

Joint HELCOM/OSPAR Expert Group on Non-Indigenous Species

First Meeting

Online, 15 February 2022

Document title	OSPAR NIS data call
Code	4-2
Category	INF
Agenda Item	4 - Draft NIS 3 indicator assessments and draft NIS Thematic assessment in OSPAR QSR 2023
Submission date	15.02.2022
Submitted by	OSPAR Secretariat
Reference	

Background

This document contains information on the OSPAR NIS data call conducted for the QSR 2022 together with a reporting template and guidance.

Action required

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.



For the attention of:

OSPAR BDC Heads of Delegation

ICG-COBAM contact points

NIS contact points

Cc: OSPAR HOD

OSPAR Commission

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13 April 2021

OSPAR Data call 2020

Non-indigenous species data to be used in the Trends in the first recorded introductions of novel non-indigenous species common indicator assessment for the QSR 2023

Instructions for filling in the Non-indigenous Reporting Format for the NIS indicator assessment

Contact and submissions

Content Contact: Peter A.U. Staehr (DK) pst@bios.au.dk

Please contact Peter Staehr if you have any queries about what data to include in your submission.

Technical contact: data@ospar.org

Please contact OSPAR data team if you encounter problems submitting your data.

Reporting deadline

Please submit completed reporting formats by **17h00 UK 31 May 2021**, note that this is the deadline date and data are welcomed prior to this date.

Use of the data

The Contracting Parties will report data that will enable an assessment, for the QSR2023, of the NIS Biodiversity Common Indicator:

NIS – Trends in the first recorded introductions of novel non-indigenous species

Assessment of the indicator will be included in OSPAR's Quality Status Report in 2023 (QSR2023) in OSPAR Region II - Greater North Sea subregion, OSPAR Region III - the Celtic Seas and OSPAR Region IV - Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast for which the indicator has been agreed as common. The geographical extent within each subregion of the assessments in each Region will depend on the amount of data available to Contracting Parties.

The data call includes compulsory data fields as well as optional data fields. Optional data fields are included in the data call to allow for the assessment of NIS abundance and spread if and where possible in order to gain wider understanding of NIS in the OSPAR region.

The data will be used to construct regional indicators, baselines and thresholds. Assessments will then be performed against the respective threshold values. The work will be conducted by OSPAR's nominated lead for NIS, reporting to the OSPAR Biological Diversity Committee (via ICG-COBAM). The results will be used by to provide Contracting Parties with an assessment of non-indigenous species indicator for the QSR2023.

Submission instructions

Contracting Parties are asked to submit data utilising the provided Excel template in accordance with the accompanying guidance document. Completed Excel files are to be submitted to data@ospar.org

Storage, use and access to the reported data

The data received from this call will form the basis for the NIS indicator assessment. The dataset and any derived products will be stored and made available (see data access table) via the OSPAR Data and Information System (ODIMS) in support of delivery of the Quality Status Report 2023.

Data Access

OSPAR is committed to making as much information as possible publicly available, consistent with achieving other similarly important goals of public policy. The framework for this is set out in Article 9 of the OSPAR Convention and Annex 3 of the OSPAR Rules of Procedure (2013-2).

Contracting Parties should contact Chris Moulton (Chris.Moulton@ospar.org) if they have any queries over what data to include in the submissions.

Data access can be specified by the submitters directly in the submission form as:

Public Data are publicly accessible

Restricted Data, in their reported form, are not to be made publicly accessible. All aggregated data products are, by default, publicly available, including those derived from restricted data.

Data will be made available in line with the terms of the OSPAR Data Policy where they are not restricted: https://odims.ospar.org/data_policy.html

OSPAR Common Indicators: Instructions for filling in the OSPAR Non-Indigenous Species data call

Do not remove, add, or adjust any columns or calculations included in the associated MS Excel reporting sheets

- Always use the latest version of the reporting sheets, which will be delivered as part of the OSPAR data call. Do not use old versions;
 - Do not remove, add or adjust any columns or calculations included in the associated MS Excel reporting sheet;
 - All coordinates are to be calculated using WGS84 (EPSG: 4326) and to be presented as decimal degrees;
 - All blank values to be left as blank (i.e. don't use filler comments or symbols);
 - Please do not use any thousand separators (commas, apostrophies, or spaces) in number fields.
- CONTACTS**
- Content Contact:** Peter A.U. Staehr (DK) pst@bios.au.dk
- Please contact the indicator lead if you have any queries about what data to include in your submission.
- Technical contact:** data@ospar.org
- Please contact data@ospar.org if you encounter problems submitting your data.

