

REPORT OF THE ACCOBAMS WORKSHOP ON DATA COLLECTION ON CETACEAN POPULATION GENETICS



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Coordinators: Pauline Gauffier and Anna Schleimer

Taking into account the ACCOBAMS Resolution 3.9 “Guidelines for the establishment of a system of tissue banks within the ACCOBAMS area and ethical code”, the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS has recognised the need for Institutions dedicated to the preservation of body parts from marine mammals of the Mediterranean and Black Seas. Such Institutions should a) promote non-invasive or post-mortal collection of samples from cetaceans living in the Mediterranean and Black Seas and adjacent waters; b) prepare such samples for long term storage; and c) distribute them to the community of marine mammal researchers.

The 2020-2022 Working Programme (Resolution 7.6) foresaw that the ACCOBAMS Secretariat and the Scientific Committee should improve data collection on cetacean population genetics in the ACCOBAMS Area, by:

- organising regional trainings on data collection and analysis (Capacity Building)
- establishing Guidelines / Best Practices

A better collaboration between Institutions was also encouraged in order to facilitate sample exchanges for joint analysis.

In line with this resolution, two expert workshops were organised on 2 September 2022 (online) and 20-21 September 2022 (in-person, Monaco).

The list of participants and the adopted agendas for the online and in-person workshops are presented in [Appendices 1](#) and [2](#) of this report, respectively.

1) Information gathered from National Focal Points

In preparation for the workshops, ACCOBAMS National Focal Points¹ (hereafter NFPs) were contacted to provide information from their country on a) scientific institutions collecting or storing cetacean tissue samples, b) available genetic laboratories that can perform sample processing, and c) CITES procedures and existing CITES Registered Scientific Institutions.

A) List of scientific institutions and sample database

To gain a better understanding on the sampling effort within the Agreement area, a list was compiled of scientific institutions (e.g. universities, research centres, tissue banks, NGOs) that collect biological samples from free-ranging or stranded cetaceans suitable for the purpose of genetic analyses. A total of 54 scientific institutions were identified within the ACCOBAMS area (see [Appendix 3](#)).

These scientific institutions were subsequently contacted to gather information on (a) the location and period of sampling effort, (b) sample collection method (e.g. biopsy, stranding, or slough skin), (c) sample storage, (d) main research questions, (e) sample exchanges with other research groups, and (f) the species, type, and number of collected samples.

By 18 October 2022, a total of 39 questionnaires had been received, 36 from the ACCOBAMS area and 3 from the ACCOBAMS extension area (CEMMA Coordenadora para o Estudo dos Mamíferos Marinheiros, Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência and CIIMAR Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research) (Figure 1, Table 1).

¹ An up-to-date list of ACCOBAMS National Focal Points is available at <https://accobams.org/about/parties-and-range-states/>

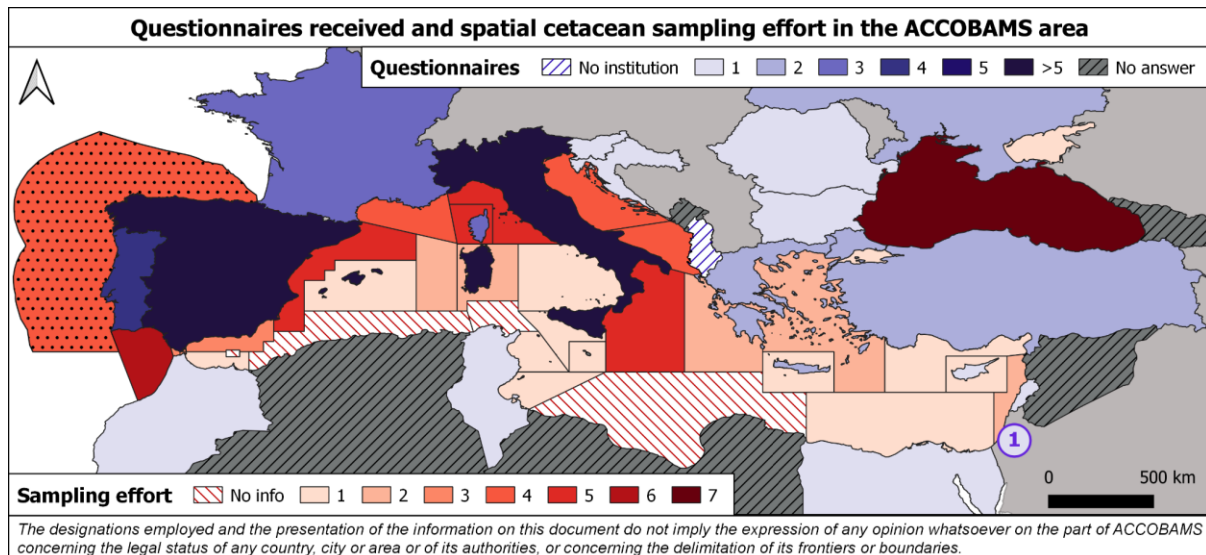


Figure 1. Map summarising the number of received questionnaires from scientific institutions and the distribution of sampling effort in the ACCOBAMS area [October 2022]. Sampling areas are based on GFCM Geographical sub-areas and do not represent national waters (<https://www.fao.org/gfcm/data/maps/gsas/en/>)

The questionnaires indicated that the majority of genetic samples were obtained from dead stranded cetaceans, with most free-ranging sampling effort focusing on bottlenose dolphins, fin whales, sperm whales and striped dolphins in the ACCOBAMS area (Figure 2). Samples in the Black Sea were collected exclusively from dead stranded cetaceans and bycaught animals.

Table 1. List with the scientific institutions that collect genetic data and participated in the survey.

Bulgaria	Green Balkans NGO	Romania	Mare Nostrum NGO
Croatia	Blue World Institute of Marine Research and Conservation	Slovenia	Morigenos-Slovenian Marine Mammal Society
	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine-University of Zagreb		Fundación Oceanogràfic
Cyprus	DFMR-Department of Fisheries & Marine Research	Spain	Dirección General de Medio Natural, Consejería Agua, Agricultura, Ganadería, Pesca, Medio Ambiente y Emergencias CARM
Egypt	Faculty of Science-Al-Azhar University in Cairo		Tursiops Association
France	Observatoire Pelagis		Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
	MIRACETI		University of Valencia
	WWF France		CEMMA-Coordinadora para o Estudos dos Mamíferos Mariños
Greece	Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute		EDMAKTUB Association
	Tethys Research Institute-Ionian Dolphin Project		Junta de Andalucía
Italy	University of Padova	Tunisia	ICM-CSIC
	University of Siena		INSTM-Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer
	Tethys Research Institute	Türkiye	Istanbul University-Faculty of Aquatic Sciences/TUDAV-Turkish Marine Research Foundation
	CIMA Research Foundation		Sinop University
	Marecamp	Ukraine	Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology-National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
Lebanon	National Centre for Marine Sciences, CNRS-L		Ukrainian Scientific Centre of Ecology of the Sea
Morocco	Institut National de Recherche Halieutique		
Portugal	IGC-Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência		
	CCMAR-University of Algarve		
	CIIMAR-Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research		
	Sociedade Portuguesa de Vida Selvagem	Israel	The Morris Kahn Marine Research Station-University of Haifa

