

Wadden Sea Board

WSB 29

19 June 2019
Vlieland, Netherlands



Agenda Item:	5.1 World Heritage
Subject:	Development of the Single Integrated Management Plan
Document No.:	WSB 29/5.1/1
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Submitted by:	CWSS and TG-WH Chair

Background

The WSB, in its 28 meeting in March 2019, adopted the proposed preliminary structure of the SIMP ([WSB 28/5.1/2 Status Report SIMP](#)) and asked the TG-WH to:

- involve site managers to count with their input for identifying the key issues of focus within the SIMP, and
- to develop a timetable with milestones for the WSB to identify when their input is needed and about which topic.

In order to integrate these requests in the further development of the SIMP, the TG-WH in its meeting # 27 on May 14, 2019 in Tönning, held a discussion to agree on a process to select the key issues to focus on in the SIMP. The discussion included identifying who to involve, how to involve them and at which step of the process.

The outcome of the meeting was a list of key site-managers from each country to involve through structured personal interviews by using a list of questions. Another outcome was a table with detailed selection criteria for prioritizing the identified key issues to be further discussed and enriched. The agreed criteria are based on the selection criteria stated in Annex 1 of the Leeuwarden Declaration. Furthermore, the meeting agreed to hold a site-managers workshop to give feedback on the interviews and discuss the integrated results. Based on these results, TG-WH would select the key issues to present at the WSB 30. Finally, the meeting agreed on a timeline with milestones for the process of key issues' selection until the WSB 30 in November 2019.

Attached is the 1. Summary of the outcomes of the TG-WH 27 meeting, the 2. Description of the process to select the key issues for the SIMP, and the 3. Timeline until November 2019.

Proposal: The meeting is invited

1. To **note** the summary of the outcomes of TG-WH 27 and the timeline.
2. To **endorse the approach** on methods and process to involve site-managers and select key issues to focus on in the SIMP.

1. Summary of the outcomes of the TG-WH 27 meeting

The outcomes presented in this document are the result of a thorough discussion among the TG-WH members to decide on the steps needed to select key issues and to agree on the most effective way to involve site-managers and the Wadden Sea Team and the Wadden Sea Forum as advisors of the WSB.

The meeting concluded that the best way to involve site-managers and achieve their favourable attitude towards the SIMP, is to hold in-person conversations. Provided the working capacity of the project officer, it is feasible to involve around 30 persons in total. Emphasis was put on the importance of supplying feedback of the in-person conversations and presenting the integrated results to the interviewed persons. For this, a site-managers workshop will be held in the Schleswig-Holstein National Park Authority's Office in September 2019.

1. Description of the process to select the key issues for the SIMP

The agreed process has four steps: I. Gather information about what needs to be managed, II. Process the information gathered to integrate results and identify potential key issues, III. Feedback, discussion and adjustment of potential key issues, IV. Selection of key issues. Section 2 describes who is involved in each step, how will they be involved, and when.

2. List of key site-managers to be involved in the process of selecting the key issues

The number of site-managers to be involved varies among countries depending on their management systems. It was regarded as important to also involve the advisors of the WSB from the Wadden Sea Forum and the Wadden Sea Team of green NGOs. Every person in the list will be interviewed in person and the same questions will be asked to all.

3. Questions for the personal interview with the identified key site-managers

Selected interview questions aim to produce comparable information about the aspects or issues in which management can be enhanced from the point of view of the site-managers at each country. Another important aspect is to identify the added value that the trilateral cooperation can bring to effectively enhance the management of the identified aspects.

4. Selection criteria to prioritize key issues

The selection criteria will assess the relevance of an issue by its importance previously expressed in the existing trilateral plans, strategies, reports and calls for action, as well as in global efforts such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Additionally, issues that have not been addressed will be recognised. Urgency, in terms of the measure of time for when the issue may pose a significant impact, as well as the magnitude and reversibility of the impact, will be considered. The criteria explicitly include the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) key values/attributes and the feasibility of addressing the issues in an integrated approach as one World Heritage, which means that they are of relevance on a trilateral scale.

