

Proposals for NORMAN Joint Programme of Activities 2025

Title	WG-8 Monitoring, trends and effects of substances in the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Commission)
Type of activity	Assessment activities on hazardous substances
Leader	OSPAR Commission: (MIME working group)
Topic / activities	<p>Background / Justification for the proposed activity:</p> <p>Recent years has seen strong collaboration between OSPAR and the NORMAN Association, OSPAR's Hazardous Substances and Eutrophication Committee (HASEC) agreed to collaborate with the NORMAN association intersessionally, to prevent pollution by hazardous substances, by eliminating their emissions, discharges and losses, to achieve levels that do not give rise to adverse effects on human health or the marine environment with the ultimate aim of achieving and maintaining concentrations in the marine environment at near background values for naturally occurring hazardous substances and close to zero for human made hazardous substances.</p> <p>Description of the proposed activity and expected outcomes for 2025:</p> <p>OSPAR's Working Group on Monitoring and on Trends and Effects of Substances in the Marine Environment (MIME) will ensure an effective collaboration with NORMAN Association linked with the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Close out of the CONnECT 1 and 2 project initiatives on wide-scope target and suspect screening and prioritisation Ecotoxicology and marine <i>thresholds</i> Passive sampling List of chemicals for priority action and its annex Chemicals in top predators and in polar regions Ongoing development of the proposed tiered approach (WG8 Task 2) Participation in the marine specific prioritisation group <p>Added value / Link with other NORMAN activities and / or other projects</p> <p>The institutional collaboration in between OSPAR and the NORMAN Association supports the implementation of OSPAR's North-East Atlantic Environmental Strategy (NEAES) 2030, specifically strategic objectives on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> developing a revised approach to managing the OSPAR Lists of Chemicals for Priority Action and Substances of Possible Concern (LCPA and LSPC). OSPAR will identify contaminants of emerging concern for the marine environment and prioritise them for action, including promoting and where necessary supplementing measures under relevant EU legislation and international organisations. further developing and identifying marine-relevant assessment criteria for hazardous substances, including for emerging contaminants, working closely with relevant experts, particularly in the Working Group Chemicals under the Water Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy. MIME 2024 supported the ongoing collaboration with the specific NORMAN Marine Environment Working Group (WG8) and noted the valued contribution of collaboration particularly via CONnECT 1 and 2 projects and associated assessment products. Through 2024 OSPAR (MIME) continued to foster collaborative linkages with both HELCOM and NORMAN and MIME

	2024 further ratified continued exploration of these collaborative efforts
Participants	<p>Brendan McHugh (Ireland and co-convenor NORMAN WG8), Irene van der Stap (The Netherlands), OSPAR Secretariat.</p> <p>Other MIME experts participating in the implementation holistic approach (ICG-List) for the List of Chemicals for Priority Action (LCPA) and its annex (LSPC) and involved in CONnECT and future screening initiatives and in collaboration with the NORMAN Association.</p> <p>Linkages to NORMAN Prof Fiona Regan (Convenor WG8 Marine Environment), Valeria Dulio, Jaroslav Slobodnik, Nikiforos Alygizakis. Additionally, recognising the required interlinkages to ongoing NORMAN strategy development and the role of other relevant NORMAN WG leads and members.</p> <p>The development (Qtr 4 2024) of a specific marine specific prioritisation group provides both a framework for convention areas to collaborate, plan and communicate with WG1 to seek to resolve the best prioritisation framework for the marine environment.</p> <p>Further to this the many exciting new developments in 2024 are noted by MIME (e.g. modelling, projects to address marine and mammal thresholds and initiatives such as early warning systems), these being aligned with the aims of OSPAR MIME.</p>
Proposed contribution in-kind	The work to be carried out builds on the work programme of the OSPAR Working Group on Monitoring and on Trends and Effects of Substances in the Marine Environment (WG MIME) and on the priorities of the work of the OSPAR Committee on Hazardous Substances and Eutrophication in line with the implementation of the North-East Atlantic Environmental Strategy 2030 and the Zero Pollution Ambition in the region.
Contribution needed from NORMAN Association¹	<p>Collaboration of the NORMAN network in the prioritisation of LCPA and LSPC, the development of a marine specific pollutants listing and in support of future assessment outputs also supporting the interaction with the EU working groups on WFD, MSFD and the Stockholm Convention.</p> <p>NORMAN datasets and toolkits to further develop robustness to the assessment.</p>

¹ Please, provide here a transparent justification of the requested resources and of the in-kind contribution, thereby distinguishing between the costs associated with “person-months” for the organisation, the “travelling costs” for invited speakers and the costs for the logistics (e.g. meals, room rental etc.)