



Exercises with a purpose

Proposals for a future HELCOM RESPONSE
exercise planning process

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More than 30 years of successful HR exercises!

- BALEX DELTA has
 - developed the CP:s ability to co-operate in response operations.
 - helped building a community of responders around the Baltic Sea.
 - contributed to the sharing of methods and technologies.
 - contributed to the development of HR frameworks and methods.
- Increasingly complex, comprehensive, and extensive exercises.

So, now what?



The HELCOM RESPONSE Exercise Plan (HREP)

- The HREP was introduced into the Manual in 2016.
- A link between HR strategic development priorities and the design of specific exercises.
- The first HREP is however still to be developed.

All HELCOM exercises – at sea, on the shore or combined – support the strategic development of the HELCOM cooperation on the response to marine pollution. A multiannual HELCOM RESPONSE Exercise Plan (HREP) is developed and revised on a yearly basis. The HREP lists all HELCOM Exercises for the coming three years and specify their dates and venues, the host nation, the overall aim and what strategic development objectives the exercise supports.

HELCOM Manual, vol 1.

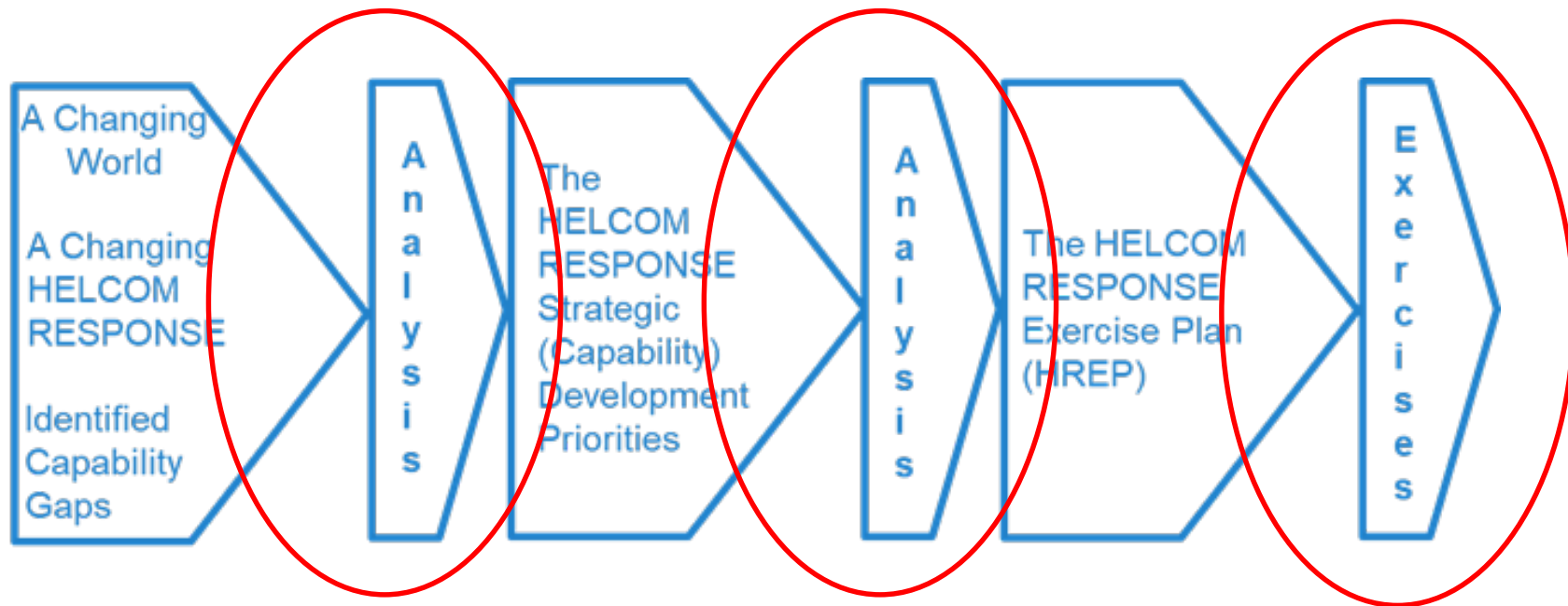
The HREP project

- Commissioned by HR, funded by Sweden.
- Develop proposals for
 - A process/method for developing HR strategic development priorities.
 - A process for developing the HREP, i.e. translating the priorities into exercises.
 - A process for the planning of exercises.
 - A draft blueprint of an exercise planning tool.
- Great input from the HR steering group and from the HREP workshop participants.
- The report is a non-binding working document. A number of issues remain to be further analysed.

