Document title	Outcome of FISH-PRO III 2-2020
Code	2-2
Category	INF
Agenda Item	2 – Matters arising from HELCOM work of relevance for the group
Submission date	18.2.2020
Submitted by	Secretariat

Background

The second meeting of the continuation of the Project for Baltic-wide assessment of coastal fish communities in support of an ecosystem-based management was held at the premises of the Ministry of Environment in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 11-13 February 2020.

The full Outcome of the meeting is set out in the Annex.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the Outcome of FISH-PRO III 2-2020.

Outcome of the 2nd Meeting of the continuation of the project for Baltic-wide assessment of coastal fish communities in support of an ecosystem-based management (FISH-PRO III)

Contents

Introduction

01. With reference to the decision by FISH-PRO III 1-2019, the second meeting of the continuation of the Project for Baltic-wide assessment of coastal fish communities in support of an ecosystem-based management was held at the premises of the Ministry of Environment (A. Jakšto g. 4/9) in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 11-13 February 2020.

02. The Meeting was attended by delegations from all Contracting Parties except the EU. No Observer organization attended the Meeting. The List of participants is included in **Annex 1**.

03. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Jens Olsson, Swedish University of Agricultural Science, Sweden. Ms. Petra Kääriä, HELCOM Secretariat, acted as secretary of the Meeting.

04. Mr. Algirdas Klimavicius, Ministry of Environment, welcomed the participants to Vilnius, wished them a successful meeting and highlighted the importance on working towards conserving biodiversity during the times of international biodiversity crisis.

05. The Chair highlighted the following main topics of the Meeting:

- Further developing indicators and assessment methods (current and size related indicators, possible indicator for habitat extent and quality)
- Preparation for HOLAS III (time plan, contribution from FISH PRO III including updated status assessment and thematic assessment)
- Update of indicator data in coastal fish database COOL (potentially also data from additional areas)
- Intermediate status assessment (data until 2019)
- Alternative data sources, additional monitoring areas and trends in commercial catches in relation to coastal fish monitoring and assessments.
- Dissemination of projects of interest to FISH PRO III (e.g. SOM, ACTION, Pan Baltic Scope and EN CLIME, recreational fisheries, ecosystem services valuation)

06. Mr. Linas Lozys, Lithuania, provided the participants information about practicalities and knowledge about Vilnius - the hidden gem.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

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

Agenda Item 2 Information of relevance to FISH-PRO III

2.1 The Meeting took note of information on the outcomes of recent HELCOM meetings (**Presentation 1**), as presented by the Secretariat. The Meeting noted the suggestion by State and Conservation to consider rephrasing the action 'Develop long-term management plans by 2012 for protecting, monitoring, and sustainably managing coastal fish species, including the most threatened and/or declining, including anadromous ones, according to BSEP 109' and agreed to consider it under Agenda Item 6.

2.2 The Meeting took note of the work related to the secondary parameter 'fish' under HELCOM-Baltic Earth Expert network on climate change (EN CLIME) (**Presentation 2**), as presented by Mr. Örjan Östman, Sweden.

2.3 The Meeting noted the information by the Secretariat that all the key messages provided by the EN CLIME experts will be presented by the leads of each parameter group at the next meeting of EN CLIME on 16-17 April in Hamburg, Germany, and that the deadline for key messages for the parameters will be extended due to missing information for several secondary parameters.

2.4 The Meeting welcomed that comments and input to both key messages on fish and fisheries will be provided by **25 February 2020** to Mr. Örjan Östman (orjan.ostman@slu.se) for fish and Mr. Antti Lappalainen (antti.lappalainen@luke.fi) for fisheries.

2.5 The Meeting took note of the HELCOM ACTION project and HELCOM knowledge and research needs in relation to the HELCOM Science Agenda (**Presentation 3**), as presented by the Project Manager. The Meeting noted that the outcome of the ACTION project can likely be used in the fourth thematic assessment and took note of the information that the HELCOM Science Agenda Task Group will provide a proposal for further development of the HELCOM Science Agenda to HELCOM 41-2020, which will be held on 4-5 March 2020.

