



## EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Policy Area Nutri

### Steering Group meeting

Date: 16/09/2025  
Time: 14:00–16:00 EST  
Location: online

### MINUTES

#### 1. Opening of the meeting and introducing new Chair

Estonia's turn as chair of PA Nutri has begun in July and will continue until June 2026. There are two Estonian representatives in PA Nutri and they will share their duties.

The new chairs introduced themselves and declared the meeting open. They also shared information about the Estonian presidency priorities for the whole EUSBSR, for example: improving sustainability of the region, finishing the Action Plan update process, cooperation with Ukraine and improved cooperation between PAs.

#### 2. Possible updates from BSP, DG REGIO

No updates from BSP or DG REGIO this time.

#### 3. Action Plan situation

Tom Schumacher from BSP shared information on the general plan and present situation of the Action Plan update. Presently all PAs are preparing final versions of Actions. The final Action Plan will go to EC for approval by spring 2026. Feedback both from NCG and BSP was also presented. Main points to improve were identifying more clearly when a goal is output or outcome, and to identify which funding programmes are in the focus of Nutri's work and what kind of cooperation is foreseen with them.

It was mentioned that Nutri's effort to make a joint statement to the EU's open consultation on bioeconomy strategy was a type of policy work that is expected from the EUSBSR. However, since this type of work was first developed in May-June 2025, it is not included in the Action Plan. Coordinators were guided to check the text and frame it as general policy work so that it works for different situations.



All Actions of PAs are available on EUSBSR collaboration platform. Good examples of collaboration with funding programmes could be found there.

Timetable and approval process of the Actions were discussed, and it was decided that written procedure is sufficient.

#### 4. Updates on events and Annual Forum

A short overview of events where Nutri has participated and many upcoming events was presented. A list of past events which Nutri has organised on joint since last Steering Group meeting:

- PA Nutri Talks on nutrient recycling
- PA Nutri Talks on water management in rural areas
- EUSBSR internal meeting in Turku, 1.-2.4.
- Published an article about nutrient recycling in Turun Sanomat
- Europe Day, local introduction to EUSBSR and PAs Nutri and Ship, 9.5.
- Baltic Sea Region Forum in Turku, 12.5., a panel discussion about nutrient recycling (speaker)
- Europe Forum in Turku had a panel discussion about nutrient recycling, organised by CiNURGi, 27.8. (speaker)

Upcoming events:

- MRS&SBS Days workshop on water resilience and cross-MRS cooperation
- EUSBSR Annual Forum, two workshops: New circular solutions, Counteracting BSR scarcity - Building water-smart cities through regenerative water and nutrient cycles
- A Swedish seminar about capacity building for transnational cooperation (speaker about save the sea-objective and Nutri)
- CiNURGi-organised workshop on 20.10. about nutrient recycling

Discussion focused on if Nutri should continue the efforts of making joint statements to EU's open consultations. Steering Group offered support to the work.

A suggestion of applying for funding to organise an in-person event in 2026 was discussed. Based on the discussions the topic should be about water management in rural areas and catchment officers, and funding could be applied from the Estonian WetEST Life-project. Coordinators will write a concept note and send it for comments.



**5. Platform-project call**

Quests presented their idea papers to the platform-project call of Interreg Baltic Sea Region and possible improvements to them were discussed.

**6. AOB**

No other matters arose for discussion.

**7. Timelines for next meetings, end of the meeting**

Next meeting was decided to be held on 8 December at 14:00-16:00 EET.

Chair closed the meeting at 15:50 o'clock.



## PARTICIPANTS

Estonia (chair)	Ministry of Climate	Ann Riisenberg
Estonia (chair)	Ministry of Climate	Annabel Keerd
Finland	Ministry of the Environment	Henna Rinne
Latvia	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development	Baiba Zasa
Lithuania	Ministry of Environment	Tomas Želvys
Poland	Water Protection Unit, Ministry of Infrastructure	Robert Żurawski
Sweden	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	Josefin Hjort
PACs	ELY-Centre of South-West Finland	Elsi Kauppinen
	ELY-Centre of South-West Finland	Pekka Paavilainen
	Polish Waters - State Water Holding	Jan Pryzowicz
Observers	HELCOM	Lotta Ruokanen
Quests	HELCOM	Eetu Virtanen
	Centrum Balticum	Paula Biveson
	Chamber of Economy “Polish Waterworks”	Klara Ramm