



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

PA Nutri Steering group meeting 04-2023

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



**Co-funded by
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Agenda

- 1) Possible updates from DG Regio and BSP
- 2) Situation with Polish SG member
- 3) Changes to Rules of Procedure
- 4) Discussion about next President for PA Nutri
- 5) PA Nutri Annual Report 2022
- 6) How Nutri has cooperated with new project proposals
- 7) PA Nutri Talks topic selection
- 8) EU MRS Week and Stakeholder Session
- 9) EU Missions – Restore our Ocean and Waters - Mission Charter
- 10) Ukraine cooperation - Ukrainian colleagues present themselves and the project proposal
- 11) CiNURGi Flagship application –situation / Flagship-concept
- 12) Other issues

10: Cooperation with Ukraine

- Conference with Ukraine was held 8.12.2022
 - PA Nutri and PA Bioeconomy jointly organised a workshop about wastewater and bioeconomy
 - Ukrainians approached us with a rough project idea about supporting wastewater treatment modernisation/organisation/etc
 - PA Nutri supported the drafting of the project application and establishing a network
 - Project application was submitted to Swedish Institute Baltic Sea Neighbourhood-Programme
- Poland has applied for a national fund for a bilateral project
- Ukrainians will present themselves and offer some words about the project and future cooperation

2: Situation with Polish SG member

- (Przemyslaw/Andrzej)

3: Changes to Rules of Procedure - presidency rotation

- OPTION 1: The SG presidency should rotate among the SG Members, normally on an annual basis and following the Presidency of the National Coordinators Group. The SG chair will be decided by the SG in a way that the same Member State does not, as a rule, hold the presidency for several years consecutively. In exceptional cases a chair can continue for two consecutive years. The objective is that the presidency **will be held by** all PA Nutri SG members in turn.
- OPTION 2: The SG presidency rotates among the SG Members on an annual basis and following the Presidency of the National Coordinators Group.
- OPTION 3: OPTION 1: The SG presidency *should* rotate among the SG Members, normally on an annual basis and following the Presidency of the National Coordinators Group. The SG chair will be decided by the SG in a way that the same Member State does not, as a rule, hold the presidency for several years consecutively. In exceptional cases a chair can continue for two consecutive years. The objective is that the presidency **will be offered to** all PA Nutri SG members in turn.

4: Discussion about next president for PA Nutri

- The rotation for a couple of next years is as follows according to the National coordinators Presidency rotation:
2023/2024 Latvia
2024/2025 Poland
2025/2026 Estonia
- Latvia has declared that they have absolutely no resources to take over the presidency for the 2023/2024-cycle, but would be willing to take over 2024/2025
- Possible options:
 1. Sweden prolongs the presidency with one year
 2. **Split the duty for year 2023/24 between Poland and Sweden** (Poland starts the presidency at the beginning of year 2024)
 3. Poland and Latvia switch places

5: PA Nutri Annual Report 2022

- Finnish PAC-work has funding from Interreg BSR, where the annual reporting was postponed until 14th of April 2023
 - A report to EUSBSR will be drafted based on the Interreg-report
 - PA Hazards is under the same “project”
- Annual report not yet finalized, and will be circulated at a later date, with email correspondence about its endorsement

6: How Nutri has cooperated with new project proposals

- PA Nutri / ELY-Centre is associated partner in:
 - CiNURGi, Circular nutrients for a sustainable Baltic Sea
- Support letters written to:
 - GYPREG, Tackling agricultural phosphorus load by soil amendments
 - CiNURGi, Circular nutrients for a sustainable Baltic Sea
- Some cooperation indicated in the project application towards:
 - Baltic Sea Cities
- Support letters denied from a couple of applications
- Will try meet with majority of new projects after they start, but focus on the projects which we offered a support letter and/or joined as associated partners

