



Ministry of Agriculture
Republic of Latvia



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION
Latvian Presidency
2023-2024

3rd PA Bioeconomy Steering group meeting under Latvian presidency

21.05.2024. MS Teams

Attendees (with e-mail for networking):

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Minutes from the meeting

	Agenda points	Decisions
1.	Welcome and approval of agenda <i>Ministry of Agriculture Republic of Latvia</i>	KS welcomed the members for the SG and starts the meeting by approving the agenda.

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2.	<p>Information from Interreg Project platforms and updates to Action Plans <i>Elena Kolosova</i></p>	<p>Interreg Baltic Sea Region representative Elena Kolosova gives a presentation on what Interreg Baltic Sea Region has to offer and has been doing so far and asks the question for the participants on what the needs and potential for transnational cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region are. Participants give input on topics such as food security, nutrient leakage, and the possibility to include this topic in the upcoming Annual Forum.</p>
3.	<p>Status and further work to be done in the strategy <i>Ministry of Agriculture, PA coordinators</i></p>	<p>EL thanks the participants from the Ministry of Agriculture side for participating in the meetings and being active participants in the PA Bioeconomy Steering Group. TJ notes that Jan and Feb were the period for reporting. Now – preparing seminars on specific issues that seem relevant for the group, next seminar is a hybrid seminar on food security with relevance to individual, societal preparedness. With other PA preparing workshops for the Annual Forum, there is interest from the organizers to follow up on the food security topic and topic on forestry. Action Plan will be updated. Workshop with PA Nutri in December.</p>
4.	<p>Tour de table with PA Bioeconomy stakeholders <i>All</i></p>	<p>The tour de table begins with Ilze Dimante discussing the Interreg project MainPotRe (https://interreg-baltic.eu/project/mainpotre/), which mainly supports PA Culture and PA Bioeconomy by enhancing local potato cultivar access. Jennifer Avci then introduces the Circular FoodShift in the Baltic Countries project (https://interreg-baltic.eu/project/circular-foodshift/), emphasizing the need for citizen-centered food system changes and cross-sector cooperation. Annika Steele from Submariner Network presents the Round Goby project (https://interreg-baltic.eu/project/roundgoby/), aimed at testing new fishing methods and developing products for public kitchens, resulting in a sustainable fishing roadmap. Jennifer Avci notes potential synergies and networking opportunities between projects. Anna Aalto discusses the BioBoosters project (https://interreg-baltic.eu/project/bioboosters/), highlighting nine completed hackathons and the formation of 11 partnerships focused on</p>

		<p>bioeconomy innovations and challenges. Angela Schultz-Zehden mentions Submariner's overarching projects like ShapingBio and algae initiatives (https://bluebiomatch.hivebrite.com). Ahmad Hafiz from CSCP describes the FoodLoops project, which aims to improve waste separation in schools, canteens, and households.</p> <p>KS summarized the discussion: strategic autonomy is vital, attracting people to rural areas and involving municipalities in bioeconomy are crucial for policy-making. These projects can foster a strong network and drive innovations like developing tasty alternatives using Round Goby and sharing knowledge in impacted areas.</p>
5.	<p>Closing <i>Nordic Council of Ministers Ministry of Agriculture</i></p>	<p>In the closing point there was a large interest in sharing contacts for networking, therefore, it is included at the start of the minutes. Meeting closed.</p>

