



From theory and plans to eco-efficient and sustainable practices to improve the status of the Baltic Sea

Editorial

Welcome to the first Waterpraxis Newsletter!

Waterpraxis is the acronym of the project »From theory and plans to eco-efficient and sustainable practices to improve the status of the Baltic Sea«, which runs from 2009 to 2011 and is partly-funded by the Interreg IVB Programme Baltic Sea. We hope you will find this news-letter useful.

The Waterpraxis Project Team

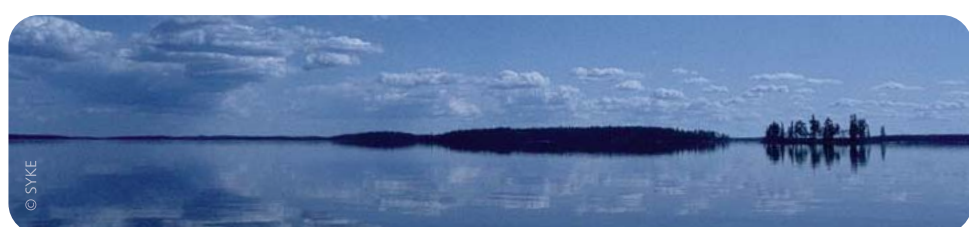
Introducing the project Waterpraxis

Eutrophication caused by nutrient loads is one of the biggest environmental problems of the Baltic Sea. Practical measures to restrict it are included in River Basin Management Plans (RBMP), which

are some of the outputs of the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. However, putting general-level RBMPs into practice, i.e. applying water pollution control methods and changing

land-use practices, is hindered by many barriers.

For example, RBMPs cover large geographical areas. Thus, it is difficult to apply public participation principles to planning processes and gain common acceptance at local level for measures that should be realised. The project Waterpraxis will address these issues, by means of a transnational and cross-sectoral partnership.



www.waterpraxis.net

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Kick-off meeting 2009



The project kick-off meeting took place in Hamburg on 30-31 March 2009. It was attended by the project partners and discussed the details of the project work, as well as a schedule for future activities.

What will Waterpraxis do?

The project's overall objective is to improve the status of the Baltic Sea by contributing to the practical implementation of measures chosen in RBMPs in the region.

The specific objectives are to:

1. identify and suggest improvements to present water management practices by analysing the contents and planning processes of RBMPs;
2. establish action plans based on RBMPs for pilot areas representing best practices and measures for water protection and public participation;

3. prepare investment plans (incl. technical and financing plans) for water protection measures for selected sites in Poland, Lithuania, Denmark and Finland;

4. disseminate information on best practices and measures of water management via publications, seminars and websites;

5. offer training and education programmes for planners in the water management sector.

The action and investment plans as well as planning methods will be prepared in a transnational cooperation with authorities and scientific partners. The plans aim at real investments following this project.

Waterpraxis Pilot Projects

In the frame of the project the following pilot projects are conducted:

- River Temmesjoki in Finland
- River Suså in Denmark
- River Warta in Poland
- River Sesupe between Lithuania and Russia



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