



EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Policy Area Nutri

Steering Group meeting

Date: 08/12/2025
Time: 14:00–16:00 EST
Location: online

MINUTES

1. Opening of the meeting

The chair opened the meeting welcoming everyone.

2. Possible updates from DG REGIO

Johan Magnusson shared information about the timing for next MRS Days. It will likely take place during early July. Also timing of next EUSBSR Annual Forum was discussed (11-13 May 2026).

3. Action Plan situation

BSP made a draft of joint Action Plan Chapter III covering all PAs and their Actions. The texts were still shortened using AI. This introduced changes to the Indicators and Action descriptions. Changed indicators were discussed one by one. Many of them had to be modified again.

BSP also suggested subtitles for each PA. Steering Group preferred a shorter version than the one suggested by BSP. The preferred version was: "POLICY AREA NUTRI - Reducing nutrient pollution to the Baltic Sea".

It was discussed that the Action Plan Chapter III will be circulated with the discussed changes among all Steering Group members for a possibility to give comments. If there is a lot of comments and further changes to be made, then even a silent procedure might be needed. The final call for the need will be made after the commenting round has ended.



4. Reporting of year 2025

Events and other activities of PA Nutri PACs have been extensively covered in previous Steering Group meetings, and a short overview was shared with the group through email before the meeting. Here only an overview of things that have not been covered that in depth was discussed. There were several activities that were not included in the workplan for year 2025. The joint statement to EUs open consultation on Bioeconomy Strategy was the main one. Also work has begun to make another joint statement to a consultation about European Climate Resilience and Risk Management - Integrated Framework. This will be prepared together with PAs Secure and Hazards. Other smaller challenges and events that were joined can be found on the slides.

Part of reporting to the Interreg BSR is the feedback to PACs. It was discussed what should be included there. SG members brought up that they are happy with the activities, and consider the year a success.

It was decided that a commenting round and a silent procedure in January will be enough to endorse the reports.

5. Workplan for year 2026

Main issues to work on during 2026 were foreseen by PACs to be:

- Possible joint event with Estonia on catchment approach to water management
- Annual Forum in Estonia
- Possible project presentations to SG and HELCOM's Source to Sea -working group
- New application for prolonging funding for PA Nutri for years 2027-2028 (present funding until the end of year 2026)
- PA Nutri Talks

The workplan will need to be flexible enough to take into account the transition from old Action Plan to an updated one. PACs want to start discussions with the Steering Group on how to implement the goals identified during Action update process, such as the cooperation groups for both wastewater treatment and nutrient recycling Actions. Also our goals for post-2027 should be discussed more in detail, such as what we would like to achieve with Interreg funding during next financial period. For these purposes workshops or discussions in Steering Group meetings were included to the workplan proposal.

It was decided that a commenting round and a silent procedure will be enough to endorse the workplan for year 2026.

6. AOB

Polish PAC has now more working time dedicated to being a coordinator of PA Nutri. They do this work without Interreg-funding. They have been joining events already and helping with organisation of workshops.

Finnish PAC organisation is going through organisational changes, as has been discussed previously. New organisation is called Economic Development Centre of Southwest Finland. NCG



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has accepted the change to PAC list starting from 1.1.2026, and now the change is being made also to Interreg-fund.

7. Timelines for next meetings, end of the meeting

Next meeting was decided to be held on 25 February 2026, at 14:00-16:00 EET.

Chair closed the meeting at 15:55 o'clock.





PARTICIPANTS

Estonia (chair)	Ministry of Climate	Ann Riisenberg
Estonia (chair)	Ministry of Climate	Annabel Keerd
Finland	Ministry of the Environment	Henna Rinne
Sweden	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	Josefin Hjort
PACs	ELY-Centre of South-West Finland	Elsi Kauppinen
	Polish Waters - State Water Holding	Jan Pryzowicz
Observers	HELCOM	Lotta Ruokanen
	DG REGIO	Johan Magnusson