



Document title	Proposal for the extended content of the PLC-7 thematic report on effectiveness of measures
Code	3-5
Category	DEC
Agenda Item	3 - Nutrient loads to the Baltic Sea ecosystem
Submission date	31.3.2020
Submitted by	PLC-7 Implementation Group
Reference	

Background

PLC-6 project produced a questionnaire on effectiveness of measures and circulated it to HELCOM contracting parties to gather information on how much nutrient loads decreased from 1994 to 2015 and the possible reasons behind the decrease. The overall outcome was that countries were mainly able to estimate the reduction from point source. Only few countries were able to estimate achieved reduction for diffuse sources. The second part of that questionnaire was about expected reductions in waterborne nutrient loads from 2015 until 2021. Countries encountered difficulties to estimate how mitigation measures would affect loads. Future loads originating from diffuse sources were especially difficult to predict.

In the PLC-7 project one of the tasks is thematic report on effectiveness of measures. During the project it becomes evident that many countries are developing new catchment models to model nutrient loads into inland waters, transport of nutrients into the BS, which would enable reliable source apportionment for riverine inputs. This would also lead to more reliable estimates of variable drivers behind the changes in nutrient loads. Presently, these results are unavailable. The effects of measures to reduce nutrient loads remain still not easily available in many HELCOM countries alike in PLC-6 project

In 2019 HELCOM ACTION project was started, which is closely connected to the PLC-7 project. The ACTION project has two work packages, contributing to estimation of effectiveness of nutrient load reduction measures and therefore contributing to the PLC-7 thematic report.

This document provides first draft of the content of the PLC-7 thematic report of the effectiveness of measures based on the available information.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to consider the proposed content of the PLC-7 thematic report on effectiveness of measures, provide feedback regarding data availability and potential sources of information and agree on the content of this PLC-7 thematic report.

Proposal for extended content of the PLC-7 thematic report on effectiveness of measures

Municipal wastewaters

Time series of nutrient inputs from the large municipal WWTPs, illustrating results of their advancement;

The largest municipal WWTP from every contracting party. Time series starting 1990?

Reduction potential in municipal WWTP, if plants would meet requirements of HELCOM Recommendation

Based on the results from the HELCOM ACTION project WP 4.1c

Scattered dwellings

Evaluation potential load reductions from scattered dwellings

Based on a questionnaire sent to the PLC-project group

Additional possible data source - Eurostat time-series of connectivity starting from 1970

Riverine loads: Test cases

Examples of nutrient load reduction from river basins with description of applied measures.

The catchments selected will exemplify those where measures have been particularly effective in reducing nutrient loads as well as those where significant efforts have been made to reduce nutrient inputs, but without apparent success. This part is based on the results from the HELCOM ACTION project WP 4.1a and will include mitigation measures related to diffuse sources