicators
 D10.1: Strategy document and foundational communication activities
 D10.2: Stakeholder updates and outputs

The deliverables will be shared on www.cibbrina.eu

CIBBRiNA is currently working on the 1st Periodic report, an overview of the work done during first two years of the project.

- **Events and workshops**

- Around 50 external events attended and 10 events held
- Kick-off 7/8 September 2023 (Amsterdam)
- Spring meeting 15-17 April 2024 (online)
- WKTURTLE 3-5 February 2025 in collaboration with REDUCE, Marine Beacon and ICES (online).
- DanFish 8 October 2025 (Aalborg) provided the opportunity to have personal interaction with fishers. CIBBRiNA organised a workshop (50 attendees).
- The Wildlife ID Guide was demonstrated. [CIBBRiNA version of the Clean Catch Wildlife ID Guide](#)

- **WP7 “Case studies” – Martin Pastoors (PFA)**

Gillnets:



CS1. Northern gillnets



CS2. Southern gillnets



CS3. UK static nets

Longlines:



CS4. Deepwater longlines (Portugal)



CS5. Surface longlines (Madeira)



CS6. UK longlines

Trawl:



CS7. Pelagic trawl fisheries



CS8. Demersal trawl fisheries

- Martin shares an update on the progress of WP7 and on the case studies.

- The long term planning for WP7 consists of:
 - Identifying key activities within each case study for the period 2025-2028.
 - Organising a workshop on sensory deterrents for elasmobranchs

- Q&A

Q: Why is CS8 not progressing much?

A: The link between the research institutes involved and the fishery stakeholders is not very strong. So far, the focus on scientific work has been stronger than the focus on mitigation work.

Q: CS3, is the paper about 15 years of bycatch monitoring and effects of pingers published?

A: [Factors associated with bycatch of marine mammals in United Kingdom static net fisheries](#)

Q: Why is the quality of the CCTV images not sufficient in the Danish pelagic trawler.

A: This is being investigated at the moment. The settings of the camera need some adjustments. The resolution of the images is too low. It is a technical issue.

Q: Regarding the excluder devices on the pelagic trawls. Has there been any contact with CCAMLR?

A: Please share any contacts.
Russell will do so.
- Question for the SAB circulated prior to the meeting: Regarding the handling of bycatch on board. Does the SAB have recommendations on how and when we could make such guidelines useable and practical for different types of situations.

 - Martin explains there are many manuals on how to handle bycatch available from different projects.
It is difficult to provide general, safe guidelines especially for sharks and seals.
Martin has been in contact with Shark Trust.
 - Dale Rodmell is able to circulate information on handling seabirds.
 - There are a lot of guidelines for turtles but it depends on what gear is being used. This also came up during the Turtle workshop WKTURTLE which was organised by ICES, CIBBRiNA, Marine Beacon and REDUCE, the report will be shared shortly.
 - Daniel Mitchell will send links to seabirds guides which include a list of the gear/equipment that should be on the vessel.

Q: Is reviewing the different guides a job of CIBBRiNA?

A: In the case studies, CIBBRiNA will look at the available information regarding releasing life bycatch.
The use of the guidelines by the fishers is very important as well as best practices.
It is not a CIBBRiNA deliverable but all the projects need a guideline so perhaps it can be part of a collaborative effort.

 - A suggestion was made to perhaps put out a notification, not everything works in any conditions, in the policy briefs of the different projects.
- WP2/WP10 – Fisheries perspective-Stakeholder engagement/Communication and Education – Sarah Adams (MWC)**

Sarah shares the CIBBRiNA communication efforts.

Russell

Dale

Daniel

- D2.3 Guidelines on the principles of cooperation and best practices. The full report, summary and videos were submitted [Final version D2.3](#)
The video's are posted on the [CIBBRiNA YouTube channel](#).
- The Wildlife ID guide adapted from the Clean Catch guide.
- CIBBRiNA newsletter – the next one will come out early December.
- New feature is “The people behind CIBBRiNA”. This started off with an interview with Russell. [CIBBRiNA September 2025 newsletter](#)
- CIBBRiNA blogposts – next week will cover the Iceland trials [Bycatch Mitigation Trial in Iceland's Waters](#)
- Social media
 - 400 followers on LinkedIn
 - CIBBRiNA is on Bluesky as well
- Use of banners, t-shirts and stickers at events



- Question for the SAB circulated prior to the meeting: Does the SAB have advice/channels to be impactful on reaching relevant others. No further suggestions were made.
- **WP4 – Mitigation toolkit – Anne-Marie on behalf of Gudjon Mar Sigurdson and Wouter Jan Strietman**
- Aims:
 - Provide an assessment of mitigation efforts applied in the types of fisheries covered in the case studies of CIBBRiNA
 - Provide guidance to and learn from the case studies
 - Develop an online Decision Support Tool on mitigation measures
- WP4 has two formal deliverables
 - A report on the efficacy of mitigation measures (2025)
The report has been finalized recently and will be published on the website soon.
 - An online Decision Support Toolkit for mitigation measures (2029)
- The workflow of WP4 consists of desk study: collecting information from the case studies (design, implementation, results) and WP4 sent out a questionnaire with the aim to collect the expert knowledge and experience in developing, testing and/or applying all bycatch mitigation measures concerning ETP species across fisheries and

fishing gear.

