



Document title	Follow-up mechanism from the Capacity4MSP project platform
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Agenda Item	6 - Coordination of Horizontal Action Spatial Planning and MSP related projects and events
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Reference	

Background

Capacity4MSP (Strengthening the capacity of MSP stakeholders and decision makers) is a project platform funded by Interreg (August 2019 to March 2022).

The sub-activity 2.3.3 aims to propose an institutionalized mechanism for a regular follow-up of progress in MSP on the regional sea level. The activity is led by the HELCOM Secretariat.

The participants of the project partner meeting held on 16 March 2021 discussed the format and themes for this follow-up mechanism. The mechanism would be a package of recurrent data compilations and assessments constituting the follow-up of the regional progress in MSP and initiated by HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG. The mechanism would include four themes:

1. The HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG Work plan,
2. The new Regional Maritime Spatial Planning Roadmap (2021-2030),
3. The updated HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP),
4. Cross-border coherence of MSPs.

This document summarizes the current proposal on this mechanism for a regular follow-up based on the four themes.

Action requested

The meeting is invited to take note of the proposed mechanism and exchange views on its sufficiency to provide comprehensive information on the achieved progress which can be utilized to improve Maritime Spatial Planning in the Baltic Sea region and to achieve the MSP Roadmap objectives.

Follow-up mechanism from the Capacity4MSP project platform

The follow-up mechanism would be a package of measures to be used regularly by the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG and would include four themes. These themes and possible formats are described in the table below.

Themes	Description of the follow-up mechanism
<p>1. HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG Work plan</p>	<p>There is already a template to evaluate/analyze the current work plan (cf. document 8-1). The HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats could update such a document prior to each WG meetings to follow-up the status of the implementation of the work plan.</p> <p><i>Possible responsible: HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats.</i></p>
<p>2. The new Regional MSP Roadmap (2021-2030)</p>	<p>The new Regional MSP Roadmap has actions and milestones which are easy to check. There is also a GANTT chart ready for it. That could be checked in the WG meetings. This work would help in anticipating the near future work and assign lead countries for actions. The process to adopt the new Regional MSP Roadmap is still ongoing (cf. document 3-3).</p> <p><i>Possible responsible: HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats.</i></p>
<p>3. The updated HELCOM BSAP</p>	<p>HELCOM Secretariat would report to the WG any progress in the follow up of BSAP (i.e. HELCOM Explorer).</p> <p><i>Possible responsible: HELCOM Secretariat.</i></p>
<p>4. Cross-border coherence of MSPs</p>	<p>The task force on cross-border coherence prepared a checklist on cross-border coherence of MSP. The draft checklist is available in the document 3-1 Draft report of the cross-border coherence task force and could be used by the HELCOM Contracting Parties to organize cross-border coherence assessments meetings. A joint synthesis workshop could be organized to discuss the relevance and main findings of such meetings and the checklist (in 2024-2025?).</p> <p><i>Possible responsible: HELCOM Contracting Parties, HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats to organize a possible workshop.</i></p>