



Baltic Sea Region

Programme 2007–2013

Newsletter September 2010

Highlights

- Nine new cooperation projects
- "The power of the Baltic Sea macro-region" conference in Jyväskylä
- Featured project: EcoRegion

Nine new Baltic Sea cooperation projects selected – powerful cooperation for innovation and sustainable economic and social development

High level representatives from eleven countries surrounding the Baltic Sea decided about new transnational cooperation projects in Kiel, Germany on 15-16 September 2010. 22.9 million Euro from the European Union's Baltic Sea Region Programme were committed to the nine best cooperation projects. 133 organisations from the area will be involved in joint actions. Four of the selected projects (BSHR HealthPort, StarDust, BATMAN and Ecovillages) feature as flagship projects of the EU strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

The approved projects deal with the contribution to sustainable economic and social development and fostering innovations. Creative and cutting-edge procedures are being developed all over the Baltic Sea Region. Yet, at the same time small and medium sized enterprises face major challenges to establish their products at the markets. The ambitious aim of the Baltic Sea Region Programme is to bring these actors together and to develop the basis for the implementation of innovative ideas at the markets.



Ute Neumann (left, JTS), Susanne Scherrer (JTS), Harry Ekestam (chairman of the MC) and Eeva Rantama (JTS) at the MC meeting in Kiel

New projects:

Priority	Area of support	Project acronym	ERDF co-financing (EUR)	NOR co-financing	ENPI co-financing	Approximate total budget	LP	No. of partners	Strategic project	Flagship project of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
1	1.1	URBAN CREATIVE POLES	1,916,622.50	0.00	0.00	2,395,230.00	DE	9		
1	1.1	Baltic Fashion	1,807,879.00	0.00	0.00	2,295,230.00	DE	14		
1	1.1	StarDust	4,933,975.00	87,750.00	0.00	6,512,000.00	SE	34	yes	yes
1	1.2	MIN-NOVATION	2,689,025.00	130,250.00	0.00	3,475,139.95	PL	11		
1	1.2	COOL Bricks	3,250,591.16	0.00	161,092.80	4,308,968.67	DE	18		
1	1.3	BSHR HealthPort	1,907,221.63	0.00	0.00	2,494,465.50	DK	9		yes
3	3.1	BATMAN	2,858,995.00	0.00	0.00	3,740,940.00	FI	18		yes
4	4.2	RB21T	1,967,875.95	0.00	234,000.00	2,786,407.00	SE	14		
4	4.2	Ecovillages	1,077,264.95	0.00	133,906.50	1,467,332.00	LT	6		yes
9 projects			22,409,450.19	218,000.00	528,999.30	29,475,713.12		133	1	

Two of the selected projects show the wide thematic range of the Programme:

BSHR HealthPort project addresses key bottlenecks in health care innovations e.g. insufficient commercial exploitation of solutions proposed by health care researchers and procurement practices limiting access to the health care market.

The project **BATMAN** is turning the perception of manure from an environmental problem into an opportunity for business innovation. It develops and utilizes the high potential and know-how for innovative solutions for manure management, such as production of renewable energy, organic fertilizers and other added value products.

Remaining ERDF funds:

Priority 1:	9.2
Priority 2:	8.1
Priority 3:	9.9
Priority 4:	6.2
TOTAL:	33.4
	(million EUR)



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



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61 project applications had been submitted to the Baltic Sea Region Programme's Joint Technical Secretariat in Rostock and Riga by the end of March 2010. 10 projects with a focus

on transport and Baltic Sea environment have already been approved in Helsinki in June 2010. All project ideas had to demonstrate their potential to contribute to the development of the whole Baltic Sea region. The Programme's Monitoring

Committee including national and regional representatives from all participating countries selects the best project proposals. In 2010, the Monitoring Committee is chaired by Finland.

Finland's President Tarja Halonen will open the Baltic Sea Region Programme conference "The power of the Baltic Sea macro-region"



The Baltic Sea Region Programme conference "The power of the Baltic Sea macro-region" will take place in Jyväskylä, Finland on 30 November -1 December 2010. The event will gather policy makers and representatives of national, regional and local authorities from all those countries bordering the Baltic Sea and beyond. We are also expecting participants from Non-Governmental Organisations, researchers and academics, project partners and interested project promoters – and all those dedicated to further developing the Baltic Sea region towards a model region in Europe. We also intend to

open the fourth call for project applications and inform project promoters how to receive funds from our programme.

