Baltic Sea Region
Programme 2007–2013

EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

Reinforcing cooperation. 18 transnational projects

... contributing to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

European Union

eu.baltic.net

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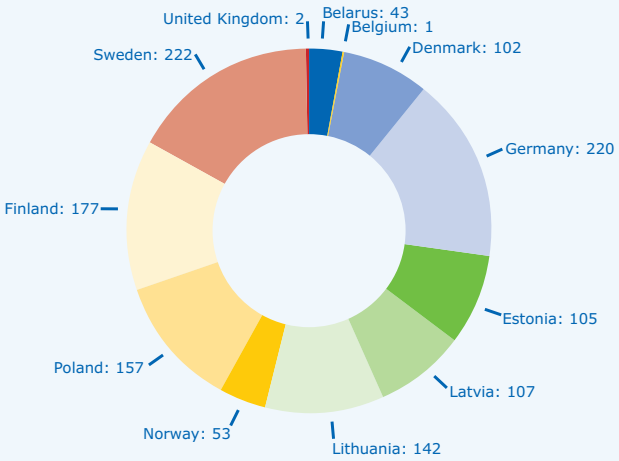
September 2012

Reinforcing cooperation

How can people of different professions and ages be better included in the innovation processes? How can the potential of the region be used for development of new technologies? How can the northern and eastern parts of the Baltic Sea region be better integrated with the southern and western parts? How can marine resources be used in a better and sustainable way? How can pollution of the Baltic Sea be prevented? How can the Baltic Sea region be branded? How can multi-level governance be used in the development of the region? These are some of the current core challenges for the development of the Baltic Sea region. These were also the core questions for projects that applied to the last two calls of the Baltic Sea Region Programme. In this issue we present 18 new Baltic Sea Region Programme projects that demonstrate ways to tackle these challenges.

The Baltic Sea Region Programme has supported the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region from the outset. The Programme and the Strategy share many important topics for transnational cooperation in the region such as, for example, prevention of pollution of the Baltic Sea, support for innovations and promotion of bioenergy. More than half of the Programme's 83 projects are flagship projects or parts of flagship projects or otherwise closely linked to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. Most of the projects presented in this issue also contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy.

The Programme has now committed all its funds – 220 million EUR for 83 projects. At the stage when the majority of Programme projects are well advanced and - to date – some already finalised, it is time to focus on project results. It is also time to intensify cooperation between the projects and to join their forces for greater effect. That is why the Programme



Number of the project partners per country
1331 partners in 83 projects

started four project clusters in the fields of energy, water quality, transport and innovations. Within the clusters partners from different Baltic Sea Region Programme projects share knowledge and experience in linking thematic fields of interest. Together partners make stakeholders aware of the project achievements and they change political agendas.

Preparation for the new Baltic Sea Region Programme for 2014-2020 is underway. Representatives of all eleven countries, including Russia and Belarus, are part of the Joint Programming Committee. The partnership with Russia is of strategic importance for the whole Baltic Sea region. The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region will play an important role also in the future Programme. In cooperation with stakeholders, the Programming Committee will decide which themes will be funded in future, what type of projects will be supported and what results they should bring. The new Programme for 2014-2020 shall be finalised in 2013 and sent for approval to the European Commission. We expect the first call for project proposals in 2014.

The Managing Authority and the Joint Technical Secretariat Team Rostock/Riga

Baltic Sea Region Programme area 2007 – 2013

The European Union's Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013 promotes regional development through transnational cooperation projects. The Programme is supporting projects fostering innovations, improving accessibility, managing environmental resources and strengthening cities and regions in the Baltic Sea region. Project partners from eleven countries Belarus, Estonia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden work together in projects. The partners mainly originate from the public sector (regional and local administrations, universities, NGO´s etc.). The total Programme funding is 222.8 million EURO from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) and from the Norwegian national funding.

QUICK-IGA

QUICK: innovative SMEs by Gender and Age

Qualified staff is the core resource for innovations in small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). The available human resources are not fully employed, in particular women and elderly people. In the Baltic Sea region, and especially in the south of the region, participation of women and seniors in the labour force is low. The employment rate of women ranges from 53% in Poland to 74% in Norway, the rate of older people from 32% in Poland to 70% in Sweden.

QUICK-IGA is a cooperation platform between universities, chambers of crafts and commerce, and education and training centres, established to boost innovation capacity of SMEs. The project will increase employment of women and seniors and level equal opportunities for women and seniors in workplace across the BSR by addressing the existing working cultures and structures.

The project will have a special focus on the countries in the south of the region. The partnership of the project will prepare training and coaching programmes for SMEs consultants. Partners will also develop action programmes for SMEs promoters, universities and academies. The training and coaching will bring more qualified consultants for gender issues, more women in leadership and seniors employed at SMEs, better regional and BSR-wide policy for gender issues in SMEs, improved work cultures and structures in SMEs in the region. Ultimately, this will increase innovation capacities in SMEs.

