

Implementation plans for actions in the RAP ML (November 2024)

Implementation plan for action RL1 on plastic litter on beaches

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RL1				
Action	Share best practices and guidelines for municipalities and other responsible authorities regarding environmentally sound and effective cleaning, sorting and collection infrastructure of plastic litter on beaches and other coastal areas.				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	The action aims at contributing to the significant reduction of amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.				
Final outcome	Best practices compiled in a report/policy brief/guidance and shared with relevant stakeholders				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Survey on cleaning, sorting and collection infrastructure of plastic litter on beaches and other coastal areas	DE & CCB	All Contracting Parties, available information from DE	Q3.2023 (tbc)	Q4.2023 (tbc)	Compilation of the results from the survey to be presented to EG Marine Litter, and subsequently to PRESSURE WG
2) Identification of best practices from the survey complemented by practices outside HELCOM countries	tbd	All Contracting Parties, CCB to share experiences	Q2.2023 (tbc)	Q3.2023 (tbc)	Best practices are identified and agreed upon
3) Report on compilation of best practices, possible policy brief	tbd		Q3.2023 (tbc)	Q3.2023 (tbc)	Report on compilation of best practices, possible policy brief
4) Share best practices document through social media		All Contracting Parties and Secretariat	Q4.2023 (tbc)	Q4.2023 (tbc)	Best practices document available in social media

Implementation plan for action RL2 on top plastic and rubber litter items

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RL2				
Action	Evaluate top findings according to the knowledge available and recommend environmentally sound alternatives to phase out top plastic and rubber litter items				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	The action aims at contributing to prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastic				
Final outcome	HELCOM document on environmentally sound alternatives to phase out top plastic and rubber litter items				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Identification of the top plastic and rubber litter items based on HOLAS3 assessment on marine litter	tbd		Q1.2024 (tbc)	Q1.2024 (tbc)	The top plastic and rubber litter items have been identified
2) Survey on environmentally sound alternatives to phase out top plastic and rubber litter items	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q2.2024 (tbc)	Q3.2024 (tbc)	Compilation of the results from the survey to be presented to EG Marine Litter, and subsequently to Sea-based pressures WG
3) Identification of environmentally sound alternatives to phase out top plastic and rubber litter items	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q3.2024 (tbc)	Q3.2024 (tbc)	Environmentally sound alternatives are identified and agreed upon
4) Report on compilation of environmentally sound alternatives to phase out top plastic and rubber litter items, possible policy brief	tbd		Q4.2024 (tbc)	Q4.2024 (tbc)	Report on environmentally sound alternatives, possible policy brief

Implementation plan for action RL3 on input of macro litter by rivers

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	6.4.2022				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RL3				
Action	Establish a regional pilot project in collaboration with river basin authorities to assess input of macro litter by rivers to build sound regional knowledge base.				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	The action aims at contributing to the significant reduction of amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.				
Final outcome	Project proposal on the input of macro litter by rivers drafted and next steps on its implementation agreed upon.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Identify relevant contacts among the river basin authorities	tbd	River basin authorities and all Contracting Parties. Also from EU work (ECOstat questionnaire, RIMMEL project) and OSPAR experiences.	Q2.2023 (tbc)	Q3.2023 (tbc)	Preliminary contact with river basin authorities established
2) Online meeting to discuss issues of common concern in relation to macro litter by rivers	tbd	River basin authorities and all Contracting Parties	Q3.2023 (tbc)	Q3.2023 (tbc)	Goals for common approach identified
3) Online meetings to draft a pilot project on input of macro litter by rivers	tbd	River basin authorities and all Contracting Parties	Q3.2023 (tbc)	Q1.2024 (tbc)	Project proposal drafted and next steps on its implementation agreed upon.

Implementation plan for action RL4 on return and refund deposit systems

Lead country	Estonia				
Date	24.04.2023				
Contact person	Liis Kikas				
Affiliation	Ministry of the Environment of Estonia, senior officer				
E-mail	liis.kikas@envir.ee				
Code of action	RL4				
Action	Reduce marine litter by sharing best practices on national return and refund deposit systems for drink packaging striving to establish such systems in all HELCOM countries and investigate possible bilateral and multilateral solutions to prevent littering and enhance recycling of drink packaging in relation to passenger ships and border shops.				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.				
Final outcome	Collection of best practices report, possible multilateral cooperation proposals				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) 2 days online workshop/seminar on best practices in Baltic Sea countries (for example DE, DK, SE, EE-LV, EE-FI), other possible cooperation platforms, also targeted to find key obstacles of multilateral solutions	EE	Partner countries, Secretariat	Q3.2023	Q3.2023	Successful seminar has been held
2) Compilation of best practices report, possible multilateral cooperation proposals	EE	EG Marine litter, partner countries, Secretariat	Q4.2023	Q2.2024	A report has been compiled by the end of 2023
3) Distribution/publication of best practice report	EE	All CP-s in their countries	Q3.2024	Q4.2024	Results have been shared

