Document title	The new HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group Work Plan 2017-2019
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Agenda Item	5 - The new Work Plan and follow-up of the progress
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Background

The HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group Work Plan 2017-2019 has been agreed by the 74th VASAB CSPD/BSR and HELCOM 38-2017. Minor changes to the original version were agreed by HELCOM 38 in item 3.3, namely Germany confirmed to contribute to the activity on green infrastructure and addition in footnote "Taking into account MPAs protection targets and management plans."

The action required

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.

HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group Work Plan 2017-2019

Roadmap	Action	Lead country/support	Timeframe	Deliverable/ concrete output
0. Joint Baltic MSP principles	Continuously update national information on MSP developments including implementation of the joint MSP principles, especially those principles not covered by guidelines development or other targeted activity.	Secretariats	Continuous	Updated Country Fiches
	Follow up the overall situation in the BSR countries with regard to implementation of the regional target of setting MSP plans applying ecosystem approach.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Continuous	Regularly update information in the outcomes of the meetings
1. Intergovernmental cooperation on MSP				
1.1 Cooperate in the field of MSP using *inter alia* the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG framework and thus facilitate reaching the target of drawing up and implementing transnationally coherent Maritime Spatial Plans applying the ecosystem approach throughout the region by 2020.	Exchange experiences and good practices in the WG.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Continuous	Seed money and flagship projects and outcomes of the meetings

	Exchange experience of how to link implementation of EU MSFD and other legal framework and MSP.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG [and European Commission]	Continuous	Regularly update information in the outcomes of the meetings
	Discuss and prepare a report on MSP implementation, regarding application of each of the joint MSP principles.	Secretariats	2018	An overview of joint regional MSP principles implementation in the form of the report
	Propose means and tools to support coherent application of MSP including land-sea interaction.	Latvia	2018 2018	Discussion paper on practices in the countries Workshop within the next Baltic MSP Forum
1.2 Share basic, relevant and available MSP related information as soon as possible.	Information exchange within MSP WG concerning national MSP developments.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Continuous	Presentations
1.3 Identify minimum requirements for preparing and implementing MSP across the borders and follow up how they are met to ensure coherence of the plans		HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG in cooperation with other regional organizations and forums e.g. HELCOM groups	2018	Contribution to organization of the Baltic MSP Forums focused on the coherence of the plans
2. Public participation				
2.1 Facilitate and follow-up the application of the *"Guidelines for transboundary consultation, public participation and cooperation"*.	A meeting to follow up and monitor of the application of the *Guidelines.*	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	2018 2019	An overview on implementation of the Guidelines in the form of the report
	Compile good practices on the application of the *Guidelines.*	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Continuous	Good practices published on HELCOM and VASAB websites

	Establish collaboration with ESPOO conventions.	Sweden		Discussion with the representative of the ESPOO convention at one of the meetings
3. Ecosystem approach in MSP				
3.1 Facilitate and follow-up the application of the "*Guideline for the implementation of ecosystem-based approach in MSP.*"	A meeting to follow up the application of the *Guideline* utilizing the outputs of the BalticScope project.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG and Sweden	2019	A check list for the implementation of the ecosystem approach principles
	Compile good practices on the application of the *Guideline.*	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Continuous	Good practices published on HELCOM and VASAB websites
3.2 Consider the practical use of socio economic parameters including ecosystem services in MSP		HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG TAPAS project	Continuous	Regularly update information in the outcomes of the meetings
3.3 Investigate the possible regional development of concepts such as green infrastructure, blue corridors etc.[1]		Sweden [with contribution by Germany] and taking note of work being done by HELCOM State and conservation working group, HOLAS II, Baltic Scope project	2019	A compilation of the major ecosystem components and the description of their ecological value A draft of the regional concept of a green infrastructure (blue corridors)
4. Information and data for MSP				
4.1 Promote the creation and sharing of MSP relevant Baltic Sea regional datasets	Act according to ToR of HELCOM-VASAB MSP Data ESG.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP Data ESG	2018	Recommendations for data requirements (with regard to the transboundary MSP)

[1]Addition by HELCOM 38-2017 "Taking into account MPAs protection targets and management plans."

5. Education for MSP				
5.1 Promote the education and professional development of MSP planners.	Organize back-to-back workshops (with Flagship projects) on MSP to support professional knowledge	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Continuous	Workshops
6. National and Baltic Sea regional frameworks for MSP in place				
6.1 Apply by 2018 Baltic Sea regional *"Guidelines for transboundary consultation, public participation and cooperation"*.	Review practices, and if needed update the guideline based on the experience gathered in this process	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	2017	Updated guideline, if needed
	Actively promote implementation of the Guidelines.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	Continuous	
6.2 Apply by 2018 Baltic Sea regional *"Guideline for the implementation of ecosystem-based approach in MSP."*	Review practices, and if needed update the guideline based on the experience gathered in this process	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	2017	Updated guideline, if needed
	Actively promote implementation of the Guideline.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG		Present a case study
7. Evaluation and follow-up				
7.1 Monitor and evaluate implementation of [the] MSP [Roadmap] in 2018 and 2020 and update if necessary.	Assessment report of the Roadmap	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG	2018	Assessment report of the Roadmap
	Compile indicators and other methods of evaluation of the success of the plan	(Germany)	2018	Report