

**Workshop among biodiversity-related conventions
on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework,
Bern, 10-12 June 2019**



INTERNATIONAL
WHALING COMMISSION

1946

- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling signed in Washington DC
- 15 signatory countries
- Convention + Schedule




2019

- 89 member countries
- >40 work programmes
- Biennial Commission meeting of up to 400 participants
- Annual Scientific Committee meetings of up to 200 delegates



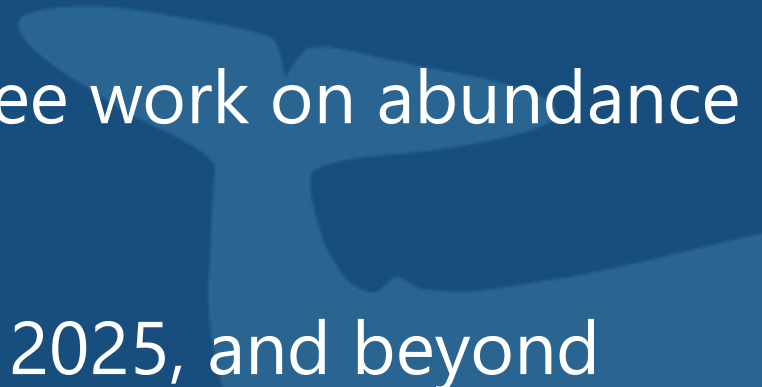
Role of the IWC

- Regulation of whaling and the conservation of whale stocks
 - Understanding whale populations (stock structure, abundance estimates)
 - Non-hunting threats: Conservation and Welfare
 - Engagement with other organisations
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IWC mandates

- Schedule to the Convention
- Resolutions
- Recommendations based on advice of the Scientific Committee, Conservation Committee and other sub-groups

Work areas relevant to the post 2020 framework


- Conservation Committee Strategic Plan 2016-2026
Healthy, well-managed and recovered cetacean populations worldwide
 - Strategic plans on ship strikes, whale watching, bycatch, Conservation Management Plans
 - Ongoing Scientific Committee work on abundance and threats
 - ASW catch quotas set up to 2025, and beyond
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IWC and the post 2020 framework



- Marine focus
- Key areas of interest e.g. drivers of change; healthy marine ecosystems, reduced human induced mortality etc
- Underpinned by co-operation with other organisation

IWC and the post 2020 framework

- No formal position on the post 2020 framework
 - Next Commission meeting is 25 Sept-2 Oct, 2020
 - And again in 2022
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- A stylized, light blue silhouette of a whale is positioned in the lower right corner of the slide. The whale is facing left, with its tail fluke visible at the top and its body curving downwards towards the bottom right.

Addressing drivers of biodiversity loss

Ongoing and future work on

Key threats

- Bycatch and entanglement
- Ship strikes
- Underwater noise
- Chemical pollution
- Climate change
- Marine debris

Key sectors

- Fishing
- Shipping
- Tourism
- Extractive (underwater mining, seismic surveys etc.)

Multi-taxa approaches and co-benefits

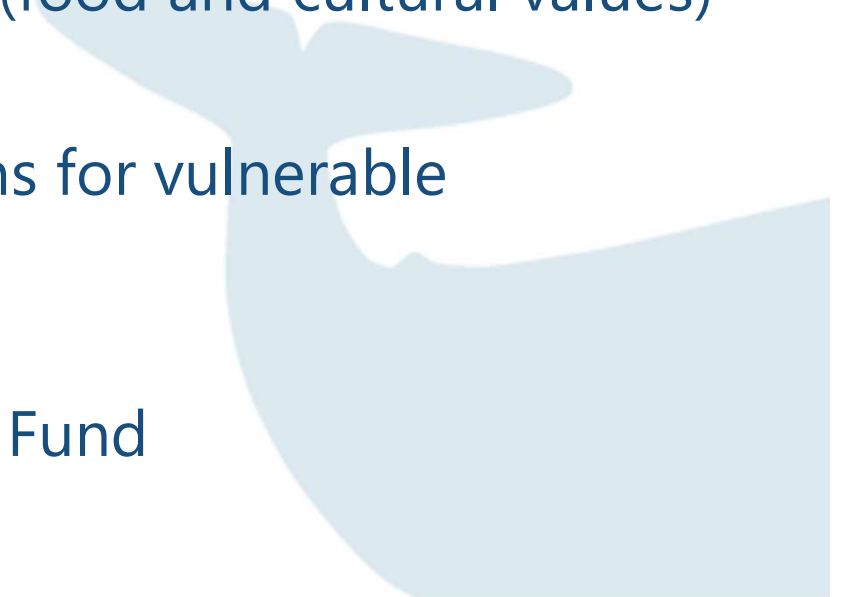
Healthy marine ecosystems and their vital contribution to people

- Sustainable fisheries, tourism etc.
- Ongoing and future work streams:
 - Pollution - marine debris, chemical pollution, noise
 - Ecosystem functioning
- Area based approaches: two sanctuaries; EBSAs and IMMAs



Reducing rate of extinction of species and their vital contribution to people

- Species' status, abundance estimates, population trends
- Understanding the drivers of change for different species/populations
- Aboriginal subsistence whaling (food and cultural values)
- Conservation Management Plans for vulnerable populations
- Small Cetaceans Task Team and Fund



Other work of relevance to post 2020 framework

- Capacity building; strengthening finance; scientific cooperation; communications
- Engagement of indigenous peoples (ASW) and local communities
- Review of implementation; harmonisation of reporting and data management



Thank you!

