

# Maritime Spatial Planning

Anne Christine Brusendorff  
Executive Secretary  
HELCOM

*Second meeting of the Joint HELCOM-VASAB  
Marine Spatial Planning Working Group  
Riga, 20-21 January 2011*

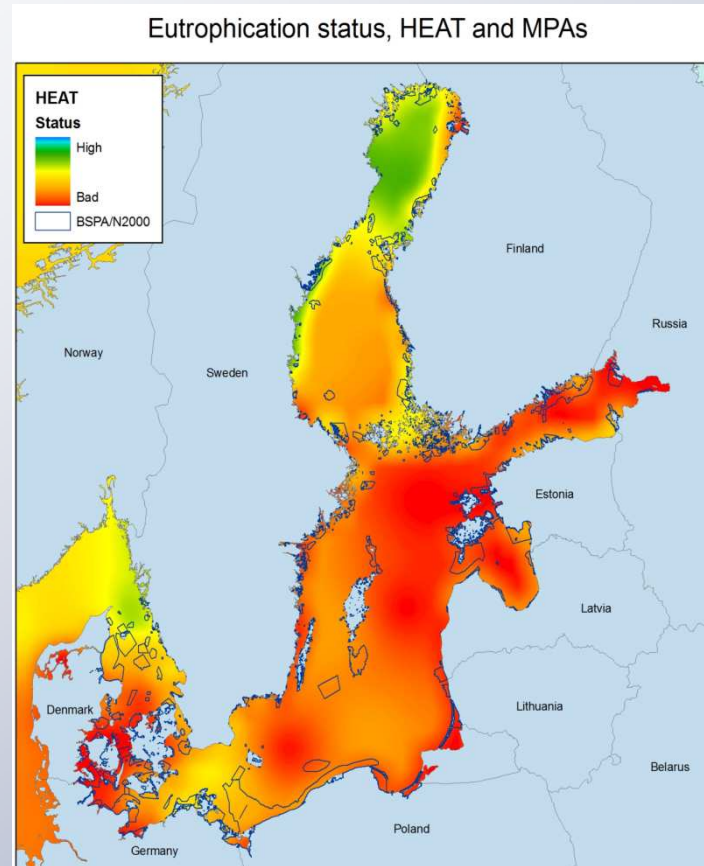


# Contents

- Marine Spatial Planning to achieve sustainable management
- With the Ecosystem Approach as the basis



