

BONUS+ highlights to the European community

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Hotel Silken Berlaymont, Brussels, Belgium

Questions for consideration of various BONUS+ projects, more questions can be sent to the BONUS Secretariat at bonus@bonuseeig.fi:

AMBER <http://www.io-warnemuende.de/amber>

- We know that the Baltic Sea ecosystem underwent several shifts of regimes during the 20th century. Will it be possible in the future to predict such shifts and switch the management modes accordingly?
- Loadings of various pollutants into the Baltic Sea are being monitored for a number of years. Why do you argue that the load of naturally derived organic substances must be now included into the monitoring programmes?
- The AMBER accepted the challenge of untangling the effects of eutrophication and climate change in the Baltic. Did you succeed?
- The AMBER results provide evidence that the coastal zones actually protect the open Baltic from excess nitrogen. Can you explain how it works?

BALTIC-C <http://www.baltex-research.eu/baltic-c/>

- Will the Baltic Sea really become acid in the future?
- Has eutrophication of the Baltic Sea something to do with acidification?
- If this is a case, what will happen with all the living creatures therein?

BALTGENE www.tmbi.gu.se/baltgene

- Why is it so important to conserve biodiversity in the Baltic Sea?
- You have stated that current conservation policy lacks implementation for genetic biodiversity. What are the main reasons for this?
- Biodiversity refers to multiplicity of species. Why have you focused your studied on a few species only?
- How is the genetic diversity and species diversity interlinked?

ECOSUPPORT www.baltex-research.eu/ecosupport

- ECOSUPPORT has invested a lot of effort to improve our predictions of the future of Baltic. So, what are your predictions for the next 90 years in terms of sea level, temperature, salinity, and oxygen conditions?
- Will the future nutrient loads increase? Won't it be so that the climate change effects compensate the effects of excess nutrient loads?
- Can we conclude that the predictions of climate change impacts on the Baltic are now more robust? Can you quantify the level of reliability?
- We know that ECOSUPPORT has run its models to test the effect of some management measures (e.g. the HELCOM BSAP). What are your central findings?

HYPER <http://hyper.dmu.dk> & INFLOW <http://projects.gtk.fi/inflow>

- When did the bottoms of the Baltic Sea die? Will the whole Baltic Sea be dead in year 2020?
- How do you explain that when on one hand one can see huge year-to-year variation in the extent of the hypoxia of the Baltic Sea, on the other hand the scientists claim that the phenomenon is increasing?
- How are the massive algal blooms in the Baltic Sea and the hypoxia interlinked?

- How can the hypoxia process be reversed? If the reversion process succeeds, when can we see the results?

RECOCA <http://www.balticnest.org>

- How can decision makers forecast the impacts of different regulations concerning e.g. land use to the environmental status of the Baltic Sea?
- How can the costs of the use/non use of abatement measures be estimated? Give us an example.

PREHAB www.prehab.gu.se

- Why do we need underwater maps?
- Is it really so different to draw an underwater map?
- Do your maps also predict what will happen in future?
- PEREHAB involved a socio-economy component. Are you now able to add a price-tag to the plots of land on the Baltic bottom?

PROBALT www.probalt.fi

- PROBALT argues that protecting the Baltic Sea from eutrophication can be more effective by adjusting the societal conditions that can support these goals. Can you give us some achievable examples of how the related governance can be improved?
- Based on your case study results, what roles EU and HELCOM play, or can play, in efforts that aim to improve the Baltic Sea eutrophication governance?

TO ALL

- Several comprehensive analyses have presented arguments that in order to reach the environmental goals for the Baltic Sea, the people living in the drainage will have to fundamentally change some of their habits and life-styles. What can you comment on this?