

HELCOM indicator workshop 1-2019.

GEAR, Berlin - 18 May, 2019



Future work on HELCOM indicators

Approved at HOD 54-2018 ([Outcomes paragraph 4.25](#), [document 4-5](#)).

Established a five step plan for the future work on HELCOM indicators

Review-Define-Confirm-Prepare-Execute



Review – HELCOM indicator-policy match

BSAP				UN SDG				COM Dec (EU) 2017/848				HELCOM indicator										COM Dec (EU) 2017/848					Comments									
Biodiversity				Descriptor Criteria				Indicator name		Lead country(s)		Status (e.g. core)		Assessment scale		Operational status		Spatial coverage		Monitoring		Data available		Threshold values		Threshold requirements		Methodological standards		Regional lists species/habitat		Integration rules		Fulfilled policy requirements?		Comments
				Primary				Secondary																												
SDG (14.2, 14.4, 14.5, 14.6, 14c)	Fish	DIC1	YES	Number of drowned mammals and waterbirds in fishing gear	GER POL	CO	2	Descriptive only*	NA	NO	NO	Quant. Proposals	RegC	NO	RegC	N/A	By catch of fish species not currently considered.	Dev																		
			YES	Abundance of sea trout spawners and parr	FIN	CO	3	Operat.	Incompl.	YES	YES*	Quant-Baseline. Agreed	RegC	RegC YES	RegC	EU	Suitable data not available in all areas. Discussion on trend or suitable data not available in all areas. Support for the indicator lacking in some areas and funding.	Adju																		
		DIC2	YES	Abundance of key coastal fish species	SWE	CO	3	Operat.	Incompl.	YES	YES*	Quant-Baseline. Agreed	RegC	RegC YES	RegC	EU	Suitable data not available in all areas. Support for the indicator lacking in some areas and funding.	Adju																		
			YES	Abundance of salmon spawners and smolt	FIN	CO	2	Operat.	Incompl.	YES	YES*	Quant-Baseline. Agreed	RegC	RegC YES	RegC	EU	Suitable data not available in all areas. primary for commercially exploited fish and cephalopods, secondary for others.	Adju																		
		DIC3	YES**										RegC	RegC	RegC	EU																				
		DIC4	YES†										RegC	RegC	RegC	EU																				
		DIC5	YES†										N/A	RegC	RegC	RegC	EU																			
14c)		DIC1	YES	Number of drowned mammals and waterbirds in fishing gear	GER POL	CO	2	Descriptive only*	NA	NO	NO	Quant. Proposals	RegC	NO	RegC	N/A	ACTION project, HELCOM/FOSPAP workshop (September 2019) and EG EISHOMIA online work.																			
		YES	Abundance of waterbirds in the breeding season	GER	CO	1,2	Operat.	Compl.	YES	YES	Quant-Baseline Agreed	RegC	RegC YES	RegC	EU	***aggregated assessment units	Adju																			
		YES	Abundance of waterbirds in the wintering season	GER	CO	1,2	Operat.	Incompl.	YES	YES*	Quant-Baseline Agreed	RegC	RegC YES	RegC	EU	Suitable data not available in all areas.	Adju																			

Topic summaries and aims

- 11 topic summaries (by-catch, fish, birds, mammals, seafloor/benthic, noise, litter, hazardous substances, pelagic/foodwebs, NIS, eutrophication).
- Summary paragraphs reviewed and discussed to define ambition level for future assessments in long and short term.



Define – priority areas identified – WS1

Biodiversity

- Benthic habitats/seafloor (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)
- Pelagic habitats (HIGH priority for HOLAS III and longer term aims)
- Foodwebs (HIGH priority for HOLAS III and longer term aims)
- Fish (HIGH priority for HOLAS III and longer term aims)
- By-catch (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)
- Mammals (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)



Define – priority areas identified – WS1

Pollution (Hazardous Substances, litter and noise)

- Hazardous substances concentrations (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)
- Load-State linkages (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)
- Biological effects (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)
- Contaminants in foodstuffs (MEDIUM priority for HOLAS III and longer term aims)
- Litter (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)
- Underwater noise (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)



Define – priority areas identified – WS1

Eutrophication

- Oxygen (HIGH priority for HOLAS III)
- Phytoplankton and macroalgae (MEDIUM priority for HOLAS III)
- Total nutrients (MEDIUM priority for HOLAS III)



Purpose of HELCOM Indicator WS 2-2019

- Proposals for the short and long-term developments for the future HELCOM indicators, based on the outcomes of the HELCOM Indicator WS 1-2019.
- Define the plan toward the HOLAS III assessment (short-term).
- Provide input to a clearly defined HELCOM indicator system capable of supporting the objectives of the updated BSAP and the policy requirements outlined above.



Define – other important issues for WS 2

- The workshop will strive to help.
 - Define the assessment system to be applied
 - Determine if all existing indicators are required/function
 - Define a clear concept on how to implement integrated assessments
 - Linkages across themes (e.g. biodiversity-eutrophication)
 - Comparability of threshold values across themes
 - Linkages between state-pressure aspects (e.g. loads and state)
 - Time (resources) requirements to carry out proposed work.



Prepare – planning for WS2

- HELCOM Indicator WS 2-2019 will take place 29-31 October, 2019.
- ToRs are drafted – will be shared with GEAR 20-2019 participants and HELCOM Indicator WS 1-2019 participants for commenting.
 - List of topics identified for WS 2-2019
 - List of all priority areas
 - Aims for WS 2-2019
 - Preparatory work for WS 2-2019
 - Topic summary aims sections and policy match as supporting information

Deadline for commenting end of 24 May, 2019 – so can go to HOD 56.



Agreement from GEAR...

Draft document on ToRs for WS2 for HOD to be sent to GEAR 20 participants and Indicator WS 1-2019 participants today

Deadline for commenting end of 24 May, 2019 – so can go to HOD 56.

Is the process OK?

