

MEETING DOCUMENT

Wadden Sea Board (WSB 30)

21 November 2019
Wilhelmshaven, Germany



Agenda Item:	5.7 Science Cooperation
Subject:	Trilateral Research Agenda- Road Map Committee
Document No.:	WSB 30/5.7/
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Submitted by:	Chair of the TRA-Road Map Committee

At the last WSB meeting, it was concluded to establish a Trilateral Research Agenda Road Map Committee (TRA-RMC) under the lead of the chair of the WSB, Ms Karin Lochte, with the aim to draft a proposal on the installation of a Trilateral Programming Committee according to §36 of the Leeuwarden Declaration, to be submitted at the WSB 30.

The TRA-RMC has been established, consisting of 2 members per country representing the policy level and the scientific level, with the CWSS as secretary and chaired by the chair of the WSB. Based upon the description of envisaged tasks of this TRA-RMC as laid down in the WSB 29/5.11/1 paper, the TRA-RMC slightly specified the TOR of the RMC and updated the timetable. Furthermore, the TOR of the PC were extensively discussed and drafted.

The RMC has convened twice between the WSB 29 and WSB 30.

The progress report gives an overview of the activities of the RMC, including Appendix 1, the slightly amended and updated TOR of the RMC and Appendix 2, the draft TOR of the TRA-PC.

Proposal: The WSB is requested to

- take note and comment as appropriate on the progress report
- to adopt the TOR of the RMC, including the timetable (Appendix 1)
- to adopt the TOR TRA-PC (Appendix 2), including the fact that the TRA-RMC will come forward with a suggestion for the members of the TRA-PC at the next WSB 31.

Progress report Road Map Committee

Background – start-up

After the WSB 29 at Vlieland the countries nominated their representatives of the science and policy sector to the TRA-RMC during the summer period of 2019.

After the establishment of the TRA-RMC, 2 meetings were held in October 2019.

At the first meeting some background was given on the process and the position of the Trilateral Research Agenda (TRA) in relation to the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation. The importance of the overarching aspects as contained in the TRA, the prioritisations paper adopted by the WSB with regard to this TRA to stress the importance of the connection to the OUV and the large amount of research which is going on in the 3 countries were discussed. The meeting agreed to adopt the TRA as such.

TOR – TRA-Road Map Committee

The meeting slightly adopted (updated timetable) and agreed with the TOR Road Map Committee, [see Appendix 1](#). It was agreed to focus on the deliverables. It was also agreed that this RMC expects to end his work at the installment of the Programming Committee (probably mid 2020). The RMC agrees to propose to the WSB30 that it develops the first list of potential members for the TRA- Programme Committee to be submitted at the WSB31

Inventory

The members submitted a first inventory of TRA relevant research projects known to them, which are actually running and/or in the application phase in their countries. Around 35 projects were already listed and these projects were discussed to gain insight into their relation to the Outstanding Universal Values (OUV), to specify the specific theme of the TRA which is covered and to have an overview which of these projects are already operating at a trilateral scale, involving experts from the 3 countries. After pooling these projects on the basis of common themes, it will be analysed which topics are well covered and/or where gaps are obvious also with regard to the involvement of partners at the trilateral scale. The final list will serve as information basis for further discussions on potential joint topics. The Waddenacademy offers assistance to complete the trilateral inventory. This process is ongoing at the moment.

Besides the listing of projects, the RMC is also discussing whether and how certain relevant topics can be fostered by pilot projects. To this end, the research demands identified by the QSR will also be included in the analysis and prioritization of topics.

A possible approach might be to organize one or two workshops in the beginning of 2020 to come forward with pilot projects. The RMC is also considering how to connect to potential funding opportunities.

TOR TRA-Programme Committee

Based upon a first proposal for a TOR for the TRA-Programme Committee drafted by Josef Stuefer NWO (Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research) who has acted as executive secretary of the TRA, the RMC concluded a draft TOR for the TRA-PC to be submitted to the WSB30 for approval. See Appendix 2.

