33rd WG DIKE meeting

Marine Strategy Framework Directive

European Commission
DG ENV C2 – Marine Environment & Clean Water Services

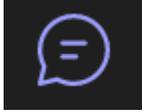*European Environment Agency*

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27-06-2025

AP1

Welcome and introduction
33rd WG DIKE meeting

European Commission
DG ENV C2 – Marine Environment & Clean Water Services

European Environment Agency

Welcome

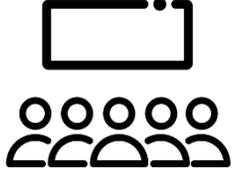Please **limit** use of 💬 for questions during the meeting

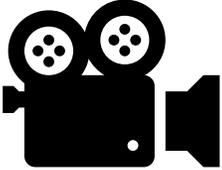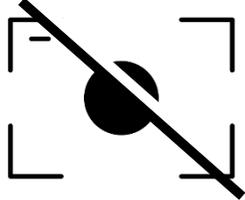Please use ✋ 🎤 for taking the floor during the meeting

Mailbox

ENV-MARINE-ENVIRONMENT@ec.europa.eu

Agenda and documents on CIRCABC

Mute Your Microphone

Turn on Your Camera

No Recording

Summary Report and ppts on CIRCABC

AP2

Adoption of the agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Time	Item	Agenda item	Documents/links
10:00	1	WG DIKE - Welcome and introduction	
10:10	2	Approval of the agenda of WG DIKE-33	DIKE _33-2025-02
10:15	3	**Reporting – Monitoring programmes updating - Article 17** - *Presentation of the comments received and the update of the guidance document* - *Discussion on the comments provided by JRC on the reporting – report on the monitoring programme* - ***Agreement** on the data structure and the fields requested* - *Discussion on the description of the fields (in particular Monitoring Purpose) and enumeration lists* - *Discussion on the QC and blockers*	Guidance document available on CIRCABC - Version submitted to the written consultation: CIRCBAC Summary of comments from JRC on the reporting: CIRCABC
12:00	4	**AOB, next steps, date of next meeting and conclusions**	

| 12:30 | | **End of meeting** | |

European Commission

AP3

Article 17 - reporting monitoring programme

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)

- **Reporting obligation** https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/obligations/611

  "Member States shall establish and implement coordinated monitoring programmes for the ongoing assessment of the environmental status of their marine waters that are compatible within marine regions or subregions"

- **Reporting tool**
  o Dataflow in development in Reportnet 3
  o **Need to update** MSFD GUIDANCE DOCUMENT 17: *"Reporting on the 2020 update of Article 11 for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive"*
  o Reporting due on **2026-10-15**

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)

- **What we did?**

31st WG DIKE : agreement on the approach

GES

Consultation on the guidance

DIKE

ENV/EEA

Assessment of the comments, list of questions and updates

32nd WG DIKE: presentation and agreement on the updates

Update of the guidance

ENV/EEA

33rd WG DIKE: Discussion and agreement on the **data structure**

JRC

Consultation on the guidance

DIKE

October 2024

November - December 2024

January – February 2025

April 2025

May – June 2025

June 2025

European Commission

Written consultation on the guidance document and associated dataflow

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Guidance submitted to the written consultation

32nd WG DIKE

Question	Answer WG DIKE	Update GD17
Do you agree to simplify and restructure the point 3 (update of article 11 reports) to highlight the differences with the 2020 reporting and exclude a comparison with the 2014 reporting? - *pages 7 to 11*	The point 3 will include a comparison with the 2020 data, no comparison with the 2014 reporting but only a reference to this reporting.	✅
Do you confirm the need to include Element 2? – *page 38*	Yes, Element2 will be included	✅
To reduce the reporting burden, we propose to report several descriptors together, if the same strategy applies to several descriptors (see field " Descriptor"). Do you agree? - *page 22*	It is agreed to let the possibility to report several descriptors while ensuring that Member State can continue to report per descriptor. The data schema will be checked to ensure that a descriptor could be applied to several monitoring strategy.	❌
Do we need "Monitoring method other" and "parameter other", or should we update the enumeration lists for "Monitoring method" and "parameter"? *pages 34 and 43*	Enumeration list for « Monitoring method » and « Parameter » will be populated with the information reported during the previous reporting and the option « other » is kept.	✅

Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Guidance submitted to the written consultation

Question	Answer WG DIKE	Update GD17
Do we need to clarify the content of the "Monitoring Purpose" field? – *page 31*	The content of the 'Monitoring Purpose' needs to be clarified. Member States will provide inputs on what need to be clarify based in particular on the differences between Member State in the reporting. WG GES will have to be consulted on the content of this field -*subject to the written consultation .*	✴
For 'other Policy Conventions' and 'RegionalCooperation_coordination', as for articles 8, 9 and 10, do we propose to use the enumeration list "sourcePolicy"? – *pages 32 and 33*	Yes, « sourcePolicy » enumeration list will be used	✅
Is it possible or does it make sense to create an enumeration list with the type of the relationship for the field "RelationshipToCA"? - *page 22*	An enumeration list will be established based on what Member States reported in 2020. This list will be discussed with WG DIKE – *subject to the written consultation .*	✴
Could it be easier to have 2 separate lists instead of joining everything is GEScomponent? The 2 lists would be GESDescriptor and GESCriteria. We would also need to update reference in tables above accordingly – *page 49*	Yes, two lists will be provided	✅
Do you prefer links in the guidance to the enumeration and reference lists instead of the content in annex?	The lists are included in the Annex and a reference to the CDR is included. WG DIKE will have to decide what to do in case of update of the Annex.	⏱

MSFD Article 11 dataflows – design in sandbox environment

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – Text reports

European Union

Reportnet 3 > Dataflows > Dataflow

Design Mode

Joana Costa

MSFD Article 11 - Monitoring programmes - Text reports - Reporting year 2026
Dataflow (Big Data)