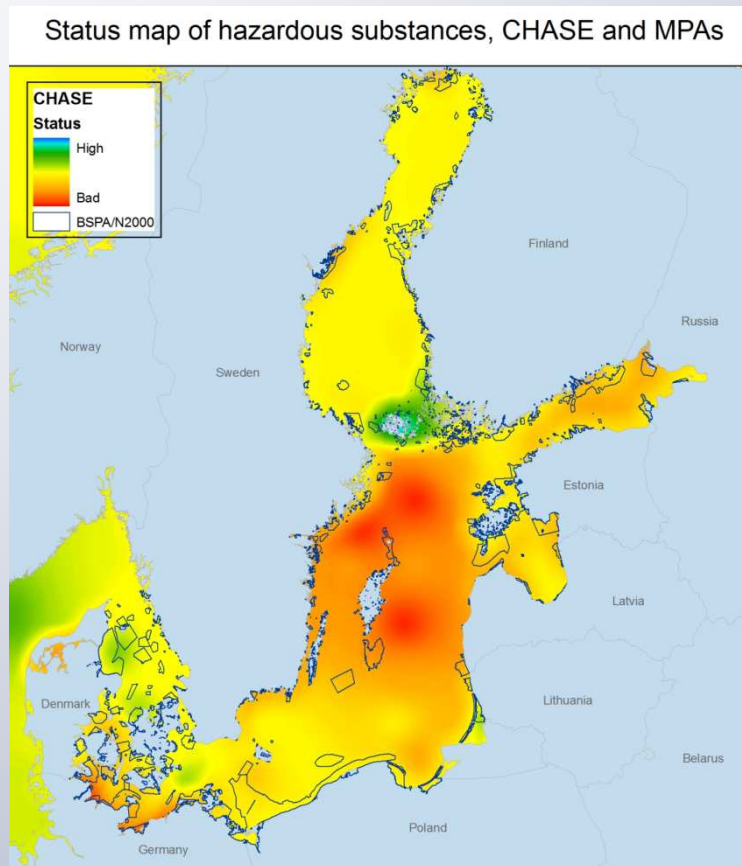
# Multiple pressures – eutrophication



- 97% with unacceptable eutrophication status
- 61% bad/poor

H E L C O M

# Multiple pressures – hazardous substances concentrations

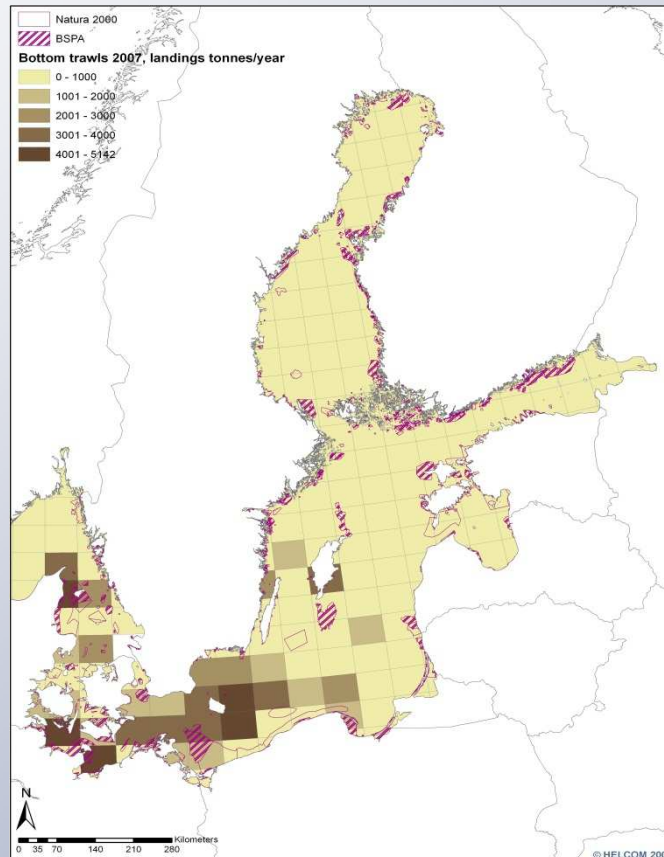


- 20% bad/poor status
- 73% moderate

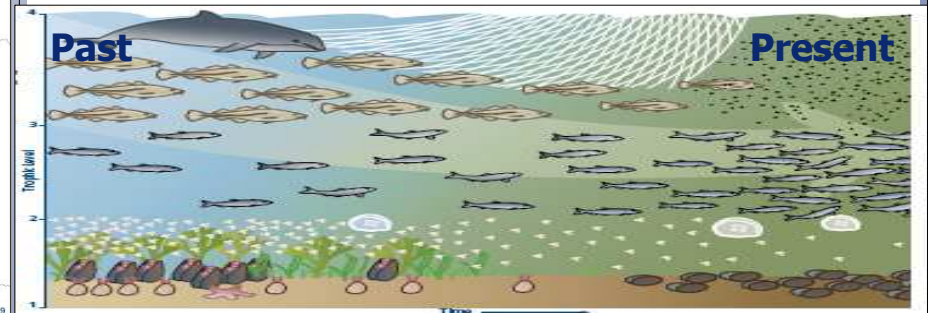
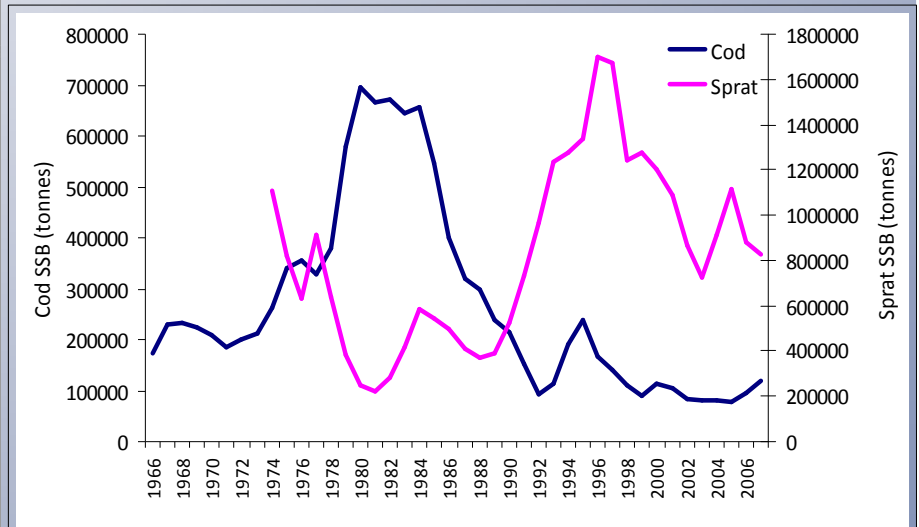
H E L C O M

