



Document title	Synopses on potential new measures for the updated BSAP
Code	4-2
Category	INF
Agenda Item	4 - Preparation of thematic BSAP UP workshops in spring 2020
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Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

Background

To support the selection of new measures and actions for the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan, an invitation to submit synopses on potential new HELCOM actions has been put forward. HELCOM 40-2019 agreed that synopses on potential new HELCOM measures and actions can be submitted by the Contracting Parties, HELCOM subsidiary bodies, international projects and HELCOM Observers

The aim is that the synopses should summarize existing information in a format that can be used as background information for BSAP update workshops and working group meetings. The information should also provide data and information that can be used to incorporate the potential new measures as part of the analysis of sufficiency of measures. They should thus be relatively short, but still provide technical information i.e. on the target of the measures (e.g. activity, pressure or state component) and information on the potential effect of the measure. References to scientific articles, project deliverables and/or reports should be given to allow the reader to find further information and justification on the potential of the measure to contribute to achieving good environmental status in the Baltic Sea.

The synopses on potential new HELCOM measures/actions should be submitted to the Secretariat (ullali.zweifel@helcom.fi) by end of 2019 at the latest, but it is encouraged that they are submitted as soon as possible. The attached document provides guidance and a template for the preparation of the synopses.

The invitation to prepare synopses has been sent to HELCOM subsidiary bodies, HELCOM observers, and to coordinators of previous and ongoing BONUS projects.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the guidelines for preparation of synopses.

Guidelines for preparation of synopses

Topics: there is no fixed list but a list of potential topics is provided in [document 4, section 2, HELCOM SOM Platform 1-2019](#).

Focus: potential new measures/actions, strengthening or improvement of existing measures, to reduce pressures on the Baltic Sea or to protect biodiversity. “New measures” refer to measures that are new to HELCOM and could thus include measures that are already implemented at a national level in one/some of the countries. “Strengthening” refers e.g. to setting stricter limit values, more stringent spatial restrictions to activities, to existing measures. “Improvement” refers e.g. to technical improvements of existing measures based on recent developments.

Length: the proposed length is one page per potential measure. In case the syntheses/synopses include information on a set of related measures, the length can be increased accordingly.

Disposition: the information provided should be evidence-based, objective and comprehensive i.e. to give factual information on the measure/action based on existing research and case studies, and to assemble information from several sources as relevant.

Template and guidance

<p>Title</p> <p><i>[Provide a title that gives immediate understanding of the measure (e.g. recycling of agricultural waste by use of on-farm anaerobic digestion, use of gypsym to reduce phosphorus loads from agricultural land, improved river restoration for migratory fish)]</i></p>
<p>Submitted by:</p> <p><i>[Specify e.g. country, HELCOM network, international project, observer etc, and contact information]</i></p>
<p>Description of measure</p> <p><i>[Free text. Indicative length: 100 words. Description should be short and succinct]</i></p>
<p>Activity:</p> <p><i>[Drop-down list: Activity that the measure is addressing. Additional drop-down lists can be copy/pasted as necessary.]</i></p> <p>Choose an item.</p>
<p>Pressure:</p> <p><i>[Drop-down list: Pressure that the measure is addressing. Additional drop-down lists can be copy/pasted as necessary.]</i></p> <p>Choose an item.</p>
<p>State:</p> <p><i>[Drop-down list + Free text: State component that the measure is addressing. Additional drop-down lists can be copy/pasted as necessary. Add further specification as free text e.g. if the measure will contribute to an improvement 1) of a specific element (e.g. species, habitat, substance, type of litter) and 2) of a specific parameter/feature (e.g. abundance, concentration, amount, population condition)]</i></p> <p>Choose an item.</p>
<p>Extent of impact:</p> <p><i>[Free text. Include, as relevant, information on the extent of impact of the measure, e.g. if the impact is local, within coastal waters, sub-basins, Baltic wide scale. Provide physical units if possible]</i></p>
<p>Effectiveness of measure</p> <p><i>[Free text: Indicative length 300 words. Summary of results of testing/implementing the measure and any quantitative information on its effectiveness. In the case of conservation measures; indicate which species, habitats, functions etc that the measure will contribute to preserving. Include if available estimations on the effect of implementing the measure on a region-wide scale.]</i></p>
<p>Cost, cost-effectiveness of measure:</p> <p><i>[Free text: indicate any known or likely sources of cost and/or effectiveness data of the measure]</i></p>
<p>Feasibility:</p> <p><i>[Optional: provide views on feasibility of implementing the actions e.g. technical, economic, social]</i></p>
<p>Follow-up of measure:</p> <p><i>[Optional: indicate information potential or existing follow-up system for the measure, e.g. indicators, monitoring programme]</i></p>
<p>Background material:</p> <p><i>[Free text: Clarify choice of background material for the synopses, e.g. does it represent a comprehensive overview of results with regard to the measure or a sub-selection]</i></p>
<p>References</p> <p><i>[As many references as needed to support the information summarized in the document]</i></p>