

VASAB

Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea at a glance

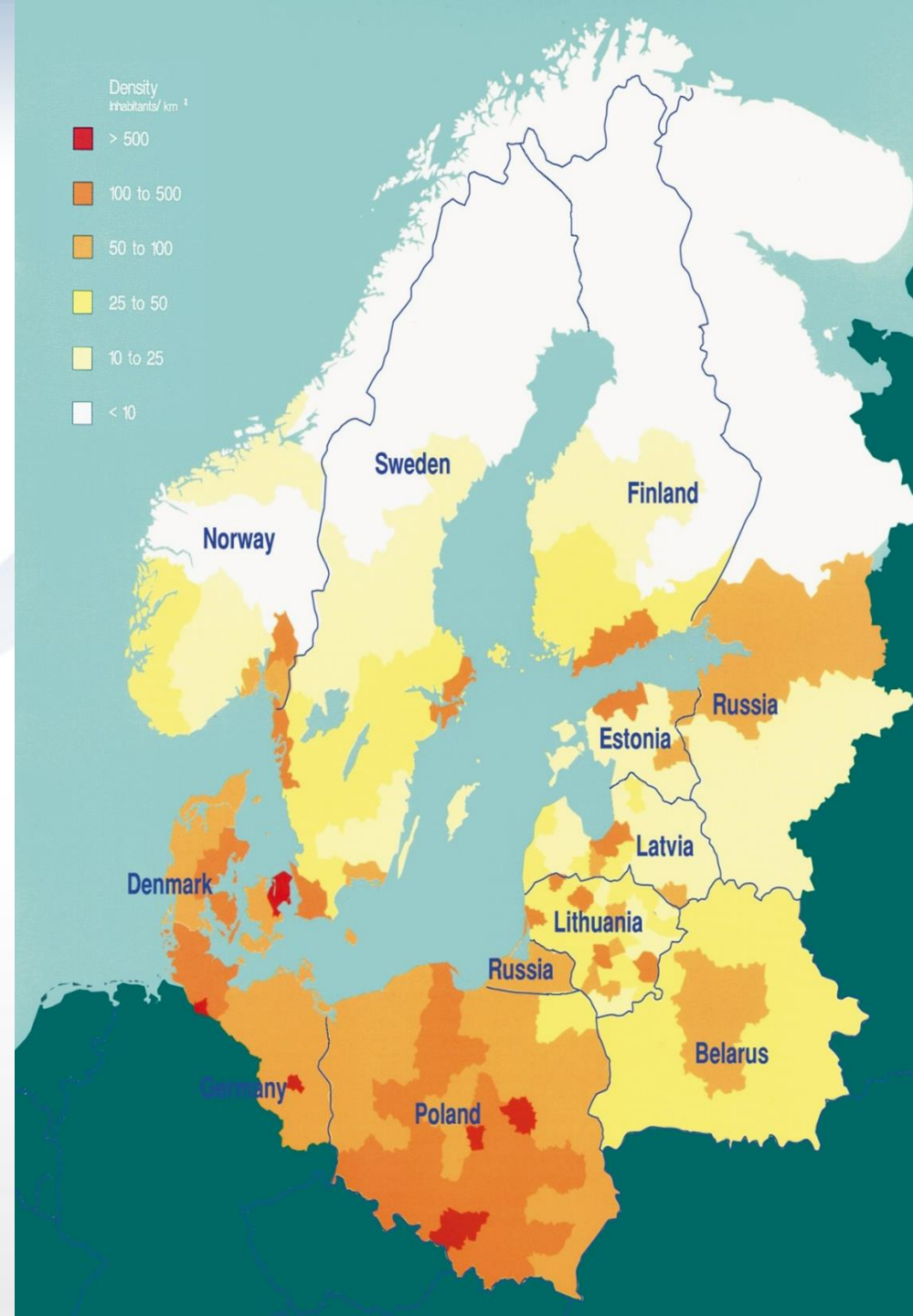
Talis Linkaits
Head of VASAB Secretariat

