## Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013









# Power of cooperation. 46 transnational projects

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

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# Power of cooperation. 46 transnational projects

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

June 2010



Susanne Scherrer Director of the Joint Technical Secretariat Rostock/Riga Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013

The Baltic Sea Region Programme and the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region – strengthening transnational cooperation The Baltic Sea region has become more prominent on the European map during the past two years. The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region was adopted by the European Council in October 2009. The Strategy is rated as the first macro-regional policy concept in the European Union. All eight EU member states in the area signed up to its successful practical implementation. The main aim of the Strategy is to coordinate existing efforts in order to improve the environmental conditions of the Baltic Sea, as well as to stimulate growth and balanced development of the overall Baltic Sea Region.

Many challenges listed in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region are addressed by the 46 projects part-financed by the European Union's Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013. Implemented in full speed by almost 800 partners from all over the Baltic Sea, projects generate results that will help make the Baltic Sea Region an innovative, clean, well connected and attractive place for its citizens.

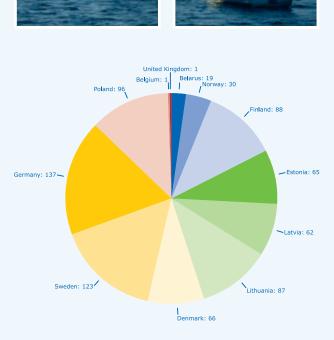
In this edition, you will find a fresh description of the first tranche of transnational cooperation projects co-financed by the Baltic Sea Region Programme, and how they contribute to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The leaders of the 46 cooperation projects are jointly addressing problems of common concern: How to create innovation and quality jobs – also in remote areas with aging population? How to make the area accessible keeping in mind the long

#### distances? How to fight pollution of the Baltic Sea but also create new businesses around it? Climate change - can something be done at regional level? How shall we cover our energy supply in 2020?

Public authorities are responsible for setting the legal and institutional framework for development, and to allocate public resources to the measures agreed. Public authorities must be fit to act at transnational level. Thus they are the main target group and the main beneficiaries of transnational cooperation. The private sector has become an important partner when planning future investments. Keeping in mind the diversity of economic and social development, of traditions and culture in the Baltic Sea region, this renewable spirit of joining forces is encouraging.

The year 2010 also brought discussions about the future of the cohesion policy beyond 2013. Which role will macro-regional concepts play in the future? What would that mean for the Baltic Sea region and for the European Union as a whole? "The power of the Baltic Sea macro-region" is the motto of the Baltic Sea Region Programme for the coming years. By combining efforts of project leaders, of the many pan-Baltic organisations, research institutions, non-governmental organisations, public authorities and the business sector in implementing the Strategy, we will prove that the Baltic Sea region is an outstanding example for other regions in Europe.





Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007–2013 1st + 2nd call: Number of Project Partners per country



The European Union's Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013 promotes regional development through transnational cooperation by funding 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 – are working together in transnational projects. The partners mainly originate from the public sector (regional and local administrations, universities, NGOs etc.). The total Programme funding is 236 million Euro from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), and from Norwegian national funding. The European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument finances Belarusian partners.

Projects of the Baltic Sea Region Programme contributing to the 4 pillars and the 15 priority areas of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Region An Er	e Baltic Sea avironmentally able Place	II To Make Th Region A F Pla	Prosperous		ne Baltic Sea ccessible And ve Place	IV To Make Th Region A Secure	Safe And
<ol> <li>To reduce nutrient inputs to the sea to acceptable levels</li> <li>To preserve natural zones and biodiversity, ncluding fisheries</li> <li>To reduce the use and impact of hazardous substances</li> <li>To become a model region for clean shipping</li> <li>To mitigate and adapt to climate change</li> </ol>	WATERPRAXIS Baltic COMPASS PURE	<ul> <li>6. To remove hindrances to the internal market in the Baltic Sea Region including to improve cooperation in the customs and tax area</li> <li>7. To exploit the full potential of the region in research and innovation</li> <li>8. Implementing the Small Business Act: to promote entrepreneurship, strengthen SMEs and increase the efficient use of human resources</li> <li>9. To reinforce sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries</li> </ul>	BSR_CBP FM Baltfood BONITA BSRInnoReg IBI Net JOSEFIN BASIC BalticSupply SPIN Egoprise	<ul> <li>10. To improve the access to, and the efficiency and security of the energy markets</li> <li>11. To improve internal and external transport links</li> <li>12. To maintain and reinforce attractiveness of the Baltic Sea Region in particular through education, tourism and health</li> </ul>	REMOWE Baltic Biogas Bus Bioenergy Promotion SCANDRIA TransBaltic EWTC II BSR Quick ICT for Health Best Agers Parks & Benefits Trans in Form AGORA 2.0 ImPrim	<ul> <li>13. To become a leading region in maritime safety and security</li> <li>14. To reinforce protection from major emergencies at sea and on land</li> <li>15. To decrease the volume of, and harm done by, cross border crime</li> </ul>	EfficienSea

Horizontal Action of the Strategy "Building a regional identity" Marine Spatial Planing:

baltfood; BaltMetPromo BaltSeaPlan

Contributing to a flagship project listed in the Action Plan of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



## JOSEFIN Joint SME Finance for Innovation

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 8

"JOSEFIN" contributes to the strategic action to secure access to capital for SMEs.

Small and medium sized enterprises are important actors in the field of innovation and regional development. At present, commercial banks are reluctant to provide financing for the transnational activities of SMEs, thus limiting them to regional activities only. Consequently, those key actors do not unfold their full potential by participating in international markets.

The project "JOSEFIN" aims to bring forward innovative products of SMEs to improve the transnational commercial activity of those companies. In order to reach its goals the "JOSEFIN" partnership includes relevant organizations for business development, such as public authorities responsible for development and implementation of policies; public financial institutions; as well as research and technology development organizations.

The main achievement of the project will be the implementation of a "JOSEFIN Innovation Loan Guarantee" for improved access to finance for innovative SME in all regions involved in the project. These new financial instruments under the "JOSEFIN" umbrella will provide back-up to commercial banks which issue loans, guarantees, seed or venture Capital to SME. The financial risk of transnational activities for companies and financial institutions involved will thus be reduced. This will boost cooperation and international activities of enterprises. SMEs will have better access to financing, and will be assisted by individual advisory and coaching services. For financial institutions, a new risk sharing model for safer credit provision will be implemented. This model will allow more realistic assessment of the creditworthiness of SMEs.



- Improving financial support schemes for transnational and innovative SMEs supplemented by individual capacity building.
- Development and implementation of SME support structures in the Baltic Sea Region.



Partnership	Public authorities, public financial institutions, foundations, research and technological development organizations from Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	23
Lead partner	Investitionsbank Berlin (IBB), Germany
Approximate total budget	3.9 million €
ERDF funding	2.8 million €
Norwegian funding	0.2 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Irene Schucht Tel.:+49 30 21 25 45 15 irene.schucht@ibb.de



www.josefin-org.eu

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# BSR\_CBP

Capacity Building Programme on Trans-National Cluster and Innovation Systems in the Baltic Sea Region

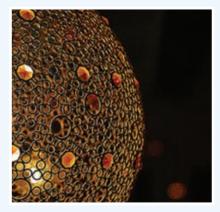
EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 7

BSR\_CBP is in line with the focus of the Priority Area to exploite the potential of the region in research and innovation. This project is a spin-off from the European Cluster Alliance launched by the European Commission's Directorate General Enterprise. The initiative identified a necessity of a common framework for cluster policies and transnational innovation programmes. The ministries responsible for innovation policy in the Baltic Sea Region saw a need to increase transnational capacity building.

The project "BSR\_CPB" has designed training modules on cluster facilitation and the implementation and management of public cluster support programmes. Those modules have subsequently been implemented as pilot trainings on regional, national and transnational levels.

The project aim was to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and experience in the management of clusters between selected Baltic Sea countries. The training modules were subsequently been merged and complemented with an action plan for capacity building for the entire Baltic Sea Region after 2010.

The transnational transfer of cluster development and implementation instruments will lead to tighter and more active transnational networks between civil servants from respective ministries and agencies.





• Development and implementation of capacity building measures for decision-makers and stakeholders of Baltic clusters and innovation systems.

13	



Partnership	Danish public authorities, Latvian Investment and Development Agency and Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems VINNOVA.
Number of partners	3
Lead partner	Triangle Region, Denmark
Approximate total budget	0.4 million €
ERDF funding	0.3 million €
Duration	12 months (January 2009 - January 2010)
Contact person	Susanne Krawack Tel.: +45 40293328 sk@trekantomraadet.dk



http://bsrcbp.trin.dk/



Priority 1: Fostering Innovations

## Basic Baltic Sea Innovation Network Centres

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 8

"BaSIC" is in line with the Priority Area focus to promote entrepreneurship, strengthen SMEs and increase the efficient use of human resources. Rapidly growing SMEs seeking to internationalize their business often meet obstacles as the markets are still disconnected. Innovative SMEs suffer from different regional regulations, financing conditions, and rules for investing and opening branch offices.

The project "BaSIC" aims to build a "Baltic Sea Archipelago of Innovation" with seamless working conditions for innovative SMEs that will accelerate the innovation dynamics in the metropolis regions. The project will identify, select, train and coach SME-gazelles – small firms that have great growth potentials. SME-gazelles will get harmonized access to international markets and open gateway to financial instruments. The project consortium consists of leading science parks and innovation centres with strong support from the Baltic Metropolis Network.

BaSIC developed training programmes for SMEs will cover regional peculiarities and specifications such as legislation, tax, and market access regulations. BaSIC will also cooperate with the project "JOSEFIN", and will introduce their financial instruments (loans, guarantees, seed and venture capital) to the coached SMEs. Communication and cooperation between regional clusters will increase. This will result in the establishment of strategic alliances between selected clusters in the Baltic Sea Region.

A further aim of the project is to set up Market Access Points in the metropolis regions involved that will provide synchronized services and tools for the SMEs. The Points will help fast growing innovative companies to internationalise their activities, particularly in the Baltic Sea Region.



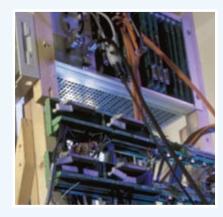






• Creating harmonized working conditions for innovative SMEs for easier access to markets in the Baltic Sea Region.

Partnership	Regional authorities, leading science parks, innovation centres and regional development agencies from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	18
Lead partner	WISTA-MANAGEMENT GmbH, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.8 million €
ERDF funding	1.9 million €
Norwegian funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Helge Neumann Tel.:+49 30 63922230 helge@wista.de



www.basic-net.eu



Support for innova

## BalticSupply Interregional SME Supply Clusters along the Northeast Corridor

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 8

"BalticSupply" is in line with one of the flagship projects facilitating access for SMEs to procurement procedures. The promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the Baltic Sea Region has gained strength over the years. Several measures were undertaken to reduce the administrative burden and costs related to tendering. However, small markets and SME access barriers to European supply markets still cause competitive disadvantages for SMEs in the region. SMEs cannot focus solely on traditional markets. It could menace the commercial perspective of the region and could be further aggravated by the global economic crisis.

The aim of the project "BalticSupply" is to strengthen SME competitiveness in important North-Eastern European supply markets. The SME supply cluster concept is an innovative instrument for effective regional economic development and SME promotion in the BSR. "BalticSupply" will closely cooperate with the North Sea Supply Connect project, approved in the North Sea Region Programme.