Implementation plan for action RL5 on open applications using plastics

Lead country	Germany				
Date	24.04.2023				
Contact person	Dennis Gräwe				
Affiliation	State Agency for Environment, Nature Conservation and Geology, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern				
E-mail	dennis.graewe@lung.mv-regierung.de				
Code of action	RL5				
Action	Identify environmentally open applications using plastics (e.g. agriculture foil, coastal erosion protection, etc...) which need to be addressed and recommend relevant actions.				
Further specification					
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter "No harm to marine life from litter" and BSAP management objectives for marine litter "Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics" and "Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea".				
Final outcome	HELCOM document with a list of environmentally open applications using plastics to address further measures.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from ⁵	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) A literature and internet search will gather a first list of the main environmentally open applications using plastics (where available with quantifications and alternative products/materials or measures).	Lead country	EG Marine Litter members, ongoing EU work in connection with geotextiles.	Q3 2022 (tbc)	Q4 2022 (tbc)	A first list of the main environmentally open applications using plastics is available.
2) A survey shall complement the list of the main environmentally open applications using plastics in the HELCOM area and the quantifications, alternative products/materials or measures.	Lead country with assistance by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter members (or appointed persons)	Q1 2023 (tbc)	Q2 2023 (tbc)	A list of the main environmentally open applications using plastics in the HELCOM area is available.
3) Based on the results, the main environmentally open applications using plastics will be listed to address further measures.	Lead country with assistance by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter members	Q3 2023 (tbc)	Q4 2023 (tbc)	A HELCOM document has been developed.

Implementation plan for action RL6 on legal framework

Lead country	Germany (tbc)				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RL6				
Action	Based on the evaluations made in the EU and among the contracting parties of the most significant products and processes that release both primary and secondary microplastics, assess if they are covered or not by legislation, and act, if appropriate, to influence or adjust the legal framework, or identify other necessary measures to reduce emissions to the aquatic environment.				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	The action aims at contributing to the prevention of the generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics.				
Final outcome	Document on the proposal for additional measures drafted and considered in the HELCOM framework.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Compilation of available assessments on the most significant products and processes that release both primary and secondary microplastics and regulatory measures addressing them at national, EU and global level	tbd	All Contracting Parties. Report from DE to serve as basis for this work. Ongoing EU work in connection with textiles fabrics (open public consultation on unintentionally released microplastics (from pellets, tyres, textiles, marine paints, geotextiles-until 17 May 2022)). There is a study ongoing, supporting the preparation of the impact assessment.	Q4 2023 (tbc)	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Report on the most significant products and processes that release both primary and secondary microplastics and regulatory measures addressing them available.
2) Online survey on identification of regulatory gaps addressing the most significant products and processes that release both primary and secondary microplastics	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Online survey set up
3) Workshop to analysis the results of the survey and define further steps	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Workshop is held
4) Proposal for additional measures	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Document on the proposal for

needed to address the identified gaps.					additional measures drafted and considered in the HELCOM framework.
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Implementation plan for action RL7 on microplastics from WWTP

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RL7				
Action	Evaluate the possibility to introduce regional recommendations to reduce release of microplastics from WWTP utilizing the outcome of related studies.				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	The action aims at contributing to the prevention of the generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics.				
Final outcome	Proposal for a HELCOM Recommendation on the reduction of the release of microplastics from WWTP. Document on the proposal for additional measures drafted and considered in the HELCOM framework.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Compilation of best available practices and regulatory measures to reduce releases of microplastics from WWTP at national, EU and global level. Utilise the draft policy brief on the matter as starting point. Alignment with the revision process of the EU Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive ¹ and HELCOM Recommendation 23-5-Rev. 1	tbd	All Contracting Parties,	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Report on the best available practices and regulatory measures to reduce releases of microplastics from WWTP
2) Workshop to discuss way forward in view of the best available practices and regulatory measures identified and define contents of the proposal of a HELCOM Recommendation on the reduction of the release of microplastics from WWTP	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Workshop is held
3) Drafting of a HELCOM Recommendation on the reduction of the release of microplastics from WWTP	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Q4 2024 (tbc)	HELCOM Recommendation is drafted

¹ The revision of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive/Sewage Sludge Directive are ongoing with the Impact Assessment and possible proposals due in Q2 2022.

Implementation plan for action RL8 on artificial turfs

Lead country	Finland Sweden, co-lead ²				
Date	9.2.2022				
Contact person	FI: Outi Setälä, Sanna Suikkanen, Pinja Näkki SE: Helén Klint				
Affiliation	FI: Finnish environment Institute, SYKE SE: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency				
E-mail	FI: outi.setala@syke.fi , sanna.suikkanen@syke.fi , pinja.nakki@syke.fi , SE: helen.klint@naturvardsverket.se				
Code of action	RL8				
Action	Development of a HELCOM guideline on establishment and operation of artificial turfs, to prevent plastic losses, taking into account the ongoing work within the EU including the proposal by ECHA.				
Further specification	The action will investigate the state of the art related to artificial turfs, focusing on the football fields. Fields using different infill materials as well as artificial grass fields without infill will be included.				
Operational targets	The action compile together information on artificial turfs including current management used for preventing the loss of infill and artificial grass.				
Final outcome	Recommendations for preventing emissions of infill and artificial grass materials from artificial turfs.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Survey on artificial football fields (for those responsible of the management of the fields nationally, utilizing football associations), to be carried out using an online analysis and survey tool.	FI	All Contracting Parties. EU processes to be taken into consideration: work is ongoing on the EU proposal for restriction which will consider both options in the ECHA's opinion: (i) full ban after a transitional period of 6 years; (ii) implementation of risk management measures to limit emissions.	9/2022	4/2023	Compilation of the results from the survey, to be presented first among EG Marine Litter and after comments in the PRESSURE group.
2) Evaluation of the management options for preventing loss of infill material	Fi	Lead and Co-lead -To be circulated for comments among EG Marine Litter	5/2023	11/2024	
3) HELCOM guideline document Measures for reducing the loss of	Fi		1/2024	4/2025	To be decided later, Policy brief or another type of

