



Project platform's achievements

BSR WATER

Project platform title

Platform on Integrated Water Cooperation

Project platform duration

October 2018 -
September 2021

Priority

Efficient management of natural
resources

Specific objective

Clear waters

Budget

EUR 1.13 million

Spent budget

EUR 0.47 million

Connection to EUSBSR Policy Area/Horizontal Action

PAs Nutri, Hazards and HAs Climate, Neighbours

Link to the project library

<https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/bsr-water-164.html>

Link to the project platform's website

<http://www.bsrwater.eu/>

Lead partner (country)

Union of the Baltic Cities, Sustainable Cities Commission c/o
City of Turku (Finland)

Countries involved

DE, FI, EE, LV, PL, RU

Project platform summary

More coordinated water management across borders can improve the Baltic Sea environment. The Baltic Smart Water Hub connects water experts from companies, associations, authorities, academia and NGOs. The platform BSR WATER fills the hub with knowledge on the management of smart sludge, storm and waste water, manure and energy efficiency. The project platform aims to enhance continuous cross-sectoral cooperation in smart water management providing a possibility for transnational experience exchange, sharing of good practices and solutions, as well as delivering comprehensive overview of the current and future policy contexts and their impacts in the BSR countries.

Projects represented in the platform

Interreg Baltic Sea Region: IWAMA, Manure Standards, BEST, VillageWaters, Baltic Blue Growth
Interreg Central Baltic: NutriTrade, iWater, Blastic, Waterchain
Interreg South Baltic: Reviving Baltic Resilience





Project platform's achievements

BSR WATER

Project platform's highlights

The highlights present the project platform's main achievements so far, e.g. synthesising solutions from various projects and different EU funding programmes, introducing these solutions to target groups as well as connection to the EUSBSR policy areas/horizontal action.

The partners identified over 60 water management cases from dozens of projects co-financed by Interreg programmes, BONUS research programme and national support schemes. They published them in the Baltic Smart Water Hub at www.balticwaterhub.net. These cases included good practices, technical solutions and tools on how to manage fresh, sea, storm and waste waters more efficiently. To introduce good practices from the hub, the platform partners organised several training events. For example, regional specialists learnt about good practices from the hub on waste water management in village communities. The platform also advanced in creating a network of experts for cooperation in water-related issues. Altogether, 13 experts from Germany, Finland, Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Russia and Austria joined the hub expert network. Compiling all the knowledge from the projects, the platform partners drafted a palette of solutions on recycling nutrients in the wastewater sector. This palette will become an integral part of the new Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy developed by the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM). In addition, the platform cooperated actively with the coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: from policy areas Nutri and Hazard as well as horizontal actions Climate and Neighbours.

Administrative matters

These include specific good practices, financial implications, challenges as well as synergies and cooperation with other initiatives.

The partners analysed projects not only directly covered by the platform, but also others, mainly from other Interreg programmes in the region like Interreg South Baltic and Central Baltic.

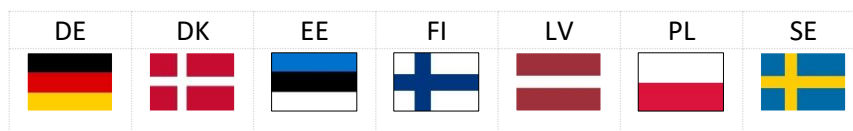
Both partners from Russia in St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad were active in the platform implementation.



Project platform's achievements

SUMANU

Project platform title		Project platform duration
Sustainable manure and nutrient management for reduction of nutrient loss in the Baltic Sea Region		October 2018 - September 2021
Priority	Specific objective	
Efficient management of natural resources	Clear waters	
Budget	Spent budget	Connection to EUSBSR Policy Area/Horizontal Action
EUR 1 million	EUR 0.46 million	PAs Nutri, Bioeconomy and HA Climate
Link to the project library		Link to the project platform's website
https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/sumanu-153.html		https://balticsumanu.eu/
Lead partner (country)	Countries involved	
Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke) (Finland)	DE, DK, FI, EE, LV, PL, SE	
Project platform summary		
<p>A large share of the nutrient load into the Baltic Sea comes from industrial agriculture. More efficient manure management would reduce the negative impact of farming on the sea. The platform SuMaNu gathers and synthesises best practices and recommendations on nutrient management from four projects which aimed towards agro-environmental sustainability. Best practices and recommendations are translated for and made available to authorities, policy makers, advisors and farmers. These recommendations for environmentally and economically sustainable manure management link project results and policies. SuMaNu targets this information nationally and internationally, especially to policy-makers.</p>		
Projects represented in the platform		
Interreg Baltic Sea Region: Manure Standards, Baltic Slurry Acidification Interreg Central Baltic: GREENAGRI BONUS: PROMISE		



Project platform's highlights

The highlights present the project platform's main achievements so far, e.g. synthesising solutions from various projects and different EU funding programmes, introducing these solutions to target groups as well as connection to the EUSBSR policy areas/horizontal action.

