‘BALTIC SEA, BALTIC GROWTH, BALTIC ENVIRONMENT’

THE 4TH ANNUAL FORUM OF THE EUROPEAN UNION STRATEGY FOR THE BALTIC SEA REGION

11-12 NOVEMBER 2013, VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

10 November 2013
Venue: Forum Palace, Konstitucijos ave. 26, Vilnius, Lithuania

19.00 Get together reception

11 November 2013
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius, Lithuania

11.30 - 12.30 Registration and Networking Village Activities, Buffet Lunch

12.30 - 13.15 Welcome address and keynote speeches
Room: Grand Opera I-II-III

Moderators:
Alyson J.K. Bailes, Visiting Professor, University of Iceland, Iceland
Dr. Mindaugas Jurkynas, Professor, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania

Speakers:
H.E. Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of the Republic of Lithuania
Johannes Hahn, Member of the European Commission in charge of Regional Policy

Video on the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

13.15 - 14.30 Plenary Session: Macro-regional strategies - to boost smart and sustainable growth
Room: Grand Opera I-II-III
The session focuses on the added value of the macro-regional approach, especially for blue and green growth. Participants will discuss concrete results in implementing the strategies. What further challenges need to be addressed in realising their full potential? Why it is important to think strategically at macro-region level in the upcoming programming period 2014-2020 to achieve the objectives of Europe 2020 Strategy? How can the Baltic Sea region become a world-class model of sustainable and smart growth?

Moderator: Alyson J.K. Bailes, Visiting Professor, University of Iceland, Iceland
Speakers:
Rimantas Šadžius, Minister of Finance, Lithuania
Lowri Evans, Director General, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission
Henryka Mościcka-Dendys, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland
Oscar Wåglund-Söderström, State Secretary, Prime Minister’s Office, Sweden
Helle Pilsgaard, Chair of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM)
Helena Lindberg, Director General of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, Sweden

Debate

14.30 - 14.50 Break between plenary sessions for networking

14.50 - 16.05 Plenary Session: How jobs and ecology go together
Room: Grand Opera I-II-III
The session focuses on how environmental concerns can create jobs. How does environmental protection boost economic growth and competitiveness? Which sectors will grow through implementing the environmental measures? How can public policies in the region promote both objectives - jobs and environmental protection?

Moderator: Dr. Mindaugas Jurkynas, Professor, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania

Speakers:
Edmunds Sprūdžs, Minister of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvia
Katarina Poskiparta, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Finland
Arijandas Šliupas, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Lithuania
Radvilė Morkūnaitė-Mikulėnienė, Member of the European Parliament
Dr. Kaisa Kononen, Executive Director of BONUS, Finland
Dominique Ristori, Director General of the Joint Research Centre, European Commission
Anti Moppel, Advisor to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Estonia

Debate

16.05 - 16.30 Coffee break and Networking Village Activities

16.30 - 18.00 Workshops

Baltic Blue growth
Room: Grand Opera I
Organiser: The Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission
Description: ‘Blue growth’ is a long-term strategy to support growth in the maritime sector as a whole. Because of innovation in the region, as well as the environmental challenges, the Baltic Sea region is best placed to combine blue and green growth. The workshop will discuss where the
potential for blue growth lies in the region and how to make the most of the Strategy to spur new initiatives to unlock this blue growth potential, which will lead to employment opportunities and competitiveness.

**Baltic renewables**
*Room: Andante*
*Organiser: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania*
*Description:* The successful deployment of renewable energy sources in Europe occurred during the last decade. Consequently a substantial increase of renewable energy production also created an urgent need to better integrate renewable energy into the market. For renewable energy, support schemes are the key instrument to help achieve 2020 goals. However, it is important, that future support is designed carefully taking into account the burden, falling onto consumers and also ensuring competitive market-driven approach. Discussion on the future of renewable energy support instruments should bridge our cost-effective path to energy independent, green and competitive, market-driven region.

**Growth within limited resources - scenarios**
*Room: Grand Opera III*
*Organiser: WWF*
*Description:* The workshop will present the implications of possible future scenarios for the region and explore recommendations for securing the income, jobs and environment that we want for the Baltic Sea of the future. The session will further address the actions needed from the public and private sectors in order to effectively contribute to, and benefit from, the sustainable development of the region. How to turn adversity into opportunity and realize the potential of the Strategy to save the sea, connect the region and increase prosperity will provide a key theme for this interactive workshop.

