

# Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan: Organisation and expectations

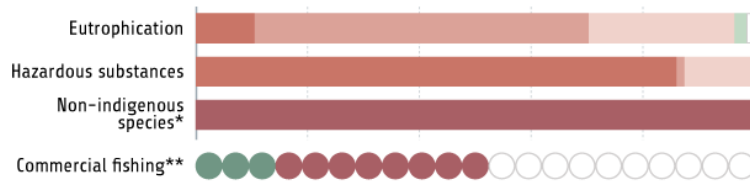


# State of the Baltic Sea

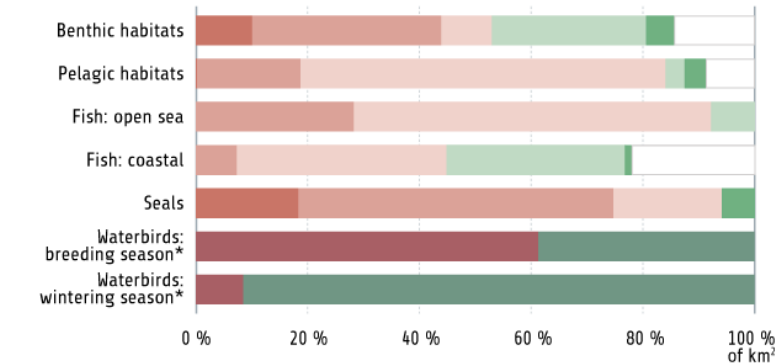
State of Baltic Sea pressures and biodiversity 2011–2016



PRESSURES



BIODIVERSITY



**INTEGRATED ASSESSMENTS**

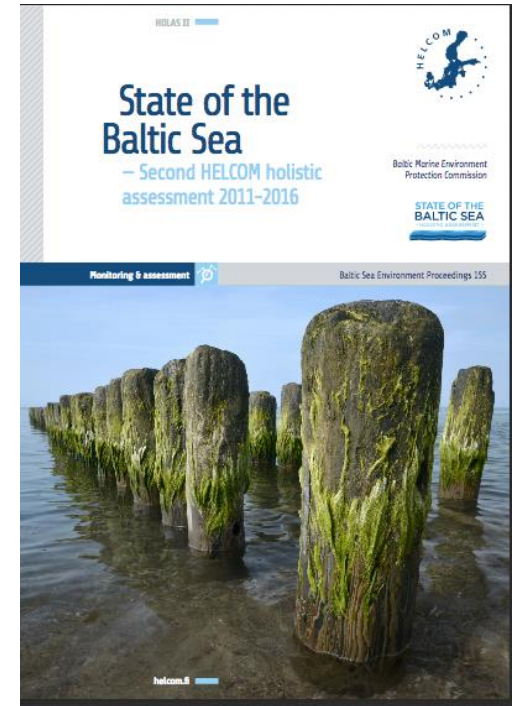


**\*INDICATORS    \*\*FISH STOCKS**



**The following pressures were assessed descriptively:**

- Marine litter
- Underwater noise
- Seabed loss and disturbance
- Hunting of seals and waterbirds
- Pharmaceuticals
- Incidental bycatch in fishing gear



**Summary of the assessment of pressures and status for the Baltic Sea** showing the proportion of area covered by different assessment status categories (based on square kilometres). For commercial fishing, the summary shows status of fish stocks. Integrated assessment results (eutrophication, hazardous substances, benthic habitats, pelagic habitats, fish, and seals) are shown in five categories. Assessment results based on indicators (commercial fishing, non-indigenous species, and waterbirds) are shown in two status categories.

# Update of Baltic Sea Action Plan

- BSAP update agreed at 2018 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting
- Updated BSAP to be adopted at 2021 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting (autumn)
- Strong involvement from HELCOM Working Groups
- Strategic plan for the BSAP update agreed by HOD 54-2018 (Annex 1, doc 2.5)
- Detailed work plan under development (Annex 2, doc 2.5)

# I. STRENGTHENED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BSAP BY 2021

## Activity 1. Discuss reasons for not yet accomplishing BSAP actions

Timing: Autumn 2018

Responsibility: Working Groups and Contracting Parties

Maritime Working Group:

Joint actions:

- 2 not accomplished
- 2 partly accomplished

National actions:

- 5 partly accomplished  
(not accomplished by all CPs)



# I. STRENGTHENED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BSAP BY 2021

## Activity 1. Discuss reasons for not yet accomplishing BSAP actions, continued

This meeting invited to:

- discuss if all not yet implemented actions are still valid
- have any of the not yet accomplished joint actions been achieved since the previous assessment
- propose how not yet accomplished joint actions can be achieved (plans to be considered by HOD 55-2018)
- discuss reasons for not achieving national actions

# I. STRENGTHENED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BSAP BY 2021

## Activity 2: Preparing for the Ministerial Meeting 2021

Timing: 2019-2020

Responsibility: Secretariat, HOD, Contracting Parties

- Technical update of platform to present implementation of HELCOM actions (HELCOM Explorer)
- Reporting by Contracting Parties on implementation of national actions (end of 2020)