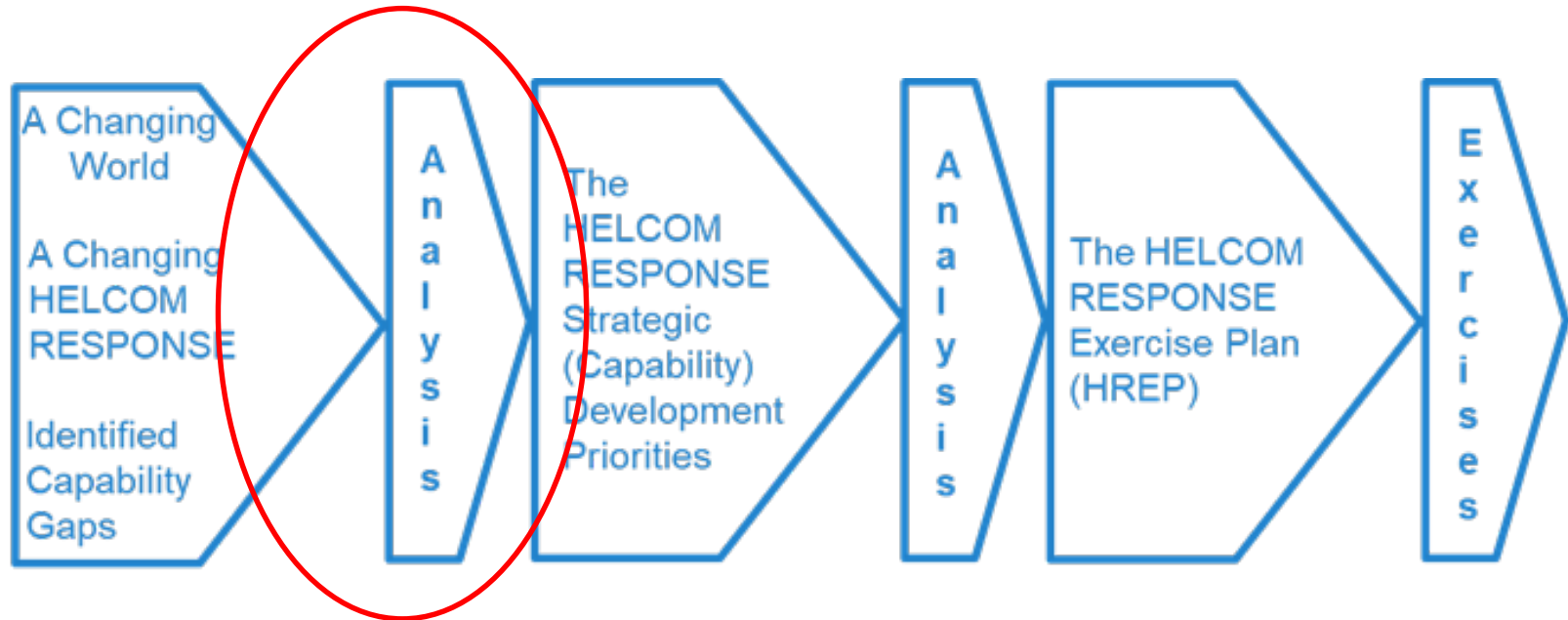


Exercises are tools for strategic development. They can be used to evaluate, explore, and implement (train) capability/ability.

A three-step process



A three-step process



Step 1 - HR strategic development priorities

- External *and* internal factors influence the HR strategic development priorities.
- Analysing these factors to develop the priorities is a profoundly strategic process
 - “What should HR be and do?”
- It is also an analytically demanding process.