2.6 The Meeting took note of the Swedish revised coastal fish monitoring program, presented by Ms. Noora Mustamäki, Sweden (**Presentation 4)** and encouraged other Contracting Parties to carry out a similar comparison on the results of current monitoring vs. reduced number of samplings for optimized monitoring, as this might release resources for sampling in additional areas.

2.7 The Meeting took note of the updated coastal fish monitoring guideline, presented by Ms. Noora Mustamäki, Sweden (**Presentation 4**). The monitoring program was endorsed by STATE & CONSERVATION 10-2019 and uploaded to the HELCOM website. The Meeting noted that the methods section is now included as an annex to the guidelines.

2.8 The Meeting took note of information on the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan focusing on fish and suggestions for measures for coastal fish under the HELCOM Platform for SOM, as presented by Ms. Lena Bergström, Sweden (**Presentation 5**). The Presentation also included information forwarded from the HELCOM Secretariat on responses received so far on the sufficiency-of-measures survey previously distributed to HELCOM experts. The Meeting took note that additional responses would be needed for some areas and that the response can still be replied to until **29 February 2020** by this link. The Meeting noted that the outcome of the process can be used for the fourth thematic assessment.

2.9 The Meeting discussed the increasing predation pressure by seals on coastal fish and was of the opinion that currently there is not sufficient amount of scientific literature on the matter. The Meeting agreed to follow up on the issue in future meetings of FISH-PRO III.

2.10 The Meeting took note of the following recent activities and information regarding coastal fish, as presented by the Contracting Parties:

- Denmark has an ongoing project on gear development for protecting fyke net catches from seals, currently increasing sample size of field trials before they are able to report results.

  A newly developed national indicator of eelpout has been included in the national marine strategy. A report on this indicator is available and it is being worked up into a paper for publication soon.

  Ongoing work to elucidate temperature data from loggers on gear for monitoring coastal fish. Once this is complete, the effect of temperature can be estimated and controlled for in coastal fish monitoring data.

  New monitoring areas were included in Denmark's coastal fish indicators for 2019. This is planned to continue. Coastal fish monitoring in Denmark remains reliant on a robust citizen science monitoring programme, which is only funded for three-year periods.

- Estonia: Coastal fish monitoring was also carried out during 2019. The perch abundance in the Hiiumaa monitoring area was about at the GES boundary or just above it. In some monitoring areas (e.g. Pärnu) perch abundances have declined. The strong year classes of sea-spawning whitefish in South-Eastern Hiiumaa have resulted in increase of whitefish landings in this area. After the sharp decline in round goby abundance in 2018 the population of this species is showing tendencies to increase again in the coastal waters of Estonia.

- In Finland, the gillnet surveys (three areas) were conducted as planned in 2019. Results were typical except the high number of small pikeperch (12-20 cm) in the catch of Helsinki area. A likely reason was that the year class of warm year 2018 (not verified yet) is strong. Finland started a new research project

to study the effects of increased minimum length limit (37 -> 40 cm) of pikeperch for commercial fishery and the pikeperch population in the Archipelago Sea.

- Germany (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern): There is currently no coastal fish monitoring in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany. A tendering procedure was carried out in December 2019 but unfortunately an executive institution hasn´t been found so Mecklenburg-Vorpommern will need to adjust the call for tender to go in a second round.
- Latvia: Coastal fish monitoring was carried out as usual - in 2 monitoring sites it's carried out in August, but in 4 sites - all year. Very low numbers of fish were caught in areas where HELCOM assessments are carried out.

  Round goby catches are overall decreasing especially in open Latvian coast but show an increase in the Gulf of Riga. Fish samples are collected for biological analysis and age reading from all Latvian coast.

  Recreational salmon and sea trout fishery have been monitored in 2019, data on target species and bycatch have been collected. Survey (questionnaires) on flounder and round goby angling from shore have been done. Monitoring of both of these activities will continue also in 2020.