# Multiple pressures – fisheries

## Bottom trawling landings and protected areas in the Baltic Sea



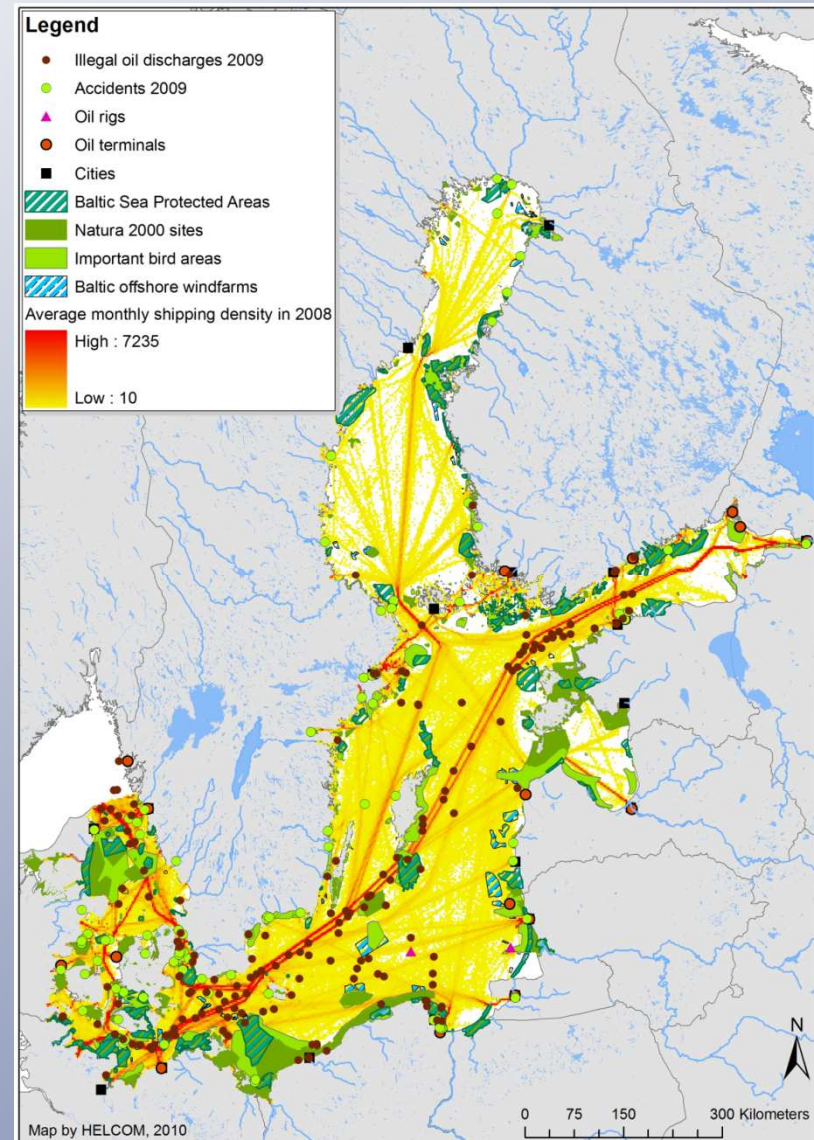
## Shift from a cod-dominated to a sprat-dominated ecosystem