Manage lead reporters

Dataflow help

Supporting documents

European Commission

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – Text reports data schema

Supporting documents	→ Schema class (Table)
• Description • Document	Schema fields
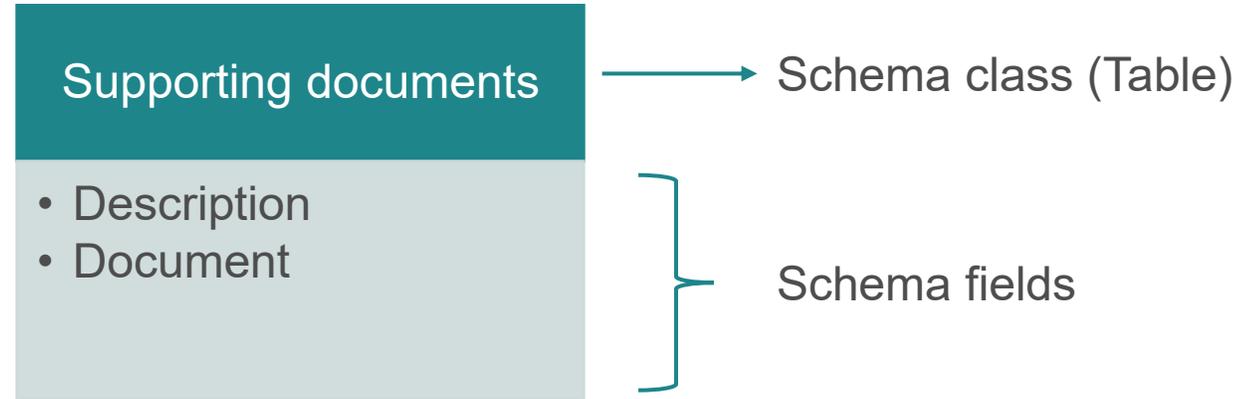
Schema class	Schema field	Description	Property	Guidance
Supporting documents	Description	Brief description of the document	Optional	Free text (max. 2500 characters).
Supporting documents	Document	File to be uploaded	Optional	File with text report or any other relevant supporting document. Several documents can be uploaded, one per row. Each file can have maximum file size of 100 MB.

European Commission

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – Data reports

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – Reporter information data schema

ReporterInfo

→ Schema class (Table)

- ContactName
- ContactMail
- ContactOrganisation

Schema fields

Schema class	Schema field	Description	Property	Guidance
ReporterInfo	ContactName	Name of the reporter	Optional	Free text (max. 100 characters).
ReporterInfo	ContactMail	Email of the reporter or functional email of the organization	Required	Enter the corresponding email address (max. 256 characters).
ReporterInfo	ContactOrganisation	Name of the reporter's organisation and address	Required	Free text (max. 500 characters).

European Commission

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – ART11_Strategies data schema

Metadata
• **ResponsibleCompetentAuthority**
• ResponsibleOrganisations
• RelationshipToCA
• PublicConsultationDates
• PublicConsultationSite
• RegionalCooperation

MonitoringStrategy
• **Descriptor**
• MonitoringStrategyDescription
• RelatedTargets
• RelatedMeasures
• Coverage_GEScriteria
• Coverage_Targets
• Coverage_Measures
• Gaps_Plans
• MonitoringProgrammes

European Commission

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – ART11_Programmes data schema

MonitoringProgramme

- **ProgrammeCode (S)**
- **ProgrammeName (S)**
- **UpdateType (S)**
- **OldProgrammesCodes (M)**
- **ProgrammeDescription**
- **MonitoringPurpose (M)**
- OtherPoliciesConventions (M)
- RegionalCooperation_coordination (M)
- RegionalCooperation_countries (M)
- RegionalCooperation_implementation (S)
- MonitoringDetails
- **SpatialScope (M)**
- **MarineReportingUnit (M)**
- **TemporalScope**
- **MonitoringFrequency (S)**
- **MonitoringType (M)**
- **MonitoringMethod (M)**
- MonitoringMethod_other
- QualityControl (M)
- DataManagement
- Contact
- References

Feature_Element_Criteria

- **ProgrammeCode**
- **Feature (S)**
- Element (S)
- Element2 (S)
- GEScriteria (S)
- Parameter (S)
- Parameter_other

Datasets

- **ProgrammeCode**
- **DataAccess_URL**
- **DataAccess_MD_URL**

RelatedIndicator

- **ProgrammeCode**
- RelatedIndicator_code
- RelatedIndicator_name

Required
Required where applicable

S - single selection
M - multiple selection

Update of the reporting guidance

- **Agreement on :**
  - Fields to report
  - Structure of the dataflow

- **Discussion on:**
  - Description of the fields in the guidance
  - Code list
  - QC rules

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Update of the guidance

- **Consultation WG DIKE and national experts** : 14/05/2025 – 16/06/2025
- Documents available on [CIRCABC](#)

- **Comments :**
  - Guidance document
  - Annex with the code lists

- Summary of comments and proposal provided in [CIRCABC](#)

➢ Track changes versions of the guidances provided based on WG DIKE comments and JRC proposals - [CIRCABC](#)

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates
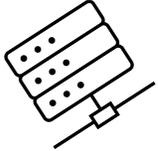
Fields to report :

- **Add new field '*DatasetVoidReason*'** to justify when no reporting of the dataset ' DataAcess_Url' and of 'DataAccess_MD_URL' could not be provided.