  Pilot study to estimate the loss of catch (total and for some species - individual) due to seal predation in coastal areas has been carried out in 2018-2019.
- Lithuania (**Presentation 6**): State monitoring for assessment of the status of fish communities continues since 1993 in Lithuanian coastal waters of the Baltic Sea and Curonian Lagoon using standard monitoring methodology with no change in the gear selectivity. Status of the communities in both areas is assessed to be in a bad condition if to use MSFD “one-out-all-out” approach; the main reason of the bad status of the assessed communities is poor status of the indicator related to fish size in the community. Low numbers of size indicator during recent years is most probably related to high fishing pressure in both Curonian Lagoon (including Russian part of the Lagoon) and Baltic coastal waters.

  Fishing pressure in Lithuania might be reduced if some companies leave the sector. There is willingness of some companies to leave the fishery if compensations are provided from the Fishery Fund. Due to poor status of eastern Baltic cod population and closure of the fishery in the Baltic for the eastern cod in 2019, most likely compensations to leave the sector will be provided for offshore marine fishery as a priority.

  There are some indications that due to closure of recreational fishing for eastern Baltic cod since 2020, recreational fishing for salmonids (trolling) is intensifying in Lithuanian marine waters.

  There is large shift in marine coastal fishery from gill nets to trap-nets during few recent years. Recently, almost up to 80% of the total catch is obtained using trap-nets. Invasive round gobies make almost half of the trap-net catch during 2013-2019. Annual catch of round goby in 2019 declined by half comparing to annual catches during period from 2016 to 2018; this indicates some decline of this invasive species.
- Poland: In 2019 National coastal fish monitoring surveys were carried out on the stations located in nine coastal water bodies: Mierzeja Wiślana, Półwysep Hel, Władysławowo-Jastrzębia Góra, Jastrzębia Góra-Rowy, Rowy-Jarosławiec Wschód, Rowy-Jarosławiec Zachód, Jarosławiec-Sarbinowo, Sarbinowo-Dziwna and Dziwna-Świna. In addition, three transitional water bodies were monitored: Zalew Pucki, Zatoka Pucka Zewnętrzna and Zalew Wiślany. Coastal fish monitoring started in mid-July, with Nordic Coastal Multimesh Gillnets in use. Catch volume and species composition were typical for particular sampling sites, with an exception of three specimens of Siberian sturgeon caught.

  Since 2014, only the Nordic coastal multi-mesh gillnets are used for coastal fish monitoring in Poland, excluding Vistula, Dziwna and Świna river mouths where bottom trawl has been used.

  Currently, financing support of coastal fish monitoring is ensured till end of 2020. No new coastal fish projects in Poland currently. Results of pilot study concerning of testing monitoring methods of recreational fisheries are included in DCF since 2020.

- Sweden: All fish monitoring in Sweden was conducted according to plans. In the Bothnian Bay, record catches of small perch were caught in 2019, while the perch catch in areas further south was also high but stabilizing since the record catches of 2018. The summer of 2018 was very warm, and the year-class of perch was large and the YOY grew faster than on an average summer especially in the southern areas. Probably the strong year-class of 2018 was recruited to the gear first in 2019 in the Bothnian Bay areas, which will be confirmed by age reading analyses. Whitefish catches are increasing in Bothnian Bay but the number of individuals caught is still low. Round goby was detected in Hargshamn (Åland Sea), which shows that the species is spreading northwards on the Swedish coast. The coastal fish monitoring program in Sweden is currently under revision but no changes were implemented in 2019. Already in 2018, the fishing with net series in two areas (Kvädöfjärden and Muskö) was revised, the net series fishing is since 2018 only conducted on one night and a parallel Nordic net fishing series was initiated in both areas.

2.11 The Meeting encouraged Germany to use Nordic nets in their future coastal monitoring programme and to consult the experts of FISH-PRO III if further input on the future design of the national program is needed.

2.12 The Meeting agreed to update the monitoring guideline in 2021 with possible new Lithuanian and German data.

Agenda Item 3 Information on the process and timeline for HOLAS III including contribution from FISH-PRO III

3.1 The Meeting took note of the draft provisional timeline and preliminary plan for HOLAS III, as presented by the Project Manager (document 3-1, **Presentation 7**). The Meeting noted that any indicator not ready by the end of 2021 will not be used in the HOLAS III report.

