

Outcome of the Workshop on Basemaps – 25 March 2021

Held online from 10:00 to 12:30 EET (09:00 – 11:30 CET)

Aim of the workshop:

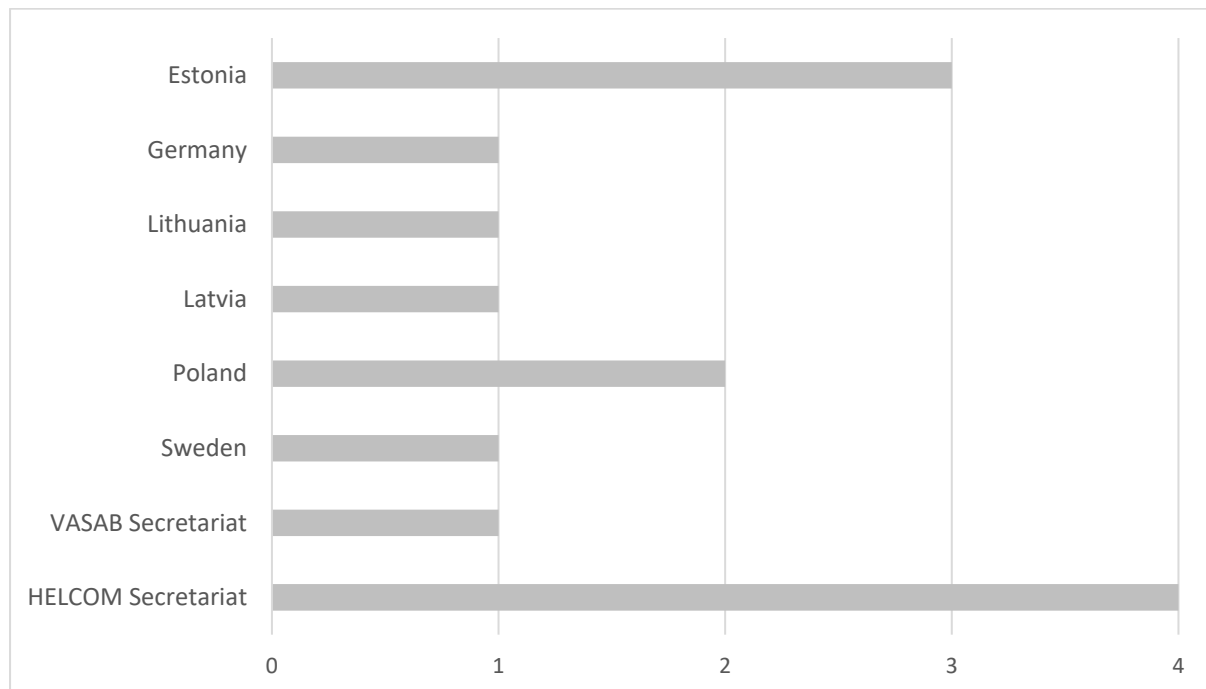
A previous workshop on Basemaps was held on 16 September 2020. The participants highlighted the need to repeat the exercise, if possible before each Meeting of the BSR MSP Data ESG.

The aim of the workshop was to **support** the participants of the BSR MSP Data ESG to add relevant MSP input data services (WMS and WFS) that are available from national data providers in Basemaps. Discussion on output data were also welcome.

This workshop supported the participants for adding **more available input data services** in Basemaps and to **identify** the further development needs of the admin panel. This information is important to **increase** the **user-friendliness** of Basemaps and to make sure that it contains updated content.

Participation to the workshop :

A total of 14 participants from 6 HELCOM Contracting Parties (CPs) as well as from HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats attended the workshop :



The list of participants is available as Annex.

Where are we with Basemaps now?

A presentation (cf. Presentation 1) from the HELCOM Secretariat served as a reminder of the aim and the current status of Basemaps.

The participants were reminded that an animation to explain and promote Basemaps is available on [Youtube](#). Thanks to the Capacity4MSP Project Platform, detailed instructions are now publicly available :

- [Instructions for users](#) ;
- [Instructions for the admin panel](#).

The link to the instructions was added in the « About » section on [Basemaps](#) and the final version of these documents will be finalized by the summer 2021.

Feedback from the workshop

Input data

- The participants discussed on the possibility to harvest WMS/WFS from the INSPIRE geoportal and recognized that it is already a long-term task already planned for Basemaps. The Meeting highlighted that the aim of BASEMAPs is to collect and make available MSP relevant data directly from the countries so the approach is a bit different than the INSPIRE geoportal.
- The participants discussed the issue of the categories on Basemaps that are not identical at the national levels. Another issue was also about how to display or make available for download a layer that is mixed with others in a service.
- The Meeting agreed that having a “comment” field as free text when adding a service would be great to inform the user on more information on the service. This field could also be available for downloadable resources.
- The participants noted that a field about the date when the resources were added or updated would be a nice feature to Basemaps (i.e. timestamp).
- The participants agreed that the HELCOM data could be removed for the section on administrative borders since most of the data from the CPs is available. This change was implemented during the meeting by the HELCOM Secretariat.
- The participants discussed that the availability of WFS / WMS is still an issue: not much services are currently available to be added to Basemaps.

Output data

- The participants took note that the output data for Åland, Finland and Lithuania were added to Basemaps.
- The participants noted that the Guidelines on transboundary MSP output data structure in the Baltic Sea mentioned PlanID with a capital P, but Basemaps model required planID without the capital letter. It was agreed to edit the Guidelines and to publish the new version on HELCOM and VASAB websites to avoid further issue with this attribute.

- The participants discussed on having available a WMS of the output data from the HELCOM Secretariat. WMS would help the CPs to display this dataset in their national portal if needed.

As a general outcome, it seems that the participants found relevant this « help desk » session. The participants from Estonia highlighted that a specific help desk session would be beneficial for the national data experts to upload the output data. The participants also discussed and agreed that a deadline should be set up by the BSR MSP Data ESG for the CPs to upload or update the output data. Based on this deadline, the BSR MSP Data ESG could mention that this step is finalized based on the current national MSPs.

These feedback will be brought to the BSR MSP Data ESG for possible further work.

Annex – List of participants

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