Dear VASAB friends,

During the age of information overload VASAB Secretariat is coming to help you. We have carefully selected the most relevant news and events related to spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region taking place till the summer holidays. As this is the first attempt of such kind, we are interested in your reaction and feedback. And, if you don’t object – we will bother you with the next doze of news in autumn again.

**INVITATION TO THE VASAB STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP**

On 15 May in Brussels VASAB is organising a workshop about experience of macro-regional cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region. Policy makers and stakeholders involved in macro-regional development and cooperation concerning urban planning, accessibility and maritime spatial planning at EU as well as the practitioners and researchers interested in macro-regional topicalities are invited to participate in the discussion. Register now! [Read more.](#)

**IN PREPARATION: SPATIAL VISION OF THE NSB CORE CORRIDOR**

VASAB Secretariat is elaborating a unique spatial planning document – a **spatial vision for a transport corridor**. After the desk research and two rounds of stakeholder involvement activities, the most challenging task is still in front of us: the draft of the spatial perspective for the NSB CoRe corridor is being elaborated. The vision should be ready by the end of 2018. [Read more.](#)
MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING DISCUSSED AND TESTED IN ST.PETERSBURG
MSP was one of the most discussed themes during the XIX International Environmental Forum "Baltic Sea Day", held on 22–23 March 2018 in St. Petersburg, Russia. A round table on MSP on the first day of the Forum included examples of Swedish, Finnish, Polish, German, Russian and even the Black Sea planning experience. Participants of the Forum enjoyed the opportunity to become active stakeholders of MSP process themselves – the MSP game about planning imaginative sea gulf area was played on the second day. Read more.

INTERNATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SHIPPING IN THE BALTIC SEA
The project Baltic LiNES organised an international shipping sector stakeholder workshop “Shaping the Future of Shipping in the Baltic Sea” where 18 stakeholders from the Baltic Sea Region engaged with the simulation software “MSP Challenge 2050”. Read more.

NEW ESPON PROJECT
On 9 February the ESPON European and Macro-regional Territorial Monitoring Tool project kicked-off in Brussels. The aim of this ESPON activity is to develop a practical and operational tool to continuously observe the development trends and patterns taking place in Europe and its macro-regions, including the Baltic Sea Region. The tool should help the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region to monitor its objectives and activities. Read more.
Find all news and events on VASAB Secretariat's social media channels. Follow us on: Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn

Upcoming events

8-9 May Helsinki, Finland
**16th MEETING OF THE JOINT HELCOM-VASAB MSP WORKING GROUP**
The meeting will focus on update on national MSP developments, Pan Baltic Scope project planned activities, particularly follow up the implementation of the Regional Baltic MSP Roadmap 2013-2020, Baltic Sea Broad – scale MSP Principles and Guidelines on transboundary consultations, public participation and co-operation. The ecosystem – based approach in MSP, green infrastructure/blue corridors, linkages to a broader maritime policy perspective are also the themes of the meeting.

14 -16 May Brussels, Belgium
**VASAB EVENTS IN BRUSSELS**
14 May VASAB brainstorming session on Long-Term Perspective
15 May VASAB stakeholder workshop “Achieving coherent and sustainable development of macro-region”, Read more.
16 May VASAB 78th CSPD/BSR meeting, Read more.

30-31 May 2018 Sofia, Bulgaria
**ESPON SEMINAR "TERRITORIAL COHESION POST 2020: INTEGRATED TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR BETTER POLICIES"**
The seminar will provide insights to the newest ESPON evidence on many of the topics related to the territorial cohesion debate regarding migration, labour market, public services, climate change, spatial planning, governance and others. VASAB is invited to participate as a stakeholder at the workshop “Strategic programming, territorial monitoring and impact assessment – how can ESPON support stakeholders?”.

31 May - 1 June 2018 Burgas, Bulgaria
EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY 2018
On 31 May VASAB in cooperation with the Pan Baltic Scope project is organising the workshop "Data availability for MSP – from jungle to structure". Workshop will briefly present the current activities and gained efforts on MSP data issues concerning transboundary consultations and coordination at international, EU and sea-basin level. Read more.

4-5 June 2018 Tallinn, Estonia
9th ANNUAL FORUM OF THE EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION
Visit HA Spatial Planning stand in the EUSBSR Forum to find out more about the MSP activities and projects around the Baltic Sea. The digital app on the touch screen with the maps and animations will let the Forum visitors learn about MSP in BSR in an interactive way.
4 June 17:30 - 19:00 BEA-APP seminar “Territorial cohesion in planning renewable energy”. VASAB will present topic "Challenges and status quo of spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region” as well as will participate in the pannel discusion.
5 June 11:00-12:30 European and macro-regional territorial monitoring – how ESPON can support of the post-2020 EUSBSR
5 June 13:30-15:00 – Maritime Spatial Planning – the end is where it begins: implementing maritime spatial plans in a pan-Baltic context
5 June 13:30-15:00 – Communicating EUSBSR as simply as possible – but no simpler
Read more.

More events and news read on our homepage www.vasab.org.

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