

OVERVIEW PARTNERS

1. Background

During the 14th Meeting of the Bureau, the Secretariat presented the additional programmes of collaboration received since its last Meeting. However, considering the low feedback received, the Bureau invited the Secretariat to request partners who had not provided their programmes of collaboration to do so before mid-March 2022 and to prepare a list of ACCOBAMS Partners reflecting their reporting contributions to ACCOBAMS in order to be presented to the next Extended Bureau Meeting in April 2022.

Since the First Meeting of the Parties, back in 2002, when the status of ACCOBAMS Partner was first created, entities which became ACCOBAMS Partners have been involved in several capacity building activities, research activities and public awareness activities. Some of these ACCOBAMS Partners are extremely involved in ACCOBAMS workshops and meetings.

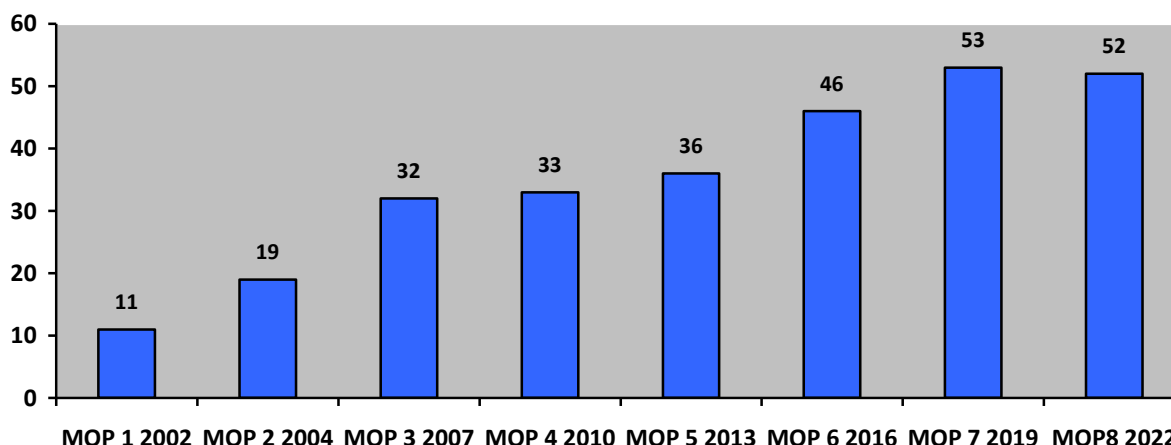
This document presents an overview both on the fulfilment of documentary requirements by ACCOBAMS Partners, as on their collaboration efforts and activities aligned with ACCOBAMS objectives or Programme of Work.

2. Framework

Since the first Meeting of the Parties, back in 2002, the number of ACCOBAMS Partners has gradually increased from the initial 11 to the current 52 ACCOBAMS Partners.

However, as reflected in Table 1 below, while in 2019 the number of Partners amounted to 53, early 2022 this number was of 51 Partners. Such discrepancy is explained by the merging of 3 ACCOBAMS Partners - the "Groupement d'Interet Scientifique pour les Mammiferes Marins et leur Environnement", the "Groupe d'étude des cétacés de Méditerranée" and "Souffleurs d'écumes" - which formed a new entity designated MIRACETI.

Furthermore, a 52nd Partner was accepted - the Monaco Yacht Club - during last Extended Bureau Meeting (April 2022).

Table 1. Number of ACCOBAMS Partners since MOP1

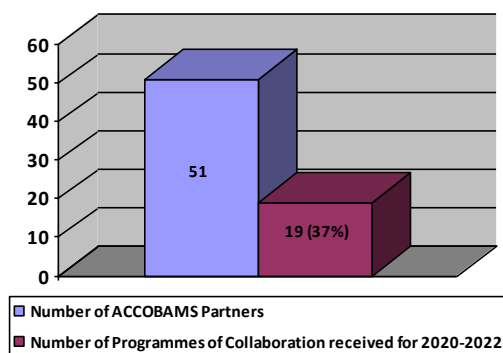
a) Documentary Requirements of ACCOBAMS Partners

