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<b>Document title</b>	Other MSP related measure for inclusion to the update BSAP and MSP Roadmap
<b>Code</b>	2-1
<b>Category</b>	DEC
<b>Agenda Item</b>	2 - Reviewing synopses and other actions proposed for BSAP update
<b>Submission date</b>	8.6.2020
<b>Submitted by</b>	HELCOM Secretariat
<b>Reference</b>	

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## Background

The HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group agreed to coordinate the development of a new Regional MSP Roadmap and the BSAP update. In this respect, coordination of ongoing technical reviewing of synopses and other actions for the BSAP update and developing actions for the new Roadmap is of high importance. This coordination will assure coherence of these two documents and synergy in achieving regional goals and objectives.

HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20A-2020 agreed to make technical reviewing of the new actions for the updated BSAP and proposing measures for the new MSP Roadmap simultaneously. This distinction is to be based on common principles which the group is proposed to agree on. HOD 57-2019 gave general guidance on the drafting of the updated BSAP pointing out that the BSAP is public document which is to be written avoiding too specific professional terms. Since MSP does not cater exclusively to the achieving regional environmental targets, actions for inclusion to the BSAP might of general character while technical specifics could be reflected in the new Roadmap.

A starting point for the development of the new Roadmap was questionnaire to collect the views of countries on the matter. The responds to the questionnaire became a basis to derive a number of proposals regarding actions to achieve the Roadmap's objectives. These provisional actions were included in the initial proposal for the new Roadmap.

A Shadow Plan, jointly developed by CCB and WWF and presented to HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020, also contains several actions which the NGOs proposed to include in the updated BSAP.

This document contains a compilation of actions derived from the questionnaire and proposed in the Shadow Plan for consideration and decision on inclusion of these actions in the update BSAP or new Roadmap.

## Action requested

The Meeting will be invited to consider actions included in the document and decide on their inclusion in the new Roadmap or relevance to the updated BSAP.

The Meeting will also be invited to agree on the steps to further the proposals for the updated BSAP and new Roadmap in line the BSAP update plan.

Measures proposed for the new Roadmap including additions by Poland, IOW and joint additional proposals by CCB and WWF for the updated BSAP.

1) Implementation of MSPs builds knowledge base for the new MSP cycle.

**Actions to achieve the objective:**

- Develop regionally coherent monitoring system to follow up implementation of MSPs;
- Set criteria of MSP coherence and follow up implementation of MSPs in the light of these criteria;
- Develop criteria for evaluation of effectiveness of MSPs to achieve the Roadmap' objectives;
- Further advance MSP data flow model assuring regional compatibility of the data;
- Improve regional technical equipment serving for smooth MSP related data flows and assuring data actuality;
- Facilitate exchange of information on the best practices of MSP implementation across the BSR;
- Enhance education of MSP planners;
- Social and economic analysis;
- Spatial efficiency - multi use and conflicts management;
- Including ecosystem services analysis for linking between environmental and social economic dimensions.

2) MSPs improve regional policy coherence.

**Actions to achieve the objective:**

- The Baltic Sea countries' MSP authorities continue close collaboration within the HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group;
- Further develop institutional framework for the intergovernmental collaboration on MSP in the BSR;
- Study the relationship between various policies related to protection and sustainable use of marine resources;
- Enhance Baltic-Sea level collaboration of MSP authorities with various sectors with an aim to aligning sectoral policies and sectoral decision-making;
- Advance instruments for coordination policies related to land-sea interaction.

3) MSPs contribute for achieving progress towards good environmental status of the Baltic Sea set in the BSAP.

**Actions to achieve the objective:**

- Guide the application of ecosystem-based approach to protect biotopes of high ecological value and sensitivity;
- Develop (agree on) common methodology for indicating areas of high natural value (as a basis for steering harmful activities away from such areas);
- Identify possibilities of MSP in achieving the CBD target of reaching 30% target for protected sea areas, including the MSP's potential in strengthening nature conservation outside of strictly protected MPAs;
- Develop methods and tools applicable in MSP for reducing cumulative environmental impacts of sea-based activities.

**Proposal by Poland:** Monitoring and evaluation of the environmental effects of the implementation of the adopted MSP, including prescribed measures to prevent, reduce or mitigate adverse environmental effects, identified in SEA process.

**Explanation:** Strategic Environmental Assessment is obligatory process preceding the adoption of MSPs. Its results are subject to monitoring and evaluation during implementation of MSP. Furthermore, SEA remains

the main tool for Ecosystem Based Approach and cumulative assessment in MSP and in my opinion these instruments to be effective cannot be treated separately from SEA.

4) MSPs contribute to sustainable blue economy.

**Actions to achieve the objective:**

- Update the future oriented report on marine and maritime activities and developments of Baltic Sea regional importance;
- Share experiences in guiding sectoral development to resolve conflicts between marine users, identify actions that can be enhanced on the BSR level and apply them;
- Assure cross-border coherence and resolve transboundary conflicts hampering development sectors of marine economy.

5) Spatial planning increases climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience in the Baltic Sea Region.

**Actions to achieve the objective:**

- Identify the role of MSP as a tool to increase resilience of the region against climate change;
- Develop regional guidance on accounting climate change factor in MSP;
- Share the best practices of application of MSP to protect costal zones and assure their safe use in the light of climate change.

**Proposals by IOW** for inclusion in the Roadmap:

- Beside MSP, landscape planning in the sea should be introduced where it does not yet exist. Otherwise MSP threatens to be reduced only as planning of human activities.
- Furthermore, due to the long-term perspective inherent in planning, MSP can make very good contributions to climate change.

**Additional proposals by CCB and WWF on MSP related measures**

The measures originate from WWF [position paper](#): Achieving ecosystem based marine spatial plans [MSP applying an ecosystem-based approach to support the BSAP-objectives and contributing to sustainable sea-based activities](#)

Action	WG Meeting
Benefits of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) beyond nature protection should be included as the basis of ecosystem-based approach in Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP).	Outcome of <a href="#">HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 20-2020</a>
National and transboundary maritime spatial plans (MSPs) be based on the ecosystem-based approach and implement the principles set in <a href="#">Rec 28E-9, Guidelines on transboundary consultations, public participation and co-operation</a> and <a href="#">for the implementation of ecosystem-based approach in MSP</a> in the Baltic Sea Area.	HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG
Set maritime spatial plans to significantly contribute to mitigate the impacts from blue economy activities exerted on MPAs and include individual MPAs and MPA networks as an integral part of MSP.	
Ensure that future development and activity undertaken in the Baltic Sea Area does not undermine the health and integrity of the ocean, therefore ensuring that it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• restores, protects and maintains diverse, productive and resilient marine ecosystems</li> <li>• provides social and economic benefits for current and future generations; and</li> <li>• is based on clean technologies, renewable energy and circular material flows.</li> </ul>	
Set clear, measurable, consistent targets and guidelines to ensure development is consistent with and within the limits of the planetary boundaries.	