



Document title	An overview of the data on dredged material reported in 2016
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*Note that this document was submitted after the established deadline.
It will be decided by the Meeting whether the document can be discussed or is postponed to the next meeting.*

Background

HELCOM Recommendation 36/2, adopted at HELCOM 36-2015 on 4 March 2015, recommends that the Contracting Parties follow the HELCOM Guidelines for Management of Dredged Material at Sea, and that the Contracting Parties report on the national data on management of dredged material according to the Reporting Format of the HELCOM Guidelines.

Depositing of dredged material is one of the pressures that is to be considered within the HOLAS II assessment. The HELCOM Baltic Sea Impact Index (BSII), which is being further developed through the HOLAS II projects, reflects the magnitude of human pressures and impacts on different ecosystem components, including benthic species and biotopes. For this purpose data sets on pressures are being collated in HELCOM, including for dredged material.

This document contains an overview of the data reported in accordance with the requirements of HELCOM Recommendation 36/2 in 2016. The overview considers data completeness and technical consistency but does not imply almost any analysis of the data content either statistically or spatially. All the reported data were manually handled by the Secretariat. Required spatial components were built. The overview indicates that the data require verification by the national experts.

Taking into account the differences in the national permitting and, perhaps, reporting procedures which influence also the reporting of data to HELCOM, there is a strong need to establish an operational data reporting system, based on the HELCOM Guidelines integrating data quality assurance procedures and data visualization for further verification and approval by national experts.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the results of the data reporting in 2016.

The countries which have not reported data are invited to inform about the reasons of delay and timing when the data will be reported.

Reported data on dredged material

National data reporting 2015

Reporting by Contracting Party

The latest data reported covers the year 2015 and has been reported by Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, and Sweden (Table 1). The data covers locations (pointwise, line or polygon) of the depositing sites, amount and possibly contaminant concentrations related to deposited material.

Table 1. Reported data by Contracting Party and year. Numbers in the table represent number of **deposit sites** reported per year. Colours indicate the information on contaminants.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Denmark				88	62			54	48	84	336
Estonia		12	4	2	7	7	10		22	22	86
Finland		7	7	14	9	7	7	7	9	8	75
Germany	9	7	12	7	6	7	3	6	8	12	77
Latvia		8	2	4	7		1				22
Lithuania	1	2	1	7	5	2	2	3	3	2	28
Poland		12	4	8	9	16	12	14	8	8	91
Russia								2	2		4
Sweden	20	21	17	20	17	13	17	11	17	19	172
Total	30	69	47	150	122	52	52	97	117	155	891

- Contaminant load reported
- Contaminant load partly reported or reported as not contaminated
- Contaminant load not reported

Completeness of reported data

The information that is reported on dredged material deposits (Table 1) does not necessarily contain all the required fields. As shown in Figure 1, only Poland and Denmark was able to provide the complete required information on deposition. On the other hand, the rest of the countries still has some missing information, except for Latvia and Russia who didn't provide any data yet. Nonetheless, the completeness of reported data 2015 is much better than in previous years. Also the data on dredging sites location were reported by Lithuania and Germany.

