

WHAT DO WE DO

- ensure transnational approach in spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region
- facilitate coherent MSP across the borders
- observe the territorial development processes
- recommend transnational policy measures
- promote methodology development
- provide a forum for regional, trans-boundary and cross-sectoral dialogue
- promote co-operation projects
- co-operate with other initiatives and macro-regions
- promote a dialogue with different sectors
- assist the Baltic Sea Region in profiling itself as a global and European forerunner in spatial planning
- facilitate resources alignment for territorial development in different funding programmes
- ensure communication and visibility of the Horizontal Action
- monitor progress within the Horizontal Action and report on it
- cooperate with other relevant Policy Areas and Horizontal Actions of the EUSBSR

Follow the EUSBSR on:
www.balticsea-region-strategy.eu

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FLAGSHIPS



MARA – Mobility and Accessibility in Rural Areas aims to improve the accessibility and mobility in remote touristic areas of the Baltic Sea Region. By developing and testing innovative sustainable mobility solutions for remote areas and integrating them into spatial development plans, the project aims to increase the capacity of regional and local transport actors to address the multifaceted mobility needs.
Project's lifetime: January 2019 – June 2021
Budget: € 2 366 652
Financed from: Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020

OTHER RELEVANT PROJECTS



Augmented Urbans - Visionary, Participatory Planning and Integrated Management for Resilient Cities refers to strengthening the integration of three aspects in urban planning: timeframe, participation and technology. It improves stakeholder participation and linkage between the long-term visions and short-term actions in the cities for enhancing urban resilience.
Project's lifetime: March 2018 – February 2021
Budget: € 2 350 000
Financed from: Interreg Central Baltic Programme 2014-2020



LAND-SEA-ACT – Land-Sea Interactions Advancing Blue Growth in Baltic Sea Coastal Areas explores governance practices to balance local communities' interests with large scale development in MSP. It will propose spatial and entrepreneurship tailored solutions to be applicable on each governance level in all BSR countries to foster Blue Growth.
Project's lifetime: January 2019 – June 2021
Budget: € 2 209 691
Financed from: Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020

RELEVANT FLAGSHIPS FROM OTHER POLICY AREAS



SUMBA - Sustainable Urban Mobility and Commuting in Baltic Cities aims to help urban and transport planners assess, plan, and integrate alternative mobility options into transport plans and policies of cities and municipalities. The project seeks to reshape the urban transport system into an intermodal network that offers a combination of various transport modes.
Flagship of HA Climate
Project's lifetime: October 2017 – September 2020
Budget: € 3 100 000
Financed from: Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020



Capacity4MSP - Strengthening the Capacity of MSP Stakeholders and Decision Makers project platform aims to strengthen the capacity of maritime spatial planning stakeholders, policy- and decision-makers through intensified dialogue activities and amplifying gained knowledge in maritime spatial planning. Capacity4MSP builds on the results of the current and recently completed MSP projects and ongoing MSP processes in the Baltic Sea Region.
Project's lifetime: August 2019 - September 2021
Budget: € 1 089 272
Financed from: Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020 & The European Neighbourhood Instrument



BONUS BASMATI - Baltic Sea Maritime Spatial Planning for Sustainable Ecosystem Services develops integrated and innovative solutions for MSP related to marine and coastal ecosystem services and marine protected areas, develops and applies spatial decision support systems including data discovery and exchange facilities, and develops means for interactive multi-level, multi-stakeholder and cross-sector governance from the local to the BSR scale.
Project's lifetime: July 2017 - June 2020
Budget: € 2 855 473
Financed from: The Joint Baltic Sea Research and Development Programme (BONUS) 2010-2017



SEAPLANSPEACE – Marine Spatial Planning Instruments for Sustainable Marine Governance aims to increase the share of skilled labour force working in blue and green economy sectors of the South Baltic area through joint cross-border actions. This will be achieved by cross-border training and networking.
Project's lifetime: January 2018 - December 2020
Budget: € 1 684 657
Financed from: Interreg South Baltic Programme 2014-2020