**Going green and showing it**
*Room: Virtuoso*
*Organiser: INTERACT Point Turku*
*Description:* Realise and enjoy how many possibilities there are to get added value from a successful project within the Strategy. It is not all about networking. It is about giving flesh and blood to the initial idea. It is to develop the first commitment among people and organisations you did not know before. You can make this transnational and at the same time anchor it in the national environment. It can be linked to peoples’ ordinary life. The results can and will act as a stable platform for future visions. This is possible, but you need to communicate it! We show how you can do it and we hope you will help us doing it even better. As the basis we will use one of the successful flagship projects within Strategy. Join us - learn and share your ideas and experiences!

**Can clean & safe Baltic shipping make money?**
*Room: Adagio*
*Organiser: PAC Ship & Safe represented by the Danish Maritime Authority*
*Description:* A large part of the maritime sector in the Baltic Sea region is having difficulties. New environmental regulation on sulphur emissions will force ship-owners either to invest in new technology or to purchase more expensive low-sulphur fuel. If not handled correctly, this may lead to a so-called modal backshift replacing shipping with more trucks on our already congested roads and the loss of ferry routes across our region. At the same time, the Baltic is a shallow, semi-closed sea with brackish waters and a major chemical or oil spill could have enormous impact. It’s easy to
agree, that the region need clean, safe and high-quality shipping, but how to ensure that the business is sufficient profitable for the maritime sector to enable such development? What can the EU and the Member States do to support?

18.30 - 19.00 Departure to dinner

19.00 - 22.00 Dinner

12 November 2013

9.15 - 10.30 Plenary Session: Baltic profit, Baltic ecology
Room: Grand Opera I-II-III
The session focuses on the role of private sector in achieving sustainable development. Participants will discuss the ways in which an environmental friendly approach could help to improve region’s competitiveness. Can public stimulus change incentives for the market to find solutions? How can different economic sectors reduce adverse effects on an already fragile environment? By what means can the private sector meet environmental requirements while being profitable?

Moderator: Alyson J.K. Bailes, Visiting Professor, University of Iceland, Iceland

Speakers:
Valentinas Mazuronis, Minister of Environment, Lithuania
Claes G. Berglund, Director Public Affairs & Sustainability, Stena AB, Sweden
Dr. Lisa Emelie Svensson, Ambassador for Oceans, Seas and Fresh Water, Ministry of the Environment, Sweden
Anita Fürstenberg-Lucius, Director, Directorate for Operations in the European Union and Candidate Countries, European Investment Bank
Hans Brask, Director, Baltic Development Forum, Denmark

Debate

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break and Networking Village Activities

11.00 - 12.30 Workshops

Sustainable agriculture - price tags and possibilities for the region
Room: Adagio
Organiser: Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) and the Lithuanian Fund for Nature
Description: Runoff of nutrients from agriculture is the single biggest source of eutrophication in the Baltic Sea. In the 2013 HELCOM Ministerial Meeting in October, the regional Ministers and EU Commissioner reiterate commitments to prevent pollution from agriculture, and recognize the need to improve the recycling of phosphorus especially in agriculture. Can farmers reduce their nutrient
runoff substantially and still be competitive on the market?

**When Baltic business meets the environment**  
*Room:* Virtuoso  
*Organiser:* Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania and VINNOVA  
*Description:* The main actors of priority area 'Innovation' will present the achievements of the projects within this priority area and provide insights on the future steps in light of the new financial perspective. The workshop will also consider how to bridge the gap between strategic projects and more concrete commercial results.

**Growth within limited resources - sustainable economy**  
*Room:* Andante  
*Organiser:* Lithuanian NGOs  
*Description:* The workshop will focus on the main goals of sustainable growth as stated in the EU Strategy of the Baltic Sea Region and related implementation challenges. The workshop will contribute to the following discussions: the coordination activities of Baltic Sea region states to strengthen the use of market based instruments to achieve a low-carbon and resource efficient future. The significant opportunities for renewable energy and energy conservation, their impact upon employment and public finances and the policies required for their successful implementation. A special emphasis is placed on importance of funding of sustainability research taking into consideration its complexity.

**Cooperation for a healthier Baltic Sea Region environment**  
*Room:* Allegro  
*Organiser:* Baltic Sea Region Programme  
*Description:* The workshop will demonstrate achievements of transnational cooperation programmes and projects in the field of environment, and give orientation for potential project partners about funding sources available in the near future in the Baltic Sea region for projects that tackle environmental issues. Successful cooperation needs time, funding and good examples. At the workshop we will learn about selected projects from the region. We will also compare the available funding sources and their requirements.

