



# **EUSBSR** EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

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**26<sup>th</sup> EUSBSR PA SHIP Steering Group  
meeting**

**11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 12:30-14:30 (EEST),  
TEAMS online**

**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union

## Agenda

- 1) **Welcome words and Tour de Table**
- 2) Approval of the agenda and minutes of the last meeting
- 3) Farewell Presentation from EUSBSR Estonian Presidency
- 4) Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators
- 5) News from the PA Ship Operational Group meeting
- 6) Updates from the BSP: EUSBSR Action Plan & Latest from PAC / NC meeting
- 7) PA Ship relevant policy updates in the Baltic Sea Region
- 8) Any other Business
- 9) Closing the meeting



## Tour de Table

- Your name, organisation & title
- What is your favorite thing about the Baltic Sea, that you would like to save for the future generations?



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# **EUSBSR** EU STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

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## Activities of the Policy Area Coordinators

Sami Vesterinen, EUSBSR PA Ship Coordinators  
Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom  
[milla.harju@traficom.fi](mailto:milla.harju@traficom.fi) [sami.vesterinen@traficom.fi](mailto:sami.vesterinen@traficom.fi)

## Overview of the activities since October 2025

### Events

- INCONE60Green project Mid-Term Conference
- Annual Forum 2025
  - ❖ Are Our Green Fuels Ready for Green Shipping Corridors?
  - ❖ New Circular Economy Solutions
- BPO Ports For Climate Conference + Blue Supply Chains Final Conference
- Baltic Green Shipping Corridor project - Kick-off meeting
- NC-PAC meeting, Copenhagen
- Ports as Enablers for Energy Transition, Energy Security, and Sustainable Transport-workshop



## Upcoming Events 2026

### Events

- European Maritime Day 2026 Limassol, Cyprus
- Sjöfartens Dag, Åland
- CBSS EGSME meeting, Gdansk
- Scrubber Waste Management Workshop, Riga



## HELCOM cooperation

### Scrubber Waste Management workshop

- 17<sup>th</sup> of June
- Riga, Latvia
- Hybrid-workshop
- HELCOM roadmap on ECGS - knowledge exchange
- Best practices
- Ports, waste management companies, shipping companies etc.

"If we save the sea, we save our world."  
Sir David Attenborough

## SCRUBBER WASTE MANAGEMENT ONSITE WORKSHOP

17th of June 2026

Organisers:



EUSBSR  
EU STRATEGY  
FOR THE BALTIC  
SEA REGION  
Policy Area Ship

What, where, why?

- Asdf
- Asdf
- Asdf
- Asdf

LOGO TÄHÄN CO  
järjestäjän

**REGISTER HERE!**

**TRAFICOM**  
Finnish Transport and Communications Agency

## HELCOM cooperation

### HELCOM Green Team

- In close cooperation with the new Chair
- PA Ship submitting a document on green shipping corridors
  - PA Ship projects to present (TBC)



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# PA Ship Operational Group meeting 07.04.2026



EUSBSR PA Ship Operational Group  
Meeting Agenda  
7.4.2026  
Online - all time EEST

Logging in 13.20 - 13.30

1. Welcome words, approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting 13.30-13.35  
*Sami Vesterinen PA Ship Coordinator (PAC), Finnish Transport and Communications Agency ~~Traficom~~*
2. EUSBSR Action Plan update: ~~Finalised~~ PA Ship Actions 13.35 - 13.45  
*PAC Sami Vesterinen will share the ~~finalised~~ words from the Action Plan*
3. Projects: first flow 13.45 - 14.30  
*The latest additions to PA Ship will present their work and objectives.  
Projects: Chemical Tanker, Green Shipping Corridors, and Nordic Roadmap Phase 2*
4. Discussion 14.30 -14.45  
*All participants are invited to comment, ask questions and make suggestions*
5. Projects: Second flow 14.45 - 15.15  
*Two more projects to present: CARGORES and ~~PortShaz~~*
6. Discussion 15.15 - 15.30  
*More comments, questions and suggestions welcome*
7. Changes and Future Plans for PA Ship Coordination 15.30 - 15.45  
*PAC Milla Harju to give account on the latest development in coordination*
8. AOB 15.45 -15.55  
*All participants are welcome and encouraged to share their latest news, challenges, ideas etc. The floor is open for discussion, sharing information and learning!*
9. Closing the meeting 15.55 - 16.00  
*PAC Milla Harju will close the meeting*





