



BALTIC IMPULSE

# Saving the Baltic Waters



BALTIC IMPULSE

# Water Cluster

A cluster of fifteen partners representing nine environmental projects running under the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007 – 2013.

The cluster was active from Sep 2012 to Sep 2013.

By the time cluster started working, most of the projects were closing or had already ended.





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Projects

Baltic Impulse projects concentrated on:

- **Agri-environmental issues:** Baltic Compass, Baltic Deal, Baltic Manure, Beras Implementation
- **Waste water management:** PURE, Presto
- **Hazardous substances:** COHIBA
- **Contaminated sediments:** SMOCS
- **River Basin Management plans:** Waterpraxis





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Focus areas

- Fight against nutrient pollution by reducing the nitrogen and phosphorous leaching in rural and urban environment and supporting the development of nutrient recycling.
- Environmentally sound management of hazardous substances by improving the current regulations and finding obstacles and opportunities.





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Aims

- Ensure further use of the results of the projects
- Increase visibility of the projects
- Creation of new connections and networks
- Intensify exchange of experiences and ideas between project partners
- Searching of bridging issues and gaps of knowledge





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Outcomes

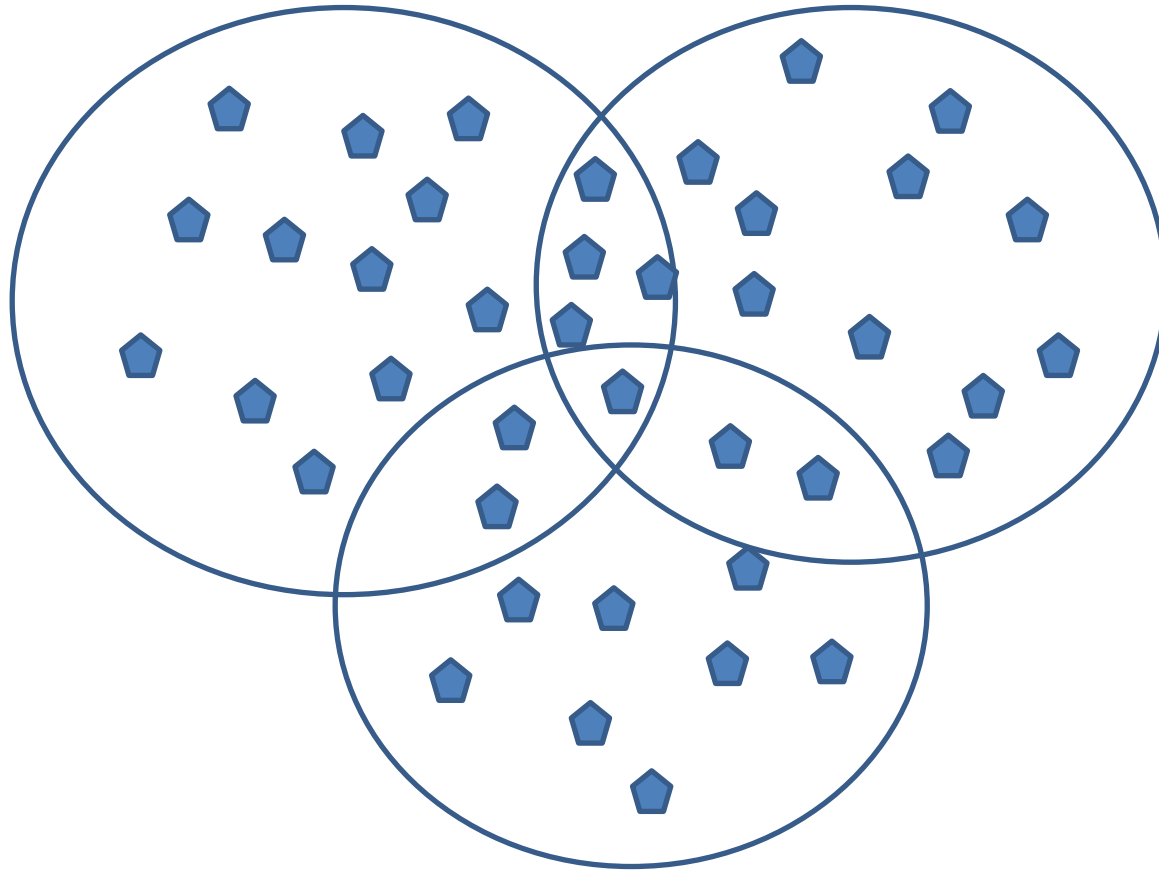
- Increased visibility for the project results
- Synthesis report “*Sustainable resource management for a healthy Baltic Sea*” based on the cluster discussions and projects’ results
- Policy recommendations in relation to sustainable resource management
- Listing of future needs in sustainable resource management
- Being one of the organisers of a platform for knowledge transfer in the agri-environmental sphere
- Final joint conclusion: saving the Baltic Sea needs a holistic view
- Baltic Impulse was a seed for at least one project application





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Learnings: Project vs. partner





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Learnings: Partnership

With great partners everything is possible, but it would have been so much easier if the scope and theme of the project platform was decided first.

Fitting a mitchmatching partner in to the partnership is as hard in a project platform as in a project.

But, new approaches gave interesting discussions and widened horizons.







BALTIC IMPULSE

# Learnings: the aim of cooperation

Cooperation in order to save resources

- Same target audiences -> louder voice
- Same activities -> saving financial or human resources

Joining forces for creating something totally new

- $1+1=3$
- No new research!

Both aims are valuable and can be used in a project platform.





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Learnings

The audience/stakeholders of the projects are not living in project-size silos. When platform forces its participants to fit the individual project messages to a bigger picture, the results can be more coherent and more understandable to the receiver.

When project representatives were forced to look at their project results with the eyes of an outsider, it made them to clarify them.





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Learnings

Projects can sometimes represent conflicting views on some issues. Cluster can provide a platform for discussion and agreement. In best cases even a model for compromise.

-> Benefit for those, who can lead the process to a consensus.





BALTIC IMPULSE

# Learnings

Clusters and project platforms are an extremely interesting challenge.

With living projects project work plans and outcomes can be modified to fit project platform's needs. The result can be more comprehensive results, policy recommendations, BAT listings etc.





BALTIC IMPULSE

# What is in it for me?

You have already been interested to join the project for some reason. Wouldn't it be great if you had an opportunity to take the project results to a higher level? And get even financing for it?

