

COMMITTEE ON SPATIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF
THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Draft Report of the 93rd CSPD/BSR Meeting

Tallinn, 12-13 December 2024

Chairperson: Mr. Tiit Oidjärv (EE)

Participants: CSPD/BSR members: Mr. Jens Kurnol (DE), Ms. Helen Madison (EE), Mr. Timo Turunen (FI), Mr. Edvardas Minkevičius (LT), Ms. Kristīne Kedo (LV), Ms. Kinga Stańczuk-Olejniak (PL), *invited guests:* Mr. Uģis Zanders (Council of the Baltic Sea States Secretariat), Ms. Ira Sibelius (UBC SCC), Ms. Mirjam Kivinuk (Foreign Expert, Estonia), Mr. Eedi Sepp (Ministry of Regional Affairs and Agriculture, Estonia), Ms. Kateryna Baulina (NGO Analytical Center “Reformer”, Ukraine), Mr. Witold Kielich (Warmińsko-Mazurskie Region, Poland), Mr. Thorsten Kohlish (Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform), *VASAB Secretariat:* Ms. Alda Nikodemusa, Ms. Egija Stapkēviča, Ms. Jana Patmalniece, Ms. Margarita Vološina and Ms. Tīna Šipkēviča.

DECISIONS and OUTPUTS

1. The CSPD/BSR (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) adopted the Report of 92nd CSPD/BSR meeting held on 11 June 2024 online without changes.
2. The Committee adopted the Summary of 92nd CSPD/BSR meeting held on 11 June 2024 online without changes.
3. The Committee took note of the Report of the VASAB Open Troika online meeting on 2 November 2023.
4. The Committee took note of the information about political news and major challenges regarding national spatial planning issues.
5. The Committee was reminded that all VASAB member countries should regularly update the Country fiche on terrestrial spatial planning and send it to Secretariat for publishing on VASAB website.
6. The Committee took note of the information about analytical background paper ‘VASAB Vision 2040 and spatial resilience. How is the whole-of-government all-of-hazards logic represented in the long-term spatial strategy?’ and agreed to share further input to analytical background paper until 8 January 2025.
7. The Committee agreed that Estonian Chairmanship finalises analytical background paper ‘VASAB Vision 2040 and spatial resilience. How is the whole-of-government all-of-hazards logic represented in the long-term spatial strategy?’ and afterwards a decision will be made on how to proceed further with potential amendments to VASAB Vision 2040 (currently leaning to an appendix).
8. The Committee took note of the information about Ukrainian experience and lessons in planning attractive cities for living.
9. The Committee took note of the information about Interreg Europe Policy Learning Initiative ‘Regio-Silience’ which is tackling the regional development challenges caused by Russia’s war on Ukraine by moderated policy learning approach with the regions/countries most affected.

