

Proposals for NORMAN Joint Programme of Activities 2024

Title	Monitoring, trends and effects of substances in the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic
Type of activity	Assessment activities on hazardous substances
Leader	OSPAR Commission
Topic / activities	<p><i>Background / Justification for the proposed activity:</i></p> <p>Based upon the initial discussions at MIME 2019 and the list of identified areas for 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><i>Description of the proposed activity and expected outcomes for 2024:</i></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 actions¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. CONnECT project and other project initiatives such as wide-scope target and suspect screening and prioritisation b. Ecotoxicology c. Passive sampling d. List of chemicals for priority action and its annex e. Chemicals in top predators and in polar regions <p><i>Added value / Link with other NORMAN activities and / or other projects</i></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> <p>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.</p> <p>further developing and identifying marine-relevant assessment criteria for hazardous substances, as utilised in the Quality Status Report 2023, including for emerging contaminants, working closely with relevant experts, particularly in the Working Group Chemicals under the Water Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy.</p>

¹ MIME 2023 (Brussels, Belgium, 20-24 November 2023)

	<p>MIME 2023 welcomed the development in 2023 of a specific Marine Environment Working Group (WG8) and noted the valued contribution of collaboration particularly via the generation of the CONnECT supporting assessment within QSR 2023. Through 2023 OSPAR (MIME) continued to foster collaborative linkages with both HELCOM and NORMAN and MIME 2023 ratified continued exploration of these collaborative efforts</p>
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 of the new holistic approach (ICG-List) for the List of Chemicals for Priority Action (LCPA) and its annex (LSPC) and involved in CONnECT initiatives and in collaboration with the NORMAN Association.</p> <p><i>Linkages to NORMAN</i> 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>
Proposed contribution in-kind	<p>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.</p>
Contribution needed from NORMAN Association ²	<p>Collaboration of the NORMAN network in the prioritisation of LCPA and LSPC 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 to further develop an exercise to add robustness to the assessment.</p>

² 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.)