Submission instructions

Please submit the data in the attached template by **31 May 2021**.

Please note that the document is split between 1) **compulsory** information for QSR23 and 2) additional **optional** datafields where information is requested where available.

Compulsory information is considered necessary for QSR23 assessments whereas additional **optional** information is considered supplementary to reporting requirements, but nevertheless useful to inform understanding of NIS in the OSPAR region.

1. Data Requirement

For the QSR2023 Non-Indigenous Species Common Indicator “Trends in the first recorded introductions of novel non-indigenous species” assessment data are required on first reports of NIS within OSPAR Regions II, III or IV covering a minimum of two 6-year periods. The intermediate assessment covered the period 2003 to 2014 (both inclusive). To expand on this we request that each Contracting Party provide data on first reports of NIS within their waters for each Region, made between 1 January 2003 and 31 December 2020 to the extent that these data exist.

The data-arrangements for NIS are not fully developed. The data call for IA2017 was ad hoc, and data were received in formats that did not allow for clear comparison and storage, partially because of incomplete data sets. Therefore, this data call asks for a resubmission of data from the previously assessed period in the specified data format.

Given the recent discussion in JRC on whether to include oligohaline, cryptogenic and partly native species in the definition of NIS, we request data on all NIS including these, to the extent that this information is available. The final decision on whether or not to include these NIS in the QSR2023 assessment will be taken later.

2. Geographic Scope

Data are required for OSPAR Regions II, III or IV (see Figure 1). For Contracting Parties which span more than one OSPAR Region we will need data on first reports of species into each OSPAR Region (if they have been reported in each region). For example, UK will need to provide data on first reports of NIS into both regions II and III.

If a new introduction has been detected in an estuary, or lagoon and the Contracting Party is considering whether to report the observation as having been made in an OSPAR Region, then the shapefile of the OSPAR Regions to be used for assessment purposes can be used to determine whether the introduction falls within the assessment area and therefore is to be reported. Figure 1 below provides an image of the Regions and the legend includes a hyperlink to ODIMS where the shapefile to be used for assessment purposes can be found.



Figure 1. OSPAR Regions. https://odims.ospar.org/layers/geonode:ospar_regions_2017_01_002

3. Data Submission Format

Please fill in the worksheet in the Excel Workbook OSPAR_NIS-reporting_format_210312.xlsx according to the guidance in the table below. Please ensure that each species report is entered on a new row. If there are no data to report, please add “No data”. Please consider the optional “Supporting Information” table at the bottom of this doc that requests other information in the format that they are available:

Field	Data type	Description	Compulsory/Optional
Contracting Party	Text	Two letter country code for the Contracting Party reporting the data. e.g. “DK”	Compulsory
Species common name	Text	Please provide the species common name. In the event that the species has multiple common names please provide the most commonly used in this column and provide further information in the ‘Comment’ column if necessary. e.g. “Carpet sea squirt”	Compulsory

Species latin name	Text	Please provide the species latin name. If there are synonyms provide only one in this column and provide further information in the 'Comment' column if necessary. e.g. <i>"Didemnum vexillum"</i>	Compulsory
Species authority	Text	Please provide the authority of this species e.g. <i>"Kott, 2002"</i>	Compulsory
Taxonomic group	Text	Please provide information on the taxonomic group the species belongs to. Select from: Fishes and lampreys, Invertebrates, Lancelets, Tunicates, Plantae, Fungi, Bacteria, Protista, Mammals, Amphibians, Reptiles e.g. <i>"Mammals"</i>	Compulsory
Oligohaline	Boolean	Please provide information whether the species is considered to be oligohaline or not (very low salinity, specifically in the range 0 to 5 psu (~ brackish) <i>"Yes", "No", "unknown"</i>	Compulsory
Partly native in OSPAR Region	Boolean	Please provide information on whether the species is assumed to be native in other OSPAR regions <i>"Yes", "No", "unknown"</i>	Compulsory
Cryptogenic	Boolean	Please provide information on whether its a species of uncertain (Yes) or certain origin (No) <i>"Yes", "No", "unknown"</i>	Compulsory
Date of first report	Date	Please provide the date on which the NIS was first reported in the waters of the stated OSPAR region. For many contracting parties there will be only one date per species. However, for UK and France, there may be more than one	Compulsory