# Baltic Sea Green Shipping Corridors

Julia Hansson  
EUSBSR PA SHIP Operational Group Meeting

**SI.** Funded by  
**Swedish  
Institute**

 **ivl**  
Swedish Environmental  
Research Institute

# Baltic Sea Green Shipping Corridors

Seed project (October 2025 – September 2026)



## Core project activities:



Expansion of partnership across the maritime value chain (ports, shipping companies, energy providers)



Need analysis: Identifying the most suitable routes and segments for GSC project in the Baltic Sea



Developing a strong concept & identifying relevant call for a follow-up application

## Project Partners



## Reference Group

**THE BALTIC SEA:**

**FROM  
GREEN SHIPPING  
CORRIDOR  
AMBITION  
TO REALITY**

**BE PART OF IT!**

BalticSea-GSC seed project  
is identifying routes, partners,  
and finance opportunities

Learn more: [www.ivl.se](http://www.ivl.se)

Baltic Sea Green Shipping Corridors

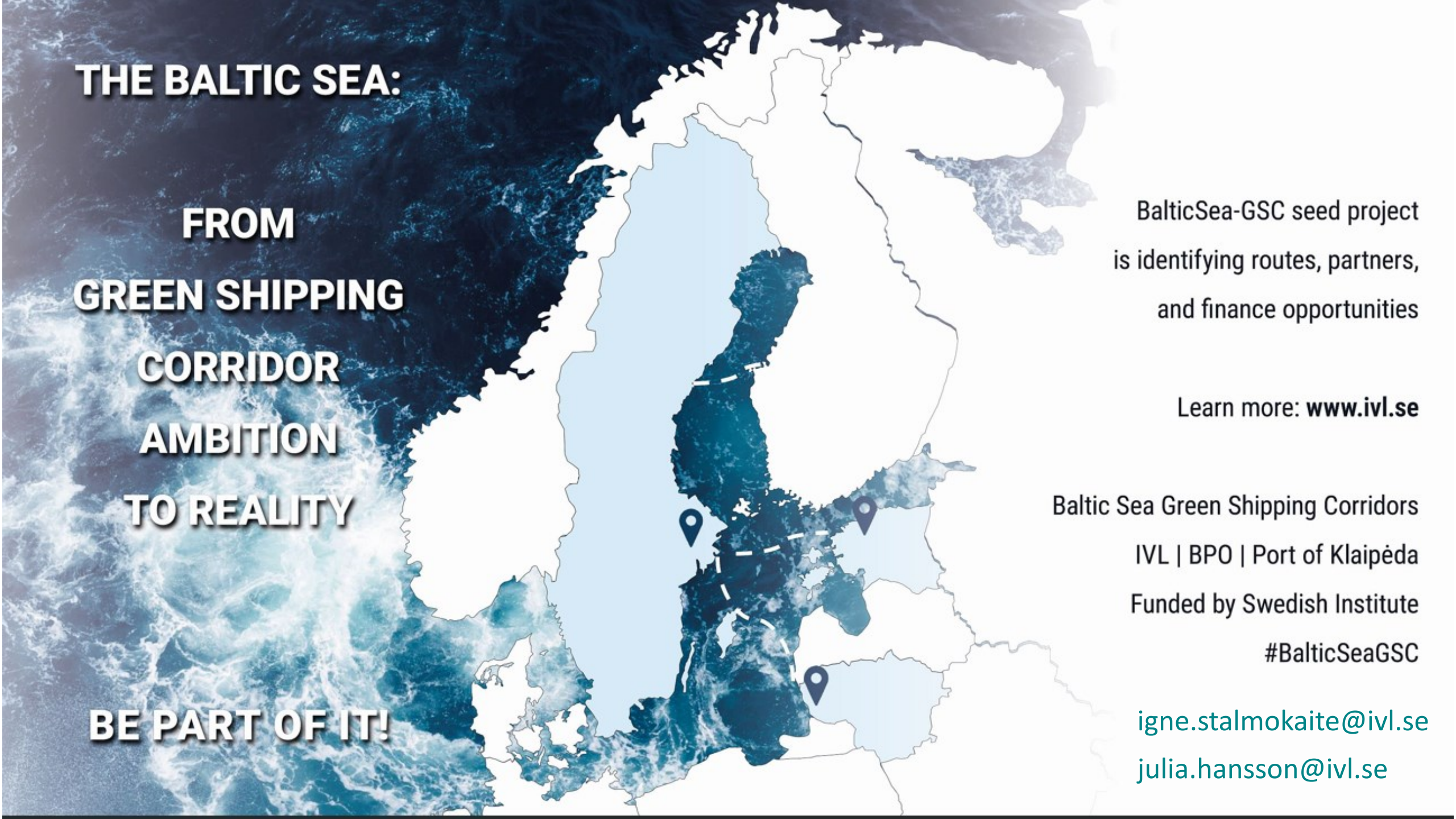
IVL | BPO | Port of Klaipėda

Funded by Swedish Institute

#BalticSeaGSC

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Interreg



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Central Baltic Programme

CargoRes

# CargoRes – Sustainable handling of cargo residues

7.4.2026, PA Ship Operational meeting

Helmi Tuori & Eeva Tähtikarhu

CONTACT



CargoRes (CB0700326) is an Interreg Central Baltic Programme 2021- 2027  
project co-funded by the European Union



Image: Eeva Tähtikarhu

# Purpose

- We drive **change in the handling of dry bulk cargo** in the ports and on the ships
- **To minimise cargo residues** ending up in the sea **during loading and unloading** of cargo at the ports, through **storm water** or ships' **hold wash waters**
- To close yet one source of eutrophication-prompting pollution **through concrete solutions, knowledge sharing and awareness raising**



# Environmental Due Diligence

## Assessment tool for environmental compliance and continuous improvement

- Concrete self-assessment tool to monitor, benchmark and develop the environmental compliance of cargo handling operations
- Identifies strengths, gaps and improvement opportunities at the level of single operators
- **Focuses on:**
  - Cargo handling practices
  - Risk of cargo residues
  - Management of wash waters

