



Document title	Report on Mapping of the institutional architecture for protection from oil spills in the Baltic Sea region
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Background

MSB's report *Mapping of the institutional architecture for protection from oil spills in the Baltic Sea region – Survey results and report* has been finalized and will be presented at the meeting.

This survey was intended as a pilot in drawing a comprehensive picture of oil spill contingency management in the Baltic Sea region, aimed to understanding of what institutions may be involved in this process in different countries. Oil spill protection is a complex undertaking due to its cross-sectorial nature, and may vary in different approaches and practices on how to organise it institutionally. Knowing these different models may encourage and facilitate good practice exchange among countries, and, more importantly, facilitate cross-border information exchange and cooperation.

Due to the differences in national civil protection systems across the region, the task of identification of said contact points requires a better understanding of institutional architecture (including ownership, mandate and responsibilities) in the field of oil spill protection in the Baltic Sea region. Further than only national architecture specifics, cross-border cooperation frameworks such as HELCOM, EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) and Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) Civil Protection Network, as well as the Copenhagen Agreement (the Nordic countries) and the Arctic Council Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response Working Group (EPPR) among others, have to be taken into account.

Another aim of the report is to provide relevant background information to preparation for HELCOM Balex Delta 2018 exercise in Sweden, which will be a multilateral cooperation exercise on shore and at sea.

The differences in organisation between the national on shore response work may also give an indication to why some CP's are absent from the EWG SHORE meetings and could be used to help find a way forward in our cooperation regarding on shore response within HELCOM.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to

- take part of the presentation to be made by consultant Egle Obcarskaite, Sister Consulting, on mapping of the institutional architecture,
- take part of the [report](#) (PDF) and printed handouts to be distributed at the meeting,
- discuss how to make best use of the report in EWG SHORE future work.