BalticRIM - Baltic Sea Region Integrated Maritime Cultural Heritage Management aims to integrate management of cultural heritage in and at the Baltic Sea into MSP. Project seeks to improve the collaboration between the stakeholder groups of maritime cultural heritage and MSP to steer the optimization of planning processes and successful articulation of interests of the MCH community.
Flagship of PA Culture
Project's lifetime: October 2017 – September 2020
Budget: € 2 621 798
Financed from: Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020

PAST PROJECTS

Pan Baltic Scope - Building Lasting Macro-Region Mechanisms for Cross-Border MSP Cooperation
<http://www.panbalticscope.eu/>

Plan4Blue - Maritime Spatial Planning for Sustainable Blue Economies
<https://www.syke.fi/projects/plan4blue>

BEA-APP Baltic Energy Areas – Towards the Transition to Low-Carbon Energy Systems
www.balticenergyareas.eu/

Baltic Lines - Coherent Linear Infrastructures in Baltic Maritime Spatial Plans
www.vasab.org/project/balticlines/

Live Baltic Campus - Campus Areas as Labs for Participative Urban Design
www.livebalticcampus.eu

Baltic Urban Lab – Integrated Planning and Partnership Model for Brownfield Regeneration
www.balticurbanlab.eu

BALTSPACE - Towards Sustainable Planning of Baltic Marine Space
www.baltspace.eu

BaltCoast - A Systems Approach Framework for Coastal Research and Management in the Baltic
www.baltcoast.net

Baltic SCOPE – Towards Coherence and Cross-Border Solutions in Baltic Sea Maritime Spatial Plans
www.balticscope.eu

PartiSEApate - Multi-Level Governance in Maritime Spatial Planning throughout the Baltic Sea Region
www.partiseapate.eu

PLAN BOTHNIA - Maritime Spatial Planning Preparatory Action for the Baltic Sea
<https://helcom.fi/helcom-at-work/projects/plan-bothnia/>

BaltSeaPlan – Planning the Future in the Baltic Sea
www.baltseaplan.eu



BSR Access – Fostering an Access to Clean, Efficient and Multimodal Transport Corridors in the Baltic Sea Region project platform facilitates innovative and sustainable transport by creating linkages between traditional infrastructure nodes and smart transport solutions to further develop the TEN-T Core Network Corridors, and contribute to sustainable growth in the region.
Flagship of PA Transport
Project's lifetime: October 2018 – September 2021
Budget: € 1 000 000
Financed from: Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020

TERRITORIAL MONITORING

One of the HA aims is to observe the territorial development processes in the BSR. The territorial monitoring provides evidence of the development trends of the taken initiatives and actions. It also offers opportunity to flag the necessary changes towards achieving the territorial cohesion perspective of the BSR in 2030. This task is being done based on well-tailored indicators measuring the state of territorial cohesion in the BSR. An operational indicator-based territorial monitoring system was created within an ESPON project 'The Baltic Sea Region Territorial Monitoring (BSR TeMo)'. Based on it two following studies were conducted – Development of Cities in BSR 2016 and Accessibility in BSR 2019 (both available at www.vasab.org). Additionally, BSR TeMo's indicator system feeds into the territorial monitoring platform for the whole Europe and its macro-regions to be developed within the ESPON project 'European and Macro-regional Territorial Monitoring Tool'.

RELEVANT PROJECTS



BT2050 – Territorial Scenarios for the Baltic Sea Region developed territorial scenarios for the BSR in order to increase evidence based on the territorial dimension of the EUSBSR. The territorial scenarios show synergies and trade-offs between spatial goals and priorities set in the strategic documents of the BSR.
Project's lifetime: November 2018 - October 2019
Budget: € 274 500

ETM - European and Macro-regional Territorial Monitoring Tool will provide territorial evidence to stakeholders and policymakers in Europe and in particular on the Baltic Sea, Danube, Alpine and Adriatic-Ionian macro-regions on key development trends over time. The project builds up and capitalizes on existing ESPON tools, in particular the European Territorial Monitoring System (ETMS) and the Baltic Sea Region Territorial Monitoring System (BSR-TeMo).
Project's lifetime: December 2017 – February 2020
Budget: € 630 789