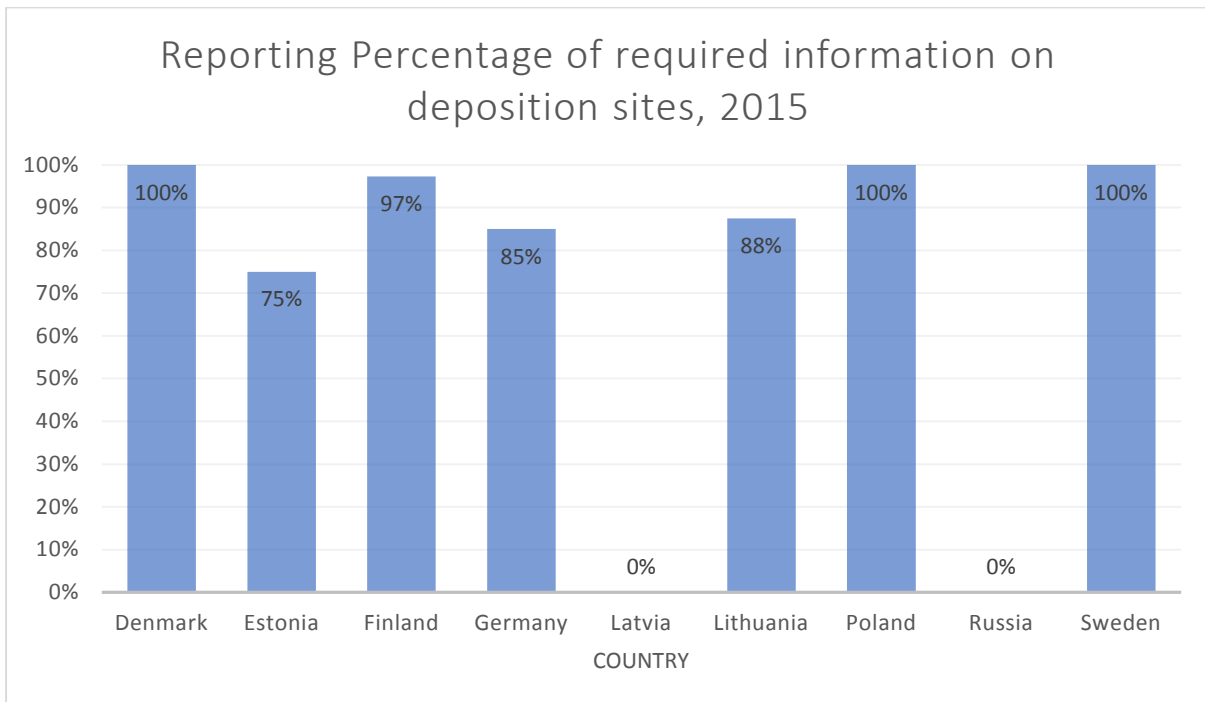


Figure 1. Percentage of information reported by countries of the following fields: National deposition code, Helcom site ID, Permit, Description of deposited material, Site name, type of area dredged, dredging activity and amount of material dumped.

Quality of spatial data

Spatial data on depositing sites 2015 is mostly reported in polygonal locations given as latitude and longitude coordinates (Figure 2, 3, 4).

The best quality of data is obtained if countries provide areas as shapefiles with corresponding attributes that can be linked on the excel sheets submitted.

