



Document title	Progress with implementation of the PLUS project on Development of a HELCOM Pollution Load User System
Code	8-1
Category	INF
Agenda Item	3 –Any other business
Submission date	18.5.2015
Submitted by	Project Manager

Background

This document summarizes the progress with the implementation of the main tasks of the Project on Development of a HELCOM Pollution Load User System (HELCOM PLUS) and presents the updated Roadmap for further implementation of the project (attachment 1).

Summary of Achievements

1. Finalization of Database model and database migration
2. Transfer and set up of Database to BNI (Database Host)
3. Implementation of Quality Assurance Level 0 (verification of the format according to the Template) and Quality Assurance Level 1 (verification of the format and conformity of the data with the database structure by the Application)
4. Finalization of Annual Data Reporting templates and Implementation of Upload Data functionality for 2013 Annual Data

Action required

The Meeting is invited to take note of this information regarding the implementation of the project.

Progress with implementation of the PLUS project on Development of a HELCOM Pollution Load User System

Background

The benefits if modernized PLC database are smoother and faster reporting by the Contracting States and improved access, quality and completeness of PLC data. The timely start of the project was important as new reporting formats and quality assurance system was to be applied in the PLC-6 project. Further, the new database can support also the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) and Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) reporting requirements of those Contracting Parties that are also EU member states. Ensuring the public access to the data will be a key outcome of the project.

HELCOM GEAR 2/2012 and HOD 39/2012 requested to ensure that PLC-6 data deliverables (essential data) are ready in the end of 2016 so that they can be used for HELCOM assessments and by Contracting Parties for MSFD reporting. This can only be fulfilled with the implementation of the HELCOM PLUS project, supporting a more efficient and timely data reporting of quality-assured data by the Contracting Parties.

Organization of the project

The Project Group, responsible for implementing the features according in the Project Description, consists of the Project Manager and the Project team from SYKE and BNI (the PLC Data Manager, ICT Experts and Web Application developer). The HELCOM RedCore Drafting Group acts as the steering committee of the project.

The Contracting Parties are responsible for collecting, quality assuring, calculating/assessing and reporting the data according to agreed revised HELCOM Waterborne Pollution Load Guidelines. The Contracting Parties are also responsible for providing feedback and approving the Functional/User specification documents provided by the Project Group.

The Project Manager is responsible for the general coordination of the Project and also ensures the timely implementation of the Project along with the Project Group.

Project Progress Status

List of Items of completed

1. Finalization Database model and Database Migration (**Work Package 1 and Work Package 2**)
2. Finalization of Annual Reporting template, Annex 2 (Guidelines for Annual reporting) and implementation of Data Upload functionality (**Work Package 3**)
3. Implementation of Quality Assurance Level 0 (verification of the format according to the Template)and Quality Assurance Level 1 (verification of the format and conformity of the data with the database structure by the Application) (**Work Package 3**)

List of Items in Progress

1. Finalization of PLC-6 Periodic Reporting Templates and Annex 3 (Guidelines for the Reporting templates) – **Awaiting final comments and confirmation from Contracting Parties (Work Package 3)**
2. Implementation of Quality Assurance Level 2 (Checking for data correctness and transfer of data from templates to Database with correct QA flag status)- (**Work Package 4**)

Note : Expected Readiness of QA level 2 is by June 2015

List of Items yet to start

1. Implementation of Quality Assurance Level 3 (Checking of data discrepancies by Contracting Party from the database) – Approximate ***Expected time of completion- Aug-Oct 2015 (Work Package 4)***
2. Implementation of Quality Assurance 4 (For checking of final data discrepancies by Data Manager) – Approximate. ***Expected time of completion Aug-Oct 2015 (Work Package 4)***
3. Set up a public web application for users to view, graphically display and download data - ***Expected time of completion April-June 2016 (Work package 5)***

PLUS meetings and workshops until HELCOM PLUS 8/2015 meeting and their contents

1. The first PLUS workshop was held on 24 September 2012 at Gothenburg and discussed mainly on the requirements for PLC database modernization
2. The second PLUS workshop was held at Helsinki, Finland, 18 January 2013 and mainly discussed on the results of the questionnaire on user requirements of the PLC database
3. A third PLUS workshop was held at Helsinki, Finland on 15-16 May 2013 and mainly discussed on the Draft data model, QA process and the PLC-6 guidelines
4. A fourth HELCOM PLUS workshop (HELCOM PLUS 4/2013) was held on 22-23 October 2013 at the Secretariat in Helsinki, and focussed on finalizing the Data Model, QA process and clarified questions regarding PLC-6 guidelines that would impact the implementation of the PLUS project.
5. A fifth workshop/meeting of the PLUS project was held on 27-28 Feb 2014 at the Secretariat in Helsinki, to review the Project Progress and focussed on finalizing the Data Model and Functional specifications
6. A sixth workshop/meeting of the PLUS project was held from 09-10 Sep 2014 at the Secretariat in Helsinki, to review the Project Progress , the first draft of the reporting templates and discuss the database migration issues
7. A seventh workshop/meeting of the PLUS project was held from 11-12 Nov 2014 at the Secretariat in Helsinki, to review the Project Progress , finalize the annual reporting templates , discuss some key questions regarding PLC periodic reporting templates and some database migration issues
8. The 8th workshop/meeting of the PLUS project was held from 10-11 Feb 2015 and mainly focussed on testing of the Upload template functionality for the Annual Templates. In addition to this, the meeting reviewed the PLC -6 Periodic Reporting templates and Annex 3 of the PLC Guidelines which contains instructions on how to fill in the Periodic Reporting Templates. Finally, the meeting discussed the current status of implementation of the Quality Assurance and agree on the approach for future implementation.

Attachment 1 Roadmap for implementation of HELCOM PLUS project (last updated 23.4.2015)

Legend:		Design	Implementation	Testing											
Task	Jul-Sep 2012	Oct-Dec 2012	Jan-Mar 2013	Apr-Jun 2013	Jul-Sep 2013	Oct-Dec 2013	Jan-Mar 2014	Apr-Jun 2014	Jul-Sep 2014	Oct-Dec 2014	Jan-June 2015	June - Dec 2015	Jan - June 2016		
1 st Financial Year					2 nd Financial Year				3 rd Financial Year			4 th Financial Year			
Preparation and restructuring of the Database															
WP0	Preparation - Requirement analysis and specification	x	x	x	x										
	Contracting Project Database Expert		x												
WP1	Specification of the data model and detailed functional requirements			x	x		x	x	x						
WP2	Implement the new data model (restructuring of the database and transfer of data)						x	x	x	x					
Web Application – Reporting and Quality Assurance															
WP3	Review of data reporting form (content and design)									x	x	x			
WP3	Design of Web application functional requirements. First version of restricted web application for reporting and quality assurance of national data							x	x	x	x	x			
WP4	Set up of a quality assurance system for data reporting						x				x	x	x		
Web Application – Access and Visualization															
WP4	Operationalization of web application for reporting and quality checking national data										x	x	x		
WP5	Set up a public web application for users to view, graphically display and download data												x		