The SUMANU partners synthesised good management practices for sustainable manure nutrient use that were developed or tested in the previous Interreg and BONUS projects: for example, multiphase



Project platform's achievements

SUMANU

feeding of farm animals or manure spreading when crops were growing to maximize nutrient uptake. The partners presented this synthesis at the regional workshop on nutrient recycling measures organised by the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM). They also discussed these good management practices with national ministries of agriculture and environment, farmers' and environmental associations.

HELCOM used the results of this synthesis and the discussion at the workshop to further develop a joint strategy for nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea region and to identify measures that would help to reach its goals. This strategy aims to increase nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea region and decrease nutrient loss from agricultural areas. In addition, based on this synthesis, the partners developed recommendations into six policy briefs on, for example, phosphorus planning and regional nutrient reallocation. They presented and discussed these policy briefs at the HELCOM Stakeholder Conference 2020. HELCOM used these inputs to prepare proposals on new actions that would be added to the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan during the current update. In preparation for the HELCOM events, the platform cooperated actively with the coordinators of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region: from policy areas Nutri and Bioeconomy.

Administrative matters

These include specific good practices, financial implications, challenges as well as synergies and cooperation with other initiatives.

The partners analysed projects not only directly covered by the platform, but also projects implemented in the previous funding period of Interreg Baltic Sea Region.



Project platform's achievements

Blue Platform

Project platform title

Bioeconomy for Blue Growth in the Baltic Sea Region – a platform project to capitalize on the outputs of complementary transnational projects

Project platform duration

October 2018 - March 2022

Priority

Efficient management of natural resources

Specific objective

Blue growth

Budget

EUR 1.05 million

Spent budget

EUR 0.35 million

Connection to EUSBSR Policy Area/Horizontal Action

PAs Bioeconomy, Innovation, Nutri and HA Spatial Planning

Link to the project library

<https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/blue-platform-169.html>

Link to the project platform's website

<https://www.submariner-network.eu/blue-platform>

Lead partner (country)

Finnish Environment Institute (Finland)

Countries involved

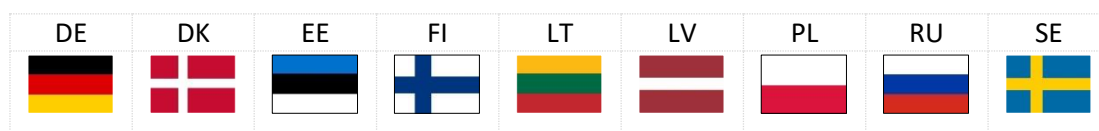
DE, DK, FI, EE, LT, LV, PL, SE, RU

Project platform summary

The Blue Platform promotes results from twelve blue bioeconomy projects from Interreg, BONUS and Horizon2020 for authorities, business development organisations and companies as well as national and regional EU funding programmes dealing with blue growth. To improve the framework conditions for blue bioeconomy in the Baltic Sea region, the Blue Platform compiles a manual with joint standards for blue bioeconomy interventions, a Blue Platform Roadmap 2020, and policy papers on the alignment of funding and legislation.

Projects represented in the platform

Interreg Baltic Sea Region: ALLIANCE, Baltic Blue Growth, Baltic LINES, Smart Blue Regions, Go LNG, BalticRIM
Interreg Central Baltic: Plan4Blue
Interreg South Baltic: InnoAqua
Interreg North Sea Region: BIOCAS
BONUS: Blue WEBS
Horizon2020: MUSES
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund: BalticScope and PanBalticScope





Project platform's achievements

Blue Platform

Project platform's highlights

The highlights present the project platform's main achievements so far, e.g. synthesising solutions from various projects and different EU funding programmes, introducing these solutions to target groups as well as connection to the EUSBSR policy area/horizontal action.

