



NORA Advisory Board Meeting, 25th November 2020

Participants: Kruno Bonačić, Pierre Boudry, Alison Debney, Tristan Hugh-Jones, Henning von Nordheim, Bernadette Pogoda, Joanne Preston, William Sanderson Hein Sas, Boze Hancock, Philine zu Ermgassen
Meeting chair: Hein Sas

Apologies received from:

Cass Bromley

Agenda

1. Minutes from the previous meeting
2. Options for future funding of NORA
3. Next steps to be taken to secure funding
4. Any Other Business

Minutes AB meeting 25th November 2019

- 1) Minutes from 24th September approved
- 2) Identified potential sources of funding for NORA (incl. secretariat)
 - Horizon 2020- Green Deal funding opportunity, Call Area 7.
 - This option has been explored. It was not possible to identify a lead partner to apply for the funding, and the timeline is now too short to initiate. This is therefore not an option.
 - EU Life programme
 - This option is a good fit for NORA. The EU Life Programme seeks to support habitats or species listed under the Habitats or Birds Directive. As such, native oyster reef restoration efforts qualify. The timeline is suitable to allow for a submission from NORA (see item 3 for further detail). However, there is a gap between the ending of current NORA financing (June 30, 2021) and possible financing by LIFE (if granted, this will be somewhere in 2022).
 - Biodiversa
 - This option has been explored. It was not possible to identify a lead partner to apply for the funding, and the timeline is now too short to initiate. This is therefore not an option.
 - EU COST
 - This option merits further investigation. This funding seeks to support networking and collaboration across Europe, and there is a provision to support a coordination team. Whether existing networks and Secretariat function are eligible needs to be explored.
- 3) Next steps to be taken to secure funding
 - EU Life programme
 - Concept note (c.8-10 pages) outlining partners and the concept of the planned activities should be submitted to the EU by April/May 2021.
 - If invited to submit a full proposal this would be communicated in autumn 2021 and due in the January 2022.
 - A Working Group of Advisory Board members will meet in the near term to identify a range of potential project partners, projects and the scope of the proposal. The working group exists of: Pierre Boudry, Bernadette Pogoda, Joanne Preston, Bill Sanderson, Boze Hancock and Hein Sas (and/or their co-workers, appointed to the task).
 - It will be attempted to involve a wide group of EU-countries/projects as partners, including southern Europe and Scandinavia.
 - It should be noted that co-funding will be required. This may take the form of salaries or already funded project activities.
 - Filling the budget gap (necessary while a LIFE project is being prepared): AB members investigate possibilities within their own country/network.
- 4) Any Other Business



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- A meeting will be scheduled in the second half of January 2021 to address outstanding matters relating to NORA 4.