



Horizontal Action "Spatial Planning" is of key importance in ensuring consistency of actions and in maintaining an integrated approach in the Baltic Sea region.

Comprehensive overview of the Region and knowledge of sensitive areas, populations, economic pressures and other factors, both at sea and on land, are prerequisites for feasible sustainable development.

**GOAL AND TARGET**

The **overall goal** of this horizontal action is to achieve territorial cohesion perspective in the Baltic Sea region by 2030. In 2030 the Region shall be a well-integrated and coherent macro-region, and it has overcome the socio-economic development divides between its individual parts and turned the global challenges into assets.

The **strategic target** of the Horizontal Action is to **draw up and apply trans-boundary, ecosystem-based Maritime Spatial Plans throughout the Region in 2020/2021**. It means the Baltic Sea countries should aim at developing national maritime spatial plans by applying an ecosystem-approach, and that the planning should be coherent across the borders which entails close cross-border cooperation.



**HORIZONTAL ACTION  
SPATIAL PLANNING**

ENCOURAGING THE USE OF MARITIME AND LAND-BASED SPATIAL PLANNING IN ALL MEMBER STATES AROUND THE BALTIC SEA AND DEVELOP A COMMON APPROACH FOR CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION



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## LAND-BASED SPATIAL PLANNING

Land-based spatial planning has been carried out by all Baltic Sea region countries at national, regional and local level. VASAB has established a common platform, which allows partners to meet, network, exchange knowledge and experiences. VASAB sketched a first common spatial vision for the Baltic Sea region – 'Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea 2010' – (VASAB 2010) that was adopted by ministers responsible for spatial planning in Tallinn in 1994. The VASAB Long Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (LTP) is the latest contribution to these efforts. The coordinators of policy areas should take the LTP into account when addressing spatial objectives, conditions and impacts of their actions. The LTP concentrates on issues which require transnational solutions such as urban networking and urban-rural cooperation, improving external and internal accessibility and maritime spatial planning. It also calls to overcome territorial disparities and socioeconomic divides between parts of the Baltic Sea region.

In order to implement LTP within the EUSBSR and achieve coherent development of the BSR, horizontal action aims to:

- contribute to better adaptation of strategies to different types of areas and propose specific approaches for a diverse urban pattern;
- apply place-based approaches to territorial development policies as well as effective use of functional area's concept and territorial impact assessment tools;
- observe the territorial development processes in the BSR;
- encourage improving accessibility and connectivity of the BSR by using potential of TEN-T for regional development.

**VASAB Committee for Spatial Planning and Development of the Baltic Sea Region** (VASAB CSPD/BSR) acts as a coordination platform for the territorial development in the BSR, in close cooperation with the Council of the Baltic Sea States.

### SEED MONEY PROJECTS

**MSP & MHM** project focuses on integration of Maritime Cultural Heritage to MSP processes.

*Project's lifetime:* April 2016 - March 2017

**Smart Coast** project focused on coastal zone management by local and regional cooperation in a transboundary context and strengthening interlinkage of a land-based and maritime spatial planning with the emphasis on environmentally sustainable approach.

*Project's lifetime:* November 2014 - November 2015

**Baltwise Seed** project aimed to provide added value in the field of MSP by engaging in further practical studies involving particularly the Russian Federation. The project area was Gulf of Finland.

*Project's lifetime:* April 2014 - March 2015

**LiveBaltic** project aimed to understand how the quality of living indicators are included in municipal and regional planning, and what are the best practices of the most 'liveable' cities.

*Project's lifetime:* April 2014 - March 2015

## FLAGSHIP PROJECTS



**Baltic SCOPE – Towards coherence and cross-border solutions in Baltic Sea Maritime Spatial Plans** develops common

solutions of the cross-border MSP leading to greater alignment of national plans, by executing a unique exercise to challenge countries involved, learns from the gained experience and transfers the knowledge beyond the project and region, as well as facilitates the implementation of the EU MSP Directive.

*Project's lifetime:* March 2015 - March 2017

*Budget:* € 2 638 829

*Financed from:* DG MARE (Call MARE/2014/22)

## OTHER RELEVANT PROJECTS

### LAND-BASED



**Live Baltic Campus - Campus Areas as Labs for Participative Urban Design** – aims at developing campuses as innovation hubs

and integration of them in the overall urban management and transport system, thus creating better urban environment for businesses and residents.

*Project's lifetime:* October 2015 – March 2018

*Budget:* € 1 850 000

*Financed from:* Interreg Central Baltic Programme 2014-2020



**Baltic Urban Lab - Integrated Planning and Partnership Model for Brownfield Regeneration** aims at improving urban planning by developing and testing new integrated models for brownfield regeneration. The project tackles an increasing need of building attractive, high-quality and sustainable urban areas and will

provide an integrated planning and partnership model for brownfield regeneration.

