The Baltic Sea as a time machine for the future coastal ocean

Multi-stakeholder dialogue/capacity building partnership event
24-25 January 2019, UN HQ

Monika Stankiewicz, HELCOM Executive Secretary
Baltic Sea
Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area

- Ratified by all nine Baltic Sea coastal states and the EU
- HELCOM governing body
- Over 50 official HELCOM Observers
Signing the 1974 Helsinki Convention

Life gets better after 40
STATE OF THE BALTIC SEA
- HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT -
Integrated assessments

State of Baltic Sea pressures and biodiversity 2011–2016

**INDICATORS**

- Good
- Not good
- Not assessed

**FISH STOCKS**

- Good
- Not good
- Not assessed

The following pressures were assessed descriptively:

- Marine litter
- Underwater noise
- Seabed loss and disturbance
- Hunting of seals and waterbirds
- Pharmaceuticals
- Incidental bycatch in fishing gear

Monika Stankiewicz
Executive Secretary
Results of socio-economic analysis

From eutrophication: €3.8–4 billion
Marine & coastal recreation**: €1–2.2 billion
Fish stock & habitat degradation: €1.8–2.7 billion

Potential revenue losses per year when good environmental status is not achieved for the Baltic Sea

** Travel cost method
Source: State of the Baltic Sea report, Second HELCOM Holistic Assessment

helcom.fi
Regional level cooperation offers a platform for the coastal countries

• to do assessments jointly and to pool national resources and build expert capacities over time
• to jointly follow-up on global commitments and translate them into national level implementation
• to make a direct contribution to the work on the global level such under the Regular Process and WOA II
1. Take new action to meet the Sustainable Development Goals in the Baltic Sea
2. Strengthen the implementation of the Baltic Sea Action Plan by 2021
3. Update the Baltic Sea Action Plan

www.helcom.fi/ministerial2018
“The Baltic Sea as a time machine for the future coastal ocean” by Reusch et al., Science Advances 2018; 4: eaar8195

THANK YOU