



# **EUROREGION BALTIC**

**Task Force - Climate Change and Green Transition**

# **FINAL REPORT**



**May 2024**

## Recommendations for joint initiatives

Due to the Commission the mandate of the CCGT Task Force will end in June 2024.

### **Recommendation 1: Network for leaders**

Create a network for leaders in green transition in the Baltic Sea region to exchange knowledge and good examples. Target groups are politicians and administration leaders. Themes to explore - examples: Citizen involvement, Social change, Public consultations.

The core mission of the network will be networking activities focused on information and education, by exchanging knowledge and experiences, information on funding opportunities, new or changed policies, relevant events and projects.

The activities should be open to all, with no membership required and with a wider participation being possible.

First step: To select a leader/coordinator of the network and attract sufficient resources to support the work. One option could be an application to the next call under the Swedish Institute (June 2024).

Second step: To prepare a work plan and to clarify possibility of forming sub groups.

Third step: To set up a communication system including an online platform, to ensure a sufficient promotion and communication flow.

Fourth step: To mobilise politicians and administration leaders within ERB to form the core network.

### **Recommendation 2: A series of webinars / seminars**

Setting up webinars on various topics and invite politicians and officials from municipalities and regions. Good examples from other countries to be shown. Use of experts, Brussels offices etc. Ambition to start with webinars during Autumn 2024.

Possible themes:

- Managing gaps between EU policies, national level, regional level and local/municipal level. EU policies are straight forward and simple, but what happens when their broken down?
- Nature based solutions for planning our cities to minimize the need of energy
- District heating and the EPBD(??) – meeting efficiency challenges by introduction of modern district heating
- Waste management, potentials and challenges in an energy perspective
- Security of supply – energy storage with an increasing share of intermittent power generation
- The new bioeconomy – developing the Baltic Sea area into a green Persian Gulf
- EUSBSR
- Agrivoltaics - combining solar energy and farming
- Public transportation – how to make tenders and agreement on non-fossil fuels
- Biogas – biomethane, methanisation – addressing different challenges and achieving potentials
- Wind energy and defense – coexistence and opportunities in a threatful situation

# TASK FORCE – CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREEN TRANSITION

Commissorium adopted 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 by the Euroregion Baltic Executive Board

## Reference

ERB Statutes 2.10 - (the task of the Board is) to establish ad hoc task forces and delegate them with specific assignments

ERB Action Plan 2023-24 – Green and Blue Growth Agenda activities:

- Establishing an ERB Task Force on green transition (circular economy and renewable energy)

## Aim

With a focus on renewable energy the Task Force will identify and develop joint efforts to increase the adaptation of societies and promote a better use of available resources to mitigate to the climate change impact in the Baltic Sea Region and Europe.

## Specific objectives

With reference to the Executive Board of the ERB as the responsible body, the Task Force will have the following two concrete activities:

1. Mapping ongoing and planned initiatives in the ERB regions regarding renewable energy sources (RES)
  - a. Regional development strategies, plans, roadmaps etc. (RES)
  - b. Involvement of Citizens, Non-Governmental Organizations working with climate matters, business sector/SME's, educational and research sectors and labour market operators (jobcentres etc.)
  - c. Initiatives regarding future infrastructure and energy corridors
  - d. Initiatives regarding Labour market issues, such as mobilising qualified labour force
  - e. Technology aspects, such as initiatives to develop and test new technologies including storing the energy
  - f. Security aspects, such as measures regarding cyber security
  - g. Other relevant aspects identified by the Task Force
2. Identification of potential joint ERB efforts, such as lobbying, exchange of knowledge and experiences, and joint project initiatives (*define projects and participants*)

## Composition

Key stakeholders and experts from each ERB region, involved in RES development and planning. Experts from outside the ERB regions can take part in the work, such as universities.

## Administrative support

To be facilitated by one of the ERB members regions, to invite, prepare agendas, minutes and documents (mapping and recommendations). The Task Force will elect a chairperson. The Task Force meetings will mainly be digital.

## Time frame

August 2023 – June 2024, with the ambition to make the mapping before end of 2023, and to preparation concrete recommendations for eventually joint initiatives before May 2024.

## Economy

Eventually costs connected to the work of the Task Force will be the responsibility of the participating ERB member organisations to cover. If a joint meeting will be organised, the ERB Executive Board will decide if the costs partly or fully will be covered by the joint ERB budget.

**Reporting:** The Task Force will report to the ERB Executive Board on a quarterly basis.

## Outcome

The outcome of the Task Force will be two documents:

1. RES mapping for ERB area
2. Recommendations for joint initiatives (lobby, exchange, projects)

## Members of the Task Force

### Experts and specialists

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## Task Force meetings

30 <sup>th</sup> August 2023 online	19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 online
23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2023 online	11 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 online
14-15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 online
17 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 hybrid	14 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 online



### Link to the TF Google Drive maps:

[01. ERB TASK FORCE - ENERGY TRANSITION & Circular Economy - Google Drev](#)

### Outcome 1: Mapping report, January 2024

Link: [05. MAPPING PROCESS \(STRATEGIES AND POLICIES\) - Google Drev](#)

Mapping of renewable energy sources (RES) policies, strategies, roadmaps, initiatives etc. in the EU, Baltic Sea Region, national, regional and local level.

Detailed analysis of the European Union's energy policies, covering major frameworks like the Energy Union, Clean Energy for All Europeans Package, and the European Green Deal, along with directives focusing on energy efficiency, renewable energy, and governance.

Detailed exposition of various policies, strategies, and plans related to RES in different countries and regions within the Baltic Sea area, showing the diversity of initiatives and approaches adopted at different governmental levels.

Links to regional RES development strategies, including exploring citizen engagement, infrastructure planning for the future, understanding labor market dynamics in the context of green energy, and addressing technological and security considerations of RES.

The report includes a list of EU programmes relevant for RES development, including links.

32 pages.

# EU funding opportunities for renewable energy sources

## Interreg South Baltic Programme

Link: <https://southbaltic.eu/>



## Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme

Link: <https://interreg-baltic.eu/>



## Interreg Europe

Link: <https://www.interregeurope.eu/>

## SI Baltic Sea Neighbourhood Programme\*

Link: <https://si.se/utlysningar/>

\* Requires Swedish lead applicant.

## Life+

Link:

[https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life\\_en](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en)



## Connecting Europe Facility CEF

Link: <https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/connecting-europe-facility/energy>

## EU Innovation Fund

Link: <https://www.egen.green/>



## Horizon Europe - Cluster 5.

Link: <https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding>



**See also:** National & EU funding in support of [REPowerEU](#) objectives