Examples of external factors

- Changes in society
- Changes in maritime traffic patterns
- Climate change
- Changes in international laws

Examples of internal factors

- Lessons learned
- Identified capability gaps
- Changes in internal routines
- Output from revisions and WG

Step 1 - HR strategic development priorities

- We suggest that the analysis should be under the direction of the Helsinki Commission.
- We also suggest that before analysing the internal/external factors, identify already defined priorities in HC/HR framework documents.

HC/HR framework documents

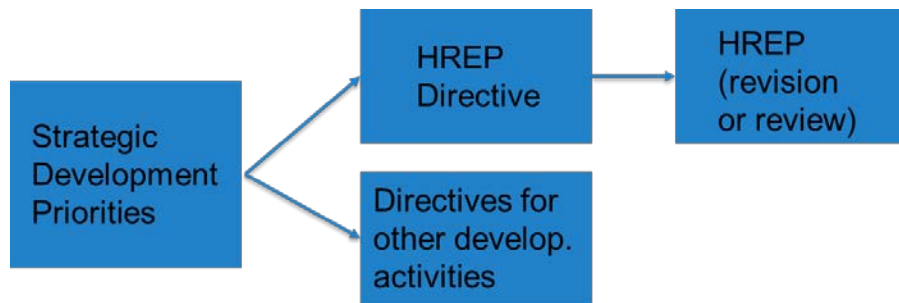
- Helsinki Convention
- Baltic Sea Action Plan
- The Manual
- Recommendations
- Etc.

A three-step process



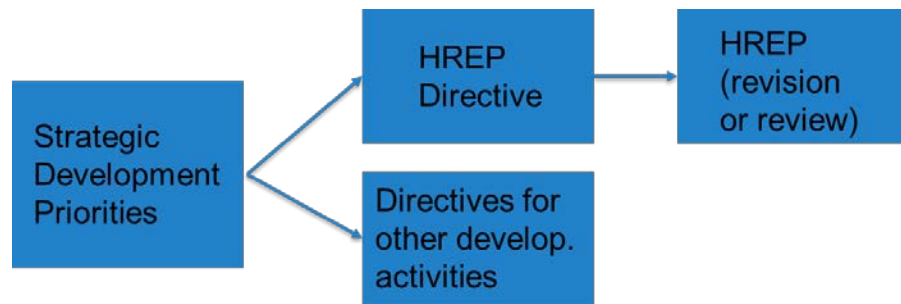
Step 2 – The HREP

- Three-year plan.
- Revised every third year.
- Limited reviews in-between
- A continuous task and a HR standing agenda item.
- Not all strategic priorities are achieved through exercises!
- Revision/review should start with an HREP Directive.



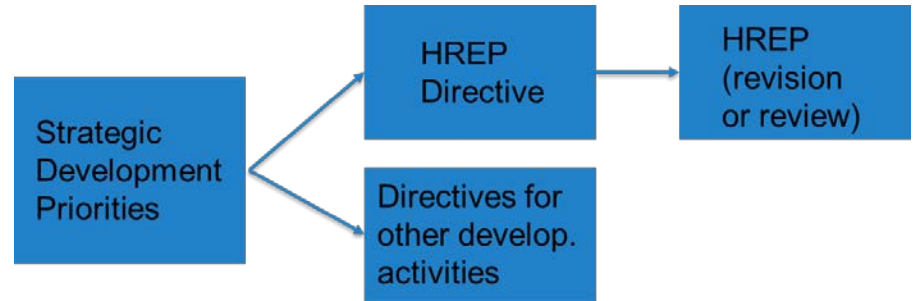
Step 2 – The HREP directive

- Decided by the Helsinki Commission (or HoD).
- Outlines
 - Important internal/external factors for the review/revision of the HREP.
 - Identified shortcomings and capability gaps.
 - HC strategic capability priorities.



