Draft checklist for cross-border coherence

HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020

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The task force's proposal

Currently the report outline has content-wise three main sections:

- Challenges and good practices for cross-border coherence
  - Key findings from literature
- Definition of coherence and approach of the task force
  - A suggestion for definitions and approach
- Cross-border coherence checklist
  - Practical assessment of the coherence

Cross-border coherence checklist

- Cross-border procedures as a precondition for enhancing coherence

- Step 1. Identification of cross-border issues

- Step 2. Topic-specific criteria for coherence

Cross-border procedures

- Sort of "to-do" approach, not a checklist
- HELCOM-VASAB Guidelines on transboundary consultations, public participation and co-operation
  - Five elements for successful cross-border collaboration and consultation

Requested action:

Please comment this section that presents procedures for cross-border collaboration. See especially **the textbox and comment if those steps are, in your opinion, sufficient** for organising processes to enhance cross-border coherence.

Would you prefer that there would be checklist type questions on the procedural aspects similar to the steps 1 and 2 below?

Step 1. Identification of cross-border issues

1a) Coherent coverage of topics

- Are the same human activities, infrastructures and features addressed?
- Are they addressed in comparable ways? (priorities, spatial designations)
- Are some topics planned by sectors and not included in the MSP planning?

1b) Identification of cross-border relevance

- Are there existing or planned activities, infrastructures and features that cross border or can have impacts or be impacted across the border?
- Is this expected to change in the foreseeable future?
- Which of these are the most relevant ones? Also in terms of synergies.
- Are there activity or feature related dialogues with neighbouring countries?

1c) Relevant authorities

- Who are respective MSP and sector authorities in countries? In some cases, also sub-national level authorities are relevant.

Step 1. Identification of cross-border issues

Requested action:

Comment especially are **the questions given in sections 1a-1c** the ones that help in identification of cross-border issues.

- How to formulate the questions better?
- What other questions are needed?

Suggest also **additional aspects of identifying cross-border issues** (additional to 1a - 1c).

Step 2. Topic-specific criteria for coherence

- Is the topic addressed in MSP planning in both sides of the border?

- Is it addressed in similar or comparable ways?
    - Do the countries utilize similar or compatible data?
    - Do the countries utilize similar or compatible planning criteria?

- Are cross-border impacts considered?

- If there are inconsistencies in how countries handle the topic in their MSP, what are the problems or risks caused by that?
    - What are the possible solutions?

- Can there be major changes in the foreseeable future?

- Who are the competent authorities in the countries to handle the topic?

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Step 2. Topic-specific criteria for coherence

- Shipping

- Offshore energy installations

- Valuable nature areas/protected areas

- Fishing

- Other?

Requested action:

Comment especially **the questions given in bullet points**.

- How to formulate the questions better?
- What other questions are needed?

Suggest in the last section also **which additional topics and should be included** in this report. **Suggest also specific questions for assessing coherence of handling of them** in MSP.

Step 2. Topic-specific criteria for coherence

- The task force to present the final document to the autumn meeting of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG

- Comments from you to the checklist questions
- **In two weeks – by April 17th?**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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