



THE 3RD ERB WATER FORUM

OUTLETS OF NUTRIENTS AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES IN FOCUS AT THE WATER FORUM

PARTICIPANTS REPRESENTING MORE THAN 30 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES GATHERED THE 29TH AND 30TH OF OCTOBER AT THE 3RD ERB WATER FORUM IN KLAIPEDA.

The Water Forum, which was arranged by the MOMENT project, focused on issues concerning outlets of nutrients and hazardous substances to the Baltic Sea. Among else Mr Leonid Korovin, chairman of HELCOM LAND, emphasized the importance of cooperation between the countries around the Baltic Sea. The participants could listen to several interesting speakers that all stressed the need of action to achieve normal levels of nutrients and hazardous substances. During the Water Forum's second day, three other projects with similar objectives, ARTWEI, Baltic Agreement and Waterpraxis, presented their work and strategies for a healthier Baltic Sea.

Boat cruise

The first day ended with an appreciated boat cruise around Klaipeda Seaport and the Curonian Lagoon. The attendees were told about its history and plans for future work. Among else, it was told that an additional harbor area is planned making it one of the Baltic Sea's most important and largest harbors.

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IMPORTANT MEETING GROUND

With the EU strategy for the Baltic Sea region, even more focus has been placed on the current environmental situation of the Baltic Sea. But even though efforts for improving the water quality in the Baltic Sea never have been higher, the actual results for a definite improvement are still lacking. At the same time it is important that the work being done is coherent and there are places to meet where experiences with best practices and other achievements can be shared and spread to a broader public. The third ERB Water Forum acted as such a meeting ground and gave an opportunity of sharing and gaining experiences from experts and ongoing projects that work on a daily basis for a healthier Baltic Sea.



Meeting moderator Akko Karlsson (to the right) together with Slawomir Demkowicz-Dobrzanski, Head of Euro-region Baltic International Secretariat.



View over Klaipeda harbor.

MOMENT'S SECOND EXCHANGE MEETING

MOMENT'S SECOND EXCHANGE MEETING TOOK PLACE IN LITHUANIA THE 30TH OF SEPTEMBER AND 1ST OF OCTOBER WITH FOCUS ON THE PILOT AREAS AKMENA-DANE RIVER AND MINIJA RIVER, THE LARGEST OF THE SEVEN.

The MOMENT project occasionally arranges Exchange meetings where the projects achievements and experiences can be viewed and discussed by the projects partners. The second Exchange Meeting started by presenting of MOMENT's eight pilot areas measures.

Largest pilot area

Minija River is by far the largest of MOMENT's seven pilot areas and stretches more than 200 km and incorporates seven municipalities. The coordinating partner Klaipeda District Municipality had arranged stops at the J. Gizas ethnographic fisherman's homestead, the Dreverna quay and a stop at Minija valley. They finished with a local folkdance performance and a delicious meal at the homestead Strykis.

A visit at Kretinga waste water treatment plant

Akmena-Dane consists of two rivers, Akmena and Dane, that merges together and runs through Klaipeda City before reaching the Curonian lagoon. During the second day of the Exchange meeting the participants were introduced to some of the River's interesting history but also viewed some of its environmental concerns. A stop at Kretinga town's modern waste water treatment plant revealed that even though a lot of work remains

with improving the rivers environmental condition there are many good examples of already archived improvements. Let us hope for further improvements through the MOMENT project!



Top left: The J. Gizas ethnographic fisherman's homestead.

Top right: Kretinga town's Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Bottom: View from the homestead Strykis with a glance of the Curonian Lagoon.

MOMENT UP APPROVAL

FOUR ADDITIONAL PILOT AREA MEASURES

THE MOMENT UP (UPGRADE) HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE SOUTH BALTIC PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE.

Additional concrete pilot area measures will be added to the MOMENT project that will further enhance its impacts on the socioeconomic development of the Baltic Sea region. MOMENT UP allows for one additional Exchange meeting to take place in the Kaliningrad region and a possibility to spread its ideas to a broader Russian public. Four additional concrete pilot area measures are hereby to be implemented within three of MOMENT's seven pilot areas.

- In pilot area Akmena-Dane a stormwater treatment facility will be implemented in Kretinga town to stop untreated surface runoff to reach the River and eventually the Baltic Sea.
- Akmena-Dane will also work with an awareness raising campaign informing the public about negative impacts of phosphates coming from detergents.
- In pilot area Snarje Stream techniques for increasing water depths and water sanitation in Kalmar town will be implemented. The main aim is to within a limited area test different smallscale techniques to remove sediments polluted with especially phosphorus and hazardous substances.
- The pilot area Bruatorp River will work with water quantity management by preserving some of the excess water during the spring to later in the summer when it can instead be used as irrigation when the conditions are dry. As a result the uptake of nitrogen and phosphorus will become more efficient and not threaten to reach the nearby water courses.

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