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

The QUICK IGA project is a part of the flagship project 12.2 "BSR QUICK" of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

Modern business concept, Photo: alphaspirit, Fotoli

Project in keywords:

- Increasing the innovation potential of SMEs
- Adjusting working and organisational structures
- Increased number of employed seniors and women

Photo: Nick Freund, Fotolia

Partnership	Universities, chambers of crafts and commerce, and education and training centres from Germany, Poland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus.
Number of partners	13
Lead partner	Hanseatic Parliament, Germany
Approximate total budget	1.6 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	1.2 million €
ENPI funding	0.1 million €
Duration	33 months (September 2011 – June 2014)
Contact person	Jürgen Hogeforster Tel.: + 49408224470 E-mail: jhogeforster@hanse-parlament.eu Jekaterina Melnikova Tel.: +494082244716 E-Mail: jmelnikova@hanse-parlament.eu

Installing electrical wiring, Photo: auremar, Fotolia

www.quick-iga.eu

TECHNET_NANO
ACCESS HIGH TECHNOLOGIES

Technet_nano

Transnational network of public clean rooms and research facilities in nanotechnology making accessible innovation resources and services to SMEs in the BSR

SMEs and R&D institutions in branches such as energy, climate or medical technology do not fully exploit their innovation and growth potentials in the field of micro- and nanotechnology. At the same time, the potential of modern public clean rooms and research facilities in micro- and nanotechnology is not fully utilised. Technet_nano will set up a transnational network of public clean rooms and research facilities in micro- and nanotechnology. This network will make innovation resources and services accessible to SMEs in the Baltic Sea region. The project will also promote the innovation potentials of micro- and nanotechnology to SMEs and R&D institutions.

The majority of the public clean rooms with small scale facilities and R&D institutions in the field of micro- and nanotechnology joined as project partners. The project will have direct access to SMEs via R&D institutions that are already familiar with contractual research for SMEs and industry.

The project is in line with the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan. It increases the use of the potential of the region in research and innovation (Priority Area 7).

Photo: Electrum Laboratory

Photo: ISIT

Photo: Ritvars-Skuja-DB

Project in keywords:

- Increasing accessibility to innovation resources in the field of nanotechnology for SMEs

Partnership	Universities, scientific centers and business development agency from Poland, Sweden, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Denmark
Number of partners	12
Lead partner	University of Southern Denmark
Approximate total budget	2.7 million €
ERDF	2.1 million €
Duration	27 months (January 2012 – March 2014)
Contact person	Horst-Günter Rubahn Tel.: +45 6550 1657 Email: rubahn@mci.sdu.dk

www.technet-nano.eu

SCIENCE LINK

Network between world-leading Cluster of large-scale Research Infrastructure of Photon and Neutron Sources and Users fostering Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Baltic Sea Region

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

SCIENCE LINK is part of the flagship project 7.5 "Setting up a Baltic Science Link" in priority area 7 "to exploit the full potential of the region in research and innovation" of the Action plan of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

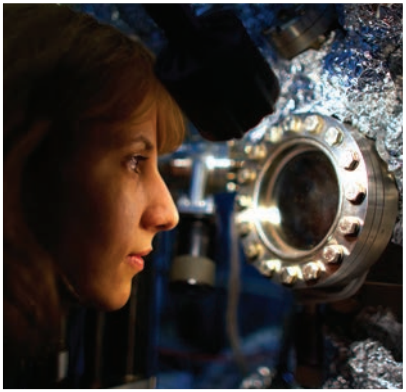
Research facilities in the Baltic Sea Region are unevenly distributed and can only be found in its western parts. The number of its users from the eastern part of the Baltic Sea region is very limited. Moreover, the commercial and industrial users in the region are rare.

The greatest deficit is the lack of information concerning the services and opportunities. These would be of potentially great value for SMEs and industrial users. In addition, the existing research facilities lack adequate support for non-scientific users.

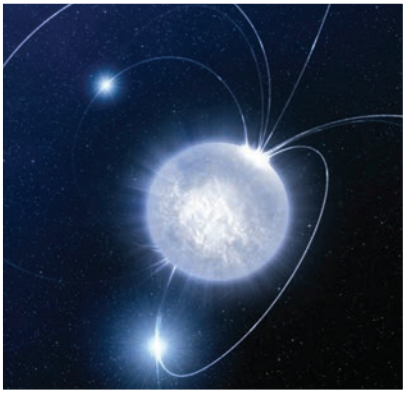
The project will inform commercial users of the potential benefits of using the available research facilities. Science Link will analyse and respond to commercial and industrial needs. It will also support new users in individually developing measurement and analytical methods according to their research and development (R&D) requirements. These informative, advisory and supporting activities to commercial users will be carried out by a network of regional contact and consultation points.

The existing research facilities, Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin für Materialien und Energie GmbH (HZB), Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht (HZG), DESY and Max IV Laboratory will offer beam time (research slots) awarded to R&D companies.

Bringing science and companies closer



A network between leading research facilities of photon and neutron sources and its users.



Innovation and entrepreneurship in the Baltic Sea Region

Project in keywords:

- Increased commercial use of research facilities.
- Exchange of knowledge between science and the industry

Partnership	Research facilities, universities, development agencies, public authorities and associations from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden.
Number of partners	17
Lead partner	DESY Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.6 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	2.8 million €
Duration	33 months (September 2011 – June 2014)
Contact person	Uwe Sassenberg Tel.: +49 40 8998 4891 Email: uwe.sassenberg@desy.de

www.science-link.eu

Green Public Procurement

Baltic GPP

Green Public Procurement (GPP) capacity building and implementation in the Baltic Sea Region

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is a tool widely recognised across Europe as having the potential to significantly contribute to a sustainable model of growth. Countries and regions can channel the huge purchasing power of the public sector worth over 2,3 Trillion EUR towards more innovative and more eco-efficient products and services.

Baltic GPP wants to overcome the insufficient use of the innovation potential of GPP. Partners will strengthen knowledge transfer and exchange on various aspects of GPP. The project will establish a wide capacity building programme on Green Public Procurement within Core Procurement Institutions (CPIs) across the Baltic Sea Region. The capacity building programme will be based on commonly applied training materials and purchasing actions of major Public Procurement Organisations in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Germany. Buying innovative & eco-efficient products and services will significantly reduce environmental pollution and build up necessary know-how.