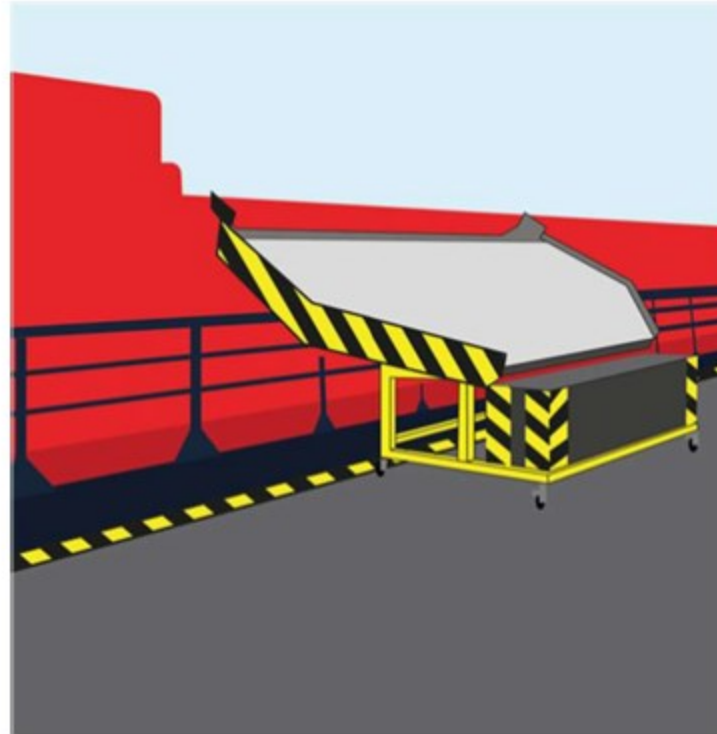
# Pilots

Cost-efficient solutions to prevent cargo losses ending up into the sea

SOME EXAMPLES



Stormwater filter caught 75 kg cargo residues, preventing 9 000 kg of algae bloom.



Prevention cover makes cargo loss visible and increases staff's motivation for careful handling operations.



By improving cleaning procedures and staff training, cargo residues were reduced by 65 %.



# Knowledge sharing

## Ensuring uptake, continuity and long-term impact beyond the project

- Supports the implementation, transfer and continuity of CargoRes results
- Translates project findings into practical, usable knowledge for operators and stakeholders
- Ensures that lessons learned are shared, replicated and sustained beyond the project lifetime

### Core elements:

- Best practices
- Trainings
- Handbook

# Ways to participate

The project builds on collaboration: offering both hands-on piloting and an open platform for shared learning and co-creation across the port and cargo ecosystem

## 1. Collaborative Partners

A committed core group of 3 ports and 3 shipping companies

- Actively open their ports, terminals and vessels for:
  - Environmental Due Diligence (EDD)
  - pilot testing and validation of solutions
- Work closely with the project team to shape, test and refine practical measures
- Play a key role in demonstrating what works in real operational settings

## 2. Advisory network

An open and flexible network welcoming additional stakeholders

- Provides opportunities to:
  - contribute to EDD and pilot design
  - exchange insights and lessons learned
  - co-develop best practices, training content and the final project handbook
- Ensures results are relevant, transferable and widely accepted

# Project partners



## Laurea University of Applied Sciences (Lead Partner)

Minna Markkanen (minna.markkanen@laurea.fi)

Artmir Galica (artmir.galica@laurea.fi)



## John Nurminen Foundation

Eeva Tähtikarhu (eeva.tahtikarhu@jnfoundation.fi)



## Kotka Maritime Research Centre

Helmi Tuori (helmi.tuori@merikotka.fi)



## Tallinn University of Technology

Seçil Gülmez (secil.gulmez@taltech.ee)



# Programme & Funding

Project duration:

**01.09.2025 - 31.08.2028**

Project implemented under:

**Central Baltic Programme**

Co-financed by:

**European Regional Development Fund**

Budget:

