

Ongoing log of questions and clarifications during MSFD reporting

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The following is a list of issues and clarifications that have arisen during the MSFD reporting period starting July 2012. This list covers comments/issues identified in the schemas, database, supporting documents and tools and the appropriate action/response.

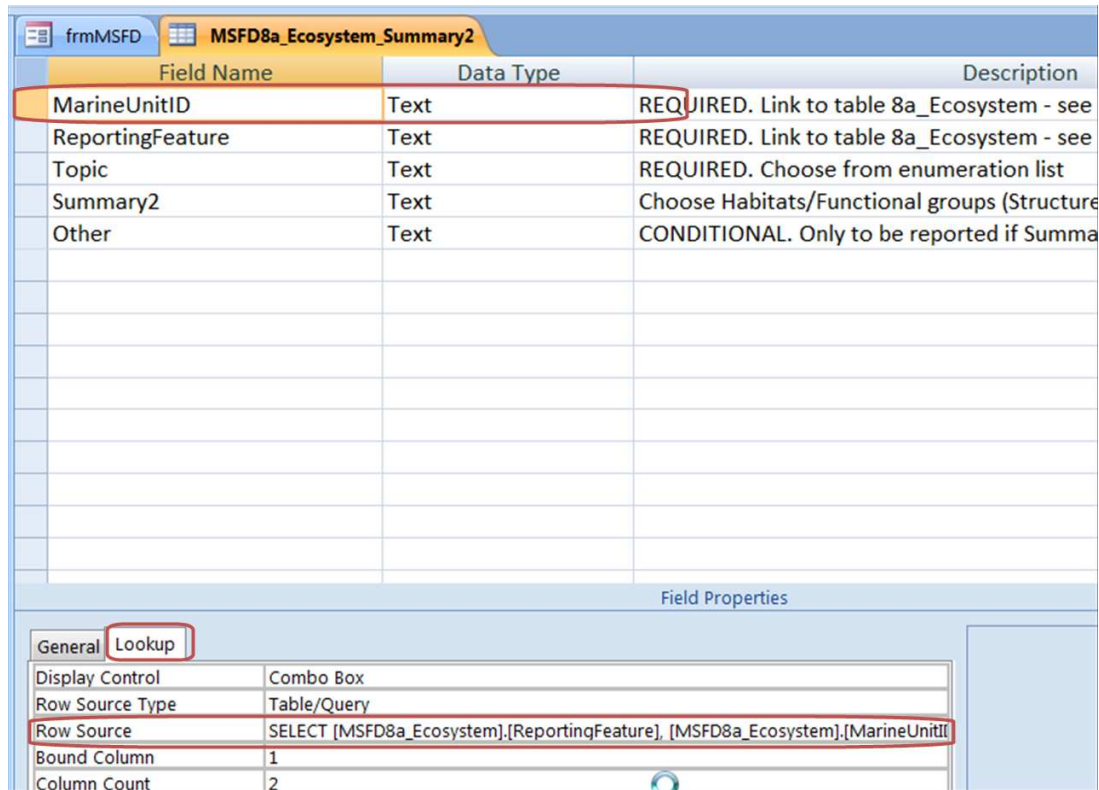
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1. Critical errors