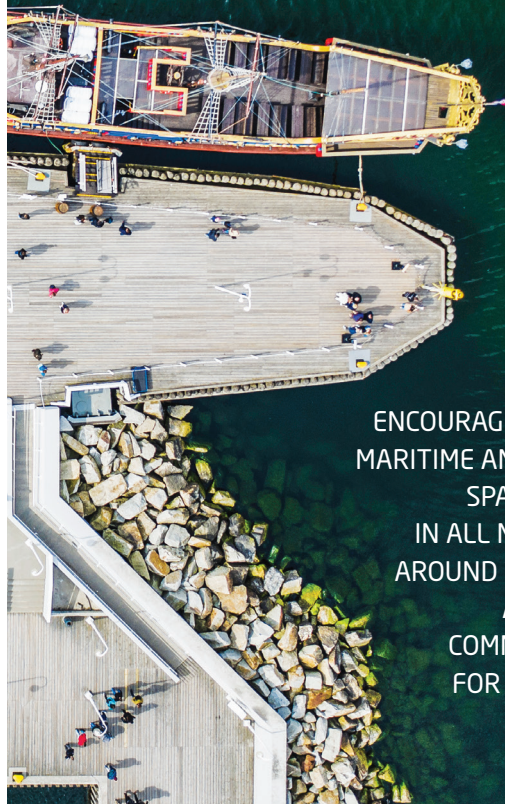
BSR TeMo - The Baltic Sea Region Territorial Monitoring System developed an indicator-based monitoring system to measure the progress in achieving economic, social and territorial cohesion in the BSR by a set of territorial indicators in five domains: economic performance and competitiveness, access to services, markets and jobs, innovative territories, social inclusion and quality of life and environmental quality.
Project's lifetime: February 2012 – January 2014
Budget: € 340 000



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HORIZONTAL ACTION SPATIAL PLANNING