➢ As a consequence: 'DataAccess_Url' and 'DataAccess_MD_URL' are conditional

➢ **Content of *DatasetVoidReason:***
Enter one of the following from List 'DataVoidReasons':
a. 'Data-InPrep' - Data being prepared for publication
b. 'Data-NotPublic' - Data not publicly accessible
c. 'Data-NotElectronic' - Data not in an electronic format

- **Remove 'DataAccess_MD_URL**' as providing metadata for each monitoring dataset is not praticable]

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates
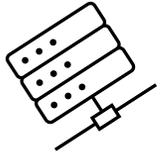
Fields to report / Structure of the dataflow

Consultation

- **Validation on whether to report at element level is important and link with Element 2.**
  "*The method of validation is probably similar to GD20 for Art8, 9 and 10 and the same reference list with elements and corresponding features is applicable. However, I am not completely convinced that this is true in all situations. As indicated for criteria D2C1 and D8C4 the elements monitored cannot be predefined, and 'Not applicable' can be used for the reporting. However, monitoring bycatch (D1C1) often focuses on specific species, such as porpoises, seals, sharks, and rays. It is therefore probably better to report for which specific species by catch monitoring is operational.*"

- **'Parameter' - change from single selection to multiple selection**

European Commission

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – ART11_Programmes data schema

MonitoringProgramme

- **ProgrammeCode (S)**
- **ProgrammeName (S)**
- **UpdateType (S)**
- **OldProgrammesCodes (M)**
- **ProgrammeDescription**
- **MonitoringPurpose (M)**
- OtherPoliciesConventions (M)
- RegionalCooperation_coordination (M)
- RegionalCooperation_countries (M)
- RegionalCooperation_implementation (S)
- MonitoringDetails
- **SpatialScope (M)**
- **MarineReportingUnit (M)**
- **TemporalScope**
- **MonitoringFrequency (S)**
- **MonitoringType (M)**
- **MonitoringMethod (M)**
- MonitoringMethod_other
- QualityControl (M)
- DataManagement
- Contact
- References

Feature_Element_Criteria

- **ProgrammeCode**
- **Feature (S)**
- Element (S)
- Element2 (S)
- GEScriteria (S)
- Parameter (M)
- Parameter_other

Datasets

- **ProgrammeCode**
- *DataAccess_URL*
- *DataAccess_MD_URL*
- **DatasetVoidReason**

RelatedIndicator

- **ProgrammeCode**
- RelatedIndicator_code
- RelatedIndicator_name

Required
Required where applicable
New
S - single selection
M - multiple selection

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates

Description of the fields – update of the description

MonitoringProgramme

'Regional cooperation Implementation'

Indicate the level of implementation by selecting one of the following from list 'RegionalCooperation_implement~~ation~~':

- Agreed data collection methods
- Common monitoring strategy ~~(spatial and temporal design of programme)~~
- Coordinated data collection ~~(delivered separately by each country)~~
- Joint data collection ~~(multinational delivery using same platform and/or algorithms)~~

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates

Description of the fields – update of the description

MonitoringProgramme

'MonitoringPurpose'

+ WG GES

Select one (or more) option(s) from list 'MonitoringPurpose':
- 'Environmental state
- Environmental impacts'
- 'Pressures in the marine environment'
- 'Pressures at source' (land-based, riverine, sea-based and atmospheric sources)
- 'Human activities causing the pressures'
- 'Effectiveness of measures'

The categories provided are related to the DPSIR model and are intended to reflect the main focus of the programme. As programmes should be defined separately according to the main elements being monitored (e.g. particular species/species groups or habitats, specific pressures), it is expected that typically only one category will be relevant per programme. However, monitoring of certain naturally occurring elements (e.g. nutrients, underwater sound) is sometimes considered as 'state monitoring', whilst the reason for this monitoring is to assess whether the levels are raised above natural levels (i.e. whether it is acting as a pressure) – in these cases, the category 'pressure in the marine environment' should be selected. Where the elements monitored are being changed due to a pressure (e.g. oxygen levels resulting from nutrient enrichment), they should be categorised as 'environmental state and impacts'.

Sea-based 'Pressures at source' refers to monitoring pressures from sea-based activities where the monitoring is directly at the activity rather than at a distance from or time period after it is generated by the activity (e.g. D1 incidental by-catch when fishing, D2 ballast water discharges, D6 use of bottom fishing gear, D8 contaminant discharges and pollution events from a vessel or pipeline, D11 impulsive sound events from a vessel or platform).

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates

Description of the fields – update of the description

+ WG GES

Feature_Element_Criteria

'Element 2'

Enter from list 'Element2', the name of the:

a. whether the bird species being ~~assessed~~ monitored is a 'breeding' or 'non-breeding' population (D1)
b. phytoplankton/zooplankton/other component of the pelagic habitat (Element) being assessed (D1C6)
c. population (stock) for the commercial species assessed (D3) ~~Schema class Schema field Description Property Guidance commercial species (the Element).~~
d. habitat/ecotype for the elements assessed (D5C1, D5C2, D5C4)
e. species used to assess parameter 'Concentration in biota' (D8C1). Note other matrices (water or sediment) may also be reported for the same Element (contaminant)
f. species used to assess the contaminant level (D9)
g. subtypes of Artificial Polymer (single-use plastics, fishing gear, other) (D10C1)
h. species used for litter ingestion assessment (D10C3)
i. species used for underwater noise assessment, if appropriate (D11C2)
Element2 should not be duplicated within an Element report (for a particular Feature/Criteria/~~MRU~~).
If the list does not contain the Element2 needed, contact MSFD Helpdesk.

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates

Content of the guidance

Correction done

- Typos (OSPAR, reference to the codelist)
- '*Contact*' and '*references*' added in Table 4

To do, once agreed

- Add description of the structure of the data flow
- Include QC rules in the guidance document
- Clean the guidance (required/conditional/required when applicable...)

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates

Code list

- Update the references to the 'SourcePolicy' (*Bonn agreement, OSPAR, IMO_BWM, ICES, RAMSAR, ASCOBANS*)
- Reference to the HELCOM and OSPAR published guidelines updated in 'MonitoringMethod'

Update suggested

'UpdateType'

Value
Same programme as in 2020
Modified from 2020
New programme
Programme no longer in place

Value
Same as previous programme
Modified compared to the previous programme
New programme
Programme no longer in place

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Written consultation – summary of comments and updates

Code list - update suggested

+ WG GES

'Relationship to CA'

Value
Intergovernmental scientific organisation
Public research organisation
National university
Agency of the competent authority
Government department
Governmental organisation
Non-governmental organisation
Regional authority
Other national authority
Other

'RegionalCooperation_implement'

Code	Label	Observations
Agreed data collection methods	Agreed data collection methods	
Common monitoring strategy	Common monitoring strategy	Spatial and temporal design of programme
Coordinated data collection	Coordinated data collection	Delivered separately by each country
Joint data collection	Joint data collection	Multinational delivery using same platform and/or algorithms
Dedicated data call	Dedicated data call	ta call dedicated to certain purposes or to update already collected data series.
Ad hoc data collection	Ad hoc data collection	Data are not covered with any reporting or dedicated data call.