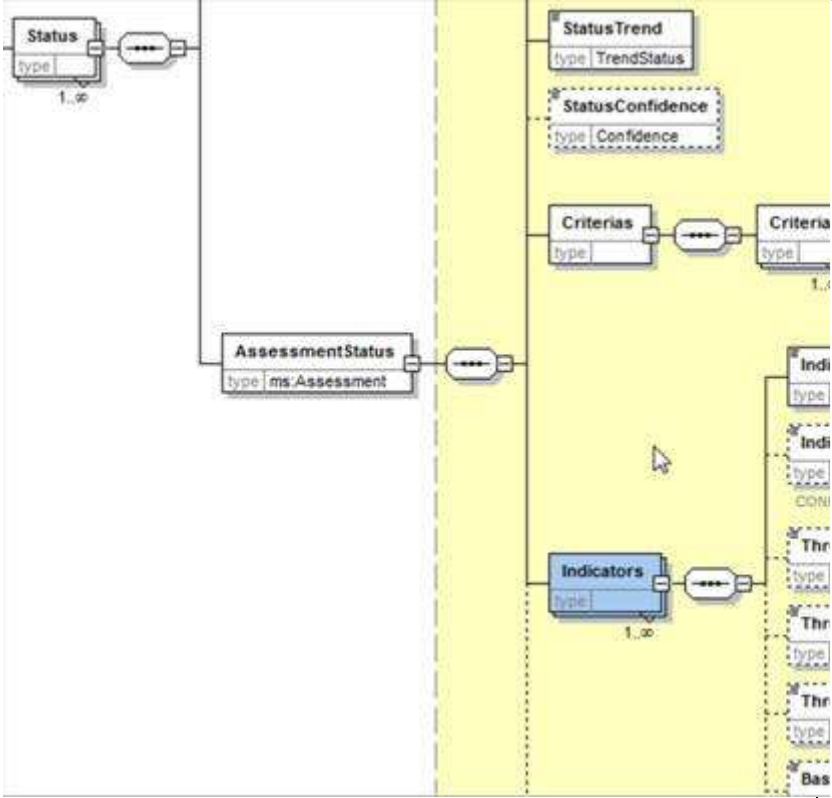
No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
1.		Features_Overview	The habitat feature 'Shelf sublittoral sand' from the Features_Overview list is missing.	If the feature is relevant for the MS then the feature can be added in the database table Features_Overview
2.	EL	Ecosystems, SumInfo2 (MSFD8aFeat	SumInfo2 is missing for Ecosystem topics in xml	There is an incorrect definition of the MarineUnitID in table MSFD8a_Ecosystem_Summary2. A little change needs to be done in order to have SumInfo2 mapped to the xml – see

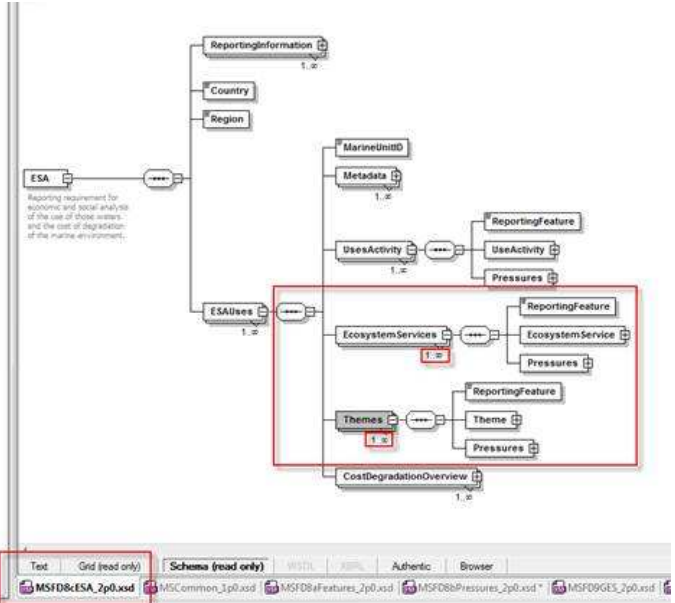
No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
		ures_2p0)		below:

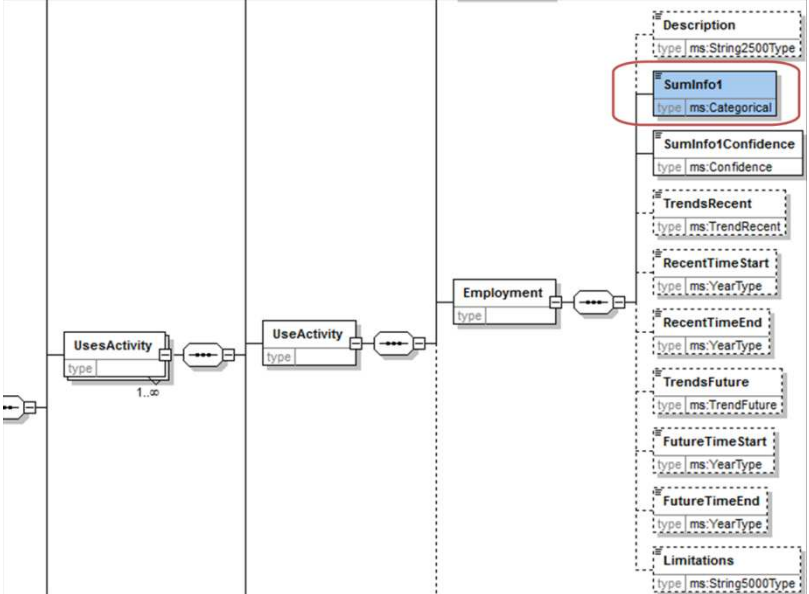


The Row Source (highlighted) should be changed to SELECT [MSFD8a_Ecosystem].[MarineUnitID] FROM MSFD8a_Ecosystem;

