



Terms of Reference for the HELCOM Expert Group on Response on the Shore (HELCOM EG Shore)

Approved by the HELCOM Response Working Group via correspondence in April 2023.

Purpose

EG Shore will:

- form a long-term expert coordination network for response on shore in the Baltic Sea region, as a subgroup to the HELCOM Response Working Group;
- share knowledge and experiences regarding national developments using the agreed template for compiling information on national developments. Experts may be invited to present relevant information and experiences related to on-shore response;
- aim for common visions and prioritizations regarding development of on-shore response in the Baltic Sea region; and
- contribute to the implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan, as appropriate.

Duties

It is anticipated that based on the work of EG Shore, WG Response will:

- nominate Lead Countries for specific, temporary tasks related to on-shore response, in dialogue with the lead country of the EG Shore. Examples of such tasks could be to draft and submit to WG Response:
 - o Proposals for updating of the relevant parts of the HELCOM Response Manual, including updating relevant contact information in the Manual;
 - o other proposals concerning the use of best practice concerning on shore response; and
 - o Proposals for prioritization of on shore exercise themes.

Organization of work

EG Shore will:

- be open for delegates nominated by the WG Response leads of delegation of HELCOM Contracting Parties, and observer organisations;
- it is anticipated that the nominated members of EG Shore act as a focal points for on-shore related work in the Contracting Parties and form a link between the national stakeholders and WG Response; and
- elect for itself a lead country for two-year terms who will in turn nominate a chair.

The EG Shore lead country will:

- arrange meetings when appropriate, from the outset once per year;
- plan and chair the meetings, with support from the HELCOM Secretariat;
- report to WG Response on outcomes of its meetings;
- follow the HELCOM Rules of Procedure.