² Due to changes in staff responsibilities, Sweden is considering whether they are still able to be a co-lead for the action.

infill material from football fields					guidance document.
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Revised implementation plan for action RL9 on shot wads

Lead Country	Denmark				
Date	1.12.2023				
Contact person	Frank Jensen, Denmark				
Affiliation	Danish Ministry for Environment				
E-mail	fje@mim.dk				
Code of action	RL9				
Action	Investigate opportunities for substitution with subsequent phasing-out non-degradable shot wads and launch information campaigns targeted at hunters.				
Further specification					
Main outcome	Policy brief on shot wads made of plastic				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1. Survey aiming at getting an overview of degradable shot wads (including shot wads with very reduced volumes of plastic e.g. used as lining) from producers/importers and organisations and how the CPs have targeted this issue by e.g. voluntary agreements, information campaigns or legislative measures. A definition of degradable shot wads needs to be looked into.	DK (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG ML members (or appointed persons)	April 2023	Q4 2023	A summary of collected information on alternatives to shot wads made of conventional plastics.
2. Considerations on the survey and assessment of how information can be disseminated, including considerations of how information campaigns can be made (incl. language issues)	DK (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG ML	Q1 2024	Q1 2024	A decision has been made on how to disseminate the information
3. Drafting of a policy brief on shot wads made of plastic	DK (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG ML	Q1 2024	Q4 2024	The policy brief is drafted

Implementation plan for action RL10 on best practice on single use plastics

Lead country	Germany				
Co-Lead	Estonia				
Date	14.02.2022				
Contact person	DE: Stefanie Werner EE: Liis Kikas				
Affiliation	DE: Federal Environment Agency EE: Ministry of the Environment of Estonia, senior officer				
E-mail	DE: Stefanie.Werner@uba.de , EE: liis.kikas@envir.ee				
Code of action	RL10				
Action	Provide guidance on best-practice examples and regulatory options for municipalities in the Baltic Sea region to reduce the generation of single use plastic litter.				
Further specification					
Operational targets	Prevent generation of waste and its inputs to the sea Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.				
Final outcome	Guidelines for Baltic municipalities and cities on legal options and best practice examples to reduce the generation of marine litter with a focus on single use plastics				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Dissemination of two guidelines on BP-examples and regulatory options for municipalities to prevent and reduce plastic litter produced (and translated) in the context of the German Round Table on Marine Litter 2) Dissemination of Action Plans for municipalities as developed by the Interreg- project CAPonLITTER (for inspiration)	DE		1) Q3 2022 2) tbc	1) Q3 2022 2) tbc	Inspiration has been widely distributed Webex for information exchange among CPs
2) Survey among HELCOM CPs aiming at getting an overview of similar/additional national practices how plastic litter is currently regulated in municipalities; Collection of further current best practices; possible questionnaire	DE, EE	Contracting Parties, Secretariat	Q3 2022	Q3 2022	Questionnaire has been made and results received

3) Workshop to share understand BP and legal options in depth and identify gaps	DE, EE	EG Marine Litter team, Contracting Parties, Secretariat	Q2 2023	Q2 2023	Workshop has been done
4) Preparation and distribution of regional guidelines for municipalities	DE, EE	Contracting Parties, EG Marine Litter, Secretariat	Q4 2023	Q4 2023	Guidelines compiled

Implementation plan for action RL11 on single use plastics consumption and littering at major events

Lead country	Denmark				
Co-Lead	Estonia				
Date	10.02.2022				
Contact person	DK: Frank Jensen EE: Liis Kikas				
Affiliation	DK: Danish Ministry for Environment EE: Ministry of the Environment of Estonia				
E-mail	DK: fje@mim.dk EE: liis.kikas@envir.ee				
Code of action	RL11				
Action	Prevention and reduction of single use plastics consumption and littering at major events and promotion campaigns through the establishment of a catalog of possible measures to be utilized by the organizers and authorities.				
Further specification					
Operational targets	Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.				
Final outcome	A guidance/catalog of possible measures and experiences to be utilized by organizers and authorities on reduction of single use plastic products at major events				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Survey aiming at getting an overview of national practices on how to reduce littering at events. This could include a list of experiences, guidelines from municipalities, organisers, hosts a.o.	DK, EE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	CPs and EG-ML members (or appointed persons), SE project output on the matter available.	Q3 2023	Q3 2024	A report collecting available information on actions, experiences etc. from the CPs.
2) seminar regarding practices of countries so far (building upon information from the survey)	EE, DK	EG-ML, NGOs, local authorities, secretariat	Q4 2024	Q4 2024	Successful seminar has been held
3) Considerations on the survey and assessment of how information can be disseminated (guide), including considerations of a static document (e.g. report) or a dynamic website (incl. hosting and updating such a website).	DK, EE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-ML	Q4 2024	Q4 2024	A decision has been made on how to disseminate the information
4) Development of a HELCOM guide	DK, EE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-ML	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	The chosen solution has been implemented

Implementation plan on action RL12 on the phase out of intentional releases of inflated balloons