5. Timeline until November 2019

The timeline in section 3 presents the milestones achieved until now in the process of developing the SIMP, and the upcoming activities during 2019 for selecting key issues. This timeline may be further adjusted as the work evolves.



2. Description of the process to select the key issues for the SIMP

The following table presents the steps of the process to select the key issues that will be addressed in the SIMP, the methods that will be used at each step (how), who will be involved (who), and when.

	Steps	How	Who	When
I.	Gather information What needs to be managed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal interviews to site-managers • Existing information 	CWSS Site-managers	Jul.-Aug. 2019
II.	Process the information gathered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematize results from interviews • Preliminary prioritization of key issues using the selection criteria 	CWSS TG-WH	Aug. 2019 30 Aug. 2019
III.	Feedback, discussion and adjustment of potential key issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site-managers workshop to present and discuss integrated results, exchange information, and enrich the preliminary prioritization of key issues 	CWSS Site-managers TG-WH	Sep. 2019
IV.	Selection of key issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and agreement on the priority issues that are feasible to address in the SIMP 	TG-WH WSB	11 Oct. 2019 21 Nov. 2019

3. Timeline (until Nov. 2019)

Progress on the development of the Single Integrated Management Plan (SIMP)

Development phase	Timeline
 <p>1 Management overview of the TWSC</p>	<p><u>November 2018 – February 2019</u></p>
	<p>Meetings and conversations with different stakeholders of the Wadden Sea World Heritage in the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark to learn about expectations and management systems.</p>
	<p>TG-WH 26 <u>31 January 2019</u></p>
	<p>Design of SIMP preliminary structure, definition of the process of development with a respective timeline and statements of a successful SIMP. The preliminary structure complies with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (para. 111).</p>
	<p>WSB 28 <u>13 March 2019</u></p>
<p>Approval of the SIMP preliminary structure, process of development and timeline. Request to involve site-managers in the identification of overarching key priority issues. The TSWC review process identified sustainable fisheries (LD 21) as a key issue to address in the SIMP.</p>	
<p>TG-WH 27 <u>14 May 2019</u></p>	
<p>Nomination from key site-managers to be part of the process of selecting the key priority issues, revision of the questions to conduct a personal interview with the identified key site-managers, selection criteria to prioritize key issues, timeline until November 2019.</p>	
<p><u>March - July 2019</u></p>	
<p>Dissemination of the preliminary structure, process of development, timeline and statements for a successful SIMP among TWSC groups: EG-C1, TG-M 19-1, NG-ST 23, TG-MA19-1, site-managers, the WSF and the WST. Continue building and review of data base for management overview. Update of fisheries inventory.</p>	
<p><u>UPCOMING...</u></p>	
<p>WSB 29 <u>19 June 2019</u></p>	
<p>Presentation of plan to involve site-managers and to select key priority issues for the SIMP.</p>	
<p>Site-managers Interviews <u>July – August 2019</u></p>	
<p>In-person conversations with the identified site-managers and selected representatives of the WST and WSF to identify potential key issues/aspects of which management can be enhanced at the trilateral level to focus on in the SIMP.</p>	
<p>TG-WH (extraordinary meeting) <u>30 August 2019</u></p>	
<p>Preliminary prioritization of key issues using the selection criteria.</p>	
<p>Site-managers workshop <u>September 2019</u></p>	
<p>Feedback from the interviews, present and discuss integrated results, exchange information and show cases, and enrich the preliminary prioritization of key issues.</p>	
<p>TG-WH 28 <u>11 October 2019</u></p>	
<p>Final prioritization of key issues to address in the SIMP.</p>	
<p>WSB 30 <u>21 November 2019</u></p>	
<p>Support of the final prioritization of key issues to address in the SIMP.</p>	
<p>Content development 2020 (details tbd)</p>	
<p>Development of the content of the SIMP according to prioritized key issues.</p>	
 <p>3 Content development</p>	