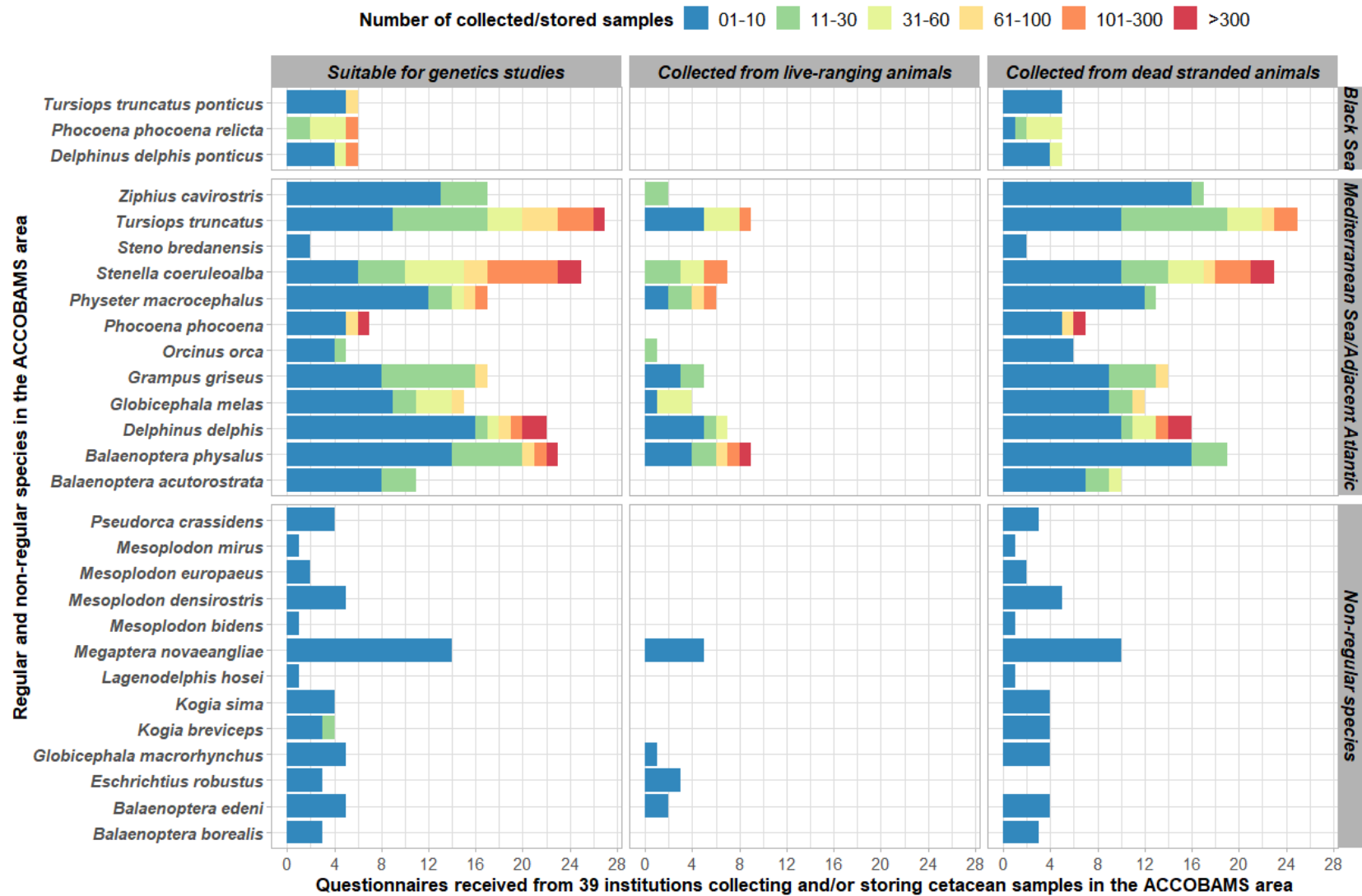


Figure 2. Summary of available genetic samples by species [October 2022]. Colours refer to the number of available samples. Bars show the number of scientific institutions that indicated having collected samples on a given species.

