



# Biodiversity monitoring and data flows harmonisation

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MARCO-BOLO Co-creation workshop

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Joint  
Research  
Centre

# Marine biodiversity data needs

EU environmental policies:

- Require monitoring of marine biodiversity (species across habitats and geographical areas) to provide accurate and fit-for-purpose data
- Comparable environmental status assessments
- Underpin evidence-based mitigation measures to be undertaken

Harmonised and coherent monitoring approaches needed to provide comparable assessments

# JRC review of MSFD reports 2018

Improvement from 2012 reporting by Member States

Still some inconsistencies:

- Data gaps for several species groups
- Lack of harmonisation in monitoring and assessment methodologies

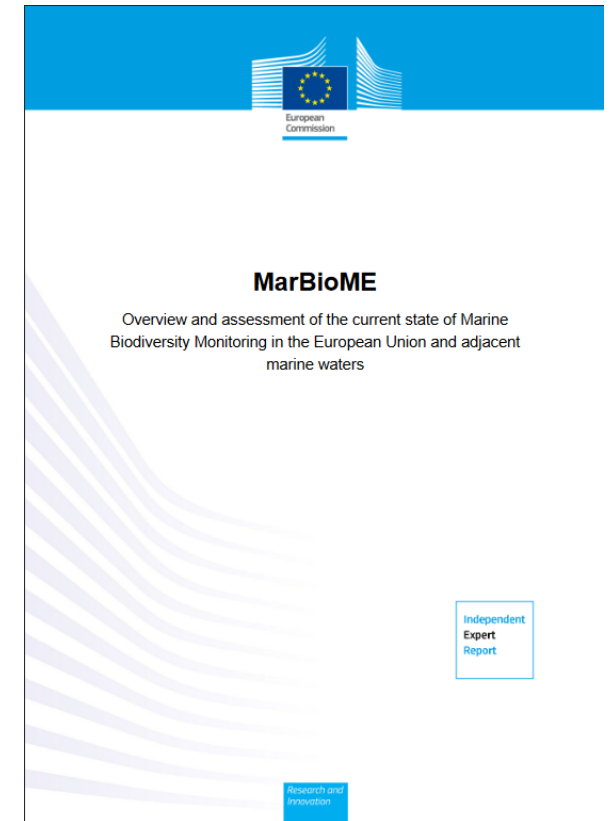


# MarBioMe study 2022

Overview of marine biodiversity monitoring in EU and neighbouring areas

Main gaps identified:

- Data (and metadata) not easily available
- Geographical discrepancies
- Few monitoring programmes for some species groups



Launched by European Commission supervised by JRC

# Challenges in marine biodiversity monitoring

Current monitoring programmes often dispersed and incoherent

- Lack of harmonised approaches
- Limited spatiotemporal coverage
- Data quality not fit-for-purpose
- Complex data flows and data not easily available
- Resource availability

Hindrance to informed policy decisions

# Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Harmonisation (MBM) 2024

- Collaborative study between the consortium and the EC Joint Research Centre

- Consortium      

- The study aims to analyse the state of marine biodiversity monitoring and recommend ways forward towards a future improved set-up, acknowledging existing initiatives and stakeholder needs
- It involves key players in the planning and implementation of marine biodiversity monitoring in Europe and the shared marine basins, building on previous and existing initiatives



# Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Harmonisation (MBM) 2024

The main activities of the study are:

- Connecting with existing networks and stakeholders, ensuring the uptake of available developments and information
- Cataloguing and reviewing methodologies for monitoring marine biodiversity (existing and emerging) and identifying potential for harmonisation and synergies between them
- Identifying main data flows and repositories for marine biodiversity data reporting, including critical analysis, in terms of e.g. interoperability, accessibility and usability
- Developing, in a collaborative way, recommendations for a future set-up, including the main points of a strategy for improvement and a roadmap for its implementation



# Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Harmonisation (MBM) 2024

Two workshops planned in 2024:

- The State of Marine Biodiversity Monitoring in Europe (June 4-6, online)
- The Future of Marine Biodiversity Monitoring in Europe (November 5-7, TBC)





# Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Harmonisation (MBM) 2024

## The State of Marine Biodiversity Monitoring in Europe (June 4-6, online)

- Presenting and discussing the first results from the study
- Technical discussions aimed at identifying existing gaps in monitoring methods and data flows
- Starting to brainstorm about potential solutions

To gain a **collective understanding** of the state of marine biodiversity monitoring in Europe

# Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Harmonisation (MBM) 2024

**The Future of Marine Biodiversity Monitoring in Europe** (November 5-7, in person, TBC)

- Presenting and discussing the final results from the study
- Collaboratively develop recommendations to improve the monitoring of marine biodiversity in Europe

# Thank you



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