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Background

The BSR MSP Data Expert Subgroup (MSP Data group) has drafted the Guidelines on transboundary MSP output data structure. The guideline sets technical specification for the output MSP data assuring data interoperability in transboundary consultations on MSP. The MSP Data group is planning further development of technical guidance for the MSP spatial data handling.

BalticLINES Project will present the decentralized data platform “BASEMAPS”, which illustrates innovative approach to spatial data management. The document contains short introduction of the decentralized data platform.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the preliminary project results and discuss the use of the innovative approach to the data management to develop technical guidance for the MSP spatial data handling.

Introduction of the innovative approach to MSP data management (BAltic SEa MAP Service).

The governance of marine space requires nearly always transboundary datasets as maritime activities are commonly international. This is true for dedicated intergovernmental organizations like HELCOM. It is also true for national actors including maritime spatial planners, who frequently need updated information beyond the borders of their country.

However, maritime spatial planners have to deal with the lack of up-to-date and relevant transboundary datasets. Getting access to such data is fundamental to achieve plans of good-quality and of transnational coherence. Therefore, HELCOM, in collaboration with Aalborg University, is developing a prototype web application to provide access to data and metadata stored in national Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI) that is relevant from a maritime spatial planning perspective. The name of this web application is [BASEMAPS](#) (BAltic SEa MAP Service)

BASEMAPS is being developed under work package 3 of Baltic LINes project (2016-2019), financed by Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme. Baltic LINes aims at increasing transnational coherence of shipping routes and energy corridors in MSP to assure efficient and sustainable use of the Baltic Sea space. Specifically, the project will develop planning proposals that countries around the Baltic Sea will hopefully include in their MSP plans in order to increase the regional coherence of the plans.

BASEMAPS is based on OGC network services, namely Web Map Services (WMS) and Web Feature Services (WFS). The majority of the available services are in place due to the implementation of the INSPIRE network service regulation by national data providers and authorities.

The task for building the prototype started with a selection of important datasets relevant for MSP. This task was started earlier by the HELCOM-VASAB MSP Data Expert Sub-Group and developed further by Baltic LINes partners. Once partners selected the important datasets, they provided the available WMS and WFS services. Aalborg University developed guidelines on data exchange and dissemination which was the basis for the development of BASEMAPS by HELCOM.

The main features of BASEMAPS are:

- A map viewer for all data published through WMS services.
- Download data published through WFS services
- View metadata: published through WMS services
- An admin panel where data providers can add services

BASEMAPS is still under development and the source code is available in [GitHub](#).