The partners structured the knowledge from numerous EU funded projects along eight topics: mussels, blue biotechnology, aquaculture, macro-algae, maritime spatial planning, multi-use, marine litter, maritime cultural heritage at its hub <https://www.submariner-network.eu/all-topics>. They continued the development of a good practice manual on Baltic blue bioeconomy products, services and processes. More than 30 experts on the blue bioeconomy around the Baltic Sea shared what made these products, services or processes tested in the projects successful and how they could be used by other organisations like municipalities, companies, networks in the region.

The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region coordinator of policy area Bioeconomy / Fisheries was active in the platform activities, among others working on a policy paper to support national and regional public authorities dealing with EU financial support from different EU funds for the blue bioeconomy post 2020 on the national level in the Baltic Sea region countries.

Administrative matters

These include specific good practices, financial implications, challenges as well as synergies and cooperation with other initiatives.

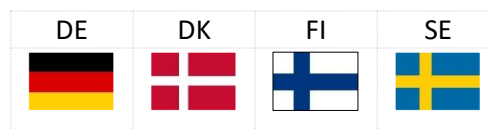
Submariner Network, a partner in the platform, is very active in various processes on blue economy and maritime spatial planning in the EU and Baltic Sea region. It allows the platform to connect to other projects that were not initially covered by the partners.



Project platform's achievements

BSR Access

Project platform title		Project platform duration
Access to clean, efficient and multimodal transport corridors in the Baltic Sea Region		October 2018 - March 2022
Priority	Specific objective	
Sustainable transport	Interoperability	
Budget	Spent budget	Connection to EUSBSR Policy Area/Horizontal Action
EUR 1 million	EUR 0.4 million	PA Transport and HA Spatial Planning
Link to the project library		Link to the project platform's website
https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/bsr-access-163.html		http://bsraccess.eu
Lead partner (country)		Countries involved
Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council (Finland)		DE, DK, FI, SE
Project platform summary		
The platform BSR Access 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.		
Projects represented in the platform		
Interreg Baltic Sea Region: NSB CoRe, TENTacle, EMMA, Scandria®2Act Interreg Bothnia-Atlantica: E12 Atlantica Transport Interreg Central Baltic: FinEst Link Connecting Europe Facility: GREAT		



Project platform's highlights

The highlights present the project platform's main achievements so far, e.g. synthesising solutions from various projects and different EU funding programmes, introducing these solutions to target groups as well as connection to the EUSBSR policy area/horizontal action.

The platform's main achievements by mid-term lie on first analyses made and collaboration on sustainable transport triggered among project partners, promoters and decision and policy makers from local, regional and national levels in the Baltic Sea region countries as well as EU institutions, like European Commission's DG Mobility and Transport.

At the TEN-T Guidelines Expert meeting and Open Forum in Helsinki in October 2019, the BSR Access partners provided input to the debate on TEN-T policy review. It was based on the collected results



Project platform's achievements

BSR Access

of different Interreg Baltic Sea Region projects, like NSB CoRe, TENTacle, EMMA, Scandria2Act. The event built upon the European Commission's public TEN-T Policy consultation process. Active participation in the TEN-T policy review is crucial in strengthening the role of northern Europe in innovation, digitalisation, and as a frontrunner in sustainable economic growth.

By summer 2020, the platform has published its first reports on the clean fuel deployment in the Baltic Sea region, first mile corridor areas, and on integrated planning along cross-border and transnational transport corridors. As an example, the first mile corridor areas report screens the results of Horizon 2020 and Interreg projects in the Baltic Sea region in relation to the first mile corridor areas and sums up the feedback received on the project implementation progress, the rationale for collaboration, the solutions produced and the accumulated good practice. The report serves as working material for the upcoming BSR Access activities aiming to identify interoperability solutions with the potential to boost interconnectivity between the CNCs and first mile areas in the Baltic Sea region. The other reports synthesise solutions from various projects and pave the way towards the main outputs in the latter half of the platform project.

BSR Access has cooperated closely with the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region policy area Transport and horizontal action Spatial Planning Coordinators. The platform partners have also been involved in the coordination group of PA Transport. At the EUSBSR Annual Forum in Gdansk in 2019, BSR Access ran a workshop on the solutions for shared mobility for both densely and sparsely populated areas and spatial planning tools. Municipalities, spatial planners, economists agreed on the importance of balancing available resources and increasing mobility to ensure territorial cohesion, quality of life and sustainable economic development.