Level of implementation	Action	Regional status	National status	BSAP segment
Please select country or joint action : Selected: Joint actions				Sort $\Delta \nabla$
		Accomplished $\times \checkmark$ Partly accomplished $\times \checkmark$ Not accomplished $\times \checkmark$ Assessment on-going $\times \checkmark$ Future target year $\times \checkmark$		Biodiversity and nature conservation $\times \checkmark$ Eutrophication $\times \checkmark$ Maritime activities $\times \checkmark$ Hazardous substances $\times \checkmark$ Monitoring and assessment $\times \checkmark$ Awareness $\times \checkmark$ Financing and implementation $\times \checkmark$
Joint actions		104/104 (100%)	4/104 (100%)	104/104 (100%)
Joint action	A joint submission by EU Member	Accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Biodiversity and nature conservation
Joint action	Agree on amended HELCOM	Accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Maritime activities
Joint action	Aim for elimination of remaining	Future target year	$\times$ applicable	Eutrophication
Joint action	Already initiated revision of the	Partly accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Financing and implementation
Joint action	Apply the Guidance to distinguish	Accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Maritime activities
Joint action	Arrange in 2013 a HELCOM	Accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Financing and implementation
Joint action	Assess the effectiveness of the	Accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Financing and implementation
Joint action	Assessment of ecological	Accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Biodiversity and nature conservation
Joint action	Carry out the monitoring of the	Partly accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Biodiversity and nature conservation
Joint action	Clarify outstanding issues	Accomplished	$\times$ applicable	Maritime activities

# II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

## Activity 1. BSAP update Work Plan Overview

Timing: Autumn 2018

Responsibility: Secretariat, approval by HOD 55-2018

- First draft indicating timing of different tasks, including for Working Groups; to be developed further (Annex 2, doc 2.5)

This meeting is invited to:

- provide comments and consider the plan when next updating the workplan for the Maritime Working Group

# II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

## Activity 2. Adjustment to the overall structure of the BSAP

Timing: now-end of 2019.

Responsibility: GEAR, HOD (overall structure), Working Groups (ecological objectives)

- Review and revision of overall structure (HOD: autumn 2018)
- Review and revision of ecological objectives (WGs: spring 2019)
- Alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals

No requests for this meeting but plan for how this can be achieved according to the time-table.



# Current BSAP

Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication

Baltic Sea undisturbed by hazardous substances

Environmentally friendly maritime activities

Favourable status of Baltic Sea biodiversity

?

?

- Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication.
- Concentrations of nutrients close to natural levels
- Clear water
- Natural level of algal blooms
- Natural distribution and occurrence of plants and animals
- Natural oxygen levels.

?

- Concentrations of hazardous substances close to natural levels
- All fish are safe to eat
- Healthy wildlife
- Radioactivity at the pre-Chernobyl level

?

- Environmentally friendly maritime activities
- Enforcement of international regulations – no illegal discharges
- Safe maritime traffic without accidental pollution
- Efficient emergency and response capabilities
- Minimum sewage pollution from ships
- No introductions of alien species from ships
- Minimum air pollution from ships
- Zero discharges from offshore platforms
- Minimum threats from offshore installations

- Natural marine and coastal landscapes
- Thriving and balanced communities of plants and animals
- Viable populations of species

# II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

## Activity 3. Status of implementation of the current measures and agreements

Timing: now-mid 2019

Responsibility: Working Groups, Contracting Parties

- Implementation of HELCOM agreements not included in the BSAP or MDs e.g. HELCOM recommendations
- Reporting on the implementation of HELCOM agreements according to the above (early 2019)
- Collection of information on relevant measures under other policies (spring 2019)

## II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

### Activity 3. Status of implementation of the current measures and agreements, continued

This meeting is invited to:

- discuss how to identify recommendations to be reported as complement to the HELCOM actions from the BSAP and Ministerial Declaration

Focus is on recommendations that address measures that can contribute directly to the improvement of the state of the sea. Agreement on reporting at HOD 55-2018.

# II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

## Activity 4. Review of the current BSAP

Timing: 2019

Responsibility: Working Groups

- Review HELCOM actions that were previously evaluated as too general to follow up, identify actions from this category to be considered for uptake in the BSAP update, and propose measurable targets for those actions (ready autumn 2019)
- Propose actions and define targets for MD 2018 commitments (ready autumn 2019)

No requests for this meeting but plan for how this can be achieved according to the time-table