2. Validation errors

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
3.	NL	Assessment status (MSFD8aFeatures_2p0)	<p>The status 'NotAssessed' implicates that there are no criterias and no indicators used. Should 'Criterias' and 'Indicators' not be Conditional then</p> 	<p>Yes, that is correct. This has now been changed so all elements under AssessmentStatus are optional except Status. An additional secondary query has been added (see Appendix H in the User Guide for electronic reporting – doc 1) to check that the AssessmentStatus elements are reported when the Status is set everything else than not assessed</p>
4.	IE		Section 6.5.1 'Overview' of the Guidance document on p.130	The highlighted elements should be conditional. In the case of IE where these are not relevant you can leave them

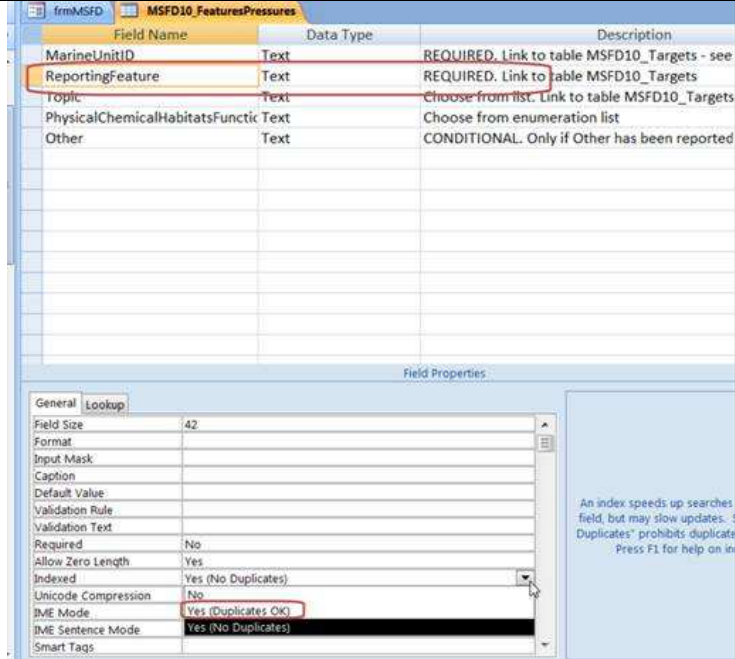
No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
			<p>states:</p> <p><i>“Reporting sheet 8C01 (human activities) should be completed by Member States who have used the Marine Water Accounts approach, but some elements of the sheet should be completed by all Member States. Reporting sheet 8C02 (ecosystem services and other approaches) should only be completed by those Member States that have used an Ecosystem services or other (thematic) type of approach. Reporting sheet 8C03 on the cost of degradation addresses whichever approach Member States have followed; in the MSFD database, these are consequently incorporated with the relevant ESA assessments (i.e. uses, services or themes).”</i></p> <p>Ireland don't follow Ecosystem services or other (thematic) type of approach</p>	<p>empty and then ignore the validation error</p> 
5.	UK	General Reported text too long	<p>How to correct error messages like this one:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>The 'http://water.eionet.europa.eu/schemas/dir200856ec:Other' element is invalid - The value 'John dory Zeus faber, boarfish Capros aper, Red seabream Pagellus bogaraveo, monkfish Lophius piscatorius, cuckoo ray Leucoraja naevus, conger eel Conger conger, pollack Pollachius pollachius, hake Merluccius merluccius, megrim Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis, longrough dab Hippoglossoides platessoides, blue whiting Micromesistius poutassou and boarfish Capros aper.' is invalid according to its datatype 'http://water.eionet.europa.eu/schemas/dir200856ec/mscommon:String25 OType' - The actual length is greater than the MaxLength value.</p> </div>	<p>The text length is only to set an indication of the level of information needed – however the max length of all text strings have now been set to 100.000 characters. The change is done in the MSCommon schema (the element definitions are still named the same – but the definition below the names has changed).</p>
6.	IE	MSFD&ESA_	I have a question on the ESA human activities – employment	This is correct – there is an error in how this element has