The project will also produce a common GPP training package (train-the-trainer) as well as a collection of best practices on applying GPP. In addition, several study visits and regional events will significantly increase co-operation on GPP in the Baltic Sea region.

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

Baltic GPP contributes to the flagship project 8.4. "Make the Baltic Sea an Eco-efficient region" of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

Photo: iStockphoto/Motiva Oy

Project in keywords:

- Capacity building programme on Green Public Procurement (GPP)

Partnership	Environmental agencies, national and regional public authorities from Sweden, Finland, Germany, Denmark and Norway.
Number of partners	11
Lead partner	Swedish Environmental Management Council (SEMCo), Sweden
Approximate total budget	1.5 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	1.0 million €
Duration	21 months (January 2012 – September 2013)
Contact person	Peter Nohrstedt Tel.: +46 8 700 66 93 Email: peter@msr.se

www.balticgpp.eu

Bothnian Green Logistic Corridor

BGLC

Bothnian Green Logistic Corridor

The Bothnian Corridor and its railway infrastructure is of great importance for transnational cargo flows and passenger transport in the EU and the rest of the world.

The project will increase the integration between the northern Scandinavia and Barents region. Barents has vast natural resources and increasing industrial production. BGLC will connect these resources with the industrial chain and end markets in the Baltic Sea Region and central Europe. The project will improve planning and use of the infrastructure in the Bothnian Corridor. The partners will put into practice green corridor concepts, promote smooth inter-modal solutions and increase collaboration between society, industry, transport and logistics stakeholders.

The project will provide evaluations, guidelines and improved business models and will increase the efficiency of the logistics in the transport flows to and from the northern areas in the Baltic Sea region.

The project is in line with the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan. It improves internal and external transport links in the Baltic Sea region (Priority Area 11).

Project in keywords:

- Improved planning and utilisation of the infrastructure in the Bothnian Corridor.

Partnership	Regional authorities, cities, publicly owned ports, national authorities, universities and governmental departments from Sweden, Finland, Norway, Germany and Poland.
Number of partners	29
Lead partner	Region of Västerbotten, Sweden
Approximate total budget	4,8 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	3,4 million €
Duration	36 months (June 2011 – June 2014)
Contact person	Carina Aschan Tel.: +46 70 341 07 61 E-mail: carina.aschan@regionvasterbotten.se

www.bothniangreen.se

Baltic Bird

Improved accessibility of the Baltic Sea Region by air transport

Peripheral Baltic Sea regions have been characterised by depopulation and weak socio-economic conditions. Being aware of the interrelation between socio-economic development and accessibility, regional authorities, airports, economic development agencies and transport institutes from 8 countries, as well as 5 international airlines, have established a trans-national partnership to work on efficient, effective and viable air transport connections for peripheral regions.

The partnership aims at establishing new flight connections to peripheral areas by a trans-nationally developed and applied specific set of instruments, such as: Passenger Market Potential Analysis, Airport Marketing Concept, Public Service Obligations Manual and Tourism Destination Development Check List. Those instruments will be jointly developed and implemented during the project.

The project will also analyse how to reduce extensive detour flights via Oslo and Stockholm to the benefit of less fuel consuming direct flights. The direct flights will connect locations in the northern part of Norway, Sweden and Finland and reduce CO2 footprint. Partners will also work for better interconnectivity to reduce individual transport share: combining airside transportation with innovative individual public transport services to/from airports.

Furthermore, the Baltic Bird will cooperate with similar projects within the Baltic Sea region and outside its borders. This cooperation will result in a joint policy framework paper with ideas for improving the EU regional policy for peripheral regions.

The project is in line with the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan. It improves internal and external transport links in the Baltic Sea region (Priority Area 11).

Project in keywords:

- Improving airside accessibility for peripheral regions

Partnership	Regional authorities, airports, economic development agencies, transport institutes, international airlines from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Norway, Sweden.
Number of partners	21
Lead partner	Ministry of Economics and European Affairs of the Region Brandenburg, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.9 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	2.2 million €
Duration	36 months (June 2011 – June 2014)
Contact person	Holger Schandert Tel.: + 49 331 866 1521 Email: holger.schandert@mwe.brandenburg.de

ACL
Amber Coast Logistics

Cargo volumes between the European Union and its eastern neighbours have been growing fast. Even though the number of freight villages on land and ports along the southern shore of the Baltic Sea is rising, coordination and communication between the individual players in the region could be improved. Remote areas, especially in border regions, are often insufficiently connected to cargo routes. This brings disadvantages for the local economy and limits the quality of life of the inhabitants.

The Amber Coast Logistics project supports the coordinated development of multimodal logistics centres. Dividing transportation into separate sections that are connected via logistics centres is a general trend in today's supply chain management. This approach allows better connections from rural areas to multi-modal freight routes and major transport nodes.

ACL brings together actors in the transport sector in order to trigger interaction, knowledge transfer and mutual understanding. The project partners will launch a multimodal transport action programme. The aim of this programme is to support the introduction of multimodality in the Amber Coast regions: e.g. transportation by road-rail-ferry-rail-road from Germany/Denmark via the Baltic States/ Kaliningrad to Russia/Belarus. The project will invest in both hardware and software for the electronic data interchange. Partners from Belarus, Germany and Poland will test how this information infrastructure can improve the transportation of goods at the borders between the European Union and its neighbouring countries.

The project is in line with the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan. It improves internal and external transport links in the Baltic Sea region (Priority Area 11).