In general, it is recommended that the WSB installs the TRA-PC and the WSB proposes the chair. After the first installment, the TRA-PC nominates the candidates, the WSB approves. The selection criteria for the scientists in the TRA-PC: expertise and network, ad personam. The selection criteria for the governmental level: ex officio

As stated above, the RMC is willing to come forward with suggestions for the members for the first instalment of this PC at the next WSB31.

The next meeting of the RMC is 10 December 2019 at Hamburg.

List of TRA-RMC members.

Danmark: Jesper Bartholdy (science sector)
Henrik P Jørgensen (policy level)

Germany: Christian Buschbaum (science sector)
Peter Südbeck (policy sector)

Netherlands: Jouke van Dijk (science sector)
Peter P. Mertens (policy sector)

Chair: Karin Lochte

CWSS Bernard Baerends

APPENDIX 1

Terms of Reference Trilateral Research Agenda - Road Map Committee

Tasks of the Roadmap Group:

- make an inventory of the projects in each state that are on the table or foreseen in the near future and fit with the TRA while taking into account the joint paper by TG-WH /TG-MM regarding the World Heritage focus,
- make a compilation of the existing funds/programs which are/ can be applied at the national level and at international level (EU, UN Ocean Decade?),
- prioritize the outcome of the compilation,
- elaborate on possible tasks and structure of a future body which has to deal with research projects.

Deliverables:

- Prioritized list of relevant major research projects
- Prioritized list of funding opportunities (national and international)
- Draft ToR for Programming Committee
- Progress report for WSB 30 meeting in November 2019
- Completed tasks ready for WSB 31 in spring 2020

Time Plan:

July 2019

- nomination and establishing of Roadmap Group
- 2 representatives of each nation (1 scientist, 1 administrative), WSB Chair, 1 member of CWSS

September 2019

- compile major research projects or funding opportunities in the three nations that could be relevant for the themes in the Trilateral Research Agenda and that consider the aspects of the UN World Heritage status
- exchange draft lists (research projects and funding) from each country via e-mail prior to the first meeting

October 2019

- first meeting in person 4th October 2019
- second meeting of group (end of October)
- discuss and finalize the research compilation, identify highlights
- develop draft for Research Committee (tasks, composition, ToR)

November 2019

- submission of progress report for WSB 30 (21st November)

Spring 2020

- submission of final documents for WSB 31

The TRA Roadmap Committee will end with the instalment of the TRA Programme Committee.

APPENDIX 2

**Programme Committee
Trilateral Research Agenda (TRA)
Terms of Reference**

DRAFT

AUTHORS

The first draft of this document was prepared by Josef F. Stuefer (NWO – Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research) who has acted as executive secretary of the TRA.

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1 BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

The basis of the Trilateral Research Agenda (TRA) for the Wadden Sea Region originates from the governmental conferences following the Trilateral Ministers meetings in 2010 and 2014. The Trilateral Research Agenda was developed by the joint scientific community from Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands in a joint effort for identifying common future challenges and for developing and implementing comprehensive approaches to trilateral research, improving the knowledge needed for a sustainable future of the Wadden Sea Region. The Trilateral Research Agenda (TRA) applies for the whole Wadden Sea Region, with the aim to maintain natural and cultural values and to find a sustainable course for natural, societal and economic developments.

The Leeuwarden Ministerial Declaration (May 2018) instructed the Wadden Sea Board “to continue to strengthen its cooperation with the scientific community by installing a trilateral programming committee in order to establish a joint programme on research issues relevant to the Wadden Sea World Heritage, taking into account the Trilateral Research Agenda and instruct the Wadden Sea Board to encourage the scientific community to develop a trilateral research platform and to promote pilot studies on nature restoration.”. The TRA-Programme Committee will serve as a focal point for discussions on how to implement, further develop and link the TRA to other national and international initiatives of relevance. The signing of the Memorandum Of Understanding of the Trilateral Partnership in support of the UNESCO World Heritage between the representatives of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation and the scientific community at 30th of June 2019, demonstrates and contributes to the envisaged development of the Partnership Hub the Programme Committee is connected to.