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Update of the guidance

- **The JRC** reviewed and analysed EU Member States' 2020 reports on monitoring programmes. The analysis was presented in a report: https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/fe28b3b7-d1d6-11ed-a05c-01aa75ed71a1/language-en and it includes some comments on the reporting.

- Proposals to amend the guidance to reply to the JRC questions provided in CIRCABC

➢ Track changes versions of the guidances provided based on WG DIKE comments and JRC proposals - CIRCABC

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Improve the quality of the reporting

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
1	For all descriptors, the MS e-reports include additional entries other than those specifically corresponding to the Descriptor, in particular under the **'GEScriteria', 'Elements' and 'Features' reporting fields**. For instance, the D8 file contains entries that refer to elements relevant for other descriptors (e.g., nutrient levels (DIN and DIP), which correspond to D5). The analysis has been done by filtering the information which sometimes can lead to the dropping of a significant number of reporting entries.	**QC rules will be used for the validation of the relation between descriptor, feature and criteria.** The relations are presented in the guidance and the content will be reviewed. The JRC will review the list of Element and the link to Feature.
2	**Drop-down menus for 'GESCriteria', 'Features', 'SubRegions' and 'Parameters' would be recommended** to resolve the issues and improve harmonisation. Moreover, regionally agreed lists of commercial species could be also added as drop-down menus under 'Element'.	We **have now drop-down lists for 'GESCriteria', 'Features', 'Parameters' and 'MRU'** (MRU code prefix with subregion). **'Element' is also a drop-down menu.** 'Element' enumeration list will need some cleaning/revision by the JRC.
3	Overall, features, parameters and elements were consistently considered by MS for the **primary criteria in all regions, while for the secondary criteria, further coverage and harmonisation of monitoring programmes are needed to ensure comparability**.	We can create a WARNING level for all missing criteria, either primary or secondary. Would you prefer ERROR level for primary criteria and WARNING level for secondary? To be discussed with WG DIKE.

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Improve the quality of the reporting

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
3	Overall, the **monitoring programmes do not provide sufficient data to assess the progress with measures**. 'Effectiveness of measures' is not the monitoring purpose for a number of criteria/descriptors and many MS have declared that monitoring is not yet adequate to cover the progress with the measures. As for the targets, **measures are in some case very generic,** broadly related with impact of human activities and not relevant or specific to the descriptor under review. It would be advisable to **provide guidance regarding what MS should report for monitoring related to measures** (pursuant to Art. 13) in order to enable a clear link between measures and the metrics used in monitoring (and assessment).	This topic calls for a further discussion on measures, for both meaning and reporting. No change in the reporting as the focus is the monitoring programme.
4	Furthermore, under Art. 11 reporting, only the **target codes appear, but not the target description, which makes it more difficult to analyse in-depth** whether Art. 11 reporting provides sufficient data to assess progress with targets.	This topic calls for a further discussion on targets, for both meaning and reporting. No change in the reporting as the focus is the monitoring programme. Extraction of the targets name will also be possible.

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Improve the quality of the reporting

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
5	Most MS have provided access to the monitoring programs via data links for all descriptors. However, **those links do not always work properly and direct access to data selection and downloading is not always available**. In some cases, the links lead to institutional homepages or overview webpages of national or other Directive's monitoring programmes, which do not allow to access to specific datasets. In other cases, the links cannot be accessed as requiring credentials, or do not exist and cannot be found. Also, often web links lead to pdf documents or pages written in languages other than English, with no option to view the English version.	Highlight again findings to MS under WG DIKE and TG Data. This applies to both Article 11 and Article 8 reporting. The fields 'DatasetVoidReason' could be help to justify why the access to the data is not possible
6	Moreover, MS often report many **different links in the same data entry and also slightly different links that probably refer to the same dataset** (e.g., ICESrelated links under D3). The reporting would be improved by having a single link that leads straight to the dataset. In case additional steps are needed to find, access and reuse the data, those could be clearly and concisely stated under 'DataManagement'.	Each data set have to be provided in one row and highlight these findings

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Content of the reporting

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
7	According to the monitoring reporting guidance (MSFD Guidance Document 17), MS should report the spatial coverage of the programme according to the jurisdictional zones of marine waters. **This is intended to give only a coarse categorization of the areas** (zones) covered by the programme. However, the way the information is reported under the 'SpatialScope" reporting field (i.e., usually many different spatial areas in the same reporting cell) makes it difficult to really understand which elements/parameters are monitored in the different spatial areas.	**To be discussed with WG DIKE on how to solve this issue.** SpatialScope categories are: -'Terrestrial part of MS' -'Transitional waters (WFD)' - 'Coastal waters (WFD)' - 'Territorial waters' - 'EEZ (or similar) (e.g. Contiguous Zone, Fishing Zone, Ecological Protection Zone)' - 'Continental shelf (beyond EEZ)' - 'Beyond MS Marine Waters' If an MRU covers multiple spatial areas but the monitoring programme addresses only a subset of them, this indicates a misalignment between the MRU definition and the actual monitoring activity. For instance, if monitoring for a specific element is reported only in "Transitional waters (WFD)," this may imply either that the monitoring should be extended to additional relevant spatial scopes, or that transitional waters are the only scope where monitoring of that element is appropriate or meaningful. A concrete example is the invasive species *Rugulopteryx okamurae*, which is monitored exclusively in "Coastal waters (WFD)" due to its ecological distribution, even though the reference MRU extends offshore.