Brussels, 15 May 2018

**A cooperation of ministers of the
Baltic Sea Region countries
responsible for spatial planning
and development**

Organization

**Intergovernmental network
founded in 1992
to promote cooperation on
spatial planning and
development
in the Baltic Sea Region**



Mission

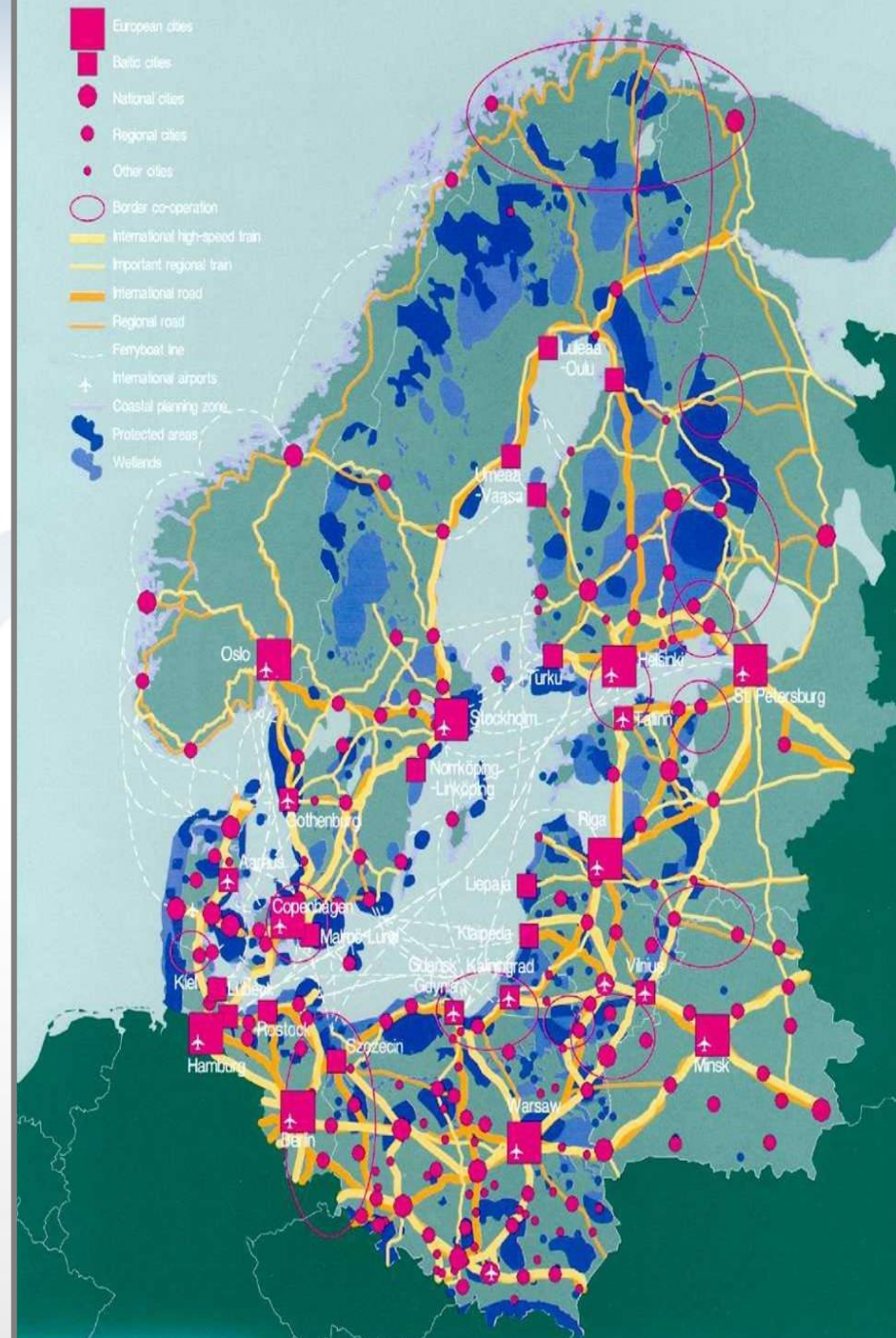
Prepare policy options for the territorial development of the Region and to provide a forum for exchange of know-how on spatial planning and development between the Baltic Sea countries

