

15th Steering Committee meeting of the Policy Area Nutri “To reduce nutrient inputs to the sea to acceptable levels” of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2020

Opening:

The 15th meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) of the EUSBSR Policy Area Nutri (PA Nutri) was called to order in the premises of the Ministry of the Environment of Finland and in Skype 14 January 2020 at 13.00 EET by the Policy Area Nutri Coordinators (PACs).

Present:

1. Magdalena Dawidowicz, chair, PAC Nutri Poland, Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation
2. Sanni Turunen, PAC Nutri Finland, Ministry of the Environment
3. Laura Saijonmaa, PAC Nutri Finland, Ministry of the Environment
4. Raul Ilisson, NFP Estonia, Ministry of the Environment

Skype:

5. Robert Almstrand, NFP Sweden, Swedish Agency of Marine and Water Management
6. Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, HELCOM Secretariat

Apologies:

1. Pekka Jounila, DG REGIO, European Commission
2. Heike Imhoff, NFP Germany, Ministry of the Environment
3. Wera Leujak, NFP Germany, Federal Environment Agency
4. Lasse Tor Nielsen, NFP Denmark, Ministry of the Environment and Food
5. Agne Lukoseviciene, NFP Lithuania, Ministry of Agriculture
6. Baiba Zasa, NFP Latvia, Ministry of the Environment

A. Introduction

Magdalena Dawidowicz presented the agenda of the meeting: Deciding on pre-selection of Seed Money proposals, discussion and deciding on the revision of PA Nutri actions and indicators and deciding on potential Nutri seminar in the next EUSBSR Annual Forum.

B. Seed Money proposals

Magdalena Dawidowicz presented the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Seed Money call procedure. The PACs received nine seed project proposals (MusAIPro, FINGERPRINTS, PRECISE, RESET, WaterMan, NURSECOAST, BalticProBlue, Green Small Craft and BigBalticRivers) by the given deadline. In the first step PACs, with the help of the

SC, are to pre-select maximum of four proposals and prepare support letters to the Interreg secretariat by 20 January 2020.

The SC discussed the proposals, taking into account written comments from Germany. The meeting decided to support PRECISE, WaterMan, NURSECOAST and BalticProBlue proposals. These four proposals showed the highest potential for high macro-regional impact and have clear transnational dimension. The proposals contribute to fulfilling the objectives, indicators and targets of the EUSBSR, support implementing the revised policy area Nutri actions and show added value to already implemented activities. The results of the planned main projects have potential on reducing nutrient loads to the Baltic Sea.

The SC was requested to send written comments and recommendations how to improve the applications to PACs (Magdalena.Dawidowicz@mgm.gov.pl) by 24 January 2020. The PACs will collect and submit the comments to the project leaders.

The pre-selected applicants will submit applications to Interreg by 23 March and the Interreg Monitoring Committee selects the Seed Money projects on June 2020.

C. Revision of EUSBSR, Nutri actions and indicators

Magdalena Dawidowicz presented the revision process of the EUSBSR Action Plan. The SC discussed on the latest draft of PA Nutri actions and indicators and decided on the content. The PACs will send a clean version to the European Commission on 15 January 2020. The Commission's internal procedure will last until March 2020.

D. The EUSBSR Annual Forum in Turku 16.-17.6.2020 - potential Nutri seminar

Magdalena Dawidowicz presented the principles of the thematic seminars and the three potential seminar ideas that PA Nutri could participate. The meeting agreed that PA Nutri could support the seminar proposal of PA Hazards (Challenges of antimicrobial resistance in the Baltic Sea environment caused by use of human and veterinary pharmaceuticals), if the link to PA Nutri could be made cleared. The meeting decided that in this Annual Forum PA Nutri could focus on bringing its results visible in the networking village.

F. AOB, meetings and events

As part of the elaboration of the regional nutrient recycling strategy HELCOM and EUSBSR PA Nutri and Bioeconomy organises a workshop on nutrient recycling measures 5-6 February 2020 in Helsinki, Finland.

The SC decided to organise the next PA Nutri SC meeting back-to-back with the 11th EUSBSR Annual Forum in Turku, Finland.

The meeting ended at 15:05.