



Document title	Proposal for the outline and contents of the SOM main report
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Background

Clear and appropriate communication of the results of the SOM analysis has been a focus of the ACTION project and SOM Platform ([SOM Platform 2-2019](#); [SOM Platform 3-2020](#)). SOM Platform 3-2020 was invited to provide written comments to a proposed structure for topic-specific SOM reports ([SOM Platform 3-2020](#); para. 3.1). Following the comments and further consultation with the HELCOM Expert Network on Economic and Social Analyses ([Outcome of EN ESA 9-2020](#), Agenda item 4), the amended report structure has been used to begin work on the topic specific SOM reports. A main report of the SOM analysis is envisioned to accompany the topic reports and [methodology document](#) already being drafted.

This document includes a proposal for the structure of the main SOM report. The aim is to avoid duplicating the work or contents of the topic reports, while providing a summary of the main findings of the analysis and providing new perspectives and insights not found in the topic reports. Further, the intention is to rely heavily on data visualizations to reduce the needed accompanying text. The aim is to provide background information to support the BSAP update and further HELCOM work.

Some results may be left out of the main report for certain topics due to a variety of considerations, e.g. lack of data, certain results that do not link to the broader analysis.

The main report will be prepared by the HELCOM ACTION project and Secretariat, with input and guidance from the SOM Platform and SOM topic teams, as well as other relevant HELCOM groups.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to:

- take note of the structure and contents of the main report of the SOM analysis
- discuss and provide guidance on the main report.

Proposal for the outline and contents for the SOM main report

Background

1. Background on SOM approach

Very general background on the topic. The aim is to provide a point of high accessibility where someone with little background in the subject could begin to interact with the results.

- a. What is a sufficiency of measures analysis?
- b. What is unique about this particular analysis?
- c. General limitations and assumptions

2. Summary of SOM approach

Background covering the specifics of the SOM analysis. The aim is to provide the information necessary to understand the results presented in this report without needing to read any other document. However, the methodological details required to understand how these results were generated will be left in a separate methodology document.

- a. Reference to methodology document
- b. General structure and schematic of the approach
- c. Topics covered
- d. Reference to topic reports
- e. Data sources
- f. Existing measures register
- g. Development of human activities
- h. Time lags
- i. Uncertainty

3. How to use results

The aim of this section is to provide tools and context to read and utilize the results presented in both this report and the topic reports. Unlike other sections, this will also cover results only found in the topic reports and will serve as a listing of the results available across all the SOM reports.

- a. Overview of different types of results
- b. Relationship between each result
- c. Potential applications for results
- d. Reference to Annex 1: Practical guide to results presentation
- e. Reference to topic reports

Results

4. Likelihood of reaching GES

Qualitative assessment (e.g. very low, low, moderate, ...very high probability to achieve GES), presented alongside the range of expected pressure reduction and required pressure reduction needed to reach GES. Information on the most recent assessment of status for context (generally HOLAS II/HELCOM indicator). Briefly describe time lags. Summary of results fully available in SOM topic reports.

5. Likelihood of reaching specific state improvements

Same presentation as likelihood of reaching GES (e.g. very low, low, moderate, ...very high probability to achieve a specific state improvement). Potentially only one of the three state improvement levels could be shown here to control the report length. The specific level could change between topics, based on input from e.g. topic teams or SOM Platform. Summary of results fully available in SOM topic reports.

6. Significant pressures across all topics
A joint ranking of pressures across all topics to give an integrated perspective of the top pressures in the Baltic Sea. Pressure rankings would be combined from all topics to create a single Baltic Sea ranking. New result for main report.
7. Top pressures for each state component
Table of top pressures for each state component in the SOM analysis. Additional grouping may be applied to limit the length of this section (e.g. all seals together or all populations of a seal species together rather than each population separately reported as in topic report). Summary of results fully available in SOM topic reports.
8. Most impactful measures
Table of most impactful measures for each pressure input in the SOM analysis. Impact is a metric combining effectiveness of measures and the activity-pressure contributions to identify measures that have a large influence on the environment rather than a large influence on the targeted activity. This alternative perspective acknowledges that less effective measures targeting a very important activity could be more important than a highly effective measure targeting a minor activity. For single-activity pressures (e.g. fish extraction which only results from fishing), effectiveness of the measure and impact are identical. Currently this result is not included in the topic reports. However, it is expected to be included at least as an annex to those reports.
9. Activity-pressure input contributions
Two alternatives are suggested for this section. To manage both the length of this report and the project workload, it is recommended that only one of these options be selected.
 - a. Alternative 1: Projected activity-pressure input contributions for 2030-2035 due to development of human activities and implementation of existing measures.
 - i. *This alternative shows the potential future relationship between activities and pressures to provide insights into which activities new measures might best be targeted. It could be presented in a table format. New result for main report.*
 - b. Alternative 2: Sankey diagrams for each multi-activity pressure input (a pressure input with more than one contributing activity).
 - i. *Large Sankey diagrams for many of the pressure inputs included in the SOM analysis to show the activities contributing to them and their strength. Provides a strong visual impact and an alternative look at data available from the topic reports.*

Conclusions and discussion

10. Brief summary of approach and results

11. Evaluation of the process and results, lessons learned
12. Knowledge gaps and development opportunities

Annexes

13. ANNEX 1: How to read the results
Provides a visual walkthrough of each figure and table type and provides an example analysis.