Lead Country	Denmark				
Co-Lead Country	Sweden				
Date	28.01.2022				
Contact person	DK: Frank Jensen SE: Helén Klint				
Affiliation	DK: Danish Ministry for Environment SE: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency				
E-mail	DK: fje@mim.dk SE: helen.klint@naturvardsverket.se				
Code of action:	RL 12				
Action:	Phase out intentional releases of inflated balloons				
Further specification					
Final outcome:	Guidance or recommendation on the gross release of inflated balloons				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Getting an overview of the size of the problem(s). The survey will give an estimate of the number of balloons released in the HELCOM area and found on the beaches, and the environmental impact from balloon litter will be described. The survey will list which (type of) legislation or other approaches the CPs have in place and how it is enforced. Based on the results, the authors will suggest possible ways of phasing out intentional releases of balloons	SE, DK and the Secretariat (study financed by SE)	EG-ML members (or appointed persons)	Jan 2022	Dec 2022	A report from KIMO by end of 2022
2) Considerations on the survey carried out by KIMO and assessment of how information can be disseminated. Taking a position on a HELCOM guide or a recommendation.	DK, SE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-ML	Q1 2023	Q1 2023	A decision has been made on HELCOM guidance or recommendation in collaboration with the secretariat
3) Development of a HELCOM guide or a recommendation	DK, SE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-ML	Q2 2023	Q2 2023	A guidance or recommendation has been developed

Implementation plan for action RL13 on confetti

Lead country	Sweden				
Date	09.02.2022				
Contact person	Helén Klint				
Affiliation	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency				
E-mail	helen.klint@naturvardsverket.se				
Code of action	RL13				
Action	Consider phasing out the use of plastic components of confetti outdoors.				
Further specification	This implementation plan only concerns the part on confetti in RL13, fireworks are not included				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter <i>No harm to marine life from litter</i> and BSAP management objectives for marine litter <i>Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics</i> and <i>Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.</i>				
Final outcome	HELCOM guidance or recommendation on the gross release of plastic confetti				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Getting an overview of the problem(s) and possible solutions. The survey will give an estimate of the amount of confetti released in the HELCOM area and found on the beaches, and the environmental impact from confetti litter will be described. The survey will list which (type of) legislation or other approaches the CPs have in place and how it is enforced. Based on the results, the authors will suggest possible ways of phasing out intentional releases of confetti	SE and the Secretariat (study financed by SE)	EG Marine Litter members (or appointed persons)	Jan 2022	Dec 2022	A report from KIMO by end of 2022
2) Considerations on the survey carried out by KIMO and assessment of how information can be disseminated. Taking a position on a HELCOM guide or recommendation	SE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG Marine Litter	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	A decision has been made on HELCOM guidance or recommendation in collaboration with the secretariat
3) Development of a HELCOM guide or a recommendation	SE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG Marine Litter	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	A guidance or recommendation has been developed

Implementation plan for action RL13 on phasing out the use of plastic components of firework

Lead country	Sweden to lead the part that concern plastic confetti outdoors. Germany leading the part that concerns plastic components of firework				
Date	11.04.2022				
Contact person	Dennis Gräwe				
Affiliation	State Agency for Environment, Nature Conservation and Geology, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern				
E-mail	dennis.graewe@lung.mv-regierung.de				
Code of action	RL13 part plastic components of firework				
Action	Consider phasing out the use of plastic components of firework.				
Further specification	This implementation plan only concerns the part on fireworks in RL13, confetti are not included				
Operational targets	Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.				
Final outcome	HELCOM guidelines on phasing out the use of plastic components of firework.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from ⁵	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) An investigation into the products will give an overview of how widespread plastic components in firework are and what alternatives there are.	DE	EG Marine Litter members, safety considerations to be taken into account	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	A first impression of the size of the problem is available.
2) A survey will give an estimate of the amount of plastic components of firework found on the beaches in the HELCOM area. The survey will list which regulations/measures the CPs have in place.	DE with assistance by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter members (or appointed persons)	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	An overview of the problem in the HELCOM area is available.
3) Expert interviews (e.g. producers or licensing authorities if possible) to research possible ways of phasing out plastic components of firework.	DE	appointed persons	Q2 2023	Q2 2023	Possible ways of phasing out plastic components of firework are described.
4) Based on the results, possible ways of phasing out plastic components of firework will be suggested.	DE with assistance by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter members	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	A draft guidance has been developed.
5) Development of a HELCOM guide	DE with assistance by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter members	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	A guidance has been developed.

Implementation plan for action RS1 on ELB management and recycling

Lead country	CCB, supported by Finland and Sweden				
Date	6.11.2024				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS1				
Action	Identify opportunities for developing ELB management and recycling methodologies including potential financial arrangements (e.g. producer's responsibility, eco-fee for registered boats).				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	This action aims at significantly reduce the amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea.				
Final outcome	Report on possible managing and recycling possibilities of ELB in the Baltic Sea				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Identify relevant contacts among the recreational boating sector in the Baltic Sea	tbd	All CPs. EU work ongoing: stakeholder group established, recommendations/roadmap of future actions to be presented at the end of 2022. Possible continuation of the group in a format to be decided. The roadmap will include actions for the EU, as well as voluntary actions for the industry and at national level. Finland most likely to contribute with a national project on the matter to be conducted within 2023.	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Contacts identified
2) Online survey on ELB management and recycling methodologies as well as financial arrangement addressing identified relevant stakeholders	tbd	All CPs and relevant stakeholders	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Survey conducted
3) Workshop to discuss the results of the survey and discuss steps forward	tbd	All CPs and relevant stakeholders	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Workshop is held
4) Drafting of conclusions on possible managing and recycling possibilities of ELB.	tbd	All CPs	Q1 2025 (tbc)	Q1 2025 (tbc)	Report on possible managing and recycling possibilities of ELB.