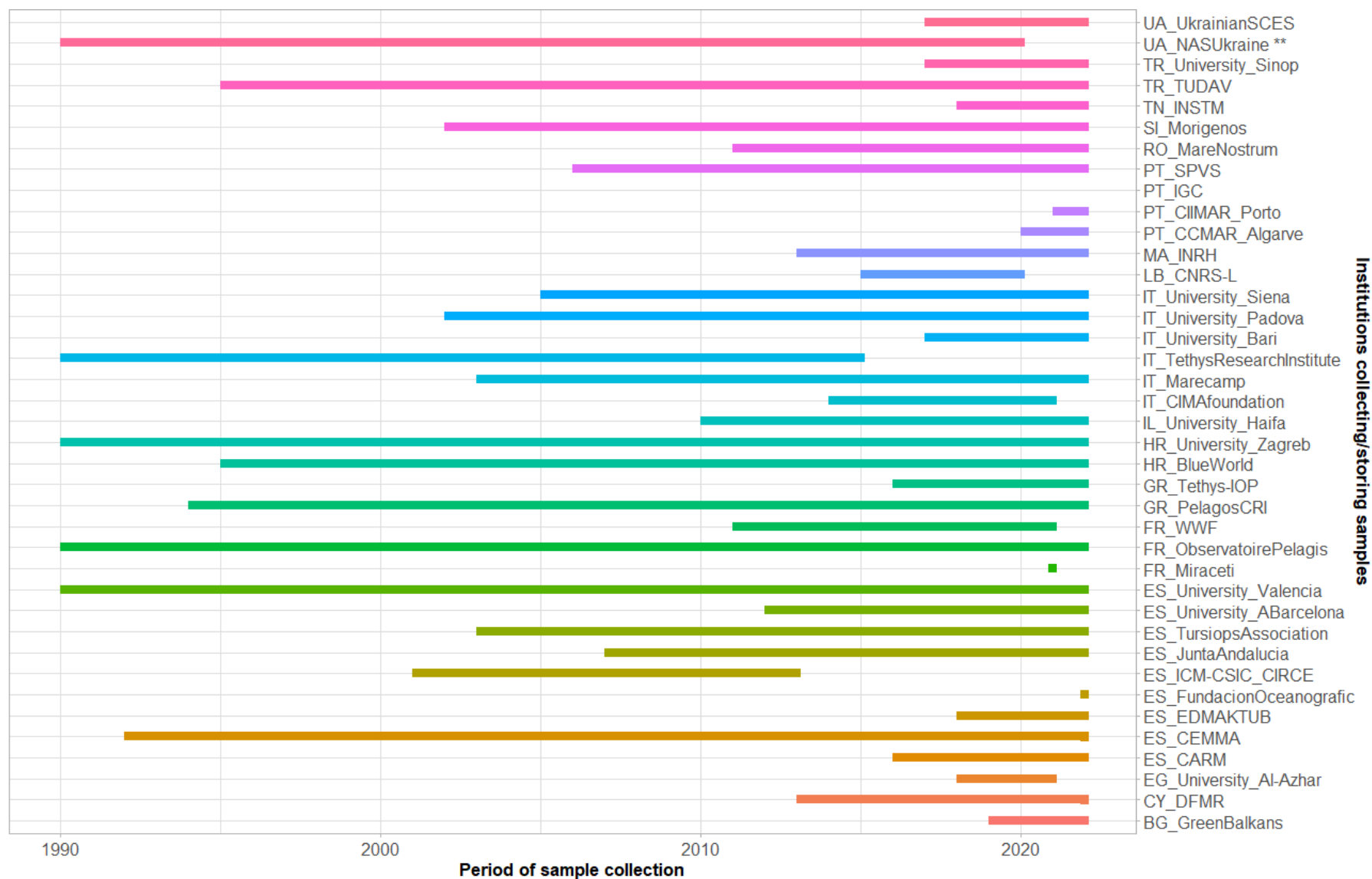


Figure 3. Period of sample collection covered by research institutions from 1990 to 2022 (** NASUkraine started collecting samples in the 1970s)

Sample collection started as early as the 1970s at the Ukrainian National Academy of Science, but most sampling programmes cover the 2000s or even 2010s onwards (Figure 3).

Research institutions collect cetacean samples for diverse research purposes, but most institutions are interested in population genetics/genomics analyses (Figure 4).

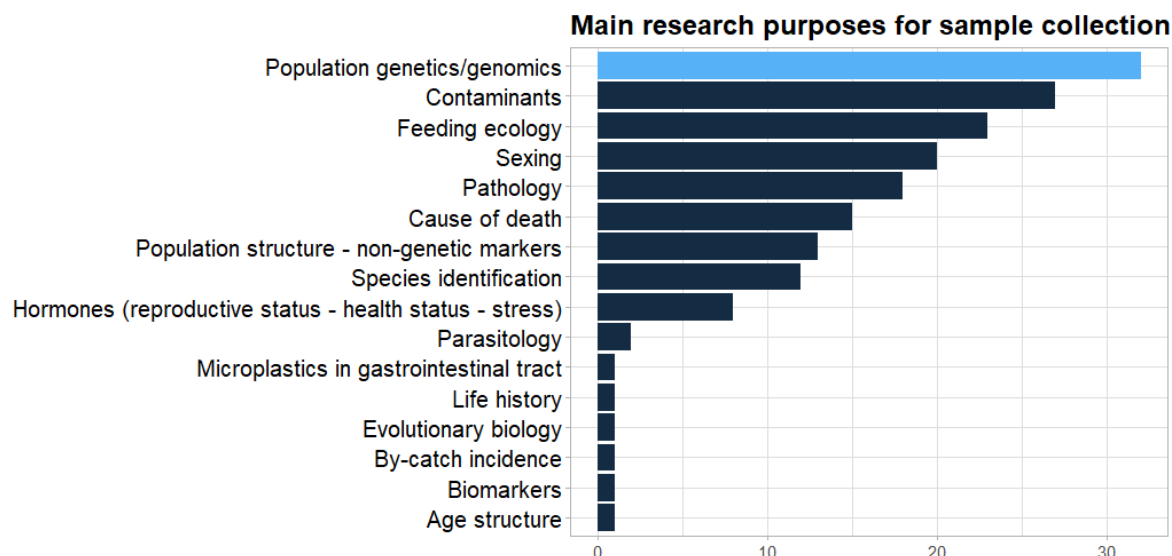


Figure 4. Summary of questionnaire replies on the main research purposes for the collection of tissue samples.

A majority of institutions collect samples from stranded animals, followed by remote biopsy and a number of alternative methods (Figure 5).

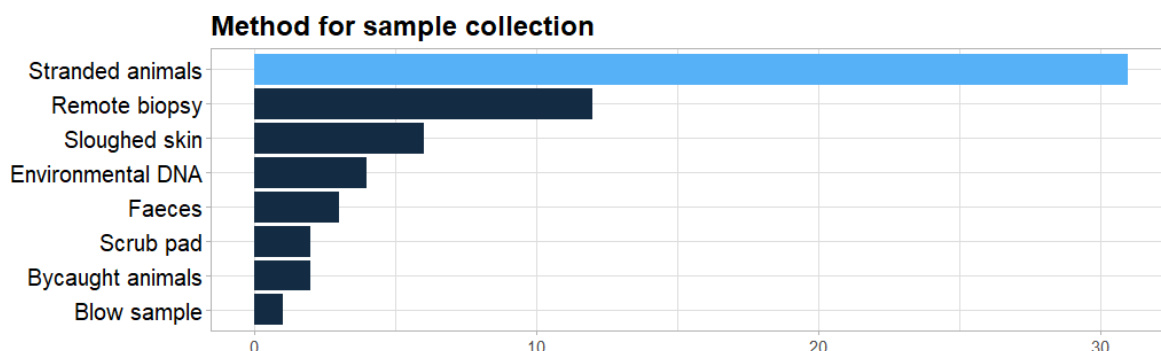


Figure 5. Summary of questionnaire replies on the use of different methods for sample collection

Samples are mainly stored at the collecting institution (72%), but some institutions store samples collected by others. Most institutions collected samples from regular species of the Mediterranean and Atlantic adjacent area (87%), 15% from regular species of the Black Sea and 44% from non-regular species in the ACCOBAMS area.

Overall, 72% of institutions had previously exchanged cetacean samples with another institution. In these cases, the other institutions mostly belonged to the same country (75%) or to another ACCOBAMS Party (71%) but some were from outside of ACCOBAMS (57%). The exchange happened mostly as Receiver and Sender (46%) or as Sender only (46%), but 7% acted as Receiver only.

Basic information about existing cetacean samples is available on the ACCOBAMS website to encourage collaboration <https://accobams.org/population-genetics/>

B) Database of genetic laboratories

A database with the genetic laboratories that can perform genetic analyses within the ACCOBAMS area has been created. Field researchers that require laboratory facilities to process or store biological samples can refer to this database to identify suitable national laboratories or to facilitate collaboration with international institutions. A total of 22 laboratories in 10 ACCOBAMS Parties were identified (Figure 6). A total of 11 Parties did not respond and these are encouraged to provide information via the Secretariat to allow the list to be updated. Three NFPs indicated that no suitable laboratories were identified in their country. The complete list of laboratories is provided in [Appendix 4](#) (and available on the ACCOBAMS website <https://accobams.org/population-genetics/>).