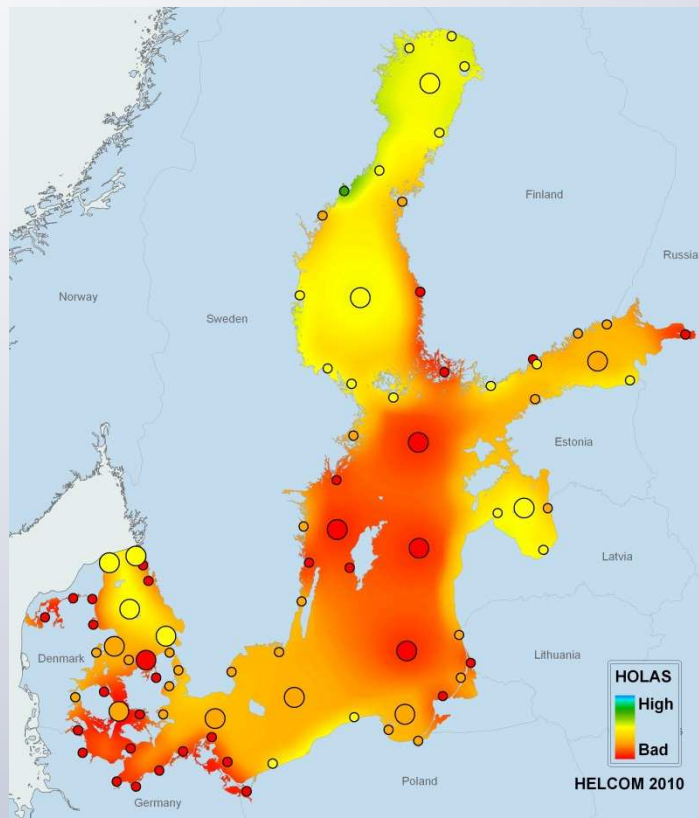


# Multiple pressures – shipping

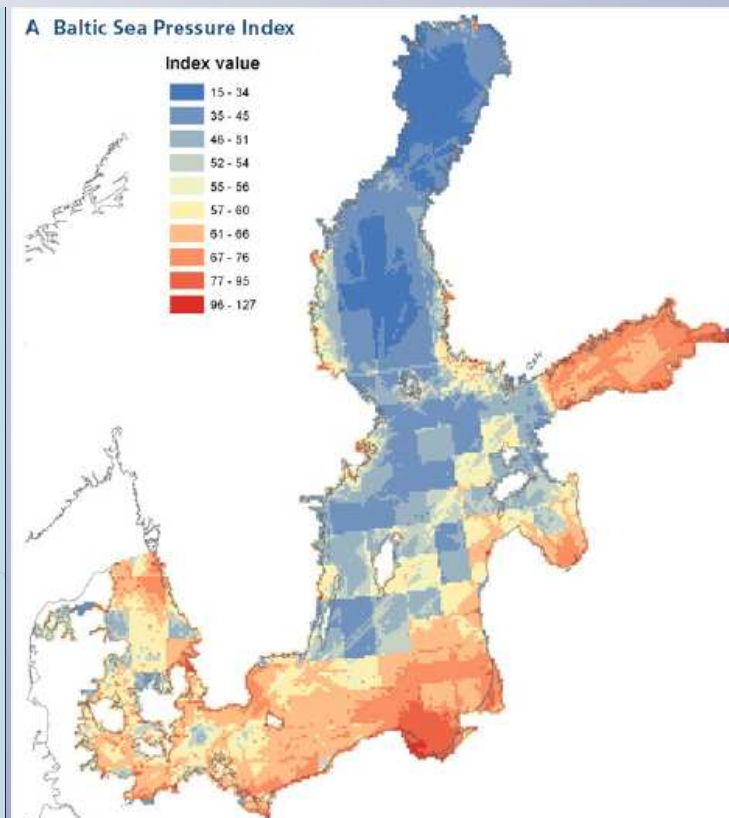
- Marine protected areas in the vicinity of busy shipping routes
- Release of nutrients in ships' sewage and emissions (NOx)
- Underwater noise
- Oil spills (illegal and accidental)
- Transfer of alien species via ships' ballast water and sediments