The "BalticSupply" project will result in better access for SMEs to large procurement procedures on the interregional supply markets in the North-Eastern Europe. It will develop comprehensive, supply and tender infrastructures for maritime, energy, public, health and food clusters. This tender infrastructure will become a practical instrument for procurement management to SMEs. The partnership will also elaborate on three online company registers for SMEs and original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) with contact details, product portfolio, market orientation, a knowledge base, competencies and innovation capacity. They will be open for all SMEs in the region.





• Facilitating access for SMEs to large procurement procedures and improving SME capacity to participate in tendering.

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Partnership	National and regional authorities, NGOs, chambers of commerce, technology parks and universities from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	16
Lead partner	Senator for Economic Affairs and Ports Bremen, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.6 million €
ERDF funding	2.8 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Barbara Schieferstein Tel.: +49 421 3618851 Barbara.Schieferstein@wuh. bremen.de

The project will develop three SME cluster services portfolios. These will be based on assessments of cluster-specific needs and demands for such services. The vocational training services will enhance SME understanding of the procedures, requirements and regulations in the European supply markets. Moreover, personal SME contacts will be built up with procurement managers from OEMs and first tier suppliers.

www.balticsupply.eu



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# FM

FIRST MOTION – driving BSR regional development by innovating the high-skill growth sector "creative/AV industry"

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 7

"First Motion" is in line with one of the flagship projects developing a common Baltic Sea Region strategy to promote services innovation. The audiovisual industry forms an important part of the creative sector. Digitalisation has brought about changes, which have the potential to stimulate economic growth and the creation of new, highly skilled jobs in this sector. However, the audiovisual industry in the Baltic Sea Region comprises mainly small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) with a limited capacity for innovation using their own resources.

To support SMEs from the Baltic Sea Region to participate as competitive players in the new digital markets, the project "First Motion" will support capacity building, clustering and training measures. Information about audiovisual developments and possible new markets will be pooled and transferred to SMEs. Public support for this sector will be reviewed and advanced; new, creative industry clusters will be formed and professional training curricula will be developed and tested.

The project's main tool to support SMEs' capacity building will be the Baltic Universe Distribution Platform, which will become a market place for producers and distributors of audiovisual content. It will be linked to a new ICT tool for media producers, which will help them in the budgeting and accounting of media productions. Audiovisual content creation for the online platform will also be tested.



• Supporting SMEs from the audiovisual industry to use the full potential of digitalisation for innovation and the development of new markets.





Partnership	Film related business support organizations, academic institutions and local public authorities from Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Sweden and Norway
Number of partners	11
Lead partner	Filmfund Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein GmbH, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.0 million €
ERDF funding	2.0 million €
Norwegian funding	0.3 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Till Hardy Tel.: +49 40 398 37 29 hardy@ffhsh.de



www.firstmotion.eu



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# BSR QUICK

Qualification, Innovation, Cooperation and Keybusiness for Small and Medium Enterprises in the Baltic Sea Region



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 12

"BSR Quick" is one of the flagship projects maintaining and reinforcing attractivness of the Baltic Sea Region through education. Small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) have a high potential for increasing employment and creating jobs in the Baltic Sea Region. At the same time, SMEs face particular challenges which can undermine their competitiveness, such as limited access to research & development innovation, staff with comparably low qualification levels and a lack of internationalisation.

The project "BSR Quick" aims to improve strategic support for SMEs. In particular three innovation clusters will be targeted: "Energy, Climate and Environment Protection", "Construction Technologies" and "Personnel and Organisational Development". A large network of 40 project partners will bring SME promoters together, such as chambers of commerce, universities and public administrations. Jointly they will support SMEs to network, access research & development solutions, improve entrepreneur and employee qualification levels, increase international cooperation and improve the administrative context.

A Baltic Sea Academy will be established by the nine universities involved in the project. Strongly cooperating with a network of SME associations, this Academy will support universities dealing with innovation promotion targeted at SMEs to network. Research & development in SMEs will be subject to direct coaching for SMEs, resulting in business and investment plans. To increase qualification levels of SME staff, advanced training courses will be developed. International contacts among SMEs will be supported by a series of Business Forums.









• Establishing an innovation network to strengthen the competitiveness and internationalization of SMEs in the Baltic Sea Region.

Partnership	SME support institutions, chambers of craft and commerce, universities, as well as local and regional authorities from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, Norway and Belarus.
Number of partners	40
Lead partner	Hanseatic Parliament, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.7 million €
ERDF funding	2.7 million €
Norwegian funding	0.1 million €
ENPI funding	0.3 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Max Hogeforster Tel.: +49 40 822 447 11 mhogeforster@hanse- parlament.eu

www.bsr-quick.eu



## **baltfood** baltfood – The BSR Food Cluster: Innovation and Competitiveness in Action

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 7

"baltfood" is in line with the Priority Area exploiting the potential of the region in research and innovation. It is also contributing to the EU Strategy by building a regional identity. The food industry has developed into a highly competitive industrial sector. Emerging trends such as more demanding consumers, changing functionality of food, a concentration process in the retail sector, and shorter product lifecycles, however, require constant technological evolution. In this regard, one can identify various deficits within the SME sector: late recognition of food trends, low conversion of scientific findings into marketable food products, or below average innovation rates.

The project "baltfood" aims to secure this dynamic, but very mature marketplace within the Baltic Sea Region through transnational cooperation to address common challenges and channel know-how into process and product innovations.

The project partnership consists of 13 national and regional organizations from the business and scientific communities, as well as public bodies representing food cluster organizations in six countries within the region.

"baltfood" integrates local, regional and national food cluster organisations around the Baltic Sea into one commonly managed food cluster. This will lead to the exchange of knowledge across the whole Baltic Sea Region. A branding concept for worldwide promotion of the cluster will be applied. Furthermore, "baltfood" will identify present and future innovations and trends in the food sector and disseminate them across the region. In order to successfully transfer knowledge from science into the production process, the project will prepare training curricula, and a Baltic Food Academy shall be established.





Partnership

• Development of a Pan-Baltic food cluster to improve knowledge transfer and market awareness; adaption of training programmes and development of a common branding concept.

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development corporations, scientific institutions and food sector networks from Denmark, Lithuania, Finland, Germany, Poland and Sweden
12
Luebeck Business Development Corporation, Germany
2.4 million €
1.7 million €
36 months (January 2009 - January 2010)
Björn P. Jacobsen Tel.: +49 451706550 jacobsen@luebeck.org

Public authorities, public



www.baltfood.de



## **BONITA** Baltic Organisation and Network of Innovation Transfer Associations

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 7

"BONITA" is in line with the Priority Area exploiting the potential of the region in research and innovation. Cooperation and transfer of knowledge between research institutions and industry is insufficiently developed in the Baltic Sea Region. A transformation into a high-tech area can only be achieved if available scientific knowledge is successfully put into practice. Although universities develop new technologies and products, their innovations are often not transferred to commerce. This may be due to a lack of structures that would facilitate such transfer, or to the mindsets of academic staff who do not put enough attention on commercial application. At the same time, SMEs do not exploit their vast potential for innovation due to missing resources.

The project "BONITA" addresses these deficiencies by bridging the gaps between universities, laboratories, industrial actors and policy makers. The project consortium represents a mix of institutions responsible for regional technology transfer.

The project will evaluate and enhance the existing technology and innovation transfer models throughout the Baltic Sea Region. A training program will be implemented to advance competence levels of personnel in charge of implementing the enhanced transfer model. The project additionally calls for the creation of a "BONITA" company. The company will support the network of organisations and specialists working with the enhanced transfer model. The main activities of the company will be commercial exploitation and promotion of findings in research obtained during and after the project.

"BONITA" will also set up a virtual exhibition and showrooms to demonstrate how research results in the field of mobile and wearable computing devices can be used for marketing. They will also help to share innovation experiences among partner countries.



• Improvement of models for technology and innovation transfer in the Baltic Sea Region.





Partnership	Universities, public authorities, research and technological development supporters from Denmark, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	13
Lead partner	University of Bremen, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.6 million €
ERDF funding	2.0 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Michael Boronowsky Tel.: +49 421 218 2712 mb@tzi.de



www.bonita-project.eu



# SPIN

Sustainable Production through Innovation in Small and Medium sized Enterprises

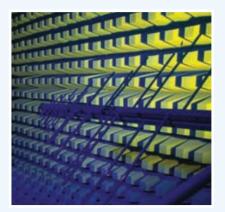


#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 8

"SPIN" is the flagship project implementing sustainable production through innovation in small and medium sized enterprises. The Baltic Sea Region has great R&D potential. Yet, the application of innovations, especially by SMEs, is rather scarce. Due to rapid globalisation and new environmental standards, SMEs are forced to be more innovative. Even if SMEs have considerable innovation potential and the capacity to incorporate new technologies and know-how into their business, they often depend more on external support and the benefits of networking.

The project "SPIN" is a Baltic 21 Lighthouse project. It is a joint effort of governments, applied R&D universities and transnational NGOs. The project will increase the exploitation of the eco-innovations by SMEs based on the principle "eco-innovation supply – demand matching". This will lead to public benefit and private profits, and at the same time reduce economic and environmental costs. "SPIN" will facilitate the application of eco-innovations in SMEs. The partners will create and test a transnational best practice tool box, which will help SMEs to apply eco-innovations. Their production processes will become cleaner, and their profits and competitiveness will increase.

Furthermore, the project partnership will establish the "SPIN" network consisting of one national contact point per country and expert institutions in the field of eco-innovations. This network will help to overcome the large disparities in the territorial distribution of innovation clusters. National contact points will provide assistance and support to the SMEs and act as a bridge between SMEs and researchers.





• Promoting application of ecoinnovations by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in the Baltic Sea Region.

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Partnership	National and regional authorities, universities and NGOs from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	9
Lead partner	Federal Environment Agency, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.9 million €
ERDF funding	2.1 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2010)
Contact person	Daniel De Graaf Tel.: +4934021033407 daniel.degraaf@uba.de



www.spin-project.eu

# Longlife

Sustainable, energy efficient and resource saving residential buildings with consideration of unified procedures and new and adapted technologies



"Longlife" is part of the flagship project that anticipates regional and local impacts of climate change through research. The construction boom of the last decades fuelled the growth of the markets in the Baltic Sea Region. However, high-end technologies are still not widely used in large-scale housing construction. Owners and investors don't introduce new energy-efficient technologies as these are more expensive. Moreover, building technologies and procedures such as planning, approval, tendering, financing, and sustainability standards are different between the countries, and thus hinder the exchange of technologies.

The project "Longlife" aims to optimize methods for buildings and construction, adapt and implement new technologies, and harmonise building procedures between countries. This will lead to a reduction of energy consumption during the building's lifecycle. The project will also tackle the financing of sustainable residential buildings through various EU funds.

"Longlife" will develop guidelines for energy efficiency, sustainability, resource-saving buildings and low lifecycle costs. These guidelines will include minimum requirements for sustainable buildings, which can be met by all participating countries with their current state of technologies, yet aiming at the state of the art. Furthermore, these guidelines will be implemented in a prototype residential building. Complete planning, administrative and tender documents for a prototype building will be developed based on a common standard, yet still adapted to regional conditions. Financing and maintenance models for this prototype project will be developed for planners, as well as housing and construction companies.

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• Developing standards for sustainable and energy-efficient residential buildings.