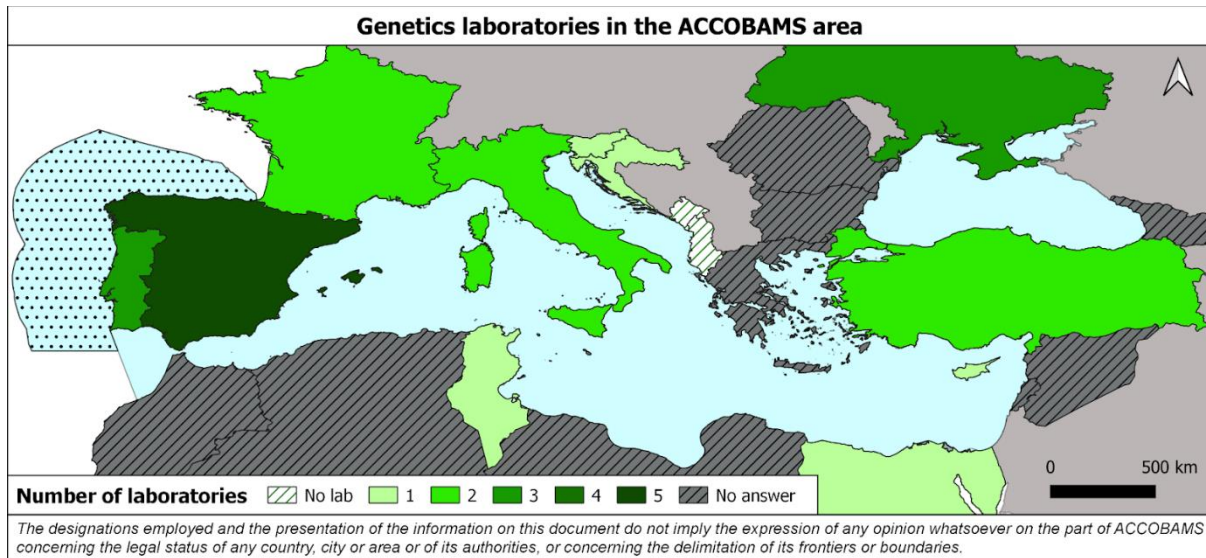


Figure 6. Map showing the number of suitable genetic laboratories that were identified in the ACCOBAMS area based on the information received from ACCOBAMS NFPs and workshop participants in September 2022 (other laboratories might be available in each Party)

C) CITES procedures

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) regulates the exchange of biological samples between member countries. National focal points were asked to provide information on the procedure for obtaining CITES permits in their own country for the exchange of cetacean samples for non-commercial research purposes, including tissues collected from free-ranging cetaceans (skin and blubber biopsies, blow, sloughed skin), body parts from stranded cetaceans (tissues and skeletons) or extracted DNA/RNA products.

Replies were received from five ACCOBAMS NFPs of Croatia, Georgia, Morocco, Portugal, and Türkiye on national CITES procedure to exchange cetacean samples within the ACCOBAMS area (Figure 7). Additionally, the CITES Management authorities of Slovenia and France provided information on their national procedures.

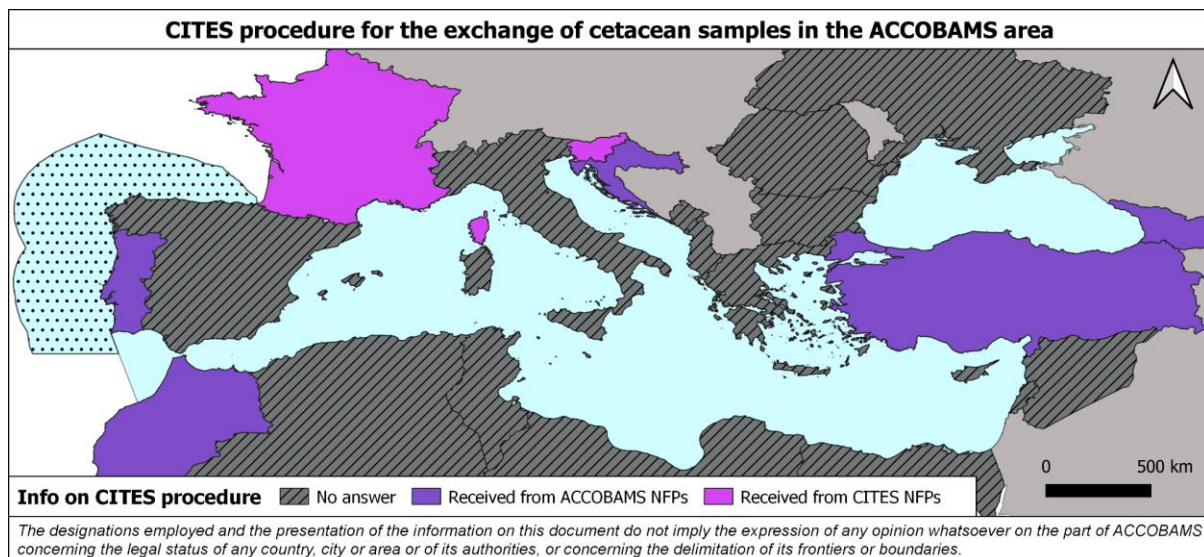


Figure 7. Map showing the ACCOBAMS Parties that provided information on CITES procedures.

In general, the exchange of cetacean samples for non-commercial research purposes between different countries requires import (CITES Appendix 1/EU Appendix A only) and export permits or a re-export certificate expedited by the importing and exporting country. The following exemptions might apply.

A simplified procedure can apply for non-commercial exchange of small tissue samples.

CITES Registered Scientific Institutions are entitled to the exemption provided by Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention which simplifies the procedures of sending and receiving samples (no permit, use specific CITES label on package and report to National authorities annually). However, several ACCOBAMS Parties do not contemplate this exemption in their national legislation (ex: *Portugal*) or do not have any scientific institutions registered under CITES (ex: *Georgia, Türkiye*).

For exchanges occurring between members of the European Union (EU), CITES import and export permits are not required by EU legislation. However, some EU countries (ex: *Portugal*) have stricter national legislation, and might require an EU certificate (ex: *Portugal*) and proof that samples were obtained legally.

The information received from NFPs and CITES management authorities is summarised in [Appendix 5](#).

Complementary information is available in the Section regarding CITES Procedure of the ACCOBAMS Best Practices on Cetacean Population Genetics (ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Inf54²).

Due to disparity between national legislations, researchers should contact the CITES Management Authority³ of the exporting and importing country to ensure that they follow the appropriate procedure.

ACCOBAMS Parties should facilitate the exchange by engaging CITES with IWC for a clear and well defined procedure for population genetics and diagnostic purposes.

² Available at <https://accobams.org/mop8-information-documents-documents-dinformation/>

³ <https://cites.org/eng/parties/country-profiles/es/national-authorities>

D) Nagoya protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)

The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization was adopted by the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity at its tenth meeting in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010. It entered into force on 12 October 2014 and had 131 Parties as of July 2021.