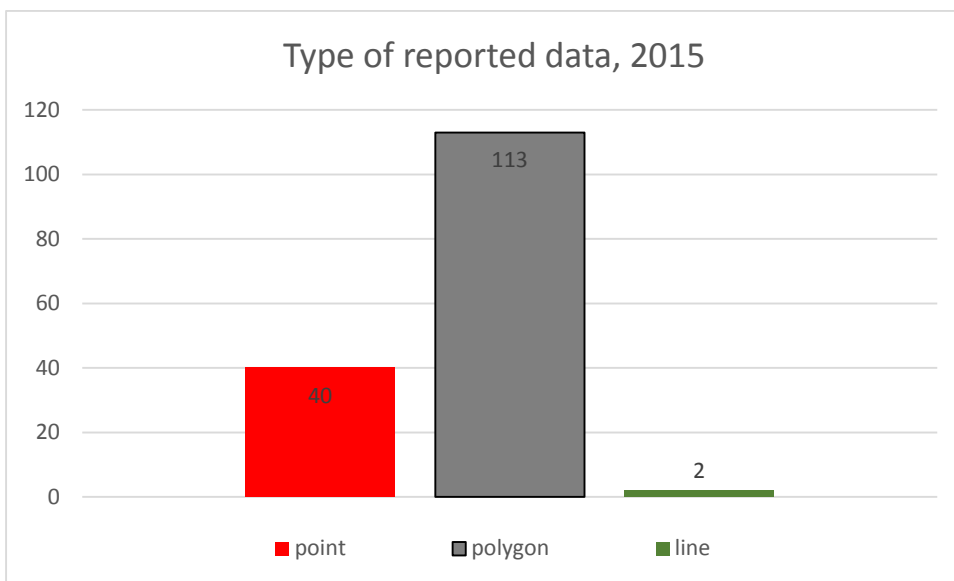


Figure 2. Type of spatial information received from countries, 2015.