The President of Finland Ms Tarja Halonen will provide the key note opening speech at the conference. From Mr Mauri Pekkarinen, Minister of Economic Affairs, we will get the Finnish viewpoints for the European Union's cohesion policy beyond 2013. Mr John Bachtler, Director of the European Policies Research Centre (Glasgow), and Mr Ole Damsgaard, Director of Nordregio, will provide the academic grounds for an informed exchange of views among conference participants about the much debated concept of macro-regional strategies in the European Union. Speakers from the European Commission and the Danube region will reflect on similarities and differences of building up a macro-regional development strategy. The transnational cooperation projects funded by the Baltic Sea Region Programme will demonstrate their achievements and contributions to the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea region.

Conference participants will have space to network and

explore the City of Jyväskylä and the region of Central Finland. We will learn about Finnish architect Alvar Aalto and visit his works, accompanied by music and food, during the get-together on 29 November. The pre-conference programme on 30 November will start with a visit to Keljonlahti power plant and continue with a seminar on bioenergy. The performance of the Dance Theatre Kramppi and Finnish folk music will craft atmosphere at the conference and during reception on 30 Nov.

The event is organised by the Baltic Sea Region Programme's Joint Technical Secretariat in co-operation with the Finnish Ministry of Employment and the Economy, the Regional Council of Central Finland and the City of Jyväskylä. Have you not been there yet? Jyväskylä is situated 270 km north from Helsinki, connected by flights, busses and trains. We look forward to welcoming you in Jyväskylä, the human technology city!

You will find practical information, link to the registration and hotel booking at eu.baltic.net.





Eco-Region – The Baltic 21 Eco Region Project

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 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.

The project is based on the multi-stakeholder network of Baltic 21. The network will propose solutions to regional problems through cross-sectoral and inter-regional cooperation, and the integration of sustainable development into policy making.

Eco-Region launched a web-based database demonstrating good practices in fostering sustainable development on regional level. The database features regions that have successfully implemented actions leading to sustainable development, provides concrete examples and contact details of prac-

tioners in regions. Any region in the Baltic Sea area can apply for inclusion of its good practice into the database and have it promoted by and within the CBSS - Baltic 21 network. You can visit the database at www.baltic-ecoregion.eu/index.php5/Database;103/1.

EcoRegion practitioners forum 2011

Regional practitioners from all over the Baltic Sea region are invited to join the EcoRegion Conference in November 2011 in Gdansk, Poland. This event will give practitioners the chance to share their knowledge and experience. On top, it will feature the EcoRegion Award.

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Developing the *BalticSeaRegion* into the world's first EcoRegion

Project in keywords:

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

EU Strategy for the Baltic

Sea Region: Priority Area 5: "Eco-Region" is in line with the cooperative actions promoting the whole Baltic Sea Region as green region.

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)

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New colleague in the Joint Technical Secretariat

Orsolya Sofalvi
Finance Officer



Orsolya joined the secretariat team in August. She is responsible for monitoring of the financial reports and providing advice on implementation, reporting and budgetary issues to projects.

Petra Panyi, Finance Officer, will leave her position in mid-October. JTS team would like to thank Petra for good years and wish all the best for her future career.

New Desk Officer in DG Regio

Ms Joanna Kirylo is the new Desk Officer for the Baltic Sea Region Programme in the DG Regio (European Commission) as from 1 September. She is also involved in the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. We warmly welcome Joanna.

We would like to thank Marcin Wójcik for good cooperation and wish him success in the new assignment.

Events calendar

	Date	Place
Information seminar for potential partners from Belarus	29 September 2010	Minsk, Belarus
Project Idea Café and the BSSSC annual conference	13-14 October 2010	Tallinn, Estonia
Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region	14-15 October 2010	Tallinn, Estonia
Monitoring Committee Task Force meeting "Programme Strategy"	26-27 October 2010	Berlin, Germany
"The power of the Baltic Sea macro-region", the Baltic Sea Region Programme conference	30 Nov-1 Dec 2010	Jyväskylä, Finland

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Selected figures from the Baltic Sea Region Programme

No of project partners per country

Belarus	25	Norway	39
Belgium	1	Poland	131
Denmark	83	Finland	135
Germany	178	Sweden	176
Estonia	96	Spain	1
Latvia	86	United Kingdom	2
Lithuania	121		

Total: 1074 partners in 65 projects

No of Lead Partners

Denmark	5	Lithuania	2
Finland	11	Poland	2
Germany	27	Norway	1
Latvia	2	Sweden	15



For **further information** please go to eu.baltic.net and feel free to contact the Joint Technical Secretariat.

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The Baltic Sea Programme 2007–2013 is investing in Europe's future by fostering sustainable growth of the region.