

Cost-sharing agreement for participation in the International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas (ASH) in 2024

Having regard;

- Article 5.1c of REGULATION (EU) 2017/1004 stipulating the establishment of thresholds below which it is not mandatory for Member States to carry out surveys at sea;
- Article 5.6 REGULATION (EU) 2017/1004 stipulating that these thresholds for stocks subject to catch limits shall be based upon the share of the relevant Member States in the TAC that are available for the Union;
- Chapter I.2 of COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2021/1168 stipulating that the threshold for participation in a survey is set at 3% unless another threshold of up to 5% is agreed at marine region level
- Article 5.5 of REGULATION (EU) 2017/1004 stipulating that there is a need to avoid disruption of time-series of data;
- Chapter I.1 of COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2021/1168 stipulating Member States shall ensure continuity with previous survey designs;
- Article 9.8 of REGULATION (EU) 2017/1004 stipulating that regional work plans may contain cost-sharing arrangements for participation in research surveys at sea;
- Chapter I.1 of COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2021/1168 listing the International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas (ASH) as a mandatory survey;

Having acknowledged that;

- the scientific responsibility, as well as survey planning and reporting, lies with the ICES Working Group on International Pelagic Surveys;
- initial TAC shares by Member State for 2023 form the basis for cost-sharing in 2024;
- this agreement is referenced in every relevant National or Regional Workplan;
- no alternative threshold for participation in the survey is agreed for 2024.

The following Member States have agreed to share the vessel costs for the International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas (ASH): Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Sweden and the Netherlands.

Cost-sharing model

Cost-sharing is based on a cost-sharing key following the updated Gothenburg-model (RCG ISSG survey 2022¹).

This model will be applied to the vessel costs incurred by Denmark (survey carried out by R/V Dana) for the duration of the survey (total survey time, including calibration, vessel transfers, excluding mid-cruise breaks) for 2024. The respective vessel costs are based on the vessel's tariff of the preceding year.

This tariff is based on the eligible costs as accepted by the EMFAF Managing Authority of the MS conducting the survey.

¹ Report of the ISSG surveys, Gothenburg 2022

Force majeure

In the event that Denmark is unable to perform its obligations (in whole or partly) under the terms of this agreement because of circumstances or causes reasonably beyond its control, Denmark shall not be liable for any damages to the other partners in this agreement resulting from such failure to execute the survey. Unavoidable vessel costs related to the (planned) execution of the survey subject to this agreement will be distributed to the partners in this agreement based on the distribution key as established through this agreement.

Distribution key

Application of the selected model for the distribution of the costs leads to the following key:

Stock: Herring *Clupea harengus* in UK, Faroese, Norwegian and international waters of 1 and 2 (HER/1/2-) (2023 shares, source: Regulation 2023/194 Annex Ib)

Herring TAC 1/2						
initial TACS based on Regulation 2023/194						
Member state	Area	TAC 2023 (tonnes)	TAC share	Remarks	TAC for MS having share >3%	Redistributed percentage of share
Belgium	1/2	10	0.04%	Less than 3%		
Denmark	1/2	10,220	43.87%		10,220	46.24%
Finland	1/2	158	0.68%	Less than 3%		
France	1/2	441	1.89%	Less than 3%		
Germany	1/2	1,790	7.68%		1,790	8.10%
Ireland	1/2	2,646	11.36%		2,646	11.97%
Poland	1/2	517	2.22%	Less than 3%		
Portugal	1/2	34	0.15%	Less than 3%		
Spain	1/2	34	0.15%	Less than 3%		
Sweden	1/2	3,787	16.26%		3,787	17.14%
The Netherlands	1/2	3,657	15.70%		3,657	16.55%
	1/2					
European Union	1/2	23,294	100%		22,100	100.00%

Duration and governance:

This agreement covers cost-sharing for the 2024 International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas (ASH). Substantial changes to survey design, survey participation or substantial legal and/or financial amendments automatically lead to a review of this agreement. Duly justified, participating Member States may request a review. This survey falls under the remit of RCG North Atlantic & North Sea & Eastern Arctic (RCG NANSEA). As such, this agreement will, in the future, form a part of the Regional Work Plan for the North Atlantic & North Sea.

Invoices should be sent to the MS concerned before November 1st by the national institute responsible for the survey as well as the accompanying administration.

Signatures

Member State	Name	Date	Signature
Denmark	ANJA BØYE (NL)	27.01.2023	[Redacted]
Germany	CHRISTOPH STRANSKY	27 Sep 2023	[Redacted]
Ireland	LINDA O'HEA (NC)	27.09.2023	[Redacted]
Sweden	Anna Hasslöw (nd)	27/9/2023	[Redacted]
The Netherlands	Sietse Venema (nc)	27/9/2023	[Redacted]