Implementation plan for action RS2 on buoys without EPS

Lead country	Denmark				
Date	07.02.2022				
Contact person	Frank Jensen, Denmark				
Affiliation	Danish Ministry for Environment				
E-mail	fje@mim.dk				
Code of action	RS2				
Action	Encourage the development and use of buoys, floats and docks, which do not release expanded polystyrene (EPS) and other problematic materials to the marine environment with the aim to phase out the use of those containing unprotected EPS and problematic materials.				
Further specification					
Operational targets					
Final outcome					
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Survey aiming at getting an overview of methods of encapsulating EPS/XPS and use of alternatives to EPS/XPS containing equipment through a questionnaire and direct contacts with producers and/or importers.	DK (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-ML members (or appointed persons)	Jan 2023	Q4 2023	A report collecting available data on products with/without encapsulated buoys etc. and available alternatives.
2) Considerations on the survey and assessment of how information can be disseminated. Taking a position on whether a HELCOM guide is the best choice or not.	DK (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-ML	Q1 2024	Q1 2024	A decision has been made on a HELCOM guidance
3) Development of a HELCOM guide	DK (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-ML	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	A guidance has been developed

Implementation plan for action RS3 on onboard waste management

Lead country	Finland				
Date	26.10.2022				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS3				
Action	Cooperate with maritime stakeholders to optimize onboard waste management enhancing separation, fostering recycling, and phasing out the use of single-use plastics in shipping, including in cruise operations.				
Further specification	The planning of the action is linked to the meetings of the HELCOM Maritime Working Group which usually meets in autumn.				
Operational targets	The action aims at contributing to the prevention of the generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics.				
Final outcome	Best practices on onboard waste management compiled in a report/policy brief/guidance and shared with relevant stakeholders				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Identification of relevant stakeholders	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q2 2023 (tbc)	Q2 2023 (tbc)	Stakeholders identified
2) Online survey on onboard waste management, with a focus on SUP, as well as related global (IMO), EU and national regulations	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG, follow up on the revision of Annex V in MARPOL in connection with the waste record book.	Q3 2023 (tbc)	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Survey launched
3) Analysis of the results of the survey and identification of gaps.	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Q2 2024 (tbc)	State of the art report on onboard waste management, with a focus on SUP
4) Workshop on the identification of best practices on onboard waste management, if possible in parallel to a Maritime meeting	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Workshop is held
5) Drafting of best practices on onboard waste management	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Best practices on onboard waste management compiled

Implementation plan for action RS4 on cargo losses

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS4				
Action	Investigate the problem with cargo losses causing plastic littering of the marine environment and, based on the findings, together with national competent authorities, consider developing a common guidelines for accident management taking into account ongoing work within the IMO and EU.				
Further specification	The planning of the action is linked to the meetings of the HELCOM Maritime Working Group which usually meets in autumn.				
Operational targets	The action aims at contributing to the prevention of the generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics.				
Final outcome	Guidelines for accident management of cargo losses causing plastic littering of the marine environment				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Identification of data sources on cargo losses causing plastic littering in the Baltic Sea	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Data sources are identified
2) Compilation of available data on cargo losses causing plastic littering in the Baltic Sea	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2025 (tbc)	Data compiled and presented to Maritime WG
3) Analysis of the international, EU and national approach addressing cargo losses causing plastic littering	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2025 (tbc)	Report on the regulatory framework presented to Maritime WG
4) Drafting of guidelines for accident management in alignment with IMO and EU processes.	tbd	All CPs, Maritime WG	Q2 2025 (tbc)	Q3 2025 (tbc)	Guidelines drafted

Implementation plan for action RS5 on plastic pellets spills from ships

Lead country	Sweden				
Date	15.02.2022				
Contact person	Lisa Bredahl Nerdal and Johanna Eriksson				
Affiliation	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, SwAM				
E-mail	lisa.bredahlnerdal@havochvatten.se ; johanna.eriksson@havochvatten.se				
Code of action	RS5				
Action	Investigate the problem caused by spills of plastic pellets from ships and, based on the findings, consider developing common guidelines for accident management in such events.				
Further specification	Due to other recently started projects and processes the action will start Q2, 2023 with taking these projects and processes (specified below) into consideration.				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter “ <i>No harm to marine life from litter</i> ” and BSAP management objectives for marine litter “ <i>Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics</i> ” and “ <i>Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea</i> ”.				
Final outcome	Possible HELCOM guidelines (or recommendation) for accident management in case of plastic pellets spills from ships.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Assessment report on acute plastic pollution in the Nordic Countries. The report will describe: preventive measures, emergency responses, experience from clean-up operations, relevant regulation, and other legal aspects. The roles of authorities and other actors, organisation at national/regional level, and cooperation between countries.	SE for dissemination of the results	Project under Nordic Council of Ministers	Q2, 2022	Q2, 2023	Report from the Nordic cooperation on acute plastic pollution, Q2, 2023 and a dedicated launching event.
2) EU process on unintentional releases of microplastics including release of pre-production plastic pellets during their entire life-cycle	SE for dissemination of the results	EU call for evidence for an impact assessment, workshop and public consultation during 2022	Q2, 2022	Q4, 2022 (tentatively)	EU proposed way forward (policy measures?) on how to address plastic pellets spills from ships
3) IMO process on submitted proposals: on classification of plastic pellets and	SE to follow the process and	EG-Marine Litter and Maritime WG	Q1, 2022	Tbd based on IMO processes	IMO proposed way forward on how to address