Amber coast

Ferry terminal, Sassnitz

Port of Ventspils

Project in keywords:

- Better connected logistics centres and harmonised information flows
- Improved cargo flows and strengthened economic ties between emerging eastern European countries

Partnership	Representatives of ports, logistic locations, public authorities, research institutions and international associations from Belarus, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.
Number of partners	20
Lead partner	Port of Hamburg Marketing, Germany
Approximate total budget	2,8 million €
ERDF funding	1.9 million €
ENPI funding	0.3 million €
Duration	30 months (September 2011 – March 2013)
Contact person	Marina Rimpo Tel.: +49 40 377 0911 Email: rimpo@hafen-hamburg.de

www.ambercoastlogistics.eu

BALTRAD+

An advanced weather radar network for the Baltic Sea Region

The weather knows no administrative borders and therefore processing of the meteorological data needs transnational efforts.

BALTRAD+ is a continuation of the project BALTRAD. BALTRAD created a model for the world's most advanced international weather radar network for exchange of meteorological data in real time. The BALTRAD+ project will transform the developed prototype into a permanent operational element of the national weather systems. The BALTRAD model will be integrated into the official production chains of the meteorological services in the whole Baltic Sea region. Project partners will make several transnational investments in IT infrastructure.

BALTRAD started to produce applications that meet the specific requirements of end users on national, regional and local level. BALTRAD+ will improve provision of high-quality radar-based custom information to numerous end users. This information is necessary in road and railway control/protection, aviation, risk management and civil protection, energy production, radiation safety, flood forecasting, surface water management, agriculture and much more.

Photo: dreamstime.com

Project in keywords:

- International weather radar network for meteorological real time data exchange

Partnership	Meteorological, hydrological institutes and end-users from Poland, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Belarus, Estonia, Denmark and Norway.
Number of partners	13
Lead partner	Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI), Sweden
Approximate total budget	1.9 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	1.4 million €
Duration	27 months (October 2011 – January 2014)
Contact person	Daniel Michelson Tel.: +46 11 495 8416 Email: daniel.michelson@smhi.se

www.baltrad.eu

PRESTO

Project on reduction of the eutrophication of the Baltic Sea today

Eutrophication is the main environmental problem of the Baltic Sea and is caused by overload of nutrients to the sea, mainly from the land. One of the fastest and most cost-efficient methods to reduce the nutrient load is to improve the municipal wastewater treatment processes in the Baltic Sea watershed.

The PRESTO project combats eutrophication by improving wastewater treatment with technical studies and concrete investments as well as by increasing human competence. It implements the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan's Eutrophication Segment and its Recommendation 28E/5 on municipal wastewater treatment. The project is based on the findings of the PURE project. Partners in PRESTO focus on waste water treatment plants (WWTP) in Belarus. The project is led by the Union of the Baltic Cities Commission on Environment.

PRESTO includes two elements: capacity building of the staff working at WWTPs and pilot investments in the Belarusian towns of Baranovichi, Grodno, Molodechno and Vitebsk. These activities will reduce the annual phosphorous load to the Baltic Sea by at least 500 tons. This will also have a positive effect on the water quality of the two transboundary rivers Daugava and Neman. Belarusian WWT specialists will increase their skills in operating and designing advanced WWT systems. The investments in the four Belarusian WWTPs will contain equipment needed for enhanced nutrient removal. Most of these technologies are currently not used in Belarus.

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

The project is a flagship project 1.2.2 of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan, Priority Area 1 "To reduce nutrient inputs to the sea to acceptable levels".

Project in keywords:

- Decreasing transboundary nutrient load to the Baltic sea
- Treating municipal waste waters in Belarus
- Reduction of the eutrophication of the Baltic Sea

St.Petersburg wastewater treatment plant, Technological Forum 24 May 2012 (Photo Agnieszka Ilola)

Partnership	Local authorities, NGOs, universities and waste water treatment plants from Belarus, Finland, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania.
Number of partners	12
Lead partner	Union of the Baltic Cities Commission on Environment, Finland
Approximate total budget	4.6 million €
ERDF funding	1.1 million €
ENPI funding	2.8 million €
Duration	30 months (September 2011 – March 2014)
Contact person	Pekka Salminen Tel.: +358 44 9075 999 Email: pekka.salminen@ubc.net

www.prestobalticsea.eu

AQUABEST

AQUABEST

Innovative practices and technologies for developing sustainable aquaculture in the Baltic Sea region

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

AQUABEST is part of a flagship to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. It is an extension of the flagship project 9.5. BESTAQ "Encourage sustainable aquaculture production methods".

The growing demand for wild fish stock products cannot be met. Aquaculture has been one of the fastest growing food production sectors globally during the last two decades. Yet, contrary to the global trend, aquaculture production in the Baltic Sea region has stagnated. It is widely accepted that aquaculture has great potential to feed growing human population in the era of declining wild stocks ("Blue Revolution"), but new production has to be built on sustainable practices and technologies.

Today's aquaculture relies upon nutrients imported from oceans – thus it contributes to eutrophication of the Baltic Sea. Aquaculture can be nutrient neutral if oceanic feed ingredients and plant products harvested at other continents are replaced with regional feed ingredients.

Spatial planning knowledge enabling offshore and remote area aquaculture with less environmental effects, competition and conflicts is not well applied throughout the Baltic Sea Region. The project will develop spatial planning guidelines and demonstrate how they can help to create sustainable aquaculture.

Farming technologies using recirculating water, which is mainly used for fresh water aquaculture, will be adapted to brackish Baltic Sea conditions. Water recirculation helps to reduce nutrient release to the sea.

Current licensing systems for aquaculture farms need to be overhauled to allow for easier and more cost efficient installations of aquaculture farm. The project will provide recommendations for more efficient and up to date licensing.

