

Navigating Saaremaa coastal challenges: balancing access, sustainability, and tradition in the Baltic Sea Region

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Introduction & Context

Coastal accessibility is a growing concern in Baltic Sea Region.

Tension between **public access** and **private ownership**.

Saaremaa island reflects wider regional patterns.



Challenges in landscape

Privatization reduces traditional community pathways.

Conflicts over boat landing sites and shoreline rights.

Local dissatisfaction and loss of cultural connections.



Environmental and Cultural Dimensions

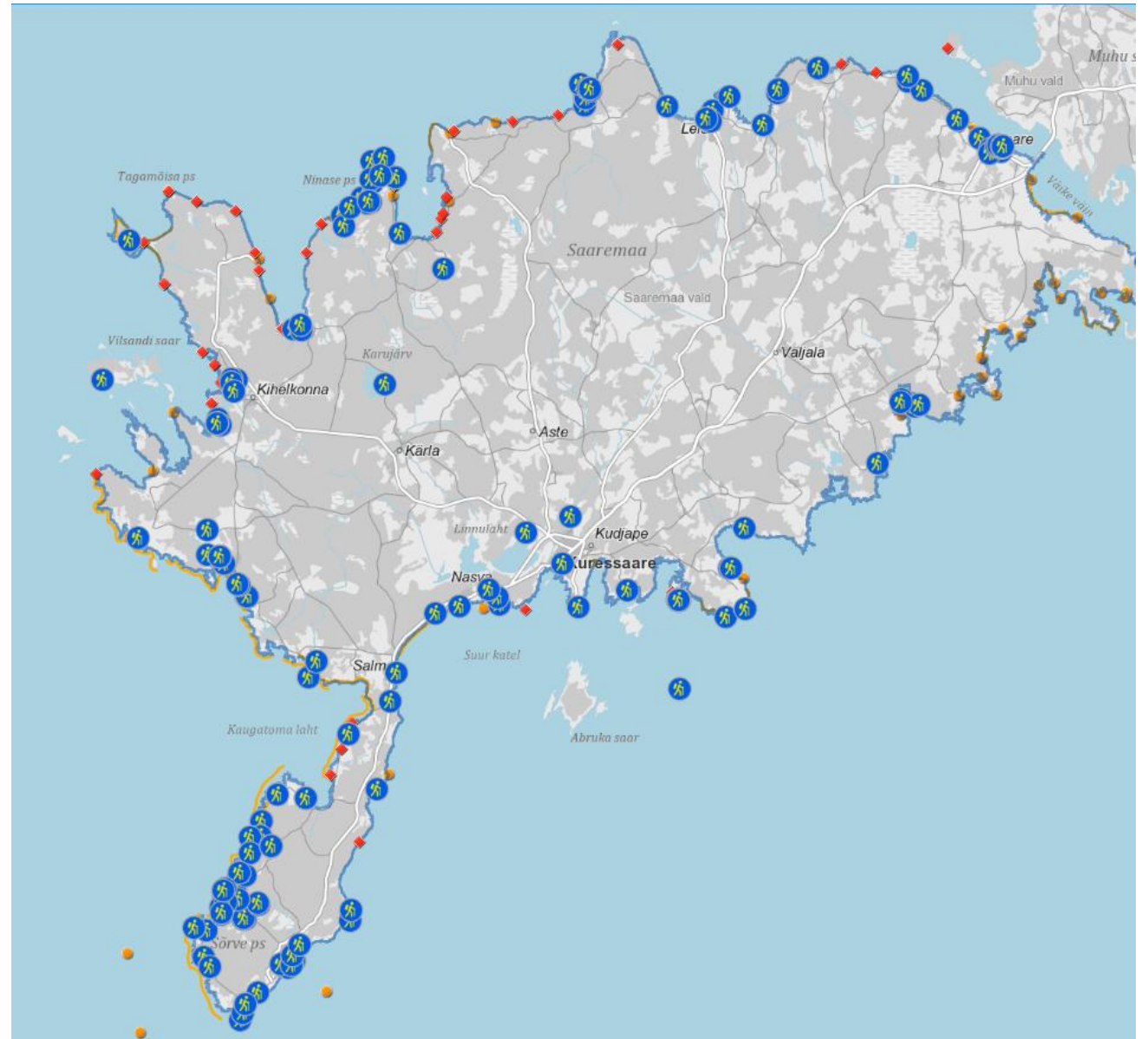
Balancing ecological
preservation with public
access.

Importance of cultural
landscapes and
traditions.



Research approaches

1. Stakeholder Workshops and surveys – *local voices, access mapping*
2. Participatory GIS – *mapping access points and problem zones (right image)*
3. Knowledge Gap Analysis – *identifying missing data*
4. Collaborative Tools – *Navigator platform integration*



Solutions

Public access Principles –
*to define rights, awareness,
easements.*

Integrated Spatial Planning –
*to align private and public
use.*

Trail Development –
*to connect people, promote
tourism*



Commissioned project drawing by K-Projekt AS, 2024

Opportunities - Baltic Sea2Land project

Strengthen **community-centered development**.

Support **cross-border learning** in the Baltic Sea Region.



Conclusion

Coastal accessibility is both a **social and spatial challenge**.

Collaboration and transparent planning is key.

Future MSP cycles can strengthen coastal fairness.



THANK YOU!

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