- **Collaboration Programmes**

The request for a collaboration programme with the Secretariat was introduced through Resolution 3.5 in 2007 during MOP3: *“Partners shall present at the beginning of their mandate a programme of collaboration with the Secretariat during the triennium. The programme shall be relevant to their contribution to the Agreement in terms of activities carried out in the frame of the Partnership, related to the conservation plan and/or support to the Secretariat.”*

According to the Rules and Commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners (*Annex2 of Resolution 7.9, MOP7, November 2019*), ACCOBAMS Partners are required to *“present, at the latest two months after each Meeting of the Parties, a programme of collaboration with the Permanent Secretariat during the triennium. The programme shall include all activities carried out in the frame of the partnership and related to the conservation plan and the support to the Permanent Secretariat.”*

Following Resolution 7.9, adopted in 2019, the Secretariat requested ACCOBAMS Partners to complete their collaboration programmes for the 13th Meeting of the Bureau, in 2020. Out of 51 ACCOBAMS Partners, 19 collaboration programmes (37%) were received.

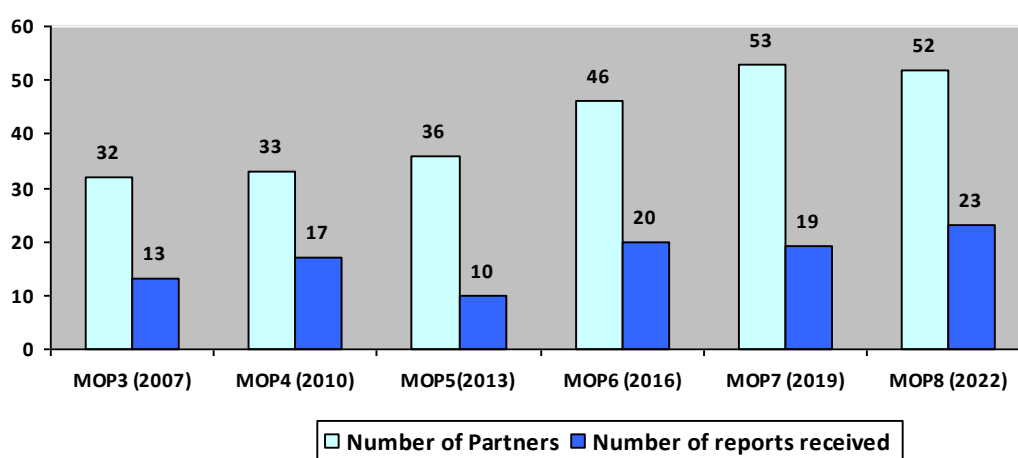


- **Partners Reports prior to the Meeting of the Parties**

In 2007, at MOP3, ACCOBAMS Parties adopted Resolution 3.5 including Rules and criteria for the status of ACCOBAMS Partners, the obligation to report on the implementation of their collaborative programmes with ACCOBAMS and on the use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo before each Meeting of the Parties.

As agreed by MOP7, and according to the Rules and Commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners (Annex 2 of Resolution 7.9), since 2019, before each Meeting of the Parties ACCOBAMS Partners are also required to *“report on the implementation of their activities and on the use of the ACCOBAMS Partner logo. To this end, their reports shall reach the Permanent Secretariat and the relevant National Focal Point at the latest two months before the Bureau meeting held to prepare the Meeting of the Parties.”*

Table 2. Ratio of ACCOBAMS Partners Reports received before each MOP



b) Other collaboration means and involvement of ACCOBAMS Partners

ACCOBAMS Partners also get involved, on a voluntary basis, in several ACCOBAMS activities/events throughout the triennium. Such activities/events may include their implication in the ACCOBAMS Call for Proposals of Projects, ACCOBAMS Follow up Committee, ACCOBAMS Working Groups and Workshop, ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative / CeNoBS Project, ACCOBAMS High Quality Whale-Watching® Certificate, the certification for ACCOBAMS Highly Qualified MMO/PAM Operators, FINS - ACCOBAMS Newsletter and the ACCOBAMS Cetacean Day.

