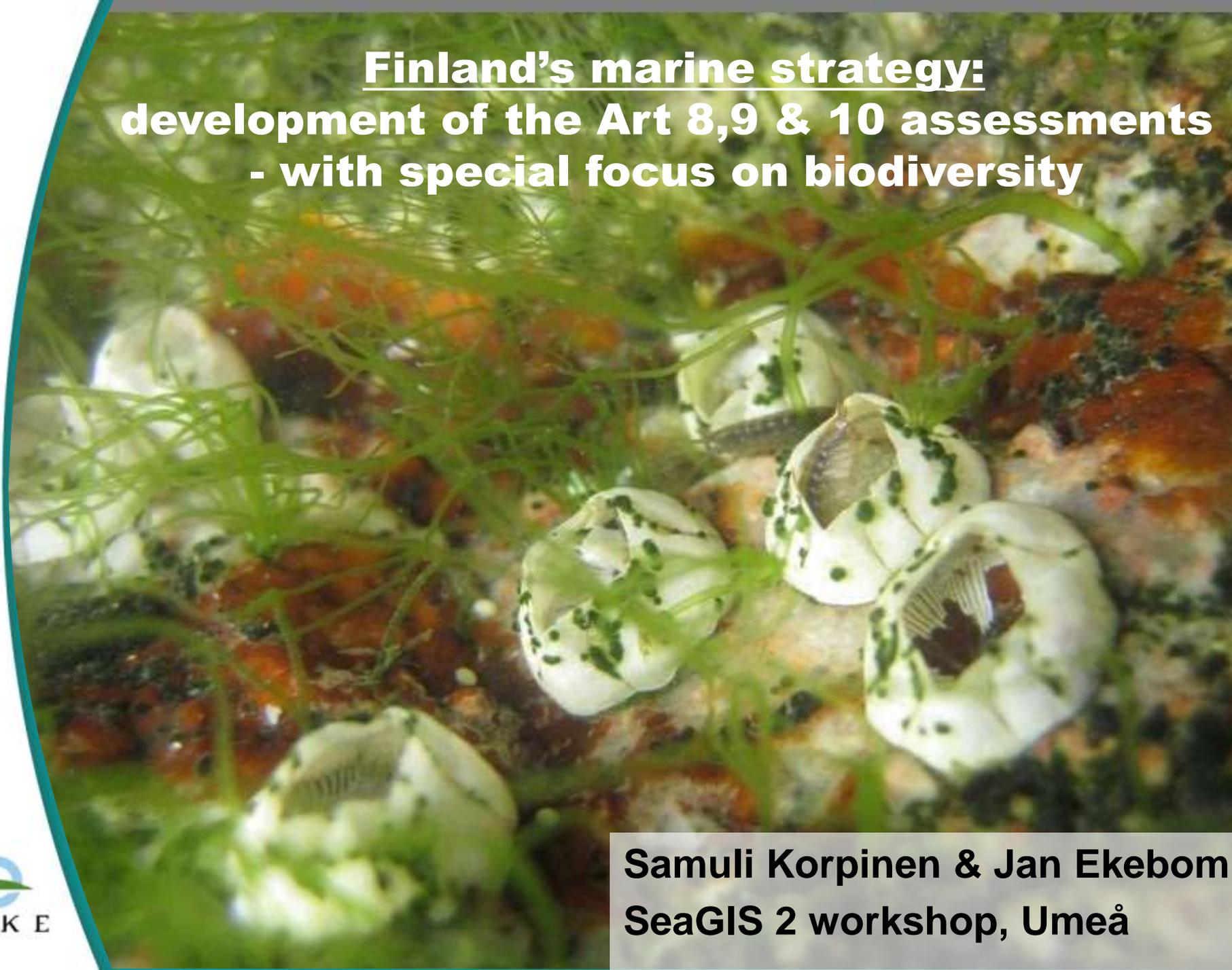


**Finland's marine strategy:
development of the Art 8,9 & 10 assessments
- with special focus on biodiversity**



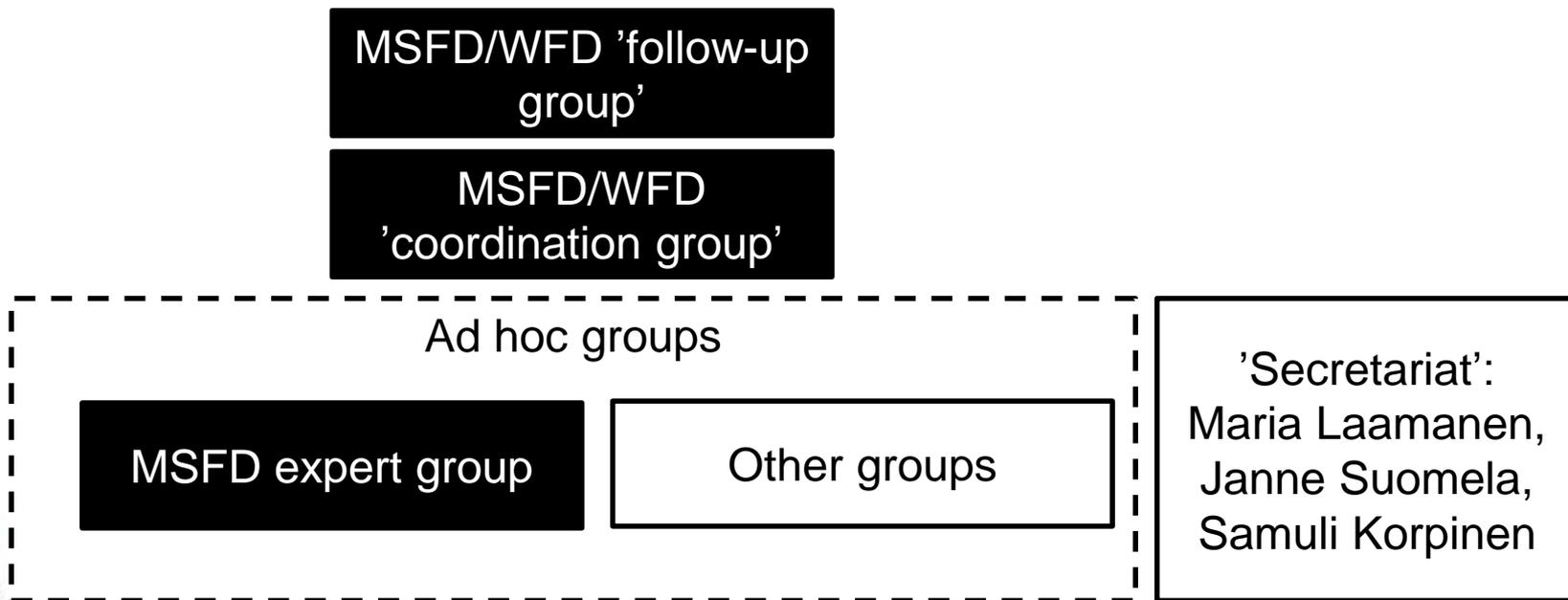
**Samuli Korpinen & Jan Ekebom
SeaGIS 2 workshop, Umeå**

Organization of the work

Ministry of Environment: competent authority

SYKE: coordinating development and assessments as well as reporting

SW regional ELY centre (VARELY): coordinating among the ELY-centres



Development of the 2018 assessment



January 2017: Structure of the assessment

March 2017: Experts selected and guidelines for writing circulated

May 2017: Coastal waters assessed by WFD parameters and Quality Elements → sent to ELY-centres for expert review; First drafts available from all descriptors and pressures.

September 2017: Complete drafts available for the 'follow-up group' to examine.

November 2017: Final drafts to be accepted; translation to Swedish; setting up online material.

January-March 2018: Public consultation.

Structure of the 2018 assessment 'State of the marine environment in Finland'

Finland aims to follow the HELCOM HOLAS II report structure to the extent possible.

Finland's MSFD monitoring programme will be another factor affecting the assessment structure

← not all monitored parameters are coordinated in HELCOM.

One report for MSFD art. 8, 9 and 10.

-Art 9: the GES is given in tabular form (?? ... not much page space),

- Art 10: the environmental targets are given a chapter.