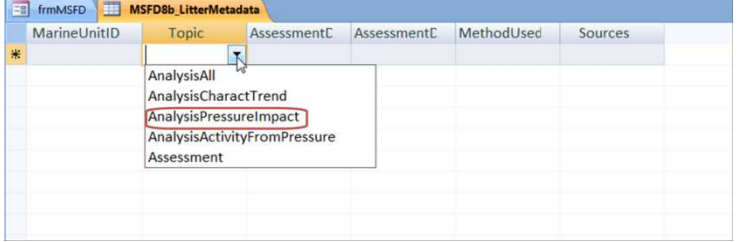
No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
		2p0.xsd - Employment	<p>'SumInfo1' node. (In file 'MSFD8cESA_2p0.xsd')</p> <p>The XSD type for the element 'SumInfo1' is 'Categorical'. From the Excel document it don't seem to be a category. It should be a string – is this correct?</p> 	<p>been defined here – it should have been a text string as for eg. ValueAdded. Corrected</p>

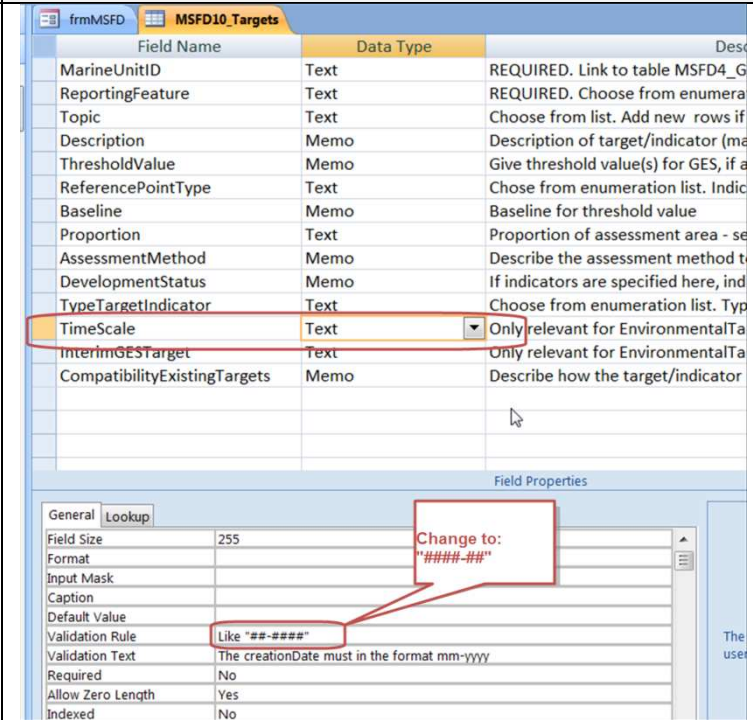
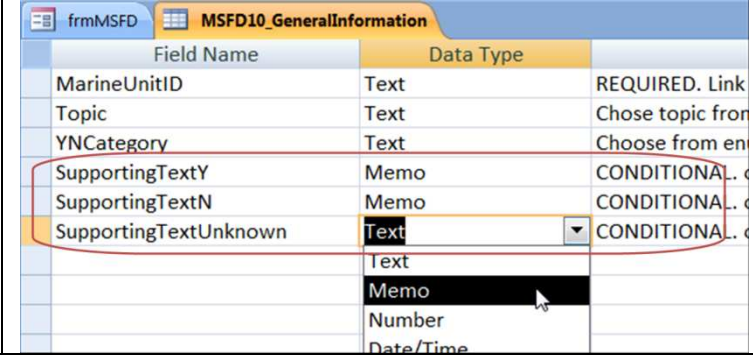
3.Database questions

