

Newsletter #3 | November 2024



DEMASK newsletter #3: An update

Dear ,

A lot has happened within the DEMASK project. We would like to keep you informed of the latest developments.

Recent highlights include mapping noise pollution from boats along Sweden's west coast and exploring innovative solutions during the second roundtable on shipping noise.

Key insights were also shared at the HELCOM-OSPAR workshop and the ESOMM conference, further strengthening cross-border collaboration. Together, these initiatives are advancing sustainable noise management for healthier marine ecosystems.

Discover more about these efforts below.

Project news



DEMASK presented at ESOMM 2024

Last September, the 8th edition of the Effects of Sound in the Ocean on Marine Mammals (ESOMM) took place in The Hague/Scheveningen. At this conference, which aims to bridge the gap between science and policy on the impact of ocean sound on marine mammals, Niels Kinneging presented the DEMASK project. The project was well received for its innovative approach to policy development on underwater noise.

[Read the full article here](#)



Second roundtable on underwater noise and shipping

The second roundtable on underwater noise and shipping took place in Hamburg, organized by Germany's Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH). Around 60 stakeholders attended to address the threat of shipping noise to marine ecosystems. Experts shared findings on underwater sound measurements in the North and Baltic Seas. They also discussed technological innovations to reduce ship noise. Additionally, the group explored incentive systems for quieter shipping. With 80-90% of global trade transported by ships, shipping is the leading source of underwater noise pollution, posing serious risks to marine life.

[Read the full article here](#)



DEMASK contributes to HELCOM workshop in Helsinki

On September 18, 2024, DEMASK took part in a consultation workshop hosted by HELCOM and Finland in Helsinki to improve the assessment of underwater noise impacts on sensitive species. Supported by the Coalition Clean Baltic, the event gathered experts from seven Baltic Sea countries. DEMASK researchers, Christ de Jong (TNO) and Jeff Schnitzler (ITAW-TiHo), contributed to discussions on shared noise-related challenges between the Baltic and North Seas, focusing on marine ecosystem impacts. Their input emphasized harmonizing sound maps and developing a system to rate species' sensitivity to underwater noise.

[Read the full article here](#)



**Mapping underwater noise from boats on
the Swedish west coast**

The Kosterhavet National Marine Park is being studied in the summer of 2024 for the underwater noise generated by motorboats. As part of the DEMASK project, the IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute is deploying underwater recorders at five locations to collect sound data. The research aims to develop an underwater noise map and assess the impact on marine life, while also investigating sound propagation in shallow waters and the effects of different boat speeds. The trials have been successful, and generated valuable data, marking a significant step forward.

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