Our aims

Envisioned project products and deliverables

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Consolidation and development of indicators (biodiversity, litter and noise)



Expertise gap filling (e.g. pelagic habitats, foodwebs)



Support for assessments



Further development of economic and social analyses



Further development of assessment tools and methods



Establishing and improving data flows

Key outcomes



New and improved methodology for assessments and indicators



Improved assessments of the Baltic Sea



Improved and new indicators

Links to other processes



HOLAS III

Third Holistic Assessment of the State of the Baltic Sea (HOLAS III)



BSAP

Support for implementing and follow up of the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP)



MSFD

Support for national work related to reporting under Articles 8 and 13 of the MSFD

Project partners

Abbreviation	Full Name
AAPC	Center for Environmental Policy
HELCOM	Helsinki Commission
IfW	Kiel Institute for the World Economy
LIAE/LHEI	Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology
LUKE	Natural Resources Institute Finland
SLU	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
SMHI	Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute
SU	Stockholm University
SwAM/HaV	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management
SYKE	Finnish Environment Institute
TalTech	Tallinn University of Technology
TiHo	University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover
UHAM-CEN	${\it Center for Earth System Research and Sustainability, University} \\ {\it of Hamburg}$
UT	University of Tartu

Sub-contractors

AKTiiVS	AKTiiVS Ltd
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
GAR	Gavia EcoResearch
QO	Quiet-Oceans
MZ	Meereszoologie
KST/HSR	Keep Sweden Tidy
NRM	Swedish Natural History Museum













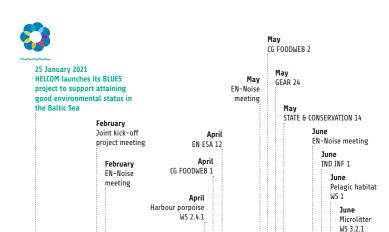




HELCOM BLUES main activities: what we are doing for a healthy Baltic Sea



- Description of the improved assessment framework for sufficiency, effectiveness and economic impacts of measures
- Data for assessing the effectiveness and costs of regionally coordinated actions
- Literature review on marine valuation studies
- Improved approach for assessing regional benefits
- Regional benefit estimates of achieving good environmental status
- Results of regional analyses of the use of marine waters and cost of degradation
- Results for the improved sufficiency and effectiveness of measures analysis
- Approach for and results of a regional cost-benefit analysis of achieving good environmental status for 1-2 environmental topics
- Description of incentives and regulations around the Baltic Sea countries to mitigate nutrient loading





Biodiversity

Improved regional assessment of biodiversity

- Regional bycatch risk maps and corresponding confidence evaluation for key species
- Test cases evaluations for bycatch

August

During all of 2021 Indicator development & consolidation

- Improved state indicator assessment for bycatch
- Application of an improved methodology for state assessment for non-commercial fish
- Application of size-based assessment for key fish species and interim threshold values
- Operational indicators for zooplankton and phytoplankton, including threshold values and Pan-Baltic coverage
- Approach for a more informative and integrated assessment of pelagic habitats
- Improved harmonisation between HELCOM and OSPAR, assessment of trends in abundance of the Belt Sea harbour porpoise population
- Belt Sea harbour porpoise population trend in abundance evaluation
- Expert-based qualitative assessments of abundance and distribution of the harbour porpoise Baltic Proper population
- Adaptation of BEAT assessment flow to include new approved
- Review of food web assessment approaches and summary of knowledge on the Baltic Sea
- Test application of adapted BEAT assessment flows to address food webs



Marine litter

Support for, and harmonisation of, regional work on MSFD Descriptor 10 (marine litter)

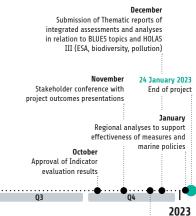
- HELCOM beach litter data compatible with EU coding
- An overview of the effectiveness of EU regulations and actions within the HELCOM Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter
- Beach litter assessment
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for monitoring microlitter in seabed and seabed sediment and water samples
- Survey and dataset for consideration to calculate baseline and threshold values for microlitter



Underwater noise

Support for, and harmonisation of, regional work on MSFD Descriptor 11 (underwater noise)

- New soundscape maps
- Quantitative continuous noise assessment for HOLAS III
- Improve calibration standards for monitoring of continuous noise
- Quantitative impulsive noise assessment for HOLAS III



STATE & CONSERVATION 15 Approval of new methodologies and Threshold Third Joint meeting values for indicators (biodiversity, marine litter. HELCOM EN-Noise & underwater noise) to be used in HOLAS III OSPAR ICG-Noise September October 0 CG FOODWEB 4 September August ComFish WS 1 Novembe CG FOODWEB 3 GEAR 25 04 2021 August September Bycatch FG MAMA 15 BEAT WS 1 WS 1

October

2022

01 2022

BLUES anniversary campaign

Pelagic habitat WS 2

with intermediate results

Q1 2022

NB: The timeline above shows only HELCOM meetings within the year of 2021 and is not intending to show all meetings of the project.

2021

Q4 2022 Launch of HELCOM Indicator webpage