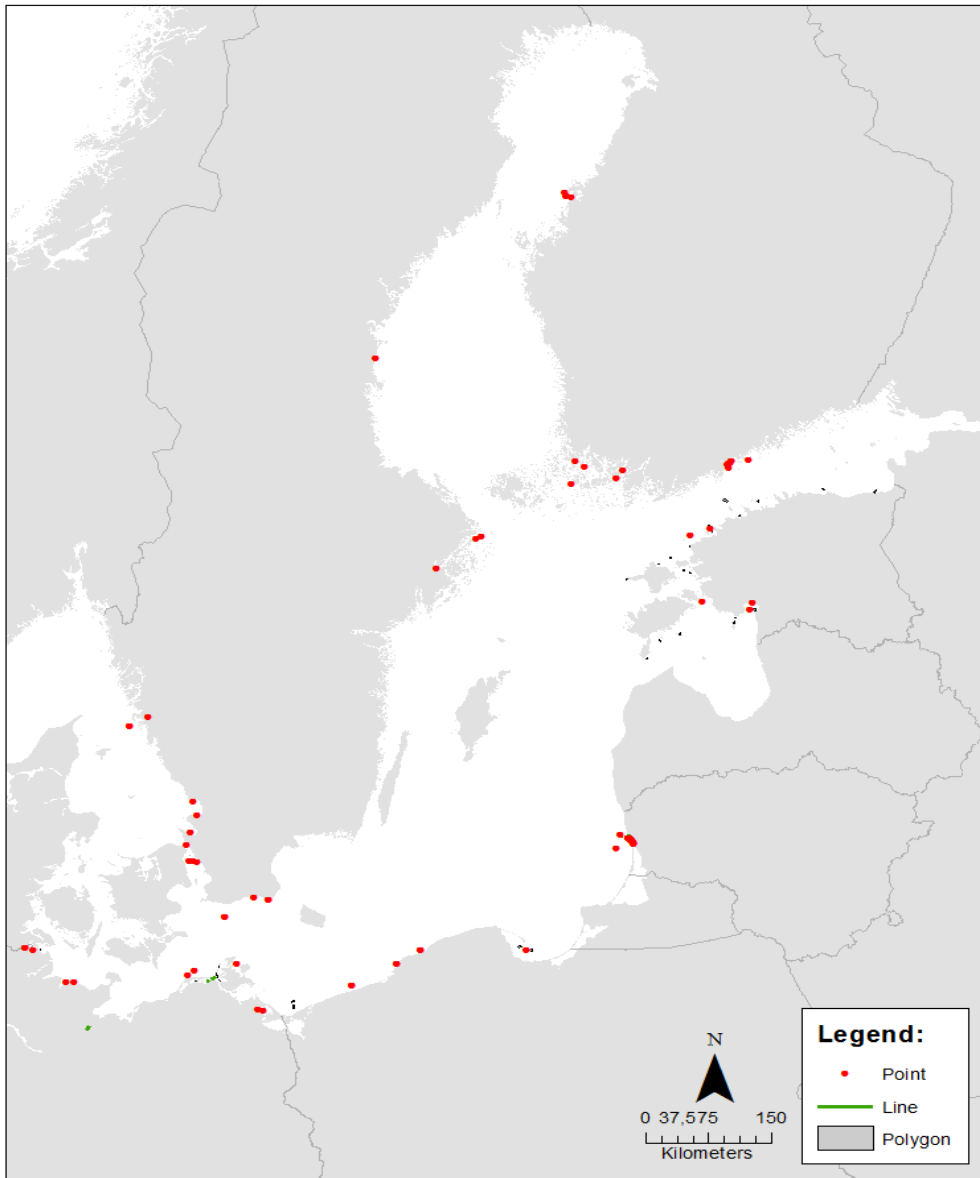


Figure 3. Distribution of the depositing sites reported in 2015. Baltic Sea.

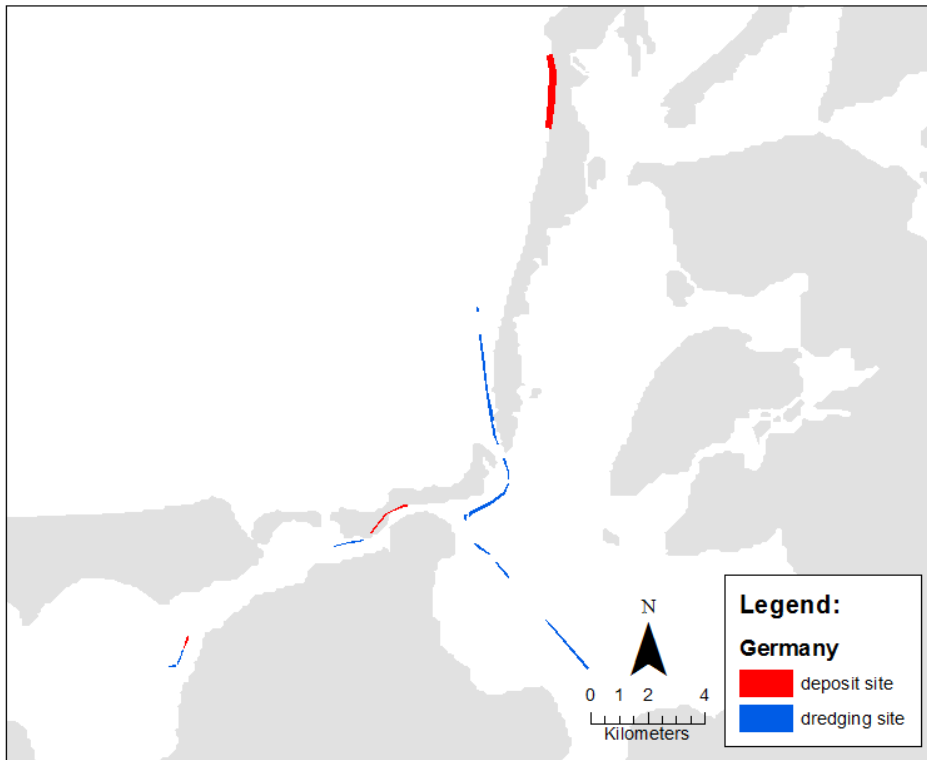


Figure 4. Dredged material depositing and dredging sites in Germany, 2015.