These means of collaboration are reflected in [Annex 1](#).

However, there are 8 ACCOBAMS Partners who have neither provided any documentary requirements nor got involved through other collaboration means, as shown in [Annex 2](#).

After considering this question, and while recalling that the status of ACCOBAMS Partner may be withdrawn by the ACCOBAMS Bureau based on information provided by the Secretariat, the Extended Bureau requested the Secretariat to address an official letter to the 8 concerned ACCOBAMS Partners in order to remind them of the applicable rules and commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners, and to warn them about the likely withdrawal of their current status of ACCOBAMS Partner.

No response was obtained so far from any of the 8 Partners.

3. Assessment of the degree of implication of ACCOBAMS Partners

The present overview offers a snapshot of the implication degree of ACCOBAMS Partners and may facilitate consideration of if and when the procedure for a decision on the withdrawal of the status of ACCOBAMS Partner should be approached.

According to the Rules and Commitments of ACCOBAMS Partners (Annex2 of Resolution 7.9, MOP7, November 2019), the withdrawal procedure reads as follows:

“The ACCOBAMS Bureau may decide to withdraw the status of ACCOBAMS Partner if no activities are reported, if they are considered not to be relevant and if they are contrary to the achievement of ACCOBAMS objectives or to the present Rules and Commitments.”

In April 2022, the Extended Bureau suggested that the Secretariat develops a strategy on the ACCOBAMS Partnership status within the 2023-2025 ACCOBAMS Work Programme. The Secretariat has thus included this action in the Draft Programme of Work for the 2023-2025 period (ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2002/DraftRes.8.2).

Annex 1

Collaboration means and involvement of ACCOBAMS Partners

ACCOBAMS Partner	Became Partner in	MOP	Colla. Prog. 2020-2022	MoU with ACCOBAMS	Call for Proposals	ACCOBAMS Follow up Committee	ACCOBAMS Working Groups / Workshops / Projects	ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative	CeNoBS Project	ACCOBAMS HQWW® Certificate	Certification for Highly Qualified MMO/PAM Operators	FINS - ACCOBAMS Newsletter	ACCOBAMS Cetacean Day	Organization of Conferences
AGIR	2014						x						x	
ALNILAM	2011	1						x				x		
ALNITAK	2007	2		1			x							
American Society of International Law - Wildlife Interest Group	2002													
ARCHIPELAGOS INSTITUTE OF MARINE CONSERVATION	2012	2					x	x				x		
ASSOCIATION ECOLOGIQUE MARINE BARBAROUS	2017													
ASSOCIATION MONEGASQUE POUR LA PROTECTION DE LA NATURE (AMPN)	2014						x			x				
ASSOCIATION PROTECTION DES CETACES ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT MARIN	2017													
ATUTAX	2013	1		1	x									
BIOLOGICAL CONSERVATION RESEARCH FOUNDATION	2007	3		1			x					x	x	

(BICREF)														
BLUE WORLD INSTITUTE OF MARINE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION	2004	1	x	1	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	
BREMA Laboratory (no new since annexation of Crimea by Russia in 2012)	2002	2												
CAPO CARONARA - MPA	2018						x						x	
CENTRE NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE ET DE DEVELOPPEMENT DE LA PECHE ET DE L'AQUACULTURE (CNRDPA)	2017			2	x		x	x				x		x
CIMA Research Foundation	2014		x	1	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	
Conservación, Información e Investigación en Cetáceos (CIRCE) does not want to be partner anymore since 2018	2004	1	N/A		x									
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP UNIVERSITY OF MALTA	2007	3					x					x		x
CRAM Fundación	2012			1										
CYBELLE Planète	2018													
DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE DELLA TERRA DELL'AMBIENTE E	2007													