Photos: Mika Remes

Project in keywords:

- Sustainable use of aquaculture in the Baltic Sea

Partnership	Research institutes, universities, development agencies, public authorities and associations from Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Finland, Latvia, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	14
Lead partner	Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute, Finland
Approximate total budget	3.7 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	2.7 million €
ENPI funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (June 2011 – July 2014)
Contact person	Jouni Vielma Tel.: +358 205 751522 Email: jouni.vielma@rktl.fi

www.aquabestproject.eu

AQUAFIMA

AQUAFIMA

Integrating Aquaculture and Fisheries Management towards a sustainable regional development in the Baltic Sea Region

The fishery sector is an integral part of the Baltic Sea coastal regions and their economies. Unfortunately, not all fish stocks are fished within natural limits. Certain commercially important species are severely overfished and outside safe biological limits. Existing national and EU fisheries management policies are not effective enough to rebuild or even maintain a balanced stock situation. Alternative measures such as stocking of young fish are under discussion or in the trial stage. However, a multilateral review and transnational cooperation on aquaculture in the BSR has yet to be established.

EU aquaculture output represents approximately 20.3% of the total EU fisheries production and 2.6% of world aquaculture production (2007). Therefore aquaculture offers attractive regional development opportunities in the BSR, especially in regions affected by the decline of capture fishing.

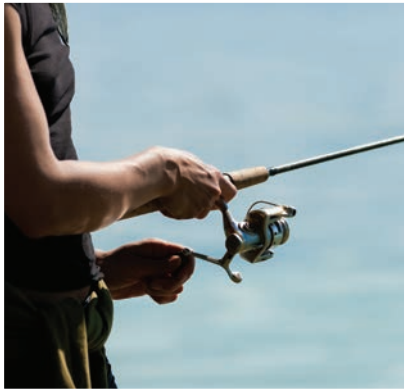
The overall objective of AQUAFIMA is to integrate aquaculture and fisheries management. The project will review current national and EU fishery policies. The reform of the Common Fishery Policy will be discussed with the stakeholders. In addition, the project will evaluate and assess suitable stocking as well as restocking measures for different fish species and will disclose the potential of the fishery management in the BSR that is based on the aquaculture. In the four transnational case studies partners will estimate the feasibility of new management options.

AQUAFIMA will build on existing resources of fish and aquaculture for economic and tourism development. Labour force skills and professional education in the field of aquaculture management will be enhanced. In addition, the acceptance for farmed fish and aquaculture will be promoted among the population in the Baltic Sea region.

The project is in line with the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan. It contributes to the sustainability of aquaculture and fisheries (Priority Area 9).

Case study area Vistula Lagoon, Photo: skyphoto, Fotolia

Fisher nets, Photo: Fotolia



Recreational fishing, Photo: Kzenon, Fotolia

Project in keywords:

- Promoting sustainable aquaculture and fisheries management.

Partnership	Research institutes, universities, development agencies, public authorities and associations from Estonia, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Poland.
Number of partners	12
Lead partner	State Development Cooperation Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.5 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	1.9 million €
Duration	36 months (June 2011 – July 2014)
Contact person	Volker Bruns Tel.: +49 3866 404 120 Email: volker.bruns@lgmv.de

www.aquafima.eu

CHEMSEA

Chemical Munitions Search & Assessment

Chemical munitions, though produced in mass during World War II, were never used in battle. Around 50,000 tons of chemical warfare agents were sank in the Baltic Sea after the war. They are corroding and leaking, but the extent of this phenomenon has not been measured so far. Many activities take place within the contaminated areas as information about risks is insufficiently spread.

CHEMSEA is a cooperation of leading scientific institutes, environmental agencies and maritime decision makers, established to assess and minimise the risks related to sea-bottom activities near the dumping sites of the chemical munitions. Partners will collect information on location and environmental effects, and optimize the methods for detection and analysis of sunken munitions.

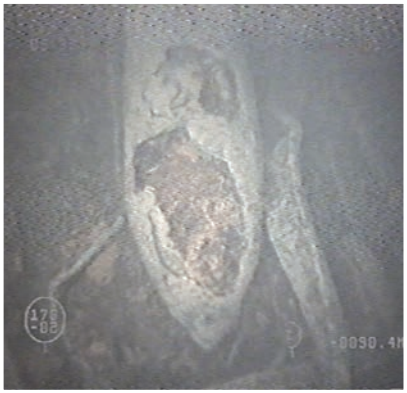
The project will prepare maps of polluted areas and leakage models. They will help maritime administrations to assess the environmental effects as well as the human health hazard in selected offshore areas in case of an accident.

CHEMSEA will produce guidelines on how to deal with polluted sediments and propose safety measures for accidentally or deliberately fished munitions. Partners will recommend establishing special areas, where pollution caused by the chemical warfare agents represents a real threat.

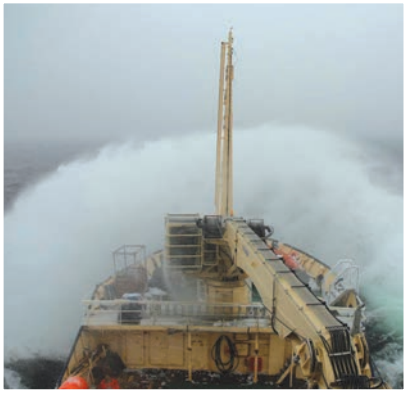
Results obtained in the project will be passed to HELCOM and, further, to local coastal and maritime authorities.

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

CHEMSEA is the flagship project in the Priority Area 3 of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region 3.2 "Assess the need to clean up chemical weapons".

