

# HELCOM science agenda

Taking place in parallel to BSAP update

- Agreed by HELCOM 40-2019
- Focus: implementation of HELCOM objectives and agreements
- Invitation to submit information on identified knowledge and research needs sent to HELCOM WGs, expert groups, networks etc.
- Document 8J-6 rev 1 and att.1 rev1 includes responses compiled by 13 October 2019
- HELCOM Task Group established to finalize the Science agenda
- Input from subsidiary bodies need by 30 November (latest)

# Task Group

- check the proposals from subsidiary bodies and complement as needed if any central topics are found to be missing
- agree on the outline and content of the final report
- identify issues of particular importance for HELCOM work
- identify important external processes that could support the implementation of the Science Agenda
- develop potential HELCOM voluntary commitment to the UN 2020 Conference
- first meeting in end of 2019
- draft science agenda to be presented at HELCOM 41

# Requests to the meetings

- identify gaps in the proposed knowledge and science needs received so far and discuss how they can be addressed,
- consider the tentative needs for clarification or **merging of overlapping proposals**,
- consider if some of the proposals are already covered by **ongoing projects**,
- agree on **how the input from State and Conservation and associated expert groups can be completed by 30 November** with the view of submitting the proposals as an input to the HELCOM Science Agenda.

# Reflections

- Gaps: e.g. migratory fish and coastal fish, and phyto- or zooplankton. Ask the relevant EGs, ENs, projects etc to provide contributions?
- Overlaps: should secretariat contact submitters and ask for merging of proposals?
- Type knowledge and research needs:
  - circa 30 % monitoring/mapping
  - circa 20 % development of indicators and threshold values/targets
  - circa 20% related to development of new measures of assessment of effectiveness of measures.
- Is this a good representation of HELCOM knowledge and science needs?