



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Workshop on the HOLAS II Economic and social analyses

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Background on HELCOM ESA data call to support HOLAS II ESA results

Background

This document introduces an ongoing HELCOM data call on economic and social analyses. The aim of the data call is to complement the update of the [First version of the 'State of the Baltic sea' report – June 2017](#) and [Economic and social analyses in the Baltic Sea region Supplementary Report to the First Version of the HELCOM 'State of the Baltic Sea' report 2017](#) with results in relation to the ESA of the use of marine waters (UMW), the cost of degradation (CoD) and to get an overview on the national business-as-usual scenario (BAU) approaches and results for planning of future regional BAU work.

The data call planning was initiated during the HELCOM SPICE project¹, and is conducted based on collecting national data from the Contracting Parties.

Action requested

The meeting is invited to take note of the information as background for the discussion in the meeting, and provide comments and views on the inclusion of data call results into the upcoming update of the HOLAS II report.

¹ SPICE (Implementation and development of key components for the assessment of Status, Pressures and Impacts, and Social and Economic evaluation in the Baltic Sea marine region) is a HELCOM coordinated project implemented in 2017, co-financed by the EU. More information about the project is available at <http://www.helcom.fi/helcom-at-work/projects/spice/>.

Introduction

HELCOM data call on economic and social analyses is ongoing to complement the current ESA of the use of marine waters and the cost of degradation (CoD) results in the update of the [First version of the 'State of the Baltic sea' report – June 2017](#) and [Economic and social analyses in the Baltic Sea region Supplementary Report to the First Version of the HELCOM 'State of the Baltic Sea' report 2017](#) reports and to get an overview of the present national practices on the BAU development to support potential future development of regional BAU.

The data call is conducted in two phases in order to follow the national timetables of the assessments. In the first phase, the data call was sent to Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Germany and Poland. In the second phase it was sent to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. In the meeting the first overview of the first phase results will be presented.

Purpose of collecting the national data

ESA of the use of marine waters

The current HOLAS II ESA results include a limited number of marine uses (activities). The data call aims to provide an overview on the activities that are relevant in the countries, as well as to serve socioeconomic data on additional activities, which are not included in the current HOLAS II assessment.

The proposed results for the HOLAS II reports include:

1. a list of significant marine uses (activities) in the Baltic Sea region, based on the lists of activities included in the national ESA of the use marine waters and reasons for their inclusion,
2. data on economic and social values from additional activities, which have not been included in the current HOLAS II assessment.

These results are proposed for both – the HOLAS II summary report and the supplementary report on ESA. The information presented in the ESA supplementary report could include also brief information in relation to the practical approaches used in the countries for assessing socioeconomic values from these activities (e.g. what indicators and data are used, how the marine related proportion is estimated where relevant).

Summary of results based on data from the first phase countries will be sent shortly before the workshop.

Cost of degradation of the marine environment

The current HOLAS II ESA results lack an overview on where the cost of degradation is (for which environmental problems/ecosystem services). The data call aimed to provide such an overview, as well as collect information on national approaches and types of assessments to support information exchange and coordination of the approaches in the sea region. Hence, the proposed results for the HOLAS II reports include:

1. an overview on the environmental problems causing national cost of degradation in the Baltic Sea region,
2. an overview on the national approaches for the cost of degradation analysis.

The first result is proposed for both HOLAS II reports, the second result only for the supplementary report on ESA.

Summary of results based on data from the first phase countries will be sent shortly before the workshop.

Business-as-usual scenario (BAU)

The main aim is to obtain an overview on the national practices for the BAU development to support planning of the regional BAU development in the future. There is diversity in the national practices on how the BAU is developed, what assessments are conducted and how it is taken into account in the ESA and planning of future policy measures. It is expected that the regional BAU development in the future could rely to certain extent on the national information and assessments. Thus, it is important to get an overview on what information is produced nationally and through which approaches.

It has been agreed overall that very brief general information about the regional BAU could be included in the HOLAS II summary report (in a chapter on conclusions and a future outlook), and more specific results could be provided in the ESA supplementary report. From the data call, the main outcome could be:

- 1) an overview on the national practices (approaches and assessments) for the BAU development,
- 2) national assessments on the future changes in the marine uses (activities).

Summary of results based on data from the first phase countries will be sent shortly before the workshop.