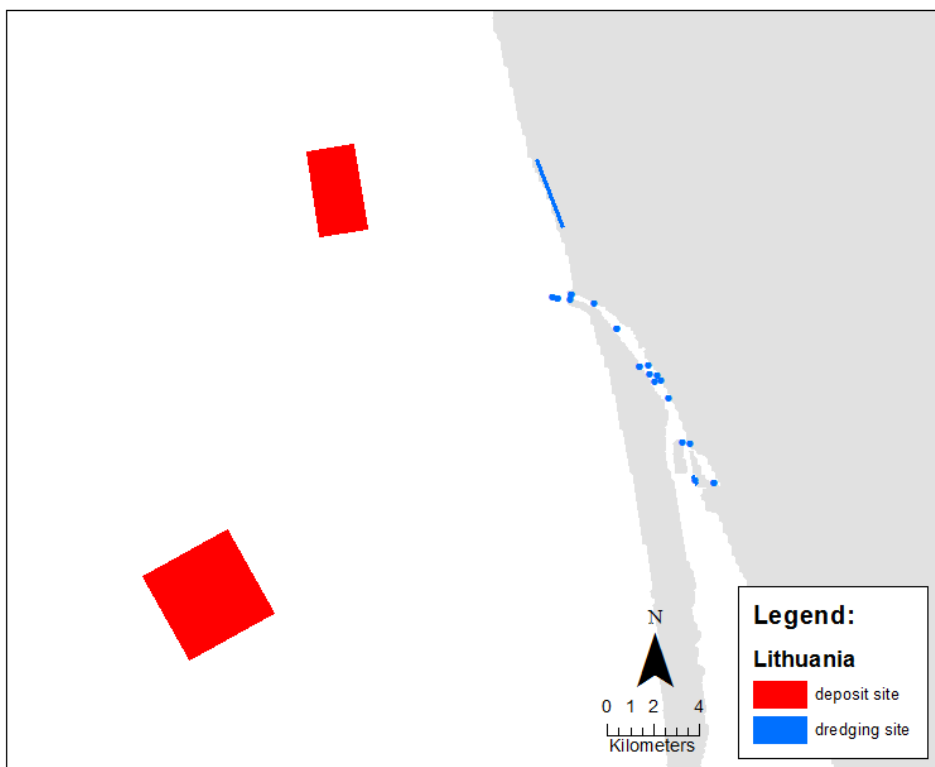


Figure 5. Dredged material depositing and dredging sites in Lithuania, 2015.

Latest reporting round (2015 data)

Latest reporting round covering data for the year 2015 was received from all HELCOM Contracting Parties except Latvia and Russia. Only Germany (24 sites), Finland (8 sites), and Lithuania (2 sites) reported dredging activities. The following are the key observations on the submitted data:

Denmark

- Reported data on depositing, details of activity and on contaminant load
- All spatial data are reported as polygons in MapInfo format.
- An inconsistency between the excel table and the spatial data was revealed. 12 depositing operations reported in the excel file does not have corresponding spatial objects. On the other hand 106 objects reported in the MapInfo whereas 84 depositing sites in the excel file. The data require verification by national experts.

Estonia

- All spatial data are reported as coordinates of polygons in excel file.
- Reported deposition data do not contain information on contaminated material. All material is reported as "clean sediments for dumping"
- No information on contaminant load reported. Despite the material is reported as silt/sand which is not an exemption for analytical procedures (HELCOM Recommendation 36/2). Require verification by national experts.

Finland

- Reported depositing data do not contain information on concentration on contaminants despite the reported material does not belong to exemptions from analytical procedure (Chapter 6, HELCOM Recommendation 36/2).
- All spatial data are reported as points in excel table and only in 2 cases with radius.
- The table details of activity contains coordinates which indicates points in remarkable distance from the reported areas licensed for depositing. Data require verification.

Germany

- Reported depositing data, contaminated material, details of activity and contaminant load.
- All spatial data are reported as shapefile point, lines and polygons.
- Missing information on "dredging activity"
- The report contains spatial information on location of dredging sites.

Latvia

- No data reported.

Lithuania

- Reported data on depositing and dredging. Partly missing information on contaminant load and material on deposition and dredging
- All spatial data are reported as points, lines, and polygons coordinates in excel.
- The report, perhaps, contains spatial information on location of dredging sites. But it needs verification by national experts.

Poland

- Data on deposition are reported as point with radius and polygon coordinates in excel file
- Reported details of activity and contaminant loads.

Russia

- No data reported.

Sweden

- Reported data on deposition/details of activity and contaminant load
- All spatial data are reported as point coordinates in excel file.
- There are questionable data on amounts of dumped dredging material reported. Require verification.