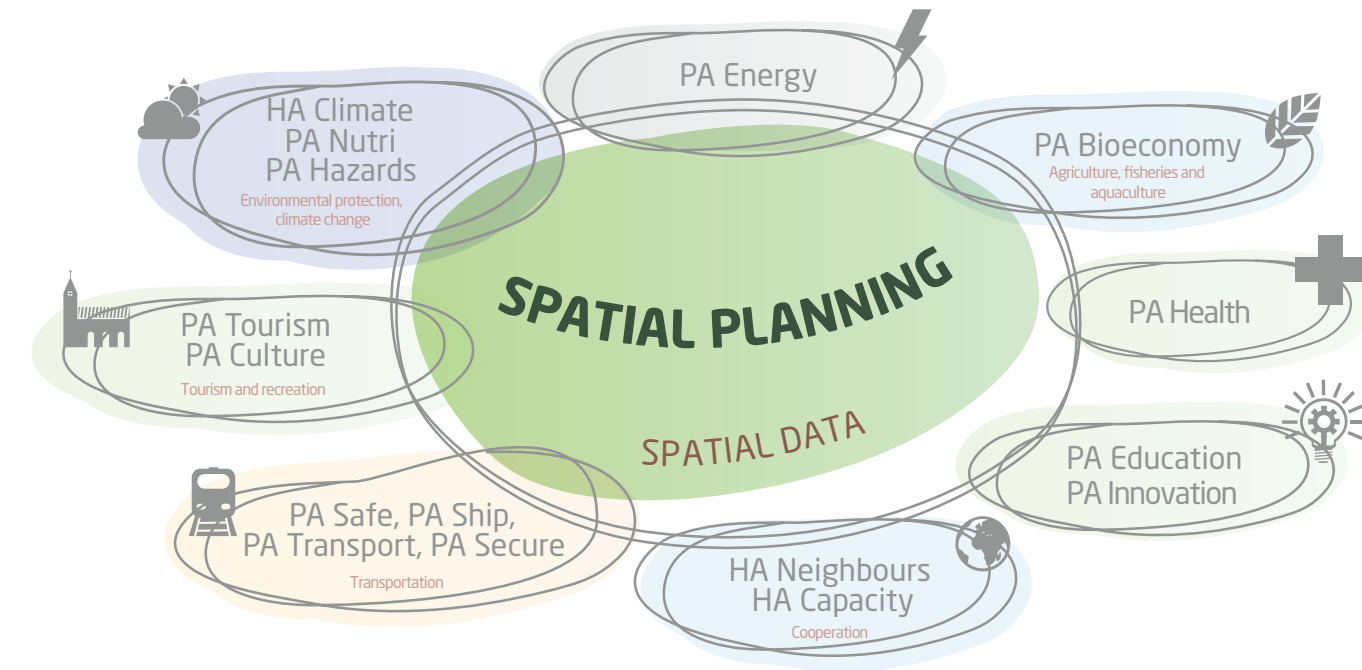


ENCOURAGING THE USE OF MARITIME AND LAND-BASED SPATIAL PLANNING IN ALL MEMBER STATES AROUND THE BALTIC SEA AND DEVELOP A COMMON APPROACH FOR CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

HORIZONTAL ACTION COORDINATORS:



HORIZONTAL ACTION “SPATIAL PLANNING” IN EUSBSR FAMILY



Spatial planning is an integrative process to influence the future spatial distribution of human activities. It aims to ensure functional integration across multiple scales (macro-regional, national, regional, local levels) and different sectors of public policy in order to balance demands for development with the need to protect the environment, and to achieve social and economic objectives. Spatial planning is therefore an important tool for promoting sustainable development, improving the quality of life and reducing inequalities.

Contribution to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



GOAL AND MISSION

The **overall goal** of HA ‘Spatial Planning’ is to increase territorial cohesion in the Baltic Sea Region. In 2030, the Region shall be a better-integrated and more coherent macro-region, that has reduced socio-economic development divides between its individual parts and has turned global challenges into assets.

LAND-BASED SPATIAL PLANNING

STRENGTHENING TERRITORIAL COHESION IN THE BSR THROUGH LAND-BASED SPATIAL PLANNING

Strategic target is to increase the knowledge on land-based spatial planning in the BSR by organizing regular thematic events and other activities.

Land-based spatial planning has been carried out by all Baltic Sea Region countries at national, regional and local level. HA ensures a joint framework to follow up territorial development trends and challenges, to build a territorial cohesion perspective for the BSR in the 2030, as well as to propose concrete actions to stimulate territorial development potentials to overcome existing gaps. 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 the 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 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 (CBSS).

WHO IS WHO IN HA “SPATIAL PLANNING”



VASAB (Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea) is a regional intergovernmental multilateral co-operation in spatial planning and development. VASAB is integrated into the network of the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) organizations. VASAB member states are: Belarus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden.

VASAB prepares policy options for the territorial development of the Baltic Sea Region and provides a forum for exchange of know-how on spatial planning and development between the Baltic Sea countries.

VASAB is guided by the Conference of Ministers responsible for spatial planning and development, steered by the Committee on Spatial Planning and Development of the Baltic Sea Region (CSPD/BSR) composed of representatives of respective ministries and regional authorities.