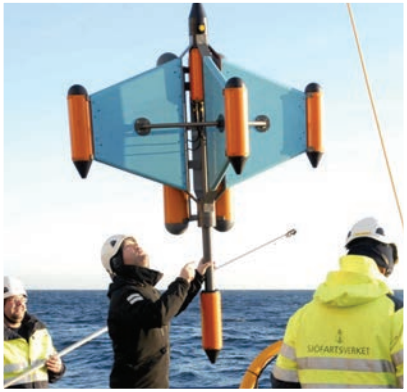


Chemical munition discarded on the sea floor showing evidence of corrosion



Research vessel Baltica of the Swedish Maritime Administration

In situ toxicology tests using caged mussels



Use of the gradiometer for dumping site environmental characteristics analysis

Project in keywords:

- Minimising accident and pollution risks caused by chemical munitions

Partnership	Research organisations, environmental agencies and maritime administrations from Poland, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Lithuania.
Number of partners	11
Lead partner	Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland
Approximate total budget	4.6 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	3.6 million €
Duration	36 months (June 2011 – June 2014)
Contact person	Jacek Bełdowski Tel.: +48 587311 737 Email: hyron@iopan.gda.pl

www.chemsea.eu

Bioenergy Promotion

Bioenergy Promotion 2

From strategies to activities

Bioenergy Promotion 2 is an extension stage of the strategic project financed by the Programme from 2008 to 2012. 13 partners received two additional years for policy development, demonstration and transfer of activities strengthening the final results. This way Bioenergy Promotion 2 will support the regions in reaching the EU's target for renewable energy of 20% by 2020.

The partnership is dedicated to assist 7 demo regions in implementing their bioenergy strategies developed in the main stage. For instance, the participating Skaraborg region will deal with the production of biogas from agricultural residues and sewage sludge. In turn, the solution of the Rotenburg demo-area will serve as an example of how existing data from traditional forest inventory and planning can be linked with additional biomass-related inputs. This will be used for a coordinated regional approach in biomass assessment, prediction and reliable supply.

The consortium will establish links to public and private utility companies to validate and test the sustainability criteria agreed in the earlier phase. Outcomes of both implementation periods will be fed into the work of Baltic 21, BASREC, Baltic Development Forum and authorities responsible for the management of structural fund programmes from 2014 to 2020.

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

Bioenergy Promotion 2 is a continuation of a flagship project of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region 10.3. "Strengthening sustainable use of bioenergy in the Baltic Sea Region".

Flames in a biofuel boiler, Photo: Juha Rautanen, Motiva

Project in keywords:

- Implementing bioenergy strategies in the regions

Partnership	Energy agencies, research institutions, regions from Denmark, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Sweden.
Number of partners	15
Lead partner	Agency for Renewable Resources, Germany
Approximate total budget	1.5 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	1.1 million €
Duration	30 months (October 2011 – April 2014)
Contact person	Aino Martikainen Tel.: +49 (0)38430 166 Email: a.martikainen@fnr.de

Harvesting wood biomass, Photo: Juha Rautanen, Motiva

www.bioenergypromotion.net

BSR TransGovernance
Multi-level governance to better align transport policies

BSR TransGovernance

Multi-level governance support to the implementation of Priority Area 11 in the EU Baltic Sea Strategy

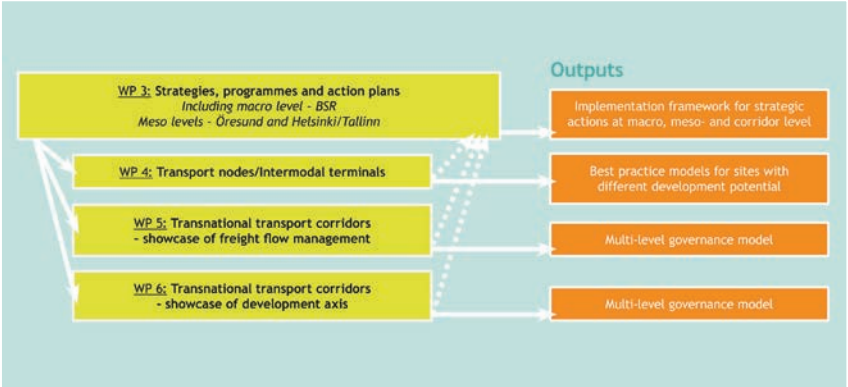
The Priority Area 11 of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region intends to 'improve internal and external transport links' and builds on experience of past cooperation at the macroregional, mesoregional (cross-border) and transport corridor level. It has resulted in a number of stakeholder platforms, meetings and calls for coordination of national transport policies and actions to ensure a harmonised transnational development of the transport system. In spite of an advanced level of transport coordination and complementarity specific, shortcomings remain.

The project's objective is to demonstrate how multi-level governance (MLG) models, tools and approaches can contribute to a better alignment of transport policies in the Baltic Sea region at various administrative levels. Partners will analyse how MLG can help to better incorporate the business perspective into the Baltic transport sector - this will increase commitment of public and private stakeholders to achieve both greener and more efficient transport.

The project will place particular focus on developing and testing joint planning and implementation frameworks for transport policies at:

1. Macro level – related to the overall Baltic Sea area, including Norway, North West Russia and Belarus,
2. Meso level - cross-border integration areas (improving the durability of joint strategic transport processes in the Öresund region and Helsinki-Tallinn area),
3. Corridor level - better freight management in transnational transport connecting EU with non-EU countries and supporting the transformation of a multimodal transport corridor from Scandinavia to the Adriatic Sea into a regional development axis and
4. Micro level – development of models for the planning and operation of intermodal terminals.

BSR Transgovernance is in line with the horizontal action of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan: "Strengthening multi-level governance, place-based spatial planning and sustainable development". It contributes to the Priority Area 11 "To improve internal and external transport links".



Project in keywords:

- Alignment of the transport policies and activities

Areas investigated in the project: corridors, terminals, nodes and meso regions.

