

VASAB

Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea

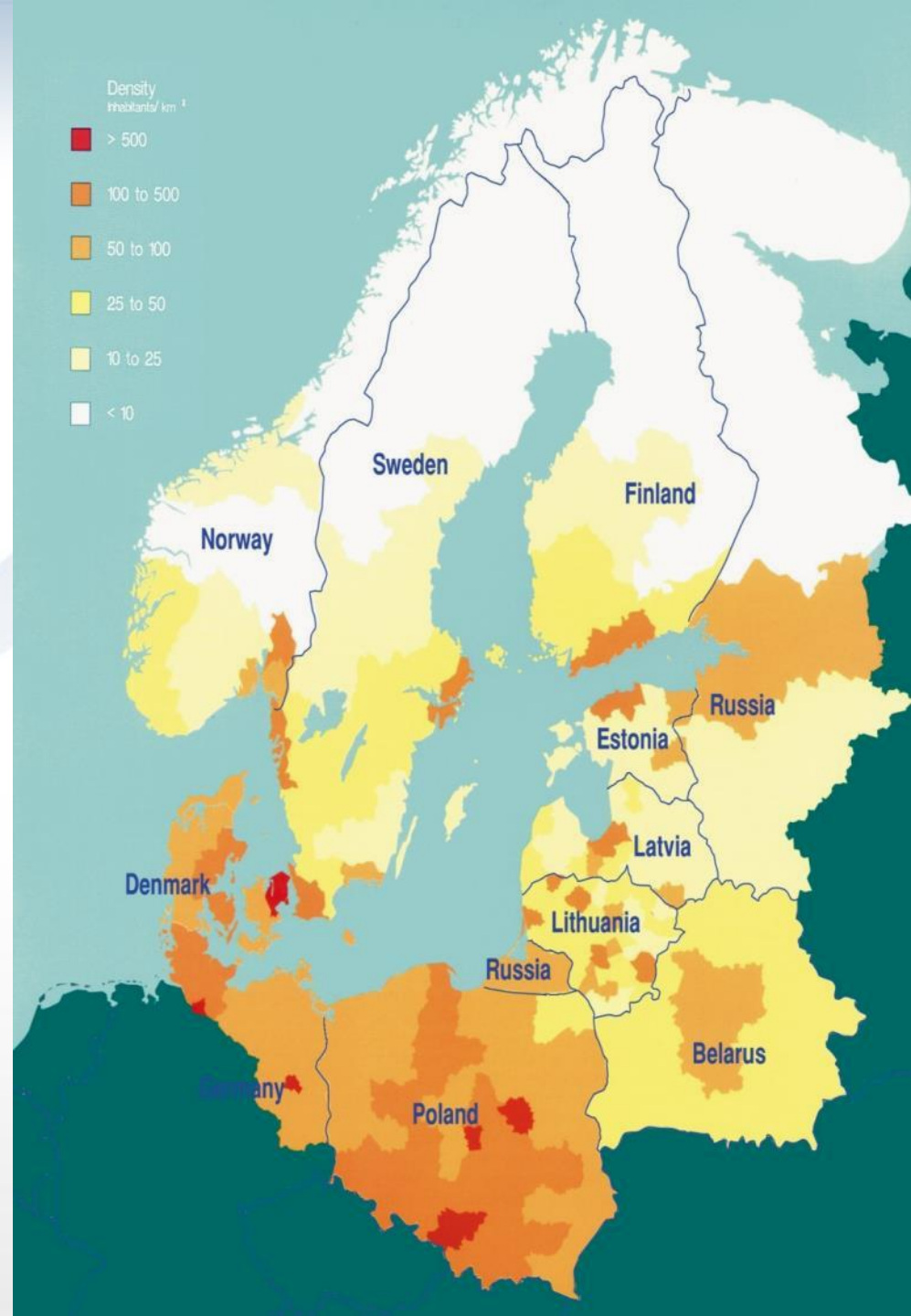
Ulla Koski
Chair of VASAB Committee

12 December 2013, Helsinki

**A cooperation of ministers of the
11 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

Coordination

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



VASAB ACHIEVEMENTS

Defined common vision and principles for sustainable spatial development in the BSR

Inspired transnational spatial planning policy documents within the framework of CEMAT and EU

Provided forum for discussions on the spatial policy issues within the BSR

Improved basic knowledge on spatial development processes and challenges in the BSR

Generated transnational cooperation projects

*Supported partnership between
EU and non-EU countries*

*Contributed to the INTERREG IIC and INTERREG IIIB
operational programmes for the BSR and
to overcoming incompatibilities among
the INTERREG, Phare
and Tacis programmes*

Promoted strategic projects, monitored their
results and disseminated the most strategic
ones



Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea 2010

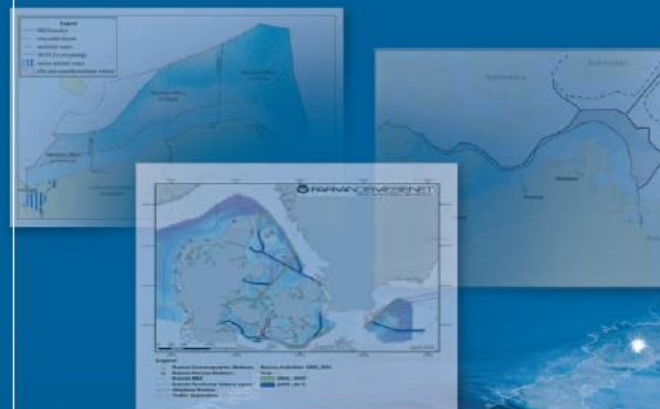
Compendium

COMPENDIUM

OF SPATIAL PLANNING SYSTEMS
IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION
COUNTRIES

COMPENDIUM

on Maritime Spatial Planning Systems
in the Baltic Sea Region Countries

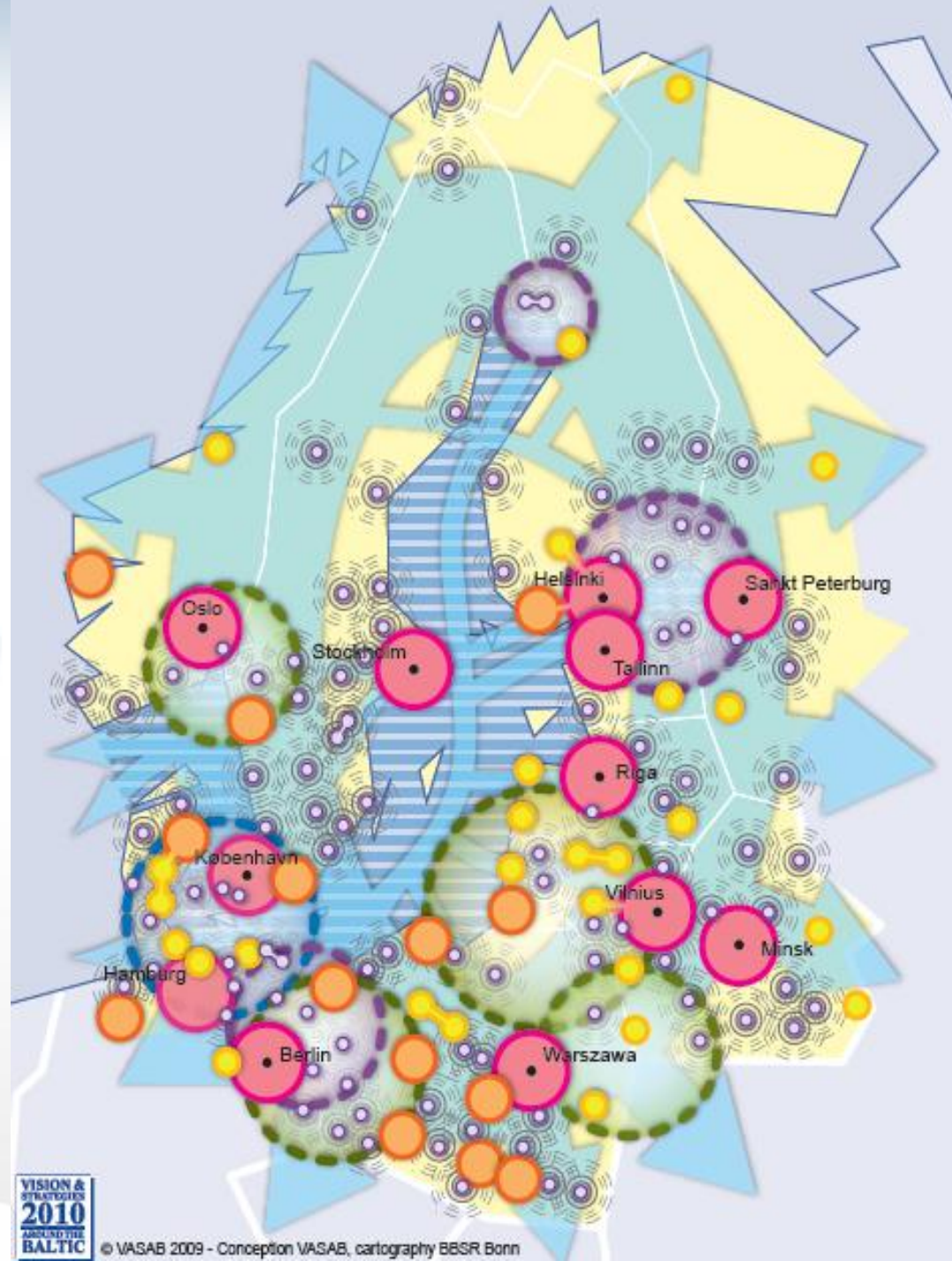


Warsaw-Gdańsk 2009



VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region

**In 2030 the Baltic
Sea Region is a well-
integrated and
coherent
macroregion**



Long Term Perspective

- LTP concentrates on policy themes, where **transnational cooperation in spatial planning** provides a clear added value: **(1)** urban networking and urban-rural relations, **(2)** accessibility, and **(3)** sea space planning and management
- LTP particularly addresses **territorial disparities** in the field of socio-economic development (east-west, north-south, urban-rural divides)
- LTP is **complementary** to transnational actions of other organisations (no duplication of efforts)
- LTP a combination of **policy** and **(22) actions** (involving many stakeholders)