3.2 The Meeting considered the following deliverables from FISH-PRO III to HOLAS III:

- operational indicators and assessment methodologies -> ready by 2021
- supporting indicators -> ready by 2021
- increased spatial coverage -> ready by 2021
- updated data in COOL -> by spring 2022
- indicator based status assessments -> ready by early fall 2022
- updated indicator reports -> ready by end of 2022
- review assessment results -> ready by end of 2022
- fourth thematic assessment of coastal fish -> ready by end of 2022
- review the final HOLAS III report -> early fall 2023

3.3 The Meeting considered the possibility of delivering 2021 data in time for HOLAS III, was of the opinion that it could be possible to include the whole time period of 2016-2021 in the holistic assessment, and concluded that a decision on whether or not 2021 data can be used will be taken in FISH-PRO III 3-2021.

Agenda Item 4 Indicators and assessment

HELCOM core indicators for coastal fish

4.1 The Meeting took note of the future work on HELCOM indicators and work plan for fish (document 4-1, **Presentation 7**), as presented by the Project Manager and agreed to implement the work plan regarding coastal fish.

4.2 The Meeting considered which coastal fish indicators should be included in HOLAS III from coastal fish and was of the opinion that at least the same indicators that were used for HOLAS II should be included.

4.3 The Meeting noted that in Finland the results for the functional groups indicator focusing on cyprinids based on commercial catch data could be biased due to a system that fishermen are subsidised for

catching cyprinids resulting in increase in total catches and should hence not be included in future assessments.

4.4 The Meeting agreed to consider in the future whether the existing functional groups indicator focusing on piscivores brings added value to the assessment of coastal fish, as it in many areas strongly resembles the status of the key species indicators focusing on perch.

4.5 The Meeting considered the development work needed during year 2020, and concluded the following:

- Key species indicator: perch and flounder considered as good species also in the future, eelpout could be used especially in Danish waters and possibly also cod in German waters, no further development work is needed until HOLAS III
- Functional groups indicator: a regional list of species referred to as mesopredators and piscivores will be considered by FISH-PRO III 3-2021, Denmark to consider if the indicator could be applied to the Danish data
- L90 indicator: until FISH-PRO III 3-2021 Contracting Parties are encouraged to calculate L90 in their monitoring data (for perch, pikeperch and flounder) and further efforts should be put on addressing the impact of fishing on the indicator and establishing potential reference values.
- In FISH-PRO III 3-2021 Estonia will present their assessment and work on the large perch indicator
- D1 (biodiversity)/D3 (commercial fish species): The Meeting discussed additional indicators to support assessment of coastal fish under D3 such as catch/biomass ratio as a proxy for fishing pressure and abundance data for monitoring as a proxy for spawning stock biomass. In some areas it is already possible to use primary D3 indicators for coastal fish stocks.
- Assessment methodology: EATS and trend-based approach for abundance indicators will be included in the intermediate assessment. There is a need to develop the description and communication on the assessment methodology for coastal fish in future reports (core indicator reports, thematic assessment)
- Data to be used in HOLAS III: at present we aim at gill net monitoring (all but DK), citizen science (only DK) and commercial catches (only Finland). This will be reviewed at FISH-PRO III 3-2021.
- Areas: The Meeting invited the Contracting Parties to also include data from additional monitoring areas for the purpose of HOLAS III, especially Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Denmark and Sweden. By FISH-PRO III 3-2021 CPs are encouraged to calculate indicators from monitoring areas not currently included in the work of FISH-PRO III.

4.6 The Meeting took note of the comment by Denmark to review the work on indicators related to demographic aspects in key species as undertaken by OSPAR, and potentially also select a suit of indicators describing the status of key species demographics.

4.7 The Meeting agreed that also short time series from additional areas will be reported to COOL in the future and encouraged all Contracting Parties to have a look at new monitoring areas for possible new indicators.

