



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Making the HELCOM eutrophication assessment
operational (EUTRO-OPER)
Helsinki, Finland, 3 September 2014

EUTRO-OPER 3-2014

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Outcome of the second meeting of the project making the HELCOM eutrophication assessment operational (HELCOM EUTRO-OPER 2-2014)

Introduction

- 0.1 In accordance with the minutes of the second meeting of making the HELCOM eutrophication assessment operational (HELCOM EUTRO-OPER 2-2014), the third meeting of the EUTRO-OPER project (HELCOM EUTRO-OPER 3-2014) was held on 3 September 2014 as a video conference hosted by the Secretariat.
- 0.2 The Meeting was welcomed by the Project Manager, Ms. Vivi Fleming-Lehtinen, who reminded of the main objectives of the Meeting.
- 0.3 Mr. Hermanni Kaartokallio acted as Chair of the Meeting.
- 0.4 Ms. Vivi Fleming-Lehtinen, Project Manager of EUTRO-OPER, acted as Secretary of the Meeting.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

Documents: 1-1

- 1.1 The Meeting adopted the agenda as contained in document 1-1.

Agenda Item 2 Information by the Secretariat, Project Manager and Contracting Parties

- 2.1 The Meeting took note of the information provided by Professional Secretary Ulla Li Zweifel on the outcomes of other HELCOM processes relevant to EUTRO-OPER.
- 2.2 The Meeting took note of information provided by Finland, Poland and Sweden on their progress in the national implementation of the MSFD as well as on the participation of Finland and Sweden in the comparison of coastal and open sea nutrient targets under the EU ECOSTAT group.
- 2.3 The Meeting acknowledged the ongoing EU-work in expert groups on revising the 'Commission Decision on criteria and methodological standards on good environmental status of marine waters (2010/477/EU)', and was of the opinion that the experiences from developing assessment methodology within HELCOM should be taken advantage of in the revision for Descriptor 5.

Agenda Item 3 Setting up assessment data flow

Documents: 3-1, 3-2

- 3.1 The Meeting viewed the draft list of national datasets (document 3-1) to be included into the eutrophication assessment data flow. The draft was prepared by the Project Manager based on the responses to a questionnaire sent to contracting parties (via delegates of EUTRO-OPER and MONAS) in June. The Meeting agreed to provide the remaining contracting parties time to respond via e-mail **until 30 September** in case they wish additions or changes to the list.
- 3.2 The Meeting welcomed the information by Poland, that they will be able to report also coastal data to ICES by the end of 2014.
- 3.3 The Meeting viewed and agreed on the draft on roles of institutions to participate in the data and work flow (document 3-1).

5.3 The Meeting viewed the summary provided by Germany and Denmark on existing approaches on assessing oxygen status in western Baltic coastal waters, and invited the other contracting parties to provide information on possible additional approaches used in the other Baltic areas.

Agenda Item 6

Work progress and road map: tasks under work phases 1 and 2

Documents: 6-1

6.1 The Meeting discussed the progress in light of the agreed road map, with the following work expected and implemented during work phase 1 (1 April – 31 August 2014):

- Subtask 1a.ii: Input on eutrophication monitoring has been provided to the monitoring topic sheets, supporting the work of the MORE project
- Subtask 1a.i: Datasets to be included into data flow at 1st stage (during 2014) have been defined by EUTRO-OPER 3-2014
- Subtask 1a.i: Results on testing the use of remote sensing data in the update of the chlorophyll-*a* indicator have been presented, and options for including the data to the EUTRO-OPER data flow have been provided by Finland
- Subtasks 1b.iii and 1c.ii: A first draft for outline for the EUTRO-OPER manual has been prepared, and is found in the HELCOM Meeting Portal, under the EUTRO-OPER work space named 'EUTRO-OPER manuals'
- Subtask 1b.ii: The data aggregation approach to be used in updating each core indicator (e.g. determine spatial and temporal aspects) has been defined by EUTRO-OPER 2-2014
- Subtask 1b.ii: The procedures for including EO- and SOO-data for updating chlorophyll *a* indicator were agreed to be specified during work phase 2 (1 September – 31 December 2014), by the project manager with support by Finland
- Subtask 1c.i: Finalising the specifications of HEAT 3.0 tool has been postponed to work phase 2, in order to take advantage of the joint testing
- Subtask 1a.ii: Presenting alternatives for sub-class boundaries and distance-to-target approach has been postponed to work phase 2, in order to take advantage of the results of the joint HEAT testing
- Subtask 1d.iii: Updating the content in core indicator reports and assessment web page is under development, and expected to be finalized by the end of September
- Subtask 2a.i: The 2007-2011 assessment data has been collected to ICES, and may be used for project purposes
- Subtask 2b.i: The roles of institutions in providing additional data (EOP, SOO) has been defined by EUTRO-OPER 3-2014
- Subtask 2c.iii: Identifying relevant institutes within contracting parties to participate in work flow

