



EUSBSR Annual Forum 2022 PUTTING PLANNING INTO PRACTICE

- a prosperous, connected and
green Baltic Sea Region
**28.-29.9.2022 in Lappeenranta
Finland**



EUROPEAN
REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
FUND

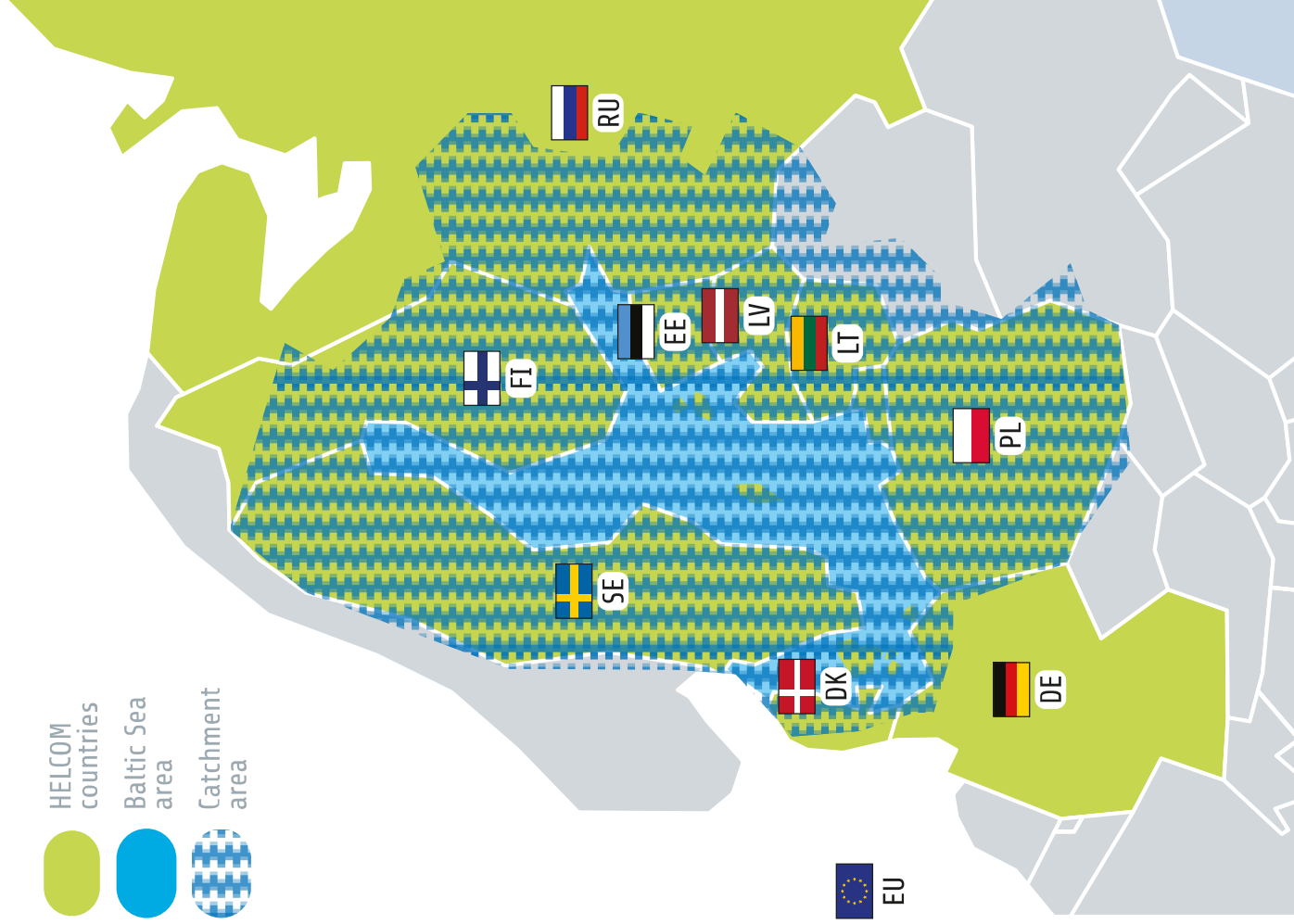
annualforum2022.eu



Helsinki Commission and the Baltic Sea Action Plan

Rüdiger Strempel
Executive Secretary

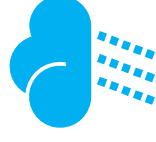
Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - HELCOM