Partnership	Regional authorities, universities, competence centres and housing associations from Denmark, Germany, Lithuania and Poland
Number of partners	9
Lead partner	Berlin Institute of Technology, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.4 million €
ERDF funding	1.9 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Klaus Rueckert Tel.: +49 30 314 21 845 klaus.rueckert@tu-berlin.de



www.longlife-world.eu



# **BSR InnoReg**

Strengthening Innovation Governance in Baltic Non-metropolitan Regions through Transnational Cooperation

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 7

"BSR InnoReg" is in line with the Priority Area exploiting the potential of the region in research and innovation. The Baltic Sea region is recognized as an attractive and dynamic territorial cooperation area in Europe. With increasing global economic challenges and uncertainty, all regions in the area must react more quickly and address challenges, through innovation. Regions outside the metropolises in the Baltic Sea Region are committed to enhancing development and governance of innovation. At the same time, they face major challenges in securing the availability of a skilled work force, developing bridges between education, science and economy, and supporting creation and reform of small and medium-sized enterprises.

The project "BSR InnoReg" aims to reinforce innovation governance and to support environments outside the metropolitan areas. Project partners will focus on increasing effectiveness of activities supporting regional innovation by enhancing the strategic capacities of business development organizations. The partner regions will also jointly develop and test new instruments to support innovation. The instruments aim at user-driven and customer-oriented innovation, start-up financing, and involving students in innovation processes.

The project brings together decision-makers from the involved partner regions. They will discuss global economic challenges and agree on a Memorandum of Understanding on efficient innovation policies. The Memorandum will guide support for innovation and economic development, especially in the regions outside the metropolitan areas. The project partners will also create a handbook on practical instruments to support innovation.



• Enhancing innovation support and governance focusing on the nonmetropolitan areas of the Baltic Sea Region.

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Partnership	National, regional and local authorities, business development organisations from Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany and Poland
Number of partners	18
Lead partner	The Baltic Institute of Finland, Finland
Approximate total budget	2.3 million €
ERDF funding	1.8 million €
Duration	30 months (January 2009 - July 2011)
Contact person	Johanna Leino Tel: +358 50 556 4229 johanna.leino@tampere.fi



www.baltic.org/bsrinnoreg



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# **PlasTEP**

Dissemination and fostering of plasma based technological innovation for environment protection in BSR There is a significant gap between the number of environmental protection solutions available in the Baltic Sea Region and the number applied in practice. Decision makers from both the public sector and industry are often not aware of existing potentials. This is especially true in the case of innovative plasma technologies, which can be used for air and water treatment.

The project "PlasTEP" aims to send clear information to key politicians and business representatives about existing possibilities. It focuses on establishing a sustainable structure and is responsible for transferring knowledge from research institutions to turn them into market applications. In addition, "PlasTEP" strives to promote the Baltic Sea Region as an important global player in plasma technologies for environmental protection.

"PlasTEP" will analyse the main sources of air and waste water pollution in the Baltic Sea Region which could be subject to plasma treatment. It will report on eco-efficiency and deliver cost-benefit analysis for the proposed solutions. In order to change the social perception of existing technologies, the project will integrate information about them in educational processes and also invest in five prototype applications. In addition, "PlasTEP" will organise meetings with potential investors who may be interested in the solutions developed.









• Introducing plasma-based technologies for a cleaner environment.

Partnership	Technology centers and research organizations from Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Estonia
Number of partners	15
Lead partner	Technology Centre of Western Pomerania, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.8 million €
ERDF funding	3.0 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Alexander Schwock Tel.: +49 3834 550102 schwock@ technologiezentrum.de

www.plastep.eu



## **REMOWE** Regional Mobilizing of Sustainable Waste-to-Energy Production

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 10

"REMOWE" is in line with the cooperative action to increase use of renewable energies.

Based on the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, the project wants to contribute to an improved environmental quality by reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Potential to balance energy consumption and sustainable use of renewable sources will be demonstrated.

Waste should be managed in an appropriate way, so that the negative environmental effects on the Baltic Sea Region are minimised. In order to help reduce harmful carbon dioxide emissions the project "REMOWE" will centre on the renewable resource of waste from cities, farming and industry. Within the project partnership, technology transfer and promotion of energy efficient technologies in the field of waste-to-energy is envisaged. Strategies to increase the use of waste as an energy source in the Baltic Sea Region will be elaborated. Various public authorities

and universities are supported by organisations such as SMEs from the waste management and energy producing sector as well as chambers of commerce.

Models for regional waste-for-energy systems, including the impact on the environment and human health, will be developed in the project. Initially, the current status of the entire chain of waste-to-energy utilization of the partner regions will be investigated. This includes data collection on waste amounts, waste qualities and waste availabilities suitable for energy utilisation in the involved regions. Best practices on waste management, its transportation, storage and waste pre-treatment will be exchanged. With this knowledge gained, technological, economical and legislative conditions of the partner regions will be elaborated upon to find the best future waste-toenergy systems.





• Improving regional capacities in the field of waste-to-energy utilization.

Partnership	Public authorities, development agencies and academic institutions from Estonia, Finland Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	9
Lead partner	Mälardalen University, Sweden
Approximate total budget	1.6 million €
ERDF funding	1.2 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Eva Thorin Tel.: +46 21 101564 eva.thorin@mdh.se



www.remowe.eu



## IBI Net Intercountry Business Incubators' Network

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 7

"IBI Net" is in line with the Priority Area exploiting the potential of the region in research and innovation. Business incubators play an important role in fostering the development of innovative, exportoriented SMEs. In order to deliver state of the art specialized services to SMEs, business incubators need to pursue transnational cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region to build upon their management capacity and technologies.

The project "Intercountry Business Incubators' Network" aims to establish and strengthen the transnational business incubators' network in the Baltic Sea Region - "IBI NET". The network will be a platform for the continuous sharing of knowledge and technologies among business incubators and technology centers from Latvia, Poland, Belarus, Sweden, Germany and Norway.

The project idea is based on the necessity to increase the quality of services, efficiency and sustainability of business incubators in BSR, as essential agents in nurturing and supporting the development of new and innovative SMEs.

The main activities of the project include: the establishment of the "IBI Net" network and ensuring an information platform for its operations; benchmarking of business support services; elaboration of guidelines for the financial sustainability of business incubators; introduction of IT tools for the management of partner business incubators; organization of a brokerage event to intensify business contacts among business incubators and entrepreneurs in the BSR and expanding "IBI Net" network throughout BSR.





- Business Incubators' Network.
- Bridging businesses and ideas.

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Partnersnip	Regional and local public authorities, business incubators and technology centers from Latvia, Sweden, Poland, Germany, Belarus and Norway
Number of partners	7
Lead partner	Riga Planning Region, Latvia
Approximate total budget	0.7 million €
ERDF funding	0.4 million €
Norwegian funding	0.03 million €
ENPI funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Sanita Jankovska Tel.:+37167559819 sanita.jankovska@rpr.gov.lv



www.rpr.gov.lv/pub/index.php?id=243



# ICT for Health

Strengthening social capacities for the utilisation of eHealth technologies in the framework of ageing population

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 12

"ICT for Health" contributes to the cooperative actions by promoting e-health technology. Innovative eHealth solutions can be used for better collaboration between patients and medical professionals in the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases. They can improve public health and increase cost-efficiency in the health sector, which is important especially in view of an ageing population. However, knowledge about existing eHealth technologies and their acceptance among citizens and medical professionals has not yet been sufficiently developed.

"ICT for Health" aims to increase knowledge and acceptance of eHealth technologies for the prevention and treatment of diseases. The partners involved in the project are going to compare and transfer eHealth strategies between their regions. Furthermore, they will educate and train citizens and medical professionals to use existing technologies.

One of the project's particular target groups will be citizens with chronic heart failures. 400 patients will be equipped with self-monitoring systems. Their blood pressure, weight and ECG will be checked regularly by special devices and transferred to their doctors for medical feedback. Based on this test, a standardised tele-monitoring service will be developed for the general public in the Baltic Sea Region. The selected patients will also test a multilingual personal health portal that will help them receive adequate medical treatment when travelling abroad.



 Enhancing knowledge and acceptance of eHealth technologies for prevention and treatment of diseases.

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Partnership	Institutions in the sector of health care, universities and regional authorities from Denmark, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden and Norway
Number of partners	19
Lead partner	University of Applied Sciences Flensburg, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.6 million €
ERDF funding	2.6 million €
Norwegian funding	0.2 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Roland Trill Tel.: +49 4618051473 trill@wi.fh-flensburg.de





www.ictforhealth.net



The European Commission has defined demographic change as a challenge for the European Union. From 2017 on, its ageing, and thus shrinking workforce, is expected to become a brake on economic growth. "Best Agers" is based on the belief that demographic change also offers opportunities, as aged employees and seniors are healthier and better educated than ever before.

The project "Best Agers" aims to bring cities and regions which face similar challenges together, but are heterogeneous in their demographic, economic and institutional preconditions. While, for instance the age group of the so-called "best agers" (55 and older) will grow tremendously throughout the BSR, work force participation of the population aged 55 to 64 ranges currently from 30% in Poland to 70% in Sweden. Some regions, especially in the new member states have yet to discover the best agers' potentials. 19 Project partners from 8 different countries will help to form a cross-generational innovation environment. In this environment, best agers work together with different age groups in the fields of business and skills development, to generate new ideas and share their experience and expertise.

"Best Agers" will keep the generation 55+ in the centre of society, as they are a valuable resource for the economy and the society. It will help cities and regions to utilize these resources by retaining the know-how of experienced professionals in the regional labour markets. Moreover, best agers who have already left the working environment will be motivated to make their experience and knowledge available to the younger generations, through voluntary commitment. Cross-generational cohesion will be advanced by connecting older or retired professionals with young employees, entrepreneurs and students. Finally, best agers will be encouraged and assisted to become entrepreneurs themselves and bring their own business ideas to the market.

Priority 1: Fostering Innovations

# **Best Agers**

Using the knowledge and experience of professionals in their primes to foster business and skills development in the Baltic Sea Region

### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 12

Best Agers is in line with the Priority Area addressing challenges caused by demographic changes and the consequences of young educated people's outflow.



• Using the full potential of citizens aged 55+ for Baltic Sea Region economies and societies.



Partnership	Public authorities, development agencies and academic institutions from Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden and the United Kingdom
Number of partners	19
Lead partner	Academy of Economics Schleswig-Holstein, Germany
Approximate total budget	4.4 million €
ERDF funding	3.4 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Hartwig Wagemester Tel.: +49 431 3016 155 hartwig.wagemester@ wak-sh.de



www.best-agers-project.eu



## **Baltic Biogas Bus**

Increase the use of biogas buses in public transport to reduce the emissions in urban areas in the Baltic Sea Region

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 10

"Baltic Biogas Bus" is in line with the cooperative action to increase use of renewable energies. Increasing dependency on fossil fuels has boosted the interest for investments in new energy technologies. Introducing biogas to public transport services can help reduce environmental problems. Biogas buses lower emissions, improve urban air quality and strengthen the role of public transport. There are already good examples of the use of biogas buses, yet these best practices are not widely used in European cities.

The "Baltic Biogas Bus" project aims to increase the use of biogas buses in cities within the Baltic Sea Region (BSR). The project will focus on developing and widening practical solutions which will facilitate the use of biogas in public transport. It will provide cities with the correct tools to set up a biogas bus introduction strategy. This strategy will help cities connect with biogas supply, distribution and use.