# HELCOM's approaches to GES, indicators and integrated assessment



**Status – HOLAS and thematic indicator-based assessment tools**



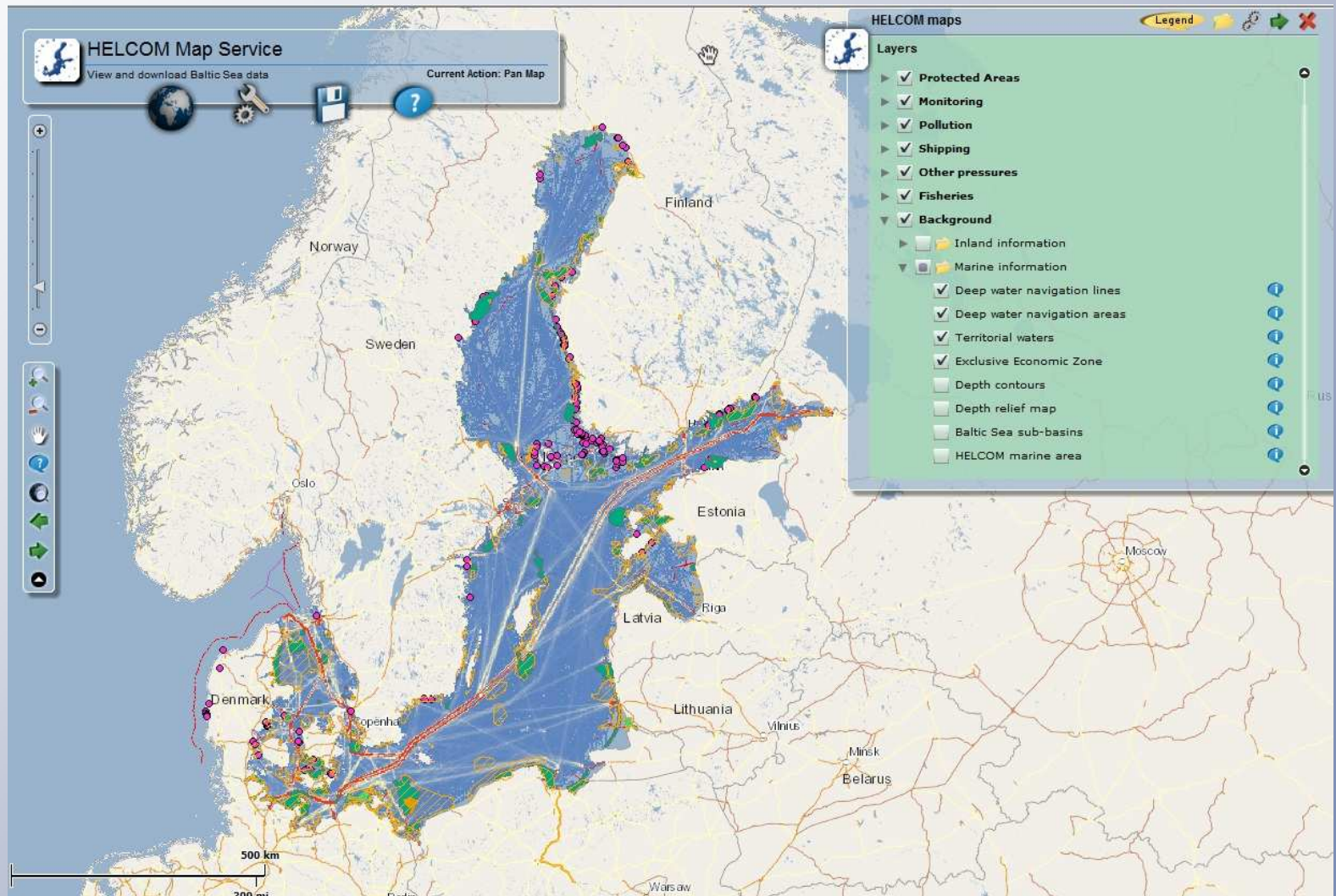
**Anthropogenic pressures – Baltic Sea Pressure and Impact Indices**

