

A Step Towards Realizing the Bioeconomy in the Baltic Sea Region



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Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Council of Ministers' seed money grant-

provide support to activities which generate and accelerate projects that feed into the overall objective of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Horizontal Action on the sustainable bioeconomy.

Project title

Integrated Blue Biotechnology Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

Project leader

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Partners

- SUBMARINER Network for Blue Growth EEIG
- Ministry of Economic Affairs, Employment, Transport and Technology Schleswig-Holstein (DE)
- Maritime Institute in Gdańsk (PL)
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology (SE)
- AgroTech (DK)
- Coastal Research and Development Institute (LT)
- Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology (LV)
- Danish Technological Institute (DK)
- BioCon Valley Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e.V. (DE)
- GEOMAR – Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel (DE)
- Fraunhofer Research Institution for Marine Biotechnology (DE)
- University of Gdańsk (PL)
- Finnish Environment Institute SYKE (FI)
- Gdańsk Science and Technology Park (PL)
- Klaipeda Science and Technology Park (LT)
- Tartu Biotechnology Park (EE)
- Latvian Biotechnology Association (LV)
- Region Skåne (SE)
- Ida-Viru Region (EE)
- Pomorskie Region (PL)
- Southwest Finland Region (FI)
- Riga Planning Region (LV)

Seeking partners that can contribute with

expertise and experience in sustainable and innovative uses of marine resources

Time period

November 2014 – June 2015

Main objective

The project aims at supporting pan-Baltic cooperation in the blue bioeconomy to foster blue growth and to develop sustainable biobased value chains. It contributes to developing an integrated Blue Biotechnology strategy in the Baltic Sea Region for research and commercialisation of marine bio-based products and ecosystem services delivered by marine resources.

Planned activities

We carried out three workshops to identify key actors and initiatives and to start off the development of larger Baltic Sea Region wide projects on the following topics:

- Virtual Institute of Blue Biotechnology for the Baltic Sea Region: A platform for shared facilities, expertise and support services to develop and market new marine bio-based products (workshop held in Berlin on 14 November 2014);
- Cooperation of BSR regions in implementing their research and innovation strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3) with focus on issues related to blue growth and the blue bioeconomy (workshop held in Berlin on 11 December 2014),
- Fostering commercial uses of macroalgae (seaweed) cultivated in the Baltic Sea, including technology development aspects for cultivation and extraction of selected naturally occurring species (Workshop held in Taastrup on 25 February 2015).

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Expected outcome

As a result of these project development activities, two concept notes have already been submitted to the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014–2020, covering the first two of the above-mentioned topics. During 2015, we will continue to work on a project proposal for the macroalgae topic.