4.8 The Meeting emphasized the importance to include Polish data in the assessment.

4.9 The Meeting considered the process for intermediate status assessment for core indicators with data until 2019 using the EATS assessment tool and was of the opinion that running the assessment during fall 2020 provides a good opportunity to check and validate the methodology and data and to see how the coastal fish population is developing.

4.10 The Meeting clarified that the outcome of the intermediate status assessment would be internal collation of results and there is no need to produce a report out of it.

4.11 The Meeting agreed to run an intermediate status assessment by using a R-script as developed by Mr. Örjan Östman. In order to run the assessment, the Contracting Parties will submit data to COOL **by 30**

June 2020 and SLU, Sweden, will execute the assessment using the R-script. The outcome of the assessment will be presented and discussed at FISH-PRO III 3-2021.

4.12 The Meeting considered the fourth thematic assessment on coastal fish, was of the opinion that the fourth thematic assessment could be an update of the third thematic assessment (no need to change the structure). The Meeting noted that the drafting of the assessment will start in FISH-PRO III 3-2021 and pointed out that a list of species occurring in the monitoring needs to be added, as presented in the 2nd thematic assessment. The Meeting welcomed that Sweden will take the lead for updating the thematic assessment and invited other countries to actively participate in the process.

4.13 The Meeting took note of a presentation on controlling for temperature effects in monitoring data for coastal fish, as presented by Mr. Rahmat Naddafi, Sweden (**Presentation 8**).

Size-related indicators

4.14 The Meeting took note of the presentation on national data and progress of work regarding size-related indicators (**Presentation 9**), as presented by Mr. Örjan Östman and Mr. Jens Olsson, Sweden. The Meeting noted that the L90 indicator for perch seems to show relatively low variation across regions and areas and monitoring gears, hence developing a general threshold for the indicator in the Baltic Sea should be possible.

4.15 The Meeting noted the suggestion by Denmark that an indicator on proportion of mature fish could supplement L90, especially for commercial fish species.

4.16 The Meeting highlighted the need to find a clearer link between the L90 indicator and fishing pressure.

4.17 The Meeting agreed that the R-script for calculating L90 will be distributed to the group by Mr. Örjan Östman, Sweden.

4.18 The Meeting agreed that Contracting Parties will calculate L90 for perch in the monitoring areas and review the results in FISH-PRO III 3-2021. It would also be valuable to compare the value of L90 for perch in areas with different fishing pressure.

4.19 The Meeting noted the view by Estonia and Finland that the indicator large perch would clearly depict the status of the population and agreed that Estonia will present preliminary results in FISH-PRO III 3-2021.

4.20 The Meeting considered the threshold boundary for L90 and pointed out that for flounder population specific boundaries would be needed.

4.21 The Meeting clarified that the indicator shows L90 for perch with respect to catches of fish above 15 cm, not the whole population.

Additional indicator work

4.22 The Meeting took note of the information on potential indicators on habitat status and extent, as presented by Mr. Elliot Brown, Denmark (**Presentation 10)**, and was of the opinion that such work should be valuable also in the MSFD context.

4.23 The Meeting was of the view that whether the habitat status and extent indicator would be developed, it should focus on perch, pike, pikeperch and whitefish. The Meeting noted that perch and roach benefit from fairly similar environmental conditions.

4.24 The Meeting pointed out that the indicator would show pressures from physical disturbance, eutrophication etc. rather than fishing pressure.

4.25 The Meeting noted the suggestions by Estonia to use commercial catch data for pike as proxy and by Sweden to weigh different information on a map for estimation of habitat quality.

4.26 The Meeting agreed, for the time being, to concentrate work on other coastal fish indicators and consider case specific studies in case drastic changes in the population status can be identified. The Meeting

concluded that as new information emerges and if a specific request will be formulated regarding developing an indicator for fish habitat quality and extent, the question can be reopened in the group.