Organization

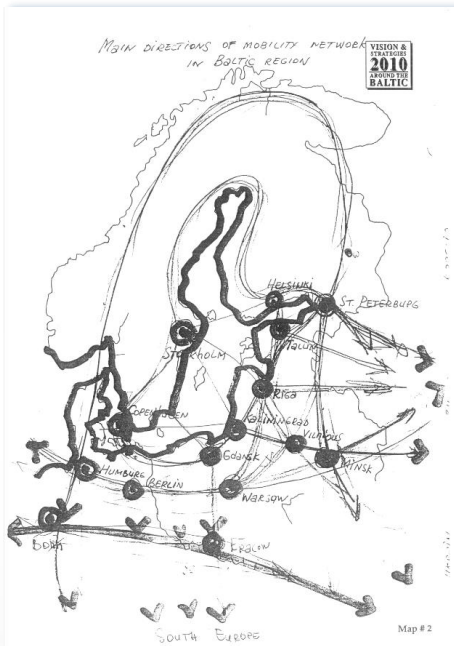
Since 1994 ministers are supported by Committee on Spatial Planning and Development in the Baltic Sea Region (CSPD/BSR) and permanent secretariat

Since 2007

VASAB Secretariat located in Latvia



Purpose



- Support the **development of networks** for co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region
- Provide a practical forum for the **transfer of competence** to the countries in transition to democratic market economies
- **Improve the level of information** in BSR countries on current trends and problems in other countries in the region
- **Assess important infrastructure projects** to receive international financial contributions
- **Promote spatial planning** in the participating countries and regions

Tallinn Vision 2010

- **THE PEARLS** an urban network of international importance
- **THE STRINGS** effective and sustainable links between cities
- **THE PATCHES** areas supporting dynamism and quality of life

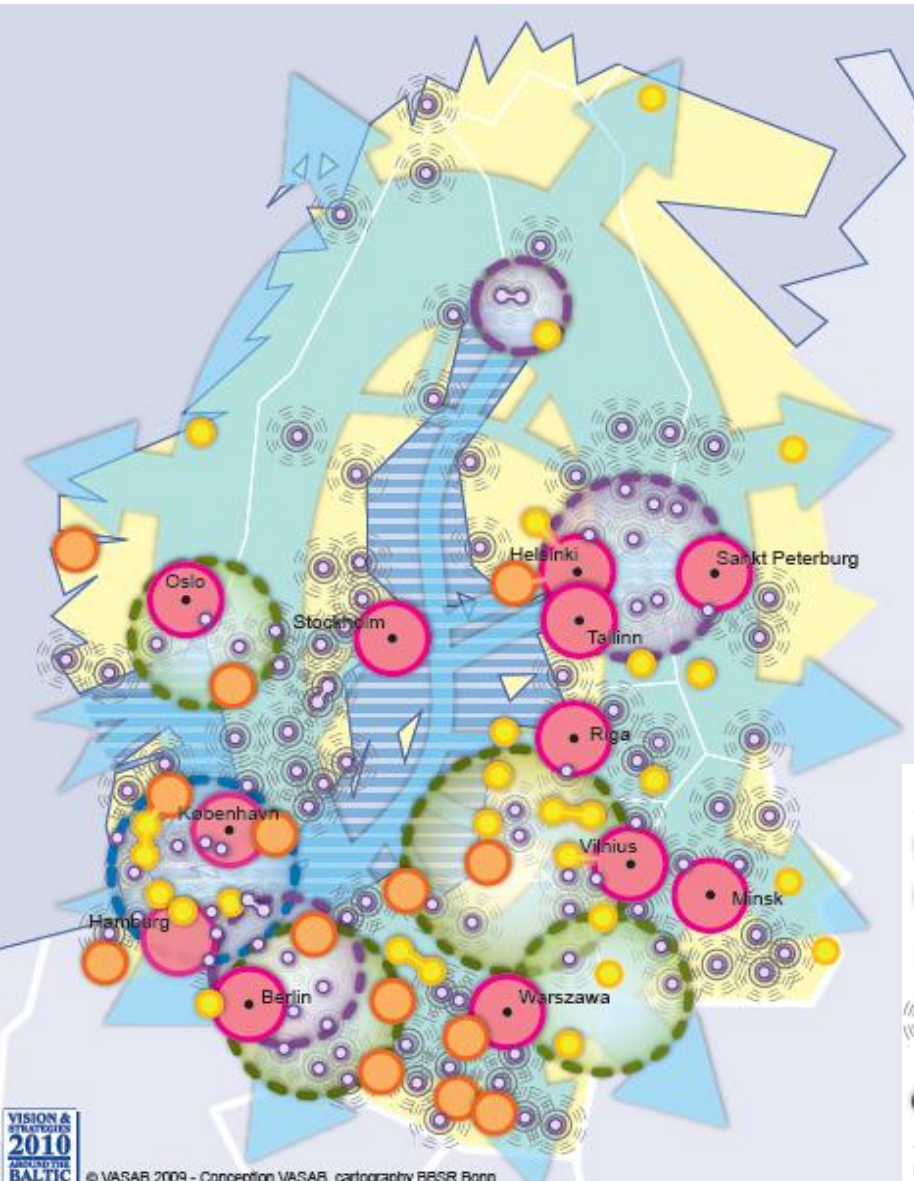
Agreed by the 3rd Conference of Ministers for Spatial Planning and Development, 7-8 December 1994, Tallinn