GES determinations may be descriptive in some cases

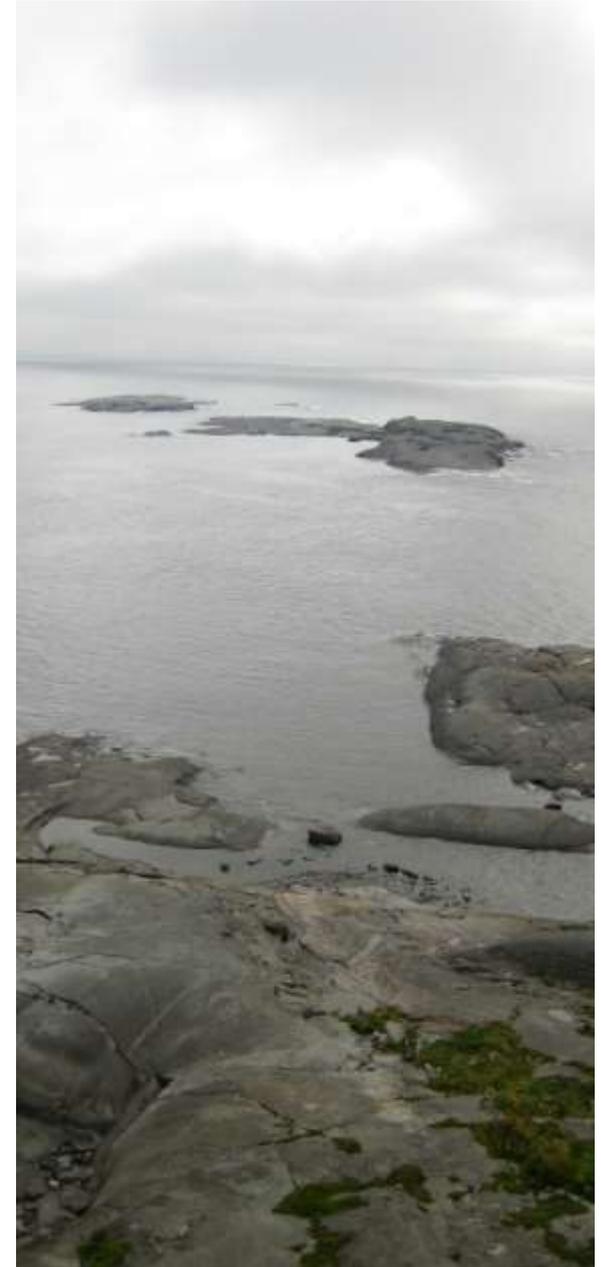
Environmental targets are 100% new (remains to be seen what will happen to the old ones... if they are left as 'more general targets').

Assessment units

Finland follows the HELCOM HOLAS II assessment units where the coastal waters are represented by the WFD water types.

The coastal waters will be assessed on the level of the WFD water bodies and this information will be retained for many of the analyses, but not reported to EU.

Finland aims to keep the number of assessment units low due to the burden of the EU reporting.



Links between the directives

This is still work in progress...

Already now the WFD and MSFD implementation are done hand in hand:

- All the groups in the organisation are combined
- Planning is made together
- SYKE builds a common data portal
- The assessment of coastal waters is made according to the MSFD schedule (earlier than for WFD), and it remains to be seen if updates for WFD are needed.

Habitats Directive species and habitats assessments are not yet harmonized.

Benthic habitats in Finland's state of the marine environment report

Benthic habitats are not well covered in the HELCOM HOLAS II report.

Finland will use the VELMU inventories to support the national report:

- there are no indicators developed but the distribution and extent will be summarized,
- quality aspects included if possible (e.g. species composition).

State of natura 2000 habitats will be included.

Red listed benthic biotopes included.



Pelagic habitats in Finland's state of the marine environment report

Finland will use the HELCOM eutrophication core indicators as proxies for the state of the pelagic habitats.

HELCOM core indicator for zooplankton will be used.

Phytoplankton will be assessed by the HELCOM candidate indicator of the changes in species community (Lehtinen et al. 2016).

Satellite-based spring-bloom indicator (Attila et al.)



Fish

in Finland's state of the marine environment report

ICES indicators (F-MSY and MSY B-trigger) will be used for commercially exploited and internationally regulated stocks.

Coastal fish indicators from HELCOM: perch, cyprinids

National indicators for *Coregonus* white fish and pikeperch.

Sea trout reproduction indicator.

Red listed fish species.





Seabirds in Finland's state of the marine environment report

Finland will use the HELCOM HOLAS II seabird indicators:

- Wintering birds
- Breeding birds

... but these are assessed in Baltic-wide scale.

National focus will be given to trends in marine breeding seabirds and changes in wintering grounds.

Red listed seabirds included.

Knowledge of bycatch in fishery, hunting statistics and mass mortalities.

Marine mammals in Finland's state of the marine environment report

The HELCOM HOLAS II seal indicators will be used.

National focus is given to temporal changes between the sub-basins.

Grey seal pup abundance in the Archipelago Sea.

Abundance of harbour porpoise is included.

Bycatch in fishing gears.

Assessment of food webs in Finland's state of the marine environment report

The food web assessment will be a compilation of different indicators.

The state of the food web will (likely) be a descriptive summary of selected indicators (which are numeric though...).



Thank you