DELLA VITA (DISTAV)														
écoOcéan INSTITUT	2009	4	x	4			x	x	x		x	x	x	
Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes of Montpellier (EPHE)	2004													
EDMAKTUB	2016						x							
EQUINAC	2015	1												
EUROPEAN CETACEAN SOCIETY (ECS)	2002		x	2			x					x		x
GREEN BALKANS	2013	3	x	2	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	
GROUPEMENT D'INTERET SCIENTIFIQUE POUR LES MAMMIFERES MARINS ET LEUR ENVIRONNEMENT (GIS3M) became MIRACETI	2013	2	N/A											
GROUPE DE RECHERCHE SUR LES CETACES (GREC)	2007	3	x				x					x		
GROUPE D'ETUDE DES CETACES DE MEDITERRANEE (GECM) became MIRACETI	2015	1	N/A	1										
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OIL AND GAS PRODUCERS (IOGP)	2020		x			x	x	x						
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE (IFAW)	2004	1					x	x				x		
INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE (IUCN)	2004	3		1			x	x				x		x

Istituto Centrale per la Ricerca Applicata al Mare (ICRAM) is now under the Italian Ministry for the Environment	2002													
ISRAEL MARINE MAMMAL RESEARCH & ASSISTANT CENTER (IMMRAC)	2004	5	x			x	x	x				x		x
KYMA Sea Conservation & Research	2020		x				x							
MARE NOSTRUM	2013	2	x	2	x		x	x	x			x	x	
MARECAMP ONLUS ASSOCIATION	2019	1	x	2			x							
MARINE MAMMALS RESEARCH INSTITUTE (DMAD)	2017	1	x	1	x		x	x			x	x		
MENKAB, IL RESPIRO DEL MARE	2019	1	x				x				x	x	x	
MIRACETI fusion GIS3M, GECEM et Souffleurs d'Ecume	2020		x	1			x	x	x			x	x	
MORIGENOS - SLOVENIAN MARINE MAMMAL SOCIETY	2007	3	x			x	x	x				x		
MUSEU DA BALEIA DA MADEIRA	2022						x							
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MARINE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT « GRIGORE ANTIPA »	2002	1			x				x			x		
NATURE TRUST MALTA	2007	1										x		

OCEAN CARE	2003	5	x				x					x		
OCEANA FOUNDATION	2007	2												
OCEANOGRAPHIC MUSEUM OF MONACO	2002							x					x	x
OCEANOMARE DELPHIS ONLUS (ODO)	2015	2	x				x				x	x		
ORCA	2012	1					x							
PELAGOS CETACEAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE	2002	1					x	x				x		
PORTUGUESE WILDLIFE SOCIETY (SPVS)	2015	1					x							
SAVE THE MED FOUNDATION	2020		x											
Spanish Cetacean Society (SEC)	2004													
Souffleurs d'écume became MIRACETI	2007	3	N/A	2										
SYRIAN SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE (SSCW)	2007	3						x				x		
SWISS CETACEAN SOCIETY (SCS)	2002	2												
TETHYS RESEARCH INSTITUTE	2002	4	x	1			x	x	x			x		
TURKISH MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION (TUDAV)	2009	1	x	2			x	x	x			x		
UNIVERSITY OF VALENCIA	2002						x					x		
WHALE AND DOLPHIN CONSERVATION (WDC) (previously WDCCS)	2002	2					x					x		

WHALECRAFT	2007													
WWF Mediterranean Programme Office	2007						x					x		
Yacht Club of Monaco	2022													

Annex 2

ACCOBAMS Partners with no record of documentary requirements and other collaboration means

American Society of International Law - Wildlife Interest Group

No mention of ACCOBAMS on their website

ASSOCIATION ECOLOGIQUE MARINE BARBAROUS

No mention of ACCOBAMS on their website

ASSOCIATION PROTECTION DES CETACES ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT MARIN

Facebook page available only. Mention of ACCOBAMS when the partnership was granted in 2018.

CYBELLE Planète

No mention of ACCOBAMS on their website

DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE DELLA TERRA DELL'AMBIENTE E DELLA VITA (DISTAV)

No mention of ACCOBAMS on their website

Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes of Montpellier (EPHE)

No mention of ACCOBAMS on their website

Spanish Cetacean Society (SEC)

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WHALECRAFT

Whalecraft was/is a business which made the whale tails as key chains.