

**Cost-sharing agreement for participation
to the Blue Whiting survey 2020-2021**
Amended for 2021 to reflect actual UK status and procedures

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 Members in the TAC that are available for the Union;
- Chapter II.7 of COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2019/909 stipulating that the threshold for participation to a survey is set at 3%;
- Chapter II.7 of COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2019/909 allowing for setting an alternative threshold for participation to a survey at a regional 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 of COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2019/909 stipulating Member States shall guarantee 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
- COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2019/909 lists the Blue Whiting survey 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;
- That TAC shares by Member State for 2019 form the basis for cost-sharing in 2020 and 2021.
- To include this agreement in full in every relevant National Workplan.
- that RCG North Atlantic and North Sea agreed to set the threshold for participation to this survey at 5%.
- That Spain is explicitly excluded from this agreement based on the expressed wish not to participate in this agreement. Not to participate in any form of cost-sharing, neither for the surveys covered under this agreement nor for the survey carried out by Spain.
- the participation of the UK as an independent coastal state

The following Member States have agreed to share the vessel costs for the Blue Whiting survey: Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, The Netherlands, and in addition the United Kingdom.

Cost-sharing model

Cost-sharing is based on a cost-sharing key following the Gothenburg-model (RCG subgroup 2017¹). This model will be applied to the vessel costs made by Ireland (carried out by R/V Celtic Explorer) and The Netherlands (carried out by R/V Tridens) for the duration of the survey (total survey time, including calibration, vessel transfers, excluding mid-cruise-breaks) for years 2020 and 2021. The respective vessel costs are based on the vessel's tariff of the preceding year. This tariff is based on on the eligible costs as accepted by the EMFF Managing Authority of the MS conducting the survey.

¹ Report of the pan-regional RCG subgroup on cost sharing of research surveys at sea, Gothenburg 2016.

Application of the model leads to the following key:

	TAC 2019	TAC share	Remarks	more than 5% and excluding Spain	recalculated percentage of share
Denmark	48,813	15.27%		48,813	18.60%
Germany	18,979	5.94%		18,979	7.23%
Spain	41,383	12.94%	not contributing to agreement		
France	33,970	10.63%		33,970	12.94%
Ireland	37,800	11.82%		37,800	14.40%
The Netherlands	59,522	18.62%		59,522	22.68%
Portugal	3,844	1.20%	Less than 5%		
Sweden	12,057	3.77%	Less than 5%		
United Kingdom	63,341	19.81%		63,341	24.14%
Belgium	0	0.00%			
Estonia	0	0.00%			
Latvia	0	0.00%			
Lithuania	0	0.00%			
Poland	0	0.00%			
European Union	319,709	100%		262,425	100%

Duration and governance:

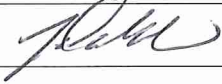
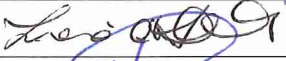
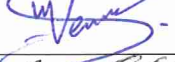
This agreement covers cost-sharing for the 2020 and 2021 Blue Whiting survey. Substantial changes to survey design, survey participations or substantial legal and/or financial amendments automatically lead to a review of this agreement. Duly justified, participating Member States may request a review. This survey falls under the remit of RCG North Atlantic & North Sea as such this agreement will in the future form a part of the Regional Workplan for this region. Due to national regulations, complementary arrangements may be needed between the MS involved in this cost-sharing.

Invoices should be sent to the MS concerned by November 1 of the year the survey is carried out by the respective National Institutes responsible for the survey as well as the accompanying administration.

UK - Invoicing and payment

Prior to the UK making payment for its share of the survey, the other Member State will need to provide details as to how the overall costs and other Member State shares were calculated. The UK may require the other Member State to provide additional information on request in order to be in a position to satisfy internal audit processes and the Member States agrees to assist the UK with such requests. The UK will review the documentation before determining whether to make payment to the Member State conducting the survey, for the UK proportion of the costs for the International Surveys.

Signatures

Member State	Name	Date	Signature
Denmark	Jorgen Disklev	10/10-2020	
France			
Germany	Dr. Christoph STRANSKY	16 Oct 2020	C. Stransky
Ireland	Dr. Liamie O'Dowd	5th Nov. 2020	
The Netherlands	Sietse Venner	2/10/2020	
United Kingdom	Matthew Gubbins	26/11/20	