Partnership	Regional and local authorities, national transport agencies, transport operators, business development organisations and academic institutions from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden.
Number of partners	22
Lead partner	Region Blekinge, Sweden
Approximate total budget	1.6 million €
ERDF funding	1.3 million €
Duration	30 months (June 2012 – December 2014)
Contact person	Mats Johansson Tel.: +46 70867 1300 Email: mats.johansson@regionblekinge.se

PartiSEApate

Multi-level Governance in Maritime Spatial Planning throughout the Baltic Sea Region

PartiSEApate is part of the horizontal action of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region "Encourage the use of Maritime Spatial Planning in all Member States around the Baltic Sea and develop a common approach for cross-border cooperation." The project is also contributing to the horizontal action of "Strengthening multi-level governance, place-based spatial planning and sustainable development".

The maritime economy is one of the fastest growing sectors throughout Europe. Demand for the maritime space increases together with the need for a viable marine environment. Therefore, the Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) has developed into the widely recognised tool that coordinates spatial use and balances interests in the sea space. Planners have to consider the whole Baltic Sea as one ecosystem and one planning space with transnational structures (i.e. nature protection areas, grid connections, shipping lanes). The one space has to be planned at the pan-Baltic level.

The ambition of the project is to develop a pan-Baltic approach to the topics where spatial dimension crosses the national borders. Partners will develop a concept for a MSP institutional framework and governance model which shall provide input to policy decisions taken at the VASAB (Vision and Strategies around the Baltic) ministerial conference. The bodies responsible and drafting MSP throughout the region will test and develop instruments and models where the multi-level governance mechanisms can be realised in MSP. The project will have three pilot case areas: Pomeranian Bight (SE, DE, PL), Lithuanian Sea (LT, LV, SE, RU) and Middle Bank (SE, PL). In addition, partners will engage national bodies, sectors & researchers in dialogue on a pan-Baltic level. Through participation in workshops these groups will better understand what MSP means to them and the transnational nature of their topic. Project partners will also prepare a practical guidance for planners on how the multi-level MSP consultation processes shall be carried out in the future throughout the region and as well as a system for data exchange.

Photo: iStock

Project in keywords:

- Maritime Spatial Planning

Photo: iStock

Partnership	Maritime institutes, international organisation, scientific organisations, regional authorities from Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden and Germany.
Number of partners	10
Lead partner	Maritime Institute Gdansk
Approximate total budget	0.9 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	0.7 million €
Duration	30 months (June 2012 – December 2014)
Contact person	Joanna Przedrzymirska Tel.: +48 58 3019339 E-mail: joaprz@im.gda.pl

Photo: Dace Strigune, BEF LV

ONE BSR

Baltic Metropolises Accelerating Branding and Identity Building of the Baltic Sea Region

ONE BSR will implement the horizontal action of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Action Plan "Build a regional identity".

The Baltic Sea Region does not have a shared identity or a joint image that can be easily recognised by outsiders or locals. Marketing of the region is not structured.

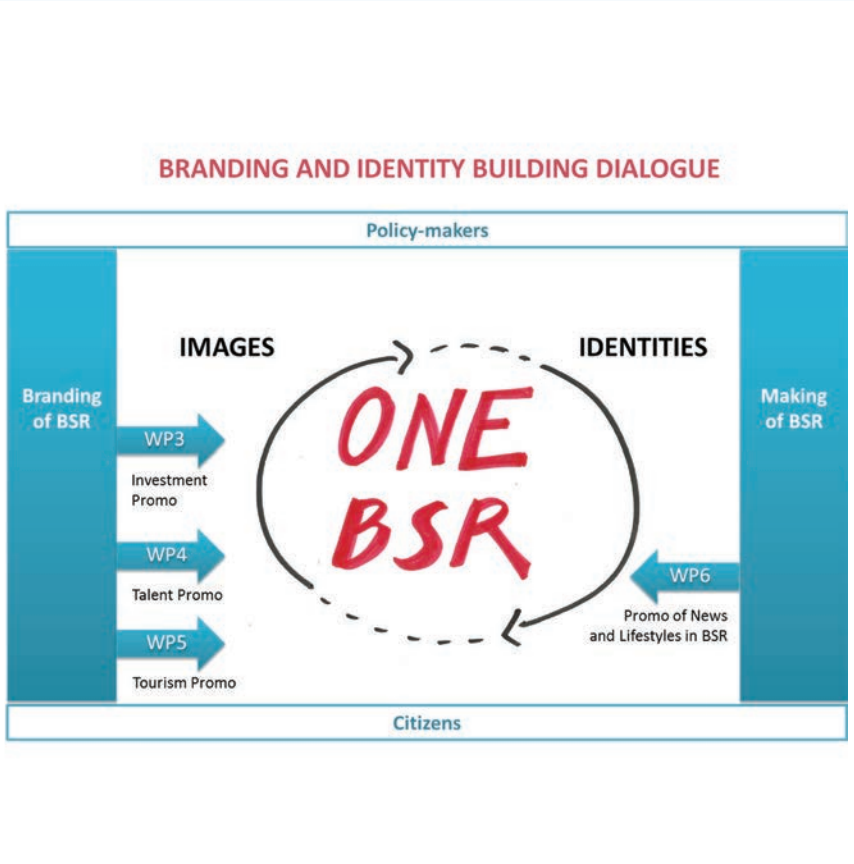
ONE BSR is an umbrella project bringing actors together who market themselves as part of the Baltic Sea region. In the absence of a strong common brand, the project aims at drawing attention to selected commercial and cultural characteristics as the "elements of the Baltic Sea Region image" to attract tourists, investors and skills. The project will work on the branding of the Baltic Sea region both outside and inside the region.