		date as these contracting parties span more than one OSPAR region. Date in the form of DD/MM/YYYY e.g. "01/05/2008"	
Date of status update	Date	Please provide the date on which information on the status of each NIS was updated. Date in the form of DD/MM/YYYY e.g. "01/03/2020"	Compulsory
Location of first report	Text	Please provide the name of the location in which the NIS was first reported e.g. "Poole Harbour"	Compulsory
Location of first report GR 1 (latitude)	Number	Latitude of report, as decimal degrees, calculated using WGS84 e.g. "50,20"	Compulsory
Location of first report GR 2 (longitude)	Number	Longitude of report, as comma separated, decimal degrees, calculated using WGS84 e.g. "-5,01"	Compulsory
OSPAR Region	Text	Please provide the OSPAR region within which the species was reported. Choose from: II, III or IV e.g. "II"	Compulsory
Any documentation of geographical spread?	Text	Has it spread? "Yes", "No", "Unknown" If "Yes" please see supporting information data section at the end of this document	Optional
Pathway of introduction	Text	To the extent possible, please provide information on the known pathway of introduction. Choose from* (listed at the bottom of this table) in Excel drop down. e.g. "UNKNOWN"	Optional
Evidence of breeding in the wild?	Boolean	Please provide information if possible on the ability of the	Optional

		species to successfully breed in the wild of your region "Yes", "No"	
Is taxonomic status certain?	Boolean	Please provide information if possible on whether the taxonomic status of the species is certain or not. "Yes", "No"	Optional
Data gathering method and sources	Text	Methods for data gathering, and sources used Choose from Excel drop down "Government monitoring" "Academic survey" "Citizen science" "Other"	Optional
Data quality assurance	Boolean	Have data been quality checked? "Yes", "No", "unknown"	
Comment	Text	Additional information related to the report e.g. "synonyms: <i>Didemnum vestum</i> , <i>Didemnum vestitum</i> . Report by citizen scientist."	Optional

***Pathway of introduction options:**

RELEASE IN NATURE: Fishery in the wild (including game fishing)

RELEASE IN NATURE: Other intentional release

ESCAPE FROM CONFINEMENT: Farmed animals (including animals left under limited control)

ESCAPE FROM CONFINEMENT: Aquaculture/ mariculture

ESCAPE FROM CONFINEMENT: Botanical garden/zoo/aquaria (excluding domestic aquaria)

ESCAPE FROM CONFINEMENT: Pet/aquarium/ terrarium species (including live food for such species)

ESCAPE FROM CONFINEMENT: Live food and live bait

TRANSPORT- CONTAMINANT: Contaminant nursery material

TRANSPORT- CONTAMINANT: Contaminant on animals (except parasites, species transported by host/vector)

TRANSPORT- CONTAMINANT: Parasites on animals (including species transported by host and vector)

TRANSPORT- CONTAMINANT: Contaminant on plants (except parasites, species transported by host/vector)

TRANSPORT- STOWAWAY: Angling/fishing equipment

TRANSPORT- STOWAWAY: Hitchhikers on ship/boat (excluding ballast water and hull fouling)

TRANSPORT- STOWAWAY: Ship/boat ballast water

TRANSPORT- STOWAWAY: Ship/boat hull fouling

TRANSPORT- STOWAWAY:Organic packing material, in particular wood packaging

Addition TRANSPORT - STOWAWAY: On towed equipment

TRANSPORT- STOWAWAY: Other means of transport

Addition TRANSPORT - UNINTENTIONAL : On marine litter

CORRIDOR: Interconnected waterways/basins/ seas

UNAIDED:Natural dispersal across borders of invasive alien species that have been introduced through pathways 1 to 5

UNKNOWN

Supporting Information

Contracting Parties are further requested to submit any of the following, additional, supporting information they may have as this will be useful for future assessments of NIS spread (D2C2):

Type of supporting information	Data format
Spatial distribution data	This could be spatial data in the form of Shapefiles, on extent and distribution, either as abundance data or presence / absence data. Also other data which may support the work of the indicator, including observed or modelled data of spread or distribution over the assessed time period. It is anticipated this could be available for invasive species.
Impact the species have had and evidence to support this	Reference to reports or scientific studies
National target species list on NIS	Is there a national target species list? If so is it regularly updated based on dedicated monitoring ?