7: PA Nutri Talks topic selection

Action no		PA Nutri Talks / Flagship-projects
1	Reduce nutrient emissions from agriculture and other diffuse sources	Seminar about ?-topic (Autumn 2023)
2	Reduce nutrient emissions from urban areas and other point sources	Seminar about wastewater (May 2023)
3	Develop and promote safe and sustainable nutrient recycling	
4	Address nutrients already accumulated in the Baltic Sea	

Proposal: Go through the Actions in PA Nutri Talks every two years (roughly)

→ In 2023 Actions 1 and 2, in 2024 Actions 3 and 4

7: PA Nutri Talks topic selection - Action 2 (urban areas/point sources)

- First session about Action 2 in May 2023 (29.5./30.5.): **Seminar for local authorities on wastewater treatment standards and legal frames in the EU**
- Wish from Ukrainians colleagues: “emphasis to be placed on the practical part - the experience of European countries in the reconstruction and construction of wastewater treatment facilities”

→ Presentations from Finland, Sweden and Poland about:

1. *Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (approaches to implementation)*
2. *What is agglomeration – how its determined, etc*
3. *Implementation tools / financial mechanisms*

- In order to support projects, add to the end of the seminar a part where relevant ongoing/past projects will present the issues they are working on:
 4. *WaterMan/EMPEREST/ReNutriWater present latest advancements/topics*

7: PA Nutri Talks topic selection- Action 1 (agriculture/diffuse sources)

- Second session about Action 1 in autumn 2023
 - Topic not decided, few suggestions:
 1. Holistic management of agricultural and forestry areas
 - Water management together with soil quality/restorative agriculture
 - Taking into account extreme weather phenomena
 - With an aim at activating a project proposal about the topic
 2. Landowner cooperation
 - Different approaches towards cooperation with landowners, pros and cons → projects can exchange best practices, get ideas from different countries, etc
 - Target group: projects
 3. Support to national BSAP implementation
 - How are national BSAP actions implemented in different countries
 - Target group: National authorities, HELCOM
- Either as a seminar or seminar/workshop with an aim of developing a project idea

8: EU MRS Week and Stakeholder Session

- MRS Week: <https://eumrsweek.regio-events.eu/> (Elsi K participates)
- PA Nutri participated to drafting a plan for Stakeholder Session
 - Session topic: Development of resilient value chains+their impact on sustainable energy supply its saving potential
 - PA Nutri contribution: Erik Sindhøj from RiSe (Sweden, lead partner in CiNURGi) will discuss how recycling of nutrients can contribute towards strengthening local value chains, circular economy and how it can save energy
 - Session suggestion was accepted and will be held on Wed 26th April, 09:30-11:00 CET (online)

9: EU Missions - Restore our Ocean and Waters - Mission Charter

- [EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters](#)
- <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/MissionOceanWatersCharter>
- Projects, organisations or actions can sign on to the Charter
- Baltic Sea Mission's main focus is in blue economy, but it does not exclude other topics, such as "Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity", "Prevent and eliminate pollution"
- Should PA Nutri sign in?
 - Pros: increased visibility, receive invitations to various Mission-forums and other relevant events, new networking possibilities, etc.
 - Cons: Can involve some kind of monitoring, can be a structure that will "compete" with EUSBSR, or EUSBSR might join the Charter as a whole
 - BSP will offer latest updates on the matter from the NCG (?)

11: CiNURGi

- In project application was indicated, that CiNURGi will apply for a Flagship status in PA Nutri
 - Will happen later, after project's approval, if its welcomed
 - **Not completely clear yet, if we want to continue using the Flagship-brand for projects?**

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12: Other issues

- PA Nutri participates to HELCOM groups Pressure and Source to Sea (usually Pekka Paavilainen)
- The final event of the Swedish EUSBSR Presidency at Gotland on 4 to 6 June 2023 (Pekka Paavilainen participates)
- A common workshop for PACs and possibly SG members of Nutri, Bioeconomy, Ship and Hazards
 - Some time in June before holiday season starts (?)
 - Agenda: How to cooperate about common topics (sources of nutrients/nutrient recycling)



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