guidelines on best practice related to clean-up of plastic pellets	disseminate information				plastic pellets spills from ships
4) Considerations if results from the project and processes above need to be complemented with specific information from the HELCOM countries	SE assisted by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter and Maritime WG	Q2, 2023	Q2, 2023	A decision has been made if complementary information from HELCOM countries is needed or not.
4) Possible need for complementary information from HELCOM countries	SE assisted by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter and Maritime WG	Q3, 2023	Q4, 2023	If needed, complementary information from HELCOM countries
5) Taking a position on the need of a HELCOM guidelines (or recommendation)	SE assisted by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter Maritime WG	Q1, 2024 (depending on if complementary information is needed or not, this can be done earlier)	Q1, 2024	A decision has been made on HELCOM guidelines (or recommendation)
6) Possible development of HELCOM guidelines (or recommendation)	SE assisted by the Secretariat	EG Marine Litter Maritime WG	Q1-2, 2024	Q4, 2024	HELCOM guidelines (or recommendation) has been developed

Implementation plan for action RS6 on collection of ALDFG

Lead country	To be determined. WWF Poland considering co-leading				
Date	6.4.2022				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS6				
Action	Encourage collection of ALDFG and separation of collected ALDFG from end-of-life gear with a view to establish regional targets for collection of end-of-life fishing gear.				
Further specification	The encouragement of collection of ALDFG and separation of collected ALDFG from end-of-life gear is seen to be implemented through a three steps approach: (i) drafting of a best practices document; (ii) implementation of such best practices to identify the state of the art in the Baltic Sea; and (iii) establishment of regional targets for collection of end-of-life fishing gear.				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter “No harm to marine life from litter” and BSAP management objectives for marine litter “Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics” and “Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea”.				
Final outcome	Best practices document for collection of ALDFG and separation of collected ALDFG from end-of-life gear and establishment of regional targets for collection of end-of-life fishing gear.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Drafting of a best practices document based on the compilation and summary of available information (MARELITT Baltic)	tbd	All CPs, WWF Poland to contribute to this action, DE to contribute with a project which is starting	Q4 2023 (tbc)	Q4 2023 (tbc)	Best practices document drafted
2) Workshop with relevant stakeholders to (i) share best practices document and encourage its implementation; (ii) discuss a baseline for collection of end-of-life fishing gear; and (iii) discuss regional targets for collection of end-of-life fishing gear	tbd	All CPs and relevant stakeholders	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Workshop held
3) Setting up a baseline for collection of end-of-life fishing gear	tbd	All CPs and relevant stakeholders	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Baseline set
4) Setting up a regional target for collection of end-of-life fishing gear	tbd	All CPs	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Regional target established

Implementation plan for action RS7 on ALDFG from recreational fisheries

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS7				
Action	Elaborate guidelines on the best practices and undertake relevant measures to reduce the input of ALDFG to the Baltic Sea from recreational fisheries with a focus on gillnets taking into account geographical particularities.				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter “No harm to marine life from litter” and BSAP management objectives for marine litter “Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics” and “Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea”.				
Final outcome	Guidelines on the best practices to reduce the input of ALDFG to the Baltic Sea from recreational fisheries with a focus on gillnets. A follow up of the implementation of the guidelines will be conducted to ensure that relevant measures have been undertaken.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Survey on best practices to reduce the input of ALDFG to the Baltic Sea from recreational fisheries with a focus on gillnets	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q3 2023 (tbc)	Q4 2023 (tbc)	Compilation of the results from the survey to be presented to EG Marine Litter, and subsequently to Sea-based pressures WG
2) Identification of best practices from the survey complemented by practices outside HELCOM countries	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Best practices are identified and agreed upon
3) Drafting of a best practices document	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Best practices document drafted.
4) Survey on the implementation of the best practices	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q2 2026 (tbc)	Q2 2026 (tbc)	Evaluation of the implementation of the best practices document

Implementation plan for action RS8 on lost angling gear

Lead country	Sweden Germany considering co-leading				
Date	16.02.2022				
Contact person	Lisa Bredahl Nerdal				
Affiliation	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water management				
E-mail	lisa.bredahlnerdal@havochvatten.se				
Code of action	RS8				
Action	Evaluate the amounts and composition of lost angling gear in the Baltic Sea including fishing lures and casting weights with corresponding hooks, soft plastic baits and light components and develop appropriate measures to prevent their further loss.				
Further specification					
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter " <i>No harm to marine life from litter</i> " and BSAP management objectives for marine litter " <i>Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics</i> " and " <i>Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea</i> ".				
Final outcome	HELCOM document with appropriate measures to prevent and reduce losses from recreational fishing gear that Contracting Parties can start to implement.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from ⁵	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) A study on the amounts and composition of lost fishing gear – traps, pots and handheld fishing gear including fishing lures, baits, casting weights with corresponding hooks, fishing lines and light components from recreational fishing in the Nordic countries - in order to develop appropriate measures to prevent their further loss	SE responsible for dissemination of the report and results	Project under Nordic Council of Ministers, DE experiences available before Q3 2022	Q1 2022	Q3 2022	A report from the Nordic cooperation on the amounts and composition of lost fishing gear
2) Depending on the results of the Nordic study, further studies of the amount of lost fishing gear must be carried out in the countries not included in the Nordic study.	SE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-Marine Litter	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	A study funded by the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management that builds upon the report from the Nordic cooperation
3) A discussion among HELCOM CP's if the suggested measures, to reduce losses from recreational fishing gear, are to be implemented or not. If HELCOM CP's decide to proceed a recommendation on appropriate measures are developed and implemented by HELCOM countries.	SE (with assistance by the Secretariat)	EG-Marine Litter	Q1 2023	Q2 2024	A recommendation has been developed on the appropriate measure

