



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Working Group on the State of the Environment and Nature
Conservation

STATE & CONSERVATION
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Background

This document contains an overview of the publication of the 'State of the Baltic Sea report' and associated material for the first version of the report planned to be published in June 2017. The report in full is presented in document 4J-14.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information

Overview of planned publications

Results from the HOLAS II project are made available at different levels of detail, and shows direct HOLAS II outputs as well as contributions of several HELCOM projects/networks/expert groups supporting HOLAS II.

- The most detailed information is made available in core indicator reports and fact sheets, to provide a specific understanding how the data and indicator evaluations going into the HOLAS II assessment were derived. The core indicator reports and fact sheets also give information on underlying data and assessment logic.
- Method descriptions for applied analyses are presented in supplementary reports, which cover e.g. the integrated analyses, the assessment of cumulative impacts, and the economic and social analyses. These reports also give more details on the assessment results. Hence, the supplementary reports can be used for a more technical understanding of the assessment methods, and for information on the assessment results that underlie the conclusions presented in the summary report.
- The summary report presents results at the overarching level. It provides key messages from all assessments covered by HOLAS II, and additionally from other HELCOM results where relevant.
- HELCOM results that are not produced in connection to the HOLAS II product, but which fill the purposes by providing key information are here referred to as supporting material.

All results will be made available online as web-material and as pdfs, and the updated version of the summary report to be prepared by 2018 will also be printed.



HOLAS II Publications

*Summary report
with complete overview
and key messages*

STATE OF THE BALTIC SEA REPORT

*Method descriptions
and more detailed
results*

Supplementary material

- Integrated assessment of biodiversity
- Integrated assessment of eutrophication
- Integrated assessment of hazardous substances
- Cumulative impacts (Baltic Sea Impact index)
- Economic and social analyses
- Assessment of hydrographical impacts
- Assessment of cumulative impacts on the seafloor

Other HELCOM assessments supporting HOLAS II

- Maritime activities
- Pollution load compilation
- Etc.

*Indicator approaches
and assessments,
data sources*

Core indicator reports

Spatial data fact sheets on

- human activities
- pressures
- ecosystem components

Figure: Overview of publications at different levels of detail. Grey= supplementary reports.

Summary report: State of the Baltic Sea

The summary report will have circa 90 pages and give full coverage of the components of the HOLAS II assessments, with a focus on key messages and conclusions. It should be possible to read the summary report in order to get a full overview about the results of the assessments and the conclusions. The summary report will not have details on assessment methods or data, as this information will be given in other form (see below). The table of content for the summary report is given in the end of this document.

Other publications

Supplementary material

Supplementary material will be published in parallel with the summary report. The supplementary material will reflect the same results as presented in the summary report, but more details on the results can be presented. The supplementary report also give information on the assessment methods, data and indicators used. The main purpose of the supplementary material is to provide information on how the assessments have been carried out from a more technical perspective in order to provide full transparency on the methods and data used.

Core indicators and fact sheets

Core indicator reports that are reflected in the summary report will updated to be based on 2011-2015 data by State & Conservation 6-2017 (document deadline 20 April). The updated core indicator reports and fact sheets on human activities, pressures and ecosystem components will be made available on the HELCOM web-site at the time of publication of the summary report.

Supporting material

The supporting material consists of other contributing HELCOM products, recognizing the fact that the HOLAS II assessment builds on data and indicators produced by a large number of projects, expert groups and networks. The supporting material will e.g. include fact sheets on the spatial distribution of human activities, pressures and ecosystem components. Other examples of supporting material are the forthcoming Maritime assessment, Pollution Load Compilation.

Web pages

The results will also be presented at a dedicated web site, which is foreseen to be opened after approval of the first version of the State of the Baltic Sea Report. The web site will present the results from the summary report online and will also be an access point to all HOLAS II publications, which can be downloaded as pdf:s, and to underlying data bases and assessment workspaces.