

# Results of the reporting on HELCOM Recommendation 40/1 (red-listed biotopes, habitats & biotope complexes)

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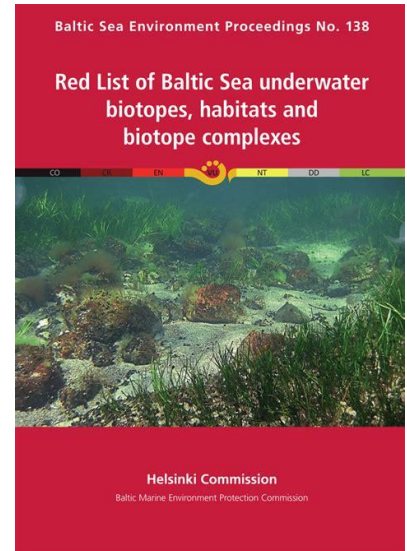


# Background



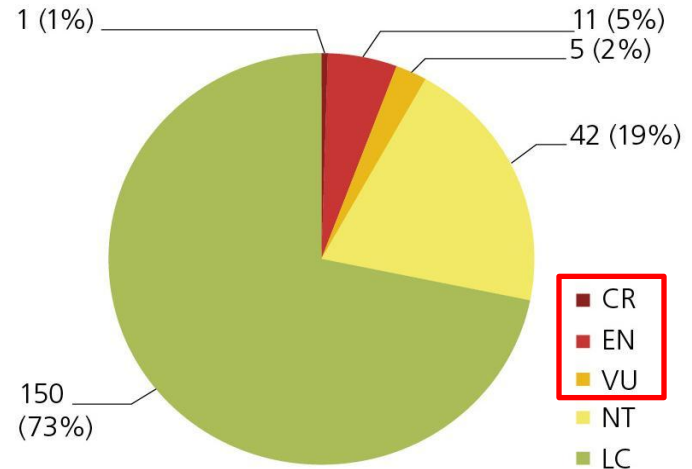
## HELCOM Rec. 40/1:

- Include/update national legislation with provisions to provide the protection
- Evaluate effects of new projects in EIAs (to limit harmful activities)
- Put mitigation/compensation measures in if necessary
- Identify/map biotopes
- Conservation-, recovery-, action plans
- Review effectiveness of conservation measures
- Determine additional activities to mitigate pressures (in cooperation)
- Implement plans/activities by 2021 at the latest
- Select/expand MPAs
- Encourage international organizations, raise awareness
- Monitoring, data exchange



# HELCOM Red List Species

HELCOM currently lists 51 biotopes and habitats according the HUB classification system and additional eight biotope complexes in accordance with the Habitats Directive as 'Critically Endangered', 'Endangered' or 'Vulnerable'.



Reference:

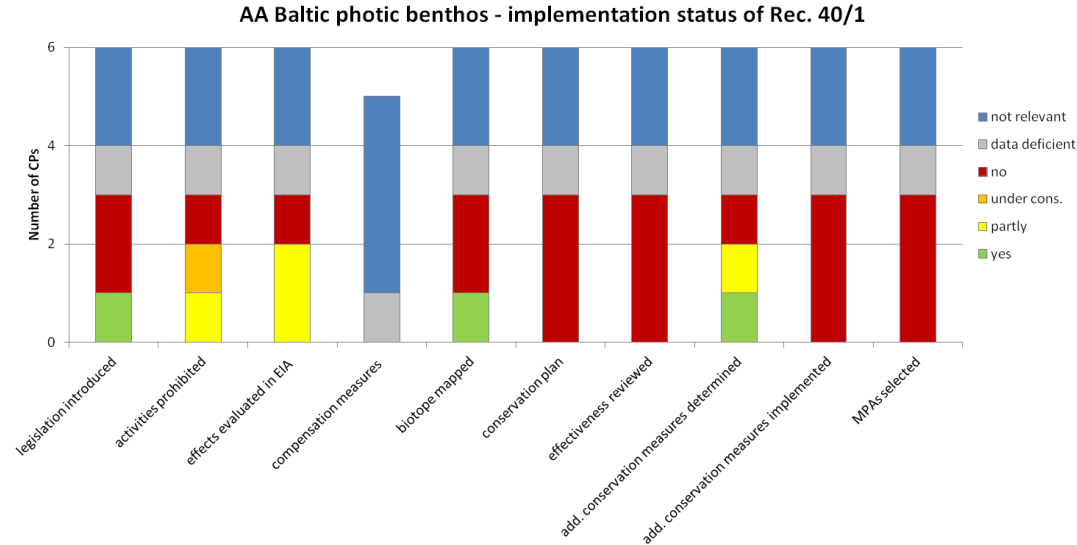
<https://helcom.fi/baltic-sea-trends/biodiversity/red-list-of-biotopes-habitats-and-biotope-complexes/red-list-of-biotopes-and-habitats/>

# Implementation status of Recommendation 40/1

## AA Baltic photic benthos

- Only SE has fully included them in their national legislation
- Only DE has fully mapped them and determined additional conservation measures
- Prohibitions of activities with negative effects on these biotopes and habitats exist only partly in SE and are under consideration for DE
- Major gaps:
  - conservation plans
  - review of the effectiveness of conservation plans by 2018
  - selection of new or expanded MPAs

➤ **CPs should strengthen their efforts to implement the recommendation for biotopes and habitats assigned to AA Baltic photic benthos.**

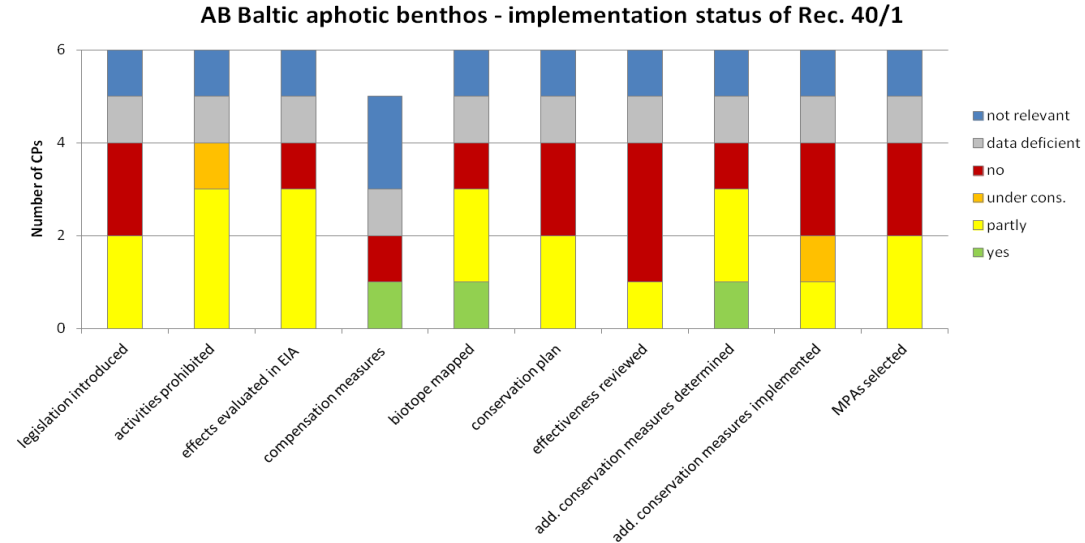


# Implementation status of Recommendation 40/1

## AB Baltic aphotic benthos

- Compared to Baltic photic benthos, the recommendation is generally better implemented for biotopes and habitats assigned to “AB Baltic aphotic benthos”.
- For DK and SE the implementation status is not identical for all biotopes and habitats belonging to Baltic aphotic benthos.

➤ **CPs should strengthen their efforts to fully implement the recommendation for biotopes and habitats assigned to AB Baltic aphotic benthos.**

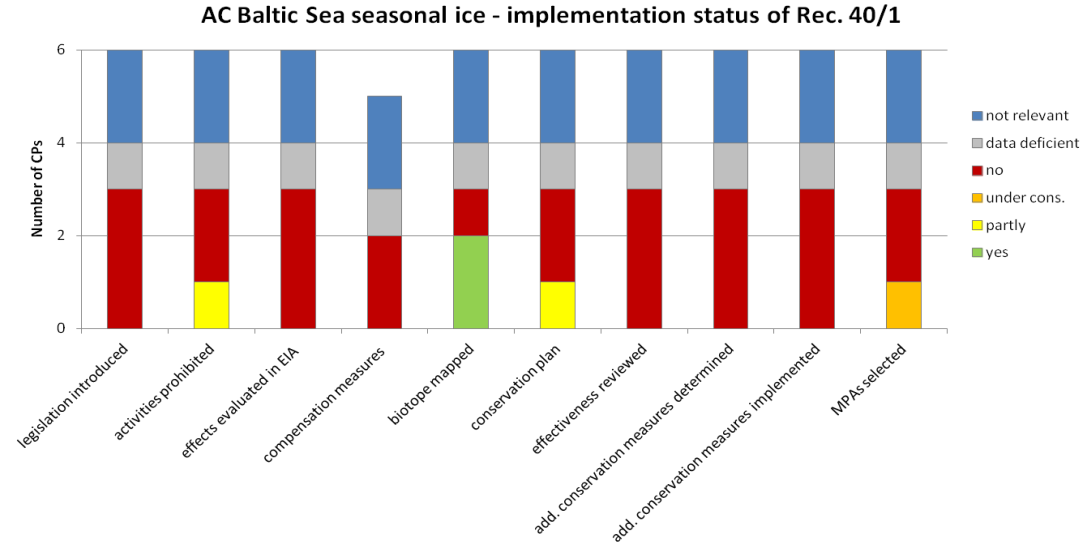


# Implementation status of Recommendation 40/1

## AC Baltic Sea seasonal ice

- In general the level of implementation of Recommendation 40/1 is low.
- Fully mapped by FI and SE and SE partly has a conservation plan for Baltic Sea seasonal ice and respective MPAs under consideration.
- Activities negatively affecting this habitat are prohibited/limited in Estonia.

➤ **CPs should strive for a better protection of Baltic Sea seasonal ice.**

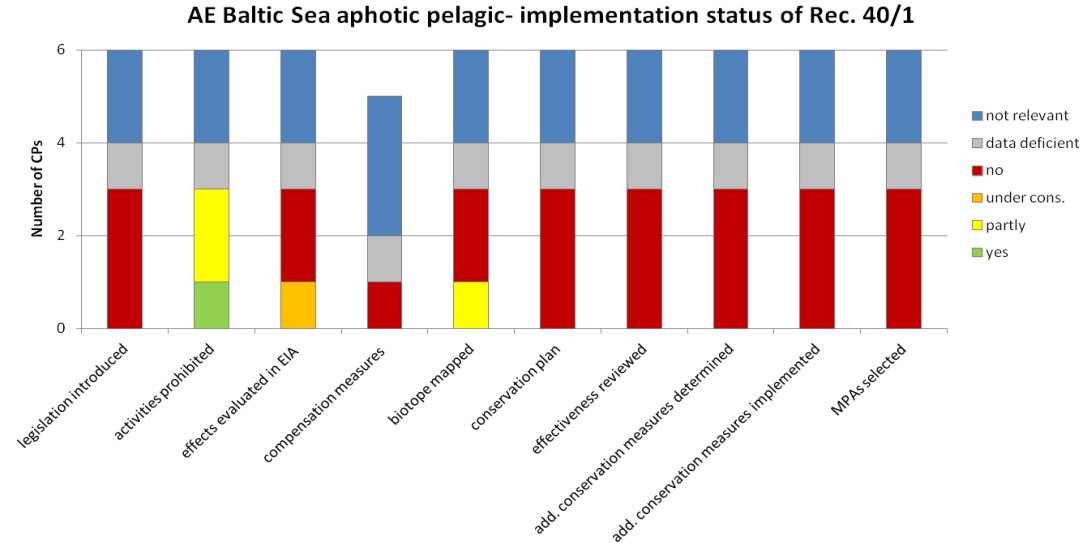


# Implementation status of Recommendation 40/1

## AE Baltic Sea aphotic pelagic

- Also generally little implemented.
- Prohibition and/or limitation of activities with negative effects is the only recommended action which is partly or fully implemented by the CPs
- The evaluation of new projects in EIAs or similar procedures is under consideration in DK and mapping is partly done by SE.

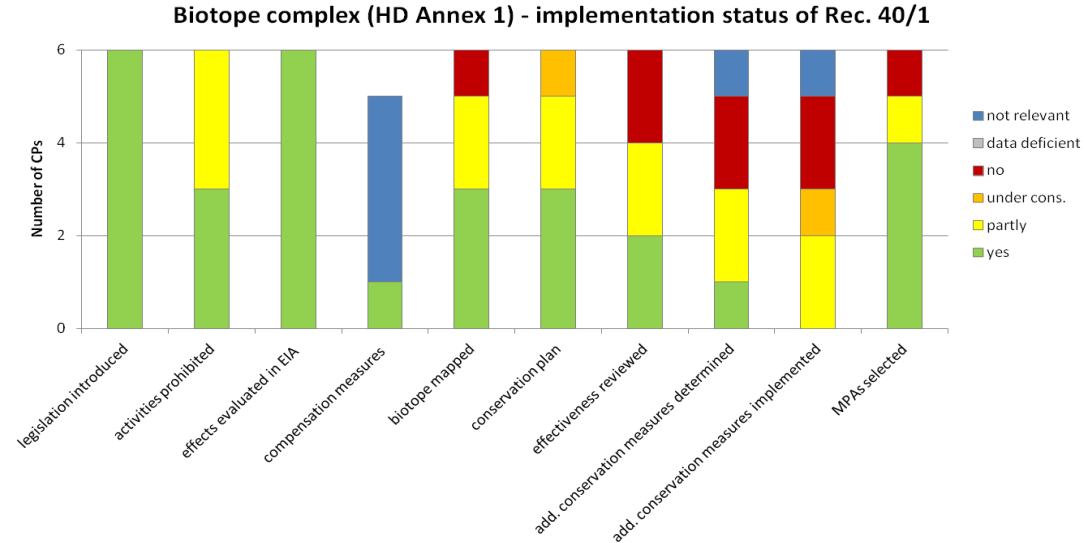
➤ **CPs should strive for a better protection of Baltic Sea aphotic pelagic biotopes and habitats.**



# Implementation status of Recommendation 40/1

## Biotope complexes

- Major parts fully or partly implemented by all CPs.
- Gaps:
  - mapping of the biotope complexes
  - the review of effectiveness of conservation measures
  - selection of MPAs
  - determination and implementation of conservation measures





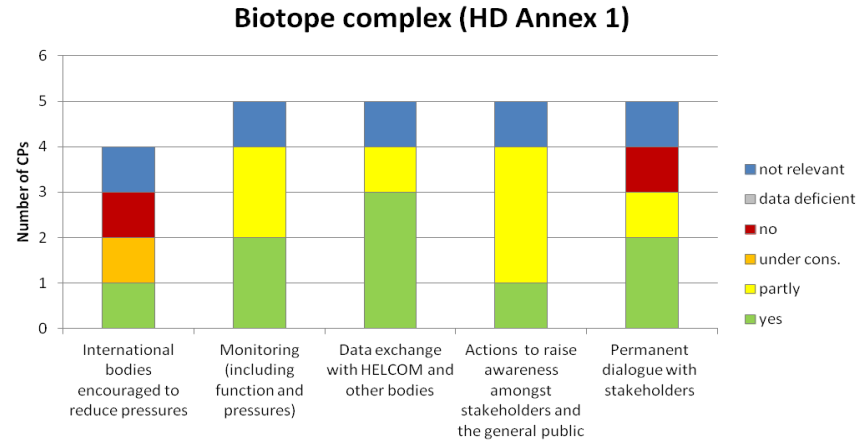
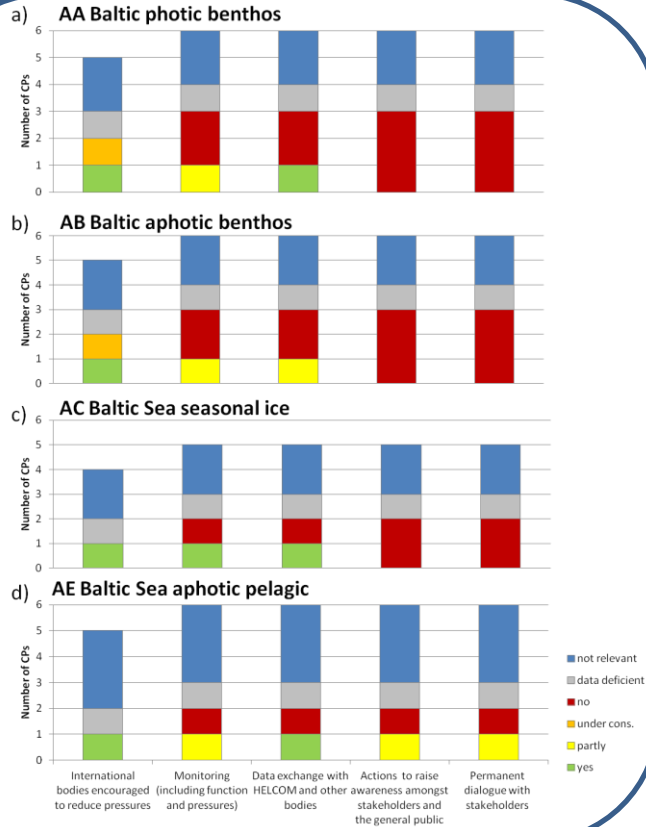
# Difficulties in implementing Rec. 40/1



- Joint Recommendation under CFP
- High investment pressure regarding wind farms, bedrock material exploitation and accompanying infrastructure
- Insufficient mapping data
- Mapping at HUB level
- Monitoring (biotopes and pressures)
- Knowledge gaps on the distribution of associated species and taxonomic difficulties
- Climate change



# Regional implementation of Rec. 40/1



Overall, all CPs need to catch up in implementing the recommendation for all of the red-listed biotopes and habitats. Only for biotope complexes the recommendation was largely implemented by all CPs.

**Thank you for your attention!**

