



1. Requirement overview:

Requirements	To produce an appropriate social baseline to develop and monitor English marine plans, appraise their sustainability and where required assess impact.
Requirement detail	<p>MMO requires social baseline information on communities adjacent to marine plan areas in England. Information required includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social value of marine activities to communities adjacent to or which gain significant benefit from the marine area • Drivers of change that affect the social value of marine activities • Social impacts of predicted changes to marine activities on beneficiary communities <p>It is suggested that the work will be carried out in a two stage process; firstly to prioritise appropriate required social evidence for planning including those social issues that planning could influence and secondly to carry out evidence gathering and research identified as a priority evidence gap from the first stage. This information should be provided in forms that are easy to use, include economic and social metrics and including displaying them spatially where relevant.</p>
MMO use	<p>Marine Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inform development of marine plans for the North West, South West, North East and South East plan areas • inform the sustainability appraisal and any required impact assessment of marine plans • monitor marine plan performance and measure the impact of all marine plans on communities • inform review and reporting cycle of marine plans
External interest	Natural England, Environment Agency, Cefas
Delivery target	Q2 2017

2. Aims and objectives

Aim:

To develop an appropriate social baseline for writing marine plans especially for policy writing, developing options for each marine plan area, carrying out sustainability appraisals, monitoring the success of objectives and plan policies and if required impact assessments.

Objectives:

- identify and prioritise the social evidence required for developing and monitoring marine plan objectives and policies particularly related to social impacts of marine activities on communities, social value and drivers of change. This should include identifying what role marine plans can have in addressing social issues. Ensure adequate social evidence is available for sustainability appraisal and potential impact assessment
- include information on wellbeing, access to resources, employment, education, health, social capital and social cohesion and any other relevant topics
- collate and present the information for MMO use where relevant and feasible
- develop a research plan to gather the required and prioritised evidence which is not available
- carry out bespoke research to gather required evidence

3. Existing evidence

MMO	<p>MMO1035 This project presents a portion of the baseline social information on five marine policy statement sectors to integrate knowledge of social impacts and value into marine planning and other MMO functions. It provides good recommendations for considering social aspects of sustainable development in coastal communities as well as marine sectors.</p> <p>MMO1060 This report presents social interaction-impact tables for 14 marine policy statement sectors and sub-sectors. Each table represents the potential interactions that a sector is susceptible to, and describes the impact pathways that can lead to primary and secondary social impacts. Each table is supported by evidence on the impact pathways and social impacts based on currently available literature including from stakeholder sources.</p> <p>MMO1061 MMO required a framework for monitoring marine plans against the social pillar of sustainable development. This could then be used in combination with economic and environmental monitoring to report on the impact of marine plans. This work was used to inform the implementation and monitoring plan for the East inshore and offshore marine plans published in April 2014.</p> <p>MMO1087 This report provides a critical analysis of the East marine plans implementation and monitoring plan (IMP) and makes recommendations for improvement to enable the framework to be used in the development of future marine plan IMPs. The recommendations have already been applied to the development of the South marine plans monitoring plan.</p> <p>East and South marine plan sustainability appraisal scoping reports.</p> <p>MMO1001 This report examines ideas for maximising the socio-economic benefits of marine planning for English coastal communities by applying a typology framework.</p>
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	MMO1012 This report provides an overview of the currently available tools and methods that could be used to incorporate social and economic data into MMO decision making. It also produced a data catalogue of available marine social and economic information, identifies key knowledge gaps and makes recommendations on how the evidence base could be improved.
Academic	The socio-cultural role of fisheries has been researched by Reed et al (2014) and some interesting work has also been carried out by White et al (2013) on health benefits of living at the coast.
Other	In response to research highlighting the need for investment in coastal community development the UK government have produced a number of reports and initiatives that are relevant for marine planning. Natural England conduct a Monitoring the engagement with the Natural Environment survey . The ONS conducts personal wellbeing in the UK analysis . Bhutan's leader has introduced the concept of Gross National Happiness which has resonated with many people and governments around the world.

4. Current activity

The MMO is currently gathering and analysing plan level issues and their supporting evidence relating to a number of themes including social required to inform the North West, South West, North East and South East marine plans.

5. Associated evidence requirements

Ref	Title
R059	The baseline social and economic environment local to marine protected areas
R068	Approaches for monitoring the impact of marine plans
R042	The social and economic benefit of commercial and recreational fishing activity
R113	Seasonal risks of marine activities: balancing social, economic and environmental impacts
R016	Integrated plan scale evaluation and identification of environmental, social and economic risks resulting from co-location/displacement
R082	The potential positive impacts of marine activities
R058	The costs and benefits of different levels of MPA management and management approaches
R012	Displacement in the marine area; the likelihood and impact of displacement of marine activities

More information on these is available [here](#)

6. Potential delivery route

The MMO will look to partner with organisations of relevance to widen the potential impact of any work undertaken in this area. The MMO will also explore opportunities to influence the research of others to gather evidence that can be applied within a marine management context. Knowledge exchange is required throughout the duration of this requirement and not limited to when delivery is complete.

Commissioning

Delivery window: Q4, 2016 – Q3, 2017

A short investigation of evidence requirements with MMO and a literature review of available evidence could be commissioned to progress this priority requirement. The advantage of commissioning would be the rapid production of results required for current plan writing. These requirements might indicate further commissioning work.

Influencing the research of others**Delivery window: Q4, 2016 – Q1, 2018**

Based on current knowledge and previous investigations it is highly likely that bespoke research is required to fill this evidence gap however, the cost of this would be prohibitive for MMO. Therefore influencing and contributing to the research of others would be a potential way to develop the evidence required.

Partnering**Delivery window: Q4, 2016 – Q3, 2017**

Due to the lag in producing and applying social research to marine management there is potential for a number of Defra group organisations that are involved in areas of marine policy implementation to partner on this evidence gathering. Therefore working together would add value to joint responsibilities and interests.

See table 1 for timescales.

7. Contact

For more information or to add further research to the existing evidence list please email evidence@marinemanagement.org.uk

