

SUPPORTED BY NATURE

The project is a joint outcome of Biosphere for Baltic, a network of biosphere reserves. Biosphere reserves are model areas for sustainable development, designated by UNESCO as examples of sustainable development.

By partnering with higher education and research institutions and local public authorities, the project partners collectively contribute with high expertise and long experience in collaborative processes.

DURATION November 2023 - October 2026

TOTAL BUDGET 4.47 million €

EU FUNDING 3,58 million €



PROJECT PARTNERS

- Estonian University of Life Sciences (Estonia)
- Kristianstad Municipality - Kristianstads Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve (Sweden)
- Marine Education Center (Sweden)
- Nedre Dalälven Biosphere Reserve (Sweden)
- Ronneby Municipality (lead partner) - Biosphere Reserve Blekinge Archipelago (Sweden)
- Słowiński National Park (Poland)
- Southeast Rügen Biosphere Reserve (Germany)
- Turku University of Applied Sciences - Archipelago Sea Area Biosphere Reserve (Finland)
- Vordingborg Municipality - Møn Biosphere Reserve (Denmark)



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Nature-based solutions for a sustainable Baltic Sea

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by
the European Union



SUSTAINABLE WATERS

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THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

The purpose is to enhance the understanding of nature-based solutions and their contribution to improving environmental conditions in the Baltic Sea.

In the long term, increased knowledge of nature-based solutions is expected to lead to more frequent and effective use in planning processes and the management of land and water.

Partners from six countries surrounding the Baltic Sea collaborates and shares knowledge and experiences in this project to develop a practical guide.



Illustration: Learning sites with different focus and participating biosphere reserves (including one aspiring BR).

LEARNING SITES AROUND THE BALTIC SEA

17 learning sites about nature-based solutions are developed around the Baltic Sea for demonstration and knowledge generation. Special focus is on multifunctional wetlands, coastal water habitats, and watercourse restoration.

The development of learning sites involves stakeholders who actively participate in and influence the establishing process. To increase understanding of nature-based solutions, activities will be organized at the learning sites once they are completed.

WHY DO WE NEED NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS?

The Baltic Sea region holds significant natural and cultural value and is of strategic importance for the economy and cooperation among the countries in the region and beyond.

However, the Baltic Sea faces environmental challenges and it stands out as one of the most polluted and heavily trafficked bodies of water in the world. The Baltic Sea's unique characteristics make it extremely sensitive and vulnerable.

Nearly 90 million people live in the impact area, and how we live and operate has a profound impact on the Baltic Sea.

WHAT IS A NATURE-BASED SOLUTION?

Nature-based solutions are multifunctional and cost-effective measures to tackle environmental problems and climate change. They help by protecting and improving ecosystems on land and in water, which supports both nature and people.

Nature-based solutions solve specific problems while also offering extra benefits. For example, restoring a river can reduce nutrient levels in the water, prevent floods and pollution, increase biodiversity, secure water supplies, and and boost fishing, recreation and tourism.



Watercourse restoration



Coastal water habitats



Multifunctional wetlands