Each partner region participating in the project will set up a long-term introduction strategy in order to accelerate the purchase of biogas buses. Public transport authorities will work closely with transport companies and bus producers. A manual for the introduction of biogas buses will be developed within the project's lifetime. The project will analyse current production amounts, as well as short and long-term growth scenarios for each BSR country and the BSR as a whole. The project will highlight the possibilities to fuel the majority of urban public transport bus fleets with biogas. "Baltic Biogas Bus" will analyse and depict the distribution infrastructure. It will map existing and planned gas infrastructure on the BSR level. On a more detailed level, feasibility planning studies will be implemented in Estonia and Poland.







• Biogas buses in the public transportation - excellent environmental performance and more energy autonomy of the Baltic Sea Region.

Partnership	Public transport companies, regional and local authorities, universities and research centers from Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	12
Lead partner	Stockholm Public Transport Company, Sweden
Approximate total budget	4.2 million €
ERDF funding	2.7 million €
Norwegian funding	0.4 million €
Duration	36 months (September 2009 - September 2012)
Contact person	Lennart Hallgren Tel.: +46 8 686 14 01 Lennart.Hallgren@sl.se





www.balticbiogasbus.eu



At present, the efficiency of the transport routes and intermodal nodes between the Baltic Sea and Adriatic Sea regions only partly meet the long-term demands. The existing ferry routes, ports, freight terminals and airports have to be better connected with each other and with rural areas. New logistic offers should be provided in order to manage North-South traffic more efficiently.

The project "SCANDRIA" aims to increase the efficiency and sustainability of the transport systems in the Scandinavian-Adriatic corridor. It will develop goods and passenger flows. It will use an integrated transport concept for this purpose. Short sea shipping, rail and inland waterways will complement each other to enable a choice of environmentally friendly transport. These innovative logistic solutions will comply with the demands of a green transport corridor.

"SCANDRIA" is a part of the initiative of the Baltic-Adriatic Development Corridor. A link to the Adriatic Sea is provided by the project "SoNorA" funded by the Central Europe Programme. Moreover, "SCANDRIA" will pool resources with EWTC II and TransBaltic projects. Together these projects will increase transport efficiency in Europe.

"SCANDRIA" will develop an investment strategy for the corridor. It will include recommendations for transnational planning, implementation and harmonisation of investments in the transport infrastructure. The strategy will focus on intermodal node development and rail network improvements, and will optimise routes used by heavy traffic. It will include long-term scenarios, following economic needs and political decisions.

Priority 2: Internal and external accessibility

# **SCANDRIA**

Scandinavian-Adriatic Corridor for Growth and Innovation



### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 11

"SCANDRIA" contributes to the flagship project completing the agreed priority transport infrastructures by developing a multimodal transport axis from Scandinavia to Adriatic Sea. It is also contributing to cooperation for smarter transport.



• Increasing efficiency and sustainability of the transport systems in the Scandinavian-, Adriatic corridor.

Partnership	National, regional and local authorities, ports, development agencies and universities from Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway and Sweden
Number of partners	19
Lead partner	Joint State Planning Department repr. the capital region Berlin-Brandenburg, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.8 million €
ERDF funding	2.8 million €
Norwegian funding	0.02 million €
Duration	36 months (September 2009 - September 2012)
Contact person	Horst Sauer Tel.:+49 331 8668720 horst.sauer@gl.berlin- brandenburg.de

ERDF funding	2.8 million €
Norwegian funding	0.02 million €
Duration	36 months (September 2009 - September 2012
Contact person	Horst Sauer Tel.:+49 331 8668720 horst.sauer@gl.berlin- brandenburg.de

www.scandriaproject.eu



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.1 Transport

## TransBaltic

Towards an integrated transport system in the Baltic Sea Region

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 11

"TransBaltic" contributes to the flagship project on cooperation for smarter transport. Economic interactions between the Baltic Sea countries and other global players are increasing dynamically. Thus, growing traffic volumes bring challenges for both the capacity of the transport networks in the area and for the sustainable development within the region. In order to overcome transport deficiencies, regional level stakeholders need to elaborate a sustainable socio-economic development perspective of increasing traffic in the whole region.

The project "TransBaltic" aims to provide regional level incentives for the creation of a comprehensive multimodal transport system in the Baltic Sea Region. "TransBaltic" will join forces with individual transport projects, e.g. "EWTC II" and "SCANDRIA". It will act as an umbrella by providing inspiration for their investigations and generalising their specific findings. Thus, the project will increase the internal connectivity of the area. It will also develop regional measures for the increasing transport flows across the area. Therefore, the project will improve the external connectivity of the Baltic Sea Region.

"TransBaltic" will elaborate a regional preparedness plan with measures which are needed to enhance the gateway function of the BSR. The plan will help to tackle the challenge of increasing intercontinental transport flows in the area. The project will develop pan-Baltic traffic forecasts and scenarios. Moreover, it will elaborate a priority list of investments in infrastructure, logistic and transport capacity. Those will support regional and national level decisionmakers in preparing and implementing investments in transport corridors across the BSR.









• Joint actions towards enhancing the transport gateway function of the Baltic Sea Region.

Partnership	Regional authorities, universities and competence centers from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	20
Lead partner	Region Skåne, Sweden
Approximate total budget	5.5 million €
ERDF funding	4.0 million €
Norwegian funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (September 2009 - September 2012)
Contact person	Mats Petersson Tel.: +46 44 309 33 01 mats.petersson@skane.se



www.transbaltic.eu



East-west trade in the Baltic Sea Region is expected to continue increasing, despite a recent drop in trade volumes, due to the global financial crisis. However, the east-west transport corridor is still subject to congestion and transport security problems can increase. High volumes of traffic also cause environmental challenges.

The aim of the "EWTC II" project is to secure sustainability for transport solutions within the corridor. The project links Minsk, Vilnius, Klaipeda/ Kaliningrad with Denmark via south Sweden and with Germany via Sassnitz. It will facilitate development of hubs as growth centers. The project will develop an innovative testing ground for a green corridor concept. This will serve as a best practice case from a European perspective. "EWTC II" will cooperate with "TransBaltic", "SCANDRIA" projects in order to accumulate synergies when developing green corridor criteria.

"EWTC II" will produce a green corridor manual. It will highlight more eco-friendly transport alternatives than those available today. It will also explain how to set up a green corridor concept step by step. The manual will also describe options for the certification of green transport systems, which will be of great interest to the transport market. The project will develop an innovative IT-based information broker system. It will be a simple means to reduce costs and problems, to access and exchange relevant information. This will include traffic intensity and conditions, logistic services, weather conditions, custom clearance and e-payments. The users of the broker system will be cargo owners, transport and traffic operators and public administrations. This working system will respond to the EU ambitions for e-freight.

# **EWTC II**

East West Transport Corriodor II – a green corridor concept within the Northern Transport Axis approach



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 11

"EWTC II" is part of the flagship project on cooperation for smarter transport.

2.1 Transport



Partnership

• Deploying a green corridor concept and new e-freight technologies in the East-West transport corridor.





	authorities, ports, railways and transport authorities, research centers and universities from Belarus, Denmark, Germany, Lithuania and Sweden
Number of partners	29
Lead partner	Region Blekinge, Sweden
Approximate total budget	6.0 million €
ERDF funding	4.5 million €
ENPI funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (September 2009 - September 2012)
Contact person	Annika Henesey Tel.: 46 455305037 annika.henesey@ regionblekinge.se

National, regional and local



www.eastwesttc.org



Over 560,000 million ton-kilometres of goods are transported annually on the roads of the Baltic Sea Region. 5–10% of them are classified as Dangerous Goods. EU legislation on Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) and Dangerous Goods (DG) transport is widely harmonised at the European level. Yet, the implementation and interpretation of existing regulations, as well as the operating procedures, varies between countries.

The aim of the project "C.A.S.H." is to enhance cooperation among authorities – especially road police units - dealing with safety issues at border crossing points for goods transport, including the transport of DG. It will also harmonize training programmes for respective authorities so that they are in line with EU legislation. The project will also test safety and security equipment, as well as IT systems, which will be used by the relevant authorities.

The "C.A.S.H." project will result in increased cooperation and information exchange between police organisations. Field exercises and short-term staff exchanges will facilitate dissemination of the experience gained by the police authorities in the BSR.

The project will introduce harmonised training requirements for HGV and DG inspectorate officials so that equal standards and methods for monitoring and inspecting HGV and DG transport are followed. Moreover, the project will apply risk analysis methods on operations and potential investments, and test up-to-date solutions and tools through both practical usage and analytic work. Thus, it will provide recommendations for investments for the BSR road police units.

## **C.A.S.H** Connecting Authorities for Safer Heavy Goods Traffic in the Baltic Sea Region





• Improving safety of heavy and dangerous goods traffic in the Baltic Sea Region.





Partnership	Road police units, transport inspectorates, regional councils and research institutes from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Poland
Number of partners	13
Lead partner	University of Turku , Finland
Approximate total budget	3.4 million €
ERDF funding	2.3 million €
Norwegian funding	0.2 million €
Duration	36 months (September 2009 - September 2012)
Contact person	Torsten Hoffmann Tel.:+3582481481 torsten.hoffmann@tse.fi





www.cash-project.eu



.2 Information and communication technologies (ICT

# BALTRAD

An advanced weather radar network for the Baltic Sea Region

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 14

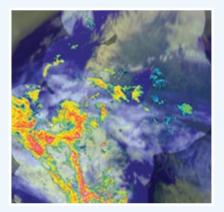
"BALTRAD" is in line with the cooperative action to develop a winter storms and storm surge prevention and preparedness approach. The countries in the Baltic Sea Region differ in climate, weather and water conditions that are difficult to predict. However, accurate and timely weather forecasts and warnings help to save lives and property, as well as optimize activities for several sectors of the economy.

The aim of the project "BALTRAD" is to create a cutting-edge, real-time weather radar network for the Baltic Sea Region. The investments will result in advanced IT infrastructure – radar data exchange and processing tools. High-quality radar-based information will facilitate clearer, better and more precise weather forecasts and decision-making. Pilot cases will present how the radar network can be used for various scenarios, such as emergency planning in the event of flooding, aviation activities, nuclear emergency, and optimised traffic and risk management.

The network's platform will be based on the technology currently being developed for the World Meteorological Organisation Information System, which is the next generation global standard for the exchange of meteorological data. Thus, "BALTRAD" will develop mechanisms complying with European and world standards. As a result, the countries of the Baltic Sea Region will be able to share and process weather radar data and generate the information they need based on a set of common standard methods, thus mitigating regional capacity imbalances.



 Next generation weather radar network for the Baltic Sea Region and potentially the whole of Europe – a cutting-edge, real-time tool supporting weather forecasts and decision-making process.