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
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No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
1.	DE	Targets (TypeTargetIndicator)	<p>When you look at the reporting sheet for targets: the text in field K6 of the sheet 10_Targets says that you should be able to select one or more types for one target. But the current schema illustrates here a 1:1 relation (only one type per target). Your first version of the schema in march has a 1:many relation at this point. What was the reason for changing this?</p> <p>On the other hand we are able to fill the database with several types for one target. There is no index anymore on the table MSFD10_Targets. But how will the conversion tool act with this?</p>	<p>Answer from Commission</p> <p>From our understanding of how targets and indicators are generally being formulated by MS, it seems that they should be applicable to only one category. Where this is not the case, I suggest the most appropriate category is selected. If this 1:1 relationship is not sensible in some cases (perhaps the target is formulated to cover a range of 'topics' together), it could be addressed by entering the target twice and indicating the different types (e.g. pressure, impact) against each entry.</p> <p>Additional answer from Atkins:</p> <p>Another work-around could also be to insert a list of types (comma separated - eg:) in the database - this will give an error in the validation tool - but can just be ignored</p>
2.	DE	Targets	<p>Looking at the schema for the targets I can see, that one target can have one or more FeaturesPressures. But in my eyes the database isn't conform to the schema at this point.</p> <p>The table MSFD_FeaturesPressures has an index on the field ReportingFeature. But I think it must be possible to choose more than one PhysicalChemicalHabitatsFunctionalPressures for a defined ReportingFeature</p>	<p>There is a minor error in how the ReportingFeature for this table has been defined in the database - if you go to Design view and change the index to Yes (Duplicates OK) as below indicated it should then work as intended. This has been corrected in the DB available on the resource page on the 27th of August.</p>

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
				
3.	UK	Metadata topics for 8a and 8b	<p>I do not have the option of AnalysisPressureImpact in the database under the Metadata section to report on 8a and 8b related reporting sheets. I have only 4 option. I have only a more comprehensive list under 8c.</p> <p>What should I do? Can I write the option in myself?</p>	<p>It seems we have the wrong list for 8A and 8B – for 8A sheets AnalysisActivityFromPressure should be AnalysisPressureImpact and in 8B sheets the AnalysisPressureImpact needs to be added. This is updated in the database on the 27.08.2012 – however the topic for 8a and 8b database tables can also just be added by the MS – the validation tool will accept the topic AnalysisPressureImpact and no error will therefore occur.</p>

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
				
4.	FI	Merge databases	<p>Is it possible to copy a filled table (object) from one copy of the database to another without breaking the internal links of the target database?</p> <p>It's obvious that the MarineUnitId should be filled, as well as the FeatureReported ("Yes") and the FeatureRelevant ("Yes") in the front-end-panel view, before any copying could be considered.</p>	<p>This should be possible – just use the append function when inserting tables and remember to have the table MSFD4_GeographicalID and table Features_Overview table filled with info before splitting the database or else it can get a bit tricky</p>
5.	DE	Targets	<p>MSFD10_Targets.TimeScale:</p> <p>Your documentation text for this field implies the format mm-yyyy. But the schema says yyyy-mm. What is correct?</p>	<p>Correct that both schema and DB has the format mm-yyyy – however this is where the spreadsheet miss to be streamlined as all other places it is yyyy-mm – as defined in the schema – so you should report yyyy-mm instead. Please change this in DB:</p>

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
				
6.	DE	Targets	<p>TI/TargetsIndicators/GeneralInformation has the child elements for the SupportingText. This element is defined as String2000Type in the schema.</p> <p>The field in the database is Text (255). This should be defined as Memo?</p>	<p>Yes, correct. This should be changed to Memo:</p> 
7.	DE	SourceClassif	Please look at line 2936. In this line the information for the species	The reason why some data is duplicated incorrectly is

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
		icationListAuthority	<p>"Melanogrammus_aeglefinus_Linnaeus_1758" starts. You find there the information to Distribution, Population, Condition, InfoGaps. In the database there are four lines in the table Species. That's ok. Then you find the information for the status. Ok.</p> <p>But then in line 4687 the same feature "Melanogrammus_aeglefinus_Linnaeus_1758" starts again. And a validation error occurs because (it is twice) and this element is not complete.</p>	<p>because the 'index' columns are incomplete. For both habitats and species the SourceClassificationListAuthority is required info as this is part of the unique ID for those 2 features. A habitat can for example be repeated twice but related to two different Authorities. The MarineUnitID, ReportingFeature and the SourceClassificationListAuthority should be considered as index columns – this is required info in order to have the conversion tool run correctly.</p>
8.				