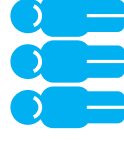
The Baltic Sea



Unique but fragile ecosystem



Catchment area:
4x area of the sea



Population (catchment):
85 million



Multitude of pressures





▲ Signing of the Helsinki Convention in 1974



71295 t
in 1981

12000 t
in 1910

Phosphorus (P) input
to the Baltic Sea
(waterborne)

2000
Ratification
of the 1992
Helsinki
Convention

1980
Establishment
of the HELCOM
Secretariat

1974
Signing of
the Helsinki
Convention
(7 members)

1992
Revision of
the Helsinki
Convention
(expanded to
10 members)

1972
UN Conference
on the Human
Environment

2007
Baltic Sea
Action Plan

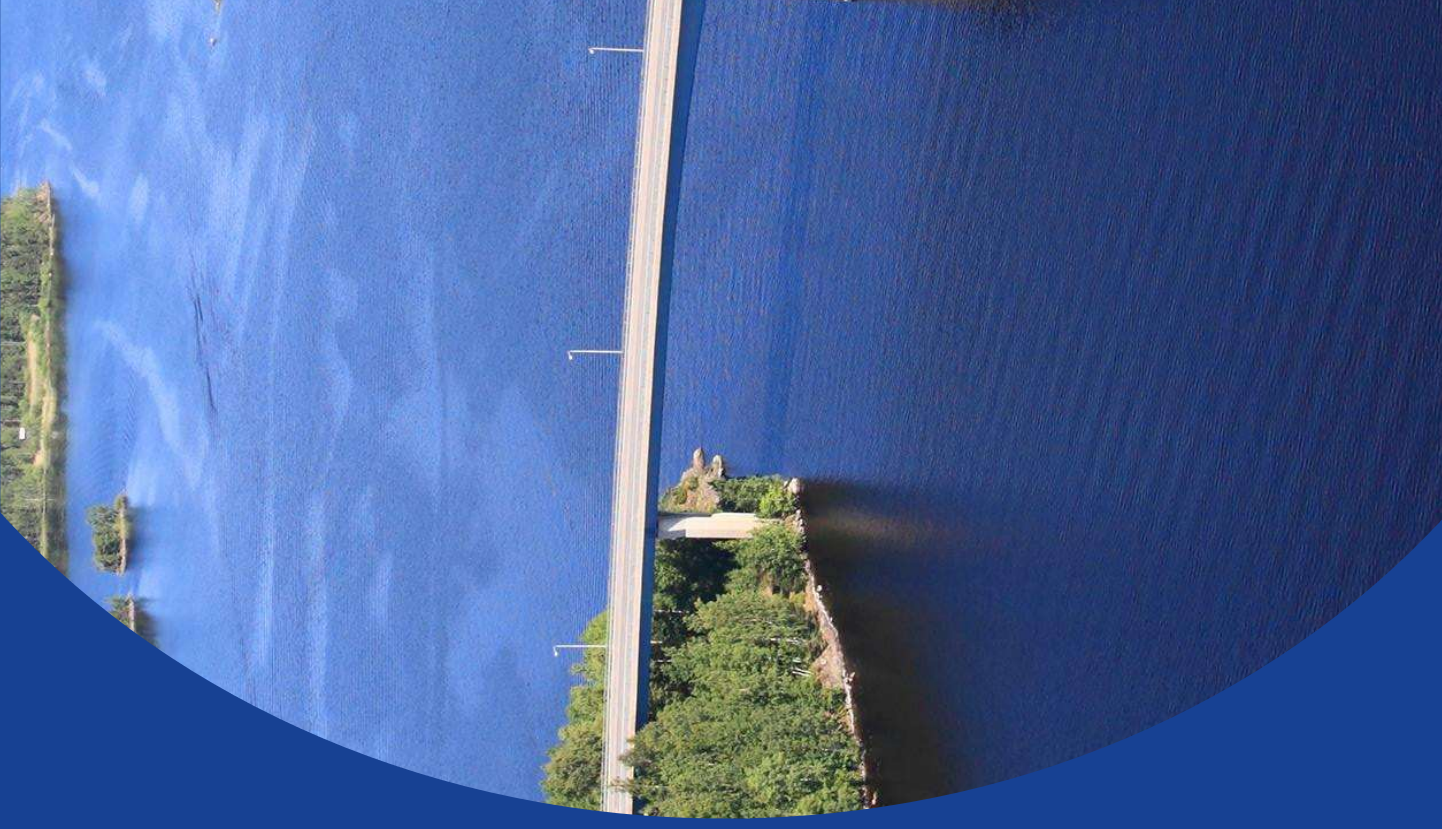
1900

1950

2000

The HELCOM vision

“A healthy Baltic Sea environment with diverse biological components functioning in balance, resulting in a good ecological status and supporting a wide range of sustainable economic and social activities.”



HELCOM is a regional...



environmental
policy maker
e.g. BSAP



environmental
focal point e.g.
HOLAS



body for developing
