



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Working Group on the State of the Environment and Nature
Conservation

STATE & CONSERVATION
10-2019

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Document title	Possible resourcing of potential eutrophication test assessment development
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Agenda Item	3J – HELCOM indicators and assessments
Submission date	15.4.2019
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	IN-Eutrophication 11-2018 Outcome, IN-Eutrophication 12-2019 Outcome

Background

HELCOM Intersessional network on Eutrophication (IN-Eutrophication) has been working on developing eutrophication assessment methodology to apply indicator scaling. For that purpose, minimum and maximum values have been collated from previous HEAT runs as well as specifying the needed modifications to HEAT tool.

Currently HELCOM eutrophication assessment is carried out using online accessible dataview provided by the database host ICES and was applied in State of the Baltic Sea report assessment, but without indicator scaling.

HELCOM IN-Eutrophication 11-2018 agreed to carry out a test assessment using indicator scaling and requested HELCOM Secretariat to establish a workspace for test assessment and approach ICES data center in beginning of 2019 for carrying out a modified dataview for test assessment using indicator scaling by applying EQRs. ICES data center carried out implementation of the test assessment for open sea areas for IN-Eutrophication 12-2019 meeting which includes both ER and EQR results and is available in the test assessment workspace (<https://portal.helcom.fi/workspaces/IN-EUTROPHICATION3-163/default.aspx>).

HELCOM IN-Eutrophication 12-2019 meeting took note of the information from ICES, that the resources to continue the test assessment work at ICES are limited. The current contract between ICES and HELCOM is limited to data management and does not include development work. The Meeting noted that ICES is willing to continue the work, but to ensure the continuation of the development work at ICES, the procedure should be agreed on. The Meeting further noted that uninterrupted continuation of the work would be important, but modifications of the dataview foreseen resulting from developing the EQR based assessment further and future work on confidence assessment needs resources which are not currently available at HELCOM. The Meeting considered that possible solutions would be getting funding for a small project, for which ICES would make a work estimate, or for including a certain amount of development work into the current agreement between HELCOM and ICES. The Meeting noted that proceeding with a project proposal would have to be discussed in State and Conservation.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to

- take note of the latest developments
- discuss and provide guidance for the procedure to take the work forward.
- consider the possibility to provide national funding to support a project to finalize the development work.