6.2 Thus the Meeting agreed that the following tasks are to be implemented during work phase 2 (1 September - 31 December 2014):

- Subtask 1a.i: In connection to the development of new indicators, their parameters and data types required for indicator update will be defined so that they can be included into the assessment data flow if necessary
- Subtask 1b.i: The aggregation products needed for reporting work flow (review purposes) will be defined, with input from EU-RSC data project
- Subtask 1b.ii: Database algorithms for procedures for updating DIN, DIP and Secchi depth indicators, with input from ICES and Project Manager
- Subtask 1c.i: The database algorithms for the procedures for producing HEAT 3.0 assessment will be programmed by ICES, with support by the Project Manager
- Subtasks 1d.i, 1d.iii: The assessment end-products for both HELCOM and other end-users will be defined, with input from the EU-RSC data project, so that they can be made operational through the interactive web-base structure during work phase 3
- Subtask 1c.i: Finalising the specifications of HEAT 3.0 tool has been postponed to work phase 2, in order to take advantage of the joint testing

- Subtask 1b.ii: The procedures for including EO- and SOO-data for updating chlorophyll *a* indicator were agreed to be specified during work phase 2 (1 September – 31 December 2014), by the project manager with support by Finland
- Subtask 1a.ii: Presenting alternatives for sub-class boundaries and distance-to-target approach has been postponed to work phase 2, in order to take advantage of the results of the joint HEAT testing

6.3 The Meeting updated the EUTRO-OPER road map (Annex 1).

Agenda Item 7 **Future work**

Documents: 7-1

7.1 The Meeting acknowledged that Poland will confirm in the beginning of 2015 their offer of hosting the EUTRO-OPER 4-2014 meeting (scheduled on week 7 in 2015).

7.2 The Meeting considered the list of nominated project contacts contained in document 7-1 and concluded that it is up to date.

Agenda Item 8 **Any other business**

Documents: None

8.1 The Meeting did not discuss any other business.

Agenda Item 9 **Closing of the Meeting**

Documents: 9-1

9.1 The Meeting found videoconferencing a feasible way to increase the number of project meetings.

9.2 The Meeting adopted the draft Outcome of the Meeting. The final Outcome of the Meeting will be made available in the HELCOM Meeting Portal, together with the documents.

Annex 1 **EUTRO-OPER updated road map**

The EUTRO-OPER updated road map is presented as a separate table 'EUTRO-OPER 3-2014_8-1 Final outcome_ANNEX1.xlsx'.

Annex 2 List of Participants

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Annex 3 List of Documents

Doc No.	Date submitted	Title	Submitted by
1-1	20.8.2014	Provisional Annotated Agenda	Secretariat
3-1	29.8.2014	Defining datasets and roles of institutions for the data flow	Secretariat, with input from ICES
3-2	29.8.2014	Definitions and procedures for including EO- and SOO-data for updating chlorophyll- <i>a</i> indicator	Finland, with input from the EU-RSC data – project
4-1	29.8.2014	Progress in testing HEAT in Baltic Sea coastal areas	Secretariat, with input from Sweden and Poland
5-1	28.8.2014	Two remote sensing based phytoplankton bloom indicators under development	Finland
5-2	28.8.2014	Development of an oxygen consumption indicator	Sweden
5-3	28.8.2014	Assessment of oxygen status in shallower areas of the Baltic Sea	Germany and Denmark
6-1	28.8.2014	Road map for implementing the activities of EUTRO-OPER	Secretariat
7-1	28.8.2014	List of nominated project members	Secretariat