regional
recommendations
e.g. HELCOM
recommendations



supervisory
body
e.g. MAI

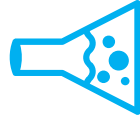


coordinating
e.g. HELCOM
Response and
DELTA

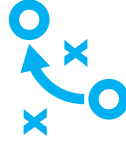
Decision making process in HELCOM: a bottom-up, science-based approach



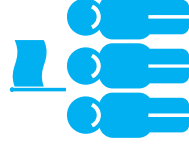
1) A **mandate or impulse** to look into a specific issue is usually given by the **Contracting Parties**



2) The **HELCOM Expert Groups** constituted of national experts provide the scientific or technical background



3) The **HELCOM Working Groups (WG)**, also constituted of national experts, translate the scientific findings into draft recommendations, strategies or actions



4) The **Heads of Delegation** formally approve the work of the Working Groups



5) Sometimes decision are taken at **a higher level** than the Annual Meeting of the HELCOM Contracting Parties (every three years)



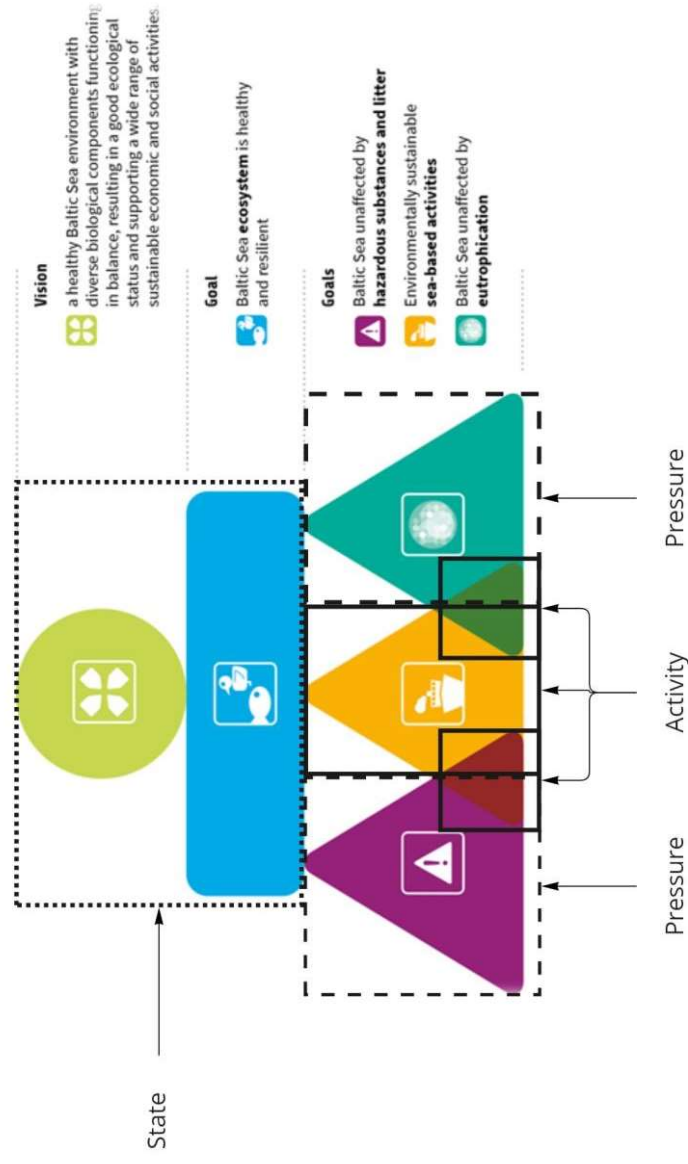
EU
EU
FC
SE

Lübeck Ministerial Meeting 20 October 2021:

