

Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership (MCCIP) Steering Group Meeting Digest

Wednesday 31 January 2007 at Natural England, Peterborough

Attendees:	Beth Greenaway (chair)	Defra MED
	Andy Greaves	Defra MED
	Katherine Humphreys	Defra CESA
	Stephen Dye	MCCIP Secretariat
	Kate Francis	MCCIP Secretariat
	Dan Laffoley	NE
	Stephen Roast	EA
	David Viner	CRU – UEA
	Matt Frost	MECN
	Victoria Paris	WAG
	Kevin O'Carroll	DTI
	Matthew Service	DARD NI
	Craig Wallace	NERC/RAPID
	Chris West	UKCIP
	David Connor	JNCC
Video-conferencing:	John Baxter	SNH
	Emily Lewis-Brown	WWF
	Alexander Downie	SEPA
	John Hamer	CCW
	Bill Turrell (part-meeting)	FRS

Apologies were received from Olly Watts (RSPB) and Evanthia Karpouzli (SEPA).

1. Steering Group Minutes from 19th October and actions arising

Outstanding actions were discussed and the following actions were agreed::

Action 1: MCCIP Secretariat to contact Keith Brander and Simon Jennings (as ICES lead) to check that MCCIP information flow to OSPAR is effective.

Action 2: MCCIP Secretariat to continue discussions with Defra CESA to secure funds.

Action 3: MCCIP Secretariat to send MCCIP text to British-Irish Council for information and clarification.

Action 4: MCCIP Secretariat to amend draft ARC feedback questionnaire to reflect Steering Group comments, publish survey and send final version to SG for information by end Feb.

2. Round table discussion on what partners have been doing to promote MCCIP, both within their organisations and externally

The new chair-designate for the MCCIP Steering Group was introduced and said he was pleased to be taking on the role of chair, and outlined his work on carbon capture.

Stephen Roast confirmed he had taken over from Larissa Naylor as EA's representative, and outlined his activities to promote MCCIP.

Partners reported a range of MCCIP dissemination activities internal and external to their respective organisations, including to promotion of MCCIP at UK Ministerial level and in European fora.

The secretariat reported some of the activities of the MCCIP Secretariat. A second print run of the ARC was required as the original 5000 copies ordered had been distributed already. The MCCIP website hits had increased dramatically as a result of the publication of the ARC, and there had been 1000 downloads of the ARC to date. The MCCIP Newsletter had a circulation of 300, from which 50% of recipients had entered the website seeking further information. Beth Greenaway added that the ARC had been received well within Defra - senior managers had read it, and Ministers had referred to it.

3. Discussion on progress made in 2006: What has worked well and what hasn't?

The preliminary results of a Steering Group members questionnaire were tabled and discussed. There were some very encouraging results especially on the ARC delivery. There were also some different views on priorities for 2007 which would be debated under item 6. It was agreed that the ARC process had been rushed as there had been too much to do in too little time. It was acknowledged that timescale for writing the science contributions had been especially challenging and it was agreed that contributing scientists would be sent sincere thanks from MCCIP for their efforts.

4. Review of finances from 2006

Stephen Dye summarised the contents of the first draft annual financial report and thanked partners for their in-kind contributions. There would be some saving on start-up costs which would not be repeated in 2007, and the options and priorities for 2007 would be discussed under item 6. There was still income owing to MCCIP for FY2006/07, and there was still a potential shortfall for FY2007/08 so partners agreed to check if their organisation's partnership contributions for FY2007/08 could now be confirmed.

5. Developing relationships with other relevant initiatives: How can the remit of MCCIP fit in with other groups (e.g. ASOF, MARG Ecosystem status and trend groups)?

The discussion was introduced by highlighting that there were many other initiatives which touched MCCIP and the need to be aware of the boundaries and synergies. The following groups and initiatives were highlighted and discussed as relevant to MCCIP:

PML's Carbon Ops project

- Defra's Marine Assessment and Reporting Group (MARG) and the 3 evidence groups
- Defra's Marine Assessment Policy Committee (MAPC)
- Charting Progress 2 scheduled for 2010
- the UKCIP 08 user group and the UKCIP's development of a Marine Scenarios booklet
- Defra's Global Environmental Change Committee (GECC)'s forthcoming gap analysis
- SAHFOS Climate Change encyclopaedia website
- The England Biodiversity Strategy Group and the UK biodiversity research priorities sub-group

6. Taking MCCIP forward - Presentation of proposed timeline for 2007 and open discussion

ARC

How to maintain continuity while keeping the ARC fresh and relevant to the stakeholders was discussed. It was agreed that short, punchy, clear factual messages remain important, and that headlines on the front page directing to new messages of significance should be included, while preserving the general layout so the document was easy to navigate. It was agreed to aim for a November 2007 launch, and that ARC development process should start earlier to allow more time for contributions. It was agreed that a sub-group would take forward these principles and produce a workplan for the 2007 ARC delivery.

It was agreed that the forthcoming web survey feedback was important, as this should also shape the development of the 2007 ARC. Also, the Expert Advisory Panel members should be encouraged to feedback principles for improving the process for 2007 and beyond.

It was agreed that a mid-year Steering Group to sign off ARC content was required, and that all SG members would be kept up to date on key dates and decisions made by sub-groups on their behalf.

Science

It was agreed that the MCCIP Secretariat would take a pragmatic overview of science gaps instead of conducting a detailed analysis to inform the science priorities for MCCIP in 2007.

Partnership Development

It had been a very busy year for the MCCIP Secretariat. The ARC had been a successful product, but the partnership needed a strategy to expand partners/finances to improve its long term viability. Partners agreed that more proactive promotion of MCCIP was required, with the aim of developing MCCIP as a response centre for one stop information on marine climate change.

Events

Partners were involved in various outreach/dissemination events and it was agreed to capture these in an MCCIP event calendar. Workshops were discussed as a potential feedback and dissemination mechanism and the planning sub-group would discuss the various options in the context of the 2007 funds.

7. AOB and DONM

The next scheduled full Steering Group would be held on **Thursday 31 May in Cardiff**. There would be an interim steering group meeting called in early March if agreement on the sub-group outputs required clarification and discussion before the bulk of the work on the 2007 ARC commenced.

The meeting ended at 1600h.

*K Francis
5 February 2007*