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Agenda Item	6 - MSP-related projects and events
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Background

HELCOM Secretariat was approached by Senior Advisor Anne Erkkilä-Välimäki from Brahea Centre at the University of Turku (Finland) seeking for support of the project application titled project “Cross-border and cross-level capacity building and tools for the implementation of maritime spatial planning and coastal zone management - MSP2life”. Brahea Centre is leading a consortium that prepares this project application to INTERREG Central Baltic programme open call for projects.

The project provides support and concrete actions for a smooth transition into the operational phase of the MSP cycle. It seeks to deepen the mutual learning and capacity building among MSP and ICZM planners and managers. The MSP implementation includes also the monitoring and evaluation of the MSP to improve the planning.

The main outputs of MSP2life are related to:

- support for the smooth transition from planning to implementation of MSP, especially in cross-border contexts,
- support for collaboration and management of practical MSP and ICZM implementation across borders, sectors and organizational levels,
- and tools and practices for sustainable MSP implementation taking into account environmental, social, cultural and economic aspects.

HELCOM Secretariat finds the project relevant, especially as the project addresses cross-border aspects of MSP. The project’s expected outputs are relevant also from the perspective of the new Capacity4MSP project, in which HELCOM Secretariat is one of the project partners. MSP2Life could bring more detailed sub-regional perspective on the question of implementation of MSP. This topic is addressed also in Capacity4MSP.

A letter of support was sent to the HELCOM Heads of Delegation for tacit approval. This document contains the letter of support sent by the HELCOM Executive Secretary Rüdiger Stempel to Anne Erkkilä-Välimäki.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.



14 October 2019

Letter of Support for Cross-border and cross-level capacity building and tools for the implementation of maritime spatial planning and coastal zone management (MSP2life)

Senior Advisor Anne Erkkilä-Välimäki
Brahea Centre at the University of Turku, Centre for Maritime Studies (CMS)

Dear Dr. Erkkilä-Välimäki,

The Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) hereby declares the intention to support and collaborate with the proposed Interreg Central Baltic project "Cross-border and cross-level capacity building and tools for the implementation of maritime spatial planning and coastal zone management - MSP2life".

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The main outputs of MSP2life are related to

- supporting the smooth transition from planning to implementation of MSP, especially in cross-border contexts,
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As an organisation supporting the project, we will provide our expertise for the project activities. We may attend meetings and events as invited guests. In case of attending, no fees or remuneration may be provided, but the project beneficiaries may pay for travel and accommodation costs as agreed with the project consortium on a case-by-case basis.

HELCOM is particularly interested in the project's expected outputs related to cross-border collaboration and consultation and implementation of MSPs taking into account their environmental aspects which is online with related goals of REGIONAL BALTIC MSP ROADMAP2013-2020 and Guidelines agreed by HELCOM and VASAB.

Yours sincerely,


Rüdiger Stempel
Executive Secretary