



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Project for the development of the second holistic assessment of the Baltic Sea – HELCOM SPICE Workshop on Biodiversity assessment

Helsinki, Finland, 15 March 2017

Document title	Draft Provisional Agenda
Category	DEC
Submission date	23.1.2017
Submitted by	Secretariat

The HELCOM SPICE Workshop to support the HOLAS II assessment of Biodiversity (HELCOM SPICE Biodiv WS 1-2017)

Time: Wednesday 15 March 9:30 - 18:00

Venue: HELCOM Secretariat, Katajanokanlaituri 6 B, Helsinki, Finland

Aims

The aim of the Workshop is to verify and summarize results for the integrated assessment of biodiversity to be presented in the 'State of the Baltic Sea' report developed under the HOLAS II project (project to develop the second HELCOM holistic assessment of ecosystem health of the Baltic Sea). The first version of the report will be made available in June 2017 and will summarize the results of the HOLAS II project.

More specifically, the Workshop will review assessment results proposed to be included with respect to biodiversity, and recommend on their format for presentation in the State of the Baltic Sea report. The integrated assessment is based on the tool BEAT developed by the HELCOM BalticBOOST project and is carried out by the HELCOM SPICE project.

Background documents will be sent out to the participants prior to the Workshop and will outline key questions to be addressed.

Practical information

The Workshop will be held from **9:30 to 18:00 on Wednesday 15 March 2017** at the premises of the HELCOM Secretariat, Katajanokanlaituri 6 B, Helsinki, Finland.

The Workshop is aimed at nationally nominated experts and management representatives of HELCOM Contracting Parties. Please inform on the nominations by email to ullali.zweifel@helcom.fi and lana.bergstrom@helcom.fi.

Participants are kindly requested to **register by 1 March 2017** by answering the [Participation Survey](#) on the [Workshop meeting site](#). Please observe that first time participants will need to sign up to the [HELCOM Meeting Portal](#) in order to get access to the Participation Survey and the meeting site. Further instructions for first time Meeting Portal users are found [here](#).

The Workshop will be chaired by Samuli Korpinen, Finland, under the HELCOM SPICE Project.

Background

The HOLAS II project runs from December 2014 to June 2018. The project will assess the overall environmental status of the Baltic Sea in relation to the goals of the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP), including the status of pressures and ecosystem components, and their spatial distribution. In addition, economic and social analyses will be included when applicable information is available. The HOLAS II analyses are developed so that the results can be used by Contracting Parties also being EU Member States in the reporting under the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). The current focus of the HOLAS II project is to finalize the assessments and present the results in the project summary report, which will be made available in June 2017 under the name of the State of the Baltic Sea report.

The biodiversity assessment has been developed under the HELCOM BalticBOOST project and has been guided by the previous workshops HELCOM HOLAS II Biodiv 1-2015, HELCOM BalticBOOST Biodiv WS 1-2106, and HELCOM BalticBOOST Biodiv WS 2-2106. The review and analyses are coordinated by the HELCOM under the EU co-funded SPICE project.

Provisional Agenda

Background documents will be submitted to registered participants prior to the workshop.

Time	Activity
9:30	<p>Words of welcome</p> <p>Introduction to the work of the day and key questions for the workshop</p> <p>Plenary discussion on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the integrated assessment results - proposals for presenting the assessment of biodiversity status in the HOLAS II report
<i>12:30-13.30</i>	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30-15:00	<p>Work in three subgroups on the key questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recommend on results to be shown in the State of the Baltic Sea report and discuss ideas on how the results could be presented - review of assessment results - draft key messages based on the results
<i>15:00-15:30</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:30-18:00	Recommendations from the workshop