Access and benefit-sharing (ABS) refers to the way in which genetic resources may be accessed, and how the benefits that result from their use are shared between the people or countries using the resources (users) and the people or countries that provide them (providers).

Parties that have ratified the Nagoya protocol on ABS might require ABS procedure to be fulfilled by researchers wishing to exchange cetacean samples. The Nagoya Protocol might apply between EU members.

Complementary information is available in the Section regarding Nagoya Protocol of the ACCOBAMS Best Practices on Cetacean Population Genetics (ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Inf54⁴).

Due to disparity between national legislations, researchers should contact the ABS National Focal Point of the providing country to understand which processes are required in order to gain access to genetic resources.

2) Information compiled by experts

A) Literature Review on cetacean population genetics in the ACCOBAMS Area

The experts participating in the workshops were asked to review current knowledge on cetacean genetics and genomics in the ACCOBAMS area and to identify priority research areas. A list of scientific publications relating to cetacean species frequenting the ACCOBAMS area was compiled. The information was summarised for all fifteen species, including the three subspecies endemic to the Black Sea and added as Appendix 1 to the ACCOBAMS Best Practices on Cetacean Population Genetics (ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Inf54).

B) ACCOBAMS Best Practices on Cetacean Population Genetics

The online workshop held on 2 September 2022 was used to present information received thus far from the National Focal Points and to plan the in-person meeting. The structure of the ACCOBAMS Best Practices on Cetacean Population Genetics was agreed on by the experts and workshop coordinators. Experts convened during the 2-day in-person workshop in Monaco on 20 and 21 September 2022 to draft the ACCOBAMS Best Practices on Cetacean Population Genetics that was then finished remotely by email, presented at MOP8 (ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Inf54).

3) Recommendations

Here we list the specific recommendations proposed by the workshop and approved by the Scientific Committee.

1 - a) The Workshop **recommends** that Parties collect and provide in their National reports updated information regarding:

- tissue sample collection
- exchanges of samples

⁴ Available at <https://accobams.org/mop8-information-documents-documents-dinformation/>

- research results (including publications)
- genetic labs

1 - b) The Workshop **recommends** that the Scientific Committee reports on this issue to each ACCOBAMS MOP

2 - a) The Workshop **recommends** that ACCOBAMS National Focal Points contact the National CITES Focal Points and ABS Nagoya Focal Points and a Scientific Committee nominee regarding the clarification and facilitating procedures for the exchange of scientific samples within both CITES and the Nagoya Protocol so that appropriate guidance can be developed for scientists and others in the ACCOBAMS region.

2 - b) The Workshop **recommends** that ACCOBAMS National Focal Points to provide the Secretariat with the relevant national legislation and standard procedures for the exchange of samples (Nagoya protocol, CITES permits)

3 - The Workshop **recommends** that the Scientific Committee and the Secretariat review the process described in Resolution 4.18 on guidelines on the granting of exceptions to Article II, paragraph 1, for the purpose of non-lethal *in situ* research in the Agreement Area, especially regarding advice to be **obtained** from the Scientific Committee **before** the Party concerned decides whether to issue a research permit

4 - The Workshop **recommends** that the Scientific Committee provides as a matter of urgency, advice on a recommended procedure for individual identification and origin of captive individuals using forensic genetics (especially in for Black Sea bottlenose dolphin)

5 - The Workshop **requests** that Parties, the Scientific Committee and the Secretariat encourage research effort on the gaps and priorities identified during the workshop, taking into account Appendix 1 of ACCOBAMS Best Practices on Cetacean Population Genetics (ACCOBAMS-MOP8/2022/Inf54) and the relevant actions in the draft CMPs

6 - The Workshop **recommends** that Parties, Scientific Committee and Partners to adopt the report of the ACCOBAMS workshop to improve data collection on cetacean population genetic (20-21 September 2022, Monaco) including the guidelines

7 - The Workshop **requests** that the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Scientific Committee, organises an (online) event to promote the dissemination of information on the databases and guidelines to interested stakeholders (Partners, researchers, etc.)

Appendix 1 Agenda and List of participants from the online workshop**ACCOBAMS WORKSHOP - Data collection on cetacean population genetics**

Friday 2 September 2022, Online

AGENDA

Friday 2 September 2022	
9h30-10h30 Welcome and introduction to the workshop	
Welcome to all participants	ACCOBAMS Secretariat
Adoption of the agenda	Pauline GAUFFIER
List of sample owners in ACCOBAMS area	Pauline GAUFFIER
List of genetic labs in ACCOBAMS area	Anna SCHLEIMER
Exchange of samples	Pauline GAUFFIER
List of publications on cetacean genetics in ACCOBAMS area	Anna SCHLEIMER
Short presentation of IWC genetic guidelines	Anna SCHLEIMER
10h30- 10h45: Break	
10h45-12h30	
Drafting ACCOBAMS guidelines structure	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + experts online
Planning of inter-sessional work for experts	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER and the ACCOBAMS Secretariat

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Pauline Gauffier	Co-leader of the workshop	pauline.gauffier@gmail.com
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Maylis Salivas	ACCOBAMS Secretariat	msalivas@accobams.net
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Olfa Chaieb	Expert	offachaieb@yahoo.fr
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Appendix 2 Agenda and List of participants from the in-person workshop**ACCOBAMS WORKSHOP - Data collection on cetacean population genetics**

20 and 21 September 2022, Monaco

Tuesday 20 September 2022	
9h00-10h30	
Welcome to all participants	Susana SALVADOR
Adoption of the agenda	Pauline GAUFFIER
Importance of population genetics to CMP	Greg DONOVAN
Cetacean sample database in ACCOBAMS area	Pauline GAUFFIER
List of genetic laboratories in ACCOBAMS area	Anna SCHLEIMER
10h30-11h00: Break	
11h00-12h30	
Review of genetic publications for each species + identification of research gaps/priorities	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + experts
12h30-14h00: Lunch break	
14h00-15h30	
Procedures for exchange of samples (CITES, MOU, others)	Pauline GAUFFIER
Relevant ACCOBAMS resolutions	Maylis SALIVAS
15h30-16h00: Break	
16h00-17h30	
Drafting ACCOBAMS genetics guidelines (start)	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + experts + Secretariat
Wednesday 21 September 2022	
09h00-10h30	
Drafting ACCOBAMS genetics guidelines (continue)	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + experts + Secretariat
10h30-11h00: Break	
11h00-12h30	
Drafting ACCOBAMS genetics guidelines (continue)	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + experts + Secretariat
12h30-14h00: Lunch break	
14h00-15h30	
Drafting ACCOBAMS genetics guidelines (continue)	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + experts + Secretariat
Drafting recommendations for the report	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + experts + Secretariat
15h30-16h00: Break	
16h00-17h00	
Summarise workshop + Planning of post-workshop tasks for experts	Pauline GAUFFIER, Anna SCHLEIMER + Secretariat

