

A CMS Conference

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive Key steps to Implementation

**November 25th
SOAS, University of London**

The aim of this conference is to update delegates on the progress with the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in particular to cover the consultation on transposing the MSFD, Good Environmental Status and other implementation issues.

Sponsors:

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Do you want to sponsor the event?

There is a sponsorship package for this conference. Details can be obtained from Bob Earll on 01531 890415 or bob.earll@coastms.co.uk

Please circulate to colleagues who may be interested

A conference organised by CMS – Communications and Management for Sustainability

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive – Key Steps to Implementation November 25th London

'The marine environment is a precious heritage that must be protected, preserved and, where practicable, restored with ultimate aim of maintaining the biodiversity and providing diverse and dynamic oceans and seas which are clean, healthy and productive. In that respect, this Directive should, inter alia, promote the integration of environmental considerations into all relevant policy areas and deliver the environmental pillar for the future maritime policy for the European Union'

S1, p1 Marine Strategy Framework Directive

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive is clearly a product of its time and it involves a number of key ideas including:

- **European Marine Policy:** The MSFD is the environmental 'pillar' of what is a coherent view of European marine policy – the EU's Blue Book; DG Environment are promoting the Directive
- **The ecosystem approach** in the broadest sense as a way delivering sustainability and well as having regard to ecosystem functioning; as such it links in very closely with UK high level marine policy
- **The framework** nature of its structure – based on the thinking and development of the Water Framework Directive – thus avoiding a series of individual directives on particular topics
- **Socio-economics** The explicit recognition of working to maintain the capacity of the seas to deliver existing goods and services as well as the strong recognition of socio-economic issues

The aim of this conference is to update delegates on the progress with the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in particular to cover the consultation on transposing the MSFD, Good Environmental Status and other implementation issues. There are five main themes of the conference which:

- **Overview** To provide a comprehensive overview of the progress with implementing the MSFD Directive in the UK. This Directive will have implications for **all sea users**, regulators and researchers and consulting organisations supporting their work
- **Transposition** The conference is timed to coincide with the consultation on the transposition of the Directive into UK law. The meeting will be of particular help to those who will be responsible for responding to that consultation.
- **Good Environmental Status** is at the heart the MSFD; considerable work is currently underway on preparing a common European view on how the descriptors should be applied. The meeting will be helpful to those people with an interest in the descriptor topics to assess progress on these: biodiversity, non-indigenous species, fish/shellfish, foodwebs, eutrophication, sea floor, contaminants, food quality, marine litter and energy /noise.
- **Lessons and perspectives** The level of work on the MSFD will be increasing steadily and key stakeholders will be expressing their views on the Directive. In particular the lessons from work and legal reactions to other Directives are particularly relevant at this point. The meeting will be especially relevant to stakeholders who are concerned about the way Directives are implemented and the interaction between existing directive and the MSFD.
- **Implementation** The timescale for the implementation is challenging and much more so than for the Water Framework Directive. The lessons of preparing plans and implementation for the WFD have been hard won and depend heavily upon both the supporting science and cost-benefit assessments. The conference will be helpful to stakeholders who are starting to consider the range of measures that implementing Directive will entail.

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Timing allows for a discussion of the issues after each slot

Session 1 Introduction – Background and Transposition

9.45 **Welcome to the conference** **Stuart Rogers** Cefas
9.50 **Overview briefing on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive** **David Mottershead** Defra
Slot - 15 mins presentation and 5 mins Q&A

Slot 2 The transposition consultation

10.10 **The transposition consultation** **David Mottershead** Defra
10.25 **A viewpoint from a devolved administration** **Anna Donald** Marine Scotland
10.40 Discussion (Two 15 minute presentations and 20 minute discussion)

Slot 3 Good Environmental Status and how the Directive will work across Europe

11.00 Agreeing EU Common criteria and standards **Stuart Rogers** Cefas
11.25 A Perspective from another Member State TBC
Two 25 minutes presentations – 15 mins presentation and 10 mins for Q&A