“AGREE to implement all actions and commitments in the updated Baltic Sea Action Plan by the dates specified in the plan, with a view to finalizing implementation of the Baltic Sea Action Plan as a whole by 2030 at the latest”



2021 BSAP: structure & goals



Logic in the structure: Chain of consequence, whereby human **activities** result in **pressures** on the environment, which in turn affect the **state** of biodiversity, which has been used as a basis when elaborating the updated BSAP

An aerial photograph of a coastal town. On the left, a marina is filled with numerous small boats. The town features a mix of residential and commercial buildings, green spaces, and a large parking lot filled with cars. A road curves through the town, and a body of water is visible in the background.

Associated action documents to 2021 BSAP

- HELCOM Recommendation 42-43/1 on Regional Action Plan on **Underwater Noise**
- HELCOM Recommendation 42-43/2 on Amendments to Part II Annex III “Criteria and Measures Concerning the Prevention of **Pollution from Land-Based Sources**” of the 1992 Helsinki Convention
- HELCOM Recommendation 42-43/3 on Regional Action Plan on **Marine Litter**
- Baltic Sea Regional **Nutrient Recycling Strategy**
- **Regional Maritime Spatial Planning Roadmap 2021-2030**
- Guidelines for Sea Based Measures to Manage **Internal Nutrient Reserves** in the Baltic Sea Region

Implementation of the 2021 BSAP

- The actions have:



individual
target years



been identified
as supporting
action or
measure



been linked to
relevant
pressures and
activities



been assigned one or
several HELCOM
bodies responsible for
taking the work on the
action forward.



been de
criteria
achieve

...and the level of implementation of each action has been identified as national joint.



EU
EU
FC
SE

Tracking progress

Tracking progress of implementation:



HELCOM Explorer (2025 and
2029)

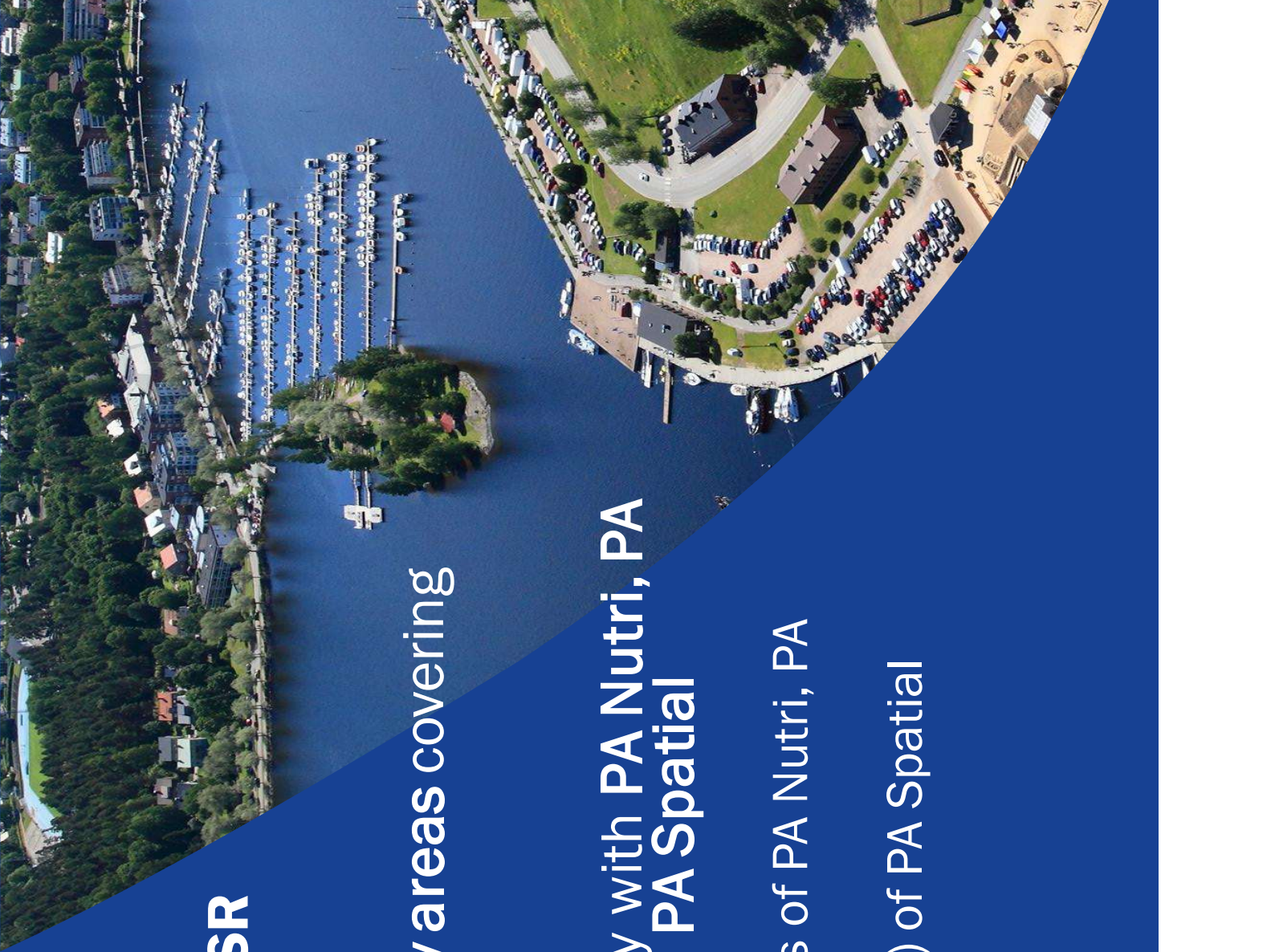
Tracking effect of implementation:



