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**Document title** Outcome of EN ESA 3-2019

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## Outcome of the HELCOM expert network on economic and social analyses meeting (EN ESA 3-2019)

### Background

Thus far, economic and social analyses in HELCOM have covered the use of marine waters and cost of degradation for the Baltic Sea Region under the [TAPAS project](#) in 2017, and ecosystem services, business-as-usual (BAU) scenarios and integrated assessment of pressures, state and welfare impacts in the [SPICE project](#) in 2018. Both TAPAS and SPICE supported the [HOLAS II 'State of the Baltic Sea' report and web resources](#), released in July 2018. The results of the ESA were also usable by Contracting Parties in national analyses.

A major HELCOM activity in the upcoming years is the update of the HELCOM BSAP which is to be adopted in 2021. A strategic plan and work plan for the BSAP update has been agreed upon, which includes activities that are relevant to or entail ESA, i.e. analysis of the sufficiency of measures to reach HELCOM objectives, including development of BAU scenarios; and analysis of the cost-effectiveness of measures. Furthermore, the EU-funded ACTION project, led by HELCOM, will support the BSAP update on the analysis of the sufficiency of measures, for a selection of topics, with the remainder of topics supported by the ad hoc SOM platform.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the HELCOM expert network on economic and social analyses (EN ESA 3-2019) was organised as an online meeting on 9 April 2019.

### Aims

The aim of the meeting was to discuss the SOM approach developed by the ACTION project and update the Network on the status of national ESA activities. More specifically, the meeting:

- Discussed the Network's potential role in the upcoming HOLAS III process
- Considered the presented SOM approach methods and made recommendations for its further development
- Took note of national progress in evaluating the effect, sufficiency and cost-effectiveness of measures

## Outcome of EN ESA 3-2019

The agenda of the Meeting is contained in **Annex 1**.

The list of Meeting Participants is contained in **Annex 2**.

The Meeting was chaired by Ms. Soile Oinonen, Finnish Environment Institute. Luke Dodd, HELCOM Secretariat, acted as secretary.

### 1. Opening of the workshop

1.1 The Chair opened the meeting.

1.2 The Chair recalled the agenda of the day (**Annex 1**) and proposed that the schedule for national presentations be amended to accommodate attendees' schedules. The Chair also reminded about the overall and more specific aims of the meeting, as outlined in **Document 1** and above.

### 2. Timely HELCOM ESA network matters

2.1 The Meeting took note of information on timely matters on in the ESA network.

- i) Soile Oinonen, Finland, presented recent examples of published work containing Network contributions and noted the upcoming workshop on marine ecosystem services accounting on 10.10.2019 in Helsinki (**Presentation 1**). The chair proposed that the network seek HELCOM sanctioning of the workshop. The Meeting agreed on this. Approval will be requested from WG GEAR and then HOD.
- ii) Luke Dodd, HELCOM, recalled the planned update the Terms of Reference for the Network to include BSAP update and SOM analysis. Kristine Pakalniete, Latvia, further recalled that comments had been made at EN ESA 2-2018 to the ToR. It was agreed that a draft will be made by the Secretariat, incorporating these comments, and that Network approval would be sought by correspondence. The updated ToR will then be submitted to WG GEAR.
- iii) Jannica Haldin, HELCOM, noted document 4-1 submitted to GEAR 20-2019. The document concerns the upcoming HOLAS III process and improvements that might be made from HOLAS II. Topics concerning EN-ESA are being considered for addition/modification including valuation of ecosystem services and linking ESA to environmental assessments
  - (1) Soile Oinonen, Finland, noted that additional resources will be necessary if significant improvements are undertaken in this area.
  - (2) Lithuania has already begun considering marine ecosystem services and is eager to use this data more broadly. Ecosystem accounting was explored but there were data difficulties and there are no current plans for use with ecosystem services.
  - (3) The Chair noted that synergies exist in HELCOM efforts and should be exploited. The Chair then requested that the Secretariat outline existing HELCOM projects utilizing ESA expertise including any outcomes from GEAR 20-2019.
  - (4) The Chair appreciated discussion of potential upcoming business and EN-ESA awaits the outcome of GEAR 20-2019.
- iv) Latvia has discussed contributing an ESA expert for SOM thematic groups on NIS and Litter and anticipates that being communicated to the secretariat soon.

### 3. Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

3.1 Luke Dodd, HELCOM Secretariat, presented information on the BSAP update and the role of the ACTION project and SOM platforms (**Presentation 2**).

### 4. SOM approach

4.1 Liisa Saikkonen, SYKE, presented information on the SOM approach developed by the ACTION project and in particular the approach for the activity-pressure linkage matrix and measure-pressure link evaluation (**Presentation 3**).

