

# netnews

## A round up of the latest news from Net Gain The North Sea Marine Conservation Zones Project



Regional Hub members get to grips with the maps and data at the Scarborough meeting.

The Net Gain Project has been set up to identify and recommend potential sites for Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) in the English North Sea. The Net Gain process is different from other similar projects in that it aims to involve all those who have an interest in the North Sea and its future from the start, from large scale fisheries and aggregates to divers and wildlife enthusiasts.

### Successful outcomes at first Regional Hub Meetings

March saw the 1st round of Regional Hub Meetings take place in South Shields, Scarborough, Boston and Lowestoft. Each of the Hub meetings was well attended and all members worked together to ensure that the main objectives of the meeting were met in each case.

The format of each Hub meeting was the same, a mix of short presentations and facilitated small group work, which was sometimes followed by discussion or questions. Details of each session are available in the full event report on our website: [www.netgainmcz.org](http://www.netgainmcz.org) but, in summary the programme was as follows:

- Briefing on the Net Gain Project
- Principles for a successful MCZ
- Understanding the Ecological Guidance
- Working on maps
- Terms of reference for the hubs
- The format and membership of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel
- Next stages and outstanding points

In this preliminary stage of working together it was important to spend some considerable time ensuring

that all the Regional Hub members were familiar with the Ecological Network Guidance and how maps and data will be used in order to support the recommendations each Hub will make at the next round of meetings. Feedback was gathered on how effectively the maps and data were presented so that changes can be made for the next meeting.

At each meeting Regional hub members worked together to agree terms of reference for all Hub meetings going forward. A full record of the terms of reference discussed and the various suggestions put forward by the groups is available in each of the Hub reports. Compiled TOR for the regional hubs will be available shortly on our website. Regional hub members were also asked for comment on the proposed membership of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel.



Net Gain MCZ Planner, Dr Chiara Polce with hub members in Scarborough.

### In This Issue

- Regional Hub Meetings: first round complete
- An overview of what was achieved at the first round of Regional Hub meetings
- Stakeholder Advisory Panel appointed
- We introduce our new Stakeholder Engagement Chart, your online information centre
- Data collection well on the way
- An update on progress throughout our project area

Net Gain  
The Deep Business Centre  
Hull  
HU1 4BG  
01482 382007  
[info@yhsg.co.uk](mailto:info@yhsg.co.uk)  
[www.netgainmcz.org](http://www.netgainmcz.org)



# netgain

The North Sea Marine Conservation Zones Project



Trevor Jameson.  
Chair of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel.

## Stakeholder Advisory Panel first meeting 20th April

The membership of our Stakeholder Advisory Panel has been finalised with the first meeting of the group scheduled for April 20th. The role of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel is to provide feedback to the Regional Hubs in their recommendations and advise the Hubs on any issues which may affect the wider project area.

Members of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel represent a wide range of sectors from inshore commercial fishing, to conservation, to large scale industrial users. The members have been selected as key members of their respective industries and represent an appropriate geographical spread across the project area. The panel will be chaired throughout the Net Gain Project by Trevor Jameson.

A full list of the Stakeholder Advisory Panel membership, with contact details, will be made available on our website following the first meeting of the group on April 20th.

### Welcome to the team Enock!

Enock Bamusi joins our team on the 26th as our Economist. Enock brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our team, having previously worked for the Malawian Government in a socio-economist role.

# Data collection continues to gather momentum!

Our Liaison Team are pleased to report that more and more stakeholders are engaging with the Net Gain Project every day, ensuring that they take this opportunity to have their say in the future of the North Sea. Liaison Officer, Dan Davis, has spoken to the first of many fishermen and stakeholders who have offered their support for the project.

One such fisherman, Ray Stratford of Grimsby said:  
*"This is the only project of its kind to involve us from the beginning. I was pleased to take this opportunity to have a say in the future of the North Sea and the recommendations that Net Gain will make. There are so many different processes taking place at the moment, but this is the only one that I have a chance to influence. I would urge others to get involved."*

Contact details of all our Liaison Team can be found at: [www.netgainmcz.org](http://www.netgainmcz.org)

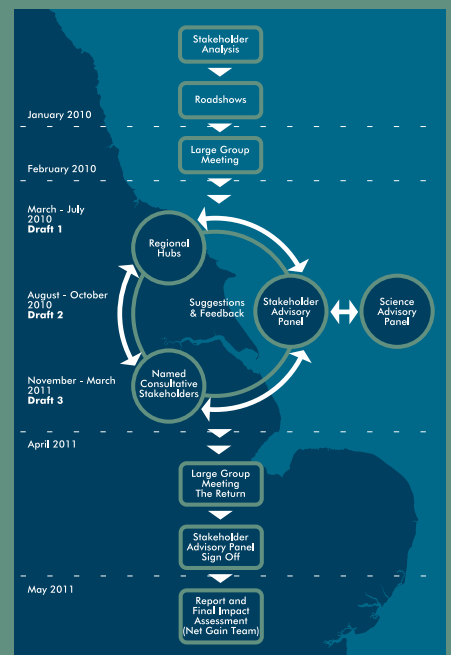


## Net Gain documents available online

Log on to the Net Gain website to view our Stakeholder Engagement Chart. The chart aims to clearly outline how the project fits together, our key date and milestones and how your valuable input fits in to the process. The chart is also your online resource to find all minutes, summaries, reports and attendee lists from all of our meetings and events.

You can find all of this information and more at: [www.netgainmcz.org](http://www.netgainmcz.org) as well as contact details for our team. If you would rather receive information about the Net Gain Project through the post, do let us know and we will ensure that you receive all Net Gain documents as they are published.

As the project moves on, we will be hosting more and more events where important decisions will be made. We are always looking for new ways to ensure that information on the Net Gain Project reaches our stakeholders. If you have any suggestions on different ways that we can keep in touch, please don't hesitate to contact our PR & Communications Manager Dani Sewell at: [dani@yhsg.co.uk](mailto:dani@yhsg.co.uk)



If you would like more information about the Net Gain Project or wish to be removed from our database, please don't hesitate to contact our team: