



Document title	Chlorophyll-a
Code	3J-51
Category	DEC
Agenda Item	3J-Progress of relevant HELCOM expert groups and projects
Submission date	13.9.2021
Submitted by	Secretariat

Background

The document below provides a template filled by indicator leads to provide an overview of progress to STATE & CONSERVATION 15-2021. Key aspects such as methodologies, spatial extent changes, assessment scales and threshold values are presented, identifying ongoing work and other relevant issues towards HOLAS III. This process builds on the prior review of indicator development carried out under STATE & CONSERVATION 14-2021 (summarised in [document 4J-16 Rev.1](#), and detailed within numerous documents under agenda item 4J). The focus of these development works is the completion of indicator development and adjustment work for HOLAS III by the end of 2021, as previously agreed under HOD 57-2019 ([document 4-20, Outcomes paragraph 4.51](#)).

The aspect of threshold values in particular is a key issue as threshold value approval will be carried out at HOD 61-2021, with these same templates being submitted to HOD at the same stage as submission to State and Conservation 15-2021 (to allow for the longer national processes required that culminate in approval at HOD).

The document below addresses a single indicator and as well as the generic 'action requests' relating to endorsement of the proposed application in HOLAS III (and the threshold values proposals, where relevant), specific additional requests or statements are also indicated within the separate sections of the document to help guide where further input/discussion/guidance may be needed.

This template aims to report the indicator development for HOLAS III, allowing for technical guidance and endorsement by STATE & CONSERVATION 15-2021 and also simultaneously to facilitate the threshold value approval process by HOD 61-2021.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to:

- provide further technical guidance to the indicator leads and experts, including specific requests defined within the document;
- consider and endorse the proposed developments of the indicator for use in the HOLAS III assessment.

Chlorophyll-a

Indicator name
<i>Chlorophyll-a</i>
Scale of assessment for HOLAS III and rational
<i>As in HOLAS II</i>
Spatial coverage of the indicator for HOLAS III
<i>As in HOLAS II</i>
Methodology to be applied for HOLAS III and rational
<p><i>In HOLAS II, the indicator is updated using three monitoring methodologies: in-situ (all assessment units), EO (all open-sea assessment units) and Ferrybox (as test-parameter, in open-sea assessment units SEA-005...008, SEA-010...011, SEA-013).</i></p> <p><i>After successful testing, HELCOM IN-Eutrophication proposes Ferrybox-data to be included to the indicator, to be applied in the open-sea assessment units where available: SEA-005...008, SEA-010...011, SEA-013 (specifically in SEA-013A).</i></p> <p><i>The methodology for chlorophyll-a flow-through observations is described in the HELCOM monitoring manual.</i></p>
Threshold value setting logic and rational
<i>As in HOLAS II</i>
Threshold value(s)
<i>As in HOLAS II</i>
Other significant issues that need to be addressed or presented to State and Conservation
<i>Dataflows are included in the HELCOM Eutrophication data flow system (hosted by ICES), and under further improvement by the Baltic Data Flow -project lead by HELCOM.</i>
Latest indicator report or (for new indicators) initially completed indicator template
https://helcom.fi/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Chlorophyll-a-HELCOM-core-indicator-2018.pdf