2 ROLE AND SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

The role of the Programme Committee is as follows:

- Work towards implementation of the TRA on research issues relevant to the Wadden Sea World Heritage, including to stimulate and search for funding possibilities.
- Discuss and agree on the prioritisation of TRA research lines, taking into account the suggestions submitted by the Road Map Committee and the research issues identified by the Quality Status Report.
- Provide strategic advice to the Wadden SeaBoard (WSB) with respect to the TRA.
- Provide scientific and strategic advice to agencies implementing TRA-research programmes.
- Monitor the progress of TRA implementation, by providing regularly reports, assessments and workshops to foster the interface between science and policy.

3 COMPOSITION OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Acknowledging to establish the programme committee installment procedure first, the composition of the Programme Committee shall adhere to the following principles:

- The Programme Committee consists of 13 members, 12 regular members and an independent chair.
- The Chair of the Programme Committee is independent and does hence not represent one country, field of policy or institution. A rotating chair, linked to the chair of the Trilateral Governmental Conferences is preferred
- The Programme Committee consists of three national delegations (Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands) of 4 members each.
- Each national delegation, consisting of 4 members, includes

- one research representative from the social sciences and humanities,
 - one research scientist from the natural, incl. technical sciences,
 - one policy representative from national authorities,
 - one policy representative from regional authorities or regional organizations.
- The TRA-Programme committee strives to achieve gender balances.

4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Individual Committee members have the following responsibilities:

- Engage proactively with relevant national and international communities and stakeholders (e.g. scientific community, politics, NGO's, business) to develop informed contribution to the discussions in the Committee.
- Be visible and approachable for relevant national and international communities and stakeholders; form national contact points for the TRA.
- Actively participate in Committee meetings through attendance, discussion, and review of minutes, papers and other Committee documents.

5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Chair of the Committee is supported by a secretary of the CWSS. The CWSS ensures the connection to the WSB and its supporting groups. The responsibilities of the Committee Chair are as follows:

- Setting the agenda for each meeting.
- Ensuring that agendas and supporting materials are delivered to members in advance of meetings.
- Acting as independent chair during meetings, leading discussions, summarizing decisions and confirming the outcome of voting procedures.
- Appealing to members who discontinue participation.
- Safeguarding a well-balanced national and gender participation.

6 PROCEDURES

6.1 MEMBERSHIP

- The national representatives in the Programme Committee suggest members, after due consultation with their respective national science and policy communities, to be finally installed by the WSB.,
- Proposals for the first members for the Programme Committee will be made by the Roadmap Committee to the WSB 31 in Spring 2020.
- Members of the WSB or any associated mechanism such as WSB task forces and working groups cannot be members of the Program Committee.
- In case of absence, each member of the Program Committee may transfer his/her vote to one of their national delegates.
- To ensure continuity, the maximum membership duration in the Program Committee is 6 years (2 terms of 3 years) .
- The members of the WSB nominate the chair of the Programme Committee.
- In case of unavailability of the Chair, the Committee decides *ad-hoc* on a temporary replacement.
- The WSB installs and dismisses members of the Programme Committee, incl. its chair.

6.2 QUORUM

A minimum number of six members (excl. the Chair) are required for decision-making purposes. The quorum must include at least two members of each of the specific national delegations. The chair does not count to the quorum.

6.3 DECISION-MAKING

The TRA-Programme Committee has primarily an advisory function. Nevertheless, it may be necessary to take decisions on specific issues, according to the rules specified below:

- The TRA-Programme Committee strives to take as many decisions as possible in unanimity.
- If unanimity cannot be achieved, decisions are taken by a 2/3 majority, excl. the chair.
- The chair has no vote, except for cases where the Committee cannot reach a decision: in the event of ties, the chair's view is decisive.

6.4 FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

- The Programme Committee decides on the frequency of their meetings, with a minimum of 2/year.

6.5 AGENDA, MINUTES, AND DECISION PAPERS

A package will be sent to members 1 week in advance of a Committee meeting. This package will include the following:

- Agenda for upcoming meeting.
- Minutes of previous meeting.
- Any other documents/information to be considered at the meeting.