Partnership	Weather and hydrological services and national public authorities from Sweden, Finland, Poland, Latvia, Denmark, Estonia and Belarus
Number of partners	8
Lead partner	Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Sweden
Approximate total budget	2.1 million €
ERDF funding	1.6 million €
ENPI funding	0.04 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Daniel Michelson Tel.: +46 11 495 8494 daniel.michelson@smhi.se



www.baltrad.eu



# WATERPRAXIS

From theory and plans to eco-efficient and sustainable practices to improve the status of the Baltic Sea

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 1

"WATERPRAXIS" contributes to strategic actions to reduce nutrient inputs to the Baltic Sea as well as to implement the EU Water Framework Directive. The Baltic Sea suffers from heavy eutrophication caused by nutrient loads and pollution by harmful substances. The EU Water Framework Directive aims at healthy ecological status of all waters by 2015. Practical measures to reach this objective are included in River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs). RMBPs are based on the natural geographical and hydrological units (river basins), instead of administrative or political boundaries. However, when putting general level RMBPs into practice, one faces a variety of obstacles. It is difficult to apply water pollution control methods and change land-use practices since the RMBPs cover large geographical, often transnational areas and the best practice examples are yet not available.

The overall objective of the project "WATERPRAXIS" is to enhance the practical implementation of RBMPs in the region and thus improve the state of the Baltic Sea.

The project partnership consists of authorities in charge of water management and of experts in environmental technology, economics, nature, social sciences and education. The consortium covers eight coastal countries of the Baltic Sea.

The project will analyze contents and planning processes of RBMPs and prepare best practice action plans for the pilot areas. The plans will aim to protect the waters and raise public participation. Additionally, concrete cost- and eco-efficient investment plans will be prepared for selected sites. Publications, trainings and educational programmes will help to disseminate the information to actors involved in the management of waters.





• Improved water quality in the Baltic Sea Region through cost-efficient and eco-efficient water protection measures.

Partnership	Environmental institutes, universities and public authorities from Finland, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden
Number of partners	11
Lead partner	Finish Environment Institute, Finland
Approximate total budget	2.0 million €
ERDF funding	1.5 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Seppo Hellsten Tel.: +358 40 580 6538 Seppo.Rekolainen@ ymparisto.fi





www.waterpraxis.net



## BaltCICA Climate Change: Impacts, Costs and Adaptation in the Baltic Sea Region



#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 5

"BaltCICA" is part of the flagship project that anticipates regional and local impacts of climate change through research. The scientific community expects climate change to affect the frequency of floods and storm surges. Changes in precipitation patterns and temperatures will put further pressure on availability and quality of public drinking water. As large parts of the population in the Baltic Sea Region are settled along coastal areas, their settlements are especially sensitive to a rise of sea level.

The project "BaltCICA" will improve the ability to deal with the impacts of climate change. Cities and settlements from different countries face similar challenges, and tackling these collectively will be of advantage. The project will assess impacts of the climate change and elaborate adequate response mechanisms. Furthermore, the project partners will cooperate on alternatives and best practices to abate negative effects of climate change.

The project consortium consists of representatives from regional and municipal public authorities, national research institutes and pan-Baltic institutions.

"BaltCICA" will elaborate different scenarios of the climate change to assess the impact in selected case studies. The climate change issues will be included in local and regional planning processes. The project will support actors with cost-benefit evaluation of adaptation measures. Partners will prepare appropriate defence measures to protect potential flood prone areas. Projects will test specific settlement structures resilient to climate change and will develop backup plans to safeguard water supplies.



• Adaptation measures abating effects of climate change.







Partnership	Regional and municipal public authorities, national research institutes and pan-Baltic institutions from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden
Number of partners	24
Lead partner	Geological Survey of Finland, Finland
Approximate total budget	5.3 million €
ERDF funding	3.9 million €
Norwegian funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Johannes Klein Tel.: +358 20 550 2628 johannes.klein@gtk.fi





www.baltcica.org

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



## **COHIBA** Control of hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea region

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 3

"COHIBA" contributes to the strategic actions to reduce hazardous substances and to the cooperative actions to continue research on hazardous substances. For a long time, the Baltic Sea was considered an infinite receptacle. However, this attitude is changing and people understand that the sea is extremely sensitive. The challenge of environmentally hazardous substances is particularly affecting the Baltic Sea countries. The prevention and elimination of pollution coming into the Baltic Sea from various sources urgently needs a solution.

The project "COHIBA" aims to identify the most important sources of target hazardous substances and estimate their impacts on the marine environment. Joint assessment and management methods will be a basis for common understanding and decision making on actions reducing the input of hazardous substances into the Baltic Sea. The project will also support the implementation of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan, which aims to restore the status of the marine environment by 2021. With its adoption, the countries involved committed themselves to achieve a "Baltic Sea with life undisturbed by hazardous substances".

COHIBA will identify the sources and analyse the flow patterns of 11 target hazardous substances that are of special concern to the Baltic Sea. The project will perform screening of municipal and industrial waste waters, landfill effluents and storm waters. Additionally, project partners will work on recommendations on how to improve control of chemicals, using biological testing of waste waters, based on the Whole Effluent Approach. COHIBA will also produce guidance on cost effective management of the 11 substances to be adopted by HELCOM. The implementation of the guide will reduce discharges, emissions and leaks of hazardous substances.

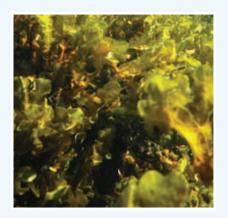


• Controlling hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea.

Lain	



Partnership	National, regional and local authorities, universities, research centres and NGOs from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	26
Lead partner	Finish Environment Institute (SYKE), Finland
Approximate total budget	4.9 million €
ERDF funding	3.8 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Ansa Pilke Tel.: +358 40 834 6537 ansa.pilke@ymparisto.fi





www.cohiba-project.net



# SMOCS

Sustainable Management of Contaminated Sediments in the Baltic Sea

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 3

The project is in line with the strategic action to reduce hazardous substances. The Baltic Sea has many highly contaminated sediment "hot-spots" in ports, estuaries etc. Human activities often take place in coastal areas and are affected by these "hot-spots". Activities such as the development, maintenance and dredging of ports and fairways, due to more deep-draught ships, means that several million m3 incl. contaminated sediments will be dredged over the coming years. Handling contaminated sediments is a major problem. There are few alternatives, they are costly and require complicated technical methods to reduce the impact on the environment. Dredged sediments are normally deposited on land or at sea. The former is very costly and the latter is often not possible due to environmental restrictions. Emerging treatment technologies make it possible to consider the beneficial use of contaminated sediments.

The project will address these issues and produce a guideline for the management of contaminated sediments in the Baltic Sea. A communicative approach will be used to provide the following outcomes: 1) Guidelines for the management of contaminated sediments incl. i) handling alternatives for sediments ii) disposal alternatives iii) beneficial use of treated contaminated sediments; 2) A tool-box of: i) treatment technologies, ii) tools for the assessment of sustainability, iii) a decision support tool to be used in planning and application processes; 3) Field tests to validate, demonstrate and communicate emerging treatment methods under various conditions: type of sediments, type of contamination, climatic condition, availability of technology, costs etc. 4) Establish a durable network for the management of contaminated sediments, based upon existing national and transnational networks, e.g. SedNet and HELCOM.



- Management of contaminated sediments.
- Beneficial use of treated contaminated sediments.
- Sustainable treatment technologies.





Partnership	Academic institutions and port authorities from Sweden, Finland, Germany, Lithuania and Poland
Number of partners	10
Lead partner	Swedish Geotechnical Institute, Sweden
Approximate total budget	3.6 million €
ERDF funding	2.9 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012
Contact person	Göran Holm Tel.:+46 13 20 18 61 goran.holm@swedgeo.se



www.smocs.eu



# Baltic COMPASS

Comprehensive Policy Actions and Investments in Sustainable Solutions in Agriculture in the Baltic Sea Region

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 1

"Baltic COMPASS" is in line with the flagship project "Putting best practices in agriculture to work". The project is also in line with the flagship project in Priority Area 9 establishing a forum for inventive and sustainable manure processing. It is expected that land use for agricultural purposes in the Baltic Sea Region will be intensified following climate change and increasing global demands for food and bioenergy. This may increase pressure on the sensitive marine ecosystems. However, levels of communication regarding actions and possible solutions to the main environmental threats faced by the Baltic Sea, such as both diffuse and source pollution, are poorly developed on a trans-national level.

The "Baltic COMPASS" project is a strategic initiative that brings business, environmental and agricultural sectors together. It will contribute to reducing eutrophication of the Baltic Sea by fostering win-win solutions for both the agriculture and environmental sectors. The solutions will be based on problems which are relevant for stakeholders within the whole drainage area.

"Baltic COMPASS" will strengthen the adoption of agroenvironmental policies. These actions will facilitate the implementation of the Baltic Sea Action Plan, with special regard to the mitigation of eutrophication in the Baltic Sea. As a basis, the project will test and validate innovative solutions and best practices for strengthening the utilization of valuable ecosystem services, as provided by agricultural activity, as well as exploiting their economic potential. Best practices will be collected for practical use by agricultural advisory services, regional and local authorities, as well as business networks. The project will also implement several regionally relevant agro-environmental pilot investment projects.



• Introducing win-win solutions to the agro-environmental sector and facilitating the reduction of nutrient levels in the Baltic Sea.

Partnership	National and regional authorities, agricultural research centres and advisory services, academic institutions from Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden, associated organisations from Russia
Number of partners	23
Lead partner	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden
Approximate total budget	6.7 million €
ERDF funding	4.7 million €
ENPI funding	0.6 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Staffan Lund Tel.:+46 18 67 11 30 staffan.lund@adm.slu.se





## **PURE** Project on Urban Reduction of Eutrophication

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 1

"PURE" is in line with the flagship project for cleaner waste water.



The Baltic Sea is a sensitive area. One major problem is eutrophication. It is caused by the overload of nutrients, mainly nitrogen and phosphorus, from land-based sources. A large part of this overload originates from municipal waste water treatment plants (WWTPs). New actions aimed at reducing phosphorus levels are needed urgently. According to HELCOM, failure to react now would undermine prospects for the future recovery of the sea and its capability to react to climate change.

The aim of the "PURE" project is to develop and implement tools that will reduce phosphorus discharges to the Baltic Sea. Therefore, the environmental state of the sea will be improved. According to the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan, the level of phosphorus needs to be reduced to 0.5 mg/l in outgoing municipal wastewaters. The project will target selected municipal WWTPs in the Baltic Sea Region and support them to reach this level. Thus, "PURE" implements the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan's Recommendation for the more stringent requirements of phosphorus removal from municipal WWTPs. The project will be implemented by nine city-partners together with UBC Environment Commission, John Nurminen Foundation and HELCOM.

The "PURE" project will implement low-cost, highimpact joint investments at WWTPs in Riga, Jurmala and Brest. This will result in an annual reduction of 300-500 tons of phosphorous discharges originating from municipal waste waters ending up in the Baltic Sea. The partnership will also prepare technical audit reports and investment plans for selected waste water treatment plants in the region. These plans will help to establish the most cost-effective way to remove phosphorus, so that the level of 0.5 mg/l can be reached. Furthermore, the project will map existing good practices and develop solutions for sustainable sludge handling and phosphorous recycling.



• Implementing particular actions to reduce eutrophication and to improve the environmental state of the Baltic Sea.

	Partnership	Local authorities, NGOs and waste water treatment plants from Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia and Poland
	Number of partners	11
	Lead partner	Union of the Baltic Cities Commission on Environment Secretariat/City of Turku, Finland
	Approximate total budget	3.2 million €
*	ERDF funding	2.0 million €
	ENPI funding	0.5 million €
44	Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
	Contact person	Eija Eloranta Tel.:+358 2 262 3169 eija.eloranta@ubc.net



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Photo by John Nurminen Foundation



www.purebalticsea.eu



Some of the busiest shipping lanes in the world cross the Baltic Sea. Forecasts predict further increases in marine industries and marine traffic volumes. This will heighten the risk of shipping accidents, oil spills, and the release of hazardous substances or loss of human lives.

