



Part 3: Preparing for the Workshop on OECMs

(State & Conservation contacts and observers)

Webinar Other Effective area-based Conservation
Measures (OECMs) in the Baltic Sea – 23 Nov 2021



Agenda for Part 3

Part 3: Preparing for the Workshop (State & Conservation WG contacts and observers)

16:30 – 17:30

Specific issues and questions that need expanding on during the workshop

Additional case studies that may be useful to prepare for the workshop

An overview of the workshop and background material that participants are encouraged to read

17:30 – 17:45

Closure of the webinar



Objectives of the workshop

1. Come to a common understanding of the criteria for Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) and their use in HELCOM, based on definitions agreed in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the EU;
2. Examine the recommended categories of OECMs available in the region;
3. Learn about existing tools to support the identification and assessment of OECMs;
4. Analyze case studies of potential OECMs covering various sectors – evaluate challenges in applying the CBD criteria, sectoral draft guidance when available, and test if the Baltic definition and characteristics apply;
5. Identify an initial list of *potential* Baltic Sea OECMs by sector;
6. Identify potential next steps and opportunities for advancing OECMs in the Baltic Sea;
7. Consider if and how the proposed types of OECMs can support the coherence of the HELCOM MPA network;
8. Scope needs for additional guidance on OECMs in the Baltic Sea region.



General structure of the Agenda for the Workshop on OECMs, 1-3 February 2022

The regional workshop will be for three days and structured as follow:

Day 1: Opening of the workshop and setting the scene

- Workshop opening and introduction
- Refresher on OECM basics and advances in marine OECM identification.
- Analysis and in-depth discussion of the CBD definition and criteria, their applicability in the Baltic Sea and existing tools to support the identification of OECMs.
- Countries experiences with OECM process – challenges and lessons learned.
- Discussion on definition and characteristics of OECM in the Baltic region with the aim of coming to a common understanding of OECMs criteria and their use in HELCOM.
- Kick-off reception 16:00 onwards.



Day 2: Sector specific discussions

Participants will be divided in groups according to sectors (*fisheries, maritime shipping, culture & archeology, others?*). Each group will discuss the following:

- ***Case studies analysis and discussion.***
- Identifying other potential OECMs in the region.
- Discussion on key challenges of applying the CBD criteria and the Baltic OECM definition and characteristics.



Day 3: Conclusions and ways forward

- Reporting on key messages and challenges from each sectoral groups (fisheries, maritime shipping, culture, archeology, others).
- Discussion on ways forward towards advancing recognizing and reporting the identified OECMs.
- Discussing aspects that would benefit from more guidance and identifying needs for additional capacity building and technical guidance.
- Reviewing the common understanding on OECMs in the Baltic Sea region from the first day, based on the workshop, amend as needed and endorse a recommended common understanding to be submitted to HELCOM 43-2022 for adoption.



Background material

Essential reading:

- OECM definition and [Annex 3 of CBD Decision 14/8](#).

Recommended reading:

- FAO. 2019. Report of the Expert Meeting on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures in the Marine Capture Fishery Sector, Rome, Italy, 7-10 May 2019
<http://www.fao.org/3/ca7194en/CA7194EN.pdf>
- IUCN-WCPA Task Force on OECMs, 2019. Recognising and reporting other effective area-based conservation measures
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/PATRS-003-En.pdf>
- Report of the ICES/ IUCN-CEM FEG Workshop on Testing OECM Practices and Strategies (WKTOPS)
<https://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Forms/DispForm.aspx?ID=37580>





Thank you!