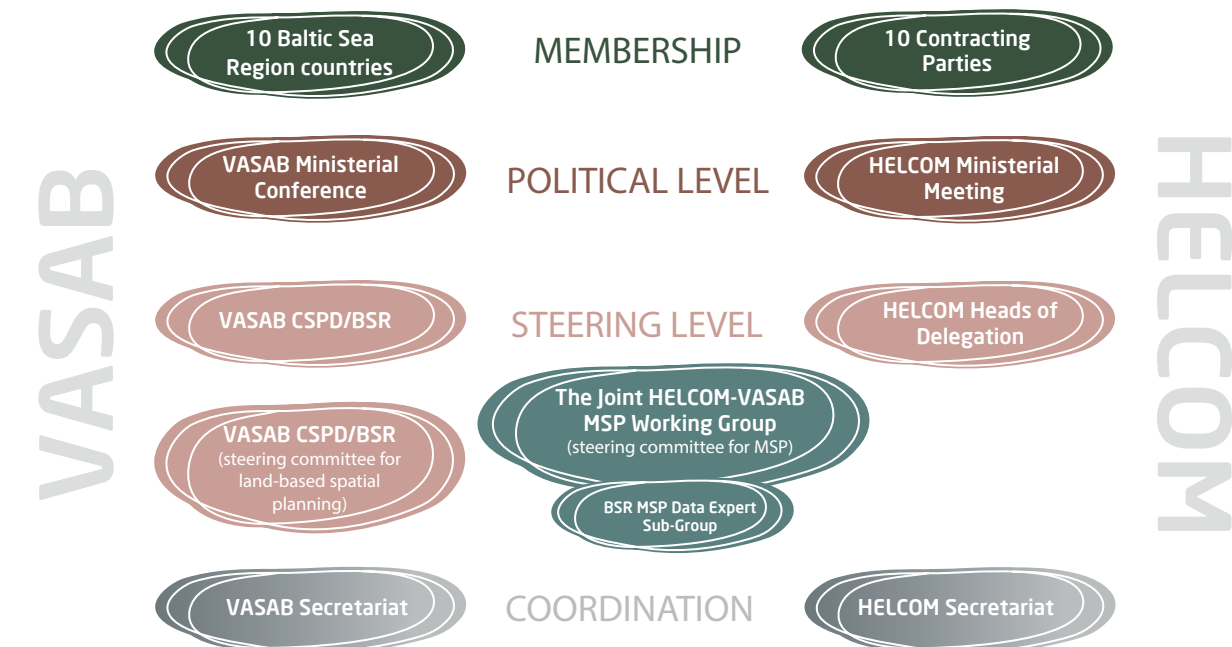


HELCOM (Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission) is the governing body of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, known as the Helsinki Convention. The Contracting Parties are Denmark, Estonia, the European Union, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden.

HELCOM is an environmental policy maker for the Baltic Sea area. It develops common management solutions and actions to protect the marine environment of the Baltic Sea from all sources of pollution through intergovernmental cooperation.

The working structure of HELCOM consists of the meetings of the Helsinki Commission, the Heads of Delegation, and eight main groups. The HELCOM groups implement policies and strategies and propose issues for discussion at the meetings of the Heads of Delegations, where decisions are made.

HA “SPATIAL PLANNING” GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING

ENSURING COHERENT MARITIME SPATIAL PLANS THROUGHOUT THE BALTIC SEA

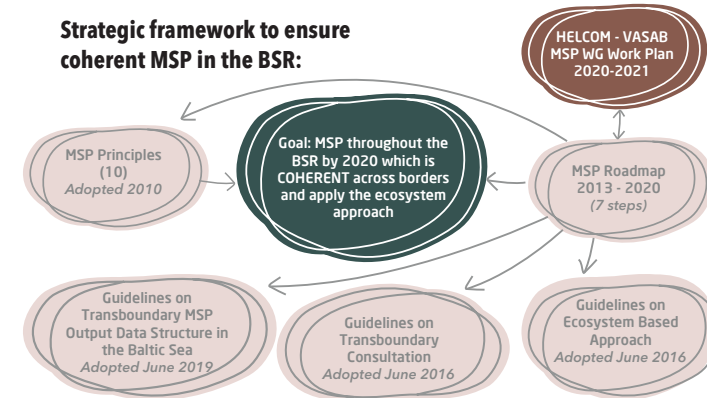
Strategic target is to draw up and apply maritime spatial plans throughout the BSR which are coherent across the borders and apply ecosystem-based approach.

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) helps 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. MSP has to be aligned with terrestrial planning to ensure efficient land-sea interactions (LSI).

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 Integrated Coastal Management (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 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. Widely recognized BSR collaboration on MSP within the joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group has turned the Baltic Sea Region a global forerunner in regional cooperation and governance on MSP applying ecosystem-based approach.

Strategic framework to ensure coherent MSP in the BSR:



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.