The overall aim of the project is to enhance maritime safety and the environmental state of the Baltic Sea region. The project "EfficienSea" will develop and test tools to improve maritime safety.

The project consortium consists of 17 partners from six countries in the region. Among the consortium members are national maritime administrations having knowledge about present and future challenges in use of the sea, a public authority representing those suffering consequences of environmental pollution, and scientific organisations providing strategies for the decision support systems and policies.

"EfficienSea" will establish a dynamic risk management system to respond to the increasing traffic and deficits in the monitoring of ship traffic. Activities in the field of e-Navigation will include the assessment of emerging innovations within the field of maritime data. Simultaneously, authorities will be prepared for major investments required to implement harmonised marine navigation systems. Activities in the areas of Vessel Traffic Data and Maritime Planning will address the challenges emerging from the growing use of the sea. The project will simplify regulations and improve coordination between authorities.

EfficienSea is approved as a strategic project due to its strong backing by national authorities as well as its impact on the Baltic Sea region.

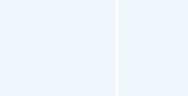
## Efficientsea Efficient, Safe and Sustainable Traffic at Sea



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 13

"EfficienSea" is the flagship project to become a pilot region for e-navigation.







Partnership	Maritime administrations, public authority, academic and scientific organizations and non-governmental organizations from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	17
Lead partner	Danish Maritime Safety Administration, Denmark
Approximate total budget	8.0 million €
ERDF funding	5.3 million €
Norwegian funding	0.6 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Gertrud Hermansen Tel.: +45 3268 9635

ghe@frv.dk





www.efficiensea.org

## Project in keywords:

• Risk prevention, safety and planning in the maritime sector.



The Baltic Sea today is one of the busiest seas in the world, accounting for more than 15% of the world's cargo transportation. Both the number and the size of ships have grown in recent years, especially concerning oil tankers, and this trend is expected to continue. The Baltic's narrow straits and shallow waters make navigation very challenging and increase the risk of shipping accidents.

The project "BRISK" aims to prepare the whole Baltic Sea Region to tackle major accidental oil spills. The HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan was adopted by the Baltic Sea countries and the European Commission in 2007. The project will work to fulfil the requirements of the HELCOM Recommendation on strengthening sub-regional cooperation in the response field.

"BRISK" will perform the first overall risk assessment for the Baltic Sea. The study will check whether the emergency and response capacities in each subregion are sufficient to tackle medium-size and large oil spills. This should also lead to a common understanding of the existing challenge. Furthermore, the project will identify missing resources and prepare pre-investment plans describing how the Baltic Sea countries should jointly fill in the identified gaps. Such sub-regional approach is the most cost-efficient, as countries can "share" their resources to build a common pool of response vessels and equipment sufficient for a given sub-region. Another aim of the project is to speed up the process of developing and concluding subregional agreements for joint response operations between neighbouring countries.

"BRISK" was approved as a strategic project as it is important for the sustainable development of the whole Baltic Sea Region.

## **BRISK** Sub-regional risk of spill of oil and hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea



### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 14

"Brisk" is the flagship project mapping existing marine pollution response capacities and making sub-regional plans for cross-border response cooperation.



• Developing an appropriate level of preparedness for response to oil spill pollution in the whole Baltic Sea area.

Partnership	National authorities, institutes, coast guard and maritime rescue services from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	10
Lead partner	Admiral Danish Fleet HQ, National Operations, Maritime Environment, Denmark
Approximate total budget	3.3 million €
ERDF funding	2.6 million €
Duration	30 months (January 2009 - July 2011)
Contact person	Peter Søberg Poulsen Tel.: +45 89 43 34 05 pol.con.den@sok.dk







www.brisk.helcom.fi



# **Baltic Master II**

Maritime safety – Transport and Environment in the Baltic Sea Region



### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 4

"Baltic Master II" project is the framework for the flagship project improving the waste handling on board and in ports. The Baltic Sea has an extremely sensitive marine environment. At the same time, the Baltic Sea exhibits a very high traffic volume. Yet, many coastal regions do not have an on-land oil contingency plan in case of an accident. The capacity to respond to the accidents in many regions and municipalities does not correspond to the high number of ships passing through the Baltic Sea. The environment and the wellbeing of the coastal communities may be at stake.

The overall aim of the project "Baltic Master II" is to improve the land-based response capacity to oil spills and to prevent pollution from maritime transport. The project brings together actors from local, regional and national authorities, research institutes, universities and pan-Baltic organisations. This link between different levels will ensure a combination of hands-on knowledge and strategic work.

"Baltic Master II" will develop oil contingency plans for the participating regions and test them jointly. The project will also combine the development of oil contingency plans with coastal management to the gap between these two areas. Traditionally they have been managed separately, but are in reality connected. The project will also contribute practical solutions and suggestions for investments. These preventive measures will increase maritime safety and prevent pollution in the Baltic Sea.



• Improving response capacity to oil spills in coastal communities.





Partnership	National, regional and local authorities, universities from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	29
Lead partner	Region of Blekinge, Sweden
Approximate total budget	4.0 million €
ERDF funding	3.1 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Therese Nilsson Tel:+46 455 30 50 25 therese.nilsson@ regionblekinge.se



www.balticmaster.org



-shore and coastal area

## BaltSeaPlan

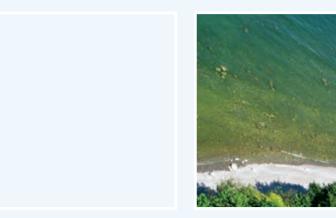
Introducing Maritime Spatial Planning in the Baltic Sea

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Horizontal action

"BaltSeaPlan" contributes to actions encouraging the use of Maritime Spatial Planning around the Baltic Sea and developing a common approach for cross-border cooperation. Pressure on the space and resources in the Baltic Sea is growing. Different interests, such as shipping, wind farming, mineral extraction, nature and shore protection have to be balanced in a multi-sectoral perspective.

The project "BaltSeaPlan" follows the call of the EU Commission for its member states to draw up integrated maritime strategies and to introduce Integrated Maritime Spatial Planning (IMSP). The overall aim of the project is to create a joint understanding of the instruments and processes necessary to successfully realise the IMSP in the Baltic Sea Region. The "BaltSeaPlan" also contributes to the implementation of both HELCOM recommendation on Broad-scale Marine Spatial Planning and the VASAB Gdańsk Declaration.

"BaltSeaPlan" partners will jointly develop a common vision for the Baltic Sea. Furthermore, partners will prepare proposals for a national maritime strategy in each country. The proposals will be developed taking into account the land and sea interdependence, economic, social and ecological aspects. Seven drafts of cross-border Integrated Maritime Spatial Plans will be worked out for selected Baltic areas, such as the Pommeranian Bay, Gulf of Gdańsk or the Middle Bank. These plans will offer a direction and vision for how the coastal and marine space should be used. In addition, the plans will lay out zones which provide different priorities for different sections based on the identified national scenarios.



 Integrated Maritime Spatial Planning

 a tool for harmonious use of the sea space and resources.





Partnership	National and regional authorities, maritime and research institutes and NGOs from Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	14
Lead partner	Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.7 million €
ERDF funding	3.0 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Nico Nolte Tel.:+494031903520 nico.nolte@bsh.de



www.baltseaplan.eu



-shore and coastal area

# baltic green belt



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 5

"Baltic Green Belt" is part of the flagship project that anticipates regional and local impacts of climate change through research. The European Green Belt is an ecological initiative running through the continent following the route of the former Iron Curtain. The division of Europe limited economic and social activity for over 40 years. It also allowed for the development of an astonishing biodiversity along the former borders. The aim of this European initiative is to save natural assets that grew alongside these former no-men's lands.

Within the Baltic Sea Region the Green Belt was indicated along the South-Eastern coast from Germany to Finland. However, there were no activities planned to improve the environmental state of the Baltic Sea coast. The project "Baltic Green Belt" aims to fill this gap and develop an ecological network for the Baltic Sea Region. Activities of the project focus on nature conservation and improvement of the ecological situation of the coastal strips on both sides of the Baltic Sea.

A significant part of the project is dedicated to dissemination activities aimed at including the "Baltic Green Belt" ideas into policies, programmes and actions. The "Baltic Green Belt" will evaluate the status of protected areas, natural and cultural sites, infrastructure development and water quality. The project unites partners from local and regional public authorities, universities, non-governmental and international organisations.





 Protection of cultural and natural heritage along the Baltic Sea Coast following the trail of the former Iron Curtain.

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The project will raise awareness and offer solutions related to biodiversity, agricultural land based pollution, and climate change. This will stimulate sustainability. Project partners will compile summarizing reports for each Green Belt Country. The reports will enable successful lobbying among decisive municipal, regional and international bodies. The partners will provide and share scientific information on positive and negative effects of establishing protected areas and the conservation of sandy beaches. Pilot actions will demonstrate in practice how to improve the Baltic Sea's water quality through enhanced sanitation networks and lower emission levels in agricultural production.

Partnership	Local, regional municipalities, research institute from Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	15
Lead partner	Christian Albrechts University of Kiel, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.3 million €
ERDF funding	1.8 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 January 2012)
Contact person	Michael Schultz Tel.: +49 431 880 1782 m.schultz@geographie. uni-kiel.de

www.balticgreenbelt.uni-kiel.de



In Europe and in the rest of the world, energy consumption is growing. Yet, huge biomaterial resources are not utilised to the greatest extent possible. The interest in these resources is increasing. Therefore, it is necessary to balance the competition between the usage of biomaterial resources for food, fibre and fuel.

The project "Bioenergy Promotion" aims at strengthening the sustainable use of bioenergy in the Baltic Sea Region. It will contribute to a common understanding of the opportunities and challenges. The project will serve as a major regional platform for cross-sectoral and transnational networking to facilitate the coordinated policy development, design and application of instruments which promote bioenergy.

"Bioenergy Promotion" was selected as a Baltic 21 Lighthouse project. The consortium includes national and regional authorities, research institutions, experts in the field of forestry and agriculture, and biomass companies. "Bioenergy Promotion" was approved as a strategic project.

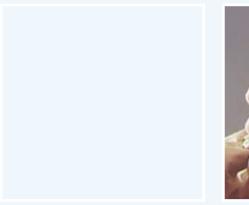
The project will develop criteria for sustainable biomass supply, use and trade. These policy guidelines will contribute to the development and implementation of national and regional biomass action plans. The action plans and feasibility studies will facilitate bioenergy investments in the Baltic Sea Region. The project will also establish a virtual brokerage platform to meet the needs of all players of the biomass market by contributing to the fair trade options in the region. It will also provide a possibility to create networks, clusters and public-private partnerships in the bioenergy sector.

## Bioenergy Promotion The Baltic Sea Region Bioenergy Promotion Project



#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 10

"Bioenergy Promotion" is the flagship project strengthening sustainable use of bioenergy in the Baltic Sea Region.





• Creating a critical mass for the bioenergy use. Promote competitiveness and technology innovation in the bioenergy market.