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Pauline Gauffier	Co-leader of the workshop	pauline.gauffier@gmail.com
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Tilen Genov	Expert	tilen.genov@gmail.com
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Nik Lupše	Expert	nik.lupse@yahoo.com
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Cristina Panti	Expert	panti4@unisi.it
Céline Tardy	Expert	ctardy@miraceti.org
Arda Tonay	Expert	ardatonay@yahoo.com
Karina Vishnyakova (online)	Expert	karinavishnyakova@gmail.com

Appendix 3 List of institutions collecting or storing samples

Note: this list was based on the information received from ACCOBAMS NFPs and workshop participants until October 2022

PARTIES	REGION	INSTITUTION	CONTACT PERSON	CITY	EMAIL
BULGARIA BULGARIE		Green Balkans NGO	Dimitar Popov	Pomorie	dpopov@greenbalkans.org
CROATIA CROATIE		Faculty of Veterinary Medicine University of Zagreb	Tomislav Gomerčić Martina Đuras	Zagreb	tomislav.gomercic@vef.hr martina.duras@vef.unizg.hr
CROATIA CROATIE		Blue World Institute of Marine Research and Conservation	Drasko Holcer	Veli Losinj	Drasko.Holcer@hpm.hr
CYPRUS CHYPRE		Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment	Lavrentios Vasiliades	Nicosia	lvasiliades@dfmr.moa.gov.cy
EGYPT ÉGYPTE		Faculty of Science, Al-Azhar University in Cairo	Professor Sayed Bakry	Cairo	sayed.bakry@yahoo.com
EGYPT ÉGYPTE		National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries	Professor Amr Z. Hamouda, President	Alexandria	amreu@yahoo.com
FRANCE	Mediterranean	MIRACETI	Frank DHERMAIN	Marseille	frank.dhermain@wanadoo.fr hlabach@miraceti.org
FRANCE	Mediterranean	WWF	Denis ODY	Marseille	dody@wwf.fr
FRANCE	English channel, Atlantic and Mediterranean regions	Observatoire PELAGIS	Paula Méndez Fernández, Research engineer	La Rochelle	paula.mendez_fernandez@univ-lr.fr
GREECE GRÈCE		Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute	Alexandros FRANTZIS, President-Scientific coordinator		afrantzis@otenet.gr

PARTIES	REGION	INSTITUTION	CONTACT PERSON	CITY	EMAIL
GREECE GRÈCE		Tethys Research Institute - Ionian Dolphin Project	Joan Gonzalvo, Project Director		joan.gonzalvo@gmail.com
ITALY ITALIE		Tethys Research Institute	Simone Panigada, President (fin whales) Sabina Airoidi, project director (other species)	Milan	panigada69@gmail.com sabina.airoidi@iol.it
ITALY ITALIE		The Mediterranean marine mammals tissue bank	Bruno Cozzi Sandro Mazzariol	Padova Legnaro Agripolis	bruno.cozzi@unipd.it sandro.mazzariol@unipd.it marinemammals.bca@unipd.it
ITALY ITALIE		Università di Siena	Maria Cristina Fossi Cristina Panti	Siena	fossi@unisi.it panti4@unisi.it
ITALY ITALIE		Marecamp	Stefano Floridia		info@marecamp.com
ITALY ITALIE		University of Bari “Aldo Moro” Department of Bioscience, Biotechnologies and Environment	Roberto Carlucci	Bari	roberto.carlucci@uniba.it
LEBANON LIBAN		National Center for marine sciences	Gaby Khalaf Celine Mahfouz	Batoun	bihar@cnrs.edu.lb celine.mahfouz@gmail.com
LIBYA LIBYE	Gulf of Syrte	AMWAJ Society for Environment Conservation	Salih Diryaq	Syrte	saldery@gmail.com
MOROCCO MAROC	Mediterranean and adjacent Atlantic area	Institut National de Recherche Halieutique	Imane TAI	Casablanca	Taiimane.it@gmail.com
PORTUGAL		Portuguese Marine Animal Tissue Bank (MATB) CESAM Universidade de Aveiro	Marisa Ferreira	Aveiro	matb.portugal@socpvs.org
PORTUGAL		RAAlg - Algarve Stranding network CCMAR - Algarve University	Ana Marçalo	Faro	amarcalo@ualg.pt

PARTIES	REGION	INSTITUTION	CONTACT PERSON	CITY	EMAIL
PORTUGAL		ARROJAL - Alentejo stranding network Évora University	David Jacinto	Sines	djacinto@uevora.pt
PORTUGAL		CIIMAR - Porto University	Isabel S. Pinto	Porto	ispinto@ciimar.up.pt
PORTUGAL		IGC - Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência	Inês Carvalho	Oeiras	carvalho.inesc@gmail.com
PORTUGAL		Ce3c - Lisbon University	Ana Rita Amaral	Lisbon	aramaral@fc.ul.pt
ROMANIA ROUMANIE		Mare Nostrum NGO	Marian Paiu Romulus	Constanta	romulus.marian@gmail.com
ROMANIA ROUMANIE		G. Antipa National Institute for Marine Research and Development	Adrian Filimon George Harcota	Constanta	afilimon@alpha.rmri.ro gharcota@alpha.rmri.ro
SLOVENIA SLOVÉNIE		Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society	Tilen Genov	Piran	morigenos@morigenos.org tilen.genov@gmail.com
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Catalunya	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Mariano Domingo	Barcelona	mariano.domingo@uab.cat
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Catalunya	Edmaktub	Eduard Degollada	Barcelona	edmaktub@edmaktub.com
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Andalusia	Junta de Andalusia	José Eugenio Montes	Seville	josee.montes@juntadeandalucia.es
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Andalusia	CEGMA Estrecho	Carolina Fernández Maldonado, veterinarian	Algeciras	carogue38@hotmail.com
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Galicia	Asociación “CEMMA”	José A. Martínez Cedeira	Nigrán	cemmaorganizacion@gmail.com
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Murcia	Dirección General de Medio Natural	María José Gens Abujas	Murcia	Mariaj.gens@carm.es