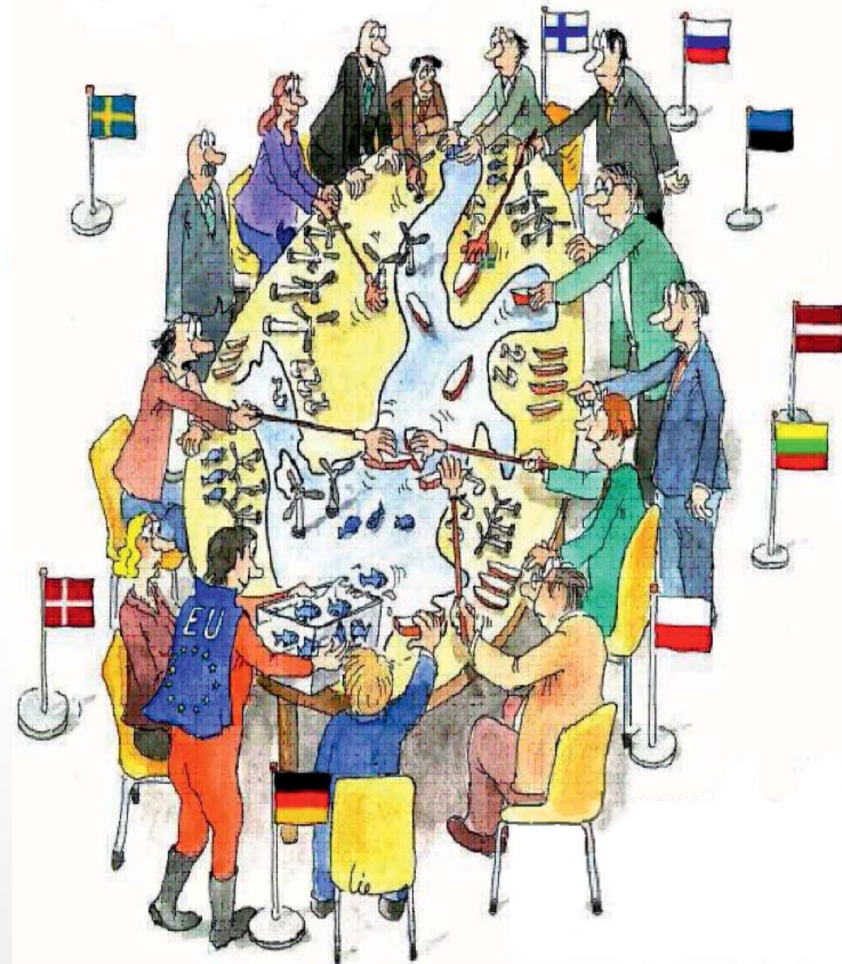
Long Term Perspective

MSP Actions

- **Develop a common approach for Baltic Sea Maritime Spatial Planning**
- **Prepare and implement demonstration projects for some Baltic Sea areas of severe use conflicts**
- **Initiate joint capacity building actions in maritime spatial planning to ensure exchange of experience, promote education availability and to increase competence**

Joint Efforts in MSP

- Joint VASAB-HELCOM MSP WG established **in 2010**
- Baltic Sea Broad-Scale MSP principles adopted
- Legislative base for MSP
- Ecosystem-approach in MSP
- ICZM practices in the Region
- Knowledge exchange on good practices in MSP
- Minimum requirements for MSP in the Region
- Roadmap by 2020



Pilot Projects

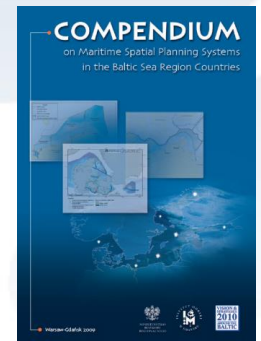
2002 BALTCOAST: examples on plans and recommendations for planning



2004/5 Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Niedersachsen adopt plans covering territorial sea

2007 VASAB WG on sea use planning and ICZM

2009 Germany adopts plans for Exclusive Economic Zone
VASAB Compendium on MSP in BSR countries



BaltSeaPlan: January 2009 – January 2012



Plan Bothnia: December 2010 – June 2012



PartiSEApate: September 2012 – September 2014

Towards VASAB Ministerial Conference 2014

- **LTP Progress Review Report**
- **Proposals on actions needed [MS, MSP WG, projects]**
- **Collecting good practices**
- **Meeting stakeholders**
- **National consultations**

Ministerial Meeting – Tallinn, 26 September 2014



**Thank you for your
attention!**

**For further information visit
www.vasab.org**

VASAB Secretariat in Riga

E-mail: info@vasab.org

Twitter: [vasab_org](https://twitter.com/vasab_org)

Facebook: [VASAB](https://www.facebook.com/VASAB)