Total: **€1,424,814.72**

ERDF funding: **€1,139,851.76 (80%)**

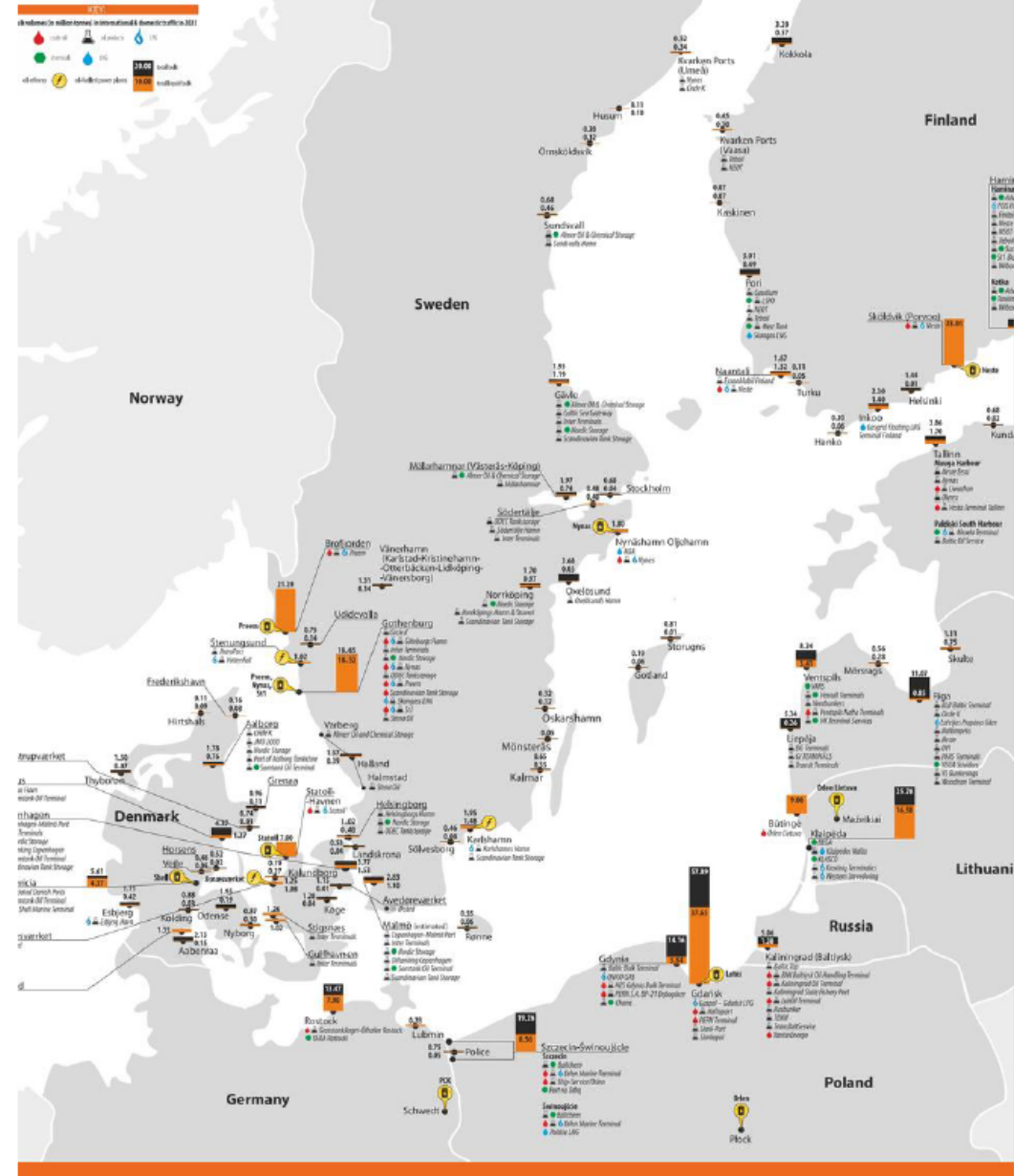
# BALTIC CHEMICAL TANKER PROJECT 2025-2027

## Objective:

- Reduce discharges of the most hazardous chemical tank washing waters in the Baltic Sea by 50 %
- Full implementation of HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan Action S16
- **Project partner:** Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)
- **Budget:** €300,000 (NEFCO funding 50%)
- **Target area:** Baltic Sea coastal states (excluding Russia)

**Stakeholders:** Authorities from all Baltic Sea countries, HELCOM, WWF, PA Ship (EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region).

## BALTIC LIQUID BULK MAP 2024



# MEASURES

## WP1 Risk Assessment

Identify the chemicals that pose the most significant risk to the Baltic Sea through tank washing by conducting country-specific risk assessments.

**KPI:** Number of completed risk assessments (6)

## WP2 Cooperation with the Chemical Industry

Reduce emissions by implementing best practices in ports and chemical industry companies.