PARTIES	REGION	INSTITUTION	CONTACT PERSON	CITY	EMAIL
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Valencia	Universitat de València Unidad de Zoología Marina Instituto Cavanilles de Biodiversidad y Biología Evolutiva	Juan Antonio Raga, Head of Department Patricia Gozalbes	Valencia	toni.raga@uv.es patricia.gozalbes@uv.es
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Valencia	Fundación Oceanografic	José Luis Crespo	Valencia	jlcrespo@oceanografic.org
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Balearic Islands	Asociación Tursiops	Txema Brotons, Scientific Director	Mallorca	info@asociaciontursiops.org txemabrotons@asociaciontursiops.org
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Andalusia	ICM-CSIC/CIRCE	Joan Giménez	Barcelona	joan.gimenez@csic.es
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Euskadi	AMBAR ELKARTEA	Leire Ruiz Sancho	Plentzia	info@ambarelkartea.org
TUNISIA TUNISIE		INSTM Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer	Hachmi Missaoui Olfa Chaeib Hedia Hilli Attia	Salammbô	hedia.attia@instm.rnrt.tn offachaieb@yahoo.fr hechmi.missaoui@instm.rnrt.tn
TUNISIA TUNISIE		Réseau National d'échouage	Hachmi Missaoui *Président du comité permanent du réseau national d'échouage	Salammbô	hechmi.missaoui@instm.rnrt.tn
TUNISIA TUNISIE		Banque de Tissus	Hachmi missaoui Hedia Hilli Attia	Salammbô	hechmi.missaoui@instm.rnrt.tn hedia.attia@instm.rnrt.tn
TÜRKİYE⁵	Black Sea, TSS, Aegean Sea, Mediterranean Sea	Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV)	Ayaka Amaha Öztürk Bayram Öztürk	Istanbul	ayakamaha@hotmail.co.jp ozturkb@istanbul.edu.tr
TÜRKİYE¹	Black Sea, TSS, Aegean Sea, Mediterranean Sea	Istanbul University Faculty of Aquatic Sciences	Arda M Tonay	İstanbul	atonay@istanbul.edu.tr

⁵ TUDAV, Istanbul University and Sinop University collect samples and share a joint dataset

PARTIES	REGION	INSTITUTION	CONTACT PERSON	CITY	EMAIL
TÜRKİYE ¹	Black Sea	Sinop University, Faculty of Fisheries	Uğur Özsandıkçı	Sinop	ozsandikciugur@gmail.com , uozsandikci@sinop.edu.tr
TÜRKİYE	Black Sea	Zonguldak Bulent Ecevit University, Faculty of Science and Arts, Department of Biology	Mustafa Sözen	Zonguldak	spalaxtr@hotmail.com mustafasozen@beun.edu.tr
UKRAINE		Scientific State Institution "Ukrainian Scientific Centre of Ecology of Sea" of the Ministry of Ecology and National Resources of Ukraine (UkrSCES)	Victor Komorin Karina Vishnyakova	Odesa	accem@te.net.ua karinavishnyakova@gmail.com
UKRAINE		Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (National Bank of Cetacean Samples)	Pavel Gol'din	Kyiv	pavelgoldin412@gmail.com iz@izan.kiev.ua
UKRAINE		State Institute of Marine Biology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (IMB)	Galina Minicheva	Odesa	imb@nas.gov.ua minicheva@ukr.net
UKRAINE		Odesa Branch of the State Scientific Research Institute for Laboratory Diagnostics and Veterinary Sanitary Expertise (DVSE)	Oleksandr Kaganets	Khlibodarske	odoblvvetlab@ukr.net
UKRAINE		I.I. Mechnikov Odesa National University (ONU)	Volodymyr Ivanytsia	Odesa	science@onu.edu.ua
UKRAINE		Brema Laboratory	Alexei Birkun	Simferopol	alexeibirkun@gmail.com
ISRAEL (Non-Party)		The Morris Kahn Marine Research Station, University of Haifa	Aviad Scheinin	Haifa	ascheinin@univ.haifa.ac.il

Appendix 4 Suitable genetics labs in the ACCOBAMS area

Note: this non-exhaustive list was based on the information received from ACCOBAMS NFPs and workshop participants until October 2022 (other laboratories might be suitable in each Party)

PARTY	LABORATORY FACILITIES	CONTACT
CROATIA CROATIE	Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, Zagreb	Ana Galov: ana.galov@biol.pmf.hr
EGYPT ÉGIPTÉ	Zoology Department, Faculty of Science, Al-Azhar University, Nasr City, Cairo	hamdy.ali.hamdy@gmail.com
FRANCE	Laboratoire de recherche: CRIOBE, UAR3278 - CRIOBE - CNRS - EPHE - UPVD, Perpignan	Serge Planes: planes@univ-perp.fr
	Laboratoire de recherche: MIVEGEC UMR IRD224 - CNRS5290 - University of Montpellier, Montpellier	Michael Fontaine: michael.fontaine@cnrs.fr
ITALY ITALIE	University of Siena, Departments of Department of Environmental, Earth and Physical Sciences, Siena	Maria Cristina Fossi: fossi@unisi.it Cristina Panti: panti4@unisi.it
PORTUGAL	Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC), Population and Conservation Genetics group, Oeiras	Lounes Chikhi: chikhi@igc.gulbenkian.pt Inês Carvalho: carvalho.inesc@gmail.com
	Centro de Estudos do Ambiente e do Mar (CESAM), Campus Universitário de Santiago, Aveiro	geral@ua.pt
	Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research (CIIMAR), Porto University, Matosinhos	Filipe Castro: filipe.castro@ciimar.up.pt
SLOVENIA SLOVÉNIE	Morigenos – Slovenian Marine Mammal Society, Piran	Tilen Genov: tilen.genov@gmail.com morigenos@morigenos.org
SPAIN ESPAGNE	Central Service for Experimental Research, University of Valencia, Valencia	Amparo Martinez: amparo.martinez@uv.es
	Marine Zoology Unit, Cavanilles Institute of Biodiversity and Evolutionary Biology, University of Valencia, Valencia	Juan Antonio Raga: toni.raga@uv.es
	Department of Functional Biology, University of Oviedo, Oviedo	Álvaro Jesús Obaya González: dpto.biofun@uniovi.es
	[COMMERCIAL COMPANY] All Genetics & Biology SL, A Coruña	info@allgenetics.eu
	[COMMERCIAL COMPANY] Macrogen SPAIN, Madrid	info-spain@macrogen.com
TUNISIA TUNISIE	Le Laboratoire de Biodiversité Marine, Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer (INSTM), centre de Monastir, Monastir	Olfa Chaieb: offachaieb@yahoo.fr
TÜRKIYE	Istanbul University Faculty of Aquatic Sciences, İstanbul	Arda M. Tonay: atonay@istanbul.edu.tr
	Zonguldak Bulent Ecevit University, Faculty of Science and Arts, Department of Biology	Mustafa Sözen: spalaxtr@hotmail.com mustafasozen@beun.edu.tr
UKRAINE	Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv	Pavel Gol'din: pavelgoldin412@gmail.com
	Mechnikov Odesa National University, Odesa	Sabina Chebotar: kafgen@onu.edu.ua
	Karazin Kharkiv National University, Kharkiv	Oleksandr Zinenko: oleksandrzinenko@gmail.com

Appendix 5 Summary of information received by NFPs on CITES procedure

Note: this list was based on the information received from ACCOBAMS NFPs and CITES management authorities until October 2022