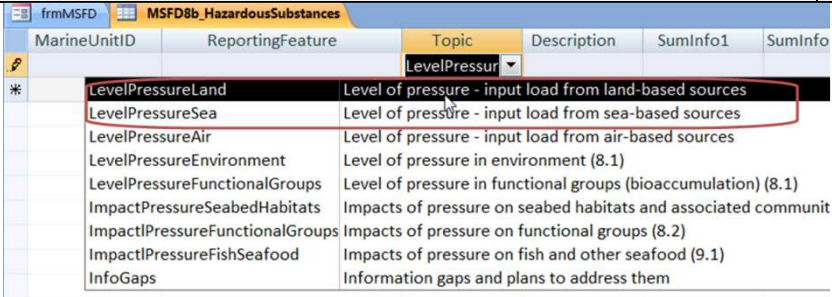
4. Schema questions

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
1.	UK	Metadata topics	How to map the metadata topics from the agreed reporting sheets to the streamlined spreadsheet	See below mapping
Term lists in MSFD database:				
Analysis-all		Analysis (all aspects)		
AnalysisCharactTrend		Analysis-of characteristics/trends (state, pressure or use)		
AnalysisPressureImpact		Analysis-of pressures & impacts on state		
AnalysisActivityfromPressure		Analysis-of activities from pressures		
AnalysisPressurefromActivity		Analysis-of pressures from activities		
ESAIndicator-all		Analysis-of socio-economic indicators (all)		
ESAIndicatorProduction		Analysis-of socio-economic indicators (production value)		
ESAIndicatorValue		Analysis-of socio-economic indicators (added value)		

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response	
ESAIIndicatorEmployment			Analysis-of socio-economic indicators (employment)		
ESAIIndicatorOther			Analysis-of socio-economic indicators (other)		
AnalysisCostDegradation			Analysis-cost of degradation		
Assessment			Assessment (of status)		
ESAWaterAccounts			Economic and social analysis - water accounts approach		
ESAEcosystemServices			Economic and social analysis - ecosystem services approach		
ESAThematic			Economic and social analysis - thematic approach		
ESAOther			Economic and social analysis - other approach		
DegradationCostBased			Cost of degradation - cost-based approach		
DegradationEcoServices			Cost of degradation - ecosystem services approach		
DegradationThematic			Cost of degradation - thematic approach		
Characteristics sheets 8A					
Characteristics analysis		Pressure analysis	Characteristics assessment		
AnalysisCharactTrend		AnalysisPressureImpact	Assessment		
Analysis-all					
Pressure sheets 8B					
Pressure analysis		Impact analysis	Activity analysis	Pressure assessment	Impact assessment
AnalysisCharactTrend		AnalysisPressureImpact	AnalysisActivityfromPressure	Assessment	Assessment
Analysis-all					
Uses/activities sheet 8C01					
Analysis of the use of marine waters					
ESAWaterAccounts			NB - Ecosystem Services, thematic, other approaches are reported under sheet 8C02		

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response																		
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Characteristics & Trend analysis</th> <th>Production value</th> <th>Added Value</th> <th>Employment</th> <th>Other socio-economic indicators</th> <th>Pressure ana</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>AnalysisCharactTrend</td> <td>ESAIndicatorProduction</td> <td>ESAIndicatorValue</td> <td>ESAIndicatorEmployment</td> <td>ESAIndicatorOther</td> <td>AnalysisPressty</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: center;">ESAIndicator-all</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Characteristics & Trend analysis	Production value	Added Value	Employment	Other socio-economic indicators	Pressure ana	AnalysisCharactTrend	ESAIndicatorProduction	ESAIndicatorValue	ESAIndicatorEmployment	ESAIndicatorOther	AnalysisPressty	ESAIndicator-all						
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2.	UK	MSFD8bPressures_2p0	<p>I am just inputting the hazardous substances reporting information and for some reason the following options are missing.</p> <p>LevelPressureWater; LevelPressureSediment; LevelPressureSeabedHabitats. Or do you associate</p>	<p>It is unfortunately not possible to add topics here.</p> <p>It is correct that LevelPressureEnvironment hold all 3 pressures</p>																		

