



Indicator: Condition of benthic habitats

Georg Martin

Proposal for overall assessment matrix for indicator “Condition of benthic habitats”

Parameter	Status		
	GES	SubGES, close to GES	SubGES, far from GES
Area	Stable or increasing	Decline <10%	Decline >10%
Extent	Stable or increasing	Decline <10%	Decline >10%
Quality*	≥90% of area or stations in good status	<90-75% of area or stations in good status	>25% of area or stations in bad status
Overall assessment**	All "green"	One or more "amber", but no "red"	One or more "red"

* The median value of indicators decides the quality of habitat when several indicators were used.

** The parameter assessed to have worst status decides the overall status.

Status:

- Indicator concept developed (HELCOM TAPAS)
- Indicator concept tested on local scale (Estonian test case - TAPAS, aggregation HELCOM SPICE)
- No further development since 2017.

Way forward

- Need for further development and operationalizing of indicator has been expressed

Indicator developing group

- Lead: Estonia (Georg Martin) – national funding secured for 2020
- Co-Lead countries Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden

Working schedule

- Revision of indicator concept – January-May 2020
- Proposal for updated concept by May? 2020
- Identification of test cases -
- Collating of needed data for test case -
- Analyses -
- Reporting of test cases -
- Indicator approval -