HELCOM joint monitoring

HELCOM indicators

HELCOM assessment



HELCOM BSAP and the EUSBSR revised Action Plan 2021

- EUSBSR Action Plan: 14 policy areas covering 44 actions)
- HELCOM cooperates especially with PA Nutri, PA Hazards, PA Ship, PA Safe and PA Spatial Planning
 - Observer of the Steering Groups of PA Nutri, PA Hazards, PA Ship and PA Safe
 - Co-PAC (policy area coordinator) of PA Spatial Planning with VASAB

HELCOM BSAP and EUSBSR Action Plan

- PA Nutri, e.g.:
 - Action 1: Reduce nutrient emissions from agriculture and other diffuse sources
 - Action 2: Reduce nutrient emissions from urban areas and other point sources

➡ “Support implementation of the updated HELCOM BSAP”

- PA Hazards, e.g.:
 - Action 1: Prevent pollution and reduce the use of hazardous substances

➡ “The topic is linked to the HELCOM expert group on reduction of pressures from the Baltic catchments area (PRESSURE) and the HELCOM expert network on hazardous substances.”



EUSBSR Policy Area Spatial Planning



- territorial development of the Region forum for exchange of know-how on spatial planning and development



MEMBERSHIP



POLITICAL LEVEL



STEERING LEVEL



COORDINATION



HELCOM

- Helsinki environment make
- Coordination to promote environment development ecosystem approach

Joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group

- The co-chaired joint Group was launched in 2010 to ensure cooperation among the Baltic Sea Region countries for **coherent regional Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) processes** in the Baltic Sea
 - Forum for regional, trans-boundary and cross-sectoral dialogue – enabling a common approach and facilitating coherence across the borders
- The Group's Mandate is valid until 2030 which is also the schedule for the **Regional MSP Roadmap** adopted by both HELCOM and VASAB
 - Within the Roadmap's 5 objectives also contributing to sustainable blue economy and climate change mitigation, adaptation and increased resilience
 - The revised MSP Roadmap focuses on the shift from drawing up of the maritime spatial plans to **implementation, monitoring, evaluation and follow-up** with subsequent eventual reviewing of the plans, with the focus on implementing **ecosystem-based approach**

Thank you!

You are welcome to our workshop "Sustainable oceans
by governance and planning – dream or reality?"
tomorrow at 14-16 (Venla, City Hall)

