



Document title	Synopses on tentative new HELCOM actions and measures
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Background

The update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) is now entering into a phase where the sufficiency of existing HELCOM actions is evaluated and where proposals on new HELCOM actions will be developed. The analysis of sufficiency of measures is carried out through the *ad hoc* HELCOM Sufficiency of Measures Platform and through the HELCOM ACTION project which is co-financed by the EU. For more information on these two initiatives see e.g. [Presentations 3-5 to GEAR 20-2019](#).

To support the selection of new HELCOM actions, proposals can be submitted for consideration in the BSAP update process. The proposals should be developed as synopses and make use of a common format that is available for download at a site with basic information on the [BSAP update process](#). This document contains guidance on and the format for submitting synopses. HELCOM 40 2019 -agreed that proposals can be submitted by HELCOM subsidiary bodies, Contracting Parties, international projects and HELCOM observers. The synopses should be submitted by end of 2019 at latest but earlier submission is encouraged.

When your network has agreed to prepare a proposal you are kindly asked to provide a title of the synopses to the Secretariat (susanna.kaasinen@helcom.fi). The information will be made available to the HELCOM subsidiary bodies to inform on planned submissions. If you have any further questions to this invitation please contact ullali.zweifel@helcom.fi

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider if EN CLIME would be interested in submitting suggestions for actions or measures to be included in the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan.

Format for synopses on potential new measures/actions for the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan, version 06.05.2019, SOM Platform

The support the selection of new measures and actions for the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan, submission of synopses on potential new HELCOM actions is invited. HELCOM 40-2019 agreed that synopses on potential new HELCOM measures and actions can be submitted by the Contracting Parties, HELCOM subsidiary bodies, international projects and HELCOM Observers

The aim is that the synopses should summarize existing information in a format that can be used as background information for BSAP update workshops and working group meetings. The information should also provide data and information that can be used to incorporate the potential new measures as part of the model that will be developed to analyse sufficiency of measures. They should thus be relatively short, but still provide technical information i.e. on the target of the measures (e.g. activity, pressure or state component) and information on the potential effect of the measure. References to scientific articles, project deliverables and/or reports should be given to allow the reader to find further information and justification on the potential of the measure to contribute to achieving good environmental status in the Baltic Sea.

The synopses on potential new HELCOM measures/actions should be submitted to the Secretariat (ullali.zweifel@helcom.fi) by end of 2019 at the latest, but it is encouraged that they are submitted as soon as possible. This document provides guidance and a template for the preparation of the synopses.

Guidelines for preparation of synopses:

Topics: there is no fixed list but a list of potential topics is provided in [document 4, section 2, HELCOM SOM Platform 1-2019](#).

Focus: potential new measures/actions, strengthening or improvement of existing measures, to reduce pressures on the Baltic Sea or to protect biodiversity. “New measures” refer to measures that are new to HELCOM and could thus include measures that are already implemented at a national level in one/some of the countries. “Strengthening” refers e.g. to setting stricter limit values, more stringent spatial restrictions to activities, to existing measures. “Improvement” refers e.g. to technical improvements of existing measures based on recent developments.

Length: the proposed length is one page per potential measure. In case the syntheses/synopses include information on a set of related measures, the length can be increased accordingly.

Disposition: the information provided should be evidence-based, objective and comprehensive i.e. to give factual information on the measure/action based on existing research and case studies, and to assemble information from several sources as relevant.

Template and guidance

<p>Title</p> <p><i>[Provide a title that gives immediate understanding of the measure (e.g. recycling of agricultural waste by use of on-farm anaerobic digestion, use of gypsym to reduce phosphorus loads from agricultural land, improved river restoration for migratory fish)]</i></p>
<p>Submitted by:</p> <p><i>[Specify e.g. country, HELCOM network, international project, observer etc, and contact information]</i></p>
<p>Description of measure</p> <p><i>[Free text. Indicative length: 100 words. Description should be short and succinct]</i></p>
<p>Activity:</p> <p><i>[Drop-down list: Activity that the measure is addressing. Additional drop-down lists can be copy/pasted as necessary.]</i></p> <p>Choose an item.</p>
<p>Pressure:</p> <p><i>[Drop-down list: Pressure that the measure is addressing. Additional drop-down lists can be copy/pasted as necessary.]</i></p> <p>Choose an item.</p>
<p>State:</p> <p><i>[Drop-down list + Free text: State component that the measure is addressing. Additional drop-down lists can be copy/pasted as necessary. Add further specification as free text e.g. if the measure will contribute to an improvement 1) of a specific element (e.g. species, habitat, substance, type of litter) and 2) of a specific parameter/feature (e.g. abundance, concentration, amount, population condition)]</i></p> <p>Choose an item.</p>
<p>Extent of impact:</p> <p><i>[Free text. Include, as relevant, information on the extent of impact of the measure, e.g. if the impact is local, within coastal waters, sub-basins, Baltic wide scale. Provide physical units if possible]</i></p>
<p>Effectiveness of measure</p> <p><i>[Free text: Indicative length 300 words. Summary of results of testing/implementing the measure and any quantitative information on its effectiveness. In the case of conservation measures; indicate which species, habitats, functions etc that the measure will contribute to preserving. Include if available estimations on the effect of implementing the measure on a region-wide scale.]</i></p>
<p>Cost, cost-effectiveness of measure:</p> <p><i>[Free text: indicate any known or likely sources of cost and/or effectiveness data of the measure]</i></p>
<p>Feasibility:</p> <p><i>[Optional: provide views on feasibility of implementing the actions e.g. technical, economic, social]</i></p>
<p>Follow-up of measure:</p> <p><i>[Optional: indicate information potential or existing follow-up system for the measure, e.g. indicators, monitoring programme]</i></p>
<p>Background material:</p> <p><i>[Free text: Clarify choice of background material for the synopses, e.g. does it represent a comprehensive overview of results with regard to the measure or a sub-selection]</i></p>
<p>References</p> <p><i>[As many references as needed to support the information summarized in the document]</i></p>