Administrative matters

These include specific good practices, financial implications, challenges as well as synergies and cooperation with other initiatives.

As a good practice and joint effort the BSR Access together with Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions (CPMR) Baltic Sea Commission Transport Working Group organised the TEN-T Guidelines Expert meeting and Open Forum in Helsinki in October 2019. This event brought together over 60 transport policy-makers at European-, national- and regional levels to share information and to discuss the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the TEN-T guidelines. As a result, the joint voice of the platform and its' stakeholders and the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission Transport Working Group has better reached the EU Commission and this paves the way for further collaboration and contribution on TEN-T policies in BSR. BSR Access partners' regular participation in EU TEN-T Corridor Forum meetings and EUSBSR PA Transport coordination group meetings is additionally an important way on sharing information with the key EU level stakeholders and to stay up-to-date with relevant policies and processes on EU level.



Project platform's achievements

ResQU2

Project platform title

Enhancing durability of learning experiences gained in ChemSAR, HAZARD, DiveSmart Baltic and Mirg-Ex projects on guidelines, operational plans and procedures, and exercises related to incidents at sea and in ports

Project platform duration

October 2018 - March 2021

Priority

Sustainable transport

Specific objective

Maritime safety

Budget

EUR 0.99 million

Spent budget

EUR 0.5 million

Connection to EUSBSR Policy Area/Horizontal Action

PAs Safe and Secure

Link to the project library

<https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/resqu2-171.html>

Link to the project platform's website

<https://blogit.utu.fi/resqu2/>

Lead partner (country)

University of Turku (Finland)

Countries involved

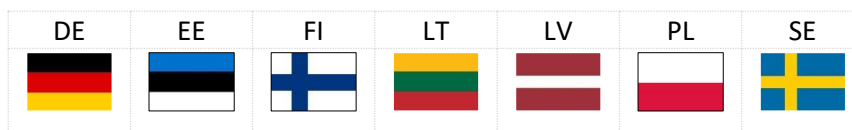
DE, FI, EE, LT, LV, PL, SE, NL

Project platform summary

With about 2,000 vessels operating in the Baltic Sea at any given minute, the risk of accidents is high. The platform ResQU2 brings together rescue services, seaports and other authorities to share guidelines, operational plans and procedures on incidents at sea and in ports, and to run large-scale exercises. By building on the experiences of four projects, ResQU2 increases the preparedness and coordination of rescue operations in the Baltic and North Seas. ResQU2 project ensures that the gained learning experiences and existing guidelines are communicated, discussed and demonstrated to the national rescue authorities.

Projects represented in the platform

Interreg Baltic Sea Region: ChemSAR, HAZARD, DiveSMART Baltic
DG ECHO (Union Civil Protection Mechanism): MIRG-Ex



Project platform's highlights

The highlights present the project platform's main achievements so far, e.g. synthesising solutions from various projects and different EU funding programmes, introducing these solutions to target groups as well as connection to the EUSBSR policy areas/horizontal action.

ResQU2 has spread the projects' solutions to new regions and supported rescue authorities and services in developing maritime response capacity. For instance, Estonia is building up its Maritime Incidence Response Group (MIRG-EST). They are also implementing the standard operating



Project platform's achievements

ResQU2

procedures for hazardous and noxious substances (HNS) incidents in the Baltic Sea region prepared by the ChemSAR project.

The platform partners organised several events for rescue authorities and services and maritime safety experts, such as the workshop on building up maritime response capacity (Hamburg), Arctic Coast Guard Seminar (Turku), MSAR conference (Tallinn), Hybrid scenarios in the Baltic Sea (Velkua), and EMSA Technical Correspondence Group for HNS (Lisbon). ResQU2 has reached a large number of potential end-users and stakeholders, and paved the way for the development of national procedures and legislation to enhance preparedness.

ResQU2 partners drafted policy papers and recommendations, the tools to reach policy and decision makers. The scope of the policy papers in the initial application is multi-level governance as the papers strive to bring all national levels and organisations together, with one contact point that participates in an international board.

The rescue diving community demonstrates how is it possible to reach long-term management and cooperation. The aim is to improve the emergency preparedness by lifting relevant areas and reaching a legitimacy to work with in a long-term perspective, by receiving commitments from policy and decision makers.

