



Document title	Planning the PLC workshop on the effectiveness of measures and analysis of implementation obstacles and best practices
Code	3-2
Category	DEC
Agenda Item	3-PLC-8 activities
Submission date	9.12.2021
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

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.

This workshop will be combined 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.

HELCOM Contracting Parties, relevant third countries and interested NGOs and Observers will be invited to the workshop. 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 HOD 61-2021 approved the organization of the workshop tentatively in late June or early July 2022.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to

- consider the content, agenda and invitees of the proposed PLC workshop on the effectiveness of measures and the analysis of implementation obstacles and best practices,
- agree on the timing and possible hosting (if Covid restrictions allow) of the workshop and
- agree on the next steps with detailed planning.