



EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

PA Nutri Steering group meeting

Lead-PAC Elsi Kauppinen

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Agenda

- Opening and approval of the agenda of the meeting
- General info about EUSBSR
- Steering group members – silent procedure results
- What is PA Nutri – what we can do, how to do it and with whom?
(+cooperation with HELCOM Agri and Pressure)
- Flagship-changes, PA Nutri Talks, decision about how to proceed
- Presentation of work plan for year 2023, decision about its endorsement
- Ukraine cooperation
- Preparation for annual reporting
- AOB and closing of the meeting



EUSBSR

EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

**General info on EUSBSR
- separate presentation**

Balti Sea Strategy Point (N.N.)



EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

**Steering group members - silent procedure
results**

Steering group members - silent procedure results

- National Coordinators Group had a silent procedure on 21 September 2022 about Policy Area Coordinators acting as Steering Group members
- Outcome: An organisation or a person responsible for the role of Policy Area Coordinator may not act as a Steering Group member
 - 17 November at Coffee with the Presidency it was discussed, that while a country is looking for a new organisation to become Steering Group member, two different persons from one organisation could be PAC and SG member, but only temporarily
- In PA Nutri Poland has the same person as a PAC and SG member, but Poland is now looking for a new organisation to become the SG member



EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

**What is PA Nutri -
what we can do, how to do it and with whom?**

What is PA Nutri - “explanation for dummies”

- Policy area under the European Union Strategy for Baltic Sea Region
 - Action plan: EUSBSR has “experimental multi-level and cross-sectional cooperation model”
 - Each PA develops actions which contribute to achieving the EUSBSR objectives (Save the Sea → subobjectives Clear water in the sea, Rich and healthy wildlife)
 - Actions for PA Nutri:
 - 1) Reduce nutrient emissions from agriculture and other diffuse sources
 - 2) Reduce nutrient emissions from urban areas and other point sources
 - 3) Develop and promote safe and sustainable nutrient recycling
 - 4) Address nutrients already accumulated in the Baltic Sea
- Flagships, cooperation with other projects, Interreg and HELCOM have been the main modes of operation
 - However, it is important that the strategy remains open also for activities outside established structures

Existing structures for PA Nutri

- Cooperation with Interreg BSR:
 - PACs get a chance to comment on new applications and give feedback to applicants directly
 - Info about upcoming calls
 - Info about newly accepted projects
 - Participation to evaluation of previous programmes
 - OLD: Flagships used to get extra points when applying for funding
- Cooperation with HELCOM
 - Participates in Agri and Pressure –groups
 - HELCOM is an observer in PA Nutri
 - Previous PA Nutri Flagships participated directly to writing of HELCOM strategies
 - Common workshops, etc
- Steering Group
 - Hopefully not only for accepting work plan and annual report

Other existing ways of operation

- Cooperation with Interreg funded projects
 - Organise workshops/meetings with new projects
 - Facilitate cooperation between projects



EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

**Flagship-changes, PA Nutri Talks
Decision about how to proceed**

Present situation of work at PA Nutri

- No flagships in 2022
- One-on-one talks during November – but not all SG members have yet participated
 - Continue the “round” in December and at beginning of year 2023
 - Other rounds to come when/if there is need
 - Also feel free to get in contact directly, whenever some even a rough idea comes up!
 - Lots of new SG members, important to get everyone on board
- Ukraine conference and workshop

New Interreg BSR -projects

Small projects

- No new projects had PA Nutri as the main contribution, but only as additional contribution:
- AdvIQwater: Improving quality of BSR waters by advanced treatment processes
 - Study share of pharmaceuticals in source water and sediments, pilot of various on-site treatments
- BaltSusBoating 2030: Baltic Sustainable Boating 2030 - Making leisure boating in the Baltic Sea fit for the post-pandemic boating tourism market
 - Including a sustainability road map for boating tourism

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

New Interreg BSR -projects

Core projects, PA Nutri as main contribution

- WaterMan: Promoting water reuse in the Baltic Sea Region through capacity building at local level
 - Reuse of treated water and recirculation of retained water, promote acceptance, pilot solutions
- ReNutriWater: Closing local water circuits by recirculating nutrients and water and using them in nature
 - Reuse of treated wastewater: solutions, uses (street cleaning, carwashes, ...)
- NURSECOAST-II: Model Nutrients Reduction Solutions In Near-Coast Touristic Areas
 - How wastewater treatment can adapt to high seasonality in amount of users

