



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Thirteenth Meeting of the HELCOM Expert Working
Group on Oiled Wildlife Response (EWG OWR 13-2019)

EWG OWR 13-2019

Online meeting, 14.03.2019

Document title	Involvement of NGOs in national and international emergency cooperation
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Background

EWG OWR 12-2019 discussed the involvement of NGOs in national and international emergency cooperation and instructed the Secretariat to draft a format table with questions on the topic, to be forwarded to the Contracting Parties for filling in before the next meeting.

Attached to this document is the format table which the Contracting Parties are requested to fill in before the EWG OWR 13-2019. Information from the Netherlands reported by Sea Alarm is provided as an example.

Action required

The Contracting Parties are invited to fill in and submit the format table to the Secretariat by **8 March 2019**. The Meeting is invited to revisit and discuss further the issue of involvement of NGOs in national and international emergency cooperation.

Authority-NGO relationships in the BSR

Country	Authority-NGO arrangement(s)	Formal or informal?	Related to a plan?	Annual activities	Report by
Contracting Parties					
Estonia					
Denmark					
Finland					
Germany					
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Poland					
Russia					
Sweden					
Examples from outside of Baltic region					
Netherlands	The national authority (Rijkswaterstaat) aims at working together with NGOs for the preparedness and response to oiled wildlife incidents. Rijkswaterstaat has financially enabled coastal rehab centres to set up an umbrella organisation in 2008. Via a project (2017-2022) this umbrella organisation will be expanded to include a variety of NGOs who are willing	Semi-formal, not via a covenant, but via a multi-year project with training, exercises, research and development. Rijkswaterstaat is involving other regional and local authorities to participate. SON-Respons is envisaged as the (new) organisation that will coordinate the preparedness and	The cooperation is related to the 2009 Oiled Wildlife Response Plan, in which authorities and NGOs have agreed to cooperate together. The Plan is currently subject of review and updating.	Annual network meeting to evaluate past year's activities and outlook to next year's planning. Regular training of identified roles and functions. EUROWA materials have been formally adopted are being translated. Also exercises (table tops, field exercises) are scheduled to take place regularly in three different coastal regions. Budget is 150,000 EURO per annum	Sea Alarm

	to join forces with the authorities to deal effectively with future wildlife incidents	response programmes between authorities and NGOs.		(exclusive of costs field exercises or multi-stakeholder events)	
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