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Content of the reporting

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
8	According to the monitoring guidance, it is expected that typically only one 'monitoring purpose' category will be relevant per programme. However, for all descriptors, most MS include several 'purposes' for each programme, **which, as said above, does not provide useful information.**	**To be discussed with WG DIKE on how to solve this issue.** Selection among: -'Environmental state and impacts' - 'Pressures in the marine environment' - 'Pressures at source' (land-based, riverine, sea-based and Human activities causing the pressures' - 'Effectiveness of measures' Generally, the monitoring programmes should be designed to tackle all these points. Eventually the selection should be based on the chosen element. For example, if the element is Nutrients the monitoring could cover all of the category
9	Additionally, as MS seem to mix the temporal window of the GES assessment with the total length of the available time-series, it could be worth having two separate reporting fields, e.g., 'time-series available' and 'temporal window for the GES assessment'.	Temporal scope should be the timeseries available for the monitoring programme. Not limited to the temporal window for the last GES assessment. For example for D5 Element Chl-a in France the temporal scope could be 1806- 2025. Modification of the guidance to clarify the content. Update of the guidance needed.

European Commission

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Content of the reporting – fields to report and description of the fields

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
10	A significant proportion (32%) of the monitoring programmes remains the same as in the 2014 reporting cycle (up to 50% for some descriptors) and the number of new programmes is relatively low (15%). There are, however, a number of modifications or updates (53%) that MS have introduced in their monitoring programmes over time, although, from the Art. 11 reporting, **the identification of those modifications is not at all straight forward**.	We could **propose to add a new field ModifiedProgramme** which should be required if "UpdateType" = "Modified from 2020". This field would be free text (max. 4000 characters). A validation will need to be added with this condition
11	The way the information is provided under some reporting fields makes it difficult to understand what is actually monitored. For instance, many different parameters, spatial areas or links to data are usually provided in the same reporting cell, separated by a comma without space. When a drop-down menu is not available (e.g., for D8C2 or D6 parameters), MS can use different names to 7 refer to the same parameter. This can lead to erroneous messages, including those concerning regional harmonisation.	A drop-down menu will be available for all descriptors, criteria, feature, element, element2 (new) and parameter. It will be single value for descriptor, criteria, feature, elements and elements 2. For **Parameter, we will have to change it to a multiple selection** but as the extraction of the database will be done through reporting the separator will be standardised.

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

MRU - Description of the fields / Structure of the dataflow

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
12	There are three MS (DK, ES and SE) that **do not differentiate the marine region t**o which their monitoring refers, but that report on a single category for the two marine regions they belong to (BAL/NEA or MED/NEA). It is also not possible to differentiate the region from other reporting fields like 'Subregion' or 'MarineReportingUnit', since they normally contain mixed information for both regions.	**We could suggest specifying in the guidance document:** "*MRUs from different region/subregion can be reported <u>under</u> ~~if~~ the same monitoring programme<u>,</u> ~~applie~~<u>s provided that all aspects of the programme are identical across all selected MRUs, subregions, or regions.</u>* <u>This includes, but is not limited to:</u> • <u>Monitoring objectives and scope</u> • <u>Parameters monitored (e.g., substances, species, litter types)</u> • <u>Sampling methodology (e.g., gear type, survey protocol)</u> • <u>Temporal resolution (e.g., frequency and timing of sampling)</u> • <u>Spatial resolution and coverage</u> • <u>Quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures</u> • <u>Data processing and evaluation methods</u> We will not be able to create a validation based on this, but we should consider that Member States will apply this condition of similar monitoring programme.
13	**MS should also avoid reporting for combined subregions**	
14	MS with **multiple MSFD subregions should report the elements** for each of their MSFD subregions separately.	We could suggest to **change MRU from schema class MonitoringProgramme to Feature_Element_Criteria.** This means that for each element in that programme you can assign a specific MRU. You can have different MRUs for each element

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Content of the reporting - Structure of the dataflow

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
15	Regarding the monitoring frequency, the information provided is too broad (refers to the whole monitoring programme) and, given the high number of monitoring programmes combined with the numerous elements and parameters, it does not reveal any pattern, for instance, at criterion level. However, this information is essential as it could facilitate discussions on possible harmonization or coordination at regional level.	Change field **MonitoringFrequency from schema class MonitoringProgramme to Feature_Element_Criteria**. By having MonitoringFrequency in the table of Feature_Element_Criteria one can assign different elements/parameters to different monitoring frequencies.
16	Therefore, to be useful, it would be needed that MS harmonise and report more clearly (giving specific timings) on monitoring frequency, including more details such as link to a particular criterion, spatial scope, taxa etc.	**Change fields from schema class MonitoringProgramme to Feature_Element_Criteria: MRU, MonitoringMethod, MonitoringFrequency.**

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Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Discussion on the comments provided by the JRC

Content of the reporting - Structure of the dataflow and description of fields

	JRC comment	EEA/ENV/JRC proposal to WG DIKE
17	The way the monitoring frequency and the spatial coverage are reported lacks clarity end details: it does not allow to understand where and at what frequency the monitoring takes place	**We could suggest to change MonitoringFrequency from schema class MonitoringProgramme to Feature_Element_Criteria** The new syntax in MRUs (with subregion code as prefix) helps. In addition, **the fields *MonitoringDetails* could be clarified** to be more specific. It is therefore suggested that the *MonitoringDetails* fields become required and is updated as follow: *"MonitoringDetails – Provide a <u>more specific</u> description of <u>how is the monitoring programme within the MRU, in particular (i) the effort of monitoring (the effort of monitoring (number of observations/stations per year, or area monitored within the MRU),</u> <s>what is monitored (features, elements, parameters), where (spatial scope)</s>, <u>(ii)</u> when (start date<u>& end date</u>, frequency) and <u>(iii)</u> how (methods for data collection and sample handling/QA, QC).*
18	The spatial coverage should indicate the extent of the area covered by the monitoring programme (as a percentage or layer), for instance, either within the area of jurisdiction or within the area of species spatial distribution (e.g., BHTs).	The MRU should help to understand where the reporting take place. With the present reporting field we do not know how much (coverage and sampling effort) of the MRUs are actually monitored. Currently, the field to detail this is in ***MonitoringDetails.*** The content of this field is clarified and **this fields become required**

