



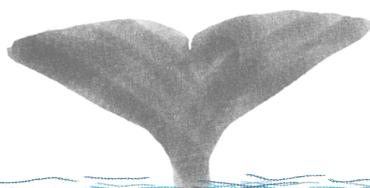
# MISTIC SEAS III

## MACARONESIA

**MISTIC SEAS III - Developing a coordinated approach for assessing Descriptor 4 via its linkages with D1 and other relevant descriptors in the Macaronesian sub-region**

### **Executive summary deliverable 4.1.**

**Report on an inter-sub-regional  
overview of D4 assessment.**



#### **Coordinated by:**



#### **Partners:**



#### **Supported by:**



## Executive Summary:

MISTIC SEAS III (MSIII) seeks to address the development of Good Environmental Status (GES) determination for Descriptor 4 (D4; Food webs) at the Macaronesian sub-regional level in compliance with the Directive 2008/56/EC and following the criteria set up under the Commission Decision 2017/848/EC (EU, 2017). MSIII is defining and testing methodologies that will allow the identification of key Functional Groups (FG) within three main Trophic Guilds (TG) and potential indicators using Ecopath with Ecosim (EwE) models. To do so, data obtained on top predator TG during MSI and MSII projects will be integrated, interrelated and accommodated. Additionally, the present project emphasises coordinated actions and common approaches to integrate extra data on intermediate (commercial and non-commercial species) and basal TG.

MSIII also aims to develop a coordinated approach for assessing D4 and integrate D4 criteria (including criteria indicators, standardized methodology and methodological standards) with those established for other Descriptors, namely D1 and D3 (Commercial fish and shellfish), as well as to integrate monitoring programs and measures, through cooperation within (Macaronesia) and between sub-regions Macaronesia and Bay of Biscay & Iberian Coast.

This Deliverable (D4.1) - MISTIC SEAS III inter-sub-regional overview of D4 assessment - is included within the work package 4 (WP4). The aim of WP4 is to link the Macaronesia and Bay of Biscay & Iberian Coast sub-regions, bridging possible gaps, towards a coordinated approach on D4 (and related Descriptors) assessment, targets, monitoring and measures, and support North East Atlantic MSFD regional implementation.

In this deliverable, management actions already developed by Portugal (PT) and Spain (ES), in the 1st and 2nd MSFD cycle, for D4, D1 and D3 were compiled, namely: Monitoring programmes established in ES and PT, including the products from MISTIC SEAS I and MISTIC SEAS II, measures set for the two sub-regions, addressing the degree of implementation and milestones achieved, reported or under report by ES and PT in the Interim Report (Art.18 MSFD), European Commission assessment of programmes of measures. Additionally, a tool for identification of synergies between measures proposed by the two Member States (MS) was developed.

The present deliverable creates the foundations for Deliverable 4.2, i.e. develop a common strategy for Macaronesia as a whole.