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Partnership	National and regional authorities, universities, environmental and forestry development centers, agencies for renewable resources from Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	34
Lead partner	Swedish Energy Agency, Sweden
Approximate total budget	5.1 million €
ERDF funding	3.3 million €
Norwegian funding	0.4 million €
ENPI funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Sonja Ewerstein Tel.: +46 16 544 22 07 sonja.ewerstein@ energimyndigheten.se

www.bioenergypromotion.net

The forecasts say that by 2020 around 80% of people in Europe will live in urban areas. Growing demand for land in and around cities may have negative impacts and prevent balanced development. Until now, regional planning and development have often been performed without systematic reference to impacts they have on quality of life. The existing tools and practices do not sufficiently take into account varying conditions and interactions between urban and rural areas.

The project "NEW BRIDGES" aims to improve urbanrural planning. Project partners will evaluate the potential for sustainable urban-rural interaction. The project will implement new working methods and pilot actions that correspond to the needs of the population. This will attract people and investment into the Baltic Sea Region. The project partnership includes local and regional authorities and expert organizations throughout the Baltic Sea Region.

Key pillars for quality of life are residential preferences, services, mobility and accessibility. The project will look into individual preferences of different population segments (families, entrepreneurs and pensioners) and stakeholders (resident associations and business associations). Their preferences will be compared with the existing policies and practices. Gaps will be transformed into actions through pilot planning and development projects at city and rural levels. Experience from those pilot projects will help to develop a set of policy and practice recommendations targeted at authorities at local, regional and national policy making and planning levels. The project will prepare a priority list for investments to improve quality of life. Partners will also introduce a new management model integrating cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder working methods.

# **NEW BRIDGES**

Strengthening of Quality of Life through Improved Management of Urban Rural Interaction





• Quality of life, integrated urbanrural planning and development that better takes into account needs of different population segments.

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Partnership	Local and regional public authorities and international organisations from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	14
Lead partner	Union of the Baltic Cities Commission on Environment, Finland
Approximate total budget	2.8 million €
ERDF funding	2.2 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Sakari Saarinen Tel.: +358 2 262 4220 sakari.saarinen@ubc.net



www.urbanrural.net



## Urb.Energy Energy Efficient and Integrated Urban Development Action

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 5

"Urb. Energy" contributes to the cooperative actions promoting energy efficient housing. Climate change and limited energy resources are global challenges. The European housing stock is one of the major contributors to the waste of energy and CO2 emissions. Moreover, buildings are responsible for over 40% of the final energy consumption and for more than 25% of CO<sup>2</sup> emissions in the EU. Therefore, improved energy efficiency in buildings, increased use of renewables, and energy saving settlement structures are becoming more important. However, the refurbishment rate is very low, especially in the new EU member states.

The project "Urb.Energy" aims at promoting sustainable and holistic rehabilitation of the residential areas in the Baltic Sea Region. It will combine the approach of integrated urban development with the energy efficient refurbishment of the building stock, and the energy supply structure. The project will involve owners, residents and other local actors to realise investments. Thus, the urban settlements in the regions will achieve better energy performance. This will help to make the region less dependent on energy imports and less affected by rising energy prices.

The project partners will prepare five integrated urban development strategies for the target areas in Poland, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. These approaches for urban renewal can be transferred to other cities and regions around the Baltic Sea. Urb.Energy will provide manuals on integrated urban development strategies and energy efficient refurbishment of the housing stock, and renewal of the related energy supply systems. It will also present guidelines on innovative use of financial instruments from public and private banks, and EU structural funds necessary to implement investments. The project will facilitate rehabilitation of the urban areas.



• Implementing energy efficient urban development concepts in the residential areas.





Partnership	Regional and local authorities, housing and urban development associations and a national funding institution and competence centres from Belarus, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland
Number of partners	16
Lead partner	German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.8 million €
ERDF funding	2.9 million €
ENPI funding	0.2 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Andreas Lindner Tel.: +49 30 20 61 32 556 a.lindner@deutscher- verband.org

www.urbenergy.eu



# Parks & Benefits

Generating socio-economic effects by a sustainable management of protected areas for the benefit of their regions

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 12

"Parks & Benefits" is in line with the cooperative actions to highlight and optimise the sustainable tourism potential as well as with the flagship project to promote the cultural heritage and the unique landscapes. The Baltic Sea Region holds many sites of typically Baltic or even outstanding natural heritage. These sites are preserved by the status of protected areas. While respecting their conservation and development objectives, sustainable Nature Tourism within and around protected areas can be, or already is, an important element of the regional economies.

Up to now the economic potential is underdeveloped and offers vast possibilities for the development of tourism, of public-private partnerships, and improved nature conservation. At the same time, the existing economic performance is often underestimated, which results in prejudices about the purpose of nature protection. Therefore, all stakeholders in regions working with protected areas have to put more effort into cooperation and communication. This will foster sustainable development of the regions.

The project "Parks & Benefits" will introduce and strengthen a sustainable approach to Nature Tourism in the Baltic Sea Region. The project will increase awareness of the mutual benefits to protected parks and their surrounding regions for regional development and sustained natural development.

The main instrument is the transfer of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas from Western and Mediterranean Europe to the Baltic Sea Region, and the joint implementation in eight protected areas. The partners will carry out capacity analyses, work on management of visitor standards, quality development, and cooperation with local tourist stakeholders.

The project will results in a network of certified protected areas, improved nature tourism products (also for disabled people), increased awareness, and recognition of the benefits of nature protection on a political level.



Aivars Petriņš, LV







• Unfolding economic potential through sustainable use of protected areas.

Partnership	Protected area authorities, municipal, regional and national public authorities, business incubators, universities, NGOs from Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway
Number of partners	18
Lead partner	Ministry for Agriculture, Environment and Consumer Protection Mecklenburg- Vorpommern, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.7 million €
ERDF funding	1.9 million €
Norwegian funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Olaf Ostermann Tel.: +49 385 588 6641 o.ostermann@lu.mv- regierung.de

www.parksandbenefits.net

## Eco-Region The Baltic 21 Eco Region Project

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 5

"Eco-Region" is in line with the cooperative actions promoting the whole Baltic Sea Region as green region. The development in the Baltic Sea Region is far from sustainable: excessive use of land, growing demand for energy and polluting discharges are just a few examples of negative trends. Good practices on how to turn sustainable development into a reality exist, but they are hard to find.

The overall aim of the project "Eco-Region" is to develop the Baltic Sea Region into the world's first Eco-Region, where the economic growth goes hand in hand with environmental integrity and social justice. The project is based on the unique multi-stakeholder network of Baltic 21, which was created for the realisation of the Agenda 21 for the Baltic Sea Region. The network will propose solutions to regional problems through cross-sectoral and inter-regional cooperation, and the integration of sustainable development into policy making.

Within "Eco-Region" numerous workshops will foster the dialogue and understanding on sustainable development within the Baltic Sea region. Ten model regions will prepare strategic sustainability plans and realize a selected set of concrete measures. A capacity building programme on cyclical, integrated, regional sustainability systems will support this process. Eco-Region will produce an open accessible web-based database and numerous other information material showing good practices and contact points on how to foster sustainable development on regional level.











 Making cities and regions more attractive and competitive in using their common knowledge and potential.

Partnership	National, regional and local authorities, universities and international NGO from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	26
Lead partner	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.0 million €
ERDF funding	2.2 million €
Norwegian funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Dörte Ratzmann Tel.: +49 30 285550 2372 doerte.ratzmann@bmu. bund.de

www.baltic-ecoregion.eu

The Baltic Sea Region faces economic disparities causing significant migration of workers. There are substantial differences in wage levels, labour market policies, social and working conditions and industrial relations and traditions. Migrant workers often work below their qualification levels and under worse conditions than local workers. Among the consequences of this are a loss of competence and qualification in the work force. These issues have to be seen in the context of the increasing international competition in labour.

In order to counteract negative developments in the labour markets, the policies – which up to now have been handled only on a national level - need to be better organised on transnational level. In its efforts to achieve this goal, the project "BSLN" will create a network that will identify improvements to existing labour market policies. "BSLN" will facilitate interaction among non-governmental organisations, politicians,

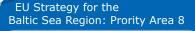
public officials and experts. In particular, the project will address demographic changes and migration processes.

The project partnership is composed of trade unions, trade union confederations, employer associations, educational institutes and public authorities around the Baltic Sea and beyond.

"BSLN" will evaluate regional and national labour policy strategies and help to exchange knowledge within the region. Pilot projects on migration, better integration, better working conditions, optimal use of foreign skilled workers, and lifelong learning will be implemented. A "BSLN"-Forum will help to coordinate regional and transnational activities and be the driving force for the elaboration of a Pan Baltic Labour Policy Agenda.

The project will setup a permanent representative body, the "International Secretariat of BSLN", to represent the high number of organisations dealing with labour issues in the region.

## **BSLN** A European Model for Improvement of Interregional Labour Policy



"BSLN" is the flagship project Baltic Sea Labour Network improving the management and harmonisation of the common labour market issues.

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• Coordination and representation of transnational labour policy.

Partnership	Trade unions, trade union confederations, employer associations, educational institutes and public authorities from Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	22
Lead partner	Ministry of Science and Research of the Free, Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.6 million €
ERDF funding	2.0 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Katariina Röbbelen-Voigt Tel.:+49 40 2858637 k.roebbelen-voigt@ kooperationsstelle-hh.de

www.bslabour.net



# BalticClimate

Baltic Challenges and Chances for local and regional development generated by Climate Change



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 5

"BalticClimate" is part of the flagship project that anticipates regional and local impacts of climate change through research. Society is grappling with how to deal with climate change – not as an unsolvable problem, but as a manageable situation. Even though international and national guidelines and recommendations are being developed, the local and regional levels lack support, resources, knowledge and experience on how to deal with it. In addition to mitigation measures, early adaptation is required. It will reduce unavoidable negative effects and may bear new chances for the economy, the environment, and the social sector.

The project "BalticClimate" is aimed at small and medium-sized cities and rural areas within the Baltic Sea Region. The project will identify how to approach climate change pro-actively in daily regional und municipal practice and long-term planning to open up new opportunities for development.

The project will regionalise various climate change scenarios, assess impacts on the local and regional level, and carry out vulnerability assessments to identify fields of action. Partners will evaluate alternatives for spatial and traffic planning, location and structure of residential areas, energy solutions, and farming decisions. The project will also prepare a SWOT analysis for the participating regions.

To guide decision makers and business, the project will develop an ICT toolkit. The toolkit will contain tools to handle the impacts of climate change relevant to their region.





• Proactive approach to climate change and development of new business opportunities responding to its effects.

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Partnership	Spatial and environmental research institutes, municipal, regional and national authorities, business incubators and universities from Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	25
Lead partner	Academy for Spatial Research and Planning, Germany
Approximate total budget	4.2 million €
ERDF funding	3.3 million €
Duration	36 months (January 2009 - January 2012)
Contact person	Dennis Ehm Tel.:+49 511 349 42 49 Ehm@ARL-net.de

www.BalticClimate.org

# Trans in Form

Transforming rural regions by launching scenarios, new narratives and attractive urban design

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 12

Trans in Form is in line with the cooperative action bringing local authorities close to the citizens.

Regions and medium size cities in the Baltic Sea Region periphery are threatened by migration. In some rural areas, cultivated landscape and settlements are abandoned. At the same time world population is growing and cities are growing with an increasing number of problems. Rural regions, smaller towns and cities need to become attractive for labour, for young families and investments. This means the identity of these areas, i.e. transforming business life, city structures and governance need to be redesigned. Therefore, better planning tools, new development strategies and joint community projects are needed.