11.50 Break 1 Sandwich buffet & refreshments

Slot 4 Good Environmental Status – what it is and what should it achieve – perspectives

Chairman: Professor Mike Elliot Hull University, Institute of Estuarine & Coastal Studies

12.35 **GES Descriptors – what we know and don't know – outcomes of the Reading workshop**

Kathy Kennedy & Bernadette Eldridge Cefas

12.50 **MSFD & GES: Opportunities, challenges and limitations – an NGO view** **Sharon Thompson** RSPB

13.05 **MSFD & GES: Opportunities, challenges and limitations – an Industry view**

Professor Mike Cowling Sea User & Developer Group & The Crown Estate

13.20 Discussion (3 x 15 minute presentations and a 20 minute discussion)

13.40 Break 2 Sweets and refreshments

Session 3: Chairman **Ashley Holt** Marine Fisheries Agency

Slot 5 Lessons for implementation from other measures

14.20 **Water Framework Directive** **Roger Proudfoot** Environment Agency
14.35 **Common Fisheries Policy** **Colin Pringle** PISCES & WWF Cymru
14.50 **Conservation: Habitats Directive and MPAs** **Charlotte Johnston** JNCC *speaker to be confirmed*
15.15 Discussion 3 x 15 min presentations and 20 mins discussion

Slot 6 Looking ahead to implementation

15.35 Monitoring and assessment **Colin Moffat** Marine Scotland
15.55 Implementation – costs and benefits – key issues **Steve Hull & Heidi Roberts** ABPmer
16.15 Closing comments
16.20 Close and refreshments

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Coastal Futures™ The Coastal Futures™ series of conferences is run by Communications and Management for Sustainability (CMS) in conjunction with a wide range of sponsoring organisations. The conference series is based on assessing the coastal and marine constituencies' views and then organising events which appeal to multi-sectoral audiences. CMS have been running this type of event since 1993 supported by a wide range of organisations.

The Venue: The venue is the Brunei Gallery lecture theatre, The School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), Russell Square, London. This is a newly refurbished air-conditioned lecture theatre, with all the modern AV aids and professional projectionists. Accommodation: There is a very wide range of accommodation available in the area and delegates will receive a hotel list when they book.

Conference fee: £135 + VAT £20.25 = £155.25
Concession rate* £ 95 + VAT £14.25 = £109.25
Post-graduate Student rate (Full time) & Retired rate: £ 45 + VAT £6.75 = £51.75

Group rate: A group is 3 or more people booking *together*; the rate is £120/person + VAT £18.00 = £138.00
 *Concession rate: Our aim is to make the conferences as inclusive as possible. The concession rate applies to individuals and organisations that clearly work from limited budgets in the academic / research or voluntary sector. We will review this on a case by case basis and place individuals and organisations on a register for future reference. Please contact us first, **before booking** by email to bob.earll@coastms.co.uk if you think you qualify.

- The fee includes food and refreshments and the conference papers
- Delegates with special needs should make this clear on booking

Conditions:

- Payment may be by cheque, BACS, credit card **or online** at www.coastms.co.uk.
- Cheques made payable to 'CMS' should be sent to: **CMS, Candle Cottage, Kempley, Glos GL18 2BU**
- For BACS payments please **return the booking form first** for an invoice to be raised
- Invoices will be issued as the standard response
- Confirmation of registration will be acknowledged on receipt of booking form
- Receipts will be issued on payment
- Payment should be completed **BEFORE** the event; otherwise entry may be refused
- Refunds (less £20 administration charge) will only be issued for cancellation more than ten working days before the meeting; substitutes are permitted

Further details from Bob Earll: Phone / Fax 01531 890415 Joining details – maps, directions and hotels – programme are on the CMS website: www.coastms.co.uk or Email: bob.earll@coastms.co.uk



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