**Funding the Future**  
*Room:* Grand Opera III  
*Organiser:* Swedish Institute (SI) & Baltic Development Forum (BDF) in cooperation with Investitionsbank Schleswig-Holstein (IB), Secretariat of the Council for Baltic Sea States (CBSS) and Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM)  
*Description:* Funding is crucial to the implementation of the Strategy. Seed-funding facilities are important; this workshop presents and discusses these initiatives. Workshop participants will be provided with new information material and can meet representatives from relevant organisations in charge of seed-funding.

**12.30 - 13.30 Lunch and Networking Village Activities**

**13.30 - 14.45 Plenary Session: Regions as drivers to sustainable Baltic growth**  
*Room:* Grand Opera I-II-III
The session focuses on the role of local and regional authorities in addressing the environmental challenges. Reasons why regions have to play a leading role in ensuring environmentally friendly living will be discussed. How regions can and do contribute to the sustainable growth? Why regional cooperation is essential in meeting environmental targets and ensuring that development is sustainable?

**Moderator:** Dr. Mindaugas Jurkynas, Professor, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania

**Speakers:**
- Anders Knape, Member of the COTER Commission, Committee of the Regions
- Roma Žakaitienė, Director of the Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania, Lithuania
- Jaakko Mikkola, Director of International Affairs, Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation (BSSSC)
- Ann Irene Saeternes, Coordinator International Affairs, Eastern Norway County Network, Norway

**Debate**

**14.45 - 15.15 Closing**
Room: Grand Opera I-II-III

- José Palma Andres, Director, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- Tomas Gulbinas, Director of European Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lithuanian Presidency

Welcome to Finland and Turku 2014
- Erja Tikka, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland
- Mikko Lohikoski, Director, City of Turku, Finland
- Video message by Aleksi Randell, Mayor of Turku, Finland
BACK-TO-BACK EVENTS

10 November 2013

12.00 - 18.00 “Baltic Sea NGO Network” meeting
Venue: Comfort Hotel, Mindaugo str. 27, Vilnius

13.00 - 17.00 “Baltic Sea Youth Forum” (Workshop, a first planning meeting with major stakeholders)
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Fuga

11 November 2013

8.45 - 12.00 Open seminar and launching event of the Horizontal Action Neighbours in EUSBSR “Developing new ideas for cooperation with neighbours in the Baltic Sea Region”
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Andante

9.00 - 12.00 Joint Meeting of National Contact Points, Priority Area Coordinators and Horizontal Action Leaders
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Virtuoso

9.00 - 12.00 “Baltic Sea Youth Forum” (Workshop, a first planning meeting with major stakeholders)
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Allegro

10.00 - 11.30 “Women in Civil Protection: Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming - Towards Prosperity in the Baltic Sea Region. The Case of Civil Security”
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Minuetto

9.00 - 12.00 “Multi-level-Governance in Practice”
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Capriccio

9.00 - 12.00 “Building Bridges - Sustainable Development & Bioeconomy in the Baltic Sea Region”
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Adagio
12 November 2013

8.00 - 9.15 Combined Steering Group and Flagship Leaders Meeting of Priority Area Culture
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Virtuoso

8.00 - 10.00 Executive Committee of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Adagio

15.00 - 18.30 Steering Group Meeting of Priority Area Hazards
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Virtuoso

15.30 - 17.30 Joint Meeting of National Contact Points, Priority Area Coordinators and Horizontal Action Leaders
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Andante

15.00 - 16.00 From “Shoreline” to Working “On Shore.” Civil Security in the Baltic Sea Region: Turning Challenges into Opportunities for Cross-Sectoral Cross-Border Cooperation
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Adagio

13 November 2013

8.30 - 16.00 Workshop/expert meeting “Monitoring of hazardous substances in the Baltic Sea - regional harmonization and implementation of the MSFD and BSAP”
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Allegro

9.00 - 13.00 4th Meeting of the Steering Committee of Priority Area Nutri
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius
Room: Nocturne

8.30 - 18.00 Meeting “Cooperation among the Baltic Sea: European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and Rural Development”
Venue: Le Méridien Vilnius, Highway A2, the 19th KM, Vilnius

9.00 - 16.00 Steering Committee Meeting of Priority Area Safe
Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, J. Tumo-Vaižganto str. 2, Vilnius
9.00 - 16.00 The Round Table on Transnational Cooperation in the ESF in the Baltic Sea Region
Venue: Ministry of Social Security and Labour, A. Vivulskio Str. 11, Vilnius