RAILWAY NETWORK IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION 2010



2030: Territorial cohesion perspective

Agreed by the 7th Conference of Ministers for Spatial Planning and Development, 16 October 2009 in Vilnius



Functional profile of urban regions and centres *

- Global gateway with prominent R&D and knowledge intensive business services
- BSR gateway with well developed R&D and knowledge intensive business services
- Urban region in process of metropolisation with growing globally linked R&D and knowledge intensive services
- Regional development centre providing high quality services to residents in the surrounding area
- Bi-polar and multipolar urban development

Cross-border cluster cooperation areas

- Existing
- Potential
- Cross border global integration zone
- Integrated transport system and international links
- Integrated maritime spatial planning

* Urban regions as defined in the report 'Towards an Integrated Baltic Sea Region', Nordregio, Stockholm 2008

Territorial cohesion perspective of the Baltic Sea Region in 2030



- Well integrated and coherent macro-region with overcome divides
- Well balanced setup of metropolitan centres, small and medium size cities and towns
- Fast, reliable and environmentally efficient technologies of transport, information and communication
- Integrated energy production and supply system with well diversified sources of energy
- Integrated land and sea space planning and management
- Maritime spatial planning principles alleviating potential sea use conflicts for the present and future generations

Main directions

- Urban networking, urban-rural cooperation
- Internal and external accessibility, transport links
- Maritime spatial planning
- HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning WG
- Baltic Sea MSP Data Sub-Group
- Monitoring of territorial development

Population development in the Baltic Sea Region

Comparison of TEN-T core network and VASAB LTP transnational transport connections



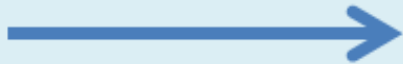
A new chapter in the EUSBSR story BEGINS NOW

Let's Communicate
the EUSBSR for the benefit of the region

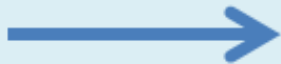
Methods

How far/ambitious

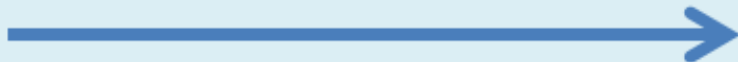
- **urban networks and urban-rural relations:** discuss, disseminate, develop new forms of urban-rural partnership



- **external and internal accessibility:** enter into dialogue with relevant bodies