*Project's lifetime:* October 2015 – March 2018

*Budget:* € 2 200 177

*Financed from:* Interreg Central Baltic Programme 2014-2020



**BEA-APP Baltic Energy Areas – A Planning Perspective** aims to improve the capacity of regional and renewable energy planning actors by developing, testing and

implementing new spatially adjusted spatial planning instruments, innovative stakeholder involvement modes and financing systems, as well as place-based pilot actions assessing local circumstances and conditions, defining the optimal renewable energy mix for strategically selected areas and setting the scene for a number of concrete renewable energy projects in the region.

*Project's lifetime:* March 2016 – March 2019

*Budget:* € 2 700 000

*Financed from:* Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020



**Baltic LiNEs - Coherent Linear Infrastructures in Baltic Maritime Spatial Plans** is aiming to increase

transnational coherence of shipping

routes and energy corridors in maritime spatial plans in the BSR in order to prevent cross-border mismatches and secure transnational connectivity as well as efficient use of the Baltic Sea space.

*Project's lifetime:* March 2016 - March 2019

*Budget:* € 3 409 458

*Financed from:* Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020

### MSP



**BALTSPEACE - Towards sustainable governance of Baltic marine space** provides science-based approaches and

tools to clarify and improve the capacity of MSP as a policy integrator in the BSR. The project tests and evaluates individual tools and combinations of tools, resulting in practical guidance for their application in MSP in the future.

*Project's lifetime:* April 2015 - March 2018

*Budget:* € 2 000 000

*Financed from:* The joint Baltic Sea research and development programme (BONUS) 2010-2017



**BaltCoast - A systems approach framework for coastal research and management in the Baltic** tackles

complex problems and challenges in the coastal zone integrating the different human activities with the ecosystem capacity and external forcings by using the Systems Approach Framework (SAF). Project will focus on linking existing Baltic Integrated Coastal Management activities into lasting Baltic coastal management competence network.

*Project's lifetime:* April 2015 - March 2018

*Budget:* € 2 900 000

*Financed from:* The joint Baltic Sea research and development programme (BONUS) 2010-2017

## PAST PROJECTS

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

*Web:* <http://partiseapate.eu/>

*Project's lifetime:*

June 2012 - December 2014

*Budget:* € 1 043 015

**BSR-TeMo** - Territorial Monitoring for the Baltic Sea Region

*Web:* <http://bsr.espon.eu>

*Project's lifetime:*

February 2012 - January 2014

*Budget:* € 340 000

## MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING

Augmentation of activities in the Baltic Sea have led to increased competition for limited marine space between sectoral interests, such as shipping and maritime transport, extraction of gravel and minerals, offshore energy, ports development, tourism, fisheries and aquaculture in addition to environmental concerns. Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) and Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) are important tools and processes for improved decision making. They help various users to balance sectoral interests that compete for marine space, and contribute to achieving sustainable use of marine areas to the benefit of economic and social development as well as the marine environment.

The establishment and implementation of MSP by applying the ecosystem approach is required by the EU MSP Directive. Other regulatory frameworks and policy initiatives in the Baltic Sea, addressing both MSP and ICM, can be further facilitated by common cross-border cooperation for the implementation of MSP in the Baltic Sea according to the regional set of MSP principles adopted by all BSR countries within VASAB and HELCOM.

The Regional Baltic MSP Roadmap 2013-2020, adopted by the HELCOM Ministerial Meeting in 2013 and endorsed by the VASAB Ministerial Conference in 2014, includes the necessary steps to achieve the goal to draw up and apply maritime spatial plans throughout the BSR which are coherent across borders and apply the ecosystem approach.

In addition, the Guideline for the implementation of ecosystem-based approach in MSP in the Baltic Sea area and Guidelines on transboundary consultations, public participation and co-operation in MSP process have been prepared.

**The joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group**, established in 2010, is the regional platform for cooperation between BSR countries to ensure coherent MSP processes in the cross-border context and pro-active implementation of the EU MSP Directive as far as EU countries are concerned.

In 2015 the **BSR MSP Data Expert Sub-group** was established as an expert group under the joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group. The aim of the sub-group is to support data, information and evidence availability for MSP processes with regard to cross-border / trans-boundary planning issues.

**PLAN BOTHNIA** - Maritime Spatial Planning preparatory action for the Baltic Sea.

*Web:* <http://planbothnia.org/>

*Project's lifetime:*

December 2010 - June 2012

*Budget:* € 500 000

**BaltSeaPlan** - Planning the future in the Baltic Sea.

*Web:* <http://baltseaplan.eu/>

*Project's lifetime:*

October 2008 - January 2012

*Budget:* € 3 700 000