



EUSBSR EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

EUSBSR and its Action Plan after the revision: Saving the Sea

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The Strategy in a nutshell

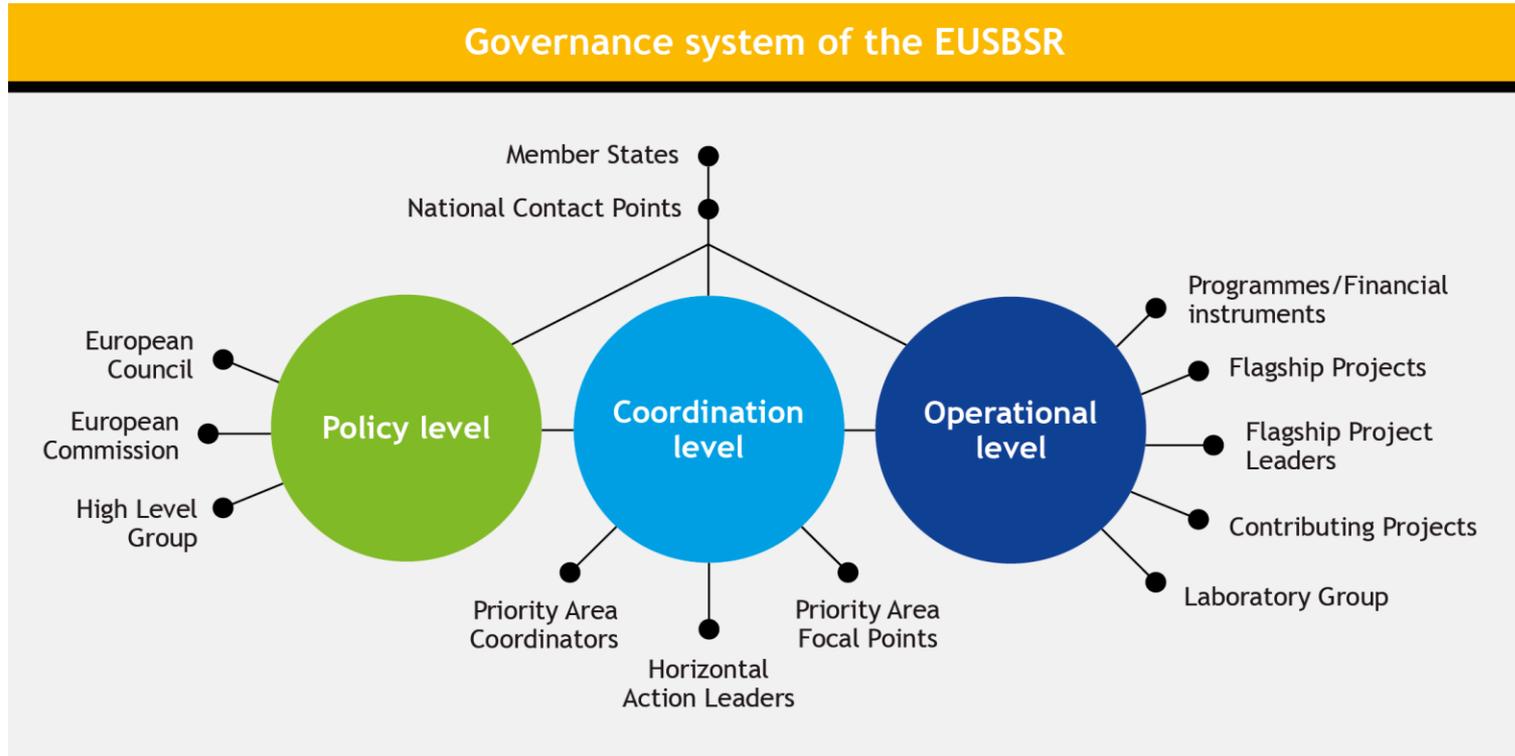
- First macro-regional strategy in Europe
- Aims at reinforcing cooperation within the region and promoting a more balanced development in the area
- Adopted in 2009, reviewed in 2012
- Three main objectives as of 2012:
 - to save the sea
 - to connect the region
 - to increase prosperity in the region
- No own funding, no institutions, no legislation