10. The Committee took note of the information on draft VASAB Work Plan 2025-2026 and agreed to divide Work Plan in three sections: continuous activities/regular meetings, priorities set by a chairmanship, projects VASAB is involved in.
11. The Committee agreed to send feedback on draft VASAB Work Plan 2025-2026 to VASAB Secretariat until 31 January 2025.
12. The Committee approved EUSBSR Policy Area 'Spatial Planning' Work Plan 2025-2026.
13. The Committee took note of the information about the outcomes of 5th informal consultation session of the BSR MSP Data Expert Sub-group online meeting held on 10 September 2024.
14. The Committee took note of the information about outcomes of 5th MSP Planners' Forum within 'PASPS' project held online on 17 October 2024 and hosted by VASAB Secretariat.
15. The Committee took note of the information about the update of EUSBSR Action Plan and the document 'First draft of Policy Area descriptions for EUSBSR Action Plan Update' which should be filled in by VASAB and HELCOM as Policy Area 'Spatial Planning' coordinators.
16. The Committee agreed to send suggestions and comments on document 'First draft of Policy Area descriptions for EUSBSR Action Plan Update' until 15 January 2025.
17. The Committee took note of the information on extension of EUSBSR Policy Area 'Spatial Planning' coordinators assistance project 'PASPS' by 2 years from January 2025 until December 2026 with an aim to coordinate Policy Area 'Spatial planning' and to support project generation and development.
18. The Committee took note of the information about VASAB's participation at Interreg South Baltic Programme Annual event which was held on 24-25 September 2024 in Stralzung, Germany.
19. The Committee took note of the information about EUSBSR Annual Forum (including Stakeholder Engagement Day and Roundtable Discussions) which was held on 29-31 October 2024 in Visby, Sweden and VASAB's active participation: 1) with a seminar 'Designing Liveable Cities: Practical Approaches and Regional Perspectives' together with Interreg BSR project "Liveability" and UBC Planning Cities Commission, 2) with a Networking Village stand as a stage to showcase the SUMP for BSR, Baltic Sea2Land, and We Make Transition! projects, as well as the Policy Area 'Spatial Planning' and the VASAB Vision 2040, 3) by actively participating in many important conversations and discussions, particularly on stakeholder engagement.
20. The Committee as the Steering Group of the Policy Area 'Spatial Planning' on land-based planning approved feedback of PA 'Spatial Planning' coordinator's work in 2024.
21. The Committee took note of the information about Policy area 'Spatial Planning' relevant project 'SUMP for BSR'.
22. The Committee took note of the information about the outcomes of informal consultation session of the Joint HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group held on 18-20 September 2024 in Riga, Latvia.
23. The Committee approved HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group's Work plan for 2025-2027.
24. The Committee took note of the information about the MSP week held in Marseilles on 21-24 October 2024 (27th meeting of EU Member States Expert Group on MSP, Stakeholder Conference 'A Decade of European Maritime Spatial Planning', MSP Green project final conference 'Planning our European Seas: Regions and Countries for a Marine Green Deal').
25. The Committee took note of the information about the progress of project 'Baltic Sea2Land' and update of VASAB Common Recommendations for Spatial Planning of the Coastal Zone

- in the Baltic Sea Region, as well as upcoming 5th Baltic MSP Forum to be held on 11-12 November 2025.
26. The Committee agreed to have a discussion on 1st draft of updated VASAB Common Recommendations for Spatial Planning of the Coastal Zone in the Baltic Sea Region at the next Committee meeting.
 27. The Committee agreed to send suggestions for contributions to the 5th Baltic MSP Forum sessions (e.g., Safe and Secure Coast / Defence and Civilian and Climate Change in Coastal Municipalities) to VASAB Secretariat until 31 January 2025.
 28. The Committee took note of the information about the results of project ‘eMSP NBSR’ (Emerging Ecosystem-based Maritime Spatial Planning Topics in North and Baltic Sea Regions).
 29. The Committee took note of the information on resubmission of project application ‘NESBp’ by lead partner Netherlands Enterprise Agency to European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund call which is a continuation of the ‘eMSP NBSR’ project.
 30. The Committee took note of the information about new project ‘NESBp’ which started on 15 November 2024 and in which VASAB Secretariat will be responsible for Work Package ‘Ocean Governance’ and Work Package ‘Communication’.
 31. The Committee took note of the information about new project ‘Land-based Planners’ Forum’ which started on 1 October 2024, project’s kick off meeting held on 2 December 2024 and overall planned activities of the project, including foreseen input and involvement of the Committee.
 32. The Committee took note of the information about four platform project applications which have been submitted to Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme on 9 December 2024 and in which VASAB is involved as a project partner (1 project application) and as an associated partner (3 project applications). VASAB’s involvement in these 4 project applications have been supported by the Committee via written procedure.
 33. The Committee accepted the VASAB budget for 2025 as proposed by the Secretariat with 379 085 EUR in revenues, 185 000 EUR Secretariat office expenses, 12 000 EUR additional expenses to be decided by CSPD/BSR, as well as 62 500 EUR – PASPS project, 204 500 EUR – Baltic Sea2Land project, 40 534EUR – NESBp project, 6 690 EUR – SI Planner’s Forum project and project reserve – 70 000 EUR.
 34. The Committee took note of the information about operations of the VASAB Secretariat.
 35. The Committee took note of the information on how to stay active and support VASAB in social media, as well as how to stay informed and follow activities.
 36. The Committee took note of the information about a webinar on national spatial strategies under Estonian chairmanship which will be organised provisionally on 11 February 2025.
 37. The Committee agreed to hold 94th CSPD/BSR meeting on 19-20 March 2025.