



Synopses related to hazardous substances and marine litter

General measures to minimize input of HS

- Strengthening the existing HELCOM recommendations for industrial releases of hazardous substances by utilizing existing information produced under the EU Industrial Emissions Directive
- Safe manure nutrient recycling
- Prioritising the use of constructed wetlands to mitigate nutrient, microplastic and pharmaceutical residue leakage to the Baltic Sea and its water bodies
- Ban on import and sale of metallic lead in fishing equipment
- **Set a regional binding roadmap to achieve a climate neutral Baltic Sea region by 2040 and just transition to align with the 1.5°C threshold**

Development of Best Environmental Practice and control of threats posed by munitions, wrecks and other hazardous submerged objects in the Baltic Sea

In summary, munitions and wrecks constitutes risks for offshore economy, fishing and tourism.

Risk assessment should be performed for conventional and chemical dumped munitions and wrecks (hazardous submerged objects).

Measures should then be applied accordingly, to control the effects:

- Completion of inventory and monitoring of hot spots.
- Development and selection of BAT and BEP of environ secure and cost-effective practices and technologies for the remediation of hazardous submerged objects.
- Connections between the private sector and responsible authorities should be established in order to promote technology development.

Preparation for remediation of munitions dumps and munitions contaminated areas to support the achievement of conservation objectives

The measure compliments previous proposal and specifies BAT and BEP.

- Desktop study: historical and contemporary document research
- Survey: investigations of munitions contaminated areas (e.g. sonar, underwater video, divers).
- Documentation: GIS supported data collation: e. g., position, type, condition, salvage.

Specific proposals addressing input of pharmaceuticals:



- Implement restrictions on over-the-counter pharmaceuticals that are persistent and have an impact on the environment by making prescription by physicians compulsory
- Prioritization of pharmaceuticals in the Baltic Sea region for efficient risk reduction

Litter (land-based)

- Ban (phasing-out) on non-degradable shot wads and information campaigns targeted at hunters
- Ban on handing out free carrier bags – **action RL10 of the RAP ML (reduce)**
- Ban on mass balloon (>50 balloons) releases
- Development of a HELCOM guideline on establishment and operation of artificial turfs
- Information campaign on what not to flush – **to add to RL7 and NE5**
- Reduction of single-use plastics consumption at major events – **action NL7 of the RAP ML**

Marine litter (sea-based)

- Development of strategies for preventing fishing gear loss in the Baltic Sea by analyzing the fishing strategic context and available options for fishing gear marking.
- Development of national and regional ALDFG mitigation policy papers and recommendations on how to approach ALDFG problem in the Baltic Sea in a systemic way.
- Integration of work regarding mapping of ALDFG host areas and hot spots in the Baltic Sea region, based on the results of mapping activities held within national and international initiatives. - **actions RS10 & RS11 of RAP ML**
- Ensure no-special-fee system for marine litter applies to all passive fished waste, as well as all other wastes captured or generated in the Baltic Sea. – **action RS3, RS4 and RS12 of RAP ML.**