



Document title	Draft Annex of the updated BSAP related to the Fish Group
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Background

This document contains an initial draft of the structure of the annex to updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP), including preliminary examples prepared by the Secretariat, as set out in the Annex to this document. Each segment in the updated BSAP will have a corresponding annex, which will contain detailed supplementary information on each action under the segment in question, to guide future assessment of implementation and provide context for the actions. This includes e.g. target year, rationale (including linkage to other actions), estimated effect, responsible for implementation etc. ([HOD 57-2019 outcome para. 3.27-3.28](#) and [HOD 58-2020 para. 4.16](#)).

As agreed by HOD 58-2020, the annexes as outlined in [HOD 57-2019 document 3-5](#) and [HOD 58-2020 document 4-11](#), will be compiled by the Working Groups with the help of the Secretariat, starting in autumn 2020 with focus on those existing actions for which in principle agreement was reached at HOD 58-2020. The Annex to this document only contains the actions under the mandate of the Fish Group.

In the effort to ensure the updated BSAP is concise and easily accessible, the action annexes are foreseen to be the only supplementary information to be directly included in the BSAP. In line with the plan agreed by HOD 58-2020 ([document 4-11](#), [outcome para. 4.16](#)), additional documents that are adopted alongside or support the implementation of the updated BSAP, e.g. Recommendations, roadmaps, topic specific action plans etc., are to remain as separate documents and not merged with the main BSAP document.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider the first draft of an Annex of the updated BSAP related to the Fish Group and agree on how to take the work forward in order to ensure that the work is finalized prior to HOD 60-2021.

Annex

Table 1. Draft BSAP Annex for the BSAP with supplementary information to be provided for the agreed actions

Action	Target year	Rationale	Potential effect (if available)	Implemented by	Overseeing Working Group	Indicator for achievement
<i>Theme: Fisheries management</i>						
To update and harmonize the 2016 BALTFIMPA decision-support tool approach with ongoing initiatives e.g. in ICES on a seafloor assessment framework for the Baltic Sea. This tool should also provide options on how to reduce the possible negative impact of fisheries on conservation values in the most cost-effective way, including in marine protected areas				Joint	FISH	
Develop guidance in cooperation with the Regional Coordination Groups within the EU Data Collection Framework and ICES on how to improve data collected on recreational fisheries in a cost-effective way, with a view to evaluate the impacts of recreational fisheries on the marine environment, where there is a need.				Joint	FISH	
Identify fish species for which there is a need for better data for identified purposes, e.g. GES, and enable fishermen to record catches of relevant species in dedicated programmes <i>(SE study reservation)</i>				Joint	FISH	
<i>Sub-theme: Bycatch</i>						
Reduce the negative impacts of fishing activities on the marine ecosystem and to this end, support the development of fisheries management including technical measures to minimize unwanted by-catch of fish, birds and marine mammals and achieve the close to zero target for by-catch rates of relevant species, e.g. harbour porpoise					FISH	
Development and implementation of effective data collection for by-caught birds and mammals in line					FISH	

Action	Target year	Rationale	Potential effect (if available)	Implemented by	Overseeing Working Group	Indicator for achievement
with the needs identified by ICES and the identified data-gaps outlined in the HELCOM Roadmap on fisheries data (HOD 58-2020 instructed the Fish and State & Conservation groups to consider the overlapping actions under environmentally sustainable sea-based activities related to incidental by-catch, and to submit a proposal for merging or further differentiation of these actions to HOD 59-2020 for agreement.)						
<i>Sub-theme: Fish stock management plans</i>						
Competent authorities to establish long-term national management plans for salmon stocks by 2023 and implement them at the latest by 2025 so that they reach set targets, including but not limited to smolt production, genetic diversity and distribution throughout the river habitat	2023, 2025			National	FISH	
Competent authorities to improve data related to sea trout stocks with the view to establish and implement long-term national management plans for sea trout stocks at latest by 2025 so that they reach set targets, including but not limited to recruitment status, genetic diversity and distribution throughout the river habitat (SE study reservation)				National	FISH	
Define necessary complementary measures supporting the EU multi-annual plans of cod, sprat and herring (Regulation (EU) 2016/1139) for Contracting Parties which are also EU Member States, in order to improve cod size/age-range (DK study reservation)				National	FISH	
<i>Sub-theme: Seal-Fisheries interactions</i>						
Sharing of information and implementation among Contracting Parties, BALTFISH and BSAC on the implementation of non-lethal mitigation measures or ways to manage seals-fisheries interactions.				National	FISH	
<i>Theme: Spatial Conservation Measures and Management</i>						

Action	Target year	Rationale	Potential effect (if available)	Implemented by	Overseeing Working Group	Indicator for achievement
Development, implementation and information sharing of management measures for fisheries inside marine protected areas				Joint	FISH	
<i>Theme: Protection of species</i>						
Inventory and identify rivers where management measures for eel would have the greatest impact				National	FISH	
Initiate implementation by 2022 of a Baltic coordinated programme of protective measures ensuring successful eel migrations, aligned with CMS, the EU Eel Regulation and other relevant instruments, including a monitoring and post-evaluation process of levels of pressures affecting eel that begins no later than 2024 <i>(DK study reservation)</i>	2022, 2024				FISH	
<i>Theme: Protection and restoration of habitat</i>						
Develop and implement habitat restoration plans (including spawning sites and migration routes) in relevant rivers by 2025 to strengthen native strains and to reinstate migratory fish species				National	FISH	