# HELCOM's role in the Baltic





# Regional spatial data and maps



# Application of Ecosystem approach to management of human activities – HELCOM's milestones

## **Vision**

for a healthy sea (2004)

## **Strategic Goals**

highlighting four issues in focus (2005)





# HELCOM's priority issues

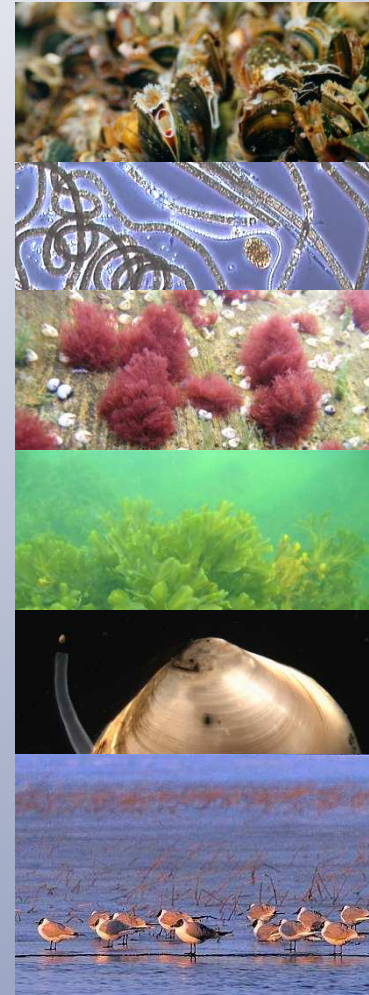
## Eutrophication



## Hazardous substances



## Protection of biodiversity



## Maritime activities



# Application of Ecosystem approach to management of human activities – HELCOM's milestones

## **Vision**

for a healthy sea (2004)

## **Strategic Goals**

highlighting the four issues in focus (2005)

## **Ecological Objectives**

reflecting GES (2006)

## **Indicators with quantitative GES targets**

→ indicator based assessments (2007-2010)



# Targets and indicators



**Non-eutrophicated water**



**Eutrophicated water**





## HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan



**Helsinki Commission**  
Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

## HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

- **Adopted at a ministerial level in 2007**
- **Cross-sectoral and integrated approach**
- **Ecosystem approach**
- **To reach Good Environmental Status of the Baltic Sea by 2021**
- **Four segments:**
  - Eutrophication
  - Hazardous substances
  - Biodiversity and nature protection
  - Maritime Activities

# HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

## The foundation

### VISION

A healthy Baltic Sea environment, with diverse biological components functioning in balance, resulting in a good ecological status and supporting a wide range of sustainable human economic and social activities

### GOALS

Baltic Sea unaffected by eutrophication

Baltic Sea life undisturbed by hazardous substances

Favourable conservation status of Baltic Sea biodiversity

Maritime activities in the Baltic Sea carried out in an environmentally friendly way

### OBJECTIVES

Concentrations of nutrients close to natural levels

Concentrations of hazardous substances close to natural levels

Natural marine and coastal landscapes

Enforcement of international regulations  
-No illegal pollution

Clear water

All fish safe to eat

Safe maritime traffic without accidental pollution

Efficient emergency and response capability

Natural level of algal blooms

Healthy wildlife

Thriving and balanced communities of plants and animals

Minimum sewage pollution from ships

No introductions of alien species from ships

Natural distribution and occurrence of plants and animals

Minimum air pollution from ships

Zero discharges from offshore platforms

Natural oxygen levels

Radioactivity at pre-Chernobyl level

Viable populations of species

Minimum threats from offshore installations



# HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

## The foundation - cont

### On-going work

- Review of environmental targets for eutrophication
- Further development of indicators and targets for biodiversity and hazardous substances

### Research needs

- Sea bed habitat/biotope mapping
  - adaptive management framework



# Conclusions and future perspectives

Based on adopted joint regional MSP principles (HELCOM - VASAB)

- Safeguard long term ecosystem functions and services
- Provide the full economic potential of marine areas





# Thank you

For more information please contact:

Helsinki Commission  
(HELCOM)

Katajanokanlaituri 6 B

FI-00160 Helsinki

Finland

[www.helcom.fi](http://www.helcom.fi)