**KPI:** Reduction in the volume of chemicals discharged through company cooperation (50%).

## WP3 Communication & Policy Advocacy

Achieve the complete elimination of discharges by influencing the tightening of tank washing regulations in the Baltic Sea.

**KPI:** Initiation of regulatory tightening at EU, HELCOM, and IMO levels.



# ***SOLUTIONS TO ELIMINATE TANK WASHING DISCHARGES***



## **1. Tank washing at berth and collection of wash water by vacuum truck for further treatment:**

- Recovery at own production facility
- Cooperation with another industrial facility (e.g. tall oil waters to pulp mill)
- Treatment at own wastewater treatment plant
- Delivery to external waste treatment

## **2. If wash water is generated regularly: Permanent reception facilities in ports**

## **3. Voyage planning to avoid intermediate tank washing (“load on top”)**



**Interreg**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**South Baltic**

## **PortSHAZ**

### **Enhanced Eco-Efficient Cargo Operations**

*Protecting the Baltic Sea - Strengthening Ports - Scaling Innovation*

EUSBSR PA Ship Operational Group Meeting, 07.04.2026

# Project objectives



- **Create simple guidelines** and hands-on tips that make it easier for ports to work in a more environmentally friendly way.
- Find and use **practical technical solutions** that help small and medium ports stop dry bulk cargo from leaking into the water. Focus on eco-efficient routines that can be added to daily work.
- **Improve water quality** by tackling the everyday causes of cargo loss. By making small changes in how we handle cargo, we can reduce pollution in the sea.

## Pilot objectives

- **Test prevention covers** during daily port operations to see how they work in practice.
- **Train port staff** to use and maintain the covers confidently and safely.
- **Monitor the reduction** in cargo leakage, the impact on operations, and the environmental results.
- **Collect environmental data** and ask operators for feedback on the process.
- **Check if the solution is cost-effective** and can be used in other ports as well.

# Expected outcomes

## Environmental:

- Less nutrient runoff is entering the Baltic Sea.
- Lower risk of algae blooms and other problems in the pilot port areas.
- There will be less cargo left on the quays and in the drains, making cleanup easier and reducing pollution.

## Operational:

- Ports will lose less cargo, which means direct savings and less waste.
- Workplaces will be safer, with less dust and cleaner surfaces for staff.
- Ports will find it easier to meet environmental rules and standards.

## Systemic:

- We will set clear best practices that other ports in the region can follow.
- Environmental routines will become a regular part of port management systems.
- We will also provide policy recommendations that can be used by other ports and at the national level.

# Partnership



Elbląg Seaport Authority



Race For The Baltic



Coastal Research and Planning Institute



K2 Solutions



Institute for Sustainable Economy and Logistics



Port of Vordingborg



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## News from the BSP

- Action Plan update will take longer time than initially expected due to the Commission internal processes
  - however the draft version (approved by the NCG, but not yet finalised by COM) for working with and implementation is already available on the website;
  - Norway membership process hopefully finalised over summer, marked by publishing of the Commission Communication).
  - The NCG is planning to review the Common Structure for the SG Rules of Procedure in connection with Norway joining, but no timeline or concrete details on that yet,



## Action Plan Update & NC PAC Meeting

- PA Ship Operational Group was presented as an excellent example for other Policy Areas
- The meeting provided a useful bridge from Action Plan update to implementation
- The meeting generated a clearer shared understanding in three key areas:
  - how Actions are being coordinated in practice,
  - how the Strategy should be argued for externally, and
  - how SGs and ministries can help turn Action work into uptake and implementation.
- We also collected a substantial body of practical ideas that can be used both in day-to-day PAC work and in wider BSP and NCG reflection going forward.



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## Any other business?

- Information you would like to share (e.g., projects, initiatives)
- Baltic Chemical Tanker Project - Missing information
- Next meeting: Online, October?

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# Thank you!

PA Ship Coordinators Milla Harju and Sami Vesterinen  
Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom

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