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<b>Document title</b>	Information on the last developments of the EU Technical Expert Group on data for MSP
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## Background

In September 2021, the results of the work of the Technical Expert Group (TEG) on data for MSP was published by the European Commission. This report *“Proposal for making harmonized MSP plan data available across Europe. Results of the work of the Technical Expert Group (TEG) on MSP data”* presents a proposal for making harmonized MSP plan data available across Europe, it is available [online](#) in the the EU Bookshop website.

The proposal contains approach for making available MSP output data, spatial data resulting from the MSP plan, in comparable and harmonized data format to allow harmonization of data. The proposal lists three data models that can be utilized in order to be compatible with the common data model. The data model developed in BSR HELCOM-VASAB MSP Data ESG in the Baltic, and applied in BASEMAPS, is considered a robust and already operational solution running within the HELCOM spatial data infrastructure, with established data flow and experience in merging MSP plans at the marine basin level within HELCOM-VASAB cooperation. Following INSPIRE principles on Land use data theme, it is a simple flat data model with general code lists. It is easy to implement and contains operative data import and a validation tool. The proposal recommends that MSs follow this standard if it is already operational and implemented within their sea region.

The EU TEG data for MSP will continue to work on identified topics, such as further work on data harmonization, mapping MSP data framework and exchanging knowledge between domain specific data collection initiatives e.g. related to MSFD and other frameworks. More specifically on these topics:

- MSFD & MSP Data Management
- Metadata Standard for Marine Plans
- Network Services and MSP
- MSP Data Framework
- Socioeconomic Impact of MSP

The next meeting of the TEG will take place on 23 November 2021.

## Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.