

HELCOM science agenda

Taking place in parallel to BSAP update

- Agreed by HELCOM 40-2019
- Focus: implementation of HELCOM objectives and agreements
- Invitation to submit information on identified knowledge and research needs sent to HELCOM WGs, expert groups, networks etc.
- Document 4-5 and 4.5 att.1 includes responses compiled by 13 October 2019
- HELCOM Task Group established to finalize the Science agenda
- Input from subsidiary bodies need by 30 November (latest)

Task Group

- check the proposals from subsidiary bodies and complement as needed if any central topics are found to be missing
- agree on the outline and content of the final report
- identify issues of particular importance for HELCOM work
- identify important external processes that could support the implementation of the Science Agenda
- develop potential HELCOM voluntary commitment to the UN 2020 Conference
- first meeting in end of 2019 (date tbd)
- draft science agenda to be presented at HELCOM 41

Reflections

- Proposals often linked to ToRs of the expert groups and networks but “know more” proposals are also made
- Topics are “missing” depending on response from expert groups
- Type knowledge and research needs:
 - circa 30 % monitoring/mapping
 - circa 20 % development of indicators and threshold values/targets
 - circa 20 % related to development of new measures or assessment of effectiveness of measures.
 - circa 7% covering socio-economic aspects
- Is this a good representation of HELCOM knowledge and science needs?

Requests to the meetings

- consider if there are additional knowledge and research needs linked to the tasks and mandate of the GEAR Group,
- agree as relevant on how the input from HELCOM GEAR can be completed by 30 November with the view of submitting the proposals as an input to the HELCOM Science Agenda.
- **proposal: further input to the Secretariat by 20 November.**