Core projects, PA Nutri as additional contribution

- EMPEREST: Eliminating Micro-Pollutants from Effluents for REuse Strategies
 - Removal of PFAS from wastewater
- KISMET: Sustainable food environments
 - “Enabling Programme for sustainable food environments”

Flagship changes

- Projects used to get extra points for being a Flagship when they applied for funding
 - No more → No interest to apply for Flagship-status
- It is possible to cooperate with projects without Flagship-status
- A Flagship does not have to be a project, it can be anything the SG sees as important
 - Trial of PA Nutri Talks in 2023?
 - Possible subjects to talk about:
 - What could we learn from old projects? What problems they found and didn't have a chance to work on?
 - » Gather ideas from old projects, share the info to new applicants
 - HELCOM BSAP (national?) Actions, which need a project and are not moving forward
 - » Draft a project idea in a workshop
 - Nutrient recycling project that is now being drafted in HELCOM workshops → they don't yet know what to do with wastewater treatment plants → organise a workshop with the new Interreg BSR-projects related to WWT (3-4 projects)
 - Suggestion: Interreg BSR project applications are open, and DL for ideas is 14.2.2023 (core) or 5.1.2023 (small) → Should we organise PA Nutri Talks in January and work for example on one of the BSAP national actions which would require a project?

Discussion about Flagship changes and possible ideas for PA Nutri Talks

- To be filled in at the meeting, based on discussions
- Possible criteria for Flagships? Or continue now with experimenting?
 - For example: Maybe priority for Flagship-status for projects could be given to projects, which somehow get a start through our work?
- Discussion about how to proceed with PA Nutri Talks
 - Do we organise them, or only hold workshop more sporadically?
 - If yes, how to decide the subject for each PA Nutri Talks – session?
 - Suggestion: PACs present idea(s) at a SG meeting or through email and PA Nutri Talks is organised based on the feedback from SG group
 - For this to work well, SG members should be active in presenting ideas
 - Decision on how to proceed



EUSBSR

EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

**Presentation of work plan for 2023
- decision about its endorsement**

Main points of work plan

- We can still choose projects as Flagships (done continuously)
- Workshops with HELCOM, if/when needed
- Establish meetings with present and future presidency of PA Nutri → softer transfer of “power”
- PA Nutri Talks 2 or 3 per year → no topics decided yet
- SG meetings at least 3 per year (try to meet more often)
+ optional informal meetings

Main points of work plan

- Work plan was send to SG members
- No planned activities involving the youth, but preliminarily in Annual Forum Latvia is to have it as one of the topics
- Suggested changes:
 - ?
- **Voting on endorsement (after possible changes)**



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

**Ukraine cooperation
Reporting**

Ukraine conference

- Conference organised by Swedish Institute, 08 December
- PA Nutri suggestion for cooperation: Wastewater treatment plant in the city of Lviv → chosen as one of the workshop ideas → Workshop is being organised (more precise info will be available at the SG meeting)
- Common slot with PA Bioeconomy
- Funding possibilities:
 - Funds from Swedish Institute: seed funding 1) for feasibility studies preparing for larger projects (EUR 50 000 / 18 months), or 2) for setting up collaboration platforms (EUR 100 000 / 24 months)

Other issues - reporting

- Finland received funding for the PAC work from Interreg BSR → yearly reporting, where we will need feedback from the SG about how work has been going
 - A document will be circulated through email, and accepted by the chair



EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Other issues

Other issues - Presidency rotation

- According to NCG Presidency rotation next countries in line for PA Nutri Presidency are Latvia (2023/24) and Poland (2024/25)
 - “Season” for presidency is from July to June
 - Latvia will be HELCOM president in 2023/24, and can’t take other responsibilities
 - How should we solve issues with presidency, if they occur again?
 - Suggestion: The country whose turn for presidency it would have been, takes initiative and tries to find a solution
 - Suggestion: Rules about presidency rotation could be more clearly formulated in the Rules of Procedure

Other issues - CiNURGI-project

- HELCOM-workshop 29.11.2022: Nutrient recycling project planning
 - RiSe is preparing an application for Interreg BSR core-project
 - Need for more potential contacts (project and associated partners) → will circulate an excel list among SG members to fill in with potential partners from their countries
 - Workshop with new Interreg BSR –projects in January/February?
 - Could be the first PA Nutri Talks or just a regular workshop?



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by
the European Union