Implementation plan for action RS9 on fishing gear marking

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS9				
Action	Investigate available options for fishing gear marking as a tool to prevent and reduce gear losses and produce recommendations to improve gear marking to increase the effectiveness of this tool				
Further specification	Action to be aligned with ongoing discussions in the IMO framework.				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter " <i>No harm to marine life from litter</i> " and BSAP management objectives for marine litter " <i>Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics</i> " and " <i>Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea</i> ".				
Final outcome	Best practices compiled in a report/policy brief/guidance and shared with relevant stakeholders				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Follow up of the IMO considerations on fishing gear marking within the Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships	tbd	All Contracting Parties, WWF is willing to support this action and to share information regarding innovative gear marking system tested within the MARELITT Baltic project. Standardization process of FG under EU process may be relevant in connection with gear marking.	Q3 2023 (tbc)	Q4 2023 (tbc)	Information on IMO's work is provided to PRESSURE WG for consideration on next steps in relation to this action
2) Considerations if results from the process above need to be complemented with specific input from HELCOM countries	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Tbd based on IMO processes (tbc)	A decision has been made if complementary action from HELCOM countries is needed or not.
3) Complementary input from HELCOM countries to identify available options for fishing gear marking is gathered through and online survey.	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Q3 2024 (tbc)	Survey is launched to, if needed, complement IMO work related to the identification of available

					options for fishing gear marking.
4) Report/policy brief/guidance on available options for fishing gear marking aligned with IMO work on the matter, with a regional perspective approach.	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q3 2024] (tbc)	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Report/policy brief/guidance on available options for fishing gear marking has been drafted

Implementation plan for action RS10 on innovative constructive features of fishing gear

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	6.4.2022				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS10				
Action	Consider innovative constructive features of fishing gear as a tool to prevent and reduce gear losses and a tool to prevent and reduce lost fishing gears from ghost fishing.				
Further specification	Action to be aligned with ongoing discussions in the EU framework in relation of standardization of circular design of fishing gear in support of Directive (EU) 2019/904				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter " <i>No harm to marine life from litter</i> " and BSAP management objectives for marine litter " <i>Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics</i> " and " <i>Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea</i> ".				
Final outcome	Report on innovative constructive features of fishing gear as a tool to prevent and reduce gear losses and a tool to prevent and reduce lost fishing gears from ghost fishing drafted and shared with relevant stakeholders.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Follow up of the EU work on standardization of circular design of fishing gear in support of Directive (EU) 2019/904	tbd	All Contracting Parties, in particular EU (work due in May 2024)	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2025, (tbc)	Information on EU's work is provided to PRESSURE WG for consideration on next steps in relation to this action
2) Identification of relevant stakeholders	tbd	All CPs, Fish Group	Q2 2025 (tbc)	Q2 2025 (tbc)	Stakeholders identified
2) Workshop on innovative constructive features of fishing gear, if possible, in parallel to a Fish meeting	tbd	All CPs, Fish Group,	Q3 2025 (tbc)	Q3 2025 (tbc)	Workshop held
3) Report on innovative constructive features of fishing gear	tbd	All CPs, Fish Group	Q3 2025 (tbc)	Q4 2025 (tbc)	Report drafted

Implementation plan for action RS11 on mapping of ALDFG accumulation areas

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS11				
Action	Continue the mapping of areas with high potential for ALDFG accumulation (hot spots) in all HELCOM countries with subsequent update of the HELCOM Map&Data service.				
Further specification	This as a continuous action, since the mapping of areas with high potential for ALDFG accumulation is to be updated on a regularly basis.				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter <i>"No harm to marine life from litter"</i> and BSAP management objectives for marine litter <i>"Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics"</i> and <i>"Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea"</i> .				
Final outcome	The mapping of ALDFG accumulation areas is regularly updated in the HELCOM Map&Data service.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Finalise the mapping of areas with high potential for ALDFG accumulation in the HELCOM Map&Data service based on data from MARELITT Baltic	Secr.	WWF Poland will support this action and share data regarding ALDFG accumulation sites. A project to start mapping hot spots in SE is envisaged in the near future. DK conducted a survey on the matter and a report is available.	Q3 2023 (tbc)	Q4 2023 (tbc)	Mapping of areas with high potential for ALDFG accumulation available in the HELCOM Map&Data service
2) Discuss and agree on a process to regularly update the mapping of areas with high potential for ALDFG accumulation in the HELCOM Map&Data service	tbd	All CPs.	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2024 (tbc)	The update process is agreed upon
3) Provide metadata on Mapping of areas with high potential for ALDFG accumulation available in the HELCOM Map&Data service	tbd	All CPs and observers	Q1 2025 (tbc)	Q2 2025 (tbc)	Mapping of areas with high potential for ALDFG accumulation in the HELCOM Map&Data service is regularly updated.