The project "Trans in Form" aims to introduce competitive development concepts for rural regions, smaller towns and cities. It will raise awareness among both policy makers and citizens about regional attractiveness and potential.

"Trans in Form" will design an Attractivity Barometer as a tool to analyse the situation in all regions, look further at regional scenarios and perspectives, population and labour market (SMEs). The project will make a toolbox for Regional Scenario Planning and guidelines for New Narratives and storytelling. "Trans in Form" will study best practise and produce regional improvement plans and furthermore carry out an investment pilot, evaluated by partners and professionals, which could demonstrate a possible way of redesigning and creating more interaction in public spaces. The elaboration of diverse toolboxes for analysing rural BSR, with regards to attractiveness, will give guidelines for new approaches to scenario planning together with good governance practices.



• Competitive development concepts, new planning tools and guidelines, new narratives and storytelling, new urban design.





Partnership	Local, regional municipalities, research institute from Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	11
Lead partner	Municipality of Notodden, Norway
Approximate total budget	1.6 million €
ERDF funding	1.0 million €
Norwegian funding	0.3 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
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www.tifpro.eu



# Egoprise

E-GOvernment solutions as instruments to qualify the public sector for the specific needs of small and medium sized enterPRISEs (SMEs) in the rural BSR

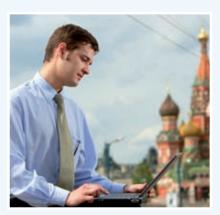
#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 8

"Egoprise" is in line with the cooperative actions to increase labour mobility and initiating an exchange of good practices in the area of administrative simplification of start-ups and licenses. The Directive on services in the internal European market strives for simplified procedures and formalities when it comes to the establishment of businesses and the cross border provision of services. E-government could be a solution to those challenges, but existing solutions are still not sufficiently addressing the needs of the users.

"Egoprise" aims to improve the business orientation of public services. During the project, the most challenging business-related processes and weaknesses will be identified in public sector institutions. Changes to tools, workflows and procedures will be implemented and supported by technical e-government means. The project is being carried out by a competent partnership including academic institutions, public authorities, as well as umbrella commerce organisations and local and regional authorities throughout the Baltic Sea Region.

During the project, an inter-operable web service will be developed and implemented, thus facilitating an exchange with the business community. A current example is the inefficient process of transnational business registration. A multilateral business registration web service will provide multilingual, stepby- step registration support, generate official national forms and submit them directly to the relevant public authorities. Another example is physical or virtual centres, which will improve employment services, the implementation of other e-government solutions to ease public tenders, as well as other services which will connect public authorities and businesses.





• Improving business oriented e-government services in the Baltic Sea Region.

Partnership	Public authorities, business associations and academic institutions from Belarus, Denmark Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden
Number of partners	22
Lead partner	e-Government Association Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.5 million €
ERDF funding	1.9 million €
ENPI funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
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www.egoprise.eu

Over the last few years, the fossil energy resource costs have increased heavily and they will tend to remain at a high level and in the medium and longterm, rise continuously. Consequently, the costs for public services, such as transportation or the provision of heat and electricity, are also rising. This is contributing to a steadily increasing financial pressure for public utilities such as schools, sport facilities and the town hall and leads to heavy burdens on the local economies. In addition, small towns, often in rural areas, have to face a decreasing number of inhabitants. This leads to a negative cycle: the public bodies have a lower budget at hand, while at the same time the costs are rising, despite the lower demand. These circumstances and preconditions, together with a lack of knowledge with regards to the technical possibilities of using renewable energy on the public stakeholders and decision makers' side, make it hard to bring about a change in the regional and local strategies for producing and using energy.

The project's focus is on the important economic potentials that municipalities and counties could exploit by using renewable energy and focussing on energy efficiency. Its main aim is to reduce energyrelated costs of public building, by identifying the possibilities of sustainable technological innovations. Within the framework of the project, Regional Energy Strategies will be elaborated upon and new financing and management models for sustainable regional energy production and management will be developed. Through different events and activities, the public's awareness, with regards to the important topics of renewable energy and its efficient use, will be raised.

Within the "PEA" project, a web based database on renewable energy production will be established to help regions all over the BSR and beyond rethink their energy production, to raise awareness for alternative energies and to encourage municipalities and regions

## PEA

Public Energy Alternatives – Sustainable energy strategies as a chance for regional development

#### EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 5

"PEA" is in line with the flagship project creating a network of sustainable cities and villages. It is also in line with the Priority Area 10 cooperative action to increase use of renewable energies.



Photo by Aeroclub Perleberg e.V., Karsten Heilek



- Development of Regional Energy Strategies.
- Development of tools for public energy management and production.
- Awareness and education for energy management and efficiency.

to meet European energy standards as early as possible. Web-based tools for cost benefit analysis and analysis of value added chains will be created to assist municipalities and regions when developing new models for energy production. Educational training modules on Public Energy Management, as vocational, in-job training for employees of the regions and municipalities, will be developed to enable the regions to continue their energy related approaches well beyond the project lifetime.

All the project's findings will be compiled in the Baltic Energy Compendium to be provided for general use by public institutions, to foster decision making on modernisation and restructuring processes in the public energy sector. In order for all partners to commit to working further on the energy issues tackled within "PEA", a Baltic Energy Declaration will be elaborated and signed. A constant share of experience will be ensured through cooperation within the Baltic Energy Council - a network that will be founded in the framework of the project. The council will serve as a consultant and information service for all interested public organisations in the BSR regions and municipalities.

Partnership	Regional, local public authorities, associations, academic institutions from Germany, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland and Finland
Number of partners	21
Lead partner	City of Wittenberge, Germany
Approximate total budget	3.7 million €
ERDF funding	3.0 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
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www.pea-baltic.eu



## AGORA 2.0

Heritage Tourism for Increased Baltic Sea Region Identity



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 12

"AGORA 2.0" is part of the flagship project developing strategies for sustainable tourism.

Over the centuries, countries in the Baltic Sea Region have had a long shared history and a great variety of natural and cultural resources. However, the area is still not well perceived as one single region outside its borders.

"AGORA 2.0" aims at improving the common identity of the Baltic Sea Region, based on its rich natural and cultural heritage. Heritage assets are not only interesting tourist attractions, but also relevant preconditions to enhance the business environment. The project focuses on finding solutions and looking at using them in a sustainable way. Therefore, a strategic cooperation between the heritage, tourism and business sectors will be set up. Heritage with pan-Baltic potential will be identified to strengthen tourism capacities and to make the BSR more visible.

"AGORA 2.0" will compile existing data and market research results, as well as identify source markets and respective tourism demands. A web-based Baltic Sea Heritage Tourism Information Service (BASTIS) will provide this information – with free access for tourism-based SMEs. Partners collect and assess identity-forming heritage potentials and develop a common identity profile.

Five transnational pilot groups are going to develop new solutions and innovative tourism products, based on analyses and studies on visitor perception conducted previously. Each group deals with common subjects that are typical for at least three Baltic Sea Region countries: Red-Brick Gothic, Castles, Forests, Shifting Sand Dunes and Stones (Rocks).





• Creating a toolbox for improving the shared identity of the Baltic Sea Region based on the natural and cultural heritage.

Partnership	National, regional and local authorities, academic institutions, NGOs (business, tourism, culture, environment), tourism associations and development agencies from Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden
Number of partners	24
Lead partner	University of Greifswald, Institute of Geography and Geology, Germany
Approximate total budget	2.8 million €
ERDF funding	2.2 million €
ENPI funding	0.1 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
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www.agora2-tourism.net







## **BaltMet Promo**

Creating promotional BSR products for tourists, talents and investors in the global markets

EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Horizontal action

"BaltMet Promo" contributes to the horizontal action to build a regional identity in particular in the field of tourism. Marketing and branding of the Baltic Sea Region on the global market is not yet developed in a structured and systematic way. A joint Baltic Sea Region identity as a basis for attracting tourists, talents and investors to the region does not exist.

Based on the permanent Baltic Metropoles Network (BaltMet formed by 11 major cities in the Baltic Sea Region) and the Baltic Development Forum, the project aims to join forces in promoting the Baltic Sea Region on a global scale. The project wants to attract tourists from other continents, talents from the creative sector, as well as major international investment projects to the Baltic Sea Region.

Three pilot project areas will be implemented as a test run for lasting joint promotion. In relation to tourism, service packages will be developed to catch the attention of Japanese tourists. For attracting talents from the creative sector, Japanese film makers will be targeted with special services and events. To spark investors' interests in the region, participation in selected fairs is planned, an Investor's Guide will be drafted and investment promotion organisations will be trained. All this will be accompanied by a permanent policy dialogue between key opinion leaders and decision makers from the region.





• Promoting the Baltic Sea Region on a global scale for tourists, talents and investors.

Partnership	Local public authorities, academic and business support institutions from Denmark, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland
Number of partners	9
Lead partner	City of Helsinki, Finland
Approximate total budget	2.8 million €
ERDF funding	2.2 million €
Duration	30 months (December 2009 - June 2012)
Contact person	Riikka Lahdensuo Tel.:+358931036044 riikka.lahdensuo@hel.fi



photos by Lauri Lahdensuo

www.baltmetpromo.net

# ImPrim

Improvement of public health by promotion of equitably distributed high quality primary health care systems



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: Prority Area 12

"ImPrim" is the flagship project improving public healt by promotion of equitably distributed high quality primary health care systems. Primary Health Care (PHC) is the level of care nearest to the community. It coordinates care with other community stakeholders, manages interfaces with other health services and thus also helps to control the costs of public health systems. Therefore, PHC is an efficient tool for health promotion & disease prevention and helps increase the attractiveness of regions. While the importance of PHC is without controversy, the availability of high quality PHC personnel and resources is a big challenge for all Baltic Sea Region countries.

The project aims to promote equitably distributed, high quality primary health care services in the Baltic Sea Region, in order to increase the cost-efficiency of the public health system and to counteract communicable diseases more efficiently, as well as health problems related to social factors. The project tackles three core areas: access to PHC, financial resources for PHC, and professional development of PHC staff.

The project will produce a new incentive payment scheme and an operational system of evidencebased quality indicators, as well as developing a set of proven measures to recruit and retain doctors and other health professionals in less attractive areas. Furthermore, the project will prepare a strategy on professional development of PHC in the Baltic Sea Region, compile recommendations for avoiding brain drain within and between countries and make evidence-based PHC practices for counteracting communicable diseases available. The project will also prepare a model solution for incorporating PHC in regional development plans and recommendations for promoting equal distribution of PHC.



• Primary Health Care services (PHC), access to PHC, financial resources for PHC, professional development of PHC staff.

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Partnership	Local, regional municipalities, research institute from Belarus, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden
Number of partners	13
Lead partner	Swedish Committee for International Health Care Collaboration, Sweden
Approximate total budget	2.6 million €
ERDF funding	2.0 million €
ENPI funding	0.2 million €
Duration	36 months (December 2009 - December 2012)
Contact person	Göran Carlsson Tel: +4684413350 info@oek.se





www.oek.se/imprim





#### Imprint

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  Joint Technical Secretariat of the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013

We would like to thank the projects for the photos and for their help in editing texts.

Editing: Joint Technical Secretariat Design & Printing: ArtBerries, www.artberries.lv Printed in June 2010

eu.baltic.net



Part-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund and European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument)

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