Administrative matters

These include specific good practices, financial implications, challenges as well as synergies and cooperation with other initiatives.

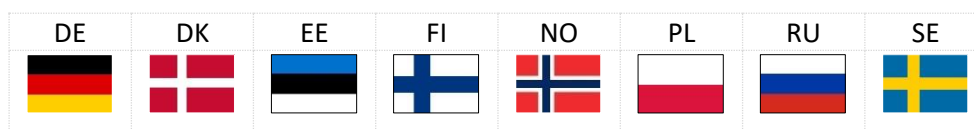
- Organising workshops targeted to local and regional end-users and stakeholders was an efficient way to disseminate best practices. Competent authorities in charge of rescue operations in the Baltic Sea region countries vary, which may hinder efficient transnational co-operation. Joint discussions on different levels supported national and transnational capacity building.
- ResQU2 co-organised a workshop “Hybrid Scenarios in the Baltic Sea” with the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats in May 2019, Velkua, to explore potential proactive and countering measures. High-level experts from EU and NATO institutions, civil and military officials, academia, legal experts and security specialists took part. Synergies between ResQU2 aims and these organisations were identified.



Project platform's achievements

CSHIPP

Project platform title		Project platform duration
Clean Shipping Project Platform		October 2018 - March 2021
Priority	Specific objective	
Sustainable transport	Clean Shipping	
Budget	Spent budget	Connection to EUSBSR Policy Area/Horizontal Action
EUR 1.08 million	EUR 0.3 million	PA Ship
Link to the project library		Link to the project platform's website
https://projects.interreg-baltic.eu/projects/cship-166.html		https://cship.eu/
Lead partner (country)		Countries involved
University of Turku (Finland)		DE, DK, FI, EE, PL, SE, NO, RU
Project platform summary		
<p>The Baltic Sea is one of busiest and most environmentally vulnerable seas in the world. The platform CSHIPP closes the gap between research, business and policy making by establishing long-term knowledge exchange among these networks. This helps the maritime industry reduce its environmental footprint and increase competitiveness at the same time. CSHIPP activities revolve around two key themes: (1) the environmental effects of shipping in the BSR and (2) the business potential of clean shipping in the Baltic Sea region.</p>		
Projects represented in the platform		
Interreg Baltic Sea Region: EnviSuM, Baltic LINes, GoLNG, ECOPRODIGI, COMPLETE, BSR electric BONUS: SHEBA EU Connecting Europe Facility: CompMon		



Project platform's highlights

The highlights present the project platform's main achievements so far, e.g. synthesising solutions from various projects and different EU funding programmes, introducing these solutions to target groups as well as connection to the EUSBSR policy area/horizontal action.

The platform partners have synthesised the knowledge from the involved projects in two reports on emissions to water and noise emissions from shipping. Further, to bring research results to policy makers and maritime industry, CSHIPP established an online portal <https://www.shipemissions.eu/>, an inventory of data on shipping emissions and their impact on the Baltic Sea region. The partners communicated these results to authorities and maritime industry at several shipping events in the



Project platform's achievements

CSHIPP

Baltic Sea region and on the EU level: Donsö Shipping Meet, Shipping and the Environment II, 7th Maritime Congress, European Maritime Days. These results were also taken up by the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) Maritime Working Group towards developing HELCOM clean shipping-related recommendations.

Further, CSHIPP contributed to the discussions within the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Policy Area Ship on the research needs and financing possibilities, and continued bilateral discussions with policymakers from the Policy Area Ship Steering Committee.

CSHIPP started its work on consolidating information on best practices in clean shipping financing for private companies. The partners looked into the possibilities to integrate and blend different instruments so that companies could find the most suitable investment options for their needs.

Administrative matters

These include specific good practices, financial implications, challenges as well as synergies and cooperation with other initiatives.

- Participation of CSHIPP in the European Maritime Day 2019 provided European-level visibility for the project platform and an opportunity to share information about the best practices in clean shipping financing for private companies. The workshop was arranged by Waterborne European Technology Platform, SeaEurope, European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association, CSHIPP and German Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union.

- CSHIPP representatives have participated regularly in transnational meetings, such as PA Ship's steering group meetings, to share information about the work done and results of CSHIPP to relevant stakeholders from other projects and organisations.

- The lower spending (of 29% of the total budget) was due to four partners planned to report their costs only in the upcoming reporting period.