- i) The Meeting recommended not to include priors data with poor geographic or spatial relevance to the activity-pressure survey.
- ii) The Meeting discussed SOM Litter and ongoing efforts in Latvia on the topic. The meeting agreed with the approach for a Baltic scale analysis of the topic but noted a key role for national scale efforts in identifying new measures and further supporting BSAP update.
- iii) The Meeting discussed the proposed activity-pressure surveys. Concern was expressed that experts won't have the necessary information to complete the proposed activity-pressure surveys by assessing activities' contribution into the total pressure in terms of concrete percentages. However, the ability to provide confidence intervals was seen as helpful. The Meeting noted the need for very good guidance to accompany the survey.
- iv) The Meeting discussed the proposed measures-pressures survey and recommended that the simpler format, option C, be used, but that option B could be considered as well. Option A was not recommended for further consideration. The proposed survey pilot occurring in May was strongly endorsed by the Meeting.
- v) The Meeting noted that priors will be valuable for helping respondents understand the effect of individual measures in measure groups during the measures-pressures survey.
- vi) The Meeting agreed that the Network could evaluate survey guidance developed by ACTION.

## **5. Update on national analyses on the effect, sufficiency and cost-effectiveness of measures**

- 5.1 The Meeting took note of the national analyses on the effect, sufficiency and cost-effectiveness of measures, as presented by Contracting Parties (Germany, Lithuania, Latvia (**Presentation 4**), Sweden (**Presentation 5**), Denmark, Finland).

## **6. Synergies between HELCOM SOM and National SOM**

- 6.1 Latvia hopes for synergies and hopes to utilize some HELCOM SOM outputs for national assessments. However, the analysis timeframes may not line up.
- 6.2 The Chair noted that an exchange of methods and preliminary results would be helpful for both national and HELCOM work.
- 6.3 The Chair requested that the Secretariat make a workspace available for the Network to improve Network communication, and further requested that links to previous ESA meetings across all HELCOM projects be easily available on the workspace.

## **7. Closing business**

- 7.1 Latvia suggested that the Network utilize more and shorter online meetings in the future.
- 7.2 The Secretary noted that the meeting was recorded for the purposes of being shared for Polish representatives. The Meeting agreed on this.
- 7.3 The Meeting agreed to meet again in first half of June. It was requested that the Secretariat conduct a poll for meeting times in the near future. Preliminary agenda items include the outcome of GEAR 20-2019 and presentation of national ESA updates.
- 7.4 The Chair closed the meeting.

## Annex 1. Workshop Agenda

Friday 14 December	
12:00	Words of welcome ( <i>coffee available</i> )
12:15	Baltic Sea Action Plan update and SOM platform (Luke Dodd, HELCOM)
12:45	SOM approach – methods (Liisa Saikkonen, SYKE)
	Discussion
13:45 – 14:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
14:15	Roundtable with PowerPoints: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of national ESA work</li> <li>• Discussion: The possibilities of utilising Article 8 ESA cost-of-degradation analyses in estimating the economic benefits of BSAP update; identification of new data sources</li> <li>• Discussion: Synergies between SOM approach and national update of the PoMs</li> </ul>
15:00	Closing discussion and outcome of the meeting
15:30	End of the workshop

## Annex 2. List of Participants

Representing	Name	Organization	Email address
The Chair			
Finland	Soile Oinonen	Finnish Environment Institute	soile.m.oinonen@ymparisto.fi
Contracting Parties			
Denmark	Berit Hasler	Aarhus University	bh@envs.au.dk
Latvia	Kristine Pakalniete	AKTiVS Ltd.	kristinepa@apollo.lv
Germany	Dirk Osiek	Federal Environment Agency Germany	dirk.osiek@uba.de
Sweden	Max Vretborn	Swedish Agency for Water and Marine management	max.vretborn@havochvatten.se
Lithuania	Monika Sakalauskaitė	Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania	monika.sakalauskaite@am.lt
Estonia	Liis Kikas	Tallinn Technical University	liis.kikas@taltech.ee
Lithuania	Daiva Semėnienė	Center for Environmental Policy	daiva@aapc.lt
Invited guests			
	Jacques Delsalle	European Commission - DG Environment	Jacques.Delsalle@ec.europa.eu
	Liisa Saikkonen	Finnish Environment Institute	liisa.saikkonen@ymparisto.fi
HELCOM Secretariat			
	Luke Dodd	HELCOM Secretariat	luke.dodd@helcom.fi
	Jannica Haldin	HELCOM Secretariat	jannica.haldin@helcom.fi