



Workplan of the HELCOM Expert Group on Response on the Shore (HELCOM EG Shore), 2025-2026

Approved by the HELCOM Response Working Group via correspondence in July 2024.

No	Task	Lead, responsible bodies and interlinked activities	Next steps and comments	Output
1	Review the HELCOM Response Manual in relation to response on the shore.	Responsible: EG Shore	In 2025, review the HELCOM Response Manual at the meeting of EG Shore to ensure that it is up to date. Proposals to be submitted by Contracting Parties and observers in advance of the meeting.	Up-to-date HELCOM Response Manual.
2	Other proposals concerning expertise and best/good practices regarding at sea and on shore response Identification of best practices and lessons learned, propose prioritizations as well as map and identify expert functions with an overall view to improve and develop on-shore response in the Baltic Sea region.	Responsible: EG Shore	Continuous 2.1. Identify best/good practices, as well as lessons learned and their follow up, related to response on shore 2.2. Create and update a list of links to relevant internationally published material in HELCOM Meeting Portal 2.3. Propose common visions and prioritizations regarding development of on-shore response in the Baltic Sea region. 2.4. Map and identify shoreline expert functions with a view to identifying potential gaps.	Best/good practices and lessons learned identified and shared. Annually updated list of internationally published material related to on-shore response. Common visions and prioritizations agreed, regarding development of on-shore response in the Baltic Sea region. Shoreline expert functions mapped and identified bi-annually with a view to identifying potential gaps.
3	Proposals for prioritization of on shore exercise themes	Responsible: EG Shore	Continuous 3.1. Expert exchange 3.2. Make proposals to the Response Working Group and the exercise planning team for the use of identified best/good practices in upcoming exercises (e.g. in topics such as use of drones for shoreline mapping, use of	Fit for purpose shore exercises regularly part of annual BALEX exercises, making use of identified best/good practices with expert involvement from across the Baltic Sea region.

			volunteers, use of satellite images). Make proposals to the HEDMOT regarding issues to consider with regard to on-shore exercises.	
4	Consider the IMO guidelines on plastic pellets with a view to achieve a common understanding of the issue and sharing best practices on response and clean-up techniques.	Responsible: WG Response , EG Shore, EG Wildlife	Submission of documents and proposals to the EG Shore session in 2025 for consideration and action as appropriate.	A common understanding on the responsibilities and options for responding to spills of plastic pellets.
5	Mapping of shoreline response capacities in the Baltic Sea	Responsible: EG Shore	Each Contracting Party to provide information on all available shoreline response capacities, making use of CECIS Marine as appropriate. Contribute to the development of relevant elements of CECIS Marine.	An overview of the shoreline response capacities in all Contracting Parties.
6	BSAP S31 - Conduct a feasibility study by 2022 for, and as appropriate, undertake a risk analysis for oil and hazardous and noxious substances (HNS) pollution of the marine environment in the Baltic Sea area by 2025.	Responsible: WG Response ; EG Shore; WG Maritime	Input by EG Shore as appropriate to work on a long-term risk analysis during 2025-2026.	Updated risk analysis for oil and HNS pollution in the Baltic Sea has been conducted.
7	BSAP S32 - Develop a framework for holistic/integrated management of marine pollution incidents to enable coordinated response operation at sea and on shore by 2025.	Responsible: WG Response ; EG Shore; EG Wildlife; EG Surveillance On the national level, the national competent response authorities should coordinate implementation.	EG Shore in 2025 to provide relevant input to the development of a framework for holistic/integrated management of marine pollution incidents. Input from the IRA-MAR project to be taken into account. Information sharing and coordination on the national level to ensure that national shore response plans and wildlife response are implemented and coordinated. An informal meeting between the Chairs of WG Response, EG Wildlife, EG Shore and EG Surveillance to be organized at the latest in 2025 to plan and coordinate implementation.	Amendments have been made in the HELCOM Response Manual with improved integration of holistic management of pollution incidents at sea, on shore and cross-sectoral cooperation between sea and shore.