4.27 The Meeting took note of the presentation on essential fish habitats, prepared by PanBaltic Scope project, presented by Ms. Lena Bergström, Sweden (**Presentation 11**). The Meeting noted that the maps present important habitats for fish and are aimed to be used for MSP purposes, however some adjustments still remain before they can be approved by all HELCOM countries. The maps are also useful for overlaying important fish habitats with spatial data on pressures.

Agenda Item 5 Monitoring and data

5.1 The Meeting took note of the data uploaded to COOL, as presented by the Project Manager and agreed that all countries will provide data to the Project Manager (jens.olsson@slu.se) **by 30 June 2020**, to be updated to the database.

5.2 The Meeting took note of the information on use of commercial fish catches, as presented by Mr. Antti Lappalainen, Finland (**Presentation 12**). The Meeting noted the suggestion to use the commercial catch data by ICES in HELCOM work, for example in the fourth thematic assessment. The Meeting was of the opinion that the data could be used at least for surveillance purposes, supported by other indicator data. The Meeting noted that the spatial distribution is on the level of ICES rectangles.

5.3 The Meeting further took note of the proposal by Finland to focus on areas most important for commercial fisheries (high fishing pressure) for perch and pikeperch for D3 purposes, and in the long run aim to use the primary D3 indicators in these areas. The Meeting agreed that Finland will give a presentation of the data needs for the primary D3 indicators based on an example from the Finnish coast in FISH-PRO III 3-2021.

5.4 The Meeting noted the suggestion by Sweden to use the data for depicting utility by connecting to the value of fisheries in different areas.

5.5 The Meeting welcomed that Finland will provide a presentation on average catches for each species in each country and subbasin and plot trends over time based on the commercial catch data by FISH-PRO III 3-2021.

5.6 The Meeting took note of the coastal fish data in the HELCOM biodiversity database, prepared by the BaltiCheck project.

Agenda Item 6 Other activities

Recreational fisheries

6.1 The Meeting recalled that HELCOM FISH-PRO II prepared a compilation of information on coastal recreational fisheries in the HELCOM countries. The compilation was considered by FISH 6-2017 that noted that FISH-PRO can support the updating of the information also in the future. The Meeting took note of the latest version of the compiled information on coastal recreational fisheries in the HELCOM countries (document 6-1), as presented by Mr. Łukasz Dziemian, Poland (**Presentation 13**).

6.2 The Meeting noted that angling is not included in the Latvian recreational fisheries numbers.

6.3 The Meeting took note of a Polish pilot study on development of methods for monitoring recreational fisheries, as presented by Mr. Adam Lejk, Poland (**Presentation 14**).

Relevant projects related to coastal fish

6.4 The Meeting took note of the following presentations:

- 'Juvenile fish habitat across the inner Danish waters: Habitat association models and habitat growth models from direct observation and historical data' by Mr. Elliot Brown, Denmark (**Presentation 15**)
- 'Preliminary study on restoring wetland for successful reproduction of anadromous pike (*Esox lucius*)', by Mr. Roland Svirgsden, Estonia (**Presentation 16**)

6.5 The Meeting took note of the Swedish studies on pike and perch factories, as presented by the Project Manager. Preliminary studies indicate that the wetlands have positive effects on pike populations. The Meeting noted that the Project Manager will distribute the report to the experts.

6.6 The Meeting took of the national recreational fisheries project, presented by Mr. Göran Sundblad, Sweden (**Presentation 17**) and welcomed the presentation of further results in future meetings of FISH-PRO III 3-2021.

6.7 The Meeting considered the following HELCOM action: 'Develop long-term management plans by 2012 for protecting, monitoring and sustainably managing coastal fish species, including the most threatened and/or declining, including anadromous ones, according to BSEP109'. It has been suggested that FISH-PRO III will provide a first draft on how to rephrase the action to be included in the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan.

6.8 The Meeting provided the following suggestion on rephrasing the action:

To assess the state of coastal fish* and to develop and coordinate monitoring and measures to achieve favourable status of these populations and communities, also including threatened, exploited and declining species.