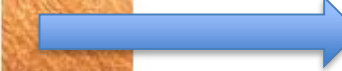
- **maritime spatial planning:** promote, develop and introduce



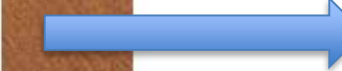
INFORM



CREATE CONCEPT



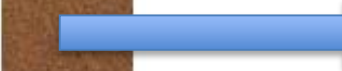
**INFLUENCE
FUNDING**



**INFLUENCE
POLICIES**



TEST



**IMPLEMENT
LOCALLY**

Development of Cities in the Baltic Sea Region



Cities have been the main drivers of development in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR) since the days of the Hanseatic League. The structure of modern cities in the BSR formed along with the flourishing of major industries at the turn of the 20th century. At that time, Berlin and Saint Petersburg, both rapidly growing capital cities, were among the world's ten largest metropolises. With populations of over half a million, Hamburg, Warsaw, Copenhagen, Riga and Wrocław were among the largest cities in Europe. A century has passed since then, the world has changed, but the pulling

power of cities as centres of development has not decreased. The VASAB publication examines the development of cities of the BSR between 2005 and 2014 in four aspects: demography, economic performance and dynamics, human capital in cities and social inclusion and quality of life. The publication includes the most distinctive facts of the changes that have taken place over the past decade. The development of individual cities differs due to their specific historical, geographic and economic characteristics.

In order to provide a comprehensive portrayal of the situation in the BSR, 127 of the most significant centres of development, or the largest cities, all of which have populations of over 100,000 including suburbs (urbanised areas) were selected. For countries with lower population densities (Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Baltic States), cities with a population of over 50,000 were chosen. Considering the different interpretations of the city concept in various countries, a specific methodology for calculating the population of a city's urban area was used.



