



Document title	Additional information on BSAP actions related to MSP
Code	3-2
Category	DEC
Agenda Item	3 - Development of the regional MSP framework
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Reference	

Background

As outlined in the [workplan for the BSAP update](#), the HELCOM Working Groups will in spring 2021 collect additional information for the actions planned to be included to the updated BSAP. HOD 59-2020 agreed that such additional information include, for example, the possible effect of the action, relevant pressures and activities targeted by the actions and the implementing entity. The additional information is planned to be used to support the implementation of the actions as well as the follow-up. Originally, the information was planned to be included as an annex to the updated BSAP and approved by HOD 60-2021 in June 2021, but HELCOM 42-2021 agreed that, instead, the information should be presented as a supporting document for the Ministerial Meeting 2021 to provide context for and support the implementation and follow up of the actions. HELCOM 42-2021 also agreed that the supporting document will be submitted for review to HOD 60-2021 and for approval to an intersessional HOD meeting in early September in 2021. HELCOM 42-2021 further agreed that there is no need to collect information on the potential effect for the actions that are categorized as supporting actions.

The annex to this document contains the draft actions relevant for the Working Group as well as draft additional information on the type, rationale, potential effect, implementing entity (national or joint), overseeing Working Group/Expert Group and indicator for achievement prepared by the Secretariat. The actions have been provisionally agreed by HELCOM 42-2021. The information is mainly derived from synopses (for proposed new actions only) and comments made during past meetings where the actions have been considered (e.g. Working Group, Expert Group and Segment Team meetings). The Meeting will be invited to develop the information further and finalize it for submission to HOD 60-2021.

A draft list of pressures and activities was sent via email in the beginning of February to all HELCOM Working Groups for intersessional review. The reviewed list will be used by all Working Groups to link the activities and pressures to the actions. The [attached Annex](#) links the relevant activities and pressures to the actions by utilizing the list of activities and pressures reviewed by HELCOM Working Groups intersessionally. The list is included as an Excel attachment (cf. [Att.1](#)).

The target years for the actions that will be included in the annex will not be considered by this Meeting but by DG BSAP.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to finalize the collection of additional information for the MSP related actions proposed for the updated BSAP based on the proposal by the Secretariat.

Annex

Table 1. Draft supplementary information for the BSAP actions relevant for HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG BSAP in the horizontal actions segment

Code	Action	Type of action [measure or supporting action]	Rationale	Potential effect (if available)	Implemented by [Joint or national]	Overseeing WG/ EG	Indicator for achievement	Activities [cf. Att.1 as excel file]	Pressures [cf. Att.1 as excel file]
HAN04	Utilize Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) applying an ecosystem-based approach to support BSAP-objectives and targets and contributing to sustainable sea-based activities		Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) applies an ecosystem-based approach to contribute to sustainable use of marine resources and the protection of the marine environment. MSP can thus support the achievement of the BSAP-goals and targets. MSP is a process and tool for spatial governance/steering of sea-based human activities. Through this steering MSP can influence anthropogenic pressures, pressures resulting from human activity,	MSP contributes to achieving of nature conservation objectives, through reducing pressure on marine habitats and supporting effective networks beyond designated marine protected areas.	National	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Evaluation of progress can be based on the follow-up of respective actions of the Regional MSP Roadmap.	Aquaculture – marine, including infrastructure; Extraction of minerals (rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell); Extraction of oil and gas, including infrastructure (e.g. pipelines); Offshore structures (other than for oil/gas/renewables); Renewable energy generation (wind, wave and tidal power), including infrastructure; Restructuring of seabed morphology (dredging, beach replenishment, sea-based deposit of dredged material); Tourism and leisure infrastructure (piers, marinas); Transmission of electricity and communications (cables); Transport – shipping (incl. anchoring, mooring); Transport infrastructure (harbours, ports, ship-building)	Changes to hydrological conditions; Extraction and bycatch of fish; Input of anthropogenic continuous noise; Input of anthropogenic impulsive noise; Input of other substances (e.g. synthetic substances, non-synthetic substances, radionuclides) — diffuse sources, point sources, atmospheric deposition, acute events; Input of other forms of energy (including electromagnetic fields, light and heat); Loss of, or change to, natural biological communities due to cultivation of animal or plant species; Physical disturbance to seabed (temporary or reversible); Physical loss (due to permanent change of seabed substrate or morphology and to extraction of seabed substrate); Species disturbance (e.g. where they breed, rest and feed): human presence Species disturbance (e.g. where they breed, rest and feed): other (e.g. barriers, collision)

