



Document title	Proposal on PLC workshop on the effectiveness of measures and the analysis of implementation obstacles and best practices
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Agenda Item	6 - Matters arising from the HELCOM Groups
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Background

During the PLC-6 and PLC-7 projects it became evident that it was not possible to reliably estimate reasons behind the past changes in nutrient loads, with the exception of point source loads. Furthermore, it was not possible to evaluate projected future reductions in a harmonized way. However, since that time there has been a lot of progress in development of nutrient load models in many PLC countries, which has led to more accurate estimates of nutrient loads in the past and projected loads in future (cf. [document 7-15 of PRESSURE 15-2021](#)).

The intention in the forthcoming PLC-8 Effectiveness of measures (EOM) project is to include some examples from river catchments with decreasing nutrient inputs and to quantify reasons behind the decreases, to compile information of the planned measures and to evaluate what is their implementation status in 2023. Furthermore, the intention is to estimate what are the expected reductions in nutrient loads by 2030.

There are still many open issues concerning what kind of EOM data countries are finally able to submit for the PLC-8 project (e.g. spatial scale, time period, accuracy of different mitigation measures, effect of climate change). To solve the open issues and facilitate the data collection, a workshop will be organized in 2022.

It is suggested to combine this workshop with the one proposed by Germany at PRESSURE 14-2021 (cf. [document 9-4](#) of PRESSURE 14-2021). Germany is currently conducting an analysis of implementation obstacles and propagation of best practice examples for eutrophication in the framework of the priorities of the German HELCOM Chairmanship. The work mainly investigates the feasibility of reaching the BSAP Nutrient Input Ceilings, thereby also looking at measures and their prognosticated effectiveness. Germany would like to use the workshop to present the results of its analysis and to discuss them with relevant stakeholders.

It is suggested to invite HELCOM Contracting Parties, relevant third countries and interested NGOs and Observers. Besides the marine community also the river basin management authorities should be invited and thus the cooperative work that started at the 1st HELCOM Workshop with River Basin Management Authorities in September 2019 would be continued. A special focus of the workshop lies on inviting practitioners to present best practice examples from around the Baltic Sea catchment on specific measures that work well in lowering nutrient inputs or on dedicated management efforts that can be recommended in a regional context.

PRESSURE 15-2021 took note of the proposed scope of the PLC workshop on the effectiveness of measures and the analysis of implementation obstacles/best practices ([document 7-8](#)) and invited the Secretariat to prepare this proposal on the workshop for HOD 61-2021.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to

- consider the scope, content and invitees of the proposed workshop,
- approve organizing the PLC workshop on the effectiveness of measures and the analysis of implementation obstacles/best practices in 2022.