Questions

Endorsement by WG DIKE

- **Agreement on :**
  - Fields to report
  - Structure of the dataflow

MSFD Article 11 dataflow – ART11_Programmes data schema

Endorsed

MonitoringProgramme

- **ProgrammeCode (S)**
- **ProgrammeName (S)**
- **UpdateType (S)**
- **ModifiedProgramme**
- **OldProgrammesCodes (M)**
- **ProgrammeDescription**
- **MonitoringPurpose (M)**
- **MarineReportingUnit (M)**
- **MonitoringFrequency (S)**
- **MonitoringMethod (M)**
- **MonitoringMethod_other**
- OtherPoliciesConventions (M)
- RegionalCooperation_coordination (M)
- RegionalCooperation_countries (M)
- RegionalCooperation_implementation (S)
- **MonitoringDetails**
- **SpatialScope (M)**
- **TemporalScope**
- **MonitoringType (M)**
- QualityControl (M)
- DataManagement
- Contact
- References

Feature_Element_Criteria

- **ProgrammeCode**
- **Feature (S)**
- Element (S)
- Element2 (S)
- GEScriteria (S)
- Parameter (M)
- Parameter_other

Datasets

- **ProgrammeCode**
- DataAccess_URL
- DataAccess_MD_URL
- **DatasetVoidReason**

RelatedIndicator

- **ProgrammeCode**
- RelatedIndicator_code
- RelatedIndicator_name

Required
Required where applicable
New
S - single selection
M - multiple selection

Update of the code lists

Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Enumeration and references lists

- **CompetentAuthorityName (as reported in Article 7 dataflow or in DB)**
- RelationshipToCA*
- GESDescriptor*
- **RelatedTargetCode (as reported in 2024 Article 10)**
- **RelatedMeasure (as reported in 2022 Article 13)**
- Coverage*
- **ProgrammeCode (as reported in 2020 Article 11)**
- **ProgrammeName (as reported in 2020 Article 11 and, for guidance, see Annex III)**
- UpdateType*
- MonitoringPurpose*
- SourcePolicy*
- CountryCode_cooperation*
- RegionalCooperation_implement*
- Feature*
- **Element (as provided for the 2024 reporting of Articles 8, 9 and 10)**
- **Element2 (as provided for the 2024 reporting of Articles 8, 9 and 10)**
- GEScriteria*
- Parameter*
- SpatialScope*
- **MarineReportingUnit (as reported in Article 4 dataflow)**
- Frequency*
- MonitoringType*
- MonitoringMethod*
- **IndicatorCode (as reported in 2024 Article 10)**
- **IndicatorName (as reported in 2024 Article 10)**

NOTES:

*In the guidance document

In bold lists available in CDR

Add "DataVoidReason" if approved by WG DIKE

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Reporting of the monitoring programme (Art 11)
Enumeration and references lists

Issue: Some code lists are either too extensive or subject to frequent updates based on ongoing or previous reporting.

➢ These lists were not included in the guidance document (code lists in **bold** in previous slide).

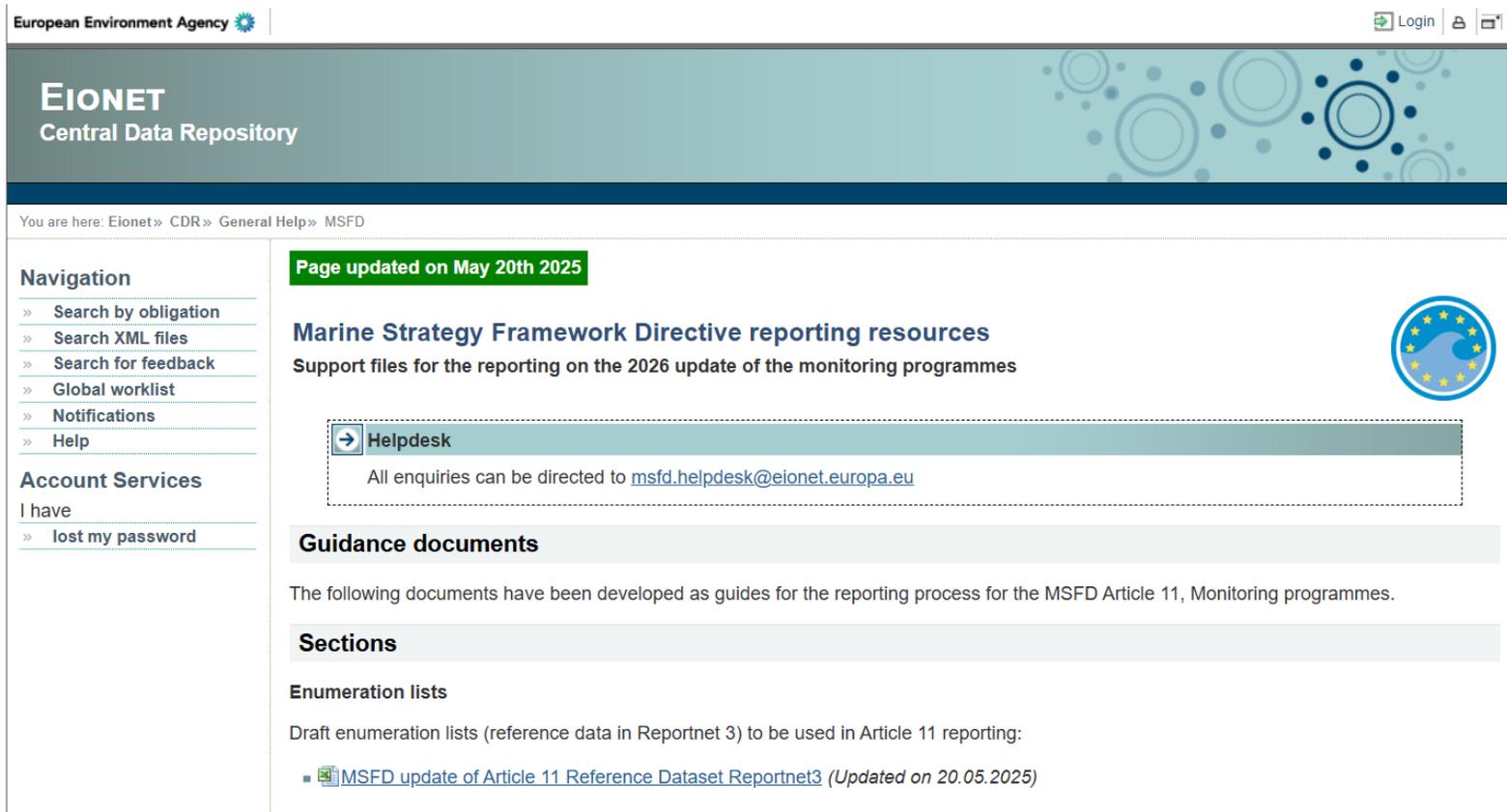**Proposal**: Extensive lists are made available in the CDR and the guidance document will include a link to the CDR.