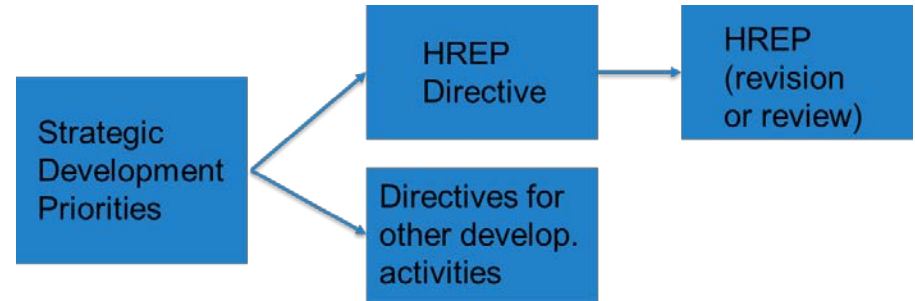
Step 2 – The HREP

- Analysis of the strategic development priorities.
- A list of tentative exercise objectives.
- A dialogue with the Contracting Parties.
- The resulting three-year exercise plan.



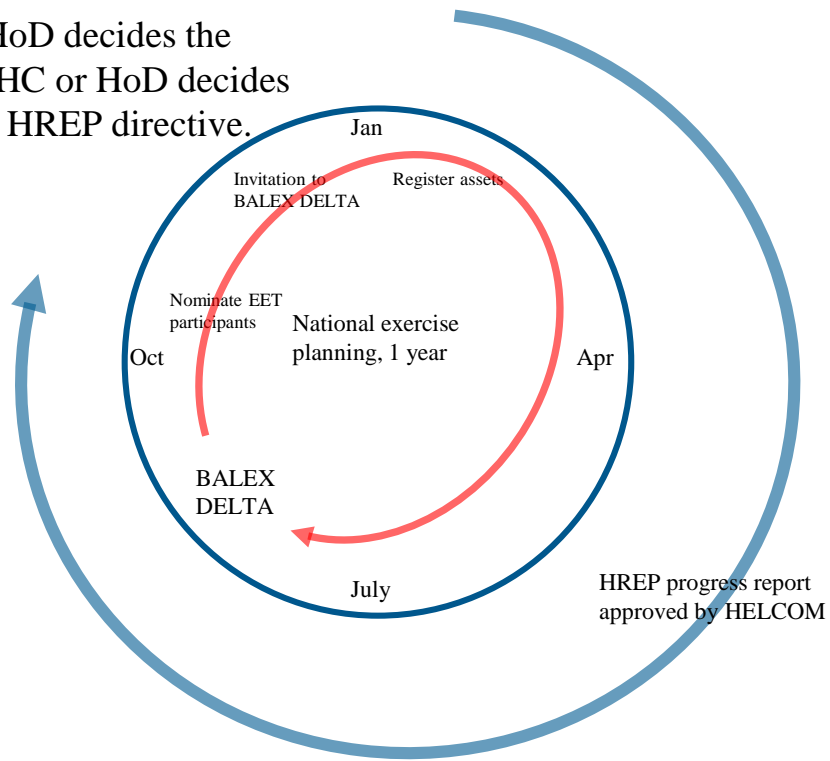
Step 2 – The HREP Group

- Last year's HN together with the HNs of the coming three years?
- Also a role to follow-up current exercise planning?
- Responsible for the drafting of a HREP Directive?
- Strengthened by analysts during years of revision?



Step 2 – The HREP process (3)

HC or HoD decides the HREP. HC or HoD decides the new HREP directive.



Comprehensive revision

HR decides the HREP. HC or HoD decides the new HREP directive.