Partners promote the region in the international tourism markets and increase the efforts to retain skills in the region. A new initiative "Baltic Sea Region Investment Agencies" will help actors dealing with the promotion of investments.

ONE BSR will use web and social media to involve the young people in the region. A NewsWave communication platform and a network of talented young news-spotters from all 10 states of the region will be created. News-spotters will select interesting news from their national and local media and share them in English.

Project will prepare the demand and supply studies for the Baltic Sea region tourism products and services in the USA market. A strategic concept for the promotion of the region in the USA will follow. For the Japanese market, the project will design and deliver joint tourism products and services.

All these products will be used by investment and tourism offices, carriers, suppliers of tourism products, talent businesses, policy makers and the citizens.



Project in keywords:

- Baltic Sea region more attractive for business, tourists and talents
- Locals more interested in the Baltic Sea region

Partnership	Cities, national and regional development companies, universities, and international organisations from Finland, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Poland and Sweden.
Number of partners	17
Lead partner	City of Helsinki, Finland
Approximate total budget	3 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	2.3 million €
Duration	30 months (June 2012 – December 2014)
Contact person	Riikka Lahdensuo Tel.: +358 9 310 36044 Email: riikka.lahdensuo@hel.fi

PrimCare IT

Counteracting brain drain and professional isolation of health professionals in remote primary health care through tele-consultation and tele-mentoring to strengthen social conditions in remote BSR

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

PrimCare IT is the flagship project of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region in the area 12.14 "to maintain and reinforce attractiveness of the Baltic Sea Region in particular through education and youth, tourism, culture and health".

The Baltic Sea region is confronted with an ageing population. This leads to a rising demand for primary health care (PHC) services. Moreover, an increasing lack of health workers and medical doctors is a challenge to the health care services. The brain drain of health professionals is affecting particularly remote areas. There is evidence that professional isolation is the leading cause for the brain drain.

PrimCare IT will raise the attractiveness of remote primary health care for medical professionals by means of tele-consultation and tele-mentoring. The project counteracts brain drain and professional isolation in sparsely populated areas and secures more equal access to primary health care.

A better deployment of tele-consultation and tele-mentoring has strong potential to reduce professional isolation and to provide opportunities for professional networking, continuing medical education and career development for younger and experienced doctors and health workers in remote areas.

The partners will analyse existing barriers for large scale deployment of tele-consultation and tele-mentoring such as technology acceptance, work flows, daily routines or legal uncertainties. Partners will investigate strategic opportunities for better use of tele-health. They will jointly develop and implement tele-consultation and tele-mentoring solutions between health workers, general practitioners and medical specialists in pilot sites in Finland, Sweden, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia and Belarus and prepare for the large scale implementation.

Photo: fredredhat, Fotolia

Photo: nui7711, Fotolia

Photo: Gina Sanders, Fotolia

Project in keywords:

- Raising attractiveness of remote primary health care for medical professionals by the means of tele-consultation and tele-mentoring

Partnership	Health workers, medical doctors associations, hospitals, planning and financing authorities, regional development administrations and eHealth research organisations from Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden.
Number of partners	16
Lead partner	South Ostrobothnia Health Care District
Approximate total budget	2.5 million €
ERDF+ENPI funding	2.0 million €
Duration	33 months (September 2011 – June 2014)
Contact person	Sami Perälä Tel.: + 358 44 33 222 70 Email: sami.perala@eptek.fi

www.primcareit.net

BALTIC LANDSCAPE

Baltic Landscape

Baltic Landscape in change – innovative approaches towards sustainable forested landscapes

Forests in the Baltic Sea Region are either dominating the landscape (like in Finland, Norway, Russia or Sweden) or are an important part (in Poland, Belarus, Estonia and Latvia). These landscapes are facing new challenges caused by globalisation, climate change, demands of both more intensive use of natural resources and enhanced protection, international conventions and recreation development. These new challenges override local communities and institutions, forcing them into conflicts, temporary solutions and unsustainable practices.

By using the Model Forest approach, the Baltic Landscape project will develop and demonstrate new solutions functioning on the ground. New challenges in the forested landscapes can be faced by supporting transnational, cross-sectoral cooperation and empowering local societies in the Baltic Sea Region to sustainable governance.

The project will establish new and strengthen the existing forest landscape sites (the Baltic Landscape network) in Belarus, Finland, Poland and Sweden. The partners will analyse main problems, develop innovative approaches to integrated planning and management and apply sustainable solutions. These good governance practices, tested in the project, will help to balance economic and social interests in governance and management of natural resources. Special attention will be paid to the application of the European Landscape Convention and the Water Framework Directive in local and regional strategies. The governance techniques will be based on partnership and cooperation of interested stakeholders. Partners will incorporate and balance local needs and national constraints. The project will also cooperate with the existing Model Forests in Northwest Russia and the International Model Forest Network.

CONTRIBUTING TO A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE STRATEGY

The project is a part of the flagship project of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region 9.7. "Sustainable forest management in the Baltic Sea Region - EFINORD".

The sites in Baltic Landscape

The sites in Baltic Landscape

Vilhelmina Model Forest information center in the Vilhelmina old church village, Photo: Maria Högvall Nordin

Project in keywords:

- Supporting sustainable governance of forest landscapes through partnership and cooperation

Partnership	National, regional and local authorities responsible for forest management, universities and foundations from Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Norway, Poland and Sweden.
Number of partners	14
Lead partner	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden
Approximate total budget	3.3 million €
ERDF+Norway funding	2.1 million €
ENPI funding	0.5 million €
Duration	27 months (December 2011 – March 2014)
Contact person	Gun Lidestav Tel.: +46 90 786 83 91 Email: gun.lidestav@slu.se

www.baltic-landscape.net

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