2017-11-20

Baltic Sea Pharma Platform – Project Descriptions

MORPHEUS –

Model Areas for Removal of Pharmaceutical Substances in the South Baltic

Lead partner: University of Kristianstad, Sweden

Funding: Interreg South Baltic

Total budget: ca. 1.6 million EUR

Project duration: 2017-2019

Partner countries: Sweden, Poland, Germany, Lithuania

The overall idea of the project is to address the challenge of the pharmaceutical pollution in the southern Baltic Sea area. The project's activities are planned to create a background image in terms of regional consumption of pharmaceuticals, chemical burden caused by pharmaceuticals released from selected waste water treatment plants (WWTPs) in each region, as well as existing treatment systems in the four selected regions surrounding the southern part of the Baltic Sea. Based on this analysis, the partners will make recommendations on suitable advanced treatment technologies for upgrade of the selected WWTPs. The project will also prepare a scheme for the training course for WWTPs operators and professional staff at chemical laboratories and training material for participants of such courses - all connected study visits at WWTPs using advanced technologies that removes or reduces the concentration of pharmaceutical substances in treated sewage.

The main target groups of the project are WWTP personnel as well as regional and national decision and policy makers that deal with issues of waste water treatment.

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CWPharma –

Clear Water from Pharmaceuticals

Lead partner: Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Finland

Funding: Interreg Baltic Sea Region

Total budget: ca. 3.7 million EUR

Project duration: 2017-2020

Partner countries: Finland, Estonia, Poland, Latvia, Denmark, Sweden, Germany

CWPharma project will give tools and recommendations for policy makers, authorities and municipalities on the best ways to reduce adverse effects of pharmaceuticals in the Baltic Sea Region. The assessed measures to reduce emissions of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (AIPs) include advanced wastewater treatment, which will be systematically piloted and optimized for full scale treatment in the municipalities, sharing best practices in the collection and disposal of unused medicines, collection and dissemination of environmental data on pharmaceutical products, and environmental permitting of pharmaceutical plants developed to promote the sustainable management of APIs. The emission reduction measures are evaluated based on cost-effectiveness and eco-toxicological benefits.

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GrePPP –

Green Public Procurement of Pharmaceuticals for the Baltic Sea Region

Lead partner: Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Sweden

Funding: Interreg Baltic Sea Region (seed money)

Total budget: 50 000 EUR

Project duration: 2017-2018

Partner countries: Sweden, Lithuania, Finland, Germany

The purpose of the project is to develop and test criteria for Sustainable Public Procurement of Pharmaceuticals (SPPP) that are relevant for the aquatic environment and applicable under EU policies e.g. the Public Procurement Directive and other pharmaceutical regulation. Through a broad stakeholder dialog, including with the pharmaceutical industry, the initiative is estimated to have a significant impact. The main objectives of the project are to identify or co-develop criteria for SPPP to reduce emissions of pharmaceuticals from production; test different sets and levels of procurement criteria; and develop practicable tools and guidelines for SPPP.

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MicroWasteBaltic –

Impact of micropollutants emitted from municipal wastewater treatment plants on Baltic Sea ecosystems and assessment of cost-benefit of advanced treatment technologies in a regional perspective

Lead partner: Stockholm University, Sweden

Funding: Interreg Baltic Sea Region (seed money)

Total budget: 50 000 EUR

Project duration: 2017-2018

Partner countries: Sweden, Finland, Poland, Latvia, Germany

The main objective of the project is to assess loads and possible reduction of micropollutants (MP) and associated ecotoxicity of the waste waters discharged into the Baltic Sea by more efficient treatment technologies, i.e. quantify the impact of micropollutants in wastewater on a Baltic Sea scale. It aims to further enhance institutional capacity and trans-national dialogue between regional authorities and other institutions, and provide valuable information for sustainable and resource efficient investments in the water sector. This will be done by providing cost-benefit analysis for various implementation scenarios for advanced wastewater treatment in municipal waste water treatment plants (MWWTPs). Moreover, during the seed money project, the partners will compile data in order to identify data-poor regions and types of MPs measured. This will guide the planning of a sampling campaign with the purpose to fill these data gaps using both target and non-target analysis.

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Not clustered under Baltic Sea Pharma platform but relevant, Flagship project under PA Hazards:

NONHAZCITY –

Innovative management solutions for minimizing emissions of hazardous substances from urban areas in the Baltic Sea Region

Lead partner: Municipality of Stockholm, Sweden

Funding: Interreg Baltic Sea Region

Total budget: ca. 3.5 million EUR

Project duration: 2016-2019

Partner countries: Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Lithuania, Germany

The project wants to demonstrate possibilities for municipalities and WWTPs to reduce emissions of priority hazardous substances (HS) and other pollutants from small scale emitters at urban areas that cannot be reached by traditional water treatment and enforcement techniques. The substances of concern will be identified and prioritized, sources tracked and ranked, individual Hazardous Substance Source Maps and Chemicals Action Plans developed by each partner municipality. Municipalities will exercise their own substance reduction measures at their premises. Private small scale businesses will do pilot substitution actions and improve their chemical assortment. Inhabitants will be shown their hazardous substance emission share and test the use of less hazardous chemicals in everyday household management to help to protect the Baltic Sea environment but also their own health. The project acts in 10 municipalities in the Baltic Sea Region.

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