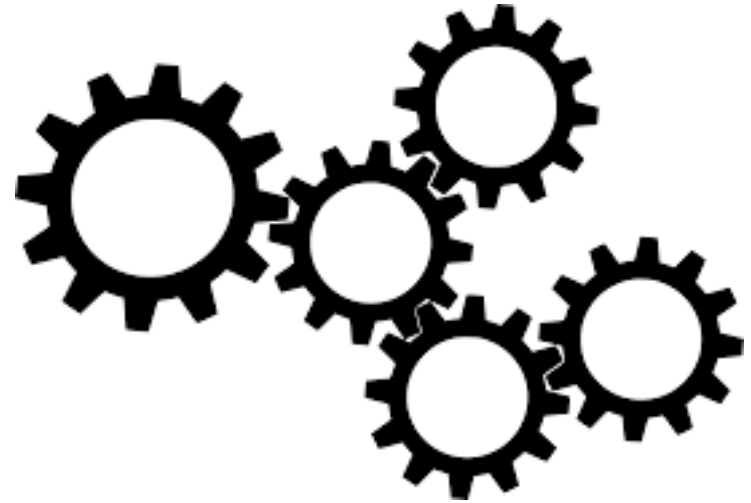
Limited review

A three-step process



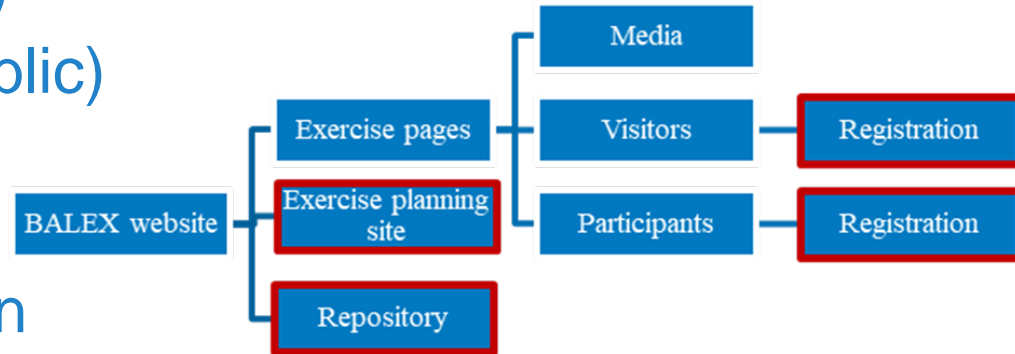
Step 3 – An exercise planning process

- The Manual describes an inclusive exercise planning process.
- The complexity of the exercise must decide the planning process.
- Proposed default
 - Start-up meeting and three planning conferences.
 - Regular progress reports to HR, to enable follow-up of HREP intentions.
 - Earlier registration of participants is probably necessary.
- Plan the evaluation at an early stage.



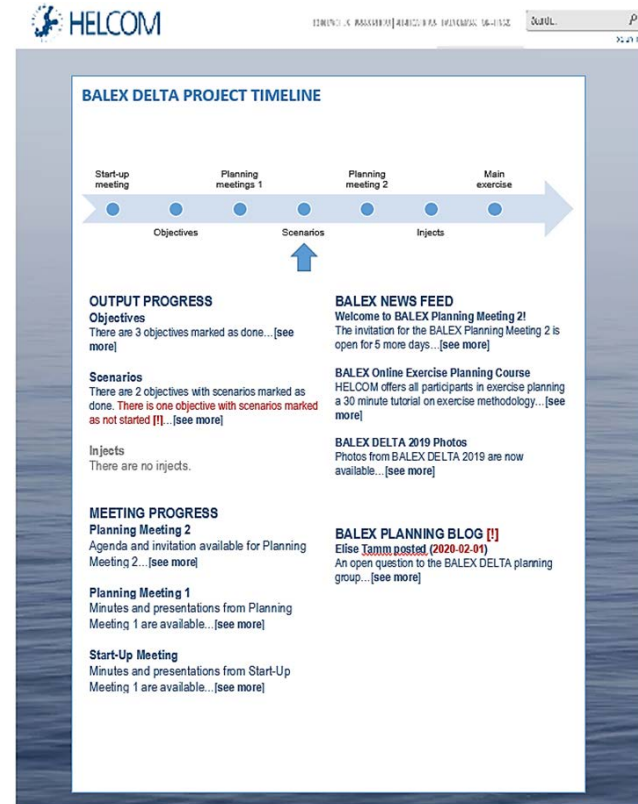
A draft blueprint for an exercise planning tool

- A BALEX website (public)
- An HR exercises site (public)
 - Current exercises
 - Previous exercises
- A repository of information (protected)
- An exercise planning site (protected)



A draft blueprint for an exercise planning tool

- An exercise planning site that offers
 - A timeline for the process based on exercise complexity and format.
 - A number of role-specific sub-pages (working areas)
 - Joint versioning
 - Tools for coordinating meetings etc.



Thank you for your attention!

- Questions?

