

Table 2: Overview of information gaps identified by Member States organised by MSP data category.

<b>DATA CATEGORIES</b>	<b>INFORMATION GAPS</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE BORDERS</b>	
Boundary data	Harmonisation of data across borders
<b>PHYSICAL/CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION</b>	
Types of habitat	Detailed data on species and habitats particularly in deep-sea areas
Biological characteristics	Structure and composition of benthic populations
	Indicators of benthic habitat ecosystems and biodiversity
	Bird inventories in offshore areas
	Bird distribution data offshore outside breeding season
Pressures & impacts	Knowledge of sensitivity of living environments to various forms of use, including cumulative effects
	Assessment grounds for pollutants in sediments and their physical impact along the coast
	Level of discharge of nutrients from private sewage
	How forestry measures affect leakages of nitrogen and phosphorus from woodland into watercourses and oceans
	Transport of nutrient and metals from small estuarial water courses
	Sea use and land use interactions, determining economic significance, flows and environmental pressures
<b>ACTIVITIES/USES</b>	
Aquaculture	Environmental effects of different types of farming and feedstuff, for example, through nutrient leakage
Fishing	Quantitative connections between human activities, including shore exploitation and the capacity and sensitivity of fish habitats
	Coastal (small-scale/traditional) fishing catches and their distribution
	Sports/recreational fishing
	Knowledge of the structure of populations of exploited fish species
	Cultural importance of fisheries
Renewable energies	Uncertainty concerning quantitative information regarding the technical potential for sea-wave power
Nature and species conservation sites & protected areas	Knowledge base regarding marine natural values and ecosystems

	Natural values of deeper sea areas
	Detailed information regarding the depth and character of sea beds
	Distribution of non-native species and ecological effects
Military	No access to information regarding, for example, pollutants within Armed Forces' firing ranges at sea
Raw material extraction areas	Aggregate sites
	Impact of aggregate extraction
	Location of desalination plants
Tourism & recreation	Uniform definition of recreation and tourism, or for maritime tourism and how activities should be measured
	Studies that go beyond economic values such as employment and turnover
Underwater cultural heritage	Systematic inventory of underwater cultural heritage
	Remains of prehistoric settlements and harbours
	Confidentiality of data
<b>SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA</b>	
Human population	Data is available but problem lies with way data is compartmented.
Economic indicators	ditto
Social indicators	ditto