Implementation plan for action RS12 on removal of ghost nets

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS12				
Action	Initiate removal of ghost nets and their safe management on land applying the best practices for ALDFG removal in national or international campaigns				
Further specification	This action is foreseen to be implemented in connection with action RS11 on mapping of ALDFG accumulation areas unless otherwise considered needed to ensure shipping is conducted safely.				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter <i>"No harm to marine life from litter"</i> and BSAP management objectives for marine litter <i>"Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics"</i> and <i>"Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea"</i> .				
Final outcome	Ghost nets are removed from identified problematic areas and safely managed on land.				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Compilation of best practices for ALDFG removal in national or international campaigns	tbd	All CPs. DE experience in these activities in cooperation with WWF Germany. SE has experiences and are starting clean up actions in 2022 which will continue for 2 more years.	Q4 2024 (tbc)	Q1 2025 (tbc)	Best practices are compiled
2) Discuss and agree upon those locations where the removal of ghost nets is needed	tbd	All CPs	Q2 2025 (tbc)	Q3 2025 (tbc)	Agreement on locations where the removal of ghost nets is needed is reached
3) Initiate removal of ghost nets and their safe management on land	tbd	All CPs	Q3 2025 (tbc)	Q3 2026 (tbc)	Removal of ghost nets and their safe management on land is conducted

Implementation plan for action RS13 on HELCOM joining the Global Ghost Gear Initiative

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS13				
Action	HELCOM to join the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) which is the world's largest cross-sectoral alliance committed to driving solutions to the problem of ALDFG worldwide.				
Further specification	-				
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter " <i>No harm to marine life from litter</i> " and BSAP management objectives for marine litter " <i>Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics</i> " and " <i>Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea</i> ".				
Final outcome	HELCOM joins the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI)				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) To investigate the requirements for HELCOM to join the GGGI	tbc	Secr.	Q3 2023 (tbc)	Q3 2023 (tbc)	The requirements for HELCOM to join the GGGI are known
2) HELCOM to join the GGGI	tbc	Secr.	Q4 2023 (tbc)	Q4 2023 (tbc)	HELCOM joins the GGGI

Implementation plan for action RS14 on reporting on lost and observed ghost fishing gear

Lead country	Germany				
Date	6.4.2022				
Contact person	Stefanie Werner				
Affiliation	Federal Environment Agency				
E-mail	Stefanie.Werner@uba.de				
Code of action	RS14				
Action	Engage fishermen (both recreational and commercial) and general public to report on lost and observed ghost fishing gear utilizing related reporting tools (e.g. Swedish example of GhostGuard app or German Geistertaucher).				
Further specification					
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter <i>"No harm to marine life from litter"</i> and BSAP management objectives for marine litter <i>"Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics"</i> and <i>"Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea"</i> .				
Final outcome	Fishermen (both recreational and commercial) and general public are informed of available reporting tools to report on lost and observed ghost fishing gear				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Compile information on all nationally available reporting tools for fishermen (both recreational and commercial) and general public to report on lost and observed ghost fishing gear	DE	All CPs, Fish Group, WWF Poland to support this action. WWF Poland is currently cooperating with WWF DE on the project regarding the Ghostdiver App, which is a tool (mainly for divers) allowing for reporting ALDFG spotted while diving. Actions at sea are planned for the end of May and workshops for divers in June, so there will be fresh experiences to at the next WS RAP ML. EU fisheries control regulation, under revision, includes reporting format requirements.	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Information on nationally available reporting tools is compiled
2) Identify relevant stakeholders	DE	All CPs, Fish Group, and Observers	Q1 2023	Q1 2023	
3) Workshop to share information on available reporting tools and encourage its wide use.	DE	All CPs, Fish Group, and Observers	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Workshop is held.

Implementation plan for action RS15 on Sustainability Education Programmes for Fishers

Lead country	To be determined				
Date	24.4.2023				
Contact person	-				
Affiliation	-				
E-mail	-				
Code of action	RS15				
Action	Consider the development of HELCOM Recommendation and guidelines on the reduction of marine litter through the implementation of Sustainability Education Programmes for Fishers taking into account results of the ongoing work on the revision of IMO STCW-F				
Further specification					
Operational targets	The action will contribute to BSAP ecological objective for marine litter <i>"No harm to marine life from litter"</i> and BSAP management objectives for marine litter <i>"Prevent generation of waste and its input to the sea, including microplastics"</i> and <i>"Significantly reduce amounts of litter on shorelines and in the sea"</i> .				
Final outcome	HELCOM Recommendation/guidelines on the reduction of marine litter through the implementation of Sustainability Education Programmes for Fishers				
Sequential task description	Responsible	Contribution from	Begin date	Due date	Milestone
1) Follow up on the status of work on the revision of IMO STCW-F in relation to marine litter	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q1 2024 (tbc)	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Information on IMO's work is provided to Sea-based pressures WG for consideration on next steps in relation to this action
2) Considerations if results from the process above need to be complemented with specific input from HELCOM countries	tbd	All Contracting Parties	Q2 2024 (tbc)	Tbd based on IMO processes (tbc)	A decision has been made if complementary action from HELCOM countries is needed or not.
3) HELCOM Recommendation/guidelines on the reduction of marine litter through the implementation of Sustainability Education Programmes for Fishers aligned with IMO work on the matter, with a regional perspective approach.	tbd	All Contracting Parties	[Q3 2024] (tbc)	[Q4 2024] (tbc)	HELCOM Recommendation/guidelines on the reduction of marine litter through the implementation of Sustainability Education Programmes for Fishers have been drafted