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response																											
			<p>LevelPressureEnvironment with all 3 of them. If so how does the system distinguish between them apart from the descriptive text? Would it be possible to add LevelPressureEnvironmentWater;Sediment;SeabedHabitats?</p>	<p>The field SumInfo2 allows the matrix used (water, sediment, biota) to be defined (see below).</p> <p>This approach has simplified the table (one row rather than three) because it is understood that most MS only monitor in one particular matrix. The schema is not designed to report the LevelPressureEnvironment more than one time which means that the only way to fit more than one matrix here will be to add the extra information in the Description element (please notice that we have changed all description elements to hold up to 100.000 characters</p>																											
				<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>DBTable</th> <th>Feature</th> <th>Area</th> <th>Topic</th> <th>SumInfo1</th> <th>SumInfo1 unit</th> <th>SumInfo1 confidence</th> <th>SumInfo2</th> <th>Trend</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Select relevant feature</td> <td>Select relevant MarineUnitID</td> <td></td> <td>Select one from categories provided</td> <td></td> <td>Select one: High, moderate, low, not relevant</td> <td>Select one from categories provided</td> <td>Select Incre Stabl Decre Unkn asses</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ms</td> <td>Hazardous substances group</td> <td></td> <td>Level of pressure in environment (8.1)</td> <td>Proportion of assessment area which is subject to raised levels of this group of hazardous substances (select one): <1%; 1-5%; 5-25%; 25-50%; 50-75%; 75-100%; Unknown/not assessed.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Matrix used for assessment (select one): water, sediment, seabed biota</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	DBTable	Feature	Area	Topic	SumInfo1	SumInfo1 unit	SumInfo1 confidence	SumInfo2	Trend		Select relevant feature	Select relevant MarineUnitID		Select one from categories provided		Select one: High, moderate, low, not relevant	Select one from categories provided	Select Incre Stabl Decre Unkn asses	ms	Hazardous substances group		Level of pressure in environment (8.1)	Proportion of assessment area which is subject to raised levels of this group of hazardous substances (select one): <1%; 1-5%; 5-25%; 25-50%; 50-75%; 75-100%; Unknown/not assessed.			Matrix used for assessment (select one): water, sediment, seabed biota	
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3.	Atkins	MSFD8bPresures_2p0	The two topics in table MSFD8b_HazardousSubstances: LevelPressureLand and LevelPressureSea is not required to report	See issue																											

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
				

5. New secondary validation checks

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
1.	NA	Assessment (Features/Pressures)	The StatusTrend, Criteria and/or Indicator under the assessment is only required if the Status is set to 'Good' or 'NotGood' or 'OtherStatus' or 'Description'. These 3 elements is therefore changed to optional information. However a secondary validation check is added to check that StatusTrend, Criteria and/or Indicator is reported if the status is set to Good' or 'NotGood' or 'OtherStatus' or 'Description'.	See issue and below added queries.

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
			<u>Features/* /* /Status/AssessmentStatus</u>	1 StatusTrend must be reported when Status is set to 'Good' or 'Not good' or 'Other status class' or 'Descriptive status provided'
			<u>Criteria/Indicator</u>	1 Criteria or Indicator must be reported when Status is set to 'Good' or 'Not good' or 'Other status class' or 'Descriptive status provided'
			<u>Pressures/* /* /Status/AssessmentStatus</u>	1 StatusTrend must be reported when Status is set to 'Good' or 'Not good' or 'Other status class' or 'Descriptive status provided'
			<u>Criteria/Indicator</u>	1 Criteria or Indicator must be reported when Status is set to 'Good' or 'Not good' or 'Other status class' or 'Descriptive status provided'
2.	NA	EnvironmentalTarget	Type, TimeScale and InterimGESTarget is only required if an EnvironmentalTarget is reported. The 3 elements are therefore made optional and a secondary check is therefore added to check if the 3 elements are reported if an EnvironmentalTarget is reported	See issue and below added queries.
			<u>Type</u>	1 If an environmental target is reported then the 'Type' is required
			<u>TimeScale</u>	1 If an environmental target is reported then the 'TimeScale' is required
			<u>InterimGESTarget</u>	1 If an environmental target is reported then the 'InterimGESTarget' is required
3.				

6. Guidance documents

No.	Reporter	Area	Issue	Response
4.				