



**Final conference of the LIFE+ Biodiversity project & back-to-back events**  
**January 27-30, 2015**

“Baltic Beach Hotel”

Jūras street 23/25, Jūrmala, LV-2015, Latvia, <http://www.balticbeach.lv/>

**MARMONI Final Conference: “Innovative indicators, methods, monitoring & assessment of marine biodiversity in the Baltic Sea”**

**Draft agenda**

Tuesday, January 27 MARMONI Final Conference	
12:00	<b>Registration and light lunch</b>
13:00	<p><b>Welcome and Introduction</b>            Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia  <b>The LIFE programme and its importance protecting the Marine Environment</b> (<i>Angelo Salsi, DG ENV, LIFE Unit, requested - tbc</i>)  <b>The LIFE MARMONI project</b>  <i>(Heidrun Fammler, Baltic Environmental Forum, MARMONI project manager)</i></p>
14:00	<p><b>Innovative marine biodiversity indicators &amp; survey methods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The MARMONI Indicator development concept and its results (Georg Martin, EMI)</i></li> <li>• <i>The HELCOM CORESET Indicator concept and its current state of development (HELCOM, tbc)</i></li> <li>• <i>MARMONI &amp; CORESET common grounds and way forward (Georg Martin, EMI)</i></li> </ul>
15:15	<b>Coffee/tea break</b>
15:45	<p><b>Innovative marine biodiversity indicators &amp; survey methods (cont.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The MARMONI innovative survey methods for biodiversity monitoring (Nicklas Wijkmark, Aquabiota Water Research)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>MARMONI recommendations on indicators &amp; survey methods</i></p>
16:30	<p><b>A spatial approach to marine monitoring &amp; management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Importance of mapping and its application on a spatial scale: e.g. eutrophication scenarios for planning monitoring for MSFD as well as for selection of MPAs (Martin Isaeus, Aquabiota Water Research)</i></li> <li>• <i>The spatial dimension of seabirds data and its implication for policy measures and management (Ainars Aunins, Latvian Fund for Nature)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>MARMONI recommendations on spatial dimension and visualisation</i></p>
17:30	<p><b>Assessment of costs for building a compliant marine monitoring programme</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Economic analysis of marine biodiversity monitoring programme: factors determining the cost effectiveness of indicators (Kristina Veidemane, BEF Latvia)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>MARMONI recommendations on cost implications in developing monitoring programmes</i></p>
18:15	<p><b>Wrap up of day 1</b>  <i>(Heidrun Fammler, Baltic Environmental Forum, MARMONI project manager)</i></p>
19:00	<b>Reception with view to the Baltic Sea!</b>

**Wednesday, January 28**  
**MARMONI Final Conference**


9:00	<p><b>Marine biodiversity assessment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment of conservation status of species and habitats of community importance and indicator based marine biodiversity assessment – results from both assessments and a joint evaluation (Ainars Aunins, Latvian Fund for Nature &amp; Georg Martin, Estonian Marine Institute)</li> <li>• N.N. (contributions from other projects/countries appreciated)</li> </ul> <p><i>MARMONI recommendations on biodiversity assessment: how many indicators are needed for a good assessment of marine biodiversity?</i></p>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Coffee/tea break</b>
11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Favourable Conservation Status versus Good Environmental Status and how to integrate the two concepts - policy (N.N. European Commission, DG ENV, tbc)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity assessment according MSFD versus Favorable Conservation Status assessment: how to bridge it or is it the same? If GES shall be equal to FCS for the sea, how practically to handle it?</li> </ul>
12:40	<p><b>HELCOM HOLAS – Holistic Assessment of the Baltic Sea Environment 2015</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (CORESET) Indicator based, Biodiversity Assessment Tool based – the concept and vision of HELCOM for MSFD compliance and beyond (Ulla Li Zweifel, HELCOM, tbc)</li> </ul>
13:00	<p><b>MARMONI overall recommendations and conclusions</b> (Heidrun Fammler, Baltic Environmental Forum, MARMONI project manager)</p>
13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>End of MARMONI Final Conference</b>	


**Project consortium:**



## MARMONI Back-to-back events:

<b>Wednesday, January 28</b> <b>Sea Bird working group</b> <b>Benthic habitat working group</b>			
15:00	<b>Workshop on Sea Birds – Indicators and monitoring</b> (coordinated by Ainars Aunins, Latvian Fund for Nature) HELCOM/OSPAR coordination (BALSAM and other projects)	<b>Workshop on Benthic habitat survey and monitoring methods</b> (coordinated by Heidrun Fammler, BEF, BALSAM WP6 lead/Georg Martin HELCOM Benthic habitat WG) HELCOM benthic habitat expert WG & BALSAM WP6 expert meeting	<b>Site visit:</b> “marine landscape” for those, staying for next day, but not involved in the workshops
<b>16:30</b>	<b><i>Coffee/tea break</i></b>		
16:45	<b>Continuation of the event</b>	<b>Continuation of the event</b>	
18:00	<b><i>End of the day</i></b>		

<b>Thursday, January 29</b> <b>Sea Bird working group</b> <b>MareCap SEED project</b> <b>MARMONI project management</b>			
9:00 	<b>Continuation working group on Sea Birds</b>	<b>MareCap SEED: management efficiency, Marine Protected Areas, GES and FCS in the Baltic Sea and further needs for work (“After MARMONI action plan”)</b> SEED partners and project developers, MARMONI action leaders (coordinated by Heidrun Fammler, BEF) – <i>agenda tbc</i> <i>Boxes opened by MARMONI and other projects: gaps and new developments</i>	
13:00	<b><i>Lunch break</i></b>		
14:00 – 16:00	Continuation <b>MareCap SEED</b> (tbc)		
<b>16:00</b>	<b><i>Coffee/tea break</i></b>		
16:30	<b>MARMONI action leaders and coordinators:</b> Final project progress monitoring and evaluation, After-LIFE Communication Plan		
18:00	<b><i>End of the day</i></b>		

<b>Friday, January 30</b> <b>MARMONI project management</b>	
9:00 	<b>MARMONI action leaders and partner coordinators:</b> final report: tasks and responsibilities; agreements on Annexes and publications.
12:30	<b><i>Lunch and departure</i></b>