



Document title	Background data for PLC-6 assessment
Code	2-7
Category	CMNT
Agenda Item	2 - Matters arising from other HELCOM work of relevance for the Group
Submission date	22.5.2015
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

Background

The PLC-6 project is an implementation of HELCOM Recommendation 26/2 to every sixth year carry out a pollution load assessment (PLC) including a quantification of waterborne point, diffuse and natural sources. The overall objective of the project is to prepare a comprehensive assessment of the water- and airborne inputs of nutrients and some hazardous substances to the Baltic Sea and prioritize their sources. See also document 2-5 for further information on the project.

In accordance with the decision by [PRESSURE 2-2015](#), the PLC-6 project should mostly focus on source apportionment and assessing the effectiveness of measures. Thus, the project will need specific background information on possible sources of nutrients input to the Baltic Sea. This background information will also be used to verify the correctness of the input data especially in unmonitored areas.

The 8th PLC-6 meeting ([PLC-6 8-2015](#)) discussed and suggested a set of agriculture related data which could provide such a background for the PLC assessment ([Initial ideas for the structure and contents of the PLC-6 report](#)).

Agricultural related data for the assessment period from 1995 to 2014 (DEADLINE: 31 December 2015):

- Livestock. How: Cows, pigs, poultry and other (i.e. fur production). What units: animal units (1000/ha?). Is it available as geographic information (point/coordinates) so that the PLC-6 project can calculate the animal units per country/by Baltic Sea sub-basin? If not, then the total number of animals per country (preferably only for Baltic Sea catchment area).
- Application of fertilizer and manure. How: kg/ha within the Baltic Sea drainage area (if possible even sub-catchment level).

Land use and cover (DEADLINE: 1 October 2015):

- Tables per country showing % arable land, pasture (grasslands), forest, open land, unknown, urban and built up area, inland waters (including wetlands) (in mid-1990s and 2014 – to see change) Can we get this per river catchment per country (could BNI help with this?)
- Latest CORINE land cover map (could BNI help with this?)

Soil types (map), per catchments if possible.

Action required

The Meeting is invited to

- discuss possible contribution of the group to compilation of data for the PLC assessment and suggest amendments to the proposed list in order to better assess contribution of agriculture to the total input of nutrients and effectiveness of implemented measures,
- discuss data availability in Contracting Parties and suggest a format and timeframe in which they can be provided.