Consultation on these lists:

➢ These lists will be fully available by the time of the next DIKE meeting and demonstration of the tool around October 2025.

➢ MS will have until the opening of the dataflow in 2026 to provide any input to the lists.

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CDR – Dataflow Help Documentation

- Supporting files for the reporting on the 2026 update of the monitoring programmes available in https://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/help/msfd/MSFD%20ART11%202026

Member States can consult and provide input to documents in CDR:

- Draft Reference lists

- Draft QC rules (validations)

NOTE:

The lists will continue to be populated until the final dataflow is released in production.

Member States should note that the current files will undergo several versions before finalisation.

Quality Control (QC) rules

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QC procedures – Reportnet 3 validations

Schema	Class	Schema element	Type of check	Validation	Error level
ART11_Strategies	ReporterInfo	ReportingDate	Element check	ReportingDate can't be smaller than 2020-07-15	WARNING
ART11_Strategies	FileControl	Supersedes	Conditional check	Supersedes must be provided if an ART11_Strategies file has been already reported in a previous envelope	BLOCKER
ART11_Strategies	Metadata	ResponsibleCompetentAuthority	Element check	Competent Authorities must have been reported under MSFD Article 7	BLOCKER
ART11_Strategies	MonitoringStrategy	Descriptor	Within-schema check	All the Descriptors must be reported in the file	BLOCKER
ART11_Strategies	MonitoringStrategy	Descriptor	Within-schema check	Duplicated Descriptor under the schema ART11_Strategies gives back a blocker	BLOCKER
ART11_Strategies	MonitoringStrategy	RelatedTargets	Element check	The RelatedTargets codes must have been reported under ART10_Targets schema within the Article 17 update of Articles 8,9 and 10)	BLOCKER
ART11_Strategies	MonitoringStrategy	RelatedMeasures	Element check	The RelatedMeasures codes must have been reported under MSFD13 schema within the Article 13 reporting or ART18 schema within the Article 18 reporting	BLOCKER
ART11_Strategies	MonitoringStrategy	MonitoringProgrammes	Within-schema check	MonitoringProgrammes has to be filled in, except when under Coverage_GEScriteria the values 'Monitoring is not being put in place for this descriptor due to a low risk' or 'Monitoring for this descriptor is not relevant' are provided.	BLOCKER
ART11_Strategies	MonitoringStrategy	MonitoringProgrammes	Cross-schema check	All the MonitoringProgrammes listed have to be provided under the ART11_Programmes schema	BLOCKER

Not needed in Reportnet 3

- **ART11_Strategies data schema**

- Some QC rules implemented in 2nd cycle should apply (with minor changes)

European Commission

QC procedures – Reportnet 3 validations

Schema	Class	Schema element	Type of check	Validation	Error level
ART11_Programmes	ReporterInfo	ReportingDate	Element check	ReportingDate can't be smaller than 2020-07-15	WARNING
ART11_Programmes	FileControl	Supersedes	Conditional check	Supersedes must be provided if a ART11_Programmes file has been already reported in a previous envelope	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	ProgrammeCode	Cross-schema check	All the codes entered have to be reported as well in the field 'MonitoringProgrammes' under ART11_Strategies schema.	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	RegionalCooperation_implementation	Conditional check	RegionalCooperation_implementation has to be provided when RegionalCooperation_coordination or RegionalCooperation_countries have been filled in.	WARNING
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	Feature	Within-schema check	Duplicated Feature for a MonitoringProgramme gives back a blocker	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	Element	Element check	The reported Elements must be in the "MSFD Reporting Reference List (Elements)" and match the corresponding feature.	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	Element	Conditional check	Element must be provided for the features indicated (see Features_Enum in reporting guidance).	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	Element	Within-schema check	Duplicated Element for a Feature gives back a blocker	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	GEScriteria	Conditional check	GEScriteria must be provided when Element is provided	BLOCKER

Not needed in Reportnet 3

- **ART11_Programmes data schema**

- Some QC rules implemented in 2nd cycle should apply

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QC procedures – Reportnet 3 validations

Schema	Class	Schema element	Type of check	Validation	Error level
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	GEScriteria	Conditional check	GEScriteria must be selected among those corresponding to the element	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	GEScriteria	Within-schema check	Duplicated GEScriteria for an Element gives back a blocker	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	Parameters	Conditional check	Parameter must be provided when GEScriteria is provided	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	MarineReporting Unit	Element check	The MarineUnitID must have been reported under the schema 4geo	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	MonitoringMethodOther	Conditional check	MonitoringMethodOther must be provided when MonitoringMethod is 'Other'	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	RelatedIndicator_name	Conditional check	RelatedIndicator_name must be provided when a new Indicator code is entered (not reported under the schema 'Indicators' within the Article 17 update of Articles 8,9 and 10)	BLOCKER
ART11_Programmes	MonitoringProgramme	OldProgrammeCode	Conditional check	OldProgrammeCode must be provided when 'Modified from 2014' is provided as 'UpdateType'	WARNING