Review of the Action Plan

The new Action Plan

- Three objectives: Save the Sea, Connect the Region, Increase Prosperity
- 21 Priority Areas and Horizontal Actions
- Individual indicators and targets for each Area
- Actions and Flagship Projects are linked
- Integrated chapters on governance, new flagship projects, roles and responsibilities, financing...
- Annex on completed projects

Governance of the EUSBSR



Saving the Sea: sub-objectives, indicators and targets

Sub-objective	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Sources
Clear water	Nutrient loads; ecological status by eutrophication parameters	BSAP; MSFD	Nutrient load reductions by 2016; GES by 2021	HELCOM; MSFD
Rich and healthy wildlife	Biodiversity status and ecosystem health, incl. fish stocks and amount of hazardous substances	GES indicators	Indicators in 2013; GES by 2021	MSFD, HELCOM
Clean and safe shipping	Number of shipping accidents	Average 2008-10	Decreasing trend	HELCOM
	Illegal discharges	2011	Elimination by 2021	HELCOM
Better cooperation	HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan	2007	Evaluation in 2013; full implementation by 2021	HELCOM
	Drawing up and application of transboundary ecosystem-based Maritime Spatial Plans	None in 2011	Pilot plans in 2013; Drawing up and application in 2020	DG Mare, ministries, HELCOM-VASAB, ETC reports

Priority Areas under the objective Save the Sea

- PA Nutri (coordinated by Finland and Poland)
- PA Hazards (Sweden)
- PA Bio (Germany)
- PA Agri (Finland, Lithuania, Sweden)
- PA Ship (Denmark)
- PA Safe (Denmark, Finland)

Priority Area Nutri

- Enhances cooperation within the region, also with third countries
- Supports the implementation of the BSAP
- Works across country and sector borders
- Raises awareness and promotes visibility of eutrophication and best practices to tackle it
- Website <http://groupspaces.com/eusbsr-nutrient-inputs/>

PA Nutri: Actions and Flagship Projects

- Improving wastewater treatment
 - Flagship Project *PRESTO*
- Managing Nutrients More Efficiently
 - Flagship Project *Baltic DEAL*
- Facilitating cross-sectoral policy-oriented dialogue
- Investigating cost-efficient nutrient reduction mechanisms
- Cooperating with non-EU Member States
 - Flagship Project *Assessment of nutrient load reduction priorities in Belarus*
- Improving nutrient load data

PA Nutri: Experiences and challenges

- Balance between projects and policy level
- Focus vs. size of project; best projects are not necessarily the biggest ones
- New actors welcome! Both public sector (municipalities, water authorities etc.) and private sector (companies, consultants etc.)
- Heavy application procedures still a barrier for the introduction of new partners and smaller projects
- Channeling funding from the EU multiannual financial framework 2014–2020
- Isolated projects vs. communication and dissemination of results

Guidelines for new Flagship Projects for PA Nutri (can also be seen at [PA Nutri website](#))

A flagship project should:

- be in line with the targets set for the Priority Area
- have high significance to the Priority Area
- have an added value to the implementation of the EUSBSR
- not have an adverse impact on the EUSBSR
- not overlap with other existing flagship projects
- have concrete sustainable results for the Priority Area objective
- take a cooperative approach over the macro-region
- have defined time schedule, resources and deliverables
- have a plan for financing
- submit transferable results which shall become public

Targets and indicators: We Are Not There Yet!

Sub-objective	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Data sources
Clear water in the sea	Nutrient (P, N) inputs (tons)	Nutrient (P, N) input into the Baltic Sea (HELCOM BSAP baseline 1997 - 2003 average) - per sub-region - per country - point sources - diffuse sources - airborne N	Total nutrient reduction by 2016 as agreed in BSAP 2007 and revised by HELCOM in 2013	HELCOM data (PLC-water, PLC-air/EMEP)
Clear water in the sea, Rich and healthy wildlife	Sea-area (km ² , %) in good ecosystem status by descriptors of EU MSFD	Initial assessment as required by MSFD (in 2012)	Whole Baltic Sea area in good ecological status by 2020	Country reports 2012, 2018



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<http://groupspaces.com/eusbsr-nutrient-inputs/>

<http://eu.baltic.net/> → 2014–2020

<http://seed.eusbsr.eu/>