PARTIES	MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (MA)	REGISTERED SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (RSI, Article VII, par. 6)	IMPORT	EXPORT	WITHIN EU	OTHER EXCEPTIONS
CROATIA CROATIE	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Nature Protection Directorate https://mingor.gov.hr/	<p>A permit/certificate is not required between scientists and scientific institutions registered by the Croatian MA and by a MA of a third country (Article 7(4)).</p> <p>A package of scientific samples exchanged between two RSI has to bear a label 'CITES Biological Samples', as well as the number of the document issued in accordance with the Convention. The form of the label must conform to the model set out in Annex VI to the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012.</p>	<p>Croatian import permit + exporting country export permit.</p> <p>In line with Article 4 of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97</p> <p>Commission regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012</p>	<p>Croatian export permit + importing country import permit.</p> <p>In line with Article 5 of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97</p> <p>Commission regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012</p>	<p>There are no import/export CITES permits required for transactions between two EU member states within the EU territory. In line with Article 8 of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 and if necessary, as all cetacean species are listed in Annex A of that Regulation, used for non-commercial research purposes, it can be proved by issuing a certificate that those samples are legally acquired.</p> <p>Commission regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012</p>	<p>According to the Croatian Nature Protection Act (Official Gazette, No 80/2013, 15/2018, 14/19, 127/19), all Cetaceans are strictly protected, even those which are not native species but occasionally occur in the Adriatic Sea, so biological samples require a permit issued by the Croatian Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development.</p>
FRANCE	Direction Régionale de l'Environnement, de l'Aménagement et du Logement (DREAL) http://cites.info.application.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/vos-interlocuteurs-a323.html	<p>1) Apply to become a RSI at the closest DREAL (application includes information about the research purpose, species and sample collection) according to Arrêté du 21 décembre 2000.</p> <p>2) Once registered on the CITES website, use the "label</p>	<p>Import from outside EU</p> <p>1) Ask for exportation permit from the management authority of the third country</p> <p>2) When in possession of export permit, ask for importation permit to</p>	<p>Export to outside EU</p> <p>1) Ask for exportation permit to French authorities via the online platform i-CITES https://cites.application.developpement-durable.gouv.fr</p>	<p>No documentation needed. The "label procedure" might be used (see RSI, point 2)</p>	<p>Simplified procedure for "biological samples" (PSEB in French) - only valid for exchange of biological samples for their use in research (defined by Commission regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 (art. 18)</p> <p>1) Fill an application for</p>

PARTIES	MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (MA)	REGISTERED SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (RSI, Article VII, par. 6)	IMPORT	EXPORT	WITHIN EU	OTHER EXCEPTIONS
		procedure” to exchange samples with another RSI. Include labelling conforming to the model set out in Annex VI to the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012 on the package and send the bottom part to DREAL after every use. 3) Maintain a registry of entry/exit of samples from the collection	French authorities via the online platform i-CITES https://cites.application.developpement-durable.gouv.fr	2) When in possession of the export permit, ask for importation permit to the management authority of the third country		Simplified Procedure at the closest DREAL → will receive an accreditation number 2) Receive pre-filled import/export permits from the DREAL 3) Fill one of these permits (boxes 8 to 22) for each exchange of sample, add the mention “CITES biological samples” on the package and add the required info to i-CITES https://cites.application.developpement-durable.gouv.fr
GEORGIA GÉORGIE		No exemption or procedure currently exist	Export permit/re-export certificate and import permit Captive bred – Export permit/re-export certificate + Certificate of captive breeding	Export permit/re-export certificate and import permit Captive bred – Export permit/re-export certificate + Certificate of captive breeding	NA	None. Law of Georgia on "Red List" and "Red Book" (No. 2356-IIS of 2003)
MOROCCO MAROC	Haut-commissariat aux eaux et forêts et à la lutte contre la désertification	NA	Between CITES members: Import permit according to CITES + Loi n° 29-05 and Décret d'application (Chapter II).	Between CITES members: Export permit or re-export certificate according to CITES + Loi n° 29-05 and Décret d'application (Chapter II).	NA	For non-CITES members: permis ou certificat délivré par une autorité compétente de ce pays (incluant les mentions obligatoires citées dans L'art 17, paragraphe 3, du Décret d'application de la Loi n°29-05)

PARTIES	MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (MA)	REGISTERED SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (RSI, Article VII, par. 6)	IMPORT	EXPORT	WITHIN EU	OTHER EXCEPTIONS
PORTUGAL	ICNF (Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas) https://www.icnf.pt/cites	Same procedure as for non-registered institutions (no exemption). Applicants need to register with the Portuguese CITES Management Authority according with Decree-Law nº 121/2017, from the 20th September	Portuguese import permit + export/re-export permit from the exporting country	Portuguese export/re-export permit based on the EU certificate	EU certificate	
SLOVENIA SLOVÉNIE	Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning gp.mop@gov.si , cites.mop@gov.si	<p>Conditions for the registration of scientists and scientific institutions (National legislation Decree on the rules of conduct and protection methods in trade in animal and plant species, Uradni list RS, št. 39/08, 106/10, 78/12 in 58/17):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prior to registration, draw up an inventory of specimens of the species listed in Annexes A to C to EU Regulation 338/97 and make it available to the MA, the inventory shall then be regularly updated. - collections of specimens, and records ancillary to them, permanently housed and professionally curated; - specimens accessible to all 	<p>Slovenian import permit + export/re-export permit from the exporting country.</p> <p>In accordance with the Article 4 (Introduction into the Community) of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein.</p>	<p>Slovenian export permit/re-export certificate.</p> <p>In accordance with Article 5 (Export or re-export from the Community) of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein.</p>	No documentation needed	NA

PARTIES	MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (MA)	REGISTERED SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (RSI, Article VII, par. 6)	IMPORT	EXPORT	WITHIN EU	OTHER EXCEPTIONS
		<p>qualified users, including those from other institutions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all accessions properly recorded in a permanent catalogue. - the specimens were legally acquired for the purpose of research and preservation or were acquired before the implementation of CITES, - specimens prepared and collections arranged in a manner that ensures their utility. <p>Then, to exchange samples between RSI: the packaging shall bear a label conforming in format and content to the model set out in Regulation 1808/01 and issued by the MA.</p> <p>The label shall contain data on the type of specimens, the name and address of the sender, registration numbers of exporting and importing scientists or scientific institutions, and the signature of the person responsible.</p>				

PARTIES	MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (MA)	REGISTERED SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (RSI, Article VII, par. 6)	IMPORT	EXPORT	WITHIN EU	OTHER EXCEPTIONS
TÜRKİYE	General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Balıkçılık ve Su Ürünleri Genel Müdürlüğü)		<p>From the exporting country: CITES export certificate. For example, document of origin.</p> <p>From Türkiye: Import permit a- Contract signed between the two institutions. b- Purpose of scientific study. c- Application made by the scientific institution.</p>	<p>Export permit: necessary documents a- For example, document of origin. b- Contract made between the two institutions. c- for example, a commitment to use it for scientific purposes only d-A commitment that the sample will not be used for other purposes. e- Application by the scientific institution.</p>	NA	
EUROPEAN UNION UNION EUROPÉENNE	Directorate General for the Environment DG ENV.F.3 - Global Environmental Cooperation & Multilateralism	No	Contact National Management Authority for import to EU	Contact National Management Authority for export from EU	No import/export permits, only CITES labelling	