



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Working Group on the State of the Environment and Nature
Conservation

STATE & CONSERVATION
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Document title	Overview of data labelling according to the COMBINE database reporting
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Background

Recalling the BALSAM action plan discussed in State and Conservation 2-2015 under item 3MA, a specific action under item 3MA.11 was noted in the meeting outcome as:

A (harmonization of labelling of monitoring stations) that in the future data should be specifically flagged for use in HELCOM assessments. For existing entries, data reported as COMBINE and data that can be geographically linked to COMBINE monitoring stations will be used for HELCOM assessments. Use of additional data can be decided intermittently by Contracting Parties e.g. use of project data. The Meeting invited ICES to produce by the next meeting of the Working Group information how countries currently have labelled the data e.g. as national or COMBINE.

This document provides an overview of how the data are labelled by Contracting Party for each matrix, according to the reporting to the COMBINE database.

Action required

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.

Reported data per matrix and monitoring programme in the HELCOM convention area

The table below lists the number of sampling events (geographic position and date) per country for each monitoring programme/activity for the years 2011 onwards. Monitoring programme ([MPROG](#)) is a mandatory field in the ICES environmental reporting format. The summary is done separately for the matrices biota, sediment and water. This is based on all contaminants and biological effects data (excluding fish diseases) that fall within the geographic limits of the HELCOM convention area. The summary was extracted from the ICES DOME database on 2nd November 2015. Note that eutrophication data are not included as they follow the EUTRO-OPER process.

As the OSPAR and HELCOM areas overlap in Danish and Swedish waters there are also OSPAR CEMP data in the summary, however the single CEMP station from Germany (highlighted) might have been flagged incorrectly.

Key to labels

COMB:	HELCOM Cooperative Monitoring in the Baltic Marine Environment (COMBINE)
BONUS:	EU BONUS project (including Beast and Barracuda)
CEMP:	OSPAR Coordinated Environmental Monitoring Programme (CEMP)
Natl:	National Monitoring Programme

Row Labels	BONUS	CEMP	CEMP & COMB	CEMP & NATL	CEMP & NATL & COMB	COMB	NATL	NATL & COMB
Denmark				13	48		11	108
Biota				10	37			71
Sediment				3	11		11	37
Finland						11		1591
Biota						11		
Water								1591
Germany	33	1				2918	720	
Biota	33	1				120	15	
Sediment						43	3	
Water						2755	702	
Lithuania						177		
Biota						14		
Sediment						69		
Water						94		
Poland						30		
Biota						23		
Sediment						7		
Sweden		24	10			91		
Biota		24	10			91		
Grand Total	33	25	10	13	48	3227	731	1699

Table 1 Summary by contracting party of use of monitoring labelling in reporting