



HELCOM



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Contracting Parties:

- Estonia
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Germany

- Denmark
- Sweden
- Finland
- Russia
- European Union

Monitoring and Assessment in the HELCOM community

1979 - Monitoring of physical, chemical and biological variables of the open sea started

1984 - monitoring of radioactive substances in the Baltic Sea started

1998 - Monitoring of inputs of nutrients and hazardous substances

Monitoring and Assessment in the HELCOM community

Helsinki Convention resigned in 1992

- Obligation to conduct also monitoring of the coastal waters and to report the data to the Commission
- Cooperative Monitoring in the Baltic Marine Environment - COMBINE - was instituted to integrate the national programmes into a common structure

Monitoring and Assessment in the HELCOM community

Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) adopted in 2007

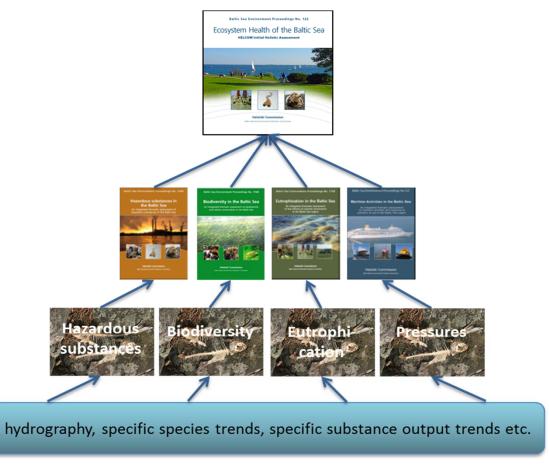
- Ecosystem approach
- 4 thematic goals, 20 ecological objectives
- Goal to reach Good Environmental Status by 2021

EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in 2008

- Ecosystem approach
- 11 Descriptors, 29 criteria and number of indicators
- Goal to reach Good Environmental Status by 2020



HELCOM Monitoring and Assessment Strategy (2013)



Holistic Assessments

- periodical
- using assessment tools

Thematic Assessments

- periodical
- using assessment tools

Core indicators

- updated regularly
- measure distance to GES

Supplementary Indicators & Supporting parameters

- Updated as needed
- Linked to specific core indicators

HELCOM core indicators

- Commonly agreed by all 10 Contracting Parties
- Science based
- Designed to meet the legislative needs of the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) and for those Contracting Parties that are also EU Member States the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), where relevant linkages made to other legislative targets such as CBD Aichi targets
- Operational core indicators are updated regularly by CPs and are based on CPs monitoring data. Depending on the indicator, data can be hosted at the HELCOM Secretariat, ICES or national databases

LCOM core indicators

idicators measure progress towards re core indicators measure progress environmental target

s to use HELCOM Assessment Units

d coastal areas d coastal areas split into WFD-areas