**Coastal fish are fish that utilise the coastal habitats in at least one life history stage.*

Agenda Item 7 Future work

7.1 The Meeting revised the Work Plan, as included in **Annex 2**.

7.2 The Meeting agreed to preliminarily organize the next meeting (FISH-PRO III 3-2021) in February-March 2021 in Poland.

7.3 The Meeting agreed to include the following topics to the Agenda of FISH-PRO III 3-2021:

- Presentations of intersessional work on size indicators, assessment methodology and data sources for status assessments (including commercial catch data and coastal fish indicators for D3)
- Further discussion on what to include for coastal fish in HOLAS III (indicators, assessment methodologies, species, areas, data sources)
- Data update to COOL
- Start drafting 4th Thematic Assessment for Coastal fish
- Project dissemination (recreational fisheries, measures evaluation)

Agenda Item 8 Any other business

8.1 The Meeting reviewed and updated the list of nominated contacts for the FISH-PRO III (document 8-1).

8.2 The Meeting invited Contracting Parties and Observer organizations to inform of any new, or changed, nominations to the Secretariat (petra.kaaria@helcom.fi).

8.3 The Meeting thanked Lithuania for generous hospitality and organization of the Meeting.

Agenda Item 9 Outcome of the Meeting

9.1 The Meeting adopted the Outcome of the Meeting. The Outcome of the Meeting, together with the documents and presentations considered by the Meeting are available on the FISH-PRO III 2-2020 meeting site.

Annex 1. List of participants

Representing	Name	Name of organization	E-mail
Chair	Jens Olsson	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	jens.olsson@slu.se
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HELCOM	Petra Kääriä	HELCOM Secretariat	petra.kaaria@helcom.fi

Annex 2. Revised Work Plan of FISH-PRO III

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Activities					
Meeting	First FISH PRO III meeting	Second FISH PRO III meeting	Third FISH PRO III meeting	Fourth FISH PRO III meeting	Fifth FISH PRO III meeting
Monitoring guideline	Finalize updated monitoring guideline				Start updating monitoring manual?
Workplan	Agree on Workplan for FISH PRO III	Revision of Workplan if needed	Revision of Workplan if needed	Revision of Workplan if needed.	Revision of Workplan if needed. Application for new project?
Indicators	Continue work on size related indicators	Continue work on size related indicators	Finalize work on size related indicators	Implement size related indicators in coastal fish assessments?	Start discussions on refinement of current indicators?
		Continue discussion/work on habitat indicator	Discussions on commercial catch data and coastal fish under descriptor 3 in MSFD	Include commercial catch data to support coastal fish assessments?	Start discussions on additional indicators and data sources?
		Discuss alternative assessment methods	Finalize work on alternative assessment methods and indicators for the purpose of HOLAS III	Implement alternative assessment methods?	
Data	Data update in COOL (2018 data)	Data update in COOL (2019 data)	Data update in COOL (2020 data)	Data update in COOL (2021 data)	Data update in COOL (2022 data)
		Discuss alternative data sources, additional monitoring areas and trends in commercial catches	Final decision on what data (source and areas) to use for coastal fish in HOLAS III	Implement alternative data sources?	
Status assessments		Intermediate status assessment, CORE indicators (data until 2019)	Discussion on outcome of intermediate status assessment	Status assessment coastal fish CORE indicators, CORE indicator reports (data until 2020?)	
Thematic Assessment			Start draft 4th Thematic Assessment	Finalize 4th Thematic Assessment (data until 2020?)	
Other	Discuss recreational fisheries impact assessment	Presentation of national projects on recreational fisheries	Presentation of national projects on recreational fisheries	Presentation of national projects on recreational fisheries	
Deliverables					
	Updated monitoring guideline	Intermediate status assessment, CORE indicators (data until 2019) in COOL	Decision on what indicators and data to include in HOLAS III	Status assessment coastal fish CORE Indicators	Application for new project?
	Workplan FISH PRO III		CORE indicators (data until 2020) in COOL	CORE indicator reports	CORE indicators (data until 2022) in COOL
				4th Thematic Assessment (data until 2020?)	
				CORE indicators (data until 2021) in COOL	