Trends, challenges and potentials in the Baltic Sea Region

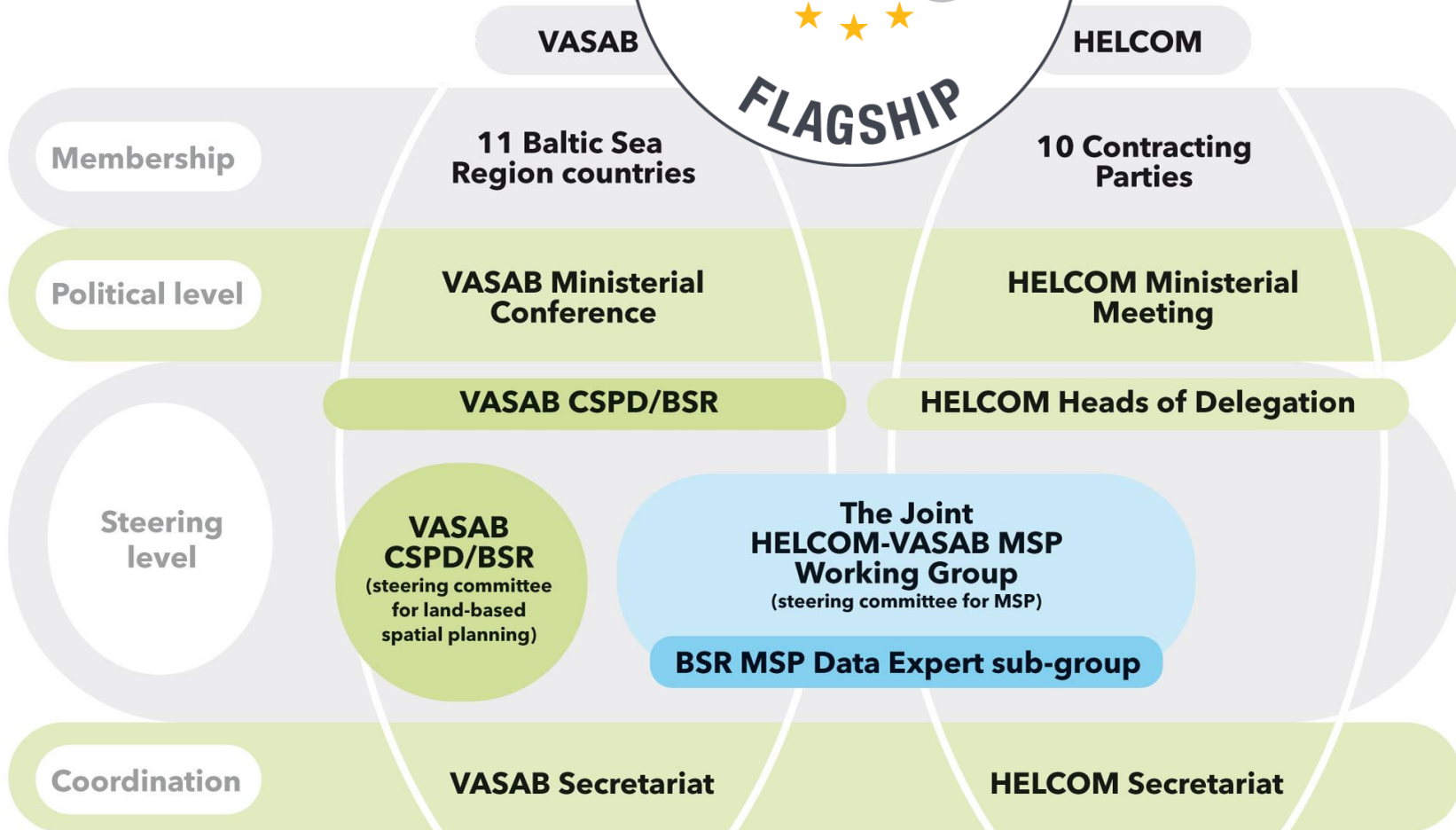
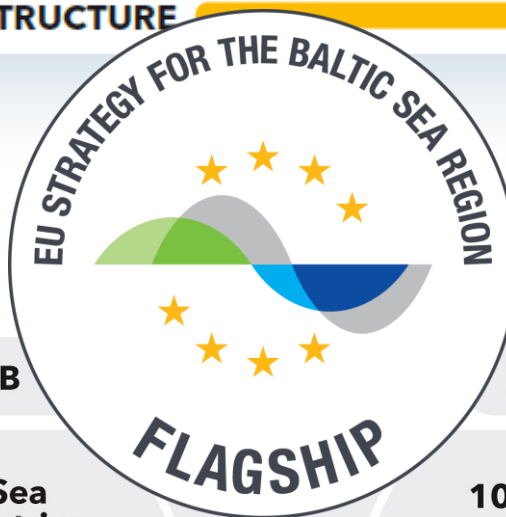




VASAB and HELCOM are Horizontal Action Leaders

**Encourage 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**

HA "SPATIAL PLANNING" GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE





HA Climate
PA Nutri
PA Hazards

PA Energy

PA Bioeconomy

Agriculture,
fisheries and
aquaculture

Environment
protection,
climate change

Energy

SPATIAL PLANNING

Tourism and
recreation

Spatial data

PA Tourism
PA Culture

Education

PA Education

Transportation

Cooperation

PA Safe
PA Ship
PA Transport
PA Secure

HA Neighbours
HA Capacity



1 January 2017 – 30 June 2018

Smart cities and regions

- **1 February 2017 – Introduction to connected society and Baltic Smart Cities, Skanör**
- **18 May 2017 – Smart urban-rural development, Stockholm**
- **13 June 2017 – Transformation to the Baltic Smart Cities, EUSBSR Annual Forum, Berlin**
- **13 September 2017 – Green urban planning and public participation, Minsk (+ CBSS Baltic2030 and UNDP)**
- **31 January 2018 – Smart cities and regions, Sundsvall**



UNASAP



"GREEN URBAN PLANNING AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION"

September 2011
Riga, Latvia

GREEN URBAN PLANNING

NAME
TITLE
ORGANIZATION

HAPPY



Thank you for your attention!

www.vasab.org

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