- **ART11_Programmes data schema**

- Some QC rules implemented in 2nd cycle should apply (with minor changes)

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Additional QC rules (validations)

Schema	Class	Field	Validation	Error Level
Art11_Strategies	Metadata	RelationshipToCA	Required if 'ResponsibleOrganisations' field is filled in	BLOCKER
Art11_Strategies	Monitoring Strategy	Descriptor	If "Descriptor" is equal to "Not relevant" than the only fields required are 'MonitoringStrategyDescription', 'Coverage_GEScriteria' and 'Gaps_Plans'.	BLOCKER
Art11_Strategies	Monitoring Strategy	MonitoringStrategyDescription	If "Descriptor" is "Not relevant" then "MonitoringStrategyDescription" must be equal to "Descriptor not relevant for Member State's waters"	BLOCKER
Art11_Strategies	Monitoring Strategy	Coverage_GEScriteria	If "Descriptor" is "Not relevant" then "Coverage_GEScriteria" must be equal to "Monitoring for this descriptor is not relevant"	BLOCKER
Art11_Strategies	Monitoring Strategy	Coverage_Targets	Required if "RelatedTargets" field is not empty	BLOCKER
Art11_Strategies	Monitoring Strategy	Coverage_Measures	Required if "RelatedMeasures" field is not empty	BLOCKER
Art11_Strategies	Monitoring Strategy	Gaps_Plans	If "Descriptor" is "Not relevant" then "Gaps_Plans" must be equal to "Monitoring for this descriptor is not relevant"	BLOCKER
Art11_Strategies	Monitoring Strategy	MonitoringProgrammes	Not required when "Coverage_GEScriteria" is populated with values 'Monitoring is not being put in place for this descriptor due to a low risk' or 'Monitoring for this descriptor is not relevant'	BLOCKER

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Additional QC rules (validations)

Schema	Class	Field	Validation	Error Level
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	ProgrammeCode	Check if string reported is in reference list "ProgrammeCode" except when "UpdateType" value equal to 'New programme'	BLOCKER
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	ProgrammeCode	If "UpdateType" = "New programme", "ProgrammeCode" syntax must be: MS code - MS-defined alpha-numeric code (e.g. IT-D08-01)."	ERROR
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	ProgrammeName	Check if string reported is in reference list "ProgrammeName" except when "UpdateType" value equal to 'New programme'	BLOCKER
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	GESCriteria	Primary criteria must be reported	ERROR
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	GESCriteria	Secondary criteria should be reported	WARNING
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	ModifiedProgramme	Required if "UpdateType" = "Modified compared to previous programme"	BLOCKER

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Additional QC rules (validations)

Schema	Class	Field	Validation	Error Level
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	ParameterOther	Required if "Parameter" value is equal to "OTH".	BLOCKER
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	MonitoringMethod_Other	Required if "MonitoringMethod" value is equal to "OTH".	BLOCKER
Art11_Monitoring	Monitoring Programme	Feature-Element-Element2-Criteria-Parameter	Uniqueness and multiplicity constraints - The fields combination Feature, Element, Element2, Criteria and Parameter must be unique within the table	BLOCKER

?

Which unique combination to set up:

1. Feature-Element-Element2-Criteria-Parameter?

2. Feature-Element-Criteria-Parameter?

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Consultation on the QC rules

- WG DIKE should confirm the QC rules that will be present in the reporting guidance document.

- A dedicated Excel file will be shared for consultation of QC rules.

- MS are invited to provide any comments to the QC procedures implemented.

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Next steps and organisation of the work

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Organisation of the work

Task	Responsible	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-Sep/26
Reporting guidance 17 V1	COM/EEA	1st Nov																	
Reporting guidance 17 V1-feedback	WG DIKE		15 Dec																
Revision of the reporting guidance (V2) + reporting schema and QC rules	COM/EEA																		
Feedback V2 and reporting	WG DIKE																		
Update V2	COM/EEA																		
Discussion during WG DIKE meeting on the update of the reporting guidance	WG DIKE meeting						8 April												
Revision of the reporting guidance (V2) + reporting schema and QC rules	COM/EEA																		
Feedback V2 on the guidance	WG DIKE								4 weeks										
Online meeting to agree on the content of the guidance to secure the development of the dataflow	WG DIKE								27 June										

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Organisation of the work

Task	Responsible	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-Sep/26
Online meeting to agree on the content of the guidance to secure the development of the dataflow	WG DIKE				27 June									
Revision of the reporting guidance (V2) + reporting schema and QC rules	COM/EEA													
Development of the reporting tool	Bilbomática	Feasibility study	Develop Reportnet 3 dataflow in sandbox environment			Implement changes	Testing of dataflow in sandbox environment		TEST Dataflow available					
Consultation of WG DIKE on the updates related to the content (not the dataflow) and WG GES	COM/EEA							12 Sept						
Endorsement of the guidance	WG DIKE meeting								16 Oct					
Endorsement of the guidance	WG GES meeting								Oct					
Test phase	MS									16 Oct				
Information on the work of WG DIKE on the update of the reporting guidance and endorsement (Nov)	MSCG			8 May						Nov				
Finalisation reporting tool	Bilbomática													
Call for reporting	MS													

AP4

AOB, summary, next meeting and next steps

European Environment Agency

European Commission
DG ENV C2 – Marine Environment & Clean Water Services

Summary, next meeting and next steps

- **Next Steps**

  - Consultation WG DIKE and WG GES on the reporting guidance – description of the fields/code lists/QC rules – **deadline 12 September 2025**

  - Continue to provide inputs on the lessons learned – spreadsheet available on CIRCABC – **deadline 1st September 2025**

  - **Next meetings**

    - Next WG DIKE meeting – online : **16 October 2025 –** *save the date*

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Thank you

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