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			on marine habitats and species.						
HAN05	Use MSP as a tool to signal areas of high nature value as identified in marine environmental management		Maritime Spatial Plans (MSP) steer the use of the sea-areas by prioritising or limiting human activities in particular areas. In addition to the direct steering, MSP can influence the use of sea areas in indirect ways One important mean for indirect steering is that the MSP plans and accompanying documents can indicate locations of areas with high natural value and existing protected areas. The MSP documents can, furthermore, propose to take precaution in	The indication of areas with high natural value informs decision-makers from different authorities and private operators to take caution and to consider the natural values in the development plans. This information can be utilised also in permitting procedures and environmental impacts assessment of individual projects, if national legislation and rules allow in which case the effects can be rather direct. Furthermore, it will also raise public awareness about these areas at sea, which are not accessible to most of the people. Such information contributes thus to the ocean literacy.	National	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Evaluation of progress can be based on the follow-up of respective actions of the Regional MSP Roadmap.	Aquaculture – marine, including infrastructure; Extraction of minerals (rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell); Extraction of oil and gas, including infrastructure (e.g. pipelines); Offshore structures (other than for oil/gas/renewables); Renewable energy generation (wind, wave and tidal power), including infrastructure; Restructuring of seabed morphology (dredging, beach replenishment, sea-based deposit of dredged material); Transmission of electricity and communications (cables); Transport – shipping (incl. anchoring, mooring);	Changes to hydrological conditions; Input of anthropogenic continuous noise; Input of anthropogenic impulsive noise; Input of other forms of energy (including electromagnetic fields, light and heat); Physical disturbance to seabed (temporary or reversible); Physical loss (due to permanent change of seabed substrate or morphology and to extraction of seabed substrate); Species disturbance (e.g. where they breed, rest and feed): human presence Species disturbance (e.g. where they breed, rest and feed): other (e.g. barriers, collision)

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			the use of these areas.						
HAN06	Implement MSPs with the aim to steer sea-based activities away from areas where they can cause serious damage or disturbance		Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) steers the use of sea-areas for different sea-based activities. This can be done by allocating areas exclusively or conditionally to certain activities or by giving general provisions for conducting human activities in sea areas. Avoidance of serious damage or disturbance to habitats and species should be a guiding principle in the steering of sea-based activities in MSP. Furthermore, preparation of the MSP plans should consider single and cumulative	Due to MSP's coverage of multiple human activities, it has a potential to significantly reduce the environmental pressures on the marine ecosystem. Effectiveness of planning decisions is highly dependent on the quality of spatial data that is used for planning. If that data includes good information on habitats and species, possible single or cumulative impacts of the planned human activities and the planning provisions minimise detrimental human activities, the effectiveness can be high.	National	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Evaluation of progress can be based on the follow-up of respective actions of the Regional MSP Roadmap.	<p>Aquaculture – marine, including infrastructure;</p> <p>Extraction of minerals (rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell);</p> <p>Extraction of oil and gas, including infrastructure (e.g. pipelines);</p> <p>Offshore structures (other than for oil/gas/renewables);</p> <p>Renewable energy generation (wind, wave and tidal power), including infrastructure;</p> <p>Restructuring of seabed morphology (dredging, beach replenishment, sea-based deposit of dredged material);</p> <p>Transmission of electricity and communications (cables);</p> <p>Transport – shipping (incl. anchoring, mooring);</p>	<p>Changes to hydrological conditions;</p> <p>Input of anthropogenic continuous noise;</p> <p>Input of anthropogenic impulsive noise;</p> <p>Input of other forms of energy (including electromagnetic fields, light and heat);</p> <p>Physical disturbance to seabed (temporary or reversible);</p> <p>Physical loss (due to permanent change of seabed substrate or morphology and to extraction of seabed substrate);</p> <p>Species disturbance (e.g. where they breed, rest and feed): human presence</p> <p>Species disturbance (e.g. where they breed, rest and feed): other (e.g. barriers, collision)</p>

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			effects of human activities on habitats and species as well as apply a precautionary approach pursuing the protecting of high natural values from potential harm.						