Link: <https://rvo.survalyzer.eu/cibbrinamitigationmeasures>

- **Q&A**

Q: How will the multiple choice replies be incorporated?

A: WP4 is still working on the protocol of incorporating the replies in to the toolkit.

Q: Would it be helpful if the SAB circulates the questionnaire in their own network?

A: Yes, this would be very helpful.

Q: Would it make sense having this questionnaire in different languages?

A: It would make sense to do so. It has been done for another survey through AI but the quality of the translations was not good. CIBBRiNA has 13 countries speaking 9 different languages. It will be a challenge to translate.

Q: How will this relate to WP9?

A: There is a direct link with deliverable 9.1.

- **WP9 - Sustainability, replication and exploitation of project results – Jade Maes (ILVO)**

[20251008 Report Action Plan bycatch mitigation ETP - WMR Final.pdf](#)

- **Milestone:**

M20: Proposed instruments for mitigation supported by national authorities and other relevant stakeholders (M68)

- **Deliverables**

D9.1: Summary Suitability Analysis per country -> region and fisheries type (M42)

D9.2: Joint Recommendation or other instrument document(s) (M68)

D9.3: Proposal on funding mechanism to establish relevant by-catch mitigation measures, with full costings (M42)

D9.4: Exploitation Plan (M72)

- **Progress and next steps**

- Informal kick-off WP9 during 2025 spring meeting
- Questionnaire sent to policymakers (national decision maps and financial instruments)
- Background document for action plan delivered 30 September
- Discussion today as a kick-off for policymakers
- Roadmap implementation in collaboration with other projects

- Wageningen Marine Research (WMR) developed an action plan on bycatch mitigation ETP.

[20251008 Report Action Plan bycatch mitigation ETP - WMR Final.pdf](#)

The action plan focusses on two components:

- Implementation of practically applicable measures to reduce bycatch of ETP species, developed through (inter)national projects
- Advice on improving scientific monitoring of unwanted bycatch of ETP species in European fisheries, with a focus on international coordination

SAB

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP9 Building blocks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long-term implementation and replication of successful outcomes via: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 'Choice menu' for practically applicable measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Code of conduct - Covenant - Producers' Organisation (PO) measures - Certification schemes - (Inter)national/ regional action plans - National regulations to implement EU directives - Joint Recommendations (CFP art. 11&18) - Revision of the EU TMR - Conditions for access to subsidies - Advantages and disadvantages applicability/ timelines - Relevant stakeholders 2. Advice for improved monitoring bycatch ETP species • Russell points out measures in the mitigation toolkit could apply differently depending on the management regime. It would be good if the toolkit will be able to provide advice on how different mitigation measures relate to the type of management. Anne-Marie shares the first meeting with the policymakers from all the CIBBRiNA countries took place and the report was discussed there. It is important to keep the governments engaged, informed and committed to formalize the solutions. • Q&A <p>Q: Is there an intention to look further into the application of incentives. A: CIBBRiNA's WP3 is looking at socio-economics and incentives. They are doing cost benefit analysis at the moment and they will also look at incentives (topic for a next meeting?)</p> <p>Q: The 'choice menu' for practically applicable measures are all very complementary. To address a bycatch problem you might need to develop a national action plan on bycatch. In order to implement the plan you could need a code of conduct, governance, national regulations. This did not come out from the report. A: Yes, this report is more a building block for the action plan. In the action plan the focus will be on what we think would be the best overall approaches for different fisheries, regions.</p> <p>The suggestion was made to use a real-life or fictional bycatch problem as an example. Good suggestions are made which will be picked up by WP9.</p> 	WP9
3.	<p>Draft 1 st Technical Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 1st Periodic report was shared and feedback could be provided by the SAB. It has been submitted on 6 November. In collaboration with and input from all the work packages an overview of the progress was produced, covering the period from 01/09/2023 to 31/08/2025 20251031 LIFE CIBBRiNA periodic-report FINAL.pdf 	
4.	<p>Synergies other projects – Graham Pierce</p>	

- CIBBRiNA is one of six European funded bycatch projects: [REDUCE](#), [Marine Beacon](#), [ECO-CATCH](#), [MarineGuardian](#), [LIFE Prometheus](#)



Other relevant projects are [LIFE PanPuffinus](#), [LIFE Marine Mobile Species](#) and Fisheries Risk Assessment (FEAMPA ARP)

- **Collaboration with other projects**
 - Joint monthly webinar on bycatch – **every second Friday of the month**
 - Joint workshops, e.g. WKTURTLE
 - Bycatch stakeholder engagement (SWE)
 - International conference on bycatch of marine megafauna (2027)
 - Bycatch policy roadmap
 - Sharing images, documentation etc.
- **Q&A**

Q: Do you have suitable contacts in all the other projects?
A: Yes, we already had several meetings.

5.

Closing

- Pointing out any feedback from the SAB is welcome, Russell closed the meeting.

Action points

Share contact details CCAMLR	Russell
Circulate information on handling seabirds	Dale
Share links to seabirds guides which include a list of the gear/equipment that should be on the vessel	Daniel
Share link to WP4 questionnaire with network https://rvo.survalyzer.eu/cibbrinamitigationmeasures	SAB

<p>Provide the best overall approaches for different fisheries, regions. Use a real-life or fictional bycatch problem as an example.</p>	WP9