# II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

## Activity 5. Analysing sufficiency of measures to reach HELCOM objectives and targets

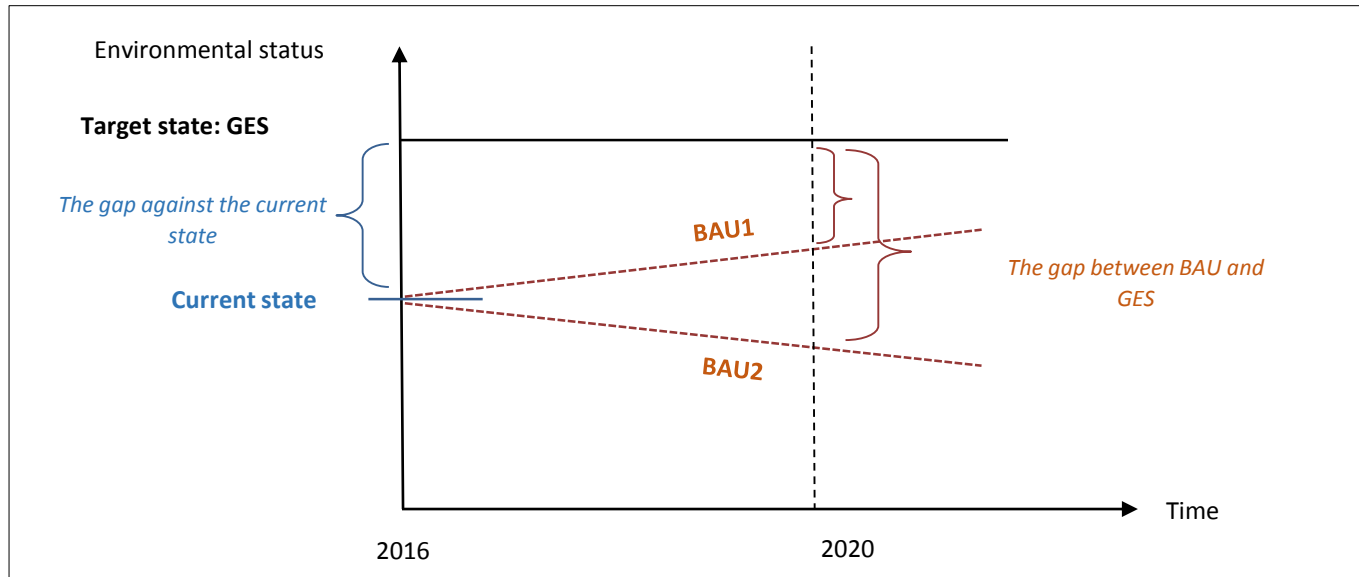
Timing: now – mid 2020

Responsibility: planning – GEAR and HOD, implementation – “expert group”, review and guidance - Working Groups

- Analyse how far already implemented and agreed measures will contribute to the improvement of the Baltic Sea
- Synthesize information on effect of potential new measures
- Workshops to discuss results of analyses and potential new measures (likely in 2020)
- Proposal: base SOM analysis on a BAU scenario for pressures



# Business as usual scenario



The BAU describes how the state of the marine environment would change over time due to the future changes in marine uses and the implementation of the legislative and regulatory frameworks impacting the marine environment.

# II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

Tentative approach for Maritime segment:

- Analyse how the maritime sector, through new or strengthened measures, can contribute respectively to reduce the input of:
  - nutrients
  - hazardous substance
  - non-indigenous species
  - marine litter
  - underwater noise
  - impacts on the seabed
- Provide estimates on potential reductions (effectiveness) and costs of those measure to feed into the analyses of the respective pressure

No requests for this meeting; but consider the approach for MARITIME.

# II. MANDATE TO UPDATE THE BSAP

## Activity 6. Proposing new actions and improvement of the existing actions

Timing: mid 2019- end 2020.

Responsibility: Working Groups, Contracting Parties

- Anticipated to evolve from:
  - Analyses of sufficiency of measures
  - Syntheses on effect of new measures
  - Working Groups
  - HELCOM workshops to be held in 2020

No requirement for this meeting; autumn meeting of WG in 2019 expected to convene first discussions and thereafter provide continuous proposals up to end of 2020.

Task	Activity	2018 3Q	2018 4Q	2019 1Q	2019 2Q	2019 3Q	2019 4Q	2020 1Q	2020 2Q	2020 3Q	2020 4Q	2021 1Q
Propose how existing joint actions can be accomplished	1:1			As needed	As needed							
Discuss which national actions would be most important to achieve by 2021	1:1			As needed	As needed							
Discuss reasons for not achieving current BSAP commitments	1:1			As needed	As needed							
Review draft work plan for BSAP update	2:1											
Propose revised and new ecological objectives	2:2											
Identify additional HELCOM commitments to be reported (e.g. recommendations)	2:3											
Reporting on additional HELCOM commitments as per above [via WGs or national contact points to be agreed]	2:3											
Draft measurable targets for relevant existing actions, where this is currently missing	2:4											
Agree on how to propose actions and define targets for MD 2018 commitments	2:4											
Guidance and review of syntheses by interdisciplinary platform	2:5											
Guidance and review of analyses of sufficiency of measures by interdisciplinary platform	2:5											
First proposals on actions and targets for MD 2018 commitments	2:6											
Continued elaboration of possible new actions	2:6											